

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Item7

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Draft Proposed Programme Budget for 2021

Section 20 Economic development in Europe

Part II. Programme plan and programme performance

Note by the secretariat

In General Assembly resolution A/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, following the completion of the first full budgetary cycle. 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 2021 are expected from the UN Controller by the end of December 2019. Based on initial guidance already provided by the Department of Management, the ECE secretariat has prepared the draft of Part II of the proposed programme budget for 2021, which is presented to the EXCOM for review. The initial guidance by the UNHQ reflected the proposals on the structure and the content of Part II made by Member States when they considered the proposed programme budget for 2020. This includes, *inter alia*, such added elements as cross-sectoral deliverables, presentation of a strategy of each subprogramme, concrete information on contribution to SDGs, and enhanced performance reporting covering a period of 5 years.

The budget levels for ECE and other Departments are expected to be set by the Secretary-General by the end of December 2019 and will serve as the basis for the preparation of Part III of the proposed programme budget for 2021.

Modified as appropriate, the ECE proposed programme budget will subsequently be submitted for review to the Committee for Programme and Coordination (Part II) and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (Part III) at their respective sessions in mid-2020. Conclusions and recommendations made by both Committees therein will be transmitted to the 5th Committee and the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session in 2020 when considering the Secretary-General’s proposed programme budget for 2021.

In cooperation with member States, the ECE secretariat will continue to address existing and emerging challenges by implementing the most relevant, impact generating and innovative work according to ECE's mandate. Dialogue with member States will be aided through regular updates on the tangible results and impact achieved by ECE in accelerating progress towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Draft ECE Proposed Programme Budget for 2021¹

Statement

Since I assumed leadership of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) in 2017, we have streamlined the work of ECE aimed at facilitating the economic development of the region and promoting closer integration of its economies, with the ultimate goal of improving the lives of citizens in our member States. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development provided a solid framework for implementing the ECE mandate in supporting member States to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In advancing this work in our region, the Commission's convening power stems from some 200 intergovernmental and expert bodies and ability to leverage the know-how of close to 18,000 experts with multi-sectoral expertise. With a broad normative base comprising 59 Transport Conventions, 5 Multilateral Environmental Agreements, some 590 standards and recommendations on trade facilitation, e-business, agricultural quality, statistics, sustainable energy and public-private partnerships, ECE is a knowledge hub for the region with transboundary expertise. We actively collaborate with UN system partners at the regional and country levels. ECE is signatory to all 17 UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks in the region and cooperates with UN country teams and other partners to accelerate SDG implementation by providing bespoke technical cooperation to our member States.

Let me share one encouraging result of our recent work which contributes to saving lives. The World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations serviced by ECE developed the UN Regulation for Advanced Emergency Braking Systems (AEBS) for cars which will enter into force in January 2020. According to estimates, AEBS could save more than 1,000 lives every year within the European Union (EU) alone. The EU and Japan have announced that AEBS systems will become mandatory for all new cars and light commercial vehicles. This means that over 15 million new cars in the EU (sales data for 2017) and over 4 million new cars in Japan (sales data for 2018) would be equipped with the lifesaving AEBS technology each year. This is just one example of how ECE works to improve the lives of citizens in our region and beyond.

General Assembly Resolution 72/279 reaffirmed the role and functions of the United Nations development system at the regional level and underlined the need for continued efforts to ensure that this system is fit for purpose in supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In 2021, the implementation of the Secretary-General's vision for the reform offers a unique opportunity to increase the effectiveness of the Organization's support to Member States' efforts to achieve the goals set out in the 2030 Agenda. In this context, member States recognised the relevance of ECE's unique strength as a standard-setting body and a platform for enhancing regional harmonization and economic cooperation and provision of demand-driven technical assistance.

These reforms seek to increase and focus the impact of development efforts at the country level. In 2021, ECE will leverage its in-house expertise towards the transformational shift needed to meet the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda by fostering greater internal cross-sectoral synergies and strengthening its network of knowledge partnerships with a wide range of actors. In that context, ECE remains committed to assist in accelerating sustainable development in countries of the ECE region.

(Signed) Olga **Algayerova**
Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Europe

¹ The actual figures for 2019 for deliverables of the subprogrammes may be updated based on the final annual data. Other changes may be introduced based on official Budget Instructions from the UN Controller expected by the end of December 2019.

A. Proposed programme plan for 2021 and programme performance for 2019

Overall orientation

1. 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) of 28 March 1947. The ECE region continues to face economic and environmental challenges in addressing the complexity of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), that remain a source of primary concern to member States. The Commission provides a regional intergovernmental platform from which to address these challenges, such as promoting sustained economic growth and sustainable mobility in the region, facilitating trade and economic integration, protecting the environment, ensuring a flexible and efficient energy supply, strengthening capacity for measuring sustainable development and addressing the implications of demographic trends. The work of the Commission is grounded in a wide body of its conventions, norms and best practices that provide sustainable solutions to problems 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 capacity of countries to implement these instruments, policies and best practices and facilitates their uptake.

2. Strategy

20.2 The ECE aims to promote regional cooperation and integration as a means of achieving sustainable development in the ECE region. The strategy of the programme is based on the implementation of core interlinked functions that are consistent with the legislative mandates of ECE, namely: (a) policy dialogue; (b) normative work; and (c) technical cooperation. In line with the principles of the reform of the UNDS at the regional level, in implementing its strategy in 2021, ECE will provide a neutral platform for policy dialogue to tackle 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 and 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 towards the achievement of the SDGs at the country level.

20.3 The objectives and deliverables of the ECE subprogrammes are aligned with specific SDGs. The intergovernmental bodies of ECE, notably the Commission and its sectoral committees, provide the foundation for ECE support for national governments and other stakeholders in advancing the implementation of the 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 ECE objectives are also aligned with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Vienna Declaration and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 and the New Urban Agenda.

- 20.4 The strategy of the programme is achieved through an integrated approach to sustainable development, which builds on synergies between and the results-oriented work of its eight subprogrammes, namely: (1) Environment; (2) Transport; (3) Statistics; (4) Economic cooperation and integration; (5) Sustainable energy; (6) Trade; (7) Forests and the forest industry; and (8) Housing, land management and population.
- 20.5 ECE leverages its integrated approach by providing multisectoral policy advice and capacity-building through cross-sectoral collaboration among its eight subprogrammes in four nexus areas at which multiple SDGs converge, namely: (a) the sustainable use of natural resources; (b) sustainable and smart cities for all ages; (c) sustainable mobility and smart connectivity; and (d) measuring and monitoring progress towards the SDGs. This collaboration enables ECE to maximize existing synergies, increase the efficiency of its work, and has a multiplying effect on its actions to support countries in implementing the Goals.
- 20.6 With regard to external factors, the overall plan for 2021 is based on the following planning assumptions:
- (a) Member States continue to 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 and sufficient capacity to cooperate in implementing the ECE legal instruments, norms and standards;
 - (c) Voluntary resources continue to be available.
- 20.7 ECE integrates a gender perspective in its normative, policy and operational activities, deliverables and results. Its work in this area aims to support member States in the achievement of SDG 5 and contributes to consistent implementation of the UN system-wide action plan for gender equality and the empowerment of women. In 2021, all sectoral committees governing the ECE subprogrammes will include gender mainstreaming in their work agendas, all ECE technical cooperation projects will be assessed against their impact on gender, and the Commission will continue its work on gender and economy, including capacity-building activities for women entrepreneurs from Central Asia. Furthermore, subprogramme 6 will continue working on gender-responsive standards, to promote the participation of women in the setting of standards and the representation of their interests in the standards themselves. Work on sex-disaggregated data and gender statistics will continue to improve the monitoring of gender equality in all its dimensions across the region.
- 20.8 With regard to cooperation with other entities, ECE will continue its strategic partnerships established with other United Nations entities and international financial institutions, for example, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the International Trade Centre, the World Trade Organization and the World Bank. Cooperation with other regional commissions will be pursued through joint initiatives, programmes and projects so as to strengthen knowledge management. 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 (ESCAP), will serve as the major framework for cooperation with other relevant stakeholders in Central Asia. ECE will build on its close cooperation with international and regional organisations and other regional actors, such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the European Union and the Eurasian Economic Union. ECE will also strengthen its partnerships with the private sector and civil society organizations, think tanks and the academic sector to facilitate ECE's policy dialogue and normative work and to engage them in the implementation by member States of the 2030 Agenda. The programme will also promote interregional, including South-South and triangular cooperation.

- 20.9 With regard to inter-agency coordination and collaboration, ECE will continue to play a key role in coordinating regional United Nations system entities. By hosting the Regional Collaborative Platform for Europe and Central Asia back-to-back with the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, ECE will continue to promote cooperation among United Nations regional entities and their partners in addressing regional, cross-cutting policy issues and providing regional perspectives at the global level. At the country level, ECE will strengthen its work as part of the 17 United Nations Country Teams in the region through the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks.

3. Legislative mandates

- 20.10 The programme continues to be guided by all mandates entrusted to it. The following constitute the list of legislative mandates at the programme level:

General Assembly resolutions

- 66/288 The future we want
- 67/10 Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community
- 67/290 Format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development
- 69/277 Political declaration on strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations
- 69/313 Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)
- 70/1 Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- 70/133 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
- 70/221 Operational activities for development of the United Nations system
- 71/14 Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization
- 71/16 Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization
- 71/162 Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
- 71/243 Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
- 72/230 Development cooperation with middle-income countries
- 72/234 Women in development
- 72/237 South-South Cooperation
- 73/10 Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative
- 73/13 Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization
- 73/14 Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development - GUAM
- 73/16 Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States
- 73/195 Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
- 73/227 Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
- 73/231 Disaster risk reduction
- 73/236 Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

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
- 2006/38 Workplan on reform of the Economic Commission for Europe and revised terms of reference of the Commission
- 2013/1 Outcome of the review of the 2005 Reform of the Economic Commission for Europe

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

- A (64) The Work of the Economic Commission for Europe
- A (65) Outcome of the review of the 2005 reform of ECE
- A (66) Endorsement of the High-level statement on the post-2015 development agenda and expected sustainable development goals in the ECE region
- A (68) High-level statement
- B (68) Extension of the mandate of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

4. Deliverables

20.11 The mandates provide the legislative framework for its deliverables. Table 20.1 lists the crosscutting deliverables, under the guidance of executive direction and management, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021.

Table 20.1

Cross-cutting deliverables for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>2019 plan</i>	<i>2019 actual</i>	<i>2020 plan</i>	<i>2021 plan</i>
Quantified deliverables				
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	28	35	23	33
1. Parliamentary documentation for the Economic Commission for Europe	6	6	0	10
2. Parliamentary documentation for meetings related to follow-up of global conferences or to cross-sectoral issues	4	11	3	3
3. Parliamentary documentation for the ECE Executive Committee	18	18	20	20
Substantive services for meetings (number of 3-hour meetings)	20	18	10	16
4. Meetings of the Economic Commission for Europe	4	4	0	4
5. Meetings related to follow-up of global conferences or to cross-sectoral issues	7	7	3	3
6. Meetings of the ECE Executive Committee	7	6	5	7
7. Meetings of the Working Group on Gender and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia	2	1	2	2
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	28	0	28	28
8. Training courses for government officials and private sector (women entrepreneurs) on womens entrepreneurship	28	0	28	28
Publications (number of publications)	2	0	3	3
9. Publication on the regional implementation, follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda	1	0	1	1
10. Publication on gender for sustainable development	1	0	1	1

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>2019 plan</i>	<i>2019 actual</i>	<i>2020 plan</i>	<i>2021 plan</i>
11. Publication on technical cooperation for the 2030 Agenda	0	0	1	0
12. ECE Annual report	0	0	0	1

Non-quantified deliverables

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: Advisory services to countries implementing the United Nations Development Assistance Framework process and “One United Nations” programme

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: Annual set of information and promotional materials (CD-ROMs, brochures, banners, panels, posters and postcards); Annual set of films on ECE activities

External and media relations: Annual set of ECE weekly newsletter; Annual set of press conferences on ECE activities; Annual set of press releases on ECE activities

Digital platforms and multimedia content: Update and maintenance of the website of the Executive Committee, the gender website and the technical cooperation activities website; Update and maintenance of the website providing access to information and documents related to ECE as a whole; Annual set of news on ECE activities on social media

E. Enabling deliverables

Administration: Coordination, management and provision of general administrative services; Coordination and management of programme planning, monitoring, reporting and evaluation, including for technical cooperation; Implementation of the ECE information strategy

Internal justice and oversight: Implementation of programme level evaluations, quality assurance and oversight of subprogramme - level evaluations; Implementation, quality assurance and oversight of project evaluations; Promotion of the lessons learned from self-evaluations and sharing of best practices and training

5. Evaluation activities

20.12 The following self-evaluations completed in 2019 have guided the programme plan for 2021:

- (a) Evaluation of gender mainstreaming in ECE (programme level);
- (b) Evaluation of the Environment Performance Reviews (subprogramme 1); and
- (c) Evaluation of ECE’s support to the advancement of Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies in member States (subprogramme 6).

20.13 The findings of the self-evaluations referenced in the above paragraph have been taken into account for the programme plan for 2021. ECE is committed to continue strengthening the role of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives. Since 2017, ECE reports on key results of evaluations to the Executive Committee on an annual basis. The report summarizes key evaluations, plans and recommendations for future action.

20.14 The following self-evaluations are planned for 2021:

- (a) Review of ECE engagement with the private sector (programme level);
- (b) Evaluations of extrabudgetary projects at the end of their cycles.

Programme of work

Subprogramme 1 Environment

1. Objective

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

2. Strategy

- 20.16 To contribute to improving environmental governance the subprogramme will operate through 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 mainstreaming of environmental concerns into other dimensions of sustainable development. The subprogramme will support the implementation of outcomes of global and regional summits and conferences on environment and sustainable development, including by supporting Governments in the achievement of all Sustainable Development Goals, given that environment represents one of the dimensions of sustainable development. The subprogramme will support and promote the implementation by countries of the ECE multilateral environmental agreements contributing to achieving mainly Goals 3 “good health and well-being”, 6 “clean water and sanitation”, 9 “industry, innovation and infrastructure”, 11 “sustainable cities and communities”, 12 “responsible consumption and production”, 13 “climate action”, 15 “life on land”, and 17 “partnerships for the Goals”. Furthermore, it will support and promote the implementation by countries of the ECE policy tools that include: the ECE Environmental Performance Review Programme contributing to achieving mainly Goals 6, 11, 12, 13 and 15; the ECE Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Programme contributing to achieving mainly Goal 17; the ECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development contributing to achieving mainly Goals 4 “quality education” and 12; and the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme contributing to achieving mainly Goals 3, 11, 13 and 17. Moreover, the subprogramme will support and promote the sharing of information (e.g., through the Shared Environmental Information System), experiences and good practices in the ECE region, which is expected to result in strengthened integration of environmental concerns into sectoral policies in the ECE member States. The subprogramme will continue promoting synergies between ECE legal instruments, which are expected to result in enhanced cross-border cooperation between countries and effective international and national cooperation on the environment.
- 20.17 Furthermore, to support countries in improving their environmental governance, the subprogramme will continue conducting environmental performance reviews, assisting countries in the implementation of the recommendations from those reviews and monitoring the impact of the recommendations on national policies. Using a country needs-based approach, the subprogramme will support countries, with a focus on those in the Caucasus, Central Asia and Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, in environmental policymaking and management, including by providing an intergovernmental platform for representative policy- and decision-making, organizing workshops and training events and providing advisory services, which are expected to strengthen countries’ capacities for the effective development and implementation of environmental legislation and policy, including of ECE guidelines and recommendations for environmental monitoring and assessment. Work will also be undertaken with interested non-ECE countries, particularly those wishing to join the multilateral environmental agreements that are open to global accession.

20.18 The work of the subprogramme will contribute to the four ECE nexuses as reflected in paragraph 20.5 above.

3. Programme performance in 2019: 40 years of cooperation result in improved air quality across the ECE region

20.19 The year 2019 marks the fortieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution in 1979. Over the past 40 years, ECE has facilitated negotiations under the Convention, convening countries to discuss policies to reduce air pollution and negotiate new emission targets. The subprogramme support to the implementation of the Convention helped the development of international environmental law and created the essential framework for controlling and reducing the damage to human health and the environment caused by transboundary air pollution. The collective effort of ECE and the Parties to the Convention has led to a reduction by 40 to 80 percent in emissions of a series of harmful substances in the region since 1990. For instance, the decrease of sulfur emissions has led to healthier forest soils. The science-policy interface under the Convention has created a common scientific understanding among Parties.

20.20 In 2019, Parties discussed milestones under the Convention, reviewed progress in the region and agreed visions for the future development of the Convention. A high-level event in December 2019 launched the global forum for cooperation on clean air. Still, capacity development activities will remain a key focus in order to enhance skills and improve the use of existing capacity, share lessons learned and transfer knowledge related to air quality monitoring, emission inventories and projections and abatement strategies, so that countries can adopt the best available techniques and implement emission reduction commitments. The capacity-building programme managed by the secretariat with support from several Parties has helped countries to develop emission inventories in accordance with the requirements under the Convention and assisted them in analysing and identifying gaps in their national air quality management legislation. Increasing awareness of the importance of addressing air pollution for health and environmental reasons and the availability of cost-effective tools for doing so remains key. The Batumi Action for Cleaner Air has helped raise awareness at the political level of the need to improve air quality, inspired national actions and promoted additional collaboration within and beyond the ECE region.

20.21 The work under the Convention supports countries' efforts to maintain a high rate of reporting, including through its capacity-development activities and by facilitating experience sharing and knowledge transfer. It helps countries to develop expertise in emissions inventories, thereby enhancing their ability to report at the same time as driving improvements in air quality. These activities enabled a stable and high rate of reporting emission inventories by Parties to the Convention during the last five years.

20.22 The work under the Convention also supports countries' efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda and achieve the SDGs, particularly:

- Goal 2 “zero hunger” by setting targets for ammonia and nitrogen oxides and thus assisting countries in abating nitrogen emissions and managing nitrogen more sustainably, which has direct impacts on soil quality and helps in promoting sustainable agriculture;
- Goal 3 “good health and well-being” by supporting to tackle the world’s largest environmental health risk for non-communicable diseases as a result of reduced air pollution;
- Goals 7 “affordable and clean energy” and 9 “industry, innovation and infrastructure” by setting emission limit values for air pollutants and these have proven to be an effective tool in stimulating investment in clean technologies, including in the energy sector;
- Goal 11 “sustainable cities and communities” through reductions in air pollution at the national level that also mean an improvement in air quality at the city level;

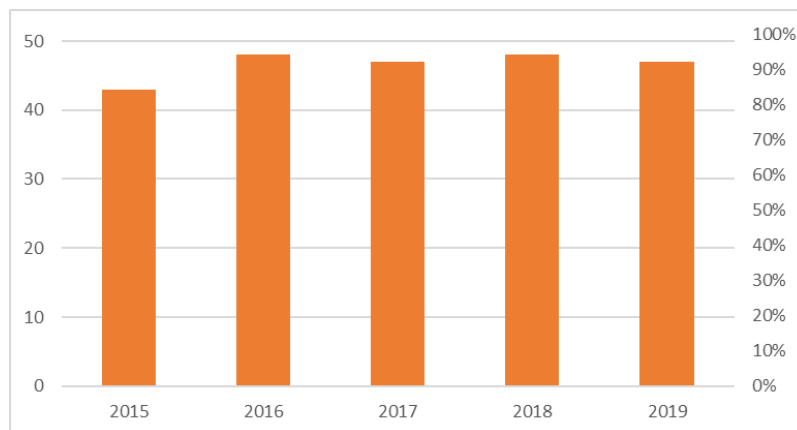
- Goal 12 “responsible consumption and production” by setting emission targets for various air pollutants to assist countries in sustainably managing and improving air quality and in reducing releases of chemicals to air;
- Goal 13 “climate action” by providing a legally binding framework to reduce the broader spectrum of short-lived climate pollutants, including ground-level ozone precursors and black carbon;
- Goal 14 “life below water” by setting targets for ammonia and nitrogen oxides, and thus assisting countries in reducing marine pollution from land-based activities, particularly nutrient pollution;
- Goal 15 “life on land” by setting targets for emissions of various air pollutants, and thus assisting countries in mitigating pollution effects on ecosystems and biodiversity; and
- Goal 17 “partnerships for the Goals” by providing a regional platform for sharing knowledge and expertise to support the achievement of a number of Sustainable Development Goals in countries of the region and beyond and fostering exchange of data between the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Minamata Convention on Mercury and the Arctic Council.

Progress towards attainment of the objective and performance measures

20.23 This work contributed to improved environmental governance, as demonstrated by a reduction of air pollutant emissions in the region, as shown by the emission inventories submitted by countries up to 2019, the development of which was supported by ECE. Regular reporting by countries of their emission inventories enables the assessment of emission reduction trends and emission control strategies in support of informed policy- and decision-making. In that regard, the 2016 Scientific Assessment Report details how particulate matters concentrations at European measurement sites declined by around a third between 2000 and 2012. National average annual concentrations of fine particulate matter (PM2.5) fell by 33 per cent between 2000 and 2012 in the United States of America, and by 4 per cent in Canada. The number of days exceeding the WHO guideline level for ozone concentrations is now about 20 per cent lower than in 1990. Other benefits made possible by improved environmental governance include the decoupling of economic growth and air pollution trends, which has prevented 600,000 premature deaths annually. The average life expectancy has increased by 12 months, thanks to emission reductions. Despite the progress made under the Convention, air pollution in the region continues to cause significant environmental and health problems and new challenges continue to emerge.

Performance measures

Number of countries, out of 51 Parties, reporting on inventories in accordance with their obligations under the Convention



4. Programme performance in 2019, against planned result

20.24 Strengthened national capacity for environmental monitoring and assessment systems in the countries of the Caucasus, Central Asia and Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 was achieved, as evidenced by the increased percentage of implementation of ECE recommendations on environmental monitoring by member States over the last four years from 54 per cent in 2016–2017 to 77 per cent in 2018–2019, exceeding the target of 52 per cent set for the biennium 2018–2019. Country self-assessments of their national establishment of the Shared Environmental Information System for selected indicators confirm that many States have continued to harmonize relevant data flows and improve the quality of the selected environmental indicators since 2016. Results reveal that the “air pollution and ozone depletion” theme has the highest performance scores, followed by “biodiversity” and “water”. At the same time, the use of the indicators in state-of-the-environment reporting needs improvement. Nearly all countries highlighted limitations in comparing data flows across subregions or between countries. Further efforts are therefore needed to harmonize data flows across the region, including in view of reporting obligations and for use in thematic assessments at different geographical levels, such as for transboundary ecosystems or river basins.

5. Programme plan for 2021: enhanced environmental performance in the ECE region

20.25 The subprogramme has been supporting countries to improve their environmental governance by conducting environmental performance reviews, assisting countries in the implementation of the recommendations from those reviews and monitoring the impact of the recommendations on national policies. Since the beginning of the third cycle of reviews in 2012, most of the eligible countries have requested ECE to conduct a review of their environmental performance. In the period 2012–2017, third-cycle reviews were conducted in the Republic of Moldova (2013), Montenegro (2014), Serbia (2014), Georgia (2015), Belarus (2015), Tajikistan (2017), Bulgaria (2017), Albania (2017) and Bosnia and Herzegovina (2017). In 2018, third cycle reviews were conducted in Kazakhstan and North Macedonia. Uzbekistan and Romania were undergoing their environmental performance reviews in 2019. Requests for further reviews have been received from Azerbaijan, Ukraine and Morocco, expected to be conducted in the period 2020–2021. Reviews take 12 to 18 months to complete and are published in the following year.

20.26 The efficiency and effectiveness of the environmental performance review methodology have attracted the attention of countries outside ECE region, leading to requests for a transfer of know-how from ECE to other United Nations regional commissions. Morocco was the first country outside the ECE region for which a review was carried out in 2012 by ECE in cooperation with the Economic Commission for Africa, followed by Mongolia in 2017 in cooperation with Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

20.27 Third-cycle environment performance reviews focus on environmental governance and financing in a green economy context, countries’ cooperation with the international community and environmental mainstreaming in priority sectors. The subprogramme assists, on an ad-hoc basis upon request, reviewed countries in their efforts to implement recommendations from their reviews by organizing regional and subregional workshops focussed on specific topics addressed in the environmental performance reviews (e.g., on environment and transport, or environment and energy) and capacity development work at national level including through implementing UNDA projects.

20.28 Since 2017, environment performance reviews address relevant SDGs and targets of the 2030 Agenda. The reviews have the potential to address up to 137 relevant targets under all SDGs. The coverage of targets is tailored to the content of each review, which in turn is being

determined in consultation with the Government concerned. Relevant targets under all Sustainable Development Goals have been addressed in the reviews conducted since 2017, however the most covered are Goals 6 “clean water and sanitation”, 11 “sustainable cities and communities”, 12 “responsible consumption and production”, 13 “climate action” and 15 “life on land”. The coverage of SDGs and targets can be viewed at www.uncece.org/env/epr.

Internal challenge and response

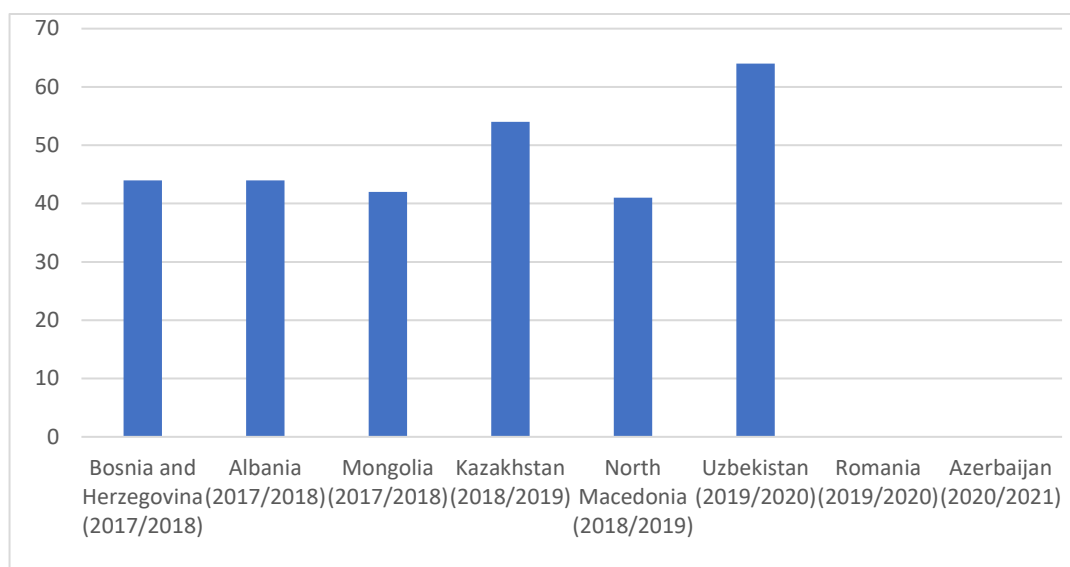
20.29 The challenge for the subprogramme, as identified in the 2019 evaluation of the Environment Performance Review Programme carried out at the request of ECE, was to establish a more effective and structured approach to support countries’ efforts in achieving and monitoring SDGs and targets covered by the reviews. To respond to this challenge, the subprogramme will work with the ECE Expert Group on Environmental Performance Reviews to revise the structure of the chapters in order to integrate the SDGs more deeply and coherently, to design capacity-development activities and materials to support countries in their implementation of the relevant recommendations, and to extend the cooperation with other United Nations entities and other international organizations.

Expected progress towards attainment of objective and performance measures

20.30 This work is expected to contribute towards improving environmental governance in the reviewed countries, which would be demonstrated by the number of SDGs and relevant targets covered by environmental performance reviews. The graph illustrates the coverage of the SDGs by the environmental performance reviews in countries reviewed since 2017. The number of targets covered by future reviews will depend on the topics chosen for their review by the countries concerned, but are expected to remain close to one third of all 169 targets in the 2030 Agenda.

Performance measures

Number of targets of the 2030 Agenda covered by environmental performance reviews



6. Legislative mandates

20.31 The subprogramme continues to be guided by all legislative mandates entrusted to it, comprising the following:

General Assembly resolutions

- 2994 (XXVII) United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (observance of the World Environment Day)
- 47/193 Observance of World Day for Water
- 62/68 Consideration of prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm
- 64/200 International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
- 67/291 Sanitation for All
- 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
- 69/235 Industrial development cooperation
- 70/169 The human right to water and sanitation
- 70/209 United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014)
- 71/222 International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028
- 71/313 Work of the Statistical Commission pertaining to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- 72/222 Education for sustainable Development in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable development
- 73/226 Midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028

Economic Commission for Europe decisions

- CEP/AC.13/2005/3/Rev.1 UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development adopted at the High-Level Meeting of Environment and Education Ministries, 2005
- ECE/BELGRADE.CONF/2007/4/Add.1 Statement on Education for Sustainable Development by the Ministers of Education and of the Environment of the UNECE region adopted at the joint session on education for development of the Sixth Ministerial Conference entitled “Environment for Europe”, 2007
- ECE/AC.21/2014/2 Report of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment, 2014
- ECE/ASTANA.CONF/2011/2/Add.1 Declaration: “Save water, grow green!” by Ministers of the region of UNECE, report of the Seventh Ministerial Conference entitled “Environment for Europe”, 2011
- 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/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 the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, report of the Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, 2016

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

- ECE/EB.AIR/144 and Add.1 and Add.2 Report of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution on its thirty-ninth session.
- ECE/MP.PRTR/2017/6 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 third session

- ECE/MP.PP/2017/2 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 (Aarhus Convention) on its sixth session
- ECE/MP.PP/2017/16 - ECE/MP.PRTR/2017/2 and Add.1 Report of the joint High-level Segment 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 (Aarhus Convention) on its sixth session and the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers on its third session, and the Budva Declaration on environmental democracy for our sustainable future adopted by the two Meetings of the Parties
- ECE/MP.EIA/23-ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/7 and Add.1, Add.2 and Add.3 Report of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context on its seventh session 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 its third 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 on 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/CP.TEIA/38 and Add.1 Report of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents on its tenth meeting
- ECE/MP.WAT/49 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 seventh session
- ECE/MP.WAT/54 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 eighth session
- ECE/MP.WH/13 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 fourth session
- ECE/MP.WH/19 and Add. 1 and 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.WAT/54/Add.2 Strategy for the implementation of the Water Convention at the global level – Addendum at the Report of the Meeting of the Parties on its eighth session

7. Deliverables

20.32 The mandates provide the legislative framework for its deliverables. Table 20.2 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 20.2

Subprogramme 1: output performance for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2019 actual</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>
Quantified deliverables				
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	231	160	211	193
1. Documentation for the Committee on Environmental Policy and subsidiary bodies	85	35	82	30

	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2019 actual</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>
2. Documentation for the meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and subsidiary bodies and Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health and subsidiary bodies	34	22	8	30
3. Documentation for the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents and subsidiary bodies	-	-	18	-
4. Documentation for the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution and subsidiary bodies	34	39	34	34
5. Documentation for the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and subsidiary bodies and Meeting of the Parties to the Espoo Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment and subsidiary bodies	22	29	24	10
6. Documentation for 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 Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Register and subsidiary bodies	45	26	38	71
7. Documentation for the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment and subsidiary bodies	11	9	7	7
8. Documentation for the Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development	n/a ²	n/a	n/a	11
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	283	240	251	244
9. Meetings of the Committee on Environmental Policy and subsidiary bodies	50	32	40	30
10. Meetings of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and subsidiary bodies and Meetings of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health and subsidiary bodies	57	47	47	48
11. Meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents and subsidiary bodies	21	14	30	17
12. Meetings of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution and subsidiary bodies	30	34	30	31
13. Meetings of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and subsidiary bodies and Meetings of the Parties to the Espoo Convention serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment and subsidiary bodies	50	39	33	34
14. Meetings 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 Meetings of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Register and subsidiary bodies	69	69	67	74
15. Meetings of the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment and subsidiary bodies	6	5	4	4
16. Meetings of the Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development	n/a ³	n/a	n/a	6

² In the Proposed Programme Budget for 2020 the data on the documentation for the Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development were included under deliverable 1. Documentation for the Committee on Environmental Policy and subsidiary bodies

³ In the Proposed Programme Budget for 2020, the data on the meetings of the Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development were included under deliverable 9. Meetings of the Committee on Environmental Policy and subsidiary bodies

	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2019 actual</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	46	84	48	71
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	46	84	48	71
Publications (number of publications)	14	9	11	11
18. Guidance, policy briefs, good practices publications on environmental issues and multilateral environmental agreements administered by the subprogramme	8	7	6	6
19. Progress reports and performance reviews on environmental issues	2	2	2	2
20. Multilateral environmental agreements administered by the subprogramme, after amendments enter into force	1	0	1	1
21. Publications on the multilateral environmental agreements administered by the subprogramme	3	0	2	2
Non-quantified deliverables				
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: Advisory services for Government officials and other stakeholders of countries members of the 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); Electronic newsletter of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment				
External and media relations: Press releases on environmental issues				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: Update and maintenance of a website of the subprogramme				

Subprogramme 2 Transport

1. Objective

- 20.33 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to advance regionally and globally sustainable inland transport (road, rail, inland waterway and intermodality) systems, by making it safer, cleaner, more efficient and more affordable, both for freight transport and people's mobility, through its role as the United Nations Platform for Inland Transport.

2. Strategy

- 20.34 The ECE Transport Subprogramme is carried out by the programme of work adopted by the Inland Transport Committee (ITC), through its role, enshrined in the *ITC Strategy until 2030* (ECE/TRANS/288/Add.2), as the United Nations Platform for Inland Transport to help efficiently address regional and global needs in inland transport. Inter alia, through its 20 Working Parties and 14 Administrative Committees, the ECOSOC Committee of Experts, and more than 50 formal and informal networks bringing together around 6,000 registered experts, it promotes regionally and globally sustainable transport systems.
- 20.35 The core pillar of its work is to administer the international regulatory framework for inland transport which currently includes 59 United Nations legal instruments on safety, pollution, efficiency and effectiveness (normative function), by developing new and updating existing legal instruments, as necessary.
- 20.36 At the request of member States and Contracting Parties, the subprogramme services the institutional platform for national governments and other key transport stakeholders to maintain this regulatory framework complemented by policy dialogue, analytical work, technical assistance and capacity building activities. This work is expected to contribute to all four of the ECE nexuses, namely: sustainable mobility and smart connectivity; sustainable use of natural resources; sustainable and smart cities; and monitoring and measuring SDGs.
- 20.37 To contribute to advancing sustainable inland transport systems nationally, regionally and globally, the subprogramme will:
- (a) Intensify its standard-setting and regulatory activities as the UN platform for inland transport conventions, ensuring that they remain up-to-date and open to all UN Member States. These activities are expected to support Governments in making progress towards the achievement of the sustainable development goals, most notably Goals 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12 and 13.
 - (b) Ensure that (i) its regulatory functions are keeping pace with cutting-edge technologies driving transport innovation - especially in the areas of Intelligent Transport Systems, autonomous vehicles and digitalization, (ii) the different amendment processes for the different conventions do not cause fragmentation, and (iii) the dangers of stifling progress due to too-early regulation are avoided.
 - (c) Provide a platform for policy dialogue to review emerging challenges in inland transport, as well as proposals for improving infrastructure and operation at the annual ITC session.
 - (d) Provide an institutional platform supporting regional and inter-regional connectivity, developing new or building on existing initiatives, agreements, or corridors which is expected to result in more efficient cross-border flows of goods and people.
 - (e) These actions are expected to result in making inland transport systems safer, cleaner, more efficient and more affordable for the main beneficiaries of the subprogramme, which are the ECE

member States and United Nations Member States that are Contracting Parties to United Nations inland transport conventions.

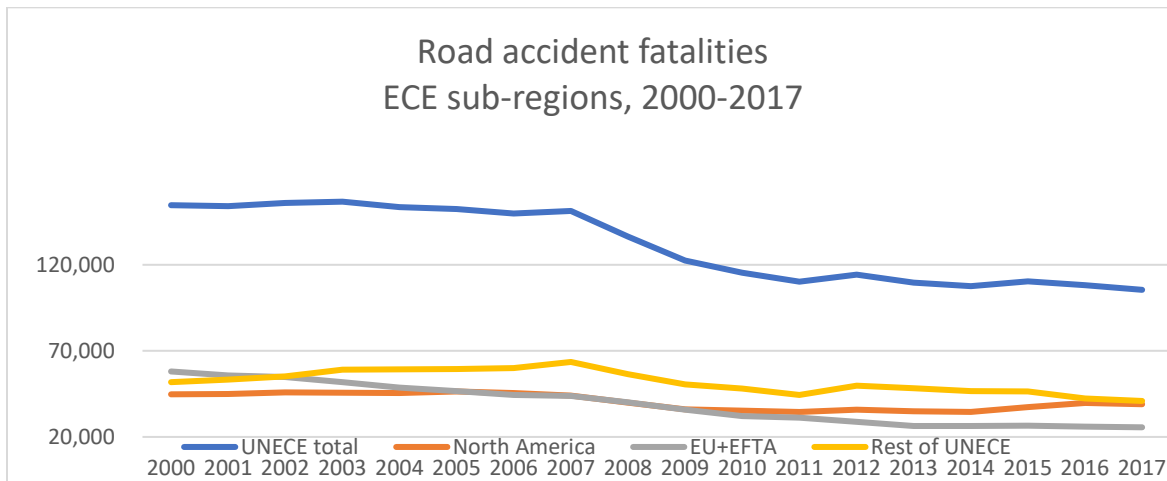
3. Programme performance in 2019: Strengthened Cooperation in Road Safety contributing to less road accident fatalities

- 20.38 Mindful of the shortfalls in achieving the SDG target on road safety by 2020 due to growing trend of road fatalities globally, in 2019, the subprogramme adopted a 360-degree approach to road safety to reap more benefits for its main beneficiaries. The approach comprises:
- (a) Outreach to increase the number of countries acceding to its conventions, as evidenced by 3 new accessions to core Road Safety Conventions, that support countries' efforts to develop sound National Road Safety Systems;
 - (b) Continued development of the international legal framework and its incorporation in the production and manufacturing of safer vehicles. This is evidenced by the adoption of 149 new UN vehicle regulations and updates to existing ones, which are legally binding, affecting the global production of vehicles and, as such, have an immediate impact on road safety. A special case of strategic importance is the adoption of a Technical Resolution on *highly automated driving*, expected to pave the way for the comprehensive development and deployment of cutting-edge technologies in the future;
 - (c) Work on amendments to the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR), including its further globalization, that make it easier for countries to accede and contribute to reducing disastrous road safety risks;
 - (d) National Road Safety Performance Reviews (RSPRs) that systematically identify country-specific needs, thus supporting evidence-based system-wide analysis, policy prioritization and high-impact interventions. This is evidenced by recommendations in Georgia and preparation of two new RSPRs in Ethiopia and Zimbabwe (forthcoming); and
 - (e) Capacity building workshops in six countries involving representatives of 18 countries.
- 20.39 To accelerate improvements in road safety globally, the subprogramme mobilized political and policy support for road safety through the United Nations Secretary General's Special Envoy for Road Safety. A new landmark in 2019 was the operationalization of the United Nations Road Safety Trust Fund which had adopted all founding documents and began financing road safety projects in low- and middle-income countries.

Progress towards attainment of the objective and performance measures

- 20.40 This work contributed to a safer transport system as demonstrated by the continuing decrease of road accident fatalities in the ECE region from over 154 000 in 2000 to around 105 000 in 2017, a 2.4% drop over 2016. Data for 2018 are already available for 22 countries, with the vast majority - 16 of them - showing a further decrease and resulting in a total available weighted average decrease of 5.4% for 2018 over 2017.

Performance measures



4. Programme performance in 2019, against planned result

- 20.41 A planned result for 2019, which is “Strengthened legal and regulatory framework for international inland transport, transport infrastructure, border-crossing facilitation, transport of dangerous goods, vehicle construction and other transport-related services”, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019, was achieved, as evidenced by: (a) 149 new vehicle regulations and amendments adopted. These regulatory changes are legally binding, affecting the global production of vehicles and, as such, have a direct impact on road safety and environmental performance. The global use by the broad automotive sector (governments, IGOs, NGOs, industry and academia) of these regulations is evidenced by 3.94 million searches, equivalent to 10,800 website visitors per day, leading to 340,000 document downloads (UN Regulations or UN Global Technical Regulations) per year; and (b) six international legal instruments brought into compliance with the latest revised edition of the UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods. To illustrate the impact, the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR), governs transnational transports of dangerous goods, thus ensuring their safety. The broad use of ADR is evidenced by the fact that the ADR publication generates approximately 18 per cent of total revenue from UN publications, reaching approximately USD 1 million per edition.

5. Programme plan for 2021: Enhanced regulatory framework for sustainable inland transport systems that are safer, cleaner and more efficient

- 20.42 The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2017 concluded that while considerable progress has been made over the past decade across all areas of development, the pace of progress is insufficient to fully meet the SDG targets by 2030. A clear illustration is road safety: in 2018, the General Assembly concluded that SDG target 3.6 of halving global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents by 2020 will not be met. Despite the global efforts, including overall improvements in the ECE region, the evidence shows that indeed Target 3.6 will not be met globally.

Internal challenge and response

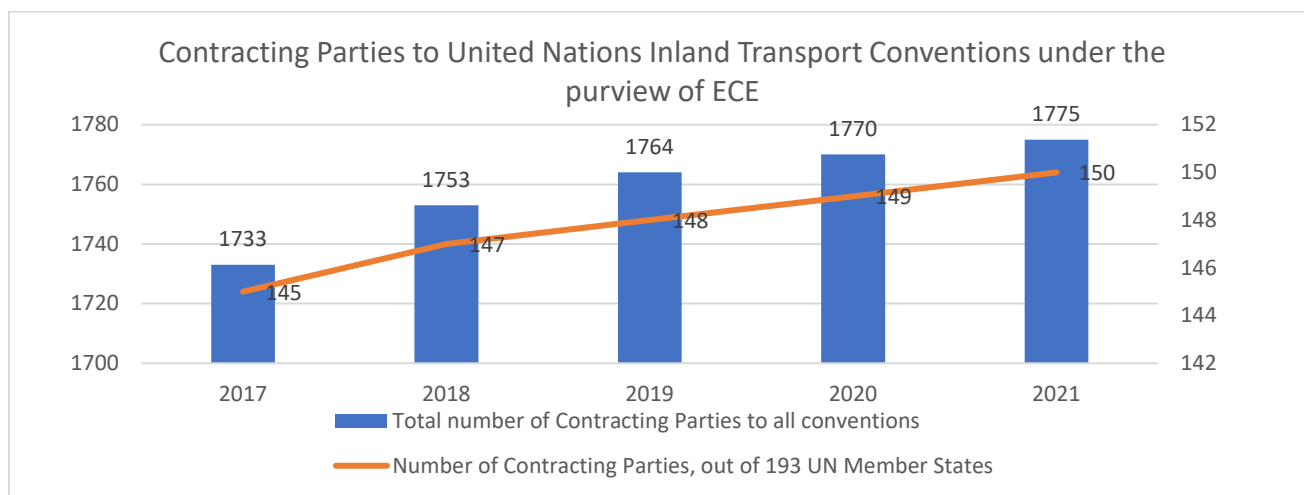
- 20.43 The challenge for the subprogramme is to accelerate the broadening of its geographic reach and scale up its efforts to ensure that its activities further benefit other regions in their own efforts to: curb the 1.35 million of road traffic deaths annually; improve the environmental performance of the inland transport systems, including in the area of transport of perishable foodstuffs; and enhance the

efficiency and connectivity, including through the digitalization and e-docs in transport. The subprogramme plans to do so through the implementation of the *ITC Strategy until 2030*, adopted in 2019, by, among other things, encouraging participation by countries from outside the ECE region to the activities of the ITC and its subsidiary bodies, and scaling up outreach and capacity building activities, including through partnerships with the UN system and external stakeholders and participation in regional and global initiatives. At the same time, the subprogramme faces challenges in post and non-post resources to meet new demands from member States, including: (a) new emerging areas, such as regulatory work on automated/autonomous vehicles, digitalization and Intelligent Transport Systems; (b) overwhelming challenge in road safety, that needs the subprogramme to enhance its international regulatory work and assistance to Member States in the implementation of the UN legal instruments; (c) technical support to the Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Road Safety and the UN Road Safety Trust Fund; (d) a constantly increasing number of prospective, new and existing Contracting Parties, whose needs for support during accession and/or implementation of legal instruments administered by the subprogramme need to be serviced.

Expected progress towards attainment of objective and performance measures

20.44 Evidence shows that countries with a higher number of accessions to conventions and agreements have, for example, better road safety performance record, due to the legally binding nature and elaborated best practices of these legal instrument which, in turn, trigger favourable changes nationally. When aggregated, individual accessions create a more harmonized legal and regulatory framework nationally and internationally, which supports the development of sustainable inland transport systems. As shown in the figure, the number of total contracting parties (1,764) to United Nations legal instruments under the subprogramme’s purview is continuously growing. But it remains insufficient compared to the need for stronger harmonization and for sustainable inland transport systems. Therefore, the expected result of the enhanced role of the subprogramme to support the development of sustainable inland transport systems internationally would be the strengthened legal and regulatory framework for sustainable inland transport. The result will be evidenced by increased worldwide accessions to conventions and agreements, especially by countries outside the ECE region. As shown in the figure, in 2019, 148 Member States, including 92 non-ECE Member States, were Contracting Parties to at least one convention administered by the subprogramme. In 2018, Cabo Verde and Oman became contracting parties for the first time by acceding to conventions on Road Safety and Border-crossing Facilitation respectively. The same year, Nigeria became contracting party to 5 core UN Road Safety Conventions. In 2019, Myanmar became a contracting party for the first time by acceding to two of the core Road Safety conventions. The expected result would demonstrate progress made in 2021 towards the collective attainment of the objective of the subprogramme.

Performance measures



6. Legislative mandates

20.45 The subprogramme continues to be guided by all mandates entrusted to it. The following constitute the list of legislative mandates:

General Assembly resolutions

- 58/9 Global road safety crisis
- 68/269 Improving global road safety
- 69/137 Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024
- 69/213 Role of transport and transit corridors in ensuring international cooperation for sustainable development
- 70/197 Towards comprehensive cooperation among all modes of transport for promoting sustainable multimodal transit corridors
- 70/217 Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries
- 72/212 Strengthening the link between all modes of transport to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals
- 72/271 Improving global road safety
- 73/243 Follow-up to the Second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries

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
- 2013/7 Europe-Africa fixed link through the Strait of Gibraltar
- 2019/7 Work of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

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
- 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)
- ECE/TRANS/248 Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its seventy-seventh session
- ECE/TRANS/254 Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its seventy-eighth session
- ECE/TRANS/270 Report of the Inland Transport Committee on its seventy-ninth session (Ministerial Resolution on embracing the new era for sustainable inland transport and mobility)
- 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 (Ministerial Resolution on enhancing cooperation, harmonization and integration in the era of transport digitalization and automation. ITC Resolution No. 265 on facilitating the development of inland water transport)
- ECE/TRANS/288/Add.2 Inland Transport Committee Strategy until 2030

- ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2018/8/Rev.1 Ministerial declaration “Inland Navigation in a Global Setting”
- B (66) Endorsement of the Geneva United Nations Charter on Sustainable Housing

Decisions of the Treaty Bodies of United Nations Transport Agreements

- E/ECE/TRANS505/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/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/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/ADN/CONF/10/Add.1 and Corr.1 European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways
- 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”)

7. Deliverables

- 20.46 The mandates provide the legislative framework for its deliverables. Table 20.3 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 20.3

Subprogramme 2: output performance for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>2019 plan</i>	<i>2019 actual</i>	<i>2020 plan</i>	<i>2021 plan</i>
Quantified deliverables				
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies:				
Parliamentary documentation	1515	1507	1660	1514
1. Parliamentary documentation for the Inland Transport Committee	1320	1312	1331	1319
a. Inland Transport Committee	31	31	31	31
b. World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations	837	837	840	840
c. Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs	33	33	33	33
d. Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	214	214	214	214
e. Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics	25	17	32	20
f. Working Party on Transport Statistics	14	14	14	14
g. Working Party on Road Transport	9	9	10	10
h. Global Forum for Road Traffic Safety	16	16	16	16
i. Working Party on Rail Transport	12	12	12	12
j. Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics	11	11	11	11
k. Working Party on Inland Water Transport	47	47	47	47
l. Working Party on Customs Questions Affecting Transport	71	71	71	71
2. Parliamentary documentation for the Economic and Social Council	190	190	324	190

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>2019 plan</i>	<i>2019 actual</i>	<i>2020 plan</i>	<i>2021 plan</i>
a. Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals	1	1	5	1
b. Subcommittee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	157	157	257	157
c. Subcommittee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals	32	32	62	32
3. Parliamentary documentation for the High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment	5	5	5	5
Substantive services for meetings	354	368	373	364
4. Meetings of the Inland Transport Committee	317	331	331	327
a. Inland Transport Committee	16	16	16	16
b. World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations	111	111	111	111
c. Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs	8	8	12	8
d. Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	68	68	58	68
e. Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics	12	26	32	22
f. Working Party on Transport Statistics	6	6	6	6
g. Working Party on Road Transport	6	6	6	6
h. Global Forum for Road Traffic Safety	14	14	14	14
i. Working Party on Rail Transport	6	6	6	6
j. Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics	6	6	6	6
k. Working Party on Inland Water Transport	18	18	18	18
l. Working Party on Customs Questions Affecting Transport	46	46	46	46
5. Meetings of the Economic and Social Council	35	35	40	35
a. Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals	0	0	1	0
b. Subcommittee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods	25	25	29	25
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. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Technical cooperation projects	2	2	2	2
7. Project on Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM)	1	1	1	1
8. Project on Trans-European Railway (TER)	1	1	1	1
Seminars, workshops, fellowships and training events	11	11	13	13
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; vehicle agreements and regulations	7	7	9	9
10. Seminars for national coordinators, experts, customs officials and transport industry on the TIR Convention and Trans-European North-South Motorway and Trans-European Railway projects	4	4	4	4
Publications	14	14	13	12
11. Publications on Transport of Dangerous Goods and special cargoes	4	4	3	3
12. Publications on Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs	0	0	0	1
13. Publications on Transport facilitation	3	3	0	1

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>2019 plan</i>	<i>2019 actual</i>	<i>2020 plan</i>	<i>2021 plan</i>
14. Publications on Green and Safe Transport and cross-cutting issues	4	4	8	5
15. Publications on Vehicles Regulations	1	1	1	1
16. Publications on Statistics	2	2	1	1
Technical materials	2	2	2	2
17. Fact sheet: what you should know about tyres	1	1	0	0
18. Factsheet: what you should know about safety belts	0	0	1	0
19. Factsheet: what you should know about advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS)	0	0	0	1
20. Transport statistics - country profiles	1	1	1	1

Non-quantified deliverables

C. Substantive deliverables

- Consultation, advice and advocacy: Set of 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 cargoes
- Databases and substantive digital materials: Update and maintenance of the International TIR Databank, which includes the list of transport companies authorized to use the TIR system, the online register of customs sealing devices and customs stamps, the list of customs offices operational for TIR, and, potentially, TIR certificates of approval; TIR and eTIR websites; Internet-based inventory of standards on inland water infrastructure; Web-based inventory of existing European Agreement on Main International Railway Lines (AGC) and European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC) standards and parameters; Databases on transport statistics, road traffic accidents, transport of dangerous goods, transport of perishable foodstuffs, urban transport and transport and environment; Development and maintenance of the web-based International Rail Security Observatory; Electronic Convention on Road signs and signals (E-CoRSS); Smart and Sustainable Connectivity E-learning platform

D. Communication deliverables:

- Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: Information materials on legal instruments and activities of the subprogramme
- External and media relations: Annual set of press releases for the subprogramme
- Digital platforms and multimedia content: Digital platforms and multimedia content on sustainable transport and mobility; Update and maintenance of the website of the subprogramme

Subprogramme 3 Statistics

1. Objective

- 20.47 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 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and to ensure the coordination of statistical activities in the ECE region under the Conference of European Statisticians (CES).

2. Strategy

- 20.48 The strategy of the subprogramme is based on the implementation of the core interlinked functions, namely: (1) streamlining of international statistical work in the ECE region by promoting dialogue at the Conference of European Statisticians and expert meetings; (2) methodological work to develop and promote guidelines and recommendations to enhance quality of statistics; (3) statistical capacity development of ECE member states with less developed statistical systems, in particular to measure the SDGs; and (4) maintenance and development of the ECE statistical database. This work will contribute to the nexuses on measuring and monitoring SDGs, and on the sustainable use of natural resources.
- 20.49 To contribute to advancing official statistics at the national level for evidence-based policymaking and assessing progress towards SDGs, the subprogramme will continue to promote methodological work to develop statistical models, guidelines and recommendations to enhance quality of statistics, and to promote their use. This will be done through regional and country-specific initiatives aimed at disseminating the statistical models, guidelines and recommendations, and promoting their use. To support the development of member States statistical capacity, in particular for evidence-based policymaking and assessing progress towards SDGs, the subprogramme will facilitate the exchange of experiences in the field of population and housing censuses, and provide support to countries in planning and conducting their census of the 2020 round. This is expected to result in an increasing number of the countries conducting their census in the 2020 round in compliance with the CES Recommendations for the 2020 Censuses of Population and Housing.
- 20.50 The work conducted under this subprogramme deals mainly with statistical methodology and capacity-building, and the main national partners are National Statistical Offices of member States.

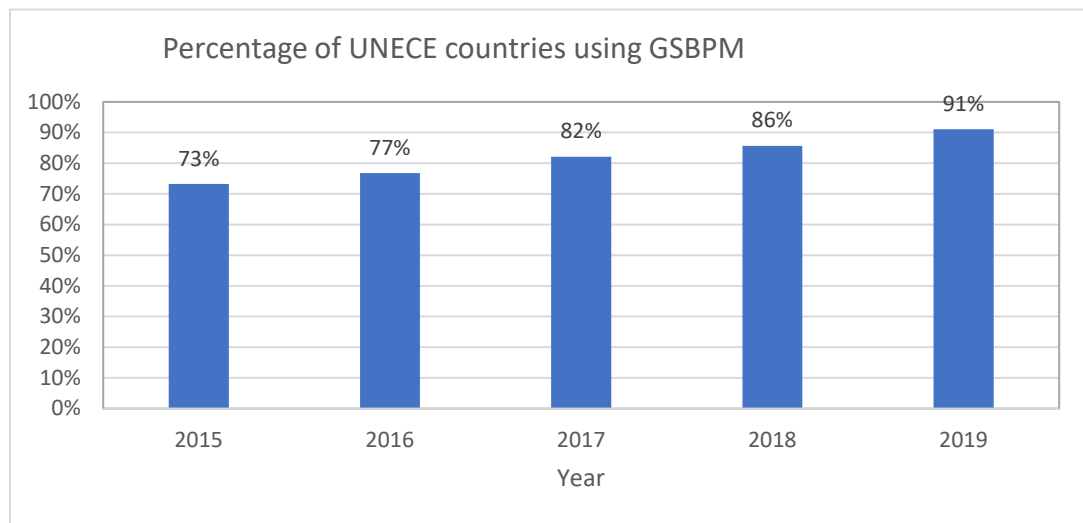
3. Programme performance in 2019: More countries modernizing the production of official statistics

- 20.51 To be able to cope with the challenges related to the need to monitor the progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the subprogramme has established the High-level group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics (HLG-MOS). Various modernisation standards and models were developed by the HLG-MOS. Examples are, the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM), Generic Statistical Information Model (GSIM), Generic Activity Model for Statistical Organizations (GAMSO) or the Common Statistical Production Architecture (CSPA). They all provide a common language and tool to map all activities in statistical organisations to a common model. Implementing these models makes possible to identify resources involved and reveals duplication of activity or areas where efficiency gains can be achieved. It allows for statistical organizations to collaborate and facilitates easier exchange of information and the sharing of statistical services.

Progress towards attainment of the objective and performance measures

- 20.52 This work contributed to the advancement of official statistics at the national level, as demonstrated by the fact that in 2019, 51 countries (91% of the total) are using the GSBPM model to modernise their statistical systems. Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan started using the model in 2019. Usage in other UN regions continues, making it the global model for modernizing statistical production. The model can be used for multiple purposes. Several countries are now using the models in multiple ways. For example, the Central Statistics Office of Ireland uses GSBPM to map their staffing across various domains in their office, but also aligned their training program with it and applied GSBPM to the activities of their national SDG platform in 2019.
- 20.53 For 2019, the need to further integrate and align the various models was identified as a key priority. Several countries participated in this work and the first offices have started to implement multiple models in an integrated way. The sharing concept of CSPA was also restated in 2019, making sharing statistical services even easier. This led to ten more services being shared in the public CSPA catalogue and made available for use by any statistical organization. Many more services are in preparation to being shared in the near future.

Performance measures



4. Programme performance in 2019, against planned result

- 20.54 A planned result for 2019, which is streamlined international statistical work in support of monitoring the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019, was achieved, as evidenced by six statistical areas reviewed in depth by the Bureau of the CES in 2018-2019. The Bureau of the CES regularly reviews selected statistical areas in depth. The aim of the reviews is to improve coordination of statistical activities in the ECE region, identify gaps or duplication of work, and address emerging issues. The reviews focus on strategic issues and highlights concerns of statistical offices of both a conceptual and a coordinating nature. The reviews often lead to new methodological work for the benefit of all ECE member States.

5. Programme plan for 2021: Conducting a new population and housing census in compliance of the CES Recommendations

20.55 The subprogramme has been working to support member States in the planning and conduction of the population and housing census of the 2020 round. Conducting a census is requested by ECOSOC (resolution 2015/10) and is one of the targets of the 2030 Agenda (target 17.19). Between 2012 and 2015, the subprogramme coordinated the preparation of the new CES Recommendations for the 2020 Censuses of Population and Housing in the ECE region. The Recommendations provide guidance to countries on census methodology and survey content, so that the census results produced are relevant and comparable across countries. Since 2015, the subprogramme organized yearly expert meetings, capacity building workshops, and created an online platform to facilitate the exchange of experiences and provide support to countries in planning and conducting their census.

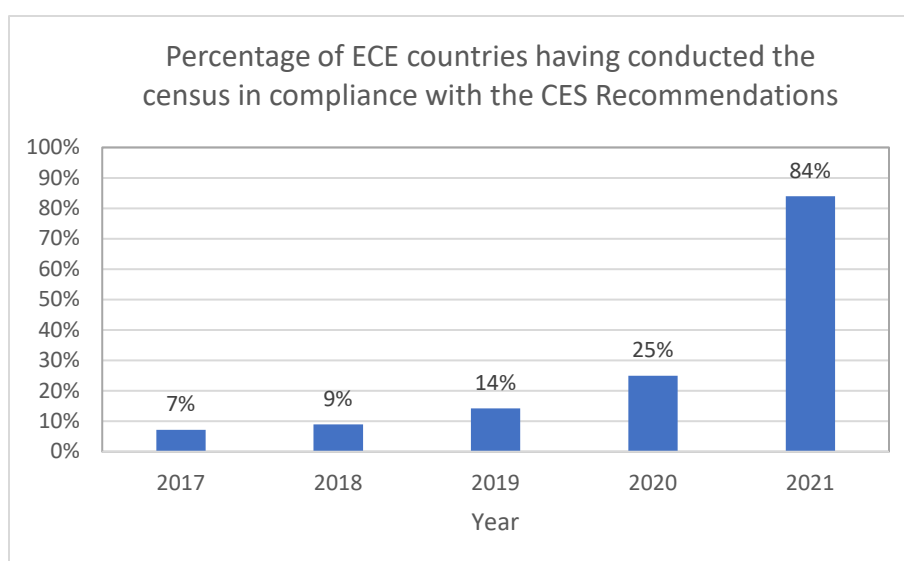
Internal challenges and response

20.56 A challenge observed in some ECE member States is that the total population size resulting from the census is significantly lower than that resulting from the population estimates produced before the census. This may happen, in particular, in countries with significant emigration which is often reflected only partially in migration statistics. In these situations, the National Statistical Offices may have difficulties in explaining these differences to their users, including institutional users and the general public. The response by ECE includes providing specific support to member States on the communication of census results and the outreach to different categories of users.

Expected progress towards attainment of objective and performance measures

20.57 This work is expected to contribute towards advanced official statistics at the national level for evidence-based policymaking and assessing progress towards SDGs, which would be demonstrated by 84% of ECE member States expected to conduct a population and housing census in compliance with the CES Recommendations by 2021.

Performance measures



6. Legislative mandates

20.58 The subprogramme continues to be guided by all mandates entrusted to it. The following constitute the list of legislative mandates:

General Assembly resolutions

- 67/144 Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women
- 68/261 Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics
- 69/210 Entrepreneurship for development
- 69/282 World Statistics Day
- 72/234 Women in development
- 73/148 Intensification of efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls: sexual harassment
- 73/195 Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Economic and Social Council resolutions

- 2006/6 Strengthening statistical capacity
- 2014/7 Further implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002
- 2015/10 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme
- 2016/27 Strengthening institutional arrangements on geospatial information management
- 2017/7 Work of the Statistical Commission pertaining to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- 2018/5 Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all
- 2018/7 Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

Economic and Social Council decisions

- 2011/245 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-second session and venue and dates of and provisional agenda and documentation for its forty-third session (Statistical Commission decision 42/107, Short-term economic indicators)
- 2012/230 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-third session and provisional agenda and dates for the forty-fourth session of the Commission (Statistical Commission decision 43/115, Regional statistical development in Europe)
- 2013/235 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-fourth session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-fifth session of the Commission (Statistical Commission decision 44/105, Environment statistics)
- 2014/219 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-fifth session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-sixth session of the Commission (Statistical Commission decision 45/101, Implementation of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics)
- 2014/219 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-fifth session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-sixth session of the Commission (Statistical Commission decision 45/103, Programme review: broader measures of progress)
- 2014/219 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-fifth session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-sixth session of the Commission (Statistical Commission decision 45/110, Big data and modernization of statistical systems)
- 2015/216 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-sixth session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-seventh session of the Commission (Statistical Commission decision 46/101, Data in support of the post-2015 development agenda)

- 2015/216 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-sixth session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-seventh session of the Commission (Statistical Commission decision 46/102, Population and housing censuses)
- 2015/216 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-sixth session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-seventh session of the Commission (Statistical Commission decision 46/107, International trade and economic globalization statistics)
- 2016/220 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-seventh session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-eighth session of the Commission (Statistical Commission decision 47/102 High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)
- 2016/220 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-seventh session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-eighth session of the Commission (Statistical Commission decision 47/104 Big data for official statistics)
- 2016/220 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-seventh session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-eighth session of the Commission (Statistical Commission decision 47/106 Environmental-economic accounting)
- 2016/220 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-seventh session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-eighth session of the Commission (Statistical Commission decision 47/112 Climate change statistics)
- 2017/228 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-eighth session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-ninth session of the Commission (Statistical Commission decision 48/101: Global indicator framework for the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)
- 2017/228 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-eighth session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-ninth session of the Commission (Statistical Commission decision 48/103: Transformative agenda for official statistics)
- 2017/228 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-eighth session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-ninth session of the Commission (Statistical Commission decision 48/104: Regional statistical development)
- 2017/228 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-eighth session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-ninth session of the Commission (Statistical Commission decision 48/107: Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics)
- 2017/228 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-eighth session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-ninth session of the Commission (Statistical Commission decision 48/108: Integration of statistical and geospatial information)
- 2017/228 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-eighth session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-ninth session of the Commission (Statistical Commission decision 48/111: National accounts)
- 2017/228 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-eighth session and the provisional agenda and dates for the forty-ninth session of the Commission (Statistical Commission decision 48/114: Business registers)
- 2018/227 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-ninth session and provisional agenda and dates for its fiftieth session (Statistical Commission decision 49/101. Global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)
- 2018/227 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-ninth session and provisional agenda and dates for its fiftieth session (Statistical Commission decision 49/102. Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)
- 2018/227 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-ninth session and provisional agenda and dates for its fiftieth session (Statistical Commission decision 49/108. Regional statistical development)
- 2018/227 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-ninth session and provisional agenda and dates for its fiftieth session (Statistical Commission decision 49/109. National accounts)

- 2018/227 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-ninth session and provisional agenda and dates for its fiftieth session (Statistical Commission decision 49/113. Climate change statistics)
- 2018/227 Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-ninth session and provisional agenda and dates for its fiftieth session (Statistical Commission decision 49/114. Regional classifications)

7. Deliverables

20.59 The mandates provide the legislative framework for its deliverables. Table 20.4 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 20.4

	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2019 actual</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>
Quantified deliverables				
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	81	81	81	81
1. Documentation for the Conference of European Statisticians	43	43	43	43
2. Documentation for expert bodies	38	38	38	38
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	85	85	85	85
3. Meetings of the Conference of European Statisticians and its Bureau	13	13	13	13
4. Meetings of expert bodies	72	72	72	72
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Technical cooperation and field projects (number of projects)	1	1	1	1
5. Project on social and economic statistics	1	1	1	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	6	6	6	6
6. Workshops on social and economic statistics	3	3	3	3
7. Workshops on innovating statistical production	3	3	3	3
Publications (number of publications)	4	6	9	7
8. Publications on cutting across multiple statistical areas	1	1	1	1
9. Publications on social, environmental and economic statistics	3	5	8	6
Non-quantified deliverables				
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: Advisory services for Government officials (staff in the national statistical systems) and other stakeholders of countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia and South-East Europe on economic, social, demographic and environment statistics, statistics for SDGs, geospatial statistics and institutional issues and modernisation of official statistics				
Databases and substantive digital materials: Update and maintenance of ECE Statistical Databases (Population and gender statistics database; Economic statistics database; Transport database; Forestry database)				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: Leaflets and other promotional materials				
External and media relations: Articles for the “UNECE Weekly” and “EnvStats” newsletters				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: interactive digital workspaces (wikis); update and maintenance of the website of the subprogramme				

Subprogramme 4

Economic cooperation and integration

1. 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.

2. Strategy

- 20.61 The strategy of the subprogramme is based on the implementation of the core interlinked functions, namely: (a) international policy dialogue on innovation, competitiveness and public-private partnerships; (b) normative work on the same subjects; and (c) capacity-building and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned in all areas of the subprogramme's work. This work will contribute to the ECE nexuses on sustainable mobility and smart connectivity and on sustainable and smart cities for all ages.
- 20.62 The subprogramme's two areas of work complement each other. The work on innovation and competitiveness policies promotes sustainable development by supporting member States in creating a business climate that encourages and rewards innovative solutions to sustainable development challenges. The work on public-private partnerships for infrastructure development supports the same objective by promoting innovative ways of financing, building and managing infrastructure critical for sustainable development.
- 20.63 In so doing, the subprogramme inter alia contributes to Sustainable Development Goal 9, which is to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation, and Sustainable Development Goal 17, which is to strengthen the means of implementation, including by ensuring access to science, technology and innovation for all, and by encouraging effective public, public - private and civil society partnerships. The subprogramme also contributes to other Sustainable Development Goals where innovation and infrastructure investments are important, such as SDG 8 (sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth), and SDG 12 (sustainable consumption and production patterns).
- 20.64 To contribute to strengthening innovation and competitiveness policies, the subprogramme will: hold regional multi-stakeholder dialogues to identify good practices on how innovation can advance sustainable development and how Governments can support this; carry out and publish analyses of national innovation policies upon request and make recommendations for policy reforms; and build capacity at national and sub-regional level to implement innovation policy reforms. The work of the subprogramme will help develop a shared and improved understanding among member States on policy options available to harness the power of innovation for sustainable development, and will lead to national innovation policy reforms in line with international good practice and ECE recommendations.
- 20.65 To contribute to strengthening Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs), the subprogramme will: develop international guiding principles and standards on how to design regulatory frameworks for PPPs in various sectors and how to design PPP projects; develop a methodology to assess PPP projects on whether they contribute to sustainable development ("People-first" PPPs) and certify qualifying projects on request; and provide policy advice and capacity building to support member States in creating regulatory frameworks and PPP project pipelines to help close the SDG infrastructure financing gap. The work of the subprogramme will help develop a shared and improved understanding among member States and investors on how to design and operate PPPs that contribute to sustainable development, and will lead to more "People-First" PPP projects.

3. Programme performance in 2019: Central Asian countries agree for the first time to cooperate on Innovation for Sustainable Development

- 20.66 Innovation, defined by OECD as the successful commercial application of new knowledge and technology, including from abroad, has a key role to play in helping economies to diversify, to increase their competitiveness, and to drive sustainable development more broadly. The subprogramme’s work on identifying international good practices on innovation policy has shown that cooperation across borders in education, science, research and development, financing and product commercialization can significantly speed up innovation processes. For example, the European Union in 2010 decided to create an “Innovation Union” and to place innovation at the heart of its Europe 2020 strategy, recognizing that without cooperation across borders, innovation was being held back by excessive fragmentation and duplication. Cooperation facilitates knowledge and technology transfer, avoids re-inventing the wheel, creates economies of scale, and helps companies and countries to participate and move up in international value chains.
- 20.67 Innovation, and cooperation on innovation, is particularly important for the landlocked economies of Central Asia. The national innovation reviews which ECE has carried out together with the Governments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan recommended policies to promote cross-border cooperation, including for example, scholarship programmes for students and researchers, tax incentives for knowledge-intensive inward direct investment, or capacity-building for enterprises to move up in international value chains. At the 2017 session of the Governing Council of the UN Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA), member States emphasized the need to step up regional cooperation on innovation and to create a regional strategy for this purpose. In response, the subprogramme, in cooperation with ESCAP, developed a Strategy on Innovation for Sustainable Development for the SPECA region.

Progress towards attainment of the objective and performance measures

- 20.68 This work contributed to strengthened policies on innovation in the SPECA sub-region, as demonstrated by the fact that the SPECA Governing Council adopted the strategy in 2019. This marks the first time that the countries of Central Asia have committed to cooperation and have agreed to joint actions to promote innovation for sustainable development.

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Tajikistan embarks on innovation policy reforms following recommendations in the ECE national Innovation Review of the country, including recommendations to enhance cross-border cooperation on innovation	11 th session of the SPECA Governing Council calls for reinforcing progress on innovation as a crucial driver of economic growth and sustainable development, and calls for transboundary cooperation	SPECA Governing Council acknowledges the need for more regional cooperation on innovation and calls for developing a SPECA Strategy on Innovation for Sustainable Development	Roadmap and draft outline of the SPECA Innovation Strategy approved by SPECA Governing Council; Kyrgyzstan steps up innovation policy reforms following recommendations in the ECE Innovation Review of the country, including recommendations to enhance cross-border cooperation on innovation	SPECA Strategy on Innovation for Sustainable Development adopted by all seven SPECA member States at the Governing Council

4. Programme performance in 2019, against planned result

- 20.69 One of the planned results for 2019 was “Enhanced national implementation of ECE policy recommendations and standards on promoting a policy, financial and regulatory environment conducive to sustained economic growth, innovative development and greater competitiveness”. The result was achieved, as evidenced by 12 new policy measures taken by member States to implement ECE policy recommendations in the areas of innovation, competitiveness and PPPs. In addition to the SPECA Innovation Strategy, examples of such policy measures include a new technology foresight programme to inform policy design, streamlining of inter-ministerial coordination processes, increased funding for innovation projects, or revised PPP and public procurement laws. To support member States in implementing policy recommendations, the subprogramme organized 20 policy advisory and capacity building activities in 6 countries with over 800 participants.

5. Programme plan for 2021: People-first Public-Private Partnerships to Finance Sustainable Development

- 20.70 The subprogramme has been supporting member States in creating and improving legal frameworks and implementing regulations for PPPs as a mode to design, finance, build and operate critical infrastructure. Initially, the focus of this work had been on delivering optimal value for money. With the adoption of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, the focus was broadened to support mobilizing the enormous investments needed to achieve sustainable development. Standards, guidelines and policy recommendations were developed for so-called People-first PPPs, i.e. PPP projects that deliver not only value for money but are also ecologically sustainable and socially inclusive, for instance by requiring that the project complies with advanced noise reduction standards, or that the project provides a certain number of jobs for the local community or for socially disadvantaged groups.

Internal challenge and response

- 20.71 The focus of the subprogramme’s work has been on developing guidelines and standards for People-first PPPs. The challenge is that in order for this work to have a tangible effect in generating more PPP investments in infrastructure that comply with the SDGs, the guidelines and standards need to be implemented at country level in a verifiable way. In response, the subprogramme will support Governments in certifying and scoring PPP projects against the People-first outcomes. As a first step, an online Project Impact Assessment Tool will be created which will allow Governments and investors to self-assess whether PPP projects and project proposals meet ECE’s People-first criteria. ECE will further train independent evaluators, drawing on its existing network of national PPP centres of excellence, who will provide independent project assessments against the People-first criteria on request. By using a set of objective and measurable criteria developed by ECE, this initiative will help Governments design infrastructure projects that advance the sustainable development goals. By certifying that PPP projects meet sustainability criteria, the initiative will also attract additional financial resources from developers aiming to achieve not only financial but also broader social impact.

Expected progress towards attainment of objective and performance measures

- 20.72 This work will contribute to strengthened policies on PPPs as demonstrated by at least 100 PPP projects certified as complying with the ECE People-first criteria. Besides differentiating high-quality PPP projects that are fit for purpose for the SDGs from the rest, the Project Impact Assessment Tool is expected to provide member States with real evidence on impact and performance of their infrastructure projects, which is hitherto a major lacuna. Such evidence will assist member States to prioritize investments in infrastructure projects that meet the SDGs; and help mobilize private finance and innovation capabilities in SDG-compliant projects.

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Member States first discussed and approved the idea to develop a Project Impact Assessment Tool	Member States agreed to set up a Project Team to develop a Project Impact Assessment Tool	The Project Team was set up and work on the Project Impact Assessment Tool has commenced	Member States are expected to approve the Project Impact Assessment Tool	At least 100 PPP projects certified according to ECE People-first criteria

6. Legislative mandates

20.73 The subprogramme continues to be guided by all mandates entrusted to it. The following constitute the list of legislative mandates:

General Assembly resolutions

- 72/228 Science, technology and innovation for development
- 73/218 Information and communication technologies for sustainable development

7. Deliverables

20.74 The mandates provide the legislative framework for its deliverables. Table 20.5 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 20.5

Subprogramme 4: output performance for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>2019 plan</i>	<i>2019 actual</i>	<i>2020 plan</i>	<i>2021 plan</i>
Quantified deliverables				
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies:				
Parliamentary documentation (Number of documents)	18	18	18	18
1. Parliamentary documentation for the Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and PPPs and its subsidiary bodies	18	18	18	18
Substantive services for meetings (Number of 3-hour meetings)	19	19	19	19
2. Meetings of the Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and PPPs and its subsidiary bodies	18	18	18	18
3. Meetings of the SPECA Working Group on Knowledge-Based Development	1	1	1	1
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge:				
Field and technical cooperation projects (Number of projects)	2	2	2	2
Seminars, workshops and training events (Number of days)	24	24	24	16
4. Capacity-building and policy advisory workshops, seminars and trainings on innovation and competitiveness policies for sustainable development	12	12	12	8
5. Capacity-building and policy advisory workshops, seminars and trainings on People-First Public-Private Partnerships	12	12	12	8
Publications (Number of publications)	3	3	3	3
6. Publication on Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews	1	1	1	1
7. Publication on Comparative Reviews on Innovation Policy and/or PPP readiness	2	2	2	2
Non-quantified deliverables				
C. Substantive deliverables:				
Fact-finding, monitoring and investigation missions: preparatory and fact-finding missions for Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews, a sub-regional Innovation Policy Outlook, and PPP readiness assessments				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: Advisory services by the PPP Business Advisory Board and the Team of Specialists on Innovation and Competitiveness Policies for Government officials and other stakeholders				
Databases and substantive digital materials: Digital collection of case studies on People-First PPPs				
D. Communication deliverables:				
Outreach programmes and information materials: newsletter on People First PPPs				
External and media relations: press releases, launch events for the above publications				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: update and maintenance of the subprogramme's website				

Subprogramme 5 Sustainable energy

1. Objective

- 20.75 The objective of the subprogramme is to improve access to affordable and clean energy for all and to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector in the region.

2. Strategy

- 20.76 The strategy of the subprogramme is based on implementation of core interlinked functions, namely: (a) International policy dialogue and cooperation among Governments, energy industries and other stakeholders to foster sustainable energy development; (b) Development and deployment of ECE policy recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools on energy-related issues; and (c) Capacity-building and assistance to member States, at their request, through training programmes, advisory services and technical cooperation projects. This work will contribute to the four nexus areas described in paragraph 20.5.
- 20.77 To contribute to attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the subprogramme assists countries to integrate the objectives of SDG 7 (improve access to affordable and clean energy for all) and SDG 13 (reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including CO₂ and methane, and the carbon footprint of the energy sector) by reducing the environmental footprint of energy, accelerating deep transformation of the energy sector to meet future needs, ensuring sustainable management of resources, and assisting member States in assessing their options to ensure energy for sustainable development, including tracking progress. The subprogramme also promotes policy dialogue and cooperation among member States, regional entities and other partners on sustainable energy issues, in particular energy efficiency, cleaner electricity systems, renewable energy, coal mine methane, resource management, natural gas and energy security through regional and country-specific initiatives aimed at improving cooperation among countries. The subprogramme also plans to provide technical assistance, disseminate best practices, improve information sharing, and provide guidance on energy-related topics in ECE member States. These activities are expected to result in more effective integration of sustainable energy into the broader 2030 Agenda, national policies and necessary normative frameworks. Furthermore, the subprogramme actively promotes participation of and collaboration among public and private sectors that is key to implementing national and regional policies. An enhanced dialogue and cooperation among all energy actors will boost investment in the energy sector and, consequently, accelerate modernization of the energy system to meet countries' development and climate commitments.

3. Programme performance in 2019: Reduction of green-house gas emissions through methane management in the extractive industries

- 20.78 In response to global efforts to phase out coal and close coal mines, the subprogramme is tackling the challenge of so-called abandoned coal mines. All underground coal mines will one day cease operations and become "abandoned" coal mines. If no remedial measures are taken, methane emissions from the inoperative mines will continue. Abandoned coal mines require continued attention and investment to minimize fugitive emissions of methane. The subprogramme is the only platform in the wider UN system that supports Member States in the management of abandoned coal mines. Through its advocacy work on methane emissions from mines, the

subprogramme coordinates international efforts to tackle this climate, economic and social challenge. The Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Recovery and Use from Abandoned Coal Mines, prepared by ECE, provides guidance and support for development of post-mining projects to reduce overall emissions by optimizing recovery and use of methane that would otherwise be released to atmosphere. The document identifies measures and technologies that prevent emissions from abandoned mines and advanced methane detection technologies that verify results achieved in real time. Recognizing the uniqueness of the subprogramme’s best practices on methane, ECOSOC invited all actors to ensure their application in countries worldwide (Decision 2011/222).

- 20.79 The subprogramme supports the operations of a growing network of centres of excellence on methane, currently two, that deal with active and abandoned coal mines. These centres support capacity-building activities in Member States and serve as a platform for discussion on safety, environmental and economic aspects of coal mine methane (CMM) and abandoned mine methane (AMM). Apart from facilitating exchange of knowledge and experiences, hosting visits of experts, organizing professional training sessions, and contributing to further development of the Best Practices Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines, the centres also cooperate with governments, NGOs, and industry in research activities. In this context they actively engage in gathering and compiling information on CMM and AMM management that helps Member States reconcile environmental, social and economic priorities.
- 20.80 The subprogramme has organized a number of capacity building events to disseminate previously-identified best practices in methane capture and use in active mines. These events take place in various ECE member States and are accessible to a worldwide audience. Over 200 experts from various member States and mining companies have been trained during the 3 workshops held in 2019. Among them were a large number of Government officials and policy makers who were provided with a tested blueprint on how to make coal mining safer and less harmful to the environment.

Progress towards attainment of the objective and performance measures

- 20.81 This work contributed to strengthening the capacity of member States to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This contribution is expressed as 1) the number of countries with closed coal mines benefiting from adopting ECE’s best practices on AMM management and 2) growth of expert networks, as shown in the table below. This activity showcases how the ECE work and its dissemination paved the way for addressing methane emissions from the coal industry along the whole life cycle, including after cessation of extractive activities. Finally, the capacity-building seminars and workshops on coal mine methane continue to improve member States’ capacity to prevent deadly methane-related underground accidents by creating the technical, financial, and regulatory environment for capturing and utilizing methane rather than venting this pollutant to the atmosphere.

Performance measures

Cumulative number of countries benefiting from the ECE’s capacity-building activities in the field of methane management and of experts trained in application of methane-related good practices.

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Countries: 0	Countries: 4	Countries: 20	Countries: 23	Countries: 23
Experts: 0	Experts: Over 30	Experts: Over 700	Experts: Over 1000	Experts: Over 1200

4. Programme performance in 2019, against planned result

- 20.82 A planned result for 2019, which is strengthened implementation of ECE recommendations, guidelines, best practices and other normative instruments for sustainable energy development, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019, was achieved, as evidenced by experts trained in the application the Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mine Mines from additional 3 countries (a 15% increase in the number of member States). These countries strengthened their capacity to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector in the region.

5. Programme plan for 2021: Reduced carbon footprint and improved quality of life with high performance buildings

- 20.83 The subprogramme has been working to support Governments, private sector and other key stakeholders in increasing awareness of the potential for improving the energy performance of buildings through dissemination, capacity building, demonstration and education activities. The subprogramme conducts research on energy efficiency standards and technologies in buildings in the ECE region and, in 2017, developed Framework Guidelines for Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings. ECE also issued a Study on Mapping Energy Efficiency Standards and Technologies in Buildings in the ECE Region in 2018 and a Study on Mapping of Existing Technologies to Enhance Energy Efficiency in Buildings in the ECE Region in 2019. A compendium of best practices on standards and technologies for energy efficiency in buildings in the ECE region is being finalized in 2019.
- 20.84 Buildings are central to meeting the sustainability challenge. In the developed world, buildings consume over 70% of the electric power generated and 40% of primary energy and are responsible for 40% of CO₂ emissions from the energy services they require. In Europe, 75-90% of today's buildings will be in use in 2050. Developing countries will need to accommodate 2.4 billion new urban residents by 2050. Renewable energy technology alone cannot meet these requirements, despite recent improvements. The energy performance of buildings benefits from good management. The capability to meet the challenge exists today.
- 20.85 High performance buildings are key to achieving the 2030 Agenda. They help deliver on many of the SDGs in areas including:
- promoting sustainable urban development by recognizing buildings as complex systems embedded in community, city, and country-level energy networks,
 - tackling poverty by reducing energy bills,
 - accelerating the sustainable energy transition by improving the efficiency with which buildings' energy services are provided, and
 - supporting climate action by reducing the energy requirements of buildings to a point at which residual needs can be met by no or low-carbon energy sources.

Internal challenge and response

- 20.86 The challenge for the subprogramme is that the pace of dissemination of the results of its work among national and international actors is insufficient to meet the challenge of energy for sustainable development. In response, the subprogramme is deploying the three pillars of its high-performance buildings initiative aimed at radical reduction of the global carbon footprint of buildings and dramatic improvement in the health and quality of life provided by buildings:
- (i) A network of International Centres of Excellence that provides implementation-oriented education and assistance to building developers, contractors, architects, and engineers, as well as regulatory and planning officials. The network will provide

community-centric knowledge development and sharing, connecting with resources and accelerating uptake of high-performance buildings;

(ii) A global building network of leading universities that undertakes research and advanced education in building materials, design, and construction for current and next generation architects, engineers, policy makers and other stakeholders. The network will promote sustainable, high performance buildings worldwide in support of both the framework guidelines and the International Centres of Excellence;

(iii) Case studies that illustrate application of the framework guidelines in countries around the world to demonstrate their validity in different climates, stages of development, and regulatory, legislative, and physical infrastructure. The case studies will be available for reference and to support training and education activities.

Expected progress towards attainment of objective and performance measures

20.87 This work is expected to contribute to improved access to affordable and clean energy for all and to reduced carbon footprint of the energy sector, which would be demonstrated by the increased network and support mechanisms at national and regional level. By 2021, the subprogramme expects to have extended the network of centres of excellence to 7 centres with corresponding activities under their terms of reference, to have 40 local authorities in 10 countries whose building codes are aligned with ECE’s Framework Guidelines, and to have put in place mechanisms and indicators to establish baselines for tracking progress on energy and carbon efficiency. The subprogramme expects to have 10 universities collaborating globally within the Global Building Network and 100 case studies on the application of the Framework Guidelines developed. The networks have begun in North America and western Europe but will expand quickly to include South East Europe and the Caucasus. Through collaborative efforts with the other regional commissions, equivalent efforts will be expected in the other regions.

Performance measures

Number of centres of excellence established by 2021

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Initial work	Discussions advanced	Commitments approved	Negotiations and agreement with countries/ contact with institutions	Centres of excellence created
0	1	3	5	7

6. Legislative mandates

20.88 The subprogramme continues to be guided by all mandates entrusted to it. The following constitute the list of legislative mandates:

General Assembly resolutions

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

Economic and Social Council decisions

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

7. Deliverables

20.89 The mandates provide the legislative framework for its deliverables. Table 20.6 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 20.6

Subprogramme 5: output performance for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2019 actual</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>
Quantified deliverables				
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	60	60	60	60
1. Documentation for the Committee on Sustainable Energy and related subsidiary bodies	60	60	60	60
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	38	38	40	40
2. Meetings of the Committee on Sustainable Energy, its Bureau and related subsidiary bodies	38	38	40	40
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Technical cooperation and field projects (number of projects)	6	7	6	4
3. Project on Pathways to Sustainable Energy	1	1	1	1
4. Project on Energy Efficiency in Buildings	1	1	1	1
5. Project on the application of the United Nations Framework Classification (UNFC) in Central Asia	1	1	-	-
6. Project on the United Nations Resource Management System (UNRMS)	-	-	1	1
7. Projects on Methane Management	2	3	2	1
8. Project on Transboundary Cooperation on Renewable Energy	1	1	1	-
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	10	13	10	10
9. Workshops for experts and government officials on the application of UNFC	2	5	2	2

	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2019 actual</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>
10. Capacity-building seminars on energy efficiency measures, accelerators and standards	2	2	2	2
11. International capacity-building seminars on renewable energy development and policy reforms for climate change mitigation	2	2	2	2
12. International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development	4	4	4	4
Publications (number of publications)	10	10	3	2
13. Publications on the Best practice guidelines, case studies and other publications related to sustainable energy	10	10	3	2

Non-quantified deliverables

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: Regional advisory services for Government officials and other stakeholders of countries of the ECE region on pathways to sustainable energy and national action plans related to the subprogramme's programme of work

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: booklets on sustainable energy and related topics

External and media relations: press releases, key note speeches, articles

Digital platforms and multimedia content: update and maintenance of subprogramme's website

Subprogramme 6

Trade

1. 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.

2. Strategy

- 20.91 The strategy of the subprogramme is based on the implementation of the core interlinked functions, namely: (a) international policy dialogue on reducing regulatory and procedural barriers to trade that hamper market access, including those caused by cumbersome procedures and substantial paperwork; differences in trade procedures, standards and documents; and divergent regulatory approaches and product standards (b) normative work to develop standards and recommendations in the areas of trade facilitation and eBusiness, agricultural quality standards and regulatory cooperation; and (c) capacity-building and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned in all areas of the subprogramme's work. This work will contribute to the nexuses on sustainable mobility and smart connectivity; sustainable use of natural resources; and sustainable and smart cities for all ages.
- 20.92 To contribute to the strengthening of trade facilitation and electronic business in the ECE region and beyond the subprogramme will continue to promote simple, transparent and effective processes for global commerce. This will be achieved through normative work to develop standards and recommendations in the areas of trade facilitation and electronic business, international policy dialogue on establishing paperless trading environments and ensuring compliance with the requirements of the multilateral trading system, and dissemination of the instruments such as standards, recommendations and guidelines. The subprogramme also plans to engage circular economy and sustainable value chain initiatives. All of the above contribute towards SDGs 8, 12 and 17.
- 20.93 To contribute to the strengthening of regulatory cooperation and standardization policies, the subprogramme will continue to promote a predictable and harmonized regulatory environment through strengthening regulatory cooperation and promoting standards and best practices in regulatory frameworks, risk management, conformity assessment and market surveillance. This is expected to result in greater uptake of international standards by countries. The subprogramme also plans to continue dissemination of Gender-Responsive Standards thus contributing to SDG 5.
- 20.94 To contribute to the strengthening of agricultural trade, being mindful of 1.6 billion tonnes of food lost or wasted while more than 800 million people suffer from hunger worldwide, the subprogramme will continue to promote up-to-date agricultural quality standards and explanatory guidelines through its normative work to develop standards and recommendations in the areas of agricultural quality standards. The subprogramme will also continue addressing the food loss and waste (FLW) thus contributing to SDGs 12 (target 12.3 in particular) and 15. The work on FLW is expected to result in implementation of re-inclusion of the food that is otherwise going to be wasted.
- 20.95 To contribute to the strengthening of economic cooperation, the subprogramme will continue to develop its analytical evidence-based studies to identify regulatory and procedural barriers to trade, and assist governments in setting action-oriented recommendations for implementing the above-mentioned instruments, which will result in more uptake of 'trade as means of implementation' as stipulated in SDG 17.

3. Programme performance in 2019: Increased consensus on gender-responsive standards

- 20.96 In one of the areas of its work, the subprogramme implemented activities that increased the participation of women in economic decision-making. Standards not only spell out the technologies of the world that we live in today, but they are also at the basis of the transformational changes required to fulfil the Sustainable Development Goals as stipulated in SDG 5.5 ensuring “women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life”.
- 20.97 ECE preliminary analysis revealed that only an estimated 10% of experts involved in the development and implementation of standards are women. Methodologies for assessing whether a standard contributes to or undermines women empowerment are yet to be developed. Most standards bodies lack a policy for mainstreaming gender in their activities and in the management of their organizations, and even for disaggregating data on participation on the basis of gender.
- 20.98 Therefore, a task force under the ECE Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies, with participation by standardization bodies i.e. institutions that propose, develop, monitor or coordinate standards in any sector, regulatory authorities, academia and NGOs as well as business - drafted the Declaration on Gender Responsive Standards and Standards Development. Enshrined in ECE Recommendation U, it was unanimously approved by ECE member States. An awareness-raising campaign was then carried out to reach out to all standards setting bodies globally. Through the Declaration, standards-setting bodies pledged to create and implement gender-action plans.
- 20.99 In addition, ECE provided an evidence-based framework for ascertaining the impediments to increasing the participation of female owned enterprises in trade as part of a recent ECE study on regulatory and procedural barriers to trade in Armenia. The recommendations of the study, which were adopted by the Government, serve as an example for greater uptake by countries to use trade as a means of implementation.
- 20.100 Furthermore, results from the United Nations Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation conducted by all UN Regional Commissions show that the average implementation rate increased from about 10% in 2017 to 32% in 2019 globally for a particular policy-action related to trade facilitation measures aimed at female traders (source: www.untsurvey.org). This means, in general, that countries are taking more action to make the trade facilitation services more accessible than before.

Progress towards attainment of the objective and performance measures

- 20.101 This work contributed to strengthened regulatory cooperation and standardization policies, as demonstrated by the signature of the “Declaration on Gender Responsive Standards and Standards Development” by 55 international, regional and national standardization bodies, out of which 21 are from ECE member States.

Performance measures

Increased participation of organizations in the Declaration of Gender-Responsive Standards				
Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies agrees to initiate work to further contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals	Member States agree to give a mandate to the Bureau and the Secretariat to initiate consultations on developing a roadmap and a recommendation on mainstreaming gender into standards	Working Party recommends further development of the proposed Draft “Pledge for Action” (as the Declaration was referred to at that time)	Working Party adopts the Declaration for Gender Responsive Standards and decides to embed in an ECE Recommendation	Declaration is opened for signature and is signed by 55 organizations as of September 2019
2015	2016	2017	2018	2019

- 20.102 This will directly impact and increase the participation of women in the setting of standards and the representation of their interests in the standards themselves. For example, Sweden committed to gender responsive standards in its newly adopted “feminist trade policy”, which includes a commitment to develop gender responsive standards.

4. Programme performance in 2019, against planned result

- 20.103 A planned result for 2019, which is increased consensus on and strengthened implementation of ECE recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools for trade facilitation and electronic business, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019, was achieved, as evidenced by 22 new or revised recommendations, norms, standards and tools for trade facilitation and electronic business adopted by an ECE inter-governmental body, the UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT). In addition, 25 new or revised recommendations and standards on agricultural produce and 2 recommendations and guidelines for regulatory cooperation were adopted. Furthermore, 4 new measures were introduced by member States to implement ECE trade recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools, as a follow-up to ECE studies on regulatory and procedural barriers to trade.

5. Programme plan for 2021: Improved traceability in the garment sector

- 20.104 The subprogramme has been working on traceability for due diligence in the garment and footwear industries. The garment and footwear industry generates USD 3 trillion annual revenues, produces 80 billion garment pieces annually, and employs more than 60 million workers globally. Its value chain is both global and complex with production facilities scattered all over the globe. At the same time, its environmental, social and health risks are well documented, while there is no global framework and tools for ensuring the transparency and traceability of products, operations and their impacts. As one of its focus-areas, the subprogramme attempts to develop a Transparency and Traceability System through the development of policy recommendations, standards, implementation guidelines and the conduct of pilots in the sector.

Internal challenge and response

- 20.105 The textile or footwear industry is extremely labour and resource-intensive, with complex and fragmented global value chains and markets primarily served by the developing countries. Addressing the growing civil society and consumer demand for attaining sustainability in the sector and for trusted information about the products that consumers purchase, wear or use, is a challenge for companies. According to a recent ECE study, key

actors in the industry have indeed identified traceability and transparency as crucial enablers of more responsible production and consumption patterns, and a core priority for immediate action. Building on its traceability work for the agri-food and fishery value chains, ECE embarked upon the garment sector to help the sector address its growing environmental and social impacts (1.795 million tons/year CO2 emissions and 92 million tons of produced waste of which only 20% is recycled, 10% of substances are of concern to human health, 87% are of non-compliance with minimum wage in certain countries, and 80% of the 60 million workers are women), and achieve specific targets under SDG 12. A sectoral framework for traceability and transparency of the value chain based on global standards, that is interoperable and scalable can be the response. It would allow an effective connection between producers and firms, firms and brands and retailers, and provide a rigorous way of collecting and exchanging information related to operations and products along the entire value chain. The contexts in developing countries are heterogenous, and the market dynamics of the global value chains may be impacted by other factors that are not within the scope of the subprogramme to address (e.g. specific environmental or social risks). However, the subprogramme will have the option of customizing the Transparency and Traceability System based on such local contexts. A network of experts will also be mobilized to address the specific challenges.

Expected progress towards attainment of objective and performance measures

Performance measures

20.106 This work is expected to contribute towards strengthened trade facilitation and electronic business, which would be demonstrated by implementation of the Transparency and Traceability System in at least 3 countries resulting in enhanced capacity of countries and companies to take risk-informed decisions and operate along a set of internationally agreed

Implementation of The Transparency and Traceability Tool by Countries

Launch of the discussion by ECE/UN/CE FACT experts on the need for improved transparency and traceability in the garment supply chains (SC)	EU, ILO, ITC and ECE/UN/CE FACT agree to develop Transparency and Traceability System for sustainable SC	Development of the Transparency and Traceability System by ECE/UN/CE FACT experts and partners	Piloting of the Transparency and Traceability System in multiple countries and businesses	Implementation of the Transparency and Traceability System by 3 countries
2017	2018	2019	2020	2021

practices that increase the traceability and transparency of value chains, vis-a-vis all actors including workers and final consumers. This is in turn expected to enhance the transparency and traceability of the garment value chain, as part of improving the due diligence by industry players. In addition, it is also expected to result in improved connectivity and enhanced capacity of retailers, brands and manufacturers along the value chain to source more sustainably.

6. Legislative mandates

20.107 The subprogramme continues to be guided by all mandates entrusted to it. The following constitute the list of legislative mandates:

General Assembly resolutions

- 69/137 Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024

- 69/213 Role of transport and transit corridors in ensuring international cooperation for sustainable development
- 70/217 Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries
- 71/239 Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries
- 71/242 Industrial development cooperation
- 73/253 Agriculture development, food security and nutrition

Economic and Social Council resolution

- 1991/76 Promotion of interregional cooperation in the area of international trade facilitation

Economic and Social Council decision

- 1997/225 Economic Commission for Europe Recommendation 25, entitled “Use of the UN/EDIFACT Standard”

7. Deliverables

20.108 The mandates provide the legislative framework for its deliverables. Table 20.7 lists all deliverables, by category and sub-category, for the period 2019–2021 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 20.7
Subprogramme 6: output performance for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2019 actual</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>
Quantified deliverables				
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	110	106	110	110
1. Documentation for the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards	13	12	13	13
2. Documentation for the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies	13	13	13	13
3. Documentation for the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards	60	55	60	60
4. Documentation for the Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)	24	26	24	24
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	89	88	91	91
5. Meetings of the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards and its Bureau	7	6	7	7
6. Meetings of Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies	5	5	5	5
7. Meetings of Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards and its specialised sections	29	21	26	26
8. Meetings of the Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)	48	56	53	53
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Technical cooperation and field projects (number of projects)	5	5	5	4
9. Projects on Trade Facilitation	4	4	4	3
10. Project on Food loss and agriculture	1	1	1	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	15	16	18	18

	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2019 actual</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>
11. Seminars on 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	6	6	6
12. Seminars for policymakers and experts in transition economies and developing countries in the ECE region or beyond on support for the implementation of trade-related standards, recommendations and guidelines	9	9	9	9
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 entrepreneurship	-	1	3	3
Publications (number of publications)	9	9	7	10
14. Publication on the Summary of ECE Trade Facilitation Best Practice and Recommendations	1	1	1	1
15. Publications on the Guides on Trade standards in the following areas: traceability and risk management; e-business; education; and Sustainable development	3	3	2	1
16. Publications on the Trade Facilitation recommendations, standards and strategies to support policymakers	2	2	2	5
17. Publication on agricultural trade and supply chains	1	1	1	1
18. Publication on the Regulatory and procedural barriers to trade in a country to be decided	1	1	1	1
19. Publication on Risk-Based Inspections and Disaster and sustainable development	1	1	-	1
Technical materials (number of materials)	8	10	8	8
20. Standards and guidelines on agricultural quality	5	5	4	4
21. Training material on trade facilitation and electronic business	1	1	1	1
22. Material on trade standards	2	4	2	2
23. Guidelines on cross border trade	-	-	1	1

Non-quantified deliverables

C. Communication deliverables

External and media relations: Annual set of press releases for the subprogramme

Digital platforms and multimedia content: Update and maintenance of the website and databases of the subprogramme

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: Booklets, fact sheets, information brochures

Subprogramme 7 Forests and the forest industry

1. Objective

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

2. Strategy

- 20.112 To contribute to the strengthening of sustainable forest management and enhancing the contribution of forests and forest products to sustainable development, the subprogramme will continue to assist and promote cooperation with member States, regional entities and other partners for sustainable forest management, forest landscape restoration and sustainable use of forest products through international policy dialogues, analytical and normative work, capacity-building and communication. The subprogramme also plans to continue collecting, validating and disseminating information and results of research and analysis, facilitate the exchange of national experiences and best practices, and monitor progress on achieving sustainable forest management using key forest-sector indicators which are expected to result in more sustainably managed forests, restored ecosystems, forest goods and services to benefit society. Furthermore, the subprogramme will provide a platform for policy dialogue on forest-related issues. The subprogramme will support member States in advancing towards the achievement of the sustainable development goals, most notably SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production and SDG 15 – Life on Land and, as well as in implementing the UN Strategic Plan for Forests (A/RES/71/285).
- 20.113 As part of its implementation strategy, the subprogramme will carry out its work in partnership with FAO and other relevant organizations, processes (among others the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), World Agroforestry, and Forest Europe). Through its work, the subprogramme will contribute to the ECE nexus area on the sustainable use of natural resources.

3. Programme performance in 2019: Strengthened capacity on forest monitoring in the Caucasus and Central Asia

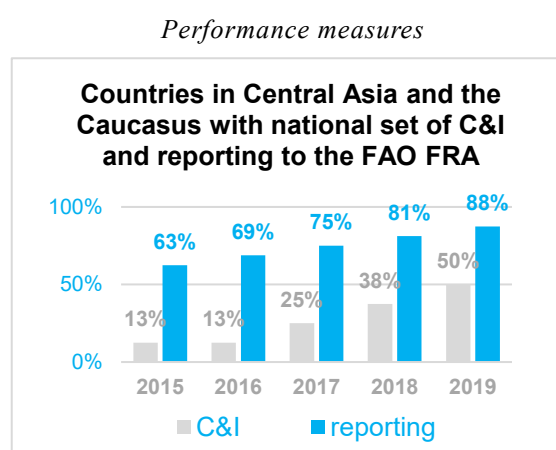
- 20.114 The subprogramme focused in 2019 on capacity-building for the forest sector in the Caucasus and Central Asia, this included three main components: (i) monitoring forest; (ii) reporting the state of the forests; and (iii) promoting forest landscape restoration.
- 20.115 With the support of a UN Development Account project, capacity to develop monitoring systems for sustainable forest management was built in five countries of the region. The subprogramme organized participatory stakeholder processes to develop national-level criteria and indicators sets for forest monitoring. This will allow countries to monitor progress towards their forest policy targets, make evidence-based decisions and communicate progress and achievements in sustainable forest management. The developed criteria cover many aspects of forests, including: forest area, the carbon cycle, forest health, biodiversity, employment in the forest sector, education and protective functions, like erosion control or prevention of desertification.
- 20.116 Further, the subprogramme supported officially designated national correspondents from each member State in their work on compiling data submission for the Global Forest Resources Assessment and closely worked with ministries and experts in the Caucasus and Central Asia for an in-depth study on forest resources, threats facing forests, policies and institutions. The study “State of Forest of the Caucasus and Central Asia”, published in 2019, is the first

regional overview of the forest sector in the countries of the region since their independence in the 1990s. The study provides findings on the status and trends in forest resources as well as on forest policies and institutions, serves as a basis for comprehensive policy making, which considers the specificity of services provided by forests and related funding, improves the visibility of the region's forests and strengthens countries' potential in mobilizing funding and technical support.

- 20.117 By providing a platform for countries of the region to showcase their political commitment towards forest landscape restoration and the UN Strategic Plan for Forests (2017-2030), the subprogramme enabled an additional pledge towards the Bonn Challenge (an international effort to restore 350 million hectares of degraded lands by 2030).

Progress towards attainment of the objective and performance measures

- 20.118 This work contributed to strengthening of sustainable forest management and enhancing the contribution of forests and forest products to sustainable development as demonstrated by the development of national criteria and indicator (C&I) sets for sustainable forest management. Four out of five target countries finalized sets (Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan). The fifth target country, Armenia, plans to finalize theirs by 2020. The project contributed to increasing the share of countries in the Caucasus and Central Asia with C&I sets from 13% in 2015 to 50% in 2019.



- 20.119 Due to the intensive capacity-building in member States, the reporting capacities also improved, with 88% of the countries now having the capacity to report to the Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) (compared to 63% in 2015). Forest monitoring and reporting is an essential step for countries to progress towards sustainable forest management. This includes not only improvement of the forest resources but also covers all other aspects dependent on forests (such as security of workers, employment conditions, income generation etc.).
- 20.120 The increased awareness of the benefits of forests led to an additional Bonn Challenge pledge by Azerbaijan, bringing the regional commitment to approximately 3 million hectares.

4. Programme performance in 2019, against planned result

- 20.121 A planned result for 2019, which is improved monitoring and assessment of the forest sector to support sustainable forest management, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019, was achieved, as evidenced by an increased percentage of ECE member States able to provide satisfactory data on qualitative and quantitative indicators of sustainable forest management. The planned performance measures – 71% of ECE member States for qualitative indicators and 75% of ECE member States for quantitative indicators – were both surpassed significantly, with 89% of ECE member States providing satisfactory data on both, qualitative and quantitative, indicators of sustainable forest management in 2019 for the 2020 reporting cycle. With the planned result, the subprogramme contributed to the achievement of Global Forest Goal 1 of the UNSPF, and SDG 15.

5. Programme plan for 2021: Increasing political commitment for ecosystem restoration in Eastern and South-East Europe

20.122 The subprogramme has been working in the Caucasus and Central Asia to support governments in determining potential areas for landscape restoration and to increase political commitment to restore degraded lands. In line with GA resolution 73/284, which declared 2021-2030 the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, the subprogramme builds on this momentum to increase the political commitment on forest landscape restoration. So far, countries in Eastern and South-East Europe have not stated their political commitment on ecosystem restoration in an international context. The subprogramme plans to expand the regional initiative for Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (ECCA30) allowing regional cooperation and joining forces for forest landscape restoration. The ECCA30 initiative will bundle all pledges towards ecosystem restoration in Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and targets to reach commitments by countries to restore 30 million hectares of degraded lands by 2030. The subprogramme will be working closely with ministries and stakeholders responsible for ecosystem and specifically for forest restoration to mobilize funds and increase capacities for restoration.

Internal challenge and response

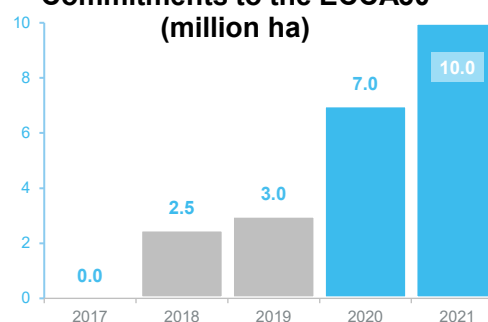
20.123 The subprogramme has so far not worked on capacity-building on ecosystem restoration in Eastern and South-East Europe. The political development and commitment by member States preceding the adoption of GA resolution 73/284 on the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, helped the subprogramme to identify this topic as a major opportunity for Eastern and South-East Europe. In response, the subprogramme will support countries in analyzing their restoration potential and build capacities for monitoring landscape restoration and degradation at the national level as well as for SDG reporting. These capacity-building activities for ministries and national experts aim at enabling countries to analyze, quantify and officially proclaim their ecosystem restoration targets under the Bonn Challenge and ECCA30.

Expected progress towards attainment of objective and performance measures

20.124 This work is expected to contribute towards strengthening of sustainable forest management and enhancing the contribution of forests and forest products to sustainable development in Eastern and South-East Europe, which would be demonstrated by national commitments towards ecosystem restoration, bringing the total area for the ECCA region committed under the Bonn Challenge to at least 10 million hectares. National or regional restoration commitments are announced at a high-level meeting and formalized with a letter of the government to the Bonn Challenge Secretariat, which is hosted by IUCN.

Performance measures

Commitments to the ECCA30 (million ha)



6. Legislative mandates

20.125 The subprogramme continues to be guided by all mandates entrusted to it. The following constitute the list of legislative mandates:

General Assembly resolutions

- 62/98 Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests
- 67/200 International Day of Forests
- 71/285 United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests
- 71/286 United Nations forest instrument
- 73/236 Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
- 73/284 United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021–2030)

Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

- 2007/40 Non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests
- 2015/33 International arrangement on forests beyond 2015
- 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

7. Deliverables

20.126 The mandates provide the legislative framework for its deliverables. Table 20.8 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 20.8

Subprogramme 7: output performance for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2019 actual</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>
Quantified deliverables				
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	16	28	18	24
1. Documentation for the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry/European Forestry Commission	14	26	12	18
2. Documentation for the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management	2	2	6	6
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	45	45	26	32
3. Meetings of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry/European Forestry Commission	14	16	8	16
4. Meetings of the Bureau of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry	6	2	4	2
5. Meetings of the Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management and of Teams of Specialists	25	27	14	14
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	10	31	10	15
6. Seminars, workshops, fellowships and training events for policymakers, experts and relevant stakeholders from countries in the ECE region on topics related to the ECE/FAO integrated programme	10	31	10	15
Publications (number of publications)	6	6	7	7
7. Publication on Forest Products Annual Market Review	1	1	1	1
8. Publication on Sustainable Forest Management and Forest Products	5	5	6	6
Non-quantified deliverables				
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: Forest policy dialogues on the request of countries and support on forest policy issues				
Databases and substantive digital materials: Update and maintenance of databases: on forest resources; on forest policies and institutions; on forest products; on production, consumption, and trade including prices; and on wood energy				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: International Day of Forest; brochures on different forest-related topics; presentations at roundtables and discussions at international forest-related events				
External and media relations: Annual set of press releases for the subprogramme				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: Update and maintenance of the website of the subprogramme; videos on forest-related topics				

Subprogramme 8

Housing, land management and population

1. Objective

20.127 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen member State-owned 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.

2. Strategy

20.128 The subprogramme comprises two components: (a) housing and land management component in the Forests, Land and Housing Division; and (b) population in the Statistics Division.

20.129 The strategy of the subprogramme is based on the implementation of the core interlinked functions, namely: (a) international policy dialogue; (b) normative work; and (c) capacity-building and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned in all areas of the subprogramme's work. This work will contribute to the four ECE nexuses as reflected in paragraph 20.5.

20.130 To contribute to strengthening member State-owned programmes and policies promoting decent, adequate, affordable, energy efficient and healthy housing for all, smart sustainable cities, and sustainable urban development and land management, the subprogramme will continue to facilitate cooperation between member States, regional agencies and other key partners.

20.131 The subprogramme will promote evidence-based housing, urban development policies, will support governments in their review and follow up activities to assess progress in achieving SDGs through regional and sub-regional coordination and exchanges of information. The subprogramme also plans to support governments in the review and assessment of implementation of the SDGs at national and local level, including through the application of the ECE/ITU Key Performance Indicators on Smart Sustainable Cities. The subprogramme will also provide technical assistance and disseminate best practices on achievement of the housing, city and land-related SDGs, especially SDG 11, and to a lesser extent to SDGs 3, 5, 7, 9, 12, through the development of Country Profiles on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management, the Smart Sustainable City profiles, pilot projects on innovating financial mechanisms for smart sustainable cities, and thematic studies on affordable decent housing for all, sustainable urban development and land management. Furthermore, it will support governments in the development of their national urban policies and land administration. It will also organize a Forum of Mayors to discuss the challenges that local authorities/governments face in achieving sustainable urban development. Due consideration will be given to the integration of climate change measures into urban policies, strategies and planning. Furthermore, the subprogramme will facilitate the maintenance, management and refurbishment of existing housing stock in the ECE member States, which is expected to result in improved energy efficiency in buildings and will also support the development of sustainable real estate markets. This work is expected to result in improved housing affordability and energy efficiency, adaptation of the housing stock and cities to demographic and climate changes and better access to affordable, decent, healthy and safe housing.

20.132 To contribute to the advancement of evidence-based population and social cohesion policies, the subprogramme will continue to facilitate cooperation between member States, regional agencies and other partners. It will support the review and follow up activities to assess progress in implementing the ECE Regional Strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA/RIS) at national and regional level. The subprogramme

will provide a platform for intergovernmental policy debate on matters related to mainstreaming ageing and will facilitate communication with a wider network of experts and non-governmental organizations. It will support evidence-based policymaking and monitoring of the implementation of MIPAA/RIS by coordinating data collection on Active Ageing Indicators and policy-oriented research on ageing and intergenerational and gender relations. The population component will also support the development of national capacities for policy formulation through its Policy seminars/master-classes and Policy Briefs that focus on specific policy challenges and possible policy solutions showcasing good practices from across the region. By doing this, the population component will help member States in the achievement of 2030 Agenda, in particular, in regard of its core principle of leaving no one behind.

3. Programme performance in 2019: Evidence-based housing and urban development policies at national and local level to achieve the SDGs and promote liveable cities and human settlements

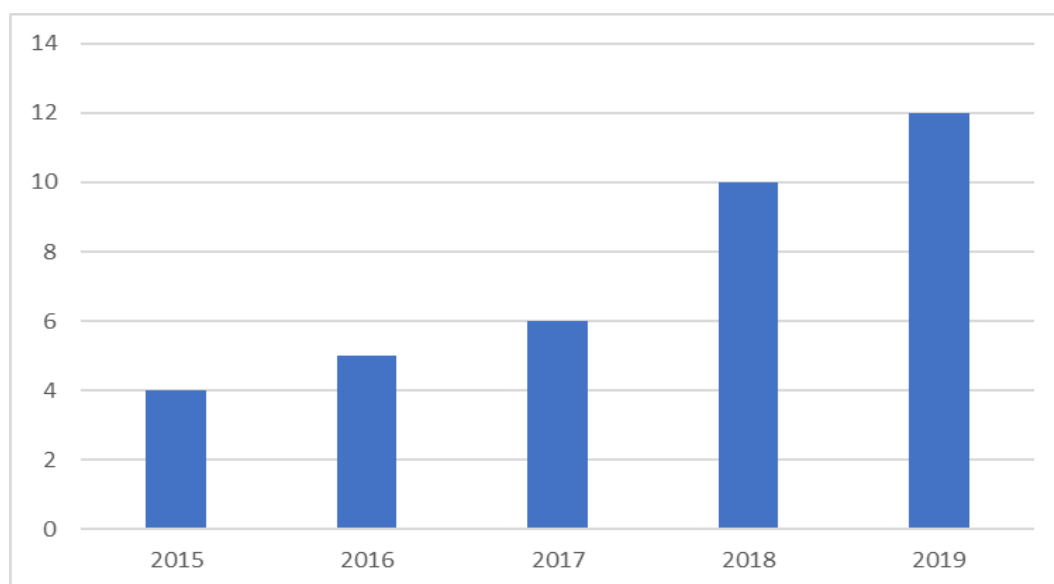
- 20.133 In response to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the New Urban Agenda, the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing and the Geneva Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Housing and Urban Development, the subprogramme supported evidence-based housing and urban development policies in six countries – Albania, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Ukraine. This was done according to the methodology reflected in the ECE guidelines for evidence-based housing and urban development policies developed by the subprogramme.
- 20.134 To support the evidence-based policies at national and local level, the Country Profile on Housing, Urban Development and Land Management of Belarus and Smart Sustainable City Profile of Voznesensk, Ukraine, were prepared.
- 20.135 Capacity-building activities, relevant research and outreach to support the evidence-based policies were conducted by the ECE Centres of Excellence for the implementation of the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing. In 2019, in addition to the existing centres of excellence in Glasgow (UK), Tallinn (Estonia), Vienna (Austria), and Tirana (Albania), centres were established in Trondheim (Norway), and in Geneva (Switzerland). The Centre in Estonia elaborated a training curricular on management of multiapartment buildings in English and Russian for housing managers in countries with economies in transition and conducted international trainings. The Centre in Glasgow developed methodological studies to promote liveability of cities through improving housing affordability and urban design. The centres were established jointly by the respective cities in cooperation with private sector and academia. These centres of excellence translate the ECE instruments, including guidelines and standards, to the national and local policies and action programmes and ensure their ownership in countries.

Progress towards attainment of the objective and performance measures

- 20.136 This work contributed to strengthening member State-owned programmes and policies promoting decent, adequate, affordable, energy efficient and healthy housing for all, smart sustainable cities, sustainable land management, as demonstrated by twelve ECE member States that have applied ECE evidence-based policies and tools for urban development, housing and land management at the national and local levels, as shown in the figure. In particular, the Government of Albania developed a programme of municipal housing to provide with affordable housing vulnerable groups of population and Georgia developed a programme on urban planning.

Performance measures

Increased number of ECE member States that had applied ECE evidence-based policies and tools for urban development, housing and land management



4. Programme performance in 2019, against planned result

- 20.137 A planned result for 2019, which is enhanced national formulation and implementation of evidence-based population and social cohesion policies in the region, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019, was achieved, as evidenced by an increased number of member States – three additional countries reported - adjusting their policies or introducing new measures contributing to the implementation of MIPAA/RIS and 2017 Lisbon Ministerial Declaration goals. For instance, at the requests of two member States (Belarus and Kazakhstan), in 2019 ECE engaged in preparing Road maps on mainstreaming ageing for these countries tailored to their national contexts to support preparation of the national strategies/plans of action on ageing. The subsequently developed national strategies and/or plans of actions introduce measures to: facilitate older persons' engagement in paid economy, by providing incentives to employers to hire/keep older employees, stimulating lifelong learning, entrepreneurship; lay ground for active social participation and social inclusion, through support of volunteering and community activities; invest in age-friendly environment (green public spaces, mobility, barrier-free access, etc.); and make adjustments to long-term care system.

5. Programme plan for 2021: Countries launch new guidelines on “How to” mainstream ageing to achieve a society for all ages

- 20.138 The concept of mainstreaming ageing seeks to bring societies and economies into harmony with the ongoing demographic change aiming to achieve a society for all ages.
- 20.139 The population component of subprogramme has been working on developing road maps on mainstreaming ageing at the request of member States since 2011 (Armenia, the Republic of Moldova, Georgia, and Belarus). Referring to this experience, in 2018, the ECE Working Group on Ageing decided to develop guidelines on mainstreaming ageing that would benefit policymakers in all ECE member States. Based on a comprehensive stocktaking exercise on mainstreaming policies, tools and practice developed by member States since 2002, the Working Group on Ageing prepared guidelines and a toolkit in 2019-2020 to enhance the capacity of member States to mainstream ageing across policy fields. As ageing is a cross-cutting, multi-sectorial policy challenge with implications for labour

markets, economies, health care systems, social services, intergenerational relations and social cohesion, it cannot be addressed through one policy field alone.

20.140 The launch of and a first capacity-building workshop on the new guidelines and toolkit will be held in 2021 to inform national policy makers on how to promote age mainstreaming at national level.

Internal challenge and response

20.141 The challenge for the population component of the subprogramme was that previous experience with capacity building on adapting to population ageing focused on countries where the awareness of and policy response to the impact of this major demographic shift was still at its inception. Promoting guidelines and toolkit among the countries with already established strategies and programmes on ageing may require more targeted approach. In response, the subprogramme will consider tailoring its training workshops on use of guidelines on mainstreaming ageing by taking into consideration the different contexts of policymaking across the region.

Expected progress towards attainment of objective and performance measures

20.142 This work is expected to contribute to the advancement of evidence-based policymaking and social cohesion policies on population matters, by building member States' capacity to mainstream ageing across all relevant policy areas. This will be demonstrated by the launch of the implementation of the guidelines by member States and their readiness to use the toolkit and guidelines on mainstreaming ageing in future policymaking.

Performance measures

2017-2018	2019-2020	2020	2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Absence of guidelines on mainstreaming ageing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Development of guidelines on mainstreaming ageing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •UNECE member States adopt guidelines on mainstreaming ageing to benefit policymakers across the region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •UNECE member States launch implementation of guidelines and use of a toolkit

6. Legislative mandates

20.143 The subprogramme continues to be guided by all mandates entrusted to it. The following constitute the list of legislative mandates:

General Assembly resolutions

- 65/234 Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014
- 70/107 International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development
- 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)
- 71/256 New Urban Agenda
- 72/144 Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

- 72/226 Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
- 73/143 Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

Economic and Social Council resolutions

- 2014/7 Further implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002
- 2015/5 Modalities for the third 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
- 2018/6 Third review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

Economic and Social Council 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)

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”
- ECE/AC.30/2012/3 Vienna Ministerial declaration: “Ensuring a society for all ages: Promoting quality of life and active ageing”, 2012
- ECE/HBP/173 Report of the Committee on Housing and Land Management on its 74th session which adopted the Strategy for Sustainable Housing and Land Management in the ECE region for the period 2014-2020 (ECE/HBP/2013/3)
- B (66) Endorsement of the Geneva United Nations Charter on Sustainable Housing
- ECE/HBP/190 Report of the Committee on Housing and Land Management on its 78th session (Geneva Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Housing and Urban Development)
- ECE/AC.30/2017/2 Report of the UNECE Ministerial Conference on Ageing: “A Sustainable Society for All Ages: Realizing the Potential of Living Longer” (2017 Lisbon Ministerial Declaration)

7. Deliverables

20.144 The mandates provide the legislative framework for its deliverables. Table 20.9 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 20.9

Subprogramme 8: output performance for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

	2019 planned	2019 actual	2020 planned	2021 Planned
Quantified deliverables				
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	17	24	15	24
1. Documentation for the Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management	6	11	10	12

2. Documentation for the Working Party on Land Administration	7	8	-	7
3. Documentation for the Working Group on Ageing	4	5	5	5
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	32	27	27	29
4. Meetings of the Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management and its Bureau	14	10	14	12
5. Meetings of the Working Party on Land Administration and its Bureau	11	10	6	10
6. Meetings of the Working Group on Ageing	7	7	7	7
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Technical cooperation and field projects (number of projects)	1	2	3	1
7. Projects on Country profiles on housing, land administration and spatial planning	1	1	2	1
8. Road Map on mainstreaming ageing project for specific country	-	1	1	-
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	5	8	5	6
9. 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	4	4
10. Workshops and policy seminars on population ageing issues for policymakers, experts, practitioners and other stakeholders in countries of the ECE region	1	4	1	2
Publications (number of publications)	5	6	6	7
11. Publications on Housing and Land Management	2	2	3	3
12. Publications on Population	3	4	3	4
Technical materials (number of materials)	1	2	1	3
13. Technical Guidelines on Housing and Land Management	1	2	1	2
14. Guidelines on mainstreaming ageing	-	-	-	1

Non-quantified deliverables

C. Substantive deliverables

Fact-finding, monitoring and investigation missions: Fact finding missions for policy makers, in preparation for and follow-up to the country profiles on housing, land administration and spatial planning; Fact-finding missions for Government officials and other stakeholders, to develop national capacities on designing and implementing ageing-related policies and programmes

Consultation, advice and advocacy: Generations and Gender Programme – support for the Council of Partners; country microdata submission and researchers' access agreements; Advisory services for policy makers, 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 on designing and implementing ageing-related policies and programmes

Databases and substantive digital materials: Update and maintenance of the Active Ageing indicators dataset

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: Booklet and fact sheets of the Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management and the Working Party on Land Administration; Booklet of the Working Group on Ageing

External and media relations: Annual sets of press releases related to housing, land management and population activities

Digital platforms and multimedia content: Update and maintenance of the websites related to housing, land management and population activities; Active Ageing Index wiki