

Final Progress Report – 01.12.2022

Audit of mainstreaming of Sustainable Development Goals and COVID-19 response into the programme of work of the Economic Commission for Europe (OIOS-2021-01436)

| No. | Recommendation | Critical ¹ / Important ² | Actions taken to close recommendation | Implementation date ³ |
|-----|---|---|---|----------------------------------|
| 1 | ECE should prepare an action plan for the review and endorsement of nexus publications by relevant subprogrammes, sectoral committees, and the Executive Committee to enable timely tracking and monitoring of the implementation of recommendations related to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. | Important | <p>The relevant recommendations from the nexus publications were put on the agendas and communicated for information to the following ECE Expert Groups discussing issues related to the SDGs: (a) the Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators; (b) Expert Meeting on statistics for Sustainable Development Goals; (c) the Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6); (d) the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management.</p> <p>The Joint Task Force on Environmental Statistics and Indicators, at its 18th session on 18-19 October 2021, took note of the information and recommendations presented in the nexus report on Measuring and Monitoring Progress Towards the Sustainable Development Goals, and encouraged its members to review and possibly apply the recommendations of the report nationally. (Para. 27 (h) of ECE/CEP-CES/GE.1/2021/2)</p> <p>The 6th Expert Meeting on Statistics for Sustainable Development Goals (5-6 May 2022) considered the nexus report and agreed that the Steering Group on Statistics for SDGs and the Task Teams with the support of the Secretariat will continue to provide guidance for implementing the recommendations of the UNECE nexus report <i>Measuring and monitoring the progress towards the SDGs</i>. (ECE/CES/2022/14/Add.14, para 9).</p> <p>The Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6) at its 73rd Session (15-17 June 2022), took note of the information and recommendations presented in the nexus report on Measuring and Monitoring Progress Towards the Sustainable Development Goals, and encouraged its members to review and possibly apply the recommendations of the report nationally (Para. 26 of ECE/TRANS/WP.6/183).</p> | Implemented as of 17 June 2022 |

¹ Critical recommendations address those risk issues that require immediate management attention. Failure to take action could have a critical or significant adverse impact on the Organization.

² Critical recommendations address those risk issues that require immediate management attention. Failure to take action could have a critical or significant adverse impact on the Organization.

³ Date provided by ECE, pending OIOS final confirmation.

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|-----|--|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | <p>Finally, the 43rd session of the Joint ECE/FAO Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management was held from 1-3 June 2022. The Joint Working Party took note of the information and recommendations provided and encouraged its members to review and possibly apply the recommendations of the report nationally (Paras. 75 and 76 of ECE/TIM/EFC/WP.2/2022/2).</p> | |
| 2 | <p>ECE should set targets for the completion of national action plans by regional advisers for their respective programme countries to optimize and tailor its support to the specific needs of each Member State.</p> | Important | <p>In March 2022, ECE has revised its internal directive on the management of the Regular programme of technical cooperation (RPTC), clarifying the role the regional advisers, as “ECE focal points for ongoing engagement with Resident Coordinator Offices and UNCTs to identify potential areas for developing technical cooperation activities in the programme countries”</p> <p>Further to the issuance of this directive, a template has been agreed for Country Briefs, based on the signed UNSDCF of the country, and reflecting programmatic opportunities for ECE in the country.</p> <p>The delivery of the 17 Country Briefs was staggered throughout the year; 5 were delivered in May 2022: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. The last 12 were finalized on 1 December 2022: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Türkiye, and Ukraine.</p> <p>These documents are shared with government officials during high-level visits and with UN counterparts in the UNCTs; they will be regularly updated in the future by the respective Regional Advisers.</p> | Implemented as of 1 December 2022 |