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Programme of work for 2023, Intersessional Implementation Plan for 2022–2023, and Outline of key components of the programme of work for 2024

Draft programme of work of the Economic Cooperation and Integration subprogramme for 2023

Note by the Secretariat

Introduction

1. The present document sets out the draft programme of work of the Economic Cooperation and Integration subprogramme (“the subprogramme”) for 2023. The Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships (“the Committee”) is invited to adopt it and recommend it to the Executive Committee for approval. Any subsequent additional, discontinued or carried over outputs will be reflected in UN Umoja used by the Secretariat for planning, monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the programme.
2. The draft programme of work applies a results-based management (RBM) approach, a broad management approach which establishes logical relationship between the hierarchical results (deliverables – results – objectives – impact) known as ‘results chain’, the resources (human and financial) known as ‘inputs’ and the external factors (strategic, governance, operational, financial) which can prevent achieving the objective.
3. The objective, the strategy, the planned result and the deliverables in the draft programme of work correspond to those contained in the ECE proposed programme budget for 2023 (A/77/6 (Sect.20)). The work of the subprogramme is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In attaining its objective, the subprogramme builds on cross-sectoral collaboration with other subprogrammes in relevant ECE areas where multiple SDGs converge.¹ This type of collaboration enables the subprogramme to maximize existing synergies, increase the efficiency of its work and have a multiplying effect on the impact of its actions to support countries to implement the SDGs. The deliverables of the subprogramme fall into the following main categories: (a) facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies; (b) generation and transfer of knowledge,

¹ The ECE cross-sectoral collaboration areas are as follows: 1) Digital and green transformations for sustainable development in the ECE region; 2) Circular economy and the sustainable use of natural resources; 3) Sustainable and smart cities for all ages; 4) Sustainable mobility and smart connectivity; and 5) Measuring and monitoring progress towards achieving the SDGs.



including technical cooperation projects, training events, seminars, workshops, and publications; (c) other substantive deliverables, and (d) communication deliverables.

4. The details of the proposed publications are provided in Annex I. The overall ECE legislative mandates and those specific for the subprogramme are listed in Annex II.

I. Objective

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

II. Strategy

6. The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Economic Cooperation and Trade Division.

7. 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.

8. To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will:

(a) support member States in creating a conducive business environment by developing good practices to inform innovation policy reforms to drive sustainable development, including through on-request advisory based analyses of national innovation systems, policies and institutions; and through capacity-building workshops and seminars at the national and subregional levels;

(b) build capacity of member States in creating regulatory frameworks and public-private partnership project pipelines that can help to close the SDG infrastructure financing gap, including through:

(i) promotion of innovative modalities of financing, development and management of critical infrastructure;

(ii) development of international guidelines and standards to design public-private partnership projects and legal and regulatory frameworks;

(iii) the use, on-demand, of a methodology to evaluate and score public-private partnership projects in support of sustainable development ("People-first" public-private partnerships for the SDGs); and

(iv) develop cooperation with multilateral platforms for sustainable infrastructure (including SOURCE).

(c) focus some of its policy dialogues, analyses and recommendations, standards, and capacity-building on addressing crisis mitigation through innovation policies and public-private partnership infrastructure projects that can facilitate innovations and develop infrastructure to make economies more resilient and sustainable.

9. This work will help member States make progress to achieving SDGs 8, 9, 12 and 17 and contribute to promoting the transition to the circular economy and sustainable use of natural resources.

10. The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a) improved design of innovation-related policies and institutions in member States to harness the power of innovation for sustainable development, and support national innovation policy reforms, including options for policies and regulatory frameworks to support innovation in areas critical for resilience and COVID-19 recovery; and

(b) improved design and operations of public-private partnerships by member States that contribute to sustainable development and lead to more "People-first" projects, as

well as in strengthened member States' capacities for policy and project design and implementation, including better regulatory frameworks supporting investment in resilient and sustainable infrastructure related to COVID-19 recovery.

III. Planned results for 2023

11. The planned results for 2023 include results 1 and 2, which are updates of results presented in the preceding programme plans. Result 3 is a new planned result.

Result 1: People-first public-private partnerships to finance sustainable development

Programme performance in 2021 and target for 2023

12. The subprogramme's work contributed to enhanced evaluation methodology for People-first public-private partnerships through testing and improvement, which met the planned target of at least 100 public-private partnership projects assessed using the evaluation methodology during its testing phase. The methodology is now ready for adoption and to be rolled out in 2022 in member States to assist them in prioritizing investments in infrastructure projects that support progress towards achieving the SDGs. The progress towards the objective and the target for 2023 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 1).

Table 1

Performance measure

<i>2019 (actual)</i>	<i>2020 (actual)</i>	<i>2021 (actual)</i>	<i>2022 (planned)</i>	<i>2023 (planned)</i>
The project team was set up and work on the project impact assessment tool commenced	Evaluation methodology endorsed by member States for piloting	100 public-private partnership projects assessed using the evaluation methodology	An additional 50 public-private partnership projects assessed using the evaluation methodology	An additional 75 public-private partnership projects assessed using the evaluation methodology

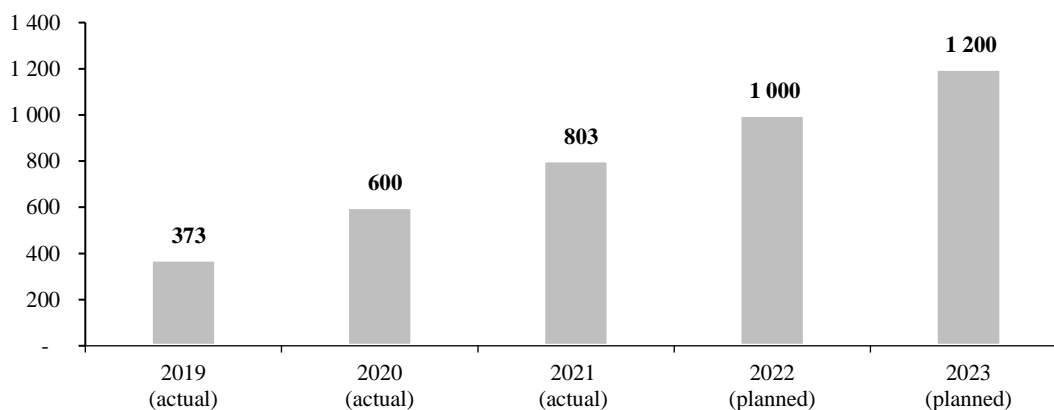
Result 2: Improved capacity of member States to use innovation to achieve their sustainable development objectives

Programme performance in 2021 and target for 2023

13. The subprogramme's work contributed to improved capacity of member States to use innovation to achieve their sustainable development objectives. The result met the planned target of an increase of 200 policymakers and other innovation stakeholders from requesting countries benefiting from ECE capacity-building on innovation policy. The progress towards the objective and the target for 2023 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 1).

Figure 1

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



Result 3: Improved capacity of member States in the development of infrastructure projects in support of the Sustainable Development Goals and the circular economy

Proposed programme plan for 2023

14. The subprogramme develops public-private partnership policy instruments in support of the SDGs and the transition to the circular economy and sustainable use of natural resources. The subprogramme provides demand-driven capacity-building, assisting member States to improve their legal and regulatory frameworks, and strengthening pipelines of infrastructure projects. This responds to the challenges related to identifying/financing projects and mobilizing resources to unlock private-sector financing for infrastructure, in line with population needs including persons with disabilities.

15. The subprogramme has responded to these challenges by creating policy instruments, including the evaluation methodology on People-first public-private partnerships (PPPs) for the SDGs, assisting member States in prioritizing investments in infrastructure projects, and developing guidelines on waste-to-energy projects for the circular economy and sustainable use of natural resources.

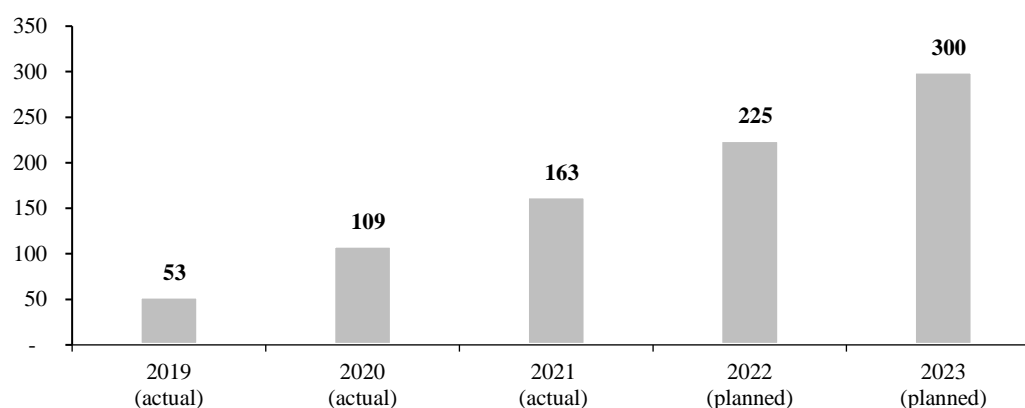
Lessons learned and planned change

16. The lesson for the subprogramme was that the impact of its delivery could be improved through the provision of targeted and project-focused capacity-building support to member States on strengthening the impact and performance of their infrastructure projects. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will support the requesting member States by delivering hands-on training on the application of ECE standards and guidelines on People-first PPPs to assess the extent to which national infrastructure projects meet the SDGs. The expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 2).

Figure 2

Performance measure: number of policymakers from member States that have used the ECE standards and guidelines on People-first public-private partnership for the SDGs to identify and prepare infrastructure projects aligned with the SDGs and the circular economy and sustainable use of natural resources (cumulative)

[Number of policymakers]



IV. External factors

17. The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objective on the assumption that: (a) there is active participation and contribution by experts from Governments, academia and the private sector to expert group meetings and networks; (b) Governments are willing to engage in policy dialogue and take measures to implement policy recommendations and standards; and (c) extrabudgetary resources for capacity-building, advisory services and field projects are adequate.

V. Deliverables to be implemented in 2023

18. The Table below lists all deliverables of the subprogramme, by category and subcategory, for the period 2021–2023 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies	
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	18
1. Documentation for the Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships and its subsidiary bodies	18
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	19
2. Meetings of the Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships and its subsidiary bodies	18
3. Meetings of the Working Group on Innovation and Technology for Sustainable Development	1
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge	

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	3
4. Innovation and competitiveness policies	2
5. Public-private partnerships	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	16
6. Capacity-building and policy advisory workshops, seminars and training on innovation and competitiveness policies for sustainable development	8
7. Capacity-building and policy advisory workshops, seminars and training on people-first public-private partnerships	8
Publications (number of publications)	3
8. Publication on Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews	1
9. Publications on comparative reviews on innovation policy and/or public-private partnership	2
Fact-finding, monitoring and investigation missions (number of countries)	3
10. Fact-finding missions for Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews and public-private partnership needs assessments	3
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.	
Databases and substantive digital materials: database of People-first public-private partnership case studies from around 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: subprogramme's website for regional access.	

Annex I

Details of proposed publications and promotional material for 2023

A. Publications

<i>Item no.</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Print and/or electronic</i>	<i>Trim size</i>	<i>No. of pages</i>	<i>Original language(s)</i>	<i>Translated language(s) and Source of funding (RB or XB)</i>	<i>No. of copies and language(s)</i>
1	People-first PPP/Concession Model Law	GA 70/1 para. 9.1 and 17.17; specific mandate to be provided by the 15th session of CICPPP	Print and electronic	A4	161	E	F and R (RB)	100E, 30F, 100R
2	Innovation for Sustainable Development Review of Armenia	GA 70/1 para. 9.5, 17.6 and 80; specific mandate to be provided by the 15th session of CICPPP	Print and electronic	A4	182	E	R (RB)	100E, 100R
3	Innovation for Sustainable Development Review of Ukraine	GA 70/1 para. 9.5, 17.6 and 80; specific mandate to be provided by the 15th session of CICPPP	Print and electronic	A4	182	E	R (RB)	100E, 100R
4	Handbook on Principles for Innovation	GA 70/1 paras. 9.5 and 17.6; specific mandate to be provided by the 15th session of CICPPP	Print and electronic	A4	182	E	R (RB)	100E, 100R

B. Information/promotional materials - none

Annex II

Legislative mandates

A. Overall ECE legislative mandates

1. Resolutions of the General Assembly

66/288	The future we want
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
69/277	Political declaration on strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations
69/283	Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
69/313	Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)
70/1	Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
71/16	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization
71/256	New Urban Agenda
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
73/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative
73/195	Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
74/122	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
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
74/144	Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto: accessibility
74/216	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

74/231; 76/215	Development cooperation with middle-income countries
74/235	Women in development
74/271	Progress towards an accountability system in the United Nations Secretariat
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
74/306	Comprehensive and coordinated response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic
75/8	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development - GUAM
75/9	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States
75/12	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization
75/216; 76/204	Disaster Risk Reduction
75/221	Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
75/233	Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
75/290 B	Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/305 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council. Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 67/290 on the format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and 70/299 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level
75/324	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization
76/221	South-South cooperation

2. Resolutions of the Economic and Social Council

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

3. Economic Commission for Europe decisions

A (64)	The Work of the Economic Commission for Europe
A (65)	Outcome of the review of the 2005 reform of ECE

- [A \(66\)](#) Endorsement of the High-level statement on the post-2015 development agenda and expected sustainable development goals in the ECE region
- [A \(68\)](#) High-level statement
- [A \(69\)](#) High-level statement
- [B \(69\)](#) Circular economy and the sustainable use of natural resources
- [C \(69\)](#) Extension of the mandate of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

B. Legislative mandates specific to the subprogramme

1. Resolutions of the General Assembly

- [72/228](#) Science, technology and innovation for development
 - [74/197](#) Information and communication technologies for sustainable development
 - [76/224](#) Towards global partnerships: a principle-based approach to enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners
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