

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Thirty-first Meeting
Geneva, 13 July 2009

Item 5

INFORMAL DOCUMENT No. **2009/10**

Annual Report on Technical Cooperation Activities

Annual Report on Technical Cooperation Activities

Report by the Secretariat

Summary

The present report is submitted pursuant to the UNECE Technical Cooperation Strategy adopted by the sixty-second Session of the Commission held on 25-27 April 2007 in which the member States requested the Secretariat to submit the annual reports on UNECE technical cooperation activities to the Executive Committee.

The report shows that the UNECE technical cooperation activities were carried out in accordance with the principles and priorities established by the UNECE member States in the Technical Cooperation Strategy.

Almost all activities were implemented in collaboration with the national governments and in partnership with the UN system and international organizations, regional and subregional organizations and initiatives, financial institutions, civil society and the private sector. These strategic partnerships have enabled the UNECE to avoid overlap and duplication, strengthen linkages and synergies in work, reduce financial costs, raise extrabudgetary resources, multiply the effect and enhance the impact of its technical cooperation activities.

UNECE technical cooperation activities contributed to strengthening national capacity to implement UNECE legal instruments, norms and standards, addressing subregional and transboundary challenges, and developing new policies and legislation.

However, the future of the UNECE technical cooperation activities critically depends on the predictability and sustainability of extrabudgetary resources which account for the major part of funding.

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to the UNECE Technical Cooperation Strategy adopted by the sixty-second Session of the Commission held on 25-27 April 2007 in which the member States requested the Secretariat to submit the annual reports on UNECE technical cooperation activities to the Executive Committee.

2. At its 24th meeting held on 1 July 2008, the Executive Committee also requested that future annual reports on technical cooperation activities should be more analytical and focus on the results of the technical cooperation activities carried out by the UNECE Divisions and the Regional Advisers.

3. This report provides information about the UNECE accomplishments in technical cooperation under various programmes, the sources and the uses of the funding of the UNECE technical cooperation activities, as well as the progress in the application of the UNECE for inclusion in the OECD DAC list of ODA-eligible international organizations. It ends with conclusions and recommendations and is accompanied by statistical annexes.

4. The list of the Regional Advisers' activities and the UNECE technical cooperation projects are provided on the UNECE website at the following addresses:

<http://www.unece.org/operact/opera/RegionalAdvisoryActivities2008.pdf> , and
<http://www.unece.org/operact/opera/ogtheme.pdf> .

II. UNECE accomplishments in technical cooperation in 2008

A. Overview of UNECE accomplishments in technical cooperation

5. During the reporting period, the UNECE technical cooperation activities were carried out in accordance with the principles and priorities established by the UNECE member States in the Technical Cooperation Strategy.¹

6. In line with the Strategy, technical assistance was demand driven and provided exclusively upon requests of governments or recommendations of Sectoral Committees and/or their subsidiary bodies. It was directly linked to the UNECE normative work and aimed at assisting the UNECE member States to accede to, adopt and implement UNECE legal instruments, regulations, norms and standards as a means of regional integration and integration in the world economy.

7. This distinct identity was further strengthened by strict selectivity: all UNECE technical cooperation activities were provided only in those areas where the Commission has strong in-house expertise and clear comparative advantage over other organizations, namely in the areas of transport, environment, trade, statistics, sustainable energy, timber, housing, land management, population, and economic cooperation and integration.

8. In its technical cooperation activities, the UNECE mainly employed the “agency execution” modality, when it used its own in-house expertise in the international and the UNECE legal instruments, norms and standards for the implementation of its projects/activities in recipient countries. However, this modality was complemented by the “national execution” through the combination of grants to national governmental and non-governmental institutions, hiring national consultants and national experts. Such mix of two modalities helped to enhance national

¹ UNECE Technical Cooperation Strategy (E/ECE/1447/Add.2).

ownership and ensure long-term impact and sustainability of the UNECE technical cooperation activities.

9. Advisory services, capacity building and field projects were the three major types of technical cooperation activities carried out by the UNECE. Almost 90 per cent of these activities were carried out in countries with economies in transition eligible for ODA.² During the reporting period, the UNECE carried out 72 advisory missions, 74 capacity-building activities (workshops, trainings and seminars) and 31 various projects: 6 projects funded from the United Nations Development Account (UNDA) and 25 projects, including 14 new projects, financed from the extrabudgetary resources contributed to the UNECE General and Local Technical Cooperation Trust Funds.

10. Most of the UNECE technical cooperation activities were either of regional or subregional nature and involved experts and policy makers from several countries. This approach enabled the UNECE to multiply the effect of its technical cooperation activities by making the optimal use of resources while promoting regional and/or subregional cooperation among various stakeholders on issues of common concerns or shared interests.

11. Central Asian countries were beneficiaries of more than 28 per cent of the UNECE technical assistance activities. The countries of South-Eastern Europe accounted for 17 per cent and countries of Eastern Europe and the Caucasus accounted for 13 and 5 per cent of all UNECE technical cooperation activities respectively. The remaining 37 per cent of the UNECE technical cooperation activities were of a regional nature, involving countries of two or more subregions.

12. Almost all UNECE technical cooperation activities were carried out in partnerships with international and regional/subregional organizations, the private sector, civil society and academia. The UNECE cooperation included, but was not limited to such organizations and entities as the European Commission, OSCE, UNCTAD, UNEP/GEF, UNFIP, EFTA, Asian Development Bank, World Bank, the “Fonds Français pour l’Environnement Mondial”, European Business Congress, etc. A significant number of UNECE technical cooperation activities were implemented in close partnership with subregional organizations and initiatives, such as the Eurasian Economic Community, the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, and the CIS. The UN regional economic commissions were among UNECE’s most frequent partners in the projects financed from the UNDA.

13. The UNECE has established a partnership with the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC), a successor of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe and an operational arm of the South-Eastern European Cooperation Process (SEEC). It collaborated with the RCC in three out of its five priority areas of work: 1) economic and social development; 2) infrastructure and energy; and 3) building human capital. In collaboration with the RCC, the UNECE has been developing three regional project proposals (energy efficiency market formation, women entrepreneurship and public-private partnerships) for funding by the European Commission.

14. A number of technical cooperation activities funded both from the regular budget and extrabudgetary resources have been carried out by the UNECE within the framework of the Special Programme for Economies of Central Asia (SPECA)³, including 7 projects in transboundary water management and one each in the remaining 5 areas: trade, transport, statistics, sustainable energy, and economic cooperation and integration. The upcoming establishment of the UNECE-UNESCAP SPECA Joint Office in Central Asia is expected to

² Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Montenegro, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

³ Comprises Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

further improve needs assessment, programme delivery, cooperation with partner organizations and fund-raising.

15. Among the United Nations system organizations, the UNDP has been by far the most prominent partner of the UNECE practically in all areas of technical cooperation and in all subregions. This strategic partnership has been brought to a new level with the UNECE's participation in the UNDAFs in several countries of the region (Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan in Central Asia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in South-Eastern Europe) in the new 2010-2015 cycle. Four more UNDAFs in roll out countries of the region are currently under review for the participation of the UNECE.

16. As an active member of the CEB Inter-agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity⁴, the UNECE has contributed to the One UN in Albania, particularly "Towards the EU: Support to the Albanian Economy and Trade Capacity", a three-year programme aimed at a) strengthening the capacity of the Government for data collection and analysis, to comply with EU standards; b) enhancing the capacity of the Government and trade institutions to increase trade competitiveness and attract FDI; and c) facilitating, securing and strengthening border crossing. The Programme is based on the One Budgetary Framework, to be supported by funding from the One UN Fund. It provides the Non-Resident Agencies (NRAs) such as the UNECE, with an effective instrument for the most efficient and coherent delivery of operational activities at the country level, as well as with access to funding.

17. The UNECE has also been coordinating the support of the CEB Inter-agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity to the "Aid for Trade Roadmap for SPECA" initiated by Azerbaijan. The Roadmap aims to identify national and regional Aid for Trade priorities of SPECA participating countries, and to mobilize international support and resources in their support.

18. Participation of the UNECE in UNDAF, One UN and the CEB Inter-agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity ensures better coordination, increases effectiveness and efficiency, multiplies effect, enhances impact, improves resource mobilization and raises the visibility of the UNECE work at the country level.

19. During the reporting period the Working Group on Technical Cooperation held four meetings. Pursuant to the mandate provided by member States in the UNECE Technical Cooperation Strategy, it promoted exchange of information, lessons learned and good practices; discussions on reporting, inter-sectoral, cross-sectoral and inter-divisional cooperation, fund-raising and the UN system-wide coordination of technical cooperation activities.

20. To support the efforts of the Regional Advisors and project managers to mobilize extrabudgetary resources, a two-day workshop on EC funding was held in December 2008. As a follow-up to the workshop, all participants and interested staff have been regularly receiving electronic alerts on calls for proposals for EC funding. A subscription for other periodicals on EC funding for project managers has also been organized.

⁴ The United Nations Chiefs Executives Board (CEB) Inter-agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity was established in April 2007 to ensure that trade and productive capacity issues are integrated in the Delivering as One UN processes. The Cluster includes UNCTAD, UNIDO, FAO, WTO, ITC, UNDP and all five UN regional commissions.

B. UNECE accomplishments in technical cooperation under various Programmes

21. The UNECE technical cooperation activities were carried out under the following three programmes: (i) Programme “Economic development in Europe”, (ii) Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation, and (iii) United Nations Development Account.

1. Programme “Economic development in Europe”

22. During the reporting period, the UNECE technical cooperation services under this programme were provided under the following subprogrammes.

Subprogramme 1 – Environment

23. Technical cooperation activities in the area of environment were focused on promoting the implementation of UNECE multilateral environmental conventions, assisting countries with economies in transition in applying them in practice, and improving environmental performance in these countries.

24. Under the second cycle of Environmental Performance Reviews (EPRs), the UNECE continued to assess how countries of EECCA and SEE have incorporated environmental concerns into their economic policies, and provided recommendations on how to improve their environmental performance. In particular, the reports of the second EPRs of Kazakhstan and Ukraine, launched in 2008, focused on integrating environmental concerns into energy, water, industry and land management sectors of the economy, and provided specific recommendations on how to address emerging environmental challenges. Within the framework of the EPR of Kyrgyzstan, the UNECE carried out an assessment of, and provided relevant recommendations on, the environmental situation and environmental governance to the Government. Two more countries (Georgia and Uzbekistan) will undergo the second cycle of EPRs in 2009-2010. In Uzbekistan, the structure, objectives and timeframe of the review and implementation plan for the second EPR have already been agreed with the national authorities. By 2010, the UNECE will review environmental performance in four out of five Central Asian countries, thus laying the groundwork for comparison of their environmental governance and promoting exchange of national experiences.

25. Advisory services and capacity-building workshops implemented under this subprogramme enhanced the capacity of EECCA and SEE countries to implement environmental conventions and protocols and facilitated ratification of, or accession to these instruments by providing training, and legal and technical advice to governments and other stakeholders. The Assistance Programme launched under the UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents can be seen as a model framework for providing technical assistance to EECCA and SEE countries. It provides countries with tools for identifying their priority goals for strengthening the implementation and for defining the form of assistance that would allow them to reach their goals effectively and in a sustainable way. EECCA and SEE countries working actively under the Programme are making steady progress in the Convention’s implementation.

26. Most of the UNECE technical cooperation in the area of environment in 2008 was provided in partnership with relevant stakeholders in the region, in particular, UNDP, UNEP, UNITAR, OSCE, World Bank, EBRD and EEA, as well as the EU TACIS Programme for Central Asia, European ECO-Forum, EurAsEC, IFAS and the Regional Environmental Centres.

Subprogramme 2 – Transport

27. Technical cooperation activities in the area of transport were focused on strengthening the capacity of countries with economies in transition to implement UNECE legal instruments and

promoting inter-country cooperation towards the development of pan-European transport networks and Euro-Asian transport links.

28. The Subprogramme continued to support the coordinated development of transport networks in Central, East and South-East European countries under two subregional cooperation frameworks, namely the UNECE Trans-European Motorway (TEM) and Trans-European Railway (TER) Projects. The revision of the TEM and TER Master Plan has been carried out in 2008-2009 to reflect new challenges, such as intermodality, funding and operational performance, and to extend the geographical coverage of the Master Plan to include four additional countries. Workshops and training activities organized within the framework of the TEM and TER Projects contributed to the transfer of know-how and sharing best practices among members of the projects.

29. The UNECE in collaboration with the UNESCAP continued to work closely with Governments of the Euro-Asian region with a view to developing Euro-Asian Transport Links (EATL) and addressing the issues of inadequate transport infrastructure, internationally unharmonized transport rules and costly and time-consuming border crossing procedures. As a follow-up to the Ministerial meeting held during the annual session of the Inland Transport Committee, the second phase of the EATL project was launched in the autumn 2008. It aimed at assisting participating countries to develop efficient, safe and secure Euro-Asian land and land-cum-sea transport links and to facilitate international trade and tourism.

30. In providing its technical cooperation services in the area of transport, the UNECE also closely cooperated with other relevant organizations, such as OSCE, UNDP, UNESCAP, TRACECA and ECO. In particular, UNECE, in cooperation with UNDP, provided practical guidance to the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina on the preparation of the national law on the carriage of dangerous goods. Upon the invitation of Iran's Customs Agency, the UNECE also organized capacity-building training for customs and transport experts of ECO member States of the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods. The Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation between UNECE and TRACECA, signed in December 2008, will contribute to further improvement of the infrastructure network in Central Asia.

31. Training and advisory services provided to countries with economies in transition contributed to increased knowledge of UNECE legal instruments and recommendations in the area of transport by policy makers and experts.

Subprogramme 3 – Statistics

32. Technical cooperation activities in the area of statistics were focused on promoting the application of international statistical methodology and standards.

33. A substantial part of technical cooperation services in statistics concentrated on strengthening the capacity of EECCA and SEE countries in their preparations for the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses. In particular, two training workshops on censuses were organized by UNECE in cooperation with UNFPA in SEE. The workshops, based on the Census Recommendations of the Conference of European Statisticians, contributed to improving those countries' census planning capabilities. Specific support on the preparations for the next population and housing census was also provided to national statistical offices of Central Asian states.

34. New training modules and a handbook on gender statistics developed as part of the UNECE project funded by the World Bank, contributed to increased capacity of national statistical systems

in EECCA and SEE countries to produce data for developing, monitoring and evaluating gender policies. The new training materials on gender statistics developed by UNECE were presented and discussed at a training workshop attended by participants from various EECCA, SEE and Mediterranean countries. A Global Assessment of the National Statistical System of Kazakhstan carried out together with the Statistics Division of UNESCAP was finalized in 2008.

35. Advisory services and capacity-building workshops organized under this subprogramme in 2008 contributed to (a) increased understanding of the role of official statistics, including the dissemination and communication of statistical information, in supporting evidence-based decision making in countries with economies in transition; (b) strengthened capacity of national statistical offices in such areas as the revision of the System of National Accounts, measuring the non-observed economy, MDG indicators, statistical legislation, migration statistics and disability statistics; and (c) improved gender sensitivity of national statistical systems in countries with economies in transition.

36. Technical cooperation services in the area of statistics were provided in close cooperation with UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, UNESCAP, OECD, EFTA, World Bank, WBI and CIS-STAT, as well as national governments in countries with economies in transition.

Subprogramme 4 – Economic cooperation and integration

37. The UNECE capacity-building activities under this subprogramme were focused on promoting policy, financial and regulatory environment conducive to economic growth, innovative development and higher competitiveness in countries with economies in transition and emerging market economies.

38. A significant part of technical cooperation services was focused on promoting best practices on public-private partnerships (PPPs). Capacity-building seminars and trainings contributed to increased capacity of national governments to identify, develop and implement PPP projects and introduce economic, institutional and regulatory reform in support of PPPs. A set of training modules of the Toolkit on “How to do PPPs” was developed and introduced by the UNECE in 2008. It aimed to enhance professional skills of government officials and the private sector to launch PPP programmes, create the right legal and regulatory framework, and ensure effective governance of PPPs at regional and municipal levels.

39. Promoting knowledge-based development (KBD), with particular attention to Central Asian countries, was another focus area of the UNECE capacity-building activities. The network of SPECA policy makers on knowledge-based development was established and the SPECA Project Working Group on KBD was inaugurated in 2008. National and regional seminars on information and communication technology (ICT) policy and legal issues contributed to increased awareness and knowledge by ICT policy makers and experts in the Central Asian region on legal issues of eCommerce development, and facilitated the sharing of lessons learned and best regional and international practices in this area.

40. Advisory services provided by the Subprogramme also contributed to increased knowledge by central and local Governments in EECCA countries of policies to promote the formation of new innovative enterprises and facilitate their access to risk finance, technology transfer and licensing.

41. In 2008, two new extrabudgetary projects were launched by the Subprogramme in the areas of competitiveness and innovative policies, and promoting sustainable biomass trade. The projects aim at strengthening the national capacity in the CIS countries to advance knowledge-based development, and building the capacity of the participating regions of the Russian Federation to develop and market their biomass resources in a sustainable way.

42. The Subprogramme provided its technical cooperation services in close partnership with UNDP, UNESCAP, UNIDO, WIPO, OECD, World Bank, EBRD and BSEC, as well as national governments and the private sector in beneficiary countries.

Subprogramme 5 – Sustainable energy

43. Technical cooperation activities in this area of work focused on promoting greater integration of energy economies and energy infrastructure in the region, increasing energy efficiency and alleviating fuel poverty in countries with economies in transition.

44. Most of the technical cooperation activities under this subprogramme were provided within the framework of the subregional extrabudgetary project “Energy Efficiency 21”. In particular, under the sub-project “Financing Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Investments for Climate Change Mitigation”, assessment missions were carried out in 11 countries with economies in transition. They helped to analyze the local institutional and financial environment for implementation of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, determine legal and policy barriers to energy efficiency investments, and identify capacity-building needs of beneficiary countries for successful development of those projects.

45. The extrabudgetary project on financing coal mine methane (CMM) projects in Central and Eastern Europe and the CIS which completed in 2008, contributed to fostering CMM technology investments in participating countries with economies in transition.

46. Two new extrabudgetary projects were launched by the Subprogramme in 2008. The project “Increasing energy efficiency for secure energy supplies” is focused on promoting energy efficiency investments to reduce the domestic consumption of hydrocarbons and increase natural gas and petroleum exports of Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation and other Central Asia energy exporters. The project “Global energy efficiency 21: cooperation between the UN Regional Commissions on energy efficiency for climate change mitigation” focuses on a systematic exchange of experience on policy reforms and investment project finance among countries of the other regions in order to promote self-financing energy efficiency improvements.

47. The Subprogramme provided its technical assistance in close cooperation with UNDP, UNF, UNFIP, UNESCAP, EC, IAEA, IEA, BSEC and EurAsEC, as well as national governments and the private sector in beneficiary countries.

Subprogramme 6 – Trade

48. Technical cooperation activities in the area of trade aimed to assist member States with economies in transition in the implementation of UNECE recommendations, standards, guidelines and tools for trade facilitation, electronic business, regulatory cooperation and agricultural produce.

49. Capacity-building and advisory activities implemented in 2008, including those within the framework of extrabudgetary funded projects, contributed to increased knowledge by policy makers and experts of UNECE recommendations and standards for trade facilitation, regulatory cooperation and agricultural produce; and strengthened capacity of countries with economies in transition to implement those instruments and formulate more effective trade policies and strategies.

50. In the area of eBusiness standards for Single Window, a UN Network for Paperless Trade in Asia was established as a result of a project implemented in cooperation with UNESCAP, and an eBusiness interface for the Automated Customs Data Management System (ASYCUDA) was developed to facilitate integration of customs organizations into the eBusiness environment based on UNECE standards.

51. In the area of agricultural standards, capacity-building activities contributed to an increased understanding by producers, traders and policy makers of the role of internationally agreed agricultural quality standards in production and trade. A number of national standards for agricultural produce were harmonized with the UNECE standards by the Russian Federation, whose Ministry of Agriculture decided to implement, in cooperation with the private sector, a pilot project aimed at modernizing the infrastructure for certification of seed potatoes. A network of national and international experts has been established to carry out this pilot project.

52. Two new technical cooperation projects were launched in 2008 aimed at increasing involvement of institutions in CIS countries in drawing up and applying international standards for commercial agricultural produce; and enhancing the capacity of low-income agrarian economies to implement international standards for agricultural products with the view to improving their trade competitiveness.

53. Technical cooperation services in the area of trade were provided in close partnership with UNCTAD, UNDP, UNESCAP, WTO, World Bank and the EC, as well as national governments and the private sector in countries with economies in transition.

Subprogramme 7 – Timber and forestry

54. In the area of timber and forestry, the UNECE technical cooperation activities aimed at strengthening the capacity of countries with economies in transition to achieve sustainable forest management at the national level, in particular by developing appropriate policy measures.

55. Capacity-building workshops organized by the Subprogramme in 2008 contributed to increased understanding by policy makers and experts of sustainable forest management policies; raised awareness at a national level of the potential of wood as a clean energy source and of the benefits of modern wood energy technology; and improved information exchange on forest policies and integration of countries in forest policy networks. A strengthened UNECE/FAO regional network of experts for the reporting on sustainable forest management, in its turn, has contributed to more effective implementation of the 2010 Forest Resources Assessment.

56. The Subprogramme provided its technical cooperation services in close cooperation with FAO, UNDP, national governments and the private sector.

Subprogramme 8 – Housing, land management and population

57. Technical cooperation activities in the area of housing, land management and population were focused on assisting member States with economies in transition in reviewing their housing and land management policies and providing policy recommendations aimed at achieving a sustainable quality of life.

58. Given the complexity of housing and land administration problems in countries with economies in transition, the UNECE carried out the work on the preparation of, and follow-up to, the country profiles on housing and land management. In particular, an assessment of the housing and land management situation and policies in Kyrgyzstan was completed, and the draft country profile document containing specific recommendations and actions was provided to national authorities for review. The draft land administration review of Bulgaria was carried out in 2008. Azerbaijan and Tajikistan will be the next countries to engage in an assessment of their housing and land management sectors in 2009.

59. Increasing awareness and knowledge of policy makers and experts of land market development and real estate registration issues was another focus area of UNECE technical cooperation assistance. Specific recommendations emanating from the capacity-building workshops on issues such as the influence of land administration practice on development in the

context of the current financial and real estate crises, and poverty and access to land were provided to UNECE member States. The study “Self-Made Cities: In Search for Sustainable Solutions for Informal Settlements in the UNECE Region” was published in 2008. It identifies specific challenges in spatial planning faced by countries with economies in transition and provides policy advice and recommendations on informal settlements development.

60. Technical cooperation services in the area of housing, and land management were provided in close partnership with FAO, UN-HABITAT, UNDP, EC and the World Bank, as well as national governments in countries with economies in transition.

2. Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation

61. In 2008, the UNECE technical cooperation activities under the RPTC were focused on: (a) increasing knowledge of internationally recognized standards and best practices in the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, and South-Eastern Europe and improving their national capacity to implement the UNECE legally binding instruments and other regional standards; (b) finding solutions to cross-border problems through improved transboundary cooperation; and (c) strengthening the ability of transition/emerging market economies to formulate and implement policies aimed at the achievement of internationally agreed goals.

62. Almost all activities under this Programme were implemented by the Regional Advisers who complemented and enhanced the work of the Divisions on promoting the UNECE legal instruments, norms and standards by providing advisory services and capacity-building activities for their implementation to beneficiary countries. This complementary nature of the work of the Regional Advisers could be explained by the nature of the Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation, which was designed to provide the UN entities with operative flexibility “to respond to urgent, unanticipated needs of developing countries”, not envisaged by any other section of the regular budget.

63. Technical cooperation activities under this programme were carried out in the following areas of work.

Subprogramme 1 – Environment

64. Technical cooperation activities were implemented by the Regional Adviser on Environment in close collaboration with Convention Secretariats and focused on strengthening the capacity of EECCA and SEE countries to manage shared water and other natural resources and develop cooperation on common environmental problems.

65. Given the importance of regional cooperation for improving water management in Central Asia, two international conferences were organized by the UNECE Regional Advisor on Environment and the Regional Advisor on Economic Cooperation and Integration jointly with the Government of Germany, with a view to facilitate the development of an efficient regional system of cooperative water management. At the first conference (Berlin, 1-2 April 2008), “The Berlin Water Process” was launched by the Government of Germany as part of the water and environment pillar of the European Union’s Central Asia Strategy. The second conference hosted by the Government of Kazakhstan in Almaty on 17-18 November, contributed towards developing a comprehensive regional programme to address the water and energy problems in this region. The “Programme on Trans-boundary Water Resources Management in Central Asia” adopted at the conference, includes a capacity-building component – the Programme Component “Regional dialogue and cooperation on water resources management” to be implemented jointly by the UNECE and GTZ in 2009-2011.

66. Most of the advisory and capacity-building activities in this area of work were organized within the framework of eight technical cooperation projects managed and/or implemented by the Regional Adviser, including four new projects launched in 2008. The overarching objective of these projects is to improve transboundary environmental and water management in EECCA and SEE countries. Technical cooperation services delivered in 2008 contributed towards further harmonization of national legal frameworks for dam safety, in particular in Kazakhstan, based on the model of the national law on safety of large hydraulic facilities developed under the first phase of the UNECE project on dam safety in Central Asia. They also contributed to an improved information exchange on shared water resources in Central Asia and the establishment of a water portal (www.cawater-info.net) and water information base both at regional and national levels; and the establishment of platforms for the development of water cooperation in the Western Balkans, in particular, between Bulgaria and Serbia on the Timok River, and between countries sharing the Drin River basin by establishing “the Drin process” with the participation of all riparian countries. Work was underway on the project to develop a bilateral agreement on the use of transboundary water resources shared by Azerbaijan and Georgia.

67. Strengthening the capacity of EECCA and SEE countries to implement the UNECE environmental conventions was another focus area of technical assistance. Capacity-building and advisory services contributed to the development of a practical guide aimed to support ratification and implementation of the UNECE Water Convention by the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; and improved dialogue and cooperation between Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan as a result of the implementation of a pilot project to apply the procedures of the UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context. The pilot project was successfully implemented and constitutes an important example of the application of the Convention for the countries of Central Asia.

68. A new project on the development of cooperation on the Chu and Talas Rivers (Chu-Talas II) was launched at the end of 2008. Its objectives include the broadening of the water cooperation between Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, ensuring protection of shared eco-systems and improving stakeholder participation in the river management.

69. Overall, more than 200 national experts improved their knowledge and skills by participating in the capacity-building workshops/training courses organized by the Regional Adviser.

Subprogramme 2 – Transport

70. Technical cooperation activities implemented by the Regional Adviser on Transport were focused on strengthening the capacity of countries with economies in transition to implement UNECE legal instruments, and promoting inter-country cooperation with a view to developing the pan-European transport networks and Euro-Asian transport links.

71. Within the framework of the activities undertaken by the Working Group on Transport Trends and Economics, specific attention was given to hinterland connections of seaports. In this regard, the Conference on Hinterland Connections of Seaports, organized in Greece in October 2008 provided an opportunity to raise awareness of the key problems associated with hinterland connections and possible solutions, and involved emerging countries even outside the traditional area of focus.

72. National experts from the SPECA participating countries were able to improve their knowledge and skills in the area of border crossing facilitation and harmonization during the workshops organized with the help of the Regional Adviser.

Subprogramme 3 – Statistics

73. Technical cooperation activities implemented by the Regional Adviser on Statistics were aimed at promoting further development of national institutional frameworks for official statistics and strengthening the capacity of EECCA and SEE countries to produce essential macroeconomic, social and demographic statistics, including the indicators to monitor progress towards achieving the MDGs.

74. A number of national and regional training workshops were organized for countries of Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe on such issues as dissemination of statistical information, short-term economic statistics, national accounts and migration statistics. These activities contributed to enhanced capacity of national statistical offices to produce macroeconomic and demographic statistics, increased understanding of the importance of timely production and dissemination of statistical information for better economic decision making, and promoting a systematic interaction between producers and users of statistical information.

75. Advisory services provided to national statistical offices focused on promoting good practices in developing an effective marketing and disseminating strategy for statistical information, managing customer relationships and outreach, improving statistical literacy, and strengthening national capacity to produce short-term economic and gender statistics.

76. Strengthening the statistical capacity of Central Asian countries to monitor progress towards the implementation of the MDGs was another area of focus during the reporting period. Capacity-building and advisory services contributed to increased capacity of national statistical offices in Central Asian countries to track progress towards the MDGs, and organize the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses based on the Census Recommendations of the Conference of European Statisticians. They also contributed to better understanding by producers of statistical information of new methodologies to measure the health status of the population, and increased capacity to measure non-observed economic activities.

77. More than 70 national experts improved their knowledge and skills in the area of statistics during the capacity-building workshops/training courses organized by the Regional Adviser.

Subprogramme 4 – Economic cooperation and integration

78. Technical assistance activities implemented by the Regional Adviser on Economic Cooperation and Integration were focused on promoting subregional economic cooperation among countries with economies in transition, with emphasis on those participating in the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia.

79. In 2008, support was provided to the organization of the annual sessions of the SPECA Economic Forum and SPECA Governing Council. The Economic Forum focused on promoting investment in the transport, energy and water sectors through strengthened regional cooperation as well as alleviating the effects of the world economic crisis through the development of knowledge-based economy on the regional scale. The Forum highlighted the importance of regional cooperation for a positive investment and business climate, and requested further strengthening of SPECA in all six areas covered by the Programme. Substantive contribution was provided for the organization, in cooperation with the Regional Adviser on Environment, of two international conferences aimed at facilitating the development of an efficient regional system of cooperative water management in Central Asia.

80. Progress has been achieved in strengthening coordination and cooperation between SPECA and other regional programs, including CAREC (a coordination framework for the ADB, World Bank, EBRD, IMF, IsDB and UNDP), as well as the regional offices of the European Commission, EurAsEC and SCO.

81. New extrabudgetary projects have been launched in Central Asia: the Programme component on regional dialogue and cooperation on water resources management is being implemented in collaboration with GTZ in the framework of the “Berlin Process”, which is part of the Water and Environment Pillar of the Central Asia Strategy of the European Union, and a pilot project on post-disaster loss and damage evaluation is being implemented by the five Regional Commissions with funding provided by the World Bank.

Subprogramme 5 – Sustainable energy

82. Technical cooperation activities implemented by the Regional Adviser on Sustainable Energy were focused on assisting transition economies in accelerating the process of regional integration of their energy economies and energy infrastructure and developing more sustainable energy systems.

83. A substantial part of the work in this area was focused on providing advice to EECCA and SEE countries on the elaboration of sustainable energy policies and programmes, and assisting these countries in strengthening the sustainability of their energy production and use. Particular attention was given to such issues as energy security, restructuring of energy systems, implementation of energy policy reforms, formation of energy efficiency markets and renewable energy. Substantive contribution was also provided for the implementation of the “Energy Efficiency 21” and “Financing Energy Efficiency Investments for Climate Change Mitigation” projects funded from extrabudgetary resources.

84. Technical cooperation services provided in 2008 contributed to achieving the following results: strengthened capacity of countries of SEE and Central Asia to address energy efficiency and energy security issues; launching of the first National Energy Conservation and Energy Efficiency Centre in Almaty with a view to promoting investments in energy efficiency in Kazakhstan and in the subregion; a best practices guide in the area of CMM drainage and use; and identification of a number of barriers to energy efficiency in Central Asian countries to be addressed through interregional cooperation and public-private partnerships. A new three-year project aimed at overcoming barriers to the development of renewable energy resources in the Russian Federation and CIS countries was also launched in 2008.

Subprogramme 6 – Trade

85. Technical cooperation activities, implemented by the Regional Adviser on Trade, focused on facilitating trade and trade-related economic cooperation among countries of the UNECE region and increasing implementation of UNECE recommendations, standards, guidelines, and tools for trade facilitation and electronic business.

86. In particular, regional advisory activities concentrated on (i) providing advice on the practical implementation of trade facilitation measures, procedures and standards; (ii) organizing capacity-building workshops/training courses, including in the framework two projects managed by the Regional Adviser, aimed at strengthening the national capacity to use international standards for trade documents; and (iii) providing support to national trade facilitation bodies in EECCA and SEE countries.

87. Capacity-building and advisory activities implemented in 2008 contributed to achieving the following accomplishments/results: (i) better awareness of policy makers and experts in SEE countries of the importance of implementation of the eSEE Agenda+; (ii) a strategy for e-business for SEE developed with the help of the UNECE and implemented in Croatia; (iii) strengthened capacity of the EurAsEC countries to implement the UNECE standards and codes for streamlining and automating information and document exchange for trade and transport; (iv) enhanced capacity of the SPECA countries to develop trade strategy and policy from a regional

perspective; (v) increased knowledge by experts in countries of Central Asia of the use of international standards for trade facilitation, and a SPECA network of experts on trade documentary procedures created; (vi) national trade facilitation bodies established or enhanced, and trade facilitation and Single Window projects initiated in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan based on UN/CEFACT Trade Facilitation Recommendation 33; (vii) a pilot project on the implementation of a “forms repository” for international trade launched in Kyrgyzstan; and (viii) enhanced capacity of policy makers and experts in Azerbaijan to negotiate on trade facilitation issues in the WTO process.

88. A new extrabudgetary funded project aimed at establishing a mechanism of interagency cooperation for trade facilitation and building the environment for Single Window in the Russian Federation was launched in 2008. More than 250 national experts improved their knowledge and skills in the area of trade facilitation during the capacity-building workshops/training courses organized by the Regional Adviser.

3. United Nations Development Account

89. In 2008, six UNECE-led projects funded under the fifth⁵ and sixth tranches of the UNDA were under implementation by the UNECE. In addition, the UNECE provided substantive contributions to the implementation of three UNDA projects managed by other UN regional commissions. The Development Account projects were focused on strengthening capacity building of countries with economies in transition, particularly the Central Asian states, in the areas of trade facilitation, road safety, statistics, application of international standards for commercial agricultural products, water quality, etc.

90. Through the implementation of the UNDA-funded projects, UNECE contributed to achieving the following outputs/results: (i) in the area of agricultural standards: better knowledge by policy makers, producers and traders in countries with economies in transition of internationally agreed commercial agricultural quality standards; a pilot project in the Stavropol region of Russia to modernize the infrastructure for certification of seed potatoes launched by the Ministry of Agriculture of Russia in cooperation with the private sector and foreign certification services; and a network of national and international experts established to carry out this project; (ii) in the area of statistics: increased capacity of national statistical offices in Central Asian countries to track progress towards the MDGs and to organize the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses; and better understanding by producers of statistical information of new methodologies to measure non-observed economic activities; (iii) in the area of trade facilitation: enhanced capacity of the SPECA countries to develop trade policies and strategies from a regional perspective; a SPECA network of experts on trade documentary procedures established; national trade facilitation bodies established or enhanced, and trade facilitation and Single Window projects initiated in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan; and a pilot project launched by the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Kyrgyzstan to develop, in cooperation with the UNECE, a “forms repository” for international trade; (iv) in the area of transport: increased awareness by national policy makers and experts of road safety legal instruments and best practices; and (v) in the area of environment: under the project on water quality in Central Asia, which is in its early implementation stage, activities were focused on promoting coordinated national policies on water quality aspects of integrated water management in Central Asia.

91. More than 110 national experts benefited from various capacity-building workshops organized by the UNECE within the framework of the UNDA-funded projects.

⁵ Includes two projects approved under additional funding to the fifth tranche.

III. Funding of the UNECE technical cooperation activities

92. The UNECE technical cooperation activities were funded from the UN regular budget and extrabudgetary resources. Funding from the UN regular budget included three sources: 1) the Programme “Economic development in Europe”; 2) the Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation (RPTC); and 3) the United Nations Development Account.

93. Funding for technical cooperation from the regular budget of a core work programme “Economic development in Europe” was linked to the normative work and aimed at supporting the accession to, and implementation of the UNECE legal instruments, regulations, norms and standards and supported mainly two major types of activities: advisory services and capacity building (training, workshops and seminars) in countries of the region.

94. The RPTC regular budget was used for funding three major types of Regional Advisers’ activities: advisory missions, capacity-building activities and field projects. In 2008, RPTC final expenditures of the UNECE technical cooperation activities amounted to US\$1.53 million. Economic cooperation and integration subprogramme accounted for 21.7 per cent of the RPTC expenditures. The share of the environment, sustainable energy, statistics, trade, and transport subprogrammes in total RPTC expenditures was lower: 19 per cent, 18.2 per cent, 15.4 per cent, 13.5 per cent, and 12.2 per cent respectively.

95. Funding from the United Nations Development Account regular budget was aimed at supporting the efforts of countries with economies in transition to achieve internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs. The total amount of the UNDA resources allocated for the UNECE projects reached US\$1.17 million in 2008. A significant increase of the UNDA funding was owing to 2 projects approved for additional funding under the fifth tranche.

96. Total extrabudgetary contributions to the UNECE Trust Funds have increased by 4.85 per cent since 2007 and reached US\$10.3 million in 2008. It is noteworthy that the extrabudgetary resources accounted for almost 70 per cent of all UNECE resources for technical cooperation. The UNECE extrabudgetary resources originated from a variety of sources, including the private sector, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations (the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme, the International Road Union, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Health Organization, etc) and the European Commission.

97. Member States have been the UNECE’s largest contributors, providing almost 70 per cent of the total extrabudgetary resources in 2008. The top ten bilateral donors, by the size of contributions, comprised the Russian Federation, Switzerland, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Italy, France, Spain, the United Kingdom, and Sweden.

98. The Russian Federation was the largest donor country accounting for almost 18 per cent of all voluntary contributions of member States in 2008. Under the Memorandum of Understanding signed in March 2008 between the Russian Federation and the UNECE, the Russian Federation has committed itself to contribute US\$3.6 million over the period of three years for the UNECE technical cooperation activities in countries with economies in transition. This arrangement is aimed to increase predictability and sustainability of the donor’s funding and ensure the smooth running of the UNECE technical cooperation projects during a period of three years.

99. The share of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the European Commission in extrabudgetary resources have dropped from 21.6 and 10.2 per cent in 2007 to 15 per cent and 8 per cent, respectively, in 2008. The private sector’s contributions have increased significantly over the last four years and reached 7 per cent of the total extrabudgetary resources in 2008.

100. It is noteworthy that the environment sector accounted for the greatest share (56.8 per cent) of the UNECE extrabudgetary expenditures for technical cooperation activities in 2008⁶. The share of other sectors (sustainable energy, transport, trade, statistics, and economic cooperation and integration) in extrabudgetary funding was notably lower: 15.1 per cent, 11.6 per cent, 8.9 per cent, 3.3 per cent and 2.5 per cent, respectively. Timber and forestry and housing, land management and population each accounted for a mere 1 per cent of all extrabudgetary resources of the UNECE.

IV. Inclusion of the UNECE in the OECD DAC list of ODA-eligible international organizations

101. Eighteen member States of the UNECE⁷ are recognized by the OECD's Development Assistance Committee (OECD/DAC) as countries eligible for Official Development Assistance and 89 per cent of all UNECE extrabudgetary resources are for providing technical cooperation assistance to these countries. Despite this fact, the UNECE was not included in the OECD DAC list of the ODA-eligible international organizations or considered as an international development organization.

102. At its sixtieth annual session held on 22-25 February 2005, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe recognized "UNECE's potential in delivering technical assistance in those areas where it has expertise and comparative advantages" and encouraged OECD and other donor organizations "to better utilize this potential in their development aid efforts". In the follow-up to the decision of the Commission, the OECD Secretariat was requested to consider the issue of including the UNECE in the OECD DAC list of the ODA-eligible international organizations.

103. In February 2006, at its sixty-first annual session, the Commission revisited this issue and adopted a decision, in which it "urged member States who are also members of the DAC to support the inclusion of the UNECE". It also encouraged the DAC "to favourably consider the inclusion of the UNECE on its list of main international organizations". As a follow-up to this decision, the UNECE secretariat submitted a new application, in which it presented further arguments in support of the UNECE's eligibility, particularly in light of the changes in the mandate and priorities of the work programme under the 2005 UNECE reform.

104. Having considered this application at its meetings in June 2008 and May 2009, the OECD Working Party on Statistics (i) approved the inclusion of the UNECE in the OECD DAC list of the ODA-eligible international organizations; (ii) determined that only extrabudgetary contributions to the UNECE could be reported by donors as ODA; and (iii) approved a coefficient of 89 per cent to be applied to donors' extrabudgetary contributions to the UNECE.

⁶ Includes the contribution of US\$2.9 million to the Trust Funds established under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution for funding the work of the coordinating programme centers.

⁷ Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Montenegro, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

V. Conclusions and recommendations

105. All UNECE technical cooperation activities are undertaken with the full involvement of beneficiary countries and furthermore, most of them are implemented in partnership with the UN system and international organizations, regional and subregional organizations and initiatives, financial institutions, civil society and the private sector. **It is also important to establish closer linkages and promote stronger synergies between the technical cooperation activities within the UNECE, particularly when such activities take place within subregional frameworks which cover multisectoral/intersectoral areas, as stipulated by the UNECE technical cooperation strategy.**

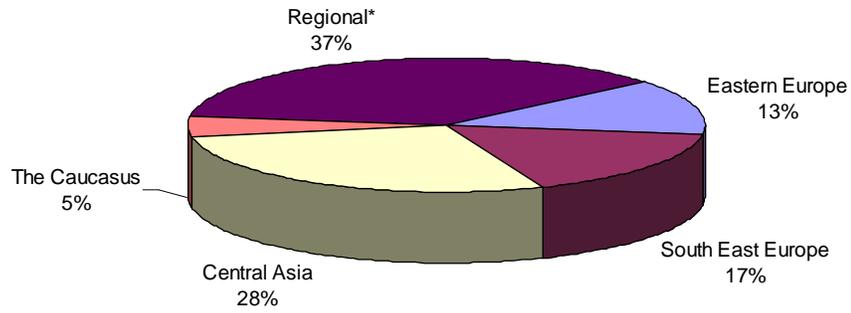
106. Most of the UNECE technical cooperation activities are funded from the extrabudgetary resources. Such high dependence on extrabudgetary resources threatens the sustainability of the UNECE technical cooperation activities. Addressing the issue of sustainability of the UNECE technical cooperation activities will require funding on a more predictable basis. In this regard, the MOU between the Russian Federation and the UNECE provides a good example when a donor country pledges funding on a multi-year basis. **Donor countries may wish to follow suit and consider signing similar partnership agreements for a multi-year funding of the UNECE technical cooperation activities, rather than funding them exclusively on an ad hoc basis.**

107. The recent decision of the OECD to include the UNECE in the list of the ODA-eligible international organizations is a clear recognition of the UNECE as a development agency. However, **this recognition has yet to be translated in increased funding of the UNECE technical cooperation activities by donor countries, thus sending a clear message of support.**

109. Pursuant to the decision of the sixty-third session of the Commission “to promote better knowledge and recognition of UNECE’s work and achievements”, **the Secretariat should undertake advocacy activities which promote the mission of the UNECE, professionalism and commitment of its staff and its achievements in the area of technical cooperation.**

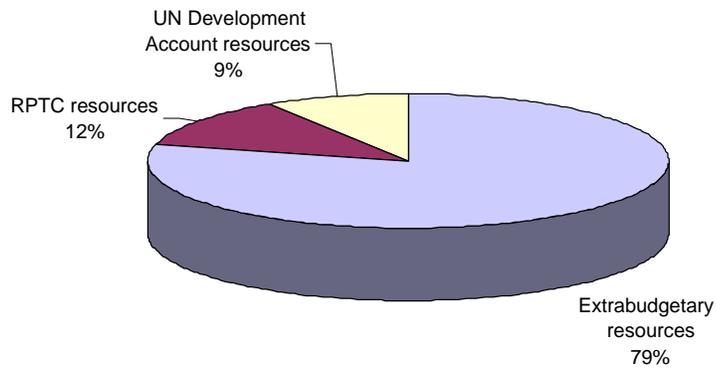
Annex I

UNECE Technical Cooperation activities in 2008, by sub-region



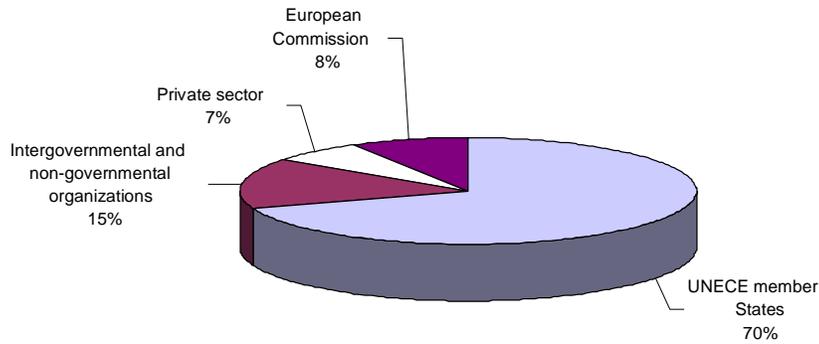
* Involves two or more sub-regions

Funding of the UNECE Technical Cooperation Activities in 2008, by source

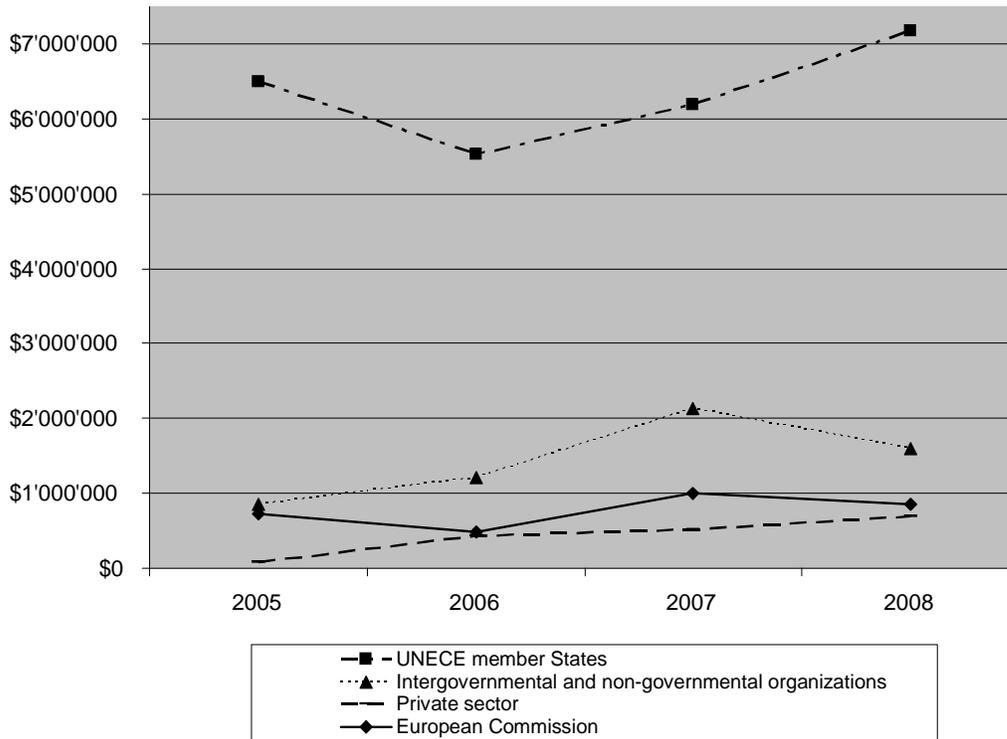


Annex II

Funding from extrabudgetary resources in 2008, by source

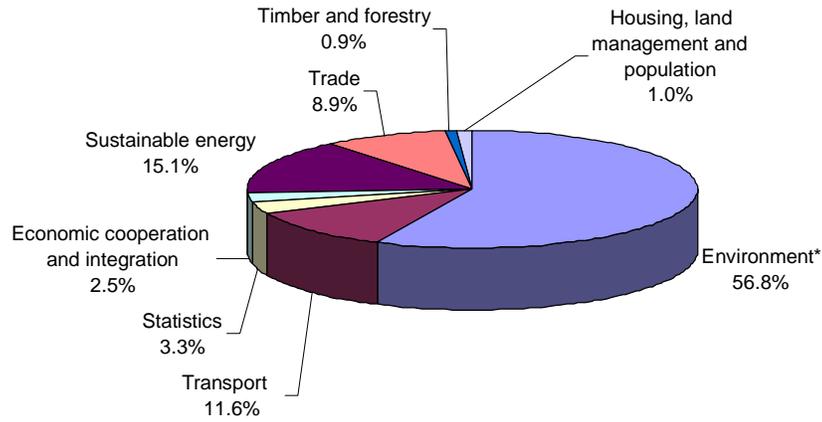


Funding from extrabudgetary resources in 2005-2008, by source



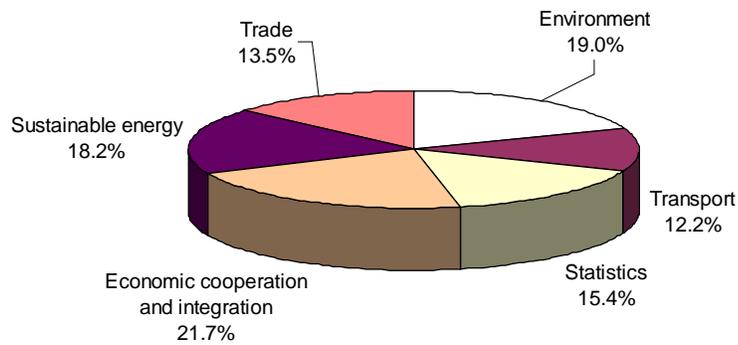
Annex III

Funding from extrabudgetary resources in 2008, by use



* Includes the contribution of US\$2.9 million to the Trust Funds established under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution for funding the work of the coordinating programme centers.

Funding under the Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation in 2008, by uses



Annex IV

Expenditures under the UNECE technical cooperation trust funds

Final Expenditures as at 31 December 2008
(Inclusive of programme support costs)

General Trust Funds

Sub-programme	Title of Trust Fund, Fund code and date established	Expenditures in US\$		
		2006	2007	2008
1. Environment	"Environment for Europe", EIA, 19 November 1993	330,546	456,141	202,081
	EMEP Sub-account "Mobile Sources of Air Pollution", LPA, 19 January 1988	16,769	15,167	19,511
	Financing of the Implementation of the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (EMEP), LRA, 11 November 1981	2,162,546	2,142,400	2,358,700
	EMEP Sub-account "Voluntary Contributions towards Funding of Effect-Oriented Activities under the Convention", LUA, 25 July 1997	456,290	713,265	563,032
5. Sustainable energy	Energy Efficiency 21 Project, EEA, 17 January 1991	46,559	3,892	0
6. Trade	Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport (UN/EDIFACT), EAA, 12 February 1990	44,748	29,154	32,379
7. Timber and forestry	Long-Term Timber Trends and Prospects, LTA, 1 March 1991	30,706	92,939	96,013
8. Housing, land management and population	Human Settlements, EHA, 1 July 1975	103,605	58,589	94,316
	Supporting UNECE Regional Conferences and meetings, including for Global Conference, GFA, 22 November 1994	3,527	10,437	0
Office of the Executive Secretary	Follow-Up Activities of the Fourth World Conference on Women, WWA, 19 July 1999	0	9,550	4,603
	Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT)*, MEA, 25 September 1992	198,268	48,377	18,437
Total		3,393,564	3,579,911	3,389,072

* General Trust Fund used to facilitate travel of participants and experts from countries with economies in transition to workshops, seminars and meetings organized under all substantive subprogrammes implemented by UNECE.

Local Technical Cooperation Trust Funds

Sub-programme	Title of Trust Fund, Fund code and date established	Expenditures in US\$		
		2006	2007	2008
1. Environment	Environmental Performance Review Programme, EIC-E102, 1 December 2000	72,242	102,794	133,572
	Aarhus Convention Project, ECE-E104, 1 May 2001	608,682	846,844	1,062,372
	Industrial Accidents Convention Project, ECE-E106, 1 July 2001	223,305	290,301	267,993
	Promotion and implementation of the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution, ECE-E112, 1 January 2002	89,044	85,161	67,356
	ESPOO Convention, ECE-E115, 9 July 2002	179,704	264,262	285,698

	Environmental Monitoring, ECE-E118, 9 July 2002	190,641	73,463	32,207
	Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP), ECE-E126, 1 January 2003	99,016	13,757	67,151
	Water Convention Project, ECE-E133, 1 April 2003 - 31 December 2006	181,769	334,854	719,368
	Inquiry Procedure Project under ESPOO Convention, ECE-E137, 14 February 2005 - 31 December 2005	148,033	9,145	0
	Generations and Gender Programme, E147, 1 January 2007	0	109,601	209,566
	Committee on Environmental Policy, E148, 1 January 2007	0	6,032	52,184
	Protocol on Water and Health, E150, 1 December 2007	0	0	244,718
	Efficient use of Energy and Water resources, E166, 1 August 2008	0	0	11,300
	Central Asia Regional Water Information Base, E167, 1 August 2008	0	0	22,600
2. Transport	Monitoring of Radiologically-Contaminated Scrap Metal, ECE-E127, 13 January 2004 - 31 December 2004	111,700	40,276	19,508
	Trans-European Motorway (TEM) Master Plan Project, ZMB (E129), 9 September 2003	-1,754 ¹	0	0
	Follow-up to General Assembly Resolution 58/289 of 14 April 2004 on improving Global Road Safety, ECE-E135 1 August 2004 - 31 December 2006	3,707	229,528	23,416
	Facilitation of participation of Central Asian and Caucasus Countries in the meetings of the UNECE Inland Transport Committee and selected subsidiary bodies, ECE-E136 17 August 2004 - 31 December 2006	9,084	10,192	0
	Introduction of Digital Tachograph in non-EU countries, ECE-E142 12 July 2005 - 31 December 2006.	44,440	892	2,117
	Development of Euro-Asian Transport Links – Phase II (EATL), E161, 1 August 2008	0	0	7,150
	Development of Hinterland connections of Seaports, E170, 8 September 2008	0	0	19,088
	Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM), ZMB (F101), 28 February 1992	95,946	117,772	133,641
	Trans-European Railway (TER), ZDB (F103), 23 April 1993	133,845	29,476	130,997
	Transport International Routier (TIR) (TIRBEX), ZLB (F116), 15 November 1998	770,371	952,193	955,470
3. Statistics	Inter-regional Seminar on the Application of Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics in Countries in Transition, ECE-E110, 15 October 2001	-1,693 ¹	0	0
	Capacity-building Program on Engendering National Statistical Systems for a Knowledge-Based Policy Formulation in CIS and SEE countries, E145, 1 July 2006	0	301,328	239,342
	Technical assistance to the countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus, Central Asia and South Eastern Europe for the 2010 round of population and housing censuses, E152, 18 September 2007	0	3,173	90,844
	Update on Regional MDG Info, E153, 10 December 2007	0	0	4,400
	Financing the participation of CIS and SEE countries at UNECE meetings and workshops 2008, E155, 1 April 2008	0	0	27,244
	Marking of the 30-year anniversary of the Joint UNECE/ILO meetings on Consumer Price Indices (CPIs), E156, 1 April 2008	0	0	5,654

4. Economic cooperation and integration	Development of Sustainable Biomass Trade and Export opportunities for selected regions of the Russian Federation, E157, 1 August 2008	0	0	63,767
	Capacity building for civil servants and business associations in the area of competitiveness and innovative policies, including through commercialization of intellectual property and promotion of public-private partnerships, E158, 1 August 2008	0	0	97,488
	Industry Structural Change and Development, ZVB- F104	145,194	145,757	111,739
	Improving Trade Finance and Investment for the Russian Timber Sector, ZKB (F106), 28 May 1996	44,672	26,846	0
5. Sustainable energy	Internet Enterprise Development, ECE-E105, 25 September 2001	-2,825 ¹	-1,680 ¹	30,068
	Real Estate Advisory Project (REAP), ECE-E117, 15 July 2002	20,164	-5,948 ¹	0
	Energy Security Forum, ECE-E124, 1 July 2004 - 31 December 2007	70,025	17,819	137,137
	Commission on Legal Empowerment for the Poor, ECE-E139, 22 February 2005 - 30 September 2007.	296,638	163,168	63,304
	Development of Coal Mine Methane Project in Central and Eastern Europe and CIS, ECE-E141, 1 April 2005 - 31 December 2008	103,189	-11,637 ¹	107,208
	UNEP/GEF for financing Energy Efficiency Investments for Climate Change Mitigation, E146, 1 August 2007	0	0	70,451
	Promotion and Development of a Market-Based Gas Industry in Economies in Transition (Gas Centre), EZB (F105), 15 Jul 1994	532,937	549,467	615,314
6. Trade	UNEDocs: Development of United Nations Electronic Forms for Trade Documents, ECE-E108, 2 August 2001	14,642	6,156	37,450
	International Forum on Trade Facilitation and Follow-Up, ECE-E111, 13 March 2002	7,019	90	2,078
	South-East European Cooperative Initiative Project (SECI), E123, 15 June 2002	0	0	680
	Population and Development Activities Project (PDAP), ECE-E125, 19 December 2002	-452 ¹	0	0
	Training Regulators from South-East Europe and countries within the Stability Pact in using good practices in the preparation and implementation of technical regulations, ECE-E130, 15 October 2003 - 31 March 2005	381	-739 ¹	0
	Capacity building for Trade Facilitation Implementation Project, E144, 1 July 2006	0	0	872,615
	Establishment of a National Trade Facilitation Body (Pro Committee) and building the environment for Single Windows for export and import clearance in the Russian Federation, E159, 1 August 2008	0	0	5,135
	Increasing involvement of Russian relevant bodies in development of internationally recognized UNECE standards for agricultural commercial quality and assistance in their practical application by Russian producers and exporters, E160, 1 August 2008	0	0	37,233
8. Housing, land management and population	The UNECE Post-Transition Economic Policy Forum, ECE-E140, 1 February 2005-31 December 2006	13,221	0	0
	PAU: Microdata Census Samples, ZCB (F102), 1 November 1993	6,719	50,771	15,725

Office of the Executive Secretary	Regional Symposium on Mainstreaming Gender into Economic Policies, ECE-E132, 1 November 2003-31 December 2004	0	1,982	3,460
Technical Cooperation Unit	Governance Systems for Environmental Protection in the South Caucasus, ECE-E109, 12 July 2002	1,928	-1,493 ¹	0
Total		4,211,534	4,761,603	7,105,808

Other Sources of Funding for Operational Activities

Sub-programme	Title of Trust Fund, Fund code and date established	Expenditures in US\$		
		2006	2007	2008
3. Statistics	Gender statistics workshop and training (UNFPA Project), ZIB-E138, 8 October 2004-31 March 2005	13,126	39,035	0
	Building Capacity and Statistical Literacy for MDG Monitoring (UNDP Project) EBB-E143, 31 January 2006 – 31 December 2007.	91,342	63,385	-5,697 ¹
5. Sustainable energy	Financing Energy Efficiency Investments - Climate Change Mitigation (UNFIP Project), QGA (A144-ECE-INT-04-318), 01 November 2006 - 31 December 2010	0	152,357	655,829
Total		104,468	254,777	650,132

GRAND TOTAL:	7,709,566	8,596,291	11,145,012
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¹ Refund of overestimates in a previous year.

Annex V

List of acronyms

ADB	Asian Development Bank
ASYCUDA	Automated System for Customs Data
BSEC	Black Sea Economic Cooperation
CAREC	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation
CEB	Chief Executives Board
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
CMM	Coal Mine Methane
DAC	Development Assistance Committee
EATL	EURO-ASIAN Transport Linkages
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EC	European Commission
ECO	Economic Cooperation Organization
EEA	European Environment Agency
EECCA	Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia
EFTA	European Free Trade Association
EPR	Environmental Performance Review
EU	European Union
EurAsEC	Eurasian Economic Community
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GGP	Generations and Gender Programme
GTZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICT	Information and communication technology
IEA	International Energy Agency
IFAS	International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IDB	Islamic Development Bank
ITC	International Trade Commission
KBD	Knowledge-based development
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NRAs	Non-Resident Agencies
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
PPP	Public-private partnerships
RCC	Regional Cooperation Council
RPTC	Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation
SCO	Shanghai Cooperation Organization
SEE	South-Eastern Europe
SEECF	South-Eastern European Cooperation Process
SPECA	Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia
TACIS	Technical Assistance to the Commonwealth of Independent States
TCU	Technical Cooperation Unit
TEM	Trans-European Motorway

TER	Trans-European Railway
TRACECA	Transport Corridor Europe-Caucasus-Asia
UN/CEFACT	United Nations Center for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDA	United Nations Development Account
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
UNF	United Nations Foundation
UNFIP	United Nations Fund for International Partnership
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN-HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
WBI	World Bank Institute
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization