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Proposed programme budget for 2022

Programme planning

Proposed programme budget for 2022

Part V

Regional cooperation for development

Section 20

Economic development in Europe

Programme 17

Economic development in Europe

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* [A/76/50](#).

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

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



Foreword

The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) is entrusted with the promotion of regional cooperation and integration as a means of achieving sustainable development in its region. As outlined in the first regional statistical report on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, issued in 2020, ECE member States made clear advances in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in some areas. However, the report also showed a mixed picture across Goals and targets, as well as across different countries and subregions. At the heart of many of the challenges to ensuring sustainable development in the region, there is an unresolved tension between economic prosperity and environmental pressures.^a

The outbreak of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has added an extraordinary challenge that has left no country untouched. It has hit the region by way of various economic shocks and has had a devastating impact on people's lives and livelihoods. Many signs show that the pandemic will suppress economic growth and could adversely affect the region's ambition to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, at least in the short term.

Against that background, ECE has mobilized a suite of instruments, technical cooperation capacity and a range of evidence-based analysis at the regional and country levels, including in the framework of issue-based coalitions, to support the immediate response of member States to the pandemic. In 2022, the Commission will further facilitate its efforts to ensure longer-term recovery from the COVID-19 crisis, bearing in mind that the Sustainable Development Goals provide a vital framework for building back sustainably. Building on its new working methods, the Commission will actively contribute to the decade of action for the Goals in the ECE region by engaging its convening power, normative production and technical cooperation, by leveraging its partnerships and best expertise from networks of experts and by serving as a knowledge hub to promote integrated and cross-sectoral solutions for achieving the Goals. Specific attention will be placed on promoting solutions that help to address environmental pressures while ensuring economic prosperity – an ongoing challenge for the ECE region that is central to advancing sustainable development. Taking into account a significant environmental footprint of the economies in the ECE region, the Commission will also focus on making progress towards a circular economy and the sustainable use of natural resources, which member States have planned as the theme of the Commission session to be held in April 2021.

Facilitating an accelerated pace of achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and supporting the efforts of member States to recover from the COVID-19 emergency requires cooperation with various actors from the public and the private sectors and across national boundaries. In 2022, ECE will continue to build on its close dialogue and cooperation with international and regional organizations, as well as partnerships with the private sector and civil society organizations, think tanks and the academic sector, aimed at increasing their engagement in the work of the Commission in support of its member States. ECE will provide a strong platform to support this dialogue and action, through its multiple intergovernmental bodies, networks of experts and technical cooperation. This work will benefit also from the Commission's continued strategic partnerships, joint initiatives, programmes and projects established with other United Nations entities, country teams and international financial institutions, including the other regional commissions.

In 2022, ECE will play an active role in coordinating regional United Nations system entities. Following the establishment of the regional collaborative platform for Europe and Central Asia as an outcome of the repositioning of the United Nations development system at the regional level, in my capacity as co-Vice Chair of the platform I will aim to promote closer cooperation among United Nations regional entities and their partners in addressing regional, cross-cutting policy issues and providing regional perspectives at the global level. ECE will also continue to work closely with resident coordinators in order to ensure coordinated support for programme countries in its region and will actively engage in issue-based coalitions with a view to facilitating concerted action between various United Nations agencies and partners on the operational level.

The ECE proposed programme budget for 2022 reflects its best assessment of resources needed to implement its programme of work and achieve its objectives. It provides concrete information on ECE results achieved in 2020 and those planned for 2022 to support its member States in addressing challenges in the region. I am committed to ensuring that ECE remains a responsive partner working closely with member States to deliver on their priorities.

(Signed) Olga Algayerova
Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Europe

^a [E/2020/16](#), para. 6.

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

Overall orientation

Mandates and background

- 20.1 The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) is responsible for facilitating economic integration and cooperation among its member States and promoting sustainable development and economic prosperity in the ECE region. The mandate derives from the priorities established in relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions, including on the workplan on reform of ECE and the outcome of the review of the 2005 reform of ECE (resolutions 2006/38 and 2013/1, respectively), and Council resolution 36 (IV). The ECE region continues to face economic and environmental challenges in addressing the complexity of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, which remain a source of primary concern to member States. The Commission provides a regional intergovernmental platform from which to address these challenges, such as promoting sustained economic growth and sustainable mobility in the region, facilitating trade and economic integration, protecting the environment, ensuring a flexible and efficient energy supply, strengthening the capacity for measuring sustainable development, building urban sustainability and addressing the implications of demographic trends. The work of the Commission is grounded in many of its conventions, norms and best practices that provide sustainable solutions to problems in areas critical to sustainable development, including those spanning national borders. Apart from serving as a platform for Governments and other stakeholders to collaborate in developing legal instruments and formulating policies for sustainable development, ECE provides specialized and demand-driven technical assistance to build the capacity of countries to implement these instruments, policies and best practices, and facilitates their uptake. ECE support aimed at developing the capacity of Governments to formulate and implement policies for sustainable development is also provided through the implementation of capacity-building activities and projects under the regular programme of technical cooperation and the United Nations Development Account.

Strategy and external factors for 2022

- 20.2 ECE aims to promote regional cooperation and integration as a means of achieving sustainable development in the ECE region. Its intergovernmental bodies, which comprise the Commission and its sectoral committees, provide the foundation for ECE support for national Governments and other stakeholders in advancing the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. By convening the annual Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, ECE also provides a region-wide multi-stakeholder platform for the follow-up and review of the Goals, focusing on peer learning and the exchange of practical solutions for achieving sustainable development. The work of ECE is aligned with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, the Vienna Declaration and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 and the New Urban Agenda.
- 20.3 The strategy of the programme is based on the implementation of core interlinked functions that are consistent with the legislative mandates of ECE, namely, policy dialogue, normative work and technical cooperation. In line with the principles of the reform of the United Nations development system at the regional level, in implementing its strategy in 2022, ECE will provide a neutral platform for policy dialogue to address multi-country, transboundary and regional economic and environmental issues among its 56 member States. The normative work of the programme will focus on the development and implementation of international legal instruments, norms and standards in areas critical to sustainable development, and on the identification and dissemination of best practices within and outside the region. Through technical cooperation in its areas of expertise, the programme will provide integrated policy advice, normative support and capacity-building, aimed at expanding the use of its normative outputs, facilitating the achievement of the Sustainable

Development Goals at the country level and achieving multiplier effects by targeting cross-border issues.

- 20.4 The strategy of the programme is achieved through an integrated approach to sustainable development, which builds on synergies and the results-oriented work of its eight subprogrammes, namely, environment; transport; statistics; economic cooperation and integration; sustainable energy; trade; forests and the forest industry; and housing, land management and population.
- 20.5 The work of the ECE subprogrammes is aligned with specific Sustainable Development Goals. Identifying and exploiting cross-sectoral synergies of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and engaging multiple actors for joint action will be critical to accelerating progress in achieving the Goals and will remain a key strategic focus in the future work of ECE. To that end, the Commission will continue to leverage its integrated approach by providing multisectoral policy advice and capacity-building through cross-sectoral collaboration among its eight subprogrammes in four nexus areas at which multiple Goals converge, namely: (a) the sustainable use of natural resources; (b) sustainable and smart cities for all ages; (c) sustainable mobility and smart connectivity; and (d) measuring and monitoring progress towards achieving the Goals.
- 20.6 In 2022, the programme will continue to provide support to its member States in addressing economic and environmental challenges of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Specific attention will be placed on promoting solutions that help to address environmental pressures while ensuring economic prosperity – an ongoing challenge for the ECE region that is central to advancing sustainable development. The Commission will actively contribute to the decade of action for the Goals in the ECE region by engaging its convening power, normative production and technical cooperation, by leveraging its partnerships and best expertise from its networks of experts and by serving as a knowledge hub to promote integrated and cross-sectoral solutions for achieving the Goals. Taking into account a significant environmental footprint of the economies in the ECE region, the Commission will also focus its attention on making progress towards a circular economy and the sustainable use of natural resources, which member States agreed would be the theme of the Commission session to be held in April 2021. ECE will also continue its work to support the efforts of member States to ensure a longer-term recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, bearing in mind that, as the region recovers from this crisis, it has a unique opportunity to build back sustainably.
- 20.7 For 2022, the ECE planned deliverables and activities reflect the known and anticipated challenges related to COVID-19 that are being faced by member States. Such planned deliverables and activities include: (a) developing policy analyses and recommendations for member States on issues related to the COVID-19 economic recovery phase; (b) broadening and adapting the ECE legally binding instruments, standards and sustainable resource management frameworks to the post-COVID-19 realities and member State needs; (c) assessing lessons learned, implementing capacity-building activities and promoting exchanges of experiences and good practices, including by refocusing and/or adapting existing activities, to support member States in their efforts to build a more resilient, sustainable and productive economy in the future; and (d) developing studies and publications and organizing webinars and panel discussion on how different sectors of economy can contribute to building back better economies and more resilient cities and communities. Specific examples of such planned deliverables and activities are provided under subprogrammes 1 to 8. 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, 3, 6, and 8.
- 20.8 With regard to cooperation with other entities at the global, regional, national and local levels, ECE will build on its close cooperation with international and regional organizations and other regional actors, such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the European Union and the Eurasian Economic Union. ECE will also strengthen its partnerships with the private sector and civil society organizations, think tanks and the academic sector in order to facilitate the Commission's policy dialogue and normative work and to engage them in the implementation by member States of the 2030 Agenda.

- 20.9 With regard to inter-agency coordination and liaison, ECE will continue to play a key role in coordinating regional United Nations system entities. Following the establishment of the regional collaborative platform for Europe and Central Asia as an outcome of the repositioning of the United Nations development system at the regional level, ECE will co-lead the platform and work as part of the secretariat servicing the collaborative platform, aimed at promoting joint action and closer cooperation among United Nations regional entities and their partners in addressing regional, cross-cutting policy issues, offering integrated policy advice and providing regional perspectives at the global level. This work will benefit from continued strategic partnerships and joint initiatives, programmes and projects established by ECE with other United Nations entities and international financial institutions, for example, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the International Trade Centre, the World Trade Organization and the World Bank. ECE will actively engage in issue-based coalitions aimed at facilitating concerted action between various United Nations agencies and partners on the operational level. Cooperation with other regional commissions will be pursued through joint initiatives, programmes and projects so as to use knowledge management for better results. The United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia, implemented jointly by ECE and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, will serve as the major framework for cooperation with other relevant stakeholders in Central Asia. At the country level, ECE will work closely with the resident coordinators and United Nations country teams in 17 United Nations programme countries in the ECE region to seek opportunities for joint programmes and projects in response to country demands, including on the impact of COVID-19, through social and economic response plans prepared by United Nations country teams. ECE will also continue its active engagement as part of the 17 United Nations country teams in the region through the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks. The programme will also promote interregional, including South-South, and triangular cooperation.
- 20.10 With regard to the external factors, the overall plan for 2022 is based on the following planning assumptions:
- (a) Member States continue to support the work of ECE and give high priority to regional and subregional cooperation and integration, with a view to achieving sustainable development;
 - (b) All relevant stakeholders at the national level have the political will to cooperate in implementing ECE legal instruments, norms and standards;
 - (c) Voluntary resources continue to be available.
- 20.11 With regard to the COVID-19 pandemic, the programme plan is based on the assumption that implementation of the proposed deliverables and activities for 2022 will be feasible. However, if the pandemic were 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.
- 20.12 ECE integrates a gender perspective in its operational activities, deliverables and results, as appropriate. Its work in this area is intended to support member States in the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 5. In 2022, all sectoral committees governing the ECE subprogrammes will include gender mainstreaming in their work agendas, all ECE technical cooperation projects will be assessed against their impact on gender and the Commission will continue its work on gender and economy, including capacity-building activities for women entrepreneurs from Central Asia. Furthermore, all subprogrammes will continue to mainstream gender into their substantive work and promote the participation of women in all meetings and workshops.
- 20.13 With regard to disability inclusion, in line with the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy and General Assembly resolution [74/144](#), ECE integrates disability inclusion into its operational activities, deliverables and results, as appropriate. Through the work of its subprogrammes, ECE will continue to mainstream relevant inclusiveness aspects into its programmes and projects and will consider disability-related perspectives in the development of norms and standards.

Programme performance in 2020

Impact of COVID-19 on programme delivery in 2020

- 20.14 During 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic had an impact on the planned deliverables and activities of ECE, compromising its convening capacity and norm-setting work. The impact included: (a) a significantly reduced number of ECE intergovernmental meetings with interpretation (from three to one meeting a day) as a result of a combination of COVID-19 response measures and liquidity constraints, which prevented the United Nations Office at Geneva from providing the necessary conference services, including interpretation; (b) meetings and capacity-building initiatives postponed beyond 2020 or cancelled; and (c) a change in the mode of delivery of meetings and capacity-building workshops from in-person to virtual or a hybrid format, with no or reduced interpretation. Specific examples of the impact are provided under subprogrammes 1 to 8. The change in approach and postponement and cancellation of planned deliverables and activities also had an impact on the expected results for 2020, as described in the programme performance under subprogrammes 3, 4, 5 and 7.
- 20.15 At the same time, however, some planned deliverables and activities were modified, or new activities identified 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. These included: (a) the development of an ECE action framework for responses to the COVID-19 crisis comprising 13 emergency instruments relevant for the immediate response to the crisis and 55 medium- and long-term measures that could be used to reduce risk and “recover better”; (b) the launch of an interactive online platform on COVID-19 and official statistics on the ECE website; (c) the creation of an observatory on border crossing status due to COVID-19, the establishment of the multidisciplinary advisory group on transport responses to the COVID-19 crisis and an early deployment of the paperless and contactless eTIR international system; (d) adapting the overall theme of the first Forum of Mayors, held on 6 October 2020, to amplify local solutions and strengthen the resilience of cities to emergencies, including to COVID-19; (e) support for member States in addressing the economic and social impacts of the COVID-19 crisis through projects and activities funded from the United Nations Development Account, the regular programme of technical cooperation and the COVID-19 multi-partner trust fund; (f) the launch of a website for sharing information on food loss/waste threats in member States and collecting information that could support Governments in overcoming the impact of COVID-19 on international trade; (g) the initiation of studies on and rapid assessments of the COVID-19 impact in areas crucial to member States; and (h) the provision of COVID-19-related information and lessons learned through publications, webinars, panel discussions and briefings to member States. Specific examples of the modified/new activities are provided under subprogrammes 1 to 4 and 6 to 8. The modified and new deliverables and activities contributed to results in 2020, as described in the programme performance under subprogrammes 1 to 4, 6 and 8.
- 20.16 Reflecting the importance of continuous improvement and responding to the evolving needs of member States, ECE will mainstream lessons learned and best practices related to the adjustments and adaptation of its programme owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. Specific examples include the adoption of mitigating measures by adjusting, where possible, ECE methods of work and approaches to developing its normative, policy guidance and other products. In particular, ECE organized official intergovernmental meetings either as English-only informal consultations or hybrid/virtual meetings with reduced servicing capacity, including interpretation facilities. While it helped to ensure business continuity, that adjustment reduced the networking opportunities for participants that would, in general, support the negotiation and decision-making process. It also reduced the participation of delegations from member States where English was not an official language, thus affecting both the normative work and the sharing of national experiences and lessons learned. By engaging in an informative learning curve on how to conduct United Nations business online, ECE also organized new webinars and online capacity-building workshops targeted at the same groups of stakeholders and experts that used to participate in the work of ECE. While not all areas of work lent themselves to online approaches, including owing to the lack of interpretation services and differences in time

zones, for those topics and settings that did there were significantly higher rates of participation by experts, improved control of agendas and more cross-cutting themes discussed. On the basis of those lessons, ECE will build on the advantages of virtual and in-person interactions while minimizing their relevant shortcomings.

Legislative mandates

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

General Assembly resolutions

66/288	The future we want	74/144	Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto: accessibility
67/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community		
67/290	Format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum 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
69/277	Political declaration on strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations		
69/313	Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)	74/231	Development cooperation with middle-income countries
70/1	Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	74/235	Women in development
71/14	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization	74/271	Progress towards an accountability system in the United Nations Secretariat
71/16	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization	74/297	Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
72/237	South-South Cooperation	74/306	Comprehensive and coordinated response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic
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	75/8	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM
73/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative	75/9	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States
73/195	Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration	75/12	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization
74/122	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly	75/216	Disaster risk reduction
		75/221	Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
74/128	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly	75/233	Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1998/46	Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields	2006/38	Workplan on reform of the Economic Commission for Europe and revised terms of reference of the Commission
		2013/1	Outcome of the review of the 2005 reform of the Economic Commission for Europe

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

A (64)	The work of the Economic Commission for Europe	A (66)	Endorsement of the High-level statement on the post-2015 development agenda and expected sustainable development goals in the ECE region
A (65)	Outcome of the review of the 2005 reform of ECE	A (68)	High-level statement
		B (68)	Extension of the mandate of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

Deliverables

20.18 Table 20.1 lists the crosscutting deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2020–2022.

Table 20.1

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				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	23	20	33	22
1. Documentation for the Economic Commission for Europe	–	–	10	–
2. Documentation for meetings related to follow-up on global conferences or to cross-sectoral issues	3	2	3	2
3. Documentation for the ECE Executive Committee	20	18	20	20
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	13	11	23	17
4. Meetings of the Economic Commission for Europe	–	–	4	–
5. Meetings related to follow-up of global conferences or to cross-sectoral issues	3	1	3	3
6. Meetings of the ECE Executive Committee	5	6	7	5
7. Meetings of the SPECA Working Group on Gender and SDGs of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia	2	1	2	2
8. Meetings of the Fifth Committee	1	1	1	1
9. Meetings of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	1	1	1	1
10. Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Coordination	1	1	1	1
11. Meetings of the regional collaborative platform	–	–	4	4
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	–	1	–	–
12. Project on improving knowledge of ECE member States to design and implement integrated policies in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at regional and national levels (ECE nexuses project)	–	1	–	–
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	28	18	28	20
13. Training courses for government officials and private sector (women entrepreneurs) on women's entrepreneurship	28	18	28	20
Publications (number of publications)	3	2	3	3
14. Publication on the regional implementation of, follow-up on and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	1	–	1	1
15. Publication on gender for sustainable development	1	1	1	1
16. Publication on technical cooperation for the 2030 Agenda	1	–	–	–
17. ECE annual report	–	1	1	1

Category and subcategory	2020 planned	2020 actual	2021 planned	2022 planned
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: advisory services to up to 4 member States implementing the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework process and “One United Nations” programme.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: promotional materials (brochures, banners, panels, posters and postcards); films on ECE activities.				
External and media relations: ECE weekly newsletter; press conferences on ECE activities; press releases on ECE activities, for regional and global access.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: update and maintenance of the website of the Executive Committee, the gender website and the technical cooperation activities website; update and maintenance of the website providing access to information and documents related to ECE as a whole; and news on ECE activities on 4 social media platforms.				

Evaluation activities

- 20.19 The following self-evaluations completed in 2020 have guided the proposed programme plan for 2022:
- (a) Self-evaluation on Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews and the Subregional Innovation Policy Outlook (subprogramme 4);
 - (b) Self-evaluation on ECE collaboration with United Nations and other partners in delivering on energy for sustainable development (subprogramme 5);
 - (c) Self-evaluation on advancing intergovernmental work towards the implementation of the 2017 Lisbon Ministerial Declaration and the regional implementation strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing commitments (subprogramme 8).
- 20.20 The findings of the self-evaluations referenced above have been considered for the programme plan for 2022. For example, in line with the principles of the United Nations Evaluation Group, ECE evaluations are intended to promote organizational learning, contribute to improvements in programme performance and ensure the accountability of the Secretariat. For subprogramme 4, the recommendations arising from the evaluation of Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews, namely, to enhance the coherence of the collaboration with United Nations entities and other stakeholders through joint activities and to more systematically collect peer review comments in writing, will be duly incorporated into future Reviews. For subprogramme 5, the recommendations arising from the evaluation of ECE collaboration with United Nations and other partners in delivering on energy for sustainable development, namely, to continue efforts to mobilize extrabudgetary resources for enduring technical assistance and advisory interventions to support the development of policy and legal frameworks, strengthen institutions and build capacity, will be duly incorporated. For subprogramme 8, the recommendations arising from the evaluation on efforts to advance intergovernmental work towards the implementation of the Lisbon Ministerial Declaration and the Regional Implementation Strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on commitments, namely, to ensure greater coherence on ageing issues at national and regional levels by strengthening the linkages between the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goal reporting frameworks with Plan of Action/Regional Implementation Strategy commitments, will be duly incorporated. In 2022, ECE will continue to strengthen the role of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives. Since 2017, the Secretariat has reported on key results of evaluations to the Executive Committee on an annual basis. The annual report on evaluations contains summaries of key evaluations, plans and recommendations for future actions; it also indicates the recommendations that were closed during the period.
- 20.21 The following self-evaluations are planned for 2022:
- (a) Self-evaluation on the relevance of the Forest Products Annual Market Review to the needs of member States and challenges in the forest sector (subprogramme 7);

- (b) Self-evaluation on the country profiles on urban development, housing and land management and smart sustainable city profiles as tools to support the evidence-based approach to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (subprogramme 8);
- (c) Self-evaluation on the activities serviced by ECE under the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) and its Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (2018–2021) (subprogramme 1).

Programme of work

Subprogramme 1 Environment

Objective

- 20.22 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to improve environmental governance and performance for safeguarding the environment and health.

Strategy

- 20.23 The strategy of the subprogramme is based on the implementation of the core interlinked functions of international policy dialogue, normative work, capacity-building and the dissemination of good practices and lessons learned in the areas of air quality, water, industrial safety, public participation, impact assessment, environmental monitoring and assessment, environmental performance, education for sustainable development, and mainstreaming of environmental concerns into other dimensions of sustainable development. Through its work, the subprogramme will contribute to the four ECE nexuses, as reflected in paragraph 20.5 above.
- 20.24 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will support the implementation of outcomes of global and regional summits and conferences, and support and promote the implementation by countries of the ECE multilateral environmental agreements, contributing to achieving mainly Sustainable Development Goals 3, 6, 9, 11 to 13, 15 and 17, through the core interlinked functions reflected in paragraph 20.23 above. In addition, it will support and promote the implementation by countries of the ECE policy tools that include the ECE Environmental Performance Review Programme, contributing to achieving mainly Goals 6, 11 to 13 and 15; the ECE Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Programme, contributing to achieving mainly Goal 17; the ECE strategy for education for sustainable development, contributing to achieving Goals 4 and 12; and the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme, contributing to achieving mainly Goals 3, 11, 13 and 17. Furthermore, the subprogramme will support and promote the sharing of information (e.g., through the Shared Environmental Information System), experiences and good practices in the ECE region. The subprogramme will continue to promote synergies between ECE multilateral environmental agreements, through joint activities.
- 20.25 The subprogramme will also continue to conduct Environmental Performance Reviews, assisting countries in the implementation of the recommendations from those Reviews and monitoring the impact of the recommendations on national policies. Using a country needs-based approach, the subprogramme will support countries, with a focus on those in the Caucasus, Central Asia and Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, in environmental policymaking, monitoring, assessment and management, including by providing an intergovernmental platform for representative policymaking and decision-making, organizing workshops and training events, and providing advisory services. Work will also be undertaken with interested non-ECE countries, including those wishing to join the multilateral environmental agreements that are open to global accession.

- 20.26 The subprogramme plans to support member States on issues related to COVID-19 by developing policy packages and/or recommendations, such as providing concrete recommendations for member States addressing emerging issues related to the work of the subprogramme, including ensuring effective access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in the case of a crisis that have been identified as being of concern during the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent economic recovery phase.
- 20.27 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:
- (a) Improved environmental governance and performance;
 - (b) Strengthened integration of environmental concerns into sectoral policies in the ECE member States;
 - (c) Strengthened capacities of countries for the effective development and implementation of environmental legislation and policy;
 - (d) Improved response to environmental challenges by ECE member States;
 - (e) Enhanced cross-border cooperation between countries and effective international and national cooperation;
 - (f) Strengthened implementation of ECE multilateral environmental commitments and increased geographical coverage.
- 20.28 The planned support on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to result in the strengthened integration of environmental concerns into sectoral policies during the subsequent post-pandemic economic recovery phase in the ECE member States.

Programme performance in 2020

- 20.29 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 rights of the public to information on, participation in and justice for environmental matters during the COVID-19 pandemic

- 20.30 The Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters and its Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers provide for several obligations specifically relevant in the context of COVID-19. The two treaties are the only global legally binding instruments that give the public broad and concrete rights to participate in decision-making and to have access to information and justice regarding the environment. In doing so, the Convention links environmental and human rights and is intended to protect the rights of both present and future generations so that they can live in a healthy environment. The provision of access to information in accordance with the Convention covers issues related to COVID-19 matters, such as the origin of the virus and its related impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems and on other aspects of the environment, as well as on human health. In turn, public participation in decision-making concerns legislation, plans, policies and projects related to these matters. In the response to present threats to human health and/or the environment posed by COVID-19, it is required under the Convention that all information that could enable the public to take measures to prevent or mitigate harm arising from the threat and that is held by a public authority be disseminated immediately and without delay to those who may be affected.
- 20.31 ECE services all activities under the Convention and its Protocol. The work done under the Convention and its Protocol not only maintained, but also strengthened the rights mentioned above in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, given that they embody the right to a healthy environment. In 2020, the subprogramme supported, among other activities, the project on the Shared Environmental Information System and organized thematic sessions, open to all United Nations Member States, dedicated to the requirements under the Convention and its Protocol also in

the context of COVID-19, focusing on, for example, public litigation, the protection of defenders of the environment, public participation in trade negotiations, pollutant release and transfer registers, and digital transformation to support the circular economy, biosafety and community resilience. These activities are intended to help parties and other interested member States to enhance governance and accountability and to promote more effective and inclusive decision-making in environmental matters. In addition, the activities are intended to help to build public consensus on environmental issues and public ownership of solutions and decisions, which also leads to increased social cohesion and strengthened communities.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 20.32 The above-mentioned work contributed to the objective, as demonstrated, for example, by the improved capacity of Kazakhstan (see ECE/MP.PP/C.1/2021/6) to meet the requirements of the Convention by holding public hearings during the COVID-19 pandemic through videoconferencing. In addition, through the advisory support provided by the Convention's Compliance Committee,¹ Kazakhstan and other parties and interested States Members of the United Nations received concrete recommendations on how to ensure effective access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in the case of a crisis such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent economic recovery phase (see table 20.2).

Table 20.2
Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)
—	—	Strengthened capacity of parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters and other interested States Members of the United Nations to ensure effective access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice during the COVID-19 pandemic

Impact of COVID-19 on subprogramme delivery

- 20.33 Owing to the impact of COVID-19 during 2020, the subprogramme changed the approach to the organization of intergovernmental meetings, seminars and workshops. It also delayed by one year or more delivery of two reviews undertaken by the ECE Environmental Performance Reviews Programme. Owing to travel and lockdown restrictions, the Programme had to postpone to 2021 fact-finding missions on the third Review of Azerbaijan and the second one of Morocco (originally planned, respectively, for the spring and autumn of 2020). The subprogramme has also reconsidered its way of conducting capacity-building activities, and the organization of several capacity-building events online allowed for reaching out to new audiences. However, it proved challenging to organize virtual capacity-building events for some regions, owing to the difficulty in ensuring interpretation and differences in time zones. Consequently, some capacity-building activities had to be postponed.
- 20.34 At the same time, however, the subprogramme identified additional and modified activities to support member States on issues related to COVID-19, within the overall scope of its objectives. In

¹ See statement of the Compliance Committee on the application of the Aarhus Convention during the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic recovery phase. Available at https://unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/pp/compliance/CC-67/ece.mp.pp.c.1.2020.5.add.1_advance_unedited.pdf.

particular, the subprogramme helped countries to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic with policy packages that increased resilience and supported a green economic recovery; initiated the preparation of new principles on green and healthy sustainable transport, taking stock of experiences from the pandemic; reconfigured a United Nations Development Account project under the Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Programme to strengthen the capacity of target countries in producing environment- and health-related indicators and their use in decision-making on environment and health topics; and, through the advisory support provided by the Compliance Committee, provided concrete recommendations for Kazakhstan and other interested parties and member States on how to ensure effective access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice in the case of a crisis such as the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent economic recovery phase. The new and modified deliverables contributed to results in 2020, as specified in the emerging result for 2020 above.

Planned results for 2022

- 20.35 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: extension of the life of nuclear power plants²

Programme performance in 2020

- 20.36 The subprogramme has, through the secretariat to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention), supported the substantive work, including through assisting in the development of the relevant documents and the organization of meetings of the ad hoc working group established at the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties, held in Minsk from 13 to 16 June 2017. Twenty-nine parties to the Convention have nominated their representatives to participate in the work of the ad hoc working group, to achieve progress in the preparation of the draft guidance on the applicability of the Convention to the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants. Results of the work were presented for the consideration of the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment at its meeting held in a hybrid format in Geneva from 24 to 26 August 2020. However, work of the ad hoc group was significantly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, owing to which three meetings of the group were cancelled, and work was continued through a written procedure and virtual meetings. Eventually, the agreement on the text was reached, and it was submitted to the Meeting of the Parties for adoption at its eighth session, held in Vilnius from 8 to 11 December 2020.
- 20.37 The above-mentioned work contributed to the adoption at the eighth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention of guidance on extending the life of nuclear power plants, which met the planned target of the adoption of the guidance, reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020.

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.38 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's work will evolve to include support for the continuous application by member States of the principles of the guidance in the activities under the Convention. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see table 20.3).

² As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect. 20)).

Table 20.3
Performance measure

<i>2018 (actual)</i>	<i>2019 (actual)</i>	<i>2020 (actual)</i>	<i>2021 (planned)^a</i>	<i>2022 (planned)</i>
Absence of guidance on extending the life of nuclear power plants	Development of guidance on extending the life of nuclear power plants	Adoption of guidance will ensure that parties take due account of the outcome of the transboundary environmental impact assessment in their final decisions on extending the life of nuclear power plants	Wide dissemination and application by countries of the guidance on extending the life of nuclear power plants	Continuous application by member States of the principles of the guidance in the activities under the Convention through the parties taking into account the contents of the guidance when implementing the Convention, the Implementation Committee considering the guidance when performing its functions and the parties widely disseminating the guidance to authorities and relevant stakeholders

^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: enhanced environmental performance in the Economic Commission for Europe region³

Programme performance in 2020

- 20.39 The subprogramme has finalized and published the third Environmental Performance Review of Uzbekistan, which includes an assessment of relevant targets of the Sustainable Development Goals. Owing to the COVID-19 emergency, the national launch of the Review was replaced by a broad online promotion through mass media and social platforms. The subprogramme also worked on the third Environmental Performance Review of Romania, which was expert reviewed at the end of October, peer reviewed and adopted in mid-November and published in 2021. Furthermore, the subprogramme developed new approaches to conducting its country review missions in the times of pandemic, such as hybrid missions or virtual missions, depending on the reviewed country's willingness and operational feasibility to organize such missions. The missions include field visits (e.g., landfills, wastewater treatment plants and protected areas) and plenary and individual meetings with the representatives of the government, local authorities, academia, business, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

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

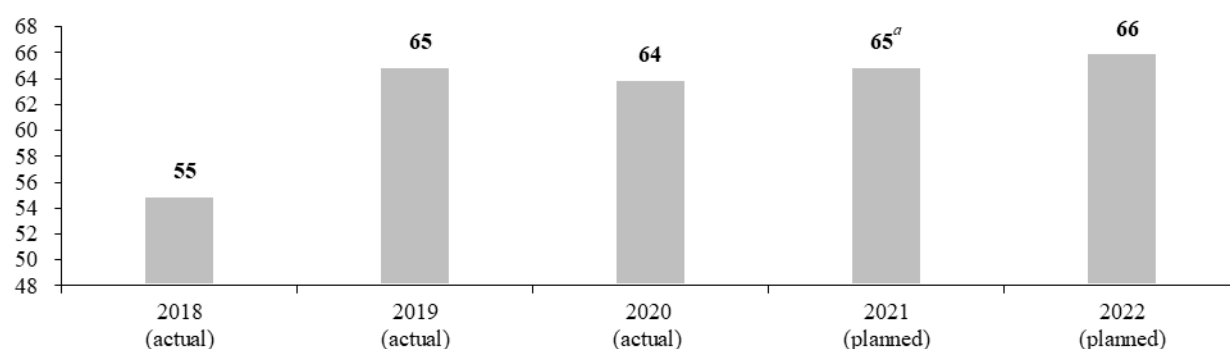
- 20.40 The above-mentioned work contributed to achieving 64 targets of the Sustainable Development Goals covered by Environmental Performance Reviews, which met the planned target reflected in the programme budget for 2021.

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.41 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 undertake Environmental Performance Reviews of requesting countries, including assessing relevant targets of the Sustainable Development Goals. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.I).

Figure 20.I

Performance measure: total number of targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development covered by Environmental Performance Reviews in a year



^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 information for strengthening transboundary water cooperation

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.42 More than 60 per cent of freshwater worldwide flows in basins are shared by two or more countries. Transboundary water cooperation is therefore crucial for peace, sustainable development and human well-being. However, only 17 countries worldwide had all their transboundary basins covered under operational arrangements for water cooperation in 2018. Since 2017, the subprogramme's water team has been working to support more than 150 United Nations Member States that share transboundary waters to report on indicator 6.5.2 (Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation) of the Sustainable Development Goals. Providing information as part of the reporting template contributes to the strengthening of transboundary water cooperation and the achievement of target 6.5 of the 2030 Agenda.
- 20.43 Reporting on indicator 6.5.2 is organized in three-year cycles, with the first cycle held in 2017 and the second one in 2020. ECE and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization are co-custodian agencies for indicator 6.5.2. ECE communicates data on the indicator for transboundary river and lake basins to the Statistical Commission on an annual basis. The data are then included in the progress report of the Secretary-General on the Sustainable Development Goals. A baseline report for indicator 6.5.2 was published in 2018, with the next progress report expected in 2021. For parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, reporting on indicator 6.5.2 and under the Convention is combined.
- 20.44 During the period 2017–2020, the subprogramme coordinated the preparation and revision of the reporting template and the development of guidance documents to facilitate the reporting on

indicator 6.5.2. It organized numerous expert meetings and global and regional capacity-building activities to raise awareness of the reporting process and foster high-quality reporting and the coordination of reports at the basin level. Owing to additional challenges faced by the countries in time of the COVID-19 pandemic regarding the timely preparation and submission of reports and the organization of consultations within the countries and at basin level, the subprogramme organized a series of online capacity-building activities.

Lessons learned and planned change

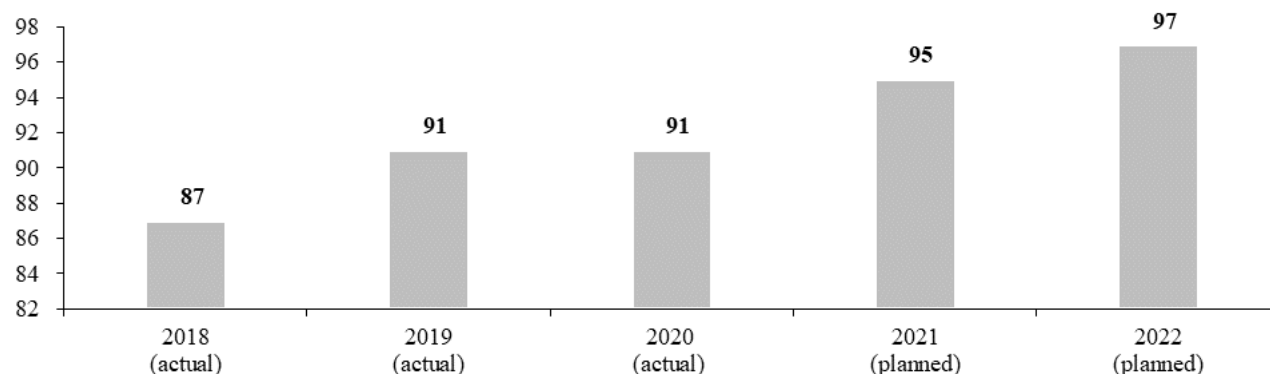
- 20.45 The lesson for the subprogramme was that the subprogramme's support had not been sufficient for ensuring high-quality reporting by all countries sharing transboundary surface waters. Thus, an effective and structured approach should be established and sufficient resources allocated to support efforts by countries sharing transboundary waters in reporting on indicator 6.5.2 and using the reports for identifying and addressing gaps in transboundary water cooperation. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will facilitate the exchange of experiences among countries; design and implement capacity development activities to support countries in improving the quality of reporting and informing policy processes on transboundary water cooperation, including in the light of the challenges related to COVID-19; develop an online platform/data system to facilitate the reporting process and analysis; improve communication of results; and develop complementary activities supporting countries in transboundary water cooperation.

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

- 20.46 This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by 97 countries that provide accurate data on indicator 6.5.2 for transboundary river and lake basins, as validated by the subprogramme and communicated to the Statistical Commission in 2022 (see figure 20.II).

Figure 20.II

Performance measure: total number of countries for which data on transboundary river and lake component of indicator 6.5.2 are submitted to the Statistical Commission (cumulative)



Legislative mandates

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

General Assembly resolutions

2994 (XXVII)	United Nations Conference on the Human Environment	70/209	United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005–2014)
47/193	Observance of World Day for Water	71/222	International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028
62/68	Consideration of prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm	71/313	Work of the Statistical Commission pertaining to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
64/200	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction	72/222	Education for sustainable development in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
67/291	Sanitation for All		
69/172	Human rights in the administration of justice		
69/215	International Decade for Action, “Water for Life”, 2005–2015, and further efforts to achieve the sustainable development of water resources	73/226	Midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028
69/235	Industrial development cooperation	73/238	The role of the international community in the prevention of the radiation threat in Central Asia
70/169	The human right to safe drinking water and sanitation		

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

CEP/AC.13/2005/2	Report of the high-level meeting of environment and education ministries (2005) adopting the ECE strategy for education for sustainable development	ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/2/Add.1	Declaration: “Save water, grow green!” by ministers of the region of ECE, report of the seventh Ministerial Conference, entitled “Environment for Europe”, 2011
ECE/BELGRADE.CONF/2007/4/Add.1	Statement on education for sustainable development by the ministers of education and of the environment of the ECE region adopted at the joint session on education for development of the sixth Ministerial Conference, entitled “Environment for Europe”, 2007	ECE/BATUMI.CONF/2016/2/Add.1	Declaration: “Greener, cleaner, smarter!” by ministers of the region of ECE, report of the eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, 2016
ECE/AC.21/2014/2	Report of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment, 2014	ECE/BATUMI.CONF/2016/2/Add.2	Batumi ministerial statement on education for sustainable development adopted by the high-level meeting of education and environment ministries of the region of ECE, report of the eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, 2016

Relevant decisions of the governing bodies of the multilateral environmental agreements of the Economic Commission for Europe

ECE/EB.AIR/144 and Add.1 and Add.2	Report of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution on its thirty-ninth session	ECE/MP.PP/2017/16-ECE/MP.PRTR/2017/2 and Add.1	Report of the Joint High-level Segment of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters on its sixth session, the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers on its third session, and the Budva Declaration on Environmental Democracy for Our Sustainable Future, adopted at the two Meetings of the Parties
ECE/MP.PRTR/2017/6 and Add.1	Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters on its third session		
ECE/MP.PP/2017/2 and Add.1	Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters on its sixth session	ECE/MP.EIA/23-ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/7 and Add.1, Add.2 and Add.3	Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context on its seventh session, and the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment on its third session

ECE/MP.EIA/27- ECE/MP.EIA/ SEA/11 and Add.1	Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment on their intermediary sessions	ECE/MP.WAT/54 and Add.1 and Add.2	Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes on its eighth session, including the strategy for the implementation of the Water Convention at the global level
ECE/CP.TEIA/42 and Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents on its eleventh meeting	ECE/MP.WH/19 and Add.1 and Add.2	Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes on its fifth session

Deliverables

20.48 Table 20.4 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 20.4

Subprogramme 1: 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				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	211	149	190	192
1. Documentation for the Committee on Environmental Policy and subsidiary bodies	82	17	30	37
2. Documentation for the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and subsidiary bodies and Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health and subsidiary bodies	8	14	30	30
3. Documentation for the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents and subsidiary bodies	18	18	–	15
4. Documentation for the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution and subsidiary bodies	34	32	34	34
5. Documentation for the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and subsidiary bodies and Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and subsidiary bodies	24	29	10	10
6. Documentation for the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters and subsidiary bodies and Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Register to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters and subsidiary bodies	38	33	71	50
7. Documentation for the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment and subsidiary bodies	7	6	4	5
8. Documentation for the Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development	–	–	11	11
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	251	207	243	228
9. Meetings of the Committee on Environmental Policy and subsidiary bodies	40	21	30	27
10. Meetings of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and subsidiary bodies and Meetings of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health and subsidiary bodies	47	38	48	46
11. Meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents and subsidiary bodies	30	22	17	22

Part V Regional cooperation for development

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2020 actual</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>
12. Meetings of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution and subsidiary bodies	30	22	31	31
13. Meetings of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and subsidiary bodies and Meetings of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and subsidiary bodies	33	34	34	34
14. Meetings of the Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters and subsidiary bodies and Meetings of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Register and subsidiary bodies	67	66	74	60
15. Meetings of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment and subsidiary bodies	4	4	3	2
16. Meetings of the Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development	–	–	6	6
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	48	31	71	20
17. Workshops on environmental issues, including on air quality, water, industrial safety, public participation, environmental assessment, monitoring and performance and education for sustainable development, for government officials and other stakeholders in the ECE region to improve environmental governance and performance	48	31	71	20
Publications (number of publications)	11	5	11	13
18. Guidance, policy briefs, good practice publications on environmental issues and multilateral environmental agreements administered by the subprogramme	6	3	6	8
19. Progress reports and performance reviews on environmental issues	2	1	2	4
20. Multilateral environmental agreements administered by the subprogramme, after amendments enter into force	1	–	1	0
21. Publications on the multilateral environmental agreements administered by the subprogramme	2	–	2	1
22. Measuring and monitoring progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (ECE nexuses publication)	–	1	–	–
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: advisory services for some 100 government officials and other stakeholders of States participating in the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia on water, energy and other environmental issues.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: Environmental Performance Review (synopsis and highlights) to facilitate broad dissemination and user-friendly access to key messages and recommendations by representatives of at least 6 categories of stakeholders, such as Government, local authorities, academia, business and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as mass media in the reviewed countries; electronic newsletter of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment submitted to all member States in the region, including representatives of Government, academia and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.				
External and media relations: press releases on environmental issues.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: update and maintenance of the website of the subprogramme.				

Subprogramme 2 Transport

Objective

- 20.49 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to advance a regionally and globally sustainable inland transport (road, rail, inland waterway and intermodality) system by making it safer, cleaner, more efficient and more affordable, both for freight transport and people's mobility.

Strategy

- 20.50 The ECE transport subprogramme is carried out by the programme of work adopted by the Inland Transport Committee. In its capacity as the United Nations platform for inland transport, the Committee's role is to help to efficiently address regional and global needs in inland transport.⁴ Through, among others, its 20 working parties and 14 administrative committees, the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals and more than 50 formal and informal networks bringing together some 6,000 registered experts, the subprogramme promotes regionally and globally sustainable transport systems.
- 20.51 The core pillar of its work is to administer the international regulatory framework for inland transport, which currently includes 59 United Nations legal instruments on safety, pollution, efficiency and effectiveness (normative function), by developing new and updating existing legal instruments, as necessary.
- 20.52 At the request of member States and contracting parties, the subprogramme services the institutional platforms for national Governments and other key transport stakeholders to maintain this regulatory framework, complemented by policy dialogue, analytical work, technical assistance and capacity-building activities. The subprogramme also contributes to the work of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Road Safety and the operation of the United Nations Road Safety Fund, intended to facilitate improvements in road safety globally. Under emergency situations, including pandemics, the subprogramme also supports the efforts of member States to respond to and recover from such extraordinary circumstances, while minimizing disruptions to the functioning of the national, regional and international transport systems and the implementation of the sustainable development agenda. This work is expected to contribute to all four ECE nexuses.
- 20.53 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will intensify its standard-setting and regulatory activities as the United Nations platform for inland transport conventions, by supporting the development of new instruments and the updating of existing ones and ensuring that they remain up-to-date and open to all United Nations Member States. These activities are expected to support Governments in making progress towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 3, 6 to 9 and 11 to 13. The subprogramme will also work through the Inland Transport Committee plenary sessions and its subsidiary bodies towards ensuring that its regulatory functions are keeping pace with cutting-edge technologies driving transport innovation, especially in the areas of intelligent transport systems, autonomous vehicles and digitalization; that the different amendment processes for the various conventions do not cause fragmentation; and that the dangers of stifling progress owing to premature regulation are avoided. In addition, the subprogramme will provide a platform for policy dialogue at the annual session of the Committee to review emerging challenges and emergency situations in inland transport and proposals for improving infrastructure and operation. Furthermore, the subprogramme will provide an institutional platform through the Committee and its subsidiary bodies supporting regional and interregional connectivity, and developing new or building on existing initiatives, agreements or corridors.

⁴ Inland Transport Committee strategy until 2030 ([ECE/TRANS/288/Add.2](#), paras. 4–6).

- 20.54 The subprogramme plans to support member States on issues related to COVID-19 by supporting the adoption by the Inland Transport Committee at its plenary sessions of high-level political statements and/or resolutions on concerted action by member States and contracting parties during pandemics and other emergencies that will strengthen or enable the implementation of emergency-relevant decisions and mandates by the Committee, its subsidiary bodies and their members. The subprogramme will also promote knowledge-sharing and cooperation among Governments and key stakeholders, raise awareness of emerging issues and best responses, facilitate technically the adaptation of legally binding instruments and frameworks to the new realities, and prepare new guidance materials.
- 20.55 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:
- (a) Improvements in sustainable mobility, and monitoring and measuring the Sustainable Development Goals;
 - (b) Improvements in inland transport, leading to safer, cleaner, more efficient and more affordable systems for contracting parties to the United Nations inland transport conventions;
 - (c) More efficient and resilient cross-border flows of goods and people.
- 20.56 The planned support on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to result in enhanced intergovernmental cooperation in emergency situations and minimized disruptions in the continued implementation and updating of United Nations inland transport conventions.

Programme performance in 2020

- 20.57 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 implementation of legal instruments in inland transport in response to COVID-19

- 20.58 The uninterrupted implementation of the planned work of the transport subprogramme, which is in line with the programme of work adopted by the Inland Transport Committee, is essential for the implementation, development and constant updating of the international regulatory framework for inland transport, which currently includes 59 United Nations legal instruments under the purview of the Committee. This work promotes sustainable transport systems worldwide that are safe, green, efficient and affordable, for both freight transport and personal mobility.
- 20.59 COVID-19 and liquidity constraints created enhanced needs for providing support to member States and contracting parties in the implementation of their obligations under legal instruments and in the provision of proper guidance on downstream legislation. A characteristic example is the cancellation of a combined 20 official three-hour sessions in June and July for two worldwide bodies serviced by ECE, namely, the two subcommittees under the Economic and Social Council Committee on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals: the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals and the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods. These bodies have a worldwide scope and work with interpretation in five languages (Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish). Their deliberations and decisions have profound impacts globally on safety and the environment for all modes of transport, as well on workplace and consumer safety. These decisions cannot be taken informally. This situation has created significant pressure to find alternative ways, including through the deployment of new technologies, to allow these and other regulatory bodies to progress as much as possible in their work, even if only on critical business matters, to minimize the impact on downstream legislation worldwide.
- 20.60 The subprogramme developed response measures, including the development and implementation of a new generation of legal instruments supporting the digitalization/computerization of transport and border-crossing procedures, and the deployment of existing mechanisms and networks in order to accelerate the post-COVID-19 economic recovery of contracting parties to support the efforts of member States towards a sustainable recovery. Those measures included the leveraging and

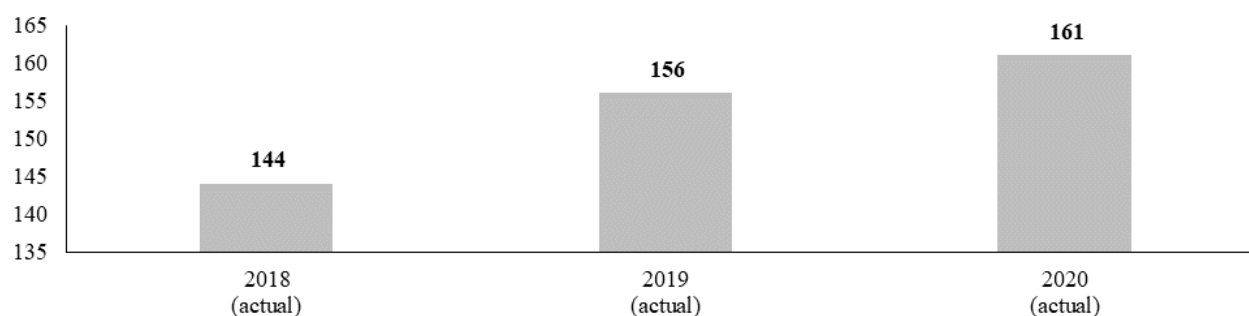
acceleration of digitalization/computerization of existing legal instruments on transport and border-crossing procedures, such as the (eTIR) international system and eCMR. The acceleration of eTIR development and its promotion as the tool that ensures paperless, seamless and contactless border-crossing operations, while keeping the borders open and keeping drivers and customs officers protected from the virus, was welcomed by contracting parties to the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR). To date, 16 contracting parties have officially requested connection to eTIR, while several meetings have already been held with the European Commission (28 European Union member States) to analyse the interconnection of eTIR with New Computerized Transit System of the European Union. Furthermore, building on the network of member States/contracting parties and key transport stakeholders established pursuant to the underlying legal instruments, the subprogramme developed the “Observatory on border crossings status due to COVID-19”, a platform that provides updated information on the current border-crossing status of 174 United Nations Member States, including the national practices and measures implemented in response to the pandemic.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 20.61 The above-mentioned work contributed to the objective, as demonstrated by the increased accessions to these instruments (see figure 20.III).

Figure 20.III

Performance measure: total number of accessions by Member States to key legal instruments for the digitalization/computerization of transport and border-crossing procedures (CMR, eCMR and TIR), 2018–2020 (cumulative)



Abbreviations: CMR, Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road concerning the electronic consignment note; eCMR, Additional Protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road concerning the electronic consignment note; TIR, Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets.

Impact of COVID-19 on subprogramme delivery

- 20.62 Owing to the impact of COVID-19 during 2020, the subprogramme had to cancel, shorten or postpone beyond 2020 key meetings and negotiations. Although goals that capture in part the worldwide work of the subprogramme, as set out in results 2 and 3 below, were met/exceeded, COVID-19 and liquidity constraints had a severe impact on the delivery of the planned work of the subprogramme in other areas by, among other things, compromising its key assets (i.e., its convening power and normative work). Mitigating measures summarized in paragraph 20.16 above helped to ensure business continuity, at least on some issues, although at a rate not sustainable or on par with worldwide demands and needs. The planned work that was affected included sessions of subsidiary Working Parties (Working Party on Lighting and Light-Signalling, Working Party on Pollution and Energy, Working Part on General Safety Provisions, Working Party on Passive Safety and Working Party on Automated/Autonomous and Connected Vehicles) on vehicle regulations, which were held without interpretation and virtually with reduced agendas and decisions adopted under silence procedures. Contracting parties requested 37 half-day morning sessions to be cancelled in order to accommodate

participation from various time zones. Overall, as a result of a combination of COVID-19 response measures and liquidity constraints, only 68 per cent of planned meetings were implemented in 2020 and only 34 per cent of total planned meetings with interpretation services were organized.

- 20.63 At the same time, however, the subprogramme identified additional and modified activities to support Member States on issues related to COVID-19, within the overall scope of its objectives, namely, establishing new platforms to share knowledge and promote cooperation among Governments and key stakeholders under emergency situations, including pandemics; raising awareness of emerging issues and best responses related to COVID-19; facilitating technically the adaptation of legally binding instruments and framework to the new realities; and preparing new guidance materials related to COVID-19. The new and modified deliverables contributed to results in 2020, as specified in the emerging result for 2020 above.

Planned results for 2022

- 20.64 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: enhanced regulatory framework for sustainable inland transport systems⁵

Programme performance in 2020

- 20.65 The subprogramme has, through the implementation of the Inland Transport Committee's strategy until 2030, scaled up its efforts, including through advisory services, seminars and workshops, to support the development of sustainable inland transport systems internationally and ensure that its activities further benefit other regions in their own efforts to curb the number of road traffic deaths and injuries; improve the environmental performance of the inland transport systems, including regarding the transport of perishable foodstuffs; and enhance efficiency and connectivity, including through digitalization and electronic documents in transport. The subprogramme also supported the participation of countries from outside the ECE region in the activities of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies. Furthermore, the subprogramme scaled up outreach and capacity-building activities, including through partnerships with the United Nations system and external stakeholders and participation in regional and global initiatives.
- 20.66 The above-mentioned work contributed to increased accessions worldwide to conventions and agreements under the purview of the subprogramme, with 1,801 contracting parties in 2020, which exceeded the planned target of 1,755 contracting parties, reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020.

Proposed programme plan for 2022

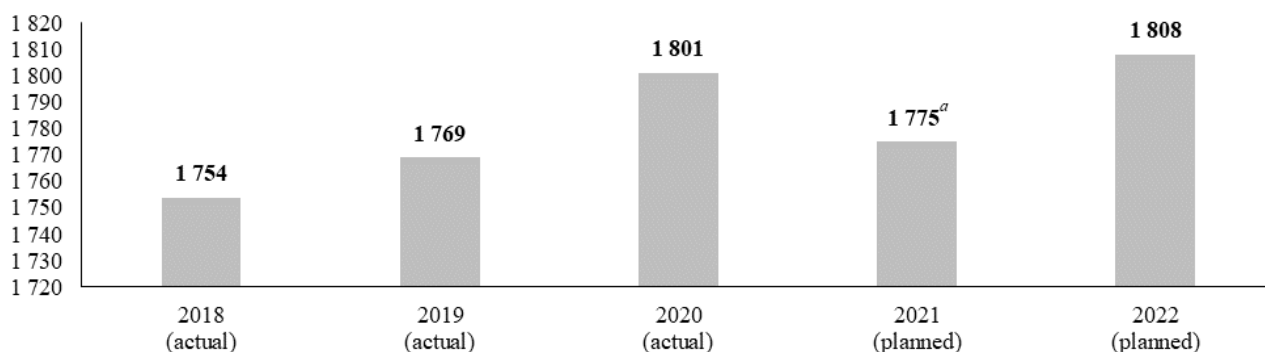
- 20.67 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will further scale up its efforts to support the development of sustainable inland transport systems internationally that are more resilient to pandemics and other emergencies, and ensure that its activities further benefit other regions' efforts to curb the number of road traffic deaths and injuries; improve the environmental performance of the inland transport systems, including regarding the transport of perishable foodstuffs; and enhance efficiency and connectivity, including through digitalization and electronic documents in transport. The subprogramme plans to do so through the implementation of the Inland Transport Committee's strategy until 2030 by, among other things, accelerating the modernization and updating of relevant legal instruments in ways that are consistent with the lessons learned from the pandemic and address identified gaps in the existing regulatory framework, encouraging the participation of countries from outside the ECE region in the activities of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies and scaling up outreach and capacity-building activities, including through

⁵ As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect. 20)).

partnerships with the United Nations system and external stakeholders and participation in regional and global initiatives. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.IV).

Figure 20.IV

Performance measure: total number of contracting parties to United Nations legal instruments on transport administered by the Economic Commission for Europe (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: increased number of new United Nations Member States becoming part of the regulatory framework for sustainable inland transport systems⁶

Programme performance in 2020

- 20.68 The subprogramme has strengthened its outreach, especially in the area of road safety, to increase the number of new United Nations Member States becoming part of the United Nations regulatory framework for sustainable inland transport systems by acceding to its conventions for the first time. The subprogramme also continued its dedicated work on amendments supporting the further globalization of its legal instruments, thus making it easier for new countries to accede. Furthermore, the subprogramme implemented or supported capacity-building workshops and country-level policy reviews that further clarified the advantages of the implementation, especially to Member States that, until 2020, were not contracting parties to any of the legal instruments under its purview.
- 20.69 The above-mentioned work contributed to the accession in 2020 of two new Member States, Brunei Darussalam and Honduras, to United Nations road safety conventions, thus reaching 150 of 193 Member States that are contracting parties to at least 1 United Nations convention under the purview of the subprogramme, which exceeded the planned target of one additional ECE member State and/or United Nations Member State that is a contracting party to United Nations inland transport conventions under the purview of the Commission, reflected in the programme budget for 2021.

Proposed programme plan for 2022

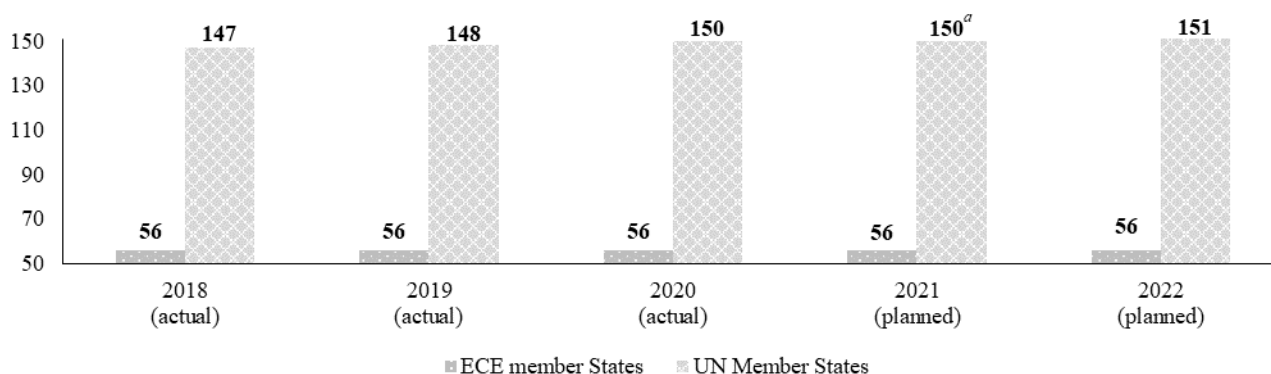
- 20.70 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will strengthen its outreach, including through core partners, to increase the number of new United Nations Member States becoming contracting parties to conventions under its purview. The subprogramme will also continue the further globalization of its legal instruments, thus making it easier and more appealing for new countries to accede. The subprogramme plans to identify common gaps and trends in non-accession countries, through official comparative research papers on regional dynamics, and apply its capacity development strategy in a targeted way in order to build institutional knowledge

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

within those countries, related in particular to the comparative advantages of deploying internationally established instruments, rather than “reinventing the wheel”, thus contributing to the further development of an internationally harmonized regulatory system. Furthermore, the subprogramme will organize or support capacity-building workshops and country-level policy reviews that would further clarify the advantages of the implementation, especially to Member States that, until 2020, were not contracting parties to any of the legal instruments under its purview. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.V).

Figure 20.V

Performance measure: total number of Economic Commission for Europe member States and total number of United Nations Member States that are contracting parties to United Nations inland transport conventions under the purview of the Commission (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 regulatory support in road safety contributing to fewer worldwide road accident fatalities and injuries

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.71 Notwithstanding strong and consistent efforts by Member States, the international community was not able to achieve by 2020 target 3.6 of Sustainable Development Goal 3 of halving global deaths from road traffic accidents, owing to increasing, rather than decreasing, road fatalities and injuries globally. There were three milestones in 2020 for the global community's and United Nations efforts to recognize the shortcomings and address that challenge: the third Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety, held in Stockholm on 19 and 20 February 2020; the adoption by the Inland Transport Committee, at its eighty-second session, of the Committee's recommendations on enhancing national road safety systems; and General Assembly resolution [74/299](#) on improving global road safety, adopted on 31 August 2020. All three milestones served as recognitions of the unique and critical role of ECE and, by extension, the transport subprogramme in successfully addressing the continuing crisis and establish mandates for the enhanced support of ECE for worldwide efforts. Through the adoption in 2019 of the Committee's strategy until 2030, the subprogramme formulated a 360-degree approach – regulatory, policy dialogue, analytical, capacity-building and technical assistance – to road safety in order to reap more benefits for its main beneficiaries. The approach comprises outreach to increase the number of countries acceding to its core road safety conventions, which support countries' efforts to develop sound national road safety systems; continued development of the international legal framework and its incorporation into the production of safer vehicles; dedicated work on amendments to legal instruments to accelerate their further globalization, which make it easier for countries to accede and contribute to reducing disastrous road safety risks; and national road safety performance reviews and road safety system assessments that will complement the efforts of Member States to enhance their national road safety systems, by helping them, among

other things, to identify gaps, prioritize tasks and channel national efforts and financial resources to high-impact investments that are based on reliable, structured and consistent analysis and recommendations. The foundation and conceptual framework for these assessments is the Committee's recommendations on enhancing national road safety systems.

Lessons learned and planned change

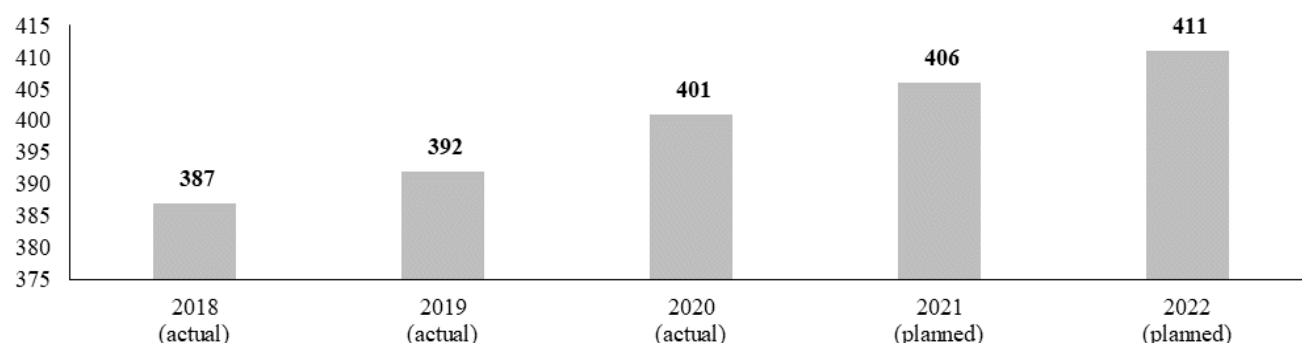
- 20.72 The lesson for the subprogramme was that its needed to adjust its approach and focus in step with the needs of Member States, where there is a growing and strong demand, including outside the ECE region, to adjust and increase the support for a systematic, foundational approach to road safety that is needed in order to bring the desired results. The global community is increasingly realizing, as evidenced in General Assembly resolution [74/299](#), the unique contribution that the subprogramme can make.
- 20.73 In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will encourage the participation of countries from outside the ECE region in the road safety activities of the Inland Transport Committee and its subsidiary bodies and scale up outreach and capacity-building activities to increase knowledge of the Committee's recommendations and enhance their implementation by national road safety authorities, including through partnerships with the United Nations system and external stakeholders and participation in regional and global initiatives. Furthermore, to accelerate improvements in road safety globally, the subprogramme will contribute to ECE efforts to mobilize political and policy support for road safety through the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Road Safety and the operation of the United Nations Road Safety Fund, such as through supporting the submission and implementation of joint projects supported through the Fund. As part of its response, the subprogramme will also contribute to the formulation of a coherent global plan of action to support the success of the second Decade of Action for Road Safety. In order to achieve all this, the subprogramme will leverage new technologies, when possible, minimize disruptions in the continued implementation and updating of United Nations inland transport conventions, and ensure continued progress in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

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

- 20.74 This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by the growing number of contracting parties to the seven core United Nations road safety conventions (see figure 20.VI).⁷

Figure 20.VI

Performance measure: total number of contracting parties to core United Nations road safety conventions (cumulative)



⁷ Convention on Road Traffic, 1949; Convention on Road Traffic, 1968; Convention on Road Signs and Signals, 1968; Agreement concerning the Adoption of Uniform Conditions of Approval and Reciprocal Recognition of Approval for Motor Vehicle Equipment and Parts, 1958; Agreement concerning the Adoption of Uniform Conditions for Periodic Technical Inspections of Wheeled Vehicles and the Reciprocal Recognition of such Inspections, 1997; Agreement Concerning the Establishing of Global Technical Regulations for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be fitted and/or be used on Wheeled Vehicles, 1998; Agreement Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road, 1957.

Legislative mandates

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

General Assembly resolutions

58/9	Global road safety crisis	70/217	Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries
68/269	Improving global road safety		
69/137	Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024	72/212	Strengthening the links between all modes of transport to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals
69/213	Role of transport and transit corridors in ensuring international cooperation for sustainable development	72/271 73/243	Improving global road safety
70/197	Towards comprehensive cooperation among all modes of transport for promoting sustainable multimodal transit corridors	74/299	Follow-up to the Second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries
			Improving global road safety

Economic and Social Council resolutions

1999/65	Reconfiguration of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods into a Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals	2013/7 2019/7	Europe-Africa fixed link through the Strait of Gibraltar
			Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

ECE/AC.21/2014/2	Report of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment on its fourth session	ECE/TRANS/274	Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its eightieth session
ECE/TRANS/224	Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its seventy-fourth session (UNECE Road Map for promoting ITS-20 global actions 2012–2020)	ECE/TRANS/288	Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its eighty-first session (adopting Ministerial Resolution on enhancing cooperation, harmonization and integration in the era of transport digitalization and automation; Committee resolution no. 265 on the ministerial declaration “Inland Navigation in a Global Setting” and on facilitating the development of the inland water transport; and the Committee strategy until 2030)
ECE/TRANS/236	Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its seventy-fifth session (Joint Declaration on the promotion of Euro-Asian Rail Transport and Activities towards Unified Railway Law; and Joint Statement on Future Development of Euro-Asian Transport Links)	B (66)	Endorsement of the Geneva Charter on Sustainable Housing
ECE/TRANS/248	Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its seventy-seventh session	ECE/TRANS/294	Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its eighty-second session (adopting Ministerial Declaration on enhancing sustainable inland transport solutions to global climate and environmental challenges: a united call to action)
ECE/TRANS/254	Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its seventy-eighth session		
ECE/TRANS/270	Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its seventy-ninth session (Ministerial Resolution on embracing the new era for sustainable inland transport and mobility)		

Decisions of the treaty bodies of United Nations transport agreements

E/ECE/TRANS/505/Rev.3	1958 Agreement Concerning the Adoption of Harmonized Technical United Nations Regulations for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be Fitted and/or be Used on Wheeled Vehicles and the Conditions for Reciprocal Recognition of Approvals Granted on the Basis of these United Nations Regulations	ECE/RCTE/CONF/4	1997 Agreement concerning the adoption of uniform conditions for periodical technical inspections of wheeled vehicles and the reciprocal recognition of such inspections
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ECE/TRANS/132	1998 Agreement concerning the establishment of global technical regulations for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or used on wheeled vehicles	ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/125	Report of the Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention 1975 on its sixty-first session (annex II, "Joint statement on the computerization of the TIR procedure")
ECE/TRANS/ADN/CONF/10/Add.1	European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways		

Deliverables

20.76 Table 20.5 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 20.5

Subprogramme 2: 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				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	1 660	1 040	1 264	1 293
1. Documentation for the Inland Transport Committee	1 331	907	1 077	1 023
a. Inland Transport Committee and Bureau	31	31	31	31
b. World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations	840	504	580	420
c. Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs	33	23	33	33
d. Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	214	149	214	214
e. Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics and subsidiary groups of experts	32	20	20	26
f. Working Party on Transport Statistics	14	14	14	14
g. Working Party on Road Transport and subsidiary groups of experts	10	4	10	18
h. Global Forum for Road Traffic Safety and subsidiary groups of experts	16	15	16	40
i. Working Party on Rail Transport and subsidiary groups of experts	12	29	26	34
j. Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics	11	12	15	15
k. Working Party on Inland Water Transport	47	60	41	47
l. Working Party on Customs Questions Affecting Transport and subsidiary groups of experts	71	46	71	131
2. Documentation for the Economic and Social Council	324	129	190	265
a. Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals	5	5	1	5
b. Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	257	101	157	200
c. Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals	62	23	32	60
3. Documentation for the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment	5	4	3	5
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	369	253	364	423
4. Meetings of the Inland Transport Committee	327	232	327	381
a. Inland Transport Committee and Bureau	16	15	16	16
b. World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations	111	75	111	111
c. Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs	8	8	8	16
d. Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	58	32	68	58
e. Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics and subsidiary groups of experts	32	13	22	22
f. Working Party on Transport Statistics	6	3	6	6

Part V Regional cooperation for development

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2020 actual</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>
g. Working Party on Road Transport and subsidiary groups of experts	6	6	6	12
h. Global Forum for Road Traffic Safety and subsidiary groups of experts	14	20	14	28
i. Working Party on Rail Transport and subsidiary groups of experts	6	17	6	18
j. Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics	6	6	6	6
k. Working Party on Inland Water Transport	18	15	18	18
l. Working Party on Customs Questions Affecting Transport and subsidiary groups of experts	46	22	46	70
5. Meetings of the Economic and Social Council	40	20	35	40
a. Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals	1	1	0	1
b. Subcommittee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	29	14	25	29
c. Subcommittee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals	10	5	10	10
6. Meetings of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment	2	1	2	2
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	2	2	2	2
7. Project on the Trans-European North-South Motorway	1	1	1	1
8. Project on the Trans-European Railway	1	1	1	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	13	19	13	11
9. Workshops for government officials and other stakeholders in the ECE region and in contracting parties to legal instruments under the purview of the Inland Transport Committee on intelligent transport systems; transport statistics and trends; road, rail, inland water, intermodal and intersectoral transport issues; and vehicle agreements and regulations	9	14	9	8
10. Seminars for national coordinators, experts, customs officials and transport industry on the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets and the Trans-European North-South Motorway and Trans-European Railway projects	4	5	4	3
Publications (number of publications)	13	13	12	10
11. Publications on transport of dangerous goods	3	3	3	2
12. Publications on transport of perishable foodstuffs	–	–	1	1
13. Publications on transport facilitation	–	–	1	–
14. Publications on green and safe transport and cross-cutting issues	8	8	5	5
15. Publications on vehicle regulations	1	1	1	1
16. Publications on statistics	1	1	1	1
Technical materials (number of materials)	2	2	2	1
17. Fact sheet: what you should know about safety belts	1	1	–	–
18. Fact sheet: what you should know about advanced driver assistance systems	–	–	1	–
20. Transport statistics – country profiles	1	1	1	1
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: advisory services for contracting parties of United Nations transport conventions administered by ECE on legal instruments relating to inland transport; facilitation of transport; border crossing; road safety; vehicle construction; and transport of dangerous goods and other special cargo.				
Databases and substantive digital materials: update and maintenance of the International TIR Data Bank website providing access to users from more than 70 contracting parties of the TIR Convention, which includes the list of the more than 32,000 transport companies authorized to use the TIR system; TIR and eTIR websites visits in excess of 19,000 annually; inventory of standards on inland water infrastructure; web-based inventory of existing European Agreement on Main International Railway Lines and European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations standards and				

Category and subcategory	2020 planned	2020 actual	2021 planned	2022 planned
parameters; databases on transport statistics, road traffic accidents, transport of dangerous goods, transport of perishable foodstuffs, urban transport and transport and environment; development and maintenance of the web-based Rail Security Observatory; digitalized signs and signals (E-CoRSS) under the Convention on Road Signs and Signals; and smart and sustainable connectivity e-learning platform.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: information materials on legal instruments and activities of the subprogramme for universal and regional access.				
External and media relations: press releases for the subprogramme.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: digital platforms and multimedia content on sustainable transport and mobility; and update and maintenance of the website of the subprogramme for universal and regional access.				

Subprogramme 3 Statistics

Objective

- 20.77 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to advance official statistics at the national and international levels for evidence-based policymaking and assessing progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and to ensure the coordination of statistical activities in the ECE region under the Conference of European Statisticians.

Strategy

- 20.78 The strategy of the subprogramme is based on the implementation of the core interlinked functions, namely, the streamlining of international statistical work in the ECE region by promoting dialogue at the Conference of European Statisticians and expert meetings; methodological work to develop and promote guidelines and recommendations to enhance the quality of statistics; statistical capacity development of ECE member States with less developed statistical systems, in particular to measure progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals; and the maintenance and development of the ECE statistical database. ECE statistical work is strongly anchored to the 2030 Agenda, which contains calls for a follow-up on and review of the achievement of the Goals and their targets based on evidence, informed by high-quality, accessible, timely, reliable and disaggregated data. Through its work, the subprogramme will contribute to the ECE nexuses on measuring and monitoring the Goals and on the sustainable use of natural resources. The work conducted under this subprogramme deals mainly with statistical methodology and capacity-building, and the main national partners are national statistical offices of member States.
- 20.79 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will continue to promote methodological work to develop statistical models, guidelines and recommendations to enhance the quality of statistics, and to promote the use of official statistics. This will be done through regional and country-specific initiatives aimed at disseminating the statistical models, guidelines and recommendations and promoting their use. Closer partnerships will be built between geospatial experts and statisticians to support the integration of statistical and geospatial information. The activities will be coordinated and implemented in cooperation with statistical departments of other regional entities such as Eurostat, OECD, the European Free Trade Association, the Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Eurasian Economic Commission, as well as international specialized agencies active in the region. To support the development of the statistical capacity of member States, the subprogramme will facilitate the exchange of experiences in the field of population and housing censuses and provide support to countries in planning and conducting their census. All member States were requested to conduct at least one census between 2015 and

2024 (see Economic and Social Council resolution [2015/10](#)), which was also called the “2020 census round”. The majority of the countries in the ECE region will conduct the census in 2021.

- 20.80 The subprogramme plans to support member States on issues related to COVID-19 by refocusing existing activities relating to specific subject matter domains (e.g., population censuses, price statistics and environment statistics) to include exchanges of experiences and good practices in compiling COVID-19-relevant statistics while adapting to the restrictions imposed owing to the pandemic. Activities in cross-cutting topics such as statistics for the Sustainable Development Goals, statistical legislation, data collection, data integration, dissemination and human resource management will also be adapted to support countries as they recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 20.81 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:
- (a) Improved statistical methodology and capacity of member States to support the measuring and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals, including the improved cost-efficiency, coverage, accuracy, comparability and timeliness of dissemination of the census results;
 - (b) An increase in the number of countries that conduct the census through innovative and efficient approaches.
- 20.82 The planned support on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to result in improved capacity of member States to provide the statistics necessary to develop evidence-based policies to manage the post-COVID recovery.

Programme performance in 2020

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

Improved measurement of economic globalization and of the activities of multinational enterprise groups

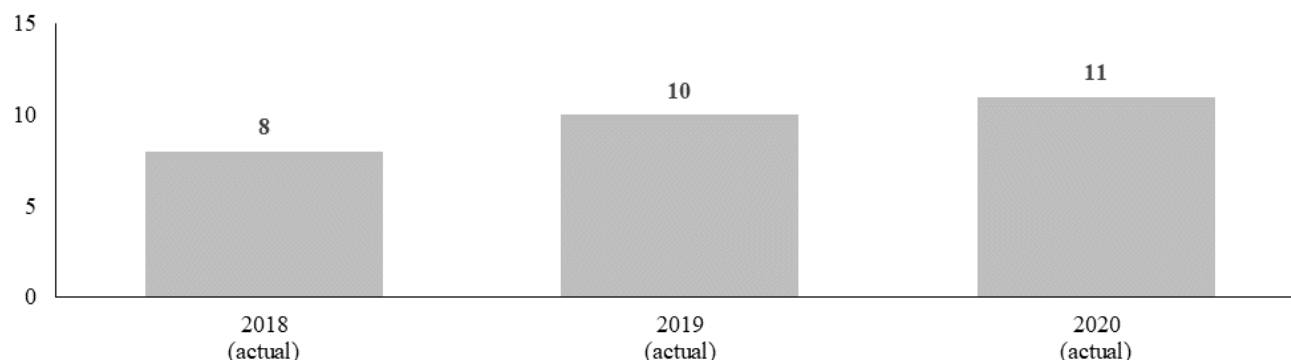
- 20.84 Economic globalization and the activities of multinational enterprises play a large and growing role in national economies. Measuring economic globalization and the activities of multinational enterprises is a major challenge facing producers of official statistics. To this end, over the past decade, the subprogramme has developed recommendations and guidelines to assist countries in measuring economic globalization. In 2020, the *Guide to Sharing Economic Data in Official Statistics* was finalized and published. This follows in the steps of two previous guides on globalization: “The impact of globalization on national accounts” (2011) and the “Guide to measuring global production” (2015).
- 20.85 The subprogramme also promoted the implementation of the recommendations included in the guides through the establishment of large cases units in national statistical offices. These units are intended to measure multinational enterprises and incorporate their activities into national economic statistics. Furthermore, the subprogramme promoted a global network of data experts on multinational enterprises, to which a number of countries have assigned dedicated staff. To support countries’ compilation of high-quality and internationally comparable macroeconomic statistics during the COVID-19 pandemic, ECE provided internationally agreed recommendations and continuity guidance.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 20.86 The above-mentioned work contributed to the objective, as demonstrated by the number of countries that have established large cases units to support the measurement of economic globalization, which increased to 11 in 2020 (see figure 20.VII).

Figure 20.VII

Performance measure: total number of countries that have established large cases units (cumulative)



Impact of COVID-19 on subprogramme delivery

- 20.87 Owing to the impact of COVID-19 during 2020, the subprogramme had to change its plans for all in-person meetings (and, in some cases, cancel or postpone the meetings) that had been planned after mid-March. The subprogramme adopted mitigation measures, such as informal virtual or hybrid meetings and new webinars focusing on the impact of COVID-19 and response by national statistical offices. In some cases, formal meetings were replaced by informal meetings owing to limited capacity at the United Nations Office at Geneva to provide interpretation for virtual meetings.
- 20.88 At the same time, however, in addition to discussing the impact of COVID-19 and the statistical responses by countries at virtual and hybrid meetings, often having this as the main discussion topic, the subprogramme identified new and modified existing activities to support member States on COVID-19-related issues, within the overall scope of its objectives. An interactive online platform on COVID-19 and official statistics was set up and made available on the ECE website, to guide statistical producers to existing and newly developed resources from ECE and partners to support the continued production of official statistics and to meet the emerging and rapidly changing demands for statistics. The platform offers a space for national statistical offices and international organizations to raise questions and share experiences and developments to safeguard statistical production in the face of the current crisis, providing support to the recovery efforts of member States.

Planned results for 2022

- 20.89 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: increasing the number of countries producing improved statistics for the Sustainable Development Goals⁸

Programme performance in 2020

- 20.90 The subprogramme has supported countries in producing improved statistics for the Sustainable Development Goals by providing practical guidance to implement the *Conference of European Statisticians Road Map on Statistics for Sustainable Development Goals*. These include guidance on setting up national reporting platforms on the Goals, reports from piloting Goal indicator data transmission and good practices in communicating data on the Goals. To provide easy access to the guidance materials and data on the Goals, ECE has set up a regional platform on statistics for the Goals, consisting of a knowledge hub and dashboard and database of indicators for the ECE region.

⁸ As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect. 20)).

Work is ongoing on preparing the second edition of the *Road Map* to address the new challenges in providing statistics for the Goals, including in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Furthermore, the subprogramme is bringing together experts from national statistical, mapping and geospatial agencies to share good practices in integrating geospatial and statistical information that is crucial for the measurement of progress towards achieving the Goals. This was done through a collaboration agreement and joint plenary session of the governing bodies (Conference of European Statisticians and the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (Europe)), joint task teams (e.g., on aligning geospatial and statistical standards), coordinating capacity-building and organizing joint seminars and webinars.

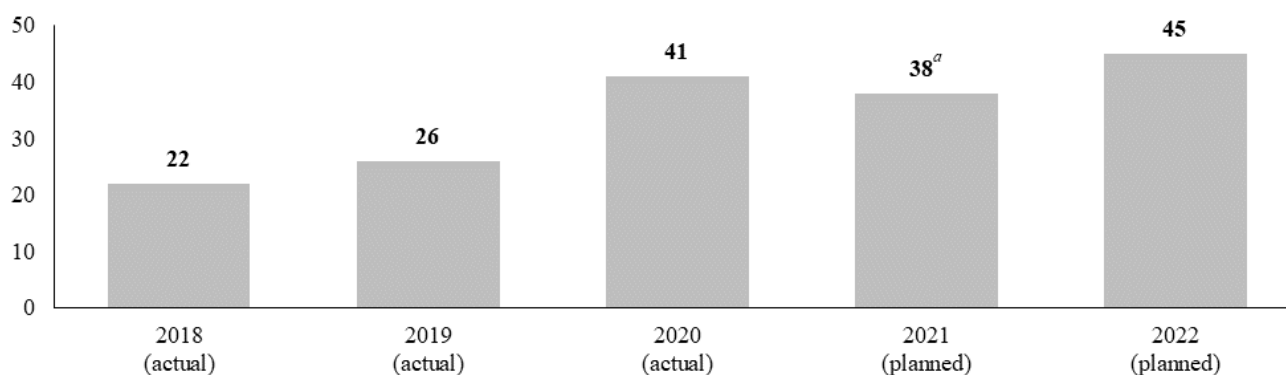
- 20.91 The above-mentioned work contributed to the increased availability of statistics on the Sustainable Development Goals from ECE countries. A total of 41 ECE member States have set up national reporting platforms providing data on Goal indicators, which exceeded the planned target of 30 countries, reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020. A few more countries are in the process of developing such a platform, including Bosnia and Herzegovina, where ECE is providing capacity development support for this purpose.

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.92 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 to provide practical guidance to countries on the implementation of the planned second edition of the *Conference of European Statisticians Road Map on Statistics for Sustainable Development Goals*. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.VIII).

Figure 20.VIII

Performance measure: total number of national reporting platforms on statistics for Sustainable Development Goals in use by member States (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: conducting a new population and housing census that provides cost-effective and better-quality results⁹

Programme performance in 2020

- 20.93 The subprogramme has supported member States in the planning and conduct of the population and housing censuses, in accordance with the “Conference of European Statisticians recommendations for the 2020 censuses of population and housing”. It has conducted a review of the short- and long-term consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on census operations and organized expert meetings

⁹ As reflected in the programme budget for 2021 (A/75/6/Add.1).

to exchange experiences among member States and to identify successful solutions in the context of the pandemic. The subprogramme also enhanced its online platform for the exchange of experiences and methodological information on the censuses. These activities have supported ECE member States in adapting their census plans and operations to the context of the pandemic while maintaining the information content and achieving cost-efficiency, coverage and accuracy of the census.

- 20.94 The above-mentioned work contributed to the completion of population and housing censuses in 21 per cent of ECE member States, which did not meet the planned target of 25 per cent, reflected in the programme budget for 2021. For most countries, the census is conducted in a way that requires in-person visits of enumerators, which were not possible during the COVID-19 pandemic on the intended scale. These circumstances forced many countries to postpone the census that they had originally planned for 2020.

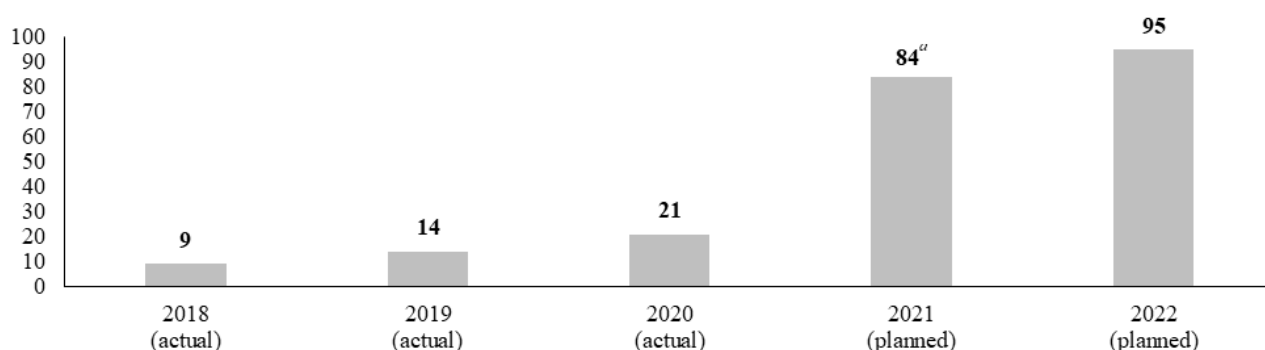
Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.95 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 organize expert meetings to exchange experiences and conduct methodological work to improve the use of administrative data for population and housing censuses. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.IX).

Figure 20.IX

Performance measure: Economic Commission for Europe countries having conducted a census in compliance with the Conference of European Statisticians recommendations

(Percentage)



^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: increasing the number of countries that report sex-disaggregated statistical indicators

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.96 Gender data and indicators are in high demand for understanding the situation with respect to gender equality and for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals and the impact of different policies on women and men. The subprogramme develops statistical capacity and promotes the use of advanced methodologies for producing data and indicators of gender equality.

Lessons learned and planned change

- 20.97 The lesson for the subprogramme was that, during the COVID-19 crisis, questions surrounding the economic impact on women and men, the burden of childcare amid school closures and the link between social isolation measures and gender-based violence further increased the demand on timely gender statistics. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will organize ECE expert meetings and

capacity-building workshops to discuss the responses of national statistical offices to these challenges. The expert exchanges and capacity development will lead to the production of improved statistical indicators from a gender perspective and their improved availability.

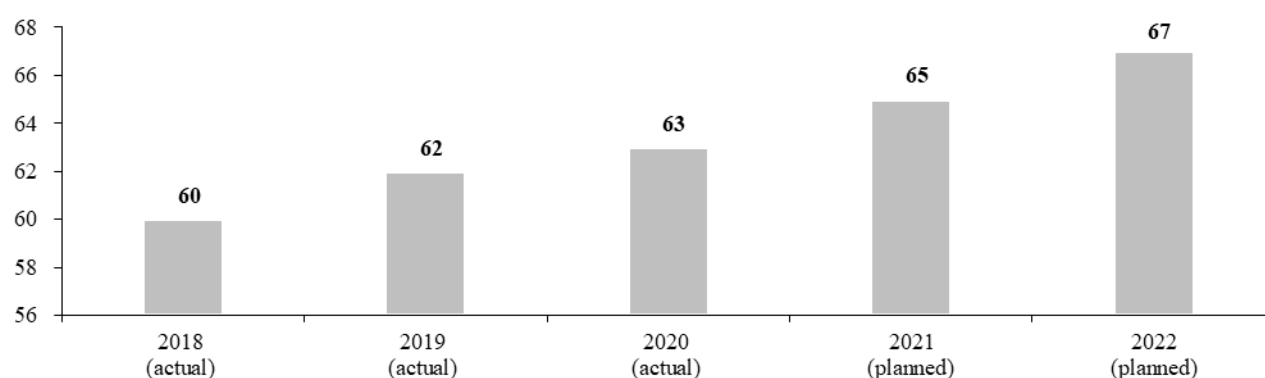
Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 20.98 This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by the increased availability of sex-disaggregated indicators in the ECE Sustainable Development Goals database. This is measured as the average percentage of sex-disaggregated indicators available for ECE member States (see figure 20.X).

Figure 20.X

Performance measure: sex-disaggregated indicators available for Economic Commission for Europe member States in the ECE Sustainable Development Goals database

(Percentage)



Legislative mandates

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

General Assembly resolutions

67/144	Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women	72/234	Women in development
68/261	Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics	73/148	Intensification of efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls: sexual harassment
69/210	Entrepreneurship for development		
69/282	World Statistics Day		

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2006/6	Strengthening statistical capacity	2018/5	Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all
2014/7	Further implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002	2018/7	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system
2015/10	2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme		
2016/27	Strengthening institutional arrangements on geospatial information management	2020/5	Strengthening coordination of the statistical programmes in the United Nations system
2017/7	Work of the Statistical Commission pertaining to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development		

Economic and Social Council decisions

2013/235	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-fourth session (Statistical Commission decision 44/105: Environment statistics)	2018/227	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-ninth session (Statistical Commission decision 49/101: Global indicator framework for Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)
2014/219	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-fifth session (Statistical Commission decision 45/101: Implementation of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics)	2018/227	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-ninth session (Statistical Commission decision 49/102: Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)
2014/219	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-fifth session (Statistical Commission decision 45/103: Programme review: broader measures of progress)	2018/227	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-ninth session (Statistical Commission decision 49/108: Regional statistical development)
2014/219	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-fifth session (Statistical Commission decision 45/110: Big data and modernization of statistical systems)	2018/227	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-ninth session (Statistical Commission decision 49/113: Climate change statistics)
2015/216	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-sixth session (Statistical Commission decision 46/101: Data in support of the post-2015 development agenda)	2018/227	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-ninth session (Statistical Commission decision 49/114: Statistical classifications)
2015/216	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-sixth session (Statistical Commission decision 46/102: Population and housing censuses)	2019/210	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fiftieth session (Statistical Commission decision 50/101: Global indicator framework for Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)
2015/216	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-sixth session (Statistical Commission decision 46/107: International trade and economic globalization statistics)	2019/210	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fiftieth session (Statistical Commission decision 50/103: Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)
2016/220	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-seventh session (Statistical Commission decision 47/102: High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)	2019/210	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fiftieth session (Statistical Commission decision 50/106: National quality assurance frameworks)
2016/220	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-seventh session (Statistical Commission decision 47/112: Climate change statistics)	2019/210	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fiftieth session (Statistical Commission decision 50/116: Disaster-related statistics)
2017/228	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-eighth session (Statistical Commission decision 48/101: Global indicator framework for Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)	2019/210	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fiftieth session (Statistical Commission decision 50/117: International migration statistics)
2017/228	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-eighth session (Statistical Commission decision 48/103: Transformative agenda for official statistics)	2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decision 51/101: Global indicator framework for Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)
2017/228	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-eighth session (Statistical Commission decision 48/107: Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics)	2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decision 51/104: Coordination of statistical programmes)
2017/228	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-eighth session (Statistical Commission decision 48/108: Integration of statistical and geospatial information)	2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decision 51/106: National accounts)
2017/228	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-eighth session (Statistical Commission decision 48/114: Business registers)		

Part V Regional cooperation for development

2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decision 51/107: International trade and business statistics)	2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decision 51/115: Gender statistics)
2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decision 51/108: Price statistics)	2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decision 51/120: Management and modernization of statistical systems)
2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decision 51/110: Environmental-economic accounting)	2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decision 51/123: Integration of statistical and geospatial information)
2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decision 51/112: Demographic statistics)		

Deliverables

20.100 Table 20.6 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 20.6

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

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2020 actual</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	81	71	81	81
1. Documentation for the Conference of European Statisticians	43	38	43	43
2. Documentation for expert bodies	38	33	38	38
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	85	77	85	85
3. Meetings of the Conference of European Statisticians and its Bureau	13	13	13	13
4. Meetings of expert bodies	72	64	72	72
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	1	1	1	1
5. Project on social and economic statistics	1	1	1	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	6	4	6	6
6. Workshops on social and economic statistics	3	1	3	3
7. Workshops on innovating statistical production	3	3	3	3
Publications (number of publications)	9	8	7	7
8. Publications on topics covering multiple statistical areas	1	1	1	1
9. Publications on social, environmental and economic statistics	8	7	6	6
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: advisory services for more than 100 government officials (staff of national statistical systems) and other stakeholders of countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe on economic, social, demographic and environment statistics, statistics for the Sustainable Development Goals, geospatial statistics and institutional issues and modernization of official statistics (4 countries).				
Databases and substantive digital materials: update and maintenance of ECE statistical databases (SDG, population and gender statistics database; economic statistics database; transport database; forestry database).				

Category and subcategory	2020 planned	2020 actual	2021 planned	2022 planned
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D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: leaflets and other promotional materials.

External and media relations: articles for the “UNECE Weekly” and “EnvStats” newsletters for regional access.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: interactive digital workspaces (wikis, including the ECE census wiki); update and maintenance of the website of the subprogramme.

Subprogramme 4 Economic cooperation and integration

Objective

- 20.101 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen policies on innovation, competitiveness and public-private partnerships in the ECE region.

Strategy

- 20.102 The strategy of the subprogramme is based on the implementation of three core interlinked functions in the subprogramme’s two areas of work (innovation and competitiveness policies, and public-private partnerships): international policy dialogue; normative and analytical work; and capacity-building and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned. The two areas of work are complementary. They both contribute to achieving Sustainable Development Goals 8, 9, 12 and 17. Both areas of work also contribute to the ECE nexus areas on sustainable mobility and smart connectivity and on sustainable and smart cities for all ages.
- 20.103 To contribute to the objective in the first of the above two areas of work (i.e., innovation and competitiveness policies), the subprogramme will continue to support member States in creating a business climate that enables and rewards innovative solutions to sustainable development challenges. It will do so by developing good practices on how innovation can advance sustainable development and how Governments can support this; advising, on request, Governments on innovation policy reforms on the basis of analyses of national innovation systems, policies and institutions; and supporting innovation policy reforms by building capacity through workshops and seminars at the national and subregional levels.
- 20.104 To contribute to the objective in the second of the above two areas of work (i.e., public-private partnerships), the subprogramme will promote innovative ways of financing, building and managing infrastructure critical for sustainable development. It will do so by developing international guiding principles and standards on how to design regulatory frameworks for public-private partnerships in various sectors and on how to design partnership projects; developing a methodology to evaluate public-private partnership projects on whether they contribute to sustainable development (“people-first” public-private partnerships) and assessing projects, on request; and providing policy advice and capacity-building to support member States in creating regulatory frameworks and partnership project pipelines to help them to close the Sustainable Development Goal infrastructure financing gap.
- 20.105 The subprogramme plans to support member States on issues related to COVID-19 by focusing some of its policy dialogues, policy analysis, policy recommendations and standards, and capacity-building on the question of how innovation policy and public-private partnership projects can help to turn the crisis into an opportunity by facilitating innovations and developing infrastructure that not only build back, but also build a better, more resilient, sustainable and productive economy in the future.
- 20.106 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in a shared and improved understanding among member States:

- (a) On policy options to harness the power of innovation for sustainable development, and support national innovation policy reforms, in line with international good practice and ECE recommendations;
- (b) On how to design and operate public-private partnerships that contribute to sustainable development and will lead to more “people-first” projects (i.e., projects that not only deliver value for money, but also are ecologically sustainable and socially inclusive), as well as in strengthened capacities for policy and project design and implementation.

20.107 The planned support on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to result in:

- (a) New and better policies supporting innovation in areas critical for resilience and sustainability;
- (b) Better regulatory frameworks supporting investment in resilient and sustainable infrastructure.

Programme performance in 2020

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

Renewed pathway of the Government of Georgia to improve innovation support policies with a view to “building back better” post-COVID-19

20.109 A key part of the work of the subprogramme consists of national Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews developed at the request of member States. These Reviews analyse national innovation performance, systems, institutions and policies in the light of international good practice as developed under the subprogramme, and provide tailored recommendations on how innovation policies can be improved. The subprogramme completed a review of Georgia and developed a shared understanding with the Government of the strengths and weaknesses of current innovation performance and policies, and of policy options for improving innovation performance in pursuit of the country’s sustainable development priorities.

20.110 The subprogramme responded to the COVID-19 pandemic by expanding the assessments and recommendations of the Innovation for Sustainable Development Review of Georgia to provide additional recommendations to the Government on options for strengthening innovation to build back better after the pandemic. These recommendations were based on additional analysis that the subprogramme had carried out on the experience in the entire ECE region on the issue.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

20.111 The above-mentioned work contributed to the objective, as demonstrated by the endorsement of findings and recommendations from the review by the ECE Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies and the publication of the Innovation for Sustainable Development Review (see table 20.7). The Team of Specialists is composed of experts nominated by Governments of the ECE member States.

Table 20.7
Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)
Request received from the Government of Georgia for a national Innovation for Sustainable Development Review; agreement reached on the scope of the Review	Agreement with the requesting Government on the design of the review	ECE Team of Specialists endorses findings and recommendations from the Review, including options for strengthening innovation to build back better after the COVID-19 pandemic

Impact of COVID-19 on subprogramme delivery

- 20.112 Owing to the impact of COVID-19 during 2020, the subprogramme had to limit activities requiring travel, resulting in fewer country missions and consultations facilitating policy reforms being carried out than originally envisaged. In turn, member States undertook fewer policy reform measures than previously expected, as specified under result 1 below.

Planned results for 2022

- 20.113 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: innovation policy outlook for the effective analysis of innovation policies and institutions¹⁰

Programme performance in 2020

- 20.114 The subprogramme completed the subregional innovation policy outlook for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine. The findings and recommendations were endorsed by the subprogramme's intergovernmental process, and the outlook was launched regionally and in the participating countries.
- 20.115 The above-mentioned work contributed to four additional policy measures undertaken by pilot project member States, which did not meet the target of six new policy measures reflected in the programme budget for 2020. This was due to the restrictions imposed during the COVID-19 pandemic, which resulted in fewer country missions and consultations facilitating policy reforms than originally envisaged. Another contributing factor was that some Governments had prioritized the immediate health-care response to the pandemic and were not able to devote as much attention to innovation policy reform as expected when planning the above result.

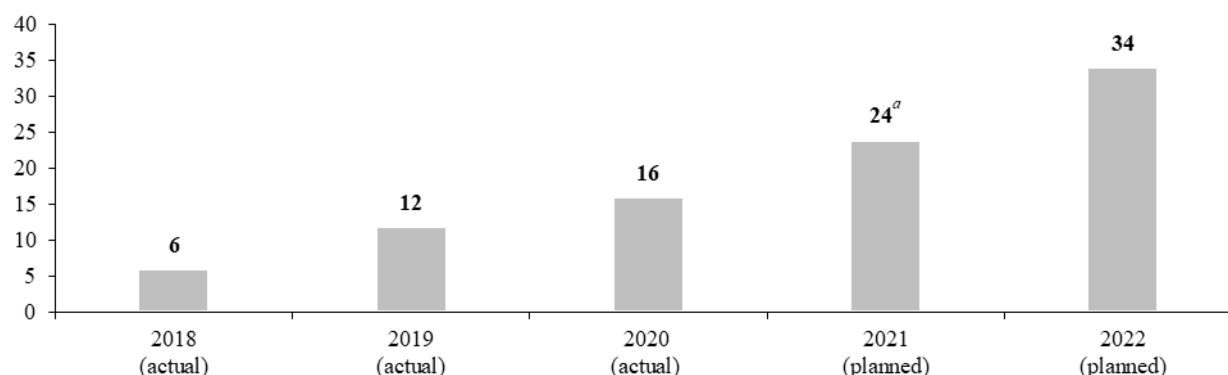
Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.116 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 to support participating member States in implementing national innovation policy reforms on the basis of the recommendations from the subregional innovation policy outlook. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.XI).

¹⁰ As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect. 20)).

Figure 20.XI

Performance measure: total number of national innovation policy measures taken by pilot project member States (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: people-first public-private partnerships to finance sustainable development¹¹

Programme performance in 2020

- 20.117 The subprogramme has developed the evaluation methodology for people-first public-private partnerships (formerly the public-private partnerships project impact assessment tool), circulated it for public review among key public-private partnership stakeholders and incorporated the feedback received. The evaluation methodology is expected to provide member States with additional evidence on the impact and performance of their infrastructure projects. Such evidence will assist member States in prioritizing investments in infrastructure projects that support progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and help to mobilize private finance and innovation capabilities in Goal-compatible projects.
- 20.118 The above-mentioned work contributed to the ECE Working Party on Public-Private Partnerships endorsing the methodology for piloting, which met the planned target for 2020, reflected in the programme budget for 2021. The lessons from the pilot stage will be incorporated into the methodology for final approval.

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.119 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 assess at least an additional 50 public-private partnership projects using the evaluation methodology for people-first public-private partnerships. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see table 20.8).

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

Table 20.8
Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (planned) ^a	2022 (planned)
Member States agreed to set up a project team to develop a project impact assessment tool	The project team was set up and work on the project impact assessment tool commenced	Evaluation methodology endorsed by member States for piloting	At least 100 public-private partnership projects assessed using the evaluation methodology	An additional 50 public-private partnership projects assessed using the evaluation methodology

^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 capacity of member States to use innovation to achieve their sustainable development objectives

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.120 Enhanced cooperation, knowledge-sharing and capacity-building on science, technology and innovation is one of the key means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 17. The evidence collected by the subprogramme and by others shows clearly that economies differ greatly in their capacity to innovate and that Governments differ greatly in their capacity to provide adequate policy support.
- 20.121 The subprogramme has responded to this challenge by creating a broad network of innovation policymakers and other innovation stakeholders from across the ECE region that are sharing their knowledge on innovation policy through regular policy dialogues (contributing to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 17). On the basis of these exchanges of knowledge, the subprogramme has built up, and is continuously adding to, a collection of international good practices. On request, the subprogramme has been analysing the innovation systems, policies and performance of selected member States and has been benchmarking them against these international good practices. On the basis of these analyses (national Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews and subregional innovation policy outlook), the subprogramme has been assessing the strengths and weaknesses of existing innovation policies and providing recommendations for policy improvements to the requesting Governments.

Lessons learned and planned change

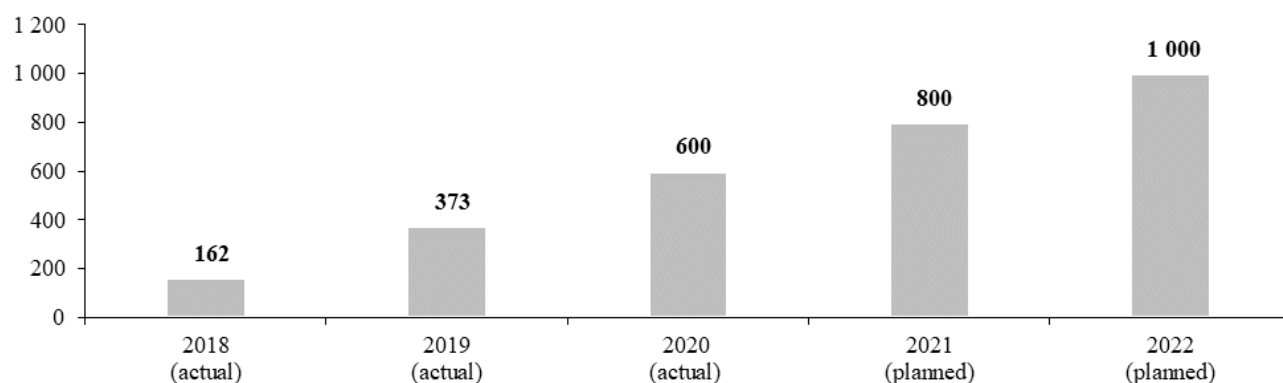
- 20.122 The lesson for the subprogramme was that the medium-term impact of the programme could be improved with the provision of more capacity-building support to Governments as a follow-up to each Innovation for Sustainable Development Review to facilitate the implementation of specific recommendations for policy reforms contained in the Reviews. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will expand its capacity-building support to requesting Governments in the follow-up to national Reviews and subregional innovation policy outlooks (contributing to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 17). Steps in this direction have already been taken in 2019–2020 in follow-up to a national Review of Belarus.

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

- 20.123 This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by an increase of 200 policymakers and other innovation stakeholders from requesting countries benefiting from ECE capacity-building on innovation policy (see figure 20.XII).

Figure 20.XII

Performance measure: total number of policymakers and other innovation stakeholders from requesting countries that have benefited from Economic Commission of Europe capacity-building on innovation policy (cumulative)



Legislative mandates

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

General Assembly resolutions

72/228	Science, technology and innovation for development	74/197	Information and communication technologies for sustainable development
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Economic Commission for Europe decisions

E/ECE/1448	Economic Commission for Europe annual report (24 February 2006–27 April 2007)
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Deliverables

20.125 Table 20.9 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 20.9

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				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	18	12	18	18
1. Documentation for the Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships and its subsidiary bodies	18	12	18	18
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	19	13	19	19
2. Meetings of the Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships and its subsidiary bodies	18	12	18	18
3. Meetings of the Project Working Group on Knowledge-Based Development	1	1	1	1

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	2	—
4. Project on capacity-building for civil servants from countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States on innovation and competitiveness	1	1	1	—
5. Project on capacity-building for civil servants from countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States on public-private partnerships	1	1	1	—
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	24	15	16	16
6. Capacity-building and policy advisory workshops, seminars and training on innovation and competitiveness policies for sustainable development	12	12	8	8
7. Capacity-building and policy advisory workshops, seminars and training on people-first public-private partnerships	12	3	8	8
Publications (number of publications)	3	2	3	3
8. Publication on Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews	1	1	1	1
9. Publication on comparative reviews on innovation policy and/or public-private partnership readiness	2	1	2	2
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: advisory services under the Working Party on Public-Private Partnership and the Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies reaching 30 government ministries and agencies and stakeholder entities.				
Fact-finding, monitoring and investigation missions: preparatory and fact-finding missions for Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews and public-private partnership needs assessments in 3 member States.				
Databases and substantive digital materials: database of infrastructure public-private partnership projects certified and evaluated according to ECE people-first public-private partnership methodology from approximately 15 member States.				
D. Communication deliverables				
External and media relations: press releases and launch events for the above publications for regional, subregional and national access.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: update and maintenance of the subprogramme's website for regional access.				

Subprogramme 5 Sustainable energy

Objective

- 20.126 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to improve access to affordable and clean energy for all and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector in the region.

Strategy

- 20.127 The strategy of the subprogramme is to support international policy dialogue and cooperation among Governments, energy industries and other stakeholders to foster sustainable energy development; develop and deploy ECE policy recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools on energy-related issues; and provide capacity-building and assistance to member States, at their request, through training programmes, advisory services and technical cooperation projects. Through its work, the subprogramme will contribute to the four ECE nexus areas described in paragraph 20.5 above.
- 20.128 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will assist member States in integrating the objectives of Sustainable Development Goals 7 and 13 by reducing the environmental footprint of energy, accelerating deep transformation of the energy sector to meet future needs, ensuring the

sustainable management of resources and assessing options to ensure energy for sustainable development. The subprogramme will promote policy dialogue and cooperation among member States, regional entities and other partners on sustainable energy issues, in particular energy efficiency, cleaner electricity systems, renewable energy, coal mine methane, resource management, natural gas and energy security through regional and country-specific initiatives aimed at improving cooperation. The initiatives include the establishment of international centres of excellence to disseminate ECE best practice guidance on methane management, the ECE Framework Guidelines for Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings and the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources, and the conduct of dialogue among countries on pathways to sustainable energy. The subprogramme will provide technical assistance and guidance on energy, disseminate best practices and improve information-sharing. The subprogramme will promote collaboration among actors who are key to implementing national and regional policies. The promotion includes the engagement of stakeholders in developing normative instruments and the encouragement of private and public actors in the deployment and dissemination of the instruments.

- 20.129 The subprogramme plans to support Member States on issues related to COVID-19 through work on sustainable resource management to ensure the availability of critical materials and activities on high-performance buildings to improve indoor air quality and health. This work will include further development and implementation of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources and the United Nations Resource Management System for application to raw materials through workshops, capacity-building and case studies, and the deployment and dissemination of the high-performance buildings initiative (training, capacity-building and extension of the initiative's networks).
- 20.130 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:
- (a) More effective integration of sustainable energy across national policies and normative frameworks in support of the 2030 Agenda;
 - (b) Enhanced dialogue and cooperation among all energy actors to boost transformational investment in the energy sector and, consequently, accelerate the modernization of the energy system to meet countries' development and climate commitments.
- 20.131 The planned support on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to result in:
- (a) Greater availability of raw material resources needed for surveillance, response and recovery from current and future pandemics, including the raw materials needed to produce personal protection equipment, drugs, vaccines and essential services such as food, water and energy;
 - (b) Improvement in the performance of buildings from a health perspective (e.g., temperatures, comfort, effective air intake and recycling filters), which will improve the protection and resilience of populations.

Programme performance in 2020

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

Securing the supply of critical raw materials through sustainable resource management

- 20.133 The demand for natural resources such as energy, minerals and freshwater is increasing at an exponential rate. The amount of natural resources used in the ECE region is doubling every 25 to 30 years. The consumption is unsustainable, given the environmental impacts, waste problems and carbon emissions. The subprogramme developed the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources, which includes guidelines and best practices for the energy and mineral sectors that integrate social and environmental considerations fully to facilitate the attainment of affordable and clean energy. A range of guidelines, best practices and case studies was either updated or developed for the Framework Classification to extend its evaluation parameters to better embrace social, environmental and economic considerations and to facilitate application by countries.

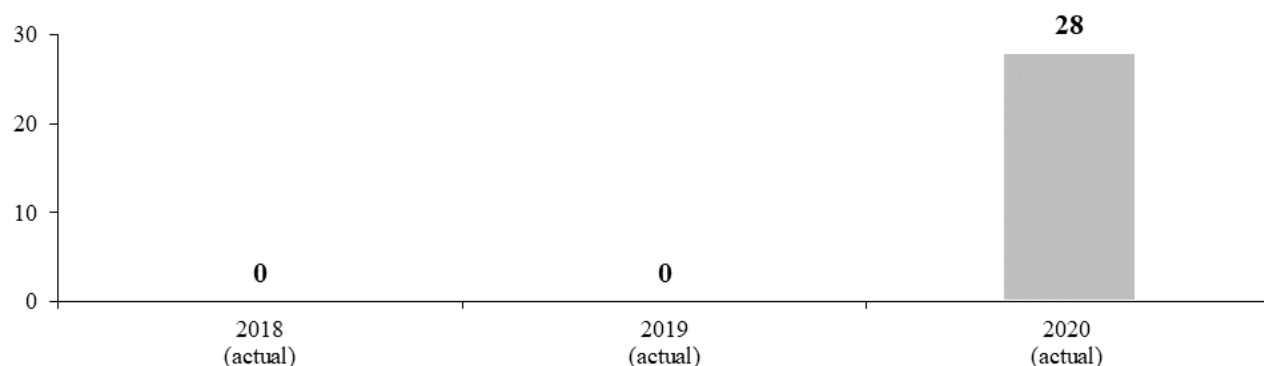
- 20.134 Through extensive training programmes undertaken in 2020, the subprogramme also enhanced the capacity of Member States to apply the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources as a universal standard to facilitate policy and strategy formulation, government resources management, industry business processes and capital allocation. In particular, the subprogramme assisted the European Commission in using the Framework Classification to report critical raw materials in European Union member States. The support included capacity-building and training on the use of the Framework Classification to harmonize reporting codes for primary resources, the use of the Framework Classification for reporting secondary raw materials produced from wastes and other residues, and application of the Framework Classification to deliver coherent resource reporting under a heterogeneous legal framework.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 20.135 The above-mentioned work contributed to the objective, as demonstrated by the number of United Nations Member States applying the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources to resources that are critical for attaining the 2030 Agenda (see figure 20.XIII).

Figure 20.XIII

Performance measure: total number of United Nations Member States using the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources for reporting critical raw materials (cumulative)



Impact of COVID-19 on subprogramme delivery

- 20.136 Owing to the impact of COVID-19 during 2020, meetings of three of the groups of experts in energy (18 half-days) were postponed. Much of the substantive work of the groups was delivered through webinars and virtual workshops, and the formal segments of the postponed meetings were merged into the previously scheduled meetings of two other groups of experts (eight half-days) in September 2020. Although two major events, namely, the Global Methane Forum and the International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development, were cancelled, the lead-up activities were completed in full. Because of the additional task of preparing the online alternatives to in-person meetings and because experts were less available to contribute than previously, the full slate of 60 parliamentary documents could not be produced. Two capacity-building seminars on renewable energy development and policy reforms for climate change mitigation planned for 2020 were postponed because of COVID-19 and persistent travel restrictions. The development of centres of excellence, notably on high-performance buildings, was delayed. Both outreach by ECE and activities by prospective centres were delayed because of limitations on travel and a refocus on COVID-19 management and response. These changes had an impact on programme performance in 2020, as specified under result 2 below.

Planned results for 2022

- 20.137 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: achieving a step change in the efficiency with which natural resources are used¹²**Programme performance in 2020**

- 20.138 The subprogramme updated the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources in 2020 and began to develop a derivative tool called the United Nations Resource Management System that allows for the dynamic management of resource endowments in line with the 2030 Agenda. The Management System is intended to be a comprehensive framework for the integrated and sustainable management of the natural resource base. The subprogramme also worked with United Nations Member States to develop case studies, conduct capacity-building workshops and deploy application of the Framework Classification nationally and regionally. The subprogramme has secured extrabudgetary funding for continuing development of the Framework Classification and the Management System and capacity-building activities over the coming years. The subprogramme continued the development of the Management System by preparing two advanced concept notes on it, presenting the objectives, fundamental principles, requirements, regional priorities and way forward for it. A comprehensive report discussing the background and vision of the Management System was published in 2020. The principles and guidelines of the Management System have been promoted as effective tools for the green recovery from COVID-19, especially in projects involving micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises.
- 20.139 The above-mentioned work contributed to increasing the number of countries applying the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources to 35, which exceeded the planned target of 33, reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020.

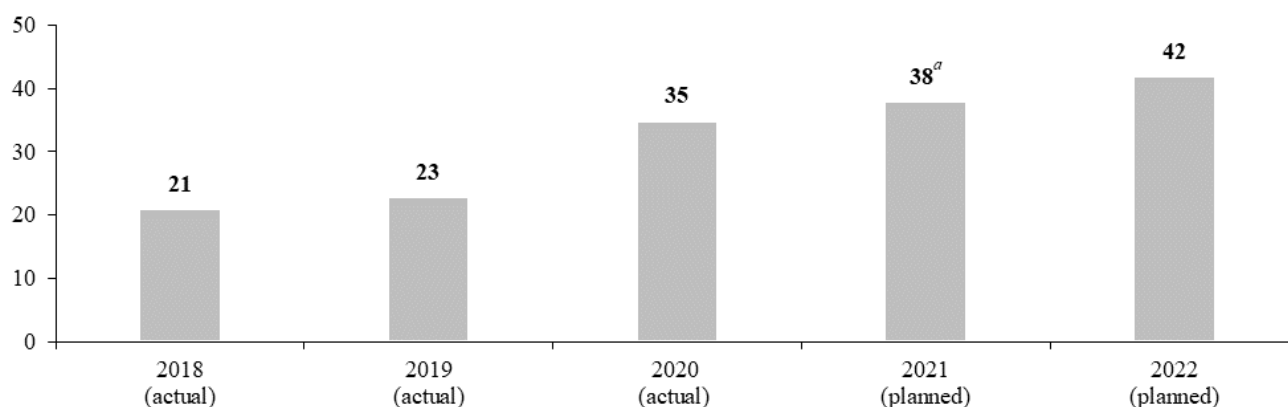
Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.140 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 extend the application and implementation of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources and further develop the United Nations Resource Management System. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.XIV).

¹² As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect. 20)).

Figure 20.XIV

Performance measure: total number of United Nations Member States applying the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (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: reduced carbon footprint and improved quality of life with high-performance buildings¹³

Programme performance in 2020

- 20.141 The subprogramme updated the Framework Guidelines on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings that underpin the ECE high-performance buildings initiative and extended the initiative to reflect broader quality of life indicators (energy services, health, water and climate). The subprogramme extended the outreach of its high-performance buildings initiative to additional communities in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and in Eastern Europe that are expected to join the network of centres of excellence on high-performance buildings in 2021 and 2022. Furthermore, the subprogramme advanced the research agenda on high-performance buildings and is advancing projects in Central Asia to produce case studies on the development of high-performance buildings.
- 20.142 The above-mentioned work contributed to negotiations and agreement with countries/contact with institutions and the establishment of three centres of excellence, which did not meet the planned target of five centres, reflected in the programme budget for 2021. The development of additional centres was affected directly by the COVID-19 pandemic. Both outreach by ECE and activities by the prospective centres were delayed because of limitations on travel and a refocus on COVID-19 management and response.

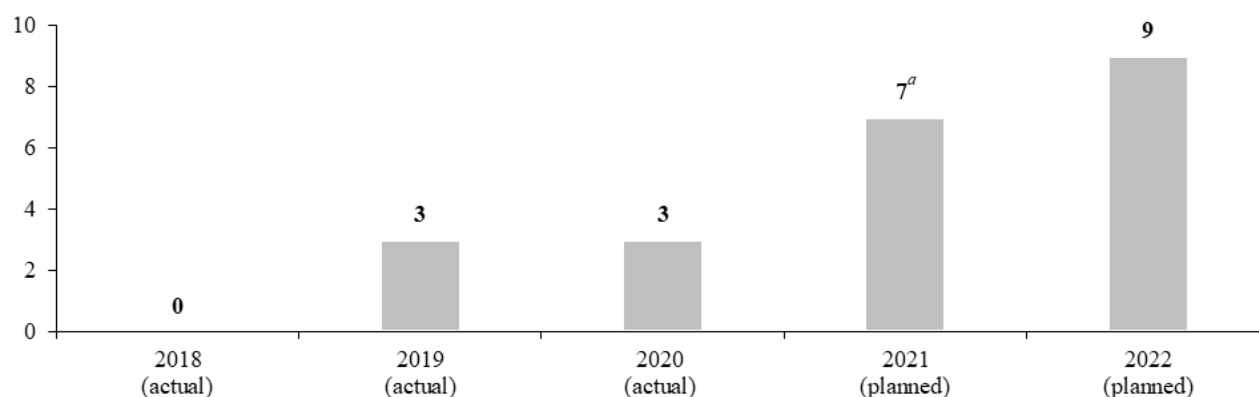
Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.143 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 extend the network of centres of excellence, expand the research consortium and prepare case studies on the application of the Framework Guidelines on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings. The centres of excellence have succeeded in raising the capacity of building developers within their relevant footprints of activity to deliver high-performance buildings. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.XV).

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

Figure 20.XV

Performance measure: total number of international centres of excellence disseminating the Framework Guidelines for Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings (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: managing gases to implement the 2030 Agenda

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.144 Gases will have an important role in the future energy mix, both as energy vectors (methane (CH₄) and hydrogen (H₂)) and as greenhouse gases (CO₂ and CH₄). The management of these gases will require new normative instruments. The subprogramme has supported Member States as they pursue options for carbon capture and storage, CH₄ management and an H₂ economy by helping to develop normative instruments such as recommendations or best practice guidance and by disseminating and deploying the instruments. In particular, it has developed best practice guidance for methane management in both operating and abandoned coal mines and for monitoring and reporting methane emissions in the oil and gas sectors.
- 20.145 The natural gas infrastructure could be used to mix CH₄ and H₂, leading to progressive decarbonization. For this to work across borders, standards on acceptable mixing proportions are needed. In addition, the production of H₂ using carbon-free energy sources could be an important option for decarbonizing energy. The subprogramme has been working with national and organizational partners on the transformation to an H₂ economy.
- 20.146 Opportunities exist to capture CO₂ emissions and, eventually, atmospheric CO₂ and to use existing infrastructure to transport CO₂ into long-term storage. The subprogramme has developed and submitted policy recommendations on the deployment of carbon capture and storage as a means of minimizing CO₂ emissions.

Lessons learned and planned change

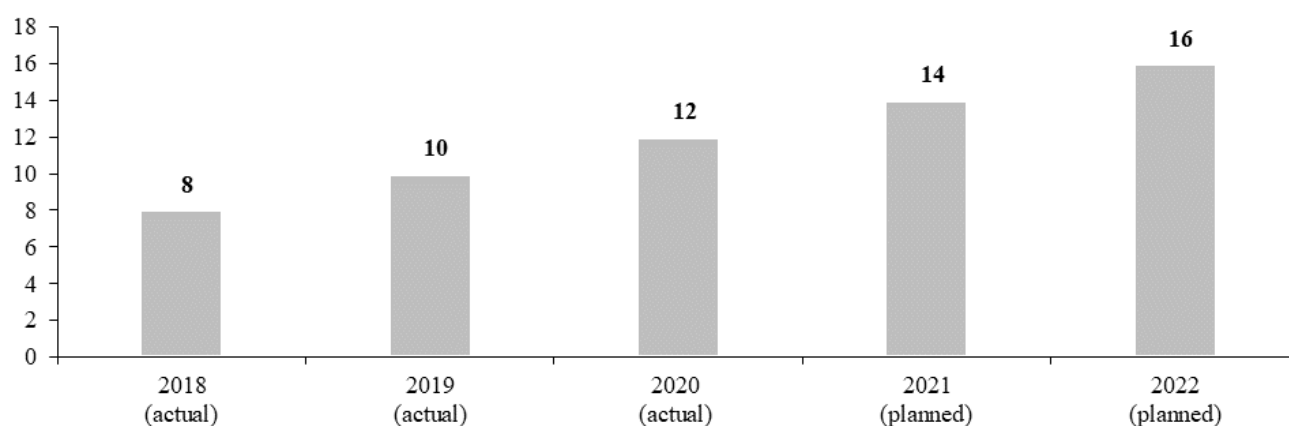
- 20.147 The lesson for the subprogramme was that, to achieve effective and impactful results, the subprogramme must engage not only with Governments, but also with the business community, civil society and academia. An example of this process has been the development of best practice guidance in managing coal mine methane with China, Poland and the Russian Federation, instituting international centres of excellence to disseminate and deploy the guidance. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will engage in an inclusive, open and transparent process that creates a sense of ownership. This engagement is key to both the development and application of guidance for managing gases and their mixtures. The subprogramme's activities will involve Governments and the private sector. Engagements planned with academia will help to integrate leading and novel technologies into the development of normative instruments.

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

- 20.148 This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by the number of countries applying the guidance developed under the subprogramme (see figure 20.XVI).

Figure 20.XVI

Performance measure: number of Member States applying Economic Commission for Europe guidance to manage gases (CH₄, H₂, and CO₂)



Legislative mandates

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

General Assembly resolutions

69/225	Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy	72/224	Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
70/213	Science, technology and innovation for development		

Economic and Social Council decisions

1997/226	United Nations International Framework Classification for Energy Reserves/Resources: Solid Fuels and Mineral Commodities	2004/233	United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Resources
		2011/222	Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines

Deliverables

- 20.150 Table 20.10 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 20.10

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

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2020 actual</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	60	55	60	45
1. Documentation for the Committee on Sustainable Energy and related subsidiary bodies	60	55	60	45
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	38	38	40	38
2. Meetings of the Committee on Sustainable Energy, its Bureau and related subsidiary bodies	38	38	40	38
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	6	9	4	8
3. Sustainable resource management	1	2	1	1
Project on the application of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources in Central Asia	–	1	–	–
Project on the United Nations Resource Management System	1	1	1	1
4. Reducing the environmental footprint of energy	2	2	1	1
Projects on methane management	2	2	1	1
5. Accelerating deep transformation of the energy sector	1	2	1	3
Project on energy efficiency in buildings	1	1	1	1
Project on transboundary cooperation on renewable energy	–	1	–	1
Project on gas in transport	–	–	–	1
6. Supporting member States in securing sustainable energy	2	3	1	3
Project on pathways to sustainable energy (phase 1)	1	1	–	–
Project on pathways to sustainable energy (phase 2)	–	–	1	1
Project on carbon neutrality	–	1	–	1
Project on global tracking framework	1	1	–	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	10	4	10	10
7. Workshops for experts and government officials on the application of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources	2	2	2	2
8. Capacity-building seminars on energy-efficiency measures, accelerators and standards	2	2	2	2
9. International capacity-building seminars on renewable energy development and policy reforms for climate change mitigation	2	–	2	2
10. International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development	4	–	4	4
Publications (number of publications)	2	3	2	5
11. Publications on the best practice guidelines, case studies and other publications related to sustainable energy	2	2	2	5
12. <i>Natural Resource Nexuses in the ECE Region</i> (ECE nexuses publication)	–	1	–	–
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: booklets on sustainable energy and related topics, for regional access.				
External and media relations: press releases, keynote speeches and articles.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: update and maintenance of subprogramme's website providing access to information and documents for regional and global audiences.				

Subprogramme 6

Trade

Objective

- 20.151 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen trade facilitation and electronic business, regulatory cooperation and standardization policies, agricultural quality standards and trade-related economic cooperation in the ECE region and beyond.

Strategy

- 20.152 The strategy of the subprogramme is based on the implementation of core interlinked functions. The first function is international policy dialogue on reducing regulatory and procedural barriers to trade that hamper market access, including those caused by cumbersome procedures and substantial paperwork; differences in trade procedures, standards and documents; and divergent regulatory approaches and product standards. The second function is normative work to develop standards and recommendations in the areas of trade facilitation and e-business, agricultural quality standards and regulatory cooperation. The third function is focused on capacity-building and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned in all areas of work. Through its work, the subprogramme will contribute to the ECE nexuses on sustainable mobility and smart connectivity, the sustainable use of natural resources and sustainable and smart cities for all ages, and to the cross-cutting theme of a circular economy.
- 20.153 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will continue to promote simple, transparent and effective processes for global trade. The subprogramme also plans to continue its normative work to develop standards and recommendations in the areas of trade facilitation and electronic business. The subprogramme will continue to facilitate international policy dialogue on establishing digital trading environments and ensuring compliance with the requirements of the multilateral trading system, and dissemination of the instruments such as standards, recommendations and guidelines. In addition, the subprogramme will promote sustainable and resilient value chains and enhanced traceability and circularity (e.g., minimizing waste and maximizing the use of natural resources towards a circular economy), through studies, policy dialogues, technology-based pilot initiatives (e.g., blockchain-based traceability for textile value chains). This work will help member States to make progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals 8 and 12.
- 20.154 The subprogramme will continue to promote a predictable and harmonized regulatory environment through strengthening regulatory cooperation and promoting standards and best practices in regulatory frameworks, risk management, conformity assessment and market surveillance. The subprogramme will also disseminate gender-responsive standards, which are aimed at providing a practical way forward for standards bodies wishing to make both their standards and the standards development process gender-responsive. In addition, through the ECE web portal on standards for the Sustainable Development Goals,¹⁴ the subprogramme will disseminate standards in support of achieving the Goals, in order to showcase information on voluntary standards and maps them according to the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda. This work will support member States in making progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals 5 and 17.
- 20.155 The subprogramme will also continue to promote up-to-date agricultural quality standards and explanatory guidelines through its normative work in these areas. Mindful of 1.6 billion tonnes of food lost or wasted while more than 800 million people suffer from hunger worldwide, the subprogramme will also address food loss and waste by promoting awareness of food loss reduction through policy dialogues, partnerships with international organizations and technology-based initiatives (e.g., blockchain-based food loss application). This work will support member States in making progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal 12.

¹⁴ Available at <https://standards4sdgs.unece.org/>.

- 20.156 The subprogramme will continue to carry out analytical evidence-based studies to identify regulatory and procedural barriers to trade and assist Governments in setting action-oriented recommendations for implementing the above-mentioned instruments. This work will support member States in making progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal 12.
- 20.157 The subprogramme plans to support member States on issues related to COVID-19 by further deepening its international policy dialogue, normative, technical assistance and capacity-building activities on digitalization of trade processes in order to support a sustainable and resilient recovery from COVID-19. This work will support member States in making progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals 8 and 9.
- 20.158 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:
- (a) Simplified trade processes, increased digitalization and greater productivity;
 - (b) Increased transparency and traceability of the value chains and reduction of waste, promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns;
 - (c) Greater uptake of international standards by countries in order to enable the implementation of internationally harmonized regulatory processes;
 - (d) Support for the public and private sectors in the member States to facilitate trade;
 - (e) Increased gender equality in trade.
- 20.159 The planned support on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to result in the enhanced digitalization of trade (e.g., progress towards the adoption of trade-related digital services such as single windows) to minimize COVID-19 transmission risks in the ECE member States.

Programme performance in 2020

- 20.160 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 access to analytical information on the impact of COVID-19 on trade

Programme performance in 2020

- 20.161 The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted global trade and supply chains. According to the most recent World Trade Organization (WTO) data, global merchandized trade volume dropped by more than 14 per cent in the second quarter of 2020 compared with the same period in 2019. Some borders were closed temporarily, logistics operations were halted and businesses were closed either in part or in full. There was a shortage of supply for essential products such as medicine and food. FAO considers that food accessibility and security will be at significant risk if global trade disruption is not adequately addressed. It is widely accepted that the impact of the pandemic is likely to continue for several years. The subprogramme refocused its activities on a sustainable and resilient recovery for ECE member States. For example, as part of its information provision function, the subprogramme launched a website for sharing information on food trade flows in member States and a webpage on trade facilitation resources developed by the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business to support the Governments overcoming the impact of COVID-19. The large number of visits documents the concrete value added of responding to the need for facts-based information by trade stakeholders. As parts of its core, normative function, the subprogramme has begun to support the development of a normative instrument jointly with other agencies through a United Nations Centre project to support member States in expediting joint controls of essential goods and in easing cross-border trade flows during and in the aftermath of a global health crisis. Furthermore, the subprogramme, through the United Nations Centre, produced a report on the ways in which advanced technologies can help to overcome such disruptions and a white paper on the response to pandemic-related trade flow disruption.

- 20.162 As part of its analytical and technical assistance function, the subprogramme is reviewing the impact of the crisis on trade and structural transformation in five member States. The reviews trace how non-tariff measures governing trade in goods influence end-to-end supply chains and highlight the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Undertaken in the context of ECE studies on regulatory and procedural barriers to trade under the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards, the assessments use ECE evaluation methodology for designing targeted interventions for rebuilding stronger and more resilient post-COVID-19 economies. The findings and recommendations for the first review in Georgia, with integrated comments, were shared with key interlocutors to inform planning processes for future projects.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 20.163 The above-mentioned work contributed to the objective, as demonstrated by access by member States to analytical information on the impact of COVID-19 on trade, including a study, with recommendations, on non-tariff measures affecting the imports and exports of crucial materials and on the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on international trade and logistics in Georgia, and two webpages containing COVID-19-related resources on trade facilitation and food outlook for the member States (see table 20.11).

Table 20.11
Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)
—	—	Member States have increased access to analytical information on the impact of COVID-19 on trade, including a study, with recommendations, on non-tariff measures affecting the imports and exports of crucial materials and on the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on international trade and logistics in Georgia, and 2 web pages containing COVID-19-related resources on trade facilitation and food outlook for the member States

Impact of COVID-19 on subprogramme delivery in 2020

- 20.164 Owing to the impact of COVID-19 during 2020, the subprogramme had to change the approach to delivering its normative products but was forced to either cancel or postpone the capacity-building and technical assistance activities. The subprogramme had to cancel seven in-person intergovernmental meetings and organized informal virtual consultations without interpretation. The following meetings were replaced with virtual informal consultations: the sixth session of the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards; the thirtieth session of the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policy; and the seventy-sixth session of the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (including the four meetings of its specialized sections). The business-critical decisions proposed from those consultations were adopted in an emergency “silence procedure” with Geneva-based missions. Notwithstanding the challenges, the subprogramme continued to engage virtually with member States both through representatives at their Geneva missions and counterparts in their capitals. Those changes had an impact on the programme performance in 2020, as specified in result 2 below.

- 20.165 At the same time, however, the subprogramme identified new activities and modified its existing activities to support member States on issues related to COVID-19, within the overall scope of its objectives. The subprogramme stepped up its activities to increase awareness of existing tools and policy guidance to overcome COVID-19 effects on the logistic chain and intensified its participation in joint activities with partners, aimed at supporting a sustainable economic recovery from the pandemic. For example, the subprogramme created two web pages (on trade facilitation and food) to increase awareness of and accessibility to standards, recommendations, training materials, reports; published news articles on how existing standards and tools of the subprogramme could be used to address trade-related impacts of COVID-19; developed a report on advanced technologies and trade facilitation during the pandemic; conducted studies on the impact of COVID-19 on e-commerce in ECE member States and on trade in Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Serbia; pilot-tested an additional module on the impacts of COVID-19 on the United Nations Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation in the Kyrgyz Republic; and, in collaboration with UNCTAD, initiated work to help the Kyrgyz Republic, at its request, to develop its own system for sharing information on changes in legislation on non-tariff measures with neighbouring countries. The new and modified deliverables contributed to results in 2020, as specified in the emerging result for 2020 above.

Planned results for 2022

- 20.166 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: enhancing trade efficiency in Central Asia¹⁵

Programme performance in 2020

- 20.167 The subprogramme has continued to develop trade facilitation recommendations and electronic business standards for four Central Asian countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan). The subprogramme also supported Central Asian countries through technical assistance and capacity-building activities towards the adoption of national trade facilitation strategies and the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement. Furthermore, the subprogramme continued to support the conduct of the United Nations Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation, a joint initiative of the United Nations regional commissions undertaken biennially. Through follow-up workshops and meetings, the subprogramme discussed the results of the trade facilitation reform progress review with the Central Asian member States and identified policy priorities to implement appropriate trade facilitation measures.
- 20.168 The above-mentioned work contributed to an average trade facilitation implementation rate¹⁶ of 55 per cent of Central Asian ECE member States, which exceeded the planned target of 45 per cent, reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020. In addition, the Central Asian countries adopted three trade facilitation measures, namely, the national trade facilitation road map (Tajikistan), a national single window (Kazakhstan) and information portals related to export, import and transit procedures (Kyrgyz Republic).

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.169 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 evolve to include increased capacity-building and outreach activities for the digitalization of trade processes in the pursuit of a sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Trade is likely to fall,

¹⁵ As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect. 20)).

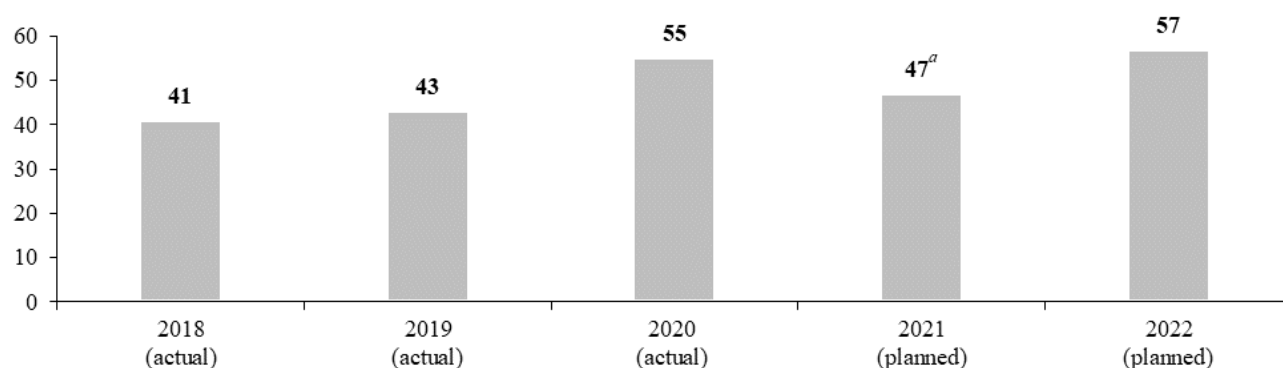
¹⁶ The average trade facilitation implementation rate is calculated on the basis of selected measures from the United Nations Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation. Available at <https://untfsurvey.org>.

given that the economic impact of the pandemic may continue for several years. During 2021, trade facilitation implementation and supply chain connectivity are therefore expected to be affected owing to further disruptions in logistics, transportation and health and safety measures and to the potential closure of regulatory and commercial services. However, the subprogramme will support the Central Asian countries in addressing these challenges in reducing the impact on trade facilitation implementation. It is expected that, by 2022, the average trade facilitation implementation rate will begin to increase again. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.XVII).

Figure 20.XVII

Performance measure: average trade facilitation implementation rate of Central Asian States members of the Economic Commission for Europe

(Percentage)



Note: The United Nations Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation is undertaken biennially. The data for 2018 are taken from the 2017–2018 survey, data for 2019 are estimated for the intermediate result and data for 2020 have been taken from the 2019–2020 survey. Actual data for 2021 will be taken from the 2021 survey, given that the survey is expected to be completed by the time of reporting for 2021.

^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: improved traceability in the garment sector¹⁷

Programme performance in 2020

- 20.170 The rise in consumer awareness of issues of environmental sustainability has increased the need for easy-to-understand consumer labelling and improvements in the traceability of origin and environmental compliance of garments production. To improve transparency, traceability and reduce the complexity of language on labelling, which has been a constraint to informed consumer choices, from 2018 to 2020, the subprogramme developed a sectoral framework for the traceability and transparency of sustainable and circular value chains in the garment and footwear industry on the basis of global standards. This includes a policy recommendation, implementation guidelines, a call to action and a technical standard for enhancing transparency and traceability for sustainable and circular garment and footwear value chains. To develop this framework and support its uptake and implementation, the subprogramme has mobilized a multi-stakeholder network of experts representing governments, the private sector, international organizations, civil society and think tanks (more than 170 experts, including from associations representing more than 190,000 businesses globally).
- 20.171 The above-mentioned work contributed to piloting the transparency and traceability framework for sustainable and circular value chains in the cotton sector in five countries and in partnership with

¹⁷ As reflected in the programme budget for 2021 (A/75/6/Add.1).

eight businesses, including brands, manufacturers and farmers, and involving innovative start-ups and technology solution providers, which met the planned target, reflected in the programme budget for 2021.

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.172 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 build on the lessons of implementing the framework in member States and adapt it further, including the development and adoption of a principles-based approach, to enlarge its applicability to include transition economies in the ECE region. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see table 20.12). The expected outcome of this work is increased demand for sustainable garment products and enhanced visibility on due diligence, responsible business conduct and sustainability performance in the garment value chains for producers in the implementing countries.

Table 20.12
Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (planned) ^a	2022 (planned)
European Union, International Labour Organization, International Trade Centre and ECE agreed to develop transparency and traceability system for sustainable supply chains	Development of the transparency and traceability system by ECE/United Nations/United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business experts and partners	Piloting of the transparency and traceability system in 5 countries and in partnership with 8 businesses	Implementation of the transparency and traceability system by 3 countries	Implementation of the transparency and traceability system by 3 additional countries

^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: enhanced digitalization of trade in the ECE member States

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.173 Global trade has been hit hard because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Digitally enabled solutions to trade-related services have played an important role during the pandemic period, given that physical distancing is a key protective measure against virus infection. Building back better requires innovative solutions that support a sustainable and resilient recovery. A priority of the subprogramme is to facilitate trade through greater digitalization (i.e., simplification and dematerialization of trade processes, adoption of information and communications technology (ICT), adoption and harmonization of international standards and guidelines, and promotion of interoperable digital systems). The subprogramme has been developing trade facilitation recommendations and electronic business standards for many years through the intergovernmental body, United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business. To date, the United Nations Centre has produced more than 40 policy recommendations on trade facilitation, more than 400 electronic business standards, several training materials and other guidance materials, which are available freely to the global trading community. This normative work, along with policy guidance, technical assistance and capacity-building activities, are geared towards greater digitalization of trade. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the focus on digitalization will be further emphasized in the normative, technical assistance and capacity-building activities of the subprogramme in order to support a sustainable and resilient recovery.

Lessons learned and planned change

- 20.174 The lesson for the subprogramme was the growing need to ensure synergies among the cross-cutting themes, given the diversity of the topics addressed by the subprogramme. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will integrate the cross-cutting themes such digitalization, circularity, and sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic in the 17 programme countries in the ECE region. For example, electronic traceability systems and digital trade-related regulatory services could make the trading environment more sustainable and resilient. Lastly, the subprogramme will enhance engagement with the 17 programme countries through technical assistance and capacity-building activities.

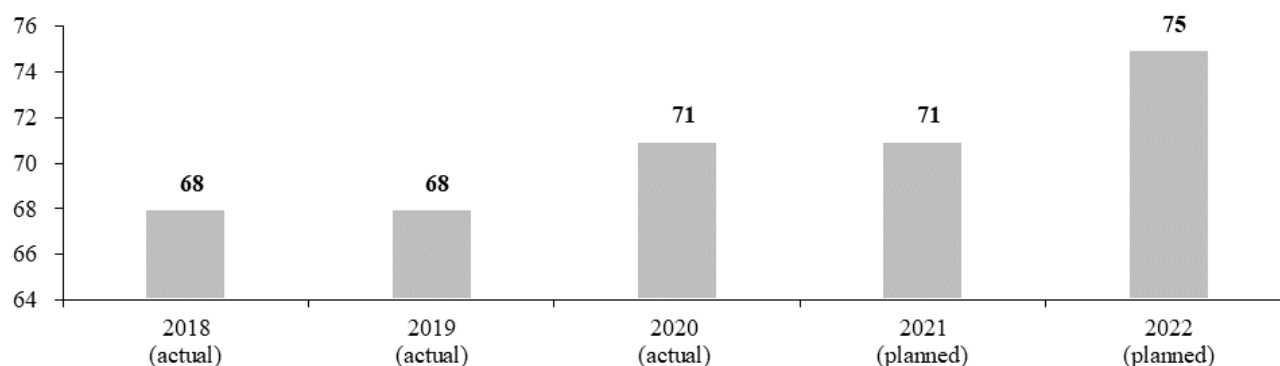
Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 20.175 This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by an increase in the average implementation rate of digital trade facilitation measures¹⁸ in the ECE member States (see figure 20.XVIII).

Figure 20.XVIII

Performance measure: average implementation rate of digital trade facilitation measures of Economic Commission for Europe member States

(Percentage)



Legislative mandates

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

General Assembly resolutions

69/137	Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024	71/239	Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries
69/213	Role of transport and transit corridors in ensuring international cooperation for sustainable development	71/242 73/253	Industrial development cooperation Agriculture development, food security and nutrition
70/217	Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries		

¹⁸ The data shown in figure 20.XVIII have been extracted from the “Paperless trade” category of trade facilitation measures covered in the United Nations Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation, which is undertaken biennially jointly by the five United Nations regional commissions. The subprogramme will conduct the next Global Survey in 2021 and plans to include an additional component on the impact and best practices on trade facilitation due to COVID-19.

Economic and Social Council resolution

1991/76 Promotion of interregional cooperation in the area of international trade facilitation

Economic and Social Council decision

1997/225 Economic Commission for Europe Recommendation 25, entitled “Use of the UN/EDIFACT Standard”

Deliverables

20.177 Table 20.13 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 20.13

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

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2020 actual</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	110	103	110	110
1. Documentation for the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards	13	7	13	13
2. Documentation for the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies	13	11	13	13
3. Documentation for the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards	60	60	60	60
4. Documentation for the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business	24	25	24	24
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	91	80	91	91
5. Meetings of the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards and its Bureau	7	4	7	7
6. Meetings of the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies	5	3	5	5
7. Meetings of the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards and its specialized sections	26	20	26	26
8. Meetings of the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business	53	53	53	53
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	4	5	4	4
9. Projects on enhancing usage and uptake of standards for sustainable development, gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls	—	1	—	—
10. Projects on trade facilitation	3	3	3	3
11. Project on food loss and agriculture	1	1	1	1
Seminars, workshops, and training events (number of days)	18	15	18	18
12. Seminars for standardization and inspection agencies and other stakeholders in transition economies and developing countries in the ECE region or beyond on ECE agricultural quality standards	6	3	6	6
13. Seminars for policymakers and experts in transition economies and developing countries in the ECE region or beyond on support for the implementation of trade-related standards, recommendations and guidelines	9	9	9	9
14. Workshops for policymakers and experts in low- and middle-income countries in the ECE region on trade procedures, supply chain management, conformity assessment and market surveillance, and women’s entrepreneurship	3	3	3	3

Category and subcategory	2020 planned	2020 actual	2021 planned	2022 planned
Publications (number of publications)	7	7	10	10
15. Publication on the summary of ECE trade facilitation best practice and recommendations	1	1	1	1
16. Publications on the guides on trade standards in the following areas: traceability and risk management; e-business; education; and sustainable development	2	2	1	1
17. Publications on the trade facilitation recommendations, standards and strategies to support policymakers	2	2	5	5
18. Publication on agricultural trade and supply chains	1	—	1	1
19. Publication on the regulatory and procedural barriers to trade in a country to be decided	1	—	1	1
20. Publication on risk-based inspections and disaster and sustainable development	—	—	1	1
21. Publication on sustainable mobility and smart connectivity (ECE nexuses publication)	—	1	—	—
22. Publication on recommendation No.5 (Abbreviations of INCOTERMS)	—	1	—	—
Technical materials (number of materials)	8	8	8	8
23. Standards and guidelines on agricultural quality	4	4	4	4
24. Training material on trade facilitation and electronic business	1	1	1	1
25. Material on trade standards	2	2	2	2
26. Guidelines on cross-border trade	1	1	1	1
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice, and advocacy: advisory services to government officials and other stakeholders in at least 10 ECE member States on trade facilitation and electronic business, agricultural quality standards, regulatory cooperation and standardization, and regulatory and procedural barriers to trade.				
Fact-finding, monitoring and investigating missions: fact-finding missions in 3 ECE member States on trade facilitation and electronic business, agricultural quality standards, regulatory cooperation and standardization, and regulatory and procedural barriers to trade.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: booklets, fact sheets and information brochures reaching at least 17 ECE programme countries and more than 1000 public and private sector experts.				
External and media relations: press releases for the subprogramme for regional access, publication launching events and articles in external newsletters.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: update and maintenance of the website and databases, which is provided to approximately 500,000 users with access to, for example, web pages and databases.				

Subprogramme 7 Forests and the forest industry

Objective

- 20.178 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen the sustainable management of forests and enhance the contribution of forests and forest products to sustainable development in the ECE region.

Strategy

- 20.179 The strategy of the subprogramme is based on the implementation of the core interlinked functions, namely, analytical and normative work, international policy dialogue, capacity-building and

communication. Through its work, the subprogramme will contribute to the ECE nexus area on the sustainable use of natural resources. As part of its implementation strategy, the subprogramme will carry out its work in partnership with FAO and other relevant organizations and processes (e.g., International Union for Conservation of Nature, World Agroforestry Centre and Forest Europe).

- 20.180 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will continue to assist and promote cooperation with member States, regional entities and other partners for sustainable forest management, forest landscape restoration and the sustainable use of forest products. The subprogramme also plans to collect, validate and disseminate information and results of research and analysis related to sustainable forest management and the sustainable production and consumption of wood products. The subprogramme will further facilitate the exchange of national experiences and best practices and monitor progress on achieving sustainable forest management using key forest sector indicators, which will help member States to make progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, notably Goals 12 (responsible consumption and production) and 15 (life on land), as well as in implementing the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 (General Assembly resolution [71/285](#)).
- 20.181 The subprogramme plans to support member States on issues related to COVID-19 by providing information in presentations and panel discussions during sessions of its Committee and Working Party, publications such as the outlook study and subregional studies, and webinars on how the forest sector is and will be affected by the global pandemic and how it can contribute to building back better economies and more resilient communities.
- 20.182 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:
- (a) Healthy forest ecosystems in the ECE region that are sustainably managed and provide important ecosystem goods and services to benefit society;
 - (b) An increased and efficient use of sustainable forest products that contribute to a green and circular economy and replace less sustainable alternatives such as fossil-fuel based products.
- 20.183 The planned support on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to result in the enhanced ability of stakeholders to take well-informed decisions on how forests can play a key role in building back better during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Programme performance in 2020

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

Promoting green jobs in the forest sector

- 20.185 In the past decades, forest sector employment has fallen, primarily because of higher labour productivity. In addition, the recession, caused by the financial crisis of 2008, increased unemployment and economic hardship in forest-dependent communities and regions. The subprogramme has analysed the current state of the forest sector workforce in the ECE region, such as working conditions, occupational safety and health, and the economic and social contexts that have led to structural changes in the sector. Together with a group of experts, the subprogramme identified new fields of activity that will contribute to rural development and help to retain jobs in small- and medium-sized enterprises in the forest sector. These job opportunities can also create new employment for professional groups that may incur job losses in the process of the transition to a green economy and support the integration into the labour market of vulnerable and underrepresented groups, such as young people and women.
- 20.186 From 2018 to 2020, the subprogramme also analysed major transformation drivers of green jobs in the forest sector development and mapped existing and emerging green jobs, skill requirements and education needs for forest professionals in the ECE region. In addition, the subprogramme prepared guidelines for the promotion of green jobs in forestry and organized several knowledge-sharing

activities. Utilizing the framework for classifying green forest jobs and the information gained from stakeholder consultations, the subprogramme produced three publications on green jobs in the forest sector.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 20.187 The above-mentioned work contributed to the objective, as demonstrated by Member States having access to three publications that enhance awareness and knowledge of relevant stakeholders, in particular policymakers, of how to attract more young people and women to the forest work, how to navigate occupational hazards in the sector and how to ensure education for new skill requirements in the twenty-first century (see table 20.14).

Table 20.14
Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)
Improved knowledge and capacities of policymakers in classifying green forest jobs.	Improved understanding by policymakers of the challenges for green forest jobs and which opportunities they may offer to ECE member States.	Member States have access to three publications that enhance awareness and knowledge of how to attract more young people and women to forestry work, how to navigate occupational hazards and how to ensure education for new skill requirements in the twenty-first century.

Impact of COVID-19 on subprogramme delivery

- 20.188 Owing to the impact of COVID-19 during 2020, the subprogramme had to adjust the dates of several Team of Specialists meetings and delivered those meetings in a virtual format. The seventy-eighth session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry was held in a virtual hybrid format with sessions (each a half-day) reduced from three to two hours. In addition, the forty-second session of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management was postponed to 2021. In order to continue to deliver on the agreed road map on the revision of the subprogramme's integrated programme of work, the subprogramme held virtual, informal consultations with its delegates. Lastly, the ministerial round table on forest landscape restoration and the ECCA30/Bonn Challenge in Eastern and South-East Europe also had to be postponed to the first half of 2021. With respect to the latter, the subprogramme supported relevant countries in a new, alternative format with individual virtual consultations. The latter change had an impact on the programme performance in 2020, as specified under result 2 below.

Planned results for 2022

- 20.189 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: are we there yet? Measuring sustainable forest management under Sustainable Development Goal 15¹⁹

Programme performance in 2020

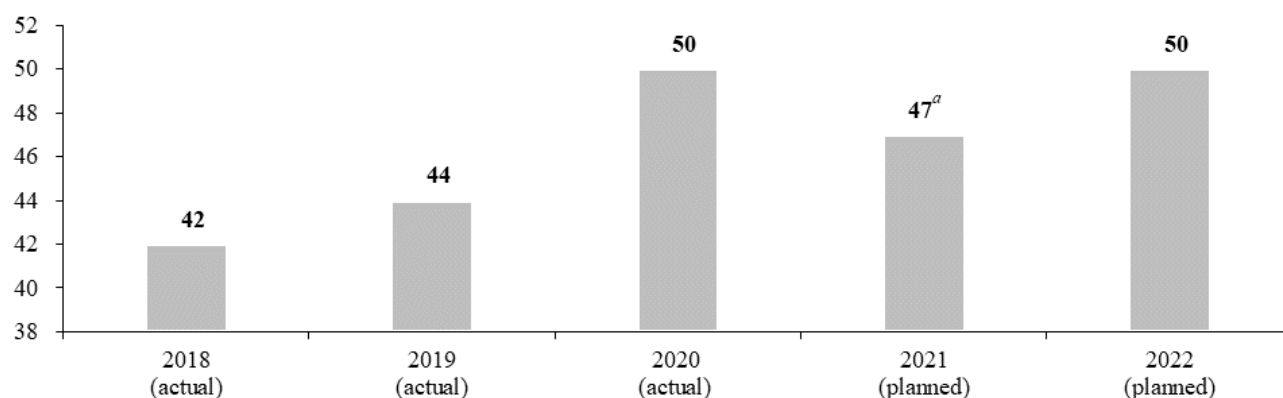
- 20.190 The subprogramme has, in cooperation with FAO and other regional partners, supported countries of Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in concluding their work on national reporting on forest-related indicators of the Sustainable Development Goals. In the period up to 2020, the subprogramme also, jointly with FAO and Forest Europe, provided support to countries of the pan-European region in the finalization of the reporting on forests and sustainable forest management, which contributed to increased capacities within member States to report data and information required for Goal 15. Furthermore, the subprogramme has undertaken extensive work on developing online tools to store and disseminate the collected data. These tools are all available and expected to be operational for the coming years.
- 20.191 The above-mentioned work contributed to 50 ECE member States reporting data on targets 15.1 and 15.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals, which exceeded the planned target of 46 countries reporting data, reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020.

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.192 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 aim at maintaining the high number of reporting countries and continue to work with partner organizations and countries towards improving the completeness and quality of reporting data. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.XIX).

Figure 20.XIX

Performance measure: total number of Economic Commission for Europe member States that report data on targets 15.1 and 15.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals (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: strengthening capacity and political commitment for ecosystem restoration in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe²⁰

Programme performance in 2020

- 20.193 The subprogramme has organized two virtual meetings to brief countries on the Bonn Challenge pledging (i.e., committing to the restoration of degraded and deforested landscapes) and

¹⁹ As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect. 20)).

²⁰ As reflected in the programme budget for 2021 (A/75/6/Add.1).

organizational issues, and to provide an overview of financing opportunities to support countries in the implementation of forest landscape restoration pledges. In addition, the subprogramme prepared briefings for national focal points of 14 countries of Eastern and South-East Europe, followed by individual, informal video calls with the relevant country representatives.

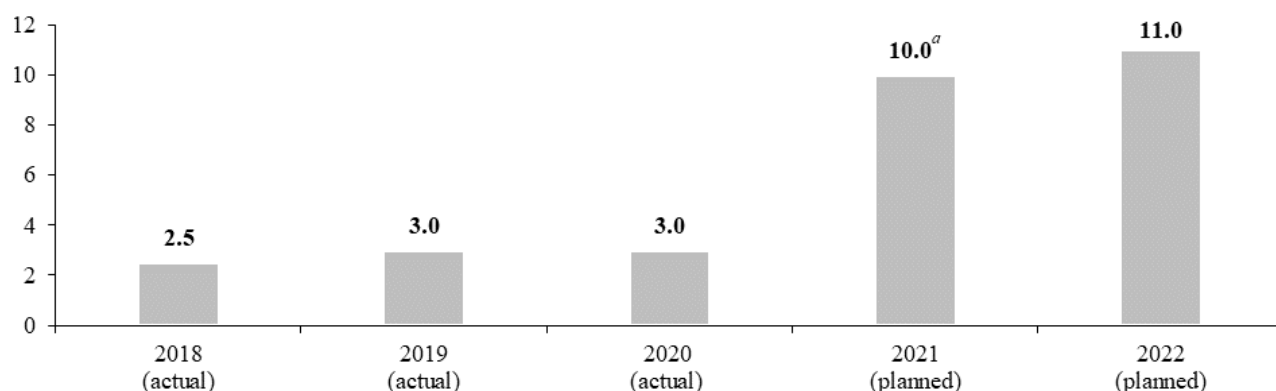
- 20.194 The above-mentioned work contributed to 3 million ha committed under the Bonn Challenge, which did not meet the target of 7 million ha, reflected in the programme budget for 2021. Countries had planned to announce their official pledges at the ministerial round table on forest landscape restoration and the ECCA30/Bonn Challenge in Eastern and South-East Europe, which was postponed to 2021 owing to travel restrictions in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.195 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 expand geographic coverage and work with additional countries in Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. It will also provide policy advice and capacity-building to enable further forest landscape restoration. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.XX).

Figure 20.XX
Performance measure: commitments to ECCA30

(Millions of hectares)



^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: increased access to forest product information to support evidence-led policymaking for the sustainable production and consumption of forest products

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.196 Sustainably produced wood is a global commodity and widely used for a number of important key products. ECE member States account for some 40 per cent of global forest resources and more than 60 per cent of wood harvested globally for the manufacturing of wood products (excluding wood energy). Sustainably produced wood has the potential to substitute products manufactured from fossil and finite raw materials such as concrete, steel and petroleum-based products. The subprogramme contributes to achieving its objective by annually collecting data from member States on their production, trade and consumption of wood and wood-based products. The subprogramme further assesses the main drivers behind the market trends (e.g., impact of policies, economic drivers or biotic and abiotic disturbances of forests) and discusses possible further developments by consulting with policy, trade and industry experts and ministries in member States and by conducting desktop studies.

Lessons learned and planned change

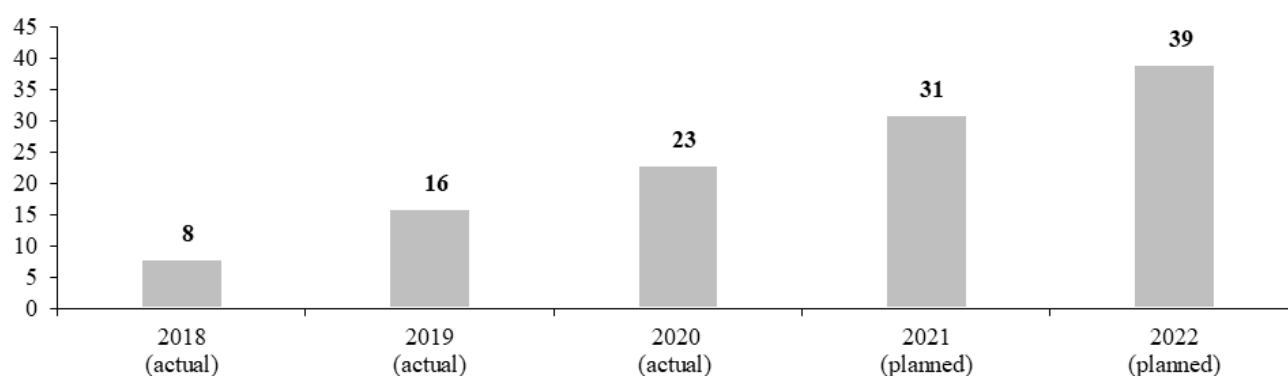
- 20.197 The lesson for the subprogramme was that the current assessment of information on forest products does not include all forest products and the full life cycle of wood-based products. The subprogramme was therefore not in a position to provide member States with a full assessment of the extent to which the forest-based industries contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 12 by member States. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will supplement the annually collected information to also cover additional products and flows, such as post-consumer wood, paper, paperboard and wooden packaging, wood energy or engineered wood products. With this enhanced methodology, the subprogramme will be in a better position to provide ECE member States with more precise assessments of the role of the forest and forest products sector in terms of employment, volumes of wood harvested and traded, impacts on the sustainable management of the forest resources and how forest products can further improve the sector's role in contribution to achieving Goal 12.

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

- 20.198 This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by a steadily increased number of wood-based commodities that are assessed with regard to their production, trade and consumption (see figure 20.XXI). Progress towards the objective is exemplified by wood pellets that are produced from residues of the sawn wood production and are used for energy generation. Wood pellet production increased from 15 million tonnes in 2010 to more than 40 million tonnes in 2020. Another example is the use of cross-laminated timber, an innovative solid wood board for construction, which grew from an experimental product to a globally traded product in the past 10 years. In both cases, the assessment prepared by the subprogramme was the first to provide freely accessible and fact-based information and recommendations for member States, thereby contributing significantly to the development of these innovative products, which minimize wood waste and are substitutes for energy-intensive, finite materials.

Figure 20.XXI

Performance measure: total number of wood-based commodities assessments available to member States with specific information regarding their production, trade and consumption (cumulative)



Legislative mandates

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

General Assembly resolutions

62/98	Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests	75/213	Promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, building on Agenda 21
67/200	International Day of Forests		
71/285	United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030	75/219	Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its contribution to sustainable development
71/286	United Nations forest instrument		
73/284	United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021–2030)		

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2015/33	International arrangement on forests beyond 2015	2020/14	Outcome of the fifteenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests
2017/4	United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 and quadrennial programme of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests for the period 2017–2020		

Deliverables

- 20.200 Table 20.15 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 20.15

Subprogramme 7: 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				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	18	15	24	16
1. Documentation for the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry/European Forestry Commission	12	10	18	10
2. Documentation for the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management	6	5	6	6
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	26	20	32	22
3. Meetings of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry/European Forestry Commission	8	6	16	6
4. Meetings of the Bureau of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry	4	3	2	2
5. Meetings of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management and of Teams of Specialists	14	11	14	14
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	10	18	15	15
6. Capacity-building events for policymakers, experts and relevant stakeholders from countries in the ECE region on topics related to the ECE/FAO integrated programme	10	18	15	15
Publications (number of publications)	7	11	7	7
7. <i>Forest Products Annual Market Review</i>	1	1	1	1
8. Publication on sustainable forest management and forest products	6	10	6	6

Category and subcategory	2020 planned	2020 actual	2021 planned	2022 planned
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C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: forest policy dialogues at the request of countries and support for forest policy issues, for up to 3 member States.

Databases and substantive digital materials: update and maintenance of ECE region databases on forest resources; forest policies and institutions; forest products; production, consumption and trade, including prices; and wood energy for global access.

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: organizations of activities and events celebrating the International Day of Forests; brochures and information material on different forest-related topics; presentations at round tables and discussions at international forest-related events.

External and media relations: press releases for the subprogramme; compilation and dissemination of the Forest Information Billboard newsletter providing relevant news from the forest sector in one place to approximately 4,000 subscribers.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: update and maintenance of the website of the subprogramme; videos on forest-related topics.

Subprogramme 8 Housing, land management and population

Objective

- 20.201 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen member State-owned programmes and policies promoting decent, adequate, affordable, energy-efficient and healthy housing for all, smart sustainable cities, sustainable urban development and land management, and to advance evidence-based population and social cohesion policies.

Strategy

- 20.202 The subprogramme comprises two components: (a) housing and land management; and (b) population.
- 20.203 The strategy of the subprogramme is based on the implementation of the core interlinked functions, namely, international policy dialogue, normative work and capacity-building and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned in all areas of the subprogramme's work. Through its work, the subprogramme will contribute to the four ECE nexuses, as reflected in paragraph 20.5.
- 20.204 To contribute to the objective, the housing and land management component of the subprogramme will continue to support member States, including national, regional and local governments and other key stakeholders, in the review of progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, including the implementation of measures to accelerate the achievement of the Goals, and in exchanging experiences and best practices in these areas. The subprogramme will also support local governments in the assessment of the achievement of the Goals at the local level through the application of the ECE/International Telecommunication Union (ITU) key performance indicators on smart sustainable cities. The subprogramme will provide technical assistance and disseminate best practices on the achievement of the housing, city and land-related Goals, especially Goal 11, and, to a lesser extent, Goals 3, 5, 7, 9 and 12. This will be done through the development of country profiles on urban development, housing and land management, profiles of smart sustainable cities, pilot projects on innovative financial mechanisms for smart sustainable cities and thematic studies on affordable decent housing for all, sustainable urban development and land management, including informal settlements. Furthermore, it will support governments in the development of their national and local evidence-based urban, housing policies and land administration. It will also organize a forum of mayors to discuss the challenges that local authorities/governments face in achieving sustainable urban development. Due consideration will be given to the integration of climate change

measures into urban policies, strategies and planning. Furthermore, the subprogramme will facilitate the maintenance, management and refurbishment of existing housing stock in ECE member States.

- 20.205 To contribute to the objective, the population component of the subprogramme will continue to facilitate cooperation between member States, regional agencies and other partners. It will support the review and follow-up activities to assess progress in implementing the ECE regional strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, at the national and regional levels. The strategy was adopted by ECE member States at the ECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing held in Berlin on 11 September 2002 as a follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing. In an effort to have ageing mainstreamed into all policy fields, the strategy outlines commitments in 10 priority areas. The subprogramme will provide a platform for intergovernmental policy debate on matters related to mainstreaming ageing and will facilitate communication with a wider network of experts and NGOs. It will support evidence-based policymaking and monitoring of the implementation of the strategy by coordinating data collection on active ageing indicators and policy-oriented research on ageing and intergenerational and gender relations. The subprogramme will also support the development of national capacities for policy formulation through its policy seminars/master classes and policy briefs that focus on specific policy challenges and possible policy solutions, showcasing good practices from across the region.
- 20.206 The housing and land management component of the subprogramme plans to support member States on issues related to COVID-19 by strengthening capacity to design, implement and monitor urban economic resilience and recovery and rebuilding plans, including on innovative financing instruments and informal settlements to build back better and promote sustainable smart cities.
- 20.207 The population component of the subprogramme plans to support member States on issues related to COVID-19 by assessing lessons learned and strengthening capacity to enhance preparedness and emergency response to mitigate the risks for older persons and uphold their rights and dignity during and beyond the pandemic. A special provision included in the ECE guidelines for national reporting on the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing will provide a basis for summarizing the lessons learned from COVID-19 and sharing successful policy responses in a 2022 synthesis report on Plan of Action/Regional Implementation Strategy implementation.
- 20.208 The above-mentioned work in the area of housing and land management is expected to result in:
- (a) Improved national and local policies for housing affordability and accessibility for all, energy efficiency and climate neutrality of buildings;
 - (b) Increased support for local governments in the development of sustainable real estate markets and smart sustainable cities that integrate the concepts of the 2030 Agenda and the Geneva Charter on Sustainable Housing;
 - (c) Improved understanding by city authorities of priorities for socioeconomic development and the development of smart sustainable cities based on the ECE/ITU key performance indicators for smart sustainable cities standard;
 - (d) More efficient and resilient land administration systems.
- 20.209 The above-mentioned work in the thematic area of population is expected to result in:
- (a) An improvement in the design and implementation of integrated policies for active and healthy ageing;
 - (b) Policy approaches that advance the rights and dignity of older persons and their contribution to a sustainable and inclusive society for all ages.
- 20.210 The planned support on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to result in:
- (a) More effective local urban development and housing policies and economic recovery plans that address the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, in particular for the most vulnerable groups of population living in informal settlements;

- (b) More prominent consideration of older persons in the mechanisms and operations of national and regional emergency responses such as COVID-19.

Programme performance in 2020

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

First Forum of Mayors 2020: giving cities a voice at the international level

- 20.212 While the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals are global in scope and ambition, implementation to achieve the targets of the Goals takes place locally. Cities and local governments are at the forefront of taking action to respond to multiple challenges at the same time such as climate change, the COVID-19 pandemic, environmental degradation, social inequality, and the lack of adequate and affordable housing. The framework for the Goals recognizes the importance of cities and local authorities by dedicating one Goal to sustainable urban development. However, successful achievement of all 17 Goals relies heavily on local action and ambition. The implementation of the 2030 Agenda will be more effective by also giving a voice to cities and including local stakeholders.
- 20.213 The housing and land management component acknowledged that fact and worked towards establishing a platform that gives mayors a voice at the regional level and to share their experiences, solutions and lessons learned at the international level. Following the spread of COVID-19, the overall theme of the Forum of Mayors 2020 was adapted to “City action for a resilient future: strengthening local government preparedness and response to emergencies and the impact of disasters and climate change” and the format was changed to allow for virtual participation. The event was held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva on 6 October 2020 and done virtually with interpretation. It was webcast live on United Nations Web TV. The Forum brought together virtually and in-person 40 mayors and deputy mayors from the 36 countries in the ECE region. More than 1,000 people participated in the Forum in-person and remotely from more than 65 countries. Mayors exchanged innovative ideas and efforts to address the COVID-19 emergency and, simultaneously, combat climate change and move towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. They highlighted the need for enhanced cooperation across all levels of government to implement the 2030 Agenda. The Forum created media interest, which included 33 media articles published to date, in 9 languages, reaching an estimated 12.5 million readers. It captured some 150 mentions on social media, reaching more than 480,000 people.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 20.214 The above-mentioned work contributed to the objective, as demonstrated by the adoption of a declaration at the Forum of Mayors providing a blueprint for concrete steps that local authorities would take in the coming months and years to realize their cities’ potential for greater sustainability (see table 20.16).

Table 20.16
Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)
The Regional Forum for Sustainable Development for the ECE Region agreed on the need for stronger engagement of cities and local authorities in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.	World Cities Day takes place with mayors and deputy mayors on the theme of sustainable cities.	Declaration adopted at the Forum of Mayors, which provides a blueprint for concrete steps that local authorities will take in the coming months and years to realize their cities’ potential for greater sustainability.

Impact of COVID-19 on subprogramme delivery

- 20.215 Owing to the impact of COVID-19 during 2020, for the subprogramme component on housing and land management, several in-person training sessions and side events were postponed or cancelled. As a result, there was no possibility for in-depth discussion of all the programmatic items, and some of the decisions of the intergovernmental bodies had to be postponed to 2021. Other meetings and events were modified to allow for virtual participation. However, there were challenges related to the lack of access to a reliable Internet connection by some participants and to reduced or unavailable interpretation services during the meetings. The change in meeting format to allow virtual participation also reduced the overall time for the meetings. Therefore, there was less or no time to discuss national implementation of housing policies.
- 20.216 At the same time, however, the subprogramme component on housing and land management identified additional and modified activities to support member States on issues related to COVID-19, within the overall scope of its objectives, namely, several additional webinars and virtual meetings, which were organized on topics of economic recovery from COVID-19 at the city level. The new and modified deliverables contributed to results in 2020, as specified in the emerging result for 2020 above.
- 20.217 In parallel, the subprogramme component on population identified new and modified existing activities to support member States on COVID-19 related issues, within the overall scope of its objectives, namely, the following: (a) after a virtual consultation with member States in April (33 country responses), the subprogramme component decided to dedicate the 2020 policy seminar entitled “Older persons in emergency situations: lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic”; and (b) in cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund and the World Health Organization, it initiated a pilot rapid assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on the long-term care of older persons in Kazakhstan.

Planned results for 2022

- 20.218 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: regional observatory on urban-related Sustainable Development Goals²¹

Programme performance in 2020

- 20.219 The subprogramme actively supported the exchange of experiences and building the capacities of national and local governments on the formulation and implementation of evidence-based housing and urban development policies. Following the launch of the guidelines on evidence-based policies and decision-making for sustainable housing and urban development at the eightieth session of the Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management, in October 2019, implementation of the guidelines began through the organization of national capacity-building workshops. In 2020, the subprogramme prepared a smart sustainable city profile for the cities of Grodno, Belarus, Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan, and Rana and Trondheim, Norway, to promote evidence-based housing and urban development policies at the city level. The subprogramme has also begun preparations to conduct a second country profile on housing and land management for Albania.
- 20.220 The above-mentioned work contributed to 32 ECE member States applying ECE guidelines on urban development, housing and land management at the national and local levels, which met the planned target, reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020.

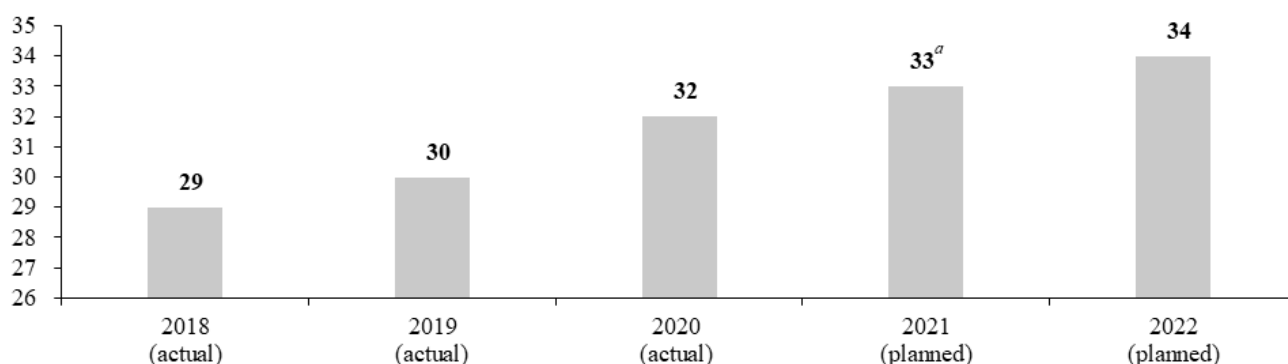
²¹ As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect. 20)).

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.221 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 governments in strengthening their capacity to develop evidence-based policies in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by promoting the application of ECE guidelines on urban development, sustainable smart cities, and housing and land management through a virtual platform with e-learning materials, and regional and national capacity-building events, including training on sustainable real estate markets. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.XXII).

Figure 20.XXII

Performance measure: total number of Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) member States that apply ECE guidelines on urban development, housing and land management at the national and local levels (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: countries launch new guidelines on how to mainstream ageing to achieve a society for all ages²²

Programme performance in 2020

- 20.222 The subprogramme has completed a stocktaking exercise on mainstreaming policies, tools and practice developed by ECE member States – 23 country notes were received – and facilitated the drafting process of the new guidelines on mainstreaming ageing under the leadership of the task force on ageing. In 2020, the subprogramme also led two-month-long consultations with the national focal points on ageing and experts in the field on the draft guidelines and supported the revision of the draft guidelines. (Constructive comments and suggestions received from 22 reviewers were taken into account to the extent possible.)
- 20.223 The above-mentioned work contributed to the review and adoption of guidelines on mainstreaming ageing by the ECE Standing Working Group on Ageing in order to benefit policymakers across the region, which met the planned target, reflected in the programme budget for 2021.

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.224 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 develop an online training programme for policymakers, technical experts and other stakeholders that would support the application of the guidelines in their local context. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see table 20.17).

²² As reflected in the programme budget for 2021 ([A/75/6/Add.1](#)).

Table 20.17
Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (planned) ^a	2022 (planned)
Member States decide to develop guidelines and to establish a task force to lead this work	The task force commences its work on developing guidelines and pilots a stocktaking exercise on mainstreaming practices in several countries	Member States reviewed and adopted guidelines on mainstreaming ageing to benefit policymakers across the region	Member States are expected to launch the implementation of guidelines and support the development of a toolkit	The guidelines-based online training programme contributes to setting up strategic frameworks for mainstreaming ageing in a number of ECE countries

^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: Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing beyond 2022: reaching a consensus on the goals and actions for healthy and active ageing in a sustainable world

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 20.225 The Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing adopted at the Second World Assembly on Ageing, in 2002, contained a request for a systematic review of its implementation as being essential for the Plan's success in improving the quality of life of older persons. The ECE Regional Implementation Strategy for the Plan of Action, adopted at the ECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing in Berlin, in 2002, reasserted that requirement. The first three 5-year cycles of review and appraisal of the Plan of Action/Regional Implementation Strategy implementation were concluded at ECE Ministerial Conferences in 2007 (León, Spain), 2012 (Vienna) and 2017 (Lisbon) and through the adoption of the relevant ministerial declarations. They involved participatory "bottom-up" elements – engaging civil society and older persons themselves – and generated knowledge for policymakers, supported action and promoted public awareness.
- 20.226 The fourth 5-year review and appraisal of the Plan of Action/Regional Implementation Strategy in the region will end in 2022. Following the reviews at the national level, the subprogramme will consolidate and analyse information, including gender perspectives, in the synthesis report and coordinate consultations among ECE member States on the next five-year goals and actions for healthy and active ageing across the region. The fourth regional review and appraisal will culminate with the ECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing in 2022 and adoption of the corresponding ministerial declaration. The subprogramme will facilitate the preparation of a consensus draft declaration, which is expected to reflect on lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic and align with the 2030 Agenda and United Nations Decade on Healthy Ageing (2021–2030).

Lessons learned and planned change

- 20.227 The lesson for the subprogramme was that, since spring 2020, there was a growing demand to address the increasing vulnerability of older persons in emergency situations and to link the reporting on the fourth 5-year review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing/Regional Implementation Strategy and efforts to mitigate the COVID-19 impact on older men and women. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will embed the principles of upholding the fundamental rights and dignity of older persons and the lessons learned from COVID-19 for preparedness, relief and recovery of emergency situations as they relate to older persons.

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

- 20.228 The above-mentioned work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by a 2022 Ministerial Conference on Ageing adopting by acclamation its outcome document, which outlines the goals and main actions for healthy and active ageing for the period 2023–2027 (see table 20.18).

Table 20.18

Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (planned)	2022 (planned)
Member States agreed on the work programme of the ECE Working Group on Ageing for 2018–2022 and the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing/Regional Implementation Strategy. The programme envisages the preparation of the Plan of Action/Regional Implementation Strategy +20 report	Member States decided on a tentative timeline for the fourth review and appraisal of the Plan of Action/Regional Implementation Strategy. The ECE Standing Working Group on Ageing tasks its Bureau with the development of guidelines for national reports	The Bureau issues the guidelines for national reports and launches the fourth review and appraisal exercise in the region A concept note for the 2022 Ministerial Conference on Ageing is discussed at the annual meeting of the Working Group	Member States hold national review and appraisal exercises and submit their national reports to the ECE secretariat The Bureau prepares the first draft of the ministerial declaration for consultation with the member States	Member States hold intergovernmental consultations on a draft ministerial declaration to be submitted at the 2022 Ministerial Conference The 2022 Ministerial Conference to adopt by acclamation its outcome document outlining the goals and main actions for healthy and active ageing in 2023–2027 that safeguard the dignity and rights of older persons

Legislative mandates

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

General Assembly resolutions

65/234	Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014	72/144	Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing
70/107	International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development	72/226	Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
71/235	Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)	75/131	United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021–2030)
71/256	New Urban Agenda	75/152	Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2016/25	Future organization and methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development	2020/8	Modalities for the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002
2018/6	Third review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002	2020/19	Change of name and revised terms of reference of the Working Group on Ageing of the Economic Commission for Europe
2020/7	Affordable housing and social protection systems for all to address homelessness		

Economic and Social Council decision

2014/239	Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its forty-seventh session and provisional agenda for its forty-eighth session (Commission on Population and Development resolution 2014/1, Assessment of the status of implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development)
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Economic Commission for Europe decisions

ECE/AC.23/2002/2/Rev.6	Regional Implementation Strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002	B (66)	Endorsement of the Geneva Charter on Sustainable Housing
ECE/AC.30/2007/2	Report of the UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing: "A Society for All Ages: Challenges and Opportunities"	ECE/HBP/190	Report of the Committee on Housing and Land Management on its seventy-eighth session (Geneva Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Housing and Urban Development)
ECE/AC.30/2012/3	2012 Vienna Ministerial declaration: "Ensuring a society for all ages: Promoting quality of life and active ageing"	ECE/AC.30/2017/2/Rev.1	Revised report of the Ministerial Conference on Ageing: "A Sustainable Society for All Ages: Realizing the Potential of Living Longer" (2017 Lisbon ministerial declaration)
ECE/HBP/173	Report of the Committee on Housing and Land Management on its seventy-fourth session, which adopted the Strategy for Sustainable Housing and Land Management in the ECE region for the period 2014–2020 (ECE/HBP/2013/3)		

Deliverables

- 20.230 Table 20.19 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 20.19

Subprogramme 8: 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				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	15	21	24	16
1. Documentation for the Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management	10	16	12	10
2. Documentation for the Working Party on Land Administration	–	–	7	–
3. Documentation for the Standing Working Group on Ageing	5	5	5	4
4. Documentation for the Ministerial Conference on Ageing	–	–	–	2

Part V Regional cooperation for development

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2020 actual</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	29	26	29	31
5. Meetings of the Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management and its Bureau	14	14	12	14
6. Meetings of the Working Party on Land Administration and its Bureau	8	5	10	6
7. Meetings of the Standing Working Group on Ageing	7	7	7	7
8. Ministerial Conference on Ageing	–	–	–	4
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	2	–	2	1
7. Projects on country profiles on housing, land administration and spatial planning	2	–	1	1
8. Road map for mainstreaming ageing project for a specific country	–	–	1	–
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	5	8	6	5
9. Workshops, seminars and training courses for policymakers and/or experts in the ECE region on housing and land administration (including real estate) and spatial planning	4	7	4	4
10. Workshops and policy seminars on population ageing issues for policymakers, experts, practitioners and other stakeholders in countries of the ECE region	1	1	2	1
Publications (number of publications)	5	5	7	6
11. Publications on housing and land management	2	1	3	4
12. Publications on population	3	3	4	2
13. <i>People-Smart Sustainable Cities</i> (ECE nexuses publication)	–	1	–	–
Technical materials (number of materials)	1	1	3	1
14. Technical guidelines on housing and land management	1	1	2	1
15. Guidelines on mainstreaming ageing	–	–	1	–
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: generations and gender programme – support for the council of partners; country microdata submission and researchers' access agreements; advisory services for policymakers in up to 4 member States, in preparation for and follow-up to the country profiles on housing, land administration and spatial planning; advisory services for government officials and other stakeholders, to develop national capacities in designing and implementing ageing-related policies and programmes.				
Fact-finding, monitoring and investigation missions: fact-finding missions for policymakers in preparation for and follow-up to the country profiles on housing, land administration and spatial planning; fact-finding missions for government officials and other stakeholders to develop national capacities in designing and implementing ageing-related policies and programmes.				
Databases and substantive digital materials: update and maintenance of the active ageing indicators data set for regional access.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: booklet/fact sheets of the Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management and the Working Party on Land Administration; booklet of the Standing Working Group on Ageing and ageing-related side events for various stakeholders.				
External and media relations: press releases related to housing, land management and population activities for regional access.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: update and maintenance of the websites related to housing, land management and population activities for global and regional access; Active Ageing Index wiki.				

B. Proposed post and non-post resource requirements for 2022²³

Overview

20.231 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022, including the breakdown of resource changes, as applicable, are reflected in tables 20.20 to 20.22.

Table 20.20

Overall: evolution of financial resources by objects of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	2020 expenditure	2021 appropriation	Changes					2022 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Post	32 425.1	34 760.0	82.8	—	—	82.8	0.2	34 842.8
Other staff costs	63.8	141.8	—	—	—	—	—	141.8
Hospitality	—	4.9	—	—	—	—	—	4.9
Consultants	62.9	131.1	(18.5)	—	—	(18.5)	(14.1)	112.6
Experts	2.7	50.6	(18.2)	—	—	(18.2)	(36.0)	32.4
Travel of staff	17.8	159.1	—	—	(21.9)	(21.9)	(13.8)	137.2
Contractual services	711.8	700.3	—	—	—	—	—	700.3
General operating expenses	157.8	69.6	—	—	(9.6)	(9.6)	(13.8)	60.0
Supplies and materials	57.3	44.9	—	—	(14.9)	(14.9)	(33.2)	30.0
Furniture and equipment	214.6	186.2	—	—	—	—	—	186.2
Other	12.3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	33 726.2	36 248.5	46.1	—	(46.4)	(0.3)	(0.0)	36 248.2

Table 20.21

Overall: proposed posts and post changes for 2022

	Number	Details
Approved for 2021	188	1 USG, 1 D-2, 8 D-1, 23 P-5, 35 P-4, 37 P-3, 21 P-2/1, 5 GS (PL), 57 GS (OL)
Post changes	—	
Proposed for 2022	188	1 USG, 1 D-2, 8 D-1, 23 P-5, 35 P-4, 37 P-3, 21 P-2/1, 5 GS (PL), 57 GS (OL)

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

²³ Owing to the timing of the present report, the expenditures presented in the tables in this section are not final and may be subject to adjustments that could result in minor differences between the information in the present report and the financial statements to be published by 31 March 2021.

Table 20.22

Overall: proposed posts by category and grade

(Number of posts)

Category and grade	Changes					2022 proposed
	2021 approved	Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	
Professional and higher						
USG	1	—	—	—	—	1
D-2	1	—	—	—	—	1
D-1	8	—	—	—	—	8
P-5	23	—	—	—	—	23
P-4	35	—	—	—	—	35
P-3	37	—	—	—	—	37
P-2/1	21	—	—	—	—	21
Subtotal	126	—	—	—	—	126
General Service and related						
GS (PL)	5	—	—	—	—	5
GS (OL)	57	—	—	—	—	57
Subtotal	62	—	—	—	—	62
Total	188	—	—	—	—	188

20.232 Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2022 are reflected in tables 20.23 to 20.25 and figure 20.XXIII.

20.233 As reflected in tables 20.23 (1) and 20.24 (1), the overall resources proposed for 2022 amount to \$36,248,200 before recosting, reflecting a net decrease of \$300 (or 0.01 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 20.23

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					2022 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
A. Executive direction and management	4 088.5	4 613.8	(36.7)	–	–	(36.7)	(0.8)	4 577.1
B. Programme of work								
1. Environment	5 509.7	5 736.6	–	–	(3.2)	(3.2)	(0.1)	5 733.4
2. Transport	6 471.3	6 875.3	–	–	(5.0)	(5.0)	(0.1)	6 870.3
3. Statistics	4 475.2	4 881.0	–	–	(4.7)	(4.7)	(0.1)	4 876.3
4. Economic cooperation and integration	1 919.2	2 133.8	–	–	(1.9)	(1.9)	(0.1)	2 131.9
5. Sustainable energy	1 916.3	2 263.2	–	–	(1.9)	(1.9)	(0.1)	2 261.3
6. Trade	3 407.4	3 670.8	–	–	(3.4)	(3.4)	(0.1)	3 667.4
7. Forests and the forest industry	1 500.7	1 543.3	–	–	(1.1)	(1.1)	(0.1)	1 542.2
8. Housing, land management and population	1 207.2	1 194.1	–	–	(0.8)	(0.8)	(0.1)	1 193.3
Subtotal, B	26 406.9	28 298.1	–	–	(22.0)	(22.0)	(0.1)	28 276.1
C. Programme support	3 230.8	3 336.6	82.8	–	(24.4)	58.4	1.8	3 395.0
Subtotal, 1	33 726.2	36 248.5	46.1	–	(46.4)	(0.3)	–	36 248.2

(2) Extrabudgetary

Component/subprogramme	2020 expenditure	2021 estimate	Total change		2022 estimate
			Total change	Percentage	
A. Executive direction and management	371.9	2 064.8	151.2	7.3	2 216.0
B. Programme of work					
1. Environment	9 426.8	11 534.5	(1 263.9)	(11.0)	10 270.6
2. Transport	2 939.4	2 708.3	(144.2)	(5.3)	2 564.1
3. Statistics	233.4	165.4	–	–	165.4
4. Economic cooperation and integration	622.5	1 466.1	(792.3)	(54.0)	673.8
5. Sustainable energy	572.9	1 096.3	(546.1)	(49.8)	550.2
6. Trade	1 517.0	1 526.1	(813.3)	(53.3)	712.8
7. Forests and the forest industry	366.2	405.3	(364.8)	(90.0)	40.5
8. Housing, land management and population	681.3	429.9	(151.1)	(35.1)	278.8
Subtotal, B	16 359.5	19 331.9	(4 075.7)	(21.1)	15 256.2
C. Programme support	1 093.2	1 788.0	–	–	1 788.0
Subtotal, 2	17 824.6	23 184.7	(3 924.5)	(16.9)	19 260.2
Total	51 550.8	59 433.2	(3 924.8)	(6.6)	55 508.4

Table 20.24

Overall: proposed posts for 2022 by source of funding, component and subprogramme

(Number of posts)

(1) *Regular budget*

Component/subprogramme	2021 approved	Technical adjustments	Changes			2022 proposed
			New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	
A. Executive direction and management	22	—	—	—	—	22
B. Programme of work						
1. Environment	31	—	—	—	—	31
2. Transport	38	—	—	—	—	38
3. Statistics	27	—	—	—	—	27
4. Economic cooperation and integration	11	—	—	—	—	11
5. Sustainable energy	11	—	—	—	—	11
6. Trade	20	—	—	—	—	20
7. Forests and the forest industry	8	—	—	—	—	8
8. Housing, land management and population	7	—	—	—	—	7
Subtotal, B	153	—	—	—	—	153
C. Programme support	13	—	—	—	—	13
Subtotal, 1	188	—	—	—	—	188

(2) *Extrabudgetary*

Component/subprogramme	2021 estimate	Change	2022 estimate
A. Executive direction and management	7	—	7
B. Programme of work		—	
1. Environment	26	1	27
2. Transport	8	—	8
3. Statistics	—	—	—
4. Economic cooperation and integration	1	—	1
5. Sustainable energy	2	—	2
6. Trade	2	—	2
7. Forests and the forest industry	—	—	—
8. Housing, land management and population	—	—	—
Subtotal, B	39	1	40
C. Programme support	7	—	7
Subtotal, 2	53	1	54
Total	241	1	242

Table 20.25

Overall: evolution of financial and post resources

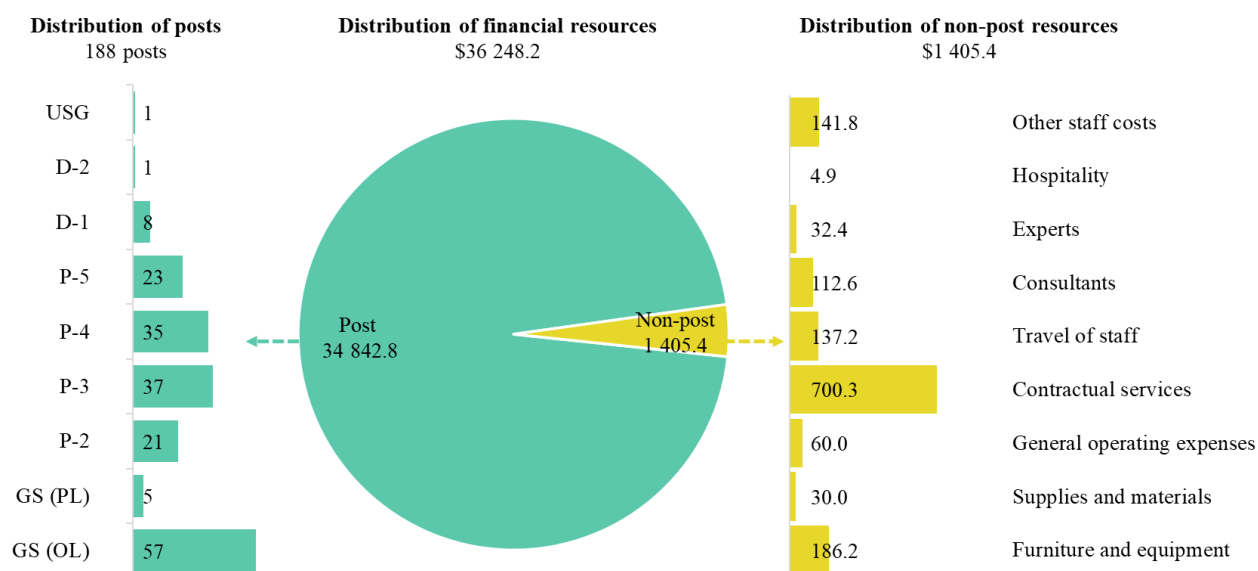
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	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	32 425.1	34 760.0	82.8	—	—	82.8	0.2	34 842.8
Non-post	1301.1	1 488.5	(36.7)	—	(46.4)	(83.1)	(5.6)	1 405.4
Total	33 726.2	36 248.5	46.1	—	(46.4)	(0.3)	(0.0)	36 248.2
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		126	—	—	—	—	—	126
General Service and related		62	—	—	—	—	—	62
Total		188	—	—	—	—	—	188

Figure 20.XXIII

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**

20.234 As reflected in table 20.23 (1), resource changes reflect a net increase of \$46,100, as follows:

- (a) **Executive direction and management.** The decrease of \$36,700 relates to the removal of non-recurrent non-post provisions under experts (\$18,200) and consultants (\$18,500), related to the biennial Commission session held in 2021, in accordance with General Assembly resolution [62/225](#) and paragraph 9 of annex I to Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/38;

- (b) **Programme support.** The increase of \$82,800 is related to the delayed impact of the establishment of one Administrative Officer (P-3) post approved pursuant to General Assembly resolution [75/252](#), which was subject to a 50 per cent vacancy rate in accordance with the established practice for new posts.

Other changes

20.235 As reflected in table 20.23 (1), resource changes reflect a net decrease of \$46,400, as follows:

- (a) **Programme of work:** The decrease of \$22,000 relates mainly to reduced requirements under travel of staff as a result of increased leveraging of information and communication technologies, including the use of virtual teleconferencing facilities to promote remote participation, wherever possible;
- (b) **Programme support:** The net decrease of \$24,400 relates mainly to reduced requirements under general operating expense (\$9,600) as a result of an expected decrease in the requirement for rental of furniture and other office equipment and telecommunication costs for mobile telephony, and reduced requirements under supplies and materials (\$14,900) as a result of increased use of electronic materials in place of traditional office supplies.

Extrabudgetary resources

20.236 As reflected in tables 20.23 (2) and 20.24 (2), ECE expects to continue to receive both cash and in-kind contributions, which would complement regular budget resources. In 2022, extrabudgetary resources are estimated at \$19,260,200 and would provide for 54 posts, as presented in table 20.24 (2). The resources will be used to deliver technical cooperation projects and activities as approved by ECE governing bodies. Examples of such projects include the implementation of the ECE multilateral environmental agreements and the ECE policy tools under subprogramme 1, Environment. Under subprogramme 2, Transport, extrabudgetary resources are expected to support the implementation and computerization of the TIR Convention, as well as the implementation of the Trans-European North-South Motorway and the Trans-European Railway projects. In subprogramme 3, Statistics, the projects would be in the area of the modernization of official statistics. Projects in subprogramme 4, Economic cooperation and integration, would provide support in the implementation of ECE innovation policies and people-first public-private partnership standards and promote subregional cooperation on sustainable development under the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia. Under subprogramme 5, Sustainable energy, projects would enable further development and implementation of the sustainable United Nations Resource Management System. In subprogramme 6, Trade, the extrabudgetary resources would support technical cooperation projects, advocacy and evidence-based studies to identify regulatory and procedural barriers to trade. Under subprogramme 7, Forests and the forest industry, the extrabudgetary resources would support research, analysis and the dissemination of information related to sustainable forest management, and sustainable production and consumption of forest products. In subprogramme 8, Housing, land management and population, the extrabudgetary resources would be used to support the development of country profiles on housing and land management and spatial planning, and support the implementation of the programme of work related to population ageing. Extrabudgetary resources represent 34.2 per cent of the total resources for ECE.

20.237 The extrabudgetary resources under this section are subject to the oversight of the Executive Committee of the Economic Commission of Europe and governing bodies of the conventions.

Policymaking organs

20.238 The governance structure of ECE has been revised in accordance with the workplan on ECE reform adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution [60/248](#) and the outcome of the review of the 2005 reform of ECE adopted by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution [2013/1](#). The

Commission reports to the Council and provides strategic direction to the work of the ECE secretariat. It serves as a regional platform for high-level policy dialogue on sustainable development in the region. It meets biennially for up to three working days. In the intersessional period, the Executive Committee is entrusted with the implementation of the overall policy set by the Commission. It meets as often as necessary to perform its oversight role with regard to programme planning and administrative and budgetary issues, including extrabudgetary funding. It reviews and approves the programmes of work and subsidiary structures of the sectoral committees, thus ensuring coherence and coordination among subprogrammes.

- 20.239 The following eight sectoral committees act as subsidiary bodies of the Commission and as governing bodies for the eight subprogrammes: the Committee on Environmental Policy (subprogramme 1); the Inland Transport Committee (subprogramme 2); the Conference of European Statisticians (subprogramme 3); the Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships (subprogramme 4); the Committee on Sustainable Energy (subprogramme 5); the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards (subprogramme 6); the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (subprogramme 7); and the Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management (subprogramme 8). These bodies meet for two to three days annually to provide guidance to ECE on work relating to their sectors. No resources are proposed for 2022 under the regular budget for those bodies.

Executive direction and management

- 20.240 The ECE executive direction and management component comprises the Office of the Executive Secretary, the Sustainable Development and Gender Unit and the Information Unit. It also includes the Programme Management Unit, which falls under the Programme Management and Support Services Division. It is proposed that two new organizational units for the management of extrabudgetary projects related to road safety, namely, the United Nations Road Safety Fund secretariat and the Special Envoy for Road Safety secretariat, be established with extrabudgetary resources redeployed from the Sustainable Transport Division to the Office of the Executive Secretary. These projects are further explained in paragraph 20.241 and 20.242, respectively, and the organizational units are reflected in annex I.B to the present report.
- 20.241 The overall responsibilities of the executive direction and management component include the following functions:
- (a) To contribute to and facilitate debate among member States on the strategic direction of ECE and to develop a forward-looking strategy for adjusting ECE activities to respond to emerging and foreseeable priorities of its member States;
 - (b) To foster relationships with member Governments and keep abreast of the needs of ECE member States;
 - (c) To coordinate the planning and ensure the implementation of the ECE programme of work, to provide guidance and direction for the work of the secretariat and to promote transparency and interdivisional cooperation;
 - (d) To service meetings of ECE and its Executive Committee, including the preparation of relevant documentation, to ensure follow-up to their decisions and to serve as an interface between the Committee and the bureaux of the sectoral committees;
 - (e) To coordinate multisectoral/intersectoral technical cooperation activities within the ECE mandate, including those developed within subregional frameworks;
 - (f) To monitor the technical cooperation activities carried out in the ECE divisions and to coordinate multisectoral/intersectoral technical cooperation activities within the ECE mandate;
 - (g) To undertake regional policy reviews relating to major cross-sectoral issues, in particular sustainable development, gender, the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals;

- (h) To ensure the implementation of the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council that are relevant to the work of ECE, including the regional follow-up to United Nations major outcomes and conferences, in accordance with the Commission's role as a regional outpost of the United Nations, pursuant to Council resolution 1998/46;
 - (i) To provide clearance for ECE publications and key documents prepared for the sectoral committees and other subsidiary bodies of the Commission;
 - (j) To contribute to increasing the visibility of ECE and to raising the awareness and use of ECE products through the dissemination of information about its activities;
 - (k) To contribute, in close cooperation with the other regional commissions, to United Nations reform discussion and implementation, in particular in relation to improving system-wide coherence in United Nations development work;
 - (l) To cooperate and coordinate with other United Nations entities active in the ECE region, in particular within the framework of the regional collaborative platform;
 - (m) To promote synergies between the ECE technical cooperation activities with the work of other United Nations system entities, in particular through the resident coordinator system at the country level and the United Nations Sustainable Development Group for Europe and Central Asia at the regional level;
 - (n) To contribute to relevant reports of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and other bodies and to provide other input requested by Headquarters;
 - (o) To foster gender and disability inclusion mainstreaming into ECE subprogrammes.
- 20.242 The Office of the Executive Secretary, which includes the Executive Secretary, the Deputy Executive Secretary and the Secretary of the Commission, has the overall responsibility for providing policy guidance and leadership in the ECE secretariat, including the coordination of the work of the Commission; overseeing and developing relations with Governments; coordination with the United Nations Secretariat; reporting to the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council; and overseeing and developing relations with other United Nations entities and with non-United Nations organizations, civil society and NGOs.
- 20.243 The Programme Management Unit, under the Programme Management and Support Services Division, provides guidance and ensures overall coordination of ECE programme management (planning, monitoring and reporting). The Unit also promotes synergies between the normative and operational work of the organization, provides guidance and ensures overall coordination of technical cooperation, as well as serves as a secretariat of the Working Group on Technical Cooperation. The Unit coordinates with other regional commissions and United Nations entities on programmatic and technical cooperation issues in support of the resident coordinator system countries within the ECE region.
- 20.244 The Sustainable Development and Gender Unit provides policy advice, analysis and advocacy on cross-cutting issues relating to the implementation of, follow-up on and review of the 2030 Agenda and on gender equality, in partnership with other United Nations entities and stakeholders, as relevant. The Unit convenes the annual Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the ECE region, in cooperation with the entities of the regional United Nations system, providing the regional contribution to the global follow-up on and review of the 2030 Agenda. It plays a leading role in carrying out the functions of the regional collaborative platform, which gathers the heads of the regional offices for Europe and Central Asia of the United Nations entities. It oversees cross-sectoral activities related to the Sustainable Development Goals that are in the focus of ECE work and promotes gender mainstreaming across all subprogrammes. It provides contributions to the preparation of and the follow-up on United Nations global conferences and summits and to various reports of the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly on economic, social and environmental issues. The Unit leads the internal work on the alignment of

- ECE activities with the Goals through a nexus approach. This includes the development and implementation of the ECE gender policy and action plan, the gender parity strategy and capacity-building for women's empowerment in ECE member States.
- 20.245 The Information Unit is responsible for implementing the ECE information strategy aimed at raising awareness and mobilizing support for the work of ECE. The Unit promotes the corporate image of the Commission by managing the corporate sections of its website and ensuring its overall coherence, as well as by designing and producing promotional material on ECE activities. The Unit manages ECE relations with the media, ensures the Commission's presence in social media and provides related monitoring and analysis. It advises the Executive Secretary, senior managers and the staff of ECE on outreach and advocacy.
- 20.246 Pursuant to General Assembly resolution [70/260](#), and with the support of the Secretary-General, the United Nations Road Safety Fund was established in 2018 as a United Nations multi-partner trust fund, with its secretariat hosted by ECE. The Road Safety Fund secretariat provides logistical and operational support to the Advisory Board and the Steering Committee, organizes calls for proposals and appraisal processes, and undertakes resource mobilization efforts in support of the Fund.
- 20.247 The Special Envoy for Road Safety secretariat supports the Special Envoy in the promotion of a global partnership to support the design and implementation of strategies and activities to improve road safety; advocates with governments, civil society and the private sector for the promotion of road safety, in particular in countries with a high level of road fatalities and injuries; participates in global and regional conferences and meetings on road safety; and advocates the accession to and the more effective implementation of United Nations road safety legal instruments. The secretariat supports the participation of the Special Envoy in global and regional conferences and meetings on road safety, the development of information and materials about the United Nations road safety legal instruments, and provides technical assistance, at the request of the United Nations Member States.
- 20.248 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](#), ECE is integrating environmental management practices into its operations. In the current budget cycle, the Commission will continue to reduce its carbon footprint by reducing its level of official travel.
- 20.249 Information on compliance with regard to the timely submission of documentation and advance booking for air travel is reflected in table 20.26. The compliance rate of 97 per cent relates to the timely submission of documentation related to ECE meetings organized through the United Nations Office at Geneva Division of Conference Management in 2020. The compliance rate of 44 per cent for air tickets purchased at least two weeks before the commencement of travel relates to all travel requests, including of staff, participants, experts and consultants, processed by ECE in 2020 through the United Nations Office at Geneva travel processing office. The decrease in this compliance rate in 2020 compared with 2019 is due to a reduced amount of travel and increasing uncertainty around travel and related restrictions imposed as a result of the COVID-19 global pandemic. ECE expects its compliance rate to improve with the easing of travel restrictions bringing about more predictable conditions and will continue to work closely with the travel processing office to reinforce the early planning of meetings and conferences.

Table 20.26
Compliance rate
 (Percentage)

	<i>Actual 2019</i>	<i>Actual 2020</i>	<i>Planned 2021</i>	<i>Planned 2022</i>
Timely submission of documentation	80	97	100	100
Air tickets purchased at least 2 weeks before the commencement of travel	73	44	100	100

20.250 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to \$4,577,100 and reflect a decrease of \$36,700 compared with the appropriation for 2021. The proposed reduction is explained in paragraph 20.234 (a). Additional details are reflected in table 20.27 and figure 20.XXIV.

Table 20.27

Executive direction and management: evolution of financial and post resources

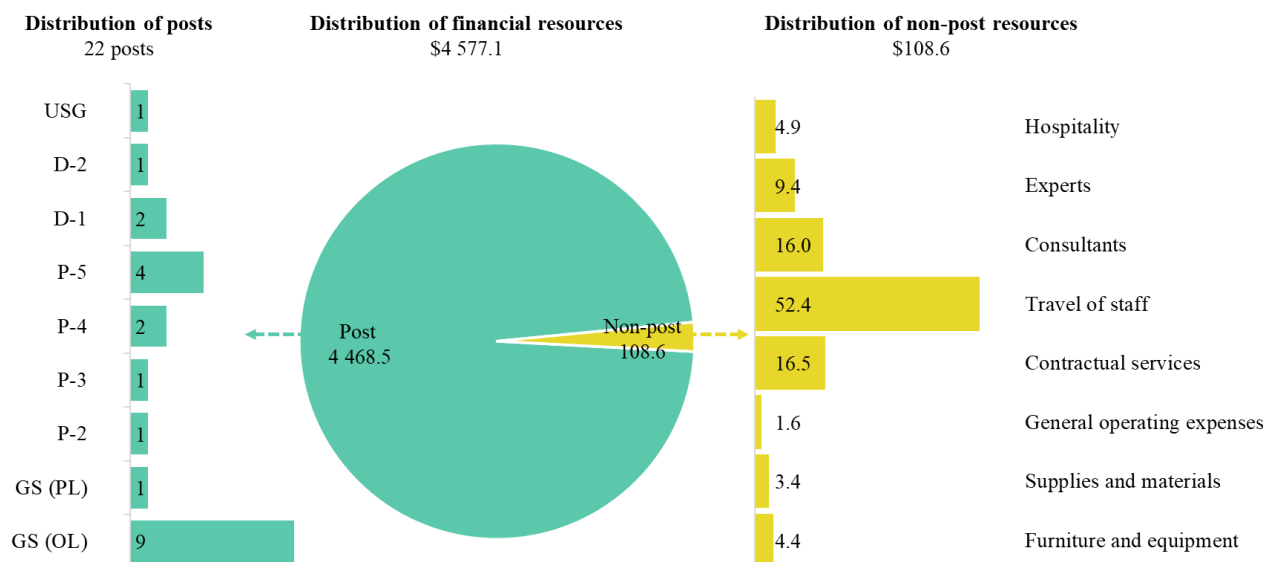
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	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	4 044.0	4 468.5	—	—	—	—	—	4 468.5
Non-post	44.5	145.3	(36.7)	—	—	(36.7)	(25.3)	108.6
Total	4 088.5	4 613.8	(36.7)	—	—	(36.7)	(0.8)	4 577.1
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		12	—	—	—	—	—	12
General Service and related		10	—	—	—	—	—	10
Total		22	—	—	—	—	—	22

Figure 20.XXIV

Executive direction and management: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Extrabudgetary resources

20.251 Extrabudgetary resources of \$2,216,000 are estimated for 2022 under executive direction management. These resources relate to the United Nations Road Safety Fund and the Special Envoy for Road Safety secretariats and will provide for seven posts (1 P-5, 2 P-4, 2 P-3 and 2 General Service (Other level)), along with non-post requirements in support of the management of both secretariats. The resources would provide for resource mobilization activities for the trust fund, along with support for the implementation of high-impact projects to increase road safety. The

projected increase of \$151,000 is due mainly to increased demand for travel, meetings and technical assistance workshops.

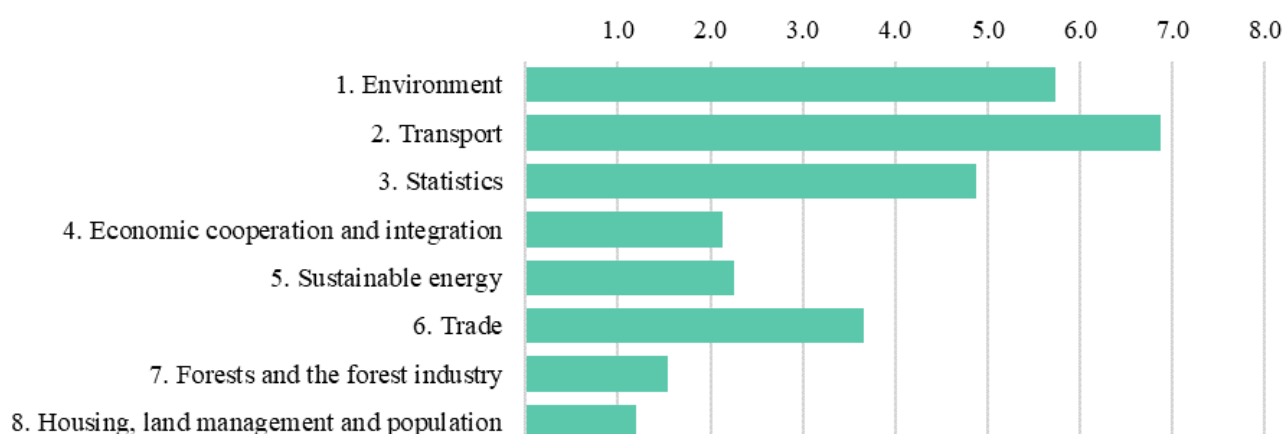
Programme of work

20.252 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to \$28,276,100 and reflect a decrease of \$22,000 compared with the appropriation for 2021. The proposed decrease is explained in paragraph 20.235 (a) above. The distribution of resources by subprogramme is reflected in figure 20.XXV.

Figure 20.XXV

Distribution of proposed resources for 2022 by subprogramme

(Millions of United States dollars)



Subprogramme 1 Environment

20.253 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to \$5,733,400 and reflect a decrease of \$3,200 compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of resources in 2022 are reflected in table 20.28 and figure 20.XXVI.

Table 20.28

Subprogramme 1: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

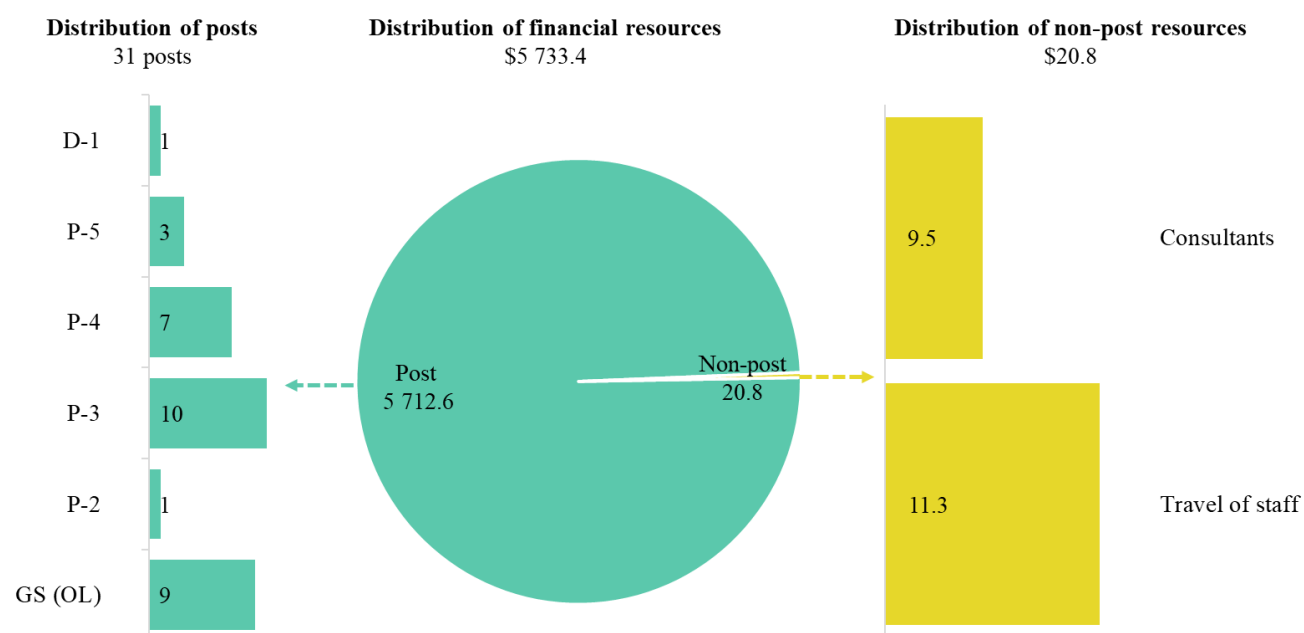
	2020 expenditure	2021 appropriation	Changes				2022 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage
Financial resources by main category of expenditure							
Post	5 477.0	5 712.6	—	—	—	—	5 712.6
Non-post	32.7	24.0	—	—	(3.2)	(3.2)	20.8
Total	5 509.7	5 736.6	—	—	(3.2)	(3.2)	5 733.4

	2020 expenditure	2021 appropriation	Changes					2022 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		22	—	—	—	—	—	22
General Service and related		9	—	—	—	—	—	9
Total		31	—	—	—	—	—	31

Figure 20.XXVI

Subprogramme 1: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Extrabudgetary resources

- 20.254 Extrabudgetary resources for the subprogramme are estimated at \$10,270,600 and would provide for 27 posts (1 P-4, 18 P-3, 1 P-2 and 7 General Service (Other level)), as well as non-post resources. The resources would be used mainly to support the implementation of the ECE multilateral environmental agreements and the ECE policy tools that include the ECE Environmental Performance Review Programme, the ECE Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Programme, the ECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development and technical assistance programmes under the ECE multilateral environmental agreements, through international policy dialogue, normative work, capacity-building and the dissemination of good practices and lessons learned. The expected decrease of \$1,263,900 is due mainly to the planned completion of projects in 2021.

**Subprogramme 2
Transport**

- 20.255 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to \$6,870,300 and reflect a decrease of \$5,000 compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of resources in 2022 are reflected in table 20.29 and figure 20.XXVII.

Table 20.29

Subprogramme 2: evolution of financial and post resources

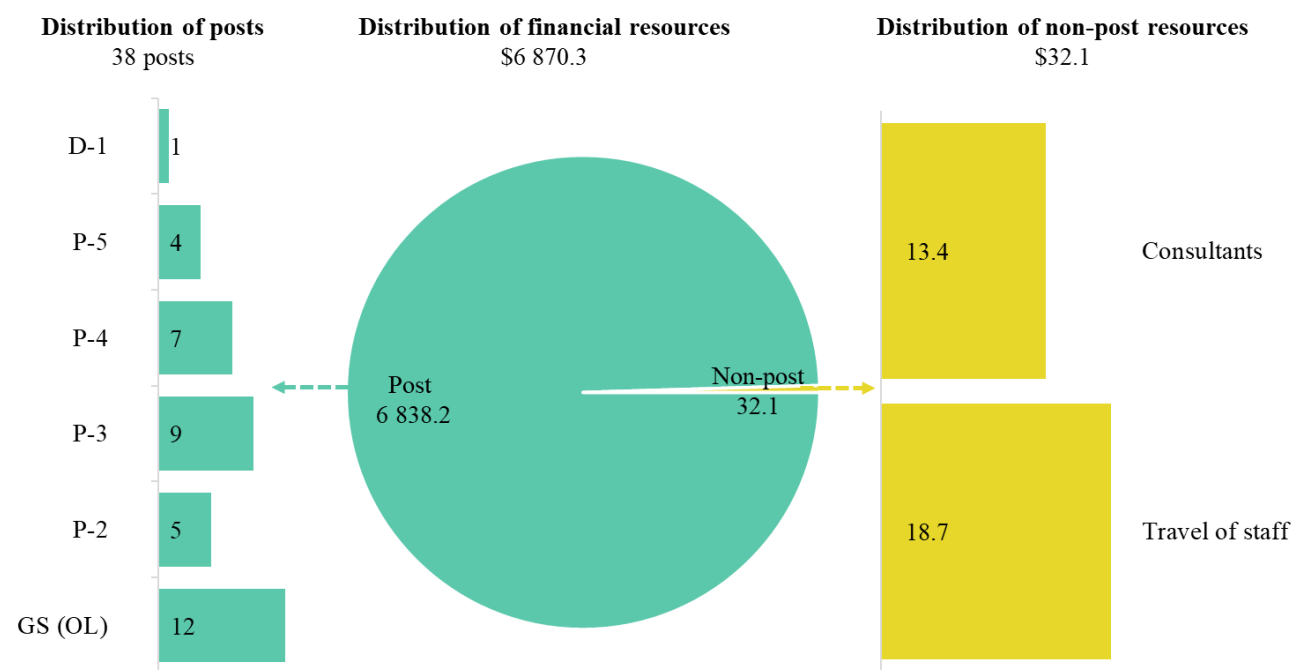
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	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	6 421.4	6 838.2	—	—	—	—	—	6 838.2
Non-post	49.9	37.1	—	—	(5.0)	(5.0)	(13.5)	32.1
Total	6 471.3	6 875.3	—	—	(5.0)	(5.0)	(0.1)	6 870.3
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		26	—	—	—	—	—	26
General Service and related		12	—	—	—	—	—	12
Total		38	—	—	—	—	—	38

Figure 20.XXVII

Subprogramme 2: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)

**Extrabudgetary resources**

- 20.256 Extrabudgetary resources for the subprogramme are estimated at \$2,564,100 and would provide for eight posts (3 P-4, 2 P-3, 1 P-2 and 2 General Service (Other level)), as well as non-post resources. The resources would be used mainly to support the implementation and computerization of the TIR Convention and the implementation of the Trans-European North-South Motorway and the Trans-European Railway projects and projects in the areas of green and healthy sustainable transport and mobility solutions, and adaptation of transport systems to climate change. The expected decrease of \$144,200 is due mainly to the planned completion of one project in 2021.

Subprogramme 3 Statistics

20.257 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to \$4,876,300 and reflect a decrease of \$4,700 compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of resources in 2022 are reflected in table 20.30 and figure 20.XXVIII.

Table 20.30

Subprogramme 3: evolution of financial and post resources

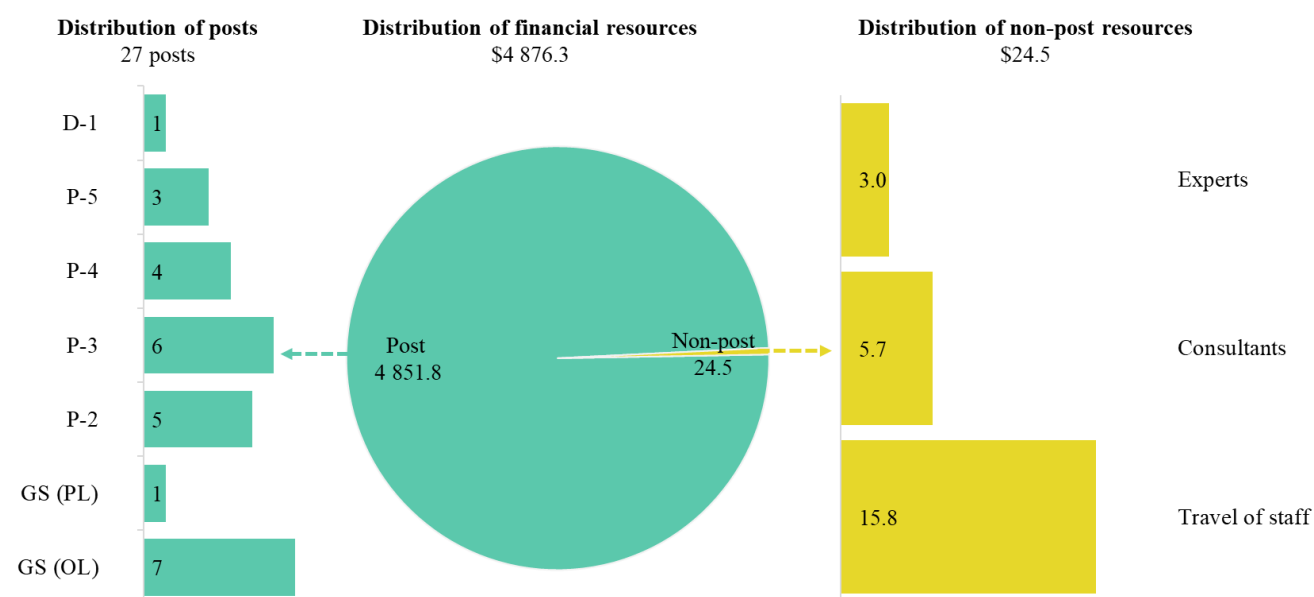
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	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	4 465.5	4 851.8	—	—	—	—	—	4 851.8
Non-post	9.7	29.2	—	—	(4.7)	(4.7)	(16.1)	24.5
Total	4 475.2	4 881.0	—	—	(4.7)	(4.7)	(0.1)	4 876.3
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		19	—	—	—	—	—	19
General Service and related		8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Total		27	—	—	—	—	—	27

Figure 20.XXVIII

Subprogramme 3: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Extrabudgetary resources

- 20.258 Extrabudgetary resources for the subprogramme are estimated at \$165,400 and would provide for non-post resources. The resources will support the management of projects in the areas of the modernization of official statistics, social and economic statistics and the strengthening of the statistical capacity of member States to provide high-quality statistics and indicators to monitor progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. There is no change in the expected resource level in 2022.

Subprogramme 4 Economic cooperation and integration

- 20.259 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to \$2,131,900 and reflect a decrease of \$1,900 compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of resources in 2022 are reflected in table 20.31 and figure 20.XIX.

Table 20.31

Subprogramme 4: evolution of financial and post resources

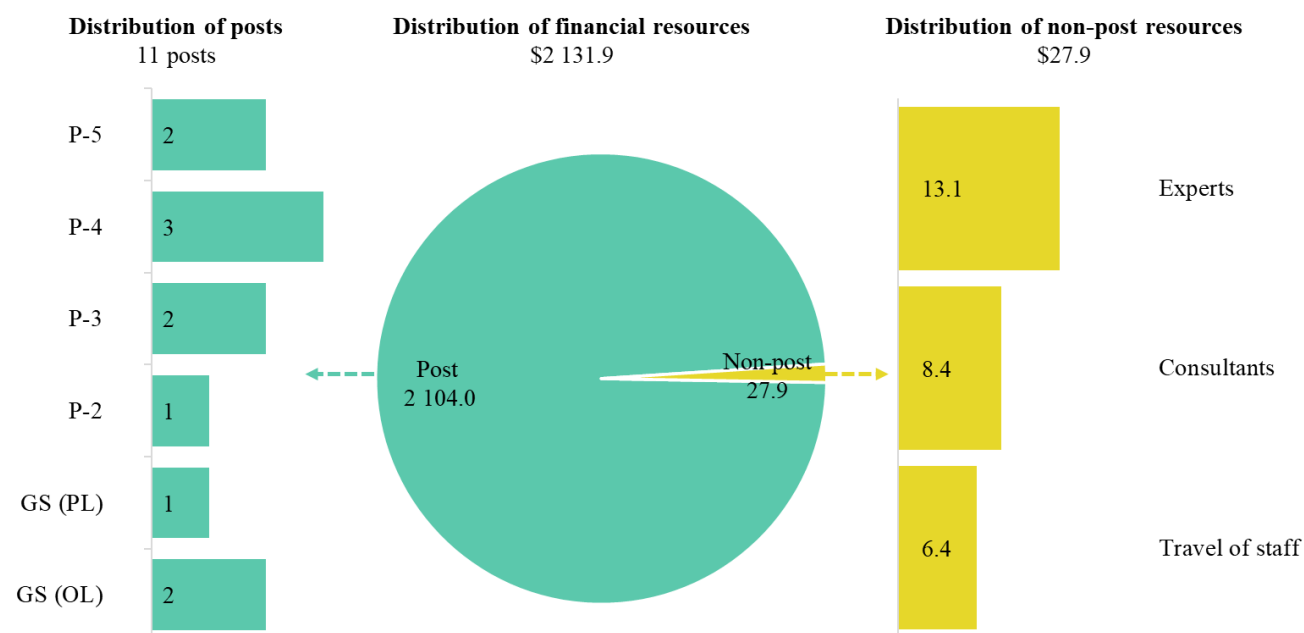
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	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	1 907.4	2 104.0	—	—	—	—	—	2 104.0
Non-post	11.8	29.8	—	—	(1.9)	(1.9)	(6.4)	27.9
Total	1 919.2	2 133.8	—	—	(1.9)	(1.9)	(0.1)	2 131.9
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		8	—	—	—	—	—	8
General Service and related		3	—	—	—	—	—	3
Total		11	—	—	—	—	—	11

Figure 20.XXIX

Subprogramme 4: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)


Extrabudgetary resources

20.260 Extrabudgetary resources for the subprogramme are estimated at \$673,800 and would provide for one post (P-3), as well as non-post resources. The resources would be used mainly to provide support for technical cooperation projects on the implementation of ECE innovation policies, development innovation for sustainable development reviews and the implementation of people-first public-private partnership standards and promote subregional cooperation on sustainable development under the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia. The expected resource decrease of \$792,300 in 2022 is due mainly to two current projects reaching completion in 2021.

**Subprogramme 5
Sustainable energy**

20.261 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to \$2,261,300 and reflect a decrease of \$1,900 compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of resources in 2022 are reflected in table 20.32 and figure 20.XXX.

Table 20.32

Subprogramme 5: evolution of financial and post resources

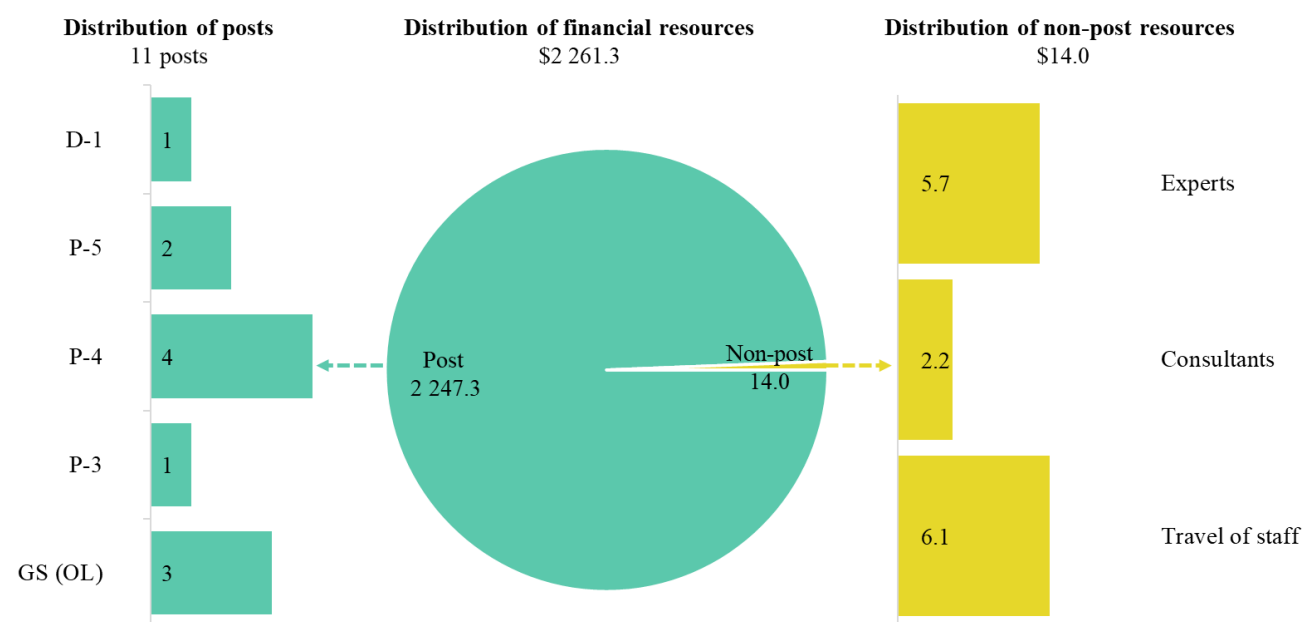
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	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	1 914.5	2 247.3	—	—	—	—	—	2 247.3
Non-post	1.8	15.9	—	—	(1.9)	(1.9)	(11.9)	14.0
Total	1 916.3	2 263.2	—	—	(1.9)	(1.9)	(0.1)	2 261.3
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		8	—	—	—	—	—	8
General Service and related		3	—	—	—	—	—	3
Total		11	—	—	—	—	—	11

Figure 20.XXX

Subprogramme 5: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)

**Extrabudgetary resources**

- 20.262 Extrabudgetary resources for the subprogramme are estimated at \$550,200 and would provide for two posts (1 P-4 and 1 P-3), as well as non-post resources. The resources would be used mainly to enable further development and implementation of the sustainable United Nations Resource Management System, which allows for dynamic management of resource endowments, in line with the 2030 Agenda, and will provide for technical cooperation projects on sustainable resource management; energy efficiency in buildings; methane management; transboundary cooperation on renewable energy; decarbonization of the transport sector; carbon neutrality; and global tracking systems. The expected decrease of \$546,100 is due mainly to the planned completion of six projects in 2021.

Subprogramme 6

Trade

20.263 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to \$3,667,400 and reflect a decrease of \$3,400 compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of resources in 2022 are reflected in table 20.33 and figure 20.XXXI.

Table 20.33

Subprogramme 6: evolution of financial and post resources

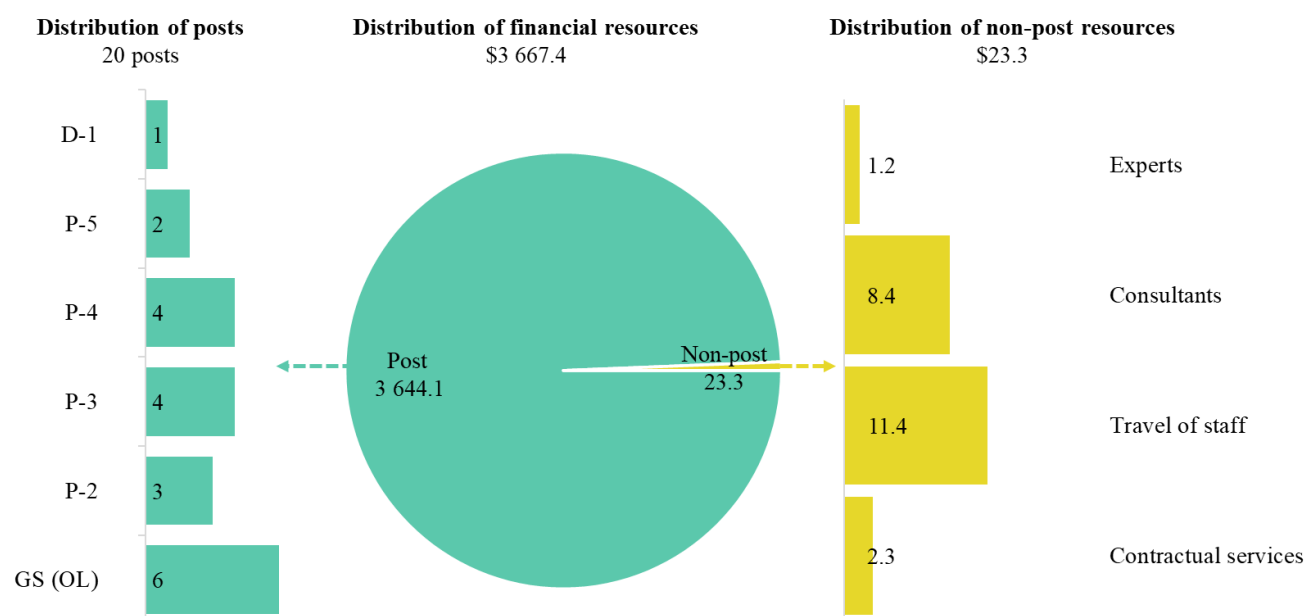
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	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	3 395.9	3 644.1	—	—	—	—	—	3 644.1
Non-post	11.5	26.7	—	—	(3.4)	(3.4)	(12.7)	23.3
Total	3 407.4	3 670.8	—	—	(3.4)	(3.4)	(0.1)	3 667.4
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		14	—	—	—	—	—	14
General Service and related		6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Total		20	—	—	—	—	—	20

Figure 20.XXXI

Subprogramme 6: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Extrabudgetary resources

- 20.264 Extrabudgetary resources for the subprogramme are estimates at \$712,800 and would provide for two posts (1 P-4 and 1 General Service (Other level)), as well as non-post resources. The resources would be used mainly to support technical cooperation projects, advocacy, evidence-based studies to identify regulatory and procedural barriers to trade, and technical cooperation projects in the areas of trade facilitation, sustainable value chains, food waste management and promotion of the use of standards for sustainable development. The expected resource decrease of \$813,300 is due mainly to four projects reaching completion in 2021.

Subprogramme 7 Forests and the forest industry

- 20.65 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to \$1,542,200 and reflect a net decrease of \$1,100 compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of resources in 2022 are reflected in table 20.34 and figure 20.XXXII.

Table 20.34

Subprogramme 7: evolution of financial and post resources

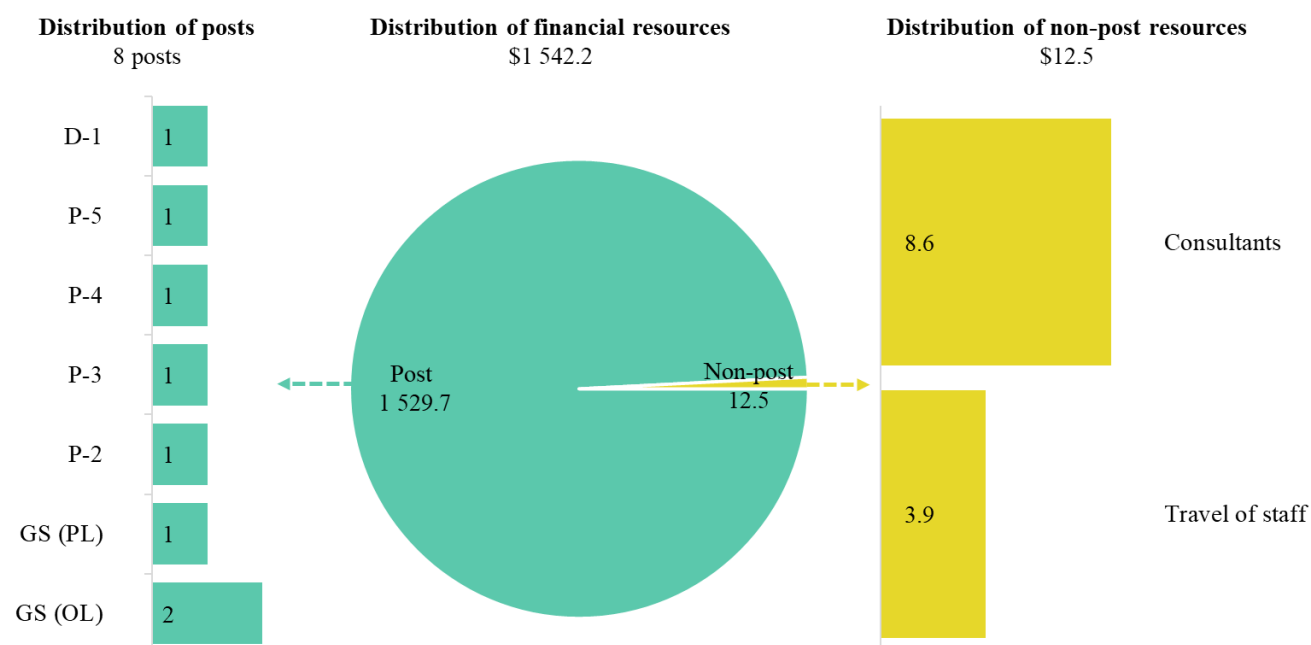
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	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	1 497.1	1 529.7	—	—	—	—	—	1 529.7
Non-post	3.6	13.6	—	—	(1.1)	(1.1)	(8.1)	12.5
Total	1 500.7	1 543.3	—	—	(1.1)	(1.1)	(0.1)	1 542.2
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		5	—	—	—	—	—	5
General Service and related		3	—	—	—	—	—	3
Total		8	—	—	—	—	—	8

Figure 20.XXXII

Subprogramme 7: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)


Extrabudgetary resources

- 20.266 Extrabudgetary resources for the subprogramme are estimated at \$40,500 and would provide for non-post resources. The resources would be used mainly to support research, analysis and dissemination of information related to sustainable forest management, the sustainable production and consumption of forest products, and technical cooperation projects on sustainable forest management. The expected decrease of \$364,800 in 2022 is due to seven projects reaching completion in 2021.

**Subprogramme 8
Housing, land management and populations**

- 20.267 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to \$1,193,300 and reflect a net decrease of \$800 compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of resources in 2022 are reflected in table 20.35 and figure 20.XXXIII.

Table 20.35

Subprogramme 8: evolution of financial and post resources

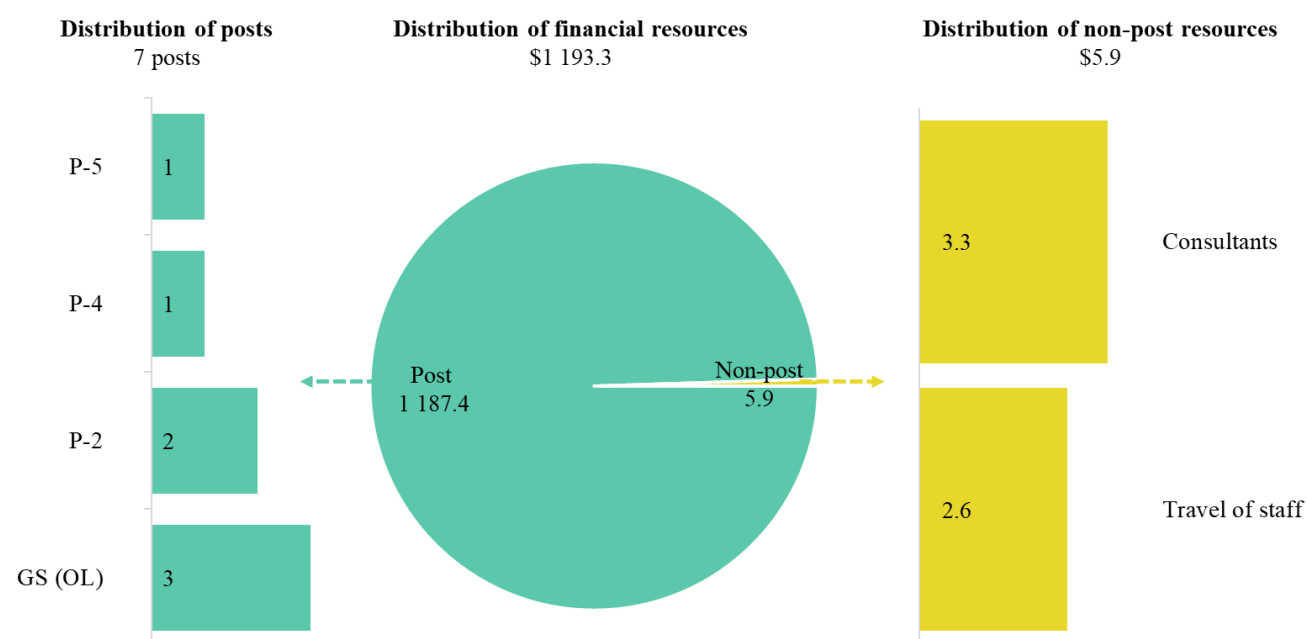
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	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	1 206.2	1 187.4	—	—	—	—	—	1 187.4
Non-post	1.0	6.7	—	—	(0.8)	(0.8)	(11.9)	5.9
Total	1 207.2	1 194.1	—	—	(0.8)	(0.8)	(0.1)	1 193.3
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		4	—	—	—	—	—	4
General Service and related		3	—	—	—	—	—	3
Total		7	—	—	—	—	—	7

Figure 20.XXXIII

Subprogramme 8: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)

**Extrabudgetary resources**

- 20.268 Extrabudgetary resources for the subprogramme are estimated at \$278,800 and would provide for non-post resources. The resources would be used mainly for supporting the projects on the development of country profiles on housing and land management and spatial planning, and on sustainable urban development and smart cities, as well as for supporting the implementation of the programme of work related to population ageing. The expected decrease of \$151,100 in 2022 is due mainly to one project reaching completion in 2021.

Programme support

- 20.269 The Programme Management and Support Services Division is comprised of the Office of the Director, the Programme Management Unit under executive direction and management, the General Administration Unit, the Budget and Finance Management Unit, the Human Resources Management Unit and the Information Systems Unit.
- 20.270 The overall responsibilities of the Programme Management and Support Services Division include the following functions:
- (a) The Office of the Director is headed by a Director who manages all aspects of programme planning, oversight, evaluation of the work of the subprogrammes, and administration;
 - (b) The Programme Management Unit under executive direction and management is explained in paragraph 20.238 above;
 - (c) The General Administration Unit, which is responsible for the coordination, management and provision of general administrative services, including the coordination, drafting and promulgation of all administrative policies; travel management; enterprise application coordination and management (including Umoja); office space management; property management oversight and control; and the organization of procurement activities. The Unit liaises with United Nations Headquarters and the United Nations Office at Geneva, the service provider delivering back-office support to ECE;
 - (d) The Budget and Finance Management Unit, which is responsible for all aspects of financial and budgetary management and annual budget preparation; budget performance reporting, including the financial processing and reporting and guidance to programme managers; the management of the ECE grants programme; the preparation of the statement of internal control; and the management of the financial delegation of authority under ECE. The Unit liaises with United Nations Headquarters and the United Nations Office at Geneva, the service provider delivering back-office support to ECE;
 - (e) The Human Resources Management Unit, which is responsible for human resources management, including staffing table management, staff selection and training, staff performance management, management of the ECE intern programme, management of consultants and individual contractors, staff welfare, management of time and attendance, flexible working arrangements and the implementation of the ECE gender policy. The Unit is also responsible for all matters related to the administration of justice system in the Secretariat. The Unit liaises with United Nations Headquarters and the United Nations Office at Geneva, the service provider delivering back-office support to ECE;
 - (f) The Information Systems Unit, which is responsible for the provision of ICT systems and services in support of the effective delivery of the ECE programme of work. The Unit provides advisory services to the management of ICT projects and ensures that appropriate ICT solutions are delivered to the ECE subprogrammes. The Unit coordinates with the United Nations Office at Geneva, the service provider to ECE for personal computing services and related services such as desktop management, data hosting and storage, videoconferencing and Wi-Fi.
- 20.271 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to \$3,395,000 and reflect an increase of \$58,400 compared with the appropriation for 2021. The proposed increase is explained in paragraphs 234 (b) and 235 (b) above. Additional details on the distribution of proposed resources for 2022 are reflected in table 20.36 and figure 20.XXXIV.

Table 20.36

Programme support: evolution of financial and post resources

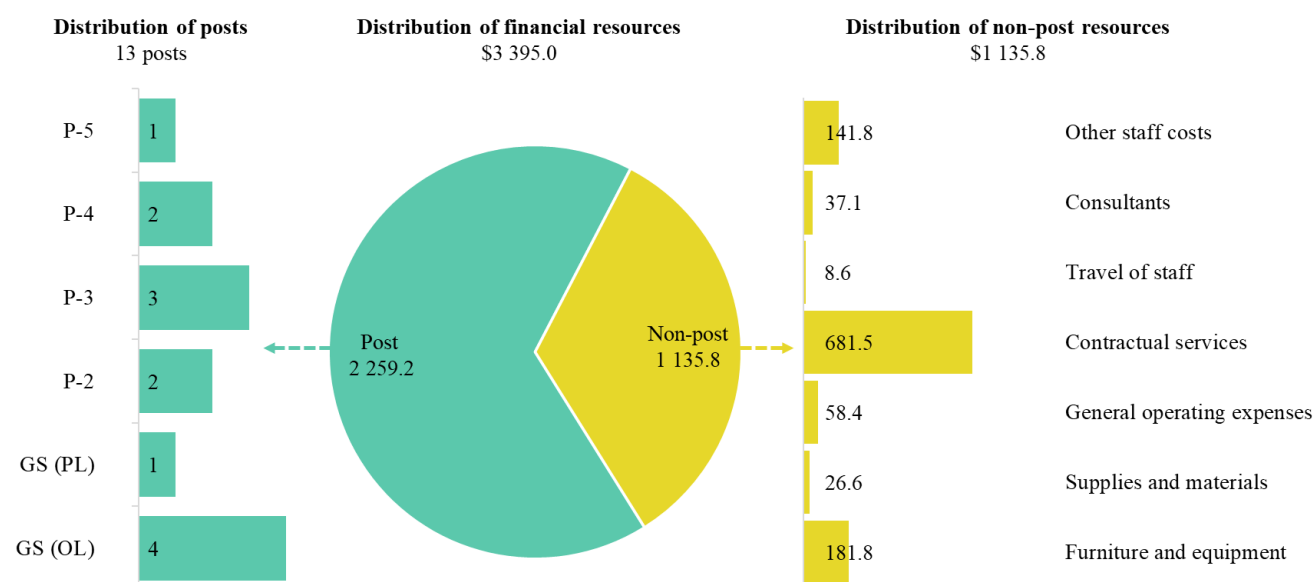
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	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	2 096.1	2 176.4	82.8	—	—	82.8	3.8	2 259.2
Non-post	1 134.7	1 160.2	—	—	(24.4)	(24.4)	(2.1)	1 135.8
Total	3 230.8	3 336.6	82.8	—	(24.4)	58.4	1.8	3 395.0
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		8	—	—	—	—	—	8
General Service and related		5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Total		13	—	—	—	—	—	13

Figure 20.XXXIV

Programme support: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)

**Extrabudgetary resources**

- 20.272 Extrabudgetary resources for programme support are estimated at \$1,788,000 and would provide for seven posts (1 D-1, 2 P-4, 1 P-2 and 3 General Service (Other level)), as well as non-post resources. The resources would be used mainly to provide support in the areas of budget, finance, human resources, general administration and information technology. In addition, these resources would further strengthen the functions related to strategy, programme management, oversight, evaluation, enterprise risk management, coordination of ECE technical cooperation programmes and support for the resident coordinator countries. The expected estimated resource level reflects no change in the resource level compared with the estimates for 2021.

Annex I

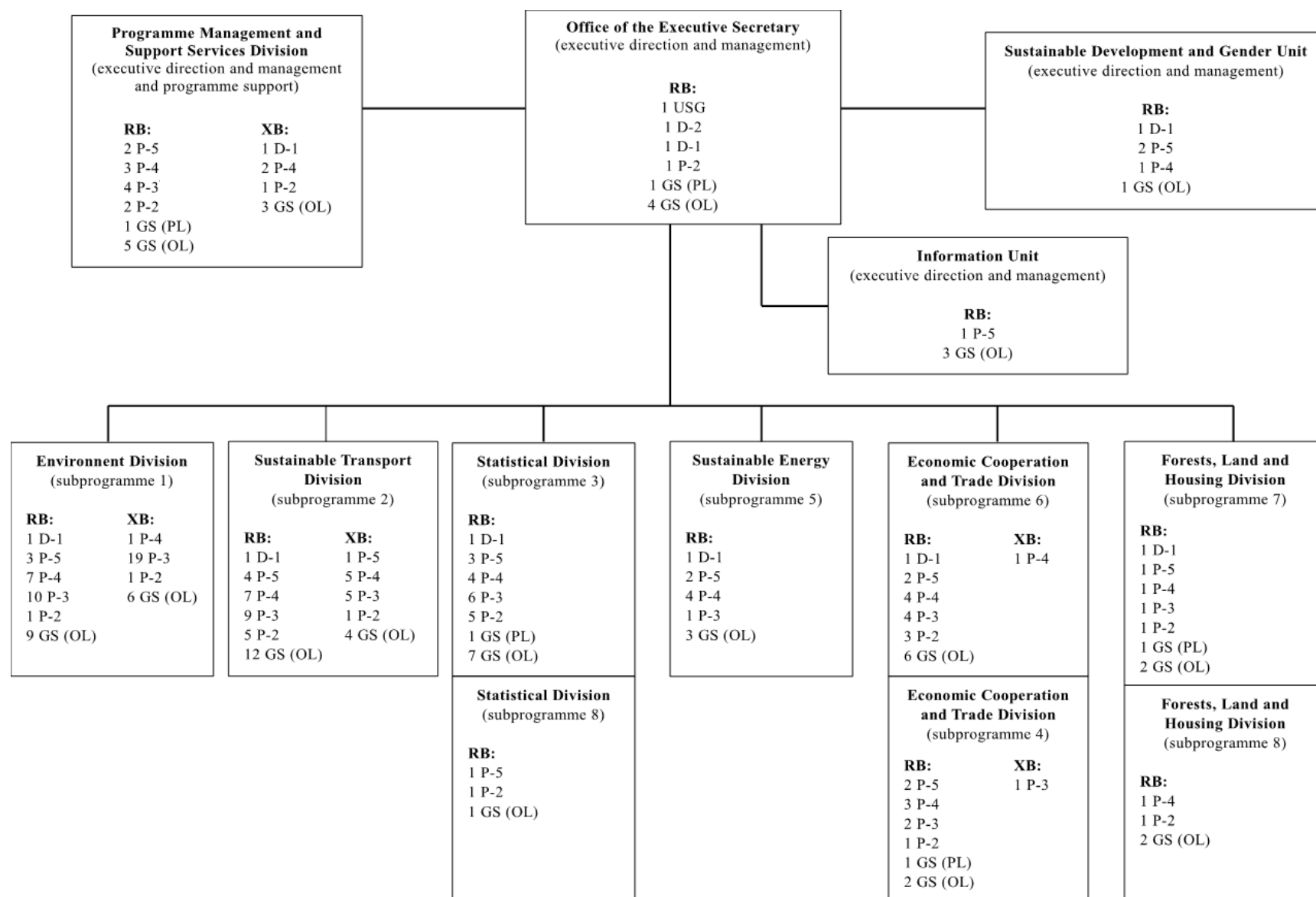
Organizational structure and post distribution for 2022

Two charts showing the organizational structure of ECE are presented below. Chart A reproduces the approved organizational structure for 2021, as contained in document [A/75/6 \(Sect. 20\)](#). Chart B presents the proposed organizational structure for 2022.

Justification for the proposed changes

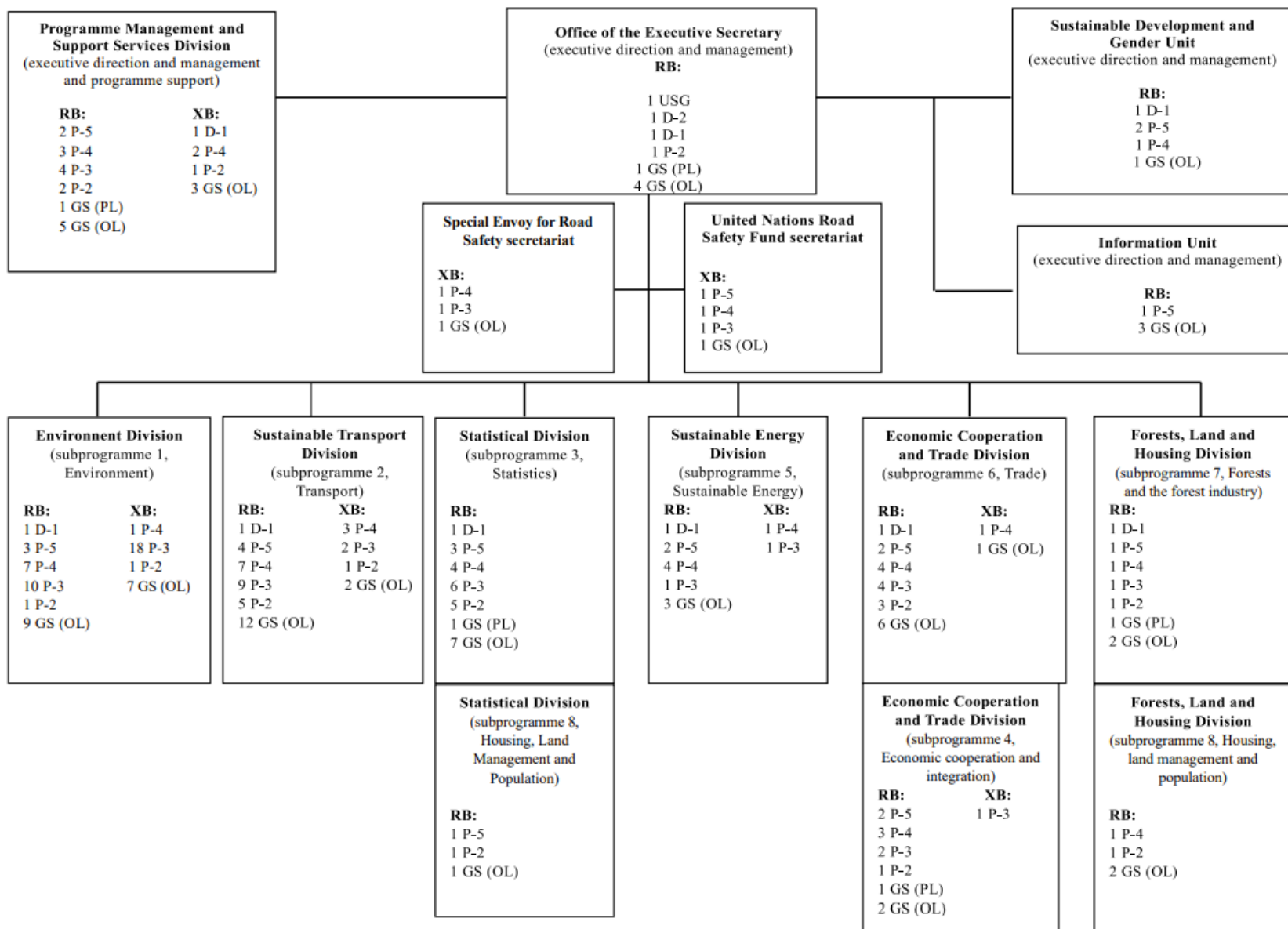
Prior to 2021 the extrabudgetary-funded secretariats for the Special Envoy for Road Safety and for the United Nations Road Safety Fund reported to the head of the Sustainable Transport Division. In order to take into account all the cross-sectoral dimensions of road safety (transport, but also health, urban development and trade), as reflected in General Assembly resolution [72/271](#), in 2021, they began to report to the Office of the Executive Secretary, which is reflected in the proposed organizational chart for 2022.

A. Approved organizational structure and post distribution for 2021



Abbreviations: GS (OL), General Service (Other level); GS (PL), General Service (Principal level); RB, regular budget; XB, extrabudgetary.

B. Proposed organizational structure and post distribution for 2022



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

Annex II

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

Brief description of the recommendation

Action taken to implement the recommendation

Office of Internal Oversight Services

Report No. AG2018/720/02

ECE should prepare updated terms of reference for TIR focal points for consideration and approval by the Administrative Committee in order to ensure consistency and enhance the focal points' effectiveness (2).

Implemented, pending confirmation by the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS).

A document covering the updated terms of reference for TIR focal points, both from customs and associations, was submitted as a formal document to the TIR Administrative Committee at its February 2020 session. A complementary informal document was introduced at the October 2020 session (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2020/9).

The document was adopted during the seventy-fourth session of the TIR Administrative Committee, in February 2021, as reflected in paragraph 55 of ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/151.

ECE should seek the advice of the Ethics Office on the apparent conflict of interest arising from its arrangement with the external partner on the eTIR project, including the receipt of funds from the external partner to whom ECE has become accountable under the contribution agreement despite having the responsibility to assist the Executive Board in overseeing the external partner's operations and assessing its compliance with the TIR Convention (6).

Implementation is in progress.

On 13 November 2020, ECE received a letter from the Ethics Office, recommending three actions:

- (a) Establishment of independent oversight over funds allocated to ECE for the purpose of eTIR. The secretariat presented the mechanism during the seventy-fourth session of the TIR Administrative Committee, in February 2021 (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/151, para. 57), and the Committee welcomed the progress made (ibid., para. 61);
- (b) Preparation of a new memorandum of understanding with the International Road Transport Union that captures all the recommendations made by the Ethics Office. The new memorandum of understanding will be presented to the TIR Administrative Committee later in 2021 (ibid., para. 59);
- (c) Discussion and endorsement of the new memorandum of understanding and workplan by the TIR Executive Board. During its eighty-sixth session, in December 2020, the TIR Executive Board acknowledged that the issue should be considered at the level of the TIR Administrative Committee. This aspect of the recommendation will also be closed once the Committee endorses the new memorandum of understanding in 2021.

ECE should bring to the attention of the Administrative Committee the need to: (a) study the reasons for the decline in sale of Carnets over the years and develop an action plan to address the underlying causes; and (b) develop an appropriate alternative financing arrangement to ensure the sustainability of TIR Trust Fund operations (7).

Implementation is in progress.

With respect to recommendation 7 (a), at its October 2020 session, the Working Party on Customs Questions Affecting Transport requested the secretariat to send a reminder to TIR focal points from customs and associations, seeking their views on the study on the reasons for the decline in the sale of TIR Carnets. A revised version of the study was presented to the TIR Executive Board in December 2020, which requested the submission of the study to the TIR Administrative Committee for its consideration in 2021.

With respect to recommendation 7 (b), a formal document on developing an appropriate alternative financing arrangement to ensure the sustainability of TIR operations (ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/2020/10) was considered by the TIR Administrative Committee, at its October 2020 session, but the Committee decided to pursue, for now, the current financing mechanism owing to the absence of any realistic alternative arrangement. With this decision, OIOS recommendation 7 (b) was closed without implementation.

Audit of the management of trust funds at the Economic Commission for Europe (AG2018/720/01)

ECE should review its resource mobilization strategy and multi-year plan and take appropriate steps such as: (i) incorporating measurable and quantifiable performance indicators in the strategy; (ii) instituting a process to track the progress achieved; and (iii) including the impact of resource mobilization activities in its annual report to the Executive Committee (1).

Implementation is in progress.

A revised resource mobilization strategy in line with the recommendation was approved by Executive Committee on 20 May 2020. It subsequently took note of the first resource mobilization plans, incorporating measurable and quantifiable performance indicators, at its 113th meeting, on 22 January 2021.

OIOS indicated that the recommendation would be marked as implemented once the first report on the impact of resource mobilization activities was presented to the Executive Committee.

ECE should: (i) develop a catalogue of technical cooperation services based on available technical expertise; and (ii) institute a project intake process to ensure that projects fall within the available expertise to further enhance the effectiveness of its technical cooperation activities (6).

Implementation is in progress.

In 2020, ECE flexibly responded to technical cooperation requests and reinforced linkages with resident coordinators offices in the 17 ECE programme countries. Regional advisers have increased their knowledge of the technical cooperation services, including transboundary and cross-sectorial linkages within the ECE mandate. An agile approach was also put in place in the light of the travel restrictions imposed owing to the pandemic, to ensure that technical cooperation services continued to be delivered.

In the light of the lessons learned in 2020, ECE will revise its technical cooperation strategy in 2021 and incorporate these elements.