



General Assembly

Distr.: General
3 April 2020

Original: English

Seventy-fifth session

Items 141 and 142 of the preliminary list*

Proposed programme budget for 2021

Programme planning

Proposed programme budget for 2021

Part IV

International cooperation for development

Section 9

Economic and social affairs

Programme 7

Economic and social affairs

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* [A/75/50](#).

** In keeping with paragraph 11 of resolution [72/266 A](#), the part consisting of the programme plan and programme performance information is submitted through the Committee for Programme and Coordination for the consideration of the General Assembly.

*** In keeping with paragraph 11 of resolution [72/266 A](#), the part consisting of the post and non-post resource requirements is submitted through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for the consideration of the General Assembly.



Foreword

The year 2021 will mark two years since the convening of the Sustainable Development Goals Summit, when world leaders launched an ambitious and accelerated response to reach their common vision by 2030. This heightened commitment came in the wake of a profound concern that we are at risk of missing critical development targets. Poverty eradication is not happening quickly enough; hunger is on the rise; inequalities in wealth, income and opportunity are increasing within and between countries; illicit financial flows and forced displacement of people threaten to reverse much of the development progress made in recent decades; gender equality remains a challenge; and environmental degradation and climate change continue at rates that bring potentially disastrous consequences for humanity. In 2020, the Secretary-General launched a decade of action for the Sustainable Development Goals that is now a cornerstone of the support provided by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to Member States with regard to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

For decades, Member States have mandated the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to help countries find common ground on sustainable development, data and statistical systems, population dynamics, social inclusion, financing for development and many other crucial issues. The decade of action requires the Department to elevate its mandate delivery and bring the global community together to find cross-cutting, sustainable solutions to the world's most pressing problems. Accelerated action is required to help countries realize the ambition of the 2030 Agenda in their national economic, social and environmental plans.

Going into 2021, I am committed to ensuring that the work of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs makes a meaningful impact on the lives of the people that we serve. The Department's focus areas for 2021 will include, among other things, support for Member States' high-level dialogue on energy-related goals that will examine the impact of this critical cross-cutting sector on the 2030 Agenda. The Department will also support the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing. To follow up on the 25-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the Department will continue to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women across all aspects of its work. In addition, we will continue working with United Nations entities to follow up on the system-wide plan of action for the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty that guides the work of the United Nations, on the theme "Accelerating global actions for a world without poverty".

I am also committed to ensuring that the Department of Economic and Social Affairs is responsive to emerging global trends and issues. Regrettably, as this budget proposal is being finalized, the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic is taking a devastating hold on the global community. As an immediate response, I set up an internal task force to assess the economic, social and financial impact of the pandemic to inform the Secretary-General and advise on policy options moving forward. In a further demonstration of thought leadership, departmental publications were immediately updated to reflect the new reality and a series of policy briefs was launched to inform Member States, and wider audiences, of the impact of the pandemic, from social, economic and financing perspectives. Furthermore, all new materials related to COVID-19 have been consolidated and presented in one repository for easy reference and access by stakeholders.

Effective thought leadership will continue to be a core focus of our work in 2021. Within the United Nations system, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs plays a critical role in the compilation and dissemination of analytical data, statistics and economic, social and demographic indicators with a view to facilitating the formulation and monitoring of development strategies and goals at the international, regional and national levels. We will continue to monitor, analyse and assess global economic and social policies and trends, including population trends, and elaborate projections and identify new and emerging issues, including with regard to the production and dissemination of our flagship publications on emerging social and economic issues. Noting in particular the designation of 2021 as the International Year of Peace and Trust, our analytical work will continue to identify and include critical peace and development linkages that require attention by the international community.

Without the support of Member States and other stakeholders, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs would not have been able to deliver on the priorities of Member States and provide more robust, inclusive and evidence-based support to the global community. As we enter the second cycle of the high-level political forum to follow up on our global commitments to deliver on the 2030 Agenda, we must resist, now more than ever, the temptation to tackle global issues alone. A networked and inclusive multilateralism, more intense cooperation with other organizations and closer partnership with multiple stakeholders will help the global community overcome the greatest challenges of our time.

The Department of Economic and Social Affairs will continue to be a responsive partner working with Member States and stakeholders to achieve our shared goals.

(Signed) **LIU Zhenmin**
Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs

A. Proposed programme plan for 2021 and programme performance for 2019

Overall orientation

Mandates and background

- 9.1 The Department of Economic and Social Affairs supports the development pillar of the United Nations Secretariat, including by ensuring international cooperation in the pursuit of sustainable development for all. The mandate derives from the proposals put forward in the 1997 report of the Secretary-General entitled “Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform” ([A/51/950](#)). In implementing the proposals, the General Assembly, in its resolution [52/220](#), noted the creation of the new Department of Economic and Social Affairs.
- 9.2 The Department forms the backbone of the normative and analytical support provided by the United Nations Secretariat to intergovernmental bodies and the processes that address the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. Over the past 30 years, the Department has spearheaded numerous initiatives to advance economic and social development issues: the early conferences on sustainable development to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2012; all of the conferences on small island developing States, as well as on social development, ageing, and population and development; the Millennium Development Goals to the formulation of the historic 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 interlinked Sustainable Development Goals; and the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development.
- 9.3 The Department’s responsibilities include: (a) providing substantive support to the bodies established under the Charter of the United Nations that deal with development issues, namely, the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its related functional commissions, and expert bodies; (b) monitoring and analysing development trends, prospects and policy issues globally; and (c) providing assistance in translating policy frameworks developed in United Nations conferences and summits into programmes at the country level and supporting Member States in building national capacities and in particular supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals through, inter alia, the implementation of the regular programme of technical cooperation and United Nations Development Account projects.

Strategy and external factors for 2021

- 9.4 Participants in the September 2019 Sustainable Development Goals Summit (the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly) expressed concern about the slow progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals in many areas and pledged to make the coming decade one of action and delivery in order to reach the Goals by 2030. With this faltering pace of progress towards achieving the Goals by 2030, a coherent and integrated approach to the work of the United Nations with regard to supporting Member States in the urgent need to accelerate action on all levels and by all stakeholders, in order to fulfil the vision and Goals of the 2030 Agenda, remains paramount.
- 9.5 Moreover, the intensification of rising megatrends challenges prospects for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. These megatrends include high and growing inequality; aggravated climate change; protracted conflicts and migration pressures; emerging demographic trends, including population ageing; and new and potentially disruptive technologies. At the same time, gender equality and the empowerment of women remains an underachieved yet catalytic development goal. It is vital to ensure that the global dialogue on these issues and analytical capacity includes and considers the voices of all peoples, everywhere.

- 9.6 Also important is fully leveraging technologies to fill data gaps and investing in data and statistics to facilitate evidence-based decision-making and count the uncounted. Leaving no one behind requires sound disaggregated data for vulnerable groups – including children, youth, persons with disabilities, people living with HIV, older persons, indigenous peoples, migrants, refugees and those who are internally displaced. For instance, in December 2018, the first comprehensive *Disability and Development Report* was launched, which found that people with disabilities are at a disadvantage across all 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The report analysed globally crowdsourced data on the accessibility of public spaces, covering 1.2 million places worldwide. The Department must also be able to assess the gendered differences in progress among these groups.
- 9.7 Furthermore, insufficient financing continues to be one of the greatest bottlenecks preventing the world from achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Achieving the Goals requires both a surge in investments and the adoption of national and international policies in support of sustainable development. Attention to diversifying and accelerating sustainable development financing to support Member States remains a major priority for the entire United Nations system.
- 9.8 Advancing and strengthening thought leadership for sustainable development is an enduring necessity in taking an integrated approach to economic, social and environmental research and policy analysis.
- 9.9 The aforementioned issues were initially drawn to the attention of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs as being an integral part of its ongoing reform to better support Member States, which began in 2018. Through General Assembly resolution [70/299](#), Member States requested that the effectiveness, efficiency, accountability and internal coordination of the Department be enhanced, considering the need to avoid overlap in its work and ensuring that the work of the Department is organized in an integrated, cohesive, coordinated and collaborative manner, so that the Department as a whole can provide support for the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda at the global level, including for the work of the Economic and Social Council and the organization of the segments of its session and the high-level political forum. The Department's support to Member States will continue to be strengthened in 2021.
- 9.10 Taking into account these recent developments, the Department's strategy will aim at positioning itself to consistently support Member States in forging maximum consensus in the areas of economic and social affairs and taking a strategic approach to putting its array of tools, expertise and capabilities at the service of Member States. The Department plans to intensify its support to Member States through major global conferences and summits in the economic, social and environmental fields, including on follow-up to the second Global Sustainable Transport Conference and to the 2020 United Nations Ocean Conference, noting that 2021 begins the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development. The Department will continue to assist countries as they find common ground, set norms and take decisive steps forward.
- 9.11 Furthermore, as a global thought leader, the Department will continue to forecast economic, social and population trends and generate, analyse and compile a wide range of data and statistics to inform and advise Member States and other stakeholders as they take stock of trends and policy options to tackle common problems. The Department will also assist in translating policy frameworks developed in United Nations conferences and summits into programmes at the country level and, through technical assistance, continue to support Member States in building national capacities. The Department will also continue to strengthen its strategies and mechanisms to enhance external communications and strategic partnerships, including with the private sector and academia. This will help to increase transparency and boost the awareness and understanding of the key messages and policy advice in the Department's research and analytical products.
- 9.12 Stepping up the Department's support to Member States to help them achieve the 2030 Agenda is essential. The Department will therefore: (a) continue to strengthen the impact of the high-level political forum on Sustainable Development; (b) continue to support the implementation of the decade of action; (c) continue to encourage the engagement of youth and other critical stakeholders in shaping policymaking and programme implementation; (d) develop data solutions and data

innovation for Sustainable Development Goals implementation; (e) further increase its emphasis on thought leadership, focusing on the analysis and impact of global megatrends on sustainable development; (f) continue to mobilize financing for sustainable development and enhance the impact of private investment; (g) continue to build the capacities of public institutions for accelerating Goal implementation; (h) enhance support to countries in special situations, including by supporting small island developing States and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway priority areas and increasing coverage of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States in the Department's analytical and capacity development work; and (i) contribute to effective, coordinated United Nations development system response to country-level demands.

- 9.13 With regard to the external factors, the overall plan for 2021 is based on the following planning assumptions:
- (a) Continued cooperation with policymakers and relevant national, regional and international stakeholders and entities in the consideration of sustainable development issues in the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development, as well as other intergovernmental processes serviced by the programme;
 - (b) Continued availability of up-to-date and accurate information and data for the Department's analytical products;
 - (c) Governments and other stakeholders collaborate with the programme in undertaking the proposed programme activities and have the necessary capacity.
- 9.14 The Department of Economic and Social Affairs integrates a gender perspective in its operational activities, deliverables and results, as appropriate. As part of the Department's continuing effort to support the Secretary-General's commitment to addressing gender issues, including gender mainstreaming, parity and equality, the Department, in 2019, established a network of gender focal points. Members of the network are assigned to act as resource persons on gender mainstreaming and to ensure effective gender mainstreaming in the Department's programmatic and substantive operations, including through outreach activities and the sharing of experience and knowledge across the Department. The network is co-chaired by a principal gender focal point appointed from among the membership, and the Department's Executive Officer. The overall work of the Department's network of gender focal points is overseen by the Department's Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs.
- 9.15 Owing to the enhanced focus on gender-related issues, all Department subprogrammes have strengthened the integration of gender aspects relevant to their programme of work for 2021, including their planned results. For instance, the programme performance in 2019 against the planned result, under subprogramme 5, Population, demonstrates increased attention given to new and emerging population issues by the international community and increased knowledge and understanding of the interactions between population and development, including the gender dimensions of demographic phenomena.
- 9.16 With regard to cooperation with other entities, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs serves as convener of the expanded Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs Plus. As a coordination vehicle for the United Nations system in economic and social affairs, the Executive Committee is committed to: (a) ensuring greater coherence within the United Nations system; (b) facilitating support for more effective participation of developing countries in global processes; (c) achieving a better balance between the global and regional dimensions of development in terms of analysis, norm- and standard-setting and technical assistance; and (d) strengthening the linkages among the United Nations system's normative, analytical and operational work. Furthermore, the Department, through the Executive Committee, works with United Nations entities to ensure that their intergovernmental bodies contribute to the work of the high-level political forum and enhances common approaches and synergies to support Member States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Moreover, the Department supports the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for

development of the United Nations system. The Department works closely with United Nations system entities and the United Nations Sustainable Development Group in carrying out this work. In addition, in order to maximize the impact of the repositioning of the United Nations development system and its ultimate objective of strengthening results on the ground, the Department has established an internal coordination capacity to support the reinvigorated resident coordinator system and the new generation of United Nations country teams, facilitating more structured engagement between the Department and resident coordinators.

- 9.17 With regard to inter-agency coordination and liaison, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs works closely with different agencies and stakeholders to step up the Department's capacities for policy analysis and knowledge production. The Department continues to chair or co-chair the United Nations system inter-agency mechanisms on disability, indigenous peoples and youth, playing an integral role in ensuring coherence across these topic areas. Moreover, a United Nations economists network, led by the Department's Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development and Chief Economist, has been established as part of the ongoing effort to strengthen the United Nations thought leadership in order to respond to the demands of the 2030 Agenda. The network acts to advance United Nations thinking and policy research on key current and emerging economic, financial and social development issues, specifically in the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The network is primarily composed of economists from the United Nations system working in the fields of development economics, macroeconomics, public finance, trade, the labour market, climate change and environment, and financial and social sector policies. The designated economists in each regional commission also participate in this network. The network contributes to the guidance and policy advice on economic and social matters provided to United Nations country teams and to Member States at the global, regional and country levels. The Department also continues to engage in various joint projects and coordination groups that involve other entities of the United Nations system, including collaboration on the implementation of the United Nations Disabilities Inclusion Strategy.

Legislative mandates

- 9.18 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the programme.

General Assembly resolutions

| | | | |
|--------|--|----------|--|
| 47/190 | Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development | 57/270 B | Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields |
| 47/191 | Institutional arrangements to follow up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development | 58/220 | Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries |
| 50/227 | Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields | 58/269 | Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change |
| 51/176 | Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development | 59/243 | Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy |
| 51/240 | Agenda for Development | 60/1 | 2005 World Summit Outcome |
| 55/2 | United Nations Millennium Declaration | 60/265 | Follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals |
| 55/279 | Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010 | | |
| 57/144 | Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit | 62/208 | Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system |
| 57/253 | World Summit on Sustainable Development | 66/288 | The future we want |
| | | 69/15 | SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway |

Part IV International cooperation for development

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|--------|--|--------|---|
| 69/143 | Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly | 72/279 | Repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system |
| 69/151 | Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly | 73/246 | Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027) |
| 69/214 | Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development | 73/248 | Operational activities for development of the United Nations system |
| | | 74/4 | Political declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly |
| 69/313 | Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda) | 74/217 | Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States |
| 69/321 | Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly | | |
| 70/1 | Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development | 74/228 | Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence |
| 70/299 | Follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level | 74/238 | Operational activities for development of the United Nations system |

Economic and Social Council resolutions

| | | | |
|--------|---|---------|--|
| 1998/7 | Importance of population census activities for evaluation of progress in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development | 2012/30 | Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in the light of relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 61/16 |
| 2007/2 | The role of the United Nations system in providing full and productive employment and decent work for all | 2019/2 | Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system |

Ministerial communiqués of the high-level segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council

| | | | |
|------|--|------|--|
| 2002 | The contribution of human resources development, including in the areas of health and education, to the process of development | 2007 | Strengthening efforts at all levels to promote pro-poor sustained economic growth, including through equitable macroeconomic policies |
| 2003 | Promoting an integrated approach to rural development in developing countries for poverty eradication and sustainable development | 2007 | Annual ministerial review on the theme “Strengthening efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger, including through the global partnership for development” |
| 2004 | Resources mobilization and enabling environment for poverty eradication in the context of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010 | 2008 | Development Cooperation Forum |
| | | 2008 | Annual ministerial review on the theme “Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development” |
| 2006 | Creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive to generating full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its impact on sustainable development | | |

Evaluation activities

- 9.19 The following evaluations completed in 2019 have guided the programme plan for 2021:
- (a) The evaluation of subprogramme 1 support provided to United Nations system partners and non-United Nations partners, including youth groups and networks, in their engagement in the Economic and Social Council, the high-level political forum for sustainable development and the Economic and Social Council Youth Forum, and to countries presenting voluntary national reviews at the high-level political forum in July 2019; and of a preparatory workshop in Bonn, Germany, for countries presenting voluntary national reviews in February 2019 (subprogramme 1);
 - (b) The evaluation of subprogramme 2 support provided to the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (subprogramme 2);
 - (c) The evaluation of the United Nations Inquiry among Governments on Population and Development (subprogramme 5);
 - (d) Stocktaking of the impacts of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network to date in assisting countries in developing and taking forward forest financing strategies and facilitating access to forest financing (subprogramme 8).
- 9.20 The findings of the evaluations referenced in paragraph 9.19 above have been taken into account for the programme plan for 2021 of subprogrammes 1, 2, 5 and 8. In line with these findings, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, through its monitoring and evaluation unit, will ensure the integration of evaluation recommendations to improve programme performance, internal workflows, resource management and delivery. The follow-up process for these recommendations is as important as the implementation, in order to enhance the Department's accountability framework.
- 9.21 The following evaluations and self-evaluations are planned for 2021:
- (a) Selected areas of programmes of work that focus on cross-cutting and/or thematic issues relevant to several subprogrammes (cross-cutting subprogrammes);
 - (b) Meta-evaluation of a specific element of the Department works/deliverables (cross-cutting subprogrammes).

Programme of work

Subprogramme 1

Intergovernmental support and coordination for sustainable development

Objective

- 9.22 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to advance the roles of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development in the integrated implementation of and follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the outcomes of other United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields.

Strategy

- 9.23 To contribute to the advancement of the role of the Economic and Social Council, the subprogramme will provide substantive support to allow the Council to promote and review the integrated implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and related international commitments. It will help the Council conduct an evidence-based policy dialogue and elaborate recommendations on policy integration. In implementing the political declaration of the September

2019 Sustainable Development Goals Summit (see General Assembly resolution 74/4), the Council will support the decade of action, particularly through coordinating the work of United Nations system entities and promoting actions by all actors to implement the 2030 Agenda. The subprogramme will continuously bring strong analysis and evidence, including new and emerging issues, to the attention of the Council. The subprogramme will also assist the Council in reinforcing the linkages between the global policy discussion and national efforts, and in better guiding its subsidiary bodies. These actions are expected to result in a sharpened contribution of the Council to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the country level. Past results in this area include the elaboration of a programme that allowed the Council's high-level segments of July 2018 and July 2019 to include a forward-looking focus on future trends, emerging issues, projections and scenarios that addressed the most relevant issues with regard to the Sustainable Development Goals, enabling the Member States to look further ahead.

- 9.24 To contribute to the advancement of the role of the high-level political forum on sustainable development in the integrated implementation of and follow-up to the 2030 Agenda and the outcomes of other United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, the subprogramme will support countries in preparing evidence-based, inclusive, analytical country-led voluntary national reviews of their implementation of the 2030 Agenda and provide political leadership, guidance and recommendations for accelerating progress during the decade of action. These actions are expected to result in ensuring that the high-level political forum gains an overview of progress made towards the Sustainable Development Goals and the policies that have worked, including levers and entry points, as well as challenges and new and emerging issues. Past results in this area include the provision of solid support to preparing the work of the forum, which led to the recognition of the forum as the primary global platform for the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda. The voluntary national reviews conducted by the high-level political forum are invaluable in order to learn from the experiences of countries when implementing the 2030 Agenda. The subprogramme strengthened its support for countries presenting reviews through global voluntary national review workshops and joint workshops with the regional commissions. Another comprehensive result was the subprogramme's successful support to the President of the General Assembly in convening the 2019 Sustainable Development Goals Summit. The political declaration adopted by the Summit commits to a decade of action and delivery for sustainable development.
- 9.25 To contribute to advancing the roles of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, the subprogramme will continue to support the policy discussions and negotiations of the Second Committee and help ensure that the deliberations, outcomes and working methods actively support the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. The subprogramme will also review and guide the operational activities of the United Nations development system in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The subprogramme will prepare a substantive report analysing how the United Nations development system has been implementing the policy guidance provided by the Assembly through its 2020 quadrennial comprehensive policy review of the operational activities for development of the United Nations development system and its resolutions on the repositioning of that development system. The subprogramme will also support country-focused deliberations and negotiations at the Economic and Social Council operational activities segment. These actions are expected to result in more effective, efficient and coordinated United Nations development system support towards implementing the 2030 Agenda, as well as better and clearer guidance from Member States to the United Nations development system. Past results in this area include the subprogramme's lead role in the analysis of trends in funding for the development system.
- 9.26 In addition, the subprogramme will support the engagement of various stakeholders throughout the work of the United Nations bodies, which is expected to result in: (a) the voice of youth being heard at United Nations deliberations through the Economic and Social Council Youth Forum; and (b) increased guidance to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) on their engagement in the United Nations through the subprogramme's support for the Economic and Social Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations. The subprogramme also supports the participation of other major groups and other stakeholders, such as women, businesses, indigenous peoples and local authorities, in the work of the high-level political forum. Past results in this area include the

increased attendance at the Economic and Social Council Youth Forum 2019 (more than 1,000 participants) bringing the vision of youth to the high-level political forum. In addition, the subprogramme facilitated the participation of NGOs in several high-level meetings, notably the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, held in Morocco, the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, held in Buenos Aires, and the 2019 high-level political forum on sustainable development.

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 9.27 A planned result for 2019, which is the strengthened role of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in facilitating and monitoring progress towards the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and in reinforcing the linkages between global policy discussion and national efforts to achieve those goals, including through the high-level political forum on sustainable development, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by an increase in the percentage of Member States that responded to surveys expressing satisfaction with the support and servicing of the intergovernmental process, including the quality of the reports of the Secretary-General that incorporate the three dimensions of sustainable development and the incorporation of the gender dimension into the work of the Council. The recorded result in 2019 from surveys with Member States revealed an increase of 10 per cent, exceeding the target of 8 per cent set for the biennium.

Programme performance in 2019: first United Nations summit on the Sustainable Development Goals since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- 9.28 Since 2015, the high-level political forum has established itself as the central platform for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Over the past four years, it has reviewed all 17 Sustainable Development Goals in depth and engaged dynamic communities towards these Goals. As of December 2019, the high-level political forum had also heard 142 countries present their voluntary national reviews. It has consistently discussed the needs of countries in special situations and the financing of the Goals, as well as science, technology and innovation for the 2030 Agenda. At the same time, there was not always ample opportunity to give a clear sense of the global situation regarding the Goals and their interactions. In addition, owing in part to the shortage of time, it was not always possible to fully identify the kinds of policies that work best to accelerate progress across all the Goals.
- 9.29 The subprogramme worked closely with the Bureau of the Economic and Social Council to provide substantive support to the July 2019 high-level political forum under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, which paved the way for the Sustainable Development Goals Summit in September 2019. It elaborated the draft programme and supported the substantive preparations for the high-level political forum session, engaging other Department of Economic and Social Affairs subprogrammes and United Nations system entities. It also improved its global and regional workshops to help countries with the preparation of their voluntary national reviews for 2019, notably by increasing the workshops' focus on data and financing. These efforts contributed to ensuring that countries learned from their peers and held an informed policy dialogue on Goal implementation at the high-level political forum.
- 9.30 In 2019, the subprogramme supported the Office of the President of the General Assembly and Member States in preparing for the Summit. Through the United Nations System Task Team on the High-level Political Forum, created by the Secretary-General, the subprogramme ensured strong United Nations system engagement in the Summit's preparations. The Task Team engaged more than 40 United Nations entities in the preparation of a narrative to connect and inform the major high-

level meetings that were held during the high-level week of the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly. An assessment of progress, challenges and lessons learned in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the country and regional levels was provided to identify ways for countries to accelerate implementation and respond to future trends. This was done by supporting the drafting of a report entitled “Report of the Secretary-General on SDG progress 2019 – special edition”, working closely with the Task Team and other Department of Economic and Social Affairs subprogrammes. The Sustainable Development Goals Summit concluded with a strong call to fast-track action to realize the Sustainable Development Goals, sending a clear message that the world was not on track to meet them by 2030.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 9.31 This work contributed to the advancement of the role of the high-level political forum on sustainable development in the integrated implementation of and follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the outcomes of other United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, as demonstrated by the adoption of the political declaration entitled “Gearing up for a decade of action and delivery for sustainable development”.

Table 9.1

Performance measure

| 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| Countries agree to review Sustainable Development Goal progress at the high-level political forum and conduct thematic reviews and voluntary national reviews to this end. The voluntary national reviews are expected to serve as a basis for reviews of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by the high-level political forum | The General Assembly identifies the Sustainable Development Goals and themes to be addressed by the high-level political forum from 2017 to 2019. The July 2016 high-level political forum reviews a theme and highlights policy issues related to leaving no one behind. It conducts 22 voluntary national reviews, allowing countries to learn from their peers. The subprogramme launches focused support for the voluntary national reviews in order to ensure countries benefit fully from the review process | The high-level political forum reviews 7 Sustainable Development Goals and a theme, and highlights policy issues related to eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity. It conducts 43 voluntary national reviews. The support for the review preparatory process is improved and expanded. By analysing voluntary national review reports from the previous year, the subprogramme informs the preparations of future reviews. Voluntary national reviews place an increased focus on the country situation regarding specific Goals | The high-level political forum reviews 6 Sustainable Development Goals and a theme, and highlights policy issues related to the transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies. It conducts 46 voluntary national reviews. The support for countries in their voluntary national review preparations is further strengthened to support analytical, inclusive and increasingly evidence-based reviews | The Sustainable Development Goal Summit adopts a political declaration inspired in part by the special edition of the Sustainable Development Goal progress report. The high-level political forum in July reviews 6 Goals and a theme, and highlights policy issues related to empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality. The voluntary national review reports increasingly include statistical annexes and analyse country challenges |

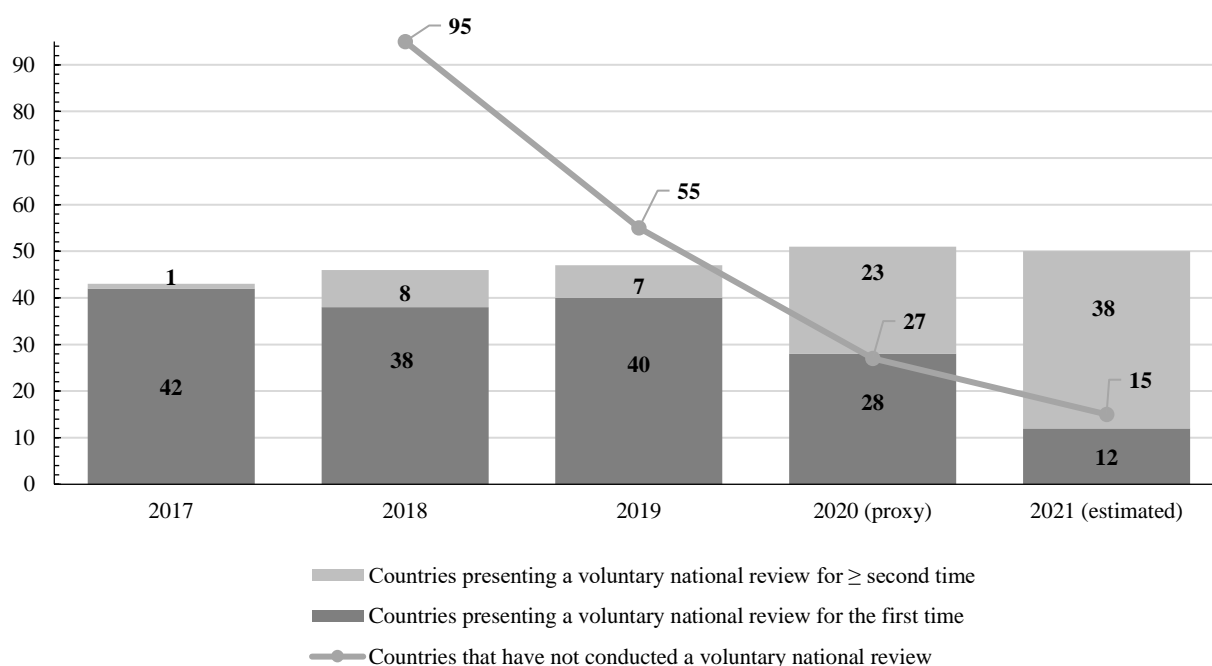
Planned results for 2021

Result 1: voluntary national review process: reaching the Sustainable Development Goals faster (result carried over from 2020)

- 9.32 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the voluntary national review process, in line with its mandate, and will support countries in preparing their voluntary national reviews ahead of the high-level political forum for sustainable development, which is expected to be demonstrated by the performance measure for 2021 below. For 2020, a proxy performance measure is indicated to reflect that the General Assembly, in its resolution [74/251](#), approved a programme narrative at the subprogramme level that is composed solely of the objectives approved by the Assembly in its resolution [71/6](#) and the deliverables for 2020.

Figure 9.I

Performance measure: total number of voluntary national reviews presented at the high-level political forum



Result 2: strengthened stakeholder engagement in the decade of accelerated action and delivery (new result)

- 9.33 The subprogramme has been working towards strengthening stakeholder engagement in the decade of accelerated action and delivery. The political declaration adopted at the Sustainable Development Goals Summit in September 2019 recognized the urgent need to accelerate action on all levels and by all stakeholders in order to fulfil the vision and Goals of the 2030 Agenda. The implementation of an agenda as vast and ambitious as the 2030 Agenda requires an unprecedented engagement of all actors and all parts of societies.
- 9.34 The subprogramme endeavours to support the engagement of an increasing number of NGOs and other stakeholders in the work of the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum, and to maximize the impact of their contributions on the realization of the 2030 Agenda. Youth are an important stakeholder, which the subprogramme helps to engage through the Economic and Social Council Youth Forum, a unique platform for youth to interact with Member States. The

2021 Youth Forum will mark the tenth anniversary of the creation of the Forum and the subprogramme will strive to develop an interactive programme, creating opportunities for a dynamic, technology-supported dialogue between youth and Member States, working closely with the Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth and the Department of Global Communications. NGOs are another key stakeholder for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The subprogramme will continue to support the process for NGOs to obtain consultative status with the Council through the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations. At the same time, it will step up the advice and support it provides to NGOs on how they can best contribute to the work of the United Nations. The subprogramme will also enhance its activities to engage other major groups and other stakeholders from various regions in the work of the high-level political forum.

Internal challenge and response

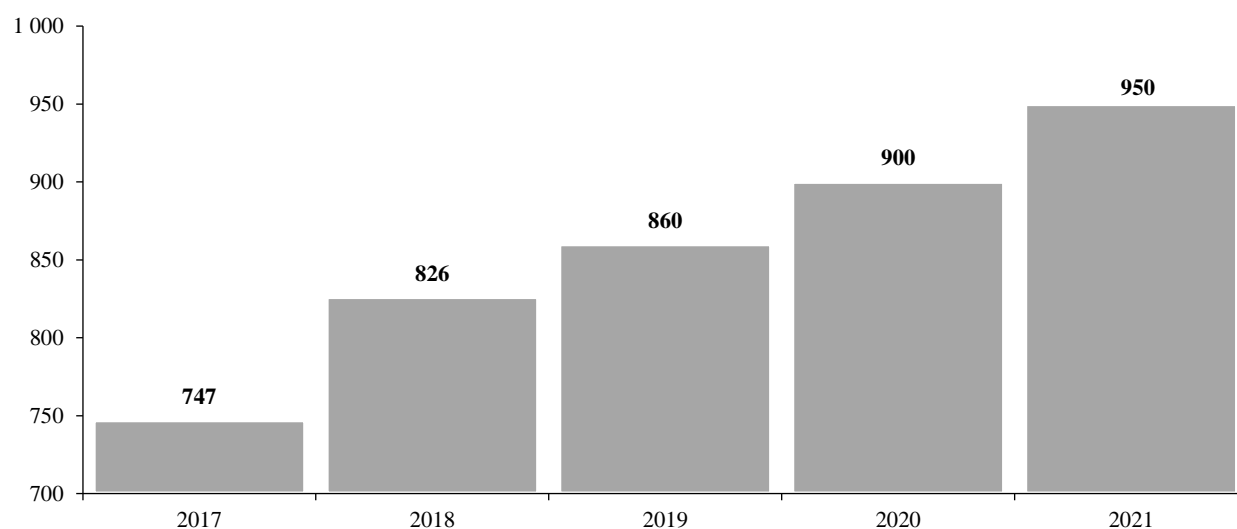
- 9.35 The challenge for the subprogramme was the management of NGO applications for consultative status within the resources available. Given current trends, 950 to 1,000 new applications for status are expected to be received in 2021, and 936 quadrennial reports are expected from NGOs that have consultative status. This represents an approximate increase of 145 per cent in the workload of the subprogramme compared with 10 years earlier (407 applications in 2011). In response, the subprogramme, with the Executive Office of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, is automating different processes, leveraging technology through an integrative new information technology system which will help improve the management of the high number of applications by NGOs, enhancing support to the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations and improving the interface with and outreach to NGOs.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 9.36 This work is expected to contribute to the advancement of the roles of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development on the 2030 Agenda, and to the outcomes of other United Nations conferences in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, which would be demonstrated by the processing of 950 NGO applications for consultative status in 2021. This would enrich the debates, increase ownership of United Nations work and ultimately accelerate action towards realizing the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

Figure 9.II

Performance measure: annual number of non-governmental organizations applying for consultative status



Legislative mandates

9.37 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme.

General Assembly resolutions

| | | | |
|---------|--|--------|--|
| 45/264 | Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields | 69/238 | Operational activities for development of the United Nations system |
| 48/162 | Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields | 70/1 | Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development |
| 48/209 | Operational activities for development: field offices of the United Nations development system | 70/106 | Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations |
| S-19/2 | Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 | 70/184 | Information and communications technologies for development |
| 52/12 B | Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform | 70/201 | Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development |
| 60/180 | The Peacebuilding Commission | | |
| 60/252 | World Summit on the Information Society | 70/262 | Review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture |
| 61/16 | Strengthening of the Economic and Social Council | 70/299 | Follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level |
| 63/311 | System-wide coherence | | |
| 64/289 | System-wide coherence | | |
| 65/1 | Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals | 71/243 | Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system |
| 65/10 | Sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth for poverty eradication and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals | 72/236 | Operational activities for development of the United Nations system |
| 65/285 | Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/16 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council | 72/276 | Follow-up to the report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding and sustaining peace |
| 67/226 | Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system | 72/305 | Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 68/1 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council |
| 67/290 | Format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development | 73/248 | Operational activities for development of the United Nations system |
| 68/1 | Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/16 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council | 74/4 | Political declaration of the high-level forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly |
| 68/6 | Outcome document of the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals | 74/228 | Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence |
| 68/229 | Operational activities for development of the United Nations system | 74/236 | Human resources development |
| | | 74/238 | Operational activities for development of the United Nations system |

Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

| | | | |
|---------|---|---------|---|
| 1996/31 | Consultative relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations | 1999/51 | Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields and cooperation between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions |
|---------|---|---------|---|

Part IV International cooperation for development

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|--|
| 2000/19 | Funding operational activities for development of the United Nations system | 2015/15 | Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system |
| 2001/27 | Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B : improving the working methods of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council | 2015/18 | Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti |
| | | 2015/231 | African countries emerging from conflict |
| 2002/225 | Establishment of the general voluntary trust fund in support of the United Nations NGO Informal Regional Network | 2016/28 | Ad hoc Advisory Group on Haiti |
| | | 2016/263 | African countries emerging from conflict |
| 2008/4 | Measures to improve the quadrennial reporting procedures | 2017/26 | Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti |
| | | 2017/262 | African countries emerging from conflict |
| 2009/32 | African countries emerging from conflict | 2018/19 | Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti |
| 2013/5 | Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system | 2018/249 | African countries emerging from conflict |
| | | 2019/15 | Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system |
| 2014/14 | Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system | | |

Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions

| | | | |
|--------|--|---------|--|
| 1995/1 | Coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system and implementation of the results of the major international conferences organized by the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields | 2002/1 | Strengthening further the Economic and Social Council, building on its recent achievements, to help it fulfil the role ascribed to it in the Charter of the United Nations as contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration |
| 1997/1 | Fostering an enabling environment for development: financial flows, including capital flows, investment and trade | 2008/2 | Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system |
| 2000/2 | Assessment of the progress made within the United Nations system, through the conference reviews, in the promotion of an integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields | 2008/4 | Measures to improve the quadrennial reporting procedures |
| | | 2008/5 | Strengthening of the Non-Governmental Organizations Branch of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat |
| 2001/1 | Role of the United Nations in promoting development, particularly with respect to access to and transfer of knowledge and technology, especially information and communication technologies, inter alia, through partnerships with relevant stakeholders, including the private sector | 2008/29 | Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits, in the light of relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 61/16 |

Ministerial communiqués of the high-level segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council

| | | | |
|------|--|------|--|
| 1998 | Market access: developments since the Uruguay Round, implications, opportunities and challenges, in particular for the developing countries and the least developed among them, in the context of globalization and liberalization | 1999 | The role of employment and work in poverty eradication: the empowerment and advancement of women |
| | | 2000 | Development and international cooperation in the twenty-first century: the role of information technology in the context of a knowledge-based global economy |

Section 9 Economic and social affairs

| | | | |
|------|---|------|--|
| 2001 | The role of the United Nations system in support of the efforts of African countries to achieve sustainable development | 2012 | Promoting productive capacity, employment and decent work to eradicate poverty in the context of inclusive, sustainable and equitable economic growth at all levels for achieving the Millennium Development Goals |
| 2008 | Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development | 2013 | Science, technology and innovation, and the potential of culture, for promoting sustainable development and achieving the Millennium Development Goals |
| 2009 | Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to global public health | 2014 | Addressing ongoing and emerging challenges for meeting the Millennium Development Goals in 2015 and for sustaining development gains in the future |
| 2010 | Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and empowerment of women | 2015 | Managing the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the sustainable development goals: what it will take |
| 2011 | Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to education | | |

Ministerial declarations of the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council

| | | | |
|--------------|---|--------------|---|
| E/HLS/2014/1 | Ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the 2014 session of the Economic and Social Council on the theme “Addressing ongoing and emerging challenges for meeting the Millennium Development Goals in 2015 and for sustaining development gains in the future” Ministerial declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council on the theme “Achieving the Millennium Development Goals and charting the way for an ambitious post-2015 development agenda, including the sustainable development goals” | E/HLS/2016/1 | Ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the 2016 session of the Economic and Social Council on the annual theme “Implementing the post-2015 development agenda: moving from commitments to results” Ministerial declaration of the 2016 high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, on the theme “Ensuring that no one is left behind” |
| E/HLS/2015/1 | Ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the 2015 session of the Economic and Social Council on the theme “Managing the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the sustainable development goals: what it will take” Ministerial declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council on the theme “Strengthening integration, implementation and review: the high-level political forum on sustainable development after 2015” | E/HLS/2017/1 | Ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the 2017 session of the Economic and Social Council on the annual theme “Eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions through promoting sustainable development, expanding opportunities and addressing related challenges” Ministerial declaration of the 2017 high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, on the theme “Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world” |
| | | E/HLS/2018/1 | Ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the 2018 session of the Economic and Social Council on the annual theme “From global to local: supporting sustainable and resilient societies in urban and rural communities” Ministerial declaration of the 2018 high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, on the theme “Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies” |

Deliverables

9.38 Table 9.2 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 9.2

Subprogramme 1: deliverables for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

| <i>Category and subcategory</i> | <i>2019 planned</i> | <i>2019 actual</i> | <i>2020 planned</i> | <i>2021 planned</i> |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies | | | | |
| Parliamentary documentation (number of documents) | 171 | 272 | 169 | 271 |
| 1. Reports to the General Assembly | 9 | 9 | 8 | 9 |
| 2. Reports to the Economic and Social Council | 9 | 10 | 9 | 10 |
| 3. Reports to the high-level political forum on sustainable development | 16 | 16 | 15 | 15 |
| 4. Reports of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations | 137 | 237 | 137 | 237 |
| Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings) | 212 | 203 | 207 | 198 |
| 5. Meetings of the General Assembly | 43 | 43 | 43 | 43 |
| 6. Meetings of the Economic and Social Council | 74 | 65 | 73 | 64 |
| 7. Meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development | 33 | 33 | 27 | 27 |
| 8. Meetings of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations | 41 | 41 | 41 | 41 |
| 9. Meetings of experts on operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and on thematic issues and preparatory processes of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review | 9 | 9 | 10 | 10 |
| 10. Meetings of experts on the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum | 7 | 7 | 8 | 8 |
| 11. Meetings of experts on Haiti | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| B. Generation and transfer of knowledge | | | | |
| Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days) | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 |
| 12. Economic and Social Council: training event with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research on the Economic and Social Council cycle | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 13. High-level political forum on sustainable development: global workshops on the preparation for voluntary national reviews and sharing of experiences in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals in the context of the high-level political forum | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 14. High-level political forum on sustainable development: regional workshop on the preparation of voluntary national reviews in the context of the high-level political forum | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 15. High-level political forum on sustainable development: seminars, workshops and other events related to the preparation of the high-level political forum | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Technical materials (number of materials) | 15 | 14 | 23 | 10 |
| 16. Studies on the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review | 9 | 7 | 17 | 3 |
| 17. Studies and materials on issues related to the Economic and Social Council | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| 18. Studies and materials on issues related to the high-level political forum, including on the voluntary national reviews | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 19. Studies and materials on issues related to the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

| Category and subcategory | 2019 planned | 2019 actual | 2020 planned | 2021 planned |
|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|--------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: provide support for informal consultations of Member States on resolutions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, and reports of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, including on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review and on resolutions recommended by the Second Committee of the Assembly, and the ministerial declarations of the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum; provide briefings/expert advice to Member States on sustainable development issues, including high-level bilateral consultations and intergovernmental meetings; provide expert advice to United Nations intergovernmental bodies, notably the Assembly, the Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development, to enable them to deliver on their mandates; review the arrangements of the resolutions on the high-level political forum and strengthen the Council; better oversee and guide United Nations development system operational activities for development and the implementation of the resolutions on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review (Assembly resolution 71/243) and the repositioning of the United Nations development system (Assembly resolution 72/279); support the different workstreams working on the implementation of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system, the review of multi-country offices, the longer-term restructuring and reprofiling of regional assets, the funding compact and other elements of the repositioning of the development system; assess the capacity of the development system to support the 2030 Agenda and meet its mandates; consult with civil society, NGOs, major groups and other stakeholders on annual themes of the Council and the high-level political forum; support meetings of major groups and other stakeholders to prepare the high-level political forum; conduct inter-agency consultations on various sustainable development issues, including on the preparations of meetings/sessions of the Council, the Assembly, the High-level Committee on Programmes and the quadrennial comprehensive policy review; lead the substantive work of inter-agency meetings, including the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, the High-level Committee on Programmes, the High-level Committee on Management, inter-agency mechanisms for the Council and the high-level political forum (including the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs Plus), the United Nations Sustainable Development Group; and consult with the members of the Council and the executive boards of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

Databases and substantive digital materials: materials for the high-level political forum and civil society organizations; a paperless committee system used to manage official documentation of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations; integrated Civil Society Organizations System, Civil Society Network and INDICO platforms and an online system for interacting with NGOs; an indicator framework to monitor the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review; data on the funding of United Nations operational activities for development; and data on the funding compact agreed to by Member States and the United Nations development system in 2019.

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: materials on the work of the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum; webinars for NGOs in consultative status on participation in Council bodies and United Nations activities.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: web pages of the subprogramme, including pages for the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum; webcasts of the Council and the high-level political forum and of discussions on emergency issues; e-discussion on the work of the Council and the forum; and the Civil Society Network website.

Subprogramme 2 Inclusive social development

Objective

- 9.39 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to advance policies for the eradication of poverty, the reduction of inequality and the achievement of greater social inclusion and well-being for all.

Strategy

- 9.40 To contribute to the advancement of policies for the eradication of poverty and the reduction of inequality, the subprogramme will continue to conduct evidence-based research and analysis, including on social groups that tend to be most left behind, such as indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, older persons and youth. The subprogramme will monitor national and global socioeconomic trends to identify emerging issues and assess their implications for social policy at

the national and international levels. Analysis done by the subprogramme is reflected in the flagship reports of the subprogramme, namely, the *World Social Report*, the *World Youth Report* and the *State of the World's Indigenous Peoples*, with a view to providing strategic recommendations on inclusion and ensuring that economic and social policies work in tandem to reach first those groups left the furthest behind. This work is expected to result in enhanced knowledge and awareness of Member States with regard to addressing vulnerable social groups and ensuring no one is left behind. Past results in these areas include, for example, that following the launch of the *World Youth Report* focused on youth civic engagement, Member States requested support for the design and delivery of workshops that would bring together policymakers and youth-led organizations to reinforce national capacities to jointly develop inclusive and evidence-based youth policies.

- 9.41 In addition, the subprogramme will provide substantive support for intergovernmental dialogue and processes, including the sessions of the Commission for Social Development, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. This work is expected to result in recognition by Member States of specific social development issues as a basis for action at the national level. Past results in these areas include the introduction of a new tool by the Assembly in its resolution [74/125](#), building on the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing. This tool encourages Member States to contribute to the work of the Working Group by considering adopting intergovernmental negotiated recommendations at each session to be presented for consideration by the Assembly. Moreover, in relation to youth, the seventy-fourth session of the Assembly included the highest-ever participation of youth delegates, which was an effort supported by the subprogramme. Youth delegates also participated dynamically in the fifty-seventh session of the Commission for Social Development, including by supporting the negotiation of resolutions.
- 9.42 To contribute to the achievement of greater social inclusion and well-being for all, the subprogramme will continue to engage in technical cooperation and capacity development efforts, in partnership with resident coordinators and United Nations entities, by providing assistance to Member States upon request. This work is expected to result in the increased capacity of Member States to effectively implement the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals. Examples of this work include specific support provided by the subprogramme, in close cooperation with the respective resident coordinator's office, with regard to the preparation of a comprehensive programme for older persons in Kyrgyzstan and the preparation of a national plan of action on indigenous peoples in Uganda. Past results in this area include, following cooperation with the subprogramme, the ratifications by Tajikistan in 2018 and by Kyrgyzstan in 2019 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the formulation of a new national social policy on family promotion and protection by Kenya in 2019.

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 9.43 A planned result for 2019, which is increased awareness by Governments, civil society, the United Nations system and the private sector of social development analysis, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by the increase in the number of citations of the subprogramme's flagship reports in international newspapers, academic journals and publications of other entities of the United Nations system to 708 for the biennium 2018–2019, compared with the target of 400, which highlights the notable influence of this work in the social development field. Increased attention to the subprogramme's social development analyses may also have been driven by the number of events hosted or supported by the subprogramme in partnership with other stakeholders. In 2019, 242 such events were held, including expert group meetings, commemorations of international days or years, special events related to inclusive social development and side events held in the margins of the sessions of the Commission for Social Development, the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the high-level political forum on sustainable development.

Programme performance in 2019: advancing inclusive development for indigenous peoples

- 9.44 Indigenous peoples are often among those most left behind, and they experience discrimination, the effects of conflicts and high rates of poverty, as well as a lack of equal access to quality and culturally appropriate education, health-care services, employment and technologies. In 2017, the system-wide action plan to ensure a coherent approach to achieve the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was welcomed by the General Assembly in its resolution [71/178](#). The action plan aimed to provide support to Member States and to indigenous peoples in implementing the Declaration. Particular attention was paid to collaboration between different United Nations entities to deliver results. The system-wide action plan covers key thematic areas, including developing the capacities of Member States, indigenous peoples, civil society and United Nations personnel at all levels and supporting the participation of indigenous peoples in processes that affect them.
- 9.45 The subprogramme also promotes the system-wide action plan and works to advance inclusive development for indigenous peoples through its support, as secretariat, for the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, which has played an essential role in providing expert advice on the special situation of indigenous peoples as relevant to the work of the Economic and Social Council and the larger United Nations system. The Forum also provides a platform for Member States of the United Nations, as well as representatives of indigenous peoples, United Nations entities and other stakeholders, to come together to discuss and share experiences, lessons learned and best practices regarding pressing issues confronting indigenous peoples, as well as to coordinate with one another to further advance the implementation of the Declaration and the 2030 Agenda.
- 9.46 As part of its efforts to provide support to the implementation of the Declaration at the national and regional levels, the subprogramme has, since 2015, supported a series of policy engagement processes intended to promote understanding of indigenous peoples' rights and to advance effective implementation of the Declaration, including in Cambodia, El Salvador, Kenya, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Paraguay and Uganda. The subprogramme's work in this area, carried out in partnership with other United Nations entities, including the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the International Labour Union (ILO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), includes support for policy and programming development.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 9.47 This work contributed to the achievement of greater social inclusion and well-being for all, as demonstrated by the drafting of policies, strategies and programmes on indigenous issues in six countries, representing a new momentum for action at the national level on indigenous issues, including carrying out policy dialogues and consultations between Governments and indigenous peoples. Specific examples in this regard include the subprogramme's engagement with Uganda where, when it introduced the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 2017, the Declaration was largely unknown. Its capacity development work on the instrument generated a call from the Government of Uganda for the development of a national affirmative action programme for indigenous peoples. With the support of the subprogramme, work towards the development of the programme was initiated in 2019, and included the formation of a drafting committee led by the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development and composed of representatives of key ministries, independent institutions and indigenous peoples, and the preparation of an initial zero draft of the programme. Moreover, starting in 2018, the subprogramme, in partnership with the Government of Namibia, spearheaded a series of strategic engagements with other countries in southern Africa with San populations. At a December 2019 subregional workshop supported by the subprogramme, participating countries (Angola, Botswana, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe) reported advances made during the course of the year towards inclusive development for and with San peoples. Further evidence of this momentum can be seen from the requests for technical advisory services received in 2019 from Zimbabwe, which will be addressed in 2020.

Table 9.3
Performance measure

| 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| Indigenous peoples, Member States and United Nations entities consult to draft a system-wide action plan on indigenous peoples | The system-wide action plan is introduced to indigenous peoples and Member States at the fifteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues | Governments and indigenous peoples engage in policy dialogues to explore approaches to advancing implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples at the national level | Government consultations are carried out with indigenous peoples and/or a participatory team is formed by Governments for policy development to advance implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples at the national level | The drafting of policy, strategy or programme to advance implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples at the national level is under way or completed in six countries |

Planned results for 2021

Result 1: sustainable peace through national youth policies (result carried over from 2020)

- 9.48 The subprogramme will continue to strengthen the capacity of Governments and civil society organizations to formulate, implement, monitor and evaluate national youth policies that contribute to the reduction and prevention of violence and the promotion of sustainable peace, in line with its mandate, and will further contribute to the engagement and empowerment of government officials in social policy formulation targeting the active participation of youth in promoting peace and security, which is expected to be demonstrated by the performance measure for 2021 below. This target will be reached by engaging with relevant government officials, youth leaders and activists at the national, regional, municipal and community levels to enhance their knowledge, awareness and capacity to formulate and implement national youth policies and action plans that promote conflict prevention, peacebuilding and sustaining peace in the context of the 2030 Agenda and the youth, peace and security agenda. As a result, the beneficiaries will have increased capacity to participate in policymaking processes linking youth development with peace and security issues, as well as implementing specific activities that contribute to sustainable peace and conflict prevention at the national and community levels. By the end of the project, government officials and youth leaders who have been targeted by the subprogramme in its capacity-building initiatives will have participated in the process of formulating and implementing youth policies and action plans. For 2020, a proxy performance measure is indicated to reflect that the General Assembly, in its resolution [74/251](#), approved a programme narrative at the subprogramme level that is composed solely of the objectives approved by the Assembly in its resolution [71/6](#) and the deliverables for 2020.

Table 9.4
Performance measure

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|------|---|---|---|--|
| N/A | 20 young people and government officials in Kenya with increased capacity in the formulation and implementation of national youth policies that promote youth, peace and security in the context of the 2030 Agenda | A total of 200 youth and government officials in Kenya, Lebanon and Liberia with increased capacity in the formulation and implementation of national youth policies that promote youth, peace and security | A total of 300 youth and government officials in Kenya, Lebanon and Liberia with increased capacity to formulate and implement national youth policies that promote youth, peace and security; expansion of reach to other countries within the region and in other regions | Project beneficiaries confirm, as a result of interviews conducted through social networks established by the project, their level of participation in the formulation and implementation of youth policies and programmes, and propose measures to enhance follow-up projects |

Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Result 2: effective social protection systems through enhanced governance systems (new result)

- 9.49 The subprogramme has been working towards delivering effective social protection systems through enhanced governance systems. Social protection plays a key role in achieving sustainable development, promoting social justice and realizing social security for all. In this regard, social protection policies are integral elements of national development strategies to reduce poverty and vulnerability across the life cycle and support inclusive and sustainable growth. An increasing number of countries have, during global forums, including at the Commission for Social Development, articulated the need for awareness-raising, capacity development and practical guidance in relation to the governance of social security systems. Progress has been made in some countries that are committed to providing better social protection provisions to more women and men, older persons and children, persons with disabilities and the unemployed. However, available data indicates that only 29 per cent of the global population is covered by comprehensive social security systems. The large majority – 71 per cent, or 5.2 billion people – lack any coverage at all, or are only partially protected. Therefore, much work remains if the goal of universal social protection is to become a reality for all.
- 9.50 The subprogramme's analytical and capacity-development work has aimed to serve as a tool for countries and communities in the push towards universal social protection and as they move forward to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. For instance, the analytical content of the *Report on the World Social Situation 2018*, which focused on promoting social inclusion through social protection, triggered the interest of Member States. The multiplier effect of this work is evident from the resulting requests from Member States for technical assistance, including from Cambodia, to further develop effective national social protection through enhanced governance systems for poverty eradication.

Internal challenge and response

- 9.51 The challenge for the subprogramme was the existing gap in the availability of a comprehensive overview of best practices, tools and communication mechanisms for good governance of social protection systems and floors. In response, the subprogramme will carry out a project entitled "Achieving Sustainable Development Goals and ending poverty through universal social

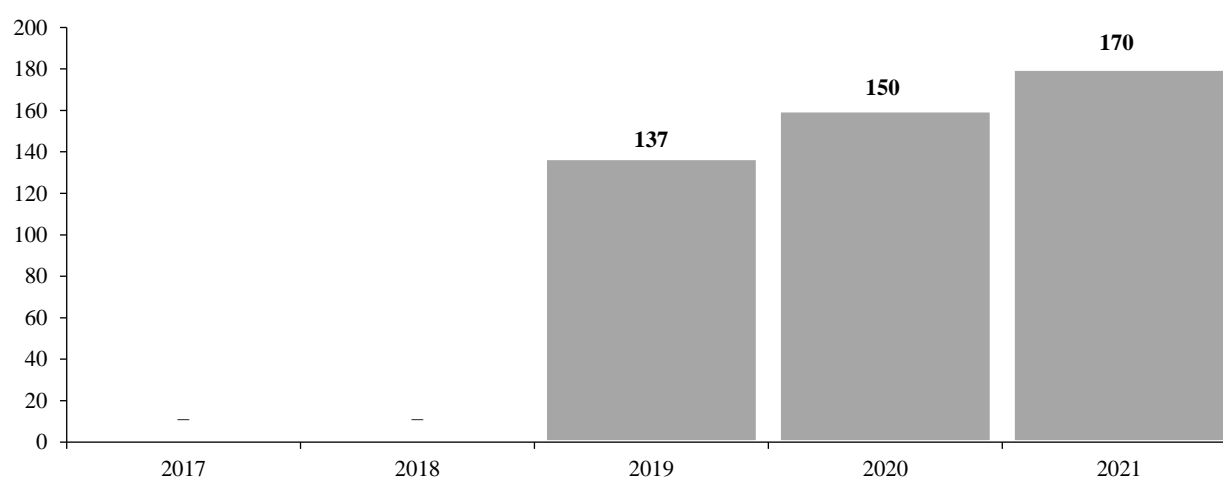
protection”, in cooperation with ILO, to develop practical tools for the effective administration and management of social protection systems and to strengthen the governance capacities of government officials and social protection agencies. The subprogramme will contribute to the development of these tools, including a guide on good practices and training materials, through its experience and knowledge of norms and guidance set by intergovernmental bodies and through the use of country examples that support evidence-based policymaking. The project will share the best practices, tools and communication mechanisms for good governance of social protection systems developed during the course of the project with additional countries through South-South and triangular cooperation. The project will also disseminate these knowledge products and foster the exchange of knowledge through the organization of an international conference on universal social protection with a particular emphasis on the decisive role of social security governance in extending social protection to all.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 9.52 This work is expected to contribute to advancing policies for the eradication of poverty, the reduction of inequality and the achievement of greater social inclusion and well-being for all, which would be demonstrated by the number of government officials who respond in a survey stating they have increased capacity in the management and governance of social protection through training sessions and tools, including a guide on good practices and other training materials developed from the project.

Figure 9.III

Performance measure: annual number of government officials stating increased capacity in management and governance of social protection



Legislative mandates

- 9.53 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme.

General Assembly resolutions

| | | | |
|--------|--|--------|---|
| 37/52 | World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons | 48/96 | Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities |
| 45/106 | Implementation of the International Plan of Action on Aging and related activities | 50/81 | World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond |
| 47/196 | Observance of an international day for the eradication of poverty | 51/58 | The role of cooperatives in the light of new economic and social trends |
| | | 54/120 | Policies and programmes involving youth |

Section 9 Economic and social affairs

| | | | |
|--------|--|----------------------------|---|
| S-24/2 | Further initiatives for social development | 72/162 | Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto: situation of women and girls with disabilities |
| 61/106 | Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities | | |
| 61/295 | United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples | 73/24 | Sport as an enabler of sustainable development |
| 62/10 | World Day of Social Justice | 73/141 | Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly |
| 65/182 | Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing | | Inclusive development for and with persons with disabilities |
| 65/312 | Outcome document of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding | 73/142 | Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing |
| 66/127 | Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing | 73/143 | Follow-up to the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond |
| 66/149 | World Down Syndrome Day | 73/144 | Rights of indigenous peoples |
| 67/139 | Towards a comprehensive and integral international legal instrument to promote and protect the rights and dignity of older persons | 73/156 73/244 | Eradicating rural poverty to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development |
| 68/3 | Outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities: the way forward, a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond | 73/246 74/119 74/120 | Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027) |
| 69/2 | Outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples | 74/121 74/122 | Cooperatives in social development |
| 69/142 | Realizing the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond | 74/124 | Promoting social integration through social inclusion |
| 69/145 | World Youth Skills Day | 74/125 | Policies and programmes involving youth |
| 69/202 | The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order | 74/144 | Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly |
| 70/170 | Towards the full realization of an inclusive and accessible United Nations for persons with disabilities | 74/234 | Follow-up to the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond |
| 72/6 | Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal | | Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing |
| 72/142 | Promoting social integration through social inclusion | 74/237 | Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto: accessibility |
| 72/143 | Cooperatives in social development | | Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027) |
| 72/146 | Policies and programmes involving youth | | Eradicating rural poverty to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development |

Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

| | | | |
|---------|---|-------------------|--|
| 1996/7 | Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the future role of the Commission for Social Development | 2008/18 2014/5 | Promoting full employment and decent work for all |
| 1996/31 | Consultative relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations | | Promoting empowerment of people in achieving poverty eradication, social integration and full employment and decent work for all |
| 2000/22 | Establishment of a Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues | | |

Part IV International cooperation for development

| | | | |
|---------|--|----------|---|
| 2017/12 | Promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and strengthening the mainstreaming of disability in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development | 2018/6 | Third review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002 |
| 2018/3 | Future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development | 2018/219 | Report of the Commission for Social Development on its fifty-sixth session and provisional agenda and documentation for its fifty-seventh session |
| 2018/4 | Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development | | |

Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions

| | | | |
|--------|---|------|--|
| 1996/1 | Coordination of the United Nations system activities for poverty eradication | 2007 | Ministerial declaration on strengthening efforts to eradicate poverty and hunger, including through the global partnership for development |
| 2006 | Ministerial declaration on creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive to generating full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its impact on sustainable development | | |

Commission for Social Development

| | | | |
|------|-------|------|---|
| 45/2 | Youth | 53/1 | Policies and programmes involving youth |
|------|-------|------|---|

Deliverables

9.54 Table 9.5 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 9.5

Subprogramme 2: deliverables for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

| Category and subcategory | 2019 planned | 2019 actual | 2020 planned | 2021 planned |
|---|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies | | | | |
| Parliamentary documentation (number of documents) | 30 | 27 | 26 | 30 |
| 1. Documents to the General Assembly on ageing, cooperatives in development, persons with disabilities, policies and programmes concerning youth, follow-up to the International Year of the Family, follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, social inclusion and other social development issues, the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty and sport for development and peace | 10 | 10 | 8 | 10 |
| 2. Documents to the Commission for Social Development | 6 | 5 | 4 | 6 |
| 3. Documents to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues | 10 | 8 | 10 | 10 |
| 4. Documents to the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Substantive service for meetings (number of three-hour meetings) | 87 | 89 | 87 | 87 |
| 5. Meetings of the Second Committee of the General Assembly | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 6. Meetings of the Third Committee of the General Assembly | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| 7. Meetings of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| 8. Meetings of the Economic and Social Council | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| 9. Meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 10. Meetings of the Commission for Social Development | 20 | 22 | 20 | 20 |
| 11. Meetings of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 |

| Category and subcategory | 2019 planned | 2019 actual | 2020 planned | 2021 planned |
|---|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 12. Meetings of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities | 16 | 16 | 16 | 16 |
| B. Generation and transfer of knowledge | | | | |
| Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects) | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 13. Projects on social policy formulation | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days) | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| 14. Lectures, multi-stakeholder panels, briefings, seminars and workshops for Member States and other stakeholders on social issues | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Publications (number of publications) | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| 15. Publication of the <i>World Youth Report</i> | 1 | 1 | – | 1 |
| 16. Publication of the <i>World Social Report</i> | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 17. Publication on indigenous peoples | 1 | 1 | – | – |
| 18. Publication on disability | – | – | – | – |
| Technical materials (number of materials) | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| 19. Outcome documents of expert groups on various social issues | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| C. Substantive deliverables | | | | |
| Consultation, advice and advocacy: carry out assessment, analysis and evaluation of Member States' socioeconomic situations and normative, policy and administrative frameworks in relation to the social dimensions of sustainable development and the Sustainable Development Goals; provide briefings/expert advice to Member States on sustainable development issues, including on high-level bilateral consultations and intergovernmental meetings, while promoting exchange of good practices, advice and advocacy to advance evidence-based policies. | | | | |
| D. Communication deliverables | | | | |
| Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: special events to commemorate international days on specific social groups and various social issues; policy briefs and communication activities to promote advancement of social development. | | | | |
| External and media relations: briefings, press conferences and press releases on various social issues. | | | | |
| Digital platforms and multimedia content: electronic, audio and video messaging on ageing, cooperatives, disability, family, indigenous issues, youth, sport for development and peace and various other issues. | | | | |

Subprogramme 3 Sustainable development

Objective

- 9.55 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets and commitments, through increased engagement of Member States and other stakeholders.

Strategy

- 9.56 To contribute to the acceleration of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets and commitments, through increased engagement of Member States and other stakeholders, the subprogramme will, in close coordination with other United Nations entities, continue to prepare analytical reports and assessments and organize thematic expert meetings and conferences on specific Goals and their interlinkages. To this end, the subprogramme organizes, in the months leading up to the high-level political forum on sustainable development, expert group meetings and conferences on the themes

of the forum. Throughout the first four-year cycle of the high-level political forum, each Goal has been the focus of at least one of these events. Examples are the review conference on Goal 7, organized jointly with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok in February 2018; the Global Conference on Strengthening Synergies between the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, organized jointly with the United Nations Framework on Climate Change and the United Nations Environment Programme in Copenhagen in April 2019; the review conference on Goal 16, organized jointly with the International Development Law Organization in Rome in June 2019; and the Sustainable Development Goal pavilions that were organized at the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Katowice, Poland (2018), and in Madrid (2019). Each of these events brought together experts from within and outside the United Nations system and provided a platform for the review of the implementation of the respective Sustainable Development Goals. All events were open to the participation of officials from Member States to allow for direct interaction with the experts. These actions are expected to result in increased knowledge of Member States for their deliberations during the high-level political forum and other related forums and for the development of related national policies and programmes. Past results in this area include the availability of policy-relevant information to Member States through the review of all 17 Goals during the period from 2017 to 2019, in line with the schedule mandated by the General Assembly in paragraph 5 of resolution [70/299](#), in the form of expert group meetings and conferences, as well as the sharing of the results of those meetings with Member States during the corresponding sessions of the high-level political forum under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council.

- 9.57 Furthermore, the subprogramme will continue to coordinate the work of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism as mandated by the General Assembly in paragraph 70 of resolution [70/1](#), including the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals. The Mechanism facilitates multi-stakeholder collaboration and partnerships through the sharing of information, experiences, best practices and policy advice among Member States, civil society, the private sector, the scientific community, United Nations entities and other stakeholders. The work of the subprogramme covers the provision of analytical products to the Mechanism, the convening of capacity-building workshops and other coordinating events that facilitate exchange of information, as well as the provision of support for the United Nations 10-Member Group to support the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and for the respective co-chairs with regard to preparing the programme of meetings of the multi-stakeholder forum. These actions are expected to result in the further unleashing of the full potential of science and technology for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals by Member States and other stakeholders. Past results in this area include an improved understanding by Member States of the role that innovative technological solutions can play in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. This was achieved through the organizing of annual multi-stakeholder forums from 2016 to 2019 in New York, which included a range of related science events and expositions, and the definition of a conceptual framework for the development of the online platform for the systematic sharing of existing science, technology and innovation initiatives, strategies and road maps at the global level.
- 9.58 The subprogramme will also, in close coordination with relevant United Nations system partners, convene capacity-building workshops and special events for key sectors in connection with the high-level political forum, including the Sustainable Development Goals business forum and forums of local and regional governments, to allow for the sharing of lessons learned and good practices related to the Goals by key stakeholder sectors. While the high-level political forum itself is the place for intergovernmental debate regarding the progress made and the challenges encountered in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, these events, held back-to-back with the high-level political forum, bring into focus the views of all stakeholder groups and allow for fruitful exchanges between Member States and all other stakeholders of the development arena. These actions are expected to result in the increased integration of the Sustainable Development Goals into inclusive national planning processes, policies and strategies, and in an increased number of actions and initiatives taken by Member States and other stakeholders to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Past results in this area include enabling government officials to improve decision-making and policy formulation through stimulating exchanges with representatives from these groups at various levels during the high-level political forum and by sharing good practices and recent trends with Member States, made possible in part by the mobilization of a diverse range of stakeholder groups through workshops and special events.

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 9.59 A planned result for 2019, which is the increased accessibility of information, understanding and knowledge of policy options, practical measures and concrete actions needed for the adoption and implementation of sustainable development at the local, national, regional and international levels, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by an increase in the number of visits to and downloads from the website of the Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform and its related social media forums to obtain information, documentation and publications. The number of visits to the Knowledge Platform exceeded 23 million by the end of the 2018–2019 biennium, compared with the target of 6 million visits. The portion of the Platform that is accessed most is the list of the Sustainable Development Goals and the description of each individual goal, its targets and indicators, combined with its annual progress report. These pages account for more than 25 per cent of the overall number of visits, followed by the pages related to the high-level political forum and the voluntary national reviews. In addition, the Twitter account @SustDev, with more than 208,000 followers, has the most followers of any Twitter account of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.
- 9.60 This unprecedented increase in the number of visits is testament to the fact that the Knowledge Platform is recognized as the main hub for information related to the high-level political forum and the Sustainable Development Goals, hosting unique databases on voluntary national reviews, voluntary commitments and multi-stakeholder partnerships, the implementation of the Goals by the United Nations, Goal-related good practices, acceleration actions for the Goals and background information on the thematic reviews of all 17 Goals.

Programme performance in 2019: focus on small island developing States – the high-level midterm review of the SAMOA Pathway

- 9.61 Small island developing States have been identified as one of the most vulnerable groups of countries when it comes to sustainable development. This vulnerability is caused by their small size, remoteness, narrow resource and export base and exposure to global environmental challenges and external economic shocks, including to a large range of impacts from climate change and potentially more frequent and intense natural disasters.
- 9.62 In 2014, the subprogramme organized the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States in Apia with the overarching theme “The sustainable development of small island developing States through genuine and durable partnerships”. Nearly 300 partnerships were announced at the Conference and monitored through a small island developing States partnership platform, which is managed by the subprogramme. The outcome document entitled “SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway” adopted at the Conference addresses priority areas for small island developing States and calls for urgent actions and support for their efforts to achieve sustainable development.
- 9.63 In September 2019, five years after the conference, the subprogramme, in close coordination with the Office of the President of the General Assembly and the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, prepared the high-level midterm review of the SAMOA Pathway at the level of the General Assembly. A series of regional preparatory meetings (in Belize, Mauritius and Tonga), followed by an interregional preparatory meeting for all small island developing States in Samoa, were organized. The subprogramme captured the outcomes of the preparatory process and facilitated the intergovernmental discussions in the months leading up to the midterm review, which culminated in a political declaration (see General Assembly resolution [74/3](#)). This declaration describes progress, gaps and challenges with the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and outlines steps to be taken by all stakeholders to achieve its full implementation by 2024.
- 9.64 The subprogramme also prepared a series of analytical studies and tools to assist in the establishment, monitoring and evaluation of multi-stakeholder partnerships focused on small island developing States and organized national, regional and global partnership dialogues to share lessons learned and good practices by all relevant stakeholders. As a result, the subprogramme is now increasing its efforts in

the area of capacity-building at the national and regional levels for small island developing States, thus allowing them to implement these partnerships in a self-sufficient and sustainable manner.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 9.65 This work contributed to the acceleration of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets and commitments, through increased engagement of Member States and other stakeholders, as demonstrated by the engagement of Member States and other stakeholders in the effective review of the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda (in accordance with para. 42 of General Assembly resolution 70/1). The increased engagement resulted in the establishment of more than 500 partnerships in the SIDS Action Platform, which represents a considerable increase compared with 300 partnerships in 2014. Examples of partnership initiatives that have been registered in the Action Platform and that continue to actively report on their activities are the Pacific Islands Universities Research Network and the Caribbean Challenge Initiative. The Pacific Islands Universities Research Network is a network of 13 regional universities located in six Pacific island countries and territories that intends to enhance research and development collaboration in science and technology. It was created in the lead-up to the 2014 Conference and has since organized joint regional conferences and implemented collaborative research projects covering all the Sustainable Development Goals. The Caribbean Challenge Initiative is a coalition of Governments, companies and other partners that are working together to accelerate action on the marine and coastal environment in the Caribbean. It was founded in 2008 and entered into a second phase in 2012 by agreeing on a strategic plan and launching the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund as a vehicle for the provision of sustainable funding for projects of the Initiative. The strategic goal of the Initiative, known as “20 by 20”, is to conserve and effectively manage at least 20 per cent of the marine and coastal environment of the region by 2020, thus aligning its objectives with relevant targets of Goal 14, which will be maturing at that time. While the Action Platform was initially developed as a simple repository for small island developing States partnerships, it has since evolved into a complex system that provides information about the status of each of the currently more than 500 partnerships. The intention is to provide Member States, notably small island developing States, and other stakeholders with a tool to assess which partnerships across all three regions of small island developing States have been successful over time and what lessons can be learned from these successful partnerships for the development of new initiatives.

Table 9.6
Performance measure

| 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|------|---|---|--|---|
| N/A | Development of the SIDS Action Platform as a central repository for partnerships with small island developing States to capture the more than 300 partnerships is announced at the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States in September 2014 | Increased number of partnerships is recorded in the Action Platform. No tracking of progress is possible (Platform is static) | Enhancement of the Action Platform through introduction of tracking and self-reporting components for partnerships, which allow the registering entity to report on progress made and issues encountered | More than 500 small island developing States partnerships have been recorded in the Action Platform. An analysis of these partnerships is published. Number of partnerships with the status of “completed” or “on track” reaches 180 by end of 2019 |

Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Planned results for 2021

Result 1: thematic reviews of the Sustainable Development Goals: helping Member States to stay on track (result carried over from 2020)

- 9.66 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, including their integrated nature and interlinkages, in line with its mandate, and will continue to convene expert group meetings and other events towards the enhancement of national implementation plans for the 2030 Agenda, which is expected to be demonstrated by the performance measure for 2021 below. For 2020, a proxy performance measure is indicated to reflect that the General Assembly, in its resolution [74/251](#), approved a programme narrative at the subprogramme level that is composed solely of the objectives approved by the Assembly in its resolution [71/6](#) and the deliverables for 2020.

Table 9.7

Performance measure

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|------|---|--|---|---|
| N/A | Few references to the findings of thematic expert group meetings and conferences are made by Member States in their reports | References to the findings of thematic expert group meetings and conferences can be found in some national reports, including voluntary national reviews | Frequent references to the findings of thematic expert group meetings and conferences are found in national reports, including voluntary national reviews | National reports, including voluntary national reviews, recognize the need for an integrated implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and reference the findings of expert group meetings and conferences, as well as the recommendations of the <i>Global Sustainable Development Report</i> |

Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Result 2: achieving the Sustainable Development Goals through multi-stakeholder coalitions in the areas of water, energy and hunger (new result)

- 9.67 The 2019 *Global Sustainable Development Report*, prepared by an independent group of scientists appointed by the Secretary-General and supported by the subprogramme, concluded that the world was not on track for achieving most of the 169 targets that comprise the Sustainable Development Goals. As a reaction to these findings, the General Assembly, in the political declaration of the Sustainable Development Goals Summit in September 2019, requested the Secretary-General to engage Governments, United Nations system entities, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders in generating solutions and accelerating actions to address systemic gaps in their implementation. The Secretary-General subsequently issued a global call for a decade of action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals and announced that the United Nations system would establish coalitions with all stakeholder groups to scale up the implementation of the Goals.
- 9.68 The subprogramme will build on its work on partnerships, voluntary commitments, the United Nations system Sustainable Development Goals action database and its databases on good practices and acceleration actions related to the Goals to create and support multi-stakeholder coalitions to spur further action, notably in the areas of water, energy and hunger, with a focus on leaving no one

behind. It will capitalize on a series of intergovernmental meetings in 2021, such as the high-level meeting to promote the implementation of the water-related goals and targets, convened by the President of the General Assembly, the high-level dialogue of the General Assembly on the implementation of the energy-related goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, and the world summit on food systems, to showcase these coalitions and their contributions to the accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Internal challenge and response

- 9.69 The challenge for the subprogramme was that partnerships and commitments are voluntary by nature and are submitted by diverse groups of actors; this makes it difficult for the subprogramme to provide common templates, which in turn makes it difficult to categorize those partnerships and commitments for analytical purposes. While central to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, there is great diversity in terms of the governance, implementation and impact of those partnerships and commitments. In response, the subprogramme will increase its analytical work, including the mapping and analysis of voluntary commitments and partnerships that have been registered with the subprogramme, with the objective of identifying challenges and gaps. At the same time, the subprogramme will develop capacity-building tools to enable Member States and other stakeholder groups to unleash the full potential of multi-stakeholder partnerships and voluntary commitments.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 9.70 This work is expected to contribute to the acceleration of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets and commitments, through increased engagement of Member States and other stakeholders, which would be demonstrated by the availability of a database with useful information on water, energy and hunger to track contributions by various stakeholder groups, with the aim of stimulating the sharing of good practices and successful implementations. For example, it would allow conclusions to be drawn from the analysis of more than 500 partnerships with small island developing States (an increase of 200 since 2014), and of more than 1,900 commitments related to Goal 14 (stemming from the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development held in 2017), and those findings to be transposed to the more than 5,000 registered partnerships and commitments across all thematic areas. As a first step, in 2021, the focus will be on water-, energy- and hunger-related partnerships and commitments.

Table 9.8
Performance measure

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| Member States and other stakeholders record partnerships and voluntary commitments in the context of major conferences, such as the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States (2014) or the United Nations Conference to Support the | Member States and other stakeholders can access the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals action database to review the contributions of United Nations system entities to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda | Member States and other stakeholders can consult the database on good practices related to the Sustainable Development Goals, a compendium of successful initiatives for the implementation of the Goals. After an announcement at the Sustainable | Establishment of United Nations system coalitions on water, energy and hunger. At the beginning of 2020, the number of Sustainable Development Goal partnerships and commitments reaches 5,000, the number of good practices reaches | A compendium of database entries is available to Member States during intergovernmental meetings on water, energy and hunger. The sharing of related solutions and accelerated actions in support of the Sustainable Development Goals becomes easier and |

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|--|------|---|---|----------------------------------|
| Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 (2017) | | Development Goal Summit in September 2019, that database is complemented by a database on voluntary actions taken to accelerate the implementation of the Goals | 500 and the database of acceleration actions contains 144 entries | more accessible to Member States |

Legislative mandates

9.71 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme.

General Assembly resolutions

| | | | |
|--------|---|------------------|--|
| S-19/2 | Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 | 73/226 | Midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, 'Water for Sustainable Development', 2018–2028 |
| S-22/2 | Declaration and state of progress and initiatives for the future implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States | 74/3 | Political declaration of the high-level meeting to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway |
| 59/229 | Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States | | |
| 65/2 | Outcome document of the High-Level Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States | 74/4 74/216 | Political declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development |
| 67/215 | Promotion of new and renewable resources of energy | | |
| 67/290 | Format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development | 74/217 | Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States |
| 71/222 | International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028, | | |
| 71/312 | Our ocean, our future: call for action | | |
| 72/212 | Strengthening the links between all modes of transport to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals | 74/224 74/225 | Harmony with Nature Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all |

Deliverables

9.72 Table 9.9 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 9.9

Subprogramme 3: deliverables for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

| <i>Category and subcategory</i> | <i>2019 planned</i> | <i>2019 actual</i> | <i>2020 planned</i> | <i>2021 planned</i> |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies | | | | |
| Parliamentary documentation (number of documents) | 28 | 29 | 14 | 12 |
| 1. Documents for the General Assembly | 10 | 11 | 8 | 8 |
| 2. Documents for the Economic and Social Council | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| 3. Documents for the high-level political forum on sustainable development | 16 | 16 | 5 | 3 |
| 4. Documents for the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings) | 110 | 113 | 87 | 84 |
| 5. Meetings of the General Assembly | 48 | 50 | 45 | 42 |
| 6. Meetings of the Economic and Social Council | 4 | 4 | 6 | 6 |
| 7. Meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development | 53 | 53 | 30 | 30 |
| 8. Meetings of the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 9. Meetings of the independent group of scientists for the <i>Global Sustainable Development Report</i> | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| B. Generation and transfer of knowledge | | | | |
| Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects) | 9 | 10 | 7 | 6 |
| 10. Projects on various topics of sustainable development (water, energy, sustainable transport, sustainable consumption and production, stakeholder engagement, small island developing States partnerships, micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, etc.) | 9 | 10 | 7 | 6 |
| Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days) | 125 | 92 | 125 | 100 |
| 11. Training seminars and/or workshops for and with national policymakers in developing countries and small island developing States with economies in transition, with a view to strengthening national capacities in all areas of sustainable development | 125 | 92 | 125 | 100 |
| Publications (number of publications) | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| 12. <i>Global Sustainable Development Report</i> | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| Technical materials (number of materials) | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| 13. Sustainable development in action: voluntary commitments and multi-stakeholder partnerships for sustainable development | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 14. Summary reports on progress gaps and challenges in the implementation of resolution 67/215, in which the General Assembly declared 2014–2024 the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 15. Progress report on multi-stakeholder partnerships for small island developing States | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 16. Publications on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development | 1 | 1 | 1 | — |
| C. Substantive deliverables | | | | |
| Consultation, advice and advocacy: inter-agency coordination in the area of sustainable development, such as UN-Water, UN-Energy, UN-Oceans, an inter-agency coordination group on small island developing States, the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs Plus; briefings/expert advice to Member States on sustainable development issues, including high-level bilateral consultations and intergovernmental meetings. | | | | |
| Databases and substantive digital materials: maintenance of the databases on voluntary initiatives, small island developing States, partnerships, voluntary commitments made during the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14, the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, UN-Energy, Harmony with Nature and other topics of sustainable development. | | | | |

| Category and subcategory | 2019 planned | 2019 actual | 2020 planned | 2021 planned |
|--|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| D. Communication deliverables | | | | |
| Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: special meetings and side events on sustainable development issues during major United Nations conferences at Headquarters or elsewhere; brochures on the Sustainable Development Goals, the <i>Global Sustainable Development Report</i> and the <i>Natural Resources Forum</i> . | | | | |
| Digital platforms and multimedia content: maintenance of the Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform. | | | | |

Subprogramme 4 Statistics

Objective

- 9.73 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen the capacity of Member States with regard to the production and use of high-quality, timely, disaggregated, open data and national statistics and geospatial information as a basis on which to inform policy and decision-making for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and review progress at the national and international levels.

Strategy

- 9.74 To contribute to the strengthening of the capacity of Member States with regard to national statistical and geospatial information systems, the subprogramme will promote and advance the development of statistical and geospatial information standards and methods, especially those related to the Sustainable Development Goals and other new emerging policy issues. These actions are expected to result in enhanced quality of and access to policy-relevant statistical and geospatial information. Past results in this area include the development of the global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution [71/313](#) and used to review progress and report at a global level. Progress has also been made with the adoption by the Statistical Commission and the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management of new international statistical and geospatial information standards and guidelines, which improve the harmonization and standardization of statistical methods, classifications and definitions, as well as geospatial information frameworks across countries.
- 9.75 To contribute to the strengthening of the capacity of Member States with regard to the production and use of high-quality, timely, disaggregated, open data and national statistics and geospatial information as a basis on which to inform policy and decision-making for the 2030 Agenda and review progress at the national and international levels, the subprogramme will also provide support to Member States by conducting training sessions and transferring knowledge through effective platforms for learning and for sharing information and experience among countries at the global, regional and national levels, as well as providing other appropriate forms of capacity-building support, including technical advisory services. The provision of statistical capacity development support has grown enormously with the Sustainable Development Goals and has expanded to include the modernization of statistical information systems and the use of big data, natural capital accounting, geospatial information management and survey instruments to fill the data gaps and leave no one excluded from decision-making and policies that affect them. This work is expected to result in the production and dissemination by Member States of better data and national statistics and geospatial information that are comparable and in line with the adopted international standards and provide an enhanced and open accessibility for policymakers and other users. Past results in this area include a high level of satisfaction (an average of 4.5 on a 5-point scale) with the organization of 39 capacity-building workshops and seminars in 2019 at which more than 1,332 statisticians and geospatial information experts received targeted in-person and online training.

- 9.76 In addition, to contribute to the strengthening of the capacity of Member States with regard to the production and use of high-quality, timely, disaggregated, open data and national statistics and geospatial information as a basis on which to inform policy and decision-making for the 2030 Agenda and review progress at the national and international levels, the subprogramme will also expand the coordination of its international statistical programmes and activities by cooperating with other international organizations and establishing partnerships with civil society organizations, academia and private sector data providers. In the area of geospatial information management, the subprogramme will facilitate the coordination of international activities by promoting the use of mapping and geographical information systems and the harmonization and standardization of geographical names for better integration of statistical and geospatial information. This work is expected to result in enhanced coherence in the statistical data and geospatial information and capacity-building activities of the United Nations system. Past results in this area include enhanced coherence and more effective functioning and transformation of global statistical and geospatial systems following the organization of nine collaborative events in 2019 to maintain key established coordination mechanisms, such as the meetings of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities and the meetings of the chief statisticians of the United Nations system entities. These mechanisms provided strategic leadership for monitoring and reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 9.77 Furthermore, to contribute to the strengthening of the capacity of Member States with regard to the production and use of high-quality, timely, disaggregated, open data and national statistics and geospatial information as a basis on which to inform policy and decision-making for the 2030 Agenda and review progress at the national and international levels, the subprogramme will also continue to collect, compile and disseminate global statistical information and data in the areas of economic, social, demographic and environmental statistics, including the Sustainable Development Goal indicators, by increasingly using modern information and communications technologies, such as the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange, to facilitate data exchange and enhance access to data and national statistics and geospatial information for policymakers and other users at the national and international levels. The subprogramme will disseminate the collected statistical information and data through its flagship data publications, databases and data platforms. Open data hubs and labs will continue to be developed and used to showcase innovative uses of data and explore the visualization of data and metadata. This work is expected to result in an increased production and use of national statistics and geospatial information. Past results in this area include the significant increase in the availability of and access to, and therefore the use of, statistical data. Main data dissemination platforms such as the UN Comtrade – International Trade Statistics Database and the UNdata platform, as well as the subprogramme’s websites, have been redesigned and revamped with user experience in mind. This eventually led to 8.8 million page views of the subprogramme’s websites in 2019. In addition, the use of social media as a mechanism to foster interest in raising awareness of the subprogramme’s work and activities was very successful, with close to 18,000 followers of the subprogramme’s official Twitter account (@UNStats).

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 9.78 A planned result for 2019, which is the strengthened capacity of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, to routinely collect, compile, store, analyse and disseminate official statistics and indicators in the economic, social, demographic and environmental fields, in order to produce high-quality data, including data disaggregated by sex, for policymakers and the public in general, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by an 80 per cent increase in the number of national statistical staff who have been effectively utilizing knowledge and skills acquired at training and capacity development activities delivered by the subprogramme, exceeding the biennial target of 76 per cent.

Programme performance in 2019: legal identity for all

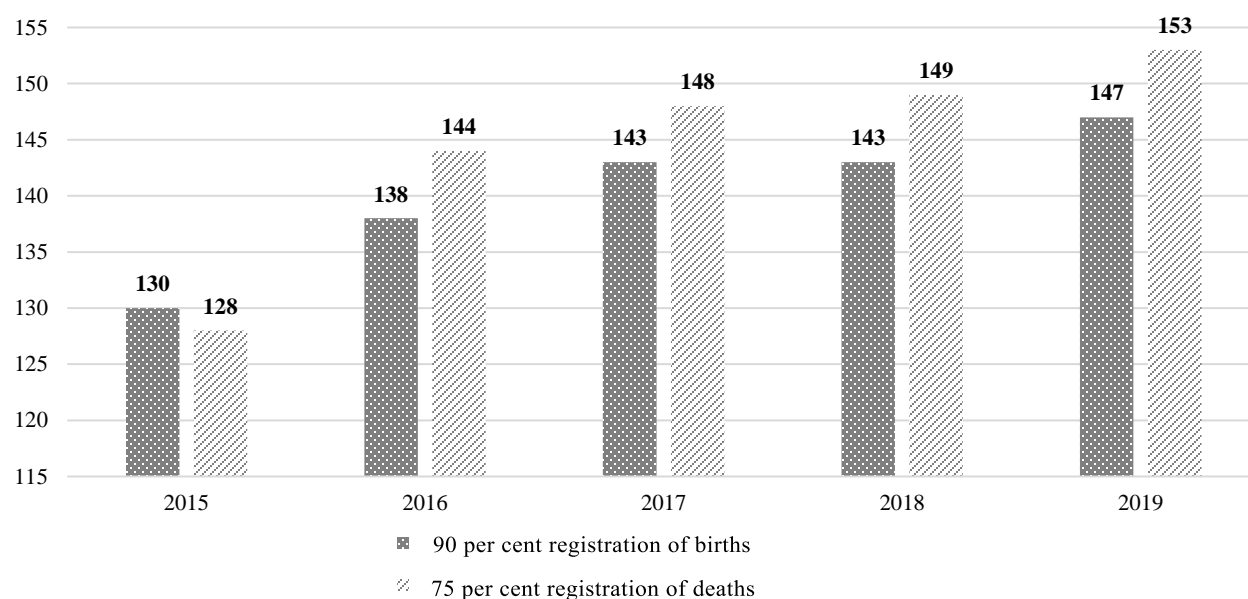
- 9.79 It is estimated that a billion individuals do not possess valid proof of legal identity, and 50 million newborns in any given year are not registered with birth certificates. Consequently, the 2030 Agenda established a specific target within the Sustainable Development Goals – target 16.9, on providing legal identity for all. As civil registration provides an official record of the existence of the person and the recognition of that individual before the law, it is the fundamental means of granting legal identity. Furthermore, civil registration is recognized as the ultimate source for the production of comprehensive, regular and reliable vital statistics.
- 9.80 Recognizing that the issue of legal identity for all is of paramount importance in terms of fulfilling the 2030 Agenda, the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations established the United Nations Legal Identity Expert Group in September 2018, co-chaired by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UNDP and the United Nations Children’s Fund. Through its central role, the subprogramme steered the members of the Expert Group to agree on the first-ever harmonized operational definition of legal identity.
- 9.81 Country implementation of the United Nations Legal Identity Agenda was initiated in 13 African countries. This implementation was based on the operational guidelines for the implementation of the Legal Identity Agenda by United Nations country teams, which was developed by the Expert Group. The Expert Group became the United Nations Legal Identity Task Force in December 2019. Globally, the implementation of the Legal Identity Agenda will require support in terms of training in the normative framework and the development of national road maps that are in sync with country contexts, and it will require that the coordinated work of the country teams on the ground be fully supported by their headquarters.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 9.82 This work contributed to the strengthening of the capacity of Member States with regard to the production and use of high-quality, timely, disaggregated, open data and national statistics and geospatial information as a basis on which to inform policy and decision-making for the 2030 Agenda, as demonstrated by 153 countries that are able to register 75 per cent of deaths and 147 countries that are able to register 90 per cent of births. Simultaneously, this work is critical in meeting the goal of “legal identity for all”, as the holistic approach elaborated in the United Nations Legal Identity Agenda addresses three critical components: universal civil registration; the production of regular and reliable vital statistics; and ensuring legal identity for all and identity management based on international standards and recommendations. In the context of enhancing national capacities to implement the Legal Identity Agenda in a standardized and contemporary manner based on international standards and best practices, the following three volumes related to legal identity and vital statistics produced or revised in 2019 provide Member States with hands-on advice with regard to civil registration management, legal frameworks and increased registration of vital events: *Guidelines on the Legislative Framework for Civil Registration, Vital Statistics and Identity Management*; the *Handbook on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems: Management, Operation and Maintenance, Revision 1*; and the *Handbook on Civil Registration, Vital Statistics and Identity Management Systems: Communication for Development*.
- 9.83 Owing to the accomplishments of the United Nations Legal Identity Expert Group in 2019, an increase in the number of donors that expressed interest in supporting the implementation of the United Nations Legal Identity Agenda was noted, which will allow capacity-building to generate reliable vital statistics in countries unable to achieve a high level of registration of births and deaths.

Figure 9.IV

Performance measure: number of countries with at least 90 per cent registration of births and at least 75 per cent registration of deaths



Source: Global Sustainable Development Goal Indicators Database as at 20 December 2019.

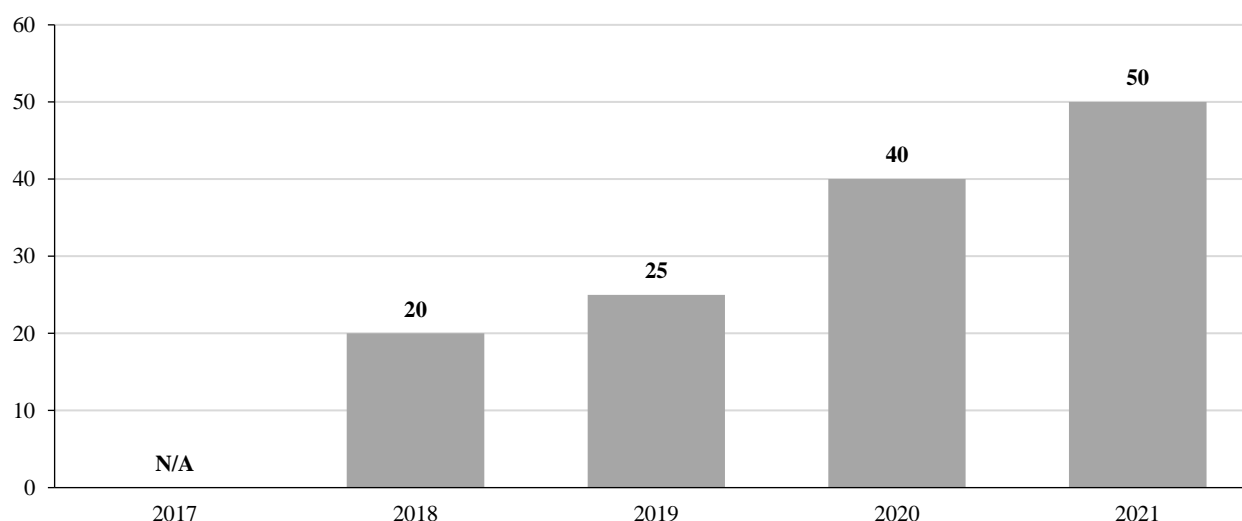
Planned results for 2021

Result 1: data innovation to ensure that no one is left behind (result carried over from 2020)

- 9.84 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the development and further refinement of the global indicator framework for the review of progress towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including its integrated nature and interlinkages, in line with its mandate, and will continue to convene expert group meetings and other events towards the strengthening of the national statistical capacities for the achievement of the scope and intent of the 2030 Agenda, which is expected to be demonstrated by the performance measure for 2021 below. For 2020, a proxy performance measure is indicated to reflect that the General Assembly, in its resolution [74/251](#), approved a programme narrative at the subprogramme level that is composed solely of the objectives approved by the Assembly in its resolution [71/6](#) and the deliverables for 2020.

Figure 9.V

Performance measure: total number of Member States that use non-traditional and/or new data sources for compiling Sustainable Development Goal indicators and disseminate them through national reporting platforms



Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Result 2: Data for Now – timely data for the Sustainable Development Goals (new result)

- 9.85 Almost five years into the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, policymaking and the design of urgently needed interventions still too often rely on out-of-date and partial data. Moreover, millions of people globally are still not included in the data and are therefore excluded from the decision-making and policies that affect them. There is an urgent need for more high-quality, timely, disaggregated, open data and national statistics and geospatial information to make the Sustainable Development Goals an actionable framework for sustainable development that can drive policies and programmes in real time for all people.
- 9.86 Over the past years, there have been incredible advances in technology and the creation of pioneering technology companies with state-of-the-art capabilities, and new rigorous data methods have been developed and tested.
- 9.87 Since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, the subprogramme has focused on leveraging the power of new technologies and the integration of new data sources and geospatial information with traditional data sources in order to increase the availability, quality, timeliness, accessibility and impact of data on sustainable development. The subprogramme has included activities such as the establishment of a United Nations global platform on big data to facilitate the use and integration of new data sources and innovative tools into official statistical systems. It has also focused on providing a space – the United Nations World Data Forum – for different data communities to come together and define new solutions and tools to fill data gaps, increase the production and use of disaggregated data and improve data timeliness. The World Data Forum workstream also includes a series of webinars to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and references with Member States for the use of innovative data tools.

Internal challenge and response

- 9.88 The challenge for the subprogramme was that the integration of innovative solutions and tools and geospatial information with traditional data programmes and sources required the establishment of partnerships and the development of a programme that could bring in private sector partners, while at the same time provide the necessary resources and capacity development to countries so they could benefit from new solutions. Bridging public and private data production is a new field of work that requires

testing new types of partnerships and new applications of existing standards and principles to ensure data quality and adherence to the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. In response, the subprogramme will facilitate the establishment of partnerships between national statistical systems and private sector providers. Innovative tools and solutions will be tested and scaled up, with private sector providers contributing training and tools to Member States for the strengthening of the skills and capacities of national statistical offices to leverage the power of new technology and data innovation.

- 9.89 The Data for Now initiative is co-led by a core team consisting of the subprogramme, the World Bank, the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, and was designed with inputs from government, civil society, academic and private sector partners. It focuses on accelerating the sustainable use of robust new methods and innovative tools that improve the timeliness, coverage and quality of Sustainable Development Goal data.
- 9.90 The initiative is based on collaboration and partnerships between agencies of the national statistical system and partners from the private sector and civil society, and is intended to define priorities and develop a concrete plan to improve the availability and use of timely data for decision-making across all sectors. Focused, hands-on training on the use of new data sources and technologies such as satellite imagery, mobile phone data, citizen-generated data, Internet-based geospatial information systems, cloud-based computing and blockchain will be facilitated. Moreover, regular peer-to-peer learning opportunities with other participating Governments, agencies and partners will be held to increase the impact of the work and build momentum for the collection of data related to the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 9.91 Alongside the work at the country level, the subprogramme will leverage key moments, such as the high-level political forum and the sessions of the General Assembly, to advance the agenda for inclusive, accurate and timely data at the international level and ensure progress on the Sustainable Development Goals as the United Nations enters the decade for action.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 9.92 This work is expected to contribute to the strengthening of the capacity of Member States for the production of high-quality, timely, disaggregated, open data and national statistics and geospatial information, which would be demonstrated by the development of new, tested measurement solutions and tools for five Sustainable Development Goal targets by 2020, and five additional targets by 2021, so that countries are able to produce and utilize data in a timely manner to address their priorities. By 2020, 10 countries, in addition to the original 8, will have increased capacity to access and utilize these new solutions, as will 10 more by 2021.

Table 9.10
Performance measure

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| Member States recommend that national statistical systems explore ways to integrate new data sources into their systems to satisfy new data needs of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (General Assembly resolution 71/313) | Countries and partners across the entire data ecosystem agree that data demands for the 2030 Agenda require urgent new, standards-based and interoperable solutions that leverage the power of new data sources and technologies | Launch of the Data for Now initiative enabling 8 pilot countries to use new data sources, methods and technologies to fill critical data gaps and deliver timely data that accelerates progress on the Sustainable Development Goals | 10 additional countries have access to the new data solutions validated during the first phase of the initiative and 6 countries test new solutions on additional Sustainable Development Goal targets and topics. | 10 additional countries have access to the new data solutions validated during the first and second phases of the initiative and 6 more countries test new solutions on additional Sustainable |

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|------|--|------|--|--|
| | through partnerships between national statistical authorities and the private sector, civil society and academic and other research institutions (Dubai Declaration, October 2018) | | Overall, 5 targets have new tested measurement solutions | Development Goal targets and topics. Overall, another 5 targets have new tested measurement solutions |

Legislative mandates

9.93 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme.

General Assembly resolutions

| | | | |
|--------|---|--------|--|
| 68/261 | Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics | 69/282 | World Statistics Day |
| 69/266 | A global geodetic reference frame for sustainable development | 71/313 | Work of the Statistical Commission pertaining to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development |

Economic and Social Council resolutions

| | | | |
|---------|--|--------------|--|
| 2006/6 | Strengthening statistical capacity | 2018/14 | Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters |
| 2011/24 | Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management | | Report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management on its ninth session and provisional agenda and dates for its tenth session |
| 2013/21 | Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics | | |
| 2014/31 | A global geodetic reference frame for sustainable development | 2019/210 | Report of the Statistical Commission on its fiftieth session and the provisional agenda and dates for the fifty-first session of the Commission |
| 2015/10 | 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme | | |
| 2016/27 | Strengthening institutional arrangements on geospatial information management | 2019/230–235 | Report of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names on its 2019 session – recommendations 1 to 5 |
| 2018/2 | Future organization and methods of work of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names | | |

Deliverables

9.94 Table 9.11 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 9.11

Subprogramme 4: deliverables for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

| Category and subcategory | 2019 planned | 2019 actual | 2020 planned | 2021 planned |
|---|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies | | | | |
| Parliamentary documentation (number of documents) | 20 | 20 | 19 | 22 |
| 1. Reports to the Statistical Commission | 16 | 16 | 16 | 16 |

Part IV International cooperation for development

| <i>Category and subcategory</i> | <i>2019 planned</i> | <i>2019 actual</i> | <i>2020 planned</i> | <i>2021 planned</i> |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2. Documents to the Committee on Contributions | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| 3. Report of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names | 1 | 1 | – | 1 |
| 4. Report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Substantive servicing for meetings (number of three-hour meetings) | 117 | 123 | 119 | 109 |
| 5. Meetings of the Statistical Commission | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| 6. Meetings of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names | 10 | 10 | – | 10 |
| 7. Meetings of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| 8. Meetings of experts on economic statistics, demographic and social statistics, environmental statistics and geospatial information, and on Sustainable Development Goal indicators and cross-cutting statistical areas | 94 | 100 | 106 | 86 |
| B. Generation and transfer of knowledge | | | | |
| Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects) | 8 | 9 | 5 | 4 |
| 9. Projects on economic statistics | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 10. Projects on demographic and social statistics | – | 1 | – | – |
| 11. Projects on environmental statistics and geospatial information | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| 12. Projects on Sustainable Development Goals and cross-cutting statistical areas | 4 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| Publications (number of publications) | 70 | 70 | 63 | 68 |
| Publications on economic statistics | 12 | 12 | 8 | 11 |
| 13. <i>Industrial Commodity Statistics Yearbook, Volumes I and II</i> | 2 | 2 | – | – |
| 14. <i>International Trade Statistics Yearbook, Volumes I and II</i> | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 15. <i>National Accounts Statistics: Analysis of Main Aggregates</i> | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 16. <i>National Accounts Statistics: Main Aggregates and Detailed Tables, Parts I–V</i> | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 17. <i>Guidelines on Statistical Business Registers</i> | 1 | 1 | – | – |
| 18. <i>Classification of Expenditure According to Purpose</i> | 1 | 1 | – | – |
| 19. Handbook on International Standard Industrial Classification | – | – | – | 1 |
| 20. Handbook on business statistics | – | – | – | 1 |
| 21. Handbook on automatic identification system data | – | – | – | 1 |
| Publications on demographic and social statistics | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 22. <i>Demographic Yearbook</i> | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 23. <i>Population and Vital Statistics Report, Series A</i> | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 24. <i>Guidelines on the Legislative Framework for Civil Registration, Vital Statistics and Identity Management</i> | 1 | 1 | – | – |
| 25. <i>Handbook on Civil Registration, Vital Statistics and Identity Management Systems: Communication for Development</i> | – | – | – | 1 |
| 26. <i>The World's Women 2020: Trends and Statistics</i> | – | – | 1 | – |
| Publications on environment statistics and geospatial information | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 |
| 27. <i>Electricity Profiles</i> | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 28. <i>Energy Balances</i> | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 29. <i>Energy Statistics Pocketbook</i> | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 30. <i>Energy Statistics Yearbook</i> | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 31. Integrated Geospatial Information Framework | – | – | 1 | – |
| 32. <i>System of Environmental Economic Accounting – Ecosystem Accounting</i> | – | – | – | 1 |

| Category and subcategory | 2019 planned | 2019 actual | 2020 planned | 2021 planned |
|---|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Publications on Sustainable Development Goals and cross-cutting statistical areas | 16 | 16 | 16 | 15 |
| 33. <i>Statistical Yearbook</i> | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 34. <i>Monthly Bulletin of Statistics</i> | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| 35. <i>World Statistics Pocketbook</i> | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 36. <i>Sustainable Development Goals Report</i> | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 37. <i>Quality framework for international organizations</i> | 1 | 1 | – | – |
| 38. <i>Handbook on Management and Organization of National Statistical Systems – Overview</i> | – | – | 1 | – |
| Technical materials (number of materials) | 26 | 26 | 26 | 26 |
| 39. Technical materials on economic statistics | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 40. Technical materials on demographic and social statistics | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 41. Technical materials on environmental statistics and geospatial information | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 42. Technical materials on Sustainable Development Goals and cross-cutting statistical areas | 17 | 17 | 17 | 17 |
| C. Substantive deliverables | | | | |
| Consultation, advice and advocacy: on economic, demographic and social, and environmental statistics and geospatial information, Sustainable Development Goal indicators and cross-cutting statistical areas; briefings/expert advice to Member States on sustainable development issues, including high-level bilateral consultations and intergovernmental meetings. | | | | |
| Databases and substantive digital materials: on economic, demographic and social, and environmental statistics and geospatial information, Sustainable Development Goal indicators and cross-cutting statistical areas. | | | | |
| D. Communication deliverables | | | | |
| Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: on economic, demographic and social, and environmental statistics and geospatial information, Sustainable Development Goal indicators and cross-cutting statistical areas. | | | | |

Subprogramme 5 Population

Objective

- 9.95 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to improve knowledge of global population trends, advance an evidence-based understanding of interactions between population change and sustainable development among policymakers and the public, and to strengthen the international community's capacity to effectively address current and emerging population issues and integrate the population dimension into the international development agenda.

Strategy

- 9.96 To contribute to the improvement of knowledge of global population trends and the advancement of an evidence-based understanding of interactions between population change and sustainable development among policymakers and the public, the subprogramme will prepare studies on issues related to population growth, population ageing, migration, urbanization, fertility, family planning, mortality and other aspects of population in relation to sustainable development. This work will emphasize and rely upon the production of population estimates and projections, the analysis of demographic trends and the evaluation of population policies. The subprogramme will produce comprehensive global data sets on selected topics, as well as "highlights" reports on these topics and an annual report on a selected demographic megatrend. The subprogramme will disseminate population data, information and policy-relevant findings through its website and other means of outreach and communication. These actions are expected to result in improved access to data and

reports on population matters for Governments and other users and increased use of the subprogramme's data and findings in the work of stakeholders. Past results in this area include the uptake of *World Population Prospects 2019*, released in June 2019. The *World Population Prospects* website had more than 1.4 million page views from 17 June 2019 to 31 December 2019, including downloads of data files and related reports by more than 427,000 users, 160,000 visits to obtain charts or maps and more than 190,000 interactive data queries, demonstrating the utility of the subprogramme's population estimates and projections to users in many fields. Other products with high uptake by the international community include the subprogramme's data sets and reports on urbanization, international migration and population ageing.

- 9.97 To contribute to strengthening the international community's capacity to effectively address current and emerging population issues and integrating the population dimension into the international development agenda, the subprogramme will provide substantive support to United Nations intergovernmental bodies, in particular the Commission on Population and Development, including by preparing reports of the Secretary-General and by convening expert meetings and panels. The subprogramme will assist Governments in assessing progress made in implementing the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development held in 1994, and achieving internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with a particular focus on the global monitoring of Goal indicators on reproductive health, international migration and child and maternal mortality, often in partnership with other entities of the United Nations system. In addition, the subprogramme will continue to improve the United Nations estimates and projections of the global population. These actions are expected to result in accurate data and policy-relevant reports on population trends and their relationship to sustainable development that benefit Member States and other stakeholders in policy and development planning. Past results in this area include the declaration on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development held in Cairo in 1994, in which Governments pledged to undertake further action to ensure the full and accelerated implementation of the Programme of Action adopted by the Conference. Another important result is the finding that data produced by the subprogramme are being used by custodian agencies for the global monitoring of about one third of the Sustainable Development Goal indicators currently classified as tier 1 and tier 2.

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 9.98 A planned result for 2019, which is increased attention given to new and emerging population issues by the international community and increased knowledge and understanding of the interactions between population and development, including the gender dimensions of demographic phenomena, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by the 811,000 downloads of publications and data sets on population topics by stakeholders from the subprogramme's website in 2019, compared with 652,000 in 2018, an increase of almost 25 per cent, far exceeding the biennial target of 10,000.

Programme performance in 2019: new Sustainable Development Goals monitoring tool on international migration

- 9.99 The subprogramme is a designated custodian or "partner" agency for 14 Sustainable Development Goal indicators, and serves as co-custodian, together with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), for indicator 10.7.2 on migration policies that facilitate the orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people.
- 9.100 No suitable data existed for indicator 10.7.2 before 2018. In agreement with the co-custodian and partner agencies, the United Nations Inquiry among Governments on Population and Development, mandated by the General Assembly and fielded 11 times by the subprogramme between 1963 and 2014, was adapted to serve as the data collection instrument for gathering country-specific data to

measure this indicator. The revamped Inquiry is divided into three modules: module I on population ageing and urbanization; module II on fertility, family planning and reproductive health; and module III on international migration. Module II integrates the questions needed to measure indicator 5.6.2, and module III does the same for indicator 10.7.2. The development of the methodology for measuring indicator 10.7.2, as well as the new questionnaire for module III of the Inquiry, benefited from extensive consultations with countries and experts in all regions. The methodology was subsequently approved by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators. The new Inquiry was fielded in late 2018 in close collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund, IOM and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. By the end of 2019, 111 Governments had responded to at least one of the modules (a response rate of 56 per cent), and the resulting data informed the annual reports on progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 9.101 This work contributed to strengthening the international community's capacity to integrate the population dimension into the international development agenda, as demonstrated by the collection of consistent national data and baseline measures of Sustainable Development Goal indicator 10.7.2 through the twelfth United Nations Inquiry among Governments on Population and Development.

Table 9.12

Performance measure

| 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is adopted and includes target 10.7 on facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration | Indicator framework is adopted; no countries have systematic data for measuring indicator 10.7.2 on migration policies | Methodology for measuring indicator 10.7.2 is piloted and consultation and validation process begins | Methodology for indicator 10.7.2 is approved by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators; twelfth Inquiry is launched | 111 countries complete module III, providing a baseline estimate for indicator 10.7.2 |

Planned results for 2021

Result 1: improved accessibility of policy-relevant data and analysis, through streamlined reports and multimodal dissemination (result carried over from 2020)

- 9.102 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the accessibility of data and analysis, in line with its mandate, and will continue to refine its reports and data sets, including on megatrends, for broader reach and accessibility of the information, which is expected to be demonstrated by the performance measure for 2021 below. For 2020, a proxy performance measure is indicated to reflect that the General Assembly, in its resolution [74/251](#), approved a programme narrative at the subprogramme level that is composed solely of the objectives approved by the Assembly in its resolution [71/6](#) and the deliverables for 2020.

Table 9.13
Performance measure

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|------|--|--|--|---|
| N/A | Numerous and lengthy thematic reports; overlap between full reports and highlights reports | Development of a new series on megatrends to replace longer thematic reports | Targeted promotion of new annual megatrends report leads to an increase in the number of downloads | Impact of megatrends report is visible in references to the report in websites and articles |

Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Result 2: global population estimates and projections for the Sustainable Development Goals era (new result)

- 9.103 The subprogramme produces and disseminates comprehensive and consistent population estimates and projections for all countries and regions, describing levels and trends of the global population and its three components of change (fertility, mortality and international migration). This information is relevant to all three dimensions of sustainable development (social, economic and environmental). *World Population Prospects*, the most widely cited collection of global population estimates and projections, is used extensively within the United Nations system (e.g., for calculating about one third of the Sustainable Development Goal indicators currently classified as tier 1 and tier 2), as well as by Member States, civil society and academic researchers around the world. The next revision of *World Population Prospects*, produced biennially, is due in mid-2021. To accommodate the evolving needs of users, future versions of *World Population Prospects* will provide greater detail, while at the same time maintain high standards of transparency and replicability. In order to produce data as needed by users and improve its accessibility, *World Population Prospects 2021* will benefit from a new information technology infrastructure for data production and a new online portal for data dissemination.
- 9.104 More broadly, the subprogramme has started work to integrate its existing data sets, previously disseminated in different forms and formats, into a central data portal to improve public access to the information. The central data portal will also provide enhanced descriptions of data sets as requested by users for transparency and replicability in monitoring progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and other uses.

Internal challenge and response

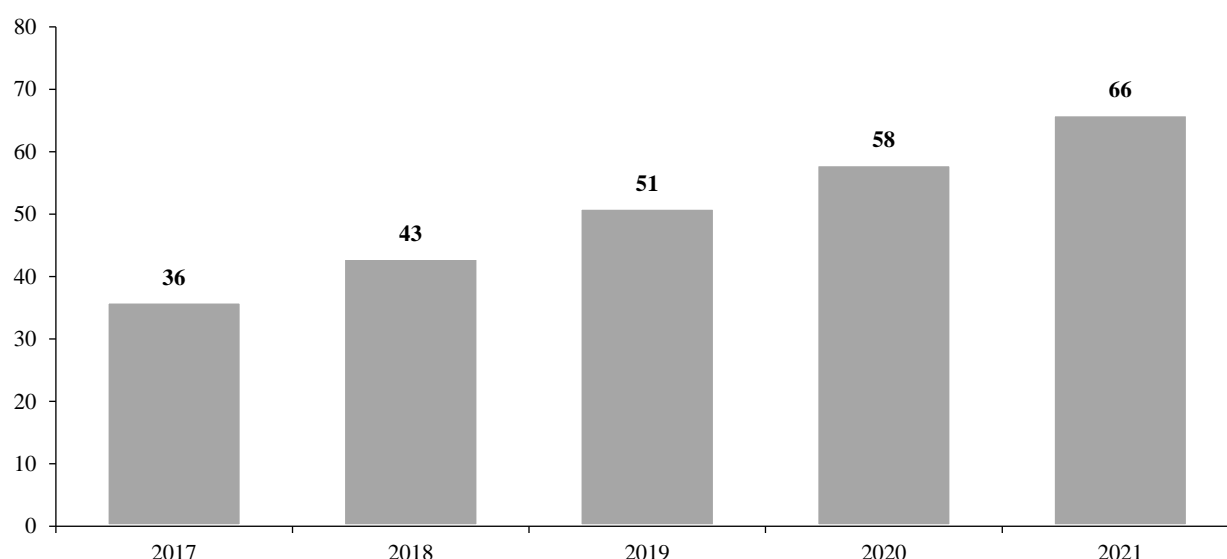
- 9.105 The challenge for the subprogramme was that the *World Population Prospects* data set has been produced using information technology that has evolved over several decades and includes some outdated software tools that no longer have technical support. This data infrastructure has been challenging to maintain and is inadequate to produce population estimates and projections at the level of detail currently desired by users, including for the global monitoring of progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals. In addition, the current infrastructure does not provide access to state-of-the-art tools for data visualization that would enhance Member States' and other stakeholders' analytical capacity to integrate the population dimension into the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In response, in 2021 the subprogramme will reorganize and update its information technology infrastructure to improve both the quality and the accessibility of its global population data. The data portal for dissemination will add interactive tools for data visualization to generate, for example, graphs, population pyramids and thematic maps, which will improve users' ability to compare and analyse population patterns and trends.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 9.106 This work is expected to contribute to strengthening the international community's capacity to effectively address current and emerging population issues and to integrate the population dimension into the international development agenda through the effective use of population estimates and projections, which would be demonstrated by the number of publications in the public domain that reference *World Population Prospects* as a source of population data used for analytical work. For example, based on the past trend in the number of citations in academic articles, rising from 36,000 in 2017 to 51,000 in 2019, it is projected that the cumulative number of citations may rise to approximately 66,000 in 2021.

Figure 9.VI

Performance measure: annual number of citations of *World Population Prospects* in academic articles



Legislative mandates

- 9.107 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme.

General Assembly resolutions

| | | | |
|--------|---|--------|---|
| 49/128 | Report of the International Conference on Population and Development | 68/4 | Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development |
| S-21/2 | Key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development | 71/1 | New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants |
| 57/299 | Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS | 72/281 | International Day of Family Remittances |
| 65/234 | Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014 | 73/195 | Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration |
| | | 73/241 | International migration and development |
| | | 73/326 | Format and organizational aspects of the international migration review forums |

Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

| | | | |
|---------|---|---------|---|
| 1994/2 | Work programme in the field of population | 1997/2 | International migration and development |
| 1995/55 | Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development | 1997/42 | Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development |

| Part IV | International cooperation for development | | |
|--|---|---------|---|
| 1999/10 | Population growth, structure and distribution | 2016/25 | Future organization and methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development |
| 2005/213 | Improvement of the work of the Commission on Population and Development | | |
| Commission on Population and Development | | | |
| 1997/2 | Reporting requirements to the Commission on Population and Development | 2008/1 | Population distribution, urbanization, internal migration and development |
| 1997/3 | Work programme in the field of population | 2009/1 | The contribution of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development to the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals |
| 1998/1 | Health and mortality | | |
| 2000/1 | Population, gender and development | | |
| 2001/1 | Population, environment and development | | |
| 2003/1 | Population, education and development | 2010/1 | Health, morbidity, mortality and development |
| 2004/1 | Work programme in the field of population | 2011/1 | Fertility, reproductive health and development |
| 2004/2 | Follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development | 2012/1 | Adolescents and youth |
| 2005/1 | Population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty | 2013/1 | New trends in migration: demographic aspects |
| | | 2014/1 | Assessment of the status of implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development |
| 2005/2 | Contribution of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, in all its aspects, to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration | 2016/1 | Strengthening the demographic evidence base for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development |
| | | | Declaration on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development, as contained in the report on the fifty-second session of the Commission on Population and Development (E/2019/25-E/CN.9/2019/6) |
| 2006/1 | Methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development | | |
| 2006/2 | International migration and development | | |
| 2007/1 | Changing age structures of populations and their implications for development | | |

Deliverables

9.108 Table 9.14 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 9.14

Subprogramme 5: deliverables for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

| Category and subcategory | 2019 planned | 2019 actual | 2020 planned | 2021 planned |
|---|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies | | | | |
| Parliamentary documentation (number of documents) | 2 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| 1. Reports to the General Assembly | — | — | 1 | — |
| 2. Reports to the Commission on Population and Development | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings) | 33 | 31 | 40 | 33 |
| 3. Meetings of the General Assembly | — | — | 7 | — |
| 4. Meetings of the Economic and Social Council | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 5. Meetings of the Commission on Population and Development | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 |
| 6. Meetings of experts on population topics | 8 | 6 | 8 | 8 |

| Category and subcategory | 2019 planned | 2019 actual | 2020 planned | 2021 planned |
|---|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| B. Generation and transfer of knowledge | | | | |
| Publications (number of publications) | 17 | 17 | 5 | 3 |
| 7. <i>World Population Monitoring 2019: Concise report</i> | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| 8. <i>World Population Prospects: Highlights</i> | 1 | 1 | — | 1 |
| 9. <i>World Population Prospects 2019, Vol. I: Comprehensive Tables</i> | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| 10. <i>World Population Prospects 2019, Vol II: Demographic Profiles</i> | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| 11. <i>World Population Prospects 2019: Methodology</i> | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| 12. <i>World Mortality 2019</i> | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| 13. <i>World Mortality: Highlights</i> | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| 14. Report on emerging issues in health and mortality | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| 15. Report on population and development topics | 1 | 1 | 1 | — |
| 16. <i>International Migration 2019</i> | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| 17. <i>International Migration: Highlights</i> | 1 | 1 | 1 | — |
| 18. <i>World Fertility 2019</i> | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| 19. <i>World Fertility and Family Planning: Highlights</i> | 1 | 1 | 1 | — |
| 20. <i>World Population Ageing 2019</i> | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| 21. <i>World Population Ageing: Highlights</i> | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| 22. <i>World Population Policies 2019</i> | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| 23. <i>World Population Policies: Highlights</i> | 1 | 1 | — | 1 |
| 24. <i>Population Megatrends</i> | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| 25. Questionnaire for the thirteenth United Nations Inquiry among Governments on Population and Development | — | — | 1 | — |
| Technical materials (number of materials) | 16 | 16 | 12 | 12 |
| 26. Major data sets on population topics | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| 27. Sustainable Development Goal indicator data sets | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| 28. Reports of expert group meetings on population topics | 5 | 4 | 3 | 3 |
| 29. Technical papers on population topics | 6 | 6 | 4 | 4 |
| C. Substantive deliverables | | | | |
| Consultation, advice and advocacy: briefings for and consultations with Member States for the Commission on Population and Development; briefings/expert advice to Member States on sustainable development issues, including high-level bilateral consultations and intergovernmental meetings. | | | | |
| Databases and substantive digital materials: databases and data sets on population topics. | | | | |
| D. Communication deliverables | | | | |
| Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: booklets, fact sheets, wallcharts and information kits on population topics. | | | | |
| External and media relations: press conferences, press releases and social media content related to the Commission on Population and Development; press releases and social media content to support the launch of major publications or data sets; responses to requests from Member States, the media, United Nations entities and other stakeholders. | | | | |
| Digital platforms and multimedia content: interactive data visualization and other Internet content on population topics. | | | | |

Subprogramme 6

Economic analysis and policy

Objective

- 9.109 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen national capacities and international policy coordination for identifying, analysing and managing short-term macroeconomic risks and long-term impacts of megatrends to enhance the economic resilience of the least developed countries, small island developing States and countries in special situations and accelerate their sustainable development.

Strategy

- 9.110 To contribute to strengthened national capacities for identifying, analysing and managing short-term macroeconomic risks, the subprogramme will broaden the scope of economic forecasting and simulation tools to assess trade-offs among economic growth, poverty, inequality and environmental sustainability. This work is expected to result in greater integration of economic, social and environmental priorities in resolutions as well as national development plans and strategies. Past results in this area include enhanced understanding and appreciation of global macroeconomic contexts, challenges and their implications for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals – as presented in the United Nations flagship report, *World Economic Situation and Prospects* – enabling Member States, the Secretary-General and senior management in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to engage in informed deliberations in the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and other forums.
- 9.111 To contribute to strengthening national capacities and international policy coordination to enhance economic resilience and accelerate sustainable development in least developed countries, the subprogramme will prioritize and expand capacity development support with policy research, analyses and training workshops. These actions are expected to result in improved coordination and informed decisions for countries that are graduating from the group of least developed countries. Past results in this area include strengthened national capacities of government officials in several least developed countries to assess the impact of their graduation and identify various policy options and strategies for ensuring a smooth transition during the graduation process.
- 9.112 To contribute to strengthening international policy coordination for identifying, analysing and managing short-term macroeconomic risks to enhance economic resilience, and accelerate sustainable development in least developed countries, small island developing States and countries in special situations, the subprogramme will assess the effects of and interactions among slowing growth, climate change, rising inequality and rapid technological change and their impacts on national commitments to multilateralism. This work is expected to result in stronger support for multilateral efforts to bolster sustainable development nationally and globally. Past results in this area include deepening the understanding of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council of the effects and interactions of several megatrends (weakening global economic growth, rising inequality, aggravating climate change, lingering conflicts, increasing migration pressures and disruptive new technologies), and how Member States can calibrate their national strategies for accelerating national Sustainable Development Goals progress.

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 9.113 A planned result for 2019, which is improved awareness of and dialogue on the world economic situation and its implications for the prospects of developing countries, including the least developed countries, and countries in special situations, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by 52 references in intergovernmental deliberations to the analysis covered in the subprogramme's publication *World Economic Situation and Prospects* and other relevant reports, including the subprogramme's contribution to the *World Social Report*, which was the target for the biennium.

Programme performance in 2019: strengthened national capacities through policy analysis, integrated macroeconomic modelling approach and capacity-building

- 9.114 The subprogramme undertook rigorous economic analyses on economic growth, inequality and new and frontier technologies, identifying various trade-offs and presenting key findings – through various reports, policy briefs and technical papers – to strengthen national capacities. Furthermore, the subprogramme developed analytical tools in 2019 to assess the impacts of the megatrends of economic growth, inequality, climate change and rapid technological change and the consequent economic uncertainties and insecurity. This analytical work demonstrated that rising “within country” inequality is a key factor that impedes and deters bold climate action at national levels and weakens multilateral efforts to manage international migration and prevent conflicts. The economic analyses and other policy research also informed relevant deliberations at the intergovernmental and national levels through reports of the Secretary-General and relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions.
- 9.115 The subprogramme introduced a novel integrated approach to macroeconomic modelling in 2019, when it calibrated its World Economic Forecasting Model to identify the rate of economic growth that the least developed countries would need to eradicate extreme poverty by 2030. The simulation showed that per capita gross domestic product in the least developed countries would need to grow by 17 per cent per year for the next 12 years to eradicate extreme poverty if the levels of inequality remain unchanged. Such a growth rate is unlikely to be sustainable. The model also ran different scenarios and demonstrated that eradicating poverty in the least developed countries could be achieved through a combination of rapid economic growth and steep reductions in income inequality through redistributive measures, underscoring the imperatives of pursuing integrated and multidimensional policy measures.
- 9.116 Furthermore, the subprogramme provided consistent support through the capacity-building of policymakers and government officials to improve policy analysis and formulation to prepare countries for graduation from the least developed country category. This resulted in an improved understanding by national stakeholders of the graduation process, the criteria for graduation and the trade-off between costs and benefits associated with graduation. This work also resulted in the improved capacity of both the public and private sectors to take advantage of the international support measures for least developed countries.
- 9.117 The subprogramme also identified, in the report of the Secretary-General on development cooperation with middle-income countries ([A/74/269](#)), the interlinkages between technology and innovation, inequality and the so-called middle-income trap, affecting many middle-income countries. The report showed that the adoption and use of relevant technologies can play an important role in fostering productivity growth, which is critical for addressing multidimensional poverty and avoiding the middle-income trap. The findings of the report encouraged the Member States to urge the operationalization of the technology transfer platform for middle-income countries in General Assembly resolution [74/231](#). The subprogramme also organized a technical side event for the General Assembly on frontier technologies and emerging models in October 2019, which informed the Member States of various risks and opportunities associated with frontier technologies and their impacts on other megatrends.

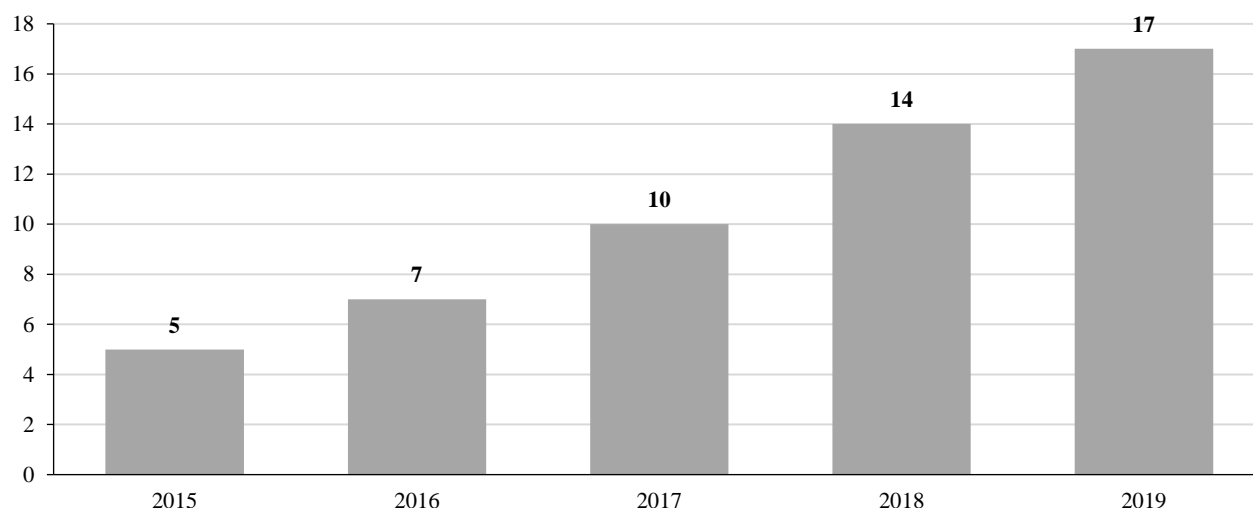
Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 9.118 This work contributed to strengthened national capacities and international policy coordination for identifying, analysing and managing short-term macroeconomic risks and long-term impacts of megatrends to enhance the economic resilience of least developed countries, small island developing States and countries in special situations and accelerate their sustainable development, as demonstrated by the increase in the number of countries receiving capacity development support and policy analyses of the subprogramme from 5 in 2015 to 17 in 2019. The demand for support from the subprogramme surged because these countries found economic analyses performed by the subprogramme, through the

World Economic Forecasting Model, analytical tools related to megatrends and key findings of the reports of the Secretary-General on development cooperation very relevant and effective with regard to informing their policy decisions at the national and international levels.

Figure 9.VII

Performance measure: number of countries receiving capacity development support and policy analyses from the subprogramme



Planned results for 2021

Result 1: integrated policy approach towards the Sustainable Development

Goals (result carried over from 2020)

- 9.119 The subprogramme will continue the work related to integrated policy approaches, in line with its mandate, and will continue to promote integrated approaches for accelerated progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, which is expected to be demonstrated by the performance measure for 2021 below. For 2020, a proxy performance measure is indicated to reflect that the General Assembly, in its resolution [74/251](#), approved a programme narrative at the subprogramme level that is composed solely of the objectives approved by the Assembly in its resolution [71/6](#) and the deliverables for 2020.

Table 9.15

Performance measure

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|------|--|---|--|---|
| N/A | The review of voluntary national reviews by the high-level political forum reveals the lack of an integrated policy approach | A new indicator, based on the documents of the high-level political forum in 2018 and 2019, is developed to measure the adoption of an integrated policy approach | Increase in the number of voluntary national reviews submitted to the high-level political forum indicates the adoption of an integrated policy approach | Increase in support, with modelling tools and policy research, for integrated policy approaches in the common country analysis and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation |

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|------|------|------|------|--|
| | | | | Framework to accelerate national sustainable development efforts |

Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Result 2: strengthened economic analysis of macroeconomic and sustainable development impacts (new result)

- 9.120 The subprogramme has been working towards strengthening the economic analysis of macroeconomic and sustainable development impacts. It is increasingly evident from the policy research of the subprogramme that several megatrends – slowing economic growth prospects, rising inequality, climate change and the rapid roll-out of frontier technologies – are shaping both short-term macroeconomic outcomes and longer-term sustainable development. At the global meeting of the United Nations resident coordinators in New York in November 2019, many resident coordinators emphasized the need for sound economic analyses that identify the linkages between short-term macroeconomic risks and long-term impacts of megatrends to inform their efforts to accelerate sustainable development at the country level. These megatrends are increasingly exogenous to individual country-level policies, which calls for stronger and more effective international policy coordination. The subprogramme, collaborating closely with the regional economic commissions, will enhance its policy analysis, making use of its World Economic Forecasting Model, its climate, land, energy and water system model and its other modelling tools, to strengthen the capacities of Governments to assess risks and opportunities associated with megatrends and identify policy options and international policy coordination to deliver sustainable development outcomes.
- 9.121 Through its research, policy analysis and expertise in working with least developed countries, and as the Committee for Development Policy Secretariat, the subprogramme will assist Governments and the newly reformed United Nations resident coordinator system through its capacity-building activities with the inter-agency task force on graduation and smooth transition.
- 9.122 The subprogramme will also focus on assisting the United Nations resident coordinator system and the country teams with integrating short-term macroeconomic risks and the long-term impacts of various megatrends into common country analyses and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, which are expected to inform and influence national development plans and strategies. The subprogramme will provide model-based estimates of economic, social and environmental risks, deploying its World Economic Forecasting Model and its climate, land, energy and water system model to assess country-level impacts and contribute to strengthening the analytical rigours of common country analyses and the Framework, assessing cross-border economic risks and identifying the pathways for economic transformation and the sustainable development risk parameters for national development plans and strategies to accelerate sustainable development.
- 9.123 In addition, the subprogramme will prepare and organize the 2021 triennial review of the list of least developed countries, at which the Committee for Development Policy will recommend up to five countries for graduation and identify additional countries to be considered for graduation at the following triennial review. The subprogramme will also continue to assist an increasing number of least developed countries in assessing the impact of graduating from the group and identifying appropriate policy measures and international policy support for managing risks associated with graduation. In addition, through the Committee for Development Policy, the subprogramme will provide inputs to the new Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries and continue its work on analysing and proposing continued support for graduating and graduated countries.

Internal challenge and response

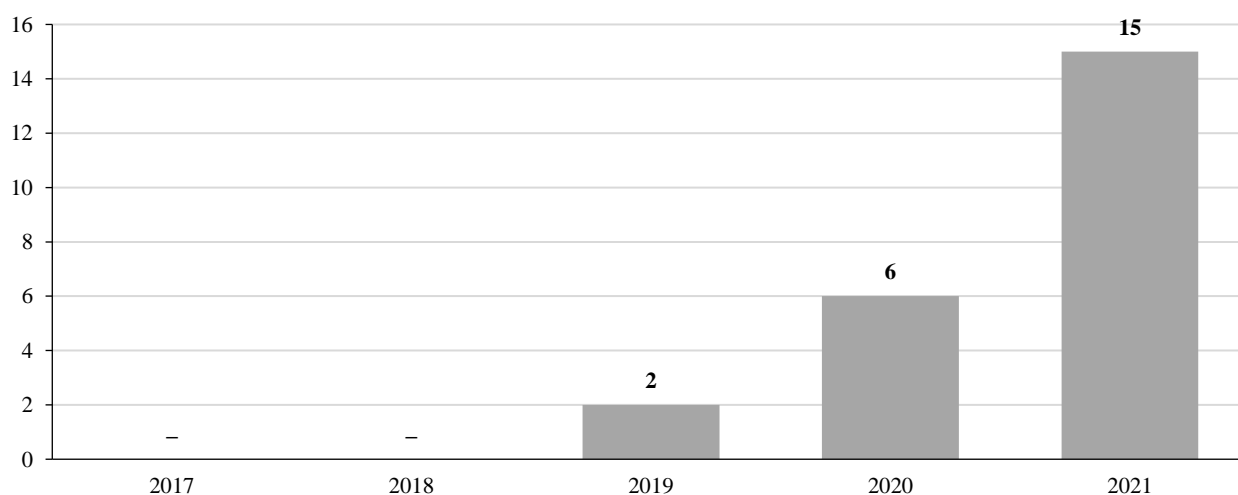
- 9.124 The challenge for the subprogramme was to identify the linkages between short- and long-term risks and how these risks are increasingly shaped by the longer-term megatrends of slowing growth, rising inequality, aggravating climate change and rapidly unfolding technological change. In the past, various aspects of short- and long-term risks were analysed by different subprogrammes or by different teams in the same subprogramme. In response, the subprogramme integrated the analyses of both short-term macroeconomic and long-term megatrends to ensure coherence and consistency and identify how short-term macroeconomic risks are affecting longer-term sustainable development outcomes, including poverty, inequality and environmental sustainability. These integrated approaches to and analyses of short- and long-term economic risks not only inform the deliberations of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, but also inform United Nations programmatic activities at the country level.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 9.125 This work is expected to contribute to the strengthening of national capacities for economic analysis and assessment of risks through support to common country analyses and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, which would be demonstrated by the expected increase in the number of countries, from zero in 2017 to 15 in 2021, benefiting from economic analysis provided by the subprogramme on their common country analyses and Frameworks. The new generation of analyses and Frameworks incorporating short-term macroeconomic risks and long-term impacts of megatrends, as identified by the analytical tools of the subprogramme, would inform national development plans and strategies and contribute to strengthened national capacities for assessing risks and various policy options. Ultimately, this new generation of analyses and Frameworks will help not only Governments but also resident coordinators in identifying development priority areas. Furthermore, this work will also contribute to assisting least developed countries in their use of the international support measures made available to progress towards graduation.

Figure 9.VIII

Performance measure: number of countries able to incorporate economic analysis, short-term risks and impact of long-term megatrends into their common country analyses and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks



Legislative mandates

9.126 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme.

General Assembly resolutions

| | | | |
|----------|---|--------|---|
| 118 (II) | Reports on world economic conditions and trends | 74/203 | External debt sustainability and development |
| 61/210 | Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy | 74/204 | Commodities |
| 63/303 | Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development | 74/205 | Financial inclusion for sustainable development |
| 67/290 | Format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development | 74/217 | Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States |
| 68/18 | Graduation of countries from the least developed country category | 74/228 | Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence |
| 73/240 | Towards a New International Economic Order | 74/231 | Development cooperation with middle-income countries |
| 74/197 | Information and communications technologies for sustainable development | 74/232 | Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries |
| 74/199 | Promoting investments for sustainable development | 74/233 | Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries |
| 74/200 | Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries | 74/234 | Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027) |
| 74/201 | International trade and development | | |
| 74/202 | International financial system and development | | |

Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

| | | | |
|---------|--|----------|--|
| 1990/52 | Role of the United Nations in the early identification, analysis and forecasting of world economic developments | 2011/274 | Review of United Nations support for small island developing States |
| 1998/46 | Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields | 2019/3 | Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 |
| | | 2019/8 | Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twenty-first session |

Deliverables

9.127 Table 9.16 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 9.16

Subprogramme 6: deliverables for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

| Category and subcategory | 2019 planned | 2019 actual | 2020 planned | 2021 planned |
|---|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies | | | | |
| Parliamentary documentation (number of documents) | 5 | 4 | 3 | 5 |
| 1. Reports for the General Assembly | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 2. Reports for the Economic and Social Council | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 |

| Category and subcategory | 2019 planned | 2019 actual | 2020 planned | 2021 planned |
|---|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings) | 28 | 28 | 28 | 30 |
| 3. Meetings of the General Assembly | 12 | 12 | 12 | 14 |
| 4. Meetings of the Economic and Social Council | 6 | 6 | 6 | 8 |
| 5. Meetings of the Committee for Development Policy | 10 | 10 | 10 | 8 |
| B. Generation and transfer of knowledge | | | | |
| Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects) | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 6. Field projects on sustainable development | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days) | 33 | 30 | 29 | 34 |
| 7. Training seminars on sustainable development | 33 | 30 | 29 | 34 |
| Publications (number of publications) | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 8. Publications on the world economy | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 9. Publications on frontier issues and other thematic issues | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Technical materials (number of materials) | 57 | 57 | 56 | 61 |
| 10. Background studies on development and frontier issues and the world economy | 14 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 11. Presentations on the global economy | 25 | 25 | 25 | 25 |
| 12. Monthly/quarterly briefing notes on the world economic situation and frontier issues | 12 | 15 | 12 | 16 |
| 13. Reports from meetings on the world economy and frontier issues | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 14. Reports on the world economy | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 15. Committee for Development Policy notes | 1 | — | 1 | 1 |
| C. Substantive deliverables | | | | |
| Consultation, advice and advocacy: briefings/expert advice to Member States on sustainable development issues, including high-level bilateral consultations and intergovernmental meetings. | | | | |
| Databases and substantive digital materials: Least Developed Countries Portal on international support measures; least developed country data, impact assessments; modelling tools for sustainable development policies; global economic outlook database. | | | | |
| D. Communication deliverables | | | | |
| External and media relations: press conferences on the world economic situation; public statements of the Secretary-General on frontier issues and the world economy. | | | | |

Subprogramme 7 Public institutions and digital government

Objective

- 9.128 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to advance effective, accountable and inclusive governance and public institutions for sustainable development, including through innovation and digital government.

Strategy

- 9.129 To contribute to the advancement of effective, accountable and inclusive governance and public institutions for sustainable development, the subprogramme will continue to service the Committee of Experts on Public Administration in providing policy advice and programmatic guidance to the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum. The subprogramme's substantive support to the Committee of Experts includes preparing analytical papers and technical guidelines to

operationalize the principles of effective governance for sustainable development, developed by the Committee and adopted by the Council in 2018. This work is expected to result in the enhancement of the analytical and evidence-based policy guidance by the Council for addressing governance and public administration issues at the national and subnational levels and to support countries in contextualizing institutional aspects of their voluntary national reviews. Past results in these areas include progress in promoting the principles of effective governance. For example, a workshop entitled “Effective governance for sustainable development: putting principles into practice” was held in South Africa in 2019, to train government officials from 20 Member States in Africa, including 11 least developed countries, on the principles of effective governance among African countries.

- 9.130 To contribute to the advancement of effective, accountable and inclusive governance and public institutions for sustainable development through innovation and digital government, the subprogramme will continue to monitor global developments on institutional dimensions covered by Sustainable Development Goal 16 and review national institutional arrangements for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. It will synthesize salient findings in the 2021 *World Public Sector Report*. This will directly support the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level. The subprogramme will continue to promote policy guidance on innovation and digital government for the Goals through the *United Nations E-Government Survey*. It will foster policy dialogue and advocacy for the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society. The subprogramme will also facilitate multi-stakeholder policy dialogue on Internet governance, including data governance, digital inclusion and cybersecurity, and shape policy decisions at the global, national and local levels, by supporting the Secretary-General in convening the annual meeting of the Internet Governance Forum and intersessional activities. The subprogramme will continue to facilitate the implementation of and follow-up to the action lines of the World Summit on the Information Society: (a) C1 – the role of public governance authorities and all stakeholders in the promotion of information and communications technologies for development; (b) C7 – information and communications technology applications: e-government; and (c) C11 – international and regional cooperation. This work is expected to result in enhanced capacities of Governments to create effective, accountable and inclusive institutions to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals and design and implement effective and inclusive digital government policies, strategies and services to improve people’s lives, while mitigating the associated risks of information and communications technology. Past results in the area of digital government include progress in supporting public policy discussions related to Internet governance at all levels through the provision of support for the Secretary-General in the convening of the fourteenth annual Internet Governance Forum in 2019, under the overarching theme “One World, One Net, One Vision” with more than 5,000 stakeholders engaged in wide-ranging Internet policy discussions to shape digital public policies.
- 9.131 To contribute to effective and inclusive governance and public institutions for sustainable development, the subprogramme will also expand its capacity development support to respond to Member States’ requests for technical cooperation with regard to strengthening their governance and public institutions in order to gear up for a decade of action, including through partnerships with regional commissions and the resident coordinator system. It will expand its work on equipping public servants with the capacities to realize the 2030 Agenda by providing advisory support and developing and piloting new methodologies to strengthen leadership capacities, institutional arrangements for policy coherence, transparency and integrity in the public service, and innovations in public service delivery. It will strengthen the capacity of Member States to promote innovation in public governance through new follow-up mechanisms to the United Nations Public Service Day Awards Ceremony and Forum, such as peer-to-peer learning for the transfer and adaptation of innovative practices, including on gender-sensitive services. This work is expected to result in enhanced capacities by public servants to deliver services in areas such as health and education, as well as clean water and sanitation, with a focus on gender issues. Past results in these areas include progress in strengthening awareness and capacity to implement the Sustainable Development Goals, with more than 3,500 government officials from more than 100 Member States having been trained during the biennium 2018–2019 on transformational leadership and changing mindsets, institutional arrangements for policy coherence, innovation in service delivery and public accountability. Progress has also been made in supporting 57 schools of public administration in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Central Asia and Latin America to implement the Goals in 2019.

- 9.132 To contribute to accountable governance and public institutions for sustainable development, the subprogramme will also continue to support supreme audit institutions with regard to auditing Sustainable Development Goal implementation by providing expert advice, technical assistance and capacity-building to groups of those institutions, based on existing demand for support from the Department of Economic and Social Affairs by the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions Development Initiative, the Organization of Latin American and Caribbean Supreme Audit Institutions, the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions Working Group on Environmental Auditing and others. This work is expected to result in adjustments by Member States at the structural, organizational and programme levels to improve the delivery of the Goals. Past results in this area include enhanced accountability in Goal implementation through improved policy dialogue with stakeholders and the adaptation of institutional mechanisms and monitoring processes in several countries to implement the 2030 Agenda as a result of reactions by Governments to audit findings.

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 9.133 A planned result for 2019, which is increased attention by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Committee of Experts on Public Administration to institutions and public administration issues relating to the Sustainable Development Goals, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by 22 references and recommendations to institutions and public administration issues in resolutions of the Assembly and the Council, which was the target for the biennium.

Programme performance in 2019: adoption of new indicators for an effective, accountable and inclusive public administration system by the Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre

- 9.134 Building the capacities of public servants to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda represents a challenge for Governments. New knowledge, skills, competencies, attitudes and mindsets are needed to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 9.135 Through its global initiative on building capacities of public servants for Sustainable Development Goals implementation, the subprogramme delivered technical assistance to 57 institutes and schools of public administration in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Central Asia and Latin America. In turn, institutes and schools of public administration trained government officials from around the world. By working with the schools of public administration, the subprogramme facilitated a dialogue on the importance of mainstreaming the Goals into their training programmes and developing the necessary skills of public servants to respond to the priorities of Governments when implementing the 2030 Agenda.
- 9.136 The subprogramme also developed, together with schools of public administration, a common competency framework. Competence is one of the 11 principles of effective governance for sustainable development endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution [2018/12](#). The competency framework provides public servants with a set of new mindsets and competencies that are needed to advance the principles of the 2030 Agenda across public service. The framework is intended to help Member States, on a voluntary basis, build the capacities needed to advance progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. As an example, following the global initiative's meeting of its Asia-Pacific task force, the Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre mainstreamed the Sustainable Development Goals into their national curricula by developing new courses and appointing resource persons for their training courses. The Centre has trained more than 1,700 civil servants on the Goals. To make the Goals training more effective and continuous, the Centre has developed the skills of more than 70 master trainers on the Goals through training-of-trainers courses. High-level policy dialogues on transforming leadership were also organized by Bangladesh. Evidence from a survey conducted by the Centre suggests that trained officials are better equipped to plan and implement measures to achieve the Goals.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 9.137 This work contributed to the advancement of effective, accountable and inclusive governance and public institutions for sustainable development, including through innovation and digital government, as demonstrated by the more than 1,700 public servants who were able to provide better services to people, including in the areas of education, health, water and sanitation, among others.

Table 9.17

Performance measure

| 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|---|--|---|---|---|
| General Assembly resolution 69/327 highlights need to improve public servants' capacities | Regional symposiums highlight need for new capacities in the public sector | Public servants express interest in acquiring new competencies and skills | A competency framework for the Sustainable Development Goals is developed in collaboration with public servants | More than 1,700 public servants are equipped with the knowledge to provide better services, including in the areas of education, health, water and sanitation, among others |

Planned results for 2021**Result 1: innovation and excellence in public service to realize the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (result carried over from 2020)**

- 9.138 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the excellence of public services, in line with its mandate, and will continue to promote innovative initiatives for the accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda, which is expected to be demonstrated by the performance measure for 2021 below. For 2020, a proxy performance measure is indicated to reflect that the General Assembly, in its resolution [74/251](#), approved a programme narrative at the subprogramme level that is composed solely of the objectives approved by the Assembly in its resolution [71/6](#) and the deliverables for 2020.

Table 9.18

Performance measure

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|------|---|---|--|--|
| N/A | Exchange of ideas among participants from different areas to share knowledge and best practices | Articulation of the specific needs and interests of participating countries with regard to innovative practices | Structured exchange of innovative practices based on the specific needs and interests articulated through an online platform | Adoption of innovative practices by Member States to design and implement more accessible, responsive, personalized and inclusive public services that support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals |

Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Result 2: digital government and digital transformation (new result)

- 9.139 In 2021, the subprogramme will continue to advance effective, accountable and inclusive governance and institutions for sustainable development through digital government. Whereas in 2019 there were 3.6 billion people without affordable access to the Internet and 10 per cent more men had access to the Internet than women, it is expected that in 2021 there will be an average increase of 10 per cent in the delivery of online services to vulnerable groups.
- 9.140 The subprogramme's work on digital government and digital transformation is expected to contribute to the updating of the digital government strategies of countries in Africa and in Asia and the Pacific by equipping public servants with the capacities to provide access to online public services to women and vulnerable groups.
- 9.141 The subprogramme will work towards creating a policy toolkit to be used in regulatory sandboxes to build and strengthen institutional capacities with regard to planning, implementing and evaluating digital government and new technology initiatives in Sustainable Development Goals implementation, through data-informed evidence-based approaches.

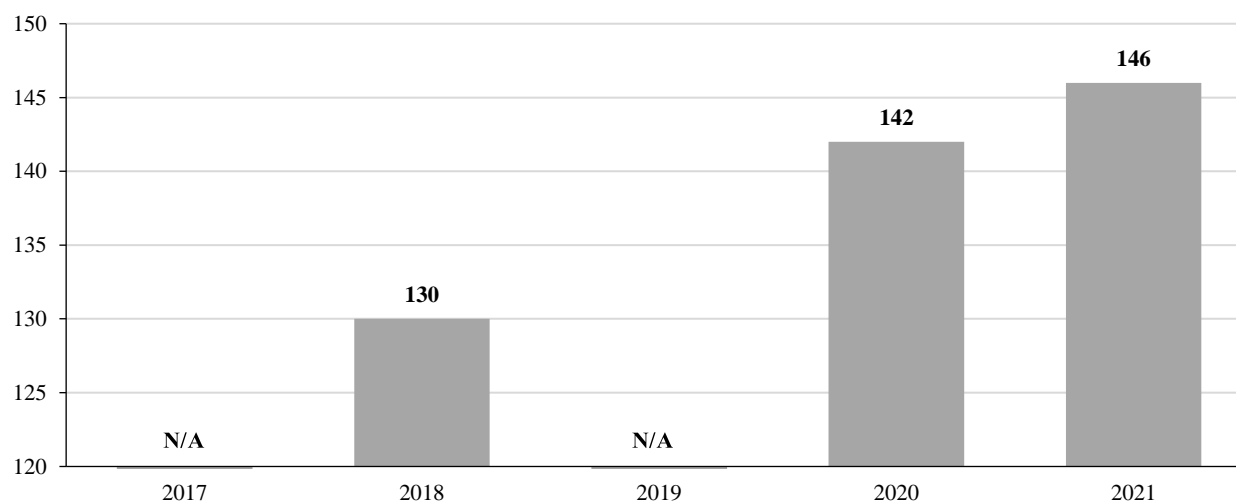
Internal challenge and response

- 9.142 The challenge for the subprogramme was to ensure that the *United Nations E-Government Survey*, which it publishes every two years, included policy guidance and a road map on actions to be taken by Governments in response to the rapid changes and impact of digitalization, digital data and associated risks and challenges. This is challenging since new technologies are constantly evolving and it is difficult to ensure that the *Survey* reflects these changes in real time. In response, the subprogramme will revise the *Survey* so that it will incorporate guidance on new technologies, tapping into opportunities while mitigating digital risks such as cybersecurity. The subprogramme will also enhance the development metrics for e-participation as an inclusion benchmarking tool, and further evaluate e-government development at the subnational level, taking into consideration the proliferation of smart cities, smart villages and digital villages. This work will build on the subprogramme's other activities on digital transformation. Furthermore, the subprogramme will expand its programme on digital transformation to ensure that it can best contribute to developing countries, especially the least developed countries, small island developing States and other countries in special situations, that are entering the digital age by developing policy road maps and holding regional symposiums and other activities, with special consideration for women and vulnerable groups to ensure that no one is left behind.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 9.143 This work is expected to contribute to the advancement of effective, accountable and inclusive governance and public institutions for sustainable development, including through innovation and digital government, which would be demonstrated by 146 Member States in 2021 that provide online services designed for vulnerable groups and women, representing an increase of 16 States, compared with 130 Member States in 2018.

Figure 9.IX
Performance measure: number of Member States providing online services for vulnerable groups and women



Source: Member States questionnaire projections.

Legislative mandates

9.144 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme.

General Assembly resolutions

| | | | |
|--------|---|--------|--|
| 50/225 | Public administration and development | 71/208 | Preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption |
| 60/34 | Public administration and development | | |
| 69/228 | Promoting and fostering the efficiency, accountability, effectiveness and transparency of public administration by strengthening supreme audit institutions | 71/256 | New Urban Agenda |
| 69/327 | Promoting inclusive and accountable public services for sustainable development | 72/235 | Human resources development |
| 70/125 | Outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society | 73/218 | Information and communications technologies for sustainable development |
| | | 74/197 | Information and communications technologies for sustainable development |

Economic and Social Council resolutions

| | | | |
|---------|---|---------|---|
| 2001/45 | Restructuring and revitalization of the Group of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and Finance | 2018/12 | Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its seventeenth session |
| 2016/26 | Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its fifteenth session | 2019/24 | Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society |
| 2017/23 | Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its sixteenth session | 2019/26 | Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its eighteenth session |

Deliverables

9.145 Table 9.19 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 9.19

Subprogramme 7: deliverables for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

| Category and subcategory | 2019 planned | 2019 actual | 2020 planned | 2021 planned |
|---|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies | | | | |
| Parliamentary documentation (number of documents) | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 |
| 1. Reports to the General Assembly | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2. Reports to the Economic and Social Council | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 3. Documents for the Committee of Experts on Public Administration | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 |
| Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings) | 18 | 18 | 18 | 18 |
| 4. Meetings of the General Assembly | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 5. Meetings of the Economic and Social Council | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| 6. Meetings of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| B. Generation and transfer of knowledge | | | | |
| Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects) | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| 7. Field projects on various matters related to public administration | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days) | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| 8. Forum related to the United Nations Public Service Awards and the United Nations Public Service Day | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 9. Workshop with regional ministers on emerging trends in governance and public institutions related to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, including collaboration with regional commissions and United Nations agencies | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 10. Internet Governance Forum | – | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 11. Training seminars, workshops or policy dialogues on various matters related to public administration | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Publications (number of publications) | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 12. <i>United Nations E-Government Survey</i> | – | – | 1 | – |
| 13. <i>World Public Sector Report</i> | 1 | 1 | – | 1 |
| 14. Compendium of best practices and innovation in public service delivery | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 15. Compendium of best practices on public institutions and digital government for sustainable development | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Technical materials (number of materials) | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 16. Online training courses on matters related to public administration | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 17. Technical materials on issues related to governance and public institutions for sustainable development | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| C. Substantive deliverables | | | | |
| Consultation, advice and advocacy: on the production of guidelines, manuals or materials for the public sector; briefings/expert advice to Member States on sustainable development issues, including high-level bilateral consultations and intergovernmental meetings. | | | | |
| Fact-finding, monitoring and investigation missions: needs assessment missions on public administration and finance. | | | | |
| Databases and substantive digital materials: websites and databases on issues related to public administration. | | | | |

| Category and subcategory | 2019 planned | 2019 actual | 2020 planned | 2021 planned |
|--|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| D. Communication deliverables | | | | |
| Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: United Nations Public Administration Network newsletter. | | | | |
| Digital platforms and multimedia content: United Nations Project Office on Governance website. | | | | |

Subprogramme 8 Sustainable forest management

Objective

- 9.146 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to ensure the effective implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests at all levels in accordance with the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030.

Strategy

- 9.147 To contribute to the effective implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests at all levels in accordance with the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, the subprogramme will continue to support the intergovernmental forest policy dialogue through the United Nations Forum on Forests in accordance with the strategic plan and the quadrennial programme of work (2021–2024); coordinate the Forum’s input to the high-level political forum on sustainable development; and advance coordination and cooperation with relevant United Nations entities, member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and other forest stakeholders. These actions are expected to result in strengthened political commitment and actions for sustainable forest management leading to increased contributions by forests to biological diversity conservation, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and greater integration of forests into national sustainable development plans and poverty reduction strategies. Past results in these areas include the adoption of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 – a global framework for action at all levels to sustainably manage all types of forests.
- 9.148 To contribute to the effective implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests at all levels in accordance with the strategic plan for forests the subprogramme will continue to develop the online clearing house of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network and assist countries and partners in designing forest financing strategies and in developing bankable project proposals to access financing for sustainable forest management. The subprogramme will place emphasis on the special needs of Africa, the least developed countries, low-forest-cover countries, high-forest-cover low-deforestation countries, small island developing States and countries with economies in transition. This work is expected to result in the improved capacity of eligible countries to mobilize and access financing for sustainable forest management from all sources, and improved information on and access to existing and emerging multilateral and other funding sources and data. Past results in these areas include a comprehensive and sustained approach for countries for the mobilization of funding for sustainable forest management, and the facilitation of access to multilateral funding sources, through the development of national forest financing strategies and project proposals.
- 9.149 To contribute to the effective implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests at all levels in accordance with the strategic plan for forests, the subprogramme will also continue to advance the implementation of the strategic plan and to assist countries in developing robust national reporting frameworks. These actions are expected to result in progress towards achieving the global forest goals and the forest-related Sustainable Development Goals. Past results in these areas include improved national skills with regard to reporting on the implementation of the strategic plan and the achievement of the global forest goals in a consistent and comparable manner.

- 9.150 To contribute to the effective implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests at all levels in accordance with the strategic plan for forests, the subprogramme will also continue to implement the communications and outreach strategy of the strategic plan. This work is expected to result in increased awareness of the multiple benefits of forests based on the 2021 theme of the International Day of Forests, the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 and the high-level political forum on sustainable development to be held in 2021. Past results in these areas include increased awareness of the multiple benefits of forests based on the 2019 theme of the International Day, “Forests and education”, and the 2020 theme, “Forests and biodiversity”.

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 9.151 A planned result for 2019, which is increased awareness and knowledge-sharing for the promotion of action at the national, regional and global levels on the sustainable management of all types of forests and trees, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by the increased number of Member States and other forest-related stakeholders (14 in 2019) reporting on programmes and projects on sustainable forest management undertaken with the support of the subprogramme, exceeding the biennial target of 10.
- 9.152 The subprogramme also provided capacity-building support for countries to develop bankable project proposals to access financing for sustainable forest management from existing multilateral funding sources through the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network. As a result, 12 countries (Botswana, Central African Republic, Côte d’Ivoire, Dominica, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar, Malawi, North Macedonia, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Thailand, South Africa) and two subregional entities (the Economic Community of West African States and the Commission for the Forests of Central Africa) are in the process of developing bankable project proposals, while an additional 4 countries (Algeria, Suriname, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania) have expressed interest in working with the Network to secure financing for sustainable forest management.

Programme performance in 2019: increased reporting on progress towards achievement of the global forest goals and forest-related Sustainable Development Goals

- 9.153 Monitoring, assessment and reporting work is crucial for well-grounded decisions, and is key to scrutinizing the state of forests and the implementation of sustainable forest management. This work helps countries learn whether the forest policies they develop and implement are successful in achieving sustainable forest management, the global forest goals and forest-related Sustainable Development Goals.
- 9.154 The subprogramme assisted developing countries, countries with economies in transition and regional and subregional entities with such work, including the development of robust frameworks to monitor, assess and report on sustainable forest management through the creation of a template for reporting to the Forum on Forests and explanatory notes on country reports to the Forum at its fifteenth session. Based on this work, the subprogramme prepared the flagship publication on progress towards achieving the global forest goals and targets of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030. The voluntary national contributions submitted to the Forum fulfil a key function by reporting on progress made towards sustainable forest management. Many reports identified the threat that climate change poses to forests. Other issues highlighted in the reports ranged from the challenges brought on by the conversion of forests to other land uses such as agriculture to challenges in securing financing for sustainable forest management and rights to land tenure.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 9.155 This work contributed to the effective implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests at all levels in accordance with the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, as demonstrated by the 61 countries that reported to the United Nations Forum on Forests, using the new format, on their efforts to integrate the global forest goals and forest-related Sustainable

Development Goals into their national sustainable development plans, including information on gender perspectives. From 2011, the number of voluntary reports submitted to the Forum has steadily increased. In 2011, 22 countries submitted reports to the Forum. In 2013, the number increased to 57, while in 2015 the number of country reports, using the old format for national reporting, peaked at 81. This sharp increase in the submission of reports was owing to the fact that the Forum reviewed the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests during its eleventh session. Following the preparation and adoption of the new and expanded format for national reporting from 2016 to 2018, 61 Member States submitted their national voluntary reports.

Table 9.20
Performance measure

| 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| Number of national voluntary reports, using the old format, peaks at 81 owing to the review of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests during the eleventh session of the United Nations Forum on Forests | Negotiations at the United Nations Forum on Forests on a template and guidelines for reporting commence | The United Nations Forum on Forests adopts the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 and decides to consider the first round of reports at its fifteenth session | The template and guidelines for reporting to the United Nations Forum on Forests are completed and shared with Member States | 61 countries report to the United Nations Forum on Forests, using a new format for reporting, on efforts to integrate the global forest goals and forest-related Sustainable Development Goals into national sustainable development plans, including information on gender perspectives |

Planned results for 2021

Result 1: development of comprehensive monitoring frameworks towards sustainable forest management (result carried over from 2020)

- 9.156 The subprogramme will continue the work related to sustainable forest management, in line with its mandate, and will continue to promote comprehensive monitoring frameworks that facilitate sustainable forest management by Member States, which is expected to be demonstrated by the performance measure for 2021 below. For 2020, a proxy performance measure is indicated to reflect that the General Assembly, in its resolution [74/251](#), approved a programme narrative at the subprogramme level that is composed solely of the objectives approved by the Assembly in its resolution [71/6](#) and the deliverables for 2020.

Table 9.21
Performance measures

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|------|---|---|---|---|
| N/A | Absence of comprehensive national monitoring frameworks towards sustainable forest management | Initiation of 6 national pilot projects to develop comprehensive national monitoring frameworks towards sustainable forest management | 6 comprehensive national monitoring frameworks towards sustainable forest management are developed that also provide examples of best practices for sustainable forest management for countries | 10 comprehensive national monitoring frameworks towards sustainable forest management are developed that also provide examples of best practices for sustainable forest management for countries and voluntary national contributions towards the achievement of global forest goals and targets and forest-related Sustainable Development Goals |

Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Result 2: progress towards advancing the United Nations strategic plan for forests for stakeholders (new result)

- 9.157 The quadrennial programme of work for the period 2021–2024 to be adopted by the United Nations Forum on Forests at its fifteenth session in 2020 will continue to guide the work of the subprogramme. In addition, the effective implementation of sustainable forest management is critically dependent upon adequate resources, including financing and capacity development. It is also critically dependent upon good governance at all levels. Furthermore, in 2018, the pilot testing of the draft format for voluntary national reporting to the Forum on progress towards achievement of the global forest goals and forest-related sustainable development goals revealed the value of making effective use of the information provided to the Forum on national and regional efforts to implement the United Nations strategic plan for forests.
- 9.158 The subprogramme will continue to effectively support the intergovernmental deliberations of the United Nations Forum on Forests, focusing on its sixteenth session, the interlinkages between the global forest goals under consideration by the Forum in 2021 and the Sustainable Development Goals under review by the high-level political forum in 2021. The subprogramme will continue to operationalize the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network of the United Nations Forum on Forests by establishing the Network's online clearing house mechanism (database) as a tool for sharing lessons learned from successful forest financing projects and providing information on access to existing and emerging multilateral funding sources. It will continue to provide assistance and advice to countries and regional and subregional organizations upon request, with regard to developing bankable project proposals to access financing for sustainable forest management and designing national forest financing strategies. The subprogramme will support countries in developing robust national frameworks to monitor, assess and report on the progress towards the achievement of the 6 global forest goals and their 26 associated targets, and the forest-related Sustainable Development Goals and targets, including target 15.1 and target 15.2. Based on an

analysis of all voluntary national reports and voluntary national contributions that have been submitted to the Forum since the adoption of the United Nations strategic plan for forests in 2017, the subprogramme will prepare the flagship publication articulating why forests matter for sustainable development, identifying the main gaps and challenges in international forest policy and possible best practices and sharing success stories that demonstrate the vital contribution of all types of forests and trees to people and planet. The subprogramme will synchronize its implementation of the communications and outreach strategy of the United Nations strategic plan for forests with the quadrennial programme of work for the period 2021–2024, including the theme of the 2021 high-level political forum on sustainable development.

Internal challenge and response

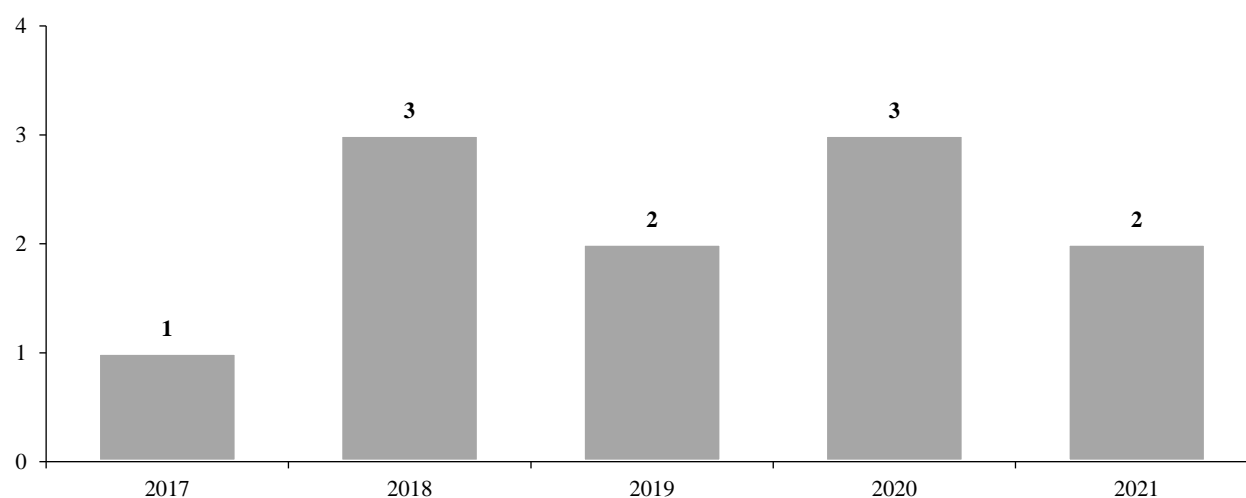
- 9.159 The challenge for the subprogramme was to support Member States in incorporating the vital contribution of forests and the role of sustainable forest management when addressing pressing climate change issues, food security and poverty alleviation, at a time when forests are in the spotlight, into mainstream news and political arenas and across and beyond the United Nations system. In response, the subprogramme, through the quadrennial programme of work for the period 2021–2024, will focus on refining its approaches, tools and techniques to ensure a cross-sectoral approach that avoids looking at forests in isolation and promotes engagement with other key sectors; organize the intergovernmental sessions to address the interlinkages between forests and climate change and forests and biodiversity; strengthen the science-policy interface; emphasize the contributions of forests to the Sustainable Development Goals; and continue to provide concise annual inputs/messages to the high-level political forum on sustainable development.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 9.160 This work is expected to contribute to the effective implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests at all levels, which would be demonstrated by the number of countries with increased knowledge of the global trends on the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, using the information in the flagship publication, and an increased number of countries with the capacity to develop project proposals and/or national forest financing strategies to mobilize funding for forests.

Figure 9.X

Performance measure: additional number of countries with increased knowledge of the global trends on the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 and increased capacity to mobilize funding for forests



Legislative mandates

9.161 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme.

General Assembly resolutions

| | | | |
|--------|--|--------|---|
| 62/98 | Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests | 70/199 | United Nations forest instrument |
| 67/200 | International Day of Forests | 71/285 | United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 |

Economic and Social Council resolutions

| | | | |
|---------|--|--------|---|
| 2000/35 | Report of the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests | 2017/4 | United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 and quadrennial programme of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests for the period 2017–2020 |
| 2015/33 | International arrangement on forests beyond 2015 | | |

Deliverables

9.162 Table 9.22 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 9.22

Subprogramme 8: deliverables for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

| Category and subcategory | 2019 planned | 2019 actual | 2020 planned | 2021 planned |
|--|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies | | | | |
| Parliamentary documentation (number of documents) | 7 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| 1. Reports of the United Nations Forum on Forests | 7 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings) | 19 | 19 | 20 | 20 |
| 2. Meetings of the United Nations Forum on Forests | 16 | 16 | 16 | 16 |
| 3. Meetings of experts on sustainable forest management, contributions of forests to various issues, including Sustainable Development Goals, forest financing and other various issues related to forests | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| B. Generation and transfer of knowledge | | | | |
| Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects) | 9 | 13 | 8 | 8 |
| 4. Project on forest financing and development of national financing strategies | 7 | 11 | 6 | 6 |
| 5. Project on implementation of the United Nations forest instrument and other various issues related to forests | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days) | 9 | 21 | 8 | 7 |
| 6. Training seminars and workshops on forest financing | 7 | 19 | 6 | 6 |
| 7. Training seminars and workshops on sustainable development | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Publications (number of publications) | – | – | – | 1 |
| 8. Progress towards achieving the global forest goals and targets of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 | – | – | – | 1 |
| Technical materials (number of materials) | 11 | 11 | 7 | 7 |
| 9. Technical materials on sustainable forest management | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 |
| 10. Technical materials on contributions of forests to various issues, including forest-related Sustainable Development Goals | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| 11. Technical materials on materials financing and development of national financing strategies | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |

| Category and subcategory | 2019 planned | 2019 actual | 2020 planned | 2021 planned |
|---|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| C. Substantive deliverables | | | | |
| Consultation, advice and advocacy: on various issues related to forests. | | | | |
| Databases and substantive digital materials: on clearing house mechanism. | | | | |
| D. Communication deliverables | | | | |
| Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: special events, including the International Day of Forests and events of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests; booklets, pamphlets, factsheets, wallcharts and information kits on sustainable forest management, forest financing and other various issues related to forests. | | | | |
| External and media relations: press conference/press releases on the United Nations Forum on Forests; press conference/press releases on the International Day of Forests. | | | | |

Subprogramme 9 Financing for sustainable development

Objective

- 9.163 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to advance the follow-up to and review of the implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development, including the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the delivery of the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Strategy

- 9.164 To contribute to the follow-up and review of the implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development, including the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the delivery of the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the subprogramme will advance policy and action on financing for sustainable development. This action is expected to result in the operationalizing of integrated national financing frameworks on the ground through four building blocks. Eighteen countries have announced that they will pioneer the design and implementation of integrated financing frameworks. Past results in these areas include the thematic chapter on integrated national financial frameworks in the 2019 *Financing for Sustainable Development Report*, which led to national-level actions in the 18 pioneer countries.
- 9.165 To contribute to the follow-up and review of the implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development, including the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the delivery of the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the subprogramme will help develop standardized reporting for the measurement of investment impact on the Sustainable Development Goals and bring together stakeholders. This work is expected to result in the acceleration of the mobilization of resources for the Goals, leading to greater investment opportunities with positive impacts. The subprogramme will provide concrete solutions to scale investment in sustainable development through the work of the Global Investors for Sustainable Development Alliance. Past results in these areas include the establishment and scaling up of the Sustainable Development Goals Investment Fair. The Fair provided a platform for more than 400 participants to facilitate open dialogue and direct engagement between Member States and investors. Past results also include the launch of the Global Investors for Sustainable Development Alliance by the Secretary-General, which was supported by the subprogramme and comprises 30 global business leaders.
- 9.166 To contribute to the follow-up and review of the implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development, including the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the delivery of the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the subprogramme, through its work on international tax cooperation, will also continue to take forward an integrated approach to its policy and capacity-building work on tax cooperation. Domestic resource mobilization has a large

part to play in filling Sustainable Development Goal financing gaps at the country level in sustainable and potentially transformative ways. This work is expected to result in direct contributions to advancing policy and action on financing for sustainable development evident in the enhanced impact of expert and intergovernmentally driven United Nations policy and practical guidance on tax matters and better solutions at the global, regional, national and subnational levels for strengthening domestic resource mobilization. Past results in these areas include strengthened substantive support to the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters and a well-functioning architecture for multi-stakeholder subcommittees.

- 9.167 To contribute to the follow-up and review of the implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development, including the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the delivery of the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the subprogramme will also continue to enhance its support to the Development Cooperation Forum in reviewing trends, progress and emerging issues in international development cooperation and related workstreams. This work is expected to result in: (a) concrete policy guidance as practical inputs to Governments and other stakeholders to enhance development cooperation, in line with the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030. Past results in these areas include improved understanding and use of national development cooperation policies as essential tools for ensuring broad-based country ownership of sustainable development progress.

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 9.168 A planned result for 2019, which is enhanced policy coherence in promoting the implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development and in coordination with other related outcomes, including through the strengthened role of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as the relevant intergovernmental bodies of other institutional stakeholders, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by an increased number of agreements reached by Member States in the Assembly and the Council, as well as in the relevant intergovernmental bodies of other institutional stakeholders, for the purposes of conference follow-up and coordination with other related outcomes, from 36 during the 2016–2017 biennium to 38, which met the target for the 2018–2019 biennium.

Programme performance in 2019: mainstreaming and elevating the role of financing for sustainable development in sustainable development

- 9.169 There is a need for a shift in the international financial system to support sustainable development and the Sustainable Development Goals; such a shift is fundamental to restoring trust in the financial system as a vehicle for supporting global equitable and sustainable prosperity.
- 9.170 The subprogramme supported the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up held in 2019, which demonstrated the convening power of the United Nations and the growing importance of the forum and the United Nations with regard to finance issues. Through its support to the forum, the subprogramme implemented its mandate to assess progress, identify obstacles and challenges, promote the sharing of lessons learned from experiences at the national and regional levels, address new and emerging topics of relevance to the implementation of the agenda as the need arose and provide policy recommendations for action by the international community, thereby accelerating momentum for the decade of action for the Sustainable Development Goals. The forum generated momentum to advance agendas where global norms were lacking and identified issues to take to the highest political level at the September 2019 High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development. The forum offered a United Nations perspective on financing issues. Non-economic factors, such as environmental risks, social inequalities and disruptive technologies, were at the centre of the 2019 forum. The forum succeeded in adopting an outcome document based on a consensus. This was a major success given the highly divergent views on trade and debt as well as the discontent with unilateral economic measures. The High-level

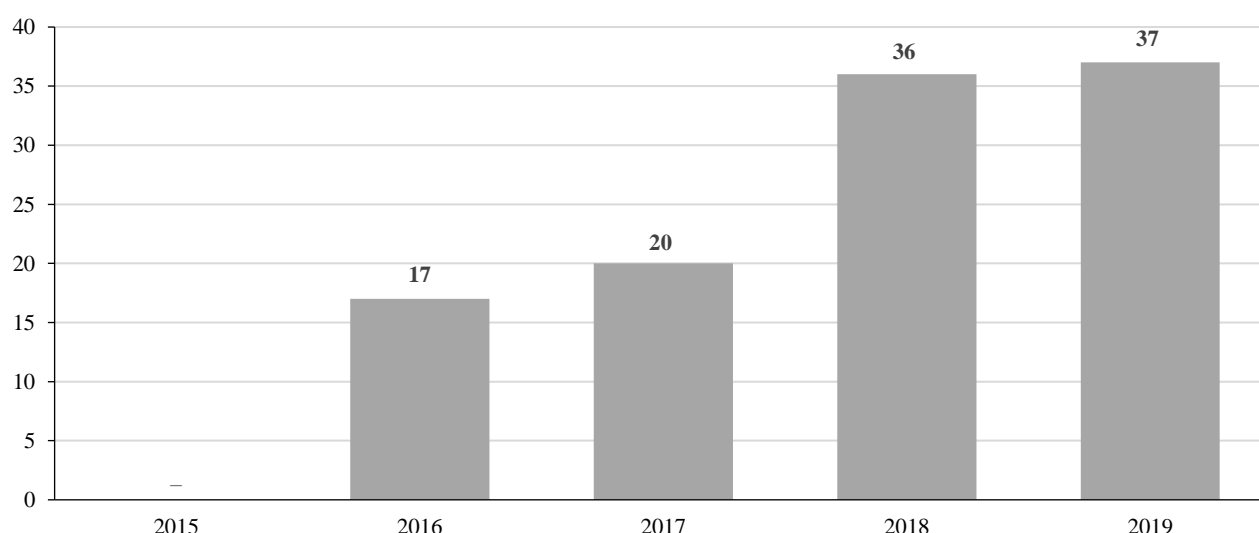
Dialogue strengthened the dialogue between Governments and the private sector with the goal, as expressed in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and in previous Economic and Social Council forums on financing for development follow-up and high-level political forums, to raise resources and scale up both public and private investment for sustainable development and better align business activities with the 2030 Agenda. The subprogramme supports the United Nations system's engagement with the Group of 20 on its Sherpa and Finance tracks.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 9.171 This work contributed to the advancement of the follow-up to and review of the implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development, including the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the delivery of the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as demonstrated by the 37 high-level participants who attended the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up and adopted outcome documents by consensus, emphasizing the engagement of countries at the highest level. Thirty-seven ministers, vice ministers and senior government officials attended the 2019 forum, strengthening the participation of finance and economy ministers along with participation by the private sector.

Figure 9.XI

Performance measure: number of high-level participants attending the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up



Planned results for 2021

Result 1: advancing policy and action on financing for sustainable development (result carried over from 2020)

- 9.172 The subprogramme will continue the work related to financing for sustainable development, in line with its mandate, and will support countries in the monitoring and mobilization of financing and other means of implementation of sustainable development, which is expected to be demonstrated by the performance measure for 2021 below. For 2020, a proxy performance measure is indicated to reflect that the General Assembly, in its resolution [74/251](#), approved a programme narrative at the subprogramme level that is composed solely of the objectives approved by the Assembly in its resolution [71/6](#) and the deliverables for 2020.

Table 9.23
Performance measure

| 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|------|---|---|---|---|
| N/A | Recognition of the importance of integrating various streams of financing | Identification of analysis on integrated national financing frameworks and strategies that can be translated into toolkits to be used at the national level | Use of toolkits to implement national policies that will mobilize financing and other means of implementation for sustainable development at the national level | Monitor implementation and refine toolkits based on lessons learned from pioneering countries |

Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Result 2: integrated national financial frameworks (new result)

- 9.173 Since the publication of the 2019 *Financing for Sustainable Development Report*, which laid out key building blocks of integrated national financing frameworks, 18 “pioneer countries” have announced that they will be designing and implementing integrated financing frameworks in their countries. The Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development, under the leadership of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, is further developing the methodology and preparing concrete guidance materials in the form of toolkits, as requested by countries. These enhanced toolkits will lay out detailed steps to implement financing frameworks and policy options on the ground. In addition, they will lay out relevant international support mechanisms available to countries for relevant financing policy areas in greater detail, building on the initial survey conducted in 2019. In 2021, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs will follow up on the initiatives started during the 2019–2020 period.
- 9.174 The subprogramme is working in close collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the regional economic commissions to support countries in the design and implementation of integrated financing frameworks, and to share lessons learned at the regional level.
- 9.175 The additional work on integrated financing frameworks is in response to a request by Member States, in the outcome document of the 2019 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up, to further develop the integrated national financial frameworks methodology. By closely monitoring and drawing lessons from country-level experiences in the implementation of integrated national financial frameworks, the subprogramme will also be able to feed country-level lessons on the implementation challenges of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda into its global analytical work and into its support to normative processes.

Internal challenge and response

- 9.176 The challenge for the subprogramme was to support the implementation of the integrated national financing frameworks, taking into account the realities on the ground and the lack of available financial data. In response, the subprogramme will include in its toolkits information to enhance financial data collection and the principles of country ownership.

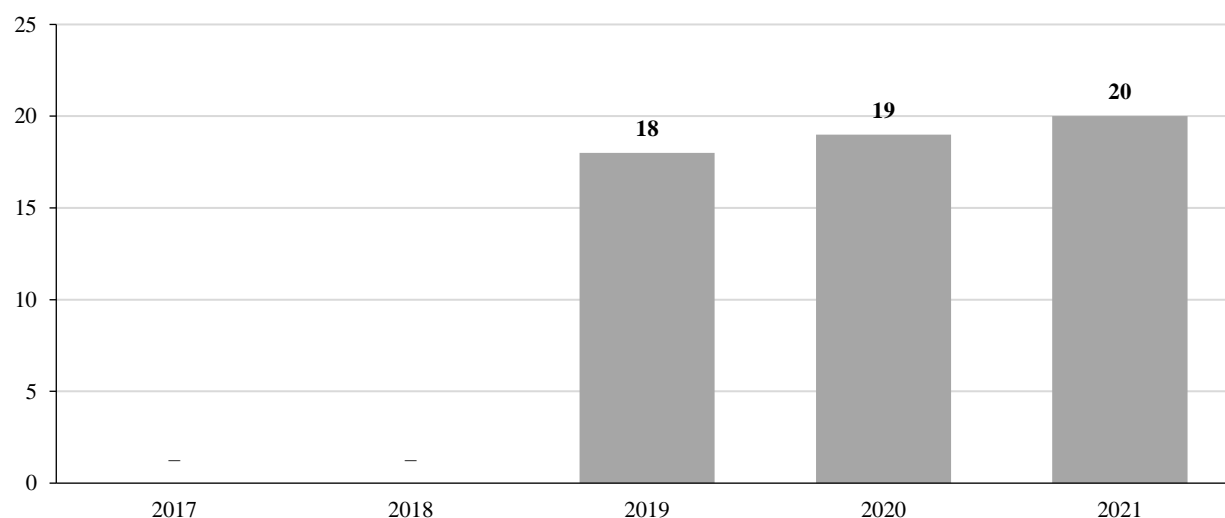
Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 9.177 This work is expected to contribute to advancing the follow-up to and review of the implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development, including the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the delivery of the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which would be demonstrated by 20 countries developing integrated

national financial frameworks, and the development of toolkits which will lay out a range of policy options and of relevant international support mechanisms available to countries for relevant financing policy areas similar to international tax cooperation.

Figure 9.XII

Performance measure: number of countries developing integrated national financial frameworks



Legislative mandates

9.178 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme.

General Assembly resolutions

| | | | |
|----------|--|--------|--|
| 56/210 B | International Conference on Financing for Development | 70/299 | Follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level |
| 57/250 | High-Level Dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership | 71/213 | Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows in order to foster sustainable development |
| 57/273 | Ensuring effective secretariat support for sustained follow-up to the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development | 71/327 | The United Nations in global economic governance |
| 60/1 | 2005 World Summit Outcome | 72/278 | Interaction between the United Nations, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union |
| 63/239 | Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus | 73/254 | Towards global partnerships: a principle-based approach to enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners |
| 63/303 | Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development | 74/199 | Promoting investments for sustainable development |
| 67/289 | The United Nations in global economic governance | 74/202 | International financial system and development |
| 69/313 | Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development | 74/203 | External debt sustainability and development |
| | | 74/205 | Financial inclusion for sustainable development |

| | | | |
|--------|---|--------|---|
| 74/206 | Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development | 74/207 | Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development |
| | | 74/239 | South-South cooperation |

Economic and Social Council resolutions

| | | | |
|---------|--|---------------|--|
| 2004/69 | Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters | 2017/3 | United Nations code of conduct on cooperation in combating international tax evasion |
| 2009/30 | A strengthened and more effective intergovernmental inclusive process to carry out the financing for development follow-up | E/FFDF/2019/3 | Intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations of 2019 the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up: follow-up and review of the financing for development outcomes and the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development |
| 2010/26 | Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Review Conference | | |
| 2014/11 | Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development | | |
| 2017/2 | Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters | | |

Deliverables

9.179 Table 9.24 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 9.24

Subprogramme 9: deliverables for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

| Category and subcategory | 2019 planned | 2019 actual | 2020 planned | 2021 planned |
|--|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies | | | | |
| Parliamentary documentation (number of documents) | 52 | 52 | 54 | 52 |
| 1. Documents to the General Assembly | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| 2. Documents to the Economic and Social Council | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| 3. Documents for the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters | 45 | 45 | 45 | 45 |
| Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings) | 199 | 199 | 207 | 199 |
| 4. Meetings of the General Assembly | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| 5. Meetings of the Economic and Social Council | 41 | 41 | 45 | 41 |
| 6. Meetings of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters | 16 | 16 | 16 | 16 |
| 7. Meetings of subcommittees of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters | 64 | 64 | 64 | 64 |
| 8. Meetings of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development | 30 | 30 | 30 | 30 |
| 9. Meetings of experts on financing for sustainable development-related issues | 38 | 38 | 42 | 38 |
| B. Generation and transfer of knowledge | | | | |
| Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects) | 6 | — | 6 | — |
| 10. Project on national capacity-building in financial sector development, tax cooperation and fiscal management areas | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| 11. Project on region-specific policy issues related to the implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development and the follow-up thereto | 1 | — | 1 | — |

Section 9 Economic and social affairs

| Category and subcategory | 2019 planned | 2019 actual | 2020 planned | 2021 planned |
|---|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 12. Project on national capacity-building in selected areas of financial sector development and fiscal management | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| 13. Project on needs assessments and impact evaluations, for domestic capacity-building in financial sector development and fiscal management | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| 14. Projects on local asset management | 2 | — | 2 | — |
| Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days) | 20 | 11 | 20 | 13 |
| 15. Event on financing for development process | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 16. Workshop on extractive industries taxation for developing countries | 10 | 1 | 10 | 3 |
| 17. Interactive dialogues | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 18. Ministerial round tables | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 19. Seminars and interactive discussions with the participation of Governments, and institutional and non-institutional stakeholders (civil society and the private sector), on financing for development | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Publications (number of publications) | 4 | 1 | 5 | 4 |
| 20. Implementing the Addis Ababa Action Agenda: report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development in 2019 and 2021 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 21. <i>United Nations Model Double Taxation Convention between Developed and Developing Countries</i> (update) | 1 | — | 1 | 1 |
| 22. <i>United Nations Practical Manual on Transfer Pricing for Developing Countries</i> (update) | 1 | — | 1 | 1 |
| 23. <i>Handbook on Selected Issues for Taxation of the Extractive Industries by Developing Countries</i> | 1 | — | 1 | 1 |
| 24. <i>Handbook on Dispute Resolution and Avoidance</i> | — | — | 1 | — |
| Technical materials (number of materials) | 24 | 19 | 26 | 18 |
| 25. <i>Manual for the Negotiation of Bilateral Tax Treaties between Developed and Developing Countries</i> | — | — | 1 | — |
| 26. Handbook on carbon taxation | — | — | — | 1 |
| 27. Guidelines on the tax treatment of official development assistance projects | — | — | 1 | — |
| 28. Outcome of multi-stakeholder consultations on financing for development | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 29. Implementing the Addis Ababa Action Agenda: the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up in 2019 and 2021 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 30. Building on Monterrey: selected policy issues on financing for development | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 31. Development and production of Development Cooperation Forum newsletters and other outreach materials | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 32. Analytical studies on selected issues in development cooperation, including South-South cooperation, and an independent assessment of trends and progress in development cooperation | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 33. Briefing notes on issues related to financing for development for high-level meetings of United Nations senior officials with the governmental and non-governmental representatives concerned | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| 34. Financing for sustainable development home page, the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development online annex and the Development Cooperation Forum website | 4 | — | 4 | — |
| 35. Information kit for events on financing for sustainable development | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 36. Issues note summarizing selected issues in the <i>Financing for Sustainable Development Report</i> | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 37. <i>Protecting the Tax Base of Developing Countries against Base Erosion: Income from Services</i> | 1 | 1 | 1 | — |

Part IV International cooperation for development

| Category and subcategory | 2019 planned | 2019 actual | 2020 planned | 2021 planned |
|---|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 38. <i>Protecting the Tax Base of Developing Countries against Base-eroding Payments: Interest and Other Financing Expenses</i> | 1 | 1 | 1 | – |
| 39. Summary of the meeting of the Subcommittee on Extractive Industries Taxation Issues for Developing Countries | 1 | – | 1 | – |

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: to the work of the Group of Friends on Financing the Sustainable Development Goals; on financing sustainable development and the Sustainable Development Goals to members of civil society organizations, the private sector, academia, foundations and other entities of the United Nations system; briefings/expert advice to Member States on sustainable development issues, including high-level bilateral consultations and intergovernmental meetings.

D. Communication deliverables

External and media relations: press releases on the annual Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up; biennial Development Cooperation Forum high-level meeting, event on financing for sustainable development multi-stakeholder consultations on financing for development; work of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters; Sustainable Development Goal Investment Fair; launch of the *Financing for Sustainable Development Report*.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: Op-eds and blogs; websites of the Financing for Sustainable Development Office, such as the financing for sustainable development home page, the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development online annex, the website of the Development Cooperation Forum and the website of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters.

B. Proposed post and non-post resource requirements for 2021

Overview

9.180 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021, including the breakdown of resource changes, as applicable, are reflected in tables 9.25 to 9.27.

Table 9.25

Financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars)

| | 2019 expenditure | 2020 appropriation | Changes | | | | | 2021 estimate (before recosting) | Recosting | 2021 estimate (after recosting) |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------|--------------|------------|---|----------------|--|
| | | | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | | | |
| Posts | 75 502.3 | 74 530.2 | 350.4 | – | – | 350.4 | 0.5 | 74 880.6 | 2 200.1 | 77 080.7 |
| Other staff costs | 718.9 | 1 295.0 | – | – | (28.3) | (28.3) | (2.2) | 1 266.7 | 24.0 | 1 290.7 |
| Hospitality | 4.2 | 12.2 | – | – | – | – | – | 12.2 | 0.2 | 12.4 |
| Consultants | 411.6 | 673.2 | – | – | (22.0) | (22.0) | (3.3) | 651.2 | 12.4 | 663.6 |
| Experts | 975.8 | 1 667.3 | – | – | (28.7) | (28.7) | (1.7) | 1 638.6 | 31.1 | 1 669.7 |
| Travel of representatives | 1 375.1 | 1 927.6 | – | – | – | – | – | 1 927.6 | 36.7 | 1 964.3 |
| Travel of staff | 537.4 | 705.1 | – | – | (13.2) | (13.2) | (1.9) | 691.9 | 13.1 | 705.0 |
| Contractual services | 1 676.8 | 1 335.7 | – | – | 87.2 | 87.2 | 6.5 | 1 422.9 | 26.9 | 1 449.8 |
| General operating expenses | 581.3 | 720.1 | – | – | 10.9 | 10.9 | 1.5 | 731.0 | 14.2 | 745.2 |
| Supplies and materials | 7.6 | 96.0 | – | – | – | – | – | 96.0 | 1.8 | 97.8 |
| Furniture and equipment | 298.2 | 257.1 | – | – | (5.9) | (5.9) | (2.3) | 251.2 | 4.8 | 256.0 |
| Fellowships, grants and contributions | 263.9 | 73.9 | – | – | – | – | – | 73.9 | 1.4 | 75.3 |
| Total | 82 353.1 | 83 293.4 | 350.4 | – | – | 350.4 | 0.4 | 83 643.8 | 2 366.7 | 86 010.5 |

Table 9.26

Post changes^a

| | Number | Level |
|-------------------|--------|--|
| Approved for 2020 | 488 | 1 USG, 2 ASG, 9 D-2, 31 D-1, 67 P-5, 89 P-4, 67 P-3, 43 P-2/1, 33 GS (PL), 146 GS (OL) |
| Proposed for 2021 | 488 | 1 USG, 2 ASG, 9 D-2, 31 D-1, 67 P-5, 89 P-4, 67 P-3, 43 P-2/1, 33 GS (PL), 146 GS (OL) |

^a No post changes are proposed for 2021.

Note: The following abbreviations are used in tables and figures: ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; GS (OL), General Service (Other level); GS (PL), General Service (Principal level); USG, Under-Secretary-General.

Table 9.27
Post resources

| Category | 2020 approved ^a | Changes | | | | 2021 proposed ^a |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------------------------------|
| | | Technical adjustments | New/expanded mandates | Other | Total | |
| Professional and higher | | | | | | |
| USG | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| ASG | 2 | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| D-2 | 9 | — | — | — | — | 9 |
| D-1 | 31 | — | — | — | — | 31 |
| P-5 | 67 | — | — | — | — | 67 |
| P-4 | 89 | — | — | — | — | 89 |
| P-3 | 67 | — | — | — | — | 67 |
| P-2/1 | 43 | — | — | — | — | 43 |
| Subtotal | 309 | — | — | — | — | 309 |
| General Service | | | | | | |
| Principal level | 33 | — | — | — | — | 33 |
| Other level | 146 | — | — | — | — | 146 |
| Subtotal | 179 | — | — | — | — | 179 |
| Total | 488 | — | — | — | — | 488 |

^a Includes 9 temporary posts (3 P-5, 2 P-4, 3 P-3 and 1 General Service (Other level)).

- 9.181 Additional details on the distribution of proposed resources for 2021 are reflected in tables 9.28 to 9.30 and figure 9.XIII.
- 9.182 As reflected in table 9.28 (1), the overall resources proposed for 2021 amount to \$83,643,800 before recosting, reflecting a net increase of \$350,400 (or 0.4 per cent) compared with the appropriation for 2020. Resource changes result from technical adjustments relating to the annual provision of posts that were reassigned in 2020. The proposed level of resources provides for the full, efficient and effective implementation of mandates.

Table 9.28
Evolution of financial resources by component and subprogramme

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) Regular budget

| | 2019 expenditure | 2020 appropriation | Changes | | | | 2021 estimate (before recosting) | 2021 estimate (after recosting) |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------|-------|---|--|
| | | | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | | |
| A. Policymaking organs | 1 157.0 | 1 670.7 | — | — | — | — | 1 670.7 | 1 702.5 |
| B. Executive direction and management | 5 451.5 | 4 844.9 | 136.6 | — | — | 136.6 | 4 981.5 | 5 124.4 |
| C. Programme of work | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Intergovernmental support and coordination for sustainable development | 7 317.7 | 7 526.2 | — | — | — | — | 7 526.2 | 7 738.5 |

Section 9 Economic and social affairs

| | 2019 expenditure | 2020 appropriation | Changes | | | | | 2021 estimate (before recosting) | Recosting | 2021 estimate (after recosting) |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------|--------------|------------|---|----------------|--|
| | | | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | | | |
| 2. Inclusive social development | 9 456.4 | 9 169.4 | – | – | – | – | – | 9 169.4 | 267.6 | 9 437.0 |
| 3. Sustainable development | 9 213.5 | 9 024.7 | – | – | – | – | – | 9 024.7 | 255.6 | 9 280.3 |
| 4. Statistics | 18 864.7 | 18 010.4 | 71.5 | – | – | 71.5 | 0.4 | 18 081.9 | 509.2 | 18 591.1 |
| 5. Population | 6 526.1 | 6 926.9 | – | – | – | – | – | 6 926.9 | 201.5 | 7 128.4 |
| 6. Economic analysis and policy | 6 827.5 | 6 751.9 | – | – | – | – | – | 6 751.9 | 194.0 | 6 945.9 |
| 7. Public institutions and digital government | 6 663.8 | 6 470.9 | 57.0 | – | – | 57.0 | 0.9 | 6 527.9 | 187.1 | 6 715.0 |
| 8. Sustainable forest management | 1 916.7 | 2 387.1 | – | – | – | – | – | 2 387.1 | 68.2 | 2 455.3 |
| 9. Financing for sustainable development | 4 485.8 | 5 928.0 | – | – | – | – | – | 5 928.0 | 178.4 | 6 106.4 |
| Subtotal, C | 71 272.1 | 72 195.5 | 128.5 | – | – | 128.5 | 0.2 | 72 324.0 | 2 073.9 | 74 397.9 |
| D. Programme support | 4 472.5 | 4 582.3 | 85.3 | – | – | 85.3 | 1.9 | 4 667.6 | 118.1 | 4 785.7 |
| Subtotal, 1 | 82 353.1 | 83 293.4 | 350.4 | – | – | 350.4 | 0.4 | 83 643.8 | 2 366.7 | 86 010.5 |

(2) Extrabudgetary

| | 2019 expenditure | 2020 estimate | 2021 estimate |
|---|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| A. Policymaking organs | – | – | – |
| B. Executive direction and management | 805.1 | 656.5 | 435.4 |
| C. Programme of work | | | |
| 1. Intergovernmental support and coordination for sustainable development | 335.3 | 387.7 | 126.5 |
| 2. Inclusive social development | 731.3 | 1 483.1 | 866.7 |
| 3. Sustainable development | 8 020.4 | 11 460.6 | 6 618.1 |
| 4. Statistics | 8 319.6 | 8 528.0 | 8 398.2 |
| 5. Population | 1 473.7 | 1 207.4 | 294.7 |
| 6. Economic analysis and policy | 1 003.7 | 1 246.8 | 519.8 |
| 7. Public institutions and digital government | 3 368.4 | 4 946.1 | 3 038.2 |
| 8. Sustainable forest management | 842.9 | 1 354.8 | 821.9 |
| 9. Financing for sustainable development | 1 095.5 | 5 271.4 | 3 119.4 |
| Subtotal, C | 25 190.8 | 35 885.9 | 23 803.5 |
| D. Programme support | 70 890.4 | 74 262.1 | 76 632.0 |
| Subtotal, 2 | 96 886.3 | 110 804.5 | 100 870.9 |
| Total | 179 239.4 | 194 097.9 | 186 881.4 |

Table 9.29
Evolution of post resources by component and subprogramme

(1) *Regular budget*

| | 2020 approved | Changes | | | | 2021 proposed |
|---|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|----------|------------------|
| | | Technical adjustments | New/expanded mandates | Other | Total | |
| A. Policymaking organs | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| B. Executive direction and management | 26 | – | – | – | – | 26 |
| C. Programme of work | | | | | | |
| 1. Intergovernmental support and coordination for sustainable development | 43 | – | – | – | – | 43 |
| 2. Inclusive social development | 57 | – | – | – | – | 57 |
| 3. Sustainable development | 51 | – | – | – | – | 51 |
| 4. Statistics | 121 | – | – | – | – | 121 |
| 5. Population | 42 | – | – | – | – | 42 |
| 6. Economic analysis and policy | 42 | – | – | – | – | 42 |
| 7. Public institutions and digital government | 40 | – | – | – | – | 40 |
| 8. Sustainable forest management | 12 | – | – | – | – | 12 |
| 9. Financing for sustainable development | 34 | – | – | – | – | 34 |
| Subtotal, C | 442 | – | – | – | – | 442 |
| D. Programme support | 20 | – | – | – | – | 20 |
| Subtotal, 1 | 488 | – | – | – | – | 488 |

(2) *Extrabudgetary*

| | 2020 estimate | 2021 estimate |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| A. Policymaking organs | – | – |
| B. Executive direction and management | – | – |
| C. Programme of work | – | – |
| 1. Intergovernmental support and coordination for sustainable development | – | – |
| 2. Inclusive social development | – | – |
| 3. Sustainable development | 2 | 2 |
| 4. Statistics | 1 | 1 |
| 5. Population | 5 | 3 |
| 6. Economic analysis and policy | – | – |
| 7. Public institutions and digital government | – | – |
| 8. Sustainable forest management | 3 | 2 |
| 9. Financing for sustainable development | – | – |
| Subtotal, C | 11 | 8 |
| D. Programme support | 30 | 30 |
| Subtotal, 2 | 41 | 38 |
| Total | 529 | 526 |

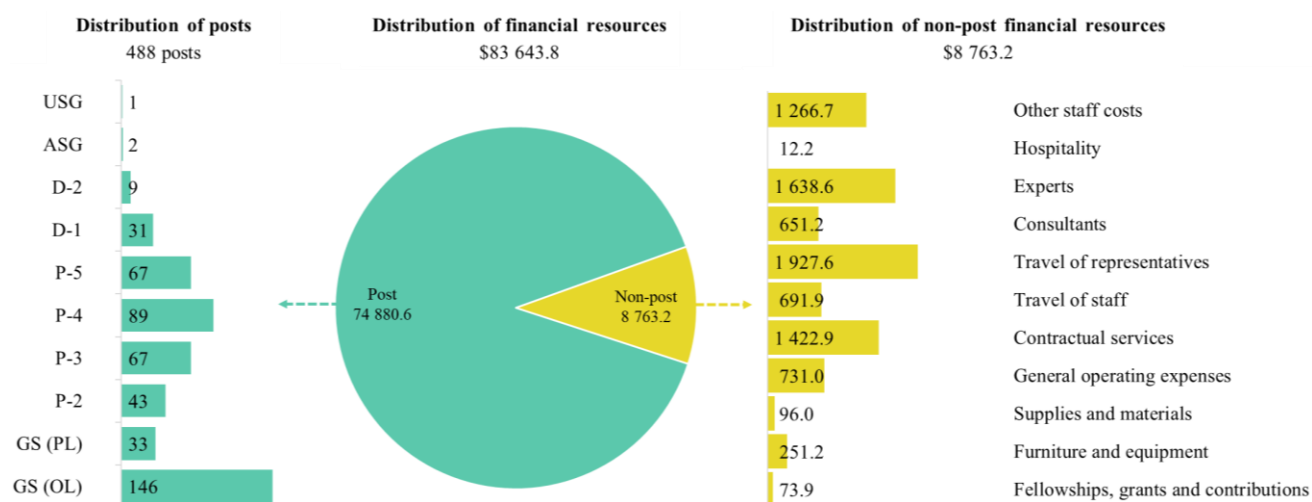
Table 9.30
Evolution of financial and post resources by category

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

| | Changes | | | | | | | 2021 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------|-------|------------|---|
| | 2019 expenditure | 2020 appropriation | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | |
| Financial resources by main category of expenditure | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 75 502.3 | 74 530.2 | 350.4 | — | — | 350.4 | 0.5 | 74 880.6 |
| Non-post | 6 850.8 | 8 763.2 | — | — | — | — | — | 8 763.2 |
| Total | 82 353.1 | 83 293.4 | 350.4 | — | — | 350.4 | 0.4 | 83 643.8 |
| Post resources by category | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 309 | — | — | — | — | — | 309 |
| General Service and related | | 179 | — | — | — | — | — | 179 |
| Total | | 488 | — | — | — | — | — | 488 |

Figure 9.XIII
Distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Variance analysis by component and subprogramme

Overall resource changes

Technical adjustments

- 9.183 As reflected in table 9.28 (1), resource changes reflect an increase of \$350,400 under executive direction and management, subprogramme 4, subprogramme 7 and programme support, which relates to the annual provision of five posts (1 P-5 and 1 GS (OL) under executive direction and management, 1 P-3 under subprogramme 4, 1 P-2 under subprogramme 7 and 1 P-4 under programme support) that were reassigned in 2020, pursuant to General Assembly resolution [72/279](#), to strengthen the monitoring and evaluation activities of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, as part of the reorganization of work for a strengthened and reformed Department ([A/74/6 \(Sect. 9\)](#), annex II).

Extrabudgetary resources

- 9.184 As reflected in tables 9.28 (2) and 9.29 (2), the Department receives both cash and in-kind contributions, which complement regular budget resources and continue to be vital for the delivery of its mandates. In 2021, projected extrabudgetary resources (cash contributions) of \$100,870,900, including 38 posts, will supplement resources from the regular budget by providing for various substantive and technical cooperation activities, including consultancy, expert group meetings, travel, technical advisory services, training, workshops, seminars and field projects. Extrabudgetary resources represent 54.0 per cent of the total resources for this programme. The estimates for extrabudgetary resources include the core requirements and programme support functions of the Department. The extrabudgetary resources also include the trust funds for the Junior Professional Officers Programme and the United Nations Assistance to the Khmer Rouge Trials in the amount of \$67.4 million (both reflected under programme support), which the Department supports. The contributions for the Junior Professional Officers Programme are estimated to increase, offset in part by a decrease in contributions to the United Nations Assistance to the Khmer Rouge Trials.
- 9.185 Anticipated in-kind contributions will provide for rent-free premises of the Department's field presence with an estimated value of \$105,000 (\$71,000 under subprogramme 3 and \$34,000 under subprogramme 7).

Policymaking organs

- 9.186 The resources proposed under this component would provide for requirements relating to standing intergovernmental organs and expert bodies, special sessions of the General Assembly and intergovernmental processes, the servicing of which is the responsibility of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. The provisions for experts serving on committees in their individual capacity are in accordance with Assembly resolution 2491 (XXIII), as amended by resolutions 41/176, 42/25, section VI, and 43/217, section IX, while the provisions for members of the functional commissions are in accordance with Assembly resolutions 1798 (XVII), 2128 (XX) and 2245 (XXI). Table 9.31 provides information on the standing intergovernmental organs and expert bodies and related resource requirements under the regular budget.

Table 9.31

Policymaking organs

(Thousands of United States dollars)

| <i>Policymaking organ</i> | <i>Description</i> | <i>Additional information</i> | <i>2020 appropriation</i> | <i>2021 estimate (before recosting)</i> |
|---|--|--|-------------------------------|---|
| High-level political forum on sustainable development | <p>In 2012, the General Assembly, in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development entitled "The future we want", decided to establish a universal, intergovernmental, high-level political forum on sustainable development. The forum replaced the Commission on Sustainable Development and builds on the strengths, experiences, resources and inclusive participation modalities of the Commission.</p> <p>According to the mandates from the General Assembly, the forum provides political leadership, guidance and recommendations for sustainable development, follows up and reviews progress in the implementation of sustainable development commitments, enhances the integration of the 3 dimensions of sustainable</p> | <p>Mandate: General Assembly resolutions 66/288, 67/290 and 70/299</p> <p>Membership: All Member States of the United Nations and States members of the specialized agencies</p> <p>Number of sessions in 2021: 1 session per year under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council; 1 session every 4 years under the auspices of the General Assembly (next session to be held in 2023)</p> | 397.9 | 397.9 |

Section 9 Economic and social affairs

| <i>Policy-making organ</i> | <i>Description</i> | <i>Additional information</i> | <i>2020 appropriation</i> | <i>2021 estimate (before recosting)</i> |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------|---|
| | <p>development and has a focused, dynamic and action-oriented agenda, ensuring the appropriate consideration of new and emerging sustainable development challenges.</p> <p>With the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the forum was tasked with reviewing progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals and overseeing a network of follow-up and review processes at the global level. The forum conducts voluntary national reviews and thematic reviews every year under the auspices of Economic and Social Council.</p> <p>The meetings of the forum are convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council annually, and the travel of representatives from the least developed countries to the meetings is facilitated. The meetings of the forum under the auspices of the General Assembly are convened every 4 years at the Head of State level. The outcome of the meetings of the forum under the auspices of the Council is a negotiated ministerial declaration, except in years when the forum meets under the auspices of the General Assembly. Under the auspices of the General Assembly, it is a negotiated political declaration.</p> | | | |
| Commission for Social Development | <p>The Social Commission was established in 1946 as a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council. In 1966, the Council renamed it the Commission for Social Development to clarify its role as a preparatory body of the Council for the entire range of social development policy issues. In 1996, the Council decided that the Commission would have the primary responsibility for the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and review of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development. In 2016, the Council affirmed that the Commission would contribute to the follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, within its existing mandate, by supporting the thematic reviews of the high-level political forum on sustainable development on progress on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.</p> | <p>Mandate: Economic and Social Council resolutions 10 (II), 1139 (XLI), 1996/7 and 2016/6</p> <p>Membership: 46 government officials</p> <p>Number of sessions in 2021: 1 (fifty-ninth)</p> | 108.9 | 108.9 |
| Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues | <p>The Permanent Forum was established in 2000 as a subsidiary organ of the Economic and Social Council. It consists of 16 members serving in their personal capacity as independent experts on indigenous issues. The Permanent Forum serves as an advisory body to the Council with a mandate to discuss indigenous issues within the mandate of the Council relating to economic and social development, culture, the environment, education, health and human rights.</p> | <p>Mandate: Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/22</p> <p>Membership: 16 experts</p> <p>Number of sessions in 2021: 1 (twentieth)</p> | 188.6 | 188.6 |

Part IV International cooperation for development

| <i>Policymaking organ</i> | <i>Description</i> | <i>Additional information</i> | <i>2020 appropriation</i> | <i>2021 estimate (before recosting)</i> |
|--|--|--|---------------------------|---|
| Statistical Commission | The Commission was established in 1947 as a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council. Its terms of reference are to assist the Council in promoting the development of national statistics and the improvement of their comparability, coordinating the statistical work of the specialized agencies, developing the central statistical services of the Secretariat, advising the organs of the United Nations on general questions relating to the collection, interpretation and dissemination of statistical information and promoting the improvement of statistical methods in general. | Mandate: Economic and Social Council resolutions 1566 (L) and 1999/8 Membership: 24 government officials Number of sessions in 2021: 1 (fifty-second) | 56.6 | 56.6 |
| Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management | The Committee was established in 2011 as a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council. It comprises experts from all Member States, as well as experts from international organizations, who participate as observers. In accordance with its terms of reference, contained in the annex to Council resolution 2011/24, the objectives of the Committee of Experts are to make joint decisions and set directions on the production and use of geospatial information within national and global policy frameworks, promote common principles, policies, methods, mechanisms and standards for the interoperability of geospatial data and services and provide a platform for the development of effective strategies on how to build and strengthen national capacity concerning geospatial information, especially in developing countries. The Council decided that the Committee would be administered within existing resources and organized accordingly. | Mandate: Economic and Social Council resolution 2011/24 Membership: 193 government officials Number of sessions in 2021: 1 (eleventh) | — | — |
| Commission on Population and Development | The Population Commission was established by the Economic and Social Council in 1946 as a functional commission of the Council. In 1994, the General Assembly decided that the revitalized Population Commission would be renamed the Commission on Population and Development. Under its terms of reference, the Commission is to assist the Council by: (a) arranging for studies and advising the Council on population issues and trends, the integration of population and development strategies, population and related development policies and programmes and the provision of population assistance, as well as addressing population and development questions on which either the principal or the subsidiary organs of the United Nations or the specialized agencies may seek advice; (b) monitoring, reviewing and assessing the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development at the national, regional and global levels, identifying reasons for success and failure and advising the Council thereon; and (c) reviewing | Mandate: Economic and Social Council resolutions 3 (III) , 150 (VII) and 2016/25 and decision 1995/320 and General Assembly resolution 49/128 Membership: 47 government officials Number of sessions in 2021: 1 (fifty-fourth) | 65.3 | 65.3 |

Section 9 Economic and social affairs

| <i>Policymaking organ</i> | <i>Description</i> | <i>Additional information</i> | <i>2020 appropriation</i> | <i>2021 estimate (before recosting)</i> |
|---|--|---|-------------------------------|---|
| Committee for Development Policy | <p>the findings of research and analysis pertaining to the interrelationships between population and development at the national, regional and international levels and advising the Council thereon.</p> <p>In 1998, the Economic and Social Council restructured and revitalized the Committee for Development Planning and renamed it the Committee for Development Policy. The Committee is a subsidiary body of the Council comprising 24 experts serving in their personal capacity, drawn from the fields of economic development, social development and environmental protection.</p> <p>In line with its mandate, the Committee considers the annual theme of the Economic and Social Council and is also called upon to undertake a triennial review of the status of least developed countries and to meet on that issue once every three years. In its resolution 67/221, the General Assembly requested the Committee to monitor the development progress of graduated countries on an annual basis for the first three years after graduation became effective, and triennially thereafter, as a complement to the two triennial reviews of the list of least developed countries carried out by the Committee.</p> | <p>Mandate: Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/46 and General Assembly resolution 67/221</p> <p>Membership: 24 experts</p> <p>Number of sessions in 2021: 1 (twenty-third)</p> | 184.1 | 184.1 |
| Committee of Experts on Public Administration | <p>The Economic and Social Council in 2001 restructured and revitalized the Group of Experts on the United Nations Programme in Public Administration and renamed it the Committee of Experts on Public Administration. The Committee is a subsidiary body of the Council comprising 24 experts serving in their personal capacity, drawn from the interrelated fields of public economics, public administration and public finance.</p> <p>The Committee's role is to support intergovernmental deliberations by providing policy advice and programmatic guidance to improve governance and public administration structures and processes for development. It assists the Council by reviewing trends, issues and priorities in public administration and institution-building, notably in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in support of the implementation and progress reviews of the Sustainable Development Goals.</p> | <p>Mandate: Economic and Social Council resolutions 2001/45 and 2003/60</p> <p>Membership: 24 experts</p> <p>Number of sessions in 2021: 1 (twentieth)</p> | 178.1 | 178.1 |
| United Nations Forum on Forests | <p>The Forum was established by the Economic and Social Council in 2000 as an intergovernmental subsidiary body of the Council. In 2015, the Council decided to strengthen the international arrangement on forests and extend it to 2030. The Council also decided to improve and strengthen the functioning of the Forum beyond 2015 and requested it to carry out its core functions on the</p> | <p>Mandate: Economic and Social Council resolutions 2000/35 and 2015/33</p> <p>Membership: 197 government officials</p> <p>Number of sessions in 2021: 1 (sixteenth)</p> | 53.9 | 53.9 |

Part IV International cooperation for development

| Policymaking organ | Description | Additional information | 2020 appropriation | 2021 estimate (before recosting) |
|--|--|---|-----------------------|---|
| | <p>basis of a strategic plan for forests for the period 2017–2030. The core functions of the Forum are to: (a) provide a coherent, open, transparent and participatory global platform for policy development, dialogue, cooperation and coordination on issues related to the sustainable management of all types of forests, including emerging issues, in an integrated and holistic manner, including through cross-sectoral approaches; (b) promote, monitor and assess the implementation of sustainable forest management, in particular the United Nations strategic plan for forests and the achievement of its global forest goals and associated targets and the United Nations forest instrument, and mobilize, catalyse and facilitate access to financial, technical and scientific resources to that end; (c) promote governance frameworks and enabling conditions at all levels to achieve sustainable forest management; (d) promote coherent and collaborative international policy development on issues related to all types of forests; and (e) strengthen high-level political engagement, with the participation of major groups and other stakeholders, in support of sustainable forest management.</p> | | | |
| Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters | <p>The Group of Experts on Tax Treaties between Developed and Developing Countries was established by the Economic and Social Council in 1968. In 1980, it was renamed the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters. In 2004, the Council renamed it the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters. It comprises 25 members nominated by Governments and acting in their expert capacity, drawn from the fields of tax policy and tax administration. By its resolution 69/313, the General Assembly decided to increase the frequency of the Committee's meetings to two sessions per year and to increase the engagement of the Committee with the Council through the special meeting on international cooperation in tax matters, with a view to enhancing intergovernmental consideration of tax issues.</p> <p>The Committee is mandated to: (a) keep under review and update as necessary the United Nations Model Double Taxation Convention between Developed and Developing Countries and the Manual for the Negotiation of Bilateral Tax Treaties between Developed and Developing Countries; (b) provide a framework for dialogue with a view to enhancing and promoting international tax cooperation among national tax authorities; (c) consider how new and emerging issues could affect international cooperation in tax matters and develop assessments,</p> | <p>Mandate: Economic and Social Council resolutions 1273 (XLIII), 2004/69 and 2017/2 and General Assembly resolution 69/313</p> <p>Membership: 25 experts</p> <p>Number of sessions in 2021: 2 (twenty-second and twenty-third)</p> | 437.3 | 437.3 |

| <i>Policymaking organ</i> | <i>Description</i> | <i>Additional information</i> | <i>2020 appropriation</i> | <i>2021 estimate (before recosting)</i> |
|---------------------------|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| | commentaries and appropriate recommendations; (d) make recommendations on capacity-building and the provision of technical assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition; and (e) give special attention to developing countries and countries with economies in transition in dealing with all the aforementioned issues. | | | |
| Total | | | 1 670.7 | 1 670.7 |

- 9.187 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$1,670,700 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details on the distribution of proposed resources for 2021 are reflected in table 9.32.

Table 9.32

Policymaking organs: evolution of financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars)

| | <i>2019 expenditure</i> | <i>2020 appropriation</i> | <i>Changes</i> | | | | | <i>2021 estimate (before recosting)</i> |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|---|
| | | | <i>Technical adjustments</i> | <i>New/ expanded mandates</i> | <i>Other</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>Percentage</i> | |
| Non-post | | | | | | | | |
| Travel of representatives | 1 157.0 | 1 670.7 | – | – | – | – | – | 1 670.7 |
| Total | 1 157.0 | 1 670.7 | – | – | – | – | – | 1 670.7 |

Executive direction and management

- 9.188 The Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs is responsible for the overall management, supervision and administration of the Department in the implementation of its mandates and its approved programme of work. As head of the Department, the Under-Secretary-General is delegated managerial authority over human, financial and physical resources to allow for the effective delivery of the Department's mandates. Within the United Nations system, he serves as the convener of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs, as well as the Programme Manager of the Development Account, and is responsible for the overall management of capacity development activities. He is also a member of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group, a joint policy and decision-making body for development operations in countries. The Under-Secretary-General is assisted by the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter Agency Affairs and the Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, who also serves as the Chief Economist.
- 9.189 The Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development and Chief Economist serves as the principal economic adviser to the Under-Secretary-General, whom he assists by providing thought leadership and guidance on the policy research and analysis work of the Department, including on frontier and emerging issues. He is also responsible for the coordination and review of the publications of the Department, reports of the Secretary-General and other technical products that provide an important platform for amplifying and delivering the work of the Department on global development policy. The Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency

Affairs supports the Under-Secretary-General by providing substantive support and policy advice on departmental support to intergovernmental processes, including the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies, and the high-level political forum on sustainable development. She is also responsible for inter-agency coordination, including support to the Under-Secretary-General in the work of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group and the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination.

- 9.190 The Office of the Under-Secretary-General supports the senior leadership of the Department in the overall coordination and management of its programmes and resources, as well as the implementation of Department-wide initiatives. It assists the Under-Secretary-General in implementing the Department's overall programming, monitoring and evaluation activities, including its representation in intergovernmental and expert oversight bodies and internal and external audit entities. The Office coordinates the Department's support to the resident coordinator system, in collaboration with the Development Coordination Office. It also facilitates the work of the Department's gender focal point and is responsible for the review of legislative reports and flagship publications of the Department.
- 9.191 The Strategic Planning and Communications Service supports the Under-Secretary-General in advancing the Department's strategic direction, integration and policy coherence, including its collaborative work with other Secretariat entities in the areas of knowledge management, communications, websites, social and multimedia outreach, publishing and information technology. It supports the Department's engagement in the Secretary-General's Executive Committee and coordinating mechanisms or bodies and represents the Department in relevant Secretariat policy and normative bodies, including the Publications Board, the Information and Communications Technology Board and the United Nations Communications Group. The Service plays a central role in the programme delivery of the Department through its support for information systems and enterprise applications. It also supports the Department's editorial board and departmental strategic planning and communications networks, and is responsible for the Department's strategic communications framework, including its implementation.
- 9.192 The Programme, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit coordinates the preparation of the Department's annual programme plan and programme performance reports and is also responsible for the internal monitoring and evaluation of the Department's work. The Unit serves as the focal point for evaluations by oversight bodies and provides support to the Executive Office and the Capacity Development Programme Management Office on audits of the Department. It is also responsible for producing monitoring reports for decision-making in close collaboration with the Department's respective subprogrammes. The Unit reports to the Under-Secretary-General through the Chief of Office of the Under-Secretary-General. The Unit operates independently from other operational and management functions within the Department.
- 9.193 As part of its commitment to the aims and goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and international agreements on climate change and the protection of the environment, the Department initiated a review of the delivery modality for its capacity-building workshops, with a view to increasing the availability of online training, reaching a wider audience and reducing the need for travel to conduct the workshops. In 2020, the Department enhanced its online training tools and strengthened its planning and coordination of missions to countries in the context of its capacity-building and technical cooperation work to minimize its carbon footprint due to travel. In 2021, the Department will continue to leverage the information technology infrastructure developed by the Office of Information and Communications Technology to increase the availability of online meetings and training and reduce the printing of documentation and the acquisition of printers. It will also contribute to the implementation of the Secretariat's climate neutrality plan.
- 9.194 Information on compliance with regard to the timely submission of documentation and advance booking for air travel is reflected in table 9.33. Guidance will be issued to all staff on the advance booking policy with clear timelines for all travel categories, especially those related to meetings, workshops and events organized by the Department. The liquidity situation under the regular budget which resulted in the incremental issuance of allotments, the late receipt of voluntary contributions

and late nominations from non-staff travellers contributed to non-compliance in 2019. The Department will make efforts to continue to improve the compliance rate by, among other things, promoting advance planning for all Department events, working more closely with Governments on the nominations of representatives, working more closely with the Travel Unit to reserve tickets based on the preliminary itinerary in order to secure tickets at the lowest price and minimizing instances of exceptions.

Table 9.33
Compliance rate
(Percentage)

| | <i>Planned 2019</i> | <i>Actual 2019</i> | <i>Planned 2020</i> | <i>Planned 2021</i> |
|--|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Timely submission of documentation | 100 | 97 | 100 | 100 |
| Air tickets purchased at least 2 weeks before the commencement of travel | 100 | 43 | 100 | 100 |

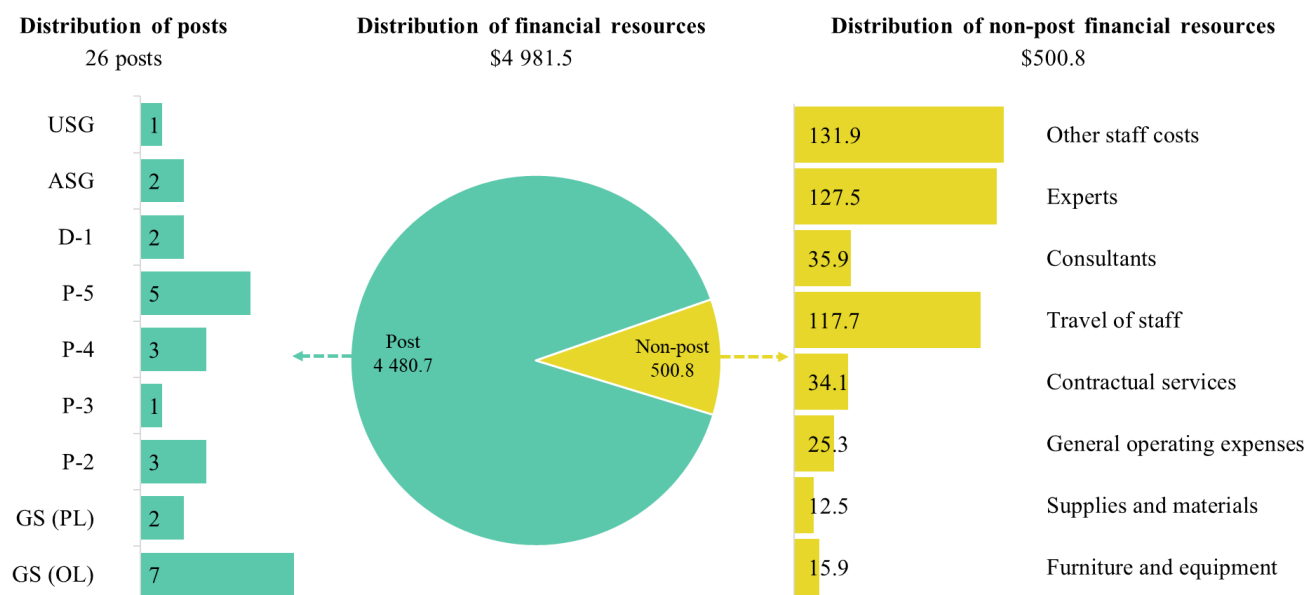
9.195 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$4,981,500 and reflect an increase of \$136,600 compared with the appropriation for 2020. The proposed increase of \$136,600 is explained in paragraph 9.183. Additional details on the distribution of proposed resources for 2021 are reflected in table 9.34 and figure 9.XIV.

Table 9.34
Executive direction and management: evolution of financial and post resources
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

| | 2019 expenditure | 2020 appropriation | Changes | | | | | 2021 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------|-------|------------|---|
| | | | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | |
| Financial resources by main category of expenditure | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 5 115.8 | 4 344.1 | 136.6 | — | — | 136.6 | 3.1 | 4 480.7 |
| Non-post | 335.7 | 500.8 | — | — | — | — | — | 500.8 |
| Total | 5 451.5 | 4 844.9 | 136.6 | — | — | 136.6 | 2.8 | 4 981.5 |
| Post resources by category | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 17 | — | — | — | — | — | 17 |
| General Service and related | | 9 | — | — | — | — | — | 9 |
| Total | | 26 | — | — | — | — | — | 26 |

Figure 9.XIV
Executive direction and management: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)

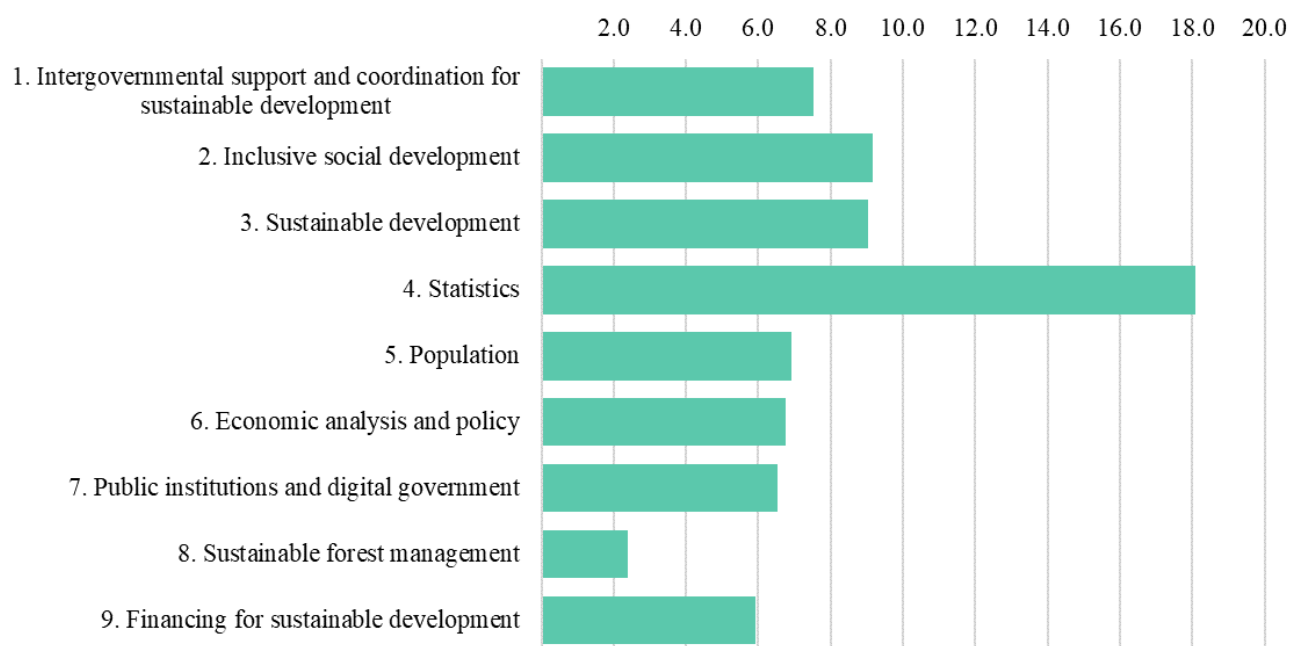


Programme of work

- 9.196 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$72,324,000 and reflect an increase of \$128,500 compared with the appropriation for 2020. The proposed increase of \$128,500 is explained in paragraph 9.183. The distribution of resources by subprogramme is reflected in figure 9.XV.

Figure 9.XV
Distribution of proposed resources for 2021 by subprogramme

(Millions of United States dollars)



Subprogramme 1 Intergovernmental support and coordination for sustainable development

- 9.197 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$7,526,200 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details on the distribution of proposed resources for 2021 are reflected in table 9.35 and figure 9.XVI.

Table 9.35
Subprogramme 1: evolution of financial and post resources

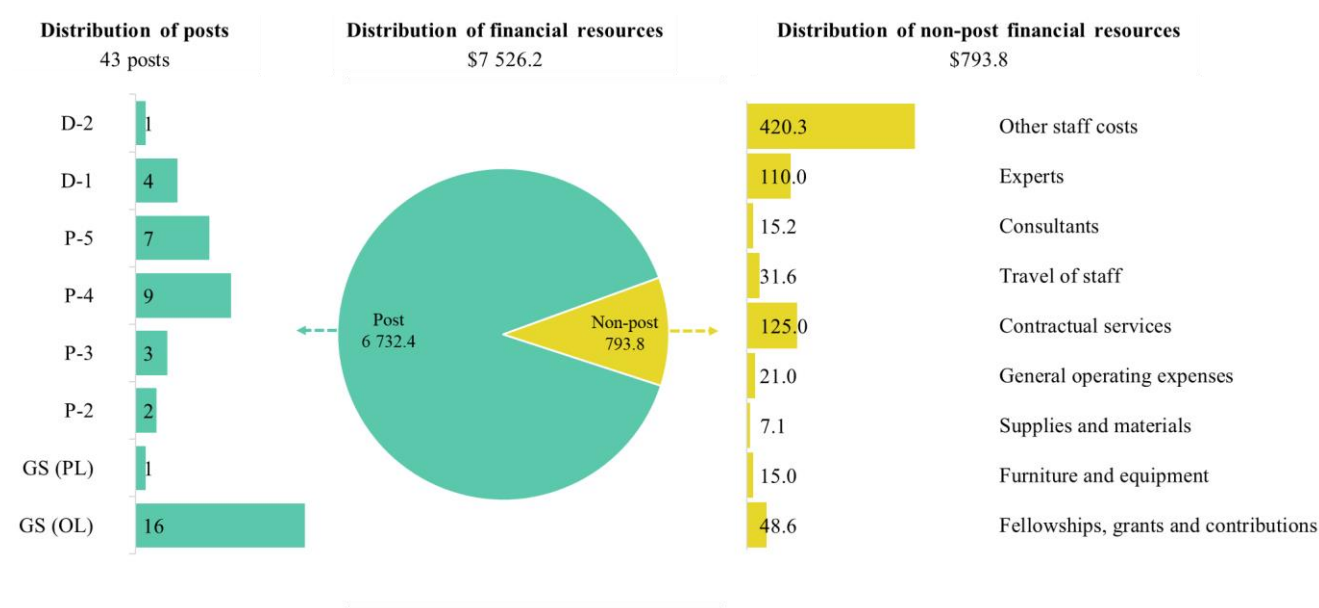
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

| | 2019 expenditure | 2020 appropriation | Changes | | | | | 2021 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------|-------|------------|---|
| | | | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | |
| Financial resources by main category of expenditure | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 6 462.2 | 6 732.4 | — | — | — | — | — | 6 732.4 |
| Non-post | 855.5 | 793.8 | — | — | — | — | — | 793.8 |
| Total | 7 317.7 | 7 526.2 | — | — | — | — | — | 7 526.2 |
| Post resources by category | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 26 | — | — | — | — | — | 26 |
| General Service and related | | 17 | — | — | — | — | — | 17 |
| Total | | 43 | — | — | — | — | — | 43 |

Figure 9.XVI

Subprogramme 1: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)


**Subprogramme 2
Inclusive social development**

9.198 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$9,169,400 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details on the distribution of proposed resources for 2021 are reflected in table 9.36 and figure 9.XVII.

Table 9.36

Subprogramme 2: evolution of financial and post resources

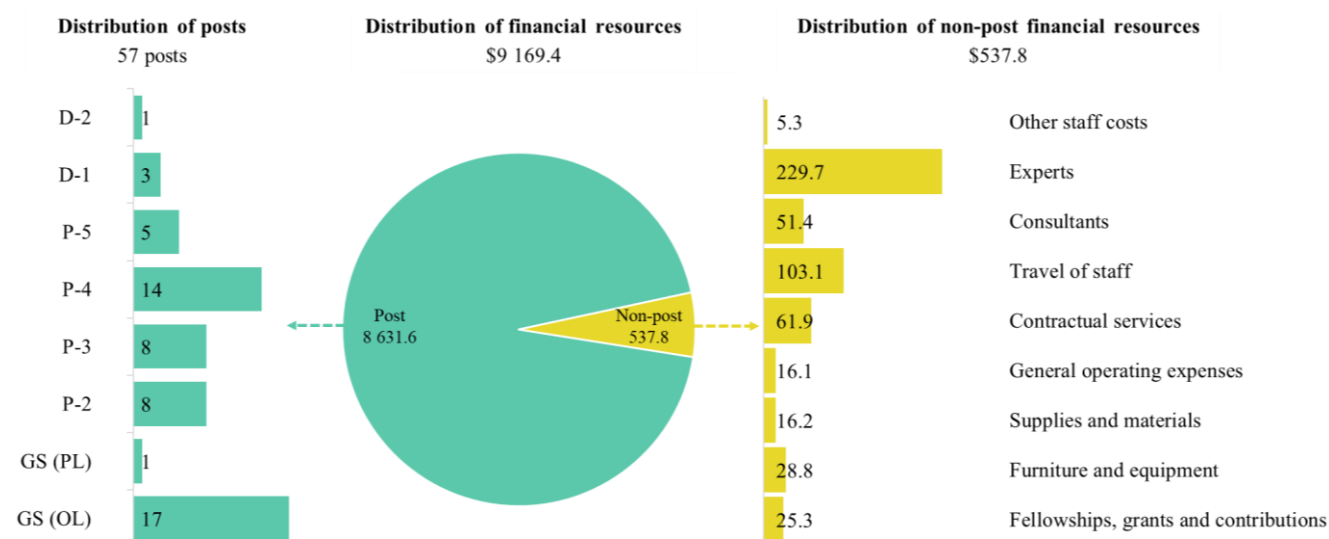
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

| | Changes | | | | | | | 2021 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------|-------|------------|---|
| | 2019 expenditure | 2020 appropriation | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | |
| Financial resources by main category of expenditure | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 9 006.5 | 8 631.6 | — | — | — | — | — | 8 631.6 |
| Non-post | 449.9 | 537.8 | — | — | — | — | — | 537.8 |
| Total | 9 456.4 | 9 169.4 | — | — | — | — | — | 9 169.4 |
| Post resources by category | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 39 | — | — | — | — | — | 39 |
| General Service and related | | 18 | — | — | — | — | — | 18 |
| Total | | 57 | — | — | — | — | — | 57 |

Figure 9.XVII

Subprogramme 2: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Subprogramme 3

Sustainable development

- 9.199 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$9,024,700 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details on the distribution of proposed resources for 2021 are reflected in table 9.37 and figure 9.XVIII.

Table 9.37

Subprogramme 3: evolution of financial and post resources

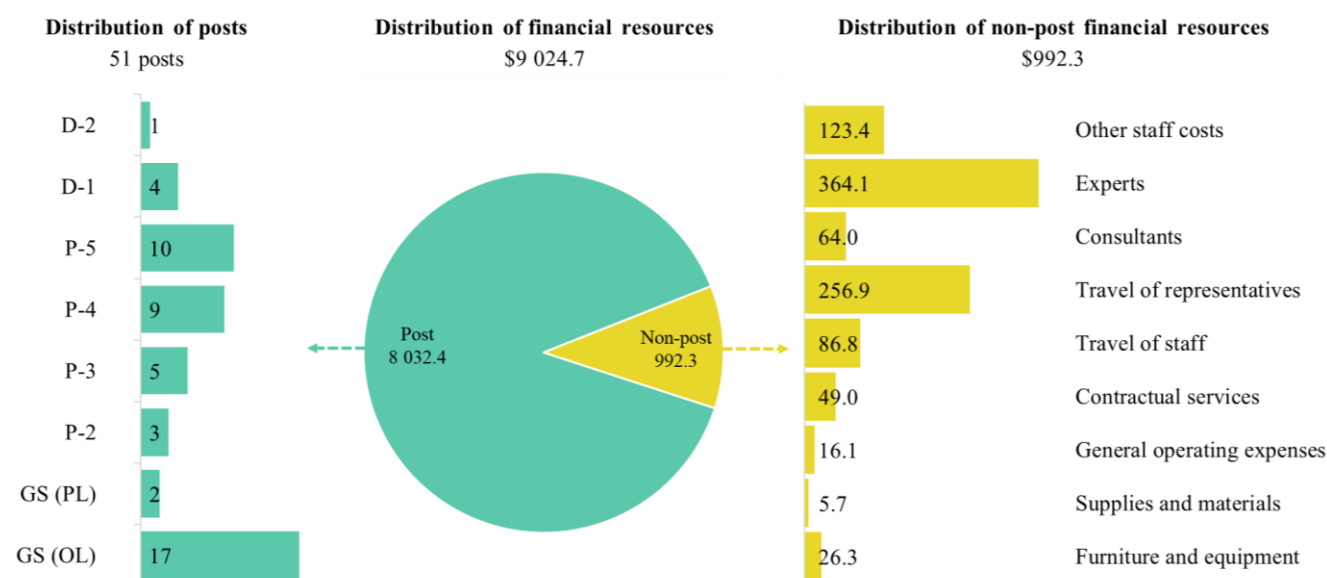
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

| | Changes | | | | | | | 2021 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------|-------|------------|---|
| | 2019 expenditure | 2020 appropriation | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | |
| Financial resources by main category of expenditure | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 8 439.7 | 8 032.4 | — | — | — | — | — | 8 032.4 |
| Non-post | 773.8 | 992.3 | — | — | — | — | — | 992.3 |
| Total | 9 213.5 | 9 024.7 | — | — | — | — | — | 9 024.7 |
| Post resources by category | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 32 | — | — | — | — | — | 32 |
| General Service and related | | 19 | — | — | — | — | — | 19 |
| Total | | 51 | — | — | — | — | — | 51 |

Figure 9.XVIII

Subprogramme 3: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Subprogramme 4 Statistics

9.200 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$18,081,900 and reflect an increase of \$71,500 compared with the appropriation for 2020. The proposed increase of \$71,500 is explained in paragraph 9.183. Additional details on the distribution of proposed resources for 2021 are reflected in table 9.38 and figure 9.XIX.

Table 9.38

Subprogramme 4: evolution of financial and post resources

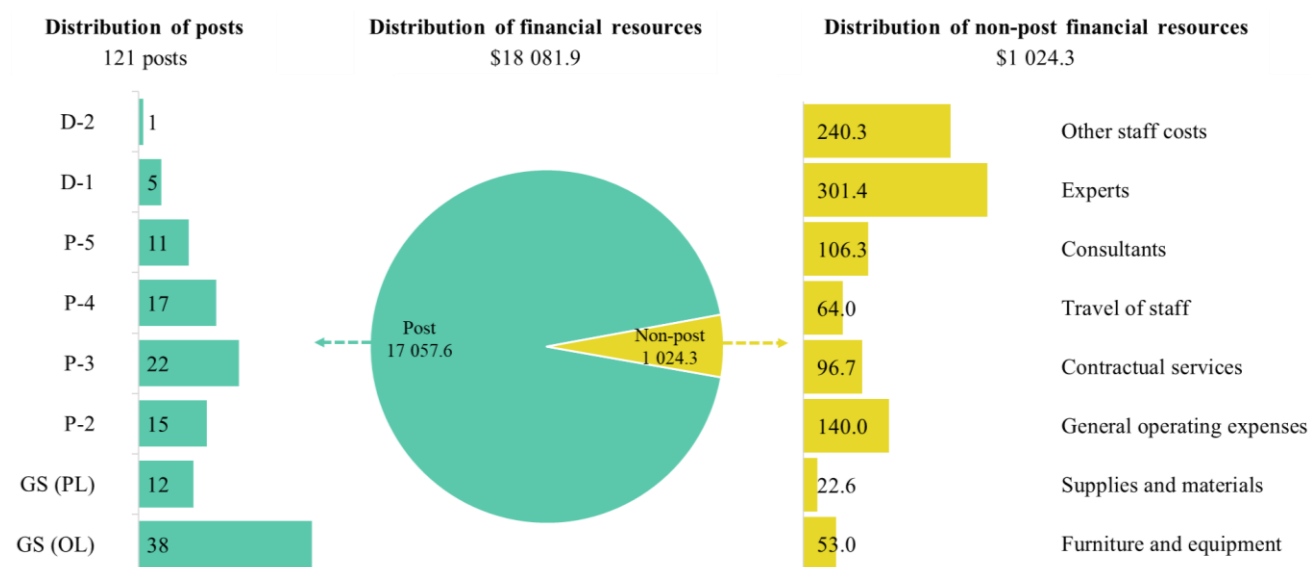
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

| | Changes | | | | | | | 2021 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------|-------|------------|---|
| | 2019 expenditure | 2020 appropriation | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | |
| Financial resources by main category of expenditure | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 18 139.2 | 16 986.1 | 71.5 | — | — | 71.5 | 0.4 | 17 057.6 |
| Non-post | 725.5 | 1 024.3 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 024.3 |
| Total | 18 864.7 | 18 010.4 | 71.5 | — | — | 71.5 | 0.4 | 18 081.9 |
| Post resources by category | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 71 | — | — | — | — | — | 71 |
| General Service and related | | 50 | — | — | — | — | — | 50 |
| Total | | 121 | — | — | — | — | — | 121 |

Figure 9.XIX

Subprogramme 4: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)

**Subprogramme 5
Population**

9.201 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$6,926,900 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details on the distribution of proposed resources for 2021 are reflected in table 9.39 and figure 9.XX.

Table 9.39

Subprogramme 5: evolution of financial and post resources

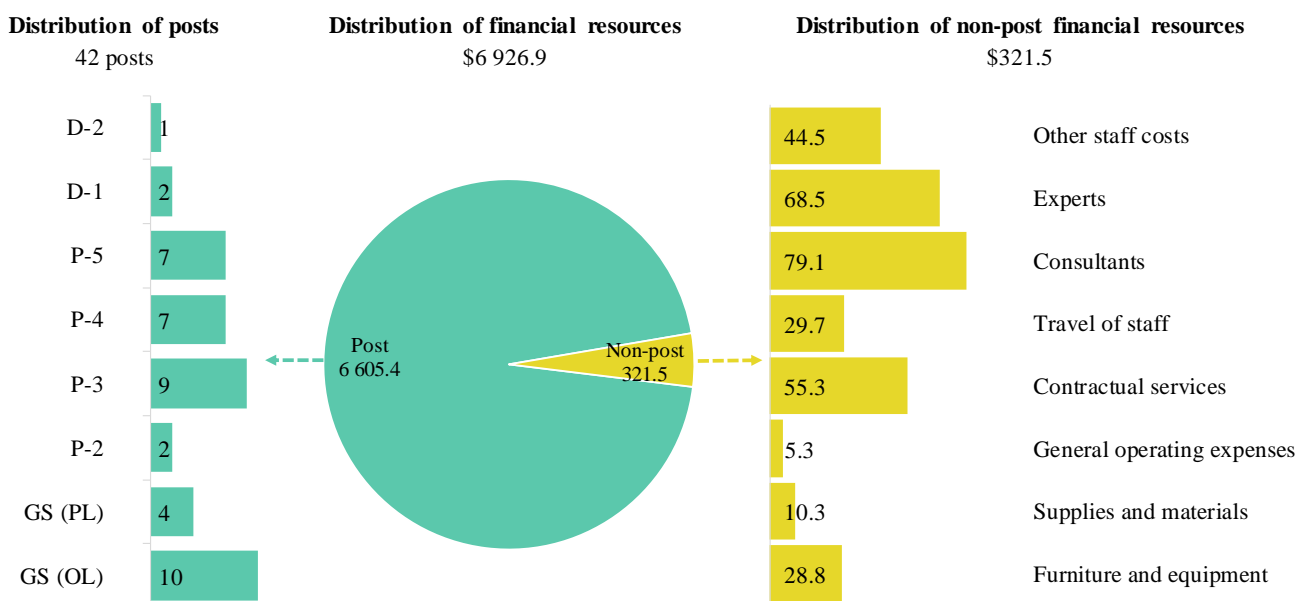
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

| | 2019 expenditure | 2020 appropriation | Changes | | | | | 2021 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------|-------|------------|---|
| | | | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | |
| Financial resources by main category of expenditure | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 6 261.0 | 6 605.4 | — | — | — | — | — | 6 605.4 |
| Non-post | 265.0 | 321.5 | — | — | — | — | — | 321.5 |
| Total | 6 526.1 | 6 926.9 | — | — | — | — | — | 6 926.9 |
| Post resources by category | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 28 | — | — | — | — | — | 28 |
| General Service and related | | 14 | — | — | — | — | — | 14 |
| Total | | 42 | — | — | — | — | — | 42 |

Figure 9.XX

Subprogramme 5: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)


**Subprogramme 6
Economic analysis and policy**

- 9.202 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$6,751,900 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details on the distribution of proposed resources for 2021 are reflected in table 9.40 and figure 9.XXI.

Table 9.40

Subprogramme 6: evolution of financial and post resources

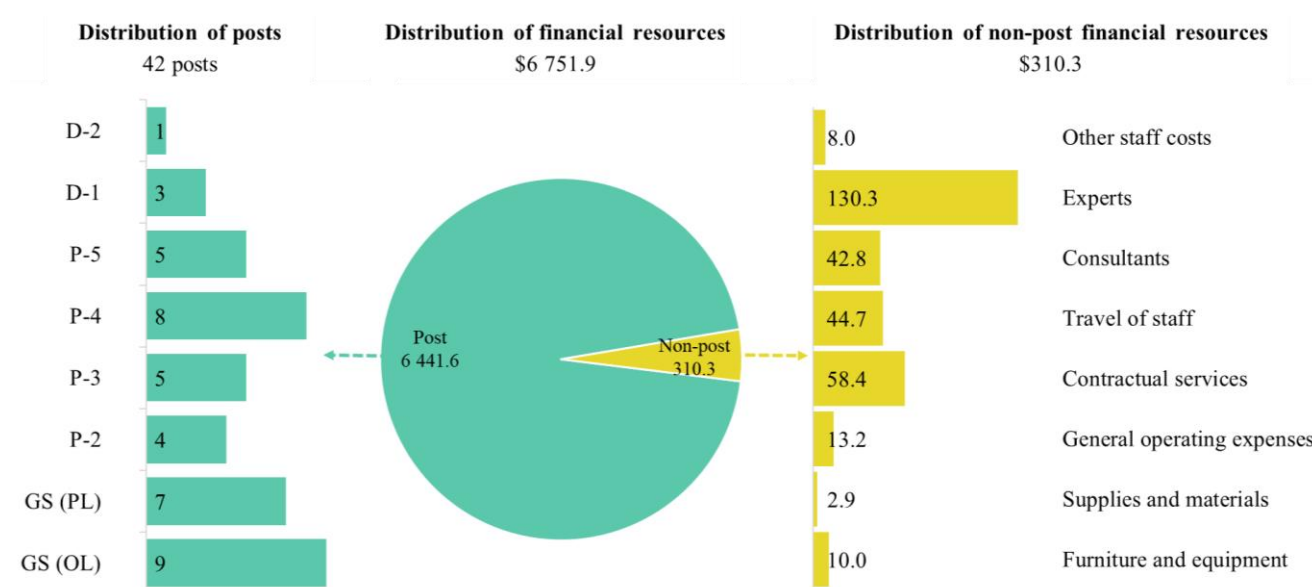
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

| | Changes | | | | | | | 2021 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------|-------|------------|---|
| | 2019 expenditure | 2020 appropriation | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | |
| Financial resources by main category of expenditure | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 6 544.9 | 6 441.6 | — | — | — | — | — | 6 441.6 |
| Non-post | 282.5 | 310.3 | — | — | — | — | — | 310.3 |
| Total | 6 827.5 | 6 751.9 | — | — | — | — | — | 6 751.9 |
| Post resources by category | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 26 | — | — | — | — | — | 26 |
| General Service and related | | 16 | — | — | — | — | — | 16 |
| Total | | 42 | — | — | — | — | — | 42 |

Figure 9.XXI

Subprogramme 6: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Subprogramme 7

Public institutions and digital government

9.203 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$6,527,900 and reflect an increase of \$57,000 compared with the appropriation for 2020. The proposed increase of \$57,000 is explained in paragraph 9.183. Additional details on the distribution of proposed resources for 2021 are reflected in table 9.41 and figure 9.XXII.

Table 9.41

Subprogramme 7: evolution of financial and post resources

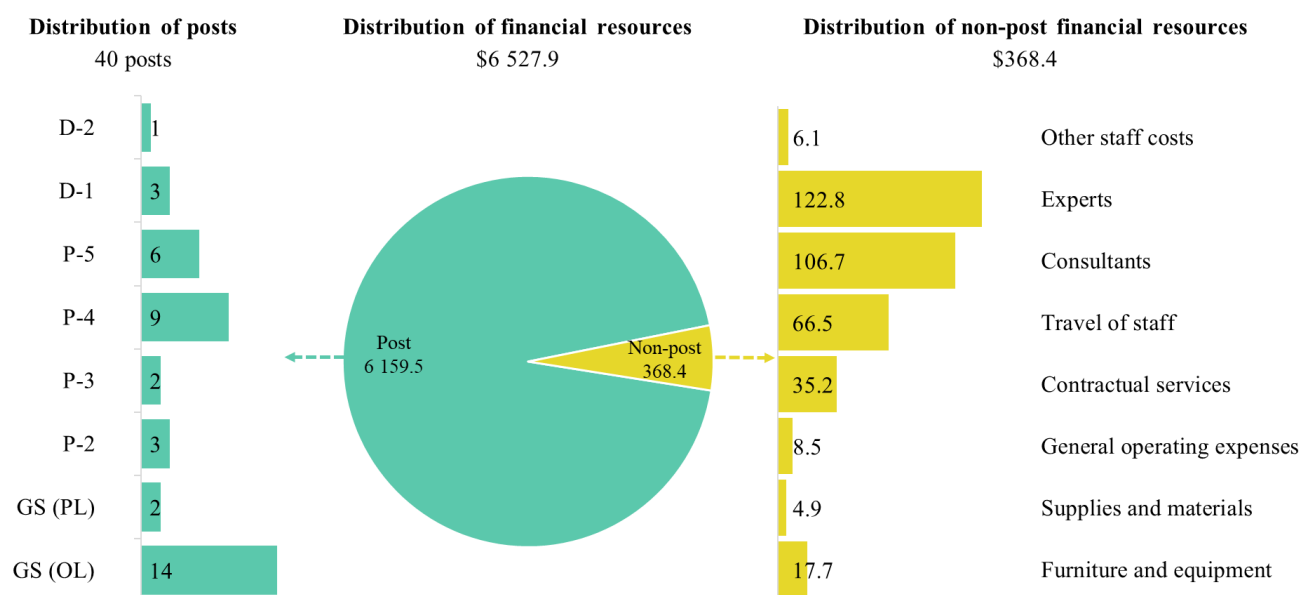
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

| | Changes | | | | | | | 2021 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------|-------------|------------|---|
| | 2019 expenditure | 2020 appropriation | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | |
| Financial resources by main category of expenditure | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 6 417.9 | 6 102.5 | 57.0 | — | — | 57.0 | 0.9 | 6 159.5 |
| Non-post | 246.0 | 368.4 | — | — | — | — | — | 368.4 |
| Total | 6 663.8 | 6 470.9 | 57.0 | — | — | 57.0 | 0.9 | 6 527.9 |
| Post resources by category | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 24 | — | — | — | — | — | 24 |
| General Service and related | | 16 | — | — | — | — | — | 16 |
| Total | | 40 | — | — | — | — | — | 40 |

Figure 9.XXII

Subprogramme 7: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)


**Subprogramme 8
Sustainable forest management**

9.204 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$2,387,100 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details on the distribution of proposed resources for 2021 are reflected in table 9.42 and figure 9.XXIII.

Table 9.42

Subprogramme 8: evolution of financial and post resources

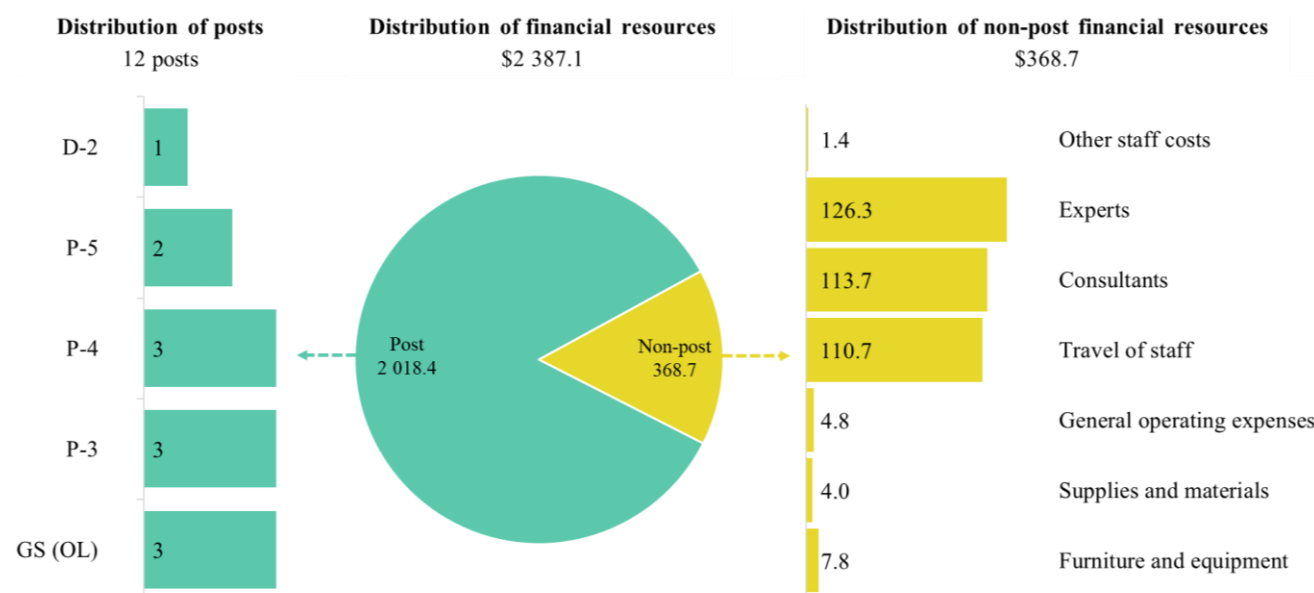
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

| | Changes | | | | | | | 2021 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------|-------|------------|---|
| | 2019 expenditure | 2020 appropriation | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | |
| Financial resources by main category of expenditure | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 1 761.9 | 2 018.4 | — | — | — | — | — | 2 018.4 |
| Non-post | 154.7 | 368.7 | — | — | — | — | — | 368.7 |
| Total | 1 916.7 | 2 387.1 | — | — | — | — | — | 2 387.1 |
| Post resources by category | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 9 | — | — | — | — | — | 9 |
| General Service | | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | 3 |
| Total | | 12 | — | — | — | — | — | 12 |

Figure 9.XXIII

Subprogramme 8: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Subprogramme 9

Financing for sustainable development

9.205 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$5,928,000 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details on the distribution of proposed resources for 2021 are reflected in table 9.43 and figure 9.XXIV.

Table 9.43

Subprogramme 9: evolution of financial and post resources

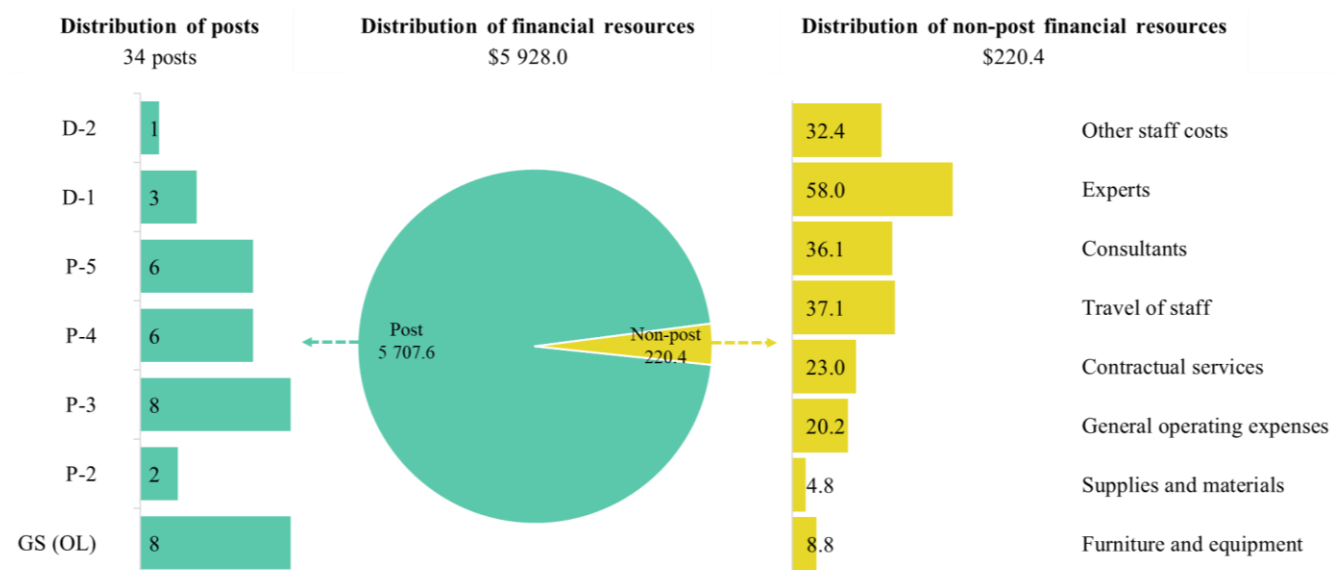
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

| | 2019 expenditure | 2020 appropriation | Changes | | | | | 2021 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------|-------|------------|---|
| | | | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | |
| Financial resources by main category of expenditure | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 4 242.4 | 5 707.6 | — | — | — | — | — | 5 707.6 |
| Non-post | 243.4 | 220.4 | — | — | — | — | — | 220.4 |
| Total | 4 485.8 | 5 928.0 | — | — | — | — | — | 5 928.0 |
| Post resources by category | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 26 | — | — | — | — | — | 26 |
| General Service and related | | 8 | — | — | — | — | — | 8 |
| Total | | 34 | — | — | — | — | — | 34 |

Figure 9.XXIV

Subprogramme 9: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)

**Programme support**

- 9.206 Programme support comprises the Executive Office and the Capacity Development Programme Management Office.
- 9.207 The Executive Office supports the Under-Secretary-General in his exercise of the expanded delegation of authority to manage the human, financial and physical resources of the Department, ensuring the highest standards of professionalism and integrity in accordance with the Organization's financial and staff regulations and rules, and administrative policies. The Office's functions include: (a) the management of post and non-post resources approved by the General Assembly in the regular budget, substantive trust funds, and overhead and revenue accounts; (b) the full range of human resources management for both staff and non-staff personnel, including staff selection processes, onboarding, administration of benefits and entitlements, performance management, staff-management relations, conflict resolution, conduct and discipline, litigation, workforce planning, talent management, staff development and internship programmes; (c) the review of programme budget implications arising from draft resolutions; (d) the management of Secretariat administrative arrangements, including service-level agreements for centrally delivered services; (e) the administration of donor agreements, memorandums of understanding, host country agreements for global conferences and other arrangements for various activities organized in collaboration with other United Nations entities and/or other institutions; (f) the administration of funding and travel arrangements for delegates to all intergovernmental and expert meetings serviced by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs; (g) the management of contingency plans to ensure business continuity for the Department's programmes; and (h) compliance with all management authority delegated to the Department, including the proactive management of risks and the implementation of mitigation, and internal control measures.
- 9.208 The Executive Office also supports the Under-Secretary-General in meeting the expectations of the monitoring and accountability framework and is his main interlocutor with the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance and the Department of Operational Support, including in his role as a member of the Management Client Board, in which he represents a number of non-field-focused Secretariat entities.
- 9.209 The Executive Office also provides administrative support to the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked

Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, the New York office of the secretariat of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, the Regional Commissions New York Office and the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries for the start-up period.

- 9.210 The Capacity Development Programme Management Office manages and coordinates the capacity development function of the Department through the formulation, coordination and implementation of the Department's capacity development activities for the coherent and integrated delivery of capacity development programmes, projects and other activities and the promotion of direct and effective translation of intergovernmental outcomes into the operational programmes.
- 9.211 The Capacity Development Programme Management Office also provides management oversight, evaluation and reporting of the capacity development deliverables of the Department. It manages and coordinates the delivery of extensive capacity development training workshops, seminars, fellowships and study tours. The Office supports the Under-Secretary-General in his role as Programme Manager of the Development Account, which involves the active management of approximately 110 Development Account projects across 10 implementing entities at various stages of implementation. The Office also manages the Junior Professional Officers Programme for the United Nations Secretariat, including those of the resident coordinator system, which involves the administering, on average, of 350 Junior Professional Officers per annum.
- 9.212 In 2021, the Office will support the Department's delivery of integrated policy advisory services and technical assistance, drawing upon the normative and analytical expertise of the Department, to contribute to the formulation of national sustainable development strategies, including the identification of policy options that balance social, economic and environmental goals, as enshrined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development.
- 9.213 The Office will also support the Under-Secretary-General in promoting strategic cooperation and partnerships within the United Nations secretariat and with the United Nations development system at large, including the resident coordinator system, to promote more coherent, coordinated and cross-sectoral support for the implementation of the two agendas.
- 9.214 To maximize the effective delivery of the capacity development programme of the Department, the Office will facilitate the implementation of an integrated approach to the planning and programming of the Department's capacity development activities, ensuring full complementarity and synergies among the various strands of its capacity development portfolio, funded by the regular programme for technical cooperation, the Development Account and extrabudgetary resources.
- 9.215 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$4,667,600 and reflect an increase of \$85,300 compared with the appropriation for 2020. The proposed increase of \$85,300 is explained in paragraph 9.183. Additional details on the distribution of proposed resources for 2021 are reflected in table 9.44 and figure 9.XXV.

Table 9.44

Programme support: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

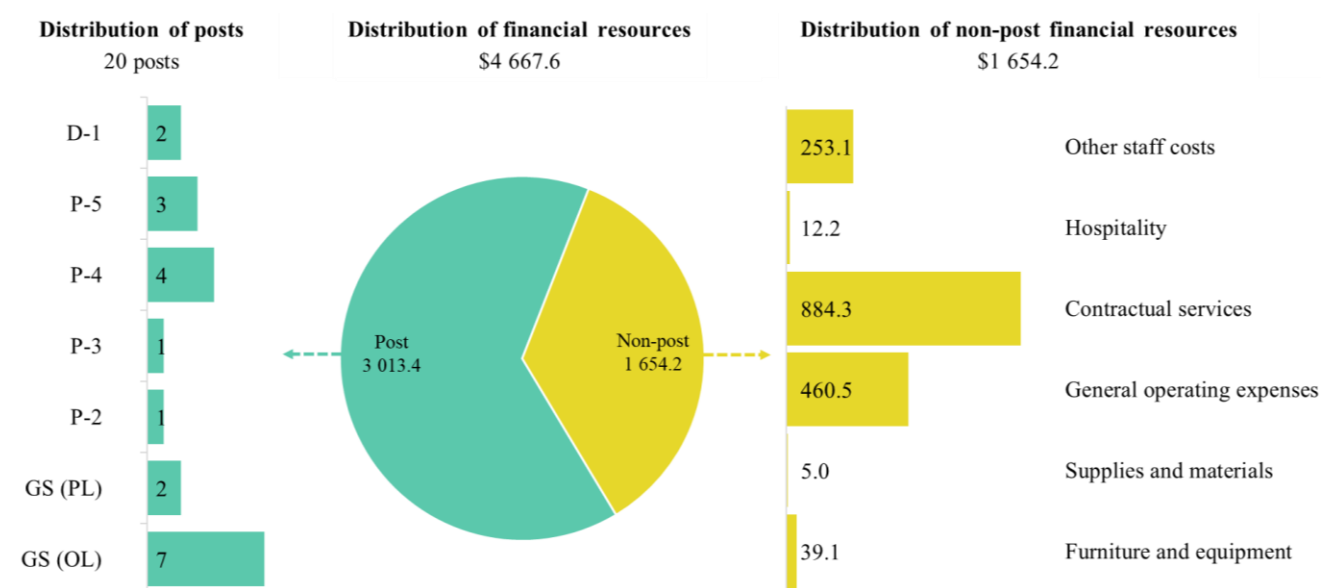
| | 2019 expenditure | 2020 appropriation | Changes | | | | 2021 estimate (before recosting) |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------|-------------|---|
| | | | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage |
| Financial resources by main category of expenditure | | | | | | | |
| Post | 3 110.8 | 2 928.1 | 85.3 | — | — | 85.3 | 2.9 |
| Non-post | 1 361.7 | 1 654.2 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total | 4 472.5 | 4 582.3 | 85.3 | — | — | 85.3 | 1.9 |

| | 2019 expenditure | 2020 appropriation | Changes | | | | 2021 estimate (before recosting) | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------|---------------------|---|----|
| | | | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total Percentage | | |
| Post resources by category | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 11 | — | — | — | — | — | 11 |
| General Service and related | | 9 | — | — | — | — | — | 9 |
| Total | | 20 | — | — | — | — | — | 20 |

Figure 9.XXV

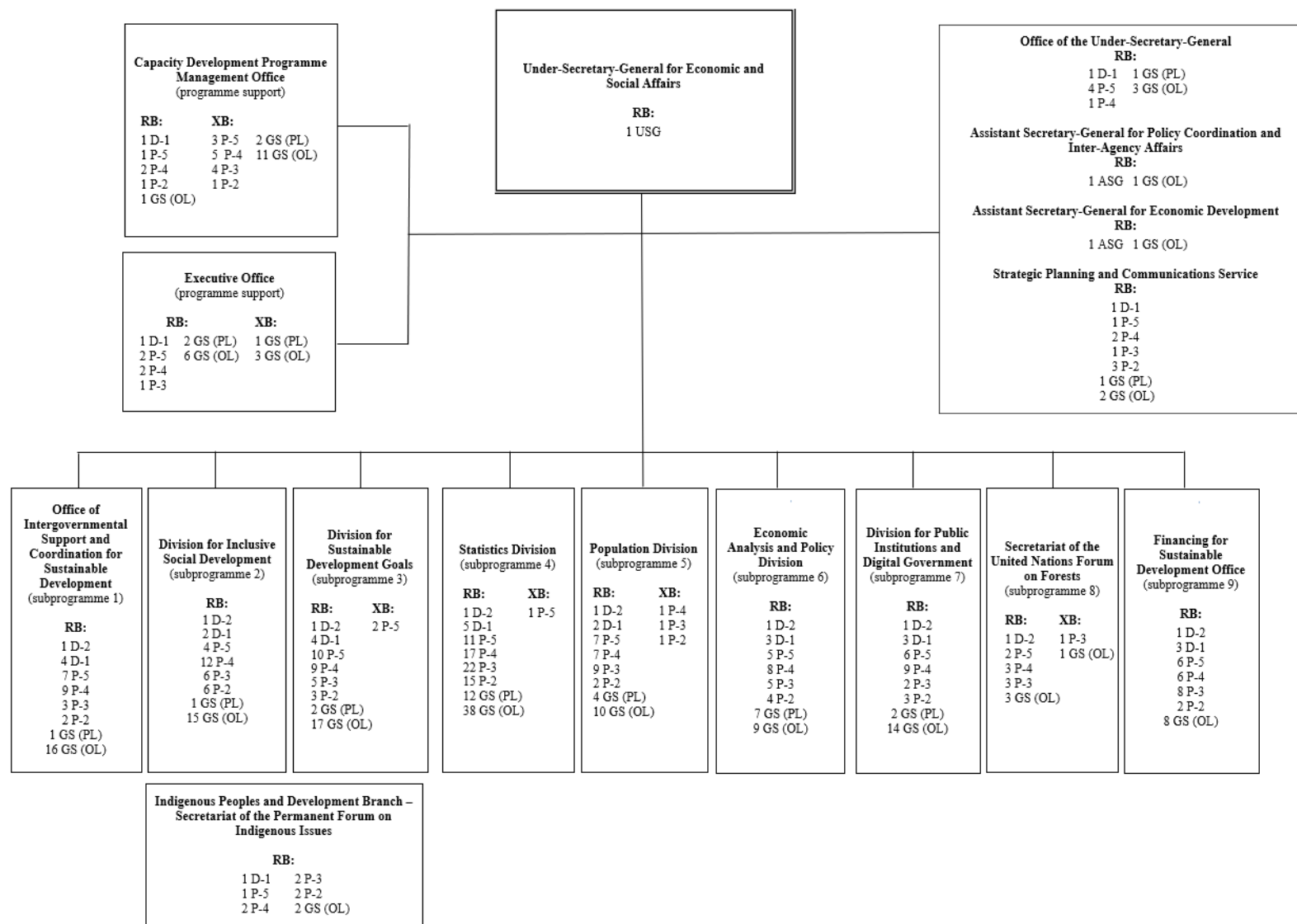
Programme support: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Annex I

Organizational structure and post distribution for 2021



Abbreviations: ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; GS (OL), General Service (Other level); GS (PL), General Service (Principal level); RB, regular budget; USG, Under-Secretary-General; XB, extrabudgetary.

Annex II

Summary of follow-up action taken to implement relevant recommendations of the oversight bodies

Brief description of the recommendation

Action taken to implement the recommendation

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/74/7)

The Advisory Committee trusts that more information on the new Programme, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit, including its reporting lines in the Office of the Under-Secretary-General, will be provided in the next budget proposal (para. IV.19).

The Advisory Committee recalls that the General Assembly, on a number of occasions, has expressed concern about the low rate of compliance with the advance purchase policy directive. The Committee reiterates that more efforts are required, in particular in areas where travel can be better planned (see also [A/73/779](#), para. 16). While noting that the Department has set ambitious targets for 2019 and 2020, the Committee is of the view that concrete plans and strategies should also be developed for achieving such targets and trusts that the Secretary-General will include information on such plans in his next budget submission (para. IV.21).

Board of Auditors (A/74/5 (Vol. I))

The Board recommends that the Administration establish appropriate processes to ensure consistency in reporting and inform the stakeholders through disclosures about changes and inconsistencies in critical data when they are published, with the help of the custodian agencies (para. 254).

Please refer to paragraph 9.192 of the present report with regard to information on the Programme, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit, including its reporting lines in the Office of the Under-Secretary-General.

Please refer to paragraph 9.194 of the present report with regard to the Department's plans and strategies for improving the rate of compliance with the advance purchase policy of air travel.

The Department of Economic and Social Affairs assisted the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators with the development of a document entitled "Guidelines on data flows and global data reporting for sustainable development goals" to improve the coordination and harmonization of national and international data systems and to ensure full transparency of data, metadata and data aggregates presented in the Global Sustainable Development Goal Indicators Database. In collaboration with international agencies, the Inter-Agency and Expert Group also developed criteria for the implementation of the guidelines on data flows and global data reporting for the Sustainable Development Goals, which was endorsed by the Statistical Commission in March 2019. The Department works together with custodian agencies to implement the guidelines and best practices. The history of updates of the Global Sustainable Development Goal Indicators Database is also published online (<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database/>).

Brief description of the recommendation

The Board recommends that the Administration ensure timely completion of the project activities to support Member States in their capacity-building needs in a timely manner, which would support the implementation of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development (para. 293).

Action taken to implement the recommendation

The Department considers this recommendation completed. For the tenth tranche (2016–2019), only 5 of 43 projects (12 per cent) were extended to 2020 owing to delays in implementation, often as a result of unforeseen challenges and implementation issues in the target countries. One project was delayed and extended by three months owing to the cash flow crisis at the United Nations. On average these projects were extended by 4 months, representing 8 per cent of the total implementation time of 48 months, not including the 18 months needed for project design and review and approval by the General Assembly.

For the tenth tranche, 20 successful projects were selected to complete additional activities beyond what had been presented to the General Assembly, based on demand from the countries. These projects received a limited extension of up to 12 months with additional funds averaging 15 per cent of the project envelope. These short extensions and additional funds allowed for the achievement of additional results and further sustainability. The Assembly was informed of this through the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Implementation of projects financed from the Development Account: eleventh progress report” ([A/74/85](#)).

The Department therefore considers the most recent tranche as having been completed in a timely manner.
