



General Assembly

Distr.: General
6 April 2020

Original: English

Seventy-fifth session

Items 141 and 142 of the preliminary list*

Proposed programme budget for 2021

Programme planning

Proposed programme budget for 2021

Part IV

International cooperation for development

Section 14

Environment

Programme 11

Environment

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* [A/75/50](#).

** In keeping with paragraph 11 of resolution [72/266 A](#), the part consisting of the programme plan and programme performance information is submitted through the Committee for Programme and Coordination for the consideration of the General Assembly.

*** In keeping with paragraph 11 of resolution [72/266 A](#), the part consisting of the post and non-post resource requirements is submitted through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for the consideration of the General Assembly.



Foreword

Over the past year, it has become clear that environmental degradation presents an existential challenge to humanity at this point in human history. Global increases in anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and climate impacts have occurred, even while mitigation activities have taken place in many parts of the world. Land degradation and desertification have increased, with land degradation hotspots covering approximately 29 per cent of global land. In most regions, water quality has worsened significantly since 1990, owing to organic and chemical pollution. In parallel, a major species extinction event, compromising planetary integrity and the Earth's capacity to meet human needs, is unfolding. The health of our environment and what is at stake is more in the public conscience than ever before. The science is definitive, and the world has begun to shift towards a low-carbon and more resilient future.

From the scientific assessments that support countries in stepping up climate action to our role as a convenor of key stakeholders on global environmental governance, finance and law, and in our capacity as the port at which many important multilateral environmental governance agreements dock, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) provides critical support to achieve the environmental dimensions of the Sustainable Development Goals.

In 2019, UNEP and its partners continued to provide the science intended to keep up the pressure to seek a quantum leap in ambition to overcome the climate emergency. In November, the UNEP *Emissions Gap Report 2019* made headline news around the world. The report is clear that the time for climate procrastination is over, and calls upon us to reduce emissions by 7.6 per cent each year until 2030. If we don't, the world will miss the opportunity to limit the average temperature increase to 1.5°C. The sixth *Global Environment Outlook*, furthermore, outlined the transformations in energy, food and waste systems that are critical for a sustainable planet.

Throughout the course of the year, UNEP has sought to draw attention to the vital role of nature in climate action as countries embark on the non-negotiable process of decarbonization and increased adaptation action. UNEP was privileged to support the nature-based solutions track as lead agency at the 2019 Climate Action Summit held in September.

In March 2019, UNEP hosted the fourth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, at which ministers from more than 170 Member States delivered a bold blueprint for change, showing determination to ambitiously scale up our efforts to overcome common environmental challenges and reaffirming that the world needs to speed up the move towards a new model of development in order to respect the vision laid out in the Sustainable Development Goals for 2030. Central to this vision is the acknowledgement that a healthy environment is vital to fulfilling our aspiration to ensure that people everywhere live a life of dignity.

The environmental challenge is a single, global challenge that has the ability to change the course of history for the planet. Whether we change track in the right direction or not is entirely up to us. As we enter a “super year 2020” of important global meetings on environmental policy, UNEP remains committed to the heavy lift ahead, to engage with a clear scientific underpinning, strengthen the science-policy interface, support countries in stepping up their nationally determined contributions and address the key drivers of ecosystem degradation and species loss, so that we may arrive at a positive outcome in the “decade of delivery” for people and planet.

(Signed) Inger Andersen
Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme

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

Overall orientation

Mandates and background

- 14.1 The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is responsible for leading and coordinating action on environmental matters within the United Nations system. The mandate derives from the priorities established by the General Assembly in its resolution [2997 \(XXVII\)](#) and by the governing body in its decision 19/1. That decision set out the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme, which the Assembly subsequently endorsed in 1997 in the annex to its resolution [S-19/2](#) and further reaffirmed by its resolutions [53/242](#) in 1999 and [66/288](#) and [67/213](#) in 2012. In order to sustain the environmental dimension of development, to reinforce people's well-being and to achieve socioeconomic goals, the world needs a global focus that catalyses action at all levels. In response, UNEP will, within its mandate, provide strategic direction towards the achievement of environmental sustainability while contributing to a balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. Acknowledging the integrated nature of the challenges that countries face (e.g., gender equality, unemployment, income inequality, social exclusion and lack of environmental safeguards), UNEP will play a critical role in defining a new global paradigm for sustainable development in which the environment is no longer treated in a silo.

Strategy and external factors for 2021

- 14.2 The UNEP medium-term strategy for the period 2018–2021 builds on the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want” (see resolution [66/288](#)), and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted in September 2015. The medium-term strategy puts people at the centre of sustainable development, promoting human well-being and meeting the needs of present and future generations without degrading the environment or exceeding the planet's regenerative capacity. Science is fundamental in providing answers to address some of the most pressing sustainability issues of the twenty-first century. Strengthening the science-policy interface to inform society of the risks as well as the opportunities of new developments is therefore at the heart of the work of UNEP and embedded across the programme. The medium-term strategy for the period 2018–2021 provides a stepping stone towards a vision of 2030 in which all people live on a healthier planet.
- 14.3 To achieve this vision, UNEP will, as the leading global environmental authority, promote the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serve as an authoritative advocate for the global environment. UNEP will also meet the particular needs of regions and countries by tailoring work to address their diverse environmental challenges, from addressing their varying vulnerability to climate change and disasters to improving ecosystem health, resource efficiency and air quality. Such activities will also help countries in implementing the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda, the resolutions of the United Nations Environment Assembly, the multilateral environmental agreements and the plans, resolutions and decisions of their conferences of the parties, as well as internationally agreed global environmental goals. The medium-term strategy for the period 2018–2021 also takes into account regional priorities and emerging issues identified through global and regional forums; the Global Environment Outlook process and other assessments; the UNEP environmental foresight process; and consultations with major groups and stakeholders. The strategy aims to capitalize on the comparative advantage of UNEP, which is to serve as an authoritative voice for the global environment that catalyses science-driven action at all levels in a way that supports transformational shifts in all dimensions of sustainable development.

- 14.4 With regard to the external factors, the overall plan for 2021 is based on the following planning assumptions:
- (a) The continued expansion of effective partnerships and networks to continue to set the direction of the policies of major implementing agencies in the areas of the environment in accordance with the latest science;
 - (b) The ability of local approaches to be scaled up at the regional level to ensure a systemic impact;
 - (c) The continued availability of extrabudgetary funding, enabling countries to make the transition to sustainable development.
- 14.5 As men and women relate to the environment in different ways and environmental changes have different impacts on their lives, the consideration of gender and the environment are crucial to our ability to achieve a just and sustainable future. Therefore, UNEP will continue to integrate and promote a gender perspective in all its operational activities, deliverables and results. For example, subprogramme 1, Climate change, empowers women entrepreneurs as agents of change with regard to clean and sustainable energy to mitigate the effects of climate change; and for subprogramme 7, Environment under review, deliverables provide access to disaggregated data and gender-environment indicators to enable Governments and stakeholders to develop gender-responsive assessments, policies and strategies for sound environmental management.
- 14.6 With regard to cooperation with other entities, UNEP has built and continues to build long-term partnerships at strategic and technical levels to leverage transformational results in the area of sustainability. The Programme's transformational and transparent partnerships are based on due diligence and, where appropriate, in consultation with Member States. They are built on common principles and values, a shared vision and shared goals. UNEP partnerships aim to drive impact at scale and place people and the planet at the centre of sustainable development. For example, the partnership between UNEP and more than 230 financial institutions supported a variety of fiscal measures, including policies that promote sustainable finance, play an important role in the transition to an inclusive green economy and support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 14.7 With regard to inter-agency coordination and liaison, UNEP has overall responsibility for leading and coordinating the response on environmental issues within the United Nations system, being the leading entity on all environment-related Sustainable Development Goals. Accordingly, UNEP aims to catalyse international action to bring about convergence of environmental sustainability strategies and provide more visibility to partnership initiatives, both within the United Nations system and between the United Nations and its partners. These actions will be executed through inter-agency mechanisms, such as the United Nations Environment Management Group and the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and its subsidiary bodies. In addition, UNEP will integrate the priorities of the multilateral environmental agreements into these processes to enable the United Nations system to respond to environmental issues in a coordinated manner. UNEP will continue to guide the system-wide framework of strategies on the environment, a consultative process convened by the Environment Management Group through its 51 member agencies. The aim is to foster the convergence of environmental sustainability strategies and to provide more visibility to partnership initiatives and overall collaboration on the environment and the Sustainable Development Goals. These efforts aim to further enable system-wide collaboration and efficiencies.
- 14.8 With regard to alignment with the reform of the United Nations development system, following the year of transition in 2019, UNEP will continue to actively contribute to the discussions analysing the elements of the reform at all levels of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group. UNEP will also continue to focus on ensuring that its work is well reflected and embedded in the new generation of United Nations country teams and the reinvigorated resident coordinator system. In this context, UNEP will continue to actively engage with the Development Coordination Office and to fully leverage its work and expertise at the regional and country levels, including through engagement in the regional United Nations Sustainable Development Group, peer support group, United Nations country team and United Nations Development Assistance Framework processes. As demand for UNEP services is expected to increase, especially its policy and technical advisory

services, UNEP will also continue to review a wide range of scenarios to meet the expected increase in requests and strengthen its delivery models, drawing on expertise from across the organization and its partners.

Legislative mandates

14.9 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the programme.

General Assembly resolutions

2997 (XXVII)	Institutional and financial arrangements for international environmental cooperation	72/311	Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa
47/190	Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development		
S-19/2	Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21	73/238	The role of the international community in the prevention of the radiation threat in Central Asia
53/242	Report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements	73/254	Towards global partnerships: a principle-based approach to enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners
65/2	Outcome document of the High-level Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States	74/81 74/121	Effects of atomic radiation Policies and programmes involving youth
66/288	The future we want	74/122	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
67/213	Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twelfth special session and the implementation of section IV.C, entitled "Environmental pillar in the context of sustainable development", of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development	74/213	Cooperative measures to assess and increase awareness of environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea
67/251	Change of the designation of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme	74/216	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
68/215	Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its first universal session and the implementation of section IV.C, entitled "Environmental pillar in the context of sustainable development", of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development	74/217	Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
70/1	Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	74/220	Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa
71/243	Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system	74/222	Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme
72/279	Repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system	74/226 74/229	Combating sand and dust storms Science, technology and innovation for sustainable development
72/310	New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support	74/230	Culture and sustainable development

Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme decisions

19/1	Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme	27/2	Implementation of paragraph 88 of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
23/11	Gender equality in the field of the environment	27/11	State of the environment and contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to meeting substantive environmental challenges
24/11	Intensified environmental education for achieving sustainable development		

United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions and decisions

1/1	Ministerial outcome document of the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme	2/16	Mainstreaming of biodiversity for well-being
		2/17	Enhancing the work of the United Nations Environment Programme in facilitating cooperation, collaboration and synergies among biodiversity-related conventions
1/4	Science-policy interface		
1/8	Ecosystems-based adaptation		
1/10	Different visions, approaches, models and tools to achieve environmental sustainability in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication	2/18	Relationship between the United Nations Environment Programme and the multilateral environmental agreements for which it provides the secretariats
1/11	Coordination across the United Nations system in the field of the environment, including the Environment Management Group	2/19	Midterm review of the fourth Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environment Law (Montevideo Programme IV)
1/12	Relationship between the United Nations Environment Programme and multilateral environmental agreements	2/20	Proposed medium-term strategy for 2018–2021 and programme of work and budget for 2018–2019
1/13	Implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development	2/22	Review of the cycle of sessions of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme
1/16	Management of trust funds and earmarked contributions	2/24	Combating desertification, land degradation and drought and promoting sustainable pastoralism and rangelands
1/17	Amendments to the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility	2/25	Application of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in the Latin America and Caribbean Region
2/1	Amendments to the rules of procedure		
2/2	Role and functions of the regional forums of ministers of the environment and environment authorities	3/2	Pollution mitigation by mainstreaming biodiversity into key sectors
2/3	Investing in human capacity for sustainable development through environmental education and training	3/3	Contributions of the United Nations Environment Assembly to the high-level political forum on sustainable development
2/4	Role, functions and modalities for United Nations Environment Programme implementation of the SAMOA Pathway as a means of facilitating achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals	3/4	Environment and health
		3/5	Investing in innovative environmental solutions for accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals
2/5	Delivering on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	3/6	Managing soil pollution to achieve sustainable development
2/6	Supporting the Paris Agreement	3/8	Preventing and reducing air pollution to improve air quality globally
2/13	Sustainable management of natural capital for sustainable development and poverty eradication	3/9	Eliminating exposure to lead paint and promoting environmentally sound management of waste lead-acid batteries
2/15	Protection of the environment in areas affected by armed conflict		

Part IV International cooperation for development

3/10	Addressing water pollution to protect and restore water-related ecosystems	4/20	Fifth Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo Programme V): delivering for people and the planet
3/11	Implementation of paragraph 88 (a)–(h) of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”	4/21	Implementation plan “Towards a pollution-free planet”
4/3	Sustainable mobility	4/22	Implementation and follow-up of United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions
4/14	Sustainable nitrogen management	4/23	Keeping the world environment under review: enhancing the United Nations Environment Programme science-policy interface and endorsement of the Global Environment Outlook
4/17	Promoting gender equality and the human rights and empowerment of women and girls in environmental governance		
4/18	Poverty-environment nexus	Decision 4/1	Programme of work and budget for the biennium 2020–2021
4/19	Mineral resource governance		

Deliverables

14.10 Table 14.1 lists all cross-cutting deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021.

Table 14.1

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

Category and subcategory	2019 planned	2019 actual	2020 planned	2021 planned
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Conference and secretariat services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	4	4	3	4
1. Meetings of the United Nations Environment Assembly	1	1	–	1
2. Meetings of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	1	1	1	1
3. Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Coordination	1	1	1	1
4. Meetings of the Fifth Committee	1	1	1	1
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Publications (number of publications)	1	1	1	2
5. UNEP medium-term strategy, 2022–2025	–	–	–	1
6. UNEP annual report	1	1	1	1

Evaluation activities

14.11 The following evaluations completed in 2019 have guided the programme plan for 2021:

- Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) evaluation of UNEP (published in March 2019);
- Self-evaluations: 35 completed projects evaluated, including on greenhouse gas reduction and energy efficiency, ecosystems and biodiversity, biosafety, wastewater management, reducing climate change impacts, capacity-building and technical assistance, and international environmental law, as well as midterm evaluations of two projects, on marine litter (the Clean Seas campaign) and chemicals management; assessment of Montevideo Programme IV on environmental law; evaluation of subprogramme 7, Environment under review; and midterm evaluation of the Special Programme to support institutional strengthening at the national level for implementation of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, the Minamata Convention and the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management.

- 14.12 UNEP has taken into account the recommendations provided by the OIOS evaluation, including with regard to strengthening the operationalization of its strategic plans. In this respect, under the leadership of its Executive Director, UNEP has initiated a Programme-wide strategic process for improving its operational efficiency, enhancing the quality of its impact and results and better supporting Member States. The objective is to establish a clear line of sight between the larger objectives of UNEP and those charged with operationalizing the objectives. Critical to such a horizon will be collective accountability at all levels of the Programme to deliver on its programme of work.
- 14.13 The findings of the evaluation and self-evaluations referenced in paragraph 14.11 above have been taken into account for the programme plan for 2021. One of the recommendations concerned the adoption of a more integrated approach. In response, subprogramme 4, Environmental governance, included in its programme plan for 2021 specific reference to increased alignment and integration of the Poverty-Environment Initiative with finance and investment processes. Similarly, subprogramme 5, Chemicals, waste and air quality, included the foreseen integration of its country support in the development and implementation of strategies for the sound management of waste with support to enhance sustainable consumption and production patterns, including circularity. Another recommendation was to improve communication around the scientific and policy work undertaken by UNEP. In response, for the programme plan for 2021, UNEP has enhanced its communication work by investing in the adoption of relevant strategies across the initiatives mentioned under the subprogrammes, which have resulted or are expected to result in enhanced awareness and understanding of the scientific and policy aspects underpinning the work of UNEP by a wide range of stakeholders.
- 14.14 The following evaluations and self-evaluations are planned for 2021:
- (a) Twenty evaluations of completed projects on climate change, chemicals, waste and air quality, healthy and productive ecosystems, environmental governance and resource efficiency;
 - (b) Evaluation of subprogramme 4, Environmental governance.

Programme of work

Subprogramme 1

Climate change

Objective

- 14.15 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to advance the transition of countries to low-emission economic development and increase their adaptation and resilience to climate change.

Strategy

- 14.16 To contribute to the advancement of the transition of countries to low-emission economic development, the subprogramme will support countries with the development of policies and standards to transform their markets, promote investment in clean energy and improve the global rate of energy efficiency. This work is expected to result in countries lowering their emissions of greenhouse gases and other pollutants by reducing energy intensity and demand in sectors such as lighting, appliances, equipment, buildings and transport, and thus helping Member States to make progress towards the achievement of targets 7.1, 7.2 and 7.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals. In addition, the subprogramme will continue to help countries to implement gender-sensitive policies that achieve quantifiable carbon, social and environmental benefits, including from reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. This work is expected to, inter alia, help Member States to make progress in responding to the Warsaw Framework for REDD-plus for accessing results-based payments and to be better prepared for the effective, transparent and equitable management of financial flows for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of

conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries (REDD-plus), thus helping them to achieve targets 5.5, 15.1 and 15.2 of the Goals. Past results in these areas include 47 countries developing national efficient lighting strategies, 33 countries taking climate action in the equipment and appliances sector through the joining of the United for Efficiency initiative, which aims to transform markets for the deployment of energy-efficient products, and 23 countries developing, adopting or implementing national REDD-plus strategies, plans or policies aimed at reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.

- 14.17 To contribute to increased adaptation and resilience of countries to climate change, the subprogramme will continue to build countries' technical capacity to integrate ecosystem-based management into their national adaptation plans, put in place institutional arrangements to coordinate such plans and access climate change adaptation finance to implement them, which is expected to result in the increased capacity of countries to institutionalize, implement and monitor their national adaptation plans, thus helping Member States to make progress towards the achievement of targets 13.1 and 15.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals. Past results in these areas include 46 countries creating an enabling environment at the institutional, programmatic and/or policymaking level for implementing ecosystem-based and other adaptation approaches and 23 countries improving their national-level adaptation planning.
- 14.18 To contribute to the advancement of the transition of countries to low-emission economic development and increasing their adaptation and resilience to climate change, the subprogramme will continue to collaborate with the private sector in constructive and result-oriented partnerships that leverage climate finance and scale up ambitions and impacts of climate action globally, which is expected to result in the establishment of innovative models to enhance financing for greener investments and the dissemination of low-carbon technologies that help to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, promote access to energy and enhance productive energy use. This work is expected to help Member States to make progress towards the achievement of targets under Sustainable Development Goals 13 and 17. Past results in these areas include private sector actors decarbonizing \$51 billion worth of assets and investing more than \$50 million in renewable energy.

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 14.19 A planned result for 2019, which is energy efficiency is improved and the use of renewable energy is increased in countries to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants as part of their low-emission development, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by the 35 new countries (in addition to the 52 from the biennium 2016–2017) that made progress in adopting and/or implementing low-greenhouse-gas-emission development plans, strategies and/or policies, against a target of 35 countries, thereby bringing the total number to 87.

Programme performance in 2019: district energy: a secret weapon for climate action and human health

- 14.20 A district energy system is a network of pipes that heats and cools buildings across a neighbourhood or entire city. Modern district energy systems connect renewable energy sources, waste heat, thermal storage, power grids, thermal grids and heat pumps, delivering up to 50 per cent less primary energy consumption for heating and cooling while allowing the recovery and distribution of surplus and low-grade heat and cold to end users as well as the storage of large amounts of energy at low cost. These benefits make district energy a key measure for cities and countries that aim to achieve 100 per cent renewable energy or carbon-neutral targets in line with their climate ambitions. Visionary cities and countries have been able to decarbonize heating and cooling and achieve high efficiency, renewable energy and carbon dioxide emissions targets with modern district energy. Well-designed district energy systems not only lessen climate change, but also bring benefits across the sustainable

development agenda, improving human health by cutting air pollution, increasing access to affordable and clean energy and creating green and decent jobs.

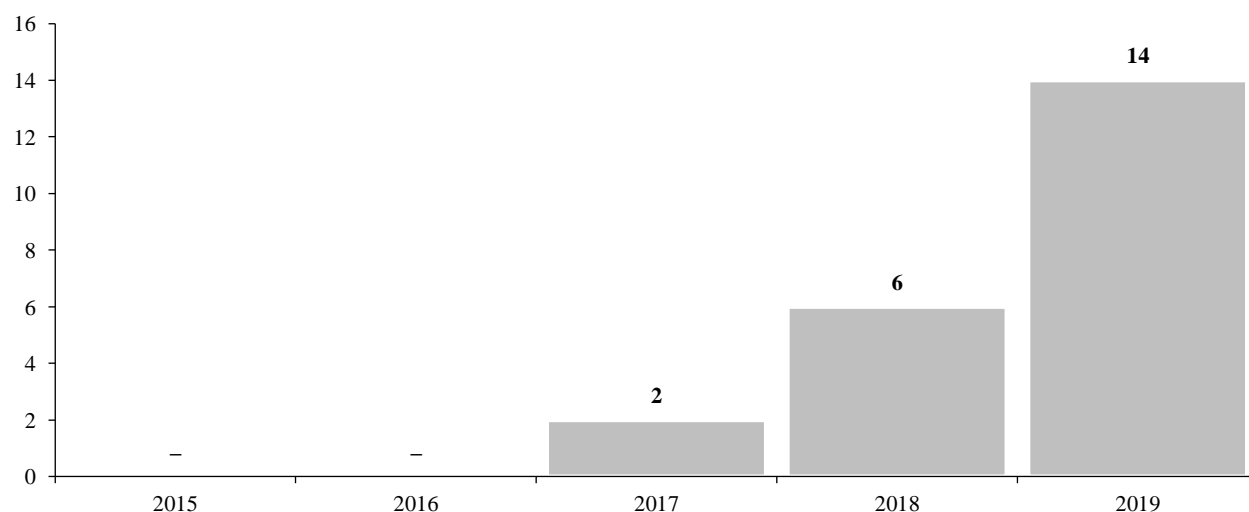
- 14.21 UNEP has been working on district energy since 2013, identifying district energy systems as a best practice approach for providing a local, affordable and low-carbon energy supply. In 2019, through the District Energy in Cities Initiative, the subprogramme supported countries and cities in their transition towards more climate-friendly societies by promoting modern district heating and cooling systems. The District Energy in Cities Initiative, launched in 2016, is coordinated by the subprogramme with financial support from various donors, including the Global Environment Facility. The Initiative is also a key implementation mechanism for the Sustainable Energy for All district energy accelerator, a platform launched to help to double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency, which is an objective of Sustainable Energy for All. The Initiative currently provides technical support to 36 cities in four pilot countries (Chile, China, India and Serbia) and 10 replication countries (Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Egypt, Malaysia, Mongolia, Morocco, the Russian Federation, Seychelles and Tunisia) in the form of support to local and national governments in building know-how and implementing enabling policies that can accelerate investment in modern district energy systems and the provision of support to cities and industries in identifying, accessing and tendering bankable district energy projects. As an example of this work, the Initiative is supporting Amaravati, the new state capital of Andhra Pradesh, India, with increased employment of new technologies and the expansion of efforts beyond public buildings as part of its transition to more low-carbon practices. Amaravati was the first of the Initiative's cities in India to receive investment on a district cooling project for public buildings. As a result, the city successfully awarded the tender for a \$21 million district cooling system to provide cooling to new buildings in this greenfield city, which will reduce electricity demand by between 40 per cent and 50 per cent.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 14.22 This work contributed to the advancement of the transition of countries to low-emission economic development, as demonstrated by 14 countries (8 additional countries compared to 2018), that have designed low-carbon and climate-resilient district energy systems with the support of the Initiative and have made progress in building know-how and implementing enabling policies that accelerate investment in low-carbon and climate-resilient district energy systems.

Figure 14.I

Performance measure: total number of countries that have designed low-carbon and climate-resilient district energy systems with the support of the District Energy in Cities Initiative



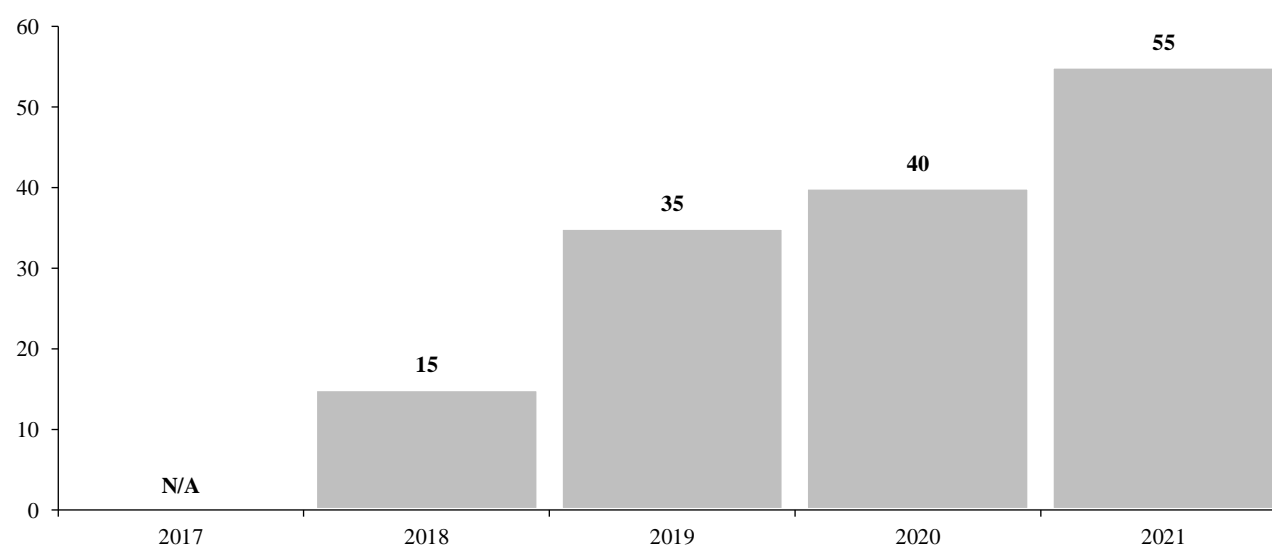
Planned results for 2021

Result 1: increased climate ambition (result carried over from 2020)

- 14.23 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the adaptation of energy efficiency standards, in line with its mandate, and will assist Member States in adopting or implementing low-emissions development plans, which is expected to be demonstrated by the performance measure for 2021 below. For 2020, a proxy performance measure is indicated to reflect that the General Assembly, in its resolution [74/251](#), approved a programme narrative at the subprogramme level that is composed solely of the objectives approved by the Assembly in its resolution [71/6](#) and the deliverables for 2020.

Figure 14.II

Performance measure: number of countries that have adopted or implemented low-emissions development plans



Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Result 2: electric mobility: raising the ambition through a global electric mobility programme (new result)

- 14.24 The subprogramme has been working with countries and cities by supporting them in shifting from fossil fuel-based transportation to electric vehicles, including buses, two- and three-wheelers and light duty vehicles. Currently, the transport sector contributes one quarter of all energy-related greenhouse gases globally, growing to one third by 2050, with most growth taking place in developing countries. Developing countries have the fastest-growing fleets, and most have no vehicle emissions standards, programmes or incentives in place to promote electric mobility. The window of opportunity is small to prevent further technology lock-in, as it can take as much as 20 years to turn over a country's vehicle fleet. The subprogramme therefore is supporting countries to leapfrog to low-emission technology and avoid a massive increase in emissions.
- 14.25 Since 2009, the subprogramme has supported a total of 65 countries to improve the efficiency of their vehicle fleets as an initial step towards shifting to electric mobility by supporting the mapping of trends in the fuel consumption of their vehicle fleets to help policymakers and to assist with the monitoring of post-intervention impacts. Eight of those countries were further supported to develop national road maps and conduct pilots for the introduction of electric two- and three-wheelers in Africa and South-East Asia. Fifty of the countries were further supported in developing fiscal and regulatory policies and programmes. Moreover, four cities in Asia, Latin America and Africa were

supported in developing clean bus fleet programmes for the introduction of soot-free buses, including electric buses. At the subregional level, the subprogramme supported the development of subregional automotive fuel efficiency road maps, including incentives for electric vehicles for South-East Asia (in States members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations) and West Africa (in States members of the Economic Community of West African States), representing 30 countries.

- 14.26 In 2019, with the support of several partners, the subprogramme took this work to the global level through the launch of a new global electric mobility programme, with 29 countries committing to develop comprehensive national and/or city electric mobility projects. The programme is the only global programme that supports electric mobility for developing countries and countries with economies in transition through the involvement of all stakeholders and leading global agencies in the field of electric mobility. Going forward, the subprogramme will continue to scale up the ambition of the programme by providing comprehensive technical support and drawing on advanced analytical modelling tools that quantify the impact of potential policies in the 29 countries. For example, the subprogramme will use its extensive networks and work closely with subregional and in-country partners to share lessons from different countries and to support two countries with the development of soot-free bus fleet programmes and four countries with the development of fiscal incentives for electric vehicles.

Internal challenge and response

- 14.27 The challenge for the subprogramme was to ensure that the support for the transition to better fuel efficiency and electric mobility would be provided in a systemic manner, since the full system is dependent on public perception, capacity, legislation, standards, supply chains and public and private investments. A further challenge was to raise awareness among policymakers and consumers. For example, there is an assumption that newer cars have lower emissions than older cars just by virtue of the fact that they are new, whereas in reality several factors have an impact on emissions, ranging from engine technology, emission control strategies, driver behaviour, fuel quality, road conditions and even on-board vehicle computing technologies. In response, the subprogramme will continue to evaluate and adopt innovative communication strategies targeted at the intended audience. In addition, awareness-raising will be conducted throughout the entire project life cycle, as opposed to in the past, when this was done towards the end, when policies were close to dissemination. Another challenge was to provide quantifiable evidence to partner countries about the financial benefits of the transition to better fuel efficiency and electric mobility, which has the potential to reduce national revenues from taxation. In response, the subprogramme will be using analytical modelling tools to quantify the real impact of fiscal incentives on revenues, as well as indirect savings from reduced automotive emissions, and will share related results with partner countries.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 14.28 This work is expected to contribute to the advancement of the transition of countries to low-emission economic development, specifically through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from the transport sector, which would be demonstrated by four countries that, through the support of the global electric mobility programme, will have developed fiscal policies that promote energy-efficient vehicles, including those with electric mobility, by 2021.

Table 14.2
Performance measure

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Two countries develop district energy policy investment road maps and feasibility studies, leading to loan investments	Five countries shift to low-sulphur diesel and adopt vehicle emission standards	Launch of the global electric mobility programme and commitment by 29 countries to develop comprehensive national and/or city electric mobility projects	Two countries develop soot-free bus fleet programmes, with the support of the global electric mobility programme	Four countries develop fiscal incentives for electric vehicles, with the support of the global electric mobility programme

Legislative mandates

14.29 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme.

General Assembly resolutions

69/225	Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy	74/219	Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind
73/230	Effective global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon		

Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme decisions

27/10	Climate Technology Centre and Network
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Deliverables

14.30 Table 14.3 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 14.3
Subprogramme 1: deliverables for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	2019 planned	2019 actual	2020 planned	2021 planned
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	2	1	3	3
1. Projects on mitigation and adaptation technologies through the Climate Technology Centre and Network	2	1	3	3
Publications (number of publications)	5	4	6	6
2. Publications on renewable energy, energy efficiency and the energy sector	3	3	3	3
3. Publications (assessments and tools) on adaptation and resilience	2	1	3	3
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: expert advice to countries on climate matters, including South-South cooperation, ecosystem-based adaptation, climate financing, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, short-lived climate pollutants, low-emission development, renewable energy and energy efficiency, and the Warsaw Framework for REDD-plus.				

Category and subcategory	2019 planned	2019 actual	2020 planned	2021 planned
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D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: press conferences, side events, content on social media platforms and goodwill ambassador outreach and communication on adaptation to and mitigation of climate change, and benefits of reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.

Subprogramme 2 Resilience to disasters and conflicts

Objective

- 14.31 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to achieve the prevention and reduction of the environmental impacts of disasters and conflicts in countries while strengthening their capacity to undertake post-crisis environmental recovery and increase their resilience to future crises.

Strategy

- 14.32 To contribute to the achievement of the prevention and reduction of the environmental impacts of disasters and conflicts in countries, the subprogramme will continue to support best practices and the uptake of environmental management approaches, such as ecosystems-based disaster risk reduction (i.e., river basin management, coastal zone management and protected area management as a means to reduce disaster risk and build resilience), as well as strengthening the ability of countries to rapidly respond to these disasters and conflicts. The subprogramme will also continue to enhance the integration by countries and international partners of environmental measures for risk reduction in key policies and frameworks, including the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, through regional and country-specific initiatives, which are expected to result in a more coherent global approach to environmental crisis prevention, thereby helping Member States to make progress towards the achievement of target 1.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals. Furthermore, the subprogramme will provide technical assistance to countries and international partners through the coordinated delivery of gender-sensitive emergency response and post-crisis recovery plans that integrate environmental considerations. This work is expected to result in better preparedness for and quicker recovery from environmental crises, thereby helping Member States to make progress towards the achievement of targets 1.5, 11.b and 16.1 of the Goals. Past results in these areas include increased remediation and prevention measures put in place by countries with the support of 21 environmental emergency response missions and assessments during the period 2017–2019.
- 14.33 To contribute to the strengthening of the capacity of countries to undertake post-crisis environmental recovery and increase their resilience to future crises, the subprogramme will support the adoption of key environmental and natural resource governance tools, such as geospatial environmental data visualization and analysis and policy guidance. This work is expected to result in the uptake of sustainable practices by crisis-affected countries, leading to greater understanding and identification of environmental risks, thereby helping Member States to make progress towards the achievement of targets 1.5, 11.5 and 13.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals. Past results in these areas include four countries receiving long-term institutional support on inclusive environmental recovery, covering areas including governance and policymaking, access to information and public participation, and other countries benefiting from time-bound technical assistance on themes including conflict debris management and oil pollution remediation.

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 14.34 A planned result for 2019, which is emergency response and post-crisis recovery plans integrate environmental considerations to increase the sustainability of recovery, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by three emergency response missions and rapid assessments coordinated by the Joint Environment Unit of UNEP and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in response to the three country requests, bringing the percentage of country requests for emergency response met by UNEP to 100 per cent, against a target of 90 per cent. These missions included a response mission to Cyclone Idai in Mozambique, which provided technical support comprising a detailed mapping of the affected dams, priorities for action in terms of follow-up technical assessments and overall recommendations on how to strengthen water resources management at large dams and preparedness in the face of future cyclone and flood events.

Programme performance in 2019: microbes to clean oil pollution

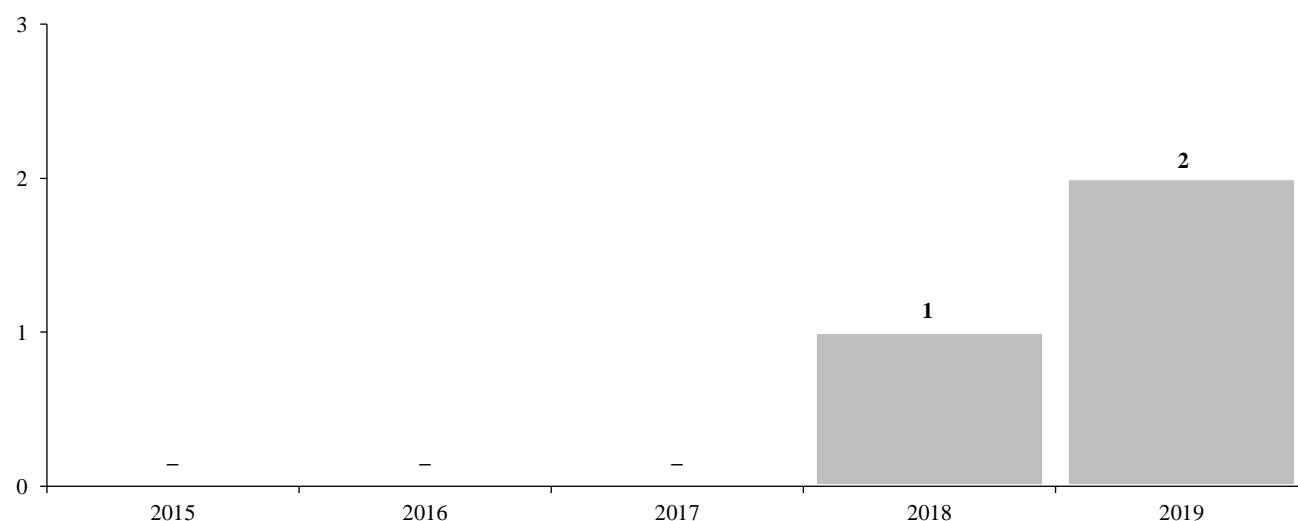
- 14.35 The subprogramme supported 17 countries in reducing the risks of natural disasters, industrial accidents and conflicts in 2019. This work included a programme of support for Iraq, which spanned across the subprogramme's core pillars of risk reduction, response and post-crisis recovery and which strengthened the country's capacity to implement environmental clean-up work after heavy fighting in the northern part of the country. The work builds on the recommendations contained in the findings of a rapid scoping mission undertaken by UNEP in 2017 and follows on from technical assistance related to the safe disposal or recycling of debris in 2018. As part of this work, in 2019 UNEP launched a biological remediation pilot project seeking to enhance nature's own ability to clear up oil spills. The work was launched in the northern city of Kirkuk and undertaken in collaboration with the State-owned North Oil Company and the Ministry of Health and the Environment, with support from the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq. The initiative introduced by the subprogramme seeks to harness naturally-occurring soil bacteria as a powerful natural ally to decontaminate poisoned land, offering a promising and affordable solution to the country's oil pollution predicament. While the idea of using soil microbes to devour oil spills is not new, its potential is barely recognized and much less applied. In a bid to move from theory to practice, the subprogramme delivered a four-day hands-on training workshop for 29 oil experts from the Ministry of Health and the Environment, the Ministry of Oil and national oil companies from across Iraq. The clean-up approach was also tailored to the specific conditions of each oil spill, considering factors ranging from the type of soil to the chemical characteristics of the crude oil itself, thereby equipping Iraqi experts with a bioremediation toolbox for clearing many, if not most, of the oil spills in the country. The subprogramme is also currently supporting Iraqi authorities with scientific measurements of field samples from polluted sites.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 14.36 This work contributed to the strengthening of the capacity of Iraq to undertake post-crisis environmental recovery and increase its resilience to future crises, as demonstrated by the uptake of the environmental expertise by the Government through the application and dissemination in 2019 of one additional trial bioremediation project across the country, including to the southern area, thus bringing the number of these remediation initiatives in the country to two. The work contributed to the enhanced capacity of the country to improve living conditions, including pollution mitigation and access to clean water, in areas impacted by the conflict.

Figure 14.III

Performance measure: total number of post-conflict recovery initiatives implemented by Iraq with the support of the United Nations Environment Programme to decontaminate the land poisoned by oil



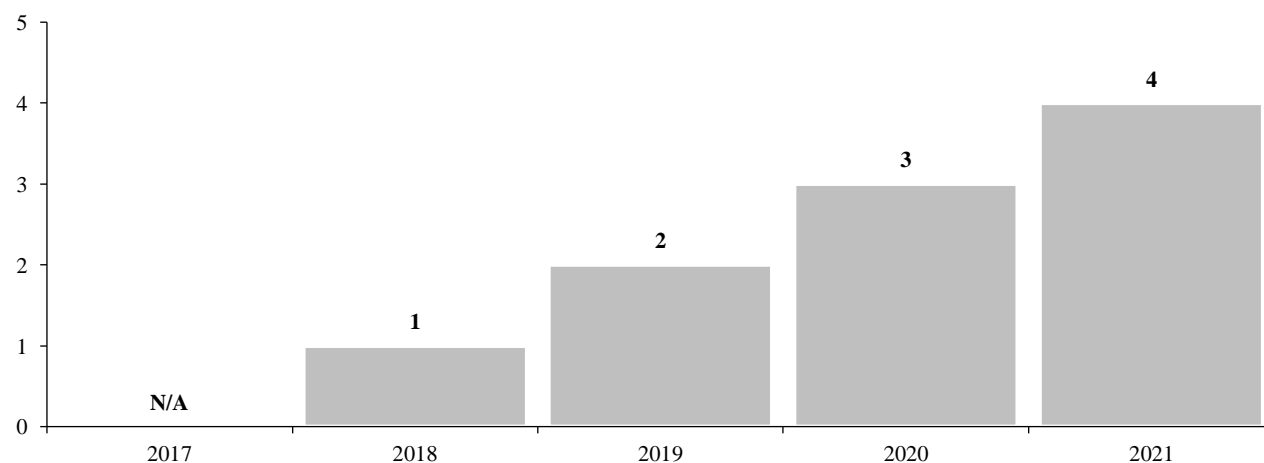
Planned results for 2021

Result 1: state-of-environment reports (result carried over from 2020)

- 14.37 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the management of natural resources, in line with its mandate, and will assist countries in developing state-of-environment reports for post-conflict recovery and sound environmental governance, which is expected to be demonstrated by the performance measure for 2021 below. For 2020, a proxy performance measure is indicated to reflect that the General Assembly, in its resolution [74/251](#), approved a programme narrative at the subprogramme level that is composed solely of the objectives approved by the Assembly in its resolution [71/6](#) and the deliverables for 2020.

Figure 14.IV

Performance measure: number of countries that have developed state-of-environment reports



Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

**Result 2: enhanced United Nations action on disaster-related environmental crises
(new result)**

- 14.38 The subprogramme has been working on strengthening the advisory and technical support provided by UNEP to the new resident coordinator system of the United Nations in countries affected by disasters and conflicts in order to ensure the advancement of the environmental dimension of the Sustainable Development Goals throughout the work of the United Nations. Through the enhancement of its delivery mechanism in line with the United Nations reform process and the strengthening of the resident coordinator system, UNEP sees an opportunity to ensure an exponential increase in the ability to deliver core environmental expertise and support services to a greater number of Member States. This work includes ensuring the increased availability of relevant environmental data, which is often missing from field-level decision-making processes, and advisory support and technical assistance, upon request, that is available both to resident coordinators and other United Nations partners in the field, many of whom are increasingly seeking UNEP support. Under the current programme of work, such assistance is being provided directly to Member States in order to enhance capacity on environment governance, and is being delivered in Afghanistan, Haiti, South Sudan and the Sudan. Those Member States are all impacted by conflict and disaster-related environmental crises, including environmental degradation and vulnerability to climate change.

Internal challenge and response

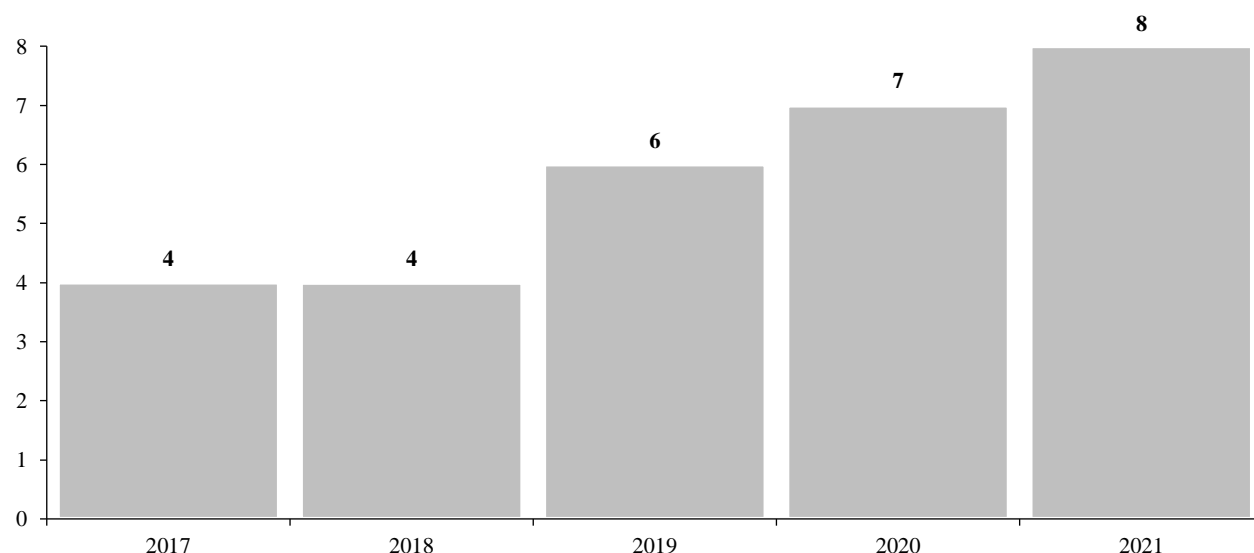
- 14.39 The challenge for the subprogramme was to fully leverage the presence of United Nations resident coordinators and country missions. In response, the subprogramme will increase its outreach to resident coordinators and country missions as a way of enhancing United Nations-wide uptake of the environmental dimensions of the 2030 Agenda and ensuring that the cross-cutting presence of the environment is strengthened. These actions will include working with the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel to analyse the adverse implications of climate change, and with other United Nations partners, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the International Organization for Migration and the United Nations Development Programme, to develop an action plan on natural resources management and climate resilience, to be implemented in close consultation with the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Horn of Africa.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 14.40 This work is expected to contribute to the strengthening of the capacity of countries to undertake post-crisis environmental recovery and increase their resilience to future crises, which would be demonstrated by meeting one additional request, compared with 2020, for environmental risk reduction, response and recovery support made by Member States through United Nations resident coordinators, special missions and country offices.

Figure 14.V

Performance measure: total number of ongoing projects meeting requests for environmental risk reduction, response and recovery support made by Member States through United Nations resident coordinators, special missions and country offices



Legislative mandates

14.41 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme.

General Assembly resolutions

68/99	Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster	74/115	International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development
74/52	Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control	74/118	Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations
		74/208	Oil slick on Lebanese shores
		74/218	Disaster risk reduction

Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme decisions

SS.XI/2	United Nations Environment Programme support for Haiti: strengthening environmental response in Haiti	26/15	Strengthening international cooperation on the environmental aspects of emergency response and preparedness
23/7	Strengthening environmental emergency response and developing disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation and early-warning systems in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster		

United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions

3/1	Pollution mitigation and control in areas affected by armed conflict or terrorism
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Deliverables

- 14.42 Table 14.4 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 14.4

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

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2019 actual</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	2	2	2	4
1. Projects to assess environmental risks from disasters and conflicts	1	1	1	2
2. Projects on institutional and legal frameworks to improve national and local preparedness to mitigate environmental risks from disasters and conflicts	1	1	1	2
Publications (number of publications)	1	2	2	2
3. Publications on disaster risk reduction, preparedness assessments and road maps	1	2	2	2
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: advice to humanitarian and military actors on environmental footprint reduction.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: expert advice to Member States and international partners, upon request, on the monitoring and implementation of strategies to enhance environmental risk reduction, environmental emergency response and environmental recovery and to make progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.				

Subprogramme 3 Healthy and productive ecosystems

Objective

- 14.43 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen the capacity of countries to manage marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems through an integrated approach for maintaining and restoring their biodiversity and long-term functioning and ensuring the supply of ecosystem goods and services.

Strategy

- 14.44 To contribute to the strengthened capacity of countries to manage marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems through an integrated approach for maintaining and restoring their biodiversity and long-term functioning, the subprogramme will continue to advance cooperation with Member States, regional entities and other partners, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations, to institutionalize the health and productivity of marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems in national education systems by providing technical assistance for the integration of the ecosystem approach in the curricula of education institutions and education frameworks at the national level, which is expected to result in improved curricula development by relevant institutions. This work is expected to help Member States to make progress towards the achievement of targets 4.7 and 13.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals. The subprogramme will also improve knowledge-sharing among countries and other non-governmental sectoral partners within the scope of existing transboundary cooperation frameworks through promotion of the uptake and use of knowledge products, such as scenarios, spatial plans, trade-off analyses and ecosystem-based sectoral

monitoring systems, as well as the dissemination of publications and the conduct of normative work, which is expected to result in more coherent and cross-sectoral participation and cooperation among countries worldwide, including at transboundary level, for the management and effective monitoring of marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems. All of this work is expected to help Member States to make progress towards targets under Goals 2, 6, 14 and 15. Past results in these areas include over 32,000 young people in Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania taking actions to reduce single-use plastics, 10 education institutions and learning platforms integrating the ecosystem approach into their educational frameworks, and 15 countries and seven transboundary collaboration frameworks having made progress in monitoring and maintaining the health and productivity of marine and terrestrial ecosystems through the development of a strategic planning framework for the sustainable management of their respective ecosystems.

- 14.45 To contribute to the strengthened capacity of countries to manage marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems through an integrated approach for ensuring the supply of ecosystem goods and services, the subprogramme will also work with development banks and the finance sector, as well as ministries of planning and finance, among other partners, to raise awareness of how the ecosystem approach can be firmly included in public and private economic decision-making by policymakers in countries, which is expected to result in the creation of an enabling environment for embedding ecological considerations in financial decision-making by public and private sector entities at multiple levels (global, regional and national). This work is expected to help Member States to make progress towards targets 12.7, 15.a and 17.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals. The subprogramme will also provide technical assistance to countries through the mainstreaming of best practices and the development of gender-sensitive tools that link environmental change with its economic consequences, including for pilot testing of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting, a statistical system that brings together economic and environmental information into a common framework to measure the contribution of the environment to the economy and the impact of the economy on the environment, which is expected to result in the development of updated national plans for natural capital accounting by countries. This work is expected to help Member States to make progress towards measuring all Goals, the statistical framework being uniquely positioned to measure the economy-environment nexus. Past results in these areas include 11 public sector institutions testing the incorporation of the health and productivity of marine and terrestrial ecosystems into economic decision-making at the national level and 51 financial institutions adjusting business models to reduce their ecosystem-related risks.

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 14.46 A planned result for 2019, which is the health and productivity of marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems are institutionalized in education, monitoring and cross-sector and transboundary collaboration frameworks at the national and international levels, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by 63 Governments making commitments under the Clean Seas campaign to reduce plastic usage, against a target of 19.

Programme performance in 2019: sustainable management of mangrove ecosystems reaches new heights in Ecuador, Kenya and Madagascar

- 14.47 The importance of mangroves as critical habitats globally has been widely recognized by Member States. The global rate of mangrove loss is between three and five times greater than the overall rates of global forest loss, and over 25 per cent of original mangrove cover has already been lost. The significant economic benefits that mangroves provide to coastal communities with mangrove ecosystem services is worth an estimated \$57,000 per hectare per year to the economies of developing countries. To help to address these challenges, in 2019 the subprogramme assisted the Governments of Ecuador, Kenya and Madagascar to sustainably manage their rich mangrove ecosystems. Specific activities included scientific assessments of carbon stocks and ecosystem services, stakeholder consultations between mangrove users, beneficiaries and Governments, the

development of mangrove management plans, mangrove restoration and planting activities and support for the management of mangrove protected areas. The support provided was in line with the UNEP global report,¹ which highlights the economic benefits of mangroves, the economic losses related to losing mangroves and the range of threats leading to the loss of mangroves, as well as the guidance document² prepared to support the development of mangrove carbon-offset projects on the ground. This work provided a “proof of concept” for successful “payment for ecosystem services” schemes for mangroves that can be scaled up and replicated in other contexts and countries, including the first successful examples of voluntary carbon market credits being produced for mangroves in Kenya and Madagascar.

- 14.48 Specifically in Kenya and Madagascar, through the International Coral Reef Initiative, the UNEP small grants programme and the “Blue Forests” project of UNEP and the Global Environment Facility, the subprogramme supported the development and launch of two mangrove carbon market pilot projects by providing technical assistance to partners, including the Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (Government of Kenya) and Blue Ventures (a non-governmental organization) to carry out scientific assessments and continued monitoring of carbon stocks and other ecosystem services, facilitating extensive stakeholder consultations with mangrove users and governments, providing technical expertise for the verification of carbon credits and supporting the development of management plans for mangrove areas. Carbon credits are sold on the voluntary carbon market and support the livelihoods of impoverished communities living around the mangroves, while protecting the mangrove ecosystems. In addition, in Ecuador, the subprogramme provided technical support to national partners in carrying out scientific assessments, stakeholder consultations and negotiations, which supported conservation agreements between the central Government and local communities to harvest mangrove clams sustainably.
- 14.49 Through the above-mentioned work, the subprogramme also supported the implementation of United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 4/12 on sustainable management for global health of mangroves, adopted at the fourth session of the Environment Assembly, in 2019. By supporting the ecosystem-based management of mangrove areas through research, restoration and sustainable management activities, this work also supported countries reporting on target 14.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

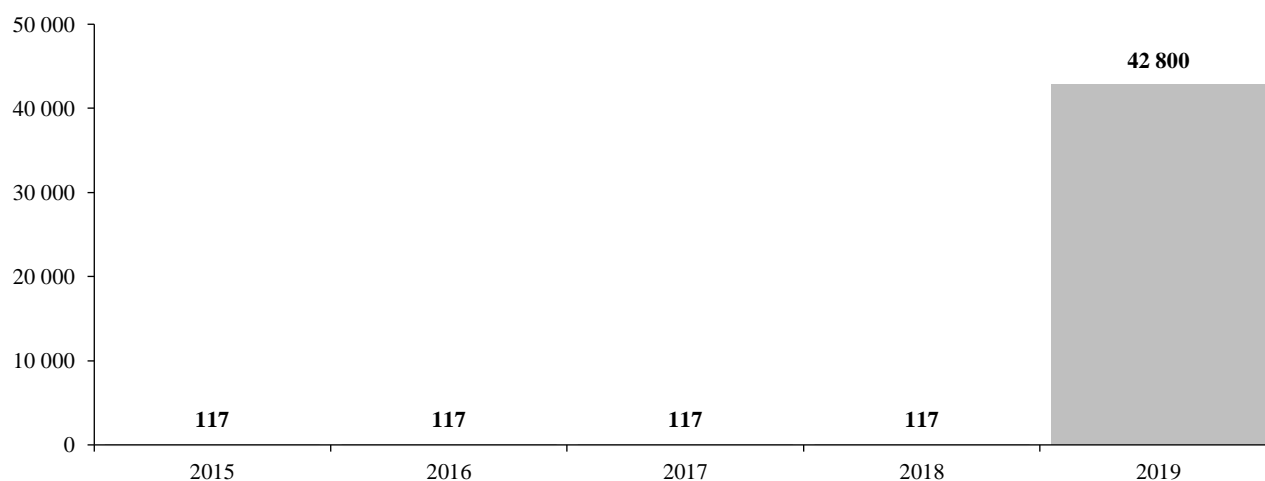
- 14.50 This work contributed to the strengthened capacity of countries to manage marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems through an integrated approach for maintaining and restoring their biodiversity and long-term functioning and ensuring the supply of ecosystem goods and services, as demonstrated by the sustainable management of a total of 42,800 hectares of mangrove ecosystems for the continuous provision of ecosystem services across Ecuador, Kenya and Madagascar in 2019, compared with a baseline of 117 hectares sustainably managed in the same targeted areas between 2015 and 2018. After years of investment in scientific research and stakeholder consultations, this result was achieved through a combination of: (a) building partnerships to develop scientific knowledge, data and analysis on mangrove ecosystems and their services for evidence-based policymaking and decision-making; (b) developing customized tools and approaches for ecosystem-based management and then testing the tools to support the sustainable management of mangrove ecosystem services; and (c) support for innovative financing projects on the sustainable management of mangrove ecosystems. Furthermore, countries began the process of including mangroves in their nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement (34 countries listed coastal wetlands under mitigation and 63 under adaptation by the end of 2019).

¹ United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), *The Importance of Mangroves to People: a Call to Action* (2014).

² UNEP, *Guiding principles for delivering coastal wetland carbon projects* (2014).

Figure 14.VI

Performance measure: total hectares of mangroves sustainably managed in Ecuador, Kenya and Madagascar



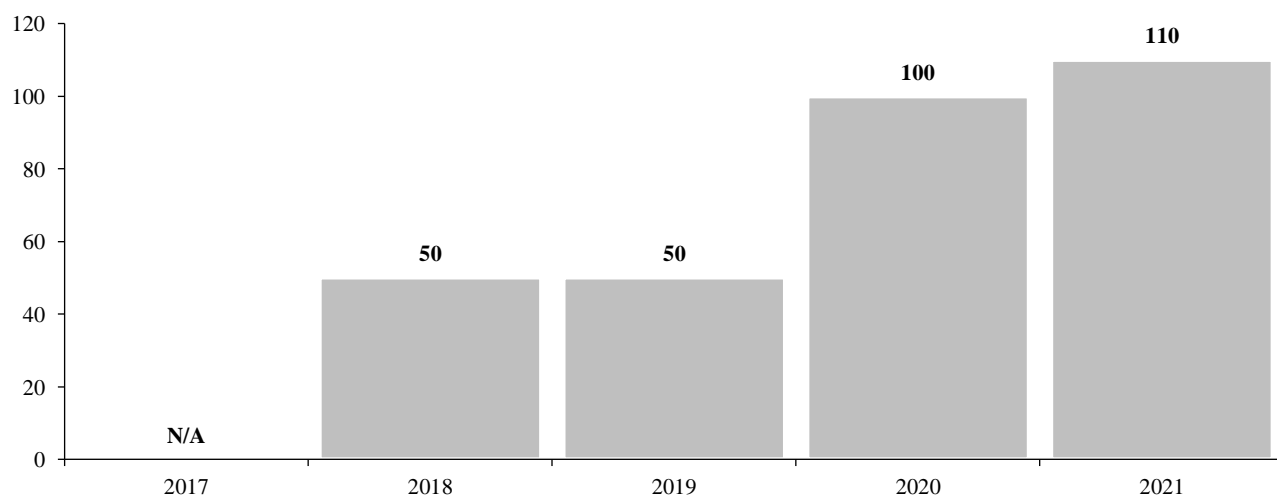
Planned results for 2021

Result 1: taking the fight against marine litter to the next level (result carried over from 2020)

- 14.51 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the depollution of marine ecosystems, in line with its mandate, and will promote campaigns and assist countries towards actions to reduce marine litter, which is expected to be demonstrated by the performance measure for 2021 below. For 2020, a proxy performance measure is indicated to reflect that the General Assembly, in its resolution [74/251](#), approved a programme narrative at the subprogramme level that is composed solely of the objectives approved by the Assembly in its resolution [71/6](#) and the deliverables for 2020.

Figure 14.VII

Performance measure: number of Governments that have made commitments to reduce marine litter



Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Result 2: Global Peatlands Initiative for the restoration, conservation and sustainable management of peatlands (new result)

- 14.52 Peatlands cover only 3 per cent of the global land area but store nearly 30 per cent of the world's soil carbon, and may contain twice as much carbon as the world's forests. Peat-based emissions are significant and are estimated to cause approximately 10 per cent of total emissions from the Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Uses sector. In addition to climate mitigation, they play a significant role in providing other ecosystem services. Since 2017, the subprogramme has been working through the UNEP-led Global Peatlands Initiative,³ with a focus on raising awareness of the importance of peatlands in global forums and bringing science to policymaking, including by highlighting the clear role that healthy peatlands play in helping countries to fight climate change, protect biodiversity and secure resilience. In particular, the subprogramme has been working with the key peatland-rich countries of the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia and Peru to facilitate transboundary collaboration and improve the institutional set-up for cross-sector collaboration for peatland conservation and sustainable management at the global and regional levels. Following the technical and advocacy support provided by the subprogramme and the Initiative's partners for creating an enabling environment, the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Indonesia signed the Brazzaville declaration on peatlands in 2018 to promote better management and conservation of the world's largest tropical peatlands, namely, the Cuvette Centrale peatlands in the Congo Basin. In 2019, the subprogramme began to support the implementation of the declaration by facilitating a high-level South-South exchange between the three signatory countries. Furthermore, UNEP supported the further enhancement of the result by helping to establish the International Tropical Peatlands Centre, an international hub for the advancement of tropical peatlands research and the exchange of best practice. This work reached new heights in March 2019, when the subprogramme supported Member States in the drafting of a global resolution on the conservation and sustainable management of peatlands, adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its fourth session (resolution 4/16). In line with the resolution, the subprogramme subsequently joined forces with the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation and the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety of Germany and other members of the Initiative to provide technical guidance to 12 European Union member States to establish key principles for the development or revision of their national peatlands policies or strategies.

Internal challenge and response

- 14.53 The challenge for the subprogramme was to provide optimal support to countries on the management of peatland in the absence of internationally comparable data regarding the global extent of peatland areas. In response, in 2020 the subprogramme will initiate a baseline picture of the state of global peatlands based on the best available science and data, which will result in the delivery and uptake of a global peatlands assessment in 2021. The production of the global peatlands assessment will also be a first step towards establishing a global peatlands inventory, as requested by the United Nations Environment Assembly in its resolution 4/16. To do so, during this formative 2020–2021 period, the subprogramme will advocate for the need to establish the state of peatlands globally by securing and leveraging government commitments, building on ongoing and future academic research and drawing on the diverse set of Global Peatlands Initiative partners to establish a basis for a global peatlands inventory. Such an inventory is expected to become a vital tool for countries to report on greenhouse gas emissions in peatlands, emissions reductions and emissions avoidance, while accounting for unique biodiversity and ecosystem services that peatlands provide.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 14.54 This work is expected to contribute to the strengthened capacity of countries to manage marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems through an integrated approach for maintaining and restoring

³ A global coalition led by UNEP of over 32 organizations and four tropical peatland countries that are committed to working together to reduce peatlands emissions to net zero by 2050 as a contribution to the Paris Agreement.

their biodiversity and long-term functioning and ensuring the supply of ecosystem goods and services, which would be demonstrated by the endorsement by Global Peatlands Initiative partners and countries of the global peatlands assessment and the initiation of a global peatlands inventory, as a means to strengthen science-driven national peatlands strategies and policies and the implementation of peatlands-specific cross-sector and transboundary collaboration frameworks at the national, regional and international levels.

Table 14.5
Performance measure

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Under the Global Peatlands Initiative, the rapid response assessment entitled <i>Smoke on Water – Countering Global Threats from Peatland Loss and Degradation</i> is prepared, calling policymakers to action for the conservation and sustainable management of peatlands	Brazzaville declaration on peatlands is adopted to promote better management and conservation of the Cuvette Centrale peatlands in the Congo Basin	Member States adopt United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 4/16 on the conservation and sustainable management of peatlands	Countries begin to engage in the development of a baseline picture of the state of global peatlands	Countries and Global Peatlands Initiative partners endorse the global peatlands assessment and initiate the development of a global peatlands inventory

Legislative mandates

14.55 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme.

General Assembly resolutions

65/161	Convention on Biological Diversity	74/215	Agricultural technology for sustainable development
68/205	World Wildlife Day	74/221	Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its contribution to sustainable development
68/232	World Soil Day and International Year of Soils	74/224	Harmony with Nature
72/306	Implementation of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025)	74/227	Sustainable mountain development
73/124	Oceans and the law of the sea	74/242	Agriculture development, food security and nutrition
73/229	Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations		
73/251	World Pulses Day		
73/343	Tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife		
74/18	Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments		

Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme decisions

26/14	Global Environment Monitoring System/Water Programme	27/3	International water quality guidelines for ecosystems
26/16	Promoting South-South cooperation on biodiversity for development	27/4	Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
		27/6	Oceans

United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions

1/9	Global Environment Monitoring System/Water Programme (GEMS/Water)	4/11	Protection of the marine environment from land-based activities
2/10	Oceans and seas	4/12	Sustainable management for global health of mangroves
2/14	Illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products	4/13	Sustainable coral reefs management
2/24	Combating desertification, land degradation and drought and promoting sustainable pastoralism and rangelands	4/15	Innovations in sustainable rangelands and pastoralism
4/6	Marine plastic litter and microplastics	4/16	Conservation and sustainable management of peatlands
4/10	Innovation on biodiversity and land degradation		

Deliverables

- 14.56 Table 14.6 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 14.6

Subprogramme 3: deliverables for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2019 actual</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	–	1	2	4
1. Meetings of governing bodies for multilateral environmental agreements	–	1	2	4
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	1	1	1	2
2. Projects on ecosystem services	1	1	1	2
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	–	6	6	6
3. Seminars and training events on ecosystems management	–	6	6	6
Publications (number of publications)	6	7	10	10
4. Publications on mainstreaming biodiversity in production sectors	–	–	2	2
5. Publications on the knowledge, networks and funding available to influence public and private financial flows for nature-based solutions	–	–	2	2
6. Publications on marine ecosystems	2	2	2	2
7. Publications on biodiversity and wildlife	2	3	2	2
8. Publications on terrestrial ecosystems	2	2	2	2
Technical materials (number of materials)	3	3	3	3
9. Tools and methodologies for integrated ecosystem management	2	2	2	2
10. Assessments, tools and methodologies for investing in nature	1	1	1	1

Category and subcategory	2019 planned	2019 actual	2020 planned	2021 planned
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: meetings of the open-ended working group on the post-2020 biodiversity framework.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: outreach campaigns on nature-based solutions and on the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.				

Subprogramme 4 Environmental governance

Objective

- 14.57 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to ensure that countries achieve environmental policy coherence and abide by strong legal and institutional frameworks that increasingly implement environmental goals in the context of sustainable development at the global, regional and national levels.

Strategy

- 14.58 To contribute to ensuring that countries achieve environmental policy coherence, the subprogramme will continue to facilitate relevant meetings and intergovernmental processes at the global, regional and national levels involving Governments, other United Nations entities, inter-agency mechanisms and regional ministerial forums through the provision of information management products, technical support and advisory services on environmental law and policy. Furthermore, the subprogramme will support the coherent implementation of the multilateral environmental agreements operating in similar clusters. This work is expected to result in improved synergy and efficiency of global environmental policymaking processes, more coherent related governance arrangements of participating countries and improved, science-informed policy direction and concerted action from countries, including in relation to taking action on environmental issues of international concern emerging from resolutions of the United Nations Environment Assembly or similar intergovernmental processes, as well as the implementation of decisions of the governing bodies of multilateral environmental agreements. The subprogramme will also promote the uptake of environmentally sound practices across the United Nations system through the provision of policy advice, which is expected to result in the integration of the related emerging issues into the relevant policy documents, strategies or plans on sustainable development of other United Nations entities, including through the work of the Environment Management Group and the Greening the Blue initiative. Furthermore, as UNEP is the custodian agency for indicator 17.14.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals, on policy coherence for sustainable development, the subprogramme will continue to work with Member States and partners in refining and applying a methodology for measuring and further advancing mechanisms for environmental policy coherence, especially at the national level. This work is expected to result in helping Member States to make progress towards the achievement of targets 17.14 and 17.16 of the Goals through the development of a standardized methodology for measuring indicator 17.14.1, to be mainstreamed globally, as well as supporting appropriate mechanisms through which countries can enhance their policy coherence on sustainable development issues. Past results in these areas include 13 regional forums having integrated environmental policy issues into policy documents pursuant to the 2030 Agenda and 14 countries having addressed six environmental issues, such as climate change, biodiversity and persistent organic pollutants, by mainstreaming them into national policy documents and agreeing on approaches for the coherent implementation of decisions of the governing bodies of multilateral environmental agreements and through concerned policy action.

- 14.59 To contribute to ensuring that countries abide by strong legal institutions and frameworks that increasingly implement environmental goals in the context of sustainable development at the global, regional and national levels, the subprogramme will continue to invest in the development and dissemination of knowledge tools and the delivery of training and technical assistance, including from a gender-sensitive perspective, as well as communication activities, through innovative tools and initiatives, such as the United Nations Information Portal on Multilateral Environmental Agreements, the Global Pact for the Environment process and the Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo Programme). This work is expected to help Member States to make progress towards the achievement of targets under Sustainable Development Goals 1, 5 and 16. Furthermore, the subprogramme will continue to mainstream the lessons learned through the implementation of programmes that have built strong ties with national institutions, including on poverty and the environment, and through cooperation with United Nations country teams to replicate and scale up interventions. This work is expected to result in enhanced institutional capacity and legal frameworks of partner countries, improved governance and partnerships with major groups and stakeholders in the development of synergistic national programmes, as well as increased integration of the environment into national and subnational planning and budgeting processes on sustainable development. This work is also expected to help Member States to make progress towards the achievement of targets 17.14 and 17.15 of the Goals. Past results in these areas include 15 countries having enhanced institutional capacity and environmental legal frameworks, 62 countries having developed sustainable development cooperation frameworks with the support of the subprogramme and 11 countries reporting on the integration of environmental considerations in national planning and budgeting processes.

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 14.60 A planned result for 2019, which is institutional capacities and policy and/or legal frameworks enhanced to achieve internationally agreed environmental goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development/the Sustainable Development Goals, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by 62 additional countries that, through the United Nations country team system, developed United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks that report on the integration of environmental goals, compared to a target of 20.

Programme performance in 2019: a United Nations-wide coalition drives global action on sand and dust storms

- 14.61 One of the mechanisms through which the subprogramme operates is the United Nations Environment Management Group, a system-wide coordination body on the environment and human settlements established pursuant to General Assembly resolution [53/242](#) and chaired by UNEP, which is tasked with identifying issues on the international environmental agenda that warrant cooperation. One such issue is sand and dust storms, which emit an estimated 2,000 million tons of dust into the atmosphere each year. While much of these emissions are a natural part of the biogeochemical cycles of the Earth, a significant amount is generated anthropogenically through climate change and unsustainable land and water management practices. Sand and dust storms have become a serious global concern in recent decades, owing to their significant impacts on the environment, health, agriculture, livelihoods and socioeconomic well-being. Their impacts are felt in all regions of the world, both in developed and developing countries, and pose severe challenges to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, including Goals 2, 3, 6, 8, 11, 13 and 15, in affected countries. The issue of sand and dust storms was initially considered by the General Assembly in 2015, resulting in the adoption of resolution [70/195](#) on combating sand and dust storms, and then in 2016 (resolution [71/219](#)) and 2018 (resolution [72/225](#)). In resolution [70/195](#), the Assembly recognized that sand and dust storms pose a serious challenge to the sustainable development of affected developing countries and the well-being of their peoples, and underscored the need to promptly undertake measures to address the challenges of sand and dust storms through relevant

policy measures. The subprogramme built on this emerging issue in 2016 by delivering a global assessment on sand and dust storms in collaboration with the World Meteorological Organization and the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, which synthesized the latest scientific information on the causes of sand and dust storms and their consequences for human and environmental well-being. Furthermore, the subprogramme facilitated the adoption of a resolution on sand and dust storms at the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (resolution 2/21), in 2016, in which the Environment Assembly, inter alia, requested the Executive Director of UNEP to engage with all relevant United Nations entities to promote a coordinated approach to combating sand and dust storms globally.

- 14.62 In response to the above-mentioned resolution, as well as General Assembly resolution [72/225](#), and on the basis of preparatory work undertaken in 2017, the subprogramme convened the Environment Management Group in 2018, bringing together 11 United Nations entities to seek preliminary views on the consideration of a proposal to form a United Nations-wide coalition on combating sand and dust storms. In 2019, the work of the subprogramme on sand and dust storms reached new heights. On the margins of the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and within the framework of the Environment Management Group, the subprogramme formally launched the strategy and action plan of the United Nations Coalition on Combating Sand and Dust Storms, setting the clear direction for tackling the sand and dust storms issue globally. To that extent, the Coalition is expected to prepare a global response to sand and dust storms, to identify entry points to support affected countries, to generate transboundary dialogues and to provide a common platform for technical expertise, resource management and advance risk reduction.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 14.63 This work contributed to ensuring that countries achieve environmental policy coherence and abide by strong legal and institutional frameworks that increasingly implement environmental goals in the context of sustainable development at the global, regional and national levels, as demonstrated by the launch of the first global sand and dust storms coalition, the United Nations Coalition on Combating Sand and Dust Storms, led by the Environment Management Group, and the preparation of a related strategy and action plan to enable countries to combat this important issue through the support of concerted United Nations-wide action.

Table 14.7

Performance measure

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
General Assembly considers the issue of sand and dust storms for the first time in resolution 70/195	Member States adopt United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 2/21 on sand and dust storms	In response to Environment Assembly resolution, an inter-agency process involving relevant entities of the United Nations system is initiated	A proposal to form a United Nations-wide coalition on combating sand and dust storms is considered by the Environment Management Group	Global action on sand and dust storms is strengthened through the establishment of the first global sand and dust storms coalition, the United Nations Coalition on Combating Sand and Dust Storms, on the margins of the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

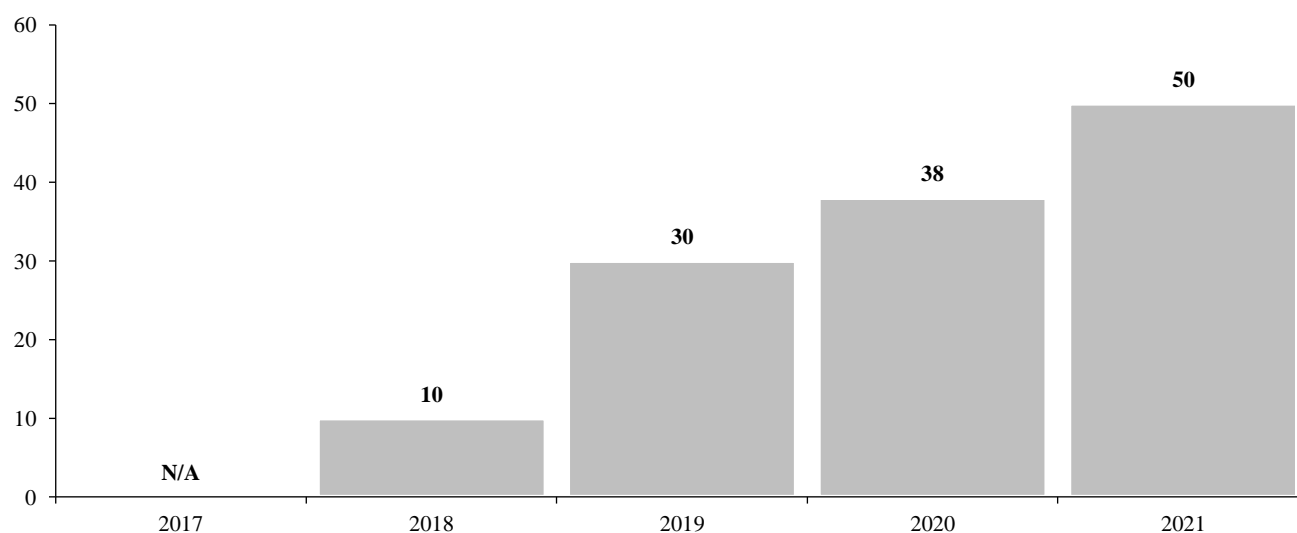
Planned results for 2021

Result 1: strengthened environmental law implementation (result carried over from 2020)

- 14.64 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the prevention of illegal trade and unsustainable exploitation, in line with its mandate, and will assist countries in strengthening institutional capacities to implement environmental laws, which is expected to be demonstrated by the performance measure for 2021 below. For 2020, a proxy performance measure is indicated to reflect that the General Assembly, in its resolution [74/251](#), approved a programme narrative at the subprogramme level that is composed solely of the objectives approved by the Assembly in its resolution [71/6](#) and the deliverables for 2020.

Figure 14.VIII

Performance measure: number of countries with enhanced institutional capacity and legal frameworks to enforce environmental legislation



Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Result 2: leaving no one behind: more countries engage in financial shifts to deliver on the poverty-environment nexus (new result)

- 14.65 The subprogramme has been working in several regions to strengthen the integration and mainstreaming of poverty-environment objectives into the policies, plans, regulations and investments of partner countries in order to accelerate the delivery of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. In 2018, the subprogramme launched the Poverty-Environment Action for Sustainable Development Goals (2018–2022) initiative in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme. The initiative builds on more than a decade of experience of its predecessor programme, the Poverty-Environment Initiative, which advanced mainstreaming of poverty and the environment in 52 national plans in 23 countries and 112 sectoral policies and plans in 16 countries, and supported 41 monitoring and evaluation systems to incorporate poverty-environment indicators in 18 countries and 76 budgeting and expenditure processes in 15 countries.

Internal challenge and response

- 14.66 The challenge for the subprogramme was to generate robust evidence of the impact of linkages between poverty and the environment for poor and vulnerable groups that would support effective policymaking and decision-making of partner countries. This challenge originated from the difficulty for the subprogramme to monitor post-project results towards the end of a project, as no strategic

partnerships were envisaged as part of the project to assist with the continuous monitoring of generated impacts. In response, the subprogramme will more proactively monitor the uptake of results by multiple stakeholders in both the public and private sectors of a country as part of the standard project evaluation process of Poverty-Environment Action for Sustainable Development Goals, including through the establishment of appropriate partnerships to that end. Moreover, building on the legacy of the Poverty-Environment Initiative, Poverty-Environment Action for Sustainable Development Goals will apply the lessons learned over the course of the Poverty-Environment Initiative by strengthening the support to partner countries with a stronger focus more specifically aimed at aligning their finance and investment processes with poverty, environment and climate objectives to accelerate efforts made towards sustainable development. To do so, Poverty-Environment Action for Sustainable Development Goals will also capitalize on the political momentum built through the adoption of resolution 4/18 by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its fourth session, in 2019, which the subprogramme supported. In the resolution, the Environment Assembly urged Member States and the private sector to apply integrated, innovative and coherent approaches in developing and implementing policies, laws, plans and budgets that shift public and private finance investment options towards environmental sustainability and poverty eradication. Applying the lessons learned from the Poverty-Environment Initiative and building on the outcomes of sessions of the United Nations Environment Assembly, Poverty-Environment Action for Sustainable Development Goals will leverage the broader 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals implementation processes, such as the voluntary national review, to provide new entry points, not only to mainstream environmental sustainability and related climate concerns for poverty eradication, but also to gradually shift government priorities and resource allocation towards addressing those issues. Furthermore, the initiative will continue to provide opportunities to improve the quality of private sector investments to support poverty-environment objectives. Engagement with the private sector, in particular, will be carried out by strengthening the capacity of targeted public sector institutions to engage and partner with the private sector so as to promote quality investment in support of environmental sustainability and climate objectives for poverty eradication. On that basis, the initiative will focus its support on nine target countries (seven in 2020 and two in 2021) chosen on the basis of demand, as well as evidence of environmental degradation and natural resource unsustainability that affect the poor and the vulnerable in their national contexts, providing relevant support, including on shifting public and private finance investment options towards poverty eradication and environmental sustainability.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 14.67 This work is expected to contribute to ensuring that countries achieve environmental policy coherence and abide by strong legal and institutional frameworks that increasingly implement environmental goals in the context of sustainable development at the global, regional and national levels, which would be demonstrated by an additional nine countries (seven countries in 2020 and two countries in 2021) that mainstream poverty and environmental sustainability in their national policies, plans and budgets while shifting public and private finance investment options towards poverty eradication and environmental sustainability.

Table 14.8
Performance measure

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Under the Poverty-Environment Initiative, 23 countries advance poverty-environment mainstreaming in their national plans and strategies	Countries begin mainstreaming poverty and environment considerations into national processes, with a stronger focus on finance and investment aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals with the support of the Poverty-Environment Action for Sustainable Development Goals initiative	Countries adopt United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 4/18 on the poverty-environment nexus, which emphasizes the need for countries to shift public and private finance investment options towards poverty eradication and environmental sustainability	Seven countries mainstream poverty and environmental sustainability in their national policies, plans, regulations or budgets while shifting public and private finance investment options towards poverty eradication and environmental sustainability	Two countries mainstream poverty and environmental sustainability in their national policies, plans, regulations or budgets while shifting public and private finance investment options towards poverty eradication and environmental sustainability

Legislative mandates

14.68 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme.

Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme ministerial declarations and decisions

SS.VI/1	Malmö Ministerial Declaration	SS.XII/3	International environmental governance
SS.VII/4	Compliance with and enforcement of multilateral environmental agreements	25/11	Environmental law
SS.VIII/1, sect. II	Implementation of decision SS.VII/1 on international environmental governance: strengthening the scientific base of the United Nations Environment Programme	27/5	Coordination across the United Nations system, including the Environment Management Group
SS.XI/5	Environmental law	27/9	Advancing justice, governance and law for environmental sustainability

United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions

1/3	Illegal trade in wildlife	2/18	Relationship between the United Nations Environment Programme and the multilateral environmental agreements for which it provides the secretariats
2/2	Role and functions of the regional forums of ministers of the environment and environment authorities		
2/17	Enhancing the work of the United Nations Environment Programme in facilitating cooperation, collaboration and synergies among biodiversity-related conventions	3/3	Contributions of the United Nations Environment Assembly to the high-level political forum on sustainable development
		4/17	Promoting gender equality and the human rights and empowerment of women and girls in environmental governance

Deliverables

- 14.69 Table 14.9 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 14.9

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

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2019 actual</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Conference and secretariat services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	13	20	25	27
1. Environmental law and governance meetings	13	20	25	27
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	5	6	5	4
2. Projects on environmental law	1	2	1	2
3. Projects on supporting the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements	3	3	3	1
4. Project on poverty-environment nexus	1	1	1	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	–	7	30	15
5. Train-the-trainer events on environmental governance	–	7	30	15
Publications (number of publications)	4	4	4	8
6. Global reports on environmental law	4	4	4	8
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: expert advice to Member States, upon request, on the monitoring and implementation of multilateral environmental agreements, legislative strategies and frameworks to counter environmental degradation resulting from climate change and environmental crime and make progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: digital platforms and multimedia content.				

Subprogramme 5 Chemicals, waste and air quality

Objective

- 14.70 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to advance the sound management of chemicals and waste and improve air quality at all levels in order to achieve a healthier environment and better health for all.

Strategy

- 14.71 To contribute to advancing the sound management of chemicals and waste at all levels in order to achieve a healthier environment and better health for all, the subprogramme will continue to work with Governments, the private sector and civil society within the framework of relevant multilateral environmental agreements and the broader international chemicals and waste agenda through the provision of technical advice, policy support and capacity-building to develop and implement policies, strategies, legislation and action plans on sound chemicals and waste management, including, but not limited to, mercury, persistent organic pollutants, ozone-depleting substances and lead, as well as waste prevention and the sound management of electronic and other forms of waste.

This work, which will take place at the global, regional, national and subnational levels, as relevant, is expected to result in an increased number of countries that adopt and implement policies and legal, institutional or fiscal strategies and mechanisms for the sound management of chemicals and waste, as well as enhanced non-governmental action and involvement from industry and civil society organizations in advancing the broader international chemicals and waste agenda. All of this work is also expected to help Member States to make progress towards the achievement of targets under Sustainable Development Goals 3, 6, 11, 12 and 14, particularly by reducing the risk of deaths and illnesses caused by hazardous chemicals and waste, as well as minimizing air, water and soil pollution at various levels. Past results in these areas include the successful negotiation by countries and entry into force in 2017, with the facilitation of the subprogramme, of a new global legally-binding instrument, the Minamata Convention on Mercury, to accelerate action and control mercury emissions from industry, the use of certain products and processes and artisanal small-scale gold mining in order to minimize and, where feasible, eliminate global, anthropogenic releases into air, water and land of this highly hazardous chemical.

- 14.72 To contribute to the improvement of air quality at all levels in order to achieve a healthier environment and better health for all, the subprogramme will provide further technical and advisory support to Governments, particularly with regard to identifying national emissions sources and building institutional capacity to develop and use air quality assessments with publicly accessible monitoring data and information. This work, which will take place at the global, regional, national and subnational levels, as relevant, is expected to result in the improved ability of Governments to identify national emissions sources and develop targeted solutions to reduce air pollution. The subprogramme will also support Governments in the development of policies, standards and legal, regulatory, fiscal or institutional frameworks and mechanisms for the reduction of air pollutants, which is expected to result in an increase in the development and adoption of air quality policies as well as the enhanced deployment of good practices or technologies and the consideration of alternatives, including low-carbon transport solutions, such as walking, cycling and electric mobility. The subprogramme will also continue to support the awareness-raising efforts by Governments, in collaboration with relevant partners, on the importance of air quality, in particular through the “BreatheLife” campaign, which encourages Governments to work towards clean air by raising awareness and implementing new solutions. This work is expected to result in the increased capacity of Governments to communicate about air quality in an understandable way and make air quality data and other relevant information publicly available. All of this work is also expected to result in helping Member States to make progress towards the achievement of targets under Sustainable Development Goals 3, 7 and 11, particularly through the improvement of air quality leading to a reduced burden of air pollution on the environment and human health. Past results in these areas include the adoption by seven countries of fuel standards and the phasing out of lead in fuel in 2018 to address air pollution, resulting from strengthened capacities to develop policies, standards and practices and the identification and promotion of 25 air quality measures by Asia-Pacific countries to reduce air pollution, driven by an improved scientific understanding of the sources and devastating impacts of air pollutants on human health.

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 14.73 A planned result for 2019, which is policies and legal, institutional and fiscal strategies and mechanisms for waste prevention and sound waste management developed or implemented in countries within the frameworks of relevant multilateral environmental agreements, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by the adoption of national and regional waste management strategies by four more countries, bringing the total to 18 against a target of 11. The subprogramme, in particular, supported ministries of the environment and a national environmental commission in developing their national waste management strategies and action plans.

Programme performance in 2019: increased country commitment maintains the momentum in the global fight against air pollution

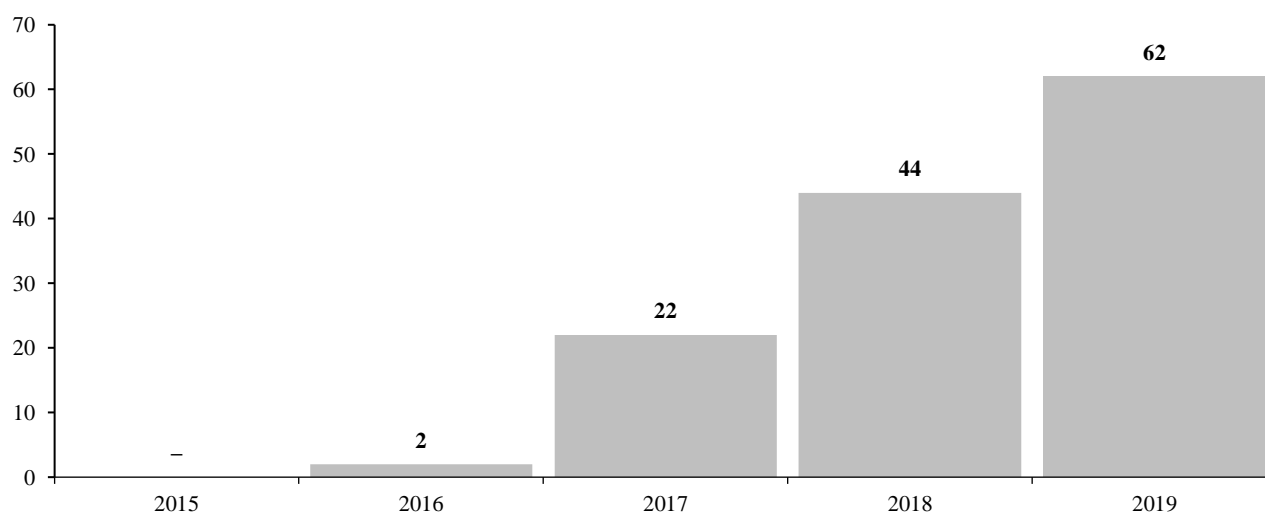
- 14.74 Air pollution is the most important environmental health risk of our time, linked to illnesses ranging from respiratory diseases to stroke. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimated that poor air quality caused between 7 and 8 million premature deaths in 2012. Since 2018, the subprogramme has been working closely with Governments on this topic through a number of means, including: (a) supporting the development of assessments on air quality status and trends that were made available to decision makers and relevant stakeholders, as well as the public; (b) promoting the establishment and use of functional urban air quality monitoring networks; (c) developing tools and methodologies to guide clean air plans and strategies; (d) strengthening global and regional cooperation and partnerships to address air pollution; and (e) enhancing communication and awareness-raising to encourage action and promote best practices. This work also supported Member States to pursue the aims of United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions 1/7 and 3/8 on improving air quality.
- 14.75 In 2019, the subprogramme took this work to new heights, particularly through improved awareness-raising efforts. The World Environment Day celebrations focused on air pollution, giving huge public exposure to the topic through media and activities on the ground. Further amplifying the global exposure given to air pollution by World Environment Day, the “BreatheLife” campaign, which was launched in 2015 by the subprogramme jointly with WHO and the Climate and Clean Air Coalition to Reduce Short-lived Climate Pollutants, mobilized 62 cities to bring air pollution to safe levels by 2030 to protect human health and the environment.
- 14.76 With these achievements, the subprogramme contributed primarily to the improvement of the Sustainable Development Goals on human health and well-being (Goal 3) and sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11), as well as trickle-down benefits of moving towards the adoption of sustainable energy (Goal 7).

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 14.77 This work contributed to the improvement of air quality at all levels in order to achieve a healthier environment and better health for all, as demonstrated by an increased number of cities and local governments (62) in 2019 that made commitments under the BreatheLife campaign compared to 44 in 2018 (an increase of 18), adopting and implementing campaigns and raising awareness on air quality. As the global BreatheLife campaign aims to mobilize governments and individuals to take action on air pollution and commit to achieving the WHO air quality guidelines targets by 2030, the 18 additional governments, in particular, committed by joining the platform and accelerating the effective implementation of air quality solutions, as well as putting in place or expanding monitoring efforts that can keep citizens informed.

Figure 14.IX

Performance measure: total number of cities and local governments implementing campaigns and awareness-raising on air quality with the support of the United Nations Environment Programme



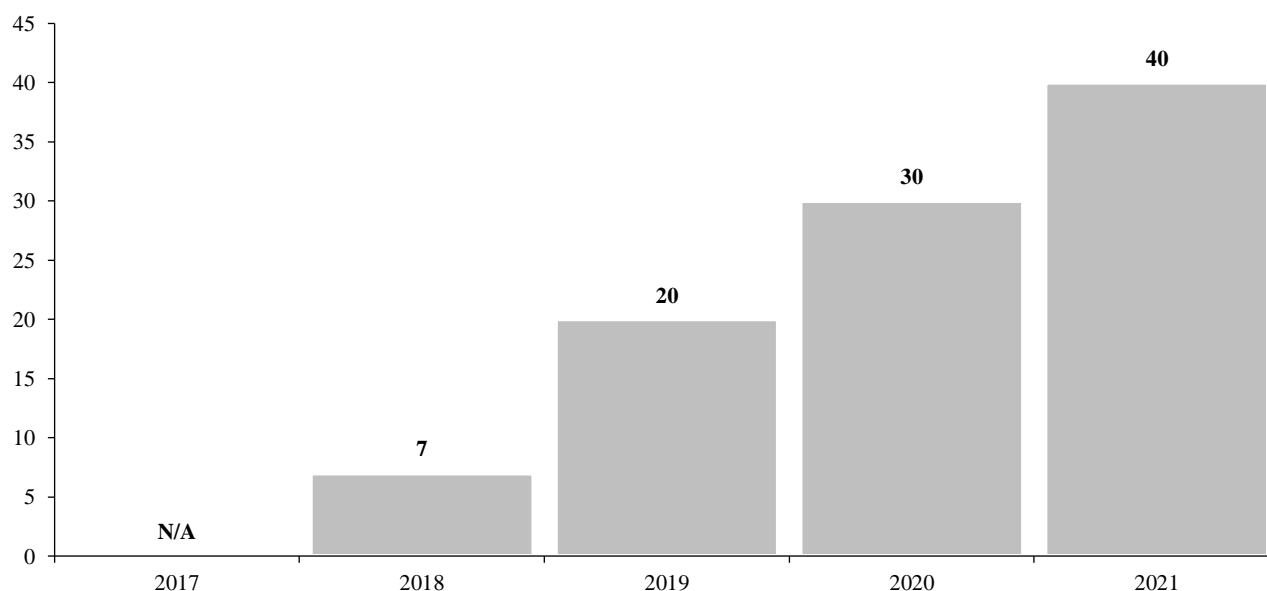
Planned results for 2021

Result 1: strengthened pollution action to protect people and the planet (result carried over from 2020)

- 14.78 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the management of chemicals, in line with its mandate, and will deliver awareness campaigns to demonstrate the benefits of chemicals, waste and air quality management in order to increase engagement from civil society in chemicals management, which is expected to be demonstrated by the performance measure for 2021 below. For 2020, a proxy performance measure is indicated to reflect that the General Assembly, in its resolution [74/251](#), approved a programme narrative at the subprogramme level that is composed solely of the objectives approved by the Assembly in its resolution [71/6](#) and the deliverables for 2020.

Figure 14.X

Performance measure: number of civil society organizations that have undertaken action on improving chemicals management



Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Result 2: stepping up worldwide efforts to advance the sound management of waste (new result)

- 14.79 The subprogramme has been working with Governments and non-governmental stakeholders to develop regional, national and sectoral policies and strategies to enhance the sound management of waste since 2006. This has resulted in the development of strategies and policies by many local governments and stakeholders for the sound management of waste, including the strengthening of regulatory frameworks for the sound management of electronic waste. With a staggering volume of 8 million tons of plastic waste ending up in the oceans every year, the subprogramme is now increasingly focusing on the prevention and management of plastic waste to eliminate the long-term discharge of plastics and microplastics into the ocean, in line with United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions 3/7, 4/6, 4/8 and 4/9. The subprogramme has facilitated efforts in this direction and supported Governments, regional bodies and other stakeholders to drive forward measures and partnerships for the effective development of actions and activities to enhance waste management and prevent marine litter, including through voluntary commitments. With nearly 80 per cent of waste, including plastic waste, still ending up in landfills or in the environment, waste remains one of the most critical societal environmental issues of our time. The development of integrated waste management approaches, tools and instruments to support Governments will therefore stay at the heart of the subprogramme's efforts towards a pollution-free planet.

Internal challenge and response

- 14.80 The challenge for the subprogramme was to clearly communicate the importance of strengthening the sound management of waste according to the waste hierarchy, including waste prevention, in order to keep up with international trends in waste generation and management. Whereas sustainable consumption and production, including circular approaches, currently attract a lot of attention, and eco-design and circularity are critical elements for a long-term solution to the waste issues, much of the pollution experienced today, especially in developing countries, still results from inadequate waste management. Accordingly, it has proven difficult to demonstrate the avoided costs and

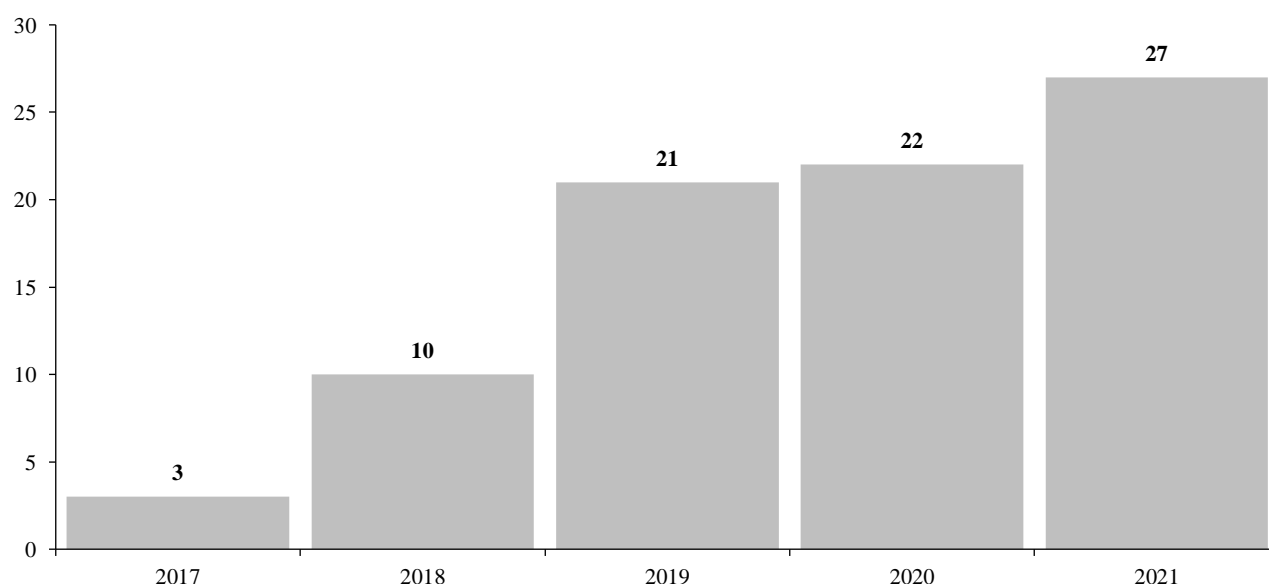
environmental impacts of waste prevention. Furthermore, the subprogramme had strongly focused on technical work and less so on embedding waste in the broader narrative related to pollution and circularity. In response, the subprogramme will intensify its communication of the main findings of global and regional waste management assessments and draw attention to the benefits of sound waste and pollution management to the environment and human health, including avoided costs (of inaction) and the retention of valuable resources. The subprogramme will also seek close cooperation with subprogramme 6, Resource efficiency, to pursue a dual approach, whereby support for enhancing sustainable consumption and production, including circularity, is complemented by support for countries in the development and implementation of strategies for the sound management of waste that will help to stop the leakage of plastic and other waste from the economy to the environment, avoid human exposure to harmful substances – often by the most vulnerable – and promote the careful handling of rapidly growing (hazardous) fractions, such as e-waste. Furthermore, the subprogramme will work towards developing integrated programmes involving global and regional teams to address priority waste streams in an integrated manner. Drivers that the subprogramme aims to influence through this expected work include the demonstration of financial gains, as well as avoided health and societal costs, a reduction in social injustice building on the right to a clean environment, and the potential for an increase in green job models and green market shares.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 14.81 This work is expected to contribute to advancing the sound management of waste at all levels in order to achieve a healthier environment and better health for all, which would be demonstrated by 27 countries (an additional five countries compared with 2020) implementing waste prevention and sound waste management policies, including policies aimed at the reduction of plastic waste leakage into the environment as well as strategies and action plans for the handling of hazardous waste that would help with appropriately handling the various waste streams while adhering to the waste hierarchy, starting with the prevention of waste generation.

Figure 14.XI

Performance measure: total number of countries implementing policies on the prevention and sound management of waste



Legislative mandates

14.82 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme.

General Assembly resolutions

74/212 International Day of Clean Air for blue skies

Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme decisions

SS.IX/1	Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management	24/4	Prevention of illegal international trade
		25/5	Chemicals management, including mercury
SS.XII/4	Consultative process on financing options for chemicals and wastes	27/12	Chemicals and waste management
SS.XII/5	Enhancing cooperation and coordination within the chemicals and wastes cluster		

United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions

1/5	Chemicals and waste	4/6	Marine plastic litter and microplastics
1/6	Marine plastic debris and microplastics	4/7	Environmentally sound management of waste
1/7	Strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in promoting air quality	4/8	Sound management of chemicals and waste
		4/9	Addressing single-use plastic products pollution
3/7	Marine litter and microplastics		

Deliverables

14.83 Table 14.10 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 14.10

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

Category and subcategory	2019 planned	2019 actual	2020 planned	2021 planned
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	4	4	4	4
1. Projects on the development of policies and legal, institutional or fiscal strategies and mechanisms for sound chemicals management	4	4	4	4
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	–	4	4	4
2. Seminars and training events on the sound management of chemicals and waste	–	4	4	4
Publications (number of publications)	–	1	1	1
3. Global assessment of state of and trends in laws, regulations and fiscal policies for sound chemicals and waste management	–	1	1	1
Technical materials (number of materials)	3	3	3	4
4. Technical reports on status, trends and related risks and improvements in chemicals and waste management at various scales	1	1	1	2
5. Technical guidance on action plans related to air quality at various scales, in particular at the subnational, national and regional levels	2	2	2	2

Category and subcategory	2019 planned	2019 actual	2020 planned	2021 planned
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: advice to countries on environmental practices and waste management; and advice to countries and stakeholders on policymaking, standards and strategy development.				
Fact-finding, monitoring and investigation missions: missions on status and trends relating to chemicals management, waste management and air quality, including on marine litter and other forms of pollution.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: outreach programmes, campaigns and information materials disseminated to Governments, private companies, civil society organizations and the public to increase awareness on marine and other forms of pollution, sound chemicals management and action to improve air quality.				

Subprogramme 6 Resource efficiency

Objective

- 14.84 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to advance the transition by countries and businesses to sustainable development through multiple pathways, including the uptake of inclusive green economic policies, the adoption of sustainable consumption and production patterns and the decoupling of economic activity from unsustainable resource use and environmental impact, while improving human well-being.

Strategy

- 14.85 To contribute to the advancement of the transition by countries and businesses to sustainable development through multiple pathways, including the uptake of inclusive green economic policies and the adoption of sustainable consumption and production patterns, the subprogramme will continue to deliver country assessments, promote the uptake of policy planning and implementation tools and convene knowledge platforms that will enable policymakers and businesses to actively pursue sustainable pathways. The subprogramme will also continue to draw on the capacity of UNEP to generate and disseminate knowledge and its extensive network of partners in the public and private sectors, including the financial sector, as well as civil society and academia. These include, but are not limited to, delivery platforms and flagship initiatives, such as the International Resource Panel, the Green Growth Knowledge Platform and the Partnership for Action on Green Economy, and the continued engagement with regional bodies, economic commissions, United Nations entities and United Nations country teams. This work is expected to result in the creation of an enabling policy environment for a shift to inclusive sustainable consumption and production patterns, as well as directly helping Member States to make progress towards the achievement of targets under Sustainable Development Goals 8 and 12. Past results in these areas include seven countries adopting green economic policies under the Partnership for Action on Green Economy in 2018. Progress has also been made with regard to knowledge management, with the successful launch in 2019 of the *Global Resources Outlook* and *Mineral Resource Governance in the Twenty-First Century* reports of the International Resource Panel.
- 14.86 To contribute to the advancement of the transition by countries and businesses to sustainable development through the decoupling of economic activity from unsustainable resource use and environmental impact, while improving human well-being, the subprogramme will continue to support countries and subnational governments to institutionalize capacities and implement national development plans, policies or action plans on sustainable consumption and production, which is expected to result in improved resource efficiency and sustainability measures. Furthermore, the subprogramme will support businesses along value chains and broadly across sectors to adopt and implement sustainable management and cleaner production practices, as well as increasingly invest in

circular and green technologies. The subprogramme will also promote sustainable lifestyles and consumption patterns through educational and awareness-raising campaigns and initiatives, which are expected to result in a shift towards sustainable products. Such campaigns will respond to generational and gender-specific roles and needs of consumers. All of this work is expected to help Member States to make progress towards the achievement of targets under Sustainable Development Goals 4, 8, 9 and 12. Past results in these areas include the development of national tourism roadmaps aligned with targets under the Goals with over 80 companies in four countries, a plastic economy global commitment launched in 2018 and signed by more than 400 organizations, uniting industries and governments behind a common vision of a circular economy for plastics, with targets towards this vision for 2025, and an increased number of awareness-raising, advocacy and educational initiatives demonstrating the benefits of sustainable lifestyles, consumption and production, notably the social media kit, “Anatomy of Action”.

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 14.87 A planned result for 2019, which is public, private and financial sectors increasingly adopt and implement sustainable management frameworks and practices, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by 126 countries and businesses implementing sustainable tourism policies (against a target of 125), including on the phasing out of plastics, the enhancement of waste infrastructure and the promotion of local products and economic opportunities, in alignment with Sustainable Development Goals 8, 9 and 12.

Programme performance in 2019: Principles for Responsible Banking drive the banking sector towards sustainable finance practices

- 14.88 The United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative, a United Nations-private sector collaboration that includes the membership of more than 240 finance institutions around the globe, initiated a process to develop principles to provide the banking industry with a framework to integrate sustainability into management practices. Through the subprogramme, UNEP, as the secretariat of the Initiative, supported the development of the principles with a core group of 30 banks. It further assisted in convening global public consultations engaging over 500 stakeholders over six months. Outreach efforts undertaken by the subprogramme led to the mobilization of the Chief Executive Officers of over 130 banks across the world with \$47 trillion in assets to commit to six high-level principles, known as the Principles for Responsible Banking, which were successfully launched by their founding banks on 23 September 2019, at a high-level event during the general debate of the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly.⁴ The Principles include commitments to align business strategy with the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement and relevant national and regional frameworks; to increase positive impacts while reducing negative impacts on people and the environment resulting from banking activities, products and services; and to be transparent about and accountable for impacts and the contribution to society’s goals.

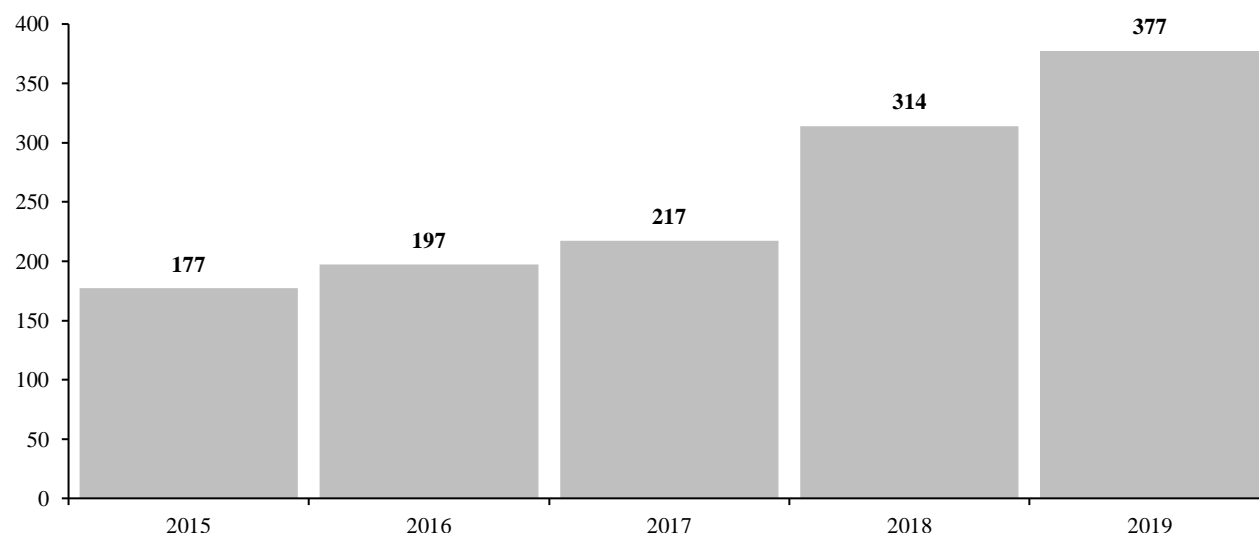
Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 14.89 This work contributed to the advancement of the transition by countries and businesses to sustainable development through multiple pathways, including the uptake of inclusive green economic policies and the adoption of sustainable consumption and production patterns, as demonstrated by 377 banks, an additional 63 compared to 2018, adopting more sustainable finance practices in line with the Principles for Responsible Banking, thus allowing the financial system to fully demonstrate its critical role and leadership in shifting its capital away from resource-intensive investments to sustainable development, while representing a crucial step towards meeting the world’s sustainable development financing requirements.

⁴ UNEP Finance Initiative, “Principles for Responsible Banking”, available from <https://www.unepfi.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/FINAL-PRB-Signature-Documents-2-Interactive-22-07-19.pdf>.

Figure 14.XII

Performance measure: total number of banking entities adopting sustainable finance practices



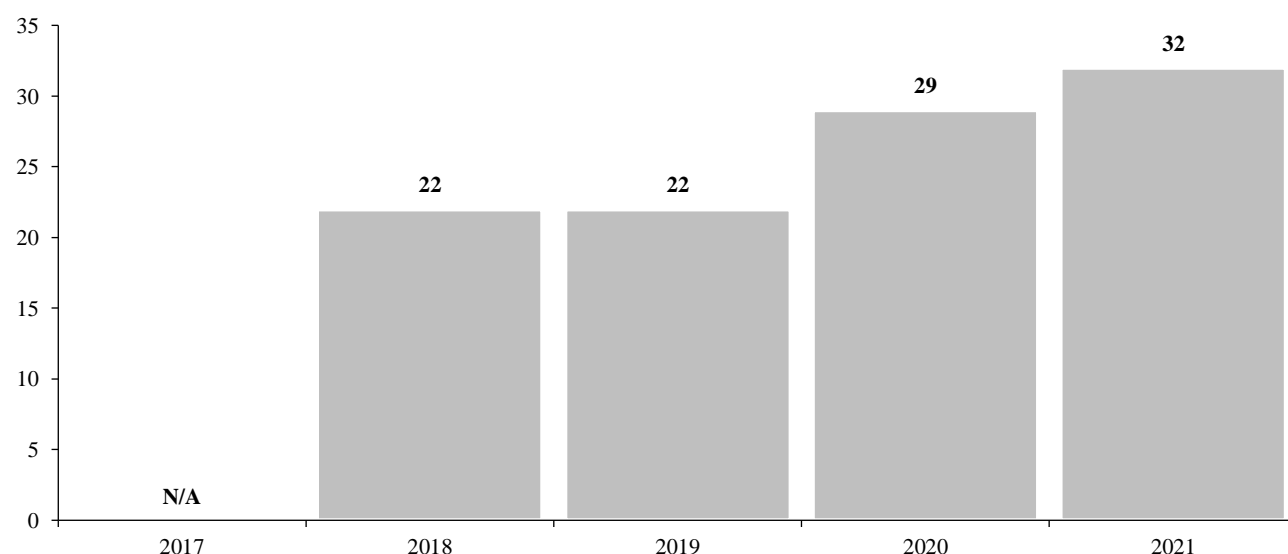
Planned results for 2021

Result 1: countries on a pathway to green development (result carried over from 2020)

- 14.90 The subprogramme will continue the work related to sustainable consumption and production, in line with its mandate, and will provide assistance to countries and stakeholders, including in the areas of environmental sustainability, sustainable lifestyles and sustainable consumption and production towards low-carbon development pathways, which is expected to be demonstrated by the performance measure for 2021 below. For 2020, a proxy performance measure is indicated to reflect that the General Assembly, in its resolution [74/251](#), approved a programme narrative at the subprogramme level that is composed solely of the objectives approved by the Assembly in its resolution [71/6](#) and the deliverables for 2020.

Figure 14.XIII

Performance measure: number of countries that have implemented green economy policies



Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Result 2: accelerating progress towards sustainable consumption and production (new result)

- 14.91 The subprogramme has been working globally to support the transition to sustainable development through multiple pathways, including inclusive green economic pathways and sustainable trade, and through the adoption of sustainable consumption and production action plans at all levels. From 2010 to 2019, the subprogramme supported 26 countries in the implementation of green economy and sustainable consumption and production policies, contributing to the delivery of the 2030 Agenda. This work included supporting Governments, businesses and other stakeholders to adopt sustainable production and management practices in global supply chains in the building and construction, food and agriculture, finance and tourism sectors, as well as supporting small and medium-sized enterprises across several manufacturing sectors. It also promoted sustainable lifestyles and sustainable consumption patterns through educational and awareness-raising campaigns and initiatives. However, from 2021 onwards, the subprogramme will focus on increased delivery at scale and on greater coherence between policies and actions in order to achieve the transformative action required for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 12.

Internal challenge and response

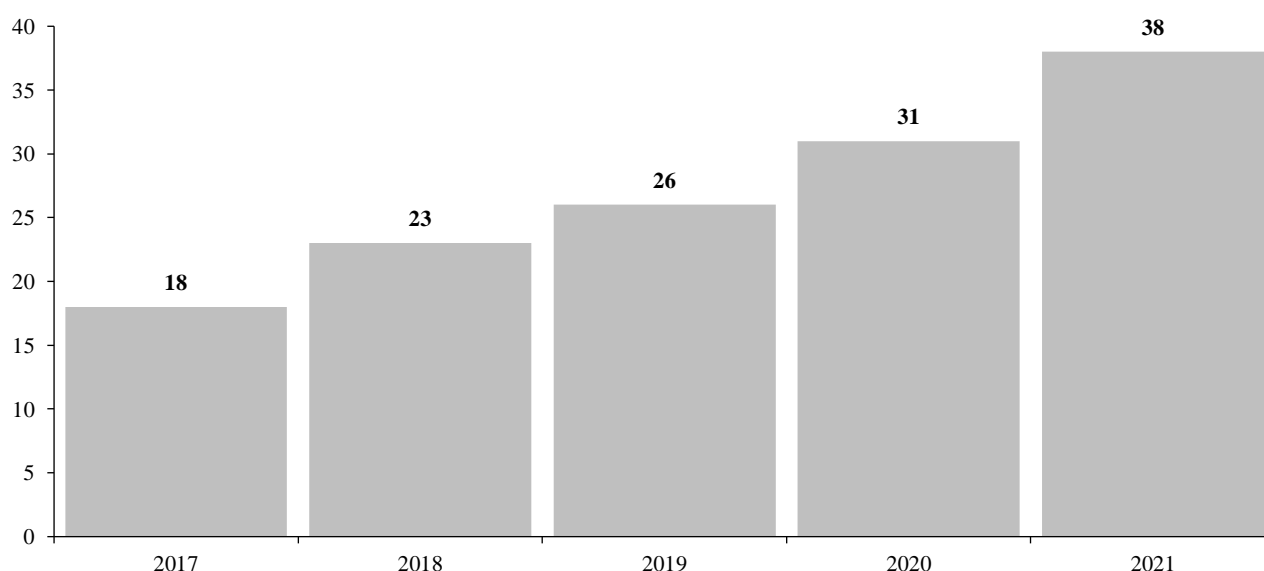
- 14.92 The challenge for the subprogramme was to ensure systematic interventions and actions and the use of a systemic approach that encompasses economic, social and environmental perspectives in order to scale up solutions in transformative sectors. In response, the subprogramme will work more systematically on these interlinkages to deliver a more coherent uptake of systemic approaches by Governments and businesses. This will occur through the increased mainstreaming of systemic approaches through the provision of consultations, advice and advocacy to stakeholders on the topics of resource efficiency, circularity, life cycle approaches, sustainable lifestyles and sustainable consumption and production. It will also focus on scaling up the work of the One Planet network (the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns), the Partnership for Action on Green Economy and other initiatives, such as the Global Opportunities for the Sustainable Development Goals programme or the “SWITCH” programmes on resource efficiency in the Mediterranean, Asia and Africa.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 14.93 This work is expected to contribute to the advancement of the transition by countries and businesses to sustainable development through multiple pathways, including the uptake of inclusive green economic policies and the adoption of sustainable consumption and production patterns, which would be demonstrated by an additional seven countries compared to 2020, bringing the total for 2021 to 38, that adopt and implement sustainable consumption and production frameworks and related policies and action plans.

Figure 14.XIV

Performance measure: total number of countries adopting and implementing sustainable consumption and production frameworks, policies and action plans



Legislative mandates

- 14.94 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme.

General Assembly resolutions

73/245	Promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection	74/214	Sustainable tourism and sustainable development in Central Asia
74/209	International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste		

Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme decisions

27/7	Work by the United Nations Environment Programme on sustainable consumption and production	27/8	Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication
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United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions

2/8	Sustainable consumption and production	4/2	Promoting sustainable practices and innovative solutions for curbing food loss and waste
2/9	Prevention, reduction and reuse of food waste		
4/1	Innovative pathways to achieve sustainable consumption and production	4/4	Addressing environmental challenges through sustainable business practices
		4/5	Sustainable infrastructure

Deliverables

14.95 Table 14.11 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 14.11

Subprogramme 6: deliverables for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	2019 planned	2019 actual	2020 planned	2021 planned
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	22	24	22	22
1. Projects on the green economy	10	10	10	10
2. Projects on sustainable consumption and production	12	14	12	12
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	–	15	15	15
3. Seminars and training events on resource efficiency	–	15	15	15
Publications (number of publications)	–	5	5	5
4. Publications on resource efficiency	–	2	2	2
5. Publications on the green economy and sustainable consumption and production	–	3	3	3
Technical materials (number of materials)	10	10	10	10
6. Technical materials on assistance to Member States on the green economy	5	5	5	5
7. Assessments, tools and methodologies on sustainable consumption and production	5	5	5	5
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: on sustainable lifestyles, resource efficiency, green economy, circular economy and sustainable consumption and production; meetings of the International Resource Panel; and meetings of 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns/One Planet network.				
Databases and substantive digital materials: global minerals database, life cycle database (Life Cycle Initiative), sustainable consumption and production clearing house database and Green Growth Knowledge Platform.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: on sustainable lifestyles, the Partnership for Action on Green Economy, ministerial meetings and the United Nations Environment Assembly.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: on sustainable lifestyles and good life goals.				

Subprogramme 7

Environment under review

Objective

- 14.96 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen the capacity of Governments and non-government actors to access, generate and use quality environmental data and analysis and to sustain a strengthened science-policy interface that generates evidence-based environmental assessments, identifies emerging environmental issues and fosters relevant policy action at the global, regional and national levels, including for the achievement of the environment-related Sustainable Development Goals.

Strategy

- 14.97 To contribute to the strengthened capacity of Governments and non-government actors to access, generate and use quality environmental data and analysis, the subprogramme will continue to provide scientific environmental data through publicly accessible means, such as data visualization tools. To that end, the subprogramme will continue to improve on its earlier experience of creating publicly available online data portals (such as UNEP Live and Environment Live) by furthering the development and public dissemination of the World Environment Situation Room, which is expected to result in scientific environmental data being made available to Governments and the public at large and visualizing the state and performance of the world environment through near real-time maps supported by geospatial technologies and a knowledge platform that will allow users to access data, information and knowledge on topics related to the environment. The functioning of the World Environment Situation Room will also benefit from innovative partnerships between UNEP and private sector actors working in the field of technology, as well as the active engagement of the Global Resource Information Database networks and earth observation data and scientific collaborating centres (United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Yale University and Institute of Remote Sensing and Digital Earth, China). The subprogramme will also continue to support the development of scientific assessments, using gender-disaggregated data wherever possible, that are contributing to national and global decision-making and their dissemination across the global environmental community and the public at large. This work is expected to result in a more coherent approach to science-based environmental policymaking among countries, as well as heightened knowledge about the state of the world environment among the public at large. Past results in these areas include improved collaboration among all the government and non-government stakeholders involved in the preparation of the sixth edition of the *Global Environment Outlook*, published in 2019, and related regional environmental assessments, resulting in the use of UNEP Live by those stakeholders to develop data-backed visuals for the assessments, as well as collecting and sharing related ideas and data.
- 14.98 To contribute to the strengthened capacity of Governments and non-government actors to sustain a strengthened science-policy interface that generates evidence-based environmental assessments, identifies emerging environmental issues and fosters relevant policy action at the global, regional and national levels, the subprogramme will continue to provide developing countries with analytical research, tools for better understanding the environmental dimension of sustainable development, including vulnerability and interlinkages, and training for capacity-building to measure, monitor and report on the environmental dimension of the Sustainable Development Goals. This work is expected to result in strengthened evidence-based and integrated sustainable development policymaking in countries, as well as increased policy coherence for the integrated implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the environment-related Goals, namely, Goals 6, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 17. The subprogramme will also be able to measure Member States' progress with regard to the environmental dimension of the Goals in a more systematic and coherent manner. To that end, the subprogramme will continue to capitalize on its collaboration with the Statistical Commission and the five regional commissions in order to bring about more coherence in the way in which Member

States integrate methods for tracking and measuring the environmental Goals in their national processes. This work is expected to result in the better ability of countries to collect data on Sustainable Development Goal indicators to support their own national sustainable development plans, and ultimately in more harmonized data for international comparability. Past results in these areas include 36 national institutions having improved their capacity to develop and use environmental statistical methods; 40 countries having reported data on six Sustainable Development Goal indicators for which no data were reported in 2016; and 20 countries having enhanced their environmental data-sharing and reporting through shared environmental information systems and environmental data.

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 14.99 A planned result for 2019, which is Governments and other stakeholders use quality open environmental data, analyses and participatory processes that strengthen the science-policy interface to generate evidence-based environmental assessments, identify emerging issues and foster policy action, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by an additional 58 countries participating in methodology development and implementation activities for monitoring and reporting on the Sustainable Development Goal indicators in their countries, compared to a target of 45. Those countries took up and implemented new methodologies in the development of environment-related indicators that add to their progress in gauging and monitoring under the respective United Nations country programmes, all of which were tailored to the needs and environments of participating Member States.

Programme performance in 2019: increased reporting on environmental Sustainable Development Goals in the Eastern European, Caucasus and Central Asian region

- 14.100 The subprogramme strengthened capacities with regard to data collection, statistical tabulation and measuring progress in environmental Sustainable Development Goal indicators in as many as 14 countries in the Eastern European, Caucasus and Central Asian region in 2019. Towards that end, in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Europe, the subprogramme co-organized three regional networking and capacity-building events on environmental data- and information-sharing for the 14 target countries. At the national level, furthermore, the subprogramme reinforced this work by conducting in-country capacity development on environmental statistics for the Goals, specifically in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Those training activities targeted national statistical offices and line agencies with responsibilities in environmental monitoring and data collection and contributed to the development of enhanced coordination and collaboration and the exchange of best practices within and between countries of the region. This increased collaboration and exchange of best practices benefited from the mainstreaming of common approaches for monitoring regionally agreed environmental indicators, in particular the Shared Environmental Information System principles of open access to data, as well as international methodologies for reporting on environmental Sustainable Development Goal indicators.

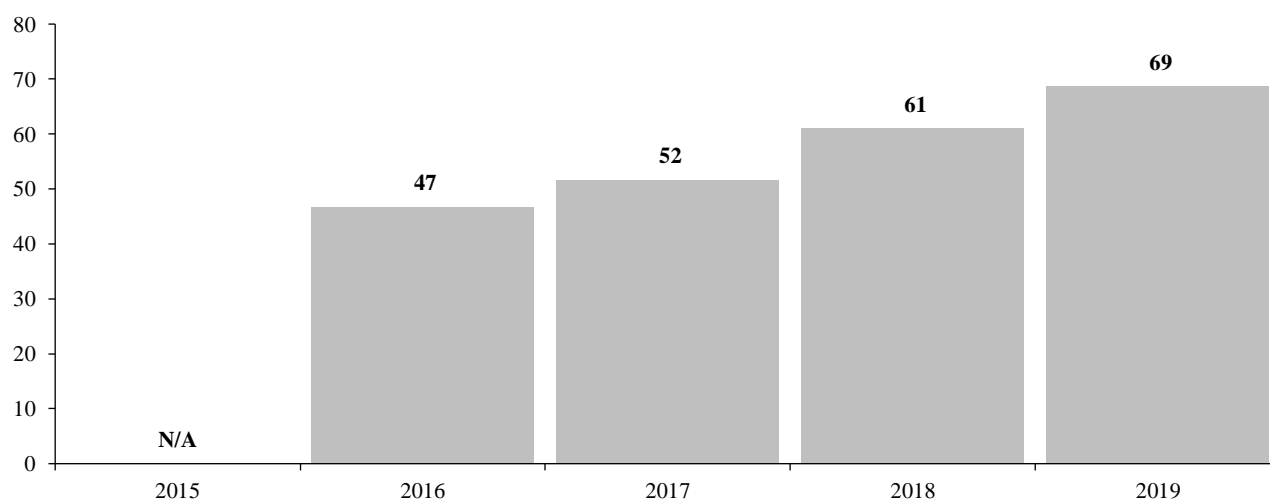
Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 14.101 This work contributed to the strengthened capacity of Governments and non-government actors to access, generate and use quality environmental data and analysis, as demonstrated by a 69 per cent reporting rate on environmental Sustainable Development Goal indicators by the 14 Eastern European, Caucasus and Central Asian countries (an increase of 8 percentage points compared to 2018) that benefited from the capacity-building interventions. In collaboration with the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, regional commissions and other United Nations agencies, the sustainment of a strengthened science-policy interface was

achieved through training on open access data policies, evidence-based voluntary national reviews and the provision of assistance to countries, in consultation with all relevant sectoral ministries and agencies, in conducting evidence-based environmental assessments to identify environmental issues, as well as establishing the institutional measures for the coherent implementation and monitoring of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda.

Figure 14.XV

Performance measure: percentage of environmental Sustainable Development Goal indicators reported by 14 Eastern European, Caucasus and Central Asian countries (average percentage of indicators reported for the 13 environment-related Goals)



Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

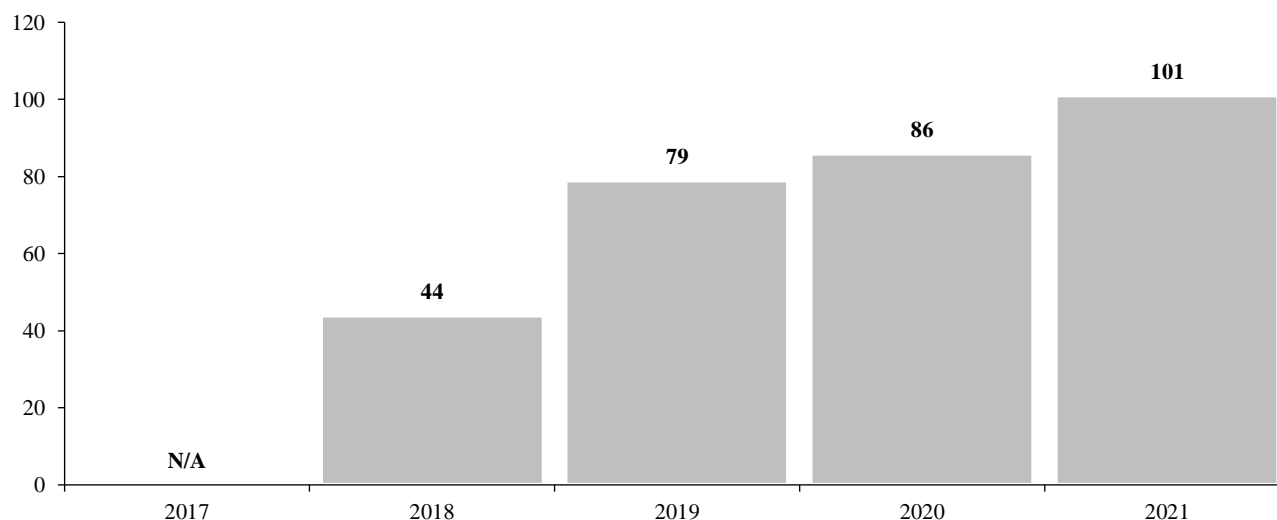
Planned results for 2021

Result 1: stepping up support through a strengthened science-policy interface (result carried over from 2020)

- 14.102 The subprogramme will continue the work related to monitoring and reporting on environmental indicators, in line with its mandate, and will assist countries in producing accurate and timely information and making it available for environmental decision-making, which is expected to be demonstrated by the performance measure for 2021 below. For 2020, a proxy performance measure is indicated to reflect that the General Assembly, in its resolution [74/251](#), approved a programme narrative at the subprogramme level that is composed solely of the objectives approved by the Assembly in its resolution [71/6](#) and the deliverables for 2020.

Figure 14.XVI

Performance measure: number of countries that use shared information system principles to report on global environmental goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets



Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Result 2: towards more ambitious climate action through science-based decision-making (new result)

- 14.103 The subprogramme has been working on several global assessment reports to support Governments with science-based decision-making. Since 2010, the subprogramme has undertaken annual scientific assessments in the form of a report on the emissions gap, that is, the gap between countries' greenhouse gas emissions reduction pledges and the reductions required to keep the global average temperature increase to well below 2°C or 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. The preparation of the report benefits from continuous country engagement, particularly through national experts acting as authors and reviewers, as well as through a rigorous country data vetting process. That process, which occurs on a voluntary basis, ensures that Member States are engaged in this scientific assessment and are able to provide feedback, while also benefiting from the information contained in the report that is collected to ultimately inform their own relevant policymaking processes at the national level.
- 14.104 In addition to providing an independent and evidence-based analysis of the emissions gap, the report also highlights potential mitigation actions that can help to bridge the gap. The *Emissions Gap Report* informs the negotiations at the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and supports the nationally determined contributions cycles envisioned in the Paris Agreement. The ultimate goal of the *Emissions Gap Report* is to motivate actions and commitments of countries towards ambitious emissions reduction targets.
- 14.105 The latest findings of the *Emissions Gap Report 2019* indicate that unless global greenhouse gas emissions fall by 7.6 per cent each year between 2020 and 2030, the world will miss the opportunity to get on track towards the 1.5°C temperature goal of the Paris Agreement. It also highlights that despite the calls for action, emissions continue to rise. To achieve the reductions needed, unprecedented and transformative action by all countries is required immediately. The year 2020 is thus a crucial year for climate action. Under the Paris Agreement, all parties are requested to submit by 2020 new or revised nationally determined contributions, communicating how they will increase ambition and significantly step up their climate commitments. With the expectation of ambitious and concrete climate plans communicated in new or updated nationally determined contributions by 2020, the next decade will be defining for efforts to achieve the global climate goals.

Internal challenge and response

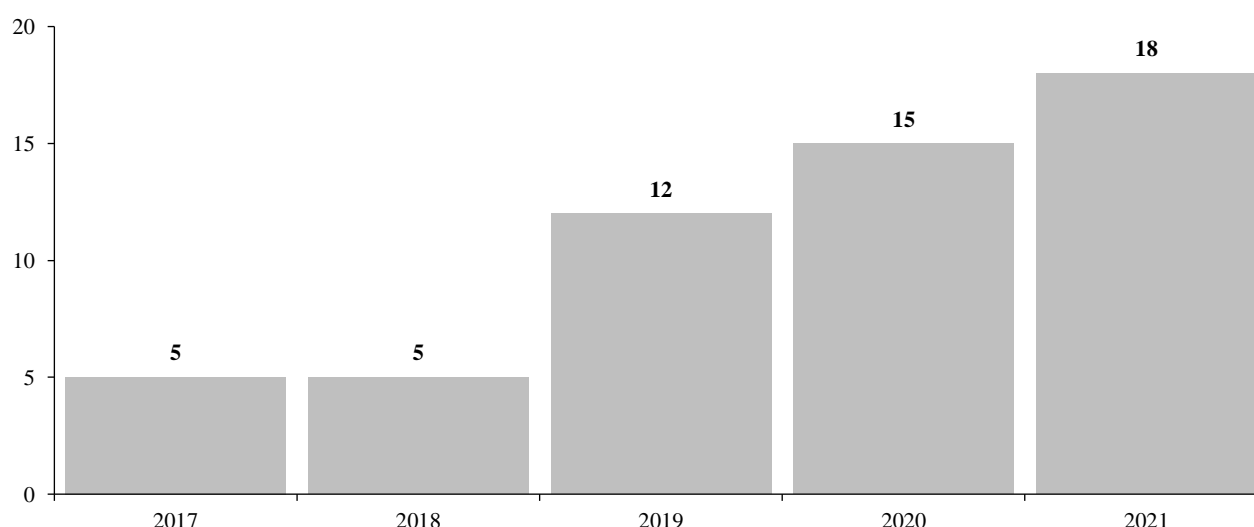
- 14.106 The challenge for the subprogramme, and more specifically the *Emissions Gap Report*, was to engage stakeholders within the limited time frame allotted for consultation and the production of the report (one year). In 2021, the subprogramme will provide a critical assessment of the emissions gap based on the new and updated nationally determined contributions submitted by the parties, and the analysis will be crucial in determining how close the world is to achieving the long-term temperature goal. As nature's signals become clearer – with the rising global temperature as well as the intensity and severity of extreme weather events – risks and costs of no action also become clearer. In response to the challenge outlined, for the 2021 *Emissions Gap Report*, the subprogramme will undertake closer and more regular consultations with Member States, particularly through the country data vetting process, focusing on increased outreach and dissemination of the findings of the *Emissions Gap Report* to national expert groups, and how those findings can inform the development or upgrading of relevant national policymaking processes. To support greater reach of the *Emissions Gap Report*, particularly at the regional level, the subprogramme will also ensure the more strategic use of its regional presence, particularly its regional offices, to communicate the findings of the *Emissions Gap Report* and to subsequently spur the increased participation of countries in the *Emissions Gap Report* process.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 14.107 This work is expected to contribute to the strengthened capacity of Governments and non-government actors to access, generate and use quality environmental data and analysis and to sustain a strengthened science-policy interface, which would be demonstrated by an additional three countries in 2021 (for a total of 18 countries) that engage in the development of the *Emissions Gap Report* through the country data vetting process compared to 2020 (15 countries). Furthermore, the findings of the *Emissions Gap Report* are expected to provide critical inputs to the increase of national climate ambitions in a post-2020 perspective. The additional value of the *Emissions Gap Report* in 2021 and beyond will be in providing relevant in-depth focus of the context for the emissions gap key graph in the first part of the report. More specifically, countries and experts will have put forward the following potential aspects, among others, to look at in-depth in the forthcoming *Emissions Gap Reports*: production- v. consumption-related emissions; financing to bridge the emissions gap; the role of non-State actors, such as institutional investors; assessing the potential for bridging the gap by reducing consumption; taxes and carbon pricing in the context of the so-called “Global Green New Deal”; and looking in-depth at shipping and aviation.

Figure 14.XVII

Performance measure: total number of countries engaged in the development of the *Emissions Gap Report* through the country data vetting process



Legislative mandates

14.108 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme.

General Assembly resolutions

[71/313](#) Work of the Statistical Commission pertaining to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme decisions

SS.VIII/1, sect. II	Implementation of decision SS.VII/1 on international environmental governance: strengthening the scientific base of the United Nations Environment Programme	SS.XII/6 25/1, sect. II	World environmental situation Implementation of decision SS.VII/1 on international environmental governance: strengthening the scientific base of the United Nations Environment Programme
SS.X/5	Global Environment Outlook: environment for development		

United Nations Environment Assembly ministerial declarations and decisions

Decision 3/1	Extension of the delivery date for the sixth Global Environment Outlook report	UNEP/EA.4/HLS.1	Ministerial declaration of the United Nations Environment Assembly at its fourth session: innovative solutions for environmental challenges and sustainable consumption and production
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Deliverables

14.109 Table 14.12 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 14.12

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

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2019 actual</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	–	7	2	9
1. Projects on keeping the environment under review	–	5	1	6
2. Projects on supporting the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals	–	2	1	3
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	–	–	2	–
3. Seminar on keeping the environment under review	–	–	2	–
Publications (number of publications)	2	2	1	1
4. Global reports on keeping the environment under review	2	2	1	1
Technical materials (number of materials)	1	2	1	3
5. Technical materials on early warning and assessments	1	2	1	3
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: consultation with Governments and other entities, including from the United Nations system, and stakeholders on methodology development and capacity development in the area of data collection methodologies relating to the Sustainable Development Goals; advice to Governments and stakeholders on strengthening the science-policy interface; and advice to Governments and stakeholders on implementing national environmental information systems.				
Databases and substantive digital materials: World Environment Situation Room; Online Access to Research in the Environment; and Global Environment Monitoring System/Air Programme.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: web pages, multimedia material and audio, video and social media content on the scientific work of UNEP.				

B. Proposed post and non-post resource requirements for 2021

Overview

14.110 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021, including the breakdown of resource changes, as applicable, are reflected in tables 14.13 to 14.15.

Table 14.13

Financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2019 expenditure	2020 appropriation	Changes					2021 estimate (before recosting)	Recosting	2021 estimate (after recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage			
Posts	21 466.8	21 665.0	–	–	–	–	–	21 665.0	909.0	22 574.0
Other staff costs	91.5	18.9	–	196.3	–	196.3	1 038.6	215.2	4.7	219.9
Hospitality	15.3	0.4	–	19.2	–	19.2	4 800.0	19.6	0.4	20.0
Consultants	215.6	427.7	–	–	–	–	–	427.7	9.7	437.4
Travel of representatives	36.3	62.7	–	–	–	–	–	62.7	1.2	63.9
Travel of staff	225.4	230.9	–	–	–	–	–	230.9	4.4	235.3
Contractual services	113.2	227.0	–	–	–	–	–	227.0	4.9	231.9
General operating expenses	613.8	360.8	–	186.1	–	186.1	51.6	546.9	11.6	558.5
Supplies and materials	12.9	22.3	–	–	–	–	–	22.3	–	22.3
Furniture and equipment	42.4	26.2	–	–	–	–	–	26.2	–	26.2
Improvements to premises	0.3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Fellowships, grants and contributions	256.3	322.4	–	–	–	–	–	322.4	7.2	329.6
Total	23 089.8	23 364.3	–	401.6	–	401.6	1.7	23 765.9	953.1	24 719.0

Table 14.14

Post changes^a

	Number	Level
Approved for 2020	113	1 USG, 1 ASG, 4 D-2, 11 D-1, 26 P-5, 40 P-4, 13 P-3, 1 P-2/1, 1 GS (PL), 5 GS (OL), 10 LL
Proposed for 2021	113	1 USG, 1 ASG, 4 D-2, 11 D-1, 26 P-5, 40 P-4, 13 P-3, 1 P-2/1, 1 GS (PL), 5 GS (OL), 10 LL

^a No post changes are proposed for 2021.

Note: The following abbreviations are used in tables and figures: ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; GS (OL), General Service (Other level); GS (PL), General Service (Principal level); LL, Local level; USG, Under-Secretary-General.

Table 14.15
Post resources

Category	2020 approved	Changes				2021 proposed
		Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	
Professional and higher						
USG	1	—	—	—	—	1
ASG	1	—	—	—	—	1
D-2	4	—	—	—	—	4
D-1	11	—	—	—	—	11
P-5	26	—	—	—	—	26
P-4	40	—	—	—	—	40
P-3	13	—	—	—	—	13
P-2/1	1	—	—	—	—	1
Subtotal	97	—	—	—	—	97
General Service						
Principal level	1	—	—	—	—	1
Other level	5	—	—	—	—	5
Subtotal	6	—	—	—	—	6
Other						
Local level	10	—	—	—	—	10
Subtotal	10	—	—	—	—	10
Total	113	—	—	—	—	113

14.111 Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2021 are reflected in tables 14.16 to 14.18, and figure 14.XVIII.

14.112 As reflected in table 14.16 (1), the overall resources proposed for 2021 amount to \$23,765,900 before recosting, reflecting an increase of \$401,600 (or 1.7 per cent) compared with the appropriation for 2020. Resource changes result from new and expanded mandates adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 73/260, which was partially applied in 2020. The proposed level of resources provides for the full, efficient and effective implementation of mandates.

Table 14.16
Evolution of financial resources by component and subprogramme
(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

	2019 expenditure	2020 appropriation	Changes				2021 estimate (before recosting)	2021 estimate (after recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total Percentage		
A. Policymaking organs	63.2	8.5	—	401.6	—	401.6 4 724.7	410.1	419.3
B. Executive direction and management	3 837.0	4 208.1	—	—	—	— —	4 208.1	4 421.6

Section 14 Environment

	2019 expenditure	2020 appropriation	Changes					2021 estimate (before recosting)	Recosting	2021 estimate (after recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage			
C. Programme of work										
1. Climate change	2 356.8	2 267.8	–	–	–	–	–	2 267.8	88.2	2 356.0
2. Resilience to disasters and conflicts	1 680.4	1 543.5	–	–	–	–	–	1 543.5	57.7	1 601.2
3. Healthy and productive ecosystems	2 496.7	2 649.6	–	–	–	–	–	2 649.6	95.4	2 745.0
4. Environment governance	4 931.6	4 547.0	–	–	–	–	–	4 547.0	172.6	4 719.6
5. Chemicals, waste and air quality	1 765.8	1 809.2	–	–	–	–	–	1 809.2	74.2	1 883.4
6. Resource efficiency	1 869.6	1 979.5	–	–	–	–	–	1 979.5	57.2	2 036.7
7. Environment under review	2 836.0	3 136.5	–	–	–	–	–	3 136.5	104.7	3 241.2
Subtotal, C	17 936.9	17 933.1	–	–	–	–	–	17 933.1	650.0	18 583.1
D. Programme support	1 252.7	1 214.6	–	–	–	–	–	1 214.6	80.4	1 295.0
Subtotal, 1	23 089.8	23 364.3	–	401.6	–	401.6	1.7	23 765.9	953.1	24 719.0

(2) Extrabudgetary

	2019 expenditure	2020 estimate	2021 estimate
A. Policymaking organs	1 709.2	2 210.0	2 210.0
B. Executive direction and management	3 512.2	4 265.0	4 265.0
C. Programme of work			
1. Climate change	91 249.6	129 570.0	129 570.0
2. Resilience to disasters and conflicts	21 320.9	19 125.0	19 125.0
3. Healthy and productive ecosystems	92 865.8	93 205.0	93 205.0
4. Environment governance	22 979.8	36 105.0	36 105.0
5. Chemicals, waste and air quality	56 559.1	67 470.0	67 470.0
6. Resource efficiency	36 383.8	46 955.0	46 955.0
7. Environment under review	18 880.3	17 965.0	17 965.0
Subtotal, C	340 239.3	410 395.0	410 395.0
D. Programme support	10 181.9	18 595.0	18 595.0
Subtotal, 2	355 642.6	435 465.0	435 465.0
Total	378 732.4	458 829.3	460 184.0

Table 14.17
Evolution of post resources by component and subprogramme

(1) *Regular budget*

	2020 approved	Changes				2021 proposed
		Technical adjustment	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	
A. Policymaking organs	—	—	—	—	—	—
B. Executive direction and management	22	—	—	—	—	22
C. Programme of work						
1. Climate change	10	—	—	—	—	10
2. Resilience to disasters and conflicts	8	—	—	—	—	8
3. Healthy and productive ecosystems	13	—	—	—	—	13
4. Environmental governance	23	—	—	—	—	23
5. Chemicals, waste and air quality	9	—	—	—	—	9
6. Resource efficiency	11	—	—	—	—	11
7. Environment under review	12	—	—	—	—	12
Subtotal, C	86	—	—	—	—	86
D. Programme support	5	—	—	—	—	5
Subtotal, 1	113	—	—	—	—	113

(2) *Extrabudgetary*

	2020 estimate	2021 estimate
A. Policymaking organs	13	13
B. Executive direction and management	26	26
C. Programme of work		
1. Climate change	166	166
2. Resilience to disasters and conflicts	38	38
3. Healthy and productive ecosystems	143	143
4. Environmental governance	94	94
5. Chemicals, waste and air quality	119	119
6. Resource efficiency	103	103
7. Environment under review	55	55
Subtotal, C	718	718
D. Programme support	95	95
Subtotal, 2	852	852
Total	965	965

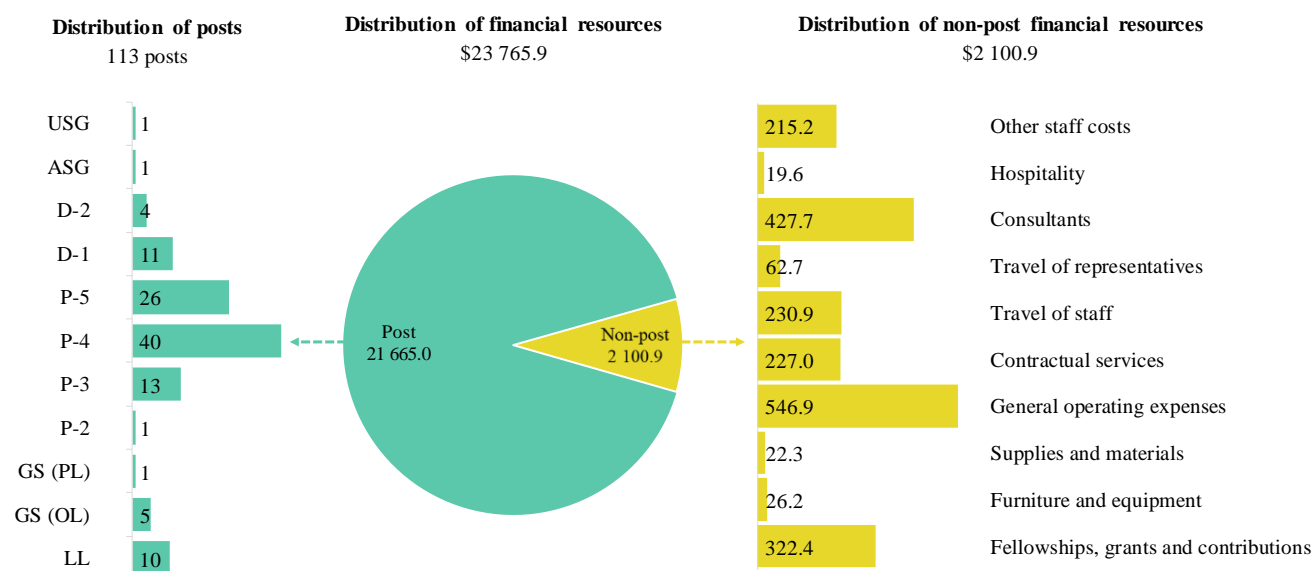
Table 14.18
Evolution of financial and post resources by category

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	Changes							2021 estimate (before recosting)
	2019 expenditure	2020 appropriation	Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	21 466.8	21 665.0	—	—	—	—	—	21 665.0
Non-post	1 623.0	1 699.3	—	401.6		401.6	23.6	2 100.9
Total	23 089.8	23 364.3	—	401.6		401.6	1.7	23 765.9
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		97	—	—	—	—	—	97
General Service and related		16	—	—	—	—	—	16
Total		113	—	—	—	—	—	113

Figure 14.XVIII
Distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Variance analysis by component and subprogramme

Overall resource changes

New and expanded mandates

- 14.113 As shown in table 14.16 (1), resource changes reflect an increase of \$401,600 under policymaking organs. The increase relates to the resources required to hold the fifth United Nations Environment Assembly, pursuant to General Assembly resolutions [73/260](#) and [67/251](#). The resource requirement

would arise every odd year when the Environment Assembly takes place. The requirement consists of hospitality (\$19,200), other staff costs (\$196,300) and general operating expenses (\$186,100).

Extrabudgetary resources

- 14.114 As reflected in tables 14.16 (2) and 14.17 (2), UNEP receives extrabudgetary contributions that complement regular budget resources and support the delivery of its mandates. In 2021, projected extrabudgetary resources (cash contributions) of \$435,465,000, including 852 posts, are expected to be received in support of extrabudgetary activities. Extrabudgetary resources represent 94.6 per cent of total resources for the programme. The estimates are in line with the priorities and deliverables approved by the Environment Assembly for the programme of work for the biennium 2020–2021.

Polymaking organs

- 14.115 The resources proposed under this component would provide for requirements relating to the Environment Assembly, the open-ended committee and annual subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives. The General Assembly, in its resolution [67/213](#), decided to establish universal membership of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and mandated it to have its first universal session in Nairobi in February 2013. In resolution [67/251](#), the General Assembly took note of Governing Council decision 27/2 of 22 February 2013 and decided to change the designation of the Governing Council to the United Nations Environment Assembly. The transformation from a 58-member Governing Council to a universal United Nations Environment Assembly has, as was the intention, led to a significant increase in Member State representation at the sessions of UNEP in Nairobi. That, in turn, has entailed significantly higher costs for UNEP in odd years, when the Environment Assembly convenes, in particular with regard to the serving of conferences. Those increased costs have, so far, not been compensated by a corresponding increase in the allocation of resources from the United Nations regular budget. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution [73/260](#), in which the Assembly expressed concern about the sustainability, predictability and stability of funding for the Programme's governing body, UNEP is presenting its 2021 funding requirements for holding the fifth session of the Environment Assembly, which is due to be held in 2021. Information on the standing intergovernmental organs and related resource requirements under the regular budget corresponding to estimated extra costs for conference servicing required to hold the session, based on a factual account of additional costs incurred in the organization of previous sessions, is provided in table 14.19.

Table 14.19
Polymaking organs

(Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Polymaking organ</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Additional information</i>	<i>2020 appropriation</i>	<i>2021 estimate (before recosting)</i>
United Nations Environment Assembly	The United Nations Environment Assembly is the governing body of UNEP and has the mandate to take strategic decisions, provide political guidance for the work of UNEP and promote a strong science-policy interface. It holds biennial sessions, currently every odd year.	Mandate: General Assembly resolutions 67/213 and 67/251 and Governing Council decision 27/2 Membership: 193 government officials Number of sessions in 2021: 1	—	309.1

Section 14 Environment

<i>Policymaking organ</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Additional information</i>	<i>2020 appropriation</i>	<i>2021 estimate (before recosting)</i>
Committee of Permanent Representatives	The Committee of Permanent Representatives, as a subsidiary body of the United Nations Environment Assembly, provides policy advice to the Environment Assembly, contributes to the preparation of the agendas for its sessions and the draft decisions it will consider, oversees the implementation of resolutions and the programme of work once they are adopted and prepares the forthcoming programme of work for adoption by it. The Committee holds its regular one-day meetings on a quarterly basis and meets in open-ended form every two years, prior to the Environment Assembly session.	Mandate: Governing Council decision 27/2 Membership: 122 government officials Number of sessions in 2021: 3	—	92.5
Subcommittee of the Committee or Permanent Representatives	The subcommittee meets annually for five days to review the medium-term strategy, programme of work and budget and to prepare the forthcoming programme of work for adoption by the Environment Assembly. In addition, one- or half-day subcommittee meetings are held once or twice a month to consider specific issues in depth, as needed and upon request.	Mandate: Governing Council decision 27/2 Membership: 122 government officials Number of sessions in 2021: 1	8.5	8.5
Total			8.5	410.1

14.116 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$410,100 and reflect an increase of \$401,600 compared with the appropriation for 2020. The proposed increase of \$401,600 is explained in paragraph 14.113. Additional details on the distribution of proposed resources for 2021 are reflected in table 14.20 and figure 14.XIX.

Table 14.20
Policymaking organs: evolution of financial resources

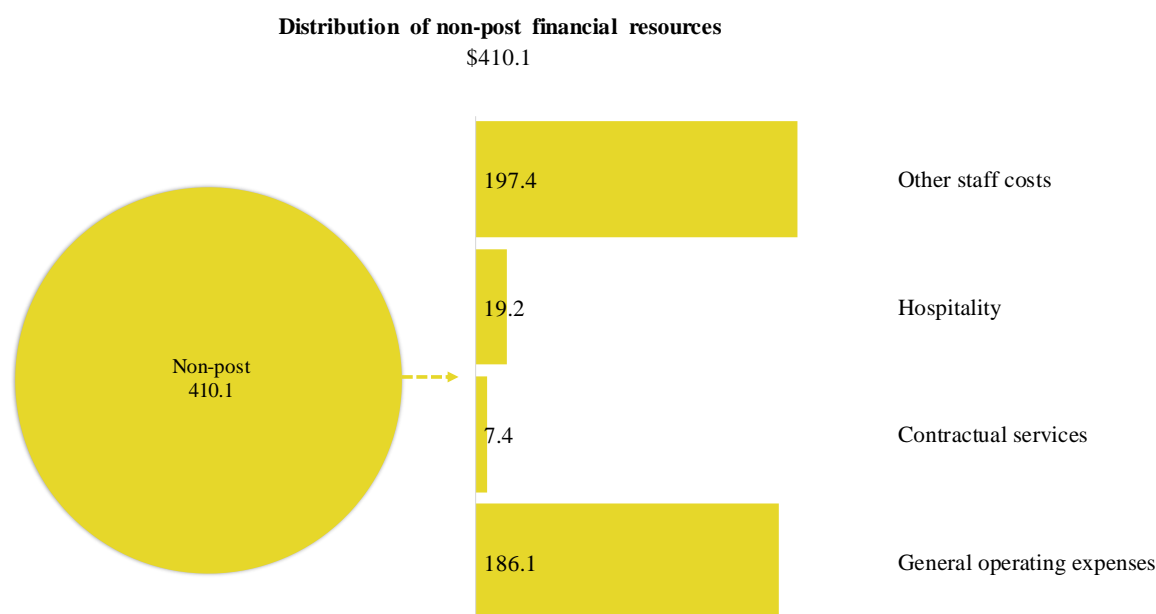
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	<i>2019 expenditure</i>	<i>2020 appropriation</i>	<i>Technical adjustments</i>	<i>Changes</i>				<i>2021 estimate (before recosting)</i>
				<i>New/expanded mandates</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	
Non-post	63.2	8.5	—	401.6	—	401.6	4 724.7	410.1
Total	63.2	8.5	—	401.6	—	401.6	4 724.7	410.1

Figure 14.XIX

Policymaking organs: distribution of proposed resources for 2020 (before recosting)

(Thousands of United States dollars)

**Executive direction and management**

- 14.117 The executive direction and management component is composed of the Office of the Executive Director and United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation. The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$4,208,100 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details are reflected in table 14.21 and figure 14.XX.

Table 14.21

Executive direction and management: evolution of financial and post resources

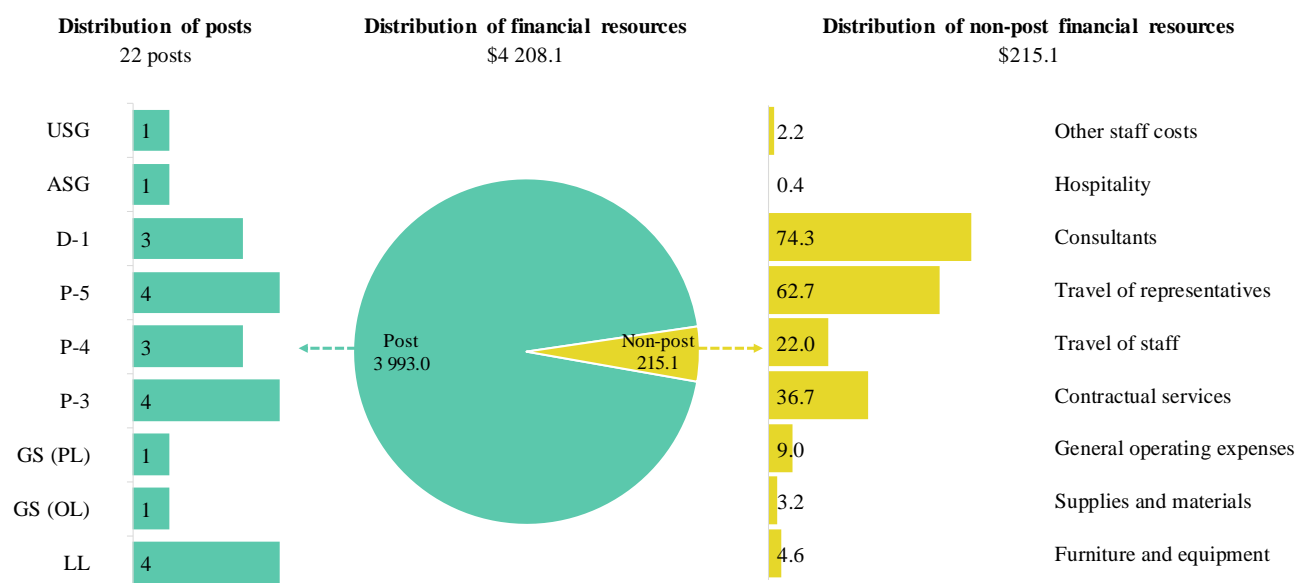
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2019 expenditure	2020 appropriation	Changes					2021 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	3 607.6	3 993.0	—	—	—	—	—	3 993.0
Non-post	229.5	215.1	—	—	—	—	—	215.1
Total	3 837.0	4 208.1	—	—	—	—	—	4 208.1
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		16	—	—	—	—	—	16
General Service and related		6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Total		22	—	—	—	—	—	22

Figure 14.XX

Executive direction and management: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)

**Office of the Executive Director**

- 14.118 The executive direction and management of UNEP is carried out by the Executive Office, the Governance Affairs Office and an independent Evaluation Office. The Executive Office provides executive and support services to the Executive Director, the Deputy Executive Director and other members of the UNEP senior management team. It provides guidance and policy clearance on all programmatic and administrative matters. The Executive Director, with the support of the Deputy Executive Director, provides the vision and direction for the work of UNEP in accordance with its legislative mandates and has overall responsibility for the management of UNEP resources.
- 14.119 The Executive Office also has overall responsibility for enabling UNEP to provide guidance on environmental issues within the United Nations system. That guidance will consider assessments of the causes and effects of environmental challenges, as well as emerging issues of global and regional significance. The Executive Office will catalyse international action to bring about a coordinated response both within the United Nations system and between the United Nations and its partners. This will be executed through inter-agency mechanisms such as the Environment Management Group and the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and its subsidiary bodies. In addition, UNEP will integrate the priorities of the multilateral environmental agreements into those processes to enable the United Nations system to respond to environmental issues in a coordinated manner.
- 14.120 The Evaluation Office is an independent unit reporting directly to the Executive Director. It is responsible for implementing the evaluation workplan by conducting and managing independent evaluations. It also provides analysis of findings and lessons for management.
- 14.121 UNEP will prioritize a results-oriented approach that builds on lessons learned and will leverage the outcomes of the United Nations development system reforms. The Executive Office will improve internal systems, process and accountability to ensure human and financial resources in UNEP are fully aligned to deliver the expected results in the programme of work. In addition, mechanisms will be strengthened to foster a results-orientated culture, promote empowerment and implement results-based management.

- 14.122 With regard to inter-agency mechanisms, in 2019, UNEP achieved good results in its function as coordinator and leader of internal sustainability efforts and environmental governance within the United Nations system. In May 2019, through the Programme's leadership and in close coordination with the Environment Management Group, the Chief Executives Board endorsed the Strategy for Sustainability Management in the United Nations system 2020–2030 (Phase 1: Environmental Sustainability in the Area of Management).⁵ UNEP also provided technical support for the design of the United Nations Secretariat climate action plan 2020–2030, under which all Secretariat entities are committed to aligning with the strategy and to achieving a 45 per cent reduction in emissions by 2030. In 2020 and 2021, UNEP will continue to coordinate, provide technical support for and report on the progress of environmental management in the United Nations system. In particular, UNEP and the Environment Management Group will continue to work with all United Nations system organizations to determine the reporting and implementation requirements for the strategy, including the proposal for a coordination mechanism to support the achievement of the strategy goals.
- 14.123 UNEP plans to achieve several improvements for the 2021 budgeting period. Having carried out an initial review of its existing Environment Management System at headquarters, UNEP will seek to align that system and climate targets with those of the Secretariat's plan. Furthermore, the Executive Director of UNEP and the senior management team have strengthened the system's new cycle and have also addressed some of the issues raised in the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services issued in late 2018. UNEP will continue to work on its Environment Management System by implementing a new governance structure, as well as working on additional aspects of the system, including the new areas of green meetings and air travel. Training on green meetings has already been provided in conjunction with partners.
- 14.124 In accordance with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular target 12.6 of the Sustainable Development Goals, under which organizations are encouraged to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycles, and in compliance with the cross-cutting mandate set forth in paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution [72/219](#), UNEP is continuing to integrate environmental management practices into its operations. In 2019, a highlight was the United Nations Environment Assembly, which for the first time was paper- and plastic-free, in addition to being fully climate neutral. In the future, UNEP plans to apply such criteria to larger meetings (meetings of 300 or more participants), in addition to the Environment Assembly. The waste management strategy of UNEP is also yielding good results, with 90 per cent of waste at its Nairobi headquarters being recycled. In 2021, UNEP will continue to look at waste problems, including hazardous waste and the emerging issue of e-waste.
- 14.125 Moreover, in 2018 UNEP championed a ban on single-use plastics, effective from 1 August of that year, and worked to raise the awareness of United Nations agencies at the Gigiri compound in Nairobi on the issue, including by supporting the communication campaign of the United Nations at Nairobi. As a result of the ban, all plastic bottles have been replaced with glass bottles and aluminium cans; the new water suppliers use recycled glass with metal caps; and all plastic straws have been replaced by paper straws. All single-use plastic takeaway containers have been banned and reusable take-out containers are now available for sale on campus. The ban also includes plastic cutlery and staff have been requested to bring their own cutlery for takeaway food.
- 14.126 In 2021, UNEP will continue to measure its climate emissions, mitigate them where possible and offset greenhouse gas emissions via certificates of emission reduction managed by the carbon offset platform of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. In 2019, UNEP supported the efforts of the United Nations to meet its 2020 climate neutrality goal by procuring its

⁵ The strategy includes: (a) a United Nations 2020–2030 sustainability vision; (b) a commitment to system-wide and entity-specific environmental governance and accountability, including environment management systems and environmental and social safeguards for programmes and projects; (c) a set of goals, objective indicators and steps to improve performance on five environmental impacts (greenhouse gas emissions, waste, water, air pollution and biodiversity degradation) and six management functions (procurement, human resources, facilities management, travel, events, and information and communications technology).

own offsets to ensure it remained climate neutral and it will do the same for 2021. In addition, UNEP has achieved a 31 per cent reduction of its climate footprint over a baseline set in 2010 and is well on the way to achieving the target of a 45 per cent reduction set by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change directive, as per the goal adopted by the United Nations Secretariat in 2019.

- 14.127 Information on compliance with regard to the timely submission of documentation and advance booking for air travel is reflected in table 14.22. Improvements in the compliance rate at UNEP have been achieved through the streamlining of the process of travel requests and issuance of internal guidelines in 2019 to all staff. UNEP has also developed a travel dashboard to assist in monitoring and reporting on the compliance rate.

Table 14.22
Compliance rate

(Percentage)

	<i>Planned 2019</i>	<i>Actual 2019</i>	<i>Planned 2020</i>	<i>Planned 2021</i>
Timely submission of documentation	100	65	100	100
Air tickets purchased at least 2 weeks before the commencement of travel	100	61	100	100

- 14.128 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$3,385,400 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details are reflected in table 14.23 and figure 14.XXI.

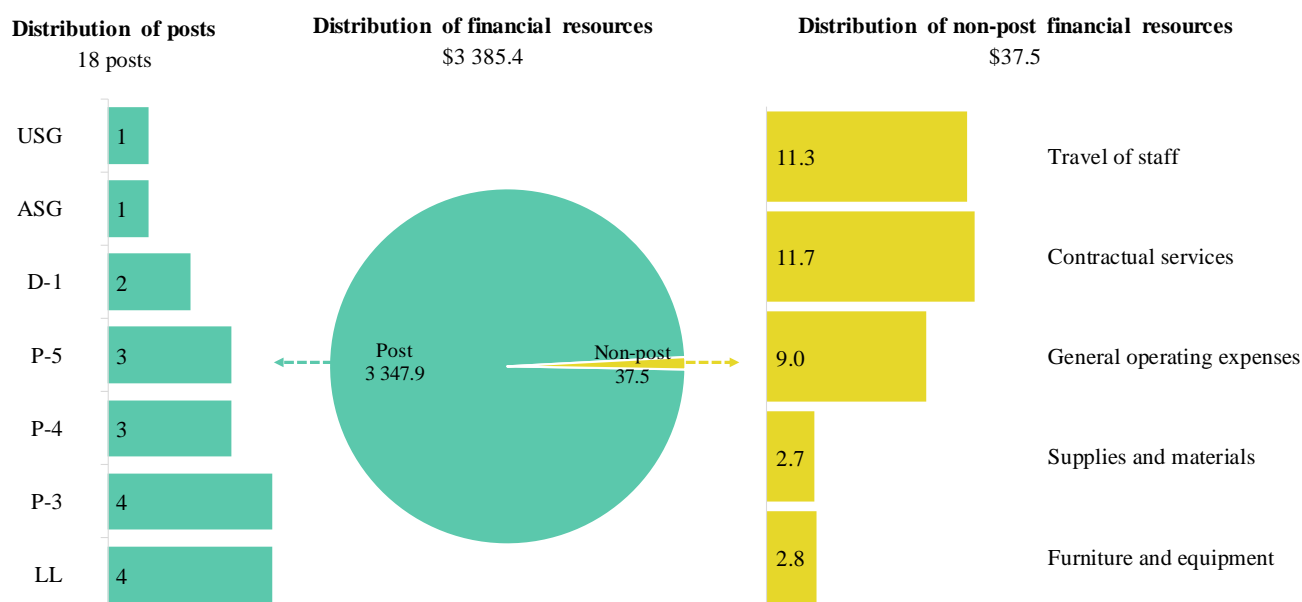
Table 14.23
Office of the Executive Director: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2019 expenditure	2020 appropriation	Changes					2021 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	3 018.8	3 347.9	—	—	—	—	—	3 347.9
Non-post	62.1	37.5	—	—	—	—	—	37.5
Total	3 080.9	3 385.4	—	—	—	—	—	3 385.4
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		14	—	—	—	—	—	14
General Service and related		4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Total		18	—	—	—	—	—	18

Figure 14.XXI
Office of the Executive Director: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation

- 14.129 The General Assembly, by its resolution [913 \(X\)](#), established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation to undertake broad scientific evaluations on developing knowledge on sources of ionizing radiation and its effects on human health and the environment. Since 1955, the Scientific Committee has played an important role in improving international scientific understanding of levels of exposure to ionizing radiation and its health and environmental effects. In its resolution [74/81](#), the General Assembly reaffirmed its decision to maintain the present functions and independent role of the Committee.
- 14.130 In the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the work of the Scientific Committee contributes to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 3 (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages). Evaluations by the Committee are conducted on behalf of all Member States of the United Nations and are used to assess the levels and trends of exposure from using radiation in medicine, research, agriculture and industry (including nuclear power production). The Committee's scientific synthesis of the most up-to-date radiobiological and epidemiological knowledge is fundamental for the international radiation safety regime and underpins international standards for protecting workers, patients and the public against ionizing radiation. The findings of the Committee also contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 14 (Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development) and Goal 15 (Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss), in particular through its projects to evaluate the levels and effects in the wake of the nuclear accident that occurred after the great east-Japan earthquake and tsunami of 2011 and the white paper on the evaluation of data on thyroid cancer in regions affected by the Chernobyl accident. Through its work, the Committee also contributes to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 17 (Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development) by collaborating and maintaining long-term partnerships with the International Atomic Energy Agency, the International Labour Organization, the World Health

Organization and other national and international partners and organizations (such as the Inter-Agency Committee on Radiation Safety).

- 14.131 The secretariat, located in Vienna, convenes and services the annual sessions of the Scientific Committee. The Committee submitted annual reports to the General Assembly for its sixty-fifth session in 2018 ([A/73/46](#)) and its sixty-sixth session in 2019 ([A/74/46](#)). The latter contains two scientific documents, on the evaluation of selected health effects and inference of risk due to radiation exposure and on lung cancer from exposure to radon, which are expected to contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 3.
- 14.132 Ten parliamentary documents were prepared for review and discussion at those annual sessions on the following subjects: (a) selected evaluations of health effects and inference of risk due to radiation exposure; (b) evaluation of medical exposures to ionizing radiation; (c) evaluation of occupational exposure to ionizing radiation; (d) lung cancer from exposure to radon; (e) biological mechanisms relevant for the inference of cancer risks from low-dose radiation; (f) levels and effects of radiation exposure due to the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station; implications of information published since the 2013 report of the Scientific Committee; (g) second primary cancer after radiotherapy; (h) epidemiological studies of radiation and cancer; (i) implementation of the Committee's strategy to improve collection, analysis and dissemination of data on radiation exposure; and (j) public information and outreach, including a strategy for the period 2020–2024.
- 14.133 In line with General Assembly resolution [74/81](#), the secretariat continues to maintain and foster the online platform for the collection of medical, occupational and public exposure data from Member States, enabling the Committee to regularly monitor trends in such exposure. By the end of 2019, 90 Member States had nominated national contact persons and more than half of them had submitted medical or occupational data.
- 14.134 The Committee decided to propose the launch of two new studies on (a) second primary cancer after radiotherapy and on (b) epidemiological studies of radiation and cancer that will be implemented in the coming four to five years. The Committee also decided to start an update of its evaluation on public exposure to ionizing radiation, and commence a new project on cardiovascular diseases, all of which will contribute further to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 3.
- 14.135 For its sixty-eighth session in 2021, the Scientific Committee will foster, develop and implement plans for the scientific evaluation of: (a) second primary cancers after radiotherapy; (b) epidemiological studies of radiation and cancer; (c) occupational exposure; and (d) public exposure to ionizing radiation. It will further develop a draft progress report on circulatory diseases and initiate two projects on nervous systems and eye lens opacities.
- 14.136 The Scientific Committee has identified, as per progress of its scientific evaluations, the following technical documents to be finalized for approval and published as the 2020 report of the Committee with three scientific annexes: an update of the 2013 report of the Committee on the levels and effects of radiation exposure due to the 2011 Fukushima accident; biological mechanisms influencing health effects from low-dose radiation exposure; and an evaluation of medical exposures to ionizing radiation. The report on evaluation of occupation exposure is foreseen for approval in 2021 and subsequent publication. Those publications will contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 3, 14 and 15.
- 14.137 In its resolution [74/81](#), the General Assembly “welcomes the Scientific Committee’s outreach strategy for the period 2020–2024, in particular the enhancement of the website of the Committee and the publication of information for the general public in all official languages of the United Nations, continues to encourage that consideration be given to publishing the website in all of those languages, and notes that the dissemination of the Committee’s findings and further enhancements to the website would depend on the financial and human resources made available to the secretariat”. In that respect, the secretariat plans to update its website in all official languages, hold annual briefings for the permanent missions, promote the UNEP booklet, Radiation: Effects and Sources,

share relevant information via a new newsletter and summarize the Committee's published reports in information sheets for further dissemination.

- 14.138 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$822,700 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details are reflected in table 14.24 and figure 14.XXII.

Table 14.24

United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation: evolution of financial and post resources

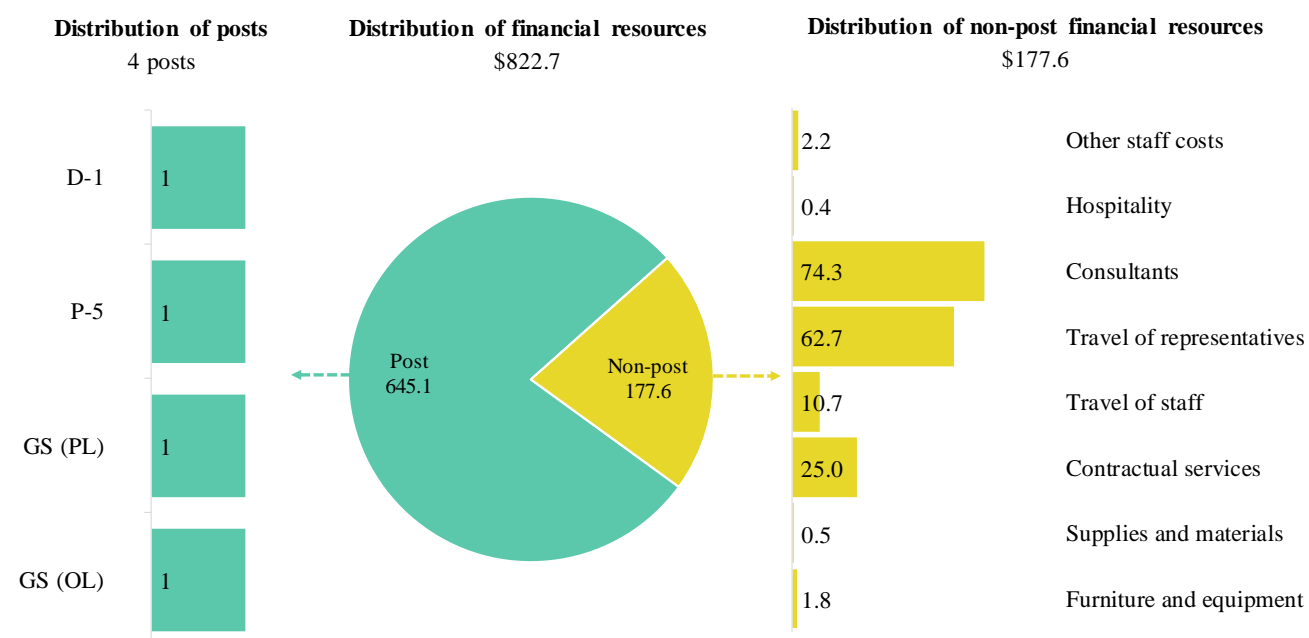
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2019 expenditure	2020 appropriation	Changes					2021 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	588.7	645.1	—	—	—	—	—	645.1
Non-post	167.4	177.6	—	—	—	—	—	177.6
Total	756.1	822.7	—	—	—	—	—	822.7
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		2	—	—	—	—	—	2
General Service and related		2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Total		4	—	—	—	—	—	4

Figure 14.XXII

United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



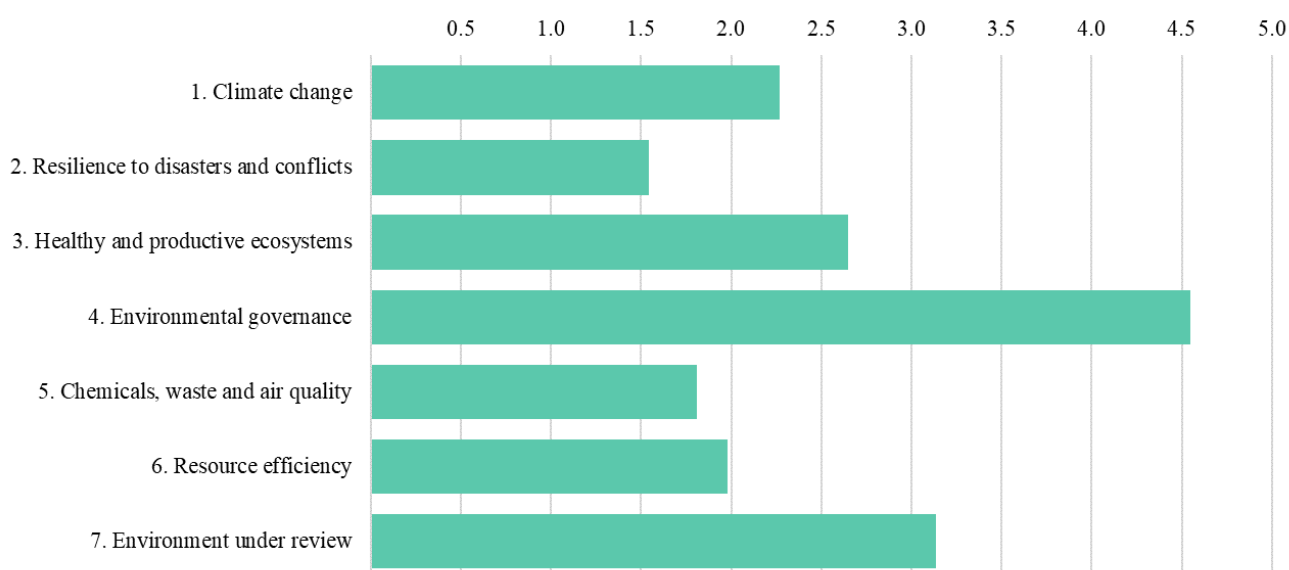
Programme of work

14.139 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$17,933,100 and reflect no change in resource level as compared with the appropriation for 2020. The distribution of resources by subprogramme is reflected in figure 14.XXIII.

Figure 14.XXIII

Distribution of proposed resources for 2021 by subprogramme

(Millions of United States dollars)



Subprogramme 1

Climate change

14.140 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$2,267,800 and reflect no change in resource level as compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details are reflected in table 14.25 and figure 14.XXIV.

Table 14.25

Subprogramme 1: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

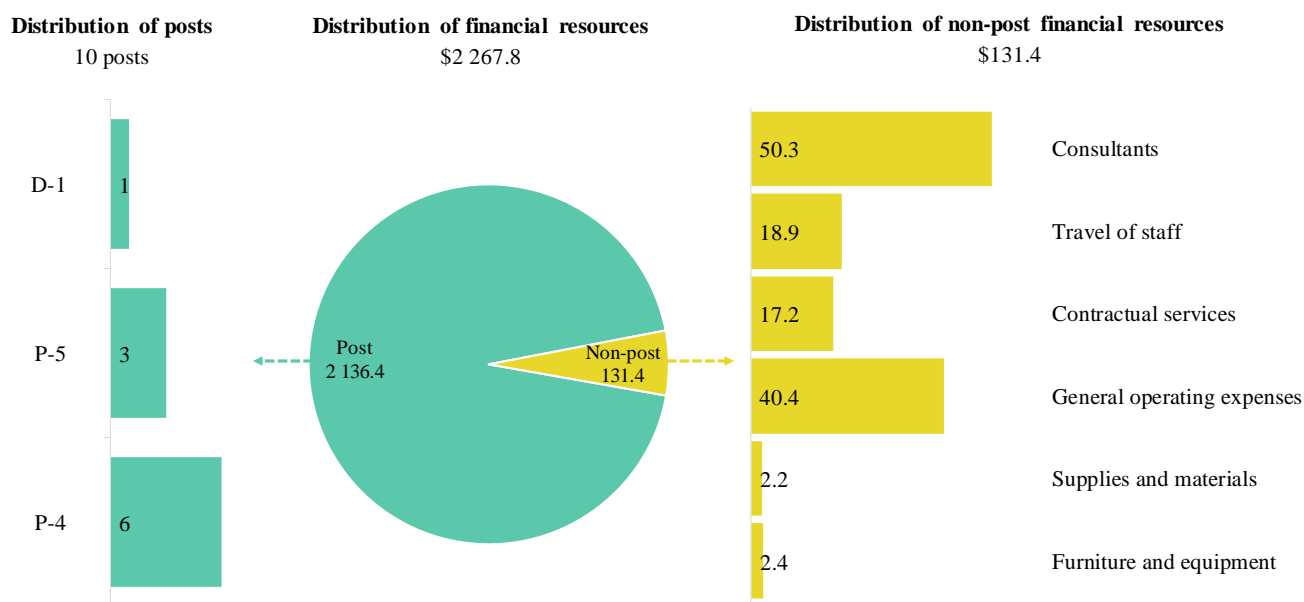
	2019 expenditure	2020 appropriation	Changes					2021 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	2 198.0	2 136.4	—	—	—	—	—	2 136.4
Non-post	158.8	131.4	—	—	—	—	—	131.4
Total	2 356.8	2 267.8	—	—	—	—	—	2 267.8

	2019 expenditure	2020 appropriation	Changes					2021 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		10	–	–	–	–	–	10
Total		10	–	–	–	–	–	10

Figure 14.XXIV

Subprogramme 1: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Subprogramme 2
Resilience to disasters and conflicts

- 14.141 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$1,543,500 and reflect no change in resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details on the distribution of proposed resources in 2021 are reflected in table 14.26 and figure 14.XXV.

Table 14.26

Subprogramme 2: evolution of financial and post resources

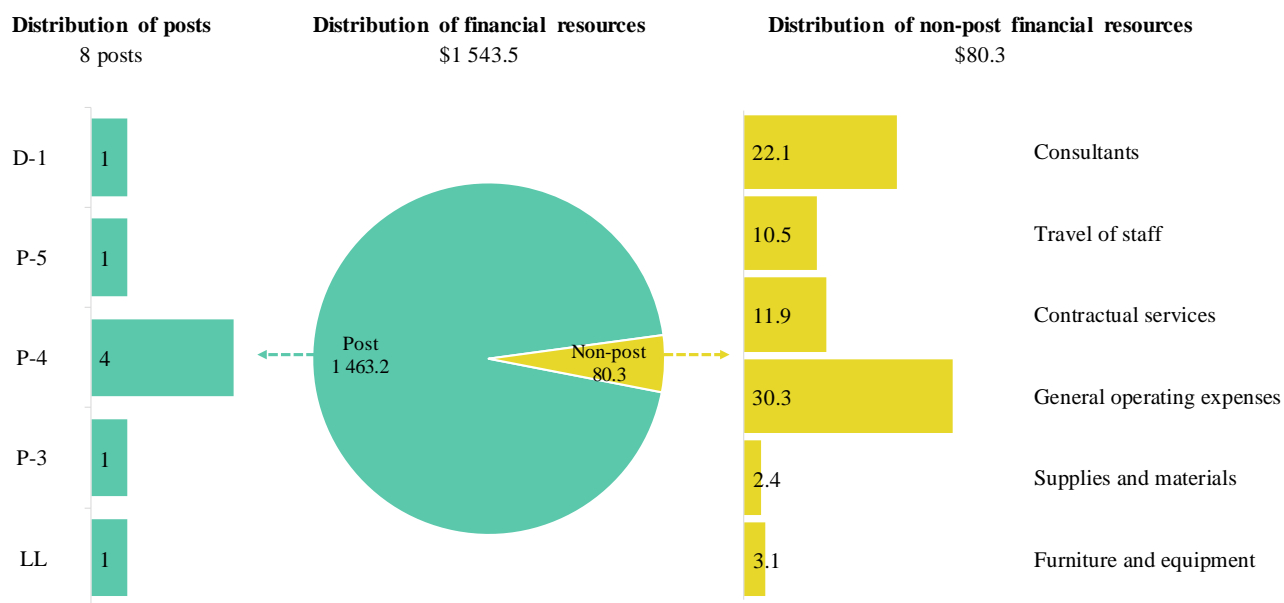
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2019 expenditure	2020 appropriation	Changes					2021 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	1 548.8	1 463.2	—	—	—	—	—	1 463.2
Non-post	131.6	80.3	—	—	—	—	—	80.3
Total	1 680.4	1 543.5	—	—	—	—	—	1 543.5
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		7	—	—	—	—	—	7
General Service and related		1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total		8	—	—	—	—	—	8

Figure 14.XXV

Subprogramme 2: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)


**Subprogramme 3
Healthy and productive ecosystems**

- 14.142 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$2,649,600 and reflect no change in resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details are reflected in table 14.27 and figure 14.XXVI.

Table 14.27

Subprogramme 3: evolution of financial and post resources

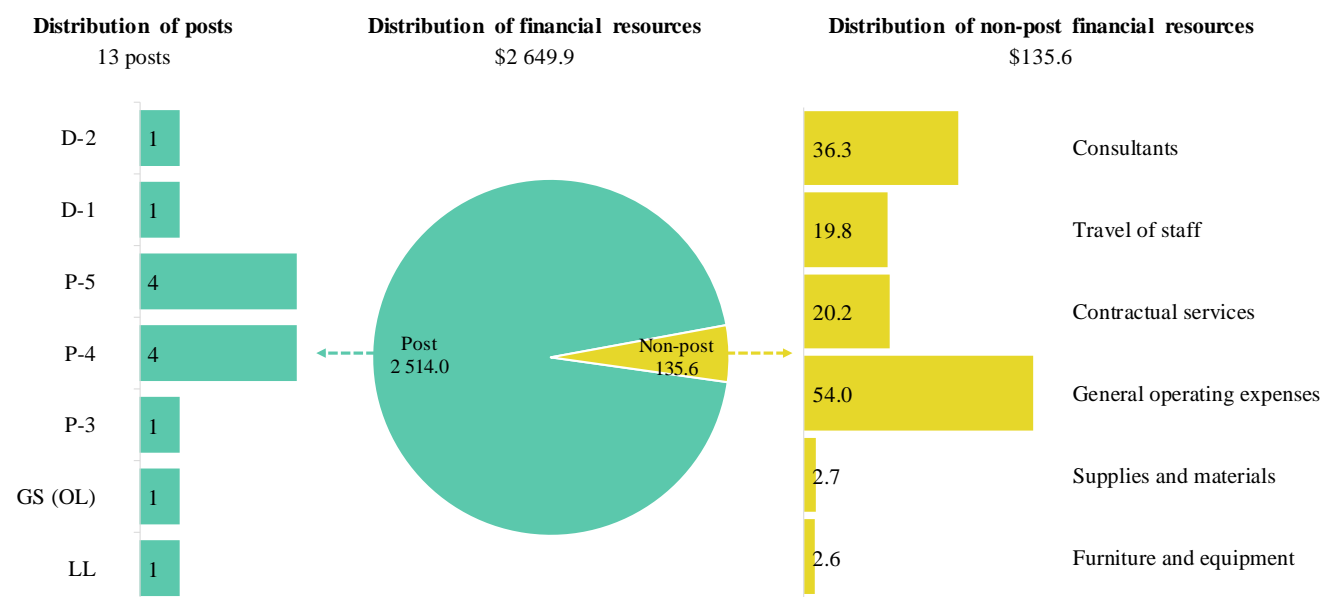
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2019 expenditure	2020 appropriation	Changes					2021 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	2 405.0	2 514.0	—	—	—	—	—	2 514.0
Non-post	91.7	135.6	—	—	—	—	—	135.6
Total	2 496.7	2 649.6	—	—	—	—	—	2 649.6
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		11	—	—	—	—	—	11
General Service and related		2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Total		13	—	—	—	—	—	13

Figure 14.XXVI

Subprogramme 3: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)


**Subprogramme 4
Environmental governance**

- 14.143 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$4,547,000 and reflect no change in resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details are reflected in table 14.28 and figure 14.XXVII.

Table 14.28

Subprogramme 4: evolution of financial and post resources

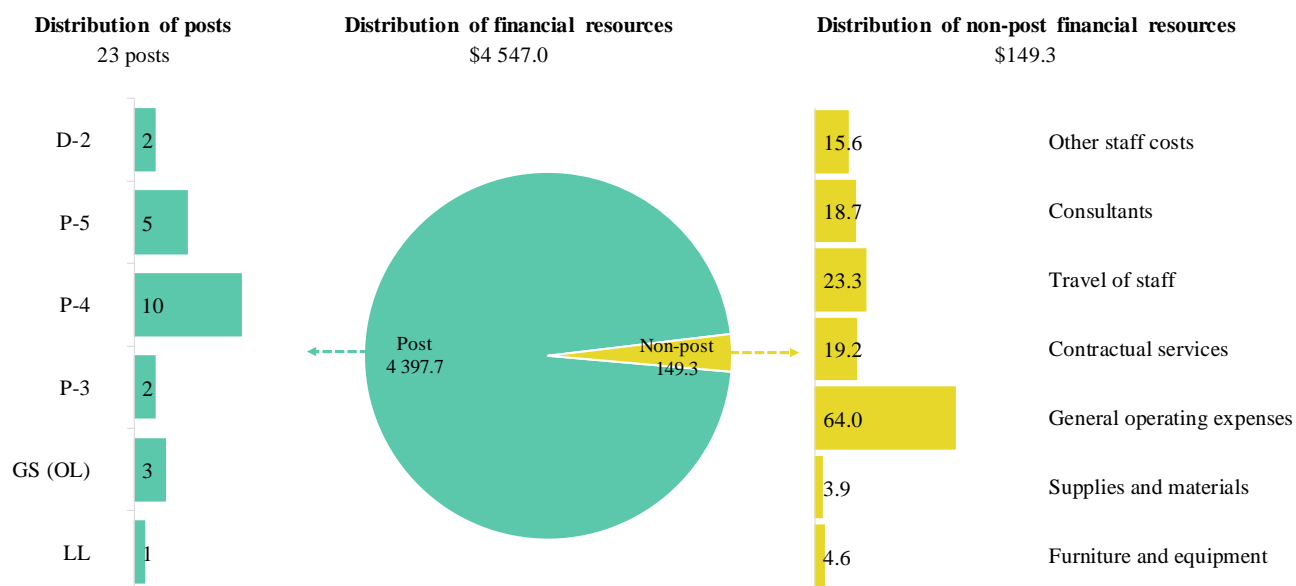
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2019 expenditure	2020 appropriation	Changes					2021 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	4 830.7	4 397.7	—	—	—	—	—	4 397.7
Non-post	100.8	149.3	—	—	—	—	—	149.3
Total	4 931.6	4 547.0	—	—	—	—	—	4 547.0
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		19	—	—	—	—	—	19
General Service and related		4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Total		23	—	—	—	—	—	23

Figure 14.XXVII

Subprogramme 4: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Subprogramme 5

Chemicals, waste and air quality

- 14.144 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$1,809,200 and reflect no change in resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details are reflected in table 14.29 and figure 14. XXVIII.

Table 14.29

Subprogramme 5: evolution of financial and post resources

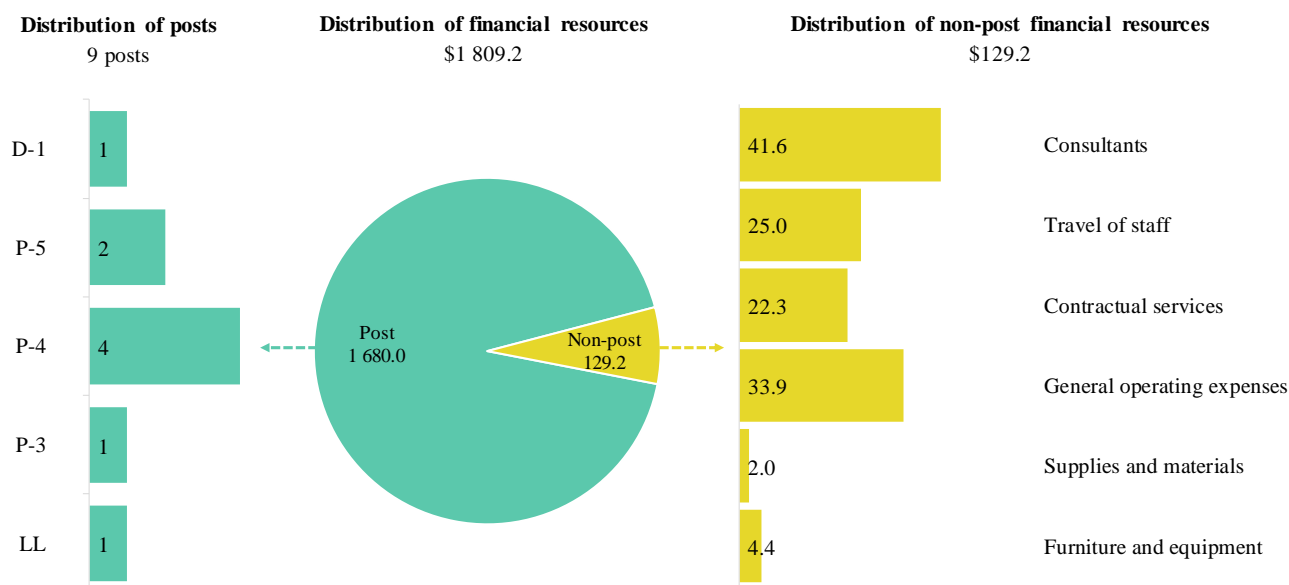
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2019 expenditure	2020 appropriation	Changes					2021 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	1 577.7	1 680.0	—	—	—	—	—	1 680.0
Non-post	188.1	129.2	—	—	—	—	—	129.2
Total	1 765.8	1 809.2	—	—	—	—	—	1 809.2
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		8	—	—	—	—	—	8
General Service and related		1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total		9	—	—	—	—	—	9

Figure 14.XXVIII

Subprogramme 5: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Subprogramme 6
Resource efficiency

- 14.145 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$1,979,500 and reflect no change in resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details are reflected in table 14.30 and figure 14.XXIX.

Table 14.30

Subprogramme 6: evolution of financial and post resources

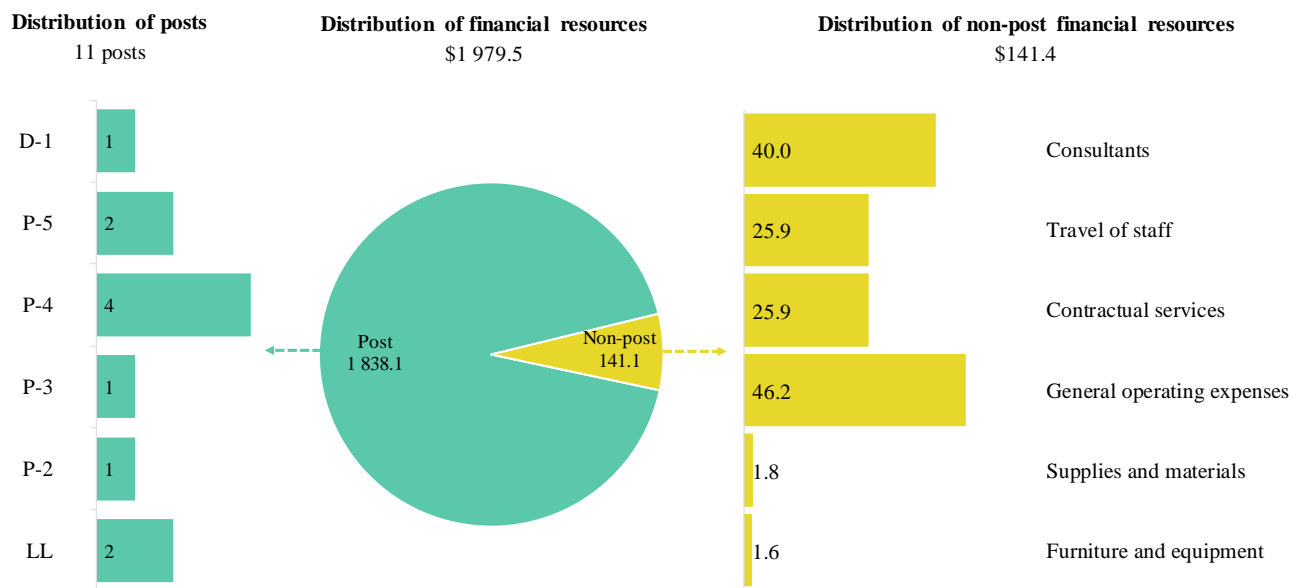
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	Changes							2021 estimate (before recosting)
	2019 expenditure	2020 appropriation	Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	1 771.2	1 838.1	—	—	—	—	—	1 838.1
Non-post	98.5	141.4	—	—	—	—	—	141.4
Total	1 869.6	1 979.5	—	—	—	—	—	1 979.5
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		9	—	—	—	—	—	9
General Service and related		2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Total		11	—	—	—	—	—	11

Figure 14.XXIX

Subprogramme 6: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)


Subprogramme 7
Environment under review

- 14.146 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$3,136,500 and reflect no change in resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details are reflected in table 14.31 and figure 14.XXX.

Table 14.31
Subprogramme 7: evolution of financial and post resources

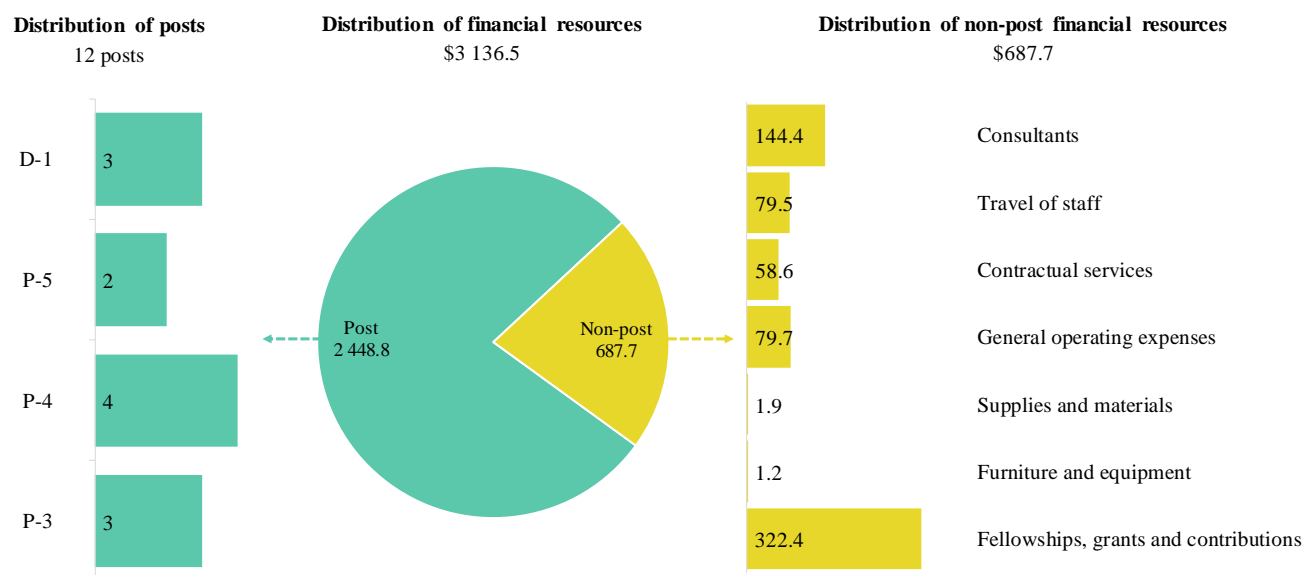
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2019 expenditure	2020 appropriation	Changes					2021 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	2 307.7	2 448.8	—	—	—	—	—	2 448.8
Non-post	528.3	687.7	—	—	—	—	—	687.7
Total	2 836.0	3 136.5	—	—	—	—	—	3 136.5
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		12	—	—	—	—	—	12
Total		12	—	—	—	—	—	12

Figure 14.XXX

Subprogramme 7: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Programme support

- 14.147 The programme support component comprises services provided by the Corporate Services Division, which is responsible for providing an enabling environment for the efficient delivery of high-quality results through the formulation of policies, strategies, standards and tools, and related capacity-building support. It mitigates the exposure of UNEP to risk while guarding its corporate interest, and oversees efficient and effective management, in line with the organization's accountability requirements, rules, regulations and United Nations core values. The division provides administrative management elements in human resources, finance and budget, resource mobilization, donor partnerships, as well as information and communications technology (ICT).

- 14.148 The Division is also responsible for the strategic management of UNEP financial, human and information technology resources, ensuring alignment of the resources with programmatic needs and strategic objectives, such as gender balance in the workplace. It works in close collaboration and coordination with the United Nations Office at Nairobi and its other United Nations service providers, including the United Nations Office at Geneva, in respect of accounting, payroll and payments, recruitment and staff services, staff development, network and other systems administration, ICT, procurement and inventory management. It also interacts with the United Nations Office at Nairobi in the areas of host country relations, buildings management, conference management, medical services, and security and safety.
- 14.149 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$1,214,600 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details are reflected in table 14.32 and figure 14.XXXI.

Table 14.32

Programme support: evolution of financial and post resources

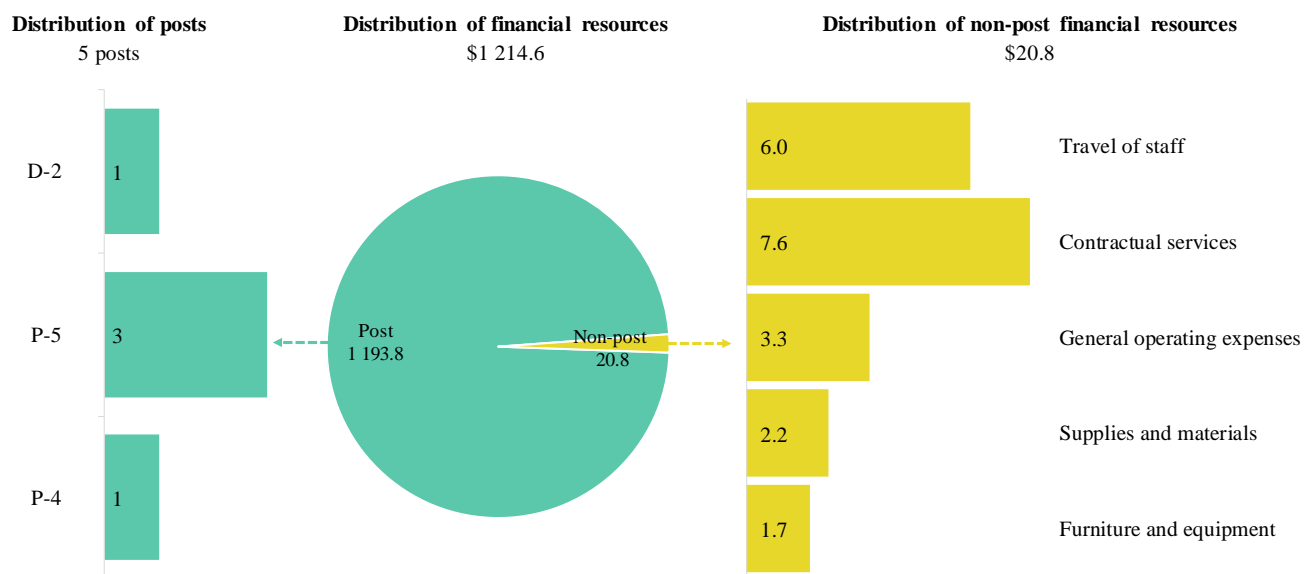
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	Changes							2021 estimate (before recosting)
	2019 expenditure	2020 appropriation	Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	1 220.2	1 193.8	—	—	—	—	—	1 193.8
Non-post	32.6	20.8	—	—	—	—	—	20.8
Total	1 252.7	1 214.6	—	—	—	—	—	1 214.6
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Total		5	—	—	—	—	—	5

Figure 14.XXXI

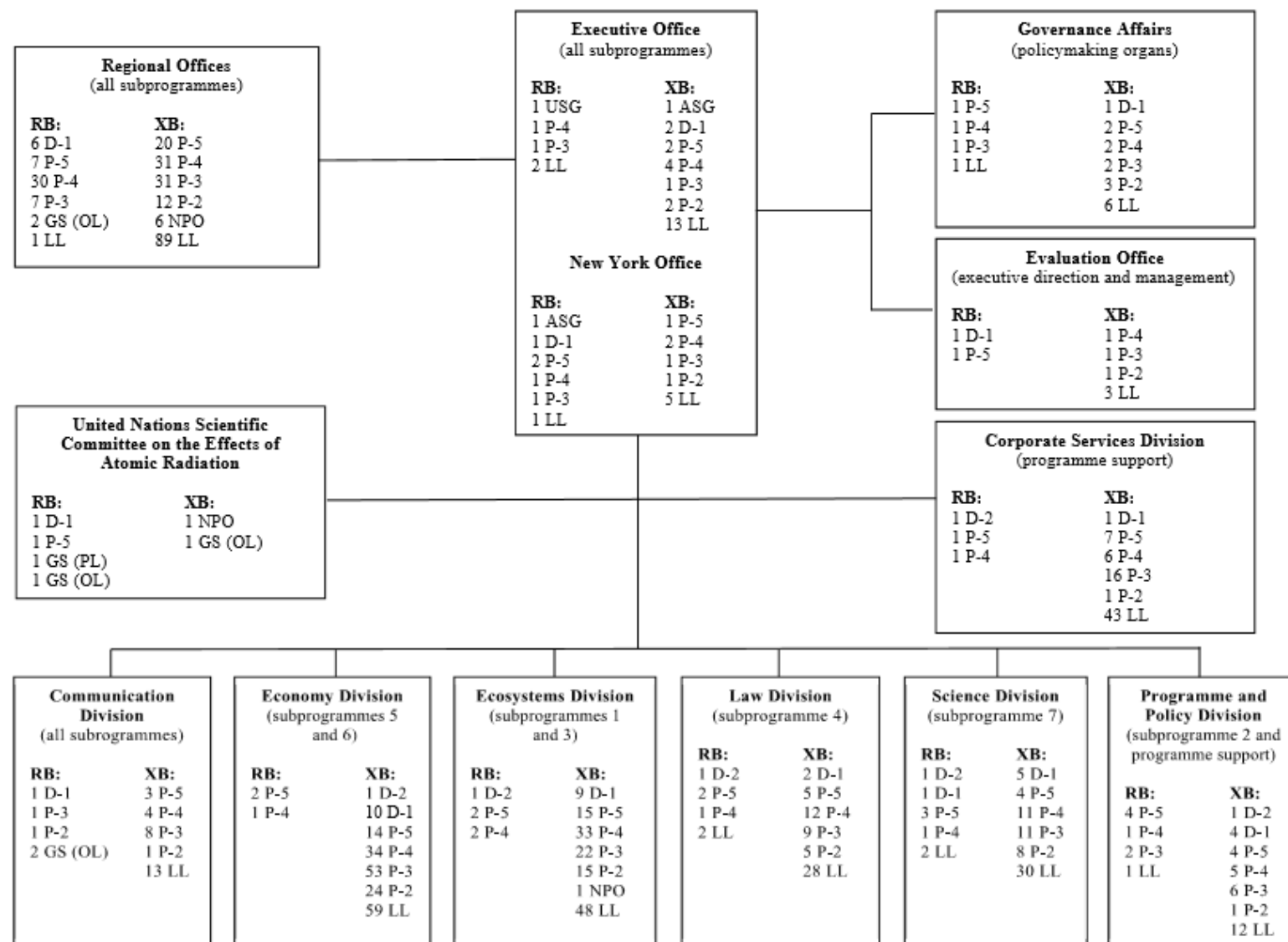
Programme support: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Annex I

Organizational structure and post distribution for 2021



Abbreviations: ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; GS (OL), General Service (Other level); GS (PL), General Service (Principal level); LL, Local level; NPO, National Professional Officer; RB, regular budget; USG, Under-Secretary-General; XB, extrabudgetary.

Annex II

Summary of follow-up action taken to implement relevant recommendations of the oversight bodies

Brief description of the recommendation

Action taken to implement the recommendation

Board of Auditors

[A/74/5/Add.7](#), chap. II

The Board recommends that UNEP update the Programme Information and Management System (PIMS) with complete and up-to-date project information to ensure appropriate management and an integral future migration to Umoja, establishing control mechanisms that secure results-based management (para. 29).

UNEP has established a business intelligence steering committee to ensure that consistent, clear, accurate and reliable data are available to decision makers. UNEP has also initiated a data clean-up process in the system to establish the correct status of the projects, and it continues to use other data aggregation tools such as power business intelligence dashboards to support decision-making processes. UNEP will continue to engage with United Nations Headquarters on the deployment of Umoja Extension 2 modules to include features that guarantee the accuracy and reliability of project information.

The Board recommends that UNEP carry out a review and consolidation of all current UNEP-Global Environment Facility (UNEP-GEF) projects, with the necessary information to ensure adequate accountability and programme management (para. 79).

UNEP is relying on the implementation of the planned modules of Umoja Extension 2, which incorporate programme and project management, budgeting, implementing partners and resource mobilization, and will facilitate the consolidation and better management of financial information.

The Board recommends that UNEP take measures to integrate and to improve the management of information in order to ensure compliance with the objectives of the Programme (para. 80).

UNEP is relying on the implementation of the planned modules of Umoja Extension 2, which incorporate programme and project management, budgeting, implementing partners and resource mobilization, and will facilitate the consolidation and better management of financial information.

The Board recommends that UNEP establish the proper liaison between its headquarters and the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions in order to agree on the indirect costs that will be covered by their share of the programme support costs and the services to be provided to the Conferences of the Parties to the Conventions (para. 104).

UNEP and the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions have agreed on the indirect costs to be covered by the secretariat's share of programme support costs through a memorandum of understanding. UNEP considers this recommendation to have been implemented and has requested its closure by the Board.

The Board recommends that the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions liaise with UNEP headquarters and the Conferences of the Parties to the Conventions in order to finalize and enact a memorandum of understanding. This instrument shall include the arrangements for the provision of secretariat functions by UNEP to each of the Conventions, aiming to establish a regulatory framework that sets out clear responsibilities, transparency, guidance and accountability between the parties and the member States (para. 105).

Three memorandums of understanding between UNEP and the respective Conferences of the Parties to the Conventions were formally adopted in April 2019. UNEP considers this recommendation to have been implemented and has requested its closure by the Board.

Brief description of the recommendation

The Board recommends that UNEP establish proper coordination with its Regional Office for Europe and the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, in order to obtain that they systematically manage risks and facilitate effective implementation of their mandated activities under the United Nations enterprise risk management and internal control policy (para. 88).

The Board recommends that the UNEP Regional Office for Europe and the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions maintain an updated risk log, in accordance with the UNEP programme manual (para. 89).

The Board recommends that UNEP strengthen its controls to comply with the unidentified deposits identification process, in order to reduce amounts not allocated to programmes/projects, guaranteeing compliance with the policy and procedures on unidentified deposits and the standard operating procedure on the matter (para. 135).

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

[A/74/7](#)

The Advisory Committee recalls that UNEP has also provided technical assistance to the peacekeeping operations through a partnership known as the Rapid Environment and Climate Technical Assistance Facility ([A/72/789](#), para. 109, and [A/71/836](#), para. 199). The Committee was informed that UNEP was in the process of extending the project for three years beyond its current duration (from 2016 to 2019). Furthermore, the Committee was informed that, as the project covered three key technical areas (water, waste and energy), the lessons learned and technical solutions stemming from the project would allow other field-based organizations of the United Nations system to improve their environmental management practices in a harmonized manner. The Advisory Committee trusts that information on UNEP collaboration with the United Nations entities with regard to environmental management will be included in future budget submissions (para. IV.82).

Action taken to implement the recommendation

UNEP is represented in the enterprise risk management task force of the United Nations Secretariat, which is developing a model to be used as both an implementation road map and a benchmarking tool for risk management. In addition, UNEP has identified additional staff to support the implementation of the enterprise risk management and internal control policy of the United Nations.

As an interim measure, the secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions has taken the initiative to identify risk areas, using risk logs adapted to its context and a strategic approach to evaluate and address risks related to its operations, and categorize them according to the following clusters: funding and resource mobilization; human resources; and cross-functional aspects of business continuity. The UNEP Regional Office for Europe is also expected to adopt that approach in due course.

UNEP has implemented a step-by-step review and follow-up process on unapplied deposits to ensure compliance with the policy and procedures on unidentified deposits and the standard operating procedure. In addition, a review of the resources allocated to the processing of unapplied deposits will be undertaken to ensure that the policy is implemented without hindrance.

UNEP has included information on its collaboration with the United Nations entities on environmental management in this budget submission, as appropriate. Paragraphs 14.119 and 14.122–14.125 of the budget fascicle (Office of the Executive Director) set forth the results achieved by UNEP in 2019 and expected improvements in 2021 with regard to inter-agency mechanisms, including the Environment Management Group, in its function as coordinator and leader of internal sustainability efforts and environmental governance within the United Nations system. From a programmatic perspective, the programme fascicle also includes appropriate information, particularly with regard to the role of UNEP in providing advisory and technical support to the new United Nations Resident Coordinator System in countries affected by disasters and conflicts (para. 14.38) and the integration of emerging issues, such as sand and dust storms, into the relevant policy documents, strategies or plans on sustainable development of other United Nations

Brief description of the recommendation

Action taken to implement the recommendation

entities (paras. 14.58 and 14.61–14.63). With regard to the Rapid Environment and Climate Technical Assistance Facility, UNEP has been granted a no-cost extension until June 2020; an extension until 2023 remains under negotiation. Several lessons learned and technical solutions stemming from the work of the partnership have been disseminated in the workings of the United Nations system: they served as input for UNEP in its contribution to the development of the Secretariat's environmental policy and strategy ([ST/SGB/2019/7](#)); problem analysis and solutions for renewable energy in the field by the energy workstream were incorporated into the work of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; technical solutions developed for handling hazardous waste were disseminated, largely through the Environment and Humanitarian Action Network; and specifications for a range of waste-handling equipment were developed by the project and used by the United Nations Office for Project Services in its tendering procedures.
