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**Proposed programme budget for 2022**

**Programme planning**

# Proposed programme budget for 2022

### Part IV
### International cooperation for development

### Section 14
### Environment

**Programme 11**
**Environment**

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# Foreword

The year 2020 demonstrated that, even as we continue to battle the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, environmental crises remain part and parcel of our journey in the years ahead and tackling them is more important than ever. After years of promises, but not enough action, it is clear that humanity must make progress in addressing the three planetary crises that threaten our collective future: the climate crisis, the biodiversity and nature crisis, and the pollution and waste crisis. Our actions to overcome these crises must address decades of unsustainable consumption and production that have brought our planet to the brink. This is at the core of the new medium-term strategy of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for the period 2022–25, adopted at the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly in February 2021.

The new strategy will guide UNEP to base its actions on the latest science, draw on its expertise in environmental law and governance, and engage with the finance and business worlds, and with society as a whole, to deliver more sustainable patterns of consumption and production, while harnessing the digital revolution as a strategic asset for more inclusive, transparent and innovative action. Working together across all governance areas is crucial to solving complex environmental challenges: this was the key message from the UNEP flagship report, *Making Peace with Nature: a Scientific Blueprint to Tackle the Climate, Biodiversity and Pollution Emergencies*. That report makes the strongest scientific case yet for why and how collective action must be taken urgently to protect and restore our planet. And as the world was reminded in the UNEP *Emissions Gap Report 2020*, the pandemic has made little difference to greenhouse gas emissions, which, if continued unabated, will set the world on track for a 3°C rise in temperature by the end of the century.

As we deal with the tragic consequences of COVID-19, UNEP has focused efforts not only on addressing the immediate environmental dimensions of the pandemic, but also on sounding the alarm regarding the need for long-term solutions, to create a world that works with nature, not against it. The Programme's focus, based on its long-standing approach of ensuring that science and data drive effective policy, will remain on four broad areas: delivering transformational change for nature and people; investing in a sustainable and just post-COVID-19 recovery; helping nations to manage COVID-19 waste; and modernizing global environmental governance.

As we enter the decade of action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals, we cannot afford to fail. Being the leading global environmental authority, UNEP will continue to advocate strongly and passionately for planetary and human health. I look forward to working together with Member States and contributing to an efficient United Nations system that delivers as one, so that no one is left behind, and so that together, we can build more sustainable, resilient and inclusive societies.

(*Signed*) Inger **Andersen**
Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme

## A.  Proposed programme plan for 2022 and programme performance for 2020

## Overall orientation

### Mandates and background

14.1   The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is responsible for leading and coordinating action on environmental matters within the United Nations system. The mandate derives from the priorities established in relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions, including resolution 2997 (XXVII), and by the Governing Council of UNEP in its decision 19/1. That decision set out the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme, which the Assembly subsequently endorsed in 1997 in the annex to its resolution S-19/2 and further reaffirmed by its resolutions 53/242, in 1999, and 66/288 and 67/213, in 2012. Member States recognize the importance of the environmental dimension to the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Within its mandate, UNEP will support Member States by providing strategic direction towards the achievement of environmental sustainability, while contributing to a balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. Acknowledging the integrated nature of the challenges that countries face (e.g. gender equality, income inequality, social exclusion and lack of environmental safeguards), UNEP will play a critical role in catalysing the fulfilment of the commitments and action that drive transformational change for sustainable development.

### Strategy and external factors for 2022

14.2   The medium-term strategy for the period 2022–2025 contains a vision of UNEP as supporting Member States in developing and implementing policies, strategies and programmes to strengthen the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda, but with a forward-looking 2050 perspective on planetary sustainability. The strategy depends on recognition of the existence of three planetary crises: climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution (see decision 5/2). The strategy outlines a set of transformative shifts to target the drivers of these crises. The strategy also maps out the actions needed to reshape consumption and production patterns towards more sustainable and equitable models that contribute to the UNEP vision for planetary sustainability, human health and well-being. The aim of the programme for 2022 is to focus on how UNEP can meet current and future expectations, while continuing to deliver on the promises made to Member States in 2012 through the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and its outcome document, entitled "The future we want" (General Assembly resolution 66/288). It demonstrates the significant role of UNEP in supporting countries' efforts to build their capacity to deliver on their environmental goals and commitments under international agreements.

14.3   Through the strategy, UNEP places the three planetary crises of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution at the heart of its work. UNEP will tackle those crises through transformative multi-stakeholder actions that target the root causes and drivers of those crises. The aims of the strategy are to enable UNEP to make a deeper and broader impact that can underpin positive social and economic outcomes, while reducing vulnerabilities in support of sustainable development. UNEP will ensure that science remains at the centre of all decision-making processes, including on emerging issues, and that the environmental rule of law continues to improve global environmental governance, closely aligned with the multilateral environmental agreements for which it provides the secretariats and the direction set by the 2030 Agenda. The United Nations Environment Assembly adopted decision 5/2 on 23 February 2021, in which it approved the medium-term strategy for the period 2022–2025 and the programme of work and budget for the biennium 2022–2023. The decision was designed to realign the programmatic work of UNEP within its existing mandate to optimize its crucial role as a global substantive and normative environmental organization that services Member States, while addressing the interconnectedness of the above-mentioned planetary crises, stepping

up the delivery of the thematic core areas and enabling the transformation necessary to reach a sustainable future. The internal reconfiguration of UNEP is aimed at tackling the three planetary crises through three thematic subprogrammes (Climate action, Nature action and Chemicals and pollution action), two foundational subprogrammes (Science policy and Environmental governance) and two enabling subprogrammes (Finance and economic transformations, and Digital transformations). The aim of the foundational subprogrammes is to step up the delivery of the thematic core areas of work, in close alignment with the multilateral environmental agreements and the direction set by the 2030 Agenda. The aim of the enabling subprogrammes is to accelerate systemic interventions to shift global economic systems towards more sustainable modes, while leveraging the power of digital technologies. Current subprogramme 2, Resilience to disasters and conflicts, will no longer be a stand-alone subprogramme and its activities will be mainstreamed into the other subprogrammes. The reporting on the performance of that subprogramme in 2020 is presented in the annex to part A. Accordingly, the updated structure of UNEP is reflected in the proposed programme plan for 2022. Specifically, the changes are as follows:

(a) **Subprogramme 1**: the renaming of the subprogramme from Climate change to Climate action;

(b) **Subprogramme 2**: the discontinuation of current subprogramme 2, Resilience to disasters and conflicts, as a stand-alone subprogramme and the mainstreaming of its activities into the other subprogrammes, and the establishment in its place of a new subprogramme 2, Digital transformations, that will function as an enabling subprogramme within the existing mandates of UNEP;

(c) **Subprogramme 3**: the renaming of the subprogramme from Healthy and productive ecosystems to Nature action;

(d) **Subprogramme 4**: no change;

(e) **Subprogramme 5**: the renaming of the subprogramme from Chemicals, waste and air quality to Chemicals and pollution action;

(f) **Subprogramme 6**: the renaming of the subprogramme from Resource efficiency to Finance and economic transformations;

(g) **Subprogramme 7**: the renaming of the subprogramme from Environment under review to Science policy.

14.4 For 2022, the UNEP planned deliverables and activities reflect the known and anticipated challenges related to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic that are being faced by Member States. Such planned deliverables and activities include facilitating access to finance, technology and innovative solutions to help countries to build more resilient and inclusive economies and technology in a post-COVID-19 world, in particular by: using climate strategies, such as a fiscal stimulus, as the blueprint for COVID-19 recovery; closing the digital divide; improving understanding of biodiversity and health linkages to enhance science-based decision-making; providing tailored policy advice to Member States, the secretariats of multilateral environmental agreements and implementing partners; improving waste management systems; and developing policy recommendations on building back better. Specific examples of planned deliverables and activities are provided under subprogrammes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. The support provided to Member States on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to contribute to planned results for 2022, as described under subprogrammes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

14.5 With regard to cooperation with other entities at the global, regional, subregional, national and local levels, UNEP will continue raising ambitions and promoting leadership through advocacy and a normative and standard-setting approach. UNEP will support Member States through transformative strategic partnerships that deliver sustainable solutions, integrating health, education, poverty reduction, and economic and social well-being. Its partnership with the secretariats of multilateral environmental agreements will remain pivotal to securing stronger synergies and enhancing the impact of the work of the respective parties. UNEP will encourage non-governmental stakeholders, including the private sector and the finance community, to increase investment in renewable energy

and improve environmental sustainability. Within the context of these partnerships, actions are aimed at ensuring deeper delivery and making a broader impact in support of sustainable development, while strengthening the ability of countries to rapidly respond to the environmental impacts of disasters and conflicts.

14.6  With regard to inter-agency coordination and liaison, UNEP has the overall responsibility for leading and coordinating the response on environmental issues within the United Nations system. Through the United Nations Environment Management Group, UNEP will catalyse international action to enhance the coherence of environmental sustainability strategies and provide more visibility to partnership initiatives. UNEP will use the opportunity provided by the United Nations development system reform to empower the United Nations to address global environmental crises. UNEP will also leverage this opportunity to enhance its guiding role, raise ambitions, and accelerate and scale up progress towards the Secretary-General's decade of action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals. UNEP will continue to focus on ensuring that its work is well reflected and embedded in the new generation of United Nations country teams and the reinvigorated resident coordinator system through active engagement with the Development Coordination Office and to leverage its work and expertise at the regional, subregional and country levels. UNEP will integrate the priorities of the multilateral environmental agreements into these processes to enable the United Nations system to respond to environmental issues in a coordinated manner.

14.7  With regard to the external factors, the overall plan for 2022 is based on the following planning assumptions:

(a)  The continued expansion of effective partnerships and networks continuing to set the direction of science-based environmental policies for countries and major implementing agencies;

(b)  The ability of local and national approaches to be scaled up at the regional, subregional and global levels to ensure a systemic impact;

(c)  The continued availability of extrabudgetary funding, enabling countries to make the transition to sustainable development.

14.8  With regard to the COVID-19 pandemic, the proposed programme plan is based on the assumption that the proposed deliverables and activities for 2022 will be feasible to implement. However, if the pandemic were to continue to have an impact on the planned deliverables and activities, they would be adjusted during 2022 within the scope of the overall objectives, strategies and mandates. Any such adjustments would be reported as part of the programme performance information.

14.9  UNEP integrates a gender perspective into its operational activities, deliverables and results, as appropriate. UNEP will work to fully implement Environment Assembly resolution 4/17 on promoting gender equality and the human rights and empowerment of women and girls in environmental governance. UNEP will fully support Member States in their achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 5 in the context of the environment, calling for women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of environmental decision-making. UNEP will continue to operationalize gender and human rights dimensions and non-discrimination issues in programme and project design to ensure that gender equality and human rights perspectives are fully embedded and integrated into its operational activities, deliverables and results, as appropriate.

14.10  To contribute to a safe and fit-for-purpose physical environment at its headquarters in Nairobi, UNEP supports the United Nations Office at Nairobi with the implementation of the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy. In addition to the programming principles of a human rights-based approach and leaving no one behind, UNEP is paying increasing attention to the situation of persons with disabilities, such as by sensitizing their needs and concerns in its programme and project design and implementation and tailoring its projects to fit the conditions and needs of local communities. Addressing the concerns and needs of persons with disabilities is particularly relevant when supporting climate change-related early warning systems or in projects that deal with environmental

disasters and conflicts. UNEP will continue to reinforce the promotion and protection of the human rights of persons with disabilities through its safeguard risk screening and mitigation procedure.

## Programme performance in 2020

### Impact of COVID-19 on programme delivery

14.11   During 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic had an impact on the planned deliverables and activities of UNEP, as it had to move towards alternative forms of consultations, decision-making processes and capacity-building initiatives, using a range of innovative approaches. This included the organization of virtual meetings, accompanied by pre-recorded presentations and/or preparatory online sessions. Many of the scheduled meetings and conferences were held successfully, as demonstrated by the seventh session of the annual subcommittee meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the discovery session with Member States on the UNEP medium-term strategy for the period 2022–2025, held in May 2020. However, owing to logistical implications, such as live interpretation into six languages, accreditation and the consideration of draft decisions and resolutions, many intergovernmental meetings and conferences of the parties meetings have been postponed until in-person meetings can be held. A specific example is the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, on the theme "strengthening actions for nature to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals", which is to be held in two parts: a first session was held in February 2021, which enabled a restricted number of delegates and staff members to focus on administrative, budgetary and procedural decisions at United Nations Headquarters, while other delegates and staff members participated virtually. A second resumed session is scheduled for February 2022, which will be for in-depth substantive discussions that require in-person negotiations. The change in approach and the cancellation or postponement of planned deliverables and activities have also had an impact on the expected results for 2020, as described in the programme performance under subprogrammes 1, 4, 5 and 6.

14.12   At the same time, however, some planned deliverables and activities were adjusted during 2020, within the overall scope of the objectives of the subprogrammes, in order to support Member States on issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic. On account of travel restrictions and an increasing need for capacity-building workshops and hands-on training and guidance, UNEP had to change its approach regarding support on the ground. New activities included the provision of support to Member States, staff members and other end users by covering COVID-19 aspects in advice, publications, outreach, advocacy and other products and services. UNEP is also implementing a COVID-19 response building block strategy and has involved stakeholders in the development of a road map for recovery. As part of this response plan, UNEP examined how to move global environmental governance forward. The modified deliverables and activities contributed to results in 2020, as described in the programme performance under subprogrammes 3, 4, 5 and 6.

14.13   Reflecting the importance of continuous improvement and responding to the evolving needs of Member States, UNEP will mainstream lessons learned and best practices related to the adjustments to and adaptation of its programme owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. Specific examples of lessons learned and best practices include capitalizing on virtual engagement with partners from their capitals and from countries that do not have diplomatic representation in Nairobi to drive efficacy, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and broaden collaboration. UNEP and the secretariats of the multilateral environmental agreements have been reviewing the legal, logistical and environmental implications of modernizing methods of environmental governance and multilateralism and have been able to retain the most important principles and practices of intergovernmental meetings. This is specified in subprogramme 4.

## Legislative mandates

14.14     The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the programme.

*General Assembly resolutions*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2997 (XXVII) | Institutional and financial arrangements for international environmental cooperation | 72/311 | Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa |
| 47/190 | Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development | | |
| S-19/2 | Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 | 73/238 | The role of the international community in the prevention of the radiation threat in Central Asia |
| 53/242 | Report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements | 73/254 | Towards global partnerships: a principle-based approach to enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners |
| 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 | 74/52 | Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control[a] |
| 66/288 | The future we want | 74/81 | Effects of atomic radiation |
| 67/213 | Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twelfth special session and the implementation of section IV.C, entitled "Environmental pillar in the context of sustainable development", of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development | 74/115 | International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development[a] |
| | | 74/118 | Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations[a] |
| | | 74/121 | Policies and programmes involving youth |
| 67/251 | Change of the designation of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme | 74/208 | Oil slick on Lebanese shores[a] |
| | | 74/213 | Cooperative measures to assess and increase awareness of environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea |
| 68/99 | Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster[a] | | |
| 68/215 | Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its first universal session and the implementation of section IV.C, entitled "Environmental pillar in the context of sustainable development", of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development | 74/216 | 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 |
| | | 74/222 | Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme |
| 70/1 | Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development | 74/229 | Science, technology and innovation for sustainable development |
| 71/243 | Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system | 74/230 | Culture and sustainable development |
| | | 75/151 | 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 | 75/215 | 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 |
| 72/310 | New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support | | |
| | | 75/216 | Disaster risk reduction[a] |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 75/218 | Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa | | |
| 75/222 | Combating sand and dust storms | | |

*Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme decisions*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| SS.XI/2 | United Nations Environment Programme support for Haiti: strengthening environmental response in Haiti[a] | 24/11 | Intensified environmental education for achieving sustainable development |
| 19/1 | Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme | 26/15 | Strengthening international cooperation on the environmental aspects of emergency response and preparedness[a] |
| 23/7 | Strengthening environmental emergency response and developing disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation and early-warning systems in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster[a] | 27/2 | Implementation of paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development |
| 23/11 | Gender equality in the field of the environment (para. 10) | 27/11 | State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to meeting substantive environmental challenges |

*United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions and decisions*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1/1 | Ministerial outcome document of the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme | 2/4 | Role, functions and modalities for United Nations Environment Programme implementation of the SAMOA Pathway as a means of facilitating achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals |
| 1/4 | Science-policy interface | | |
| 1/8 | Ecosystems-based adaptation | 2/5 | Delivering on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development |
| 1/10 | Different visions, approaches, models and tools to achieve environmental sustainability in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication | 2/6 | Supporting the Paris Agreement |
| | | 2/13 | Sustainable management of natural capital for sustainable development and poverty eradication |
| 1/11 | Coordination across the United Nations system in the field of the environment, including the Environment Management Group | 2/15 | Protection of the environment in areas affected by armed conflict |
| | | 2/16 | Mainstreaming of biodiversity for well-being |
| 1/12 | Relationship between the United Nations Environment Programme and multilateral environmental agreements | 2/17 | Enhancing the work of the United Nations Environment Programme in facilitating cooperation, collaboration and synergies among biodiversity-related conventions |
| 1/13 | Implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development | | |
| 1/16 | Management of trust funds and earmarked contributions | 2/18 | Relationship between the United Nations Environment Programme and the multilateral environmental agreements for which it provides the secretariat |
| 1/17 | Amendments to the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility | 2/19 | Midterm review of the fourth Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo Programme IV) |
| 2/1 | Amendments to the rules of procedure | | |
| 2/2 | Role and functions of the regional forums of ministers of the environment and environment authorities | 2/20 | Proposed medium-term strategy for 2018–2021 and programme of work and budget for 2018–2019 |
| 2/3 | Investing in human capacity for sustainable development through environmental education and training | 2/22 | Review of the cycle of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2/24 | Combating desertification, land degradation and drought and promoting sustainable pastoralism and rangelands | 3/11 | Implementation of paragraph 88 (a)–(h) of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want" |
| 2/25 | Application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in the Latin America and Caribbean Region | 4/1 | Programme of work and budget for the biennium 2020–2021 |
| 3/1 | Pollution mitigation and control in areas affected by armed conflict or terrorism[a] | 4/3 | Sustainable mobility |
| | | 4/6 | Marine plastic litter and microplastics |
| 3/2 | Pollution mitigation by mainstreaming biodiversity into key sectors | 4/14 | Sustainable nitrogen management |
| 3/3 | Contributions of the United Nations Environment Assembly to the high-level political forum on sustainable development | 4/17 | Promote gender equality, and the human rights and empowerment of women and girls in environmental governance |
| | | 4/18 | Poverty environment Nexus |
| 3/4 | Environment and health | 4/19 | Mineral resource governance |
| 3/5 | Investing in innovative environmental solutions for accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals | 4/20 | Fifth Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo V): delivering for people and the planet |
| 3/6 | Managing soil pollution to achieve sustainable development | 4/21 | Implementation plan "Towards a pollution-free planet" |
| 3/8 | Preventing and reducing air pollution to improve air quality globally | 4/22 | Implementation and follow up of United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions |
| 3/9 | Eliminating exposure to lead paint and promoting environmentally sound management of waste lead-acid batteries | 4/23 | Keeping the world environment under review: enhancing the United Nations Environment Programme science-policy interface and endorsement of the Global Environment Outlook |
| 3/10 | Addressing water pollution to protect and restore water-related ecosystems | | |

[a] Legislative mandates of subprogramme 2, Resilience to disasters and conflicts, which is proposed to be mainstreamed, as outlined in paragraph 14.3 above.

## Deliverables

14.15    Table 14.1 lists all cross-cutting deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2020-2022.

Table 14.1
**Cross-cutting deliverables for the period 2020–2022, by category and subcategory**

| Category and subcategory | 2020 planned | 2020 actual | 2021 planned | 2022 planned |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies** | | | | |
| **Conference and secretariat services for meetings** (number of three-hour meetings) | **3** | **3** | **4** | **4** |
| 1.   Meetings of the United Nations Environment Assembly | – | – | 1 | 1 |
| 2.   Meetings of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 3.   Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Coordination | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 4.   Meetings of the Fifth Committee | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| **B. Generation and transfer of knowledge** | | | | |
| **Field and technical cooperation projects** (number of projects)[a] | **2** | **2** | **4** | **2** |
| 5.   .Projects to assess environmental risks from disasters and conflicts[a] | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 6.   Projects on institutional and legal frameworks to improve national and local preparedness to mitigate environmental risks from disasters and conflicts[a] | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 |

| Category and subcategory | 2020 planned | 2020 actual | 2021 planned | 2022 planned |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Publications** (number of publications) | **3** | **3** | **4** | **3** |
| 7. Publications on disaster risk reduction, preparedness assessments and road maps[a] | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 8. UNEP medium-term strategy for the period 2022–2025 | – | – | 1 | – |
| 9. UNEP annual report | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

**C. Substantive deliverables**

**Consultation, advice and advocacy**: advice to humanitarian and military actors on environmental footprint reduction.[a]

**D. Communication deliverables**

**Outreach programmes, special events and information materials**: expert advice to Member States and international partners, upon request, on the monitoring and implementation of strategies to enhance environmental risk reduction, environmental emergency response and environmental recovery and to make progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.[a]

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[a] Deliverables of subprogramme 2, Resilience to disasters and conflicts, which is proposed to be mainstreamed, as outlined in paragraph 14.3 above.

## Evaluation activities

14.16 The following evaluations and self-evaluations completed in 2020 have guided the programme plan for 2022:

(a) Biennial Evaluation Synthesis Report 2018–2019, which summarizes performance trends and highlights key implementation lessons from 60 evaluations completed during the biennium;

(b) Twenty-one evaluations of completed projects, including on greenhouse gas reduction and energy efficiency, ecosystems and biodiversity, biosafety, chemicals management, reducing climate change impacts, capacity-building and technical assistance, and international environmental law, as well as an evaluation of the Strategic Cooperation Agreement under the European Union Thematic Programme for Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources including Energy;

(c) Evaluation of subprogramme 7, Science policy.

14.17 The findings of the evaluations and self-evaluations referenced above have been taken into account for the proposed programme plan for 2022. In response to recommendations in these evaluations and self-evaluations and key findings from the Office of Internal Oversight Services evaluation of UNEP in 2019, UNEP embarked upon a transformation process to improve its operational efficiency, enhance the quality of its impact and results, and provide better support to Member States. On the basis of this programme-wide strategic process, UNEP will continue to strengthen collective accountability at all levels to enhance the delivery of its programme of work. UNEP also plans to further align its deliverables to the Sustainable Development Goals and enhance its effectiveness in monitoring the Secretary-General's reforms and gender mainstreaming.

14.18 The following evaluations and self-evaluations are planned for 2022:

(a) Twenty evaluations of completed projects on climate action, nature action, chemicals and pollution action, science policy, environmental governance and the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication;

(b) Evaluation of subprogramme 1, Climate action.

# Programme of work

## Subprogramme 1
## Climate action

### Objective

14.19    The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to advance the transition of countries to low-emission economic development and increase their adaptation and resilience to climate change.

### Strategy

14.20    To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will support countries with the development of policies and standards to transform their markets, promote investment in clean energy and improve the global rate of energy efficiency, which will help Member States to make progress towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 7. The subprogramme also plans to continue helping countries to implement gender-sensitive policies that achieve quantifiable carbon, social and environmental benefits, including through the reduction of emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, which helps Member States to make progress towards the achievement of Goals 5 and 15. The subprogramme will also continue building countries' technical capacity to integrate ecosystem-based management into their national adaptation plans, put in place institutional arrangements to coordinate such plans and access climate change adaptation finance for implementing such plans, thereby helping Member States to make progress towards the achievement of Goals 13 and 15. In addition, the subprogramme will continue to collaborate with the private sector in constructive and result-oriented partnerships that leverage climate finance and scale up the ambitions and impacts of climate action globally, which will help Member States to make progress towards the achievement of targets under Goals 13 and 17.

14.21    The subprogramme plans to support Member States on issues related to COVID-19 by advocating, and providing evidence and technical support for, the use of climate strategies, such as a fiscal stimulus, as the blueprint for COVID-19 recovery.

14.22    The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a)    Countries lowering their emissions of greenhouse gases and other pollutants by reducing energy intensity and demand in sectors such as lighting, appliances, equipment, buildings and transport;

(b)    The increased capacity of countries to capitalize on investment opportunities that reduce greenhouse emissions from deforestation and forest degradation with adequate social and environmental safeguards;

(c)    The increased capacity of countries to institutionalize, implement and monitor their national adaptation plans;

(d)    Member States making use of innovative models to enhance financing for sustainable investments and the dissemination of low-emission and low-carbon technologies that help to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, promote access to energy and enhance productive energy use.

14.23    The planned support on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to result in an increase in low-emission investment as a result of countries using climate strategies as the blueprint for COVID-19 recovery, as specified in more detail under result 3 below.

## Programme performance in 2020

14.24    Programme performance in 2020 includes the below result that emerged during 2020, as well as programme performance presented under results 1 and 2 below.

### Increased investment in clean energy

14.25    Clean energy is crucial to limiting global warming to well below 2°C and pursuing efforts to limit temperature increases to 1.5°C compared with pre-industrial levels. The subprogramme, through the Seed Capital Assistance Facility, co-financed clean energy projects aimed at increasing the availability of investment for early-stage low-emission projects.

14.26    The subprogramme also supported countries and regions in adopting clean and energy-efficient products through projects and partnerships such as the United for Efficiency initiative. Furthermore, the subprogramme produced publications, such as the *Global Trends in Renewable Energy Investment* report to provide insights, guidance and policy recommendations to increase renewable energy investment.

*Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure*

14.27    The above-mentioned work contributed to the objective, as demonstrated by the investment of $169 million in clean energy, which represents a 69 per cent increase compared with 2019. This increment was achieved through partnerships with United for Efficiency and the Seed Capital Assistance Facility (see figure 14.I).

Figure 14.I
**Performance measure: sustainable energy investments catalysed by the United Nations Environment Programme and its partnerships (cumulative)**
(Millions of United States dollars)
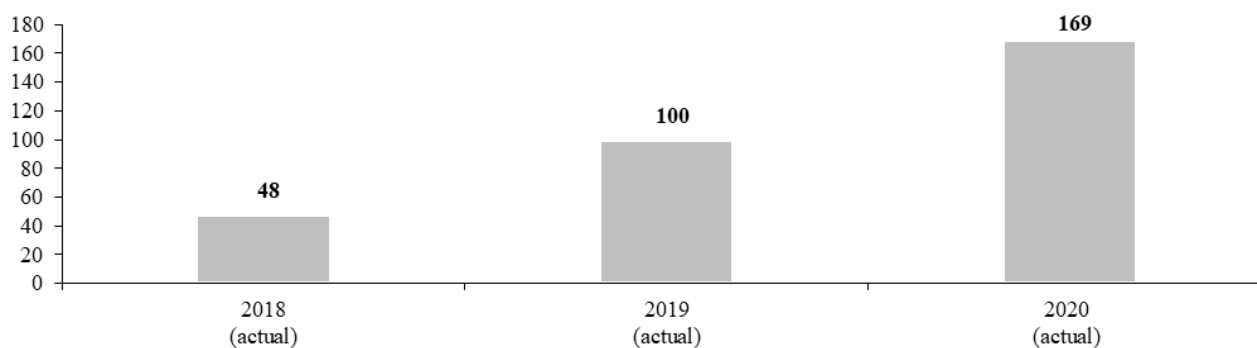


### Impact of COVID-19 on subprogramme delivery

14.28    Owing to the impact of COVID-19 during 2020, the subprogramme postponed approximately one fifth of its planned activities under the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries programme beyond 2020. This stymied the advancement of programme countries towards the achievement of Goal 13.

14.29    At the same time, however, the subprogramme identified new and modified activities to support Member States on issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic, within the overall scope of its objectives, namely: (a) advocacy for sustainable COVID-19 recovery through the rechannelling of a fiscal stimulus to climate strategies such as nationally determined contributions and national adaptation plans; (b) the leveraging of "building back better" efforts to help countries to adopt solutions to lower greenhouse gas emissions; and (c) the inclusion of sections on impacts related to COVID-19 in UNEP flagship reports, such as the *Emissions Gap Report 2020* and the *Adaptation Gap Report 2020*. The *Emissions Gap Report 2020* includes analysis of reduction of emissions due

to reduced economic activity, while the *Adaptation Gap Report 2020* includes insights into the sustainable recovery options available for climate change adaptation in the post-COVID-19 world.

## Planned results for 2022

14.30    The planned results for 2022 include results 1 and 2, which are updates of results presented in the preceding proposed programme plans and therefore show both the programme performance in 2020 and the proposed programme plan for 2022. Result 3 is a new planned result.

### Result 1: increased climate ambition[1]
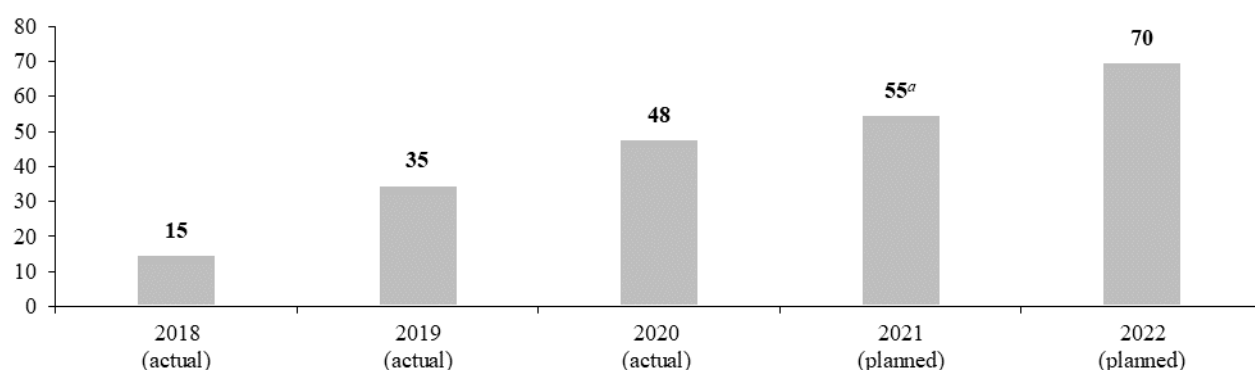
### Programme performance in 2020

14.31    The subprogramme supported countries and regions to formulate and implement climate strategies through its initiatives, such as the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-lived Climate Pollutants and the Climate Technology Centre and Network. The subprogramme also produced three flagship reports that link climate science with policy and include recommendations to countries on areas in which climate ambitions could be increased.

14.32    The above-mentioned work contributed to 48 countries adopting or implementing low-emission development plans, which exceeded the planned target of 40 countries reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020.

### Proposed programme plan for 2022

14.33    The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will support countries to create ambitious climate-related development plans guided by science and enhance their participation in the enhanced transparency framework for action and support of the Paris Agreement. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 14.II).

Figure 14.II
**Performance measure: total number of countries that have adopted or implemented low-emission development plans (cumulative)**



[a] To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

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[1] As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect. 14)).

### Result 2: electric mobility: raising the ambition through a global electric mobility programme[2]

#### Programme performance in 2020

14.34    The subprogramme launched the global electric mobility programme to support countries transitioning to low-emission mobility. Under this programme, country projects were developed to enhance the development of electric mobility frameworks and programmes. The subprogramme also implemented projects and provided technical assistance to countries and cities in the Latin American and Caribbean region through the Movilidad Eléctrica en América Latina (MOVE) initiative to promote the uptake of sustainable mobility.

14.35    The above-mentioned work contributed to two countries implementing soot-free bus fleet programmes, with the support of the global electric mobility programme, which met the planned target reflected in the programme budget for 2021.

#### Proposed programme plan for 2022

14.36    The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will continue working on the country programmes and will expand the coverage of national plans and strategies for transitioning to electric mobility. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see table 14.2).

Table 14.2
**Performance measure**

| 2018 (actual) | 2019 (actual) | 2020 (actual) | 2021 (planned)[a] | 2022 (planned) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Five countries shift to low-sulfur diesel and adopt vehicle emission standards | Launch of the global electric mobility programme and commitment by 29 countries to develop comprehensive national and/or city electric mobility projects | Two countries develop soot-free bus fleet programmes, with the support of the global electric mobility programme | Four countries develop fiscal incentives for electric vehicles, with the support of the global electric mobility programme | Four additional countries develop fiscal policies for electric vehicles, with the support of the regional hubs of the global electric mobility programme |

[a] To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

### Result 3: improved low-emission investment by leveraging climate strategies as the blueprint for COVID-19 recovery

#### Proposed programme plan for 2022

14.37    Countries are providing a fiscal stimulus in support of COVID-19 recovery efforts. To date, a large share of the funds of each fiscal stimulus have been projected to increase emissions and carbon-intensive processes, which is not compatible with the pathway for keeping temperature rises below 2°C, as described in the *Emissions Gap Report* 2020 and the *Production Gap Report 2020*. Therefore, countries have requested support to align their recovery efforts with climate strategies and leverage low-emission and low-carbon options. The subprogramme supported countries to identify and address these options as part of their COVID-19 recovery efforts.

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[2] As reflected in the programme budget for 2021 (A/75/6/Add.1).

*Lessons learned and planned change*

14.38   The lesson for the subprogramme was that there was a high demand for support by Member States related to climate investment in the context of the COVID-19 fiscal stimulus. In particular, the alignment of the fiscal stimulus with climate strategies offers an opportunity to enable countries to achieve their climate commitments, such as nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will support raising awareness on how climate strategies offer sustainable COVID-19 recovery options. In addition, the subprogramme will support countries to develop projects channelling the COVID-19 fiscal stimulus into climate investments.

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

14.39   This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by the investment of $250 billion in indicators on climate finance. With UNEP support, countries and institutions are expected to invest an additional $50 billion of climate finance assets in clean energy and energy efficiency by 2022 (see figure 14.III).

Figure 14.III
**Performance measure: total financial assets invested in the low-emission mandate (cumulative)**
(Billions of United States dollars)
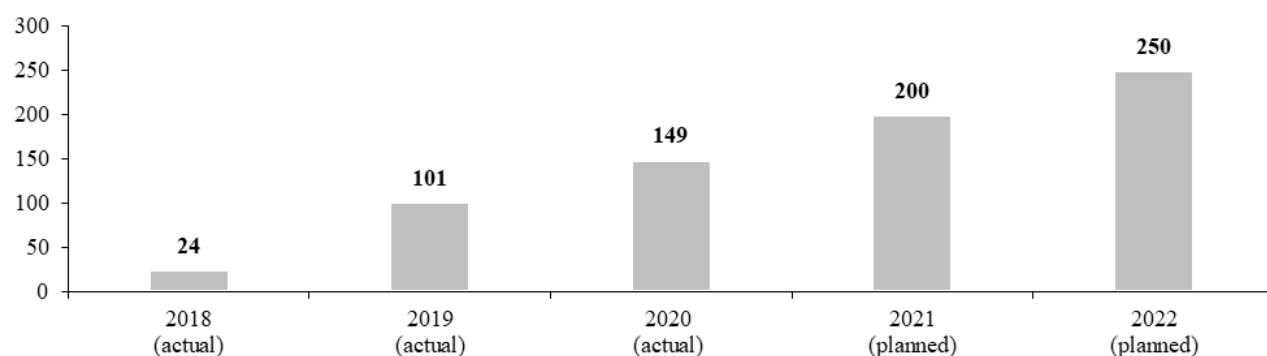


## Legislative mandates

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

*General Assembly resolutions*

| 69/225 | Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy | 74/219 | Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind |
| 73/230 | Effective global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon | 74/225 | Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all |

*Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme decisions*

| 27/10 | Climate Technology Centre and Network |

## Deliverables

14.41   Table 14.3 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2020–2022 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 14.3
**Subprogramme 1: deliverables for the period 2020-2022, by category and subcategory**

| Category and subcategory | 2020 planned | 2020 actual | 2021 planned | 2022 planned |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **B.  Generation and transfer of knowledge** | | | | |
| **Field and technical cooperation projects** (number of projects) | **3** | **3** | **3** | **3** |
| 1.   Projects on mitigation and adaptation technologies through the Climate Technology Centre and Network | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| **Publications** (number of publications) | **6** | **6** | **6** | **6** |
| 2.   Publications on renewable energy, energy efficiency and the energy sector | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 3.   Publications (assessments and tools) on adaptation and resilience | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| **C.  Substantive deliverables** | | | | |
| **Consultation, advice and advocacy**: expert advice to some 20 countries on climate matters, including South-South cooperation, ecosystem-based adaptation, climate financing, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, short-lived climate pollutants, low-emission development, renewable energy and energy efficiency, and the Warsaw Framework for REDD-plus. | | | | |
| **D.  Communication deliverables** | | | | |
| **Outreach programmes, special events and information materials**: press conferences, side events, content on social media platforms and goodwill ambassador outreach and communication on adaptation to and mitigation of climate change, and the benefits of reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, reaching an audience in excess of 1 million. | | | | |

## Subprogramme 2
## Digital transformations

## Objective

14.42    The objective, to which this subprogramme will contribute, is to advance the use of data and analytics on environmental issues to allow more effective policies, decisions, actions and investments by Member States and the private sector towards the achievement of the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals related to climate, nature and pollution, and of relevant multilateral environmental agreements.

## Strategy

14.43    To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will support and scale up environmental change through an effectively governed and inclusive data architecture and digital ecosystem for the planet. Through its enabling role, the subprogramme will leverage digital transformations to digitize scientific knowledge and democratize its availability across the three thematic subprogrammes of UNEP. Digital tools will be used strategically to enable, accelerate and amplify impact, as well as to bring more transparency to knowledge about the state of the planet, in line with the Secretary-General's Road Map for Digital Cooperation (A/74/821), the Data Strategy of the Secretary-General for Action by Everyone, Everywhere and the System-wide Road Map for Innovating United Nations Data and Statistics (CEB/2020/1/Add.1). The subprogramme will initiate partnerships with public and private sector actors to harness data, digital technologies and computational sustainability, in order to help Member States to amplify and accelerate deeper structural transformations, with a view to driving markets, value chains, consumer behaviours and decision-making towards the achievement of environmental sustainability outcomes. Based on digital norms and governance frameworks, integrated data sets and analysis will be used to produce actionable, real-time and predictive insights, contributing to the automatic monitoring of global, national and local progress

towards key targets of the Sustainable Development Goals related to climate, biodiversity and pollution and relevant internationally agreed frameworks, including multilateral environmental agreements. The subprogramme will also work with key stakeholders to improve digital literacy and use digital platforms to enable further public participation in decision-making, open innovation and citizen science. These planned activities will help Member States to make progress towards the implementation of the targets under Goals 9, 16 and 17.

14.44   The subprogramme plans to support Member States on issues related to COVID-19 by providing normative support, upon request, on how to close the digital divide through the use of information and communications technologies procured in accordance with sustainability standards.

14.45   The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a)   The increased capacity of Member States to monitor the world environmental situation through the adoption of a global data architecture, governance framework, safeguards and standards for environmental and climate data and related digital public goods;

(b)   Member States having the increased ability to predict and address future environment-related risks through the development of big data platforms that can measure the increasing convergence of environmental, climate stress and disaster vulnerability over space and time, as well as offering predictive analytics and an early warning system;

(c)   Accelerated adoption of low-emission and low-carbon behaviours, lifestyles and products by consumers and citizens, through increased carbon emissions transparency, digital eco-labelling and digital nudging, including through e-commerce platforms and digital games;

(d)   Identification and scaled adoption of digital technologies by Member States to support the conservation, sustainable use and equitable benefit-sharing of biodiversity;

(e)   The improved capacity of Member States and other stakeholders to consider and develop policies, using digital transformations to achieve environmental outcomes.

14.46   The planned support on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to result in reduced environmental impacts, e-waste and carbon emissions arising from the procurement and installation of digital infrastructure used to bridge the digital divide as part of COVID-19 economic recovery efforts.

## Planned result for 2022

14.47   The planned result for 2022 is a new planned result.

**Use of data and data analytics to amplify and accelerate contributions to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals**

**Proposed programme plan for 2022**

14.48   Digitalization is sweeping the planet, changing the economy, societies, institutions and even humanity. But it is not a prerequisite that this occurs in an inclusive, equitable or sustainable manner. In 2019, the High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation reported that digital transformation has implications for all 17 Goals and their 169 targets. Digital transformations, as an enabling subprogramme, will support Member States and the other UNEP subprogrammes to adopt digital technologies that amplify and accelerate their contributions to achieving targets related to climate, nature and pollution within the framework of the Goals and across relevant multilateral environmental agreements.

*Lessons learned and planned change*

14.49   The lesson for UNEP was that, while it has been adopting various digital transformation approaches in its programme of work for the past decade, there was an ongoing need to adopt a digital transformation approach that could consolidate UNEP data and platforms into a digital ecosystem.

In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will address this challenge by adopting and helping to implement a global environmental data strategy aligned with the Secretary-General's data strategy. This will be done by building a state-of-the-art platform, the World Environment Situation Room, that consolidates planetary data, and by working with end users, Member States and the private sector to ensure that these data drive policymaking and decision-making in terms of investment, supply chains and consumer behaviours. In addition, this will enhance the analytical capabilities of UNEP to integrate environmental and climate trends, risks and opportunities into the common country assessments of United Nations country teams.

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

14.50    This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by the increased number of flagship partnerships established with major digital platforms and the increased integration of environmental and sustainability data, metrics, norms and values into digital platforms, filters and algorithms, to inform and facilitate effective decision-making and policymaking by Member States and the private sector, in order to incentivize sustainable products, behaviours and lifestyles (see table 14.4).

Table 14.4
**Performance measure**

| 2018 (actual) | 2019 (actual) | 2020 (actual) | 2021 (planned) | 2022 (planned) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| – | – | – | – | Five flagship partnerships established with major digital platforms as a step towards ensuring the universal availability of consolidated planetary data, to facilitate effective decision-making and policy development for Member States and the private sector |

## Legislative mandates

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

*United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions*

| 4/23 | Keeping the world environment under review: enhancing the United Nations Environment Programme science-policy interface and endorsement of the Global Environment Outlook |
|---|---|

*Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme decisions*

| 23/1, sect. I | Implementation of decision SS.VII/1 on international environmental governance: Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building |
|---|---|

## Deliverables

14.52    Table 14.5 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for 2022 that are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 14.5
**Subprogramme 2: deliverables for 2022, by category and subcategory**

| Category and subcategory | 2020 planned | 2020 actual | 2021 planned | 2022 planned |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **A.  Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies** | | | | |
| **Substantive services for meetings** (number of three-hour meetings) | – | – | – | **13** |
| 1.  Meetings on the development of a global environmental data strategy and digital cooperation framework | – | – | – | 6 |
| 2.  Meetings on the development of the World Environment Situation Room and identification of transformative applications | – | – | – | 6 |
| 3.  Meetings on the development and implementation of the environmental action plan for the Secretary-General's Road Map for Digital Cooperation | – | – | – | 1 |
| **B.  Generation and transfer of knowledge** | | | | |
| **Field and technical cooperation projects** (number of projects) | – | – | – | **1** |
| 4.  Technical support in using the World Environment Situation Room for digital transformation | – | – | – | 1 |
| **Seminars, workshops and training events** (number of days) | – | – | – | **4** |
| 5.  Digital transformation for environmental sustainability – national training | – | – | – | 4 |
| **Publications** (number of publications) | – | – | – | **1** |
| 6.  Identification of digital technologies that can help to speed and scale up global actions towards targets related to climate, nature and pollution | – | – | – | 1 |
| **Technical materials** (number of materials) | – | – | – | **1** |
| 7.  Technical guidance on minimizing the environmental, climate and e-waste footprint of information and communications technologies | – | – | – | 1 |

**C.  Substantive deliverables**

**Consultation, advice and advocacy**: consultation events with at least 50 Member States and other entities, including from the United Nations system and stakeholders, on the global environmental data strategy and on integration methods for environmental data and analytics to support digital platforms, files and algorithms; advice to some 10 Member States and stakeholders on strengthening the adoption of data and digital transformation to achieve national climate, nature and pollution targets; advice to more than 10 Member States and stakeholders on using digital platforms and tools to enhance public participation in decision-making, open innovation and citizen science.

**D.  Communication deliverables**

**Digital platforms and multimedia content**: thematic web page; social media, multimedia video and audio content.

**E.  Enabling deliverables**

**Information and communications technology**: consolidation of UNEP data and digital infrastructure (modules) into a publicly accessible platform and dashboards.

## Subprogramme 3
## Nature action

## Objective

14.53   The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen the capacity of countries to manage marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems through an integrated approach for maintaining and restoring their biodiversity and long-term functioning and ensuring the supply of ecosystem goods and services.

## Strategy

14.54   To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will continue to advance cooperation with Member States, regional entities and other partners, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), to institutionalize the health and productivity of marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems in national education systems, including through the integration of the ecosystem approach in the curricula of national education institutions and frameworks, which will help Member States to make progress towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 4 and 13. The subprogramme will also improve knowledge-sharing among countries and other non-governmental sectoral partners within the scope of existing transboundary cooperation frameworks by promoting the uptake and use of knowledge products, such as scenarios, spatial plans, trade-off analyses and ecosystem-based sectoral monitoring systems, disseminating publications and conducting normative work, which will help Member States to make progress towards targets under Goals 2, 6, 14 and 15. In collaboration with development banks, the financial sector and ministries of planning and finance, among other partners, the subprogramme plans to raise awareness on how to include the ecosystem approach in public and private economic decision-making. This work is expected to help Member States to make progress towards the achievement of Goals 12, 15 and 17. The subprogramme will also provide technical assistance to Member States through the mainstreaming of best practices and the development of gender-sensitive tools that link environmental change with its economic consequences, including for pilot testing of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting, a statistical system that measures the mutual reinforcing impact of the environment and the economy, which will help Member States to make progress in the measurement of all of the Goals.

14.55   The subprogramme plans to support Member States on issues related to COVID-19 by improving understanding of biodiversity and health linkages and strengthening the capacity of countries to manage and reduce risks for both human and ecosystem health, and to integrate ecosystems and biodiversity in national and international public health decision-making through science-based approaches.

14.56   The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a)     More coherent and cross-sectoral participation and cooperation among countries worldwide, including at the transboundary level, for the management and effective monitoring of marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems;

(b)     The creation of an enabling environment for embedding ecological considerations into the financial decision-making of public and private sector entities at multiple levels (global, regional, subregional and national);

(c)     The development of updated national plans for natural capital accounting by countries.

14.57   The planned support on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to result in the enhanced capacity of countries to manage and reduce risks to both human and ecosystem health and an improved understanding of the global impact of the pandemic on ecosystems.

## Programme performance in 2020

14.58    Programme performance in 2020 includes the below result that emerged during 2020, as well as programme performance presented under results 1 and 2 below.

**Strengthened science-policy interface to mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on ecosystems and biodiversity**

14.59    Ecosystems and biodiversity play a critical role in the achievement of sustainable development but, if not managed well, can pose a threat to planetary stability and human well-being. Addressing the degradation of ecosystems and rapid biodiversity loss requires enhanced knowledge of the value and role of biodiversity and ecosystem services. With the outbreak of COVID-19, the subprogramme supported Member States in the development of policy recommendations that strengthen the science-policy interface and mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on ecosystems and biodiversity. In response to the need for information on the dimension of the impact of COVID-19 on ecosystems, the subprogramme is assessing the status of existing environmental safety systems and measures in order to suggest programmes for enhancing national systems for biosafety and biosecurity.

14.60    The subprogramme, in collaboration with the African Elephant Fund, also supported Member States in mobilizing emergency resources for improving the security of vulnerable elephant populations, in particular those that are under risk from the escalation of poaching and the decline in law enforcement capacity due to the increased impacts of COVID-19 restrictions.

*Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure*

14.61    The above-mentioned work contributed to the objective, as demonstrated by the increased number of countries that undertook policy implementation in the management of marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems (see figure 14.IV).

Figure 14.IV
**Performance measure: total number of countries that undertook policy implementation in the management of marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems (cumulative)**
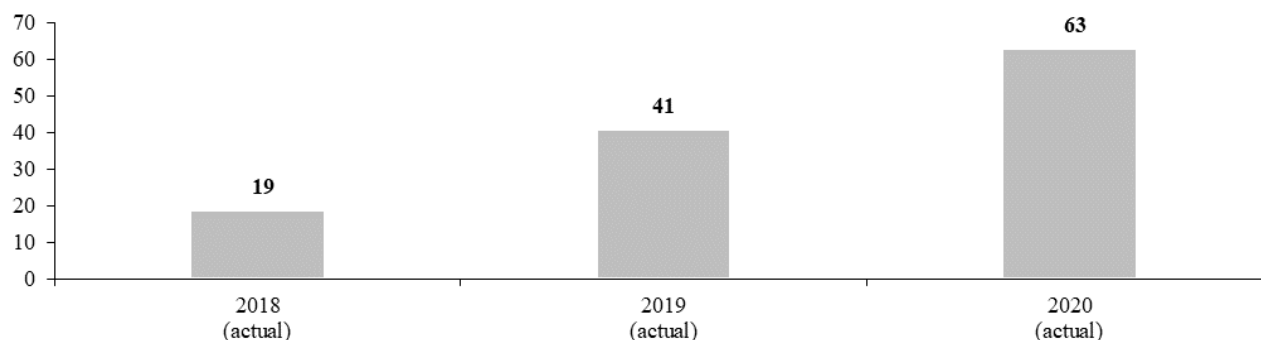


## Planned results for 2022

14.62    The planned results for 2022 include results 1 and 2, which are updates of results presented in the preceding proposed programme plans and therefore show both the programme performance in 2020 and the proposed programme plan for 2022. Result 3 is a new planned result.

**Result 1: taking the fight against marine litter to the next level**[3]
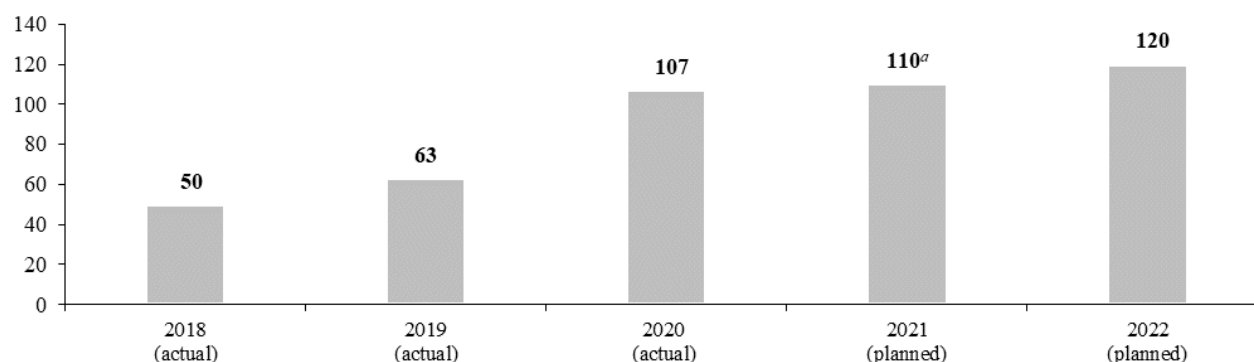
**Programme performance in 2020**

14.63    The subprogramme continued to work with countries on the prevention and control of marine litter, including through campaigns and by raising awareness of the key threats posed by litter to marine biodiversity and ecosystems. The subprogramme also initiated a scientific assessment to update existing knowledge on sources, pathways and hazards of marine litter, including plastic litter and microplastics. Through awareness-raising campaigns, scientific assessments and reinforced partnerships, the subprogramme enhanced knowledge of the key threats, sources and impacts of marine litter.

14.64    The above-mentioned work contributed to an additional 44 countries making commitments to reduce marine litter in 2020, bringing the total number of countries that had made such commitments to 107, which exceeded the planned target of 100 countries reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020.

**Proposed programme plan for 2022**

14.65    The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will continue with ongoing activities related to the Global Partnership on Marine Litter, including by supporting the development of regional and national action plans and through the Clean Seas campaign. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 14.V).

Figure 14.V
**Performance measure: total number of Governments that have made commitments to reduce marine litter (cumulative)**



[a]    To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

**Result 2: Global Peatlands Initiative for the restoration, conservation and sustainable management of peatlands**[4]

**Programme performance in 2020**

14.66    The subprogramme has continued to strengthen the capacities of countries to manage global peatlands ecosystems, including through the finalization of the global peatlands assessment concept and the elaboration of the process for engaging with countries, academics and partners under the Global Peatlands Initiative. Owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, the global launch workshop for the global peatlands assessment was postponed, however, important meetings and events were held online. In collaboration with the Water Institute at the University of Waterloo, Canada, the

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[3] As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect.14)).
[4] As reflected in the programme budget for 2021 (A/75/6/Add.1).

subprogramme conducted three formative workshops for the Canadian global peatlands assessment as a case study. In addition, the subprogramme supported Member States to gather information on peatlands researchers around the world in order to complete the contact database of researchers for the global peatlands assessment.

14.67    The above-mentioned work contributed to Canada beginning to engage in the development of a baseline picture of the state of global peatlands, which met the planned target of countries beginning to engage in the development of a baseline picture of the state of global peatlands reflected in the programme budget for 2021.

### Proposed programme plan for 2022

14.68    The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will increasingly engage with countries and partners to produce and endorse the global peatlands assessment and initiate the further development of a global peatlands inventory. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see table 14.6).

Table 14.6
**Performance measure**

| 2018 (actual) | 2019 (actual) | 2020 (actual) | 2021(planned)[a] | 2022 (planned) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Brazzaville declaration on peatlands is adopted to promote better management and conservation of the Cuvette Centrale peatlands in the Congo Basin | Member States adopt United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 4/16 on the conservation and sustainable management of peatlands | An active Canadian peatlands research network is established for engagement in the development of a baseline picture of the state of global peatlands | Countries and Global Peatlands Initiative partners endorse the global peatlands assessment and initiate the development of a global peatlands inventory | Countries and Global Peatlands Initiative partners endorse the global peatlands assessment and initiate the development of a global peatlands inventory |

[a] To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

### Result 3: lowering the risk of future pandemics and health crises by strengthening environmental considerations of human and animal health

### Proposed programme plan for 2022

14.69    The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the inextricable links between human health, animal health and ecosystem health. Strengthening the environmental considerations in the human and animal health sectors is therefore a critical aspect of reducing the risk and impact of current and future health threats. The report *Preventing the Next Pandemic: Zoonotic Diseases and How to Break the Chain of Transmission*, input for which was provided by the subprogramme, provided science-based policy recommendations to Member States for reducing the risk of zoonotic spillover. Considering that UNEP has recently been invited to become a full member of the global One Health alliance,[5] the subprogramme has conducted extensive expert consultations with Member States to

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[5] The One Health approach, supported by UNEP, is a cross-cutting and systemic approach to health, based on the fact that human health and animal health are interdependent and linked to the health of the ecosystems in which they coexist. UNEP is excited to deepen its collaboration and strengthen the environmental dimensions of the One Health approach with the tripartite collaboration members from the World Health Organization, FAO and the World Organization for Animal Health.

inform the development of a comprehensive intervention on One Health aimed at addressing multiple environmental dimensions of health.

*Lessons learned and planned change*

14.70    The lesson for the subprogramme was that targeted support by the subprogramme to address emerging health threats requires systemic, multisectoral approaches that integrate environmental and health knowledge and expertise in multiple sectors, including food systems, infrastructure development, forestry, land use planning, and domestic and international trade. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will hold a series of consultations with State and non-State partners to develop evidence-based guidance and operationalize a multisectoral approach. It is expected that this will support Member States in building back better, by enhancing their national systems for better readiness for prevention, early detection and rapid response to zoonotic pathways and risks.

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

14.71    This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by the number of subnational, national and international entities that committed to incorporating environmental and health considerations into their planning and operations (see figure 14.VI).

Figure 14.VI
**Performance measure: total number of subnational, national and international entities that committed to incorporating environmental considerations into the One Health approach (cumulative)**
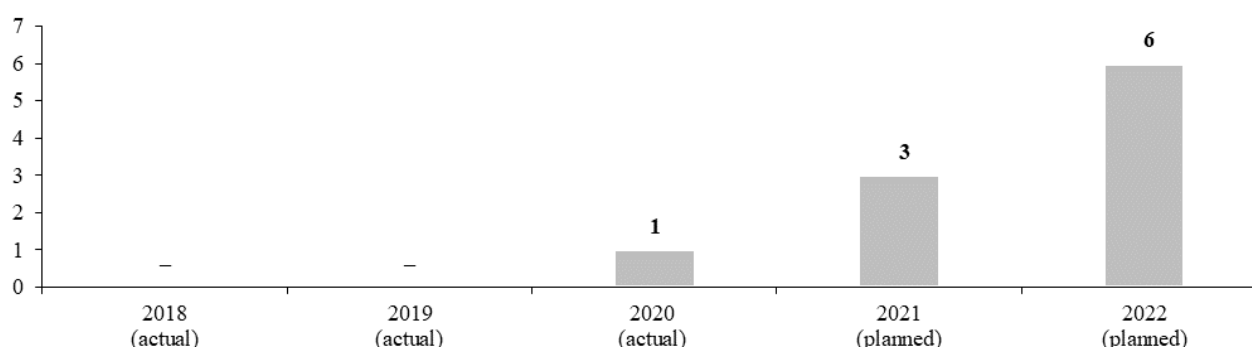


## Legislative mandates

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

*General Assembly resolutions*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 65/161 | Convention on Biological Diversity | 74/18 | Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments |
| 68/205 | World Wildlife Day | | |
| 68/232 | World Soil Day and International Year of Soils | | |
| 72/306 | Implementation of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025) | | |
| 73/124 | Oceans and the law of the sea | | |
| 73/229 | Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations | 74/215 | Agricultural technology for sustainable development |
| 73/251 | World Pulses Day | 74/221 | Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its contribution to sustainable development |
| 73/343 | Tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife | | |

| 74/224 | Harmony with Nature | 74/242 | Agriculture development, food security and nutrition |
| 74/227 | Sustainable mountain development | | |

*Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme decisions*

| 26/14 | Global Environment Monitoring System/Water Programme | 27/3 | International water quality guidelines for ecosystems |
| 26/16 | Promoting South-South cooperation on biodiversity for development | 27/4 | Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services |
| | | 27/6 | Oceans |

*United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions*

| 1/9 | Global Environment Monitoring System/Water Programme (GEMS/Water) | 4/12 | Sustainable management for global health of mangroves |
| 2/10 | Oceans and seas | 4/13 | Sustainable coral reefs management |
| 2/14 | Illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products | 4/15 | Innovations in sustainable rangelands and pastoralism |
| 4/10 | Innovation on biodiversity and land degradation | 4/16 | Conservation and sustainable management of peatlands |

# Deliverables

14.73    Table 14.7 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2020–2022 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 14.7
**Subprogramme 3: deliverables for the period 2020–2022, by category and subcategory**

| Category and subcategory | 2020 planned | 2020 actual | 2021 planned | 2022 planned |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies** | | | | |
| **Substantive services for meetings** (number of three-hour meetings) | **2** | **2** | **4** | **5** |
| 1.  Meetings of governing bodies for multilateral environmental agreements | 2 | 2 | 4 | 5 |
| **B. Generation and transfer of knowledge** | | | | |
| **Field and technical cooperation projects** (number of projects) | **1** | **1** | **2** | **2** |
| 2.  Projects on ecosystem services | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| **Seminars, workshops and training events** (number of days) | **6** | **6** | **6** | **6** |
| 3.  Seminars and training events on ecosystems management | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| **Publications** (number of publications) | **10** | **10** | **10** | **11** |
| 4.  Publications on mainstreaming biodiversity in production sectors | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 5.  Publications on the knowledge, networks and funding available to influence public and private financial flows for ecosystem-based approach and nature-based solutions | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| 6.  Publications on marine ecosystems | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 7.  Publications on biodiversity and wildlife | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 8.  Publications on terrestrial ecosystems | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| **Technical materials** (number of materials) | **3** | **3** | **3** | **3** |
| 9.  Tools and methodologies for integrated ecosystem management | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| 10. Assessments, tools and methodologies for investing in nature | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

| Category and subcategory | 2020 planned | 2020 actual | 2021 planned | 2022 planned |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |

**C. Substantive deliverables**

**Consultation, advice and advocacy**: meetings of the open-ended working group on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, supporting Member States in the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

**D. Communication deliverables**

**Outreach programmes, special events and information materials**: outreach campaigns on an ecosystem-based approach and nature-based solutions and on the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, intended for Member States, private companies, civil society organizations and the public.

## Subprogramme 4
## Environmental governance

### Objective

14.74   The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to ensure that countries achieve environmental policy coherence and abide by strong legal and institutional frameworks that increasingly implement environmental goals in the context of sustainable development at the global, regional and national levels.

### Strategy

14.75   To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will continue to facilitate relevant meetings and intergovernmental processes at the global, regional and national levels involving Governments, other United Nations entities, inter-agency mechanisms and regional ministerial forums through the provision of information management products, technical support and advisory services on environmental law and policy. Furthermore, the subprogramme will support the coherent implementation of the multilateral environmental agreements operating in similar clusters. The subprogramme will also promote the uptake of environmentally sound practices across the United Nations system through the provision of policy advice. The subprogramme also plans to invest in the development and dissemination of knowledge management tools and the delivery of training and technical assistance, including from a gender-sensitive perspective, as well as communication activities, through innovative tools and initiatives, such as the United Nations Information Portal on Multilateral Environmental Agreements, and the Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo Programme). This work is expected to help Member States to make progress towards the achievement of targets under Sustainable Development Goals 1, 5 and 16. Furthermore, the subprogramme will continue to mainstream the lessons learned through the implementation of programmes that have built strong ties with national institutions, including on poverty and the environment, and through cooperation with United Nations country teams to replicate and scale up interventions. This work is also expected to help Member States to make progress towards the achievement of Goal 17.

14.76   The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a)   The increased efficiency of Member States in environmental policymaking processes leading to coherent and science-based policies, including through concerted action by Member States on international environmental issues, in particular, on issues arising as a result of resolutions of the United Nations Environment Assembly, similar intergovernmental processes, and/or the implementation of decisions of the governing bodies of multilateral environmental agreements;

(b)   Improved governance and partnerships with major groups and stakeholders in the development of synergistic national programmes, as well as increased integration of the environment into national and subnational planning and budgeting processes on sustainable development.

14.77   The planned support on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to result in the increased capacity of Member States to develop new policies for addressing negative environmental impacts associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Programme performance in 2020

14.78   Programme performance in 2020 includes the below result that emerged during 2020, as well as programme performance presented under results 1 and 2 below.

### Sustained momentum on global environmental issues by modernizing international environmental governance

14.79   The COVID-19 pandemic provided an opportunity for the subprogramme to reassess its traditional way of work and the future of environmental governance. Areas to be addressed under this assessment included everyday office operations, activities implementation, budget implications, resource mobilization, partnerships and communication. The subprogramme reviewed legal, logistical, environmental and political implications for modernizing environmental governance to ensure that UNEP and the multilateral environmental agreements that it supports sustain momentum on global environmental governance and UNEP priorities. As a result of these considerations, the subprogramme developed and presented to Member States a study on solutions, options, opportunities and barriers for accelerating the transition to multilateralism in a virtual setting. This work was done in coordination with several offices of UNEP and the secretariats of the multilateral environmental agreements.

*Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure*

14.80   The above-mentioned work contributed to the objective, as demonstrated by the immediate shift to and continued organization of virtual meetings to help Member States to mitigate the threat of delayed environmental governance processes. The bureaux of intergovernmental meetings, consisting of representatives of Member States, now meet online regularly.[6] Recently, the 150th meeting of the UNEP Committee of Permanent Representatives was held virtually. The multilateral environmental agreements also successfully moved ahead virtually, as demonstrated by the twelfth meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal in June 2020 (see figure 14.VII).

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[6] The 150th meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives was held on 30 April 2020; subcommittee meetings of the Committee were held in April and July 2020; the joint preparatory retreat of the bureaux of the United Nations Environment Assembly and of the Committee of Permanent Representatives was held on 9 June 2020; the meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer was held from 14 to 16 July 2020; meetings of the bureau of the ad hoc open-ended expert group on marine litter and microplastics were held in July 2020; and the first informal substantive consultation meetings on General Assembly resolution 73/333 were held on 21 and 22 July 2020.

Figure 14.VII
**Performance measure: total number of environment-related decisions adopted by Member States in multilateral forums (cumulative)**
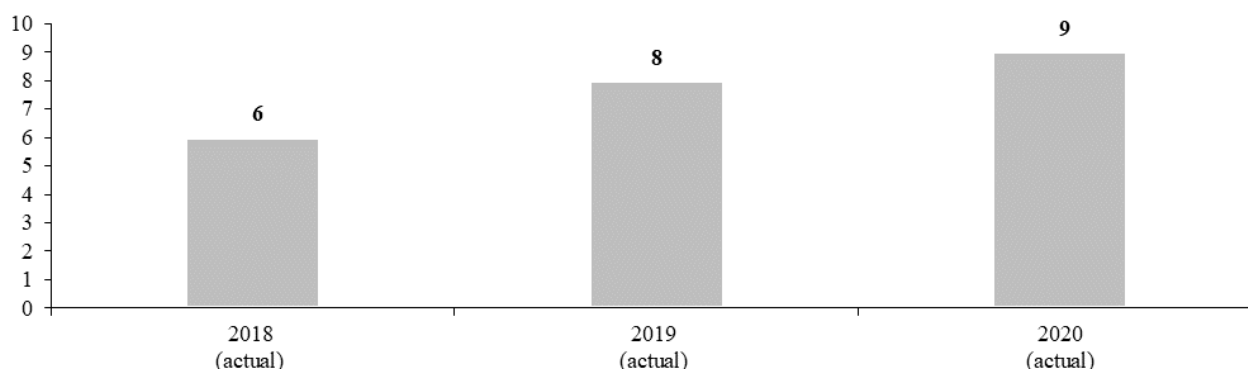


### Impact of COVID-19 on subprogramme delivery

14.81    Owing to the impact of COVID-19 during 2020, the subprogramme postponed events and meetings requiring physical technical support, which resulted in delayed project implementation and requests for project extensions beyond 2020.

14.82    At the same time, however, some planned deliverables and activities were modified to support Member States on issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic, within the overall scope of its objectives, namely, the temporary repositioning of project focus, which allowed support to be provided for the environmental dimension of the United Nations socioeconomic response and recovery plans, and the review of environmental health policies with the aim of mainstreaming them into other sectors. Furthermore, the subprogramme and UNEP, at the corporate level, had to be agile in reacting to the pandemic in order to provide much-needed technical assistance, publications on the interlinkages between the environment and health and/or research on conducting virtual meetings. This included contributions to the emergency phase, such as the development of guidelines on medical waste management and legislative approaches to the management of medical waste. These modified deliverables contributed to results in 2020, as specified in the emerging result for 2020 above.

## Planned results for 2022

14.83    The planned results for 2022 include results 1 and 2, which are updates of results presented in the preceding proposed programme plans and therefore show both the programme performance in 2020 and the proposed programme plan for 2022. Result 3 is a new planned result.

### Result 1: strengthened environmental law implementation[7]

### Programme performance in 2020

14.84    In line with the strategic response of UNEP to the COVID-19 pandemic, the subprogramme contributed to enhancing the readiness of States to handle legal aspects of the additional medical waste caused by the pandemic, in particular by providing guidance to Member States on emergency policy actions to be taken to address increasing waste as a result of the pandemic and on the establishment of legal and institutional bases for improved responsiveness to future waste-related emergencies. This information has been supplemented by a fact sheet, available in Arabic, Chinese,

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[7] As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect. 14)).

English, French, Russian, Spanish, Hindi and Portuguese, containing a comparative analysis of measures adopted on waste management during the pandemic.

14.85    In addition, the subprogramme increased the awareness of lawmakers and monitored the environmental impacts of the legal and regulatory measures that they took in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as legislative and regulatory measures that may have both positive and negative impacts on environmental protection. Moreover, a publication was released in December 2020 in which practical approaches for an environmentally sustainable economic recovery were highlighted, including examples at the national and regional levels.

14.86    Furthermore, the subprogramme strengthened the efforts of countries in the Latin American region and advanced climate change action, electric mobility and energy efficiency through the provision of legal advice and the development of three model laws under the framework of a memorandum of understanding between UNEP and the Latin American and Caribbean Parliament, which were approved by the Parliament's Commission on the Environment and Tourism. The model laws, on climate change and food security, electric mobility, and energy efficiency, are expected to be considered at the next regular Assembly of the Parliament.

14.87    The above-mentioned work contributed to 38 countries with enhanced institutional capacity and legal frameworks to enforce environmental legislation as a result of UNEP support, which met the planned target reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020.

### Proposed programme plan for 2022

14.88    The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will continue supporting countries in developing and implementing the environmental rule of law, and in related capacities, to address internationally agreed environmental goals. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 14.VIII).

Figure 14.VIII
**Performance measure: total number of countries with enhanced institutional capacity and legal frameworks to enforce environmental legislation (cumulative)**
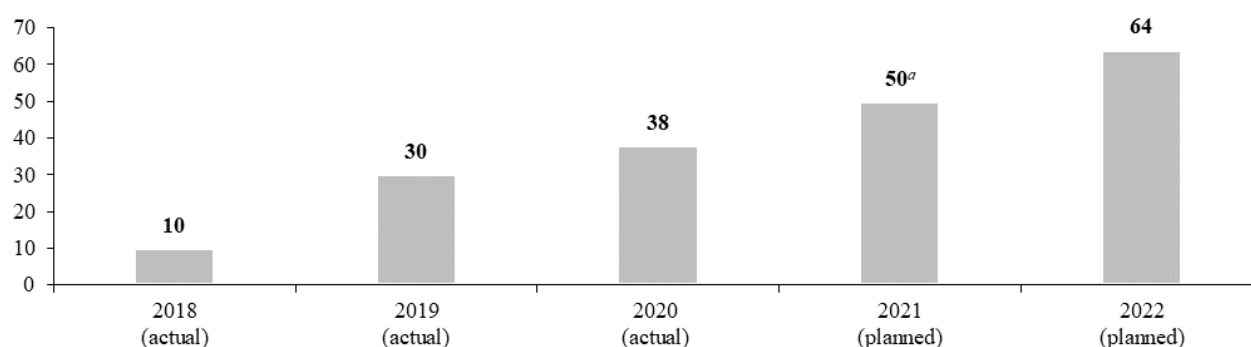


[a] To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

**Result 2: leaving no one behind: more countries engage in financial shifts to deliver on the poverty-environment nexus**[8]

**Programme performance in 2020**

14.89    The subprogramme has developed, as part of the Poverty-Environment Action for Sustainable Development Goals (2018–2022) project, eight full-fledged country projects incorporating objectives related to the environment and natural resources. The subprogramme also developed five technical assistance projects in consultation with national partners and countries to: (a) develop tools that support budgeting and financing for marine and inland water resources in the Asia-Pacific region; (b) increase regional priorities and investments in climate- and gender-sensitive agriculture in sub-Saharan Africa; (c) deepen sustainable finance facilities in Indonesia by integrating the environment and poverty into budget processes; (d) influence climate, environmental and budgeting expenditures and optimize revenue collection and benefit-sharing mechanisms among peoples and persons and those in vulnerable situations, in order to promote environmental sustainability in the United Republic of Tanzania; and (e) strengthen existing sustainable approaches in South Africa, while also promoting dialogue among key actors involved in the Sustainable Development Goals and the implementation of nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement so that States can reduce national emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

14.90    The above-mentioned work contributed to two countries mainstreaming poverty and environmental sustainability in their national policies, plans, regulations or budgets while shifting public and private finance investment options towards poverty eradication and environmental sustainability, which did not meet the target of seven countries reflected in the programme budget for 2021. The target could not be met because the subprogramme took longer than anticipated to satisfactorily launch the project. As a consequence, an internal review was conducted of the UNEP partnership approval process. Implementation of the recommendations resulting from that review is expected to make the project approval process nimbler in the future.

**Proposed programme plan for 2022**

14.91    The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will work at the global, subregional, regional and national levels to integrate environmental goals into sustainable development plans, strategies, policies, action plans or budgeting processes. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see table 14.8).

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[8] As reflected in the programme budget for 2021 (A/75/6/Add.1).

Table 14.8
**Performance measure**

| 2018 (actual) | 2019 (actual) | 2020 (actual) | 2021 (planned)[a] | 2022 (planned) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Countries begin mainstreaming poverty and environment considerations into national processes, with a stronger focus on finance and investment aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals with the support of the Poverty-Environment Action for Sustainable Development Goals initiative | Countries adopt United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 4/18 on the poverty-environment nexus, which emphasizes the need for countries to shift public and private finance investment options towards poverty eradication and environmental sustainability | Two countries mainstream poverty and environmental sustainability in their national policies, plans, regulations or budgets while shifting public and private finance investment options towards poverty eradication and environmental sustainability | Two countries mainstream poverty and environmental sustainability in their national policies, plans, regulations or budgets while shifting public and private finance investment options towards poverty eradication and environmental sustainability | Six additional countries mainstream poverty and environmental sustainability in their national policies, plans, regulations or budgets while shifting public and private finance investment options towards poverty eradication and environmental sustainability |

[a] To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

**Result 3: improved coherence of environmental policies by building environmental law capacity**

**Proposed programme plan for 2022**

14.92    Strong environmental laws and institutions are essential for planetary health, nature, pandemic recovery and resilience. They underpin the successful implementation of any environmental goal, policy or commitment, including the 2030 Agenda and the Goals. The subprogramme has conducted its environmental law activities through sequential 10-year periodic reviews under the Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo Programme). The work on environmental law carried out by UNEP includes, but is not limited to: (a) the development of framework laws and sectoral environmental laws in several countries, as well as of model laws, such as the Model Law and Guidance for Regulating Lead Paint; (b) the strengthening of environmental institutions, including the ministry of environment and environmental protection authorities in several countries, through training events and on-demand publications on emergent environmental issues; (c) improvement of the capacity of various legal stakeholders, in particular the judiciary, including through the development of information tools, guidance material and effective models for the development and implementation of environmental law and through the sharing of good practices and lessons learned; (d) the development and advancement of new norms and concepts, such as environmental constitutionalism and the environmental rule of law, in many countries; (e) the recognition and elaboration of linkages between human rights and the environment at both the international and national levels; and (f) enhanced synergies in the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements. The current iteration is the fifth Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo Programme V), which was adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly in March 2019. The intergovernmental programme covering the period from January 2020 to December 2029, is designed to guide the identification and implementation of priority actions in the field of environmental law to be undertaken by UNEP in collaboration with other relevant actors.

*Lessons learned and planned change*

14.93   The lesson for the subprogramme was that there was an increased demand by Member States for normative products and tools to enhance and develop environmental law capacity and strengthen policy coherence, such as the law and climate change toolkit, which is an online and open database providing Member States with access to legislation from around the world related to climate change, including both overarching climate change laws and sectoral legislation. The tools and digital resources developed by UNEP in that regard are used for technical cooperation in implementing the wider programme to advance the environmental rule of law at cross-cutting levels, in particular in the environmental policy development of Member States. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme developed digital coherence platforms, such as the law and environment assistance platform,[9] that bridged the policy coherence and environmental law capacity gap. That tool allows Member States to directly request technical support from UNEP and partners, while providing a comprehensive and searchable knowledge base of relevant environmental legislation, cases, model laws and other guidance products.

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

14.94   This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by the increased number of digital resources on environmental law to which Member States have access, including relevant environmental legislation, cases, model laws, legislative toolkits and environmental law guidance products. The work is also expected to increase the awareness of Member States about efforts to combat environmental problems and increase the capacity of Member States in policy development on environmental law through access to best practices and success stories in one or more environmental fields (see figure 14.IX).

Figure 14.IX
**Performance measure: access of Member States to digital resources on environmental law (cumulative)**

(Number of digital resources)
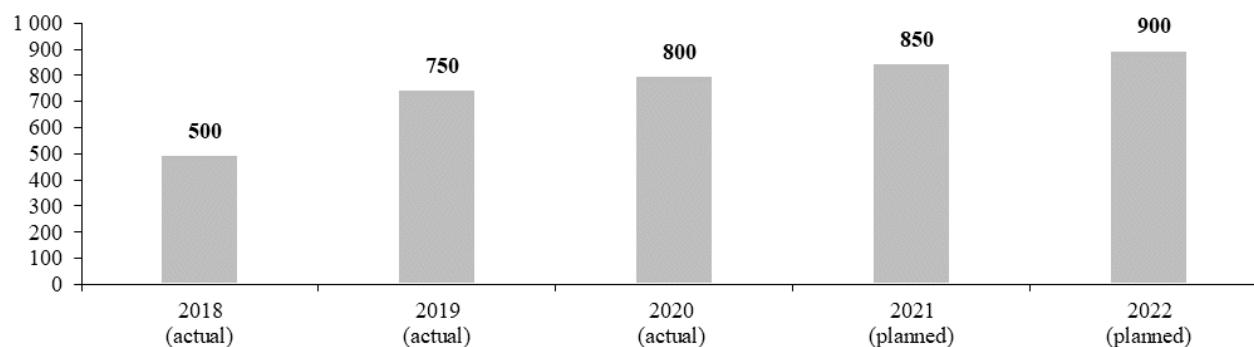


# Legislative mandates

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

*Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme ministerial declarations and decisions*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| SS.VI/1 | Malmö Ministerial Declaration | SS.VIII/1, sect. II | Implementation of decision SS.VII/1 on international environmental governance: strengthening the scientific base of the United Nations Environment Programme |
| SS.VII/4 | Compliance with and enforcement of multilateral environmental agreements | | |

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[9] Examples of such tools include the law and environment assistance platform and the United Nations Information Portal on Multilateral Environmental Agreements (www.informea.org/en).

| SS.XI/5 | Environmental law | 27/5 | Coordination across the United Nations system, including the Environment Management Group |
| SS.XII/3 | International environmental governance | | |
| 25/11 | Environmental law | 27/9 | Advancing justice, governance and law for environmental sustainability |

*United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions*

| 1/3 | Illegal trade in wildlife |

## Deliverables

14.96    Table 14.9 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2020–2022 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 14.9
**Subprogramme 4: deliverables for the period 2020–2022, by category and subcategory**

| Category and subcategory | 2020 planned | 2020 actual | 2021 planned | 2022 planned |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **A.  Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies** | | | | |
| **Conference and secretariat services for meetings** (number of three-hour meetings) | **25** | **26** | **27** | **30** |
| 1.  Meetings on environmental law and governance | 25 | 26 | 27 | 30 |
| **B.  Generation and transfer of knowledge** | | | | |
| **Field and technical cooperation projects** (number of projects) | **5** | **7** | **4** | **8** |
| 2.  Projects on environmental law | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| 3.  Projects on supporting the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements | 3 | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| 4.  Project on poverty-environment nexus | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| **Seminars, workshops and training events** (number of days) | **30** | **30** | **15** | **15** |
| 5.  Train-the-trainer events on environmental governance | 30 | 30 | 15 | 15 |
| **Publications** (number of publications) | **4** | **15** | **8** | **8** |
| 6.  Global reports on environmental law | 4 | 15 | 8 | 8 |
| **C.  Substantive deliverables** | | | | |
| **Consultation, advice and advocacy**: expert advice to approximately 15 Member States, upon request, on the monitoring and implementation of multilateral environmental agreements, legislative strategies and frameworks to counter environmental degradation resulting from climate change and environmental crime and make progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. | | | | |
| **D.  Communication deliverables** | | | | |
| **Outreach programmes, special events and information materials**: the United Nations Information Portal on Multilateral Environmental Agreements, which provides access to nearly 500 treaties, over 12,000 decisions made by governing bodies, over 9,000 national plans and reports, and a large body of laws, court decisions, and other documents and literature, with over 150,000 users; and the e-learning platform of the portal, which has over 20,000 registered users from 190 countries. | | | | |

## Subprogramme 5
## Chemicals and pollution action

## Objective

14.97   The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to advance the sound management of chemicals and waste and improve air quality at all levels in order to achieve a healthier environment and better health for all.

## Strategy

14.98   To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will continue to work with Governments, the private sector and civil society within the framework of relevant multilateral environmental agreements and the broader international chemicals and waste agenda by providing technical advice, policy support and capacity-building to develop and implement policies, strategies, legislation and action plans on sound chemicals and waste management, including, but not limited to, mercury, persistent organic pollutants, ozone-depleting substances and lead, as well as on waste prevention and the sound management of electronic and other forms of waste. This work will be carried out at the global, regional, subregional, national and subnational levels.

14.99   The subprogramme will also provide technical and advisory support to Governments, in particular regarding the identification of national emissions sources and the building of institutional capacity to develop and use air quality assessments with publicly accessible monitoring data and information. Furthermore, the subprogramme will support Governments in the development of policies, standards and legal, regulatory, fiscal or institutional frameworks and mechanisms for the reduction of air pollutants. This is expected to help Member States to make progress towards the achievement of targets under Sustainable Development Goals 3, 7 and 11. The subprogramme will also continue to support awareness-raising efforts on the importance of air quality, in particular through the "BreatheLife" campaign, which encourages Governments to work for cleaner air by raising awareness and implementing new solutions.

14.100  The subprogramme plans to support Member States on issues related to COVID-19 by improving waste management systems and strengthening capacities to soundly manage medical and household waste, while also enhancing the overall understanding of the global impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on pollution, including marine litter.

14.101  The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a)   An increased number of countries adopting and implementing policies and legal, institutional or fiscal strategies and mechanisms for the sound management of chemicals and waste, as well as enhanced non-governmental action and involvement by industry and civil society organizations to advance the broader international chemicals and waste agenda;

(b)   A reduction in the release of pollutants to the environment, leading to a reduced burden on the environment and human health;

(c)   An improved ability of countries to identify national emissions sources and develop targeted solutions to reduce air pollution;

(d)   An increase in the development and adoption of air quality policies, as well as the enhanced deployment of good practices or technologies and the consideration of alternatives, including low-emission and low-carbon transport solutions, such as walking, cycling and electric mobility;

(e)   The increased capacity of countries to communicate about air quality in an understandable way and to make air quality data and other relevant information publicly available.

14.102    As specified in more detail in result 3 below, the planned support on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to result in the enhanced capacity of countries to deal with the surge in waste related to the COVID-19 pandemic in an environmentally sound manner and an improved understanding of the global impact of the pandemic on pollution.

## Programme performance in 2020

14.103    Programme performance in 2020 includes the below result that emerged during 2020, as well as programme performance presented under results 1 and 2 below.

### Sound management of chemicals and waste associated with COVID-19 for better health and less hazardous pollution

14.104    Chemicals play a critical role in sustainable development but, if not managed well, they can pose a threat to people and the planet. Optimizing human health and environmental outcomes requires the sound management of chemicals and waste. With the outbreak of COVID-19, the subprogramme launched a rapid-response initiative to provide technical assistance and support for raising awareness about the pollution-related dimensions of the pandemic. This was done through the development and dissemination of fact sheets on the promotion of the sound management of chemicals and waste, with a focus on the short and long-term health implications of response actions, including open burning and dumping of potentially infectious waste related to COVID-19.

14.105    The subprogramme also strengthened the science-policy interface for chemicals and pollution by initiating a study on issues of concern, with the aim to better inform policymakers.

*Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure*

14.106    The above-mentioned work contributed to the objective, as demonstrated by the increased number of countries that took measures on the sound management of chemicals and/or on the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, evidenced by the nine additional countries that updated their national implementation plans aimed at protecting human health and the environment from exposure to persistent organic pollutants (see figure 14.X).

Figure 14.X
**Performance measure: total number of countries that updated their national implementation plans aimed at protecting human health and the environment from exposure to persistent organic pollutants (cumulative)**
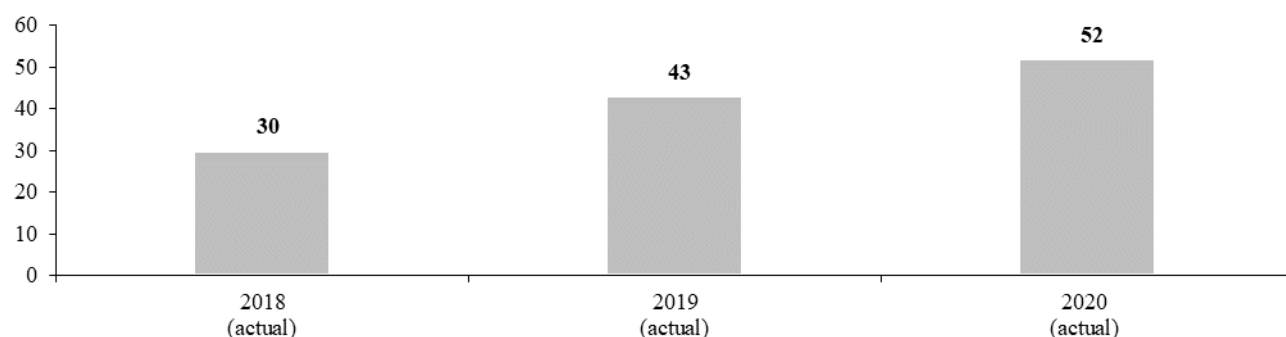


### Impact of COVID-19 on subprogramme delivery

14.107    In response to the pandemic, the subprogramme modified activities to support Member States on issues related to COVID-19, within the overall scope of its objectives, namely, technical assistance and awareness-raising to meet the immediate demand for guidance on how to deal with the impact of COVID-19 to protect people and the environment. The new deliverables contributed to results in 2020, as specified in the emerging result for 2020 above.

## Planned results for 2022

14.108   The planned results for 2022 include results 1 and 2, which are updates of results presented in the preceding proposed programme plans and therefore show both the programme performance in 2020 and the proposed programme plan for 2022. Result 3 is a new planned result.

### Result 1: strengthened pollution action to protect people and the planet[10]

### Programme performance in 2020

14.109   The subprogramme has catalysed action by civil society to promote sound management of chemicals and waste through the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint, for which UNEP and the World Health Organization jointly provide the secretariat. Under this voluntary partnership, the subprogramme, in collaboration with civil society partners, raised awareness of the negative health impacts of exposure to the lead in paint, as well as providing expertise and advice on establishing legal limits on lead paint. The subprogramme also developed guidance to build the capacity necessary to set up an integrated health and environment observatory surveillance and information management system that will enable African countries to establish evidence-based policies and make sustainable decisions on the sound management of chemicals and the related disease burden. Furthermore, under the UNEP Global Mercury Partnership, the subprogramme engaged civil society to minimize the amount of mercury released into the air, water and land, and to assist with the effective implementation of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

14.110   The above-mentioned work contributed to 36 civil society organizations having taken action on improving chemicals management, which exceeded the planned target of 30 civil society organizations reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020.

### Proposed programme plan for 2022

14.111   The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will catalyse action by civil society and other stakeholders on pollution prevention and control, such as through awareness-raising, public communications, monitoring efforts and education. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 14.XI).

Figure 14.XI
**Performance measure: total number of civil society organizations that have taken action on improving chemicals management (cumulative)**
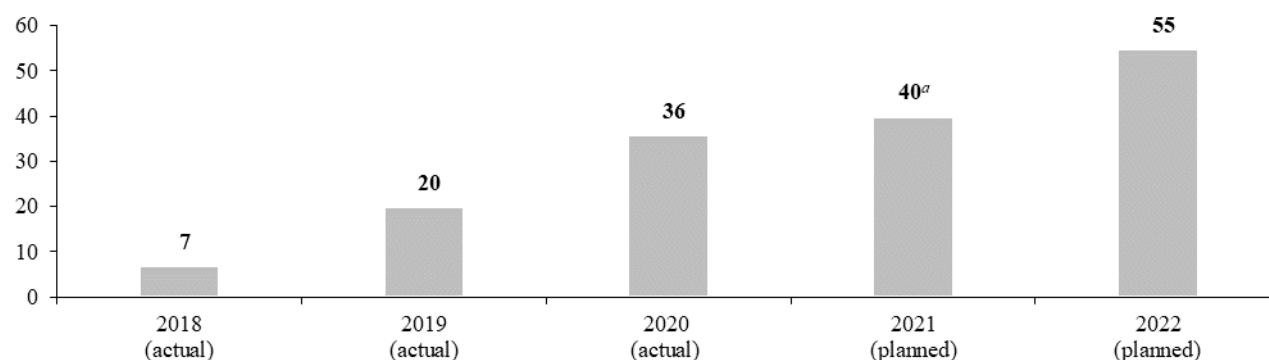


<sup>a</sup> To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

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[10] As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect.14)).

### Result 2: stepping up worldwide efforts to advance the sound management of waste[11]

#### Programme performance in 2020

14.112    The subprogramme has supported countries with the development of waste management strategies. The subprogramme also specifically provided guidance on plastic pollution and marine litter prevention and control. Furthermore, the subprogramme continued to build waste management capacity by promoting the inclusion of that topic in university curricula.

14.113    The above-mentioned work contributed to 25 countries implementing policies on the prevention and sound management of waste, which exceeded the planned target of 22 countries reflected in the programme budget for 2021.

#### Proposed programme plan for 2022

14.114    The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will assist countries in developing and/or implementing policies, strategies and mechanisms to prevent or reduce waste, and to ensure the environmentally sound treatment or disposal of waste, including from disaster- or conflict-related environmental emergencies. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 14.XII).

Figure 14.XII
**Performance measure: total number of countries implementing policies on the prevention and sound management of waste (cumulative)**
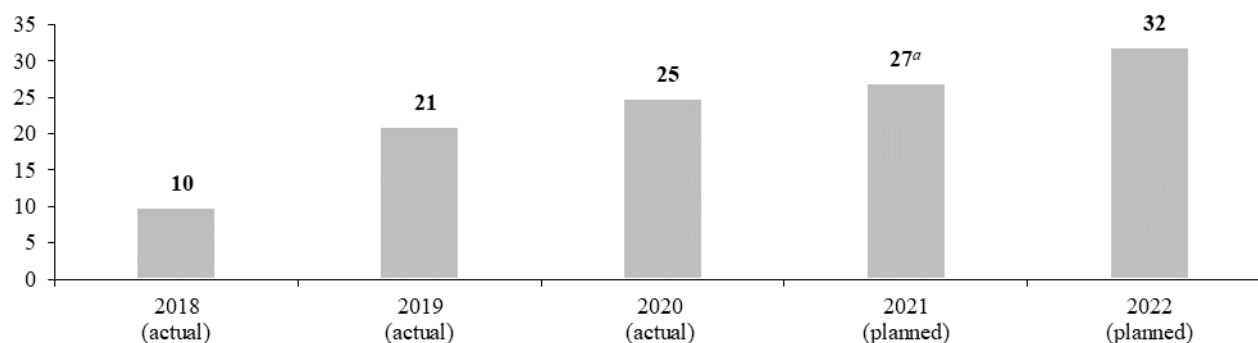


_a_ To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

### Result 3: strengthened waste and wastewater management systems to prevent and minimize waste and pollution associated with COVID-19

#### Proposed programme plan for 2022

14.115    The COVID-19 pandemic has had negative environmental impacts on waste and the proper handling of waste, which is also critical to preventing the further spread of the virus. In addition to the soaring demand for masks and other personal protective equipment, some countries reported that the amount of plastic waste, especially plastic packaging, has increased by 15 per cent because of increased food deliveries. Furthermore, evidence suggests that populations with underlying illnesses caused by air pollution are more vulnerable to COVID-19. The subprogramme supported informed decision-making as part of the UNEP rapid response to the COVID-19 pandemic, responding quickly to information requests by Member States. This included the publication of a series of fact sheets on the environmental dimension of COVID-19 waste management, as well as other environmental

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[11] As reflected in the programme budget for 2021 (A/75/6/Add.1).

factors relevant to the COVID-19 response (e.g. the role of air pollution and the risks of using certain chemicals), thereby reducing the amount of pollution caused by the surge in waste associated with COVID-19.

*Lessons learned and planned change*

14.116    The lesson for the subprogramme was that previous studies relevant to addressing urgent information requests by Member States, such as those related to environmentally sound technologies for the treatment of health-care waste, were challenging to track down because such highly technical and relevant publications were not included in the knowledge repository in the context of the pandemic. By further improving the internal knowledge management system, the challenge of ensuring timely identification of and access to past knowledge can be addressed, in order to provide targeted support more effectively and rapidly to stakeholders on the environmental dimension of waste management in the context of the pandemic. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will work towards an online repository of the Organization's relevant pollution-related publications. Furthermore, the subprogramme will deliver a series of webinars and develop model legislation and policy guidance to help countries institutionalize their response to the pandemic, thereby supporting them in building back better by strengthening their waste and wastewater management systems and improving their resilience.

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

14.117    This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by the number of countries that strengthened their medical and household waste and wastewater management systems (see figure 14.XIII).

Figure 14.XIII
**Performance measure: total number of countries that strengthened their medical and household waste and wastewater management systems (cumulative)**
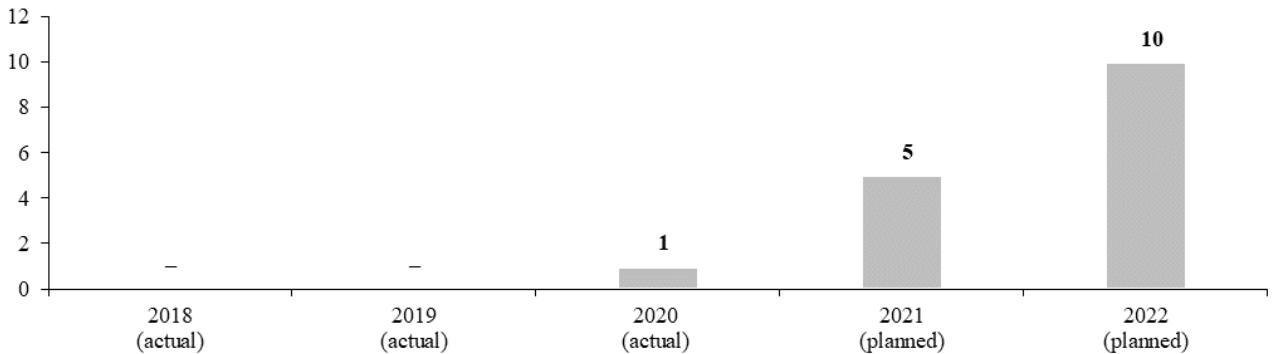


## Legislative mandates

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

*General Assembly resolutions*

74/212          International Day of Clean Air for blue
                skies

*Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme decisions*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| SS.IX/1 | Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management | SS.XII/5 | Enhancing cooperation and coordination within the chemicals and wastes cluster |
| SS.XII/4 | Consultative process on financing options for chemicals and wastes | 24/4 | Prevention of illegal international trade |
| | | 25/5 | Chemicals management, including mercury |
| | | 27/12 | Chemicals and waste management |

*United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1/5 | Chemicals and waste | 4/6 | Marine plastic litter and microplastics |
| 1/6 | Marine plastic debris and microplastics | 4/7 | Environmentally sound management of waste |
| 1/7 | Strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in promoting air quality | 4/8 | Sound management of chemicals and waste |
| 2/11 | Marine plastic litter and microplastics | 4/9 | Addressing single-use plastic products pollution |
| 3/7 | Marine litter and microplastics | | |

## Deliverables

14.119    Table 14.10 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2020–2022 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 14.10
**Subprogramme 5: deliverables for the period 2020–2022, by category and subcategory**

| Category and subcategory | 2020 planned | 2020 actual | 2021 planned | 2022 planned |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **B.  Generation and transfer of knowledge** | | | | |
| **Field and technical cooperation projects** (number of projects) | **4** | **4** | **4** | **4** |
| 1.  Projects on the development of policies and legal, institutional or fiscal strategies and mechanisms for sound chemicals management | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| **Seminars, workshops and training events** (number of days) | **4** | **4** | **4** | **4** |
| 2.  Seminars and training events on the sound management of chemicals and waste | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| **Publications** (number of publications) | **1** | **1** | **1** | **1** |
| 3.  Global assessment of the state of and trends in laws, regulations and fiscal policies for sound chemicals and waste management | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| **Technical materials** (number of materials) | **3** | **3** | **4** | **4** |
| 4.  Technical reports on status, trends and related risks and improvements in chemicals and waste management at various scales | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 5.  Technical guidance on action plans related to air quality at various scales, in particular at the subnational, national and regional levels | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| **C.  Substantive deliverables** | | | | |

**Consultation, advice and advocacy**: advice to five countries on environmental practices and waste management, and to five countries and stakeholders on policymaking, standards and strategy development.

**Fact-finding, monitoring and investigation missions**: missions conducted in three countries, with a focus on status and trends relating to chemicals management, waste management and air quality, including on marine litter and other forms of pollution.

**D.  Communication deliverables**

**Outreach programmes, special events and information materials**: outreach programmes, campaigns and information materials disseminated to Governments, private companies, civil society organizations and the public to increase awareness on marine and other forms of pollution, sound chemicals management and action to improve air quality.

## Subprogramme 6
## Finance and economic transformations

### Objective

14.120   The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to advance the transition by countries and businesses to sustainable development through multiple pathways, including the uptake of green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, the adoption of sustainable consumption and production patterns and the decoupling of economic activity from unsustainable resource use and environmental impact, while improving human well-being.

### Strategy

14.121   To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will continue to deliver country assessments, promote the uptake of policy planning and implementation tools, and convene knowledge platforms that will enable policymakers and businesses to actively pursue sustainable pathways. The subprogramme will continue to draw on the capacity of UNEP to generate and disseminate knowledge and its extensive network of partners in the public and private sectors, including the financial sector, as well as civil society and academia. The subprogramme also plans to promote sustainable patterns of consumption and production with the aim of reducing climate impacts, biodiversity loss and pollution, through policy recommendations on the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, on sustainable finance and on business practices and tools and knowledge that allow consumers to make informed choices. The subprogramme will promote sustainable lifestyles and consumption patterns through educational and awareness-raising campaigns and initiatives that respond to generational and gender-specific roles and the needs of consumers. In addition, the subprogramme will support Governments and subnational governments to strengthen institutional capacities and implement national development plans, policies and/or action plans; and will support businesses to adopt and implement sustainable management and cleaner production practices, as well as increasingly to invest in sustainable technologies. This work will help Member States to make progress towards the achievement of targets under Sustainable Development Goals 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13 and 17.

14.122   The subprogramme plans to support Member States on issues related to COVID-19 by developing policy recommendations on building back better and strengthening the capacities of State and non-State partners (including industry and civil society) to integrate environmental sustainability and sustainable patterns of consumption and production into their decision-making approaches, including with regard to sustainable finance, trade and infrastructure.

14.123   The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a)   Integrated sustainable development pathways, including sustainable consumption, and the production and implementation of policies and frameworks on inclusive green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, resulting in improved resource efficiency and human well-being and reduced ecological and material footprints;

(b)   Private sector actors, including in the financial sector, improving their approaches to environmental sustainability, including through sustainable consumption, production and investment, to create sustainable and more inclusive markets and economies;

(c)   Public, private and individual consumers having access to, and increasingly consuming and demanding, sustainable goods and services through sustainable consumption decisions and lifestyles.

14.124   The planned support on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to result in building back better, specifically by accelerating sustainable consumption and production.

## Programme performance in 2020

14.125    Programme performance in 2020 includes the below result that emerged during 2020, as well as programme performance presented under results 1 and 2 below.

### Sustainable consumption through sustainable procurement

14.126    Societies underpin one of the three pillars of sustainable development. The subprogramme supported Governments to be better informed about sustainable public procurement practices and to make choices which contribute to progress towards Goal 12.

14.127    The subprogramme also developed and delivered evidence-based impactful messages and technical support for Governments to adopt sustainable public procurement approaches. These approaches have gained momentum during the COVID-19 pandemic, with enhanced interest from Member States to build back better.

*Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure*

14.128    The above-mentioned work contributed to the objective, as demonstrated by the increased number of countries implementing sustainable public procurement policies to enhance sustainable consumption (see figure 14.XIV).

Figure 14.XIV
**Performance measure: total number of countries implementing sustainable public procurement policies (cumulative)**
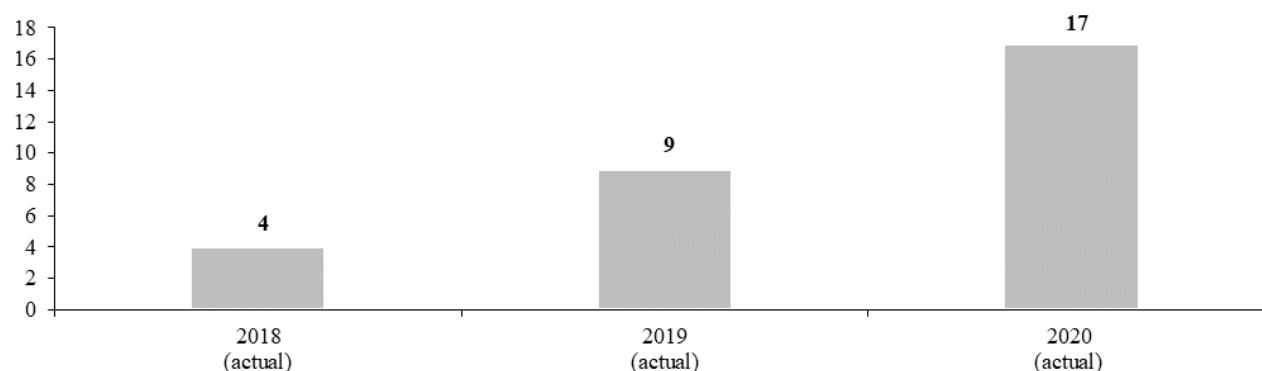


### Impact of COVID-19 on subprogramme delivery

14.129    Owing to the impact of COVID-19 during 2020, the subprogramme had to change its approach to the conduct of country-level activities. As global travel restrictions prevented staff from undertaking planned field visits, capacity-building workshops, policy advisory and technical training sessions and, where possible, meetings, training and other events were conducted online. This allowed the continuation of work and of projects involving the sharing of information, the organization of dialogue, and the dissemination of knowledge products.

14.130    At the same time, however, the subprogramme identified new activities to support Member States on issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic, within the overall scope of its objectives, namely the alignment of each Government's work with its policy priorities in the context of COVID-19 and the proactive exploration of opportunities to mainstream approaches centred on the inclusive green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and on sustainable consumption and production in national economic stimulus packages and recovery plans. These deliverables, including COVID-19 related policy briefs, joint webinars and online events, contributed to results in 2020, as specified in the emerging result for 2020 above.

## Planned results for 2022

14.131    The planned results for 2022 include results 1 and 2, which are updates of results presented in the preceding proposed programme plans and therefore show both the programme performance in 2020 and the proposed programme plan for 2022. Result 3 is a new planned result.

**Result 1: countries on a pathway to sustainable development**[12]

**Programme performance in 2020**

14.132    The subprogramme has supported seven additional countries in transitioning towards sustainable development. In addition, during the COVID-19 pandemic, the subprogramme responded rapidly to requests by Member States related to COVID-19 and building back better, through the provision of policy recommendations, webinars, online workshops and knowledge products. The subprogramme also contributed to several United Nations policy briefs on COVID-19, such as on employment and on fiscal policies. Policies can play a key role in the recovery efforts of Member States, such as by removing inefficiencies in public expenditures and raising additional fiscal revenues that can be directed towards immediate COVID-19 relief measures while supporting medium- to long-term investment and planning for a more sustainable, resilient and inclusive future. Furthermore, the subprogramme built the capacity of developing countries through South-South cooperation to promote green economies in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. For example, the subprogramme provided a forum for countries from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) region to share their experiences on national-level initiatives for transitioning to resource-efficient, low-emission, low-carbon and socially inclusive economies.

14.133    The above-mentioned work contributed to 32 countries having implemented green economy policies in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, which exceeded the planned target of 29 countries reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020.

**Proposed programme plan for 2022**

14.134    The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective and in response to recent developments, the subprogramme's work will evolve to include a focus on specific finance and economic transformation policies needed to accelerate sustainable patterns of consumption and production in support of outcomes related to climate, nature and chemicals and pollution. The expected progress is presented in the updated performance measure below (see figure 14.XV).

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[12] As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect. 14)).

Figure 14.XV
**Performance measure: total number of countries that have implemented green economy policies in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication (cumulative)**
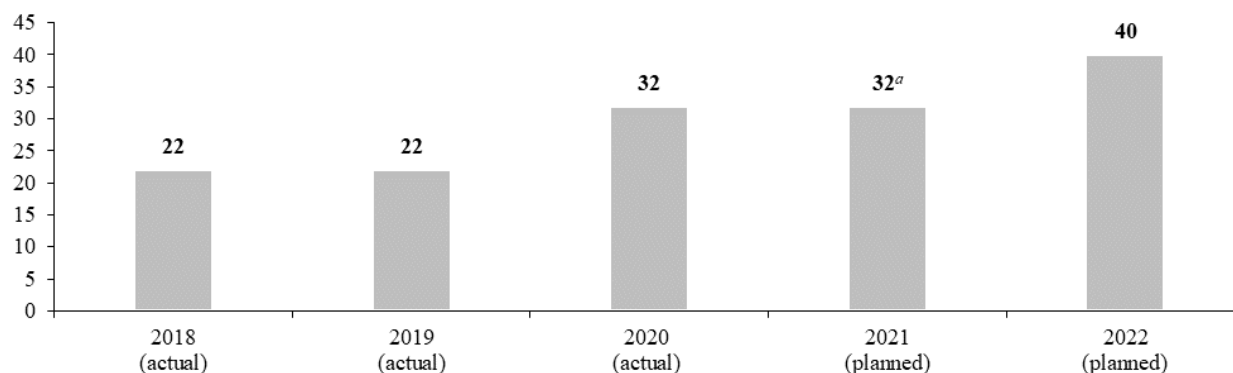


[a] To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

### Result 2: accelerating progress towards sustainable consumption and production[13]

### Programme performance in 2020

14.135    The subprogramme's work has been strongly influenced by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on industries and value chains, in particular on micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises. In response to requests by Member States, the subprogramme developed and provided information, tools and policy recommendations to promote the uptake of more sustainable consumption and production practices. This was done across several high-impact value chains, including plastics, textiles, building and construction, food, and mining. The subprogramme also supported the public, private and financial sectors in leading the shift to more sustainable business practices, which resulted in 38 organizations promoting new sustainability actions. Of those organizations, eight stakeholders of the building and construction value chain engaged in the promotion of more sustainable solutions, thereby achieving the Concrete Sustainability Council certification through collaboration facilitated by the One Planet network programme. Furthermore, with the launch of the Global Life Cycle Assessment Data Access network, the subprogramme has improved access to life cycle data.

14.136    The above-mentioned work contributed to 31 countries adopting and implementing sustainable consumption and production frameworks, policies and/or action plans, which met the planned target reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2021.

### Proposed programme plan for 2022

14.137    The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective and in response to recent developments, the subprogramme's work will evolve to include support to businesses for finance and economic transformations through alliances, principles, practices, standards and frameworks, established or adopted with UNEP support to enhance environmental sustainability. The expected progress is presented in the updated performance measure below (see figure 14.XVI).

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[13] As reflected in the programme budget for 2021 (A/75/6/Add.1).

Figure 14.XVI
**Performance measure: total number of countries adopting and implementing sustainable consumption and production frameworks, policies and action plans (cumulative)**
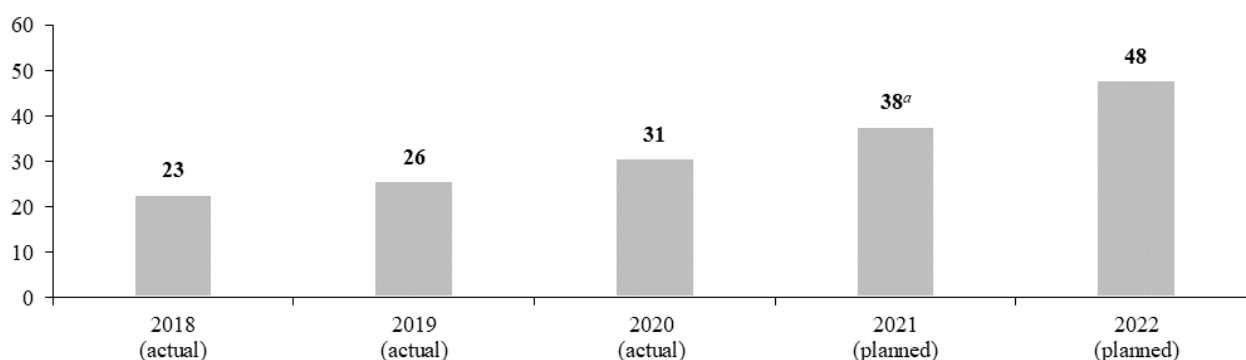


[a] To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

**Result 3: making finance and economies more inclusive, sustainable and resilient**

**Proposed programme plan for 2022**

14.138    Unsustainable management and consumption of resources remains an ongoing challenge and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic necessitates renewed and holistic policy changes to ensure the achievement of the agreed sustainable consumption and production targets of the Sustainable Development Goals. The subprogramme developed policy recommendations and guidance on sustainable, inclusive and resource-smart recovery that will help to stimulate growth and create jobs and prosperity for all, while reducing pressures on the planet.

*Lessons learned and planned change*

14.139    The lesson for the subprogramme was that there was increased demand from Member States for support on the implementation of an approach that is more focused on finance and economic transformations in order to accelerate changes to address challenges that the world is facing related to the climate, nature loss and pollution, and to support efforts to build back better. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will collaborate and support public, private and consumer constituencies with enhanced science-based and digital delivery. That would meet Member States' demands for a more focused approach in which timelier, more accessible and sector-relevant online information are used to inform decision-making that facilitates finance and economic transformations. One example of such efforts is the ongoing research and science-policy analysis related to sustainable resource management, in collaboration with partners such as the International Resource Panel, that can contribute to addressing the underlying causes of biodiversity loss.

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

14.140    This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by the number of outcome-level sustainable consumption and production activities reported by countries in reporting on Goal 12 in their voluntary national reports (see figure 14.XVII).

Figure 14.XVII
**Performance measure: number of outcome-level sustainable consumption and production activities reported by countries in reporting on Sustainable Development Goal 12 in their voluntary national reports (annual)**
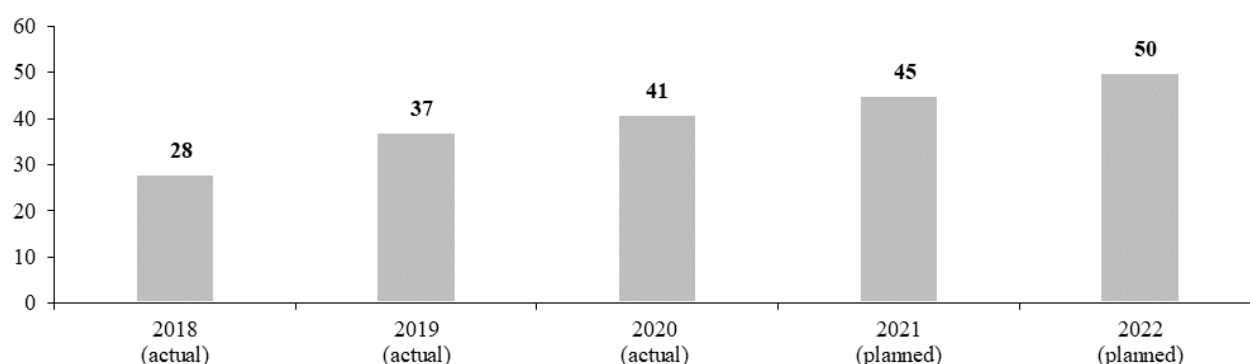


## Legislative mandates

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

*General Assembly resolutions*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 74/209 | International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste | 75/229 | Promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection |
| 74/214 | Sustainable tourism and sustainable development in Central Asia | | |

*Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme decisions*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 27/7 | Work by the United Nations Environment Programme on sustainable consumption and production | 27/8 | Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication |

*United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2/8 | Sustainable consumption and production | 4/2 | Promoting sustainable practices and innovative solutions for curbing food loss and waste |
| 2/9 | Prevention, reduction and reuse of food waste | | |
| 4/1 | Innovative pathways to achieve sustainable consumption and production | 4/4 | Addressing environmental challenges through sustainable business practices |
| | | 4/5 | Sustainable infrastructure |

## Deliverables

14.142    Table 14.11 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2020–2022 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 14.11

**Subprogramme 6: deliverables for the period 2020–2022, by category and subcategory**

| Category and subcategory | 2020 planned | 2020 actual | 2021 planned | 2022 planned |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **B. Generation and transfer of knowledge** | | | | |
| **Field and technical cooperation projects** (number of projects) | **22** | **22** | **22** | **20** |
| 1. Projects on the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication | 10 | 10 | 10 | – |
| 2. Projects on sustainable consumption and production | 12 | 12 | 12 | – |
| 3. Projects on finance and economic transformations | – | – | – | 20 |
| **Seminars, workshops and training events** (number of days) | **15** | **15** | **15** | **15** |
| 4. Seminars and training events on resource efficiency | 15 | 15 | 15 | – |
| 5. Seminars and training events on finance and economic transformation approaches | – | – | – | 15 |
| **Publications** (number of publications) | **5** | **5** | **5** | **3** |
| 6. Publications on resource efficiency, the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and sustainable consumption and production | 5 | 5 | 5 | – |
| 7. Publications on finance and economic transformation approaches | – | – | – | 3 |
| **Technical materials** (number of materials) | **10** | **10** | **10** | **10** |
| 8. Technical materials, assessments, tools and methodologies on the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication | 5 | 5 | 5 | – |
| 9. Assessments, tools and methodologies on sustainable consumption and production | 5 | 5 | 5 | – |
| 10. Technical materials on finance and economic transformations approaches | – | – | – | 10 |

**C. Substantive deliverables**

**Consultation, advice and advocacy**: on sustainable lifestyles, resource efficiency, the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, sustainable consumption and production, and finance and economic transformations; meetings of the International Resource Panel, with the participation of steering committee members from 20 Member States; and meetings of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns/One Planet network.

**Databases and substantive digital materials**: global material flows database, life cycle database, sustainable consumption and production clearing house database and Green Growth Knowledge Platform.

**D. Communication deliverables**

**Outreach programmes, special events and information materials**: on the One Planet network, sustainable lifestyles, the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, ministerial meetings and the United Nations Environment Assembly.

## Subprogramme 7
## Science policy

## Objective

14.143      The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen the capacity of Governments and non-government actors to access, generate and use quality environmental data and analysis and to sustain a strengthened science-policy interface that generates evidence-based environmental assessments, identifies emerging environmental issues and fosters relevant policy action at the global, regional and national levels, including for the achievement of the environment-related Sustainable Development Goals.

**Strategy**

14.144    To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will continue to keep the world environmental situation under review and strengthen the interface between science and policymaking across the sustainable development agenda. The subprogramme will deliver scientifically credible and unbiased data, information and knowledge, and will provide policy-relevant analysis and policy recommendations to catalyse and accelerate solutions and actions for the environment, based on a continuous review of the global status and trends. The subprogramme will reach beyond the environmental community and make the case for putting the environment at the centre of economic and social decision-making. Through gender-sensitive partnerships across all geographical areas, involving Governments and non-governmental organizations, the business and scientific communities, and citizens, the subprogramme will aim to be a catalyst of systemic and transformative shifts that can drive progress towards the aspirations of achieving the 2030 Agenda. The subprogramme will pursue broad stakeholder engagement as a critical step in enhancing societal understanding, acceptance and uptake of its scientific analysis and serve as a knowledge broker that builds consensus on existing and emerging environmental issues through platforms and networks, such as the Science-Policy-Business Forum on the Environment, the International Resource Panel, the World Adaption Science Programme and the One Planet network.

14.145    In addition, the subprogramme will continue to provide analytical research, increase awareness on the environmental dimension of sustainable development and build capacity for measuring, monitoring and reporting on the environmental dimension of the Goals. This will help Member States to integrate common methods for tracking and measuring the environment-related Goals, including in their national processes, in particular, Goals 6, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 17. To that end, the subprogramme will continue to capitalize on its collaboration with the Statistical Commission and the five regional commissions.

14.146    The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a)    The increased availability of scientific environmental data to countries and other stakeholders, provided by the World Environment Situation Room;

(b)    A more coherent approach to harmonizing country data, tracking progress and science-based environmental policymaking within and among countries;

(c)    The increased capacity of countries to measure progress towards and implement the Goals and to increase policy coherence for the integration of national sustainable development plans and other internationally agreed environmental goals.

**Programme performance in 2020**

14.147    Programme performance in 2020 includes the below result that emerged during 2020, as well as programme performance presented under results 1 and 2 below.

**Timely environmental data to enhance evidence-led policymaking**

14.148    Science is fundamental to the role of UNEP as the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment. The Secretary-General, in his 2018 report on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (E/2018/64), highlighted the importance of the availability of high-quality, timely and disaggregated data for evidence-based decision-making and for ensuring accountability for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. By using the World Environment Situation Room platform, the subprogramme handled: (a) earth observation data from in situ stations, remote sensors and field measurements; (b) statistics data from reporting, censuses and other surveys; and (c) geospatial data from models and interpolated data. At the national, regional, subregional and global levels, the consistent, reliable, and up-to-date data provided

guidance for research, the preparation of assessments and the development of regional and global approaches to sustainable development.

14.149    The subprogramme also facilitated the transformation of automatically processed data into products such as images, maps, graphs and tables in a user-friendly format through the use of geospatial analytical software. The data kept stakeholders informed about the state and trends of the environment, supported and enabled the implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda, supported the United Nations country teams in common country analyses, and facilitated policy action and the allocation of funds.

*Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure*

14.150    The above-mentioned work contributed to the objective, as demonstrated by the continued increase in the access to and use of the "community of practice" platforms[14] by Member States and stakeholders (see figure 14.XVIII).

Figure 14.XVIII
**Performance measure: total number of community of practice platforms used to increase the transfer of scientific knowledge and the exchange of information among Member States and stakeholders (cumulative)**
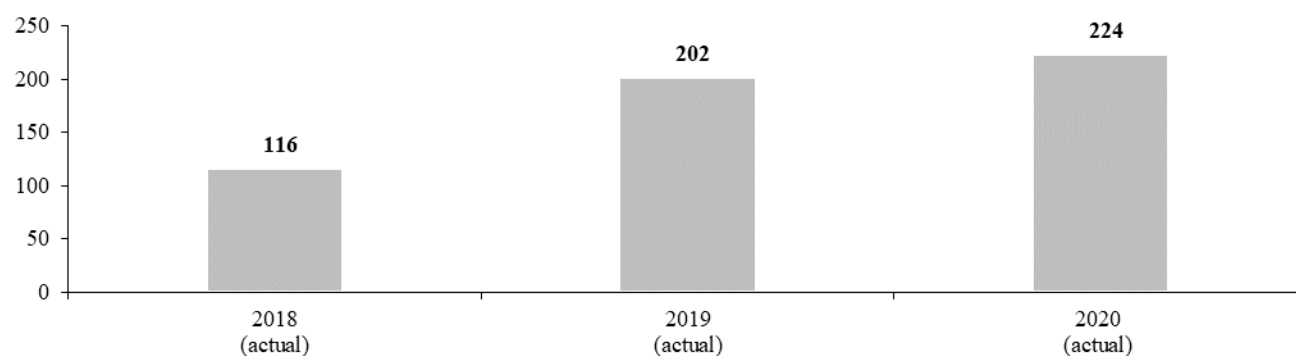


## Planned results for 2022

14.151    The planned results for 2022 include results 1 and 2, which are updates of results presented in the preceding proposed programme plans and therefore show both the programme performance in 2020 and the proposed programme plan for 2022. Result 3 is a new planned result.

**Result 1: stepping up support through a strengthened science-policy interface**[15]

14.152    The subprogramme has made progress on adapting scientific assessment outcomes for wider audiences. By simplifying the language of the recommendations of scientific assessments, the subprogramme reached various sectors of society, addressing the prevailing knowledge gap and enhancing science-based policymaking decisions for a broader group of stakeholders. The subprogramme also continued to capitalize on existing networks of scientists to investigate emerging issues. Furthermore, the subprogramme reported data on Sustainable Development Goals 6, 12, 14, 15 and 17 to the Statistics Division.

14.153    The above-mentioned work contributed to 85 countries using shared information system principles to report on global environmental goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals and their

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[14] Community of practice portals bring active practitioners together to consider environmental challenges and potential solutions in a topic or domain of human endeavour. Communities of practice support people and Member States, build policymaking capability, reduce the duplication of work and lead to better practices.

[15] As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect. 14)).

targets, which did not meet the planned target of 86 countries reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020. Owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, many meetings and/or workshops were postponed, as many countries faced challenges with Internet connectivity.

### Proposed programme plan for 2022

14.154    The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective and in response to recent developments, the subprogramme's work will evolve to include multiple stakeholders and/or other supporting agencies. The aim is to support Member States to address the digital divide and create accessibility, in order to strengthen capacity development in the science-policy interface. The expected progress is presented in the updated performance measure below (see figure 14.XIX).

Figure 14.XIX
**Performance measure: total number of countries using shared information system principles to report on global environmental goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets (cumulative)**
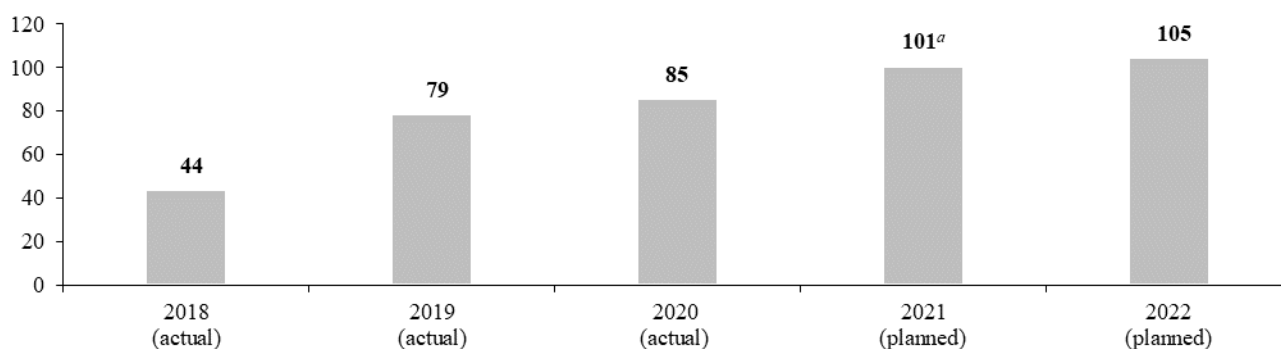


*a* To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

### Result 2: towards more ambitious climate action through science-based decision-making[16]

### Programme performance in 2020

14.155    The subprogramme raised $47,403,174 to enhance climate information and knowledge services for resilience in five Pacific island countries: Cook Islands, Marshall Islands, Niue, Palau and Tuvalu. The project is aimed at: (a) strengthening observations, monitoring, modelling and prediction of climate and climate impacts on ocean areas and islands; (b) improving community preparedness, response capabilities and resilience to climate risks; and (c) enhancing regional knowledge management and cooperation for climate services and multi-hazard early warning services. The subprogramme continued to support the production of the *Emissions Gap Report*, which highlights the state of global emissions gaps, and also prepared advocacy and outreach material that supported policy action to help mitigate climate change and improve social adaptability.

14.156    The above-mentioned work contributed to 15 Member States engaging in the development of the *Emissions Gap Report* through the country data vetting process, which met the planned target of 15 reflected in the programme budget for 2021.

### Proposed programme plan for 2022

14.157    The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective and in response to recent developments, the subprogramme's work will evolve to include policy suggestions on industrial emissions-reducing

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[16] As reflected in the programme budget for 2021 (A/75/6/Add.1).

technologies, coupled with the net benefits of collective climate actions. The expected progress is presented in the updated performance measure below (see figure 14.XX).

Figure 14.XX
**Performance measure: total number of countries engaged in the development of the *Emissions Gap Report* through the country data vetting process (cumulative)**
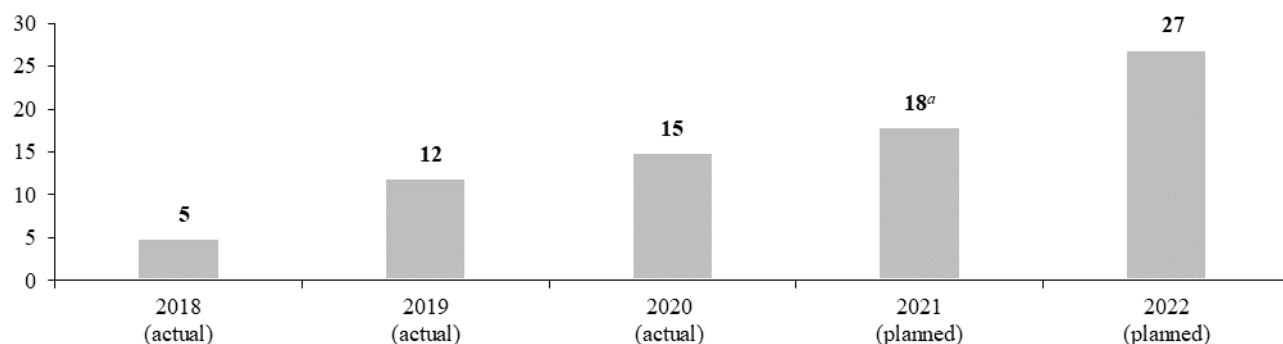


*a* To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

### Result 3: scientific knowledge harnessed to address interlinked environmental challenges and their impact on socioeconomic well-being

**Proposed programme plan for 2022**

14.158    The science-policy subprogramme brings to life the latest scientific evidence and analysis on the state of the world environment to enhance the focus on new scientific knowledge and its implications with regard to environmental policy for policymakers, decision makers and the public at large. However, its 2019 evaluation highlighted the subprogramme's limited utility among the other subprogrammes and stakeholders. In response, UNEP, it its medium-term strategy, based its action on the analysis of prevailing and credible science to step up the delivery of its core area of work: mitigation of and adaption to climate change, the halting of the degradation of nature and pollution control. In addition, the subprogramme has started reaching beyond the environmental community to advocate placing the environment at the centre of economic and social decision-making. Through partnerships among all relevant stakeholders, including other United Nations agencies, society, Governments and non-governmental organizations, the business community and citizens, –the subprogramme has started catalysing science-informed transformative shifts, such as by providing maps, analytics, policy briefs and forecasts of environmental patterns, that can drive progress towards the aspirations of the 2030 Agenda and help to address climate change challenges, and in the development of different policies on nature degradation and test technologies for pollution control.

*Lessons learned and planned change*

14.159    The lesson for the subprogramme was that science should not be used in isolation, but rather as a purposeful tool to increase knowledge about urgent environmental issues and the integrated nature of science with social and economic well-being. Scientific knowledge can increase the wider awareness of interlinked challenges and bring about potential solutions for decision makers, practitioners and other stakeholders. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will leverage the global environment assessment dialogue by securing better consistency and mutually beneficial comparability among science knowledge-sharing platforms, such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, the Global Environment Outlook, the International Resource Panel, the *Global Sustainable Development Report* and other processes. This process will also add value to the preparation and

delivery of coherent and consistent messages that can inform international negotiations and decisions under the multilateral environmental agreements, as well as global environmental platforms, such as the United Nations Environment Assembly.

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

14.160     This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by the increased influence of science-based policymaking decisions, including in United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions, that are anchored on the subprogramme's production of scientific assessments. Such decisions account for more than 10 per cent of all decisions adopted in the United Nations Environment Assembly (see figure 14.XXI).

Figure 14.XXI
**Performance measure: total number of decisions in the United Nations Environment Assembly influenced by science-based policymaking (cumulative)**
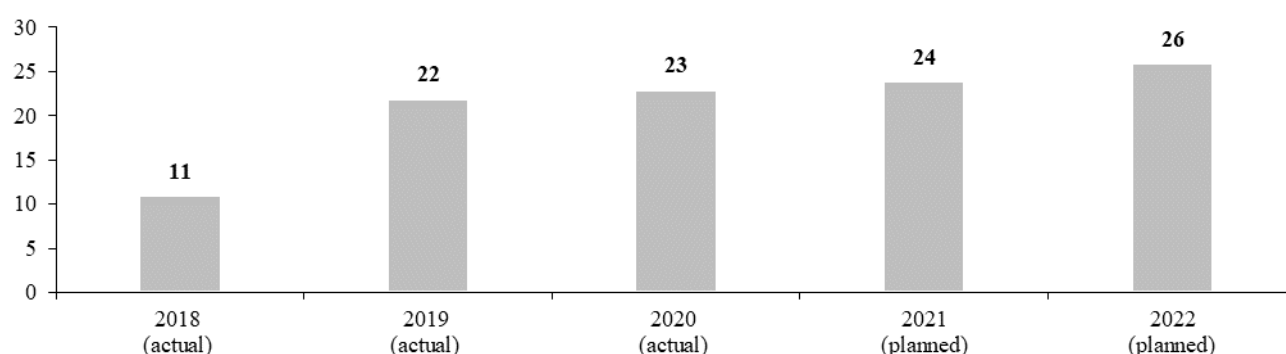


## Legislative mandates

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

*General Assembly resolutions*

| | |
|---|---|
| 71/313 | Work of the Statistical Commission pertaining to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development |

*Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme decisions*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| SS.VIII/1, sect. II | Implementation of decision SS.VII/1 on international environmental governance: strengthening the scientific base of the United Nations Environment Programme | SS.XII/6 | World environmental situation |
| SS.X/5 | Global Environment Outlook: environment for development | 25/1, sect. II | Implementation of decision SS.VII/1 on international environmental governance: strengthening the scientific base of the United Nations Environment Programme |

*United Nations Environment Assembly ministerial declarations and decisions*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Decision 3/1 | Extension of the delivery date for the sixth Global Environment Outlook report | | fourth session: innovative solutions for environmental challenges and sustainable consumption and production |
| UNEP/EA.4/HLS.1 | Ministerial declaration of the United Nations Environment Assembly at its | | |

## Deliverables

14.162    Table 14.12 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2020–2022 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 14.12
**Subprogramme 7: deliverables for the period 2020–2022, by category and subcategory**

| Category and subcategory | 2020 planned | 2020 actual | 2021 planned | 2022 planned |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **B.  Generation and transfer of knowledge** | | | | |
| **Field and technical cooperation projects** (number of projects) | **2** | **2** | **9** | **9** |
| 1.  Projects on keeping the environment under review | 1 | 1 | 6 | 6 |
| 2.  Projects on supporting the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| **Seminars, workshops and training events** (number of days) | **2** | **2** | **–** | **2** |
| 3.  Seminar on keeping the environment under review | 2 | 2 | – | 2 |
| **Publications** (number of publications) | **1** | **1** | **1** | **2** |
| 4.  Global reports on keeping the environment under review | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| **Technical materials** (number of materials) | **1** | **5** | **3** | **3** |
| 5.  Technical materials on early warning and assessments | 1 | 5 | 3 | 3 |

**C.  Substantive deliverables**

**Consultation, advice and advocacy**: consultation with some 20 Member States and other entities and stakeholders on methodology development and capacity development in the area of data collection methodologies relating to the Sustainable Development Goals; advice to at least 20 Member States and stakeholders on strengthening the science-policy interface; and advice to at least 20 Member States and stakeholders on implementing national environmental information systems.

**Databases and substantive digital materials**: World Environment Situation Room; Online Access to Research in the Environment; and Global Environment Monitoring System/Air Programme.

**D.  Communication deliverables**

**Digital platforms and multimedia content**: web pages, attracting some 10,000 visitors annually; multimedia material and audio, video and social media content on the scientific work of UNEP, which are utilized by Member States, stakeholders and the public on open data platforms.

# Annex

## Programme performance for 2020[1]

### Subprogramme 2
### Resilience to disasters and conflicts

A.1    Programme performance in 2020 includes programme performance presented under results 1 and 2, as well as result 3, which emerged during 2020.

**Result 1: state-of-environment reports[2]**

A.2    The subprogramme has continued work related to supporting Member States with knowledge products that facilitate the sound management of natural resources, in line with its mandate, through the provision of state-of-environment reports on post-conflict recovery and sound environmental governance. The subprogramme also expanded this support with the release of a report on the state of the environment and outlook for the Government of the Sudan, enhancing the availability of actionable environmental data to policymakers.

A.3    The above-mentioned work contributed to the development of state-of-environment reports for post-conflict recovery and sound environmental governance, which met the planned target of three countries that have developed state-of-environment reports reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (see figure A.I).

Figure A.I
**Performance measure: total number of countries that have developed state-of-environment reports (cumulative)**
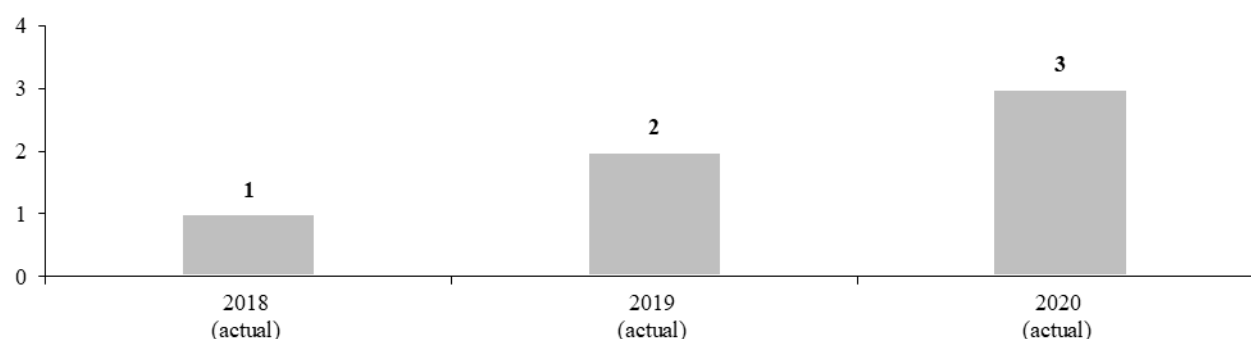


**Result 2: enhanced United Nations action on disaster-related environmental crises[3]**

A.4    The subprogramme has provided advisory and technical support to the new resident coordinator system of the United Nations in countries affected by disasters and conflicts, contributing to the enhanced delivery mechanism, in line with the United Nations reform process and the strengthening of the resident coordinator system, creating opportunities to exponentially increase the ability to provide core environmental expertise and support services to a larger number of Member States. New support provided includes advisory and technical assistance in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel.

A.5    The above-mentioned work contributed to eight ongoing projects meeting requests for environmental risk reduction, response and recovery support made by Member States through United Nations

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[1]    As outlined in paragraph 14.3, the present report reflects a realignment of the programme structure for 2022. For that reason, programme performance information for 2020 for subprogramme 2, Resilience to disasters and conflicts, which will no longer be a stand-alone subprogramme as of 2022, is included in the present annex.

[2]    As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect. 14)).

[3]    As reflected in the programme budget for 2021 (A/75/6/Add.1).

resident coordinators, special missions and country offices, which exceeded the planned target of seven reflected in the programme budget for 2021 (see figure A.II).

Figure A.II
**Performance measure: number of ongoing projects meeting requests for environmental risk reduction, response and recovery support made by Member States through United Nations resident coordinators, special missions and country offices (annual)**
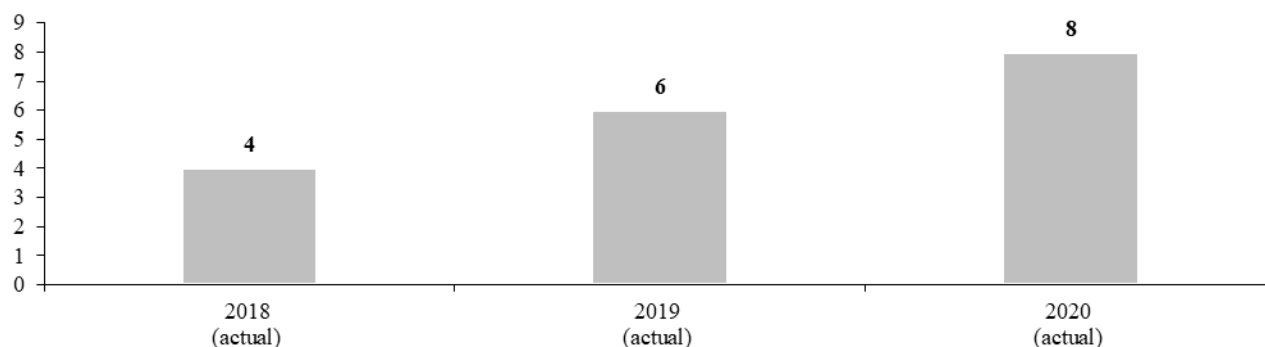


**Result 3: supporting the pandemic response**

A.6     The subprogramme has adapted its capacity to support the global response of the United Nations, international partners and Member States to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The capacity of the subprogramme was harnessed to deliver and support global remote webinar training and capacity-building. Three new online training sessions for relevant stakeholders were established following the outbreak of the pandemic. The training helped partners and stakeholders to integrate the environmental dimensions, such as environmentally safe waste management, into planning their COVID-19 response.

*Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure*

A.7     The above-mentioned work contributed to the objective, as demonstrated by the conduct of a global training event on COVID-19 and waste management that drew 1,300 participants from 135 countries; a webinar for the Asia-Pacific region that drew 450 participants from 46 countries; and a global webinar on COVID-19 and environmental emergencies that drew 1,500 participants from 150 countries (see figure A.III).

Figure A.III
**Performance measure: total number participants in online training sessions (cumulative)**
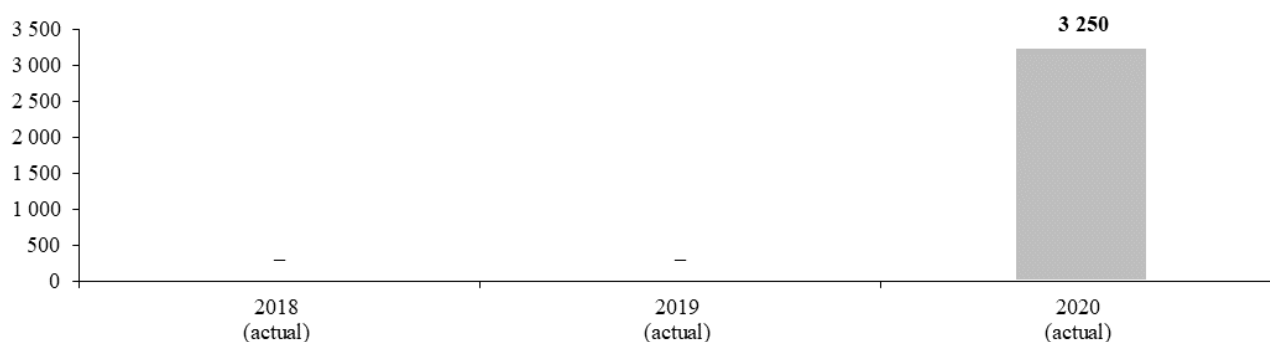
## Deliverables

A.8    The table below lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for 2020 and 2021 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective.

**Subprogramme 2: deliverables for 2020 and 2021, by category and subcategory** [4]

| Category and subcategory | 2020 planned | 2020 actual | 2021 planned | 2022 planned |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **B. Generation and transfer of knowledge** | | | | |
| **Field and technical cooperation projects** (number of projects) | **2** | **2** | **4** | **–** |
| 1.  Projects to assess environmental risks from disasters and conflicts | 1 | 1 | 2 | – |
| 2.  Projects on institutional and legal frameworks to improve national and local preparedness to mitigate environmental risks from disasters and conflicts | 1 | 1 | 2 | – |
| **Publications** (number of publications) | **2** | **2** | **2** | **–** |
| 3.  Publications on disaster risk reduction, preparedness assessments and road maps | 2 | 2 | 2 | – |
| **C. Substantive deliverables** | | | | |
| **Consultation, advice and advocacy**: advice to humanitarian and military actors on environmental footprint reduction. | | | | |
| **D. Communication deliverables** | | | | |
| **Outreach programmes, special events and information materials**: expert advice to Member States from all regions and to international partners, upon request, on the monitoring and implementation of strategies to enhance environmental risk reduction, environmental emergency response and environmental recovery and to make progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. | | | | |

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[4] The deliverables are also included in table 14.1.

## B.    Proposed post and non-post resource requirements for 2022

### Overview

14.163    As reflected in paragraph 14.3, the programmatic structure of UNEP reflects the proposed changes in the subprogrammes. Accordingly, the proposed programme budget for 2022 includes proposed redeployments of posts and non-post resources, on a cost-neutral basis, from the current subprogramme 2, Resilience to disasters and conflicts, to the new subprogramme 2, Digital transformations, as reflected in table 14.16 (1).

14.164    The proposed regular budget resources for 2022, including the breakdown of resource changes, as applicable, are reflected in tables 14.13 to 14.15.

Table 14.13
**Overall: evolution of financial resources by object of expenditure**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

| | | | Changes | | | | | |
| Object of expenditure | 2020 expenditure[a] | 2021 appropriation | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | 2022 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Post | 20 152.3 | 21 782.4 | – | – | – | – | – | 21 782.4 |
| Other staff costs | 18.1 | 216.6 | (198.6) | – | 0.4 | (198.2) | (91.5) | 18.4 |
| Hospitality | – | 19.6 | (19.4) | – | 0.2 | (19.2) | (98.0) | 0.4 |
| Consultants | 481.6 | 341.5 | – | – | – | – | – | 341.5 |
| Travel of representatives | 0.5 | 63.4 | – | – | – | – | – | 63.4 |
| Travel of staff | 22.4 | 151.6 | – | – | – | – | – | 151.6 |
| Contractual services | 143.9 | 229.2 | – | – | (1.2) | (1.2) | (0.5) | 228.0 |
| General operating expenses | 1 012.1 | 548.5 | (188.3) | – | – | (188.3) | (34.3) | 360.2 |
| Supplies and materials | 0.3 | 19.6 | – | – | – | – | – | 19.6 |
| Furniture and equipment | 36.1 | 21.8 | – | – | 0.6 | 0.6 | 2.8 | 22.4 |
| Grants and contributions | 38.1 | 326.2 | – | – | – | – | – | 326.2 |
| Other | 4.5 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| **Total** | **21 909.9** | **23 720.4** | **(406.3)** | **–** | **–** | **(406.3)** | **(1.7)** | **23 314.1** |

[a] At the time of reporting, the expenditures presented in this table and subsequent tables are not final and may be subject to adjustments that could result in minor differences between the information contained in the present report and the financial statements to be published by 31 March 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); LL, Local level; USG, Under-Secretary-General.

Table 14.14
**Overall: proposed posts and post changes for 2022**[a]
(Number of posts)

| | Number | Details |
|---|---|---|
| Approved for 2021 | 113 | 1 USG, 1 ASG, 4 D-2, 11 D-1, 26 P-5, 40 P-4, 13 P-3, 1 P-2/1, 1 GS (PL), 5 GS (OL), 10 LL |
| Redeployment | – | 1 D-1, 1 P-5, 4 P-4, 1 P-3, 1 LL from the current subprogramme 2 to the new subprogramme 2 |
| Proposed for 2022 | 113 | 1 USG, 1 ASG, 4 D-2, 11 D-1, 26 P-5, 40 P-4, 13 P-3, 1 P-2/1, 1 GS (PL), 5 GS (OL), 10 LL |

[a] More information on post changes is reflected in annex III.

Table 14.15
**Overall: proposed posts by category and grade**
(Number of posts)

| | | Changes | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Category and grade | 2021 approved | Technical adjustments | New/expanded mandates | Other | Total | 2022 proposed |
| **Professional and higher** | | | | | | |
| USG | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| ASG | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| D-2 | 4 | – | – | – | – | 4 |
| D-1 | 11 | – | – | – | – | 11 |
| P-5 | 26 | – | – | – | – | 26 |
| P-4 | 40 | – | – | – | – | 40 |
| P-3 | 13 | – | – | – | – | 13 |
| P-2/1 | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| **Subtotal** | **97** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **97** |
| **General Service and related** | | | | | | |
| GS (PL) | 1 | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| GS (OL) | 5 | – | – | – | – | 5 |
| LL | 10 | – | – | – | – | 10 |
| **Subtotal** | **16** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **16** |
| **Total** | **113** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **113** |

14.165    Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2022 are reflected in tables 14.16 to 14.18 and figure 14.XXII.

14.166    As reflected in tables 14.16 (1) and 14.17 (1), the overall resources proposed for 2022 amount to $23,314,100 before recosting, reflecting a net decrease of $406,300 (or 1.7 per cent) compared with the appropriation for 2021. Resource changes result from two factors, namely: (a) technical adjustments; and (b) other changes. The proposed level of resources provides for the full, efficient and effective implementation of mandates.

Table 14.16
## Overall: evolution of financial resources by source of funding, component and subprogramme

(Thousands of United States dollars)

### (1)    Regular budget

| Component/subprogramme | 2020 expenditure | 2021 appropriation | Changes Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | 2022 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A. Policymaking organs | 7.8 | 414.7 | (406.3) | – | – | (406.3) | (98.0) | 8.4 |
| B. Executive direction and management | 3 826.0 | 4 241.3 | – | – | – | – | – | 4 241.3 |
| C. Programme of work | | | | | | | | |
| *2021 programmatic structure (mainstreamed into other subprogrammes)* | | | | | | | | |
| 2. Resilience to disasters and conflicts | 1 433.3 | 1 545.9 | – | – | (1 545.9) | (1 545.9) | (100.0) | – |
| *2022 programmatic structure* | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Climate action (formerly subprogramme 1, Climate change) | 2 229.3 | 2 254.5 | – | – | – | – | – | 2 254.5 |
| 2. Digital transformations | – | – | – | – | 1 545.9 | 1 545.9 | – | 1 545.9 |
| 3. Nature action (formerly subprogramme 3, Healthy and productive ecosystems) | 2 372.7 | 2 611.9 | – | – | – | – | – | 2 611.9 |
| 4. Environmental governance | 4 440.2 | 4 650.8 | – | – | – | – | – | 4 650.8 |
| 5. Chemicals and pollution action (formerly subprogramme 5, Chemicals, waste and air quality) | 1 896.7 | 1 799.4 | – | – | – | – | – | 1 799.4 |
| 6. Finance and economic transformations (formerly subprogramme 6, Resource efficiency) | 1 807.6 | 1 974.4 | – | – | – | – | – | 1 974.4 |
| 7. Science policy (formerly subprogramme 7, Environment under review) | 2 707.1 | 3 041.9 | – | – | – | – | – | 3 041.9 |
| **Subtotal, C** | **16 886.9** | **17 878.8** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **17 878.8** |
| D. Programme support | 1 189.3 | 1 185.6 | – | – | – | – | – | 1 185.6 |
| **Subtotal, 1** | **21 909.9** | **23 720.4** | **(406.3)** | **–** | **–** | **(406.3)** | **(1.7)** | **23 314.1** |

### (2)    Extrabudgetary

| Component/subprogramme | 2020 expenditure | 2021 estimate | Change | Percentage | 2022 estimate |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A. Policymaking organs | 1 920.0 | 2 210.0 | 50.0 | 2.3 | 2 260.0 |
| B. Executive direction and management | 4 581.0 | 4 265.0 | 435.0 | 10.2 | 4 700.0 |
| C. Programme of work | | | | | |
| *2021 programmatic structure (mainstreamed into other subprogrammes)* | | | | | |
| 2. Resilience to disasters and conflicts | 18 870.8 | 19 125.0 | (19 125.0) | (100.0) | – |
| *2022 programmatic structure* | | | | | |
| 1. Climate action (formerly subprogramme 1, Climate change) | 164 162.9 | 129 570.0 | (16 720.0) | (12.9) | 112 850.0 |
| 2. Digital transformations | – | – | 21 350.0 | – | 21 350.0 |

| Component/subprogramme | 2020 expenditure | 2021 estimate | | Change | Percentage | 2022 estimate |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3.  Nature action (formerly subprogramme 3, Healthy and productive ecosystems) | 96 007.7 | 93 205.0 | | 7 895.0 | 8.5 | 101 100.0 |
| 4.  Environmental governance | 21 677.0 | 36 105.0 | | (8 505.0) | (23.6) | 27 600.0 |
| 5.  Chemicals and pollution action (formerly subprogramme 5, Chemicals, waste and air quality) | 50 448.9 | 67 470.0 | | (5 920.0) | (8.8) | 61 550.0 |
| 6.  Finance and economic transformations (formerly subprogramme 6, Resource efficiency) | 32 649.6 | 46 955.0 | | (7 355.0) | (15.7) | 39 600.0 |
| 7.  Science policy (formerly subprogramme 7, Environment under review) | 17 721.5 | 17 965.0 | | 4 035.0 | 22.5 | 22 000.0 |
| **Subtotal, C** | **401 538.4** | **410 395.0** | | **(24 345.0)** | **(5.9)** | **386 050.0** |
| D.  Programme support | 20 708.8 | 18 595.0 | | 1 305.0 | 7.0 | 19 900.0 |
| **Subtotal, 2** | **428 748.2** | **435 465.0** | | **(22 555.0)** | **(5.2)** | **412 910.0** |
| **Total** | **450 658.1** | **459 185.4** | | **(22 961.3)** | **(5.0)** | **436 224.1** |

Table 14.17
## Overall: proposed posts for 2022 by source of funding, component and subprogramme
(Number of posts)

   (1)    *Regular budget*

| Component/subprogramme | 2021 approved | Changes | | | | 2022 proposed |
| | | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A.  Policymaking organs | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| B.  Executive direction and management | 22 | – | – | – | – | 22 |
| C.  Programme of work | | | | | | |
| *2021 programmatic structure (mainstreamed into other subprogrammes)* | | | | | | |
| 2.  Resilience to disasters and conflicts | 8 | – | – | (8) | (8) | – |
| *2022 programmatic structure* | | | | | | |
| 1.  Climate action (formerly subprogramme 1, Climate change) | 10 | – | – | – | – | 10 |
| 2.  Digital transformations | – | – | – | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| 3.  Nature action (formerly subprogramme 3, Healthy and productive ecosystems) | 13 | – | – | – | – | 13 |
| 4.  Environmental governance | 23 | – | – | – | – | 23 |
| 5.  Chemicals and pollution action (formerly subprogramme 5, Chemicals, waste and air quality) | 9 | – | – | – | – | 9 |
| 6.  Finance and economic transformations (formerly subprogramme 6, Resource efficiency) | 11 | – | – | – | – | 11 |
| 7.  Science policy (formerly subprogramme 7, Environment under review) | 12 | – | – | – | – | 12 |
| **Subtotal, C** | **86** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **86** |

| Component/subprogramme | 2021 approved | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | 2022 proposed |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | *Changes* | | | |
| D.  Programme support | 5 | – | – | – | – | 5 |
| **Subtotal, 1** | **113** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **113** |

### (2)   *Extrabudgetary*

| Component/subprogramme | 2021 estimate | Change | 2022 estimate |
|---|---|---|---|
| A.  Policymaking organs | 12 | – | 12 |
| B.  Executive direction and management | 27 | – | 27 |
| C.  Programme of work | | | |
| *2021 programmatic structure (mainstreamed into other subprogrammes)* | | | |
| 2.   Resilience to disasters and conflicts | 44 | (44) | – |
| *2022 programmatic structure* | | | |
| 1.   Climate action (formerly subprogramme 1, Climate change) | 171 | – | 171 |
| 2.   Digital transformation | – | 44 | 44 |
| 3.   Nature action (formerly subprogramme 3, Healthy and productive ecosystems) | 117 | – | 117 |
| 4.   Environmental governance | 113 | – | 113 |
| 5.   Chemicals and pollution action (formerly subprogramme 5, Chemical, waste and air quality) | 132 | – | 132 |
| 6.   Finance and economic transformations (formerly subprogramme 6, Resource efficiency) | 100 | – | 100 |
| 7.   Science policy (formerly subprogramme 7, Environment under review) | 74 | – | 74 |
| **Subtotal, C** | **751** | **–** | **751** |
| D.  Programme support | 90 | – | 90 |
| **Subtotal, 2** | **880** | **–** | **880** |
| **Total** | **993** | **–** | **993** |

Table 14.18
## Overall: evolution of financial and post resources
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

| | 2020 expenditure | 2021 appropriation | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | 2022 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | *Changes* | | | | |
| **Financial resources by main category of expenditure** | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 20 152.3 | 21 782.4 | – | – | – | – | – | 21 782.4 |
| Non-post | 1 757.6 | 1 938.0 | (406.3) | – | – | (406.3) | (1.7) | 1 531.7 |
| **Total** | **21 909.9** | **23 720.4** | **(406.3)** | **–** | **–** | **(406.3)** | **(1.7)** | **23 314.1** |

| | | | Changes | | | | | 2022 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2020 expenditure | 2021 appropriation | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | |
| **Post resources by category** | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 97 | – | – | – | – | – | 97 |
| General Service and related | | 16 | – | – | – | – | – | 16 |
| **Total** | | **113** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **113** |

Figure 14.XXII
**Distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)**
(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)
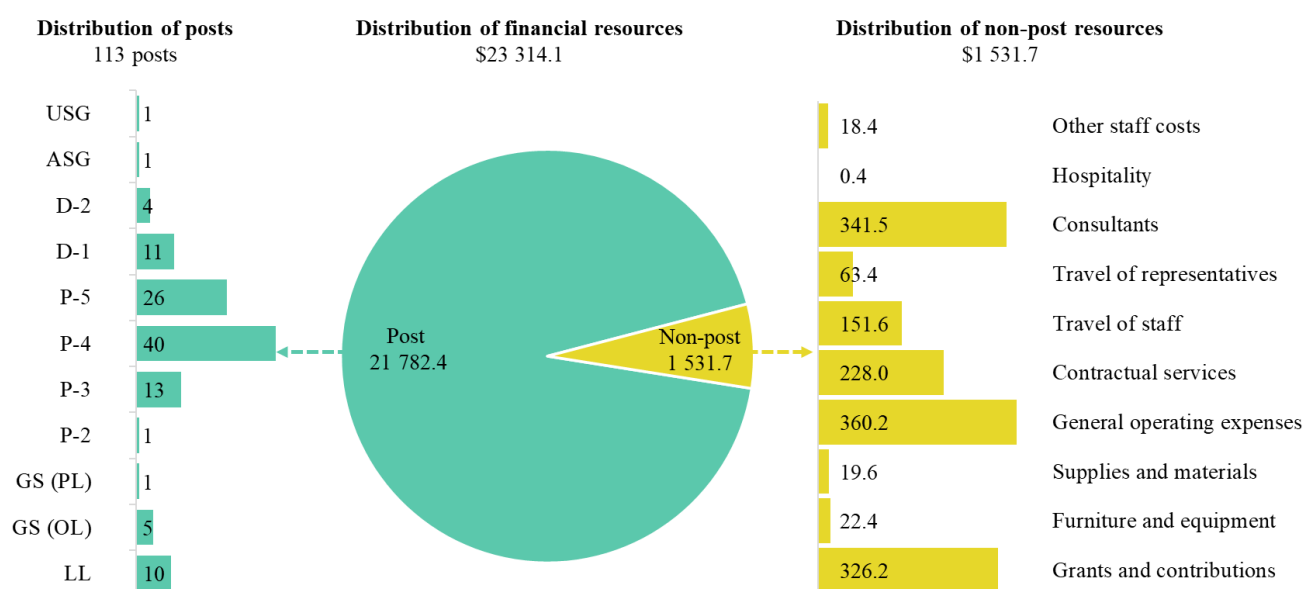


## Explanation of variances by factor, component and subprogramme

## Overall resource changes

### Technical adjustments

14.167    As reflected in table 14.16 (1), resource changes reflect a net decrease of $406,300, as follows:

> **Policymaking organs**. The decrease of $406,300 reflects the removal of non-recurrent resources for other staff costs ($198,600), hospitality ($19,400) and general operating expenses ($188,300) required for the United Nations Environment Assembly, which takes place every odd year. As such, the resource requirements will be included in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

### Other changes

14.168    As reflected in table 14.16 (1), resource changes relate to the realignment of the programmatic structure of UNEP, within its existing mandate, as approved by the United Nations Environment Assembly through its decision 5/2. They reflect a net zero financial impact. It is proposed that the current subprogramme 2, Resilience to disasters and conflicts, will no longer be a stand-alone subprogramme but will be mainstreamed into the other subprogrammes, and that a new subprogramme 2, Digital

transformations, will be established to function as an enabling subprogramme within the existing mandates of UNEP. The resource changes are reflected under the following subprogrammes:

*2021 programmatic structure (mainstreamed into other subprogrammes)*

(a)   **Subprogramme 2, Resilience to disasters and conflicts**. The decrease of $1,545,900 reflects the outward redeployment of resources to the new subprogramme 2, Digital transformations, as follows:

  (i)   Eight posts ($1,474,400), as detailed in annex III;

  (ii)  Non-post resources, including consultants ($17,700), travel of staff ($6,900), contractual services ($12,000), general operating expenses ($30,200), supplies and materials ($2,100) and furniture and equipment ($2,600);

*2022 programmatic structure*

(b)   **Subprogramme 2, Digital transformations**. The increase of $1,545,900 reflects the inward redeployment of resources from subprogramme 2, Resilience to disasters and conflicts, as follows:

  (i)   Eight posts ($1,474,400), as detailed in annex III;

  (ii)  Non-post resources, including consultants ($17,700), travel of staff ($6,900), contractual services ($12,000), general operating expenses ($30,200), supplies and materials ($2,100) and furniture and equipment ($2,600).

## Extrabudgetary resources

14.169   As reflected in tables 14.16 (2) and 14.17 (2), UNEP expects to continue to receive both cash and in-kind contributions, which would complement regular budget resources. In 2022, extrabudgetary resources are estimated at $412,910,000 and would provide for 880 posts, as presented in table 14.17 (2). Post and non-post resources would be used mainly to address key environmental challenges through subprogramme 1, Climate action, subprogramme 3, Nature action, and subprogramme 5, Chemicals and pollution action, in the context of sustainable consumption and production, while at the same time contributing to global recovery in a post-COVID-19 world. Examples of such projects include, but are not limited to: (a) enhancing climate information and knowledge services for resilience in five island countries of the Pacific Ocean; (b) addressing ecosystem degradation and rapid biodiversity loss to build the resilience of landscapes and seascapes, with ecosystem integrity and conservation being leveraged as assets and tools for disaster risk reduction and greater social resilience; and (c) enhancing capacity and leadership in the sound management of chemicals and waste to optimize human health and environmental outcomes. All these projects fall under subprogramme 1, Climate action, subprogramme 3, Nature action, and subprogramme 5, Chemicals and pollution action. In addition, under subprogramme 2, Digital transformations, technical cooperation projects funded by extrabudgetary resources are anticipated to strengthen the environmental digital literacy and e-governance capacities of diverse stakeholders to engage in the environmental dimensions of digital transformation, with an emphasis on the global South. Under subprogramme 4, Environmental governance, the extrabudgetary resources are planned to be used in various areas including, but not limited to, developing and implementing the environmental rule of law and identifying integrated legal and policy responses that promote participatory and effective environmental decision-making. Under subprogramme 6, Finance and economic transformations, the extrabudgetary resources are planned to be used to promote sustainable patterns of consumption and production by enhancing finance and economic transformation policy approaches, shifting business and investment practices, and leveraging public, private and citizen consumer behaviour. Under subprogramme 7, Science policy, the extrabudgetary resources are planned to be used to increase the uptake of science for transformative action; provide authoritative science, delivered with greater coherence and integration; close the gap regarding the availability of environmental data for the achievement of the

Sustainable Development Goals; foster synergies among the various multilateral environmental agreements; digitize scientific knowledge and democratize availability while anticipating emerging issues through foresight and horizon scanning; and develop an inclusive science-policy interface that speaks to all, particularly for environmental indicators that remain without internationally established methodologies and standards. Extrabudgetary resources represent 94.7 per cent of the total resources for this section. The estimates are in line with the priorities and deliverables approved by the United Nations Environment Assembly for the programme of work for the biennium 2022–2023.

14.170    The extrabudgetary resources under this section are subject to the oversight of the United Nations Environment Assembly.

## Policymaking organs

14.171    The resources proposed under this component would provide for requirements relating to the annual meeting of the subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives. The decrease of $406,300 compared with the appropriation for 2021 relates to the resources required for the United Nations Environment Assembly, which holds a biennial session in odd years. As such, the resource requirements for the Environment Assembly will be included in the proposed programme budget for 2023. However, through existing resources, and until the normal cycle of sessions of the United Nations Environment Assembly in odd years is restored in 2023, UNEP will support the decision taken at the online meeting of the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly to adjourn the session and resume it as an in-person meeting from 28 February to 2 March 2022, preceded by a resumed meeting of the fifth session of the Open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives. Table 14.19 provides information on the standing intergovernmental organs and related resource requirements under the regular budget.

Table 14.19
**Policymaking organs**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

| Policymaking organ | Description | Additional information | 2021 appropriation | 2022 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| United Nations Environment Assembly | The United Nations Environment Assembly is the governing body of UNEP and has the mandate to take strategic decisions, provide political guidance for the work of UNEP and promote a strong science-policy interface. It holds biennial sessions, currently every odd year | Mandate: General Assembly resolutions 67/213 and 67/251 and Governing Council decision 27/2 Membership: 193 government officials Number of sessions in 2022: 1 | 312.0 | – |
| Committee of Permanent Representatives | The Committee of Permanent Representatives, as a subsidiary body of the United Nations Environment Assembly, provides policy advice to the Environment Assembly, contributes to the preparation of the agendas for its sessions and the draft decisions it will consider, oversees the implementation of resolutions and the programme of work once they are adopted and prepares the forthcoming programme of work for adoption by it. The Committee holds its regular one-day meetings on a quarterly basis and meets in open-ended form every two years, prior to the Environment Assembly session. | Mandate: Governing Council decision 27/2 Membership: 122 government officials Number of sessions in 2022: 1 | 94.3 | – |

| Policymaking organ | Description | Additional information | 2021 appropriation | 2022 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives | The subcommittee meets annually for five days to review the medium-term strategy, programme of work and budget and to prepare the forthcoming programme of work for adoption by the Environment Assembly. In addition, one- or half-day subcommittee meetings are held once or twice a month to consider specific issues in depth, as needed and upon request. | Mandate: Governing Council decision 27/2<br><br>Membership: 122 government officials<br><br>Number of sessions in 2022: 1 | 8.4 | 8.4 |
| **Total** | | | **414.7** | **8.4** |

14.172   The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to $8,400 and reflect a net decrease of $406,300 compared with the appropriation for 2021. The proposed decrease of $406,300 is explained in paragraph 14.167. Additional details on the distribution of proposed resources for 2022 are reflected in table 14.20 and figure 14.XXIII.

Table 14.20
**Policymaking organs: evolution of financial resources**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

| | 2020 expenditure | 2021 appropriation | Changes | | | | | 2022 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Technical adjustments | New/expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | |
| Non-post | 7.8 | 414.7 | (406.3) | – | – | (406.3) | (98.0) | 8.4 |
| **Total** | **7.8** | **414.7** | **(406.3)** | **–** | **–** | **(406.3)** | **(98.0)** | **8.4** |

Figure 14.XXIII
**Policymaking organs: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)**

(Thousands of United States dollars)



Distribution of financial resources
$8.4

Distribution of non-post resources
$8.4

Non-post
8.4

0.9    Other staff costs

7.5    Contractual services
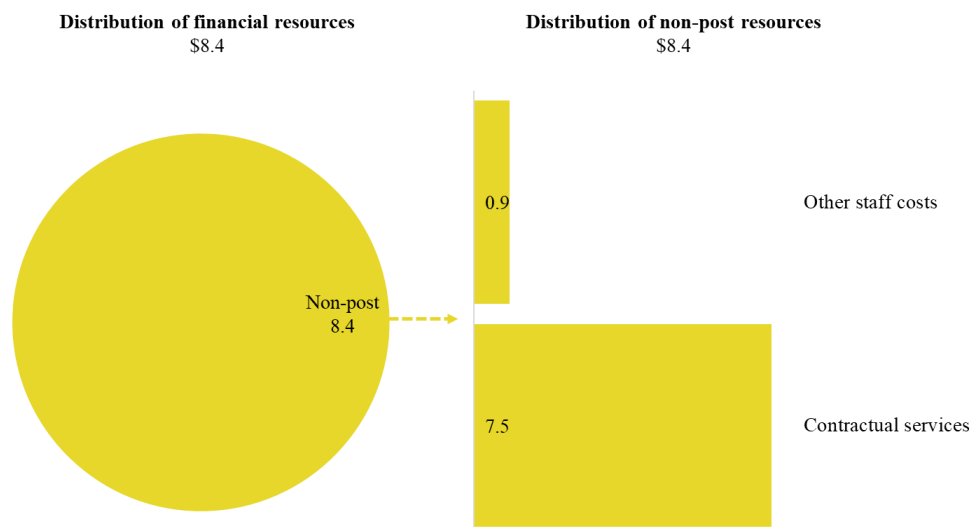
### Extrabudgetary resources

14.173   Extrabudgetary resources for the component are estimated at $2,260,000 and would provide for 12 posts (1 D-1, 1 P-5, 2 P-4, 1 P-3, 1 P-2 and 6 Local level), as well as non-post resources. The resources would be used mainly for activities that strengthen engagement with the governing bodies of UNEP to enhance their visibility, authority and impact on delivery of the organization's mandate. The expected increase of $50,000 is mainly to stimulate and promote the engagement of UNEP with Member States.

## Executive direction and management

14.174   The executive direction and management component is composed of the Office of the Executive Director and the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation. The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to $4,241,300 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of resources in 2022 are reflected in table 14.21 and figure 14.XXIV.

Table 14.21
**Executive direction and management: evolution of financial and post resources**

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

| | 2020 expenditure | 2021 appropriation | Changes | | | | | 2022 estimate (before recosting) |
| | | | Technical adjustments | New/expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Financial resources by main category of expenditure** | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 3 606.0 | 4 049.5 | – | – | – | – | – | 4 049.5 |
| Non-post | 220.0 | 191.8 | – | – | – | – | – | 191.8 |
| **Total** | **3 826.0** | **4 241.3** | – | – | – | – | – | **4 241.3** |
| **Post resources by category** | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 16 | – | – | – | – | – | 16 |
| General Service and related | | 6 | – | – | – | – | – | 6 |
| **Total** | | **22** | – | – | – | – | – | **22** |

Figure 14.XXIV
**Executive direction and management: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)**

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



| Distribution of posts | Distribution of financial resources | Distribution of non-post resources |
|---|---|---|
| 22 posts | $4 241.3 | $191.8 |

USG 1
ASG 1
D-1 3
P-5 4
P-4 3
P-3 4
GS (PL) 1
GS (OL) 1
LL 4

Post 4 049.5    Non-post 191.8

2.2 Other staff costs
0.4 Hospitality
59.3 Consultants
63.4 Travel of representatives
14.4 Travel of staff
35.9 Contractual services
9.0 General operating expenses
2.8 Supplies and materials
4.4 Furniture and equipment
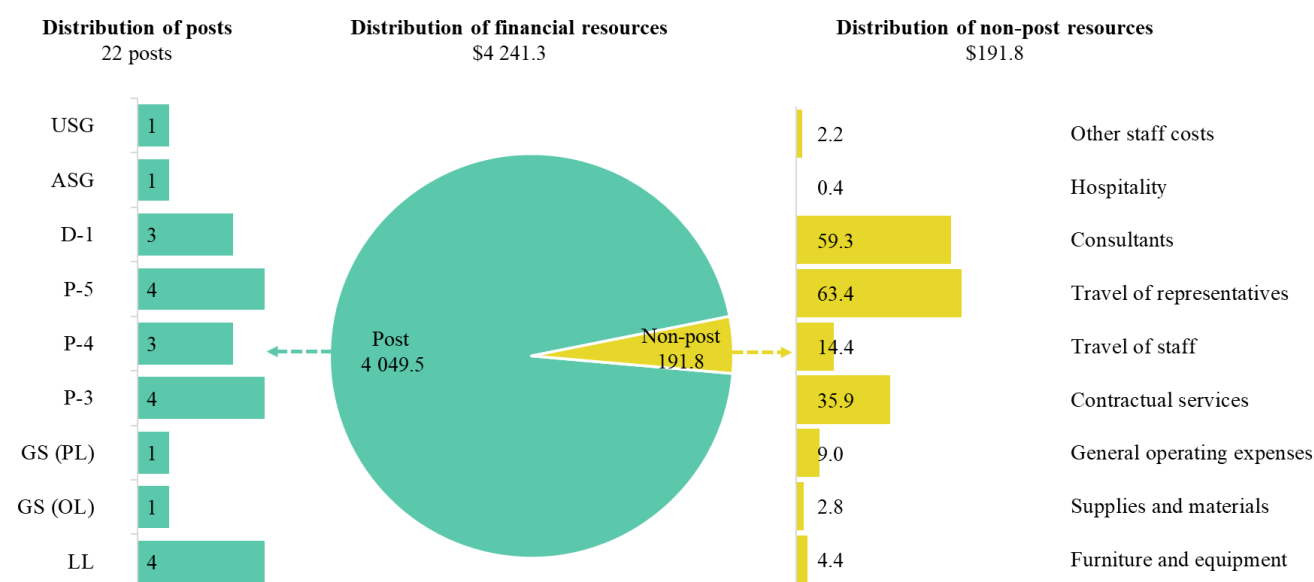
## Office of the Executive Director

14.175    The executive direction and management of UNEP is carried out by the Executive Office, the Governance Affairs Office and an independent Evaluation Office. The Executive Office provides executive and support services to the Executive Director, the Deputy Executive Director and other members of the UNEP senior management team. It provides guidance and policy clearance on all programmatic and administrative matters. The Executive Director, with the support of the Deputy Executive Director, provides the vision and direction for the work of UNEP in accordance with its legislative mandates and has overall responsibility for the management of UNEP resources.

14.176    The Executive Office also has overall responsibility for providing leadership and direction for UNEP to provide guidance on environmental issues within the United Nations system. That guidance will consider assessments of the causes and effects of environmental challenges, as well as emerging issues of global and regional significance. The Executive Office will catalyse international action to bring about a coordinated response both within the United Nations system and between the United Nations and its partners. This will be executed through inter-agency mechanisms such as the United Nations Environment Management Group and the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and its subsidiary bodies. In addition, UNEP will integrate the priorities of the multilateral environmental agreements into those processes to enable the United Nations system to respond to environmental issues in a coordinated manner.

14.177    The Evaluation Office is an independent unit reporting directly to the Executive Director. It is responsible for implementing the evaluation workplan by conducting and managing independent evaluations. It also provides analysis of findings and lessons for management.

14.178    The Programme's transformation process, launched in 2019, increased its internal capacity to deliver more impactful results. Based on this process and on lessons learned, UNEP elaborated a results-oriented and streamlined medium-term strategy for the period 2022–2025 and a programme of work for 2022–2023 that uses data as a critical tool for decision-making. Focusing on the development of indicators that are aligned with organizational objectives to reflect true transformational change, UNEP will engage in project-cycle reform, invest in human resources and build capacity through customized and in-house training and the establishment of technical networks across the organization that can support programme delivery and leverage the outcomes of the United Nations development

system reform. To increase ambition, UNEP will use Sustainable Development Goal indicators or internationally agreed environmental indicators as much as possible in its results framework and strive to monitor change over a term longer than a single biennium or the four years of its strategy. This will be done through employing impact metrics with project performance dashboards and cross-project leader boards to gauge effectiveness and assess the level of uptake of its products and services.

14.179    With regard to inter-agency mechanisms, UNEP will continue to provide a "clear line of sight" for its delivery of the 2030 Agenda from the internationally agreed environmental goals to regional and national action. It will pursue the global aspirations of the Sustainable Development Goals while delivering support in response to national needs and realities and taking account of differing regional integration processes, capacities and levels of development. UNEP will continue to influence global environmental policymaking under the global intergovernmental processes and deliberations of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the Human Rights Council and the Security Council. In 2020, UNEP established a task team that ensured that the necessary actions to support the coherent implementation of the United Nations development system reform at the country, regional and global levels were integrated into the UNEP medium-term strategy for the period 2022–2025. UNEP also contributed to: (a) the decision taken by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination to develop a common approach to integrating biodiversity and nature-based solutions for sustainable development into United Nations policy and programme planning and delivery (14 May 2020); (b) the European Green Deal (26 May 2020); (c) United Nations reform (23 September 2020); and (d) a review of enhanced collaboration between UNEP and the United Nations Development Programme (3 December 2020). As the secretariat and Chair of the United Nations Environment Management Group, UNEP will harness the Group's collective capacity to develop transformational responses for a more sustainable world, including in a post-COVID-19 scenario.

14.180    Following the initial review of the existing Environment Management System at headquarters, UNEP decided on 28 January 2021 to establish a high-level group for the 2020–2024 Environment Management System, update carbon pricing mechanisms to align them with United Nations best practices and review the Environment Management System on an annual basis. UNEP will elaborate innovative measures to embrace digital transformation as a way to accelerate the shift to sustainable consumption and production. UNEP will also build on its core competencies to ensure that science will influence policy for the next decade of action on pollution, climate change and the degradation of nature.

14.181    In accordance with the 2030 Agenda, in particular target 12.6 of the Sustainable Development Goals, in which organizations are encouraged to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycles, and in compliance with the cross-cutting mandate set out in paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution 72/219, and also further to the ban on single-use plastics effective since 2018, UNEP is continuing to integrate environmental management practices into its operations. In 2022, UNEP will continue to look at waste problems, including hazardous waste and the emerging issue of e-waste. In particular, UNEP is working to address a sharp increase in waste associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. In that regard, UNEP has provided technical advice on medical waste management to the Governments of Afghanistan, Haiti, South Sudan and the Sudan, as well as to United Nations peacekeepers. Furthermore, it has published guidelines on the management of health-care waste and municipal solid waste, which have reached thousands of people in more than 150 countries. In Afghanistan, Haiti, India, South Sudan and the Sudan, UNEP has provided governments with practical waste management advice and in South Africa it has supported a COVID-19 needs assessment to inform a national recovery strategy.

14.182    In 2022, UNEP will continue to measure its climate emissions, mitigate them where possible and offset greenhouse gas emissions by means of certificates of emission reduction managed by the carbon offset platform of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

14.183    Information on compliance with the timely submission of documentation and advance booking for air travel is reflected in table 14.22. The reduction in the travel compliance rate is mainly attributed to the travel restrictions and uncertainties arising in 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, UNEP continues to streamline its processes following the issuance of internal guidelines to all staff and continuous improvements in the travel dashboard to assist with monitoring and reporting on the compliance rate.

Table 14.22
**Compliance rate**

(Percentage)

|  | Actual 2019 | Actual 2020 | Planned 2021 | Planned 2022 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Timely submission of documentation | 65 | 85 | 100 | 100 |
| Air tickets purchased at least 2 weeks before the commencement of travel | 61 | 53 | 100 | 100 |

14.184    The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to $3,366,500 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of resources in 2022 are reflected in table 14.23 and figure 14.XXV.

Table 14.23
**Office of the Executive Director: evolution of financial and post resources**

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

|  | 2020 expenditure | 2021 appropriation | Changes | | | | | 2022 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  | Technical adjustments | New/expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage |  |
| **Financial resources by main category of expenditure** | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 2 870.8 | 3 333.6 | – | – | – | – | – | 3 333.6 |
| Non-post | 39.4 | 32.9 | – | – | – | – | – | 32.9 |
| **Total** | **2 910.2** | **3 366.5** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **3 366.5** |
| **Post resources by category** | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher |  | 14 | – | – | – | – | – | 14 |
| General service and related |  | 4 | – | – | – | – | – | 4 |
| **Total** |  | **18** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **18** |

Figure 14.XXV
**Office of the Executive Director: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)**

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



**Distribution of posts**
18 posts

**Distribution of financial resources**
$3 366.5

**Distribution of non-post resources**
$32.9

| Level | Posts |
|---|---|
| USG | 1 |
| ASG | 1 |
| D-1 | 2 |
| P-5 | 3 |
| P-4 | 3 |
| P-3 | 4 |
| LL | 4 |

Post 3 333.6 — Non-post 32.9

| Amount | Category |
|---|---|
| 7.4 | Travel of staff |
| 11.8 | Contractual services |
| 9.0 | General operating expenses |
| 2.4 | Supplies and materials |
| 2.3 | Furniture and equipment |
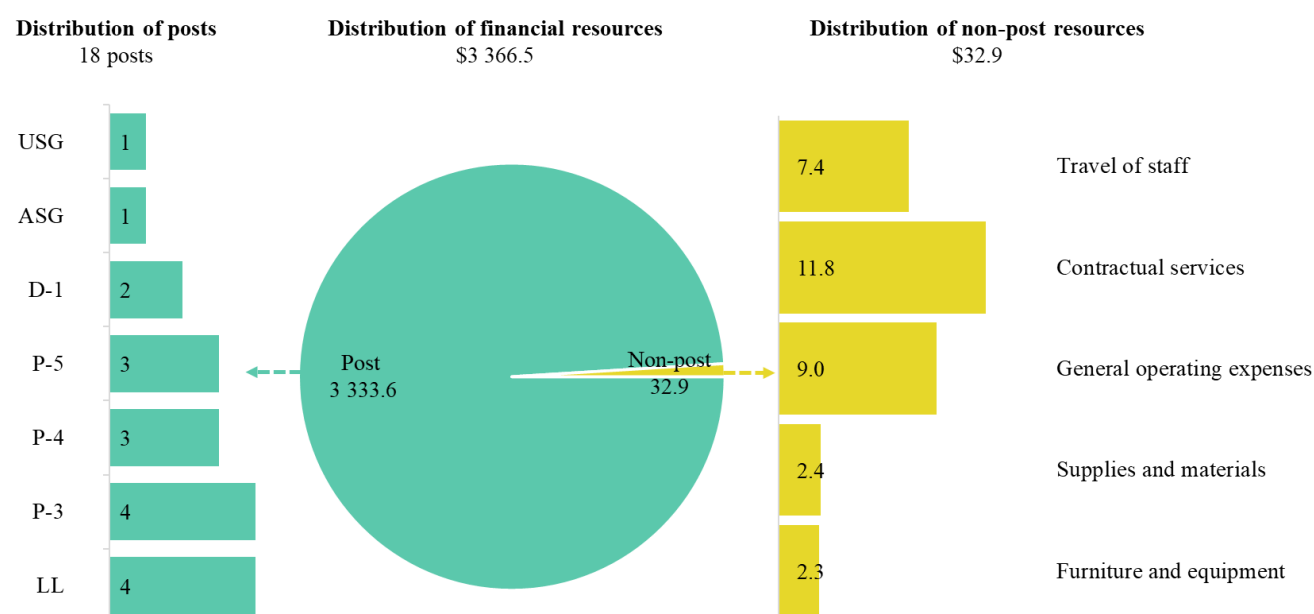
**Extrabudgetary resources**

14.185   Extrabudgetary resources for the component are estimated at $4,700,000 and would provide for 27 posts (1 Assistant Secretary-General, 1 D-1, 5 P-5, 4 P-4, 1 P-3, 1 P-2, 1 General Service (Other level) and 13 Local level), as well as non-post resources. The resources would be used by the Executive Office, with support from the Evaluation Office, to provide executive direction and management, including on strategic, programmatic and administrative matters, as well as to strengthen accountability for the delivery of the medium-term strategy and its related programmes of work, as mandated by the United Nations Environment Assembly, and as set out in the compact between the Executive Director and the Secretary-General. The expected increase of $435,000 is due mainly to the estimated increase in responsibilities required to execute the transformational shifts outlined in the UNEP medium-term strategy for 2022–2025.

## United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation

14.186   The General Assembly, by its resolution 913 (X), established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation to undertake broad scientific evaluations on developing knowledge on sources of ionizing radiation and its effects on human health and the environment. Since 1955, the Scientific Committee has played an important role in improving international scientific understanding of levels of exposure to ionizing radiation and its health and environmental effects and risks, and in establishing the basis for radiation protection worldwide. In its resolution 75/91, the General Assembly reaffirmed its decision to maintain the present functions and independent role of the Committee.

14.187   In the context of the 2030 Agenda, the work of the Scientific Committee contributes to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 3 (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages). Evaluations by the Scientific Committee are conducted on behalf of all States Members of the United Nations and are used to assess the levels and trends of exposure from using radiation in medicine, research, agriculture and industry. The Committee's scientific synthesis of the most up-to-date radiobiological and epidemiological knowledge is fundamental for the international radiation safety regime and underpins international standards for protecting workers, patients and

the public against ionizing radiation. The findings of the Committee also contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 14 (Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development) and Goal 15 (Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss), in particular through its projects to evaluate the levels and effects in the wake of the nuclear accident that occurred after the great east-Japan earthquake and tsunami of 2011 and the white paper on the evaluation of data on thyroid cancer in regions affected by the Chernobyl accident. Through its work, the Committee also contributes to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 17 (Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development) by collaborating and maintaining long-term partnerships with the European Commission, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the International Labour Organization, the World Health Organization and other national and international partners and organizations (such as the Inter-Agency Committee on Radiation Safety).

14.188   As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Bureau and the secretariat postponed the sixty-seventh session of the Scientific Committee from the in-person session originally planned for 13 to 17 July 2020 and held it, in an online format, from 2 to 6 November 2020. It held an online business meeting on 13, 14 and 16 July 2020; it also met, and approved four key documents, in November 2020. Owing to the postponement of the session, the Committee will provide a report on the outcome of its sixty-seventh session to the General Assembly in 2021. To keep the General Assembly informed, on 9 October 2020 the Chair of the Scientific Committee presented to the Fourth Committee a note providing an update on the activities of the Scientific Committee since its sixty-sixth session (A/75/46). After that, the Scientific Committee adopted by means of a silence procedure three evaluation reports and its future programme of work for 2020–2024. It took into consideration the consequences of the pandemic and decided to postpone the implementation of its ongoing and future evaluations by one year. The Committee's report on its sixty-seventh session (A/76/46 (Part I)) will be presented to Member States in April 2021 and will be submitted to the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session, on 15 October 2021, together with its report on its sixty-eighth session, expected to be held from 21 to 25 June 2021.

14.189   With regards to lessons learned, in its report to the General Assembly for its sixty-seventh session the Scientific Committee expressed the following key points:

   (a)   The Scientific Committee acknowledged the significant effort of the Chair and secretariat to conduct the sixty-seventh session and adopted a procedure for taking decisions during the COVID-19 pandemic;

   (b)   In considering the requests of the General Assembly, the Scientific Committee noted the statement by UNEP and strongly encouraged the finalization of the post of Deputy Secretary as soon as possible (pursuant to General Assembly resolution 73/261, adopted on 22 December 2018, and the associated statement of programme budget implications);

   (c)   The three scientific annexes approved by the Committee at its sixty-seventh session will be published in 2021 as annexes to the 2020 report of the Committee: evaluation of medical exposure to ionizing radiation (annex A); levels and effects of radiation exposure due to the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station: implications of information published since the 2013 report of the Scientific Committee (annex B); and biological mechanisms relevant for the inference of cancer risks from low-dose and low-dose-rate radiation (annex C). Annex B was published in March 2021, before the tenth anniversary of the Fukushima accident. These new publications will contribute to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals 3, 14, 15 and 17;

   (d)   Ten parliamentary documents were prepared for review and discussion at the Committee's sixty-seventh session: (i) evaluation of medical exposure to ionizing radiation;[17] (ii) levels and effects of radiation exposure due to the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power

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[17] A/AC.82/R.741 (online meeting with representatives in July 2020) and A/AC.82/R.741/Rev.1 (including the comments of representatives for the sixty-seventh session (2 to 6 November 2020)).

station: implications of information published since the 2013 report of the Scientific Committee;[18] (iii) biological mechanisms relevant for the inference of cancer risks from low-dose and low-dose-rate radiation;[19] (iv) evaluation of occupational exposure to ionizing radiation;[20] (v) second primary cancer after radiotherapy;[21] (vi) epidemiological studies of radiation and cancer;[22] (vii) public exposure due to ionizing radiation from natural and man-made sources;[23] (viii) implementation of the Committee's strategy to improve collection, analysis and dissemination of data on radiation exposure;[24] (ix) implementation of public information and outreach strategy for 2020–2024;[25] and (x) future programme of work (2020–2024).[26]

14.190    The Scientific Committee continues work on three new evaluations. In the period 2019–2020, it launched new studies on second primary cancer after radiotherapy, epidemiological studies of radiation and cancer, and public exposure to ionizing radiation, which are expected to be implemented by 2024. The duration of those projects has been extended in the future programme of work, as mentioned in paragraph 14.188 above. In 2021, the Committee plans to commence a new project on cardiovascular disease from radiation exposure, which will also contribute to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 3.

14.191    In line with General Assembly resolution 75/91, the secretariat continues to maintain and develop the online platform for collecting data from Member States on the exposure of patients, workers and the public, enabling the Committee to monitor trends in such exposure on a regular basis. By the end of 2020, 97 Member States had nominated national contact persons for at least one survey conducted by the Committee,[27] and more than half of States Members of the United Nations had submitted medical and/or occupational exposure data to the Committee by the end of 2019. The new public exposure survey was launched on 1 March 2021, to collect up-to-date data on exposure from natural and other sources worldwide. A significant effort is expected for collection and analysis, which will require detailed evaluations, quality assurance and more frequent expert group meetings in 2022.

14.192    In its resolution 75/91, the General Assembly welcomed the Scientific Committee's outreach strategy for the period 2020–2024, in particular the enhancement of the website of the Committee and the publication of information for the general public in all the official languages of the United Nations, continued to encourage that consideration be given to publishing the website in all of those languages, and noted that the dissemination of the Committee's findings and further enhancements to the website would depend on the financial and human resources made available to the secretariat. In that respect, in 2020 the Scientific Committee's secretariat launched an annual newsletter[28] and in 2021 it published the UNEP booklet, Radiation: Effects and Sources, in Korean. In view of the latest scientific evaluations, the Committee is working to update the booklet, with publication scheduled for 2022. The secretariat will continue its work to update its website (www.unscear.org) and will make its content available in all official languages of the United Nations by 2022.

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[18] A/AC.82/R.742 (online meeting with representatives in July 2020) and A/AC.82/R.742/Rev.1 (including the comments of representatives for the sixty-seventh session (2 to 6 November 2020)).

[19] A/AC.82/R.743 (online meeting with representatives in July 2020) and A/AC.82/R.743/Rev.1 (including the comments of representatives for the sixty-seventh session (2 to 6 November 2020)).

[20] A/AC.82/R.744 (online meeting with representatives in July 2020) and A/AC.82/R.744/Rev.1 (including the comments of representatives for the sixty-seventh session (2 to 6 November 2020)).

[21] A/AC.82/R.745 for the sixty-seventh session (2 to 6 November 2020).

[22] A/AC.82/R.746 for the sixty-seventh session (2 to 6 November 2020).

[23] A/AC.82/R.747 for the sixty-seventh session (2 to 6 November 2020).

[24] UNSCEAR/67/7 (online meeting with representatives in July 2020) and UNSCEAR/67/7/Rev.1 (including the comments of representatives for the sixty-seventh session (2 to 6 November 2020)).

[25] UNSCEAR/67/8 (online meeting with representatives in July 2020) and UNSCEAR/67/8/Rev.1 (including the comments of representatives for the sixty-seventh session (2 to 6 November 2020)).

[26] UNSCEAR/67/9 (online meeting with representatives in July 2020) and UNSCEAR/67/9/Rev.1 (including the comments of representatives for the sixty-seventh session (2 to 6 November 2020)).

[27] Medical, occupational or public exposure.

[28] https://www.unscear.org/docs/media/ISSUED_UNSCEAR_newsletter_20200228.pdf. The next newsletter is scheduled to be issued in April 2021.

14.193    The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to $874,800 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of resources in 2022 are reflected in table 14.24 and figure 14.XXVI.

Table 14.24
**United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation: evolution of financial and post resources**

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

| | | | Changes | | | | | 2022 estimate (before recosting) |
| | 2020 expenditure | 2021 appropriation | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Financial resources by main category of expenditure** | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 735.2 | 715.9 | – | – | – | – | – | 715.9 |
| Non-post | 180.6 | 158.9 | – | – | – | – | – | 158.9 |
| **Total** | **915.8** | **874.8** | – | – | – | – | – | **874.8** |
| **Post resources by category** | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 2 | – | – | – | – | – | 2 |
| General Service and related | | 2 | – | – | – | – | – | 2 |
| **Total** | | **4** | – | – | – | – | – | **4** |

Figure 14.XXVI
**United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)**

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



| Distribution of posts | Distribution of financial resources | Distribution of non-post resources |
| 4 posts | $874.8 | $158.9 |

Distribution of posts:
- D-1: 1
- P-5: 1
- GS (PL): 1
- GS (OL): 1

Distribution of financial resources:
- Post 715.9
- Non-post 158.9

Distribution of non-post resources:
- 2.2 — Other staff costs
- 0.4 — Hospitality
- 59.3 — Consultants
- 63.4 — Travel of representatives
- 7.0 — Travel of staff
- 24.1 — Contractual services
- 0.4 — Supplies and materials
- 2.1 — Furniture and equipment
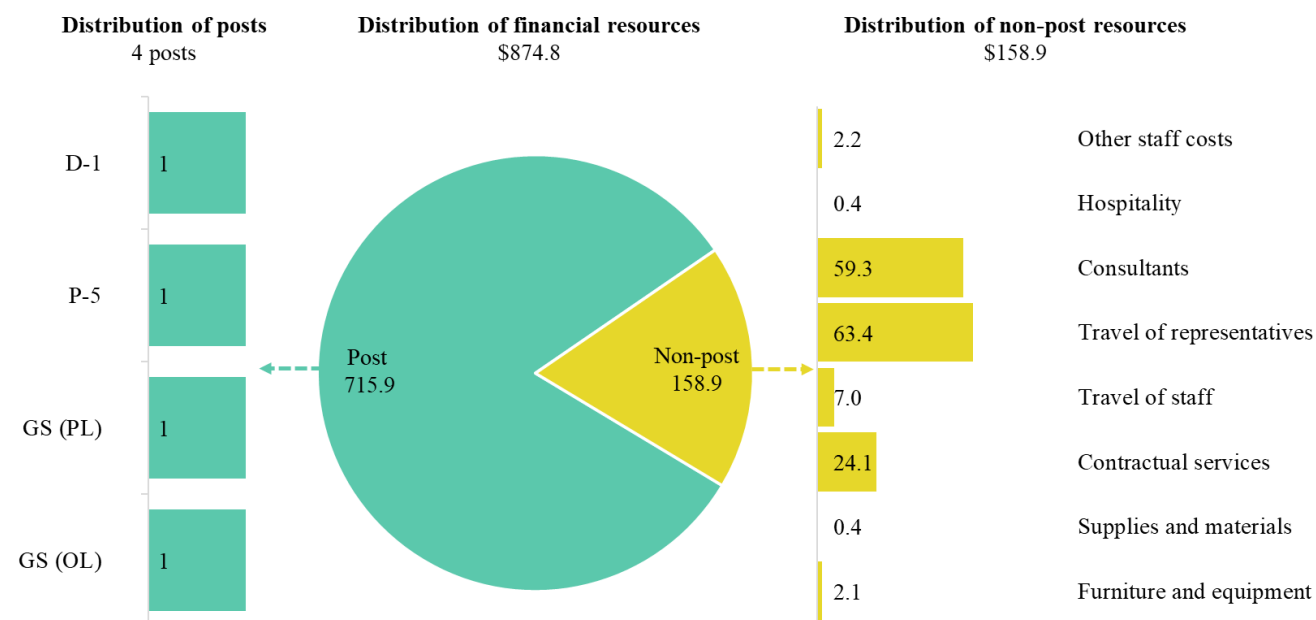
## Programme of work

14.194    The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to $17,878,800 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2021. The distribution of resources by subprogramme is reflected in figure 14.XXVII.

Figure 14.XXVII
**Distribution of proposed resources for 2022 by subprogramme**
(Millions of United States dollars)
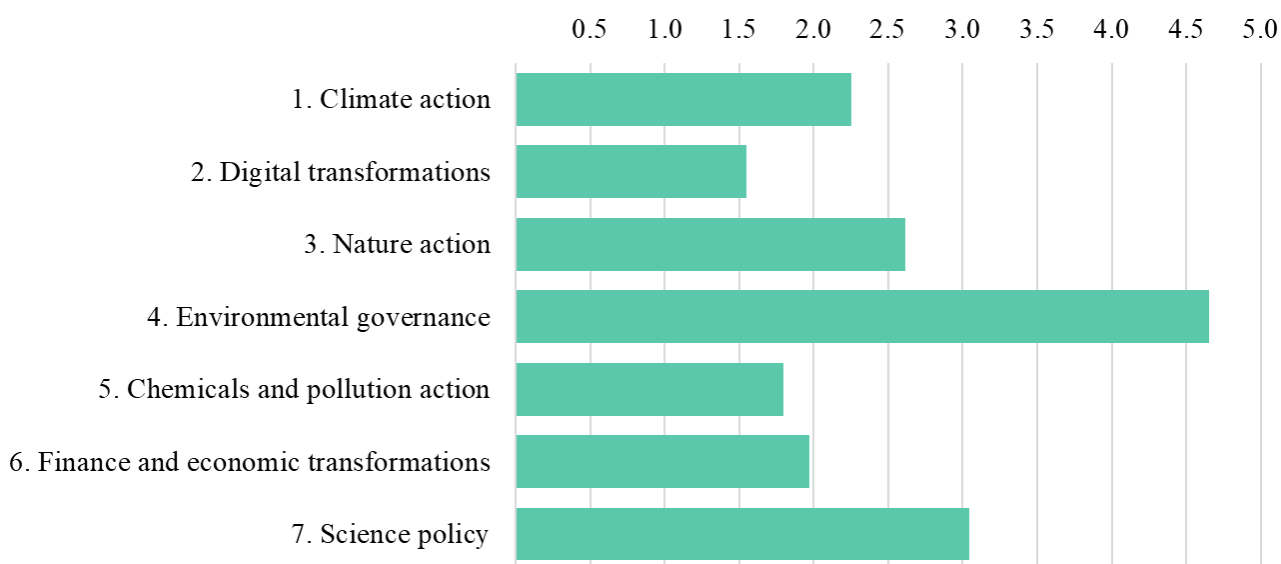


## Subprogramme 1
## Climate action

14.195    The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to $2,254,500 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of resources in 2022 are reflected in table 14.25 and figure 14.XXVIII.

Table 14.25
**Subprogramme 1: evolution of financial and post resources**
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

| | | | Changes | | | | | 2022 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2020 expenditure | 2021 appropriation | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | |
| **Financial resources by main category of expenditure** | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 2 088.7 | 2 140.3 | – | – | – | – | – | 2 140.3 |
| Non-post | 140.7 | 114.2 | – | – | – | – | – | 114.2 |
| **Total** | **2 229.3** | **2 254.5** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **2 254.5** |

|  | 2020 expenditure | 2021 appropriation | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | 2022 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  | *Changes* |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Post resources by category** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Professional and higher |  | 10 | – | – | – | – | – | 10 |
| **Total** |  | **10** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **10** |

Figure 14.XXVIII
**Subprogramme 1: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)**

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Distribution of posts
10 posts

D-1  1
P-5  3
P-4  6

Distribution of financial resources
$2 254.5

Post 2 140.3    Non-post 114.2

Distribution of non-post resources
$114.2

40.2  Consultants
12.4  Travel of staff
17.3  Contractual services
40.4  General operating expenses
1.9   Supplies and materials
2.0   Furniture and equipment

**Extrabudgetary resources**

14.196    Extrabudgetary resources for the subprogramme are estimated at $112,850,000 and would provide for 171 posts (7 D-1, 14 P-5, 28 P-4, 39 P-3, 12 P-2/1, 7 National Professional Officer and 64 Local level), as well as non-post resources. The resources would be used mainly to provide support to facilitate stronger interactions between science, policy, finance, technology and the economy in support of the efforts of countries and stakeholders to cut emissions and their adaptation to climate change. The expected decrease of $16,720,000 is due to the estimated reduction in voluntary contributions as a result of the anticipated effect of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Subprogramme 2
## Digital transformations

14.197    The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to $1,545,900. The proposed change in the resource level of $1,545,900 is explained in paragraph 14.168 (b). Additional details on the distribution of resources in 2022 are reflected in table 14.26 and figure 14.XXIX. The proposed eight posts to be redeployed to subprogramme 2, Digital transformations, pursuant to United Nations Environment Assembly decision 5/2 adopted on 23 February 2021 will undergo a classification exercise to be completed during 2021. The results will be presented in the context of the proposed programme budget for 2023.

Table 14.26
**Subprogramme 2: evolution of financial and post resources**

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

| | | | Changes | | | | | 2022 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2020 expenditure | 2021 appropriation | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | |
| **Financial resources by main category of expenditure** | | | | | | | | |
| Post | – | – | – | – | 1 474.4 | 1 474.4 | – | 1 474.4 |
| Non-post | – | – | – | – | 71.5 | 71.5 | – | 71.5 |
| **Total** | – | – | – | – | **1 545.9** | **1 545.9** | – | **1 545.9** |
| **Post resources by category** | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | – | – | – | 7 | 7 | – | 7 |
| General Service and related | | – | – | – | 1 | 1 | – | 1 |
| **Total** | | – | – | – | **8** | **8** | – | **8** |

Figure 14.XXIX
**Subprogramme 2: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)**

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)
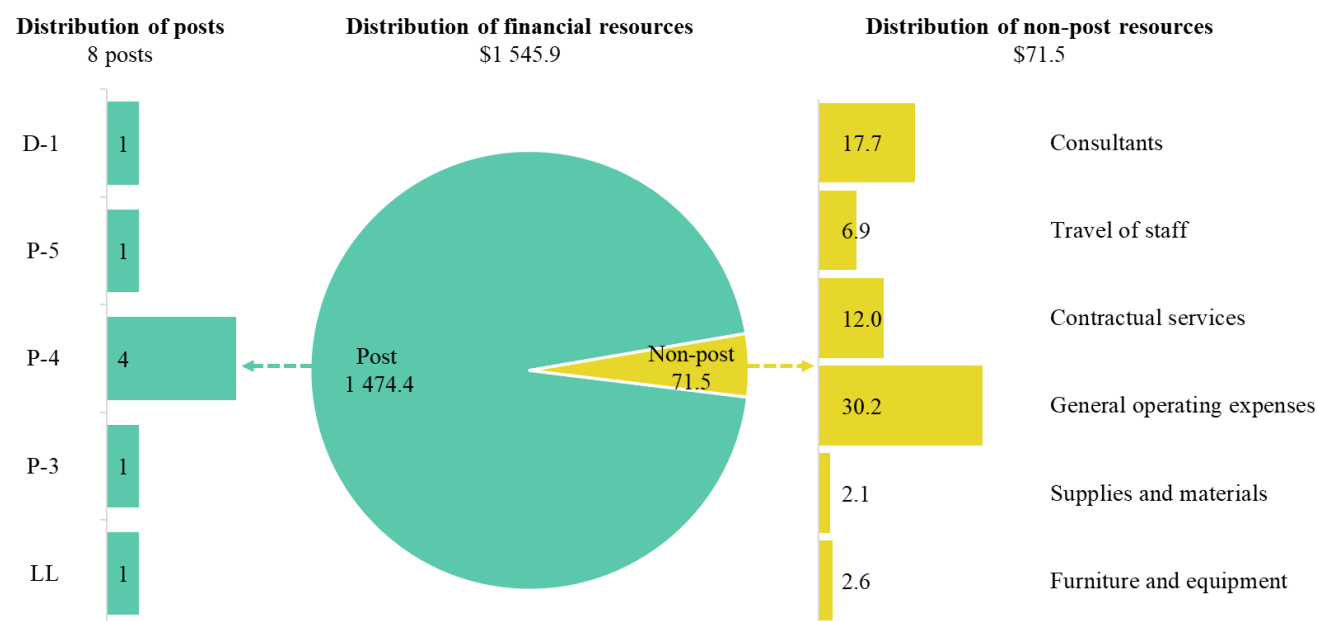


**Extrabudgetary resources**

14.198   Extrabudgetary resources for the subprogramme are estimated at $21,350,000 and would provide for 44 posts (1 D-1, 7 P-5, 11 P-4, 11 P-3 and 14 Local level), as well as non-post resources. The resources would be used mainly for the establishment of the global digital standards, architecture and governance framework needed to integrate data sets and analysis on the environment, as well as for enhancing the digital literacy of UNEP stakeholders, in particular, to leverage data and data analytics to amplify and accelerate contributions to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The resources of $21,350,000 reflect the anticipated voluntary contributions for the proposed new subprogramme 2, Digital transformations, to be introduced in 2022.

## Subprogramme 3
## Nature action

14.199    The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to $2,611,900 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of resources in 2022 are reflected in table 14.27 and figure 14.XXX.

Table 14.27
**Subprogramme 3: evolution of financial and post resources**
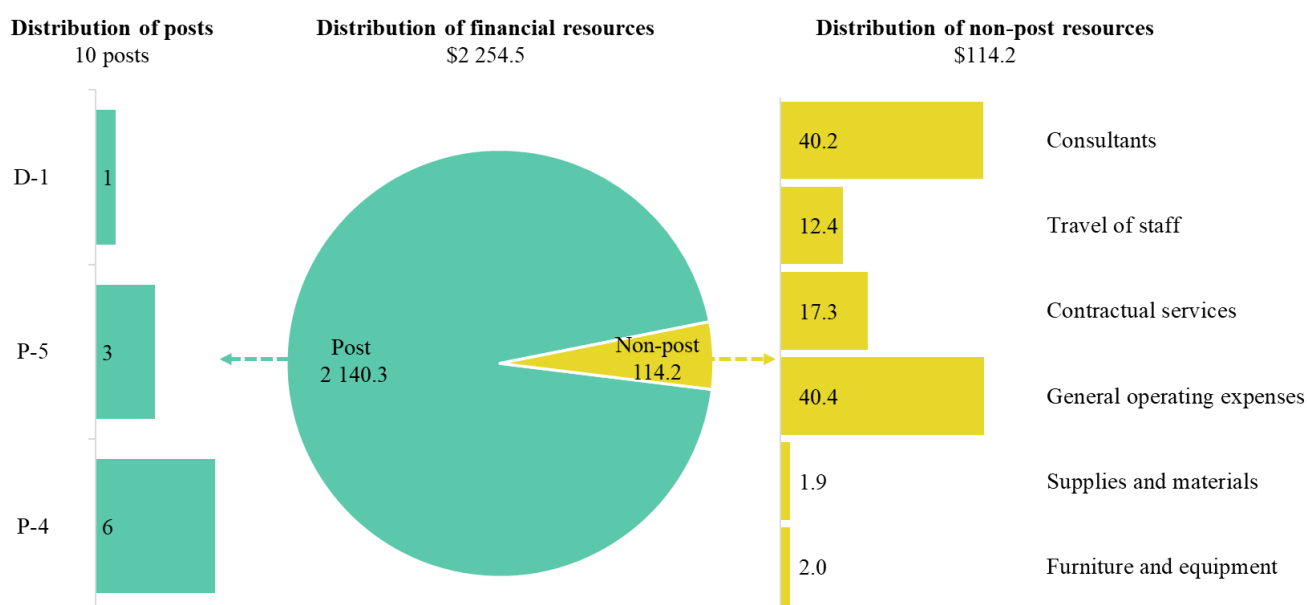
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

| | | | Changes | | | | | 2022 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2020 expenditure | 2021 appropriation | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | |
| **Financial resources by main category of expenditure** | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 2 230.3 | 2 491.2 | – | – | – | – | – | 2 491.2 |
| Non-post | 142.4 | 120.7 | – | – | – | – | – | 120.7 |
| **Total** | **2 372.7** | **2 611.9** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **2 611.9** |
| **Post resources by category** | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 11 | – | – | – | – | – | 11 |
| General Service and related | | 2 | – | – | – | – | – | 2 |
| **Total** | | **13** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **13** |

Figure 14.XXX
**Subprogramme 3: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)**

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)
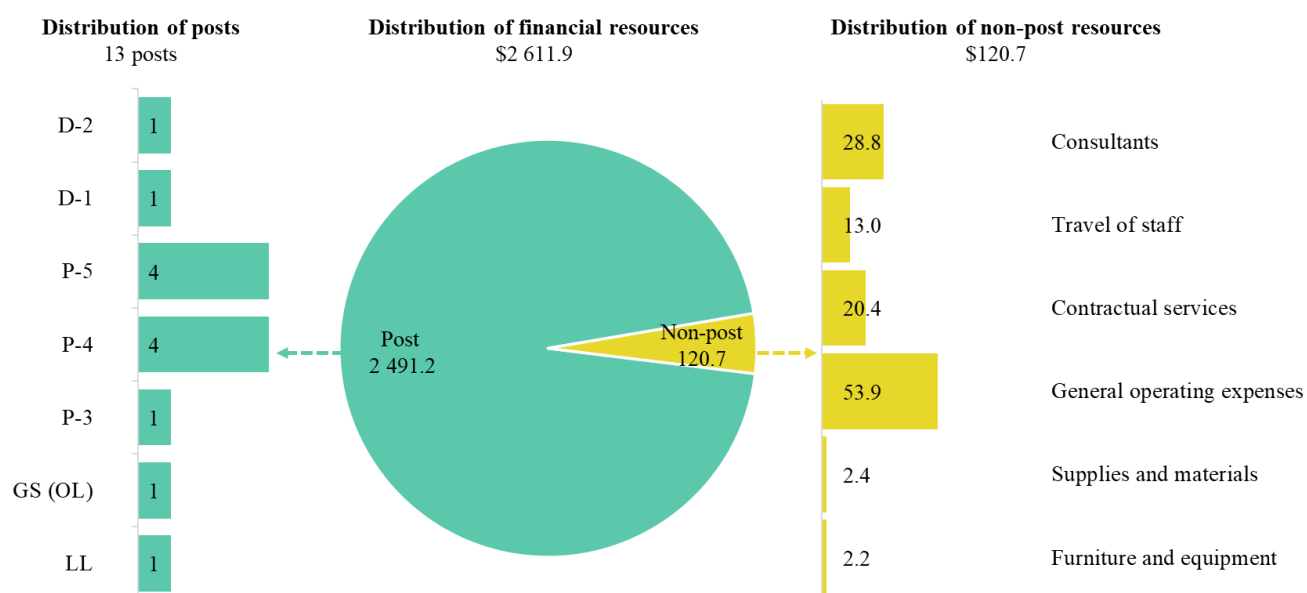
**Extrabudgetary resources**

14.200    Extrabudgetary resources for the subprogramme are estimated at $101,100,000 and would provide for 117 posts (4 D-1, 11 P-5, 24 P-4, 16 P-3, 16 P-2/1, 1 National Professional Officer and 45 Local level), as well as non-post resources. The resources would be used mainly to support delivery of science-based solutions for nature across sectors and levels of governance to halt and reverse the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem integrity, which are key to many economic activities and the provision of goods and services critical for human welfare. The expected increase of $7,895,000 reflects the increased ability of the subprogramme to attract voluntary contributions, based on past trends.

# Subprogramme 4
# Environmental governance

14.201    The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to $4,650,800 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of resources in 2022 are reflected in table 14.28 and figure 14.XXXI.

Table 14.28
**Subprogramme 4: evolution of financial and post resources**

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

| | | | Changes | | | | | 2022 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *2020 expenditure* | *2021 appropriation* | *Technical adjustments* | *New/ expanded mandates* | *Other* | *Total* | *Percentage* | |
| **Financial resources by main category of expenditure** | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 4 299.0 | 4 514.8 | – | – | – | – | – | 4 514.8 |
| Non-post | 141.1 | 136.0 | – | – | – | – | – | 136.0 |
| **Total** | **4 440.2** | **4 650.8** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **4 650.8** |
| **Post resources by category** | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 19 | – | – | – | – | – | 19 |
| General Service and related | | 4 | – | – | – | – | – | 4 |
| **Total** | | **23** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **23** |

Figure 14.XXXI
**Subprogramme 4: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)**

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)

| Distribution of posts | Distribution of financial resources | Distribution of non-post resources |
|---|---|---|
| 23 posts | $4 650.8 | $136.0 |



Distribution of posts (23 posts):
- D-2: 2
- P-5: 5
- P-4: 10
- P-3: 2
- GS (OL): 3
- LL: 1

Distribution of financial resources ($4 650.8):
- Post 4 514.8
- Non-post 136.0

Distribution of non-post resources ($136.0):
- Other staff costs: 15.3
- Consultants: 15.0
- Travel of staff: 15.3
- Contractual services: 19.4
- General operating expenses: 63.7
- Supplies and materials: 3.4
- Furniture and equipment: 3.9

**Extrabudgetary resources**

14.202    Extrabudgetary resources for the subprogramme are estimated at $27,600,000 and would provide for 113 posts (5 D-1, 7 P-5, 18 P-4, 15 P-3, 8 P-2/1, 2 National Professional Officer and 58 Local level), as well as non-post resources. The resources would be used mainly to support institutional strengthening and the development and effective implementation of appropriate legal frameworks and policies through flagship programmes such as the Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo Programme) and initiatives to support and partner with the secretariats of multilateral environmental agreements. The expected decrease of $8,505,000 is due to the projected overall decrease in voluntary contributions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Subprogramme 5
## Chemicals and pollution action

14.203    The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to $1,799,400 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of resources in 2022 are reflected in table 14.29 and figure 14.XXXII.

Table 14.29
## Subprogramme 5: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

| | | | Changes | | | | | 2022 estimate (before recosting) |
| | 2020 expenditure | 2021 appropriation | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Financial resources by main category of expenditure** | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 1 758.2 | 1 688.0 | – | – | – | – | – | 1 688.0 |
| Non-post | 138.6 | 111.4 | – | – | – | – | – | 111.4 |
| **Total** | **1 896.7** | **1 799.4** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **1 799.4** |
| **Post resources by category** | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 8 | – | – | – | – | – | 8 |
| General Service and related | | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | 1 |
| **Total** | | **9** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **9** |

Figure 14.XXXII
## Subprogramme 5: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



**Distribution of posts**
9 posts

D-1 1
P-5 2
P-4 4
P-3 1
LL 1

**Distribution of financial resources**
$1 799.4

Post 1 688.0
Non-post 111.4

**Distribution of non-post resources**
$111.4

33.2 Consultants
16.4 Travel of staff
22.5 Contractual services
33.9 General operating expenses
1.8 Supplies and materials
3.6 Furniture and equipment

### Extrabudgetary resources

14.204     Extrabudgetary resources for the subprogramme are estimated at $61,550,000 and would provide for 132 posts (3 D-1, 12 P-5, 32 P-4, 18 P-3, 11 P-2/1 and 56 Local level), as well as non-post resources. The resources would be used mainly to support the scaling up of efforts to address land-based sources of freshwater and marine pollution, especially nutrients, chemicals and plastic and other forms of marine litter. The expected decrease of $5,920,000 is due to the overall estimated reduction in voluntary contributions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Subprogramme 6
## Finance and economic transformations

14.205    The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to $1,974,400 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of resources in 2022 are reflected in table 14.30 and figure 14.XXXIII.

Table 14.30
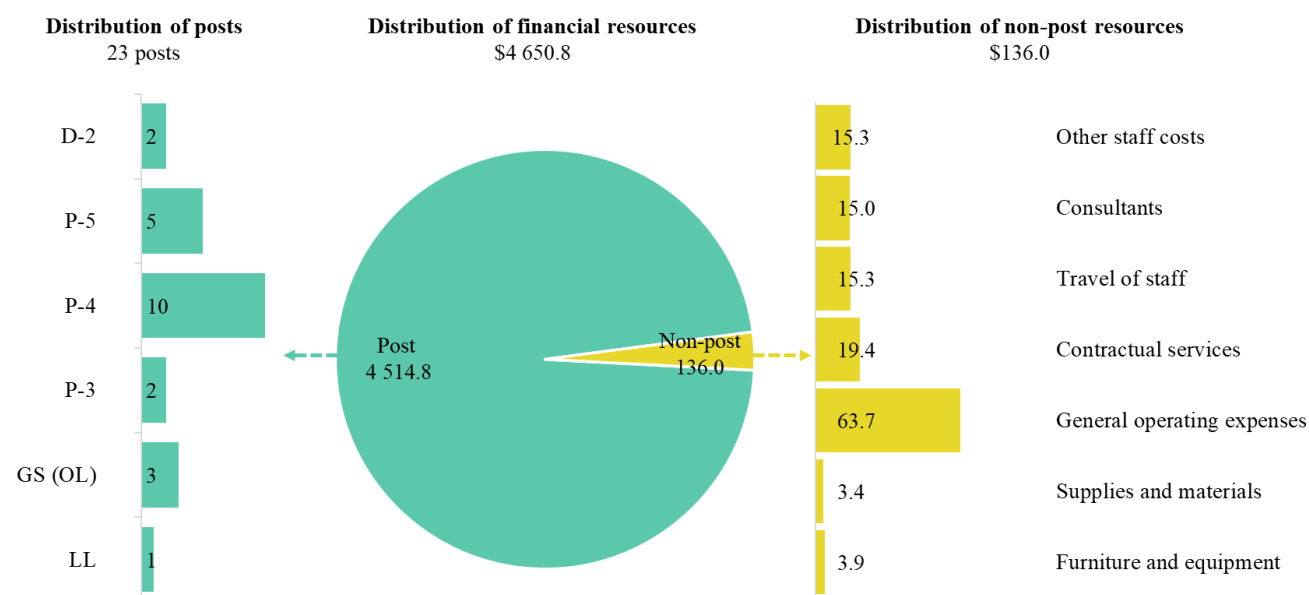**Subprogramme 6: evolution of financial and post resources**

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

| | | | Changes | | | | | 2022 estimate (before recosting) |
| | 2020 expenditure | 2021 appropriation | Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Financial resources by main category of expenditure** | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 1 657.1 | 1 850.4 | – | – | – | – | – | 1 850.4 |
| Non-post | 150.5 | 124.0 | – | – | – | – | – | 124.0 |
| **Total** | **1 807.6** | **1 974.4** | – | – | – | – | – | **1 974.4** |
| **Post resources by category** | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 9 | – | – | – | – | – | 9 |
| General Service and related | | 2 | – | – | – | – | – | 2 |
| **Total** | | **11** | – | – | – | – | – | **11** |

Figure 14.XXXIII
**Subprogramme 6: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)**

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



| Distribution of posts 11 posts | Distribution of financial resources $1 974.4 | Distribution of non-post resources $124.0 |
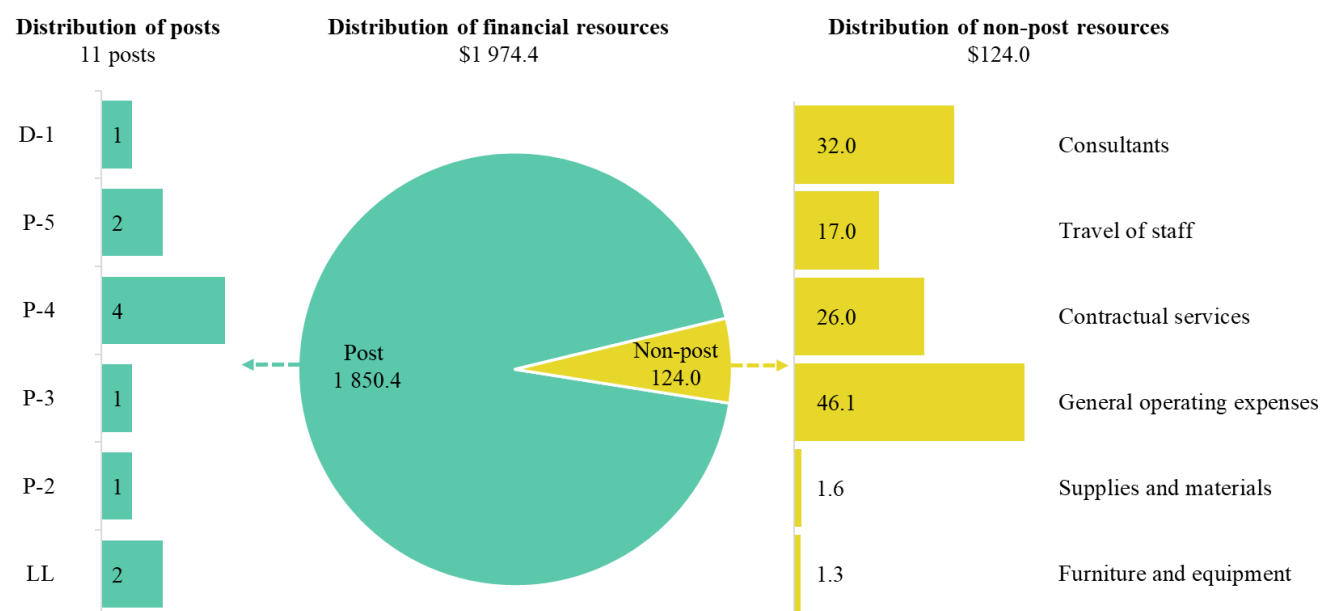
**Extrabudgetary resources**

14.206    Extrabudgetary resources for the subprogramme are estimated at $39,600,000 and would provide for 100 posts (2 D-2, 3 D-1, 12 P-5, 17 P-4, 25 P-3, 15 P-2/1, 2 National Professional Officer and 24 Local level), as well as non-post resources. The resources would be used mainly to support transformative economic policies, including trade policies, to accelerate the shift to more sustainable and equitable patterns of consumption, production and investment. In addition, the resources will support the enhancement of economic principles and standards enabling private finance and business, and associated value chains, to improve their environmental sustainability. The expected decrease of $7,355,000 is mainly due to the estimated reduction in voluntary contributions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Subprogramme 7
# Science policy

14.207    The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to $3,041,900 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of resources in 2022 are reflected in table 14.31 and figure 14.XXXIV.
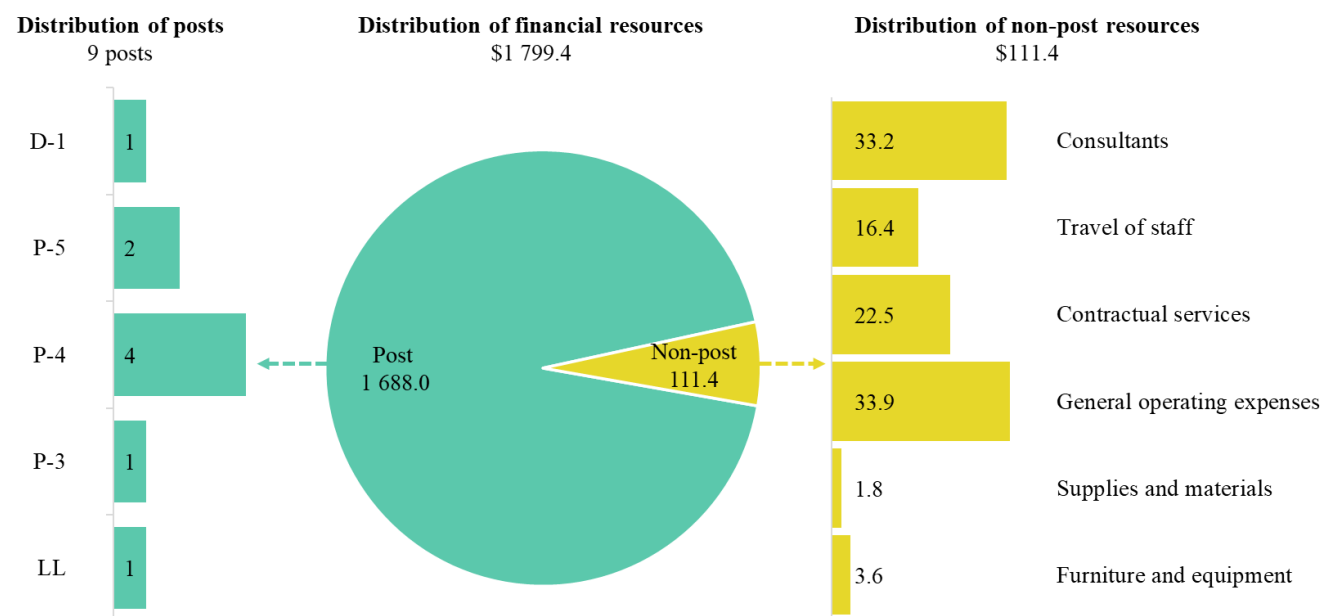
Table 14.31
**Subprogramme 7: evolution of financial and post resources**

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

|  | 2020 expenditure | 2021 appropriation | Changes Technical adjustments | New/ expanded mandates | Other | Total | Percentage | 2022 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Financial resources by main category of expenditure** | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 2 001.2 | 2 406.5 | – | – | – | – | – | 2 406.5 |
| Non-post | 705.9 | 635.4 | – | – | – | – | – | 635.4 |
| **Total** | **2 707.1** | **3 041.9** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **3 041.9** |
| **Post resources by category** | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 12 | – | – | – | – | – | 12 |
| **Total** | | **12** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **12** |

Figure 14.XXXIV
**Subprogramme 7: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)**

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



**Distribution of posts**
12 posts

**Distribution of financial resources**
$3 041.9

**Distribution of non-post resources**
$635.4

D-1  3
P-5  2
P-4  4
P-3  3

Post 2 406.5   Non-post 635.4

115.3  Consultants
52.2  Travel of staff
59.3  Contractual services
79.7  General operating expenses
1.7  Supplies and materials
1.0  Furniture and equipment
326.2  Grants and contributions
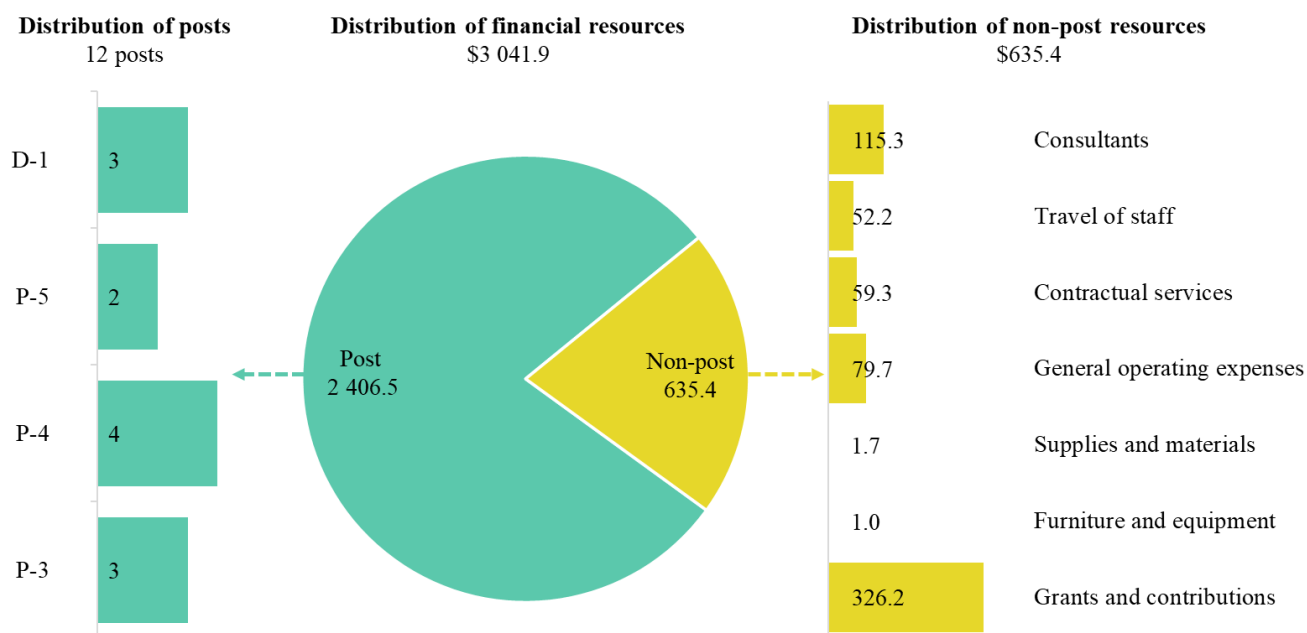
**Extrabudgetary resources**

14.208   Extrabudgetary resources for the subprogramme are estimated at $22,000,000 and would provide for 74 posts (6 D-1,11 P-5, 12 P-4, 9 P-3, 5 P-2/1 and 31 Local level), as well as non-post resources. The resources would be used mainly to empower Governments and other stakeholders to make evidence-based decisions through environmental assessments, identification of emerging issues and fostering of policy action to achieve the outcomes of subprogramme 1, Climate action, subprogramme 3, Nature action, and subprogramme 5, Chemicals and pollution action. The expected increase of $4,035,000 is due to the anticipated increase in voluntary contributions to strengthen the subprogramme for the delivery of planned programme activities.

**Programme support**

14.209   The programme support component comprises services mainly provided by the Corporate Services Division. The objective is to ensure efficient and effective development and delivery of the programmatic priorities of the medium-term strategy, underpinned by sound management and leadership practices with a reinforced accountability framework that clarifies roles and responsibilities. Programme management and support provide guidance on programme and project design, delivery and closure; governance of resources; corporate policy development and oversight; programme monitoring and reporting; building of staff knowledge and capacity; and the development of programme and resource management tools that support decision-making.

14.210   The Division is also responsible for the strategic management of UNEP financial, human and information technology resources, ensuring alignment of the resources with programmatic needs and strategic objectives, such as gender balance in the workplace. It works in close collaboration and coordination with the United Nations Office at Nairobi and its other United Nations service providers, including the United Nations Office at Geneva, in respect of accounting, payroll and payments, recruitment and staff services, staff development, network and other systems administration, information and communications technology, procurement and inventory

management. It also interacts with the United Nations Office at Nairobi in the areas of host country relations, buildings management, conference management, medical services, and security and safety.

14.211   The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to $1,185,600 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of resources in 2022 are reflected in table 14.32 and figure 14.XXXV.

Table 14.32
**Programme support: evolution of financial and post resources**
(Thousands of United States dollars)

| | | | Changes | | | | | 2022 estimate (before recosting) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *2020 expenditure* | *2021 appropriation* | *Technical adjustments* | *New/ expanded mandates* | *Other* | *Total* | *Percentage* | |
| **Financial resources by main category of expenditure** | | | | | | | | |
| Post | 1 162.5 | 1 167.3 | – | – | – | – | – | 1 167.3 |
| Non-post | 26.8 | 18.3 | – | – | – | – | – | 18.3 |
| **Total** | **1 189.3** | **1 185.6** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **1 185.6** |
| **Post resources by category** | | | | | | | | |
| Professional and higher | | 5 | – | – | – | – | – | 5 |
| **Total** | | **5** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **–** | **5** |

Figure 14.XXXV
**Programme support: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)**
(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



| Distribution of posts | Distribution of financial resources | Distribution of non-post resources |
|---|---|---|
| 5 posts | $1 185.6 | $18.3 |

D-2 1

P-5 3

P-4 1

Post 1 167.3      Non-post 18.3

4.0    Travel of staff
7.7    Contractual services
3.3    General operating expenses
1.9    Supplies and materials
1.4    Furniture and equipment
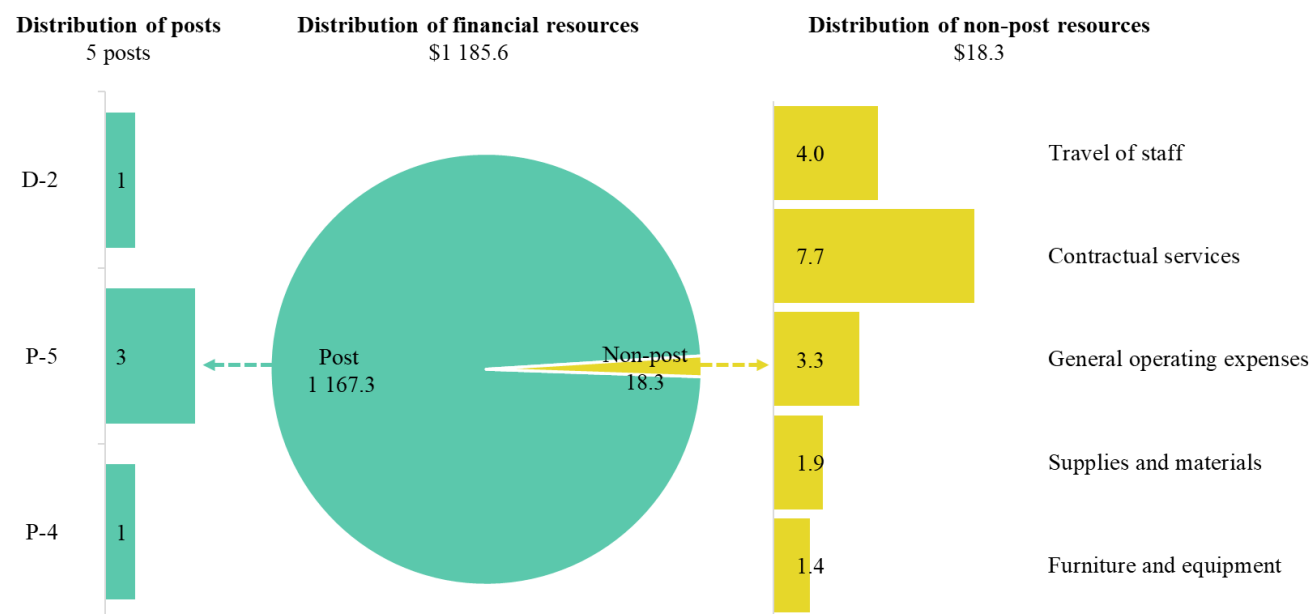
**Extrabudgetary resources**

14.212   Extrabudgetary resources for the component are estimated at $19,900,000 and would provide for 90 posts (3 D-1, 8 P-5, 15 P-4, 14 P-3, 2 P-2/1 and 48 Local level), as well as non-post resources. The resources would be used mainly to support effective programme and project design, delivery and

closure; governance of resources; corporate policy development and oversight; programme monitoring and reporting; building of staff knowledge and capacity; and the development of programme and resource management tools that support decision-making. The expected increase of $1,305,000 is due mainly to increased demand for the component to provide an enabling environment for efficient delivery of high-quality results through the formulation of policies, strategies, standards and tools and related capacity-building support.

# Annex I

## Organizational structure and post distribution for 2022

**Executive Office**
(executive direction and management)

| RB: | XB: |
|---|---|
| 1 USG | 1 ASG |
| 1 P-4 | 2 D-1 |
| 1 P-3 | 5 P-5 |
| 2 LL | 2 P-4 |
| | 1 P-2 |
| | 10 LL |

**New York Office**

| RB: | XB: |
|---|---|
| 1 ASG | 1 P-5 |
| 1 D-1 | 2 P-4 |
| 2 P-5 | 2 P-2 |
| 1 P-4 | 4 LL |
| 1 P-3 | |
| 1 LL | |

**Governance Affairs**
(executive direction and management)

| RB: | XB: |
|---|---|
| | 1 D-1 |
| 1 P-5 | 2 P-5 |
| 1 P-4 | 2 P-4 |
| 1 P-3 | 2 P-3 |
| 1 LL | 1 P-2 |
| | 6 LL |

**Evaluation Office**
(executive direction and management)

| RB: | XB: |
|---|---|
| 1 D-1 | 2 P-4 |
| 1 P-5 | 1 P-3 |
| | 3 LL |

**Regional offices**
(all subprogrammes)

| RB: | XB: |
|---|---|
| 6 D-1 | 20 P-5 |
| 7 P-5 | 33 P-4 |
| 30 P-4 | 27 P-3 |
| 7 P-3 | 6 P-2 |
| 2 GS (OL) | 11 NPO |
| 1 LL | 87 LL |

**United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation**

| RB: | XB: |
|---|---|
| 1 D-1 | 1 GS (OL) |
| 1 P-5 | |
| 1 GS (PL) | |
| 1 GS (OL) | |

**Corporate Services Division**
(programme support)

| RB: | XB: |
|---|---|
| 1 D-2 | 3 D-1 |
| 1 P-5 | 8 P-5 |
| 1 P-4 | 12 P-4 |
| | 14 P-3 |
| | 2 P-2 |
| | 48 LL |

**Communication Division**
(all subprogrammes)

| RB: | XB: |
|---|---|
| 1 D-1 | 3 P-5 |
| 1 P-3 | 5 P-4 |
| 1 P-2 | 8 P-3 |
| 2 GS (OL) | 15 LL |

**Economy Division**
(subprogrammes 5 and 6)

| RB: | XB: |
|---|---|
| 2 P-5 | 1 D-2 |
| 1 P-4 | 9 D-1 |
| | 16 P-5 |
| | 36 P-4 |
| | 50 P-3 |
| | 30 P-2 |
| | 63 LL |

**Ecosystems Division**
(subprogrammes 1 and 3)

| RB: | XB: |
|---|---|
| 1 D-2 | 9 D-1 |
| 2 P-5 | 20 P-5 |
| 2 P-4 | 37 P-4 |
| | 26 P-3 |
| | 14 P-2 |
| | 1 NPO |
| | 57 LL |

**Law Division**
(subprogramme 4)

| RB: | XB: |
|---|---|
| 1 D-2 | 3 D-1 |
| 2 P-5 | 4 P-5 |
| 1 P-4 | 14 P-4 |
| 2 LL | 9 P-3 |
| | 5 P-2 |
| | 30 LL |

**Science Division**
(subprogramme 7)

| RB: | XB: |
|---|---|
| 1 D-2 | 6 D-1 |
| 1 D-1 | 7 P-5 |
| 3 P-5 | 14 P-4 |
| 1 P-4 | 9 P-3 |
| 2 LL | 8 P-2 |
| | 28 LL |

**Programme and Policy Division**
(subprogramme 2 and programme support)

| RB: | XB: |
|---|---|
| 4 P-5 | 1 D-2 |
| 1 P-4 | 1 D-1 |
| 2 P-3 | 2 P-5 |
| 1 LL | 4 P-4 |
| | 3 P-3 |
| | 2 P-2 |
| | 8 LL |

*Abbreviations*: ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; GS (OL), General Service (Other level); GS (PL), General Service (Principal level); LL, Local level; NPO, National Professional Officer; 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* |
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**Board of Auditors**
**A/75/5/Add.7, chap. II**

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| The Board recommends that UNEP – at the headquarters level – set up an up-to-date dashboard with the consolidated financial and project data of the regional presence and secretariats, identifying all sources of budgetary and extrabudgetary financing, income and expenses, and information on projects and/or activities, in order to ensure an extensive view of UNEP worldwide presence (para. 26). | UNEP is exploring the possibility of developing a dashboard that consolidates both financial and project data to enhance the visibility of UNEP worldwide. |
| The Board recommends that UNEP – at the headquarters level – establish monitoring and control mechanisms over the workplans delivered by regional offices and the secretariats of the multilateral environmental agreements in order to guarantee the accomplishment of the objectives of the UNEP programme of work and to ensure the fulfilment of the organization's secretariat functions (para. 27). | UNEP is aligning its workplan processes with the "objective and key results" approach. UNEP expects that the adoption of this approach in workplan processes will lead to the accomplishment of the objectives of the programme of work. However, UNEP notes that the workplans for the secretariats of the multilateral environmental agreements are approved by their relevant governing bodies, that is, the conferences of the parties, and UNEP has no mandate to establish monitoring and control mechanisms over those workplans. Therefore, UNEP does not accept the recommendation with regard to the workplans for the secretariats of the multilateral environmental agreements but is committed to implementing the recommendation for the workplans for the regional offices. |
| The Board recommends that UNEP implement a results-based budgeting approach at the regional and secretariat level (para. 28). | UNEP has implemented a results-based budgeting approach and will continue to do so. |
| The Board recommends that UNEP introduce a new framework for the regional workplan template elaboration, which involves regional representatives from an early stage of the development process and allows for the inclusion of indicators of achievement and targets customized to the reality of the respective regional office (para. 59). | The Board has confirmed that UNEP has taken the requested action. The audit team expects the final implementation of the new workplan processes and the follow-up to these plans. |
| The Board recommends that UNEP establish the proper coordination measures and controls in order to ensure an adequate use of the workplan formats at the regional level and to enhance coherence within and between workplans (para. 60). | The secretariat for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions and the UNEP Regional Office for Europe track and monitor the implementation of the UNEP programme of work (and thus its projects and portfolio) through a dedicated tracking tool. The tool is periodically circulated to all staff and, following the collation of inputs, an updated version is circulated to all staff. The audit team noted |

| *Brief description of the recommendation* | *Action taken to implement the recommendation* |
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| | that the secretariat for the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions and the UNEP Regional Office for Europe have been fully aware of the importance of ensuring all the files are available in the digital folders. |
| The Board recommends that UNEP introduce a new framework and a template for regional workplan reporting that includes an analysis of the implementation of indicators of accomplishment and takes into consideration the expected progress and sources of data for verification established in the programme of work as applied to the regional level (para. 71). | Through its transformation process, UNEP is in the process of adopting the "objective and key results" approach in its workplan process. The design and roll-out of a standardized work planning template has been completed. In addition, training workshops have been rolled out throughout UNEP, including the regional offices. The framework and template for regional workplan reporting will be put in place once all the preparation processes are completed. |
| The Board recommends that regional offices of UNEP maintain updated workplans by formalizing in them the new activities and projects that have been included in the respective year's performance (para. 72). | UNEP is applying the "objective and key results" approach in its workplan process across the entire organization, including the regional offices, with the aim of ensuring accurate and consistent performance reporting and communication throughout UNEP. The Board has confirmed that UNEP has taken the required action. The audit team expects the final implementation of the new workplan processes and the follow-up to these plans. |
| The Board recommends that UNEP coordinate its budget allocations in a timely manner in order to comply with the execution schedule of project workplans (para. 101). | UNEP will review its internal processes that have an impact on the timely allocation of budgets with a view to establishing ways of improving operational and process efficiency to ensure compliance with the schedules of project workplans. |
| The Board recommends that the UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean improve the preparation of progress reports by adequately informing the development of activities together with measurable results, in order to enhance transparency and accountability of the outcomes that are obtained from the use of the resources allocated (para. 126). | The UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean has initiated the development of a checklist for all progress reports. |
| The Board recommends that the UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean take the necessary measures to maintain updated information in Umoja regarding ongoing projects in order to use that information for reporting (para. 127). | Information has been updated in Umoja regarding all grants under the financial responsibility of the UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean. Some errors regarding the validity of grants for projects in respect of which the Regional Office receives suballotments from other units have been detected in Umoja and have been immediately reported to the respective units for correction. The Regional Office has then updated the information in Umoja. In view of this, the audit team believes that the recommendation has been implemented. |

| *Brief description of the recommendation* | *Action taken to implement the recommendation* |
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| The Board recommends that UNEP include, in the evaluation process of candidates, records of their compliance with the requirements to be an implementing partner of UNEP and, in addition, implement a weighting or scoring system of the factors evaluated to ensure greater transparency in the selection process (para. 138). | UNEP has already initiated the process of revising and updating its partnership policy and procedures, including by incorporating controls to enhance compliance. More information is included in the draft 2020 partnership policy and procedures, under the section on partnership assessment, which is focused on the likelihood and impact of potential risks. |
| The Board recommends that UNEP develop guidelines for the determination of instalments to be paid to implementing partners, regulating the quantity of payments to be disbursed, assigning to each of those payments a range or percentage of the total amount of the agreement and evaluating the establishment of a minimum number of instalments to be disbursed to implementing partners. For this purpose, the entity could consider the indications in the UNEP programme manual (para. 151). | The audit team noted that UNEP has revised its partnership policy and procedures (2020) to address the issues relating to implementing partners, on page 47 under the subheading "Instalments: advances and payment schedule", and will pilot implementation from October 2020 to March 2021. In view of this, the audit team has confirmed that this recommendation has been implemented. |
| The Board recommends that UNEP establish the factors and/or situations that will be considered as exceptions to the instalment payment rule, keeping records of the authorizations and decisions made (para. 152). | The Board has noted that UNEP has produced a programme dashboard and an open data portal to present project information. UNEP is still working on the integration of the information system. |
| The Board recommends that UNEP reinforce its control mechanism and ensure that each interim evaluation and each final evaluation are carried out in a timely manner in accordance with the provisions of the administrative instruction (para. 274). | The secretariat for the Convention on Biological Diversity has reinforced its internal control mechanisms to ensure that interim and final evaluations are carried out in a timely manner. This will also be captured by the proposed establishment of a control tool to monitor and evaluate the level of accomplishment of contribution agreements. |
| The Board recommends that UNEP coordinate with the United Nations Secretariat and the United Nations Office at Nairobi to assess and elaborate a new accounting policy in order to establish an enhanced basis for decision-making on the recognition of non-exchange transactions, in line with IPSAS 23 (para. 312). | UNEP will continue to liaise with the United Nations Secretariat and the United Nations Office at Nairobi on the possibility of elaborating the new accounting policy on the recognition of revenue for non-exchange transactions. |
| The Board also recommends that UNEP implement the appropriate control mechanisms to measure the level of accomplishment of contribution agreements and to make the necessary budgetary and programme of work adjustments before the year's closure (para. 313). | UNEP is in consultation with the United Nations Office at Nairobi on the possibility of establishing a report in Umoja that could serve as a control tool to monitor and evaluate the level of accomplishment of contribution agreements in order to allow appropriate budgetary and programme of work adjustments before the year's closure. |
| The Board recommends that UNEP implement a mechanism to ensure proper support documentation for the contribution agreements uploaded in Umoja (para. 314). | UNEP, in collaboration with the United Nations Office at Nairobi, is already working on updating the standard operating procedures to ensure that proper supporting documentation for financial transactions, including the contribution agreements, is maintained in Umoja. |

| *Brief description of the recommendation* | *Action taken to implement the recommendation* |
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| The Board recommends that UNEP issue its delegations of authority through the delegation of authority online portal and clear up any discordances between the delegation of authority online portal and Umoja roles in accordance with the delegation of authority in the administration of the Staff Regulations and Rules and the Financial Regulations and Rules (para. 374). | UNEP has provided the delegations of authority and the list of Umoja roles. The Board has noted that UNEP has reviewed the delegations of authority and Umoja roles, and has resolved the discrepancies. The recommendation is considered implemented. |

**Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions**
**A/75/7**

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| The Advisory Committee looks forward to more detailed information on the assistance provided by UNEP in the implementation of the environment strategy, including to the peacekeeping missions, in the context of the proposed programme budget for 2022 (para. IV.78). | UNEP has supported United Nations peacekeeping missions in environmental management since 2004, including through its provision of extensive technical inputs for the development and roll-out of an environmental policy across all missions in 2009 and the production of the report entitled *Greening the Blue Helmets: Environment, Natural Resources and UN Peacekeeping Operations* in 2011. UNEP has provided this technical assistance through a partnership known as the Rapid Environment and Climate Technical Assistance Facility, in which UNEP collects data from United Nations Headquarters, large duty stations and operations, including to measure and report the carbon footprint of the United Nations system and to develop a climate-neutral approach for operations. In addition, and more broadly, UNEP catalyses international action to bring about a coordinated response in order to move towards climate neutrality, both within the United Nations system and between the United Nations and its partners. UNEP provides technical and advisory support that ensures programmatic design and responses based on validated and actionable intelligence. This approach is the best way to ensure the higher-level programmatic and policy impact that UNEP seeks. |
| | These actions are executed through inter-agency mechanisms such as the United Nations Environment Management Group, chaired by the Executive Director of UNEP, and for which UNEP also provides the secretariat. UNEP, through the Environment Management Group, has the role of a trusted partner and adviser in the environmental management space. The Environment Management Group secretariat oversees the Issue Management Group on Environmental Sustainability Management, whose focal points measure the greenhouse gas emissions from all United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and share emissions reduction plans and efforts. Each year the results are published in the "Greening the Blue report". UNEP also hosts the Sustainable United Nations facility. Established in |

| *Brief description of the recommendation* | *Action taken to implement the recommendation* |
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| | 2008, this facility manages and supports the Issue Management Group on Environmental Sustainability Management and leads the efforts of the United Nations to measure and reduce its carbon footprint. While much of its work goes on behind the scenes – securing a mandate, ensuring that environmental considerations are factored into key United Nations initiatives, and providing templates, frameworks, technical support and advice to the Issue Management Group – it also conducts a United Nations-wide campaign to engage staff at all levels of the Organization, detailing efforts to make the United Nations environmentally sustainable and ways staff can get involved through the Greening the Blue campaign. |
| | With regard to the technical areas of work under the Greening the Blue initiative, UNEP supports the integration of environmental sustainability considerations into United Nations operations and the management of premises, building on existing inter-agency efforts. The Greening the Blue initiative provides technical support in five main areas: energy; water and wastewater; waste; wider impact; and environmental management systems. In 2020, UNEP also provided COVID-19-specific technical support to United Nations partners through its Geneva-based Crisis Management Branch and the Joint Environment Unit of UNEP and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. This support included a series of webinars on topics including the environment in humanitarian action and the waste management aspects of the pandemic. |

**Office of Internal Oversight Services**
**Report No. 2020/021**

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| UNEP should undertake a detailed fraud risk assessment pertaining to its engagement with implementing partners and strengthen internal controls to ensure that the fraud risks are adequately mitigated (para. 15). | Management is in the process of finalizing the UNEP enterprise resource management framework and the draft document will be updated to include a fraud risk assessment framework. Implementation is therefore still ongoing. |
| UNEP should ensure that projects adopt results-based reporting with clearly defined and measurable targets and deliverables (para. 42). | This will be addressed as part of the development of the standardized delivery model, one element of which is an associated accountability framework between divisions and regional offices. The new partnership policy and procedures also include guidelines for strengthened oversight mechanisms. |

| *Brief description of the recommendation* | *Action taken to implement the recommendation* |
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**Report No. 2020/018**

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| The United Nations Office at Nairobi, UNEP and the United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat) should jointly define key performance indicators for the various processes in the grant management cycle to monitor their efficiency (para. 15). | In August 2020, phase 1 of the grants closure exercise was launched with the full support of the UNEP senior management. A total of 1,551 grants were identified for closure. As of 18 January 2021, 98 per cent of the identified grants had been closed, with 30 grants pending action by the United Nations Office at Nairobi and 12 grants pending action by UNEP. |
| | Phase 2 was launched in November 2020: 338 grant lines (across 317 grants) and 149 receivables were identified for this phase, most of which were items converted from the Integrated Management Information System. The deadline for action to be taken was 31 January 2021. As of 18 January 2021, 41 of the 149 receivables had been closed, with 6 identified as valid, and 208 of the 338 grant lines had been acted on. |
| | Phase 3 is planned to start in March 2021. The intention is to continue with grants closure exercises throughout 2021. In addition, a report showing grants with expiration dates in the next quarter is being developed for the UNEP senior management dashboard. |
| | In November 2020, 451 grants at the "Initial draft" and "Application" stages were identified for cancellation; these have all been closed. In January 2021, an additional 83 grants at the "Initial draft" stage were identified for cancellation, with a deadline of 31 January 2021. |

# Annex III

## Summary of proposed post changes, by component and subprogramme

| Component/subprogramme | Posts | Grade | Description | Reason for change |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| *2021 programmatic structure (to be mainstreamed under other subprogrammes)* | | | | |
| Subprogramme 2, Resilience to disasters and conflicts | (1) | D-1 | **Redeployment** of 1 Chief of Service | The proposed redeployment of these posts relates to the realignment of the programmatic structure approved by the United Nations Environment Assembly through its decision 5/2, whereby the current subprogramme 2, Resilience to disasters and conflicts, will no longer be a stand-alone subprogramme but will be mainstreamed into the other subprogrammes, and a new subprogramme 2, Digital transformations, will be established to function as an enabling subprogramme within the existing mandates of UNEP. These posts will strengthen the new subprogramme as an enabler for all the remaining subprogrammes by enhancing the use of environmental digital public goods to accelerate progress towards environmental sustainability. |
| | (1) | P-5 | **Redeployment** of 1 Senior Programme Management Officer | |
| | (3) | P-4 | **Redeployment** of 3 Humanitarian Affairs Officers | |
| | (1) | P-4 | **Redeployment** of 1 Programme Management Officer | |
| | (1) | P-3 | **Redeployment** of 1 Coordinator | |
| | (1) | LL | **Redeployment** of 1 Library Assistant | |
| *2022 programmatic structure* | | | | |
| Subprogramme 2, Digital transformations | 1 | D-1 | **Redeployment** of 1 Chief of Service | |
| | 1 | P-5 | **Redeployment** of 1 Senior Programme Management Officer | |
| | 3 | P-4 | **Redeployment** of 3 Humanitarian Affairs Officers | |
| | 1 | P-4 | **Redeployment** of 1 Programme Management Officer | |
| | 1 | P-3 | **Redeployment** of 1 Coordinator | |
| | 1 | LL | **Redeployment** of 1 Library Assistant | |

*Abbreviation*: LL, Local level.

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