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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

126th meeting  
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Item 10 of the provisional agenda

Informal Document 2023/5

**Draft Proposed Programme Budget for 2024  
Section 20 Economic development in Europe**

**Part II. Proposed programme plan for 2024  
and programme performance in 2022**

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### **Note by the secretariat**

In General Assembly resolution 72/266 “Shifting the management paradigm in the United Nations”, Member States approved the proposed change from a biennial to an annual budget period on a trial basis, beginning with the programme budget for 2020, and requested the Secretary-General to conduct a review of changes to the budgetary cycle in 2022. The General Assembly also decided to review at its seventy-seventh session, with a view to taking a final decision, the implementation of the annual budget.

The proposed programme budget of the Organization consists of three parts: (i) Part I: the plan outline, which presents the long-term priorities and the objectives of the Organization; (ii) Part II: the programme plan and performance information for programmes and subprogrammes; and (iii) Part III: the post and non-post resource requirements for the programmes and subprogrammes.

While Part I is prepared by the secretariat at the UN Headquarters, Parts II and III are developed by Secretariat Departments, including ECE, on an annual basis.

The final instructions on the preparation of the programme budget for 2024 are expected from the UN Controller by the end of December 2022. Based on initial guidance provided by the Department of Management, the ECE secretariat has prepared the draft of Part II of the proposed programme budget for 2024. In line with Regulation 4.8 of the Secretary-General’s bulletin ST/SGB/2018/3, this draft is presented to the EXCOM for review. The format, structure and the content of Part II follows the annual format introduced in 2020, with enrichments reflecting General Assembly resolutions 74/251, 75/243 and 76/245. Part II also reflects recommendations under the sequential review procedure of the programmes of work of ECE subprogrammes, agreed by the ECE sectoral governing bodies at their meetings in 2022.

The budget levels for ECE and other Departments are expected to be set by the Secretary-General by the end of December 2022 and will serve as the basis for the preparation of Part III of the proposed programme budget for 2024.

Modified as appropriate, the ECE proposed programme budget will subsequently be submitted for review to the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions at their respective sessions in mid-2023. Conclusions and recommendations made by both Committees therein will be transmitted to the 5th Committee and the General Assembly at its seventy-eights session in 2023 when considering the Secretary-General’s proposed programme budget for 2024.

## A. Proposed programme plan for 2024 and programme performance in 2022<sup>1</sup>

### Overall orientation

#### Mandates and background

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

#### Strategy and external factors for 2024

- 20.2 ECE works to promote regional cooperation and integration as a means of achieving sustainable development in the ECE region. Its intergovernmental bodies, which comprise the Commission and its sectoral committees, provide the foundation for ECE support for national Governments and other stakeholders in advancing the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). By convening the annual Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, ECE also provides a region-wide multi-stakeholder platform for the follow-up and review of the Goals, focusing on peer learning and the exchange of practical solutions for achieving sustainable development. The work of ECE is aligned with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, the Vienna Declaration and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 and the New Urban Agenda.
- 20.3 The strategy of the programme is based on the implementation of core interlinked functions that are consistent with the legislative mandates of ECE, namely, policy dialogue, normative work and technical cooperation. In line with the principles of the reform of the United Nations development system at the regional level, in implementing its strategy in 2024, ECE will provide a neutral platform for policy

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<sup>1</sup> The list of legislative mandates, the actual figures for 2022 and planned figures for 2024 for performance measures and deliverables contained in this document will be updated at the end of January 2023, prior to its submission to the Headquarters.

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dialogue to address multi-country, transboundary and regional economic and environmental issues among its 56 member States. The normative work of the programme will focus on the development and implementation of international legal instruments, norms and standards in areas critical to sustainable development, and on the identification and dissemination of best practices within and outside the region. Through technical cooperation in its areas of expertise, the programme will provide integrated policy advice, normative support and capacity-building aimed at expanding the use of its normative outputs, facilitating the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals at the country level and achieving multiplier effects by targeting cross-border issues.

- 20.4 The strategy of the programme is achieved through an integrated approach to sustainable development, which builds on synergies and the results-oriented work of its eight subprogrammes: environment; transport; statistics; economic cooperation and integration; sustainable energy; trade; forests and the forest industry; and housing, land management and population.
- 20.5 The work of the ECE subprogrammes is aligned with specific Goals. Identifying and exploiting cross-sectoral synergies of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and engaging multiple actors for joint action has been critical to accelerating progress in achieving the Goals and will remain a key strategic focus in the future work of ECE. To that end, the ECE will continue to leverage its integrated approach by providing multisectoral policy advice and capacity-building through cross-sectoral collaboration among its eight subprogrammes in areas at which multiple Goals converge, namely:
- (a) Digital and green transformations for sustainable development in the ECE region (agreed by the 119th meeting of the ECE Executive Committee as a cross-cutting theme of the seventieth session of ECE in 2023);
  - (b) Circular economy and the sustainable use of natural resources (see decision B (69) in the biennial report of the Commission ([E/2021/37-E/ECE/1494](#)));
  - (c) Sustainable and smart cities for all ages;
  - (d) Sustainable mobility and smart connectivity;
  - (e) Measuring and monitoring progress towards achieving the Goals.
- 20.6 In 2024, the programme will continue to provide support to its member States in addressing the economic and environmental challenges of achieving the Goals. Specific attention will be placed on promoting solutions that help to address environmental pressures while ensuring economic prosperity – an ongoing challenge for the ECE region that is central to advancing sustainable development. The ECE will actively contribute to the decade of action for the Goals in the ECE region by engaging its convening power, normative production and technical cooperation, by leveraging its partnerships and best expertise from its networks of experts and by serving as a knowledge hub to promote integrated and cross-sectoral solutions for achieving the Goals. Taking into account the significant environmental footprint of the economies in its region, the ECE will also focus on facilitating progress towards a circular economy and the sustainable use of natural resources, as mandated by the sixty-ninth session of ECE in April 2021.
- 20.7 With regard to cooperation with other entities at the global, regional, national and local levels, ECE will build on its close cooperation with international and regional organizations and other regional actors, such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the European Union and the Eurasian Economic Union. Partnerships with the private sector and civil society organizations, think tanks and the academic sector will be strengthened in order to facilitate the ECE’s policy dialogue and normative work and to engage them in the implementation by member States of the 2030 Agenda.
- 20.8 With regard to inter-agency coordination and liaison, ECE will continue to play a key role in coordinating regional United Nations system entities. ECE will continue to co-lead the Regional Collaborative Platform for Europe and Central Asia and work as part of the secretariat servicing the

platform, working to promote joint action and closer cooperation among United Nations regional entities and their partners in addressing regional, cross-cutting policy issues, offering integrated policy advice and providing regional perspectives at the global level. This work will build on continued strategic partnerships and joint initiatives, programmes and projects established by ECE with other United Nations entities and international financial institutions, for example, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the International Trade Centre (ITC), the World Trade Organization and the World Bank. ECE will actively engage in issue-based coalitions aimed at facilitating concerted action between various United Nations entities and partners at the operational level. Cooperation with other regional commissions will be pursued through joint initiatives, programmes and projects so as to use institutional coordination, expertise and knowledge management for better results. The United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia, implemented jointly by ECE and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, will serve as the major framework for cooperation with other relevant stakeholders in Central Asia. At the country level, ECE will work closely with the resident coordinators and United Nations country teams in 17 United Nations programme countries in the ECE region to facilitate implementation of joint programmes and projects in response to country demands. ECE will also continue its active engagement as part of the 17 United Nations country teams in the region through the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks by contributing to their planning, monitoring and implementation through common country analyses and participation in joint workplans and results groups. The programme will also promote interregional, including South-South, and triangular cooperation.

- 20.9 With regard to the external factors, the overall plan for 2024 is based on the following planning assumptions:
- (a) Member States continue to guide ECE intergovernmental processes, support the work of ECE and give high priority to regional and subregional cooperation and integration, with a view to achieving sustainable development;
  - (b) All relevant stakeholders at the national level have the political will to cooperate in implementing ECE legal instruments, norms and standards;
  - (c) Voluntary resources continue to be available.
- 20.10 ECE integrates a gender perspective in its operational activities, deliverables and results, as appropriate, to support member States in the achievement of Goal 5 and Goal targets related to gender equality and women's empowerment. Guided by its policy on gender equality and the empowerment of women, all ECE subprogrammes will commit to concrete actions with measurable outputs in the 2024 ECE action plan on mainstreaming a gender perspective into their normative work and further promoting the participation of women in all meetings and workshops. All ECE technical cooperation projects will be assessed against their impact on gender equality.
- 20.11 In line with the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy, ECE will mainstream disability inclusion into its operational activities, deliverables and results, as appropriate. In line with its annual Disability Inclusion Action Plan, ECE will advance disability inclusion in the relevant normative instruments and good practices as well as its programmes and projects.

### **Impact of the pandemic and lessons learned**

- 20.12 The pandemic had less impact on the implementation of the ECE's mandates in 2022 compared to the period of 2020-2021, as the lifting of mitigation measures in the second half of the year allowed international travel and in-person meetings. The main impact was on the Commission's convening capacity and the norm-setting work of all subprogrammes. Mitigating measures approved by ECE member States early in the pandemic minimized the impact to ensure, that the ECE continued providing a platform

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for policy dialogue and delivering knowledge products and capacity-building services to member States. There was a reduction in the number of ECE intergovernmental meetings with interpretation alongside the reduced availability of conference servicing capacity at the United Nations Office at Geneva in the first half of the year. The mode of delivery of capacity-building workshops was mainly online under all subprogrammes.

- 20.13 In addition, in order to support Member States' management and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, within the overall scope of the objectives, the ECE utilized its convening power, production of norms and standards for common application in the region and beyond, and technical cooperation through the implementation of capacity-building projects and activities to support its member States' efforts to promote sustainable recovery from the pandemic (all subprogrammes). For example, subprogramme 2 facilitated the development and implementation of a new generation of legal instruments supporting the digitization/computerization of transport and border-crossing procedures in countries that have interconnected their customs system with the eTIR international system. Based on its adapted Guidelines for smaller businesses in the energy sector, subprogramme 5 continued training entrepreneurs and policy makers on best practices in energy efficiency and renewable energy to facilitate sustainable recovery from the COVID-19 crisis.
- 20.14 ECE continues to mainstream lessons learned and best practices related to the adjustments to and adaptation of the programme owing to the pandemic. For example, one of the main lessons learned was the recognition that a shift towards circular economy and digital and sustainable resource management frameworks could enable a more just recovery, accelerating progress towards the SDGs and building more resilient economies in the region. As a result, circularity and the sustainable use of natural resources were mainstreamed in ECE sectoral work programmes (all subprogrammes) and ECE will focus also on progress towards digital and green transformations for sustainable development, which member States agreed would be the theme of the 70<sup>th</sup> Commission session (April 2023). The Commission's action framework for responses to the COVID-19 crisis provided specific tools to help member States' work on sustainable recovery and will continue serving this purpose, including in response to other emergencies (all subprogrammes). Under the Protocol on Water and Health to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, ECE will further support member States in setting or revising their national targets and action plans focused on the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and strengthening resilience against future outbreaks (subprogramme 1). Pandemic-related constraints further highlighted the need to provide support to member States in the digitization of legal instruments on transport. Subprogramme 2 will scale up its technical advice and support for digitalization of transport and border-crossing procedures allowing for end-to-end paperless cross-border transit of goods, and facilitate the deployment of existing mechanisms, such as eTIR application and networks in support of member States' efforts towards a sustainable recovery. To contribute to strengthening the resilience of member States, subprogramme 7 will facilitate better integration of forest resources and products into planning and recovery from economic, health and environmental shocks, including from COVID-19, through its capacity-building events, data collection and dedicated publications. With respect to lessons learned in modes of delivery, capacity-building workshops and policy advisory services continued online under all subprogrammes. The option of hybrid modality, while challenging to manage, became a valuable addition to intergovernmental meetings and capacity-building events to ensure business continuity and higher rates of participation by experts but reduced the networking and consensus building opportunities, which were important for the negotiation and decision-making processes. There was greater regional participation for hybrid capacity building events compared to those held in person and the ECE will, upon request and subject to availability of resources, continue to mainstream these practices to explore the opportunities for greater participation in its events.

### **Legislative mandates**

- 20.15 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the programme

*General Assembly resolutions*

66/288	The future we want		and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
67/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community	74/231, 76/215	Development cooperation with middle-income countries
67/290	Format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development	74/235 74/271	Women in development
69/277	Political declaration on strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations	74/297	Progress towards an accountability system in the United Nations Secretariat
69/283	Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030		Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
69/313	Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)	74/306	Comprehensive and coordinated response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic
70/1	Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	75/8	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM
71/16	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization	75/9	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States
71/256	New Urban Agenda	75/12	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization
72/279	Repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system	75/216; 76/204 75/221	Disaster risk reduction
73/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative	75/233	Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
73/195	Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration		Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
74/122	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly	75/290 B	Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/305 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council
74/128	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly		Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 67/290 on the format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and 70/299 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level
74/144	Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto: accessibility		High-level political forum on sustainable development
74/216	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development	75/324 76/221	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization South-South cooperation

*Economic and Social Council resolutions*

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

*Economic Commission for Europe decisions*

A (64)	The work of the Economic Commission for Europe	A (69)	High-level statement
A (65)	Outcome of the review of the 2005 reform of ECE	B (69)	Circular economy and the sustainable use of natural resources
A (66)	Endorsement of the High-level statement on the post-2015 development agenda and expected sustainable development goals in the ECE region	C (69)	Extension of the mandate of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

## Subprogramme 1 Environment

### *General Assembly resolutions*

2994 (XXVII)	United Nations Conference on the Human Environment	71/222	International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028
47/193	Observance of World Day for Water	71/313	Work of the Statistical Commission pertaining to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
62/68	Consideration of prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm	72/222	Education for sustainable development in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
64/200	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction		
67/291	Sanitation for All	73/226	Midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028
69/172	Human rights in the administration of justice		
69/215	International Decade for Action, “Water for Life”, 2005–2015, and further efforts to achieve the sustainable development of water resources	73/238	The role of the international community in the prevention of the radiation threat in Central Asia
69/235	Industrial development cooperation		
70/169	The human right to safe drinking water and sanitation	75/212	United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028
70/209	United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005–2014)		

### *Economic Commission for Europe decisions*

CEP/AC.13/2005/2	Report of the high-level meeting of environment and education ministries (2005) adopting the ECE strategy for education for sustainable development	ECE/BATUMI.CONF/2016/2/Add.1	Declaration: “Greener, cleaner, smarter!” by ministers of the region of ECE, report of the eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, 2016
ECE/BELGRADE.CONF/2007/4/Add.1	Statement on education for sustainable development by the ministers of education and of the environment of the ECE region adopted at the joint session on education for development of the sixth Ministerial Conference, entitled “Environment for Europe”, 2007	ECE/BATUMI.CONF/2016/2/Add.2	Batumi ministerial statement on education for sustainable development adopted by the high-level meeting of education and environment ministries of the region of ECE, report of the eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, 2016
ECE/AC.21/2021/2-EUCHP2018924/4.3.2	Report of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment and of the special session of the Steering Committee of the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme	ECE/NICOSIA.CONF/2022/Add.1	Ministerial Declaration of the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference ( <i>document is upcoming</i> )
ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/2/Add.1	Declaration: “Save water, grow green!” by ministers of the region of ECE, report of the seventh Ministerial Conference, entitled “Environment for Europe”, 2011	ECE/NICOSIA.CONF/2022/Add.2	Nicosia Ministerial Statement on Education for Sustainable Development ( <i>document is upcoming</i> )



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

ECE/EB.AIR/148 and Add.1	Report of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution on its forty-first session	SEA/7 and Add.1, Add.2 and Add.3	Assessment in a Transboundary Context on its seventh session, and the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment on its third session
ECE/MP.PRTR/2021/6 and Add.1	Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters on its fourth session	ECE/MP.EIA/27-ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/11 and Add.1	Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment on their intermediary sessions
ECE/MP.PP/2021/2 and Add.1	Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters on its seventh session		
ECE/MP.PP/2021/16-ECE/MP.PRTR/2021/2 and Add.1	Report of the Joint High-level Segment of the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters and of the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers, and the Geneva Declaration on Environmental Democracy for Sustainable, Inclusive and Resilient Development, adopted by the two Meetings of the Parties	ECE/CP.TEIA/42 and Add.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents on its eleventh meeting
		ECE/MP.WAT/63 and Add.1 and Add.2	Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes on its ninth session
		ECE/MP.WH/19 and Add.1 and Add.2	Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes on its fifth session
ECE/MP.EIA/23-ECE/MP.EIA/	Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact		

**Subprogramme 2  
Transport**

*General Assembly resolutions*

<a href="#">58/9</a>	Global road safety crisis	<a href="#">72/212</a>	Strengthening the links between all modes of transport to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals
<a href="#">68/269</a>	Improving global road safety		
<a href="#">69/137</a>	Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024	<a href="#">72/271</a> <a href="#">73/243</a>	Improving global road safety
<a href="#">69/213</a>	Role of transport and transit corridors in ensuring international cooperation for sustainable development	<a href="#">74/299</a>	Follow-up to the Second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries
<a href="#">70/197</a>	Towards comprehensive cooperation among all modes of transport for promoting sustainable multimodal transit corridors	<a href="#">76/255</a>	Improving global road safety
<a href="#">70/217</a>	Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries		Integration of mainstream bicycling into public transportation systems for sustainable development

*Economic and Social Council resolutions*

1999/65	Reconfiguration of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods into a Committee of Experts on the		Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
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2013/7	Europe-Africa fixed link through the Strait of Gibraltar		Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
2021/13	Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the	2022/2	Revised terms of reference of the Inland Transport Committee of the Economic Commission for Europe

*Economic Commission for Europe decisions*

ECE/AC.21/2014/2	Report of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment on its fourth session		in the era of transport digitalization and automation; Committee resolution no. 265 on the ministerial declaration “Inland Navigation in a Global Setting” and on facilitating the development of the inland water transport; and the Committee strategy until 2030)
ECE/TRANS/224	Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its seventy-fourth session (UNECE Road Map for promoting ITS-20 global actions 2012–2020)		
ECE/TRANS/236	Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its seventy-fifth session (Joint Declaration on the promotion of Euro-Asian Rail Transport and Activities towards Unified Railway Law; and Joint Statement on Future Development of Euro-Asian Transport Links)	B (66)	Endorsement of the Geneva Charter on Sustainable Housing
ECE/TRANS/248	Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its seventy-seventh session	ECE/TRANS/294	Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its eighty-second session (adopting Ministerial Declaration on enhancing sustainable inland transport solutions to global climate and environmental challenges: a united call to action)
ECE/TRANS/254	Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its seventy-eighth session	ECE/TRANS/304	Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its eighty-third session (adopting Ministerial resolution on enhancing resilient inland transport connectivity in emergency situations: an urgent call for concerted action; adopting revision of the UNECE Road Map on Intelligent Transport Systems)
ECE/TRANS/270	Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its seventy-ninth session (adopting Ministerial Resolution on embracing the new era for sustainable inland transport and mobility)	ECE/TRANS/316	Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its eighty-fourth session (adopting Ministerial resolution on ushering in a decade of delivery for sustainable inland transport and sustainable development)
ECE/TRANS/274	Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its eightieth session		
ECE/TRANS/288	Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its eighty-first session (adopting Ministerial Resolution on enhancing cooperation, harmonization and integration		

*Decisions of the treaty bodies of United Nations transport agreements*

E/ECE/TRANS/505/Rev.3	1958 Agreement Concerning the Adoption of Harmonized Technical United Nations Regulations for Wheeled Vehicles, Equipment and Parts which can be Fitted and/or be Used on Wheeled Vehicles and the Conditions for Reciprocal Recognition of Approvals Granted on the Basis of these United Nations Regulations	ECE/TRANS/ADN/CONF/10/Add.1	European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways
ECE/RCTE/CONF/4	1997 Agreement concerning the adoption of uniform conditions for periodical technical inspections of wheeled vehicles and the reciprocal recognition of such inspections	ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/125	Report of the Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention 1975 on its sixty-first session (annex II, “Joint statement on the computerization of the TIR procedure”)
ECE/TRANS/132	1998 Agreement concerning the establishment of global technical regulations for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted and/or used on wheeled vehicles	ECE/TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/147 and Corr.1	Report of the Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention 1975 on its seventy-second session (annex I: Consolidated draft eTIR legal framework).

**Subprogramme 3  
Statistics**

**Section 20 Economic development in Europe***General Assembly resolutions*

67/144	Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women	73/148	Intensification of efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls: sexual harassment
68/261	Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics		
69/210	Entrepreneurship for development	76/140	Improvement of the situation of women and girls in rural areas
69/282	World Statistics Day		
72/234	Women in development	76/141	Violence against women migrant workers

*Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions*

2006/6	Strengthening statistical capacity		development; 49/113: Climate change statistics; 49/114: Statistical classifications)
2013/235	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-fourth session (Statistical Commission decision 44/105: Environment statistics)	2019/210	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fiftieth session (Statistical Commission decisions 50/106: National quality assurance frameworks; 50/116: Disaster-related statistics; 50/117: International migration statistics)
2014/7	Further implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002		
2014/219	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-fifth session (Statistical Commission decision 45/103: Programme review: broader measures of progress)	2020/5	Strengthening coordination of the statistical programmes in the United Nations system
2015/10	2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme	2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decisions 51/101: Global indicator framework for Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; 51/104: Coordination of statistical programmes; 51/107: International trade and business statistics; 51/108: Price statistics; 51/110: Environmental-economic accounting; 51/112: Demographic statistics; 51/115: Gender statistics; 51/120: Management and modernization of statistical systems; 51/123: Integration of statistical and geospatial information)
2015/216	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-sixth session (Statistical Commission decisions 46/102: Population and housing censuses; 46/107: International trade and economic globalization statistics)		
2016/27	Strengthening institutional arrangements on geospatial information management		
2017/7	Work of the Statistical Commission pertaining to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development		
2017/228	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-eighth session (Statistical Commission decisions 48/103: Transformative agenda for official statistics; 48/107: Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics; 48/108: Integration of statistical and geospatial information; 48/114: Business registers)	2021/7	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system
2018/5	Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all	2021/224	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-second session (Statistical Commission decisions 52/102: Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; 52/103: Partnership, coordination and capacity-building for statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; 52/105: Economic statistics; 52/106: National accounts
2018/227	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-ninth session (Statistical Commission decisions 49/108: Regional statistical		

**Subprogramme 4  
Economic cooperation and integration***General Assembly resolutions*

75/202	Information and communication technologies for sustainable development	76/213	Science, technology and innovation for development
75/316	Impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets	76/224	Towards global partnerships: a principle-based approach to enhanced cooperation

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between the United Nations and all relevant partners

*Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions*

2022/16 Science, technology and innovation for development

*Economic Commission for Europe decisions*

E/2007/37- Economic Commission for Europe annual  
E/ECE/1448 report (24 February 2006–27 April 2007)

**Subprogramme 5**  
**Sustainable energy**

*General Assembly resolutions*

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

*Economic and Social Council decisions*

1997/226	United Nations International Framework Classification for Energy Reserves/Resources: Solid Fuels and Mineral Commodities	2021/249	Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Recovery and Use from Abandoned Coal Mines
2004/233	United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Resources	2021/250	Updated United Nations Framework Classification for Resources
2011/222	Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines		

**Subprogramme 6**  
**Trade**

*General Assembly resolutions*

69/137	Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024	76/222	Agriculture development, food security and nutrition
69/213	Role of transport and transit corridors in ensuring international cooperation for sustainable development	75/211 76/200	Entrepreneurship for development Agricultural technology for sustainable development
75/231	Industrial development cooperation	76/202	Promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, building on Agenda 21
76/217	Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries		

*Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions*

1991/76	Promotion of interregional cooperation in the area of international trade facilitation	Decision 1997/225	Economic Commission for Europe Recommendation 25, entitled “Use of the UN/EDIFACT Standard”
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**Subprogramme 7**  
**Forests and the forest industry**

*General Assembly resolutions*

**Section 20 Economic development in Europe**

62/98	Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests		of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, building on Agenda 21
67/200	International Day of Forests	75/219	Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its contribution to sustainable development
71/285	United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030		
71/286	United Nations forest instrument	76/210	Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
73/284	United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021–2030)	76/222	Agriculture development, food security and nutrition
75/213	Promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns for the implementation	76/223	Natural plant fibres and sustainable development

*Economic and Social Council resolutions*

2015/33	International arrangement on forests beyond 2015	2020/14	Outcome of the fifteenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests
2017/4	United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 and quadrennial programme of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests for the period 2017–2020	2021/6	Programme of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests for the period 2022–2024

**Subprogramme 8  
Housing, land management and population***General Assembly resolutions*

65/234	Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014	72/144	Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing
70/107	International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development	72/226	Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
71/235	Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)	75/131	United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021–2030)
		75/152; 76/138	Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

*Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions*

Decision 2014/239	Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its forty-seventh session and provisional agenda for its forty-eighth session (Commission on Population and Development resolution 2014/1, Assessment of the status of implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development)	2018/6	Third review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002
		2020/7	Affordable housing and social protection systems for all to address homelessness
		2020/8	Modalities for the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002
2016/25	Future organization and methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development	2020/19	Change of name and revised terms of reference of the Working Group on Ageing of the Economic Commission for Europe

*Human rights Council resolution*

48/3	Human rights of older persons
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*Economic Commission for Europe decisions*

ECE/AC.23/2002/2/Rev.6	Regional Implementation Strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002	ECE/AC.30/2007/2	Report of the UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing: “A Society for All Ages: Challenges and Opportunities”
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ECE/AC.30/ 2012/3	2012 Vienna Ministerial declaration: “Ensuring a society for all ages: Promoting quality of life and active ageing”		Sustainable Housing and Urban Development)
ECE/HBP/173	Report of the Committee on Housing and Land Management on its seventy-fourth session, which adopted the Strategy for Sustainable Housing and Land Management in the ECE region for the period 2014–2020 (ECE/HBP/2013/3)	ECE/HBP/208	Report of the Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management on its eighty-second session (Place and Life in the ECE – A Regional Action Plan 2030: Tackling challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, climate and housing emergencies in region, city, neighbourhood and homes)
B (66)	Endorsement of the Geneva Charter on Sustainable Housing	ECE/AC.30/ 2017/2/Rev.1	Revised report of the Ministerial Conference on Ageing: “A Sustainable Society for All Ages: Realizing the Potential of Living Longer” (2017 Lisbon ministerial declaration)
ECE/HBP/190	Report of the Committee on Housing and Land Management on its seventy-eighth session (Geneva Ministerial Declaration on		

## Deliverables

20.16 Table 20.1 lists the cross-cutting deliverables of the programme.

Table 20.1

### Cross-cutting deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>	<i>2022 actual</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>	<i>2024 planned</i>
<b>A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies</b>				
<b>Parliamentary documentation</b> (number of documents)	<b>22</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>27</b>
Documentation for:				
1. The Economic Commission for Europe	–	–	13	–
2. Meetings related to follow-up on global conferences or on cross-sectoral issues	2	2	2	2
3. The ECE Executive Committee	20	25	45	25
<b>Substantive services for meetings</b> (number of three-hour meetings)	<b>17</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>18</b>
4. Meetings related to follow-up of global conferences or to cross-sectoral issues	3	4	3	3
Meetings of:				
5. The Economic Commission for Europe	–	–	4	–
6. The ECE Executive Committee	5	6	10	6
7. The Working Group on Gender and Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia	2	2	2	2
8. The Fifth Committee	1	1	1	1
9. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	1	1	1	1
10. The Committee for Programme and Coordination	1	1	1	1
11. The Regional Collaborative Platform	4	4	4	4
<b>B. Generation and transfer of knowledge</b>				
<b>Seminars, workshops and training events</b> (number of days)	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>
12. Capacity-building seminars on advancement of gender equality for government officials	20	20	20	20
<b>Publications</b> (number of publications)	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
13. On the regional implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	1	–	–	–
14. On gender equality and sustainable development	1	1	1	1
15. ECE annual report	1	1	1	1
<b>C. Substantive deliverables</b>				
<b>Consultation, advice and advocacy:</b> advice to and consultations with member States and United Nations country teams to facilitate implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework process by 17 countries.				
<b>D. Communication deliverables</b>				
<b>Outreach programmes, special events and information materials:</b> promotional materials (brochures, banners, panels, posters and postcards) for regional access; information materials for United Nations Road Safety Fund advocacy campaign and awareness raising material; films on ECE activities for global access.				
<b>External and media relations:</b> ECE weekly newsletter; news, press releases and press conferences on ECE activities for regional and global access (around 200).				
<b>Digital platforms and multimedia content:</b> ECE website; ECE Executive Committee, the gender equality and the technical cooperation activities websites; and news on ECE activities on four social media platforms.				

## Evaluation activities

- 20.17 The following evaluations completed in 2022 have guided the proposed programme plan for 2024:
- (a) OIOS evaluation on ECE subprogrammes 4 and 6;
  - (b) OIOS Secretariat-wide evaluations: of Secretariat entities' contribution to the SDGs; and on strengthening the role of evaluation and the application of evaluation findings on programme design, delivery and policy directives for 2020-2021;
  - (c) Evaluation conducted by ECE on activities serviced by ECE under the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) and its Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (2018-2021) (subprogramme 1);
  - (d) Evaluation conducted by ECE on the relevance of the Forest Products Annual Market Review to the needs of member States and challenges in the forest sector (subprogramme 7);
  - (e) Evaluation conducted by ECE on the ECE Forum of Mayors (subprogramme 8);
- 20.18 The results and lessons of the evaluations referenced above have been taken into account for the proposed programme plan for 2024. For example, the main conclusions and recommendations emerging from the evaluation of the ECE Forum of Mayors were shared with member States in advance of the 83<sup>rd</sup> session of the Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management (ECE/HBP/2022/4) and provided the basis for the session's deliberations on the objectives, format and frequency of the Forum. The findings of the evaluation have been taken into account in the new plan as described in Subprogramme 8, paragraph 20.122 (f).
- 20.19 The following evaluations to be conducted by ECE are planned for 2024:
- (a) Implementation of the Inland Transport Committee Strategy until 2030 (subprogramme 2);
  - (b) Supporting member States in statistics for the Sustainable Development Goals (subprogramme 3);
  - (c) Sustainable resource management: regular budget activities on the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources and the United Nations Resource Management System (subprogramme 5).

## Programme of work

### Subprogramme 1 Environment

#### Objective

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

#### Strategy

- 20.21 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will:
- (a) Support the implementation of outcomes of global and regional summits and conferences, and support and promote the implementation by countries of the ECE multilateral environmental agreements, contributing to achieving mainly SDGs 3, 6, 9, 11 to 13, 15, 16



and 17, through the core interlinked functions of international policy dialogue, normative work, capacity-building and the dissemination of good practices and lessons learned in the areas of air quality, water, industrial safety, public participation, impact assessment, environmental monitoring and assessment, environmental performance, education for sustainable development and the mainstreaming of environmental concerns into other dimensions of sustainable development;

- (b) Support and promote the implementation by countries of the ECE policy tools, including the ECE Environmental Performance Review Programme, contributing to achieving mainly SDG 6, 11 to 13 and 15; the ECE Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Programme, contributing to achieving mainly SDG 17; the ECE strategy for education for sustainable development, contributing to achieving SDG 4, 12 and 13; and the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme, contributing to achieving mainly SDG 3, 11, 13 and 17;
- (c) Support and promote the sharing of information (e.g. through the Shared Environmental Information System), experiences and good practices in the ECE region;
- (d) Promote synergies between ECE multilateral environmental agreements, through joint activities or other modalities;
- (e) Conduct Environmental Performance Reviews, assisting countries in the implementation of the recommendations from those Reviews and monitoring the impact of the recommendations on national policies;
- (f) Using a country needs-based approach, support countries, with a focus on those in the Caucasus, Central Asia and Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, in environmental policymaking, monitoring, assessment and management, including by providing an intergovernmental decision-making platform, organizing capacity-building activities and providing advisory services;
- (g) Work with interested non-ECE countries, including those wishing to join the multilateral environmental agreements that are open to global accession;
- (h) Support member States to address emerging issues related to the work of the subprogramme, including by providing advisory support and developing policy packages and/or recommendations.

20.22 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

- (a) Improved environmental governance and performance by member States;
- (b) Strengthened integration of environmental concerns into member States sectoral policies, including the post-pandemic economic recovery phase;
- (c) More effective development and implementation of environmental legislation and policy by member States;
- (d) Improved response to environmental challenges by member States;
- (e) Enhanced cross-border cooperation between countries and effective international and national cooperation;
- (f) Strengthened implementation of ECE multilateral environmental commitments and increased geographical coverage.

## **Programme performance in 2022**

### **Election of an independent Special Rapporteur on environmental defenders**

- 20.23 Under article 3 (8) of the Aarhus Convention, Parties shall ensure that persons exercising their rights in conformity with the provisions of the Convention shall not be penalized, persecuted or harassed in any way for their involvement. Until recently, there was no mechanism specifically safeguarding environmental defenders within a legally binding framework either under the United Nations system or other intergovernmental structures. In 2021, a rapid response mechanism for the protection of environmental defenders was established pursuant to Decision VII/9 adopted by the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention at its 7<sup>th</sup> session. In 2022, the Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention at its 3<sup>rd</sup> extraordinary session elected an independent Special Rapporteur on environmental defenders. The Special Rapporteur’s role is to take measures to protect any person experiencing or at imminent threat of penalization, persecution, or harassment for seeking to exercise their rights under the Aarhus Convention. The subprogramme prepared the required official documents and background material, and organized and serviced all preparatory intergovernmental meetings, as well as the sessions of the Meeting of the Parties. The decision and election mark important steps for strengthening public participation in decision-making and access to information and justice in environmental matters, and help uphold the universal right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment which has been recently recognized by the Human rights Council<sup>2</sup> and the General Assembly<sup>3</sup>.
- 20.24 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 20.2).

Table 20.2  
**Performance measure**

<i>2020 (actual)</i>	<i>2021 (actual)</i>	<i>2022 (actual)</i>
–	Improved protection of environmental defenders through establishment of a rapid response mechanism	Improved protection of environmental defenders through election of an independent Special Rapporteur on environmental defenders

## **Planned results for 2024**

### **Result 1: improved information for strengthening transboundary water cooperation**

#### **Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024**

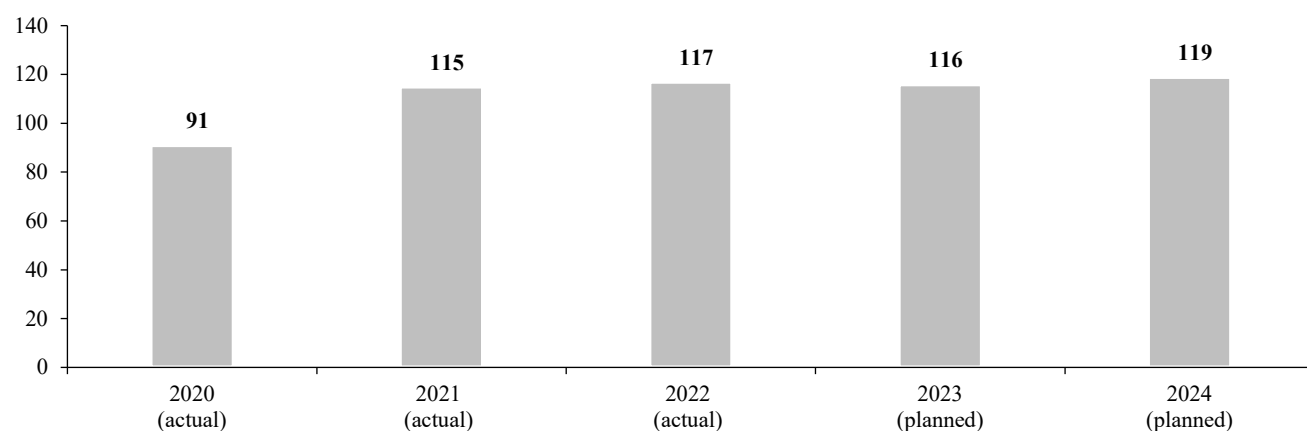
- 20.25 The subprogramme’s work contributed to 117 countries for which data on transboundary river and lake component of indicator 6.5.2 are submitted to the Statistical Commission in 2022, which exceeded the planned target of 97 countries.
- 20.26 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.I).

<sup>2</sup> Human Rights Council resolution 48/13

<sup>3</sup> General Assembly resolution 76/300

Figure 20.1

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



**Result 2: strengthened industrial safety governance in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia**

**Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024**

20.27 The subprogramme’s work contributed to one meeting of the Serbian National Policy Dialogue (NPD) and supported Serbia’s review of its policies and legislation to align with the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents which met the planned target. Due to a suspension of a project to launch the NPDs on industrial safety by the donor, the target of launching NPDs on Industrial Safety in Central Asia was not met.

20.28 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 20.3).

Table 20.3  
**Performance measure**

2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (planned)	2024 (planned)
Serbia initiated the development of terms of reference for a steering committee on national policy dialogues	Serbia established a national policy dialogue steering committee	Serbian NPD meeting addresses issues of national concern, involving relevant authorities	National policy dialogues are sustained and implemented by Serbia and five Central Asian countries	National policy dialogues are sustained and implemented by Serbia
Central Asian countries began activities to launch national policy dialogues	Central Asian countries reviewed industrial safety legislation to align with the Convention’s requirements	Finalization of review of industrial safety legislation to align with the Convention’s requirements		Serbia finalizes the National Programme on Industrial Safety

### Result 3: increased number of new United Nations Member States becoming Parties to multilateral environmental agreements serviced by ECE

#### Proposed programme plan for 2024

20.29 Increased membership to the five Conventions and their related protocols in the areas of air quality, water, industrial safety, public participation and impact assessment that the subprogramme services strengthens environmental governance and improves environmental conditions. Since 2018, countries outside the ECE region have started acceding to the Water Convention and a similar trend is expected for the Aarhus Convention by 2023, thereby expanding the benefits of these instruments beyond the ECE region. The subprogramme carries out activities to strengthen the capacity of Member States for accession and effective implementation of these instruments, dissemination of best practices and lessons learned. These efforts have, for example, led to the accession by Ukraine to the Industrial Accidents Convention in 2022.

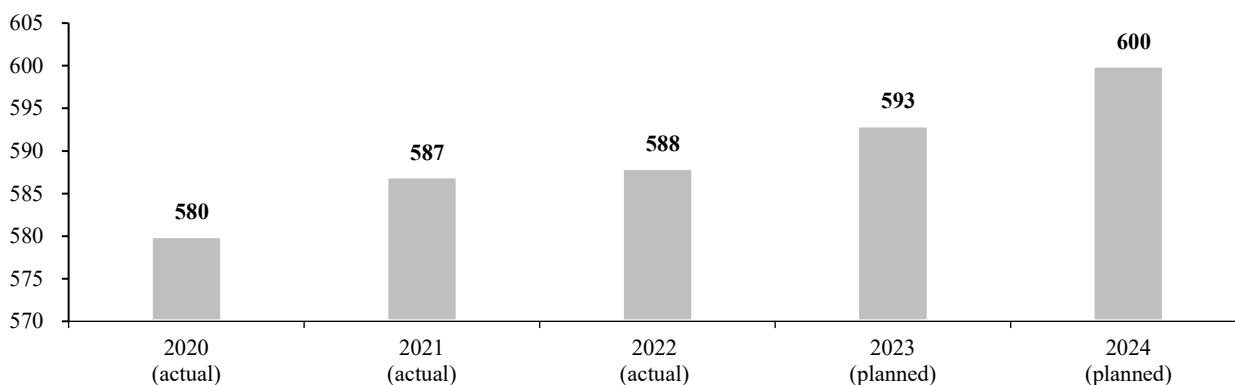
#### *Lessons learned and planned change*

20.30 The lesson for the subprogramme was that processes of accession are complex, requiring not only appropriate capacity but also a good understanding of benefits and costs to ensure the commitment from all sectors concerned by implementation. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will enhance outreach efforts to all sectors concerned by implementation of the instruments, fostering an integrated and multisectoral approach, to encourage accession and ensure effective implementation.

20.31 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.II).

Figure 20.II

**Performance measure: number of Parties to multilateral environmental agreements serviced by ECE (cumulative)**



#### Deliverables

20.32 Table 20.4 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 20.4

**Subprogramme 1: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory**

**Section 20 Economic development in Europe**

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>	<i>2022 actual</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>
<b>A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies</b>				
<b>Parliamentary documentation</b> (number of documents)	<b>192</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>183</b>
Documentation for:				
1. The Committee on Environmental Policy and subsidiary bodies	37	26	19	19
2. The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and subsidiary bodies and the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health and subsidiary bodies	30	17	24	24
3. The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents and subsidiary bodies	15	13	4	4
4. The Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution and subsidiary bodies	34	27	34	34
5. The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and subsidiary bodies and the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and subsidiary bodies	10	7	42	42
6. The Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters and subsidiary bodies and the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Register to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters and subsidiary bodies	50	21	50	50
7. The High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment and subsidiary bodies	5	4	3	3
8. The Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development	11	5	7	7
<b>Substantive services for meetings</b> (number of three-hour meetings)	<b>228</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>236</b>
Meetings of:				
9. The Committee on Environmental Policy and subsidiary bodies	27	24	30	30
10. The Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and subsidiary bodies and the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health and subsidiary bodies	46	25	46	46
11. The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents and subsidiary bodies	22	20	17	17
12. The Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution and subsidiary bodies	31	20	31	31
13. The Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and subsidiary bodies and the Parties to the Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and subsidiary bodies	34	18	34	34
14. The Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters and subsidiary bodies and the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Register and subsidiary bodies	60	41	70	70
15. The High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment and subsidiary bodies	2	0	2	2
16. The Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development	6	5	6	6
<b>B. Generation and transfer of knowledge</b>				
<b>Seminars, workshops and training events</b> (number of days)	<b>20</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>68</b>
17. Workshops on environmental issues, including on air quality, water, industrial safety, public participation, environmental assessment, monitoring and performance and education for sustainable development, for government officials and other stakeholders in the ECE region to improve environmental governance and performance	20	49	68	68
<b>Publications</b> (number of publications)	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>	<i>2022 actual</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>
18. On environmental issues and multilateral environmental agreements administered by the subprogramme	8	2	8	8
19. Progress reports and performance reviews on environmental issues	4	4	4	4
20. Multilateral environmental agreements administered by the subprogramme	1	1	1	1

**C. Substantive deliverables**

**Consultation, advice and advocacy:** advisory services for some 100 government officials and other stakeholders of States participating in the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia on water, energy and other environmental issues.

**D. Communication deliverables**

**Outreach programmes, special events and information materials:** Environmental Performance Review (synopsis and highlights) to facilitate broad dissemination to key messages and recommendations by representatives of at least six categories of stakeholders, such as Governments, local authorities, academia, business and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as media outlets in the reviewed countries; newsletter of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment for all member States in the region, including representatives of Government, academia and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

**External and media relations:** press releases on environmental issues, for global and regional access.

**Digital platforms and multimedia content:** website of the subprogramme.

## **Subprogramme 2 Transport**

### **Objective**

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

### **Strategy**

- 20.34 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will:
- (a) Service the Inland Transport Committee and its 20 working parties and 11 administrative committees, as well as the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals and more than 50 formal and informal expert networks;
  - (b) Administer the international regulatory framework for inland transport, which includes 59 United Nations legal instruments on safety, pollution, efficiency, multimodality and effectiveness (normative function) and ensure that the Committee’s regulatory functions are up to date with current technologies and transport innovations – such as intelligent transport systems, autonomous vehicles, digitization – and are open to all United Nations Member States, as appropriate, by developing new and updating existing legal instruments, as necessary, including maintaining the database of international regulatory frameworks for inland transport;
  - (c) Provide an intergovernmental policy dialogue platform at the annual sessions of the Inland Transport Committee to review emerging challenges and emergency situations; support consensus-building during the Committee’s events in favour of regional and interregional connectivity, among other matters, including through the adoption of high-level statements or resolutions on harmonized actions by member States and contracting parties in order to enable the full implementation of the Committee’s mandate;

- (d) Analyse, and provide technical assistance and capacity-building on accession to and implementation of legal instruments, at the request of member States and contracting parties;
- (e) Contribute to the work of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Road Safety and the operation of the United Nations Road Safety Fund to facilitate global improvements in road safety through policy dialogue at Committee meetings, and provide capacity-building and advisory assistance with regard to promoting legal instruments, calls for proposals and other related activities, as appropriate;
- (f) Support the efforts of member States to respond to and recover from emergency situations, including pandemics, while minimizing disruptions to the functioning of national, regional and international transport systems and the implementation of the sustainable development agenda, including SDG 5 on gender equality;
- (g) Promote knowledge-sharing and cooperation among Governments and key stakeholders, raise awareness of emerging issues and best responses, contribute to the improved monitoring and measuring of the Goals, facilitate the adaptation of legally binding instruments and frameworks to new realities and prepare new guidance materials.

20.35 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

- (a) Improvements in sustainable mobility, and in monitoring and measuring the Goals;
- (b) Improvements in inland transport, leading to safer, cleaner, more efficient and more affordable multimodal systems for contracting parties to the United Nations inland transport conventions;
- (c) More efficient and resilient cross-border flows of goods and people regionally and globally;
- (d) Enhanced intergovernmental cooperation in emergency situations and minimized disruptions to the continued implementation and updating of United Nations inland transport conventions.

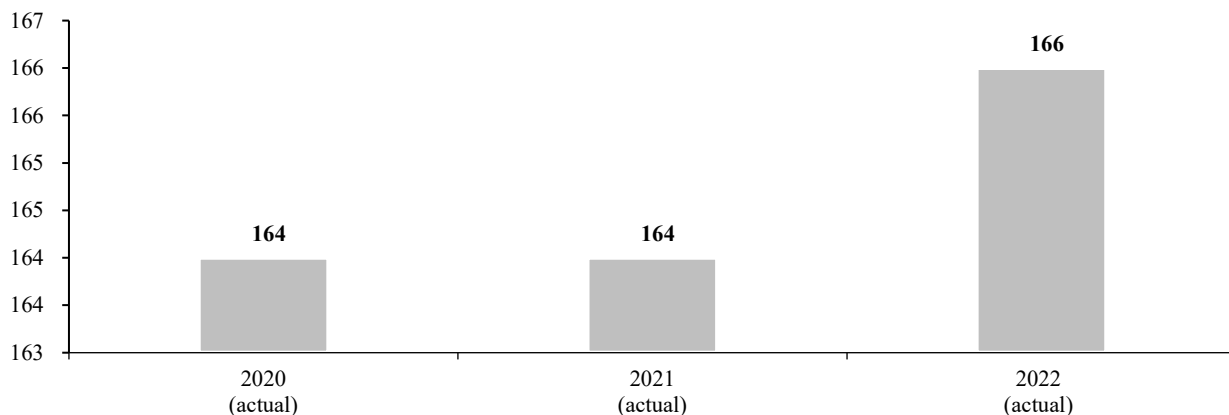
## **Programme performance in 2022**

### **Accelerated digitization of legal instruments in inland transport in response to COVID-19**

20.36 In response to inland transportation issues such as border-crossing which arose during the pandemic, the subprogramme developed enhanced response measures, including through: (a) the implementation of a new generation of legal instruments supporting the digitization/computerization of transport and border-crossing procedures, such as the eTIR application in *six* countries that have interconnected their customs system with the eTIR international system. The official operations of the eTIR procedure is expected to start as early as December 2022; (b) the creation of specialized knowledge to facilitate and accelerate the operationalization of some of these instruments. For example, the Group of Experts on the operationalization of eCMR was established in 2022, contributing to increased accessions to the eCMR Protocol; and (c) the deployment of LearnITC - The Inland Transport and Trade Connectivity e-Learning Platform in 2022 promotes in-depth understanding of the United Nations inland transport legal instruments and their digitization.

20.37 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see Figure 20.III).

Figure 20.III  
**Performance measure: number of accessions by Member States to legal instruments for the digitization of transport and border-crossing procedures (CMR, eCMR and TIR) (cumulative)**



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

### Planned results for 2024

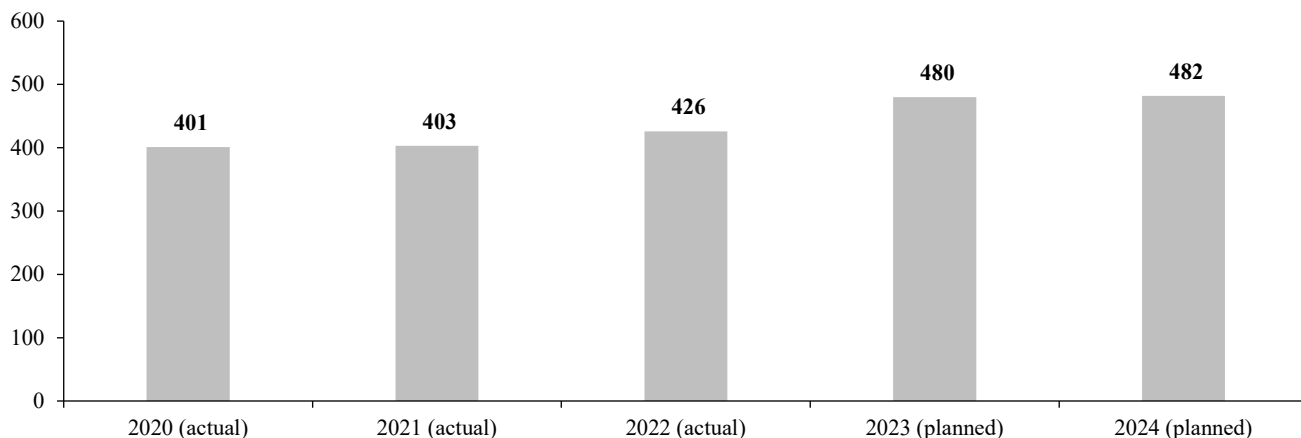
#### Result 1: strengthened regulatory support in road safety contributing to fewer worldwide road accident fatalities and injuries

##### Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

20.38 The subprogramme’s work contributed to an increase to 426 contracting parties to core United Nations road safety conventions, which exceeded the planned target of 411.

20.39 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.IV).

Figure 20.IV  
**Performance measure: number of contracting parties to core United Nations road safety conventions<sup>a</sup> (cumulative)**



<sup>a</sup> For the 2023 and 2024 targets, the performance measure will include eight core United Nations road safety conventions; the



additional instrument is the European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles Engaged in International Road Transport.

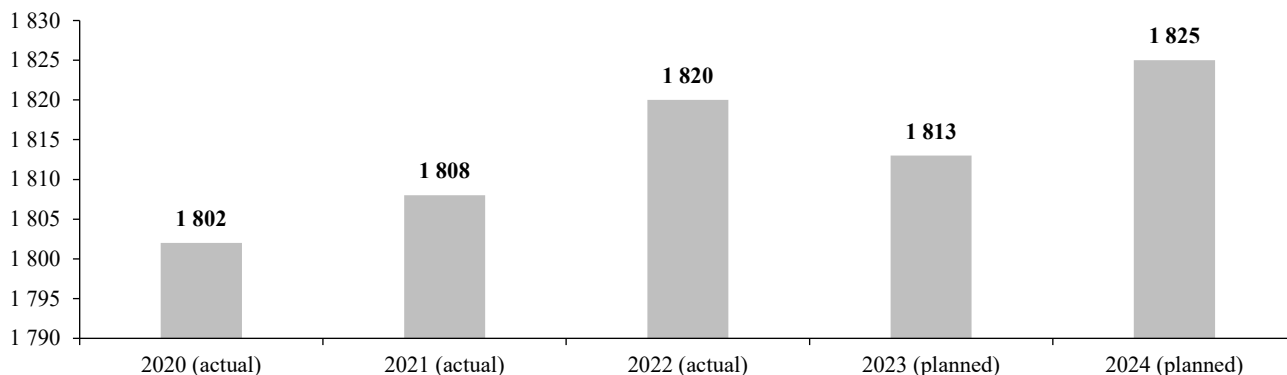
**Result 2: enhanced regulatory framework for sustainable inland transport systems**

**Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024**

- 20.40 The subprogramme’s work contributed to an increase to 1,820 contracting parties to United Nations legal instruments on transport administered by the Economic Commission for Europe, which exceeded the planned target of 1,810.
- 20.41 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.V).

Figure 20.V

**Performance measure: number of contracting parties to United Nations legal instruments on transport administered by the Economic Commission for Europe (cumulative)**



**Result 3: increased number of new and updated legal instruments strengthening the capacity of United Nations Member States to address climate change**

**Proposed programme plan for 2024**

- 20.42 There is a growing demand from Member States to support them in advancing sustainable inland transport and mobility. The adoption in 2019 of the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) Strategy until 2030 and the endorsement of the revised ITC Terms of Reference by ECOSOC in 2022 provided an enhanced mandate for the subprogramme to develop new and strengthen existing United Nations Regulations essential for sustainable transport systems, such as those on vehicle regulations. These instruments enabled the international regulatory system to better adapt to the most recent technological innovations and introduce more stringent limits for road vehicles aimed at increasing their environmental performance, and thus better support the accelerated transition to sustainable inland transport and mobility.

*Lessons learned and planned change*

- 20.43 The lesson for the subprogramme was that despite the strengthened regulatory framework, more needed to be done to accelerate the regulatory support to implement the vision of member States and contracting parties towards a sustainable and decarbonized inland transport sector<sup>4</sup>. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will enhance its focus on addressing climate change, inter alia through dedicated high-level ITC meetings, declarations and commitments, thus further accelerating its work on modernizing its legal instruments. Furthermore, the subprogramme will develop and implement

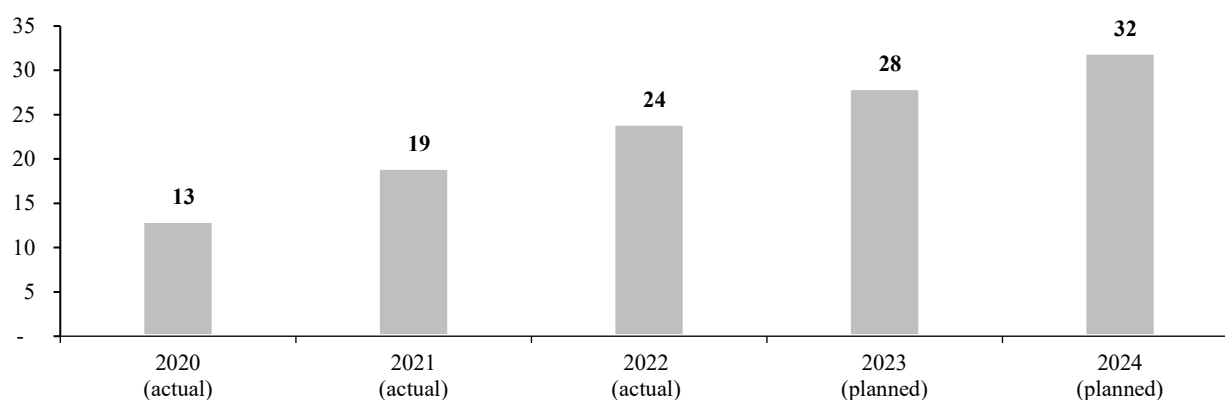
<sup>4</sup> Report of the ECE Inland Transport Committee on its eighty-fourth session (ECE/TRANS/316, paragraph 54)

new analytical and training tools, policy reviews and capacity-building workshops that further assist member States and contracting parties in achieving their targets regionally and globally.

20.44 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see Figure 20.VI).

Figure 20.VI

**Performance measure: number of new and updated United Nations legal instruments under ECE purview, entering into force annually and improving the climate performance of the transport sector (cumulative, since the 2015 Paris Agreement)**



## Deliverables

20.45 Table 20.5 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 20.5

**Subprogramme 2: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory**

Category and subcategory	2022 planned	2022 actual	2023 planned	2024 planned
<b>A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies</b>				
<b>Parliamentary documentation</b> (number of documents)	<b>1 293</b>	<b>1222</b>	<b>1 266</b>	<b>1202</b>
1. Documentation for the Inland Transport Committee	1 023	1069	1 080	1012
a. Inland Transport Committee and Bureau	31	37	31	31
b. World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations	420	573	500	550
c. Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs	33	41	33	40
d. Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	214	176	214	180
e. Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics and subsidiary groups of experts	26	26	28	23
f. Working Party on Transport Statistics	14	14	14	14
g. Working Party on Road Transport and subsidiary groups of experts	18	24	28	15
h. Global Forum for Road Traffic Safety and subsidiary groups of experts	40	29	40	22
i. Working Party on Rail Transport and subsidiary groups of experts	34	37	30	30
j. Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics	15	15	15	12
k. Working Party on Inland Water Transport	47	50	47	45
l. Working Party on Customs Questions Affecting Transport and subsidiary groups of experts	131	47	100	50
2. Documentation for the Economic and Social Council	265	148	183	187

**Section 20 Economic development in Europe**

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>	<i>2022 actual</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>	<i>2024 planned</i>
a. Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals	5	5	1	5
b. Subcommittee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	200	107	150	120
c. Subcommittee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals	60	36	32	32
3. Documentation for the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment	5	5	3	3
<b>Substantive services for meetings</b> (number of three-hour meetings)	<b>423</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>415</b>
4. Meetings of the Inland Transport Committee	381	382	419	373
a. Inland Transport Committee and Bureau	16	17	16	16
b. World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations	111	111	111	121
c. Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs	16	14	8	16
d. Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	58	56	68	58
e. Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics and subsidiary groups of experts	22	25	22	18
f. Working Party on Transport Statistics	6	6	6	6
g. Working Party on Road Transport and subsidiary groups of experts	12	27	30	12
h. Global Forum for Road Traffic Safety and subsidiary groups of experts	28	34	28	28
i. Working Party on Rail Transport and subsidiary groups of experts	18	27	30	24
j. Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics	6	6	12	6
k. Working Party on Inland Water Transport	18	18	18	18
l. Working Party on Customs Questions Affecting Transport and subsidiary groups of experts	70	41	70	50
5. Meetings of the Economic and Social Council	40	40	35	40
a. Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals	1	1	–	1
b. Subcommittee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	29	29	25	29
c. Subcommittee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals	10	10	10	10
6. Meetings of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment	2	2	2	2
<b>B. Generation and transfer of knowledge</b>				
<b>Field and technical cooperation projects</b> (number of projects)	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
7. On the Trans-European North-South Motorway	1	1	1	1
8. On the Trans-European Railway	1	1	1	1
<b>Seminars, workshops and training events</b> (number of days)	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>13</b>
9. Workshops for government officials and other stakeholders in the ECE region and in contracting parties to legal instruments under the purview of the Inland Transport Committee on intelligent transport systems; transport statistics and trends; road, rail, inland water, intermodal and intersectoral transport issues; and vehicle agreements and regulations	8	9	9	10
10. Seminars for national coordinators, experts, customs officials and transport industry on the efforts to digitalize the inland transport conventions including the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention), the Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, the Additional Protocol to the CMR concerning the electronic consignment note (e-CMR), as well as the Trans-European North-South Motorway and Trans-European Railway projects	3	3	1	3
<b>Publications</b> (number of publications)	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
11. On the transport of dangerous goods	2	2	3	2

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>	<i>2022 actual</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>	<i>2024 planned</i>
12. On the transport of perishable foodstuffs	1	1	1	1
13. On decarbonization of the inland transport sector and safe transport and cross-cutting issues	5	5	3	4
14. On vehicle regulations	1	1	1	1
15. On statistics	1	1	1	1
16. On border crossing facilitation	-	-	-	1
<b>Technical materials</b> (number of materials)	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
17. Recommendations for performance evaluation of automated driving systems	-	-	-	1
18. Transport statistics – country profiles	1	1	1	1

**C. Substantive deliverables**

**Consultation, advice and advocacy:** advisory services for contracting parties of United Nations transport conventions administered by ECE on legal instruments relating to inland transport, facilitation of transport, border crossing, road safety, vehicle construction, and transport of dangerous goods and other special cargo.

**Databases and substantive digital materials:** the International TIR Data Bank for users from more than 70 contracting parties of the TIR Convention, which includes the list of the more than 31,000 transport companies authorized to use the TIR system; TIR and eTIR portals; the eTIR international system allowing the exchange of data between the eTIR stakeholders in the course of TIR transports following the eTIR procedure; the International Transport Infrastructure Observatory (ITIO) hosting data on a large variety of transport infrastructure networks and nodes; the Sustainable Inland Transport Connectivity (SITCIN) online user platform offering a set of measurable criteria for Governments to evaluate the extent to which they implement the relevant United Nations legal instruments in the field of transport and the degree to which their inland transport systems are inter-operable with those in neighboring countries; the inventory of standards on inland water infrastructure; inventory of existing European Agreement on Main International Railway Lines and European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations standards and parameters; databases on transport statistics, road traffic accidents, transport of dangerous goods, transport of perishable foodstuffs, urban transport and transport and environment; Rail Security Observatory; digitized signs and signals (E-CoRSS) under the Convention on Road Signs and Signals; and smart and sustainable connectivity e-learning platform.

**D. Communication deliverables**

**Outreach programmes, special events and information materials:** information materials including brochures on legal instruments and activities of the subprogramme for global and regional access.

**External and media relations:** press releases for the subprogramme.

**Digital platforms and multimedia content:** LearnITC and other digital platforms and multimedia content on sustainable transport and mobility; and website of the subprogramme for global and regional access.

**Subprogramme 3  
Statistics**

**Objective**

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

## Strategy

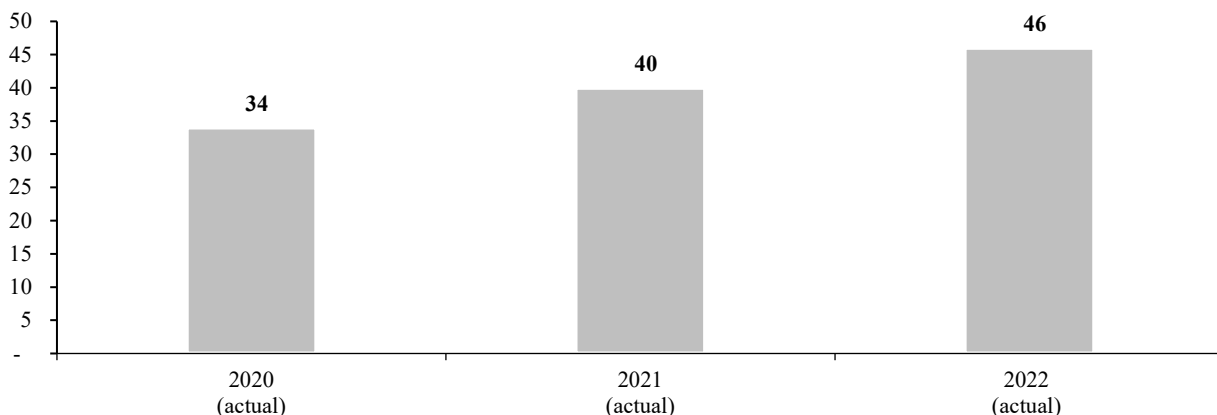
- 20.47 The strategy of the subprogramme is guided by the priorities and needs of member States and is based on the core interlinked functions: the streamlining of international statistical work in the ECE region by promoting policy dialogue; methodological work to develop and promote guidelines and recommendations to enhance the quality of statistics; and the statistical capacity development of ECE member States with less developed statistical systems.
- 20.48 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will:
- (a) Promote in-depth statistical dialogue at the Conference of European Statisticians and expert meetings;
  - (b) Launch regional and country-specific initiatives related to methodological work to develop and disseminate statistical models, guidelines and recommendations to enhance the quality of statistics and to support modernization of national statistical offices and their changing role to become data stewards, as well as the promotion of the use of official statistics;
  - (c) Maintain and develop the ECE statistical database;
  - (d) Establish and strengthen partnerships between geospatial experts and statisticians to support the integration of statistical and geospatial information, in cooperation with statistical departments of other regional entities, as well as international specialized agencies active in the region;
  - (e) Facilitate the exchange of experiences and good practices in the fields of population and housing censuses, price statistics and environment statistics, including adaptations owing to COVID-19 restrictions;
  - (f) Provide support to countries in planning and conducting their census and developing their statistical capacity, including cross-cutting topics such as statistics on the Goals, statistical legislation, data collection, data integration, dissemination and human resource management.
- 20.49 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:
- (a) Improved statistical methodology and capacity of member States to measure and monitor the Goals and develop evidence-based policies to manage their post-pandemic recovery;
  - (b) Member States using innovative and efficient approaches to conduct censuses that result in improved cost-efficiency, coverage, accuracy, comparability and timeliness of dissemination of the census results;

## Programme performance in 2022

### Improved climate change-related statistics in the ECE region

- 20.50 National statistical offices (NSOs) can play an important role in providing climate change-related statistics, but this area still requires methodological development, coordination, and exchange of experiences and good practices. The subprogramme developed the first international Recommendations on Climate Change-Related Statistics in 2014 and has supported member States in implementing them through annual Expert Forums, development of indicators, collecting and disseminating good practices. In 2022, a new Task Force started developing guidance on the role of NSOs in meeting national climate objectives. Since the adoption of the first Recommendations, the work of the subprogramme has contributed to an increased number of member States undertaking the work on climate change-related statistics, in line with the ECE recommendations, through the involvement of NSOs in compilation of greenhouse gas inventories, production of national climate change-related indicators and improved collaboration with other national producers of climate-related data.
- 20.51 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.VII).

Figure 20.VII  
**Performance measure: number of countries implementing ECE recommendations on climate change-related statistics (cumulative)**



**Planned results for 2024**

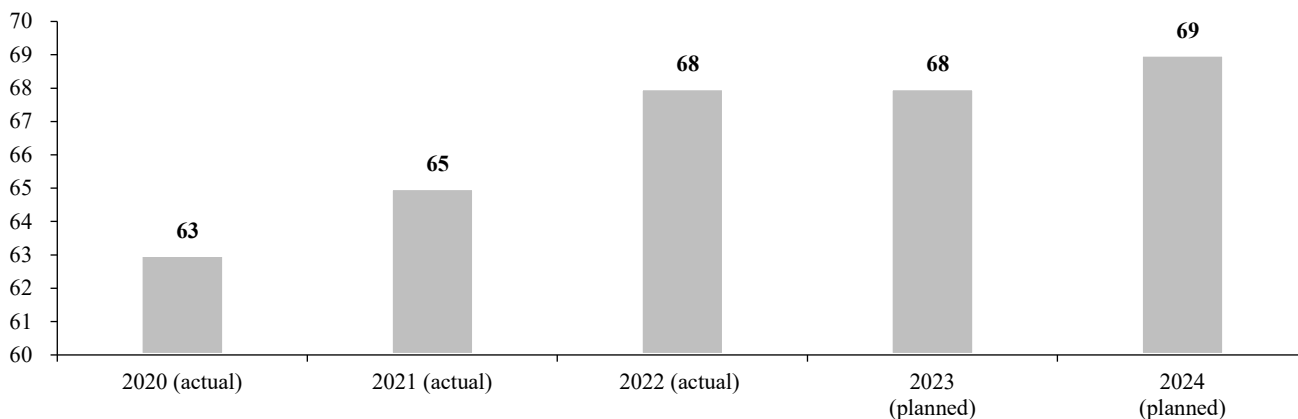
**Result 1: increasing the number of countries that report sex-disaggregated statistical indicators**

**Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024**

20.52 The subprogramme’s work contributed to an increase to 68 percent of ECE member states reporting sex-disaggregated indicators in the Sustainable Development Goals database, which exceeded the planned target of 67 percent.

20.53 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.VIII).

Figure 20.VIII  
**Performance measure: sex-disaggregated indicators available for Economic Commission for Europe member States in the ECE Sustainable Development Goals database (cumulative)**  
 (Percentage)



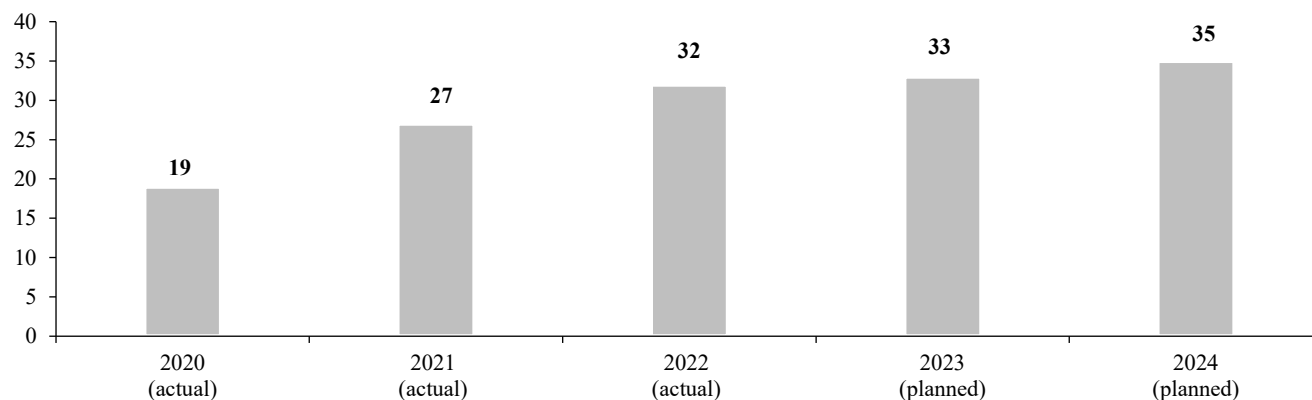
**Result 2: increased number of countries collaborating on developing and using machine learning techniques for the production of official statistics**

**Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024**

- 20.54 The subprogramme’s work contributed to an increase to 32 member States actively collaborating in developing and using machine learning techniques for the production of official statistics, which exceeded the planned target of 30 member States.
- 20.55 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.IX).

Figure 20.IX

**Performance measure: number of member States actively collaborating in developing and using machine learning techniques for the production of official statistics (cumulative)**



### Result 3: improved environmental statistics and indicators in the ECE region

#### Proposed programme plan for 2024

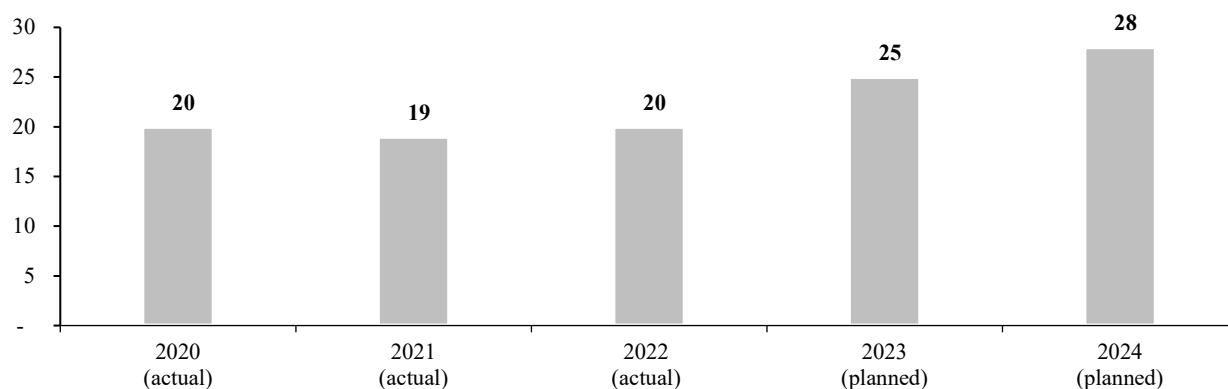
- 20.56 Among the three pillars of sustainable development – economy, society, and environment – data availability for the environmental pillar is the lowest. According to estimates, for about 58 per cent of the environment-related SDG indicators there is insufficient data, making it difficult to assess progress and understand the environmental challenges. The subprogramme has been working with member States to improve their environment statistics through a Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators, in cooperation with the ECE Environment subprogramme. The Task Force supports the implementation of the *ECE Guidelines on environmental indicators* in member States. Until now, the work has mostly focused on East and South-East Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia.

#### *Lessons learned and planned change*

- 20.57 The lesson for the subprogramme was that there was a strong need to further develop environment statistics in all member States, because providing data on environment-related SDGs and other emerging policy areas, such as circular economy, are common challenges in the ECE region. In response, the subprogramme will extend its work to be open to all member States providing a platform to exchange knowledge and experience on common challenges in implementing the *UNECE Guidelines on environmental statistics and indicators*, and identifying emerging policy areas where further guidance is needed. The work will be organized jointly by the environmental and statistical subprogrammes.
- 20.58 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.X)

Figure 20.X

**Performance measure: number of countries improving environmental statistics and indicators through the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators (annual)**



## Deliverables

20.59 Table 20.6 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 20.6

### Subprogramme 3: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	2022 planned	2022 actual	2023 planned	2024 planned
<b>A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies</b>				
<b>Parliamentary documentation</b> (number of documents)	<b>81</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>81</b>
1. Documentation for the Conference of European Statisticians	43	43	43	43
2. Documentation for groups of experts on statistical issues	38	38	38	38
<b>Substantive services for meetings</b> (number of three-hour meetings)	<b>85</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>85</b>
3. Meetings of the Conference of European Statisticians and its Bureau	13	13	13	13
4. Meetings of groups of experts on statistical issues	72	72	72	72
<b>B. Generation and transfer of knowledge</b>				
<b>Field and technical cooperation projects</b> (number of projects)	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
5. On social and economic statistics	1	1	1	1
<b>Seminars, workshops and training events</b> (number of days)	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>
6. Workshops on social and economic statistics	3	3	3	3
7. Workshops on innovating statistical production	3	3	3	3
<b>Publications</b> (number of publications)	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>
8. On topics covering multiple statistical areas, including social, environmental and economic statistics	7	7	7	7
<b>C. Substantive deliverables</b>				
<b>Consultation, advice and advocacy:</b> advisory services for more than 100 government officials (staff of national statistical systems) and other stakeholders of up to 4 countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe on economic, social, demographic and environment statistics, statistics for the Goals, geospatial statistics and institutional issues and modernization of official statistics.				
<b>Databases and substantive digital materials:</b> ECE statistical databases (Goals, population and gender statistics database; economic statistics database); hosting of the transport and the forestry databases.				
<b>D. Communication deliverables</b>				
<b>External and media relations:</b> articles for the “UNECE Weekly” and “EnvStats” newsletters for regional access.				



<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>	<i>2022 actual</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>	<i>2024 planned</i>
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**Digital platforms and multimedia content:** interactive digital workspaces (wikis, including the ECE census wiki); website of the subprogramme.

## Subprogramme 4 Economic cooperation and integration

### Objective

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

### Strategy

- 20.61 The strategy of the subprogramme is based on the implementation of three core interlinked functions in the subprogramme's two areas of work (innovation and competitiveness policies; and public-private partnerships): international policy dialogue; normative and analytical work; and capacity-building and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned.

- 20.62 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will:

- (a) Support member States in creating a conducive business environment by developing good practices to inform innovation policy reforms that drive sustainable development, including through advisory-based analyses of national innovation systems, policies and institutions, upon request; and through capacity-building workshops and seminars at the national and subregional levels;
- (b) Build the capacity of member States in creating regulatory frameworks and public-private partnership project pipelines that can help close the Goals infrastructure financing gap, including through:
  - (i) The promotion of innovative modalities of financing, development and management of critical infrastructure;
  - (ii) The development of international guidelines and standards to design public-private partnership projects and legal and regulatory frameworks;
  - (iii) The use, on demand, of a methodology to evaluate and score public-private partnership projects in support of sustainable development;
  - (iv) Cooperation with multilateral platforms for sustainable infrastructure (including SOURCE<sup>5</sup>);
- (c) Focus some of its policy dialogues, analyses and recommendations, standards and capacity-building on addressing economic challenges through innovation policies and public-private partnership infrastructure projects that can facilitate innovation and develop infrastructure to make economies more resilient and sustainable.

- 20.63 This work will help member States make progress towards achieving Goals 8, 9, 12 and 17 and contribute to enhancing sustainable use of natural resources, and digital and green transformations for sustainable development.

<sup>5</sup> SOURCE is the multilateral platform for sustainable infrastructure

- 20.64 The above-mentioned work is also expected to result in:
- (a) Improved innovation-related policies and institutions in member States for sustainable development;
  - (b) The improved design and operation of public-private partnerships by member States that contribute to sustainable development and lead to more sustainable projects.

## Programme performance in 2022

### Improved capacity of member States in the use of public-private partnerships to finance sustainable development

- 20.65 The subprogramme promoted the concept of “PPPs for the SDGs”, an enhanced approach for PPPs that overcomes some of the weaknesses in the way the traditional PPP model has been implemented, placing equal focus on the economic, social and environmental pillars of Sustainable Development, including transitioning to the circular economy and the sustainable use of natural resources. To support member States in implementing PPPs for sustainable infrastructure development, the subprogramme developed a PPP Evaluation Methodology to score and assess projects in countries against a set of sustainability outcomes and the SDGs. The subprogramme provided training to member States on the use of the PPP Evaluation Methodology to identify, develop and implement infrastructure that is circular, resilient, environmentally and fiscally sustainable and of high quality, where people are the main beneficiaries.
- 20.66 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see Table 20.7).

Table 20.7  
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)
-	Evaluation methodology approved by member States 50 public-private partnerships projects assessed by member States during a pilot phase	Improved capacity of member States to use public-private partnerships to finance sustainable infrastructure development An additional 50 public-private partnerships projects assessed by member States

## Planned results for 2024

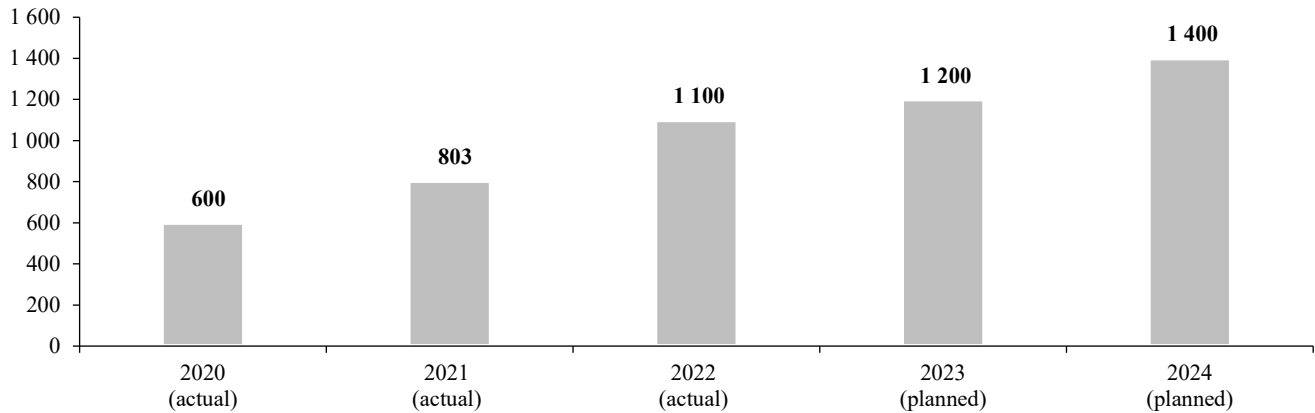
### Result 1: improved capacity of member States to use innovation to achieve their sustainable development objectives

#### Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

- 20.67 The subprogramme’s work contributed to 1,100 policymakers and other innovation stakeholders from requesting countries that have benefited from Economic Commission of Europe capacity-building on innovation policy, which exceeded the planned target of 1,000 policymakers and other innovation stakeholders.
- 20.68 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.XI).

Figure 20.XI

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



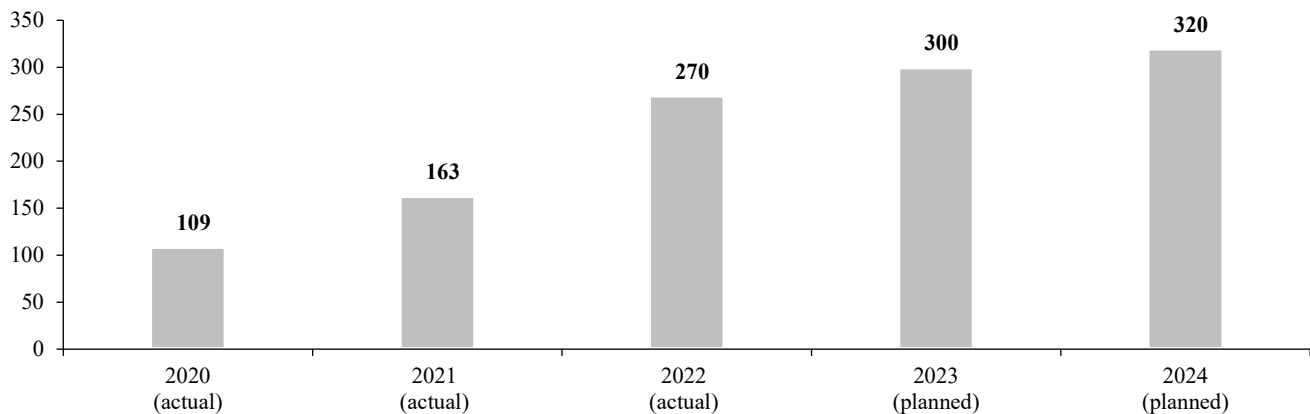
**Result 2: improved capacity of member States in the development of infrastructure projects in support of the Sustainable Development Goals and the circular economy**

**Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024**

- 20.69 The subprogramme’s work contributed to 270 policy makers from member States that have used the Economic Commission for Europe standards and guidelines on public-private partnership for the SDGs, which exceeded the planned target of 225 policy makers.
- 20.70 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.XII).

Figure 20.XII

**Performance measure: number of policymakers from member States that have used the Economic Commission for Europe standards and guidelines on public-private partnership for the Sustainable Development Goals to identify and prepare infrastructure projects aligned with the Goals and the circular economy and the sustainable use of natural resources (cumulative)**



**Result 3: strengthened capacity of member States to facilitate transformative innovation<sup>6</sup> for sustainable development**

**Proposed programme plan for 2024**

20.71 To accelerate progress towards achieving the Goals, the ECE region needs more transformative innovations that can make entire systems sustainable, e.g. the built environment or individual mobility. The subprogramme has been providing good practices, policy advice and capacity building on policies to promote innovation for sustainable development.

*Lessons learned and planned change*

20.72 The lesson learned was that more evidence is needed on policies to promote truly transformative innovation, and that member States have a large demand for policy analysis, dialogue and capacity building on this topic. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will use a network of innovation policy makers and agencies to develop an evidence base for policy making, and to increase the capacity of policymakers to promote transformative innovation.

20.73 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.8)

Table 20.8  
**Performance measure**

2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (planned)	2024 (planned)
Weak evidence base for transformative innovation policies	Member States endorsed good practices on innovation policies for the circular economy transformation, and noted the need for more policy learning	Member States endorsed the establishment of an ECE Transformative Innovation Network of innovation agencies, and the Network was set up	Member States endorse additional ten good practices on transformative innovation policy.	Increased capacity of member States to promote transformative innovation, gained through a series of in-depth policy dialogues between member States and experts, and capacity-building activities

**Deliverables**

20.74 Table 20.9 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 20.9  
**Subprogramme 4: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory**

Category and subcategory	2022 planned	2022 actual	2023 planned	2024 planned
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**A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies**

<sup>6</sup> Report of the ECE Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships on its fifteenth session (ECE/CECI/2022/2, paragraphs 57 and 69 (Decision 5.2))

Category and subcategory	2022 planned	2022 actual	2023 planned	2024 planned
<b>Parliamentary documentation</b> (number of documents)	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>
1. Documentation for the Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships and its subsidiary bodies	18	18	18	18
<b>Substantive services for meetings</b> (number of three-hour meetings)	<b>19</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>19</b>
2. Meetings of the Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships, its subsidiary bodies and their bureaux	18	18	18	18
3. Meetings of the Project Working Group on Knowledge-Based Development	1	1	1	1
<b>B. Generation and transfer of knowledge</b>				
<b>Field and technical cooperation projects</b> (number of projects)	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
4. On innovation and competitiveness policies	–	–	2	2
5. On public-private partnerships	–	–	1	1
<b>Seminars, workshops and training events</b> (number of days)	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>
6. Policy advisory workshops, seminars and training on innovation and competitiveness policies for sustainable development	8	8	8	8
7. Policy advisory workshops, seminars and training on people-first public-private partnerships	8	8	8	8
<b>Publications</b> (number of publications)	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
8. Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews	1	2	1	1
9. Comparative reviews on innovation policy and/or public-private partnership	2	1	2	2
<b>Fact-finding, monitoring and investigation missions</b> (number of missions)	<b>–</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
10. Fact-finding missions for Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews and public-private partnership needs assessments	–	2	3	3
<b>C. Substantive deliverables</b>				
<b>Consultation, advice and advocacy:</b> advisory services under the Working Party on Public-Private Partnership and the Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies reaching 30 government ministries and agencies and stakeholder entities.				
<b>Databases and substantive digital materials:</b> database of public-private partnership case studies from around 15 member States.				
<b>D. Communication deliverables</b>				
<b>External and media relations:</b> press releases and launch events for the above publications for regional, subregional and national access.				
<b>Digital platforms and multimedia content:</b> subprogramme’s website for regional access.				

## Subprogramme 5 Sustainable energy

### Objective

- 20.75 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to ensure secure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector in the region.

### Strategy

- 20.76 The strategy of the subprogramme is to support international policy dialogue and cooperation among Governments, energy industries and other stakeholders to foster sustainable energy development; develop and deploy ECE policy recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools on energy-

related issues; and provide capacity-building and assistance to member States, at their request, through training programmes, advisory services and technical cooperation projects. Through its work, the subprogramme will contribute to the ECE work on cross-sectoral collaboration areas, as described in paragraph 20.5 (a)–(e) above, and to priorities related to the circular economy. To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will:

- (a) Further develop normative instruments (such as best practices and principles), awareness-raising campaigns and the deployment of ECE tools through workshops, seminars and technical projects to help member States meet their commitments to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement with regard to reducing their environmental footprint related to energy, accelerating the transformation of the energy sector to meet future needs, ensuring the sustainable management of resources and assessing options to ensure energy for sustainable development;
- (b) Promote policy dialogue and cooperation among member States, regional entities and other partners on sustainable energy issues;
- (c) Provide technical assistance and guidance on energy transitions in the context of sustainable development, disseminate best practices and improve information-sharing;
- (d) Promote collaboration among private and public stakeholders that are key to implementing national and regional policies, including with regard to normative instruments and their deployment and dissemination;
- (e) Coordinate and promote efforts related to energy resilience across the ECE region and provide an ECE Platform on Resilient Energy Systems for inclusive dialogue; and
- (f) Explore and increase understanding on energy-related climate financing in the ECE region, including policies and mechanisms for increasing financing for low- and zero-carbon technologies, the critical raw materials needed for low-carbon transformations, and sustainable infrastructure projects<sup>7</sup>.

20.77 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

- (a) More effective integration of sustainable energy across national policies and normative frameworks in support of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement;
- (b) Enhanced and inclusive dialogue and cooperation among all energy actors to boost transformational investment in the energy sector, support the building of resilient energy systems and, consequently, accelerate the modernization of the energy system to meet countries' sustainable development and climate commitments;
- (c) Improved access of Member States to frameworks and tools required for integrated and sustainable resource management that aid the progress towards a more circular economy and contribute to the food-water-energy nexus<sup>8</sup>;
- (e) Improvement in the performance of buildings from a health perspective (e.g. temperatures, comfort, effective air intake and recycling filters), which will improve the protection and resilience of populations;
- (f) Increased understanding and implementation of climate-friendly policies and mechanisms by member States, which aim at addressing issues such as financing for low- and zero-carbon

<sup>7</sup> This language was agreed by the 31<sup>st</sup> session of the ECE Committee on Sustainable Energy (21-23 Sept 2022) and subsequently the ECE Executive Committee. In particular, the 31<sup>st</sup> CSE “agreed to the proposed modifications to the programme of work for the sustainable energy subprogramme for 2024 ([ECE/ENERGY/31/2022/INF.1](#), para.4(g)) and requested the secretariat to reflect the modifications in the proposed programme plan of the Sustainable energy subprogramme for 2024” ([ECE/ENERGY/143](#), para.76).

<sup>8</sup> ECE proposed programme budget for 2023 (A/77/6 (Sect.20), para.20.82)

technologies and sustainable infrastructure, and the critical raw materials needed for such transformations.

## Programme performance in 2022

### Enhancing the understanding of the technology interplay for the power and energy intensive industries’ transition in the ECE region

- 20.78 The ECE region currently depends on fossil fuels for some 80% of its primary energy demand. Energy intensive industries account for about 25% of total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions globally. These industries are also the backbone for modern economies, and they have to play an important role in driving the post-COVID energy transition. Decarbonization of hard-to-abate sectors is a priority for the region to meet the Paris Agreement targets.
- 20.79 In 2020, the subprogramme launched a technical assistance project<sup>9</sup> and initiated consultations on this theme. As a result, achievable pathways for governments to design and attain less carbon intensive energy systems were identified and an ECE dedicated toolkit was developed<sup>10</sup>. The toolkit identified technology and policy options and provided recommendations on facilitating such move and specified the requirements for a sustainable energy system.
- 20.80 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 20.10).

Table 20.10  
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)
30 member States nominated national focal points to the ECE Project Task Force	8 capacity-buildings workshops delivered to member States on innovative technology for energy transition	Countries of Central Asia and Ukraine deployed the ECE Carbon Neutrality Toolkit
6 capacity-building workshops for member States on technology interplay delivered	ECE Carbon Neutrality Toolkit was developed	

## Planned results for 2024

### Result 1: managing gases to implement the 2030 Agenda

#### Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

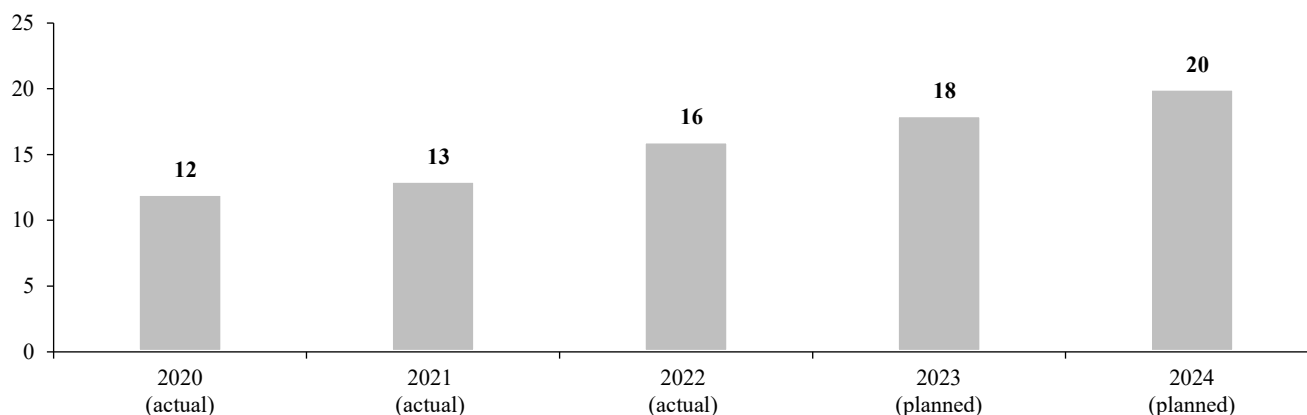
- 20.81 The subprogramme’s work contributed to the commitment of 16 member States to apply Economic Commission for Europe guidance to manage gases, which met the planned target.
- 20.82 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.XIII).

Figure 20.XIII

<sup>9</sup> “Enhancing the understanding of the implications and opportunities of moving to carbon neutrality in the ECE region across the power and energy intensive industries by 2050”

<sup>10</sup> UNECE Carbon Neutrality Toolkit (<https://carbonneutrality.unece.org/>)

**Performance measure: Number of Member States applying Economic Commission for Europe guidance to manage gases (CH<sub>4</sub>, H<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub>) (cumulative)**



**Result 2: digitization of the energy sector as an enabler of a circular economy and the sustainable use of natural resources**

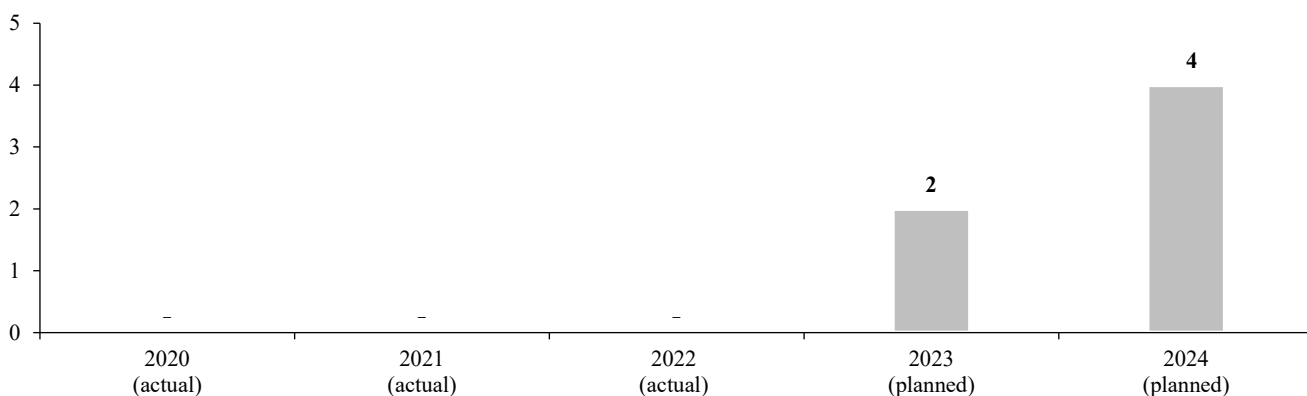
**Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024**

20.83 The subprogramme’s work contributed to increased awareness of member States on the role that digitalization of the energy system may play in improving the system efficiency, on the existing sectoral opportunities, and on the potential impact of digitalization in energy on the economy and society. This work laid the ground for member States to develop national case studies in the future that apply recommendations on digitization developed by the Economic Commission for Europe.

20.84 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.XIV).

Figure 20.XIV

**Performance measure: number of member States applying Economic Commission for Europe recommendations on digitization by developing national case studies (cumulative)**



**Result 3: enhanced resilience of energy systems in the ECE region**

**Proposed programme plan for 2024**

20.85 While the ECE region has made significant progress to attain the 2030 Agenda and Goal 7, recent economic, geopolitical, energy, and climate challenges in the region are impeding member States’



ability to ensure energy resilience, which supports energy security, economic recovery/affordability, and environmental sustainability.

20.86 The subprogramme has developed several mechanisms to enhance the resilience of member States’ energy systems and attain SDG 7 targets, including the Carbon Neutrality Toolkit; Renewable Energy Hard Talks; Best practice guidance on methane reductions; Framework Guidelines for Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings and the newly established ECE Platform on Resilient Energy Systems to promote ECE mechanisms and inclusive dialogue among member States.

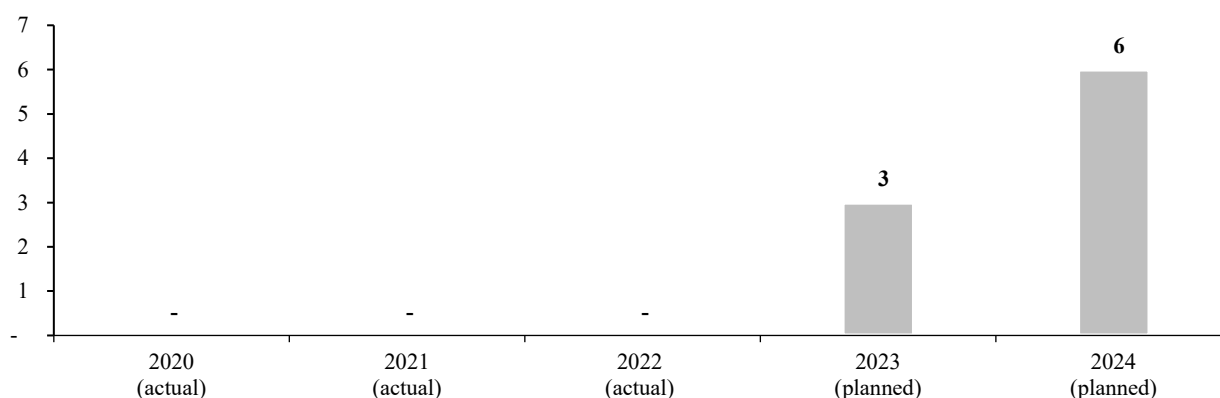
*Lessons learned and planned change*

20.87 The lesson for the subprogramme was the need to support member States to increase the resilience of energy systems in light of recent increased vulnerabilities, related to energy security, affordability, reliability, and sustainability. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will increase capacity-building, including through UN country teams, to help member States better utilize above-mentioned ECE mechanisms, promote international cooperation and dialogue on energy and raise awareness about how SDG7 attainment can secure sustainable energy development and improve energy system resilience.

20.88 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.XV)

Figure 20.XV

**Performance measure: number of member States using ECE mechanisms to enhance the resilience of energy systems in the ECE region (cumulative)**



**Deliverables**

20.89 Table 20.11 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 20.11

**Subprogramme 5: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory**

Category and subcategory	2022 planned	2022 actual	2023 planned	2024 planned
<b>A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies</b>				
<b>Parliamentary documentation</b> (number of documents)	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>40</b>
1. Documentation for the Committee on Sustainable Energy and related subsidiary bodies	45	45	45	40
<b>Substantive services for meetings</b> (number of three-hour meetings)	<b>38</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>38</b>

**Part V Regional cooperation for development**

Category and subcategory	2022 planned	2022 actual	2023 planned	2024 planned
2. Meetings of the Committee on Sustainable Energy, its Bureau and related subsidiary bodies	38	38	38	38
<b>B. Generation and transfer of knowledge</b>				
<b>Field and technical cooperation projects</b> (number of projects)	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>
3. On sustainable resource management	1	1	3	2
4. On reducing the environmental footprint of energy	1	1	1	1
5. On accelerating transformations of the energy sector	4	4	3	2
6. On supporting member States in securing sustainable energy	2	2	2	1
<b>Seminars, workshops and training events</b> (number of days)	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>13</b>
7. Workshops for experts and government officials on the application of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources and the United Nations Resource Management System	2	2	2	2
8. Seminars on energy efficiency measures, accelerators and standards	2	2	2	2
9. Seminars on renewable energy development and policy reforms for climate change mitigation	2	2	2	2
10. International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development	4	4	4	3
11. Trainings and workshops on methane management	–	–	–	2
12. Workshops and seminars on energy efficiency	–	–	–	2
<b>Publications</b> (number of publications)	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
13. On best practice guidelines, case studies and other publications related to sustainable energy	4	3	–	–
14. On hydrogen, the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources and the United Nations Resource Management System	1	2	2	1
15. On digitalization and best practices in methane management	–	–	–	2
<b>D. Communication deliverables</b>				
<b>Outreach programmes, special events and information materials:</b> booklets on sustainable energy and related topics, for regional access.				
<b>External and media relations:</b> press releases, keynote speeches and articles on the activities of the energy subprogramme.				
<b>Digital platforms and multimedia content:</b> subprogramme's website for regional and global access.				

## Subprogramme 6 Trade

### Objective

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

### Strategy

- 20.91 The strategy of the subprogramme is to support international policy dialogue on reducing regulatory and procedural barriers to trade, including those caused by cumbersome trade procedures and paperwork, by differences in trade procedures, standards and documents, or by divergent regulatory approaches and product standards; to facilitate the development of standards and recommendations in the areas of trade facilitation and e-business, agricultural quality standards and regulatory

cooperation; and to provide capacity-building and enable the sharing of best practices and lessons learned.

20.92 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will:

- (a) Promote simple, transparent and effective processes for global trade through its normative work to develop standards and recommendations in the areas of trade facilitation and electronic business;
- (b) Facilitate international policy dialogue on establishing digital trading environments and on compliance with the multilateral trading system requirements, including the dissemination of standards, recommendations and guidelines;
- (c) Promote the circular economy and the sustainable use of natural resources, sustainable and resilient value chains and the enhanced traceability of supply chains, e.g. minimizing waste and maximizing the use of natural resources towards circular economy through studies, policy dialogues and technology-based pilot initiatives such as blockchain-based traceability for textile value chains. This work will help member States make progress towards achieving Goals 8 and 12;
- (d) Strengthen regulatory cooperation and promote standards and best practices in regulatory frameworks, risk management, conformity assessment and market surveillance to facilitate a predictable and harmonized regulatory environment;
- (e) Provide practical ways forward for standards bodies wishing to mainstream a gender perspective in standards. The subprogramme will further support capacity-building and dissemination on the use of standards and regulatory cooperation, notably with its Standards for SDGs Portal (<https://standards4sdgs.unece.org/>) and its initiative on education on standards (<https://learnqi.unece.org>). This work will support member States in making progress towards achieving Goals 5 and 17;
- (f) Promote up-to-date agricultural quality standards and explanatory guidelines through its normative work and promote awareness of food loss reduction through policy dialogues, partnerships with international organizations and technology-based initiatives to address food loss and waste to support the progress of member States towards achieving Goals 2 and 12;
- (g) Identify regulatory and procedural barriers to trade and assist Governments in setting action-oriented recommendations for implementing the instruments developed by the subprogramme through analytical evidence-based studies, to support member States in making progress towards achieving Goals 12 and 17;
- (h) Deepen its international policy dialogue, normative, technical assistance and capacity-building activities on the digitization of trade processes in order to support a sustainable and resilient recovery to support member States in making progress towards achieving Goals 8 and 9.

20.93 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

- (a) Increased implementation of simplified trade processes, and the digitization of member States' trading environments, leading to greater productivity;
- (b) Increased transparency and traceability of the value chains and reduction of waste, promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns;
- (c) Increased uptake of international standards by countries to enable the implementation of internationally harmonized regulatory processes;
- (d) Improved gender equality in trade through the increased participation of women traders;

- (e) Enhanced digitalization of trade (e.g. progress towards adoption of trade-related digital services like Single Window) to support the public and private sectors' efforts in member States to facilitate trade.

## Programme performance in 2022

### Increased knowledge of trade-related policy options to enhance circular economy and resource efficient economies

- 20.94 While trade and related policies can help accelerate the transition to more circular economies, knowledge of policy options and capacity building can be further strengthened.
- 20.95 As requested by member States<sup>11</sup>, the subprogramme has worked to promote the circular economy, including through the launch of a dedicated stakeholder engagement platform (Circular STEP), development of policy papers, and support to the Governments of Serbia and Tajikistan in strengthening policy frameworks for a circular transition. Activities included capacity building on traceability and food loss and waste reduction and management, using ECE normative tools. The subprogramme has also continued its work to improve transparency and traceability in the garment sector, as an enabler of reduced environmental footprints and improved recyclability.
- 20.96 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see Table 20.12).

Table 20.12  
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)
-	Knowledge sharing between member States through a network of trade-related circular economy focal points in the ECE region	Increased knowledge of trade-related policy options for circular economy

## Planned results for 2024

### Result 1: enhanced digitization of trade in Economic Commission for Europe member States

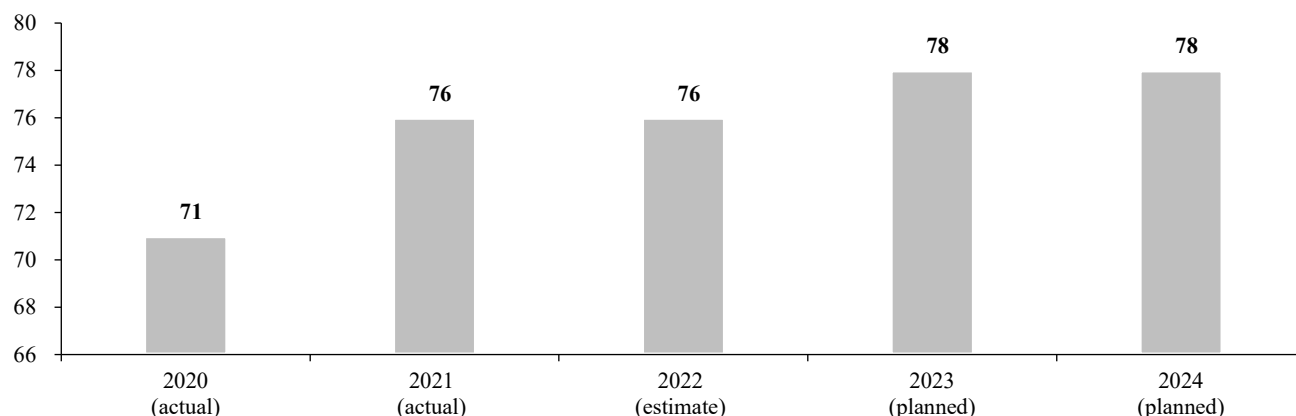
#### Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

- 20.97 The subprogramme's work contributed to 76 percent average implementation rate of digital trade facilitation measures of Economic Commission for Europe member States, which exceeded the planned target of 75 percent.
- 20.98 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.XVI).

Figure 20.XVI  
Performance measure: average implementation rate of digital trade facilitation measures of Economic Commission for Europe member States<sup>a</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Decision B(69) (E/2021/37)

(Percentage)



<sup>a</sup> The data shows average implementation rate of trade facilitation and paperless trade in the ECE region, as measured every two years through the United Nations Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation, conducted jointly by regional commissions. The survey was last conducted in 2021, and results will next be available in 2023. See: [https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-01/ECE\\_TRADE\\_467E.pdf](https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-01/ECE_TRADE_467E.pdf). The data for 2022 is based on past progress as reflected in the last survey conducted in 2021.

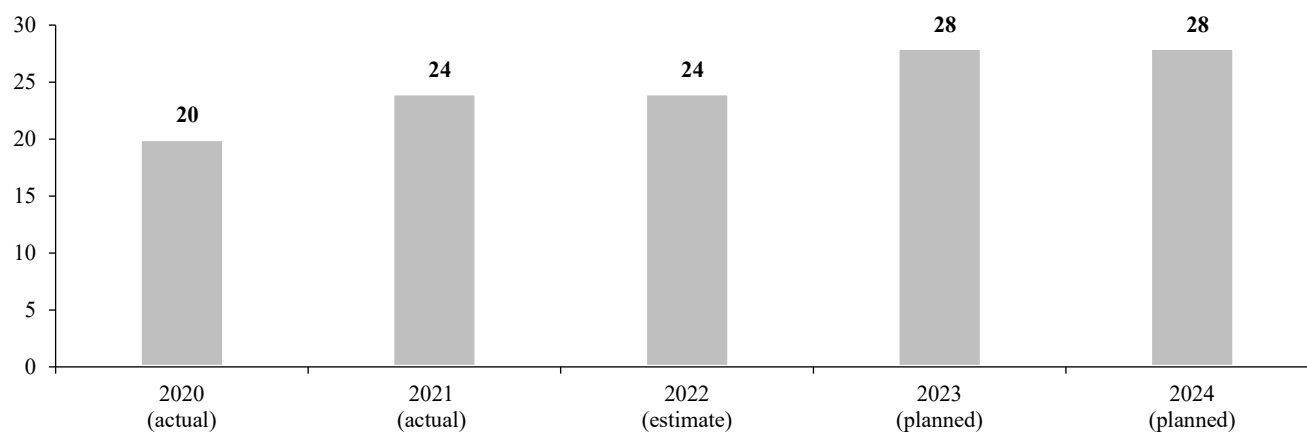
**Result 2: increased facilitation of agricultural trade through the adoption of agricultural quality and electronic business standards in Economic Commission for Europe member States**  
**Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024**

20.99 The subprogramme’s work contributed to 24 ECE member States fully or partially implementing the Commission’s standard for “electronic application and issuance of electronic sanitary and phytosanitary certificates”, which did not meet the planned target of 26 member States. The target was not met because the data for 2022 was based on past progress as reflected in the biennial United Nations Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation conducted last time in 2021. The next Global Survey will be conducted in 2023.

20.100 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.XVII).

Figure 20.XVII

**Performance measure: number of Economic Commission for Europe member States fully or partially implementing the Commission’s standard for “electronic application and issuance of electronic sanitary and phytosanitary certificates”<sup>a</sup> (cumulative)**



<sup>a</sup> The data shown in this figure has been taken from a question about the electronic application and issuance of sanitary and phytosanitary certificates in the United Nations Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation, which is undertaken biennially by the five United Nations regional commissions. The next Global Survey will be conducted in 2023. See: [https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-01/ECE\\_TRADE\\_467E.pdf](https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-01/ECE_TRADE_467E.pdf). The data for 2022 is based on past progress as reflected in the last survey conducted in 2021.

### Result 3: enhanced uptake of gender perspectives by standards development organizations

#### Proposed programme plan for 2024

20.101 International standards can help efforts to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women and ensure that the needs of women are integrated into product design. The ECE initiative to mainstream gender perspectives in standards and the newly formed Team of Specialists<sup>12</sup> aim to guide standards development organizations on mainstreaming a gender perspective, ensuring among others, that women participate in the design of standards. Initial guidance has been developed and several webinars and conferences held with a number of participating standard development organizations committing to mainstream a gender perspective in standard setting and to establish respective focal points.

#### *Lessons learned and planned change*

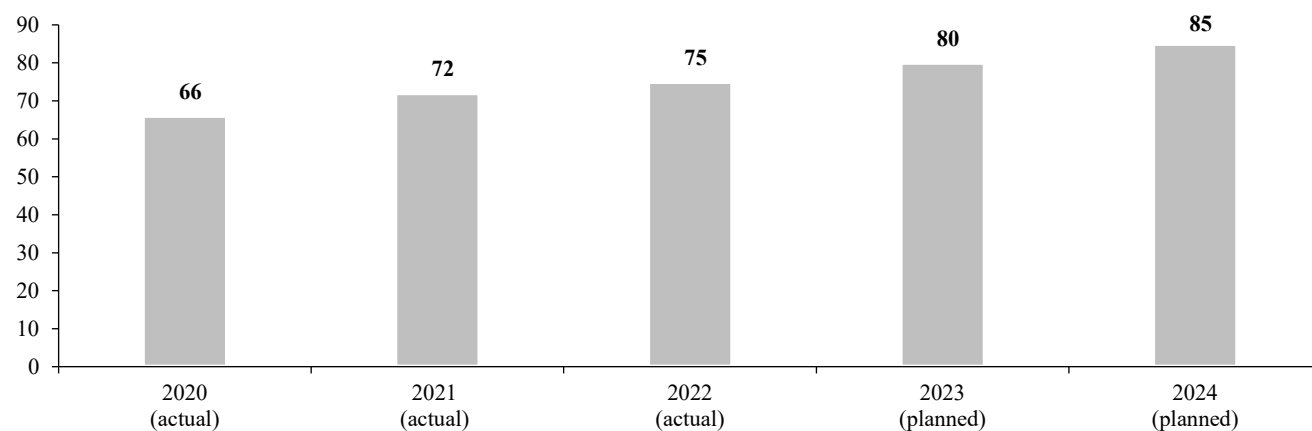
20.102 The lesson for the subprogramme, as indicated in recent surveys, was that there was an increasing need for stakeholder buy-in to support the development of action plans for mainstreaming a gender perspective and to build awareness of stakeholders on these issues with regards to standards setting. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will expand its work with the ECE Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies to increase awareness and capacity to mainstream a gender perspective in standards.

20.103 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.XVIII)

<sup>12</sup> ECE Team of Specialists on Gender-responsive Standards established by the 124<sup>th</sup> meeting of the ECE Executive Committee (30 September 2022).

Figure 20.XVIII

Performance measure: number of standards development organizations that have committed to implement the *ECE Declaration for Gender Responsive Standards and Standards Development*<sup>13</sup> (cumulative)



## Deliverables

20.104 Table 20.13 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 20.13

**Subprogramme 6: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory**

Category and subcategory	2022 planned	2022 actual	2023 planned	2024 planned
<b>A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies</b>				
<b>Parliamentary documentation</b> (number of documents)	<b>110</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>107</b>
Documentation for:				
1. The Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards	13	10	10	13
2. The Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies	13	13	14	14
3. The Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards	60	58	60	60
4. The United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business	24	21	24	20
<b>Substantive services for meetings</b> (number of three-hour meetings)	<b>91</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>102</b>
Meetings of:				
5. The Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards and its Bureau	7	5	4	7
6. The Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies, its Bureau and related expert bodies	5	5	13	13
7. The Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards and its specialized sections	26	26	26	26
8. The United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business	53	50	53	53
<b>B. Generation and transfer of knowledge</b>				
<b>Field and technical cooperation projects</b> (number of projects)	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
9. On enhancing usage and uptake of standards for sustainable development, gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls	–	1	–	1

<sup>13</sup> [https://unece.org/DAM/trade/wp6/AreasOfWork/GenderInitiative/UNECEGenderDeclaration\\_English.pdf](https://unece.org/DAM/trade/wp6/AreasOfWork/GenderInitiative/UNECEGenderDeclaration_English.pdf)

**Part V Regional cooperation for development**

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>	<i>2022 actual</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>	<i>2024 planned</i>
10. On food loss and agriculture	1	–	–	–
11. On food loss reduction in agriculture supply chains	–	–	1	1
12. On trade facilitation	3	3	3	3
<b>Seminars, workshops and training events</b> (number of days)	<b>18</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>21</b>
13. Workshops for policymakers and experts in low- and middle-income countries in the ECE region on trade procedures, supply chain management, conformity assessment and market surveillance, and women's entrepreneurship	3	8	2	6
14. Seminars for standardization and inspection agencies and other stakeholders in transition economies and developing countries in the ECE region or beyond on ECE agricultural quality standards	6	4	6	6
15. Seminars for policymakers and experts in countries with economies in transition and developing countries in the ECE region or beyond on support for the implementation of trade-related standards, recommendations and guidelines	9	9	6	9
<b>Publications</b> (number of publications)	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
16. On regulatory and procedural barriers to trade in a country to be decided	1	-	1	1
17. On trade standard guidance in the following areas: quality infrastructure, risk management, education, sustainable development	1	1	1	2
18. On mainstream a gender perspective in standards	–	–	3	2
19. On risk-based inspections and disaster and sustainable development	1	1	–	–
20. On agricultural trade and supply chains	1	1	–	1
21. On trade facilitation recommendations, standards and strategies	5	6	5	5
22. On ECE trade facilitation best practice and recommendations	1	1	–	–
<b>Technical materials</b> (number of materials)	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>
23. Guidelines on cross-border trade	1	1	1	1
24. Training material and guidelines on trade standards and/or regulatory cooperation	2	2	2	2
25. Standards and guidelines on agricultural quality	4	4	4	4
26. Training material on trade facilitation and electronic business	1	1	1	1
<b>Fact-finding, monitoring and investigating missions</b> (number of missions)	<b>–</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
27. Fact-finding missions on trade facilitation and electronic business, agricultural quality standards, regulatory cooperation and standardization, and regulatory and procedural barriers to trade	–	-	3	3

**C. Substantive deliverables**

**Consultation, advice and advocacy:** advisory services to government officials and other stakeholders in at least 10 ECE member States on trade facilitation and electronic business, agricultural quality standards, regulatory cooperation and standardization, and regulatory and procedural barriers to trade.

**Databases and other substantive digital materials:** databases for e-business standards and codes.

**D. Communication deliverables**

**Outreach programmes, special events and information materials:** booklets, fact sheets and information brochures reaching at least 17 ECE programme countries and for more than 1,000 public and private sector experts.

**External and media relations:** press releases, publication launch events and articles in external newsletters intended for government officials and experts working on trade.

**Digital platforms and multimedia content:** subprogramme's website.



## **Subprogramme 7 Forests and the forest industry**

### **Objective**

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

### **Strategy**

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

- 20.107 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will:

- (a) Promote cooperation among member States, regional entities and other partners for sustainable forest management, forest landscape restoration, the sustainable use of forest products and services, linkages between sustainable food systems and forests, and urban and peri-urban forestry;
- (b) Collect, validate and disseminate information, research and analysis related to sustainable forest management and the sustainable production and consumption of wood products, including wood energy;
- (c) Facilitate the exchange of national experiences and best practices and monitor progress on achieving sustainable forest management using indicators for SDGs 12 and 15, which will help member States measure progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and provide an indirect indication of progress under the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030;
- (d) Organize capacity-building seminars and webinars and prepare dedicated publications on the forest sector and wood energy, including on crisis response and on solutions for more resilient economies.

- 20.108 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

- (a) The ability of ECE member States to sustainably manage healthy forest ecosystems in order to provide important ecosystem goods and services to benefit society, including climate mitigation and adaptation;
- (b) Increased and more efficient use by ECE member States of sustainable forest products that contribute to the circular economy and the sustainable use of natural resources, with increased use of renewable raw materials to replace less-sustainable alternatives;
- (c) The integration of forest resources and products into planning and recovery from economic, health and environmental shocks, including COVID-19 recovery, to increase the resilience of member States and their most vulnerable persons.

### **Programme performance in 2022**

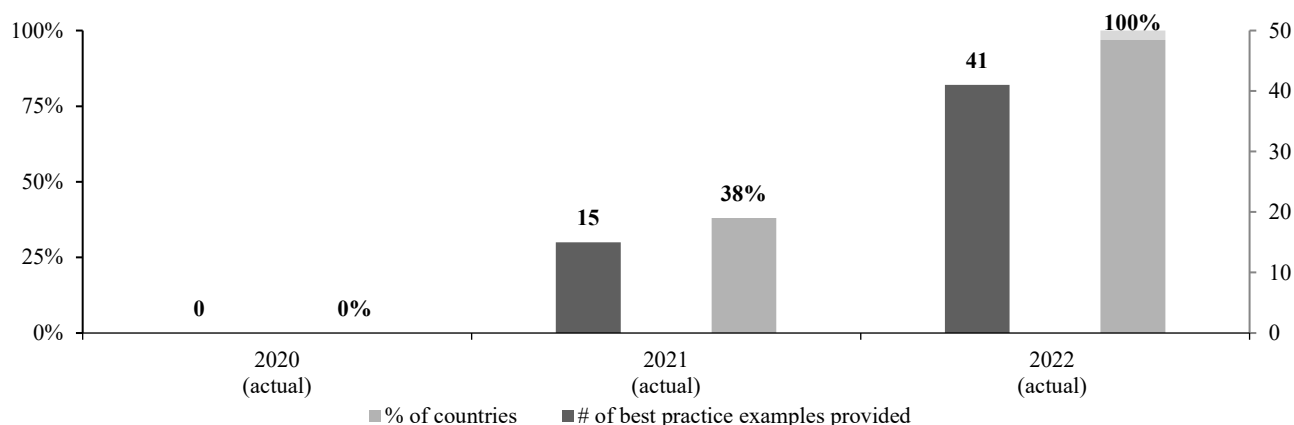
#### **Improved policies and access to information for planning and implementing forest landscape restoration in the Caucasus and Central Asia**

20.109 Integrated approaches to forest landscape restoration (FLR) are one key solution to address the widespread impacts of forest degradation. The subprogramme supported national governments<sup>14</sup> by improving knowledge about enabling policies for forest landscape restoration among policymakers. The subprogramme developed the Forest Landscape Restoration Knowledge Exchange Platform, which integrates member States’ experiences, data and region-specific policy and capacity building tools. This includes the National Policy Guiding Principles on Forest Landscape Restoration, which support national forest authorities to identify and adapt national FLR-related policies, strategies and laws according to available best practice and evidence. The guiding policy principles were already used by Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan in developing their national strategic planning in FLR. The publicly available platform shares national experiences and up-to-date information on forests, on forests and forest management as well as knowledge about FLR in Caucasus and Central Asia.

20.110 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.XIX).

Figure 20.XIX  
**Performance measure: ECE member States providing data and information to the FLR Knowledge Exchange Platform**

[Share of the eight member States in the target subregion and number of best practice examples provided]



### Planned results for 2024

#### Result 1: increased access to forest product information to support evidence-led policymaking for the sustainable production and consumption of forest products

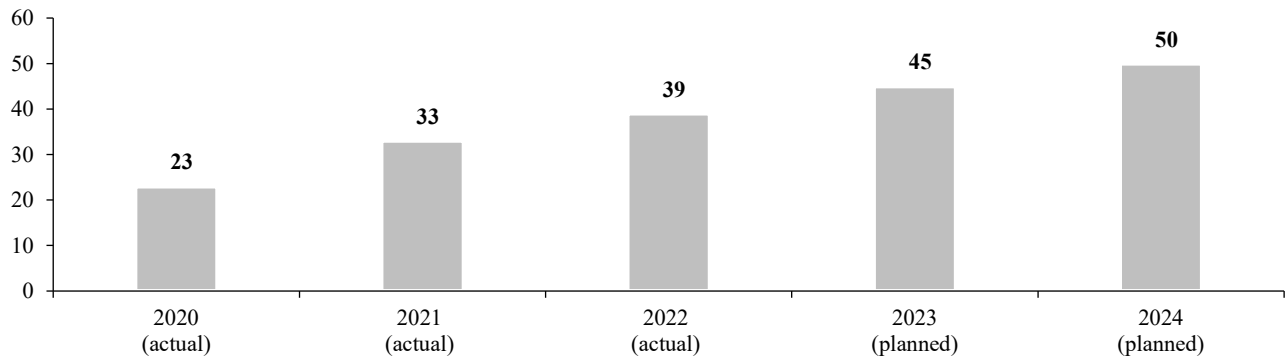
##### Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

20.111 The subprogramme’s work contributed to updated information on a cumulative total of 39 key forest product commodities, which met the planned target.

20.112 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.XX).

Figure 20.XX  
**Performance measure: number of wood-based commodities assessments available to member States with specific information regarding their production, trade and consumption (cumulative)**

<sup>14</sup> Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan



**Result 2: enhanced accessibility and timeliness of sustainable forest management information and improved monitoring of the impact of increased wood use in a circular economy**

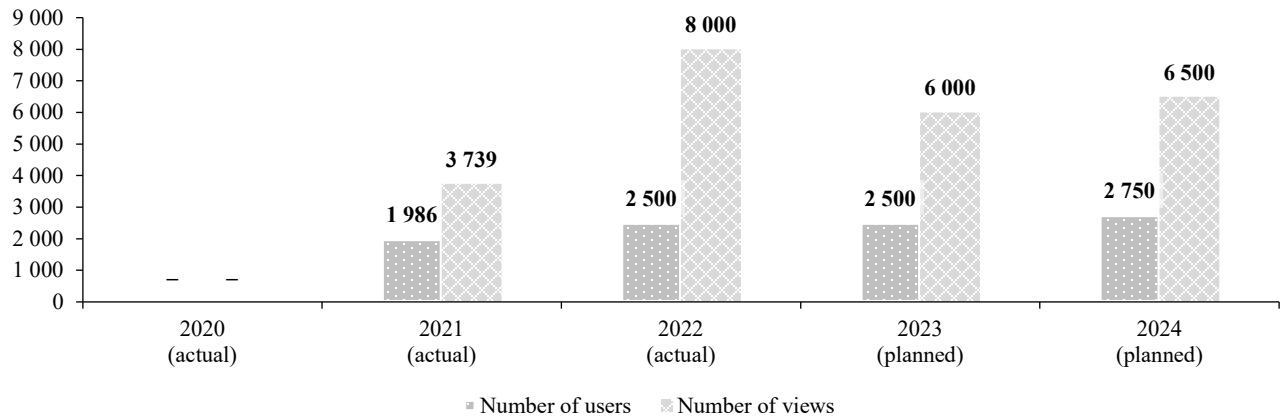
**Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024**

20.113 The subprogramme’s work contributed to 2,250 public users and 8,000 views of up-to-date data on sustainable forest management from the INForest platform that is accessible to persons with disabilities, which met the planned target of public users and exceeded the planned target of 3,739 views.

20.114 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.XXI).

Figure 20.XXI

**Performance measure: number of public users and number of views of up-to-date data on sustainable forest management from the INForest platform that is accessible to persons with disabilities (cumulative)**



**Result 3: Cities and towns commit to expand sustainable urban and peri-urban forest cover**

**Proposed programme plan for 2024**

20.115 Sustainable urban forests are increasingly recognised as important components of more liveable, healthier and more resilient cities and towns. Since 2019, the subprogramme has developed substantive materials, established an informal network of experts, and created a Trees in Cities Challenge to engage with local and national policymakers to commit sustainable urban forest management and tree planting pledges. This resulted in a substantial increase in the number of cities

expanding their urban and peri-urban tree coverage. The benefits from this expansion include mitigation of floods, reduced heat islands and energy consumption, improved air quality, improved well-being, and new jobs. Integrated, long-term planning and management of urban and peri-urban forests results in cost-effective nature-based solution<sup>15</sup> for sustainable local/national development, disaster risk reduction and climate action, contributing to progress towards achievement of the Goals, and the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.

*Lessons learned and planned change*

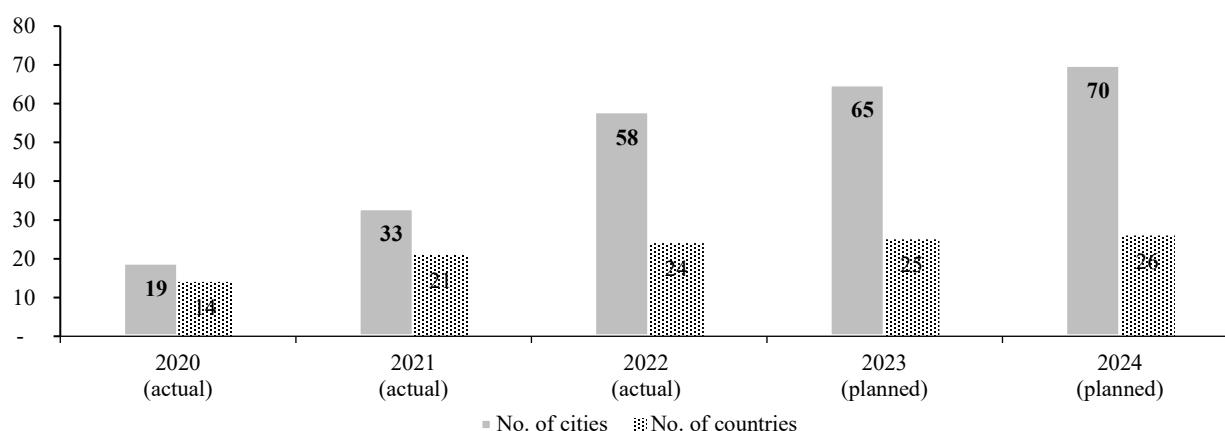
20.116 The lesson for the subprogramme was that targeted outreach to cities, when combined with substantive guidance materials and collaboration e.g. financial incentives, maintenance or management as well as opportunities for peer exchange, is the most effective approach to encourage local and national policymakers to commit to increase sustainable urban tree and forest cover. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will strengthen the exchange among cities, policymakers and experts through more informal network events, targeted campaigns, and needs-based substantive materials for local and national action.

20.117 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.XXII)

Figure 20.XXII

**Performance measure: Cities and towns committed to increase sustainable urban tree and forest cover**

[Number of cities making pledges and number of ECE countries with at least one city making a pledge to ECE]



**Deliverables**

20.118 Table 20.14 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 20.14

**Subprogramme 7: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory**

Category and subcategory	2022 planned	2022 actual	2023 planned	2024 planned
<b>A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies</b>				
<b>Parliamentary documentation</b> (number of documents)	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>16</b>
1. Documentation for the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry/European Forestry Commission	10	10	18	10

<sup>15</sup> UN General Assembly resolution 75/219, para.39

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>	<i>2022 actual</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>	<i>2024 planned</i>
2. Documentation for the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management	6	6	6	6
<b>Substantive services for meetings</b> (number of three-hour meetings)	<b>22</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>22</b>
Meetings of:				
3. The Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry/European Forestry Commission	6	5	8	6
4. The Bureau of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry	2	1	2	2
5. The Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management and of Teams of Specialists	14	19	14	12
<b>B. Generation and transfer of knowledge</b>				
<b>Seminars, workshops and training events</b> (number of days)	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>
6. Training events for policymakers, experts and relevant stakeholders from countries in the ECE region on topics related to the ECE/FAO integrated programme	15	15	12	12
<b>Publications</b> (number of publications)	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>
7. Forest Products Annual Market Review	1	1	1	1
8. On sustainable forest management and forest products	6	6	6	6
<b>C. Substantive deliverables</b>				
<b>Consultation, advice and advocacy:</b> forest policy dialogues at the request of countries and support for forest policy issues, for up to 3 member States.				
<b>Databases and substantive digital materials:</b> ECE region databases on forest policies and institutions, forest resources and forest ownership, forest products including production, consumption and trade, wood energy and prices of wood raw material.				
<b>D. Communication deliverables</b>				
<b>Outreach programmes, special events and information materials:</b> events celebrating the International Day of Forests; brochures and information materials on various forest-related topics; presentations at round tables and international forest-related events.				
<b>External and media relations:</b> press releases for the subprogramme; Forest Information Billboard newsletter for approximately 4,000 subscribers.				
<b>Digital platforms and multimedia content:</b> website of the subprogramme; social media accounts; videos on forest-related topics.				

## Subprogramme 8 Housing, land management and population

### Objective

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

### Strategy

20.120 The subprogramme comprises two components: (a) housing and land management; and (b) population.

20.121 The strategy of the subprogramme is based on the implementation of the core interlinked functions, namely, international policy dialogue, normative work and capacity-building and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned in all areas of the subprogramme's work.

20.122 To contribute to the objective, the housing and land management component of the subprogramme will:

- (a) Support the national, regional and local governments of member States and other key stakeholders in the review of progress in achieving Goals 3, 5, 7, 9, 11 and 12, and build their capacities for the implementation of measures to accelerate achieving the Goals through technical assistance projects, thematic studies, training sessions, the exchange of experiences and best practices and policy advice on: affordable climate-neutral and decent housing for all; housing finance; smart sustainable cities, digitization in cities and innovative financial mechanisms for cities; land administration and management, including informal settlements; and urban strategies and programmes that integrate climate change measures and promote the climate neutrality of buildings;
- (b) Support local governments in the development of evidence-based policies on sustainable housing and urban development through the application of the ECE/International Telecommunication Union (ITU) key performance indicators on smart sustainable cities, indicators on urban economic resilience and a United Nations system-wide urban monitoring framework; and in the preparation of smart sustainable cities profiles and voluntary local reviews of the implementation of the Goals, based on the assessments of achievement of the Goals;
- (c) Provide assistance to national and local Governments with the development of evidence-based urban and housing policies through the preparation of country profiles on urban development, housing and land management;
- (d) Support the strengthening of the capacities of national and local governments to design, implement and monitor urban resilience plans and sustainable urban infrastructure development projects, including those that provide support to the most vulnerable persons, especially those in informal settlements;
- (e) Promote multistakeholder partnerships and innovative financing instruments to unlock further financing and partnerships for the implementation of these plans and projects, in collaboration with the Geneva United Nations Charter Centres of Excellence;
- (f) Organize the fourth Forum of Mayors to discuss the challenges for sustainable housing and urban development.

20.123 To contribute to the objective, the population component of the subprogramme will:

- (a) Support national and regional review and follow-up activities to assess progress in implementing the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and its Regional Implementation Strategy by providing a platform for intergovernmental policy debate on matters related to mainstreaming ageing, and facilitate communication with a wider network of experts and non-governmental organizations;
- (b) Coordinate data collection on active ageing indicators and policy-oriented research on ageing and intergenerational and gender relations to support evidence-based policymaking and the monitoring of the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and its Regional Implementation Strategy;
- (c) Support the development of national capacities for policy formulation through policy seminars, policy briefs and the showcasing of good practices from member States;
- (d) Assess lessons learned and strengthen the capacity of member States in terms of preparedness and emergency response to mitigate the risks for older persons, in particular older persons in vulnerable situations.

20.124 The above-mentioned work in the area of housing and land management is expected to result in:

- (a) Improved national and local policies for housing affordability, adequacy and accessibility for all; the energy efficiency and climate neutrality of buildings; and sustainable and resilient urban development;

- (b) Increased capacity of national and local governments for the development of housing and urban development policies and programmes, which integrate the concepts of the 2030 Agenda, the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing and relevant best practices, and the action plan entitled “Place and Life in the ECE – A Regional Action Plan 2030: Tackling challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, climate and housing emergencies in the region, city, neighbourhood and homes”;
- (c) Improved understanding by city authorities of their socioeconomic development priorities through the preparation of smart sustainable cities profiles and voluntary local reviews of the implementation of the Goals, based on the revised guidelines for the development of voluntary local reviews in the ECE Region and using ECE/ITU key performance indicators for smart sustainable cities, urban economic resilience indicators and a United Nations system-wide urban monitoring framework;
- (d) Increased capacity of land administration authorities to develop national land administration and management systems;
- (e) More effective local urban development and housing policies and related resilience plans, in particular for the most vulnerable persons living in informal settlements.

20.125 The above-mentioned work in the thematic area of population is expected to result in:

- (a) Demonstrated progress by member States in mainstreaming ageing across all policy fields and governance levels;
- (b) Enhanced capacities of member States with regard to designing and implementing integrated policies for active and healthy ageing;
- (c) Policy approaches adopted by member States that advance the rights and dignity of older persons and their contribution to a sustainable and inclusive society for all ages;
- (d) The design and implementation by member States of national and regional emergency responses, including to the COVID-19 pandemic, that include more prominent considerations for older persons.

## Programme performance in 2022

### Access to high-quality long-term care: renewed commitment and experience exchange

- 20.126 The demand for long-term care services in the ECE region is growing because of population ageing and growing longevity, exerting pressure on countries’ care infrastructures. The need for equal access to long-term care services and for upholding high quality standards across care settings was underscored by the COVID-19 pandemic. In view of this, during the Ministerial Conference on Ageing (Rome, 2022), ECE member States renewed their commitment to ensuring access to high-quality long-term care.
- 20.127 The subprogramme has undertaken several activities to facilitate knowledge-building and policy dialogue among member States, and to strengthen the capacity of member States to address the challenges related to long-term care provision in the ECE region through information sharing and experience exchange. Examples of such activities include a rapid assessment on the impact of COVID-19 on long-term care services in Kazakhstan and the organization of Policy Seminars on Ageing involving national policymakers, experts on long-term care systems and services, civil society representatives and other stakeholders.
- 20.128 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.15).

Table 20.15  
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)
Increased knowledge on COVID-19 and the impacts for older persons in need of long-term care	Member States agreed to focus on access to long-term care and support to carers and families as one of the key themes of the Ministerial Conference on Ageing (Rome, 2022)	In the 2022 Rome Ministerial Declaration, ECE member States set the goal of ensuring access to long-term care and support for carers and families.  Increased knowledge on determinants of quality in long-term care and approaches to quality assurance

### Planned results for 2024

#### Result 1: Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing beyond 2022: reaching a consensus on the goals and actions for healthy and active ageing in a sustainable world

##### Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

20.129 The subprogramme’s work contributed to reaching a consensus on the goals and actions for healthy and active ageing in a sustainable world, which met the planned target.

20.130 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see Table 20.16).

Table 20.16

#### Performance measure

2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (planned)	2024 (planned)
The Bureau issued the guidelines for national reports and launched the fourth review and appraisal exercise in the region  A concept note for the 2022 Ministerial Conference on Ageing was discussed at the annual meeting of the Working Group	Member States held national review and appraisal exercises and submitted their national reports to the ECE secretariat  The Bureau prepared a first draft of the ministerial declaration for consultation with the member States	Member States adopted the 2022 Rome Ministerial Declaration, as the outcome document of the ECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing. It outlines the goals and main actions for healthy and active ageing in 2022-2027 that safeguard the dignity and rights of older persons.	The programme of work of the Standing Working Group for Ageing for 2023–2027, based on the priorities outlined in a declaration of the 2022 Ministerial Conference and the outcome of the global review of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing in 2023, is developed and adopted by member States	Enhanced knowledge on policy measures developed on a priority topic identified in the Rome Ministerial Declaration, gained through an in-depth policy discussion between member States and experts

#### Result 2: acceleration of the city-level implementation of the Goals



**Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024**

20.131 The subprogramme’s work contributed to the development of two smart sustainable cities profile for Tbilisi (Georgia) and Podgorica (Montenegro) and one smart sustainable country/city profile for the Republic of San Marino (as requested by the Government, the profile combined a country-wide analysis with cities’ analysis), which met the planned target.

20.132 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 20.17).

Table 20.17

**Performance measure**

<i>2020 (actual)</i>	<i>2021 (actual)</i>	<i>2022 (actual)</i>	<i>2023 (planned)</i>	<i>2024 (planned)</i>
One smart sustainable cities profile (for Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan) using evidence-based approaches developed	Two smart sustainable cities profiles (for Hrodna, Belarus, and Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan) using evidence-based approaches developed	Two smart sustainable cities profile (for Tbilisi, Georgia and Podgorica, Montenegro) as well as one smart sustainable country/city profile (for the Republic of San Marino and its cities) developed using evidence-based approaches	Four additional country/ city profiles and smart sustainable city profiles and voluntary local reviews (VLRs) using evidence-based approaches developed	Four additional country/city profiles and smart sustainable city profiles and VLRs using evidence-based approaches developed  Two cities implementing the recommendations contained in the profiles and VLRs

**Result 3: acceleration of the city-level implementation of best practices in housing and land management and urban development**

**Proposed programme plan for 2024**

20.133 ECE cities face challenges in ensuring a comprehensive treatment of housing, land management and urban development. To support city authorities, the subprogramme prepared thematic guideline documents to help cities develop reform initiatives that create horizontal synergies across policy areas as well as vertical synergies between the local, national and global levels.

*Lessons learned and planned change*

20.134 The lesson for the subprogramme was that targeted support to local governments should combine evidence-based analysis with thematic, action-oriented policy briefs and best practice guidelines. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will utilize its evidence-based analysis to develop thematic, action-oriented policy briefs and guidelines in collaboration with its network of experts and ECE cities. This will enable local and national governments to better coordinate housing, land management and urban development initiatives with other policy areas (horizontal synergies), bolster regional cooperation and find local solutions to global challenges such as climate change (vertical synergies).

20.135 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 20.18)

Table 20.18

**Performance measure**

2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (planned)	2024 (planned)
–	-	“Place and Life in the ECE – A Regional Action Plan 2030: Tackling challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, climate and housing emergencies in region, city, neighbourhood and homes” adopted by member States	One country/city implementing recommendations contained in the thematic policy briefs and guidelines on housing, land management and urban development	Two countries/cities implementing recommendations contained in the thematic policy briefs and guidelines on housing, land management and urban development

## Deliverables

20.136 Table 20.19 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 20.19

### Subprogramme 8: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	2022 planned	2022 actual	2023 planned	2024 planned
<b>A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies</b>				
<b>Parliamentary documentation</b> (number of documents)	<b>16</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>16</b>
Documentation for:				
1. The Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management	10	11	11	11
2. The Working Party on Land Administration	–	-	7	-
3. The Standing Working Group on Ageing	4	5	5	5
4. The Ministerial Conference on Ageing	2	3	–	–
5. The regional conference on population and development issues	–	–	2	–
<b>Substantive services for meetings</b> (number of three-hour meetings)	<b>31</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>29</b>
Meetings of:				
6. The Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management and its Bureau	14	14	14	14
7. The Working Party on Land Administration and its Bureau	6	6	10	6
8. The Standing Working Group on Ageing and its Bureau	7	10	9	9
9. The Ministerial Conference on Ageing	4	4	–	–
10. The regional conference on population and development issues	–	–	4	–
<b>B. Generation and transfer of knowledge</b>				
<b>Field and technical cooperation projects</b> (number of projects)	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
11. Country profiles on housing, land administration and spatial planning	1	1	1	2
12. Road map for mainstreaming ageing project for a specific country	–	–	1	1
<b>Seminars, workshops and training events</b> (number of days)	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>
13. Workshops, seminars and training courses for policymakers and/or experts in the ECE region on housing and land administration (including real estate) and spatial planning	4	4	8	8

Category and subcategory	2022 planned	2022 actual	2023 planned	2024 planned
14. Workshops and policy seminars on population ageing issues for policymakers, experts, practitioners and other stakeholders in countries of the ECE region	1	1	2	2
<b>Publications</b> (number of publications)	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>
15. On housing and land management	4	4	4	4
16. On population	2	3	2	2
<b>Technical materials</b> (number of materials)	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>
17. Technical guidelines on housing and land management	1	1	2	2
18. Toolkit and training course material on mainstreaming ageing	–	–	2	1
<b>Fact-finding, monitoring and investigation missions</b> (number of missions)	<b>–</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
20. Fact-finding missions for government officials and other stakeholders to develop national capacities in designing and implementing ageing-related policies and programmes	–	–	1	1
21. Fact-finding missions for policymakers in preparation for and follow-up to the country profiles on housing, land administration and spatial planning	–	1	1	1

**C. Substantive deliverables**

**Consultation, advice and advocacy:** [Generations and Gender Programme](https://unece.org/population/generations-and-gender)<sup>16</sup> advocacy for national survey coordinators; advisory services for policymakers in up to 4 member States in preparation for and follow-up to the country profiles on housing, land administration and spatial planning; advisory services for government officials and other stakeholders to develop national capacities in designing and implementing ageing-related policies and programmes.

**Databases and substantive digital materials:** active ageing indicators data set for global access.

**D. Communication deliverables**

**Outreach programmes, special events and information materials:** fact sheets of the Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management and the Working Party on Land Administration; booklet of the Standing Working Group on Ageing and ageing-related side events for various stakeholders.

**External and media relations:** press releases related to housing, land management and population activities.

**Digital platforms and multimedia content:** websites related to housing, land management and population activities for global and regional access; Active Ageing Index wiki.

<sup>16</sup> <https://unece.org/population/generations-and-gender>