

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Item 6

Informal Document No. 2022/16

**Annual report on evaluation 2021**

## Note by the Secretariat

### 1. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report is submitted to the Executive Committee (EXCOM) for information. EXCOM requested the Secretariat to prepare an annual report on evaluation at the ninety-first meeting on 24 March 2017<sup>1</sup>, beginning with an annual report for 2017. The purpose of the report is to inform the UNECE member States on evaluation efforts conducted during the past year, future evaluation plans, the status and information on completed and ongoing evaluations, and changes generated by the implementation of relevant recommendations.

2. As per the UNECE Evaluation Policy, the Secretariat undertakes evaluations to promote organizational learning, contribute to improvement of programme or project performance, and ensure accountability to member States and other stakeholders. The present report consolidates and analyses the outcome of all evaluations conducted in 2021 to support this objective. The Executive Secretary, through the Programme Management Unit (PMU), ensures the consistent application of evaluation norms and standards across UNECE, and ensures the application of the key outcomes of evaluations into the future planning of the UNECE programme of work.

3. The analysis is based on the results of all evaluations conducted by UNECE, relevant external and/or system-wide evaluations, and the UN System-Wide Action Plan (UN-SWAP) to implement the Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) Policy on gender equality and the empowerment of women.<sup>2</sup>

### 2. BACKGROUND ON EVALUATION IN THE UN SECRETARIAT AND IN UNECE

4. UNECE is governed by the Secretary-General's Bulletin ST/SGB/2018/3<sup>3</sup>, which among others outlines the requirements for evaluation for all United Nations Secretariat entities. The purpose of evaluation is to determine as systematically and objectively as possible the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and impact of the Organization's activities in relation to their objectives, and to enable the Secretariat and Member States to engage in systematic reflection, and, if necessary, reviewing their objectives.<sup>4</sup>

5. To this end, all programmes shall be evaluated over a fixed time period, which shall include periodic self-evaluation of activities and the ad hoc in-depth evaluation of selected programme areas or topics.<sup>5</sup> Evaluations may be conducted by external entities, such as the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS), the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) and at the request of Member States, or by respective departments (called "internal evaluation"). Internal evaluation shall be independent and assess the relevance, effectiveness and efficiency of subprogrammes and activities. Heads of departments are responsible for ensuring high quality results, rigorous evaluation methodology, transfer of evaluation information, and conduct of ad hoc studies.

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<sup>1</sup> [Chair's conclusions of 91<sup>st</sup> EXCOM meeting](#)

<sup>2</sup> <https://undocs.org/CEB/2006/2>

<sup>3</sup> ST/SGB/2018/3 Secretary-General's bulletin Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, 1 June 2018

<sup>4</sup> ST/SGB/2018/3 Reg 7.1

<sup>5</sup> ST/SGB/2018/3 Reg 7.2 and Rule 107.2

6. To complement Secretary-General's Bulletin ST/SGB/2018/3, in August 2021, the Under-Secretary-General for Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance (DMSPC) issued Administrative Instruction ST/AI/2021/3 'Evaluation in the UN Secretariat' and related 'Guidelines'<sup>6</sup>. The Administrative Instruction requires all Secretariat entities to have an evaluation policy, calls for every entity to have an evaluation plan and for larger entities like UNECE to evaluate every subprogramme at least once every six years.

7. To fully align and comply with the new evaluation framework of the Secretariat, UNECE subsequently updated its own Evaluation Policy, which was approved by ECE Executive Committee at its 119<sup>th</sup> meeting on 16 December 2021<sup>7</sup>.

8. In 2021, UNECE was subject to an audit by OIOS. The audit concluded inter alia that the Programme Management Unit had effectively implemented the ECE Evaluation policy and that ECE had maintained a robust evaluation system, complete with an evaluation policy, plan and procedures.<sup>8</sup>

### 3. EVALUATION RESOURCES

9. In 2021, evaluations were overseen by the P-4 Programme Management Officer in the PMU, who was also the Officer-in-Charge of the PMU. As of 1 January 2022, a new P-4 Management and Programme Analyst was recruited to work on evaluations, while the Chief, a.i. continues to oversee evaluations.

### 4. EVALUATIONS COMPLETED IN 2021

#### 4.1 Internal evaluations

10. The Biennial Evaluation Plan for 2020-2021 was approved by EXCOM in December 2017<sup>9</sup>. The Biennial Plan was developed based on an assessment of risks, as well as ensuring the widest possible coverage of the UNECE programme of work over successive biennia.

11. As reflected in Table 1 below, a total of six evaluations were completed in 2021: one programme-level evaluation and five evaluations of extrabudgetary or UN Development Account projects at the end of their cycles.

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<sup>6</sup> [ST/AI/2021/3](#) and related [Guidelines](#)

<sup>7</sup> [UNECE Evaluation Policy](#)

<sup>8</sup> OIOS, [Audit of mainstreaming of Sustainable Development Goals and COVID-19 response into the programme of work of the Economic Commission for Europe](#), paras. 32 to 34

<sup>9</sup> [Chair's conclusions of 95<sup>th</sup> EXCOM meeting](#)

Category of Evaluation		Title of Evaluation	Subprogramme
1	Programme	<a href="#">Review of UNECE engagement with the private sector</a>	Executive direction and management
2	UNDA	<a href="#">Strengthening national capacities of the UNECE countries for evidence-based regulatory and procedural trade policies to achieve the SDGs</a>	Trade
3	UNDA	<a href="#">Accountability systems for sustainable forest management in Caucasus and Central Asian countries</a>	Forests and the forest industry
4	UNDA	<a href="#">Evidence-based policies for sustainable housing and urban development in the UNECE region</a>	Housing, land management and population
5	XB Project	<a href="#">Secretariat to the United Nations Road Safety Trust Fund</a>	Executive direction and management
6	XB Project	<a href="#">Capacity-building for cooperation on dam safety in Central Asia (Phase 3)</a>	Environment

Table 1: Evaluations Completed in 2021

12. As reflected in Table 2 below, six projects initially scheduled for completion in 2021 were extended; evaluations were postponed accordingly.

Project Title		Extended until	Subprogramme
1	Improved sustainable urban development in 17 Norwegian cities	Sept 2022	Housing, land management and population
2	Sustainable transport connectivity and implementation of transport related SDGs in selected landlocked and transit/bridging countries	Dec 2021	Transport
3	Integrated energy and water resource management in support of sustainable development in South-East Europe and Central Asia	Dec 2021	Sustainable energy
4	Evidence-based environmental governance and sustainable environmental policies in support of the 2030 Agenda in South-East Europe	Dec 2021	Environment
5	E365 - Road Safety Phase VI	Dec 2022	Executive direction and management
6	E369 - Secretariat to the United Nations Road Safety Trust Fund - Phase II	Dec 2021	Executive direction and management

Table 2: Projects extended in 2021

### ***2021 Programme-level evaluation of UNECE engagement with the private sector<sup>10</sup>***

13. A programme-level evaluation of UNECE engagement with the private sector was undertaken in 2021, further to the mandates given by EXCOM during its 95<sup>th</sup> meeting in December 2017, and the General Assembly through its resolution 75/252.

14. The evaluation came four years after the adoption of the UNECE Framework for the Engagement with the business sector, adopted by the EXCOM at the 93<sup>rd</sup> meeting of 26 September 2017. The evaluation assessed the relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, and sustainability of UNECE engagement with the private sector for the period 2017-2021. The review was undertaken during the second and third quarters of 2021, covering all forms of engagement in the eight subprogrammes.

15. The evaluation found that the relevance of the engagement with the private sector is broadly recognized by UNECE strategic documents and acknowledged by UNECE member States and staff members. UNECE has benefited from engaging with the business sector in terms of raising the relevance of its work, accessing specific expertise and new solutions, testing the relevance of the norms, raising awareness of its work, and encouraging business sector contribution to the SDGs. However, the evaluation also noted the absence of dedicated staff devoted to engagement with the private sector and concluded that the 2017 Framework did not contribute to effectively promote cross-sectorial collaboration or the establishment of strategic partnerships.

16. Eight concrete and actionable recommendations have been formulated to strengthen UNECE's engagement through the development of a forward-looking vision, clarifying the benefits of engaging with the private sector, in the context of UNECE's mandates. The management response signed on 22 December 2021 and submitted for information to the 120<sup>th</sup> meeting of EXCOM on 26 January 2022, accepted seven of the eight recommendations formulated in the report and partially accepted one recommendation. UNECE will report in the future annual reports on the implementation of these recommendations.

#### **4.2 External evaluation**

17. Since 1988, OIOS conducts a biennial assessment of the state of evaluation in the Secretariat. The OIOS 2018-2019 report<sup>11</sup>, presented at the Committee of Programme and Coordination (CPC) of the General Assembly in its 61<sup>st</sup> session<sup>12</sup> of June 2021, contained only one recommendation relevant to UNECE<sup>13</sup>: *Recommendation 1 (b): Adopt or update the existing evaluation policy*. This recommendation was implemented with the adoption of the revised UNECE Evaluation Policy by EXCOM in December 2021, as referred in Section 2 of this report.

18. A complete overview of the JIU's activities for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2021 and an outline of its programme of work for 2022 is available in the Report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2021 and programme of work for 2022<sup>14</sup>.

<sup>10</sup> [Programme-level evaluation of UNECE engagement with the private sector](#)

<sup>11</sup> [A/76/69, Strengthening the role of evaluation and the application of evaluation findings on programme design, delivery and policy directives](#)

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.un.org/en/ga/cpc/61/main61.shtml>

<sup>13</sup> [A/76/69](#): Recommendations, p.31

<sup>14</sup> [A/76/34](#)

19. During the year, UNECE participated in two UN System-Wide external evaluations conducted by the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) as described below.

20. *Comprehensive review of United Nations system support for the landlocked developing countries (JIU/REP/2021/2)*<sup>15</sup>:

- i. The Vienna Programme of Action (VPoA) for Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDC) for the Decade 2014–2024<sup>16</sup> targets the support for landlocked developing countries through six priorities areas: transit, infrastructure development, international trade and trade facilitation, regional integration and cooperation, structural economic transformation and means of implementation.
- ii. The review was aimed at strengthening the effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and comparative value of United Nations system support for implementing the VPoA, with a view to enhancing the capacity of landlocked developing countries to respond to their needs and challenges. According to the review, UN system entities covered all six priorities of the VPoA to varying degrees and in ways that were complementary to their mandates and capacities. They did so with a focus on soft assistance, through measures that tapped into their expertise in normative work, knowledge development, capacity development and convening power. However, successful support has been impacted by internal and external challenges, such as limited data and resources; a lack of central coordination, advocacy and promotion; an inability to generate political will; a lack of cohesion and coordination among landlocked developing countries; governance constraints; the inadequate engagement of the private sector, donors and development partners; the limited engagement of transit countries; and inadequacies in efforts to explicitly linking the VPoA with other global development agendas.
- iii. The JIU report showcases many UNECE initiatives successfully supporting the VPoA. UNECE has also taken good note of the relevant recommendations from the JIU, to continue mainstreaming the Vienna Programme of Action in its programmatic documents, where appropriate.

21. *Business continuity management in United Nations system organizations (JIU/REP/2021/6)*<sup>17</sup>:

- i. The review found that, while substantial progress has been made in many areas of business continuity management across the United Nations system in the past ten years and most organizations now have business continuity frameworks and plans in place, gaps in core elements in business continuity management frameworks and capacity remain and those organizations operating without effective frameworks risk incoherent and uncoordinated responses to crises. Moreover, the review encouraged regular and substantive interactions with the enterprise risk management function that could be beneficial to both functions in identifying and responding to risks.
- ii. A case study on the pandemic, which was included in the report, highlighted that the COVID-19 pandemic had provided a real-time stress test for business continuity

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<sup>15</sup> [JIU/REP/2021/2](#)

<sup>16</sup> [Resolution 69/137](#)

<sup>17</sup> [JIU/REP/2021/6](#)

management and an opportunity for many organizations to refine their practices, including by expanding remote-working modalities, developing more agile human resources policies and digitizing related administrative procedures. Conversely, the prolonged disruptions had exacerbated occupational safety and health risks. The study pointed to the importance of assessing lessons learned and good practices during the pandemic in order to strengthen business continuity management and better prepare for and respond to future disruptive incidents.

22. During the year, UNECE also participated in the system-wide external evaluation of the United Nations Development System conducted by the Executive Office of the Secretary-General on the 'Response to COVID-19'<sup>18</sup>, which provides an analytical perspective of the UN Development System's response to the pandemic.

## 5. IMPLEMENTATION OF OUTSTANDING RECOMMENDATIONS IN 2021

### 5.1 Implementation of outstanding recommendations from external evaluations

23. UNECE reports progress on closing outstanding evaluations recommendations to OIOS every six-months, and through the annual Compact of the Executive Secretary with the Secretary-General. All Progress Reports pertaining to UNECE evaluations are available on the Open UNECE website. In 2021, UNECE had one outstanding recommendation from the OIOS report A/76/69 referred to in para. 17 of this report; this recommendation was implemented in December 2021 with the adoption of the revised Evaluation Policy.

### 5.2 Implementation of outstanding recommendations from internal evaluations

24. Since December 2018, progress reports from internal evaluations are prepared twice a year in June and December to inform on the actions taken to close the outstanding recommendations. 52 recommendations (58%) were closed in 2021: 49 (55%) were implemented, 1 was partially implemented (1%) and 2 (2%) were closed without implementation. 37 recommendations (42%) were outstanding as of 31 December 2021. Summary tables as of 30 June and 31 December 2021 are presented in Annexes III and V and the details of the actions taken can be found in progress reports as of 31 December 2021, available on Open UNECE<sup>19</sup> for each evaluation.

### *Programme-level evaluation of Gender mainstreaming in UNECE<sup>20</sup>*

25. A programme-level evaluation of gender mainstreaming in UNECE was undertaken in 2019, further to the mandates given by EXCOM during its 86<sup>th</sup> meeting in September 2016, and the General Assembly through its resolution 72/261.

26. In the management response<sup>21</sup>, 25 recommendations were accepted. 10 recommendations

<sup>18</sup> [Interim report: System-Wide Evaluation of UNDS Response to COVID-19](#)

<sup>19</sup> <https://unece.org/evaluation-reports>

<sup>20</sup> [Programme-level evaluation of Gender mainstreaming in UNECE](#)

<sup>21</sup> [Management response](#)

were outstanding in 2021: 8 were implemented, 1 was partially implemented and 2 were closed without implementation, as reflected in Annexes IV and VI.

***Subprogramme-level evaluation of UNECE's support to the advancement of Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies in member States (Working Party 6)***<sup>22</sup>

27. This evaluation, conducted in 2019, assessed all activities undertaken under the auspices of Working Party 6 from January 2015 to December 2018.

28. Six recommendations were accepted in the management response<sup>23</sup>, 5 were outstanding in 2021. Three recommendations were implemented in 2021, as reflected in Annex VI. UNECE will seek to close the 2 outstanding recommendations in 2022 and report to EXCOM in the 2022 Annual report on evaluations.

***Subprogramme-level evaluation of the Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews and sub-regional Innovation Policy Outlook***<sup>24</sup>

29. This evaluation, conducted in 2020, reviewed the relevance, coherence, sustainability, effectiveness and efficiency of the methodology and selection process of, and follow-up to, the UNECE's programme of national Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews for the period 2014-2020, and the synergies between the reviews programme and the sub-regional Innovation Policy Outlook (IPO).

30. Seven recommendations were accepted in the management response<sup>25</sup>. Progress has been reported in 2021<sup>26</sup> towards final implementation by 31 December 2022. UNECE will report on progress to EXCOM in the 2022 Annual report on evaluations.

***Subprogramme-level evaluation of UNECE collaboration with United Nations and other Partners in Delivering on Energy for Sustainable Development***<sup>27</sup>

31. This evaluation, conducted in 2020, assessed the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence, impact, and sustainability of the partnership and collaboration practices of the UNECE's subprogramme 5 (Sustainable Energy) with the UN and external partners from 2016 to 2019, and the extent to which this was delivered with respect to the sustainable energy agenda.

32. Six recommendations were accepted in the management response<sup>28</sup>. Progress has been reported in 2021<sup>29</sup> towards final implementation by 31 December 2022. One recommendation was implemented in 2021, as reflected in Annex VI. UNECE will report on progress to EXCOM in the 2022 Annual report on evaluations.

<sup>22</sup> [Subprogramme-level evaluation of UNECE's support to the advancement of Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies in member States \(Working Party 6\)](#)

<sup>23</sup> [Management response](#)

<sup>24</sup> [Subprogramme-level evaluation of the Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews and sub-regional Innovation Policy Outlook](#)

<sup>25</sup> [Management response](#)

<sup>26</sup> [Progress report as of 31 December 2021](#)

<sup>27</sup> [Subprogramme-level evaluation of UNECE collaboration with United Nations and other Partners in Delivering on Energy for Sustainable Development](#)

<sup>28</sup> [Management response](#)

<sup>29</sup> [Progress report as of 31 December 2021](#)

***Subprogramme-level evaluation of Advancing intergovernmental work towards the implementation of the 2017 Lisbon Ministerial Declaration and MIPAA/RIS commitments<sup>30</sup>***

33. This evaluation, conducted in 2020, assessed the relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and impact of UNECE work in advancing intergovernmental efforts towards the implementation of the 2017 Lisbon Ministerial Declaration on ‘Sustainable Society for All Ages: Realizing the potential of living longer’ and the commitments of the Regional Implementation Strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA/RIS, 2002)<sup>31</sup>. Specifically, the evaluation explored the activities of the Population Unit during the period from September 2016 to September 2020 that support the programme of the UNECE Standing Working Group on Ageing (SWGGA) aimed at implementation of the 2017 Lisbon Ministerial Declaration and MIPAA/RIS commitments.

34. Six recommendations were accepted in the management response<sup>31</sup>. Progress has been reported in 2021<sup>32</sup> towards final implementation by 31 December 2022. Three recommendations were implemented in 2021, as reflected in Annexes IV and VI. 3 were already implemented in 2021, as reflected in Annexes IV and VI. UNECE will report on progress to EXCOM in the 2022 Annual report on evaluations.

## **6. LESSONS LEARNT FROM 2021 EVALUATIONS**

35. On 8 March 2022, the Programme Management Unit organized an *Annual Exchange of Experience on Evaluations* with the participation of 29 UN staff, including ECE Executive Secretary, staff from 7 ECE subprogrammes who conducted evaluations in 2021 or will conduct evaluations in 2022, and staff from UNHQ working on evaluations, namely from the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) and the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance (DMSPC). In alignment with the ECE Evaluation Policy, the purpose of this exercise was to: (i) promote organizational learning, by identifying lessons learned and best practices; (ii) contribute to improvement of programme performance; and (iii) ensure the accountability of the Secretariat to evaluation results.

36. The 34 recommendations from the six evaluation reports released in 2021 were grouped into seven focus areas and discussed during the Annual Exchange. In order to make the meeting as interactive as possible, project managers in charge of the 2021 evaluations were invited to present the main lessons they learned from the evaluations and actions they were taking to implement them. The meeting this year also included a presentation by the Chief of Section, Investigation and Evaluation, OIOS who highlighted UN Secretariat-wide efforts to strengthen the culture of evaluation and provided best practice examples on how to further mainstream gender equality and human rights perspectives in evaluations.

37. The recommendations formulated during the discussion are summarized below.

- i. **Issues related to resources.** The importance of dedicating an appropriate amount of resources to the conduct of evaluations (Evaluation policy states 2% of a project budget but Project Managers can increase the resources if any remaining balance at the end of the project, to get a more skillful evaluator). When resources are limited, it was recommended

<sup>30</sup> [Subprogramme-level evaluation of Advancing intergovernmental work towards the implementation of the 2017 Lisbon Ministerial Declaration and MIPAA/RIS commitments](#)

<sup>31</sup> [Management response](#)

<sup>32</sup> [Progress report as of 31 December 2021](#)

focusing the scope of the evaluation by limiting the number of evaluation criteria (practice is for internal evaluations to look at a minimum into an intervention relevance, efficiency and effectiveness) or selecting a specific component or function of a subprogramme to evaluate.

- ii. **Issues related to the management of evaluations.** Experience has shown that the selection of evaluators is critical and should be done in consultation with project managers; in particular, the importance of selecting a profile with the relevant evaluation skills as well as understanding of the subject matter and of the functioning of UN Secretariat entities was stressed. The discussion highlighted the importance of proper evaluation planning and implementation; PMU and project managers need to provide timely feedback on the draft inception report; all key stakeholders should have an opportunity to review and discuss with the evaluator the draft evaluation report and particularly its recommendations to ensure that they are clear, realistic and actionable. It was recommended that PMU reviews and updates its project design and monitoring tools, particularly ECE projects template, to include explicit provisions to address gender equality (in consultation with the Gender Focal Point) and vulnerability perspectives in project activities (in line with ECE commitments contained in the Action Plan on UN Disability Inclusion Strategy), outcomes and reporting.
- iii. **Issues related to the use of evaluations.** The discussion stressed the importance of a well-thought-out management response and timely implementation of recommendations, which demonstrates the ability of the organization to learn and improve its programme performance. It was recommended that project managers disseminate the results of evaluations largely, i.a. producing and using Evaluation Briefs that summarize the review main findings and conclusions. It was suggested that PMU disseminates the report from the annual exchange on evaluations across UNECE.
- iv. **Issues related to capacity.** Project managers were encouraged to use available UN system-wide guidance to strengthen integration of gender equality and human rights perspectives in projects implementation and evaluation. It was suggested creating communities of practice for UNECE project managers to learn from each other on how to integrate gender and women empowerment and human rights perspectives in project design and implementation. It was recommended sharing training opportunities for project managers to strengthen their skills in areas such as gender and human rights inclusion in projects implementation and evaluation and project management, i.a. strengthen theory of change, improve identification of Key Performance Indicators, improve assessment of capacity building activities.

38. In addition to the lessons highlighted above, the 2021 evaluations also reviewed the impact of COVID-19 on projects implementation. The evaluation of the project ‘Strengthening national capacities of the UNECE countries for evidence-based regulatory and procedural trade policies to achieve the SDGs’ found that the COVID-19 reports and impact assessments prepared as part of the project activities have a relevance that is universal and included a formal recommendation encouraging UNECE to continue to provide high-level analysis of national responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. Other evaluations highlighted in their findings that the projects response to the COVID-19 pandemic had been effective and efficient as activities and budgets were readjusted promptly and adequately.

## 7. EVALUATION PARTNERSHIPS

39. UNECE leverages partnerships with other relevant organizations to enhance its evaluative function and activities, and coordinates with the other Regional Commissions through the Chiefs of Programme Planning, and the Evaluation Focal Point Network. UNECE collaborates actively with the Departments of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) on evaluation of UN Development Account (UNDA) projects. UNECE also engages with the JIU, OIOS and DMSPC on a regular basis.

40. UNECE is an active member of the UN Evaluation Group (UNEG), which establishes the norms and standards for evaluation for all UN agencies, funds and programmes. UNEG is an interagency professional network that brings together the evaluation units of the UN system, including UN departments, specialized agencies, funds and programmes, and affiliated organizations.

41. In 2020, UNECE was also invited by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) to contribute to the translation of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) criteria for evaluation into Russian. The translation was completed in 2021<sup>33</sup>.

## 8. UN-SWAP EVALUATION SCORECARD (GENDER) 2021

42. In 2018, UN-Women rolled out the UN-SWAP 2.0, which represents an update of the previous framework, building into its lessons learnt from the first five years of implementation.

43. As part of the annual reporting requirements, each department conducts an annual meta-evaluation of all evaluations completed in the prior year. The UN-SWAP Evaluation Scorecard is a reporting tool organized around four criteria that capture the overall elements related to mainstreaming gender equality and the empowerment of women as reflected in the evaluation reports conducted by the entities in a given year.

44. UNECE achieved a rating of Exceeds Requirements in UN SWAP 2.0 indicator 4 (evaluation) for the inclusion of gender in evaluations in 2021, based on a review of the six evaluation reports, maintaining the 2019 and 2020 levels. The key drivers for this rating are (a) a systematic inclusion of the UNEG Guidance on Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Evaluations during all phases of the evaluation in UNECE since the end of 2018; and (b) the release of the evaluation of Gender Mainstreaming in UNECE in June 2019, referred to in Section 5.2 of this report.

## 9. FUTURE EVALUATIONS

45. The Revised 2022 Evaluation Work Plan<sup>34</sup> as approved by EXCOM at its 117<sup>th</sup> meeting on 8 July 2021<sup>35</sup> is contained in Annex I; with these revisions, EXCOM approved the replacement of Evaluation of Subprogramme 8 with the Evaluation of UNECE Forum of Mayors and the terms of reference of the evaluation of UNECE Forum of Mayors. The projects scheduled to close in 2022 and that will undergo an evaluation are attached in Annex II.

<sup>33</sup> [https://www.oecd.org/dac/evaluation/OECD-DAC\\_Revised%20Evaluation%20Criteria\\_FINAL\\_RU.pdf](https://www.oecd.org/dac/evaluation/OECD-DAC_Revised%20Evaluation%20Criteria_FINAL_RU.pdf)

<sup>34</sup> Informal document No. 2020/55/Rev.1

<sup>35</sup> [Chair's Conclusions from the 117th Meeting](#), para 28

46. EXCOM approved the 2023 Evaluation Work Plan<sup>36</sup> at its 119<sup>th</sup> meeting of 16 December 2021<sup>37</sup>; it is referred in the 2023 Proposed programme budget for Section 20, Economic development in Europe<sup>38</sup>, to be approved by the General Assembly in its 77<sup>th</sup> session.

47. The 2024 Evaluation plan will be submitted to EXCOM for approval, alongside with the review of the 2024 Proposed programme budget, in December 2022.

48. In terms of external evaluations, in 2022 OIOS will evaluate subprogrammes 4, Economic cooperation and integration and 6, Trade of UNECE; OIOS is also conducting a thematic evaluation of the United Nations Secretariat support to the SDGs. The reports of both evaluations will be presented to the Committee of Programme and Coordination (CPC) of the General Assembly in 2023.

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<sup>36</sup> [Informal document No. 2021/36](#)

<sup>37</sup> [Chair's Conclusions from the 119th Meeting](#), para 53

<sup>38</sup> A/77/6(Sect.20), to be published during the second quarter of 2022

## Annex I: Approved ECE Evaluation Plan for 2022

Evaluation Title	Subprogramme	Resources (Financial & Human)	
<i>Self-evaluation on the relevance of the Forest Products Annual Market Review to the needs of member States and challenges in the forest sector</i>	Subprogramme 7 Forests and the forest industry	\$10,000 (external consultant) P-3: 1 month GS: 0.5 month	
<i>Evaluation of UNECE Forum of Mayors</i>	Subprogramme 8 Housing and Land Management and population Component (a) Housing and Land Management	\$10,000 (external consultant) P-4: 1 month GS: 0.5 month	
<i>Self-evaluation on the activities serviced by UNECE under the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) and its Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (Protocol on PRTRs) (2018-2021)</i>	Subprogramme 1 Environment	\$10,000 (external consultant) P-4: 1 month GS: 0.5 month	
		Unit Monthly Cost <sup>39</sup>	<b>Total</b>
	Consultancy		\$30,000
	P-4, 2 months	\$17,083	\$34,167
	P-3, 1 month	\$14,242	\$14,242
	GS-PL, 1.5 month	\$14,033	\$21,050
			<b>\$99,458</b>

<sup>39</sup> Based on 2021 Salary Costs, version 5, February 2020, at full rate, including common staff costs and without staff assessment

## Annex II: Tentative Schedule of UNDA and XB Project Evaluations for 2022

	Evaluation Title	Funding Source /Project Budget USD	Evaluation Budget <sup>40</sup> USD	Responsible Staff / Subprogramme	Schedule (Q) <sup>41</sup>
1.	1819BA Sustainable transport connectivity and implementation of transport related SDGs in selected landlocked and transit/bridging countries	UNDA 550,200	22,000	Roel Janssens, Transport	Q1
2.	1819AE Integrated energy and water resource management in support of sustainable development in South-East Europe and Central Asia	UNDA 490,000	19,600	Oleg Dzioubinski, Sustainable Energy	Q1
3.	1819AE Evidence-based environmental governance and sustainable environmental policies in support of the 2030 Agenda in South-East Europe	UNDA 470,000	18,800	Antoine Nunes, Environment	Q1
4.	E320 Enhancing transparency and traceability for more sustainable value chains in the garment and footwear sector	XB 2,350,000	43,000	Maria-Teresa Pisani, Economic Cooperation and Integration	Q2
5.	2023AA Urban economic and financial recovery and resilience building in the time of COVID-19	UNDA 650,000	25,000	Gulnara Roll, Housing, land management and population	Q2
6.	E330 Enhancing usage and uptake of standards for sustainable development, gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.	XB 400,000	8,000	Mika Vepsalainen, Lance Thompson, Economic Cooperation and Integration	Q3
7.	E340 Improved sustainable urban development in 17 Norwegian cities	XB 252,000	5,000	Gulnara Roll, Housing, land management and population	Q3
8.	E360 Enhancing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through strategic cooperation among the SPECA countries	XB 250,000	5,000	Mario Apostolov, Trade	Q3
9.	E355 Enhancing understanding of the implications and opportunities of moving to carbon neutrality in the UNECE region across the power and energy intensive industries by 2050	XB 750,000	12,800	Denise Marie Mulholland, Sustainable Energy	Q4

<sup>40</sup> In line with UNECE Evaluation policy, internal evaluations are conducted by consultants

<sup>41</sup> Evaluations starting in Q4 will be finalized in Q1 2023

	Evaluation Title	Funding Source /Project Budget USD	Evaluation Budget <sup>40</sup> USD	Responsible Staff / Subprogramme	Schedule (Q) <sup>41</sup>
10.	E293 Strengthening the capacity of Central Asian countries to implement trade facilitation measures and better integrate into the international rules-based trading system	XB 350,000	6,000	Mario Apostolov, Trade	Q4
11.	E331 Modernising Statistical Production Phase 3	XB 600,000	10,400	Taeke Gjaltema, Statistics	Q4
12.	E345 Improve capacities of UNECE member States in developing evidence-based policy measures to meet their commitments under MIP ANRIS arid 2017 Lisbon Ministerial Declaration: Ageing (Phase III)	XB 350,000	6,000	Vitalija Gaucaite Wittich, Housing, land management and population	Q4
13.	E311 Enhancing strategic environmental assessment and transboundary environmental impact assessment in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus	XB 2,817,300	51,600	Tea Aulavuo, Leonid Kalashnyk, Environment	Q4
14.	Secretariat to the United Nations Road Safety Trust Fund - Phase II & III	XB 1,359,800	25,200	Nneka Henry, Executive direction and management	Q4

## Annex III: Summary of Evaluation Recommendations as of 30 June 2021

Div.	Unit / Sections responsible	Project	Outstanding Recs as at 31.12.2020	New Recs since 01.01.2021	Recs closed as at 30.06.2021	Recs closed without implementation as at 30.06.2021	Outstanding Recs as at 30.06.2021
ED	Water Convention	Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Chu and Talas River Basins	5	-	3	-	2
ED	Water Convention	Implementation of the National Water and Health Targets in the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan through National Policy Dialogues	6	-	-	-	6
STD	Vehicle Regulations and Transport Innovations	ITC support to governments in climate change mitigation: lessons from the use of ForFITS tool that links policy choices and CO2 emission scenarios for inland transport	7	-	1	-	6
SD	Regional Adviser Statistics	Strengthening national capacity in the most vulnerable UNECE countries for the sustainable development of statistics	1	-	1	-	-
SD	Population Unit	Extending policy relevance of the Active Ageing Index (AAI): Cooperation with UNECE	3	-	-	-	3
SD	Population Unit	<i>Advancing intergovernmental work towards the implementation of the 2017 Lisbon Ministerial Declaration and MIPAA/RIS commitments</i>	-	6	1	-	5
SED	Energy Industry Section	Review of the case studies of the application of best practices guidance for coal mine methane management	1	-	-	-	1
SED	Regional Adviser Sustainable Energy	Enhancing National Capacities for Development and Implementation of the Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings in the UNECE Region	1	-	1	-	-
SED	Sustainable Energy Section	Strengthening capacity of the member States to achieve the energy related Sustainable Development Goals - Pathways to Sustainable Energy	1	-	-	-	1
SED	Regional Adviser Sustainable Energy	Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia	4	-	2	-	2
SED	Division Director	<i>Evaluation of UNECE Collaboration with UN and other Partners in Delivering on Energy for Sustainable Development</i>	-	5	-	-	5
ECTD	Regional Adviser Economic Cooperation & Integration	<i>Strengthening capacities of SPECA countries for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals</i>	-	5	-	-	5
ECTD	Innovative Policies Development Section	<i>Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews and sub-regional Innovation Policy Outlook</i>	-	7	-	-	7
ECTD	Market Access Section	UNECE's support to the advancement of Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies in member States (Working Party 6)	5	-	-	-	5

Div.	Unit / Sections responsible	Project	Outstanding Recs as at 31.12.2020	New Recs since 01.01.2021	Recs closed as at 30.06.2021	Recs closed without implementation as at 30.06.2021	Outstanding Recs as at 30.06.2021
OES	Secretariat Road Safety Sustainable	Road Safety project Phase I to IV	2	-	-	-	2
OES	Development Goals Unit	Programme level evaluation: Gender mainstreaming in UNECE	10	-	2	-	8
			<b>46</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>58</b>
			<i>67%</i>	<i>33%</i>	<i>16%</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>84%</i>

*Lines in italic indicate a Management Response released after 1 December 2020.*

## Annex IV: List of recommendations from internal evaluations closed as of 30 June 2021

Sub-programme	Evaluation Title	Evaluation Date	No.	Report Recommendation	Management Response	Progress Report as of June 2021
<b>Environment</b>	Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Chu and Talas River Basins	Jun-19	2	Currently, the UNECE should continue to promote and facilitate Strategic Action Programme (SAP) approval by the governments of the countries (in particular, the Kyrgyz Republic).	The UNECE will use various opportunities to facilitate SAP approval through different channels by raising this topic at the relevant meetings in the Chu-Talas basin and at international occasions and by liaising with the representatives of the CTWC and water authorities in Kyrgyzstan who are in charge of further implementation and sustainability of the project results.	Implemented as of June 2021  The UNECE contributed to several transboundary and national discussions on the SAP during 2020 and 2021 and was in close contact with UNDP regarding SAP approval. Consequently, the SAP was endorsed by the Chu-Talas Commission on 15 April 2021.
<b>Environment</b>	Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Chu and Talas River Basins	Jun-19	6	In order to increase the impact of future projects, the UNECE is recommended to continue support of CTWC (Chu-Talas Water Commission) in close cooperation with other donor programs. This will also improve information sharing and coordination between donors.	The answer to this recommendation is similar to the recommendation 4. UNECE is providing capacity building support and shares knowledge and expertise with representatives from the river basin organisations including the Chu-Talas Water Commission through global and regional events of the Water Convention, publication of the relevant guidance, EUWI+ programme and at the meetings of the Chu-Talas Commission. The areas of cooperation include climate change adaptation, monitoring and data sharing, water allocation, financing transboundary cooperation and application of intersectoral approach in integrated water resource management. UNECE remains ready to provide additional support to the Chu-Talas Water Commission in	Implemented as of June 2021  The UNECE provided guidance and advice to the representatives of the Chu-Talas Commission during first half of 2021 through bilateral discussions and capacity building events under the Convention such as the fifth meeting of the Global network of basins working on climate change adaptation (26 February 2021, Geneva/hybrid), the Global workshop on building climate resilience through improving water management and sanitation at national and transboundary levels (29-31 March 2021, Geneva/hybrid) and the twelfth meeting of the Task Force on Water and Climate (31 March 2021, Geneva/hybrid).

Sub-programme	Evaluation Title	Evaluation Date	No.	Report Recommendation	Management Response	Progress Report as of June 2021
<b>Environment</b>	Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Chu and Talas River Basins	Jun-19	8	For future activities, UNECE could use the gender approach used in the project as an example and basis for planning the gender aspects. The approach should include involvement of the gender expert with further development of suggestions for the project, direct involvement of women into the project as well as through civil society organizations and listening to their expertise and needs during project implementation with further incorporation into project activities.	transboundary river basin management if there is a political commitment from both countries and funding available (including intergovernmental approval of SAP which can serve as the main document in planning and implementing transboundary river basin management as well as a prerequisite for further fundraising).  UNECE will involve gender experts, will cooperate with women (directly and through civil society organizations) and will take into account female knowledge and needs in the other projects focused on transboundary cooperation on waters in Central Asia and other regions of the world.	Implemented as of June 2021  The UNECE was in continuous contact with the Secretaries of the Chu-Talas Commission who are female as well as other female representatives of the Working Groups under the Chu-Talas Commission.  The UNECE also took into consideration gender perspective while organising activities tailoring Central Asia. On 9 September 2020, the UNECE organised the Webinar on gender mainstreaming in environmental policies and strategies. The Chu-Talas experience was represented at the global capacity building events under the Convention mentioned in recommendation 6 covering the issue of female representation with regards to environmental monitoring and disaster risk reduction in the Chu-Talas basin.

Sub-programme	Evaluation Title	Evaluation Date	No.	Report Recommendation	Management Response	Progress Report as of June 2021
<b>Sustainable Energy</b>	Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia		4	Address the sustainable energy implementation practices from both top-down and bottom-up approaches and continue cooperation not only with other UN agencies and top-level decision-makers in the sustainable energy agenda, but also engage the stakeholders representing local governance entities to share their real-case experience and practical guidance in implementing NSEAPs.	<p>UNECE accepts the recommendation</p> <p>Cooperation with UN ESCAP, national governments and local stakeholders will continue.</p>	<p>Implemented as of 30 June 2021</p> <p>In response to the COVID-19 crisis, UNECE has become an implementing partner in the UNDA project “Global Initiative towards post-Covid-19 resurgence of the MSME sector” led by UNCTAD and ESCWA and jointly implemented with other Regional Commissions.</p> <p>In the framework of the project, UNECE has developed:</p> <p>1) Guidelines and Best Practices for MSMEs in delivering energy efficient products and in providing renewable energy equipment, the on-line training course based on the Guidelines and Best Practices, and customized Guidelines and Best Practices for Georgia and North Macedonia</p> <p>2) Guidelines and Best Practices for MSMEs to assure resiliency and progress towards a circular economy in sustainable resource management and critical raw material supply chain solutions, the on-line training course based on the Guidelines and Best Practices, and customized Guidelines and Best Practices for Tajikistan and Ukraine. See: <a href="https://unece.org/sustainable-energy/regional-advisory-services/un-development-account-project">https://unece.org/sustainable-energy/regional-advisory-services/un-development-account-project</a>.</p> <p>Additionally, UNECE is a lead agency in the project proposal submitted to the International Climate Initiative (IKI) “Improving the energy efficiency of the global building supply chain industry and its products to deliver high performance buildings.” The project outline (total budget EUR 19.8 million) has been approved by IKI, and preparations for its implementation have started. The project has 7 beneficiary countries (Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan). The UNECE has 13 implementing partners, including UNDP Offices in all beneficiary countries, UNEP, ESCAP, Green Building Alliance, UNEP-DTU Partnership, EEP, and Passive House</p>

Sub-programme	Evaluation Title	Evaluation Date	No.	Report Recommendation	Management Response	Progress Report as of June 2021
<b>Sustainable Energy</b>	Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia	5	Continue raising the awareness of the member States about the gender mainstreaming and human rights dimensions in the energy sector through workshops and presentations and introduce gender-responsive indicators and targets to measure and report the progress made regarding the gender mainstreaming agenda.	<p>UNECE accepts the recommendation</p> <p>In line with UNECE commitments taken in the management response of the 2019 evaluation of Gender mainstreaming in UNECE, gender-responsive indicators and targets will be included in forthcoming projects to measure and report progress made. SED staff will attend the forthcoming workshop related to gender statistics to be held in 2020, to build knowledge on systematic collection, use, analysis and reporting of gender-disaggregated data, gender equality and empowerment of women results. Raising awareness through workshops and presentations will be pursued in future projects.</p>	<p>Institute. For both projects, there is (and will be) close cooperation with national governments and local stakeholders.</p>	<p>Implemented as of 30 June 2021</p> <p>Active participation of female experts in the Training workshops (see response to #1) has been encouraged and monitored. The share of female experts varied from 33 percent to 43 percent.</p> <p>Under the UNDA project “Global Initiative towards post-COVID-19 resurgence of the MSME sector,” the studies should include, to the extent possible, special considerations for MSMEs owned and/or operated by women, as well as the role of women in post-crisis recovery. SED developed a study, with the use of RPTC funds, on “Women entrepreneurship in the natural resource management: Challenges and opportunities for the MSME sector in the post-COVID-19 socio-economic recovery” and conducted a training course. See: <a href="https://unece.org/info/Sustainable-Energy/Regional-Advisory-Services/events/350054">https://unece.org/info/Sustainable-Energy/Regional-Advisory-Services/events/350054</a>. SED is developing another study, with the use of RPTC funds, on “Energy transition and post-COVID-19 socio-economic recovery: role of women and impact on them.”</p>

Sub-programme	Evaluation Title	Evaluation Date	No.	Report Recommendation	Management Response	Progress Report as of June 2021
<b>Statistics</b>	Strengthening national capacity in the most vulnerable UNECE countries for the sustainable development of statistics	Jun-19	3	To continue the programme of Global Assessments of national statistical systems, to finalise the new round that was started and to follow up the implementation of the GAs' recommendations.	The programme of global assessments is continuing on request from the countries, and within the limits of available resources, coordinated by the UNECE Regional Adviser on Statistics.	Implemented in July 2021  The Global Assessment in Georgia was finalised in 2019. The Global Assessment in Belarus was finalised in early 2020. The Global Assessment in Kyrgyzstan was finalised in July 2021, after some delays due to the Covid-19 crisis. A Global Assessment in Turkmenistan is planned for 2022.
<b>Office of the Executive Secretary</b>	Programme level evaluation: Gender mainstreaming in UNECE	Jul-19	5	Strengthen gender related SDG results in UNECE's nine focus SDGs in all sub-programmes by: (i) allocating the relevant gender-specific SDG targets and indicators to the appropriate UNECE sub-programme for monitoring; (ii) ensuring that collection, use and analysis of appropriate gender disaggregated data is carried out by the appropriate UNECE division; (iii) strengthen UNECE sub-programme analysis of women's equal access to and control over the resources and benefits of development; (iv) include these actions in the updated Gender Equality Policy and Gender Action Plan;	<p>UNECE partially accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>UNECE agrees with the spirit of the recommendation to strengthen gender related SDG results with the following comments per sub-point:</p> <p>(i) Cannot practically implemented as UNECE is not fulfilling custodian agency functions on the indicators (with very few exceptions such as 5.5 which relates to ensuring for example, gender balanced participation in relevant UNECE meetings and intergovernmental bodies);</p> <p>(ii) The Statistical Division is committed to follow this throughout its work with data, including the UNECE Dashboard and Database of SDG Indicators that are currently being developed;</p> <p>(iii) An expert group managed by the Statistical Division is</p>	<p>Implemented as of 30 June 2021.</p> <p>(ii) and (iii) The Statistical Division has prepared and launched the UNECE Dashboard and Database on SDG indicators, which highlight the presentation of data by sex. Based on these data, the Statistical Division prepared the UNECE progress report on SDGs, which included analysis on goal 5, Gender equality. The dashboard, database and report were launched in March 2020.</p> <p>The Conference of European Statisticians (the UNECE committee for statistics) endorsed late June 2020 the "Guidance for measuring intra-household power and decision-making". The Statistical Division has submitted it for publication, to be issued in January 2021.</p> <p>(iii) the Methodological Guidance for Measuring Intra-household Power and Decision -making, was published in February 2021. <a href="https://unece.org/statistics/publications/guidance-measuring-intra-household-power-and-decision-making">https://unece.org/statistics/publications/guidance-measuring-intra-household-power-and-decision-making</a></p> <p>(iv) The 2020 Gender Action Plan has been finalized, including these recommendations. Below are examples from 3 subprogrammes.</p> <p>In the Environment subprogramme, the gender dimension is integrated in the implementation of work</p>

Sub-programme	Evaluation Title	Evaluation Date	No.	Report Recommendation	Management Response	Progress Report as of June 2021
				<p>(v) monitor and enforce accountability for this in the ePAS of divisional directors, divisional gender focal points, and all other relevant staff.</p>	<p>conducting methodological work on measuring gender difference in power and decision-making. This methodology will be shared with other subprogrammes when finalised for their consideration;</p> <p>(iv) The Gender Action Plan and the annual report will include these components;</p> <p>(v) Division Directors will ensure that effective monitoring and accountability is achieved through staff, unit and divisional workplans in line with the annual staff performance planning and reporting timelines commencing 2020-2021.</p>	<p>programmes. For instance, the second EPR of Morocco and its recommendations will integrate status of implementation of SDG targets 5.6 and 5.a.</p> <p>In the ECI subprogramme, additional financial and human resources have enabled gender mainstreaming efforts to be advanced further in the case of the recently completed Innovation for Sustainable Development Review of Georgia, including gender analysis of labour market and educational attainment accompanied by policy recommendations. Building on the experience of national Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews, the subregional Innovation Policy Outlook (IPO) for Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine also incorporates gender equality considerations. ECI subprogramme also seeks to promote the empowerment of women through People-first PPPs, enhancing female participation in the in the design, planning and construction of projects, and gender equality through gender sensitive projects. There is also participation in implementation of the 5-point plan on women's empowerment in PPPs, working closely with companies and governments to increase the participation of women in the PPP decision making and implementation.</p> <p>The Trade Subprogramme is implementing a number of activities with direct and indirect contribution to SDG 5, including assessments of barriers to increased participation of female-owned enterprises in trade; gender-responsive standards initiatives, and, training activities in the areas of food waste and food loss and trade facilitation.</p> <p>(v) For 2020-2021 cycle, unit divisional workplans, ePAS of divisional directors, divisional gender focal points, and all other relevant staff include gender aspects in Transport, Environment, Statistics, and Forest Land and Housing Divisions.</p>

Sub-programme	Evaluation Title	Evaluation Date	No.	Report Recommendation	Management Response	Progress Report as of June 2021
<b>Office of the Executive Secretary</b>	Programme level evaluation: Gender mainstreaming in UNECE	Jul-19	3 & 26	<p>Rec #3: Publish the following on UNECE's website to increase transparency and accountability: (i) annual SWAP reports; (ii) annual UNW SWAP letter regarding UNECE SWAP performance; (iii) annual report on implementation of UNECE's GAP together with recommendations on areas for improvement; (iv) gender parity data for each division.</p> <p>Rec #26: Systematically document UNECE knowledge on gender equality and women's empowerment and publish on UNECE website. Develop a communication plan that includes gender equality and women's empowerment as an integral component of internal and public information dissemination. Make SWAP reports etc available on the UNECE website and shared with all staff.</p>	<p>UNECE accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>The UNECE gender webpage has recently been updated to include UNECE knowledge on gender equality and empowerment of women. Additional efforts to strengthen these components will be made by the SDGU together with the Information Unit by 31 December 2020.</p>	<p>Implemented as of 30 June 2021.</p> <p>UNECE annual SWAP report for 2020 is published at: <a href="https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-07/ECE-UN-SWAP%20Report%202020.pdf">https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-07/ECE-UN-SWAP%20Report%202020.pdf</a>.</p> <p>UNECE report card for 2020 on the implementation of the SWAP includes annual report of the implementation of the UNECE GAP and is published at the UNECE website on gender at: <a href="https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-08/Report_card_UNECE_2020.pdf">https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-08/Report_card_UNECE_2020.pdf</a></p> <p>The UN Women SWAP letter regarding UNECE SWAP performance in 2020 outlining main areas for improvement and recommendations is published at: <a href="https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-08/Letter_UNECE%20UN-SWAP%202021.pdf">https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-08/Letter_UNECE%20UN-SWAP%202021.pdf</a></p> <p>With a view to disseminate information on activities related to gender mainstreaming into environmental policies under MEAs and policy programmes, Environment Division has created a webpage "Environment and Gender" and regularly updating it <a href="https://unece.org/environment-and-gender">https://unece.org/environment-and-gender</a></p>

Sub-programme	Evaluation Title	Evaluation Date	No.	Report Recommendation	Management Response	Progress Report as of June 2021
<b>Transport</b>	ITC support to governments in climate change mitigation: lessons from the use of ForFITS tool that links policy choices and CO2 emission scenarios for inland transport	Jul-18	6	Develop a more user-friendly interface for the ForFITS model.	<p>UNECE partially accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>Development of a data visualization interface has been initiated to make the data from the model more accessible and to increase the attractiveness of the tools' outputs. Data visualization is a first step and only partially helps improving user friendliness, as it first engages external users into using ForFITS, but actually adds extra time to prepare the data in an adequate format for the data visualization interface.</p> <p>Several business intelligence software are being evaluated to assess their relevance, ease of use, support community and compatibility with ForFITS before a final selection is made.</p> <p>Prototype visuals have been presented during the February 2019 session of ITC (Informal Document ITC (2019) No. 3).</p> <p>Finalization and publication of selected data visualization infographics will be performed to show and assess the potential of those tool to increase the attractiveness of ForFITS (responsible - Mr. Nathan Menton, deadline Q1 2021).</p>	<p>Implemented in March 2021</p> <p>In line with ForFITS 1.0 strategy as outlined in recommendation 1 (implemented in June 2020), several interactive infographics have been developed using Tableau Software (eg. example on Well-to-Wheel emissions) to be used in forthcoming ForFITS analysis containing on-line features, to ease the understanding of ForFITS analysis and to improve end-user experience with ForFITS results and outcomes.</p>
<b>Sustainable Energy</b>	Enhancing National Capacities for Development and Implementation of the Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings in the UNECE Region	Aug-19	7	Secure resources to completely roll out the online database of experts and further, advance it to the level of a self-sustainable knowledge hub which	<p>UNECE accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>Request for funding this activity will be included in a project proposal for funding of the second phase of the project</p>	<p>Implemented as of 30 June 2021</p> <p>Request for funding this activity has been included in the project proposal for funding of the second phase of the project. The project "Enhancing national capacities to develop and implement energy efficiency standards for buildings in the UNECE region" has been approved</p>

Sub-programme	Evaluation Title	Evaluation Date	No.	Report Recommendation	Management Response	Progress Report as of June 2021
				will allow experts not only to share information, but will also allow them to discuss ideas and opportunities and track the progress each country has made in relation to EESB, thereby, encouraging greater collaboration in the domain of energy efficiency. It is also recommended to develop a detailed blueprint (workplan) which would, inter alia, outline the resources needed to maintain and advance the database		but with a significantly reduced budget (by one third). Implementation of the new project “Enhancing national capacities to develop and implement energy efficiency standards for buildings in the UNECE region” started in July 2020 (see project website: <a href="https://unece.org/sustainable-energyregional-advisory-services/about-project">https://unece.org/sustainable-energyregional-advisory-services/about-project</a> . Efforts to implement this recommendation have been undertaken. As a result, the online database of experts has been rolled out in the form of Collaborative Environment for Experts on Energy Efficiency in Buildings in the UNECE region. See: <a href="https://sedwiki.unece.org/display/SED/EEEEB_db_Home">https://sedwiki.unece.org/display/SED/EEEEB_db_Home</a> .
<b>Population</b>	Advancing intergovernmental work towards the implementation of the 2017 Lisbon Ministerial Declaration and MIPAA/RIS commitments	Sep-20	6	Mitigate the negative staffing and budget situation of the Population Unit, including by: a) being more assertive in the approach with donors, to ensure funding of extra-budgetary projects that include financial allocations for additional staff; and b) fill in the staffing gap by either ensuring that the current P-2 post is upgraded to P-3 and/or facilitate additional staff from other UNECE Units to support the Population	UNECE accepts the recommendation.  Population Unit has been and will be in future working with donors to ensure some financial allocations for additional project support staff. The request to upgrade P-2 post to P-3 will be initiated in the context of the 2022 Proposed programme budget.	Implemented as at 30 June 2021  a) The request to upgrade P-2 post to P-3 was submitted. However, it was not accepted by PPBD for inclusion in the 2022 Proposed Programme Budget for ECE, because of the zero-growth instructions issued by the Controller.  b) However, the negative staffing situation was mitigated for 2021. The raised XB funding allowed to hire a P-3 staff on a temporary contract (100% February-October 2021) while the RB P-2 post was kept vacant due to liquidity issues.

Sub-programme	Evaluation Title	Evaluation Date	No.	Report Recommendation	Management Response	Progress Report as of June 2021
				Unit for a suitable period of time to help the Unit fundraise and develop new XB projects.		

## Annex V: Summary of Evaluation Recommendations as of 31 December 2021

Div.	Unit / Sections responsible	Project	Outstanding Recs as at 30.06.2021	New Recs since 01.07.2021	Recs closed (impl.) 31.12.2021	Recs closed (part. impl.) as at 31.12.2021	Recs closed without implementation as at 31.12.2021	Outstanding Recs as at 31.12.2021
ED	Water Convention	Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Chu and Talas River Basins	2	-	2	-	-	-
ED	Water Convention	Implementation of the National Water and Health Targets in the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan through National Policy Dialogues	6	-	-	-	-	6
STD	Vehicle Regulations and Transport Innovations	ITC support to governments in climate change mitigation: lessons from the use of ForFITS tool that links policy choices and CO2 emission scenarios for inland transport	6	-	6	-	-	-
SD	Population Unit	Extending policy relevance of the Active Ageing Index (AAI): Cooperation with UNECE	3	-	-	-	-	3
SD	Population Unit	Advancing intergovernmental work towards the implementation of the 2017 Lisbon Ministerial Declaration and MIPAA/RIS commitments	5	-	2	-	-	3
SED	Energy Industry Section	Review of the case studies of the application of best practices guidance for coal mine methane management	1	-	1	-	-	-
SED	Sustainable Energy Section	Strengthening capacity of the member States to achieve the energy related Sustainable Development Goals - Pathways to Sustainable Energy	1	-	-	-	1	-
SED	Regional Adviser Sustainable Energy	Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia	2	-	2	-	-	-
SED	Division Director	Evaluation of UNECE Collaboration with UN and other Partners in Delivering on Energy for Sustainable Development	5	-	1	-	-	4
ECTD	Regional Adviser Economic Cooperation & Integration	Strengthening capacities of SPECA countries for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals	5	-	3	-	-	2

Div.	Unit / Sections responsible	Project	Outstanding Recs as at 30.06.2021	New Recs since 01.07.2021	Recs closed (impl.) 31.12.2021	Recs closed (part. impl.) as at 31.12.2021	Recs closed without implementation as at 31.12.2021	Outstanding Recs as at 31.12.2021
ECTD	Innovative Policies Development Section	Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews and sub-regional Innovation Policy Outlook	7	-	-	-	-	7
ECTD	Market Access Section	UNECE's support to the advancement of Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies in member States (Working Party 6)	5	-	3	-	-	2
<i>ECTD</i>	<i>Market Access Section</i>	<i>Strengthening the National Capacities of Selected UNECE Countries for Evidence-Based Regulatory and Procedural Trade Policies to Achieve SDGs</i>	-	5	-	-	-	5
<i>FLHD</i>	<i>Joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section</i>	<i>Project Accountability Systems for Sustainable Forest Management in the Caucasus and Central Asia</i>	-	5	4	-	-	1
<i>FLHD</i>	<i>Housing and Land Management Unit</i>	<i>Evidence-based policies for sustainable housing and urban development in selected countries with economies in transition</i>	-	6	6	-	-	-
OES	Secretariat Special Envoy	Road Safety project Phase I to IV	2	-	-	-	-	2
<i>OES</i>	<i>Secretariat Road Safety Fund</i>	<i>Independent Evaluation of the United Nations Road Safety Trust Fund (UNRSF) Secretariat</i>	-	4	2	-	-	2
OES	Sustainable Development Goals Unit	Programme level evaluation: Gender mainstreaming in UNECE	8	-	6	1	1	-
			<b>58</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>37</b>
<i>Lines in italic indicate a Management Response released after 1 June 2021.</i>			<i>74%</i>	<i>26%</i>	<i>49%</i>	<i>1%</i>	<i>3%</i>	<i>47%</i>

## Annex VI: List of recommendations from internal evaluations closed as of 31 December 2021

Sub-programme	Evaluation Title	Evaluation Date	No.	Report Recommendation	Management Response	Progress Report
Trade	UNECE's support to the advancement of Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies in member States (Working Party 6)		2	Take steps to formally establish START-Ed and the Gender Responsive Standards Initiative, in line with the agreed guidance and procedures in Annex F.	<p>UNECE partially accepts the recommendation</p> <p>The secretariat notes the recommendation to formally establish these groups of experts in line with agreed rules and procedures. These initiatives have so far operated informally, as foreseen by the WP.6 Terms of Reference which stipulate that, when necessary, ad hoc groups of experts can be established to address specific problems and concerns identified by the Working Party.</p> <p>The secretariat is currently facing budgetary and personnel constraints that may result in a need to streamline activities. Resources permitting, the secretariat will prepare Terms of Reference for the START-Ed Group and for the Gender Responsive Standards Initiative and submit these through the Steering Committee to EXCOM for formal establishment, in 2021. Additional XB resources will need to be secured for supporting any additional activities in these Groups.</p>	<p>Implemented as of December 2021.</p> <p>The 2020 Virtual Informal Consultations approved the report of the START-Ed group and requested the group to prepare a programme of work for approval in 2021. In view of the resource constraints (including a recruitment freeze) and because of the informal session, WP.6 postponed the formal establishment of the START-Ed group till the 2021 session. As of August 2021, the GRSI was continuing under the XB funding and will deliver early in 2022; based on the final products, the Working Party will likely request this to become an official subgroup of WP.6. Concerning the START-Ed, the current work comes in support of a single recommendation (Recommendation I) and though vital it would require additional funding to justify an official subgroup. At the 31st session of WP.6 (26 November 2021), the topic was presented and it was agreed that the Bureau shall put together a ToR for a new Team of Specialists on GRS to be presented at the June 2022 SCTCS for endorsement (paragraph 29).</p>
Trade	UNECE's support to the advancement of Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies in member States (Working Party 6)		3	Find ways to address inclusion and participation in Working Party 6 groups of experts: Advisory Group on Market Surveillance (MARS), Group on Education and Standardisation (START-Ed), Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems (GRM), Standardisation and Regulatory Techniques (START). This could include: (i) increasing	<p>UNECE partially accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>As foreseen by the ECE Gender Action Plan, the secretariat has mainstreamed gender in its decisions and activities e.g. by leading ground-breaking work on the inclusion of women in standards development processes, at national, regional and international levels (i.e. the Gender Responsive Standards Declaration).</p> <p>As additionally foreseen by the Programme level evaluation on gender mainstreaming, the secretariat monitors the level of participation of women in the meetings of the Working Party and its advisory groups. While the participation of female delegates in WP.6 activities remains below parity, it is higher than in the standards community more generally.</p> <p>The secretariat will strive to further increase</p>	<p>Implemented as of December 2021.</p> <p>This work is firmly anchored in the current continuous activities of the secretariat in support of WP.6.</p> <p>The secretariat searches continuously new approaches to supporting member States' efforts in the mentioned areas that allow increase the participation of women in WP.6 related work. The Gender-Responsive Standards initiative is bringing in positive reactions from UNECE member States and beyond.</p> <p>The secretariat is fully aware of the fact that the level or gender of delegates from member States is not in the hands of the secretariat and the ultimate decisions regarding the composition of national delegations is beyond the reach of the secretariat.</p> <p>The secretariat continues to identify and negotiate additional XB funding to support further efforts as an ongoing activity and part of the secretariats regular work. Negotiations have been held e.g. with the German Government and the Russian Voluntary</p>

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				<p>representation of women in all Working Party 6 advisory groups to increase input of women in the standards development process, to improve gender balance in these bodies, and to enhance expertise to create and deliver gender inclusivity;</p> <p>(ii) setting up a system of regional hubs or rotating the timing of advisory group virtual meetings so that participants in time zones different to Europe may be more easily included.</p>	<p>women's participation by raising the attention of member States to the importance of reaching parity in the numbers of male and female participants. However, the secretariat cannot guarantee a more balanced participation as the final decisions on members of delegations are not under the secretariat's control. The secretariat will also collect experiences of other ECE bodies and external partners aimed at improving the representation of women in their respective activities. The secretariat will draw lessons from these experiences for replication within WP.6 during the first half of 2020. The secretariat will prepare a presentation or a report for discussion at the WP.6 session 2-3 November 2020 on the experiences of other ECE bodies as well external partners that have successfully increased the participation of women and how these experiences could be replicated by the WP.6 itself.</p> <p>The timing of the meetings of WP.6 groups is currently set by consulting through "Doodle" polls. The secretariat will strive to rotate the timing of meetings of the groups, to the extent this is acceptable to participants.</p> <p>It will be difficult for the secretariat to support a system of regional hubs without XB funds. For the time being, the secretariat will continue to work with other Regional Commissions and partners to respond to the needs of countries beyond the ECE region provided that XB funds can be made available. The secretariat will strive to mobilize further resources for this purpose.</p> <p>Responsibility: Ms. Lorenza Jachia, Secretary of WP.6</p>	<p>Fund.</p> <p>As regards the experiences from external partners and other ECE bodies, the secretariat continues maintaining informal liaison with colleagues in the ECE, through the Gender Focal point, and with delegations participating in WP.6 related work in order to further identify and share best practice. The lessons learned include a need for active encouragement of national delegations to promote women's participation, e.g. through the promotion of the Gender-Responsive Standards Declaration. Several delegations have reported on the results of their efforts in the meetings of the Gender-Responsive Standards Initiative that were further reported to the WP.6 session on 3 November 2020 (see paragraphs 24-26 of ECE/CTCS/WP6/2020/2).</p> <p>.</p> <p>As of December 2021, the leadership of WP.6 is majority women (female chair, two female vice-chairs, one male vice-chair). One of the subgroups (MARS) is led by a woman; one is led by a man (GRM); the third is currently vacant. One initiative is led by a woman (GRSI); the other is led by a man (START-Ed). WP.6 therefore portrays a perfect parity in the leadership.</p> <p>The Declaration on Gender-Responsive Standards and Standards Development is now signed by 80 organizations, each having committed to assign a gender-focal point to their standards development. XB funds are being used to complete the Standards for SDG / gender-responsive standards project (E330). A training will be organized in April-May 2022, a training package will be made available in English and in Russian for this. A closing event for this project will be organized late May/early June 2022. The German PTB is being approached for subsequent funds (linked to circular economy).</p> <p>The GRSI has been broken down into several project teams which meet regularly. These meetings are held on a bi-monthly basis on average and the meeting time has been rotating to accommodate Australian and US experts (late evening Geneva-time).</p>

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Trade	UNECE's support to the advancement of Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies in member States (Working Party 6)		4	Explore ways to address resource constraints, for example, by making full use of the resources assigned to Working Party 6, considering redistribution of resources within the Section, interns from Master's programmes on standardization, and extra-budgetary projects with project funded project managers.	<p>UNECE accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>The secretariat is evaluating several possibilities to address resource constraints. The possibility to redistribute RB resources within the Section will be reviewed as part of the overall review of programmes in view of the envisaged review of the Division's support to activities. As regards internships, the secretariat has established contacts with several universities that offer courses and Undergraduate or Graduate programmes in standardization in view of welcoming students as interns. The secretariat will explore the possibility of establishing a scheme with interested universities, in line with general rules for UN internships.</p> <p>Given the restrictions on the number of interns per Division and further future restrictions in the ECE's swing space from late 2020 onwards, the secretariat will work with the ECE internship programme to explore new ways of internship programmes, such as remote work based within the interns' respective universities with online supervision from ECE which could make better use of the secretariat's resources.</p> <p>The secretariat is currently implementing a project financed by the Government of Germany through the Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB) on "Enhancing usage and uptake of standards for sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, with special emphasis on gender equality" (December 2019 – December 2021). Additionally, the secretariat will continue its efforts for raising further XB funds including project funded staff.</p> <p>The secretariat will report at the next session of the WP. 6 on 2-3 November 2020 on its efforts in securing additional XB resources for the programme of work.</p>	<p>Implemented as of December 2021.</p> <p>In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, the secretariat has worked most of 2020 remotely and the possibility of using external resources such as interns and relevant programmes has been significantly reduced. The XB personnel is fully in use in support of the programme of work of WP.6 and the secretariat will continue looking for additional XB resources and will also increase the use of interns and other similar resources.</p> <p>Each team, project and initiative reports annually to the WP.6 session on their outreach and work on attracting additional resources.</p> <p>The secretariat is negotiating an XB project on the role of standards for the development of the Circular Economy with the Government of Germany.</p> <p>As of August 2021, vacancies and recruitment freezes have made the redistribution of resources within the Section challenging. As part of a Division wide effort to ensure delivery of essential work streams, the Secretary of UN/CEFACT is envisaged to support WP.6 on a part-time basis. This should facilitate the smooth execution of the 31st session and the regular meetings of the subgroups. The subgroups are reporting to the 31st Session of the Working Party on their efforts to secure XB resources (both volunteer experts to progress the work and financial funding).</p> <p>As of 31 December 2021, this recommendation is implemented as much as possible with the resources available. The Secretary of UN/CEFACT (P4) has been reassigned on a temporary basis to WP.6 in order to ensure the smooth organization and functioning of the working party; this is expected to be prolonged in 2022 while a more permanent solution is being sought.</p>

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<b>Sustainable Energy</b>	UNECE Collaboration with UN and other Partners in Delivering on Energy for Sustainable Development	Nov-20	4	To continue introducing gender-responsive S.M.A.R.T. (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Time-bound) indicators to measure progress made regarding the gender mainstreaming agenda and to continue to encourage active participation of female subject-matter experts in relevant activities.	<p>UNECE accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>In line with UNECE commitments taken in the management response of the 2019 evaluation of Gender mainstreaming in UNECE, gender-responsive indicators and targets will continue being introduced and active participation of female subject-matter experts in relevant activities will continue being encouraged. Actions initiated in this framework are reflected in the biannual Progress Reports of this programme-level evaluation; all recommendations are expected to be implemented by December 2021.</p>	<p>Implemented as of 31 December 2021</p> <p>SED continues to make every effort to increase the number of women participating in SED activities. A full summary by the SED gender focal point was provided as part of the reporting on the evaluation on Gender mainstreaming at UNECE. These include: - SED makes every effort to ensure gender balance on all podiums and panels organized by the Division. However, the final line-up does not always have gender balance. – SED includes gender equality and the empowerment of women into the job vacancy announcement of relevant posts. – In SED the gender focal point is at P-4 level and spends 20% of his time on gender mainstreaming. The Expert Group on Resource Management has established a Women in Resource Management Working Group.</p> <p>Each study launched in SED contains a clause along these lines (example from Renewable Energy Financing and Investment in Albania, Georgia, Kazakhstan and Serbia):</p> <p>“The study should include, to the extent possible, special considerations for renewable energy investments owned and/or operated by women, as well as to the role of women in post-crisis recovery as related to deploying and using renewable energy.”</p> <p>The 30th Session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy included a presentation by a gender consultant that covered two case studies highlighting good practices in gender mainstreaming.</p> <p>A session was organized during the 12th session of the Expert Group on Resource Management (29 April 2021) on “A new social contract on natural resources: Focus on women advancing Net Zero in oil and gas”. The speakers provided examples of good practices being implemented in gender mainstreaming in the oil and gas sector in member States, including Italy and Norway.</p> <p>SED conducted an online training workshop on “Women entrepreneurship in natural resource management: Challenges and opportunities for the micro-, small, and medium enterprises (MSME) sector in the post-COVID-19 socio-economic recovery”, 17 December 2020</p> <p>SED conducted a webinar on Women in Mining: Global Perspective on 15 October 2020 included a</p>

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<b>Environment</b>	Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Chu and Talas River Basins	Jun-19	3	Expenditures for staff costs and consultancy should be better anticipated at the stage of the project proposal preparation.	UNECE will better anticipate costs for staff and consultancy at the planning stage of the future projects based on the evaluated project (approximately staff should be involved at least 30% during entire project duration).	<p>number of case studies on good practices. More broadly, gender-related issues are reflected in the reports developed in the course of the UN Development Account project “Global Initiative towards post-Covid-19 resurgence of the MSME sector”, specifically: Updated Guidelines and Best Practices for MSMEs in delivering energy efficient products and in providing renewable energy equipment (October 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guidelines and best practices for micro-, small and medium enterprises in the Kyrgyz Republic on delivering energy-efficient products and in providing renewable energy equipment</li> <li>• Gender-related issues are reflected in the report Renewable Energy Financing and Investment in Albania, Georgia, Kazakhstan and Serbia.</li> </ul> <p>A study on “Energy transition and post-Covid-19 socio-economic recovery: the role of women and impact on them”, requested by Albania, Belarus, and Ukraine has been developed and is posted here. A UNECE Consultant presented the outcomes of the study Energy Transition and Post-Covid-19 Socioeconomic Recovery: Role of Women and Impact on Them at the 30th session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy (see here); at the 8th session of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy, 5 October 2021 (see here); and at the Online Workshop Sustainable Energy Policies and Implementation of National Sustainable Energy Action Plans, 17 November 2021 (see here). SED presented a report at the SPECA Economic Forum, SESSION V: Women’s economic empowerment for sustainable development: policy challenges during and after COVID-19 for the SPECA region, 18 November 2021.</p> <p>Implemented as of December 2021 This recommendation was taken into account in other similar projects and activities under the Water Convention, such as the development of its programme of work for 2022-2024</p>

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<b>Environment</b>	Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Chu and Talas River Basins	Jun-19	5	It is recommended to support further activities targeted on incorporation of project results into regular government programs in both countries to ensure sustainability of the project results, for examples, by promoting SAP indicators into National Indicators System (NIS) in Kyrgyzstan.	Overall UNECE accepts this recommendation; however, UNECE considers the Chu-Talas Water Commission and the relevant national water and environment authorities as the main beneficiaries of the project results and welcomes their contribution to further incorporation of the results into regular government programs. UNECE stands ready to consider requests for support arising from member States.	Implemented as of December 2021 UNECE is in regular touch with both countries in this regard. The Kyrgyzstan part of the SAP is still in the process of adoption. Currently elements of the SAP are included in the State programme on irrigation. In Kazakhstan, the SAP is approved and contributing to the implementation of the national Strategy Kazakhstan-2050 – 100 steps for the governance reform, development plan for the Dzambil region. The SAP approval documents also refer to the SDG implementation and Paris agreement contribution.
<b>Sustainable Energy</b>	Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia		2	Assist the targeted countries with taking practical steps towards adopting and implementing the NSEAPs at national level and encourage nearby countries to replicate the results. A series of consultations and awareness-raising workshops need to be facilitated for the top-level decision makers in their respective countries. It is also advisable to support the beneficiary countries to develop the NSEAP implementation roadmap and the monitoring frameworks.	UNECE accepts the recommendation  Workshops on implementation of NSEAPs will be organized in 2020-2021 with funds from RPTC budget subject to availability of funding.	Implemented in November 2021  A workshop on implementation of NSEAPs has been planned (jointly with ESCAP) initially in the first half of 2020 but had to be postponed because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Regional Adviser is in contact with the beneficiary countries regarding the process of adopting and implementing NSEAPs. However, the process has been slow because of the Covid-19 pandemic. The online workshop on implementation of NSEAPs (organized jointly with ESCAP) took place on 17 November 2021, with 53 participants, of which 18 women, from 20 countries. This workshop served as a platform to discuss approaches of Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and other countries of the region for using the outcomes of the project “Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia” in their pathway to sustainable energy. All workshop materials are available at <a href="https://unece.org/info/Sustainable-Energy/Regional-Advisory-Services/events/361609">https://unece.org/info/Sustainable-Energy/Regional-Advisory-Services/events/361609</a> , including Concept Note, Agenda, presentations, and recordings in English and Russian.
<b>Sustainable Energy</b>	Sustainable Energy for All (SE4All) in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia		3	Encourage neighbouring countries to share information, with the member States and broader audience, of progress	UNECE accepts the recommendation  Neighbouring countries will be encouraged to share information with other member States and broader audience about progress made and results achieved with regard to the adoption	Implemented in November 2021  The 11th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development (IFESD-11) planned in Tbilisi on 15-17 September 2020 has been postponed to 2021 because of the Covid-19 pandemic. For the

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				made and results achieved with regard to the adoption and implementation the NSEAPs.	and implementation the NSEAPs. In particular, this information sharing will be facilitated at the 11th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development in Tbilisi on 15-17 September 2020	same reason, sharing information by other means is currently on hold. It has been decided that IFESD-11 will take place virtually in the second half of 2021 over the course of several weeks. The IFESD-11 was held in the period September-November 2021 online with several of its events in a hybrid format. The website <a href="https://unece.org/info/Sustainable-Energy/Regional-Advisory-Services/events/18677">https://unece.org/info/Sustainable-Energy/Regional-Advisory-Services/events/18677</a> contains information on all events held in the framework of the Forum with links to individual events under tab Agenda. The workshop on implementation of NSEAPs was held in the framework of the Forum on 17 November 2021. See also response to #2.
<b>Sustainable Energy</b>	Strengthening capacity of the member States to achieve the energy-related Sustainable Development Goals - Pathways to Sustainable Energy		3	If the intervention is taken forward, it might be further focused on the subregional and national levels, as the member States are at an early stage of addressing the complex and vitally important issues of pathways to sustainable energy.	<p>UNECE accepts this recommendation.</p> <p>UNECE will take the recommendation into consideration when preparing project proposal for the Project's Phase II, expected in the second quarter of 2020, but dependent on extrabudgetary resources</p>	<p>Closed without implementation in December 2021</p> <p>Further and more focused appraisals of both subregions and technologies were recognized as next steps in the Pathways to Sustainable Energy project. At the request of the Executive Committee, a concept note for the overall Pathways Programme, including Phase II for the pathways programme and for a companion project on carbon neutrality was developed based on extensive consultation process with member States and presented to the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its 3# Recommendation Management response Responsibility Target date/deadline Date of implementation/comments 30th session on 22 – 24 September 2021.</p> <p>Since no extrabudgetary funding pledges have been received, this recommendation could not be implemented within the reporting period. However, UNECE will continue to explore funding opportunities in the future.</p>
<b>Trade</b>	Strengthening capacities of SPECA countries for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals	Aug-20	1	<p>Streamlining and improving the organization of the SPECA meetings:</p> <p>a. Rationalize on time, travel and ensuring continuity by trying to hold WG sessions, the Economic Forum and the Governing Council meetings together during four days, when</p>	<p>UNECE partially accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>a. Noting that the final decision depends on SPECA participating countries, which are owners of the SPECA Programme as per the 2018 SPECA Evaluation and subsequent decisions of the Governing Council, ECE (the SPECA Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator) will negotiate with the hosting country and try to rationalize on time when organizing the annual events and Working Group meetings of SPECA, when it coordinates the SPECA events (every second year) and will suggest that to</p>	<p>Implemented as of 30 November 2021</p> <p>a. ECE communicated the recommendations to ESCAP and cooperated with them for the organization of the 2020 SPECA events in the spirit of these recommendations. See <a href="https://unece.org/speca/events/fifteenth-session-speca-governing-council">https://unece.org/speca/events/fifteenth-session-speca-governing-council</a> and <a href="https://unece.org/speca/events/2020-speca-economic-forum">https://unece.org/speca/events/2020-speca-economic-forum</a>. However, given COVID-19 all SPECA events in 2020 were organized online, and, for the time when virtual meetings prevail. The countries have expressed their preference that the WG meetings meet well in advance of the Forum and the Governing</p>

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				<p>feasible and demanded by the countries.</p> <p>b. Consider turning the Economic Forums, if the countries wish, into opportunities for more dynamic exchanges through round table formats instead of conference modality with little discussions.</p> <p>c. Rethink the format of reporting conclusions and recommendations from the various meetings. This could involve shortening documentation, revisiting recommendations stemming from the WGs and Economic Forums to make them more concrete, feasible and measurable.</p>	<p>ESCAP, when ESCAP coordinates the support for SPECA.</p> <p>b. The ECE SPECA Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator will discuss with the hosting country ideas for making the annual Economic Forums more dynamic, with more discussions and round tables, when ECE is coordinating these Forums.</p> <p>c. The ECE SPECA Coordinator will send the evaluation report and its recommendations to the ECE focal points for the SPECA thematic working groups (TWGs) and request them to support streamlining the conclusions and recommendations coming out of each meeting, so that they are concrete, feasible and measurable, bearing in mind that the final responsibility for this is with the SPECA countries, bearing in mind that these are decisions of the participating countries.</p>	<p>Council session. The 2021 events were prepared in the spirit of the recommendations:  <a href="https://unece.org/speca/events/2021-speca-economic-forum">https://unece.org/speca/events/2021-speca-economic-forum</a> and  <a href="https://unece.org/info/SPECA/events/359263">https://unece.org/info/SPECA/events/359263</a>  By the 16th session of the SPECA Governing Council on 16 Nov.2021, four of the five WGs held their meetings, including the WG on Trade, which was held physically back-to-back in Tashkent. Only one of the groups (on Sustainable Transport) had to be organized later due to a request from the hosting country (Uzbekistan). The WG on Statistics is being closed. b. The ECE SPECA Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator have discussed with Uzbekistan and the UN Resident Coordinator in Uzbekistan the idea to make the annual Economic Forum in 2021 more dynamic, with more discussions and round tables. UNECE did everything possible to make the 2021 Forum interactive with a focus on decisions for real work on the recommendations. Online and hybrid events, however, are not very conducive to people engaging in discussions. ECE has requested ESCAP to advocate the same in 2022.  c. As a first step, the evaluation report and its recommendations were sent to the ECE focal points for the SPECA thematic working groups (TWGs). All these elements were constantly reminded to the hosts and the country representatives and the Tashkent Statement (outcome document from the 2021 Forum) and the decisions of the 16th session of the SPECA Governing Council (see here) were concrete, feasible and measurable, as agreed by the countries. ECE has requested ESCAP to advocate the same in 2022.</p>
Trade	Strengthening capacities of SPECA countries for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals	Aug-20	2	<p>Strengthening mechanisms for follow-up:</p> <p>a. Documents coming out of the various meetings should become live documents that have an action plan and a system for follow-up and not be simply</p>	<p>UNECE partially accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>a. The ECE SPECA Coordinator will send the evaluation report and its recommendations to the ECE focal points supporting the various TWGs, the Governing Council sessions and annual Forums and will work with them, the SPECA participating countries and the ESCAP counterparts on drafting conclusions that include really intended actions for the achievement of the recommended objectives.</p>	<p>Implemented as of 30 November 2021.</p> <p>a. The evaluation report and its recommendations were sent to the ECE focal points in 2020, supporting the various TWGs, suggesting that: documents coming out of the various meetings should become live documents; and networks of experts should continue the collaboration on the deliverables of each group on a regular basis all year round.  The Ashgabat Initiative from the 2019 Forum, the SPECA Trade Facilitation Strategy and Principles of Sustainable Trade developed by the SPECA WG on</p>

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				<p>uploaded on a static UN website.</p> <p>b. Considering ways to allow networking of experts, policy advising, discussions between TWGs, experts and national authorities by creating more online platforms. Constant and sustained dialogue can continue on specific issues through guided online discussions.</p> <p>c. The designation of a Secretariat by the countries could make the follow up to recommendations and decisions an on-going task, relieving from the responsibility of the UNECE and ESCAP substantive divisions.</p> <p>d. Accelerate the nomination of Focal Points for SPECA and for the TWGs.</p>	<p>b. Furthermore, the SPECA Coordinator will discuss with the ECE focal points and relevant experts how to support the TWGs and networks of experts for a continuous collaboration throughout the year. This will include work through online platforms on topical issues that interest the countries.</p> <p>c. The ECE SPECA Coordinator requested ESCAP to ask the host country in 2020 (Kyrgyzstan) to include a discussion on the SPECA Secretariat on the agenda of the 15th session of the SPECA Governing Council on 20 November 2020.</p> <p>d. The ECE SPECA Coordinator will renew the call for nomination of focal points every year ECE is coordinating SPECA and raise the issue at the Governing Council sessions.</p>	<p>Trade and adopted by the Governing Council on 21 Nov.2019, the SPECA Strategy on Innovation for Sustainable Development adopted by the Governing Council on 21 Nov.2019, are all strategic documents that were thoroughly followed up with activities on their implementation as reported at the relevant working groups and Governing Council sessions. ECE has invited the other WGs to do the same.</p> <p>b. Initiated in 2021 by the TWGs on Trade, Innovation and Technology for Sustainable Development, and Sustainable Transport, which already support cooperation all year round. Online platforms for communication and online meetings of the WGs became widely used during the pandemic. E.g., at least 6 online seminars on the implementation of the SPECA Trade Facilitation Strategy were held under the auspices of the SPECA WG on Trade in 2021.</p> <p>c. A discussion on the SPECA Secretariat was included in the agenda of the 15th session of the SPECA Governing Council on 20 November 2020 and the 16th session of the Governing Council on 19 November 2021. From this point on, this is a matter for the SPECA participating countries' Governments.</p> <p>d. UNECE and ESCAP called for renewal of the list of national coordinators and focal points for SPECA in the participating countries in 2020 and 2021. This exercise has to be repeated every year, as people change (notably now, in 2022)</p>
Trade	Strengthening capacities of SPECA countries for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals	Aug-20	4	<p>Improving cooperation and coordination with other UN and international entities working in the SPECA region:</p> <p>a. The UN Resident Coordinator System, as representative of the UN at the national level, could be formally enlisted for</p>	<p>UNECE partially accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>a. The SPECA Coordinator will liaise with his counterpart in ESCAP to advance the concept note on cooperation with the Resident Coordinator system in support of SPECA at the SPECA Governing Council and the Resident Coordinators.</p> <p>b. The ECE SPECA Coordinator will initiate discussions with his ESCAP counterpart on how to improve the efficiency of organizing the SPECA events to make the best use of</p>	<p>Implemented as of 30 November 2021.</p> <p>a. An updated version of the concept note on cooperation with the Resident Coordinator system in support of SPECA was presented to the SPECA countries Resident Coordinators in 2021. We will continue to promote this approach in 2022 and 2023. The Resident Coordinators are increasingly involved in the UN Secretariat's support for SPECA. Three of them chaired sessions at the 2021 Forum, including the RC in Kazakhstan in person.</p> <p>b. Regular consultations on the topic take place between the SPECA Coordinators and Deputy</p>

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				<p>follow-up on the implementation of recommendations at the SPECA country level.</p> <p>b. Increase cooperation/harmonization between the two Regional Commissions in order to pool funding.</p> <p>c. Coordinate/cooperate more closely with other regional processes in order to share resources, studies, projects, etc.</p>	<p>increasingly scarce resources.</p> <p>c. The ECE SPECA Coordinator and TWG focal points, working with ESCAP and the SPECA countries will intensify contacts and build synergies with such organizations and regional initiatives as UNRCCA, UNDP, UNEP, WTO, CAREC/ADB, EAEU, EU, ECO, OECD, the Islamic Development Bank and others, who would be willing to cooperate with SPECA</p>	<p>Coordinators in ECE and ESCAP. Regular meetings of the UNECE and ESCAP DESs and Deputy SPECA Coordinators with the Resident Coordinators took place in 2021, and SPECA was a key item on the agendas of these meetings.</p> <p>c. Coordination with these organizations intensified, notably with CAREC on transport and trade.</p>
<b>Sustainable Energy</b>	Review of the case studies of the application of best practice guidance for coal mine methane management	Dec-17	7	<p>(Optional:) As an emerging practice<sup>1</sup>, consider creating a “Training of Trainers” program implemented through the ICEs, to expand the knowledge base and specialist community (ideally also involving an academic program, or even creating specialized studies at higher education level). This approach should also consider elements of integrating capacity building measurement and reasonable ways of integrating results measurement into future projects</p>	<p>A standard training module on best practices in the abatement, recovery, and use of methane from coal mines will be developed in the 2018-2019 biennium.</p> <p>Once the training module is created, GoE on CMM and the secretariat will undertake necessary steps (including on securing funding) to develop a proper application strategy, aligned with the scope and the level of complication of the module. Where possible and appropriate GoE on CMM will work on this issue in cooperation with ICE-CMMs. Where appropriate GoE on CMM will also reach out to relevant academic and scientific institutions in order to explore usefulness and possibility of their involvement in this task.</p>	<p>Implemented in December 2021</p> <p>A standard training module on best practices in the abatement, recovery, and use of methane from coal mines was developed in cooperation with the Global Methane Initiative, as per the Group’s 2018-2019 work plan. This deliverable was developed under the extrabudgetary project funded by US EPA, the duration of which was extended until 31 December 2021. Following approval from both the donor and the Group of Experts (at its 14 session in November 2019) this work item has been carried over to the 2020-2021 biennium.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All eight modules of the training have been published on the UNECE website.</li> </ul>

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Office of the Executive Secretary	Programme level evaluation: Gender mainstreaming in UNECE	Aug-19	23 & 24	<p>Rec #23: Mandate and enforce divisional monitoring of staff completion of the mandatory gender-training courses, and holding staff accountable for non-completion, including through their ePAS. Also, UNECE should make specific annual capacity building commitments to gender mainstreaming training for all staff, particularly in substantive divisions and for gender focal points. These commitments should be included in the updated Gender Equality Policy and future Gender Action Plans, and individual staff work plans and ePAS.</p> <p>Rec #24: The Senior Gender Focal Point should carry out applied capacity building/coaching/mentoring for staff in each division, and including all Gender Focal Points, including on sex disaggregated data collection, analysis and use in their respective technical areas; gender in problem analysis in substantive areas (gender-</p>	<p>UNECE accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>Division Directors will continue to enforce staff completion of the mandatory gender-training courses and holding staff accountable for non-completion, including through their ePAS commencing with the 2020-2021 cycle.</p> <p>Division Directors to encourage all staff to participate in internal capacity building activities. The Gender Focal Point will continue to provide guidance to sub-programmes upon request and within her available capacity. SDGU will organise gender mainstreaming training should additional resources be made available for staff learning, commencing in 2020.</p>	<p>100% of Environment Division staff who hold fixed and permanent/continuing contract have completed the mandatory training on gender.</p> <p>Following the webinar on gender mainstreaming in environmental policies and strategies, which was held on 9th September 2020, the Environment Division received a request from the Ministry of Environmental Protection of Serbia to provide support in strengthening the capacity of the Ministry's staff in gender mainstreaming and developing a package of relevant gender mainstreaming tools for environmental policies. Consequently, an online refresher training was organized for the staff of the Ministry and other relevant stakeholders in Serbia to present examples and different approaches of integrating gender aspects into environmental policies. The training was attended by 7 staff from ENV DIV and for those interested the recording of the training is available on the webpage. <a href="https://www.unece.org/environmental-policy/environment-and-gender/online-training-on-integration-of-gender-aspects-into-environmental-policies.html">https://www.unece.org/environmental-policy/environment-and-gender/online-training-on-integration-of-gender-aspects-into-environmental-policies.html</a></p> <p>Transport Division has undertaken gender training mandatory course at all levels.</p> <p>Nearly all Statistical Division staff have completed the mandatory gender training.</p> <p>FHLD staff completes mandatory trainings on gender. It is a small division and does not have resources to organize capacity building or training to staff but welcomes the training possibilities from the UNECE Gender Focal point.</p> <p>SDGU had no capacity and resources to carry out a gender mainstreaming training in 2020. ECTD staff is completing the mandatory training and in some of its work collects sex-disaggregated data (e.g. on female owned SMEs) but has no capacity to carry out a comprehensive specific training in this regard.</p> <p>SED staff completes mandatory trainings on gender.</p>

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				blind/neutral/responsive); and gender mainstreaming, particularly in UNECE's eight sub-programmes. Gender mainstreaming tools in substantive areas are listed in Annex G, which could be helpful capacity building resources		<p>The 30th Session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy (22-24 September 2021) included a presentation by a gender consultant which included two case studies highlighting good practices in gender mainstreaming.</p> <p>A session was organized during the 12th session of the Expert Group on Resource Management (29 April 2021) on "A new social contract on natural resources: Focus on women advancing Net Zero in oil and gas". The speakers provided examples of good practices being implemented in gender mainstreaming in the oil and gas sector in member States, including Italy and Norway.</p> <p>Other examples are: Online training workshop on "Women entrepreneurship in natural resource management: Challenges and opportunities for the micro-, small, and medium enterprises (MSME) sector in the post-COVID-19 socio-economic recovery", 17 December 2020</p>
<b>Office of the Executive Secretary</b>	Programme level evaluation: Gender mainstreaming in UNECE	Aug-19	20	Ensure gender balance on all podiums and panels organized by UNECE.	UNECE accepts the recommendation	<p>As of 30 December 2020, the following progress have been reported:</p> <p>In Environment division, all staff are reminded about gender balance on all podiums and panels on a regular basis. Moreover, to ensure equal participation of male and female representatives in meetings organized by ECE Environment a recommendation was developed to be included in all invitations. "The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe is committed to gender equality. To this end, the UNECE encourages member States to propose gender balanced nomination of candidates to the upcoming [event title]."</p> <p>Sustainable Transport is working on ensuring gender balance in panels (see above more details on working party sessions) gender balance in panels is an important priority when inviting countries and stakeholders to speak</p> <p>An appropriate mix of female and male speakers and members is ensured in the meetings governed by the Conference of European Statisticians.</p> <p>FLHD and ECTD ensure gender balance on all podiums and panels organized by the divisions.</p>

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<b>Office of the Executive Secretary</b>	Programme level evaluation: Gender mainstreaming in UNECE	Aug-19	16	In order to achieve the “approaches” indicator, UNECE should designate all gender focal points at P-4 level or above, and ensure that at least 20% of their time (one day per week) is allocated to these functions, including through tailoring their work plans to address only those tasks specifically included in the job description. Gender focal points should be carrying out gender mainstreaming activities to implement the UNECE Gender Action Plan in their respective divisions, and ensuring that fellow divisional staff members do the same.	<p>UNECE accepts the recommendation</p> <p>As per the SWAP guidelines, UNECE will identify staff at the appropriate level to be divisional gender focal points, and ensure that 20% of their duties is dedicated to gender work, to be included in the staff performance planning commencing with the 2020-2021 cycle. The network of division’s gender focal points could be energised to meet from time to time to exchange on gender-relevant activities in the context of their substantive work.</p>	<p>SED makes every effort to ensure gender balance on all podiums and panels organized by the Division. However, the final line-up does not always have gender balance since oftentimes speakers/panellists have to be replaced at the last minute and the replacement is not always the same gender.</p> <p>In the Environment Division, following the recommendations of the Gender mainstreaming evaluation, three gender co-focal points were nominated (1 P5 and 2 P4 regular budget staff) and they collectively spend 20% of their time to carry out gender mainstreaming activities. Gender focal points included a specific gender-related goal (Goal: Mainstream a gender perspective in the work of the Environment Division) for the period 2020-2021 and will report accordingly.</p> <p>In Statistics and Sustainable Transport Divisions, the gender focal point is at the P-5 level. In OES, PMSSD, SED and ECTD the gender focal points are at P-4 level and spend 20% of their time on gender mainstreaming.</p> <p>In smaller divisions, the recommendation may not be achievable, as 20% of time represent a high amount of time. This is reinforced by the recruitment restrictions arising from the liquidity situation of the Organization.</p>
<b>Office of the Executive Secretary</b>	Programme level evaluation: Gender mainstreaming in UNECE	Jul-19	12	Integrate assessment of gender equality and empowerment of women into core values and/or competencies for all staff, with particular focus on P-4 levels and above, including in job vacancy announcements.	<p>UNECE accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>Core values and competencies are established for UNECE staff by the policies of the UN Secretariat. UNECE will include gender equality and the empowerment of women into the job vacancy announcement of relevant posts, commencing 16 December 2019.</p>	<p>In the Environment and Sustainable Transport Division, at the request of the director, for the 2020-2021 cycle, a separate provision was included in the ePAS of for senior managers and hiring managers to take measures towards gender parity in the recruitment process.</p> <p>In the Forestry and Land Housing Division and in the Statistical Division, a similar mechanism is in place when deemed relevant.</p> <p>SED includes gender equality and the empowerment of women into the job vacancy announcements on a</p>

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<b>Office of the Executive Secretary</b>	Programme level evaluation: Gender mainstreaming in UNECE	Jul-19	6	Make it mandatory for all Secretaries to Committees, Conventions and Working Groups to (i) raise attention of member States to increase the number of women participants in delegations, (ii) collect, analyse and monitor sex disaggregated data of participants to intergovernmental meetings, (iii) discuss gender mainstreaming at sessions of Sectoral Committees, Conventions and Working Groups, (iv) encourage inclusion of gender mainstreaming in decisions of the Sectoral Committees, Conventions and	<p>UNECE accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>Division Directors and Secretaries of Committees will continue to address gender mainstreaming at sessions of Sectoral Committees and include gender mainstreaming in decisions of the Sectoral Committees. The experience ranges across the work of the eight UNECE subprogrammes, from conducting gender-oriented sessions in expert meetings, incorporating the gender related SDGs in the Programme of Work of Committees, and training staff in the ECE’s Gender Responsive Standards under the umbrella of the Gender Responsive Standards Declaration. The work presently conducted by subprogrammes will be shared between the Gender Focal Point and Committee Secretaries to enable peer learning for enabling increased participation of women. Division Directors will ensure that the inclusion of gender mainstreaming in decisions of the Sectoral Committees, Conventions and Working Groups is included in staff, unit, and divisional workplans. These requirements will begin with the cycle commencing 2020-2021.</p>	<p>standard basis. “Takes responsibility for incorporating gender perspectives and ensuring the equal participation of women and men in all areas of work” is always included under the Professionalism competency in job vacancy announcements.</p> <p>The following wording is also included as standard in vacancy announcements posted by SED: “The United Nations recruits and employs staff regardless of gender identity, sexual orientation, race, religious, cultural and ethnic backgrounds or disabilities. The United Nations Secretariat is committed to achieving 50/50 gender balance and geographical diversity in its staff. Female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply for this position.”</p> <p>ECTD has routinely included gender equality and empowerment of women in its relevant job vacancy announcements, and will do so for all relevant announcements, starting 2022.</p> <p><b>Implemented as of 31 December 2021</b></p> <p><b>Transport</b></p> <p>(i) Efforts have been made to increase female participation and chairing of the various working parties. In addition to those chairs and vice chairs already in service at the start of 2020, a new female Chair and Vice Chair have been elected to lead the Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics and a female vice chair has been elected to WP.6.</p> <p>(ii) Gender disaggregated data on participation at meetings is being gathered.</p> <p>(iii) In the ITC strategy gender issues are referred to as cross-cutting issues that are to be embedded in the relevant actions. Then, the ITC Strategy implementation document contains actions that are substance focused and gender neutral.</p> <p>(iv) Gender aspects have been included in discussions in a number of the working parties within the Inland Transport Committee (WP.6, SC.3, WP.30, etc.)</p>

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				<p>Working Groups. Include this in the ePAS of relevant UNECE staff. P-5 Gender Focal Point should work with Secretaries to provide guidance on good practices, capacity building on mainstreaming gender in substantive areas, and guidance on techniques to increase women's participation. Secretary, Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardisation Policies to provide training on Declaration on Gender Responsive Standards to all Secretaries and other relevant staff.</p>		<p><b>Environment</b></p> <p>At its regular sessions, the Committee on Environmental Policy (CEP) considers an official document with information on recent developments, plans and activities on gender mainstreaming as part of cross-sectoral activities (e.g. in Nov 2020 at 26<sup>th</sup> session (<a href="https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2020/ECE/CEP/ece.cep.2020.4.e.pdf">https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2020/ECE/CEP/ece.cep.2020.4.e.pdf</a>) and takes relevant decisions by the Committee on gender mainstreaming (For instance: item 7, p. 6 (<a href="https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/commission/EXCOM/Silence_procedure/CEP-26_decisions_final.pdf">https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/commission/EXCOM/Silence_procedure/CEP-26_decisions_final.pdf</a>)). The CEP is briefed by the gender focal point(s) on gender mainstreaming across ECE activities and in environmental activities carried out by the Environmental Division.</p> <p>The <b>Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment</b> and the <b>Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators</b> are both in 2020 chaired by women. During the 17th session of the Joint Task Force held on 26 October 2020, 65% of participants were women and during the 22<sup>nd</sup> session of the Working Group held on 27 October, 62% of participants were female. Gender balance and representation of women in the Working Group and the Joint Task Force is continually encouraged. UNECE will also encourage member States to propose gender balanced nominations of candidates to the upcoming elections of a new chair and 2 vice-chairs for the Working Group in 2021.</p> <p>The bodies of the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme are continuously working to promote gender mainstreaming in their activities. Moreover, in one of the documents under preparation, women are especially identified as a dedicated group to</p>

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						<p>consider when tackling discrimination of vulnerable groups.</p> <p>In the <b>LRTAP Convention</b>, majority of officers, national representatives and participants of official meetings are women. Women chair 4 out of 5 official bodies of the Convention. Fifty out of 75 National Focal Points for the Convention are women. Similar situation continues in case of experts from EECCA countries, notably those that are involved with capacity building and awareness raising activities. The high representation of women in the Convention bodies and activities is continually encouraged. UNECE encouraged member States to propose gender balanced nominations of candidates to the upcoming elections of officers to be decided by the Convention bodies in the second half of 2020.</p> <p>In the <b>Aarhus Convention and its Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTRs)</b>, all activities under the Work Programmes for 2018–2021 of the Aarhus Convention and the PRTRs Protocol carried out in 2019 and in 2020 provided equal opportunities for the participation of women and men. Moreover, through the Budva Declaration on Environmental Democracy for Our Sustainable Future (2017), Parties to both treaties recognised the special needs of persons and groups in vulnerable situations. In 2019-2020, the main decision-making bodies of the Convention and its Protocol are chaired by women. Furthermore, two out of three the Convention’s thematic Task Forces are chaired by women. In addition, a number of NFPs nominated for both treaties are women.</p> <p><b>For the Espoo Convention and its Protocol</b>, women continue to represent the majority in terms of officers, meeting participants of both official and ad hoc treaty bodies, and national focal points. Idem regarding the participation of experts from EECCA countries in capacity building activities.</p>

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						<p>The representation of women in activities related to the Convention and its Protocol, continues to be encouraged and monitored, including for activities under the new workplan and new nominations of officers for 2021–2023. On 11 December 2020, the high-level segment of the MOPs chaired by a woman (her Excellency, the Finnish Minister of Environment and Climate Change), elected female Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Working Group on EIA and SEA; and a predominantly female Implementation Committee and a Bureau for the next 3 years. In 2019-2020 capacity-building and legislative assistance events in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and the Central Asia provided equal opportunities for the participation: EIA/SEA legal review workshop January 2019 in Tajikistan (total 24; women 3) and Uzbekistan (total 28; women; 10); SEA workshop, Georgia, May 2019 (total: 52, women: 26); SEA workshop II, Georgia, Sept 2019 (total:49, women: 31); EIA/SEA legal drafting meetings Uzbekistan, August/Dec 2019 (total:17/16, women: 3/5); EIA/SEA legal drafting workshop Tajikistan, October 2019 (total: 23 women: 4); SEA workshop, Republic of Moldova (total:41, women: 21); virtual legal drafting working group Tajikistan March 2020 (total 32; women 6); virtual round table Tajikistan, April 2020 (total: 28; women; 7), virtual legal roundtable, Azerbaijan, August 2020 (total: 37, women: 16); virtual workshop on legal drafting on EIA and SEA Kazakhstan, October 2020 (total 42; women: 25); virtual workshops EIA and SEA, Uzbekistan, November 2020 (total 56, women 15); virtual meeting on SEA in Kazakhstan, December 2020 (total: 30, women 16); subregional workshop for 6 countries, Oct 2020 (total:53, women:34). Overall, 128 female participants out of 232.</p> <p>Under the <b>Water Convention</b>, half of the Bureau members are women. The Working Group on</p>

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						<p>Integrated Water Resources Management is co-chaired by two women. The Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment is co-chaired by a woman and a man. In the Implementation Committee under the Water Convention, one of the two Vice-Chairs is a woman. Under the <b>Protocol on Water and Health</b>, the majority of members of the Bureau are women, and the Chair and two Vice-Chairs of the Bureau of the Meeting of the Parties are women. The majority of the Protocol's Compliance Committee members are women, and the Vice-Chair of the Compliance Committee is a woman.</p> <p>There is a growing number of women among focal points of the Water Convention and the Protocol on Water and Health. The secretariat of the Water Convention and the joint secretariat of the Protocol collect and monitor sex disaggregated data on participants to intergovernmental meetings. Gender balance and representation of women in the working bodies is continually encouraged. UNECE ensures gender balanced participation in all panels under the Convention's and Protocol's meetings.</p> <p>Gender mainstreaming under the Water Convention was discussed at the third joint meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management and Working Group on Monitoring and Assessment on 26–28 April 2021. The Working Groups (a) Supported the mainstreaming of gender into the future programme of work for 2022-2024; (b) Encouraged Parties to propose gender balanced nominations of focal points, delegates to meetings and candidates for the Bureau and Implementation Committee.</p> <p>The Chair of the Bureau to the Industrial Accidents Convention has been a woman for 2019-2020, who was re-elected for 2021-22 at the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Geneva and online, 7-9 Dec 2020). More than half of the elected members for 2019-20 and have been</p>

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						<p>women – a continuing trend in 2021-22, as per the elections at CoP-11. Similarly, more than half of the elected members of the Group on Implementation for the period 2017-2020 have been and for 2021-2024 will be women. The secretariat has consistently raised attention of the MS to consider gender in their representations at the CoP and the various capacity-development workshops held under the Convention's auspices. The Convention's long-term strategy, adopted at CoP-10 (Geneva, 4-6 Dec 2018), sets out that "Parties will ensure inclusive public information and participation ... with the involvement of the population, regardless of age and gender (Goal 16)" (ECE/CP.TEIA/38/Add.1).</p> <p><b>Trade</b></p> <p>The Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards has been active in promoting women's participation in its work and that of its subsidiary bodies (WP.6 on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies and WP.7 on Agricultural Quality Standards) for many years and the share of women delegates has raised significantly over the years. As an individual indicator, currently, all three Chairs are women. A recent capacity-building project addressed women in the agri-industrial sector in Fergana valley, not only contributing to employment and increased revenue for women but also to peace-building in the region through cross-border pooling of produce in order to reach the volumes necessary for international supply chains. A survey-based assessment study of the impact of multi-agency capacity building activities in Central Asia was conducted in March 2020. The study showed increased engagement of women in agri-production leading to increased income, enhanced gender equality and women empowerment as well as increased integration of female entrepreneurs into domestic and international markets</p> <p><b>In addition, the subprogramme is advancing fast and far beyond counting women's participation</b></p>

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						<p>Thanks to the Subprogrammes significant efforts, the Gender Responsive Standards Initiative is creating world-class attention to the role of gender in standard-setting and the use of standards with 67 countries and 20 international organizations having signed the Gender Responsive Standards Declaration. In this work, UNECE has taken a lead role in sensitizing International standards bodies, governmental authorities, regional and intergovernmental organizations, NGOs, UN organizations and academic and research institution as well as the private sector of the salient issues in standard-setting. The Declaration aims at strengthening the use of standards and technical regulations as powerful tools to attain SDG 5 (Achieve Gender Equality and Empower all Women and Girls), to integrate a gender lens in the development of both standards and technical regulations and to elaborate concrete gender indicators and criteria that can be used in standards development.</p> <p>Gender issues are also being addressed in ECEs series of studies on regulatory and procedural barriers to trade (i.e., by looking at impediments to increasing the participation of female-owned enterprises in trade) upon the request of the Governments; and in capacity building activities (e.g., training activities in the areas of food waste and food loss).</p> <p>In December 2020-February 2021, two survey-based assessment studies were undertaken in Armenia and the Republic of Moldova to capture the impact of COVID-19 on the participation of female-owned enterprises in trade and their development prospects. The studies will be finalized in 2021 (including consultations with the Governments) and will be presented to member States during the SCTCS annual session in 2022. Furthermore, an e-learning course on commercial quality standards for marketing fresh fruit and vegetables has been developed and is expected to be finalized by September 2021. It will be available</p>

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						<p>on ECE e-learning platform which will allow for increased participation of women, including in rural areas, and facilitate their contribution to higher quality sustainable production.</p> <p><b>Economic Cooperation and Integration: Following decision 2016-6.3 of the ECE Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships to explore ways to mainstream gender aspects into its future work,</b> Kyrgyzstan was the first country to have received an Innovation for Sustainable Development Review (I4SDR) under a revised framework to reflect the 2030 Agenda, including SDG 5 on gender equality.</p> <p>Efforts have been advanced further in the case of the recently completed Innovation for Sustainable Development Review of Georgia, issued as an official UN publication in December 2020, including gender analysis of the labour market and educational attainment accompanied by policy recommendations. This will be followed by targeted capacity building to support implementation of the I4SDR recommendations, in agreement with the national authorities. The ongoing I4SDRs of Moldova and Uzbekistan will follow a similar approach, incorporating the lessons learned and best practices developed during the I4SDRs of Kyrgyzstan and Georgia.</p> <p>Meanwhile, a subregional Innovation Policy Outlook of 6 countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine), was issued in March 2021 as an official UN publication, makes actionable policy recommendations at the subregional and national levels based on gender-based analysis and mainstreaming in policy making, mechanisms for monitoring and regular assessment of gender equality initiatives, as well as programmes to improve gender integration and remove the cultural barriers inhibiting gender equality.</p> <p>The extrabudgetary project “E317: Promoting innovation policy capacities in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus” has taken measures to achieve 30%</p>

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						<p>representation at least of both genders among participants and speakers to date.</p> <p><b>The People-first approach to Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)</b> for the SDGs was developed by UNECE to make the PPP model fit for purpose for the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This approach focuses PPPs on delivering infrastructure projects that delivers “value for people” and “value for the planet” by increasing access to essential services and lessening social inequality and injustice, enhancing resilience and environmental sustainability, improving economic effectiveness and fiscal sustainability, promoting replicability and the development of further projects, and fully involving all stakeholders in the projects.</p> <p>Furthermore, the People-first approach to PPPs for the SDGs mainstreams a gender perspective to address gender inequalities in infrastructure projects and the society by promoting a gender perspective in infrastructure design and delivery and the empowerment of women in the infrastructure industry and in the delivery of projects.</p> <p>Finally, the UNECE is developing the People-first PPP Evaluation Methodology for the SDGs to assess infrastructure projects against the People-first criteria and the SDGs and includes indicators on gender equality and the empowerment of women through PPPs.</p> <p><b>Statistics:</b> The Conference of European Statisticians (CES) endorsed late June two important guides on gender: - First, the “<b>Guidance for measuring intra-household power and decision-making</b>” addresses a glaring gap in actions towards and measurement of gender equality, which concerns relations within the household. Starting from the Beijing Platform for Action, internationally agreed policy frameworks universally refer to ‘all levels’ of decision-making or to the need for women and</p>

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						<p>men to be ‘equal partners in public and private life’, yet action and measurement so far is almost entirely limited to the public sphere. The new statistical guidance is pathbreaking in that it leads to concrete meaningful measurements that can lead to genuine improvement in gender equality.</p> <p>- Second, national statistical offices have an important role in promoting awareness, understanding and use of gender statistics. The <b>“Guidance on communicating gender statistics”</b> is designed to support them in this, with practically oriented guidance and a broad range of good practice examples.</p> <p><b>The Steering Group on Gender Statistics</b> – governed by the Conference of European Statisticians -- is tasked with advancing gender statistics and carrying out activities to support gender mainstreaming in statistical systems of member countries. In May 2020, the Group launched a new project <b>on measuring the implications of the Covid crisis on gender equality</b>. The Task team on <b>measuring gender identity</b> is continuing its pathbreaking work in clarifying the concepts and measurement issues surrounding this topic. These activities are reported to the Conference of European Statisticians annual plenary session and to its Bureau that meets twice a year.</p> <p><b>Sustainable Energy</b> The <b>Committee on Sustainable Energy</b> had and exchange and consultation on gender and energy topics during its 28th session (2019): <a href="https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/CSE/comm28.2019/ECE_ENERGY_123_Final_for_submission.pdf">https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/energy/se/pdfs/CSE/comm28.2019/ECE_ENERGY_123_Final_for_submission.pdf</a></p> <p>The <b>Group of Experts on Gas</b>: in its work plan the Group on Gas committed to focus on how gas and liquefied natural gas can help attain SDG 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls). There was a panel on this organized in 50</p>

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						<p>2019 Expert Group session. Another similar will be held in 2020.</p> <p>The gender equality and the empowerment of women activities is also present in the Work Plan of the <b>Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency</b> for 2020-2021 (ECE/ENERGY/2019/8).</p> <p>The <b>Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane</b> featured a panel on gender during its <a href="#">14th session</a> including 3 presentations (<a href="#">1</a>, <a href="#">2</a>, <a href="#">3</a>), and a <a href="#">news article</a>. <a href="#">The Report from the 14th Session</a> of the Group included an item entitled Gender issues in the coal mining industry (agenda item 9). The <a href="#">2020-2021 Work Plan</a> of the Group includes the following activity H: Promote broader inclusiveness of the Group of Experts, giving due attention to gender equality.</p> <p>During the tenth session of the <b>Expert Group on Resource Management</b> (Geneva, 29 April - 3 May 2019), there was a session on Women and Diversity in Resource Management. Following a presentation on “<a href="#">Promoting Gender Diversity and Inclusion in the Oil, Gas and Mining Extractive Industries</a>” and subsequent discussion, the Expert Group agreed to include an Item Q <i>Promoting gender participation in resource management in the Work Plan for 2020-2021</i>.</p> <p>In November 2021, the Joint session of the <b>ECE Committee on Forests and Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission</b>, adopted the new Integrated Programme of Work 2022-2025 which gives due consideration to making the concerns and experiences of women, men and people with disabilities an integral part of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of its activities, so that women and men and people with disabilities benefit equally, and inequality is not perpetuated (UN ECOSOC, 1997). It was recalled that gender mainstreaming and respecting the rights of disabled people is a central</p>

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						<p>part of ECE and FAO's strategic frameworks and their policies and programmes. (<a href="#">ECE/TIM/2021/2-FO:EFC/2021/2</a>)</p> <p>In addition, the 2021 session of <b>ECE Committee on Forests and Forest Industry</b> also discussed the outcomes of the International Women's Day event hosted by the Women's Forest Congress and encouraged delegations and the ECE secretariat to continue work in this area. (<a href="#">ECE/TIM/2021/2-FO:EFC/2021/2</a>)</p> <p><b>The Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management:</b></p> <p>(i) continued to implement its Guidelines on evidence-based policies and decision-making for sustainable housing and urban development regarding the collection of disaggregated data on gender as part of the preparation of its smart sustainable city profiles and other mandated thematic studies;</p> <p>(ii) established a centre of excellence hosted by York University in Canada which develops studies on homelessness of vulnerable groups, including women and children, which support the development of the Committee's programme of work on women homelessness</p> <p>(iii) endorsed "Place and Life in the ECE – A Regional Action Plan 2030" at the October 2021 Ministerial Meeting. The Action Plan includes important provisions to promote access to affordable housing in cities for women and other vulnerable groups.</p> <p>(iv) Prepared a panel discussion on access to affordable and decent housing for women and youth for the 83rd session of the Committee to be organized in 2022 (a concept and a list of speakers were developed).</p> <p>For the <b>Population component:</b></p> <p>(i) Among the delegates involved in the <b>Standing Working Group on Ageing</b>, 60-70 per</p>

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<b>Office of the Executive Secretary</b>	Programme level evaluation: Gender mainstreaming in UNECE	Jul-19	1	Report annually to EXCOM on the gender equality and women's empowerment results of the UNECE Gender Action Plan, including on gender related SDG results, and ensure systematic collection, analysis and use of sex-disaggregation of data across all subprogrammes, noting reasons for any non-disaggregation.	<p>UNECE partially accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>UNECE divisional focal points will continue to report on a yearly basis on the items in the UNECE SWAP Reporting. UNECE will share SWAP results with EXCOM (without additional resources for gender with the SDGU, the Unit cannot deliver any additional reports) starting with the results of the SWAP report for 2019. The collection of sex-disaggregated data at present can only be gathered by the Statistics Division, while other subprogrammes would require significant internal capacity building in order to gather data beyond what UNECE collects (such as participation in UNECE meetings, women on panels etc).</p>	<p>cent are currently women. Similar situation is also among the UNECE countries' high-level representatives – ministers &amp; state secretaries - in charge of social affairs, family and older persons matters;</p> <p>(ii) Collection, analysis and monitoring of sex disaggregated data of participants to intergovernmental meetings is done on regular basis;</p> <p>(i) Gender mainstreaming is one of the ten commitments of the Regional Implementation Strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002 is at the core of the deliberations on ageing, intergenerational and gender relations during the work sessions of the Standing Working Group;</p> <p>Gender mainstreaming and gender-sensitive approach were discussed and endorsed by the SWGA as a fundamental aspect for the Guidelines on mainstreaming ageing, issued in spring 2021.</p> <p>Partially implemented as of 31 December 2021</p> <p>UNECE SWAP reporting on the 17 performance indicators for 2020 includes the results from the UNECE Gender Action Plan (2020) on the achievements of gender equality and the empowerment of women, including related to SDGs. The report is annual and the last report for 2020 is posted on the website in line with the SWAP requirements to make it available to all member States and stakeholders, at <a href="https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-07/ECE-UNSWAP%20Report%202020.pdf">https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-07/ECE-UNSWAP%20Report%202020.pdf</a>. The results are included in the UNECE Report Card 2020 and reflect achievements and gaps in 2020 and comparisons with the UN system. It is published at: <a href="https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-08/Report_card_UNECE_2020.pdf">https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-08/Report_card_UNECE_2020.pdf</a></p> <p>All subprogrammes are monitoring data on gender</p>

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<b>Office of the Executive Secretary</b>	Programme level evaluation: Gender mainstreaming in UNECE	Jul-19	10 & 15	<p>Rec #10: All senior managers need to internally and publicly champion gender equality and the empowerment of women. All senior managers need to support the Executive Secretary in full implementation of the UNECE gender equality policy, gender action plan, and gender parity strategy, as well as the Secretary General in full implementation of the System Wide Strategy on Gender Parity. Include gender equality indicators in ePAS of all staff members, and link this to relevant areas of responsibility to implement GE policy and GAP.</p> <p>Rec #15: Gender mainstreaming should</p>	<p>UNECE accepts these recommendations.</p> <p>Division Directors and other senior managers will include gender equality indicators in the ePAS of all staff, connected to the GEP and GAP. Standard guidance for the development of such indicators will be issued as a guidance by SDGU for the annual staff performance planning and reporting timelines commencing 2020-2021.</p>	<p>participation, which are accessible through the meeting tools used within the UNECE, i.e., Indico and CBD.</p> <p>In addition, statistics on road traffic accidents disaggregated by gender continue to be collected by the sustainable transport division, with this disaggregation feeding in to measure SDG indicator 3.6.1. Further, considering gender differences in transport modal choice is part of the transport statistics team's work on providing guidance to monitor SDG indicator 9.1.2 at the national level.</p> <p>The UNECE Gender Focal Point has provided guidance to the Division Gender Focal Points on how to integrate gender responsibilities in their ePAS.</p> <p>For 2021-2022 cycle, ePAS of divisional directors, divisional gender focal points, and all other relevant staff include gender aspects in Transport, Environment, Energy, ECTD, Statistics, and Forest Land and Housing Divisions.</p>

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<b>Office of the Executive Secretary</b>	Programme level evaluation: Gender mainstreaming in UNECE	Jul-19	13	<p>be everyone's responsibility (hence 'mainstreaming'), rather than leaving it all up to the P-5 Gender focal point and divisional gender focal points. Gender Action Plan responsibilities should be allocated amongst all relevant staff, and included in their respective job descriptions, work plans and e-PAS. All staff should focus on performance of duties strictly in their job descriptions, including gender mainstreaming responsibilities. The P-5 Gender focal point and divisional gender focal points will lead on guiding, advising and building capacity of staff in this regard.</p>	<p>UNECE accepts this recommendation</p> <p>SDGU will provide guidance to the Directors Meeting on how UNECE can improve its progress against this SWAP Indicator by 31 December 2020.</p>	<p>SDGU, through the UNECE Gender Focal Point, is participating in the discussions on the development of a Gender Marker (GM) in the Secretariat as the basis for establishing a financial benchmark, including in the webinars organised by UN Women in November and December 2020. UN Women is working with the UMOJA team and is expected to provide guidance on the Gender Marker for the Secretariat in early 2022</p>

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<b>Transport</b>	ITC support to governments in climate change mitigation: lessons from the use of ForFITS tool that links policy choices and CO2 emission scenarios for inland transport	Jul-18	3	Improve the human and financial resources allocation and provide adequate support.	UNECE fully accepts the recommendation. Funding request will be sought from different sources to ensure that ForFITS activities are developed. In order to maintain and update a modelling framework in the medium to long term, extra budgetary (XB) funding will be sought to deliver on specific tasks and activities (responsible - Mr. Francois Cuenot, deadline Q1 2021).	Implemented as of 31 December 2021  Funds have been obtained from the ECE/ENV to perform data collection for ForFITS runs in Uzbekistan. Other funding requests have been directed both towards regular budgets requests and extra budgetary requests, to both UN funds and resources (eg. UNDA 12th tranche, UN Road Safety Fund) and other external stakeholders (German technical aid -GIZ, World Business Council on Sustainable development - WBCSD, World Economic Forum - WEF); none have materialized to date, but follow-up are expected in the coming months, and other opportunities explored on a continuous basis. A summary of fund raising activities can be found in ECE/TRANS/2022/17).
<b>Transport</b>	ITC support to governments in climate change mitigation: lessons from the use of ForFITS tool that links policy choices and CO2 emission scenarios for inland transport	Jul-18	4	Adopt a new programming environment for the ForFITS model.	UNECE partially accepts the recommendation. A review of potential programming languages will be performed to assess potential platforms that could fit the needs of ForFITS. Such assessment will include cost and resources needed to adopt such new programming environment for ForFITS (responsible - Mr. Francois Cuenot, deadline Q4 2021).	Implemented as of 31 December 2021  A comparative assessment of existing ForFITS programming language and other potential programming tools and available tools has been performed to find out the best way forward in case funds to develop / update ForFITS will be made available at a later stage.
<b>Transport</b>	ITC support to governments in climate change mitigation: lessons from the use of ForFITS tool that links policy choices and CO2 emission scenarios for inland transport	Jul-18	5	Offer mode-specific or intervention-specific modules in the ForFITS model.	UNECE partially accepts the recommendation. Included in the assessment of future programming language for ForFITS as explained in Recommendation 4, the possibility of any given option to offer mode specific and/or intervention-specific module will be evaluated. Added development and programming cost and resources will be included in the assessment (responsible - Mr. Francois Cuenot, deadline Q4 2021).	Implemented as of 31 December 2021  A specific assessment of other tools with potential contribution to offer additional ForFITS results has been performed. Additionally, the development of a ForFITS module of real-time emissions of electric vehicle recharge has been initiated and is expected to be delivered in Q1 2022.
<b>Transport</b>	ITC support to governments in climate change mitigation: lessons from the use of ForFITS tool that links policy choices and CO2 emission scenarios for inland transport	Jul-18	7	Integrate co-benefits into the ForFITS model.	UNECE partially accepts the recommendation. Included in the assessment of future programming language for ForFITS as explained in Recommendations 4 and 5, an analysis of selected programming languages to include co-benefits such as air quality would be performed as an additional criterion for the modelling platform assessments. Added development and programming cost and resources will be included in the assessment (responsible - Mr. Francois Cuenot, deadline Q4 2021).	Implemented as of 31 December 2021  Assessment on potential feasibility of adding co-benefits such as air quality using other existing tools has been performed. External integration of air pollution using Copert has been done, based on ForFITS partial results on traffic demand activity. Such effort has highlighted the need for extended data granularity for the vehicle fleet to derive air pollution. This also linked with recommendation 8.

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<b>Transport</b>	ITC support to governments in climate change mitigation: lessons from the use of ForFITS tool that links policy choices and CO2 emission scenarios for inland transport	Jul-18	8	Review and update the modelling relationships in the ForFITS model.	Such recommendation will be part of the future modelling platform analysis to be developed as part of Recommendations 4, 5 and 7. The resource intensiveness of updated ForFITS with the existing modelling framework will also be evaluated, taking the appropriateness and adequacy of performing such an update on the existing ForFITS model (responsible - Mr. Francois Cuenot, deadline Q4 2021).	Implemented as of 31 December 2021  A review of existing ForFITS modelling relationship has been undertaken internally, showing the relevance of ForFITS projections (ECE/TRANS/2022/17). For existing use, no need to update the modelling relationships has been identified; for further use and full integration of other co-benefits, dedicated resources would be needed but have not been identified for such activities.
<b>Transport</b>	ITC support to governments in climate change mitigation: lessons from the use of ForFITS tool that links policy choices and CO2 emission scenarios for inland transport	Jul-18	12	Increase UNECE's participation to key international fora on transport emissions/energy modelling.	UNECE fully accepts the recommendation. Continue active engagement and international presence in key events to look for fund raising opportunities and potential partnerships for the development and dissemination of ForFITS (responsible - Mr. Francois Cuenot, on-going).	Implemented as of 31 December 2021  1- Involvement in various international initiatives on transport and mobility modelling, such as the International Transport Forum (ITF) Decarbonizing Transport Initiative, the International Transport and Energy Models (iTEM) partnership, the Energy Demand changes Induced by Technological and Social innovations (EDITS) network. 2- ForFITS has also been invited to join the IEA Mobility Model Partnership (see recommendations 1 and 2); This activity has been delayed because of the Covid-19 pandemic. 3- ForFITS team has shared modelling results and historical and forward-looking projections time series with the iTEM partnership into their Cross model comparison effort to gauge different models outputs. 4- ForFITS is an accredited model to supply results to the IPCC AR6 report to be published in 2021 5- ForFITS has been working with ADB on the Asian Transport Outlook
<b>Office of the Executive Secretary</b>	Independent Evaluation of the United Nations Road Safety Trust Fund (UNRSF) Secretariat		1	UNRSF needs to actively promote synergistic collaboration across various participating UN agencies as the means to developing a distinctive competitive advantage, which would emphasize approaching road safety with an inter-sectoral lens critical to the achievement of the	UNECE accepts this recommendation  a. Organize a strategy session with key stakeholders from the PUNOs to discuss various strategic options that can help UNRSF develop distinctive competitive advantages over other road safety funds, this will include a further emphasis on joint project proposals.  b. Undertake quarterly group engagements with key stakeholders from the PUNOs to foster a spirit of collaboration and joint programming opportunities as well as to facilitate project monitoring, reporting and communications	Implemented as of December 2021. a. On 16 December 2021, the UNRSF secretariat organized a strategy session with its 11 PUNOs for the Business Plan 2022-25, which will implement the independent evaluation's recommendations, including on developing a distinctive competitive advantage. Further consultations with PUNOs and other members of the UNRSF governing bodies are planned on 2 February 2022 and 7 March 2022. b. The first group engagement with PUNOs took place on 16 December 2021 to discuss joint programming as well as invigorated efforts for more regular monitoring, reporting and communications. The UNRSF secretariat also launched Platforms of

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				<p>SDGs.</p> <p>1.1 Organize small strategy session/s with key stakeholders for discussing various strategic options that can help UNRSF develop distinctive competitive advantages over other road safety funds. Such an exercise should serve as the foundation for UNRSF's strategy.</p> <p>1.2 One possible option that UNRSF can consider is to promote synergistic collaboration among participating UN agencies. Thus, for example, these PUNOS should be encouraged and incentivized to develop joint project proposals. Such an approach will not only leverage unique expertise of participating UN agencies, but also help foster innovative solutions to intractable road safety challenges facing many Member States. Further, it will incentivize donors to approach UNRSF rather than individual UN agencies. Donors have limited utility to fund a UNICEF</p>	<p>efforts. (responsible – UNRSF Secretariat, start deadline – 31 December 2021).</p> <p>c. Increase engagement with the WHO, Regional Commissions and Resident Coordinator-led UN Country Teams to encourage a whole-of-UN response to road safety. (responsible – UNRSF Secretariat, start deadline 31 December 2021).</p>	<p>Engagements on various SDG priorities which are all co-chaired by PUNOs and serve as an interactive multi-stakeholder platform for collaborating on joint programming opportunities. The Platforms of Engagement on Health and on Data took place in November and December 2021 respectively and reflected the participation of several PUNO representatives. Facilitated by UN agencies and others, and with a diverse membership, platform members discussed ideas that could result in the development of joint high-impact projects.</p> <p>c. The Head of the UNRSF secretariat participated in a side event “Saving lives on the Asia-Pacific roads” on 14 December 2021 at the fourth Ministerial Conference on Transport convened by ESCAP, that also included resident coordinators from the region. The UNRSF secretariat Head has also been actively working with the WHO, Office of the Special Envoy on Road Safety, UN regional commissions and Office of the President of the UNGA to organize the preparatory meeting to the UN High Level Meeting on Improving Road Safety. The preparatory meeting took place on 3 December 2021 in New York, where the Head attended and served as rapporteur. The role of the Head included coordinating substantive messaging, developing a communications package and outreach to key stakeholders to speak at and moderate the event. The Head has also been working with these bodies on outreach to finance ministers across the globe to ascertain the level of budgetary spend on road safety. The Head also intervened at the UN Special Envoy’s UN Partnership meeting on Road Safety.</p> <p>The UNRSF secretariat also briefed the UN Road Safety Collaboration on the work of the Fund on 18 October 2021. Convened by WHO, and attended by a diverse membership, including UN organizations and UN regional commissions, it provides a key opportunity to discuss road safety in an integrated manner.</p> <p>The UNRSF secretariat has also been coordinating with the WHO and regional commissions to organize regional launches of the Global Plan for the Second Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021-30. The UNRSF Business Plan 2022-2025, which has been drafted in 2021, expressly calls for expanding</p>

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				<p>implemented solution through UNRSF, if they can directly fund UNICEF. Thus, UNRSF needs to demonstrate its value addition by helping develop collaborative solutions.</p> <p>1.3 Building on the success of these joint proposals, UNRSF should incentivize PUNOS to harmonize their in-country programmes and plans. In such a scenario, UNRSF will play a bigger role in coordinating the work of PUNOS.</p> <p>1.4 In the medium to long run, UNRSF should consider developing a tight-knit PUNOS network on road safety to foster high collaboration and impactful work.</p>		<p>direct access to UNRSF financing to additional UN agencies. An October 2021 decision was taken by the UNRSF governing bodies to allow PUNO expansion on case-by-case basis.</p>
<p><b>Office of the Executive Secretary</b></p>	<p>Independent Evaluation of the United Nations Road Safety Trust Fund (UNRSF) Secretariat</p>		<p>4</p>	<p>UNRSF should pay greater attention to fundraising and scaling up its operations.</p> <p>Scaling up should be the topmost priority of UNRSF. As soon as UNRSF has put in place the right strategy, systems to develop collaborative solutions and demonstrate results,</p>	<p>UNECE accepts this recommendation.</p> <p>a. The UNRSF Secretariat will develop a Case for Support to be used as the main engagement with funders. Other supporting materials and messaging will be developed and implemented, including a Strategic Plan, Annual Report, Impact Stories Brochure and Communications and Outreach Strategy. A fundraising contractor may also be hired. (responsible – UNRSF Secretariat, deadline – 31 December 2021).</p> <p>b. A roadmap of advocacy opportunities and target donors will be presented to the</p>	<p>Implemented as of December 2021.</p> <p>a. The UNRSF secretariat has drafted individualized cases for support targeting specific donors. In addition, a Replenishment Document has been drafted for donors in advance of the planned Replenishment Conference on 30 June 2022. The Call for Replenishment was launched in December 2021 in New York at the margins of the Preparatory Meeting for the High-Level Meeting. Other supporting materials drafted in 2021 include: Results Brochure; Annual Report; Project Sheets; and Communications Roadmap. Fundraising and communications contractors were recruited to support these efforts.</p> <p>b. The UNRSF secretariat presented resource</p>

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				UNRSF secretariat should ramp up its fundraising efforts. It's ability to undertake steps outlined above and make a meaningful impact as a "UN" Fund, which creates high expectations, depends on its success in fundraising. To this end, UNRSF may need to invest upfront in hiring expert fundraisers with experience in raising funds from innovative sources.	governance body with a view that governance body members accept to undertake responsibility contribute to the strategic development of the UNRSF and to pursue advocacy opportunities and fundraising targets. (responsible – UNRSF Secretariat, deadline – 31 December 2021).	mobilization plans to its Advisory Board and Steering Committee during their respective fifth and ninth sessions on 20 and 21 October 2021. The Board committed support to ongoing efforts to step up fundraising ahead of the planned UNRSF Pledging Conference during the UN High Level Meeting on Road Safety in New York, July 2022, through direct pledges or advocacy. The Steering Committee agreed to bilaterally discuss and actively facilitate engagements at the global, regional and/or national levels with the UNRSF secretariat. Following this meeting, the UNRSF secretariat has organized bilateral meetings with its governing body members to identify opportunities. The secretariat has also drafted a survey to be shared in January for members to identify where they can support resource mobilization efforts.
<b>Housing, Land Management &amp; Population</b>	Evidence-based policies for sustainable housing and urban development in selected countries with economies in transition	Jan-21	1	UNECE to continue an intensive support to the UNECE region countries with economies in transition and regular dialogue with their national authorities, with pertinent sectoral responsibilities, to keep the momentum for maintaining their commitment to developing evidence-based policies in the sector.	UNECE accepts the recommendation.  UNECE in cooperation with the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and with support of the UNECE Centre of Excellence in Norway on Smart Sustainable Cities, convened on 11 March 2021 a webinar "Local Governments: The role of SDG Voluntary Local Reviews". Based on the discussions at the webinar, UNECE in cooperation with its Centre of Excellence in Norway will elaborate "Guidelines for the use of the Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities in the preparation of the Volunteer Local Reviews" to support local governments in building their capacities to the development of evidence-based approaches. The Guidelines are expected to be endorsed by the 82nd session of the UNECE Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management in October 2021.	Implemented as of 31 December 2021. UNECE Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management endorsed in 2021 its Guidelines for Voluntary Local Reviews to support the implementation of the evidence approach. UNECE also supports the preparation of smart sustainable city profiles for the following cities: Grodno (Belarus), Nur-Sultan (Kazakhstan), Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan), Tbilisi (Georgia) and Podgorica (Montenegro) with the support of the UNDA 12 tranche project "Smart Sustainable Cities for the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda in the UNECE Region"

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<b>Housing, Land Management &amp; Population</b>	Evidence-based policies for sustainable housing and urban development in selected countries with economies in transition	Jan-21	2	In the future, systematically assess, monitor and document the usefulness and expected impact of the capacity development workshops by canvassing feedback from the participants through a well-tailored questionnaire, quiz approach application and internet-based tools as e.g. Survey Monkey. These assessments should include a space for qualitative comments and proposals by participants	<p>UNECE accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>The questionnaire to document the usefulness and impact of the capacity development workshops will continue to be systematically to evaluate capacity building workshops, in future projects managed by the UNECE Housing and Land Management Unit. The questionnaires will follow the example developed in this project (available in Annex 1) and be administered through the online tool “Survey Monkey”.</p>	Implemented as of 31 December 2021. Feedback is now requested systematically through interviews with the participants and online questionnaires, which also include space for qualitative comments.
<b>Housing, Land Management &amp; Population</b>	Evidence-based policies for sustainable housing and urban development in selected countries with economies in transition	Jan-21	3	Reinforce the staffing capacity of the HLMU to ensure the long-term sustainability and efficiency of the UNECE assistance in the implementation of evidence-based policies for sustainable housing and urban development in the UNECE region by mobilizing additional extrabudgetary and UNDA resources. Increasing staff resources above 5% in UNDA project would also help to increase the efficiency and decrease the reliance on consultancies.	<p>UNECE accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>1. HLMU will continue its efforts to raise XB resources to reinforce its staffing capacity, in line with the Resource Mobilization Action Plans for the period 2020-2022 presented to ECE EXCOM in January 2021.</p> <p>2. ECE will continue to submit UNDA proposals to DESA. PMU will share with DESA the recommendation to consider increasing staff resources above 5% in UNDA projects to ensure sufficient support for project management and increase the efficiency of implementation of UNDA projects.</p>	<p>Implemented as of 31 December 2021.</p> <p>1. A G5 programme assistant has been hired to support the implementation of the projects using XB resources.</p> <p>2. ECE continues to submit UNDA proposals to DESA. On 8 December 2021, the Programme Management Unit (PMU) shared the recommendation with DESA for their consideration when preparing the guidelines of the future UNDA projects tranches, stressing that a bigger flexibility in the percentage of GTA resources would be particularly useful for smaller divisions and would decrease reliance on consultancies.</p>

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<b>Housing, Land Management &amp; Population</b>	Evidence-based policies for sustainable housing and urban development in selected countries with economies in transition	Jan-21	4	In the future projects, introduce more comprehensive project performance monitoring tool facilitating the assessment of the ongoing impact of the activities vis-a-vis the achievements of the project's expected outcomes and its overall objective.	<p>UNECE accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>HLMU takes note of this recommendation and will seek to develop more meaningful indicators, in line with UNDA guidance, in the context of the next UNDA project, in consultation with PMU, to better assess the achievements of the project's expected outcomes and its overall objective.</p>	<p>Implemented as of 31 December 2021.</p> <p>In its new projects, HLMU has striven to develop meaningful indicators and has applied relevant guidance and concepts for assessing achievements and monitoring performance. For instance, for the 12 tranche UNDA residual funds project on urban economic resilience a concept note and a planning document were created at the very beginning of the project and were regularly discussed, at least once a month, among the project partners. In addition, a Teams channel was created for the project where all the supporting documents which help the assessment of the project achievements and impacts was established and progress is being assessed regularly.</p>
<b>Housing, Land Management &amp; Population</b>	Evidence-based policies for sustainable housing and urban development in selected countries with economies in transition	Jan-21	5	Subject to availability of human and financial resources, create in UNECE a dedicated webpage for sharing the training materials, lessons learned, best practices examples in collection of data and developing evidence-based policies on housing, urban development and land management.	<p>UNECE accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>A dedicated webpage for sharing best practices, examples in collection of data and developing evidence-based policies on housing and urban development will be created.</p>	<p>Implemented as of 31 December 2021.</p> <p>A dedicated web page was created at <a href="https://www.housing2030.org/">https://www.housing2030.org/</a> where 70 best practices have been shared.</p>
<b>Housing, Land Management &amp; Population</b>	Evidence-based policies for sustainable housing and urban development in selected countries with economies in transition	Jan-21	6	Ensure that aspects related to gender, rights-based and vulnerable groups inclusion approaches are fully considered in the design of the future projects, as well as during their implementation activities.	<p>UNECE partially accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>The gender and right based approaches were not part of the project template in 2016 when the project proposal was developed as the SDG resolution was just released. As there is awareness and knowledge of these approaches exist now, they will be considered in the design of the future projects.</p>	<p>Implemented as of 31 December 2021.</p> <p>The gender and human rights dimensions are now part of project proposals planning and implementation methodologies. For instance, they were reflected, and their implementation is being monitored in the UNDA 12 Tranche residual funds project on urban economic resilience, among others through regular reports on how the gender and human rights dimensions are being applied.</p>
<b>Population</b>	Advancing intergovernmental work towards the implementation of the 2017 Lisbon Ministerial Declaration and MIPAA/RIS commitments	Sep-20	1	Enhance the relevance, effectiveness, and sustainability of the SWGA by strengthening the	<p>UNECE accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>In 2021, the Population Unit will more actively engage with the Permanent Missions in Geneva, organize bilateral exchange in case no</p>	<p>Implemented as at 31 December 2021.</p> <p>All Permanent Missions of the UNECE member States are kept informed about the SWGA Bureau efforts in leading the 4th review and appraisal of MIPAA/RIS. The briefing to the member States</p>

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				political will among member States to support the UNECE work on ageing through active engagement with the Permanent Missions in Geneva and by seeking ways to actively engage more National Focal Points in Ageing (NFPA) in the activities of the Working Group.	National Focal Point on Ageing is designated for some reason. Promoting voluntary involvement in ad-hoc task forces and discussion groups may help to engage more NFPAs in the SWGA work.	regarding preparation of the 2022 Ministerial Conference on Ageing took place on 25 October 2021. In March 2021, the Secretariat issued invitation letters to confirm or newly nominate national focal points by a number of countries (Albania, Kyrgyzstan, Montenegro, Tajikistan and USA) in order to involve their representatives in the regional review process and preparatory activities for the 2022 Ministerial Conference on Ageing. Focal points/representatives of 40 UNECE member States took part in the 14th meeting of the Standing Working Group on Ageing actively discussing the draft for declaration to be tabled for adoption at the 2022 Ministerial Conference in Rome.
<b>Population</b>	Advancing intergovernmental work towards the implementation of the 2017 Lisbon Ministerial Declaration and MIPAA/RIS commitments	Sep-20	3	Make effort to include gender and vulnerability issues in the programming cycle in a more systematic manner, including through mainstreaming of these issues in the situation analysis and integration of specific gender-sensitive results and performance measures, as well as clarify what the concept of “vulnerable groups” includes and reflect this in the future programme documents.	UNECE partially accepts the recommendation.  Programme budget format is owned by the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Finance (OPPPBF), and developed on the basis of resolution 72/266, on an annual basis for a trial period until 2022 (2023 Proposed programme budget). The Population Unit activities and deliverables are gender sensitive in principle as stated in the evaluation report. Efforts will be made to clarify the concept of “vulnerable groups” among ageing population in the context of the submission of the 2023 Proposed programme budget, if the format allows.	Implemented as at 31 December 2021. The efforts were made to strengthen inclusion of gender and vulnerability issues in the draft for the ECE 2022 Proposed Programme budget. The Population component also made efforts to strengthen these issues in a draft of ECE 2023 Proposed Programme budget. However, the format of the document does not provide room for detailed elements.
<b>Forest and Forest Industries</b>	Accountability Systems for Sustainable Forest Management in the Caucasus and Central Asia	Mar-21	1	It is recommended to continue Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) learning and capacity building assistance involving more countries from the ECE region, with the focus on the Caucasus and Central Asia (CCA) region.	UNECE accepts the recommendation.  The scope of work in the joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section is mandated/determined by the UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission (EFC) in their Integrated Programme of Work (IPoW).  Within the context of its current IPoW (2017-	Implemented as of December 2021. The UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission at their joint session held from 22 to 25 November 2021 in Rome, Italy, adopted the Integrated Programme of Work (IPoW) 2022–2025. The new IPoW provides a strong mandate for capacity building work, which stands as one of the Programme’s four Areas of Work. Within this framework, the Section will continue supporting eligible countries, including the Caucasus and Central

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					<p>2021), the joint Section will continue its work on supporting the countries of the Caucasus and Central Asia in strengthening their forest sectors. This includes a newly initiated project (2021) on Strengthening policy framework on forest landscape restoration in selected UNECE countries to achieve SDG 15" (in the Caucasus and Central Asia).</p> <p>The next cycle of the IPoW (2022-2025) to be reviewed and adopted in November 2021 also includes capacity-building. If adopted and upon request by member States, the joint Section will endeavour to develop a follow-up project proposal on strengthening the monitoring of sustainable forest management in the Caucasus and Central Asia.</p>	<p>Asia (CCA), through regular work and dedicated projects, with a focus on the monitoring component. Current work in this area include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development of Knowledge Exchange Platform on Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR);</li> <li>- Development of policy guiding principles on forest landscape restoration on FLR and national FLR strategies in CCA countries;</li> <li>- Support to countries in developing their Forest Policy and Management Support Information Systems;</li> <li>- Support to countries in their forest reporting to the international organizations and processes (including SDGs).</li> </ul> <p>This work will be continued throughout the IPoW implementation and further developed depending on availability of funding.</p>
<b>Forest and Forest Industries</b>	Accountability Systems for Sustainable Forest Management in the Caucasus and Central Asia	Mar-21	2	As UNDA projects have 5% cap on staff resources, it will be desirable for UNECE to advocate for additional General Temporary Assistance (GTA) resources for the administrative, logistical and coordinating tasks for future capacity building activities funded under the Development Account.	<p>UNECE accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>By 31 December 2021, the Programme Management Unit (PMU) will share with DESA the recommendation to consider increasing staff resources above 5% in UNDA projects to ensure sufficient support for project management and increase the efficiency of implementation of UNDA projects.</p>	<p>Implemented as of December 2021</p> <p>On 8 December 2021, the Programme Management Unit (PMU) shared the recommendation with DESA for their consideration when preparing the guidelines of the future UNDA projects tranches, stressing that a bigger flexibility in the percentage of GTA resources would be particularly useful for smaller divisions and would decrease reliance on consultancies.</p>
<b>Forest and Forest Industries</b>	Accountability Systems for Sustainable Forest Management in the Caucasus and Central Asia	Mar-21	3	It is important to ensure female involvement in decision-making process, inclusion in the forestry sector management and empowerment of local community females who depend on the forest economy. Therefore, UNECE/FAO FTS should continue to	<p>UNECE accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>The joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section will continue to advocate for gender equality and equal representation of women in the whole portfolio of its work. It will strive to ensure gender balance among trainers and trainees, speakers and nominated meeting participants. The empowerment of women in beneficiary local communities who depend on the forest economy will also be prioritized in future capacity-building projects.</p> <p>The joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber</p>	<p>Implemented as of December 2021</p> <p>“Gender mainstreaming and respect of the rights of people with disabilities” is one of the Principles guiding implementation of the Integrated Programme of Work (IPoW) 2022-25. According to this principle “the IPoW gives due consideration to making the concerns and experiences of women, men and people with disabilities an integral part of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of its activities, so that women and men and people with disabilities benefit equally and inequality is not perpetuated (United Nations ECOSOC, 1997)”</p> <p>Gender mainstreaming and respecting the rights of disabled people is a central part of ECE and FAO’s</p>

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				advocate for gender equality and equal representation of women in the future capacity building projects, activities and events.	Section will continue to include gender analysis at the development, implementation, and monitoring stages of the capacity-building project “Strengthening policy framework on forest landscape restoration in selected UNECE countries to achieve SDG 15” and collect gender-disaggregated data and indicators on women representation at the major stages of the project implementation.	strategic frameworks and their policies and programmes.” The capacity building project “Strengthening policy framework on forest landscape restoration in selected UNECE countries to achieve SDG 15” is implemented with due regard given to the considerations above. The observance and implementation of this principle will be monitored through a regular, annual planning and reporting of the IPoW implementation.
<b>Forest and Forest Industries</b>	Accountability Systems for Sustainable Forest Management in the Caucasus and Central Asia	Mar-21	4	UNECE/FAO FTS should proactively sensitize national counterparts on the role that forests can play in poverty alleviation and economic development of vulnerable communities, groups and individuals that depend on forests and forest products.	<p>UNECE partially accepts the recommendation.</p> <p>The scope of work in the joint UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section is mandated by the UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission (EFC) in their IPoW.</p> <p>The joint Section will sensitize national counterparts on the role that forests can play in poverty alleviation and economic development of vulnerable communities, groups and individuals that depend on forests and forest products, through its general communication work. Any further work on the topic would depend on the outcome of the discussions of the next IPoW 2022-2025 in November 2021.</p> <p>The joint Section will inform COFFI and EFC of this recommendation in view of their discussions of the IPoW for the cycle 2022-2025.</p>	<p>Implemented as of December 2021</p> <p>The recommendation was presented to the UNECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission at their joint session held in November 2021 in Rome, Italy (see para 38 of the report from the joint session).</p> <p>The joint Section will continue addressing the role played by forests in poverty alleviation and economic development of vulnerable communities, groups and individuals that depend on forests and forest products, in its general communication work addressed either to dedicated recipients’ groups or general public. These aspects will receive high attention in developing and implementing activities under the new 2022-2025 IPoW, in particular those related to capacity building of member States.</p> <p>As with gender aspects, poverty related issues will be a constant theme in planning and monitoring the implementation of the IPoW.</p>