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## Economic Commission for Europe

Conference of European Statisticians

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**Programme of work of the Statistics subprogramme of the United Nations**

**Economic Commission for Europe:**

**Programme planning documents for the Statistics subprogramme of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe**

## **Outline of key components of the programme of work of Statistics subprogramme for 2023**

Note by the Secretariat

### **Introduction**

1. This document presents an outline of key components (objective, strategy and deliverables) of the programme of work of the Statistics subprogramme (“the subprogramme”) for 2023. These components are based on the subprogramme-related section of the ECE proposed programme budget for 2022 (A/76/6 (Sect.20)). The Conference of European Statisticians (“the Conference”) is invited to consider this information and provide recommendations on these components, as necessary. Those recommendations of member States agreed by the Conference and included in its decisions will be reflected in the proposed programme plan of the subprogramme for 2023. It will be prepared by the secretariat at the end of 2021 and included in the ECE proposed programme budget for 2023.

## **Outline of key components of the programme of work**

### **I. Objective**

2. The objective, to which the 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.

## II. Strategy

3. The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Statistical Division.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. The subprogramme plans to support member States on issues related to recovery from 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.

7. 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.

8. 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.

### III. Deliverables to be implemented in 2023

9. The below table provides an outline of deliverables that are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>
<b>A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies:</b>		
<b>Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>81</b>
1. Documentation for the Conference of European Statisticians	43	43
2. Documentation for expert bodies	38	38
<b>Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>85</b>
3. Meetings of the Conference of European Statisticians and its Bureau	13	13
4. Meetings of expert bodies	72	72
<b>B. Generation and transfer of knowledge:</b>		
<b>Technical cooperation and field projects (number of projects)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
5. Project on social and economic statistics	1	1
<b>Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>
6. Workshops on social and economic statistics	3	3
7. Workshops on innovating statistical production	3	3
<b>Publications (number of publications)</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>
8. Publication on topics covering multiple statistical areas	1	1
9. Publication on social, environmental and economic statistics	6	6
<b>C. Substantive deliverables:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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).</li> <li>• 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).</li> </ul>		
<b>D. Communication deliverables:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: leaflets and other promotional materials.</li> <li>• External and media relations: articles for the “UNECE Weekly” and “EnvStats” newsletters for regional access.</li> <li>• Digital platforms and multimedia content: interactive digital workspaces (wikis, including the ECE census wiki); update and maintenance of the website of the subprogramme.</li> </ul>		