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Part IV

International cooperation for development

Section 12

Trade and development

Programme 10

Trade and development

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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 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

Trusted with the responsibility of promoting an inclusive global economy, giving priority consideration to the needs and interests of developing countries, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) continues to strengthen its actions to advance trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of trade, finance, technology, investment and sustainable development. UNCTAD, through its three pillars of work – research and policy analysis, consensus-building and technical cooperation – effectively contributes to supporting member States in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and relevant targets set in the outcomes of major United Nations conferences.

The support to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals remains at the heart of the work of UNCTAD and I take this opportunity to attest that the UNCTAD programme of work continues to provide high-quality and evidence-based research and analysis that feed national, regional and international policies under the principle of “leaving no one behind”. Based on such analysis, UNCTAD technical cooperation builds the capacities needed in developing countries, with a particular focus on the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States. On other fronts, the intergovernmental machinery of UNCTAD continues striving to build consensus on policies that allow developing countries to maximize the opportunities of globalization and economic integration as well as to address cross-cutting economic, social and environmental challenges.

Going into 2021, I am committed to supporting the organization in its implementation of the outcome of the fifteenth quadrennial session of UNCTAD through addressing the trade and development challenges of all developing countries across all regions. UNCTAD will continue to promote synergies and complementarities with other international organizations and work with relevant international economic cooperation forums in the areas of its mandate with the aim of addressing persistent and emerging economic and development issues.

(Signed) Mukhisa **Kituyi**
Secretary-General, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

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

Overall orientation

Mandates and background

- 12.1 The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is responsible for assisting developing countries, as reflected in paragraph 10 of the Nairobi Maafikiano, and countries with economies in transition in integrating beneficially into the global economy in support of inclusive and sustainable growth and development. UNCTAD was established to promote an inclusive global economy by informing national and international policies while giving due consideration to the needs and interests of developing countries. As stated in the Nairobi Maafikiano, “The important role of UNCTAD will be strengthened as the focal point in the United Nations for the integrated treatment of trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development.” The mandate derives from the priorities established in relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions, including the quadrennial sessions of UNCTAD, in particular the principal functions of the Conference outlined in section II, paragraph 3, of General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX). In the face of a complex set of trade and development challenges, UNCTAD has been called upon to focus its resources to help developing countries build productive capacities, address widening technological and digital divides, ensure sound macroeconomic management and advise Governments on financing for development, addressing illicit financial flows and providing technical assistance on debt issues. UNCTAD support aimed at developing the capacity of Governments to formulate and implement policies for sustainable development will also continue to be provided through the implementation of the regular programme of technical cooperation and United Nations Development Account projects.

Strategy and external factors for 2021

- 12.2 In order to achieve its objectives, UNCTAD works through three interrelated pillars: (a) it conducts high-quality and evidence-based research and policy analysis that feed national, regional and international policies with the aim of generating inclusive and sustainable development under the principle of “leaving no one behind”; (b) it provides technical cooperation based on such analysis, with a particular focus on developing countries, including the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States; and (c) it brings member States together through its intergovernmental machinery to build consensus on policies that allow developing countries to maximize the opportunities of globalization and economic integration as well as to address cross-cutting economic, social and environmental challenges.
- 12.3 In the context of deepening interdependence among all countries, UNCTAD will maintain its unique orientation and commitment to development through those three pillars, while remaining responsive and accountable to all member States. UNCTAD addresses interrelated issues essential to all countries for attaining sustainable and equitable growth and development and this requires extensive cross-fertilization and cooperation across UNCTAD subprogrammes on areas such as South-South cooperation, investment and digital economy, with due consideration to the increasing impact of those subjects on global trade and development.
- 12.4 UNCTAD will continue supporting member States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in which the interrelationship between sustainable development and trade, finance, investment and technology is recognized. UNCTAD is also custodian of eight Sustainable Development Goal indicators at the global level and actively contributes to the monitoring and implementation of a wide range of Goals, with its main contributions to Goals 8, 9, 10 and 17, but with important contributions to Goals 2, 5, 12, 15 and 16. In addition, UNCTAD will continue contributing to the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators,

supporting monitoring and follow-up to the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The UNCTAD subprogramme activities are also aligned with other relevant agendas, including the agreed outcome of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Agenda 2063 of the African Union, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, 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, the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, the outcomes and the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action of the World Summit on the Information Society, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the results of the twenty-fifth and previous sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

- 12.5 Along with the global agendas, UNCTAD will strive in particular to ensure the implementation of mandates resulting from and reinforced by its fifteenth quadrennial session, to be held in 2020 in Bridgetown, which will be an important moment for member States to come together to discuss recent developments and long-term trends in the area of trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development and to take stock of the achievements, and the shortfalls, of the first four years of implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 12.6 Enhancing its efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability, UNCTAD has strengthened its systems for planning, monitoring and evaluation over the last four years. It will continue efforts to build a culture of results-based management across the organization, through training and guidance, and will increase internal capacity for collecting and reporting data on results.
- 12.7 With regard to the external factors, the overall plan for 2021 is based on the following planning assumptions:
 - (a) Up-to-date and accurate economic and financial information and data at the country and regional levels continue to be available and cooperation continues with relevant entities on the production of statistics;
 - (b) Extrabudgetary funding continues to be available for technical cooperation programmes, and conditions and capacities exist in member States to adopt and implement policies and strategies;
 - (c) There is political will to achieve consensus in intergovernmental meetings;
 - (d) There is an agreed outcome of the fifteenth quadrennial session of UNCTAD, to be held in Bridgetown in 2020, that reaffirms the existing work programme, and there is a positive outcome of the Twelfth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization;
 - (e) The outcome of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, which is to take place in Doha from 21 to 25 March 2021, will be as agreed.
- 12.8 UNCTAD integrates a gender perspective in its operational activities, deliverables and results, as appropriate and in line with its mandate and gender mainstreaming strategy. Its flagship reports examine the gender dimension of their main themes and contain analyses of international trade policies through a gender lens. Similarly, activities such as the UNCTAD “Borderline” initiative, which is being implemented in six border districts of Malawi, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia, equip women with information on trade rules and customs procedures and help them reduce business costs and expand opportunities by strengthening their entrepreneurship skills. In 2021, UNCTAD will continue to strengthen the capacity of member States to design and implement trade policies that allow women to benefit from the opportunities arising from international trade. The

internal statistics coordination task force will enhance the availability and quality of statistics to help policymakers develop gender-responsive and inclusive trade and development policies.

- 12.9 With regard to cooperation with other entities, UNCTAD will continue to combine its expertise with the reach and presence of partners in order to maximize the impact provided to beneficiaries. UNCTAD is actively engaged with the United Nations development system reform process and is, for example, part of a task team on enhanced collaboration with eight resident coordinator offices to develop clear entry points and mechanisms for the agile, effective and efficient engagement of UNCTAD and other non-resident agencies and specialized agencies at the country level. In addition, UNCTAD has concluded partnership agreements with various international organizations and non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and private sector entities. It will continue to enhance partnership mechanisms with the private sector by updating its due diligence guidelines, drawing from experiences of the United Nations Global Compact. UNCTAD will use its convening power to bring various stakeholders to debate, exchange experiences, identify best practices and develop global standards with regard to the most pressing issues. The 2019 UNCTAD eCommerce week, for example, attracted over 1,500 participants from civil society, academia, the scientific community and the technology industry to forge closer partnerships with the private sector and thus build capacity and provide the necessary tools for the transformation of the digital economy.
- 12.10 With regard to inter-agency coordination and liaison, UNCTAD participates actively in the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and its subsidiary bodies. As one of the five major institutional stakeholders of the Financing for Development follow-up process, UNCTAD is leading inter-agency dialogue on monitoring of and accountability of the means for the implementation of targets through the dedicated follow-up to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda commitments, with a particular focus on its trade, finance, investment and technology dimensions. UNCTAD contributes to the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators, supporting monitoring of and follow-up to the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Moreover, UNCTAD continues to lead the United Nations Inter-Agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity in delivering operational activities “as one” at the country level, in collaboration with 14 other entities.

Legislative mandates

- 12.11 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the programme.

General Assembly resolutions

1995 (XIX)	Establishment of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as an organ of the General Assembly	69/313	Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)
63/204	Report of the twelfth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	70/1	Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
63/303	Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development	70/133	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
66/288	The future we want		Women in development
67/226	Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system	72/234 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
68/219	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence		International migration and development
69/137	Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024	73/241	

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73/243	Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries	74/200	Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries
73/245	Promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection	74/201 74/202	International trade and development International financial system and development
73/246	Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027)	74/207	Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development
73/291	Buenos Aires outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation	74/228 74/239	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence South-South cooperation

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development reports

TD/442, TD/442/Corr.1 and TD/442/Corr.2	Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its twelfth session	TD/519/Add.2	Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its fourteenth session: Nairobi Maafikiano
TD/500/Add.1	Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its thirteenth session: the Doha Mandate		

Deliverables

- 12.12 Table 12.1 lists all cross-cutting deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021.

Table 12.1

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				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	10	10	9	10
1. Documents and conference room papers prepared for the Trade and Development Board	1	1	1	1
2. Reports on the follow-up to the major United Nations conferences and summits in the areas of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) expertise	1	1	1	1
3. Reports on matters requiring action by the Trade and Development Board in follow-up to the fifteenth quadrennial session of the Conference	1	1	1	1
4. Conference room papers or working papers prepared for the Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme Budget	4	4	4	4
5. Overview of the external evaluations of UNCTAD programmes and projects: report by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD	1	1	1	1
6. Synthesis of the five subprogramme evaluations and update on the status of implementation of recommendations	1	1	–	–
7. Report on the external evaluation of UNCTAD subprogramme	–	–	–	1
8. Review of the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD and their financing: report by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD	1	1	1	1

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Category and subcategory	2019 planned	2019 actual	2020 planned	2021 planned
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	28	28	28	28
9. Meetings of the Trade and Development Board, including annual, special and executive sessions of the Board and its subsidiary bodies	26	26	26	26
10. Meetings of the Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme Budget	2	2	2	2
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	11	9	9	9
11. Ad hoc expert discussions to generate and transfer knowledge on topics to be determined by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, in consultation with member States	3	3	3	3
12. Public symposium with civil society and member States to generate and transfer knowledge in connection with the work programme of UNCTAD, subject to further consideration and decision by the Trade and Development Board	1	1	1	1
13. Raúl Prebisch lecture to transfer knowledge on topical trade and development issues	1	1	1	1
14. Geneva multi-stakeholder dialogues to share and transfer knowledge on topical international trade and development issues	2	—	1	1
15. High-level events with UNCTAD special advisers and advocates to contribute to transferring knowledge	2	2	1	1
16. Cabinet briefings to share and transfer knowledge, including at the ministerial level, on the definition and coordination of national development strategies oriented towards sustainable development	2	1	1	1
17. Civil society networking event (“HiveTalk”) to share and transfer knowledge	—	1	1	1
Technical materials (number of materials)	10	10	12	10
18. Policy briefs on trade and development issues to generate and transfer knowledge	1	1	1	1
19. Reports on evaluations of United Nations Development Account projects and of external evaluations required by contribution agreements	8	8	10	8
20. Secretary-General opinion pieces	1	1	1	1
C. Substantive deliverables				
Databases and substantive digital materials: UNCTAD annual report, UNCTAD civil society database and civil society e-alerts.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: “UNCTAD at a Glance”; civil society outreach activities; regional outreach materials; press kits and flyers for flagship publications; public information materials on UNCTAD (including brochures, posters and folders); and specialized information sessions for students, delegates and academics visiting UNCTAD and, upon request, in other locations.				
External and media relations: press conferences, including by the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General; press releases and information notes about UNCTAD; and web news briefs.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: UNCTAD website and its web pages and social media applications containing information about UNCTAD, meetings and events, documents and publications, and press and public information materials, including information on evaluation.				

Evaluation activities

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

- (a) Synthesis of the five subprogramme evaluations and update on the status of implementation of recommendations;

- (b) Self-evaluation of the eTrade for All initiative;
 - (c) Self-evaluation of investment promotion partnerships for the development, marketing and facilitation of bankable Sustainable Development Goal projects;
 - (d) Self-evaluation of building the capacity of policymakers in developing countries to address regulatory and institutional gaps in the field of sovereign debt governance;
 - (e) Self-evaluation of supporting member States in developing and launching sustainable product export strategies through national sustainable product export reviews;
 - (f) Self-evaluation of building the capacities of selected least developed countries to upgrade and diversify their fish exports;
 - (g) Self-evaluation of strengthening the capacities of policymakers to assess implications of non-tariff measures in international trade and formulate appropriate policy responses;
 - (h) Self-evaluation of building capacities of developing countries to shift towards sustainable freight transport;
 - (i) Self-evaluation of supporting small island developing States in their efforts to build economic resilience.
- 12.14 The findings of the evaluations referenced above have been taken into account for the programme plan for 2021. UNCTAD is committed to programme and organizational effectiveness as well as sustainable and robust development results. The evaluations have affirmed the relevance of the stated objectives and areas of work within the subprogrammes and projects. The evaluations have also observed the unique role of UNCTAD in fostering an equitable global economic environment for sustainable development, as reiterated in the Nairobi Maafikiano, and that the work of UNCTAD is crucial to the success of the 2030 Agenda. On results attained, the evaluations have shown that UNCTAD has contributed towards a number of intended results at the national, regional and global levels. For example, a subprogramme evaluation identified that a diagnostic trade integration study produced for Ethiopia was used to mainstream trade considerations into the five-year national plan of that country. Another example was identified from the evaluation of the support of UNCTAD for upgrading fish exports, which was cited as being useful in the revision of the sanitary control regulation for products of aquatic origin in Mozambique.
- 12.15 A synthesis of the evaluations of UNCTAD subprogrammes and a review of outcomes from the implementation of recommendations show how evaluations have contributed towards strengthening UNCTAD subprogrammes. For example, new UNCTAD secretariat-wide initiatives have been established to strengthen collaboration and interdivisional dialogue, such as the Crossing the Line Initiative. On gender mainstreaming, for example, subprogramme 2, on investment and enterprise, responded to a recommendation to make the goals of gender equity and women's empowerment more explicit in its work by mainstreaming the gender dimensions across the three pillars of its work. In the area of research and policy analysis, since 2017, all the flagship reports of UNCTAD examine the gender dimension of their main themes and contain analyses of international trade policies through a gender lens.
- 12.16 The following evaluations and self-evaluations are planned for 2021:
- (a) Evaluation of subprogramme 1: globalization, interdependence and development;
 - (b) Eight evaluations of completed projects.

Programme of work

Subprogramme 1

Globalization, interdependence and development

Objective

- 12.17 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to advance inclusive and sustainable development, sustained growth, full employment and decent work for all through evidence-based economic policies and strategies at the national, regional and international levels and to achieve progress towards a durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries, as well as poverty eradication in developing countries, especially the least developed countries, including through North-South cooperation, complemented but not substituted by South-South and triangular cooperation.

Strategy

- 12.18 To contribute to the advancement of inclusive and sustainable development, sustained growth, full employment and decent work for all through evidence-based economic policies and strategies at the national, regional and international levels, the subprogramme will continue to identify specific needs and measures arising from the interdependence among trade, finance, investment, technology and macroeconomic policies, from the point of view of their effects on development through its three pillars, namely research and analysis, intergovernmental deliberations and technical cooperation. The subprogramme also plans to support developing countries in their efforts to formulate development strategies and practical policy options and recommendations at all levels to meet the challenges of globalization and of Sustainable Development Goal implementation. This work is expected to result in a better understanding of the coherence between international economic rules, practices and processes and national policies and development strategies. Past results in this area include the reframing of the debate and formulation by the subprogramme of the idea of a Global Green New Deal to enhance policy coordination for global growth and sustainable development. The full impact of national initiatives to achieve the 2030 Agenda will only be realized if they are linked up and supported through complementary regional and global arrangements and structures. The subprogramme's proposal of a Global Green New Deal includes concepts for consideration by member States to that end. The Global Green New Deal contributed to a better understanding of coherence between international economic rules and national policies and to supporting developing countries in their efforts to formulate development strategies by proposing a pathway to move from decisions to actions via building a more integrated policy framework for delivering the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 12.19 To further contribute to the advancement of inclusive and sustainable development, sustained growth, full employment and decent work for all through evidence-based economic policies and strategies at the national, regional and international levels, the subprogramme will continue to provide high-quality and timely statistics and will support the efforts of developing countries to develop their national statistical systems by providing technical assistance and capacity-building programmes. This work is expected to result in strengthened linkages between economic and development policies and decision-making and improvements in the compilation and dissemination of the official statistics of member States. Past results in this area include the production of the first set of comprehensive trade-in-services statistics, with the subprogramme's technical assistance, by the eight countries of the West African Economic and Monetary Union, and the delivery of training on merchandise and services trade statistics to more than 2,000 people from 116 countries, of whom almost 40 per cent were women, using cost-efficient and environmentally sustainable e-learning technologies. Substantial progress has been made, jointly with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, on developing a conceptual statistical framework for indicator 16.4.1 of the Sustainable Development Goals, on illicit financial flows. That work resulted in the Inter-Agency and Expert

Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators reclassifying the indicator as tier 2, in recognition of the progress achieved. Furthermore, the General Assembly requested UNCTAD to report to the Assembly, at its seventy-fifth session, on the promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development through its *SDG Pulse* report (see Assembly resolution [74/206](#)).

- 12.20 To contribute to the achievement of progress towards a durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries, the subprogramme will promote stronger cooperation at all levels of the interplay between successful development finance strategies, debt sustainability and effective debt management, including through the provision of important contributions on debt and debt sustainability and on addressing systemic issues for the report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development. The subprogramme will also focus on the challenges to short and long-term debt sustainability in developing countries and on sustainable domestic and international financial resource mobilization for development and the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals 16 and 17 to facilitate progress on debt and development finance issues. In addition, the subprogramme will provide technical assistance, training and support for developing countries. This work is expected to result in strengthened national capacities for effective debt management. Past results in this area include the provision of analysis and warnings in relation to the dangers of growing private indebtedness, including in developing countries, and the provision of estimates for the impact of Sustainable Development Goal financing gaps on debt sustainability in 30 developing countries, broadening the country coverage for the provision of early warning systems to 32 countries.
- 12.21 To contribute to poverty eradication in developing countries, especially the least developed countries, including through North-South cooperation, complemented but not substituted by South-South and triangular cooperation, the subprogramme will continue to undertake research and analysis on trends and prospects for closer cooperation and integration among developing countries. The subprogramme will also provide technical assistance and disseminate best practices. This work is expected to increase the understanding of developing countries of the global economic environment and of policy choices for inclusive and sustained development. Past results in this area include the sharing of successful policy experiences for structural transformation among developing countries in the identified policy areas, such as trade and industrialization, macroeconomic policy and structural transformation. By building capacity to formulate policies for diversification, innovation and structural transformation, the subprogramme has promoted economic integration in the Southern Africa region through industrial policy coordination and support for regional value chains.
- 12.22 In responding to the mandates given by the General Assembly in its resolutions [74/10](#), on the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, and [74/117](#), on assistance to the Palestinian people, the subprogramme will continue to support the Palestinian people, in line with paragraph 55 (dd) of the Nairobi Maafikiano. Past results in this area include the recognition of the work of UNCTAD (for example, reports on fiscal leakage) that has been used as input for a number of international forums. In addition, UNCTAD advisory services enabled the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics and the Palestine Economic Policy Research Institute to econometrically model the Palestinian economy.

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 12.23 A planned result for 2019, which is improved understanding of the global economic environment and of policy choices for inclusive and sustained development at the national, regional and international levels, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by 674 citations in the media on the growth-oriented macroeconomic and financial policy choices advocated in the research produced by the subprogramme, against the target of 550 citations.

Programme performance in 2019: increased understanding of the developmental challenges of digital platforms contributed to the revision by member States of policies regarding the digital economy

- 12.24 The subprogramme developed the analysis presented in the *Trade and Development Report 2018: Power, Platforms and the Free Trade Delusion* around the emergence of monopoly risks in digital platforms and the need for regulations in the digital economy. In 2019, the subprogramme published three other reports focusing on the same issue, namely, “Rising product digitalisation and losing trade competitiveness”, “South-South digital cooperation for industrialization: a regional integration agenda” and “Growing trade in electronic transmissions: implications for the South”. Those publications provided extensive analysis of the development challenges that large digital platforms present to developing countries and suggested specific measures and policies that might be adopted by developing countries to increase the benefits of the digital economy for their populations. Some of the proposals were as follows: (a) ownership of data and declaration of sovereign rights over their data; (b) localization of data, which implies that the data collected by the foreign firms will be processed in the data centres within the national boundary of the country; and (c) customs duties on electronic transmissions.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 12.25 This work contributed to the advancement of inclusive and sustainable development, sustained growth, full employment and decent work for all through evidence-based economic policies and strategies at the national, regional and international levels, as demonstrated by two new policies on regulating the digital economy and through a change in policymaking based on policymakers’ improved understanding of the global economic environment and of policy choices for inclusive and sustainable development. The revisions by member States of their digital policies are demonstrated by the changed positions of some developing countries in multilateral negotiations, as well as by their new approach to regulating digital platforms at the national level. For example, the draft e-commerce policy of India, launched in February 2019, contains a quote from the subprogramme’s study (“Rising product digitalisation and losing trade competitiveness”) with respect to its estimates of tariff revenue losses because of a moratorium on electronic transmissions. The subprogramme’s study on electronic transmissions has also led to the tabling of proposals in the multilateral negotiations at the World Trade Organization (WTO). For example, India and South Africa quoted the subprogramme’s study in their communication on the Work Programme on Electronic Commerce (WT/GC/W/747). At the invitation of the WTO secretariat, the study was presented to its members in April 2019. The study was also discussed extensively by member States in the meeting of the WTO General Council held in July 2019 on the Work Programme in Electronic Commerce. The acceptance of the proposals tabled at meetings of the WTO General Council would result in a multilateral framework that would substantially increase the fiscal resources of developing countries from tariffs on electronic commerce. Policymakers in several developing countries also benefited from capacity-building and advisory services from the subprogramme on these policy proposals, which should facilitate the creation of local digital firms and expand their digital economies. The subprogramme’s work has already had an impact on discussions about the digital economy and on policymaking. At the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, held in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March 2019, the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation extensively quoted the subprogramme’s study and heavily relied on its regional digital cooperation agenda in its 2018 annual report, entitled *South-South Cooperation in a Digital World*. The report of the Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation entitled “The age of digital interdependence”, launched in June 2019, also contains quotes from the UNCTAD studies.

Table 12.2
Performance measure

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
No regulation of the digital economy in developing countries, as most of the digital platforms are located in developed economies	Request to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development from a large developing country to develop proposals for digital industrial policy for developing countries	Proposals for digital industrial policy for developing countries developed and presented for the consideration of member States	<i>Trade and Development Report 2018</i> and three other studies address the issue of digital industrial policy	Two countries adopt policies that regulate e-commerce and table proposals for change in multilateral rules at the World Trade Organization

Planned results for 2021**Result 1: a methodology to measure illicit financial flows – improving the prospects for sustainable development (result carried over from 2020)**

- 12.26 The subprogramme will continue the work related to illicit financial flows, in line with its mandate, and will provide capacity-building to countries for a more accurate estimate of illicit financial flows, 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.

Table 12.3
Performance measure

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
N/A	Absence of methodology and reliable statistics on illicit financial flows in the balance of payments statistics	Availability of a methodology for measuring illicit financial flows in the balance of payments statistics	Inclusion of the new methodology in the balance of payments statistics of nine participating African countries	Nine participating countries start using the new methodology in the balance of payments statistics

Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Result 2: improving industrial policy and fostering regional value chains in Southern Africa (new result)

- 12.27 The subprogramme has been working in several regions to support member States in their efforts to achieve sustained growth, inclusive and sustainable development, full employment and decent work for all. UNCTAD analysis showed that economic growth in Southern Africa since the mid-1990s had been driven mostly by external factors, while productivity gains in the region had been small and structural transformation had been slow. Despite those difficulties, Southern African economies seem well placed for developing value chains at the regional level. As shown in recent research by

UNCTAD¹ and the Economic Commission for Africa,² the southern part of the continent stands out both in terms of integration and trade complementarity. Recognizing those peculiarities and the importance of regional productive integration as a means of revitalizing the industrial sector and fostering economic growth, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) has adopted a common industrial strategy with the goal of promoting the development of an integrated industrial base within SADC through the exploitation of regional synergies in value-added production and the enhancement of export competitiveness, including by collaboration in the development of regional value chains with targeted interventions.

- 12.28 The subprogramme has supported the efforts of SADC to facilitate the development of regional value chains and foster industrial policy coordination. Cooperating with SADC, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Economic Commission for Africa and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the subprogramme identified opportunities for cooperation in the mining equipment, agroprocessing and electricity sectors and proposed a series of concrete policy measures to be adopted at the domestic and at the regional levels. The measures include finalizing the SADC Regional Qualifications Framework, developing a knowledge-sharing platform on local content policies under the SADC Industrialization Strategy and harmonizing standards within SADC for key commodities and promoting a regional supermarket pact. The complete list of 21 proposals were included in the integration agenda and are now reflected in the official outcome document of the regional workshop co-organized by the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment of the United Republic of Tanzania, UNIDO and SADC and held in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, in December 2017.

Internal challenge and response

- 12.29 The challenge for the subprogramme was that initially it did not put enough emphasis on the relationship between the public and private sectors in the process of implementation of the regional value chains framework. After identifying the priority areas of member States and policy measures, achieving an intergovernmental convergence on those policies and communicating them to policymakers, the subprogramme expected the private sector in SADC countries to respond to the new framework by developing existing regional value chains and investing in new ones. That, however, has not happened yet.
- 12.30 The subprogramme has recognized the challenge and has also recognized that the identification of opportunities and further proposal of policy measures does not translate automatically into results on the ground, as insufficient focus was placed on communicating and receiving the buy-in of the private sector in that endeavour. In response, the subprogramme will follow up by supporting the beneficiary countries to build up value chains in the region and helping them to implement policy strategies that take into account the regional component and are aimed at productive integration in the identified areas. The subprogramme will also help to establish a regular dialogue between the public and the private sectors and provide industrial policy capacity-building for policymakers in several countries of the region.
- 12.31 In particular, subprogramme will: (a) assist the Government of Mauritius on the formulation of an industrial policy and strategic plan for Mauritius for the period 2020–2025 and facilitate discussion with critical stakeholders through the organization of two national workshops; (b) assist the Government of Mozambique in the assessment and revision of the industrial policy strategy launched in 2018 and facilitate discussion with critical stakeholders through the organization of a national workshop; and (c) explore the potential of integrating the manufacture and production of crops for non-food uses in the region and foster connections among critical actors in order to build a fully-fledged value chain in the textile sector, with a specific focus on Mauritius and the United Republic of Tanzania.

¹ “Structural transformation and export diversification in Southern Africa” (UNCTAD/GDS/ECIDC/2017/5).

² *Economic Report on Africa 2015: Industrializing Through Trade* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.15.II.K.2).

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

- 12.32 This work is expected to contribute to the advancement of inclusive and sustainable development, sustained growth, full employment and decent work for all through evidence-based economic policies and strategies at the national, regional and international levels, which would be demonstrated by the increased engagement of the private sector in public policy discussions and expanded cross-border activities of firms in the region. Furthermore, it will be demonstrated by enhanced interaction between critical stakeholders in the highly promising but underdeveloped textiles value chain and in the development of industrial policy strategies able to sustain and incentivize private investment towards promising sectors. In turn, these results are expected to ultimately foster sustainable industrialization and growth through regional value chain development, in line with Sustainable Development Goals 8 and 9.

Table 12.4
Performance measure

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
No industrial policy framework in Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries aimed specifically at the formation and development of regional value chains	Request made to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to support SADC industrialization strategy and develop proposals to operationalize a common regional industrial policy that includes regional value chains	Initial proposals developed for a regional industrial policy of several SADC countries	Sectors in which regional value chains could be established and relevant stakeholders brought together identified and presented to several countries in SADC and to private sector companies	Increased engagement of private sector in economic policy discussions and expanded cross-border activities of firms in the region

Legislative mandates

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

General Assembly resolutions

66/188	Addressing excessive price volatility in food and related financial and commodity markets	74/117	Assistance to the Palestinian people
		74/203	External debt sustainability and development
72/227	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence	74/205	Financial inclusion for sustainable development
73/240	Towards a New International Economic Order	74/206	Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development
74/10	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People		

Deliverables

12.34 Table 12.5 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 12.5

Subprogramme 1: 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				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	10	9	11	10
1. Reports for the General Assembly, including on external debt sustainability and development, South-South cooperation, assistance to the Palestinian people, the economic cost of occupation to the Palestinian people, and the situation of and assistance to Palestinian women	5	4	5	5
2. Report of and background documents for the fifteenth quadrennial session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)	–	–	1	–
3. Reports for the Trade and Development Board, including on financing for development issues and on UNCTAD assistance to the Palestinian people, and the overview of the <i>Trade and Development Report</i>	3	3	3	3
4. Reports for the Trade and Development Commission and the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission	1	1	1	1
5. Reports for the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development	1	1	1	1
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	32	24	43	24
6. Meetings of the General Assembly (Second Committee) and the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies	4	4	4	4
7. Meetings of the fifteenth quadrennial session of UNCTAD, including preparatory meetings	6	–	25	–
8. Annual and executive sessions of the Trade and Development Board	5	3	3	3
9. Meetings of the Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme Budget	2	2	2	2
10. Meetings of the Trade and Development Commission and related multi-year expert meetings	3	3	3	3
11. Meetings of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development	6	6	6	6
12. Debt Management Conference	6	6	–	6
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	19	19	19	19
13. Project on enhancing public, private and/or international capacity related to assistance to the Palestinian people	1	1	1	1
14. Project on trade in services development for the member countries of the West African Economic and Monetary Union	1	1	1	1
15. Project on development policies for sustainable economic growth in Southern Africa	1	1	1	1
16. Projects on installation, update and maintenance of the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System	15	15	15	15
17. Project on measuring illicit capital flows in sub-Saharan Africa (jointly with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Economic Commission for Africa)	1	1	1	1

Category and subcategory	2019 planned	2019 actual	2020 planned	2021 planned
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	126	128	126	126
18. Seminars and workshops for policymakers, including on formulating development strategies and policy recommendations, sovereign borrowing and lending, and globalization, trade and development	30	32	30	30
19. Ad hoc expert discussions, including on inclusive growth and the Sustainable Development Goals and the interdependence between trade, finance, investment, technology and macroeconomic policies	6	6	6	6
20. Debt Management and Financial Analysis System training courses for administrators and debt auditors from selected countries in recording debt data, reporting, debt statistics, debt analysis and debt auditing	90	90	90	90
Publications (number of publications)	10	9	11	10
21. <i>Trade and Development Report</i>	1	1	1	1
22. <i>UNCTAD Handbook of Statistics</i>	1	1	1	1
23. <i>SDG Pulse</i>	1	1	1	1
24. <i>Development and Globalization: Facts and Figures</i>	–	–	1	–
25. Studies, including on external debt, financial crises in developing countries, international financial architecture, Palestinian economic development, South-South cooperation and regional integration	7	6	7	7
Technical materials (number of materials)	12	12	12	12
26. Policy and statistical briefs on macroeconomic, development, financing and debt, structural transformation and South-South cooperation issues	6	6	6	6
27. Economic and maritime statistical country profiles	2	2	2	2
28. Debt Management and Financial Analysis System documentation and software	3	3	3	3
29. Training materials on debt management	1	1	1	1
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: advisory services to policymakers, including on domestic resource mobilization, structural transformation, growth policy (Group of 20), debt renegotiation at the Paris Club, financial instability, debt sustainability and statistical capacity in the area of trade and development.				
Databases and substantive digital materials: UNCTAD financial database; world economic macromodellers Database; UNCTAD statistical data centre; and Financial Stress and Debt Sustainability Indicators.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: lectures and presentations on external debt, development finance and macroeconomic and development policy issues; and e-newsletters and brochures on the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System and the Virtual Institute.				
External and media relations: press releases; press conferences and interviews, including on developing country debt and external financing, South-South cooperation and regional integration and assistance to the Palestinian people.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: Debt Management and Financial Analysis System; Virtual Institute; and UNCTADStat.				

Subprogramme 2 Investment and enterprise

Objective

- 12.35 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to advance inclusive growth and sustainable development through investment and enterprise development for productive capacity-building, economic diversification and job creation.

Strategy

- 12.36 To contribute to the advancement of inclusive growth and sustainable development through investment and enterprise development for productive capacity-building, economic diversification, and job creation, the subprogramme will continue to assist member States through research and policy analysis in order to design and implement active policies at both the national and international levels, ensuring enhanced investment and entrepreneurship for sustainable development. This work is expected to result in member States making progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 1 (including through the creation of sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions (target 1.B)), Goal 8 (including through the promotion of development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (target 8.3)), Goal 10 (including through the encouragement of financial flows, including foreign direct investment, to States where the need is greatest, in particular least developed countries, African countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their national plans and programmes (target 10.B)) and Goal 17 (including through enhancing the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources (target 17.16)), as well as all other Goals through scaling up the mobilization of public and private finance towards Sustainable Development Goal-related sectors.
- 12.37 The subprogramme will also monitor, assess and analyse global and regional trends and prospects and prepare the annual *World Investment Report* and other analytical publications. This work is expected to result in an improved ability of countries to address key and emerging issues related to investment and investment policies that promote development, including issues related to international investment agreements and their development dimension. Past results in this area include the provision of timely, relevant and quality information on international investment trends and policies. The *World Investment Report* was downloaded 330,000 times each year over the past three years and cited, on average, 2,900 times in academic journals. The information contained in the *Investment Policy Monitor* and the *Global Investment Trends Monitor* and in the ground-breaking *Sustainable Development Goals Investment Trends Monitor* allows for informed policymaking.
- 12.38 The subprogramme will also conduct reviews of national investment policies and will backstop policy dialogue on the international investment agreement regime and support and design new international investment agreements that are better aligned with development objectives. Past results in this area include significant progress in the ability of developing countries and economies in transition to design and implement policies to attract investment and increase its contribution to sustainable development. Tracking foreign direct investment flows over time has shown that the 15 countries whose investment policy review implementation has been assessed saw their annual foreign direct investment inflows increase by an average 206 per cent in the five years following the investment policy review compared with the average annual inflows in the five years before the review.
- 12.39 The subprogramme will also advise Governments on investment promotion, business facilitation and innovative financing for the Sustainable Development Goals, including through stock exchanges and institutional funds. This work is expected to result in additional resources leveraged and channelled towards global investment development objectives. Past results in this area include the Sustainable Stock Exchanges guidance on environmental, social and governance reporting, which encourages stock exchanges to introduce guidance on environmental, social and governance disclosure (sustainability reporting). As the result of a Sustainable Stock Exchanges campaign, the number of stock exchanges that have implemented such guidance has grown from 14 to 47.
- 12.40 The subprogramme will also help member States enhance the international competitiveness of their enterprises through enterprise policies aimed at stimulating enterprise development, as well as

through promoting best practices in corporate social responsibility and accounting and reporting. This work is expected to result in enhanced understanding of enterprise development issues and ability to boost productive capacity, inclusive growth and sustainable development through enterprise development policies. Past results in this area include the publication of *Guidance on Core Indicators for Entity Reporting on Contribution towards Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals*, which was endorsed by the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting at its thirty-sixth session, held in Geneva from 30 October to 1 November 2019 and attended by some 400 participants. The Working Group requested its wide dissemination. Ten companies have already reported that they use the guidance.

- 12.41 The subprogramme will also foster dialogue and an exchange of best practice on investment and enterprise development issues through consensus-building mechanisms and its World Investment Forum. This work is expected to result in policy proposals, innovations and tools that can be disseminated to member States to gain traction and drive sustainable development. Past results in this area include important decisions, yielded by the 2018 World Investment Forum, to create the Ambassadors Round Table to facilitate interaction between diplomats, international organizations and the private sector and to establish Geneva as a global implementation hub for the Sustainable Development Goals. The second Round Table was held in November 2019 and participants considered an UNCTAD report showing a mixed picture of both investment trends and monitoring capacities across the 10 Sustainable Development Goal investment sectors. Overall, the 2018 World Investment Forum attracted more than 6,000 participants to Geneva. They included 11 Heads of State, over 50 ministers and a significant number of public officials and sovereign wealth fund managers. Almost 2,000 private sector leaders participated, including executives of global companies and stock exchanges, in 75 sessions organized in collaboration with more than 50 international partners. With such broad participation, the 2018 Forum reached the full spectrum of the financial community and was confirmed as the preeminent global platform for high-profile stakeholder engagement on financing for the Sustainable Development Goals. According to 88 per cent of the respondents to the post-Forum survey, the Forum advanced the objectives of the 2030 Agenda.

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 12.42 A planned result for 2019, which is enhanced understanding of enterprise development issues and ability to boost productive and technological capacity through enterprise development policies, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by five additional countries implementing UNCTAD policy measures and tools in the design of policies aimed at strengthening entrepreneurship and the competitiveness of their firms. This brings the total to 37 countries (as compared with the target of 32 countries) that have developed and implemented national entrepreneurship strategies on the basis of the UNCTAD Entrepreneurship Policy Framework and the Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EMPRETEC) and methodology, aimed at strengthening the competitiveness of their firms.

Programme performance in 2019: forging the sustainable dimension of international investment agreements

- 12.43 In 2019, the subprogramme provided support to 78 countries and four regional groupings (covering 76 countries, including discussions on the African Continental Free Trade Area) to bolster their capacity to amend existing international investment agreements or draft new ones that are better aligned with sustainable development policies. In the absence of a formal supranational body governing international investment, UNCTAD backstops global engagement on international investment agreements and supports ongoing intergovernmental efforts to strengthen the sustainable development dimension of investment treaties. The importance of this work was formally acknowledged in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (para. 91) and by the General Assembly in its resolution [71/215](#).

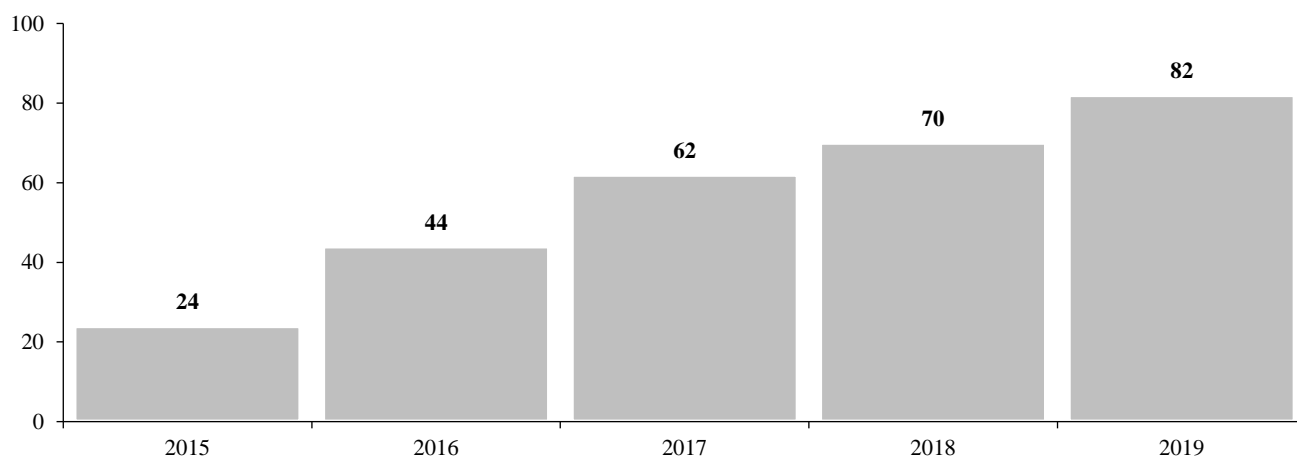
- 12.44 UNCTAD assists directly in the process of international investment agreement reform through its support to the development of modern models and treaties as well as to the modernization of existing, old-generation treaties to incorporate elements pertaining to the sustainable development dimension and the reform features. UNCTAD policy tools, such as the Roadmap for International Investment Agreement Reform and the Investment Policy Framework for Sustainable Development, have shaped international investment agreement reform objectives and activities at all levels of policymaking through policy-oriented support, complemented by capacity-building workshops and training courses around the globe.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 12.45 This work contributed to the advancement of inclusive growth and sustainable development through investment and enterprise development for productive capacity-building, economic diversification and job creation, as demonstrated by an increase in investment treaties with reform features. In 2019, 82 per cent of the treaties that were concluded that year (i.e., all of the ones for which the text was available) contained at least nine reform features in line with UNCTAD investment policy guidance (including preserving the right to regulate for sustainable development-oriented policy objectives), compared with zero such treaties concluded in 2000.
- 12.46 As a result of the increase in the percentage of treaties including reform features, the international investment regime works for all stakeholders in a manner that serves sustainable development. By the end of 2019, more than 75 countries and regional integration organizations had reviewed their treaty networks or developed their model treaties in line with UNCTAD policy tools. UNCTAD investment policy tools have also been reflected in a number of investment policy principles that countries or country groupings have adopted recently. Among these are the Joint African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States-UNCTAD Guiding Principles for Investment Policymaking which, following their approval, have shaped investment policymaking at both the national and international levels. Modern treaties are aimed at pursuing sustainable development by providing clarity, parity and flexibility. This enables countries to avoid investor-State dispute settlement cases, which may expose them to unjustified liabilities and procedural costs. It should be noted that almost all investor-State dispute settlement cases are based on old-generation treaties.

Figure 12.I

Performance measure: percentage of treaties with at least nine reform features in line with UNCTAD recommendations



Planned results for 2021

Result 1: a favourable and enabling environment for investing in the Sustainable Development Goals (result carried over from 2020)

- 12.47 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the promotion of investment in support of sustainable development and Sustainable Development Goal-related sectors, in line with its mandate, and will assist countries in developing policies and strategies to mobilize and channel private investment for sustainable development and maximizing the impact of such investment, 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.

Table 12.6
Performance measure

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
N/A	Countries reporting gaps in awareness, understanding and implementation capacity among policymakers and investment practitioners on investment policies and instruments to attract investment in Sustainable Development Goal-relevant sectors	Frameworks and tools on attracting investment in Sustainable Development Goal-relevant sectors start being used by beneficiaries	Eighty per cent of beneficiaries from United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) assistance reporting on the successful implementation of recommendations, strategies and policies aiming at attracting investment in Sustainable Development Goal sectors	Eighty per cent of beneficiaries from UNCTAD assistance reporting on the successful implementation of recommendations, strategies and policies aiming at attracting investment in Sustainable Development Goal sectors (the number of beneficiary countries over the year to increase)

Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Result 2: an investment chain to bridge the Sustainable Development Goal financing gap (new result)

- 12.48 The subprogramme has been working towards enhancing the ability of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to design and implement strategies and policies to attract investment and enhance its contribution to inclusive growth and the Sustainable Development Goals. The vast scope of economic, social and environmental targets set out under the Goals requires enormous investment, and current levels of investment fall well short, with an annual investment gap of \$2.5 trillion in developing countries alone that needs to be bridged. Since 2014, and building on its action plan for investing in the Sustainable Development Goals (a set of priority actions that could constitute a significant big push for the Goals), the subprogramme has, at the request of member States, placed a greater emphasis on the development and promotion of frameworks and tools, such as the development of pipelines of bankable projects aimed at attracting investment in Sustainable Development Goal-related sectors. These frameworks and tools will support the capacity-building of developing countries in their efforts to close the Sustainable Development Goal investment gap, especially at the country programme level.

Internal challenge and response

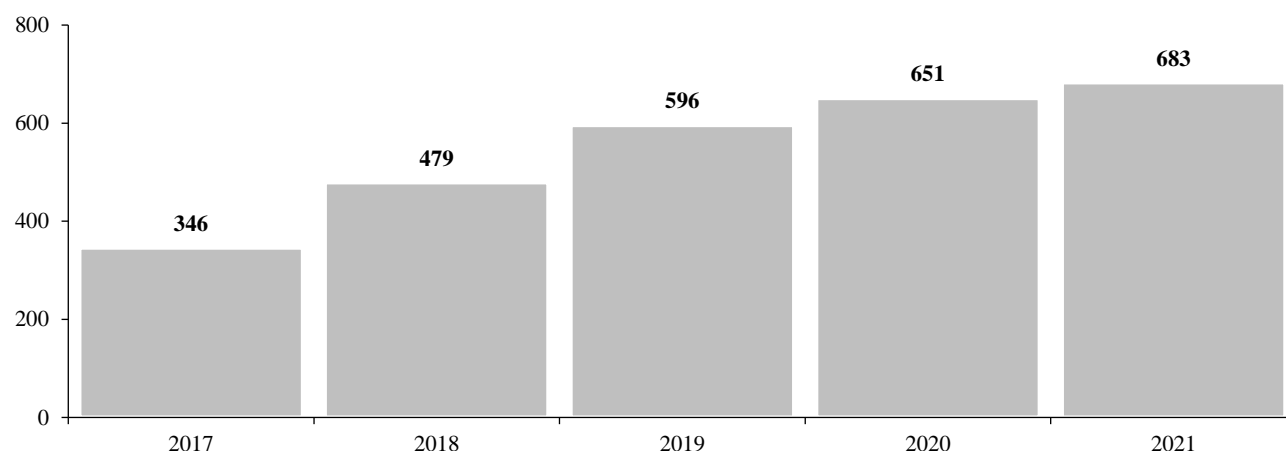
- 12.49 The challenge for the subprogramme was that the focus on traditional investors in its activities, such as multinational enterprises, had proved insufficient to bridge the vast level of funding required to fulfil the objectives set by the 2030 Agenda. In response, the subprogramme will broaden its global investment chain approach, which engages the entire spectrum of investment-development stakeholders. This includes policymakers and investment treaty negotiators, investment promotion agencies, central banks, stock exchanges and sovereign wealth fund managers, as well as multinational enterprises, small and medium-sized enterprises, family businesses and special economic zones (the upstream and downstream of the investment chain). By engaging and forging partnerships with these investment-development stakeholders, the subprogramme will be able to support the pooling of additional resources and the channelling of them towards global investment-development objectives.

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

- 12.50 This work is expected to contribute towards advancing inclusive growth and sustainable development through investment and enterprise development for productive capacity-building, economic diversification and job creation, which would be demonstrated by 683 individual investment stakeholders adhering to UNCTAD principles and recommendations in 2021 as they support the capacity-building of developing countries in their efforts to close the Sustainable Development Goal investment gaps, especially at the country programme level.

Figure 12.II

Performance measure: total number of individual investment stakeholders adhering to United Nations Conference on Trade and Development principles and recommendations



Legislative mandates

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

General Assembly resolutions

73/225

Entrepreneurship for sustainable development

74/199

Promoting investments for sustainable development

Deliverables

12.52 Table 12.7 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 12.7

Subprogramme 2: 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				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	7	7	9	8
1. Report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly on investment and entrepreneurship for sustainable development	–	–	1	1
2. Report of and background documents for the fifteenth quadrennial session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)	–	–	1	–
3. Reports for the Trade and Development Board on investment for development	1	1	1	1
4. Reports for the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission and related expert meetings	4	4	4	4
5. Reports for the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting	2	2	2	2

Part IV International cooperation for development

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2019 actual</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	28	24	68	24
6. Meetings of the fifteenth quadrennial session of UNCTAD, including preparatory meetings	4	—	24	—
7. Meetings of the Trade and Development Board	2	2	2	2
8. Meetings of the Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme Budget	2	2	2	2
9. Meetings of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission and related expert meetings	14	14	14	14
10. Meetings of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting	6	6	6	6
11. Meetings of the World Investment Forum	—	—	20	—
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	50	56	52	60
12. Projects on regional investment issues analysis	3	3	3	3
13. Projects on investment policy reviews and investment facilitation enhancement	8	8	8	8
14. Projects on special economic zones	—	—	—	2
15. Projects on international investment agreements	8	8	8	8
16. Projects on investment promotion and facilitation	3	3	3	3
17. Projects on intellectual property rights for development	—	1	—	1
18. Projects on investment guides	4	4	4	2
19. Projects on business facilitation	10	10	10	10
20. Projects on enterprise development and business linkages	4	4	4	3
21. Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EMPRETEC) projects	5	5	5	6
22. Projects on accounting and reporting	2	2	2	3
23. Projects on the contribution of foreign direct investment to inclusive growth and the Sustainable Development Goals	3	3	5	5
24. Projects on institutional investors	—	1	—	2
25. Projects on family businesses	—	2	—	2
26. Projects on responsible investment	—	2	—	2
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	107	113	107	107
27. Seminars on foreign direct investment, its development dimension and the themes of the <i>World Investment Report</i>	6	6	6	6
28. Training workshops on best practice in national and international policies related to investment	8	8	8	4
29. National workshops on investment policy reviews, follow-up and investment facilitation enhancement	10	10	10	14
30. Training workshops on international investment statistics and survey methodologies	5	5	5	5
31. Ad hoc expert discussions on key foreign direct investment issues	3	3	3	3
32. Training workshops on investment promotion and facilitation for policymakers, investment promotion officials and diplomats	14	14	14	10
33. Training workshops on the negotiation, implementation and reform of international investment agreements	15	15	15	15
34. Ad hoc expert discussions on investment policies for sustainable development	4	4	4	4

Section 12 Trade and development

Category and subcategory	2019 planned	2019 actual	2020 planned	2021 planned
35. Training workshops on intellectual property for development	10	10	10	10
36. Training workshops on enterprise development policies	16	18	16	16
37. Training seminars on accounting and sustainability reporting	6	6	6	6
38. Workshops and seminars on responsible investment issues	4	6	4	4
39. Ad hoc expert discussions on enterprise competitiveness issues	6	6	6	6
40. Seminars on institutional investors and sustainable development	–	1	–	2
41. Ad-hoc expert discussions on family businesses	–	1	–	2
Publications (number of publications)	24	24	25	25
42. <i>World Investment Report</i> and its overview	2	2	2	2
43. Publications on investment issues for development, including the <i>Transnational Corporations Journal</i> , best practices and lessons learned in foreign direct investment in least developed countries, and responsible investment	7	7	7	7
44. Publications on investment policies for development including <i>Investment Policy Facilitation Enhancements</i> , <i>Investment Policy Reviews</i> and <i>Investment Policy Monitors</i>	9	9	9	9
45. Publications on investment promotion and facilitation	3	3	3	3
46. Publications on enterprise development	1	1	2	2
47. Publications on accounting and reporting, including the International Standards of Accounting and Reporting annual review, the series on accounting and reporting	2	2	2	2
Technical materials (number of materials)	9	15	9	13
48. <i>Global Investment Trends Monitor</i> (series), including <i>Sustainable Development Goal Investment Trends Monitor</i>	–	4	–	4
49. Investment guides	2	3	2	2
50. Reports on measures affecting international investment	2	2	2	2
51. International investment agreement issue notes	2	2	2	2
52. Policy briefs on intellectual property rights for development	2	2	2	1
53. Training materials on enterprise development and business linkages	1	1	1	1
54. Report on annual Ambassadors Round Table	–	1	–	1

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: advisory services to developing countries, including on formulating policies to attract foreign direct investment for development, statistics and analysis on international investment, including responsible investment; advisory services to Governments, including on national policies and international investment agreements and sustainable development, as well as investment promotion and facilitation, intellectual property rights, entrepreneurship and enterprise development, business facilitation, and accounting and reporting standards; and advocacy and advisory services to investment promotion agencies, special economic zones and other stakeholders in the global investment chain, and EMPRETEC centres.

Databases and substantive digital materials: databases on foreign direct investment, national policies and international investment agreements.

D. Communication deliverables

External and media relations: International Standards of Accounting and Reporting update (2); EMPRETEC newsletter (2); newsletters on responsible investment (5); World Investment Forum report; booklets; and newsflashes.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: Global Registration Portal; and Investment Policy Hub.

Subprogramme 3

International trade and commodities

Objective

- 12.53 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to ensure that international trade and commodities are an engine for prosperity, inclusiveness and sustainable development through the participation of all member States.

Strategy

- 12.54 To contribute to ensuring that international trade and commodities are an engine for prosperity, inclusiveness and sustainable development through the participation of all member States, the subprogramme will continue to promote the implementation of measures by developing countries and economies so that they better integrate and benefit from the international trading system through the mechanisms of the three main pillars of the work of UNCTAD (research and analysis; consensus-building; and technical cooperation and capacity-building), including through the provision of contributions on international trade as an engine for development to the report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development and to the *Sustainable Development Goals Report*.
- 12.55 The subprogramme will also continue to support trade and trade-related decision-making of developing countries to better deal with the impacts of subsidies, tariffs and non-tariff measures. This work is expected to result in the streamlining of non-tariff measures and, where appropriate, the elimination or reduction of non-tariff measures in international trade, including unilateral measures, where they may act as unnecessary trade barriers, and the strengthened trade and trade-related decision-making of developing countries. Past results in this area include strengthened capacity of developing countries for informed trade and trade-related decision-making, with the help of analysis provided on trade trends and trade policy and training activities, which has assisted economic policymakers in identifying and addressing tariff and non-tariff market access barriers in their countries. Between 2018 and 2019, at least eight specific actions aimed at reducing or addressing non-tariff barriers were achieved in bilateral and regional negotiations with the support of the subprogramme and more than 300 stakeholders indicated the usefulness of subprogramme's research and trade analysis products such as the Trade Analysis and Information System, the World Integrated Trade Solution and the Transparency in Trade initiative.
- 12.56 The subprogramme will also continue to provide assistance for enhancing the implementation of measures by developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to integrate beneficially into the international trading system at the international and regional levels. This includes the provision of targeted support to countries in their engagement in different phases of negotiations, including those aimed at the development of negotiating modalities for trade in goods and services, providing analysis to facilitate the evaluation of alternative scenarios and provisions and assisting national officials at all stages of the WTO accession process. This work is expected to result in more countries achieving positive development outcomes in relation to increased trade integration and activity. Past results in this area include the enhanced participation of countries and institutions in regional and multilateral trade agreements, as evidenced by at least 20 actions that were taken by countries and institutions with the support of the subprogramme, including the adoption of negotiating positions, the preparation of draft proposals and the identification of policy options in the context of WTO processes and negotiations following the Eleventh Ministerial Conference of WTO, WTO accession, the negotiations on the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area and Greater-Arab Free Trade Area and South-South trade cooperation under the Global System of Trade Preferences and the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation.
- 12.57 Furthermore, the subprogramme will continue to provide support for building the capacities of commodity-dependent developing countries to address trade and development problems associated

with the commodity economy, including commodity dependence. This work is expected to result in their improved capacity to seize opportunities emerging from commodity trade and enhanced international and regional cooperation. Past results in this area include improved understanding of the challenges and policy options relating to commodity production and trade in countries with economies that are dependent on commodities and increased capacities to design policies aimed at the diversification of export earnings and promoting value-added production. Four countries (Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe) benefited from capacity-building workshops, delivered by the subprogramme, that included drafting and submitting the national action plans agreed at each national workshop.

- 12.58 The subprogramme will also continue to provide support for enhancing the adoption, improvement and enforcement of national and regional competition and consumer protection legislation, through the provision of best practices, model laws and peer reviews. This work is expected to result in more countries having revised or implemented competition and consumer protection legislation and institutional frameworks. Past results in this area include the strengthened capacities of several Middle East and North African countries, as well as Latin and Central American countries, towards effective competition and consumer protection enforcement, the completion of legal assessments of the national competition law of Belarus and of the regional competition rules of the Eurasian Economic Union, and the provision of technical assistance.
- 12.59 The subprogramme will also continue to promote, according to the needs of member States, the design and implementation of trade, environment and sustainable development objectives and creative economic strategies at all levels. This work is expected to result in member States harnessing opportunities for trade in environmentally preferable products, including biotrade and creative industries, and to increase capacities to assess the economic potential of the ocean-based sectors and devise integrated sustainable use and trade action plans. Past results in this area include an increased number of developing countries and countries with economies in transition that have designed and implemented policies, programmes, normative initiatives and institutional arrangements to harness opportunities for trade in environmentally preferable products, including biotrade, supported by 34 studies produced by the subprogramme on the greening of exports, the oceans economy, climate change, biotrade and the creative economy and 19 workshops delivered at the national level on the Sustainable Development Goals and biodiversity, fisheries, the oceans economy, trade and climate change, including workshops in Angola, Lebanon and the Republic of Moldova on green export strategies and green growth.
- 12.60 The subprogramme will also continue to act as the focal point for gender mainstreaming in trade policies, strengthening the capacity of member States to design and implement trade policies that allow women to benefit more from the opportunities arising from international trade through specific region- and country-based activities. This work is expected to result in improvements in the capacity of member States to identify and address gender-specific trade barriers and gender-specific obstacles on the supply side. Past results in this area include over 900 participants (571 women and 331 men) from 138 developing countries, least developing countries and countries with economies in transition benefiting from capacity-building activities undertaken by the subprogramme since 2015 by taking part in the online courses on trade and gender, with 59 per cent of them stating that the courses were “excellent” and 28 per cent stating that they were “very good”. Moreover, 150 women, all informal and small-scale traders, were trained on how to formalize their businesses in the framework of the UNCTAD “Borderline” initiative, which is being implemented in six border districts of Malawi, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia. Through the initiative, the traders are equipped with information on trade rules and customs procedures and are helped to reduce business costs and expand opportunities by strengthening their entrepreneurship skills. The first workshop took place at the border between Tunduma and Nakonde, between the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia, on 11 November 2019, followed by sessions at the border between Kasumulu and Songwe (between Malawi and the United Republic of Tanzania) and the border between Mchinji and Mwami (between Malawi and Zambia) in November and December 2019.

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 12.61 A planned result for 2019, which is strengthened trade and trade-related decision-making of developing countries, in particular those in Africa and the least developed countries, as well as landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, and countries with economies in transition and middle-income countries, according to their needs, and implementation of measures to address the trade and development impact of subsidies, tariffs and non-tariff measures, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by an estimated 320 beneficiaries indicating the usefulness of the UNCTAD Trade Analysis and Information System, related statistical indicators, trade analysis training and trade policy research publications for sustainable development. This was against a target of 300 beneficiaries.

Programme performance in 2019: strengthening international cooperation in the field of consumer protection and consumer welfare worldwide

- 12.62 In 2019, UNCTAD continued to act as the focal point on competition and consumer protection within the United Nations system, as prescribed by the General Assembly in its resolutions [35/63](#) and [70/186](#). It serviced the meetings of its two main intergovernmental bodies, namely the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy and the eighteenth session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy, and prepared, in support of the deliberations at those sessions, eight pre-session documents, two post-session documents and one publication, on the assessment of the consumer protection law and policy of Indonesia. The relevance and importance of consumer protection for member States were reconfirmed by the high number of participants at the session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy, which gathered over 350 participants from 83 countries, including from international organizations, non-governmental organizations and academic and private sector institutions. As a result of its session, the Group of Experts decided to renew the mandate of its Working Group on Consumer Protection in E-commerce and its Working Group on Consumer Product Safety. The Group of Experts also hosted the second voluntary peer review on consumer protection law and policy, of Indonesia, a unique exercise carried out by UNCTAD in support of its member States. In addition, and in support of strengthening international cooperation on consumer protection, the subprogramme continued to host the World Consumer Protection Map, an ongoing project that displays legal and institutional frameworks for consumer protection, currently for 64 member States. Finally, the subprogramme continued to support consumer welfare through its technical cooperation efforts and three main programmes that concluded by July 2019: (a) the Programme on Strengthening Institutions and Capacities in the Area of Competition and Consumer Protection Policies in Latin America; (b) the Programme for the Middle East and North Africa; and (c) the Programme for the Central African Economic and Monetary Community. The three programmes covered 32 countries in total.

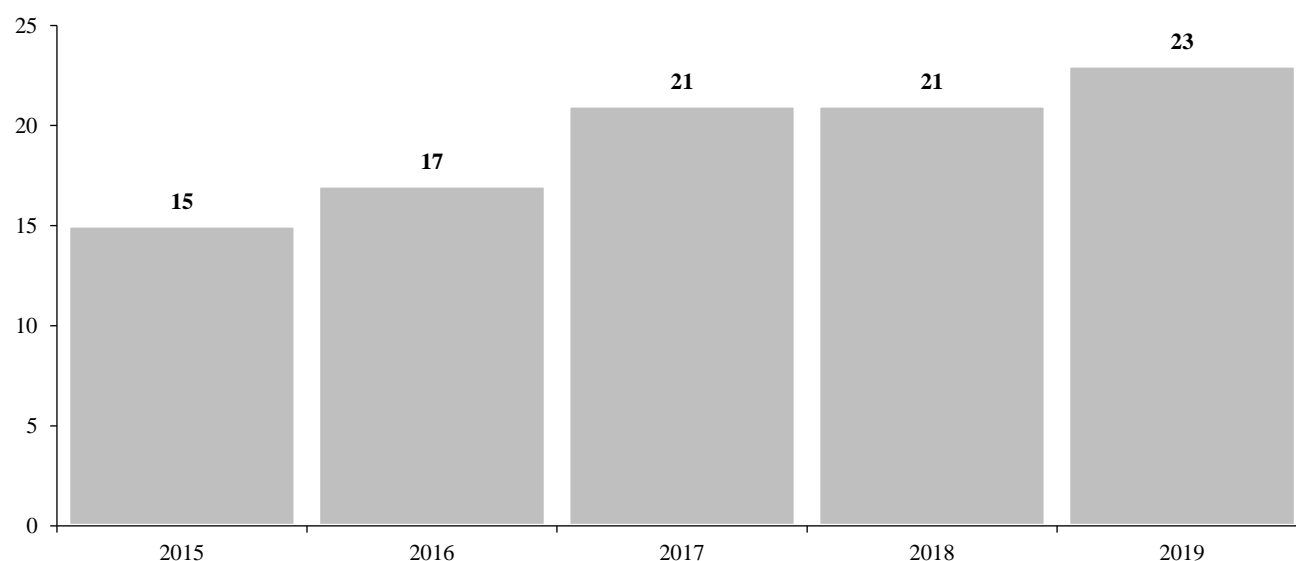
Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 12.63 This work contributed to ensuring that international trade and commodities are an engine for prosperity, inclusiveness and sustainable development through the participation of all member States, as demonstrated by 23 countries strengthening consumer protection and supporting consumer welfare through several important achievements and progress. For example, Argentina, Bhutan and Paraguay benefited from technical assistance in consumer protection law reform provided by the subprogramme and enforced their legislation and institutional frameworks. In following up on the progress of work, Morocco completed, in 2018, 13 concrete recommendations to improve the legal and institutional frameworks of consumer protection in the country. As part of the implementation of recommendations, Morocco has trained 1,500 enforcers, launched a digital platform to increase

consumer information and education and been accepted as a member of the International Consumer Protection and Enforcement Network.

Figure 12.III

Performance measure: total number of developing countries that have strengthened their consumer protection and consumer welfare with the support of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development



Planned results for 2021

Result 1: unleashing the potential of women informal cross-border traders (result carried over from 2020)

- 12.64 The subprogramme will continue the work related to informal cross-border trade, in line with its mandate, and will provide assistance to informal cross-border traders for improved access to formal trade channels that would boost cross-border trade and make their businesses thrive beyond subsistence levels, 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.

Table 12.8
Performance measure

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
N/A	Lack of awareness by women informal traders about border procedures, documentation requirements and rights and obligations, and lack of basic entrepreneurial skills	Increased awareness by women traders about border procedures, documentation requirements and rights and obligations, and to increasing knowledge about basic entrepreneurial skills. Benefits also to customs officers who attended the training on trade rules and procedures	More than half of the women trained take steps to switch to formal trade channels and have a good understanding of how to scale up and/or diversify their business. The pilot training programme delivered at six border areas in Malawi, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia is expected to be replicated in other border posts and possibly in a different region, building on its positive results	At least two more countries in the same region express interest in replicating the approach and implementing the training programme for women in informal cross-border trade

Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Result 2: oceans economy – supporting small island developing States and coastal developing countries in realizing economic benefits from the sustainable use of marine resources (new result)

- 12.65 In response to its mandate, contained in the Nairobi Maafikiano, the subprogramme has been working in several regions to support member States, in particular developing countries, in their advancement of Sustainable Development Goal 14 and their approach to the oceans economy, including in the design and implementation of national economic development strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources seeking to promote sustainable trade in ocean-based sectors. In 2019, UNCTAD undertook various research pieces to support developing countries from a development perspective on fish subsidies negotiations, fish subsidies and non-tariff measures, and on WTO notification requirements. It also produced a special report entitled “Advancing Sustainable Development Goal 14: sustainable fish, seafood value chains, trade and climate”. This is an important issue, particularly for small island developing States and coastal developing countries, as they are often characterized by vulnerable economies with small land areas that are experiencing the devastating effects of climate change.

Internal challenge and response

- 12.66 The challenge for the subprogramme was ensuring access to accurate data at the country level on levels of harvesting, landings, trade and prices in targeted fish species. In response, the subprogramme will complement the data gaps and plans to develop a framework that will allow for the extraction of relevant data from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Fisheries Support Estimate database or that have been submitted under WTO notifications. By

ensuring the availability of comprehensive data on fisheries and subsidies, the subprogramme will strengthen the capacities of member States to formulate and further adopt national oceans economies and trade strategies aimed at conservation and the sustainable use of oceans and their resources while seeking to promote sustainable trade in ocean-based sectors.

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

- 12.67 This work is expected to contribute to ensuring that international trade and commodities are an engine for prosperity, inclusiveness and sustainable development through the participation of all member States by building economic diversification, value addition and resilience in coastal economies through the development of sectors related to the oceans economy (in particular, fisheries), which would be demonstrated by the formulation and adoption of national oceans economies and trade strategies by two countries, as well the implementation of priority actions by an increased number of member States.

Table 12.9
Performance measure

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Member States have an increased awareness of the importance of the oceans economy as a result of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) activities at the Eleventh Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, the first Oceans Forum on Trade-related Aspects of Sustainable Development Goal 14 and two field missions on national oceans economies and trade strategies	Member States have an increased understanding of the importance of national oceans economies and trade strategies, including as a result of the second Oceans Forum on Trade-related Aspects of Sustainable Development Goal 14	Member States have increased interest and are better supported in formulating national oceans economies and trade strategies, including as a result of the United Nations Trade Forum	Member States have increased their capacities to formulate national oceans economies and trade strategies, including as a result of the oceans economy ministerial round table at the fifteenth quadrennial session of UNCTAD	At least two member States adopt national oceans economies and trade strategies

Legislative mandates

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

General Assembly resolutions

35/63	Restrictive business practices	74/198	International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development, 2021
70/186	Consumer protection	74/204	Commodities
71/312	Our ocean, our future: call for action	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
74/7	Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba		

Deliverables

12.69 Table 12.10 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 12.10

Subprogramme 3: 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				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	22	21	22	21
1. Reports to the General Assembly on international trade and development, and world commodity trends and prospects	2	2	1	2
2. Report of and background documents for the fifteenth quadrennial session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)	1	1	1	–
3. Reports on trends in trade and on trade regulations and sustainability standards, and ad hoc reports on commodities trends and prospects for the Trade and Development Board	2	2	2	2
4. Background documentation for the Trade and Development Commission and for related expert meetings, including on non-tariff measures and sustainability standards	7	7	8	7
5. Reports of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy and the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy	10	9	10	10
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	42	37	64	33
6. Meetings of the General Assembly (Second Committee)	2	2	2	2
7. Meetings of the Economic and Social Council	1	1	–	–
8. Meetings of the fifteenth quadrennial session of UNCTAD, including preparatory meetings	1	1	24	–
9. Annual and executive sessions of the Trade and Development Board	2	2	2	2
10. Meetings of the Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme Budget	2	2	2	2
11. Meetings of the annual sessions of the Trade and Development Commission and related expert meetings	23	18	23	16
12. Meetings of the annual sessions of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy and the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy	10	10	10	10
13. Annual meeting of the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development	1	1	1	1
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	15	26	21	24
14. Capacity-building projects, including on services, trade and inclusive growth, competition and consumer protection laws and policies, sustainability standards, regional and multilateral trading negotiations, multilateral trading negotiations on boost intra-African trade, in particular in the least developed countries, and dispute settlement and commercial diplomacy	7	15	9	13
15. Project on collecting, monitoring, reporting and disseminating data on non-tariff measures	1	1	1	1
16. Projects on generalized and global systems of trade preferences, on trade, environment and development and on assistance to commodity-dependent countries in achieving greater diversification and value addition	6	8	8	8

Section 12 Trade and development

Category and subcategory	2019 planned	2019 actual	2020 planned	2021 planned
17. Projects to assist developing countries in acceding to the World Trade Organization (WTO), formulating development-oriented trade policies and strengthening the creative economy	1	2	3	2
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	86	168	124	125
18. Seminars for policymakers on the World Integrated Trade Solution, the Trade Analysis and Information System and non-tariff measures, sustainability standards, preferential trading arrangements, WTO accession, services policies and frameworks, emerging development challenges in the international trading system and trade, international trade negotiations, the environment and sustainable development	24	105	48	57
19. Capacity-building for developing countries, in particular least developed countries and economies in transition, on trade policy, skills for competition and consumer protection agencies, sustainability standards, and gender and trade	45	41	58	40
20. Workshops for supporting commodity-dependent developing countries to formulate strategies and policies and harness development gains, and respond to the challenges and opportunities of commodity markets	9	6	10	10
21. Panel discussion on changing international trade landscape and trade costs	1	1	1	1
22. Panel discussions on challenges and opportunities of international trade for the promotion of sustainable development	2	9	2	12
23. Ad hoc expert discussion on the role of competition law and policy and on consumer protection and policy	1	1	1	1
24. Geneva Trade and Development Workshop series, held jointly by UNCTAD, WTO, the University of Geneva and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies	4	5	4	4
Publications (number of publications)	36	48	31	35
25. Publications on trade and sector-specific publications	4	6	1	5
26. Publications on trade, multilateralism and the Sustainable Development Goals	13	18	14	12
27. Publications on trade trends and policy in the international context	9	14	9	8
28. Publications on trade, market efficiency and consumer welfare, and on competition and consumer protection policy	4	4	4	4
29. Publications on trade, commodities, economic diversification and value addition	6	6	3	6
Technical materials (number of materials)	16	19	17	13
30. Reports on UNCTAD work with competition and consumer protection policies and on the Global Commodities Forum	1	1	2	2
31. Handbooks and policy briefs on classification of non-tariff measures, the Generalized System of Preferences and effective competition and/or consumer protection agencies	3	7	3	3
32. <i>Manual on Consumer Protection</i>	1	1	1	1
33. Model law on competition	1	–	2	1
34. Materials on competition and consumer protection under the UNCTAD Research Partnership Platform	2	1	2	1
35. UNCTAD, WTO and International Trade Centre publication <i>World Tariff Profiles</i>	1	1	1	1
36. Trade-related aspects of the <i>Sustainable Development Goals Report</i>	1	1	1	1
37. Flagship report of the United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standards	–	–	1	–
38. UNCTAD, Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and regional commissions reports <i>World Economic Situation and Prospects</i>	1	1	1	1
39. Training modules on topics in international trade negotiations	5	6	3	2

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: advisory services on trade-related decision-making, integration into the global economy and participation in regional and multilateral trade agreements, integration of trade concerns into national trade and services policies,

Category and subcategory	2019 planned	2019 actual	2020 planned	2021 planned
cooperation and partnerships for inclusive growth and sustainable development, trade and gender, developing competition and consumer protection frameworks, trade and environment issues and creative economy potential for sustainable development.				
Databases and substantive digital materials: World Integrated Trade Solution and Trade Analysis and Information System.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standards; Global Commodities Forum; multi-stakeholder meeting on commodities and development; Global Services Forum; Non-Tariff Measures Week; BioTrade Congress; event on trade and gender; events on illicit trade (2); creative economy event; lectures and exhibits on issues related to the work of the subprogramme; newsletters on the Generalized System of Preferences and on UNCTAD work on competition and consumer protection; brochures and flyers on trade and gender and on commodity policy research and implementation and projects; and booklets and fact sheets related to the work of the subprogramme.				
External and media relations: press releases and op-eds.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: proceedings of meetings conducted by the subprogramme; online training course on non-tariff measures; interactive tools related to national competition and consumer protection laws, commercial diplomacy and dispute settlement; UNCTAD, WTO and International Trade Centre website on trade-related Sustainable Development Goals and indicators; electronic version of the model law on competition; and teaching package on trade and gender.				

Subprogramme 4 Technology and logistics

Objective

- 12.70 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to harness innovation and technology, including e-commerce and the digital economy, improve trade logistics and increase human capacities for inclusive and sustainable trade and development in developing countries and economies in transition.

2. Strategy

- 12.71 To contribute to harnessing innovation and technology for inclusive and sustainable trade and development in developing countries and economies in transition, the subprogramme will continue to foster international dialogue and consensus-building as the secretariat of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, which is expected to result in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and the implementation of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism. The subprogramme will also continue to carry out research and analysis on science, technology and innovation for development through its flagship publication *Technology and Innovation Report*, as well as other reports analysing policy options in science, technology and innovation for development, including the chapter on science, technology and innovation of the report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development. This work is expected to result in better-informed policies and decision-making on science, technology and innovation and their interactions with development objectives. The subprogramme will also provide technical assistance on science, technology and innovation for development through science technology and innovation policy reviews, supporting the implementation of technology assessment and foresight exercises in developing countries and inputs to the United Nations inter-agency task team on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism. This work is expected to result in better capacities of beneficiary countries to harness science, technology and innovation to support their national development strategies. Past results in this area include the science, technology and innovation policy reviews undertaken for Ethiopia and Panama in 2019. In Panama, the recommendations of the science, technology and innovation policy review were used by the National Secretariat for Science, Technology and Innovation as a major input for the preparation of the new national science, technology and innovation policy document for the period

2020–2025. In Ethiopia, the Ministry of Innovation and Technology has requested UNCTAD support on the formulation of the new science, technology and innovation policy, taking into consideration the findings of the science, technology and innovation policy review. This ultimately contributed to progress towards target 9.b of the Sustainable Development Goals, on supporting domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries, including by ensuring a conducive policy environment for, inter alia, industrial diversification and value addition to commodities.

- 12.72 To contribute to harnessing e-commerce and the digital economy for inclusive and sustainable trade and development in developing countries and economies in transition, the subprogramme will continue to facilitate international dialogue and consensus-building through servicing the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on e-Commerce and the Digital Economy and eCommerce Week, including its regional editions. This work is expected to result in increased consensus on and awareness of policy requirements to harness the digital economy for development. The subprogramme will also carry out research and analysis on the digital economy and e-commerce and development, including through the flagship publication *Digital Economy Report* and other reports analysing policy options on e-commerce and the digital economy. The subprogramme will also respond to a rapidly growing number of requests for capacity-building on this specific subject from developing countries, especially least developed countries. In addition, the subprogramme will provide technical assistance and advisory services, including by undertaking Rapid eTrade Readiness Assessments, assisting in the development of national e-commerce strategies and legal frameworks on e-commerce, undertaking the statistical measurement of e-commerce and the digital economy and coordinating the multi-stakeholder eTrade for All initiative and managing the eTrade for Women initiative. This work is expected to result in the strengthened capacity of developing countries and least developed countries to harness the digital economy for development objectives, including in terms of integrating women and vulnerable groups into e-commerce and the digital economy. Past results in this area include ground-breaking research and analysis conducted by the subprogramme, captured in the *Digital Economy Report 2019*, which highlighted the role of digital data and platformization as the two main drivers of value creation in the digital era. The report contained proposals for concrete socioeconomic and legal and regulatory policy responses to bridge existing divides, which will support member States in progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal 8, on promoting sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. This analysis will feed into the next session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on e-Commerce and the Digital Economy, at the request of member States, and, for the first time, into the discussions of the Trade and Development Board and various sessions of eCommerce Week. The Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy was set up as a result of those intergovernmental deliberations and it is preparing guidelines for the production of statistics on the digital economy.
- 12.73 To contribute to improving trade logistics for inclusive and sustainable trade and development in developing countries and economies in transition, the subprogramme will continue to carry out research and analysis on trade facilitation and transport and development, including through the flagship report *Review of Maritime Transport* and other research reports containing analysis of data and policy options for developing countries to improve transport, trade facilitation and trade logistics legislation. The subprogramme will also continue to address specific trade logistics challenges, including those affecting small island developing States and landlocked countries, including through the development and implementation of appropriate institutions, legal frameworks and technical solutions for the facilitation of trade and transport. This work is expected to result in enhanced trade logistics that connect beneficiary countries to international markets in a more resilient and sustainable way, while enhancing transparency and efficiency in trade, including through the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA). The subprogramme will also continue to support the active participation of developing countries in transport-related and trade facilitation intergovernmental dialogue and negotiations, including at the regional level, and will further support them in the implementation of the resulting outcomes related to trade facilitation. This work is expected to result in improved capacity to implement trade facilitation and transport measures for sustainable development. Past results in this area include improved efficiency and sustainability of

trade logistics as a result of ASYCUDA being implemented or upgraded in over 22 countries, resulting in improved regulatory compliance, faster goods clearance and increased tariff revenues. UNCTAD also supported the Transit Transport Coordination Authority of the Northern Corridor, which connects countries in East Africa along a North-South axis, and the Central Corridor Transit Transport Facilitation Agency, which connects the same countries along an East-West axis, resulting in the preparation of sustainable freight transport strategies and action plans, contributing to progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 9. Progress has also been made in the areas of climate change impacts and adaptation for seaports and other coastal transport infrastructure, as the work of UNCTAD on these areas has informed key international discussions and references on the issue, including *Global Warming of 1.5°C: An IPCC Special Report on the Impacts of Global Warming of 1.5°C above Pre-Industrial Levels and Related Global Greenhouse Gas Emission Pathways, in the Context of Strengthening the Global Response to the Threat of Climate Change, Sustainable Development, and Efforts to Eradicate Poverty* (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2018) and the *IPCC 2019 Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate* (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2019).

- 12.74 To contribute to increasing human capacities for inclusive and sustainable trade and development in developing countries and economies in transition, the subprogramme will deliver targeted training activities to relevant stakeholders and government experts in the field of trade and the related fields of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development through the regional and Geneva-based courses on key issues on the international economic agenda. This work is expected to result in better capacity of developing countries to assess, analyse and formulate policies on important issues related to macroeconomy, trade, investment and technology, including information and communications technology, for development. The subprogramme will also deliver capacity-building services through its Training Development in the Field of International Trade (TrainForTrade) programme, which is aimed at reinforcing the human capacities in developing countries on various aspect of trade and development policies, including port management. This work is expected to result in developing countries being in a better position to plan and implement trade and development policies that are more inclusive and sustainable. Past results in this area include the enhanced capacity of 120 countries to produce reliable international trade statistics after the support from the TrainForTrade course, in partnership with the Statistics Division of the Secretariat and WTO. For instance, following the 2019 TrainForTrade blended-learning activities, States members of the West African Economic and Monetary Union presented the first trade-in-services statistical data for their countries during a dedicated workshop held in Togo in December 2019 under the auspices of UNCTAD, contributing to progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 16, including target 16.6, on developing effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 12.75 A planned result for 2019, which was improved understanding and adoption, at the national and international levels, by developing countries and countries with economies in transition of policy options and best practices in science, technology and innovation for development, including information and communications technologies, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by at least 30 specific actions taken by developing countries and countries with economies in transition to implement programmes aimed at enhancing the contributions of science, technology and innovation and information and communications technologies to development, with the assistance of UNCTAD. They included, for instance, 15 actions taken by least developed countries in preparing Rapid eTrade Readiness Assessments, with the assistance of UNCTAD, which often provided them, for the first time, with a holistic assessment of and concrete policy recommendations for enhancing their ability to take part in and benefit from e-commerce and digital transformation. Moreover, in West Africa, following the UNCTAD Rapid eTrade Readiness Assessments of six member States, the West African Economic and Monetary Union decided to use the Assessments as the basis of a regional e-commerce strategy. The Assessments also resulted in requests for assistance from member States for improving their

legal frameworks and requests from Bhutan, Myanmar and Togo for assistance in developing e-commerce strategies. The first cohort of seven eTrade for Women Advocates, who were announced in September 2019, started inspiring the next generation of female entrepreneurs and helped to make the voices of women leaders in e-commerce better heard in policymaking processes.

Programme performance in 2019: improved capacity of port managers to connect to international markets and global value chains

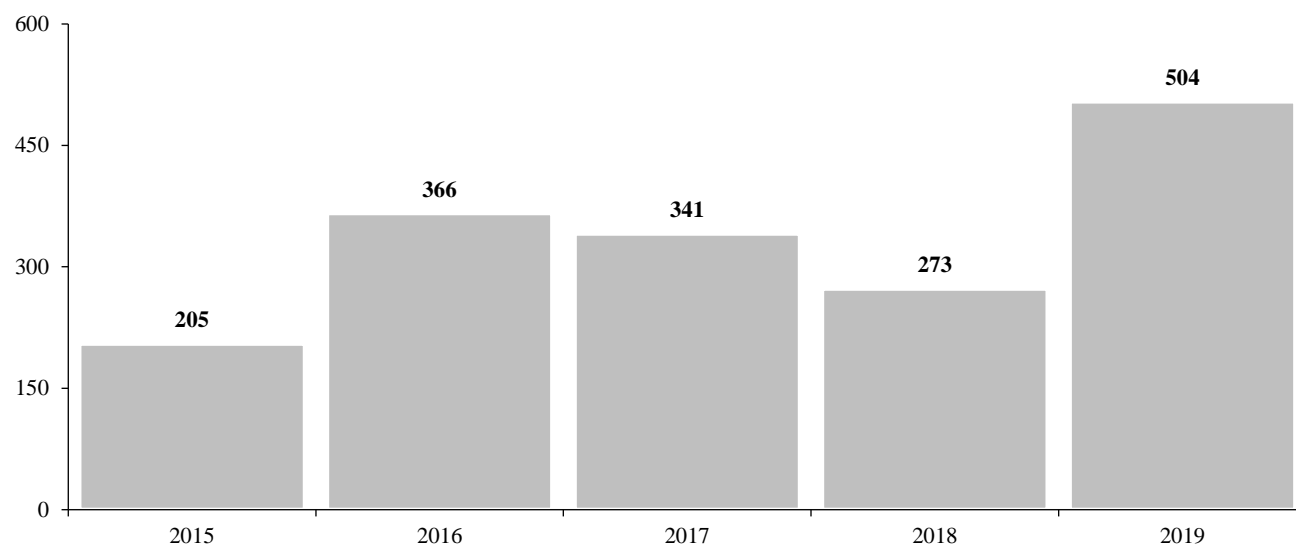
- 12.76 The TrainForTrade Port Management Programme delivers training to port managers to allow them to provide more efficient and competitive port management services in order to increase trade flows, accelerate national economic integration into international trade and foster economic development. In 2018 and 2019, 1,459 participants from over 45 countries have been trained under the Programme. The Programme was implemented in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, a landlocked Latin American country with one of the continent's lowest gross domestic product per capita. Landlocked countries have very high international transport costs. One of the main traditional export routes uses roads leading to the Port of Arica, in neighbouring Chile, through the Andes mountain range, climbing from 300 metres above sea level to over 5,000 metres above sea level. This geographical limitation made Bolivian products uncompetitive in international markets. The TrainforTrade Port Management Programme has delivered a full cycle of training to port managers from Port Jennefer, which is situated in the east of the country, on the banks of the Paraguay River, and connects to the Atlantic Ocean through Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay. The training was aimed at increasing port efficiency through capacity-building on port system planning and organization, port operations, including commercial, administrative, legal, technical and human resources aspects, as well as planning for emerging challenges. The training led to the emergence of a new, competitive international trade route to connect the landlocked nation to international markets and value chains. Consequently, on 30 October 2018, Port Jennefer was awarded international classification along with two other Bolivian river ports on the Paraguay-Paraná Waterway, which connects the landlocked nation to the Atlantic Ocean.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 12.77 This work contributed to increasing human capacities for inclusive and sustainable trade and development in developing countries and economies in transition, as demonstrated by the increase in the annual number of port managers in developing countries and in economies in transition trained and certified for efficient port management, from 273 in 2018 to 504 in 2019, as a result of the TrainforTrade Port Management Programme. The new trade route of the Plurinational State of Bolivia has greatly improved the country's connection to the global economy and thereby supports its economic and social development objectives. Moreover, the following benefits from using the port as opposed to more traditional routes were identified and registered: (a) a reduction of about 18–20 per cent in freight costs; (b) a reduction of about 30 per cent in cargo transportation time; and (c) a quadrupling in the volume of cargo transported through Port Jennefer (from 250,000 to over 1,000,000 tons).

Figure 12.IV

Performance measure: number of port managers trained and certified under the Training Development in the Field of International Trade Port Management Programme



Planned results for 2021

Result 1: boosting digital readiness in developing countries (result carried over from 2020)

- 12.78 The subprogramme will continue the work on the digital economy for development and e-commerce, in line with its mandate, and will assist countries in enhancing their readiness to engage in and benefit from e-commerce and the digital economy, 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.

Table 12.11

Performance measure

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
N/A	Divides between and within countries in terms of readiness to participate in and benefit from e-commerce and the digital economy	Availability of information and tools through a multi-track approach of research and analysis, policy dialogue and technical cooperation, including the launch of new network of women in e-commerce	Actions by member States, including the adoption of legal and regulatory frameworks and policy actions recommended by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) through its technical assistance work; improved availability	Increased implementation of recommendations by member States of UNCTAD Rapid eTrade Readiness Assessments, and a growing community of women digital entrepreneurs trained under the UNCTAD eTrade for Women initiative

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
			of statistics through UNCTAD assistance; and the improved incorporation of e-commerce and digital economy issues in development assistance strategies of development partners and donors	

Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Result 2: strengthened capacity of developing countries to comply with international and regional trade facilitation rules and standards (new result)

- 12.79 Trade costs in developing countries are estimated to be on average 1.8 times higher than in developed countries. In February 2017, the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement entered into force. The Agreement contains provisions for expediting the movement, release and clearance of import and export of goods, as well as goods in transit. The reduction in trade costs following full implementation of the Agreement is estimated to range from 9 per cent to 23 per cent. Under the Agreement, all WTO members are required to create and maintain national trade facilitation committees or designate an existing mechanism to facilitate both domestic coordination and implementation of the provisions of the Agreement. By 2021, through targeted advisory services and capacity-building, UNCTAD will have supported more than 50 developing countries and several regional economic communities with trade facilitation reforms, thereby helping countries to integrate into global value chains. The UNCTAD Empowerment Programme for National Trade Facilitation Bodies will assist in the establishment of national trade facilitation committees through a public-private partnership approach. It will also provide comprehensive training on international standards and obligations under the Trade Facilitation Agreement, assist countries in designing three- to five-year trade facilitation roadmaps with key performance indicators and support the preparation of bankable technical assistance projects to be presented to development partners. These efforts will be also complemented by UNCTAD efforts to help countries to streamline trade procedures and reduce red tape through its ASYCUDA system and trade information portals that provide up-to-date information on existing trade processes and procedures.

Internal challenge and response

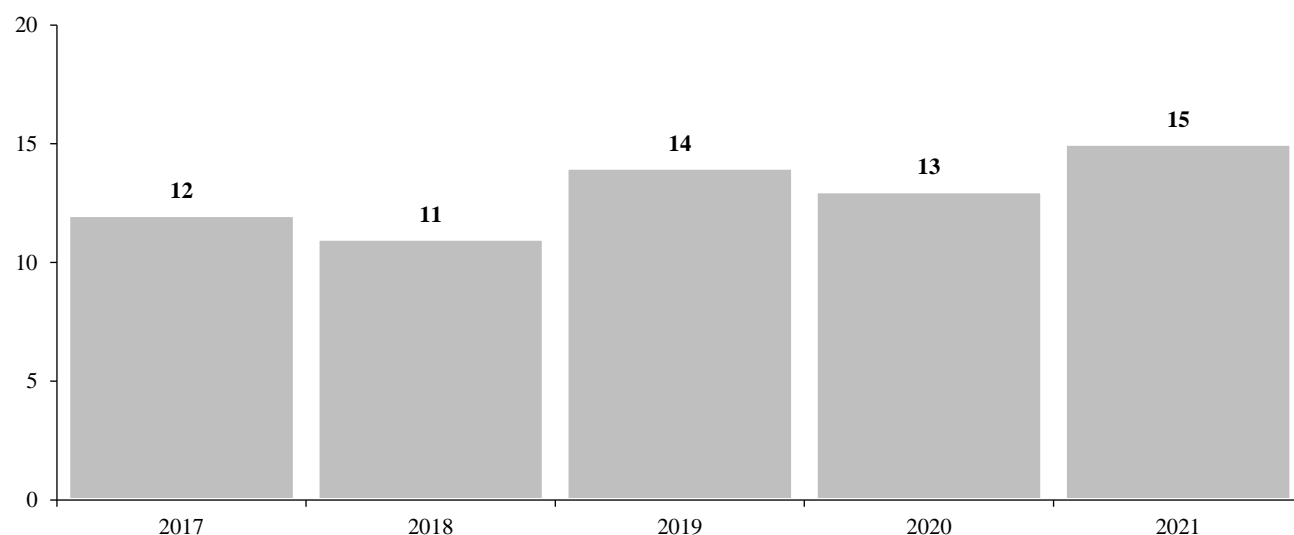
- 12.80 The challenge for the subprogramme was that its support to the national trade facilitation committees did not fully anticipate the high level of turnover of committee members. In response, the subprogramme launched a training-of-trainers module, which introduced a knowledge transfer strategy focused on providing committee members with the necessary training materials such as online courses and tools to train newcomers on the work of the committee. Those measures have helped and will continue to help national trade facilitation committees to be better equipped to face a high turnover among their members and have enhanced the sustainability of the activities of the committees.

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

- 12.81 This work is expected to contribute to improving trade logistics for inclusive and sustainable trade and development in developing countries and economies in transition, which would be demonstrated by 15 national trade facilitation committees being assisted by UNCTAD in 2021 in identifying their national implementation obligations with regard to the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement and complying with other regional and international trade facilitation rules and standards.

Figure 12.V

Performance measure: number of national trade facilitation committees assisted by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in identifying their national implementation obligations with regard to the Trade Facilitation Agreement of the World Trade Organization



Legislative mandates

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

General Assembly resolutions

60/252	World Summit on the Information Society	72/212	Strengthening the links between all modes of transport to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals
69/213	Role of transport and transit corridors in ensuring international cooperation for sustainable development	73/17	Impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets
69/283	Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030	74/197	Information and communications technologies for sustainable development
70/125	Outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society	74/229	Science, technology and innovation for sustainable development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2015/26	Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society	2019/24	Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society
		2019/25	Science, technology and innovation for development

Deliverables

12.83 Table 12.12 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 12.12

Subprogramme 4: 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				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	21	20	25	22
1. Reports to the General Assembly on the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, and on science and technology for development	2	2	1	2
2. Reports to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and its intersessional panels, including one final report (2018) of its Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation on Public Policy Issues Pertaining to the Internet	7	6	6	6
3. Report of and background documents for the fifteenth quadrennial session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)	—	—	4	—
4. Background note and reports for the Trade and Development Board	2	2	2	2
5. Note by the UNCTAD secretariat and report for the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission and related expert meetings on issues related to science, technology and innovation	2	2	4	4
6. Note by the UNCTAD secretariat, report of the Trade and Development Commission of UNCTAD (contributions), and related expert meetings	4	4	4	4
7. Note by the UNCTAD secretariat for and report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on e-Commerce and the Digital Economy (reports to the Trade and Development Board)	2	2	2	2
8. Note by the UNCTAD secretariat for and report of the Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy	2	2	2	2
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	47	46	73	50
9. Meetings of the General Assembly (Second Committee) and the Economic and Social Council on the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society	3	3	2	3
10. Annual sessions and intersessional expert panels of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, including the final meeting (2018) of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation on Public Policy Issues Pertaining to the Internet	16	16	16	16
11. Meetings of the fifteenth quadrennial session of UNCTAD, including preparatory meetings	1	—	24	—
12. Annual and executive sessions of the Trade and Development Board	3	3	3	3
13. Meetings of the Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme Budget	2	2	2	2
14. Annual session of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission and related expert meetings	3	3	7	7

Part IV International cooperation for development

Category and subcategory	2019 planned	2019 actual	2020 planned	2021 planned
15. Annual sessions of the Trade and Development Commission and related expert meetings on transport, trade logistics and trade facilitation	7	7	7	7
16. Meetings of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on e-Commerce and the Digital Economy	6	6	6	6
17. Meetings of the Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy	4	4	4	4
18. Multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism (with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat)	2	2	2	2
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	32	32	32	32
19. Projects within the Training Development in the Field of International Trade (TrainForTrade) capacity-building programme: port management; issues related to trade, including e-commerce and statistics; and pedagogical methodology	7	7	7	7
20. Projects (national, regional and interregional) on transport and related services, including the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA)	22	22	22	22
21. Projects within programmes on transport, trade facilitation and trade logistics	2	2	2	2
22. Projects within the programme on e-commerce and the digital economy	1	1	1	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	514	514	419	458
23. TrainForTrade training-of-trainers events	60	60	55	55
24. TrainForTrade national delivery workshops	260	260	260	260
25. Seminars, workshops, fellowships and training events on transport, trade logistics and trade facilitation	128	128	52	80
26. Ad hoc expert discussions on transport, trade logistics and trade facilitation	3	3	1	1
27. Ad hoc expert discussions on the role of technology (including information and communications technology) and innovation in development, including for the operationalization of technology transfer	2	2	1	1
28. Seminars, workshops and training events on e-commerce and the digital economy for development, including on information economy statistics, economic, technical, legal and regulatory aspects of e-commerce and the digital economy for development and e-commerce, and measuring the digital economy	10	10	10	10
29. Training courses on key issues on the international economic agenda (paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action), regional and short courses	36	36	25	36
30. Seminars, workshops and training events on science, technology and innovation and development	15	15	15	15
Publications (number of publications)	27	18	24	25
31. <i>Technology and Innovation Report</i> and overview	—	—	1	—
32. <i>Digital Economy Report</i> and overview	1	1	—	1
33. <i>Review of Maritime Transport</i>	1	1	1	1
34. Science, technology and innovation policy reviews	3	2	2	3
35. National e-commerce strategies	3	1	3	3
36. <i>Current Studies on Science, Technology and Innovation</i> series	2	2	2	2
37. Studies on transport and trade logistics and transport and trade facilitation series	2	2	2	2
38. Reports on cyberlaws	3	1	2	2
39. TrainforTrade <i>Port Management</i> series	1	1	1	1
40. Rapid eTrade Readiness Assessments for the least developed countries and other developing countries	11	7	10	10

Category and subcategory	2019 planned	2019 actual	2020 planned	2021 planned
Technical materials (number of materials)	13	11	12	12
41. UNCTAD policy briefs on the following topics: science, technology and innovation; e-commerce and the digital economy; and trade logistics	4	2	4	4
42. <i>ASYCUDA in Action Compendium</i>	1	1	1	1
43. <i>Year in Review</i> of the eTrade for All initiative	1	1	1	1
44. Technical notes on information and communications technology (including e-commerce and the digital economy) for development	2	2	2	2
45. Technical notes on trade facilitation	1	1	1	1
46. Background notes for the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals	2	2	1	1
47. Economic and maritime country profiles	1	1	1	1
48. Report of the UNCTAD Advisory Group on Strengthening Training Capacity and Human Resource Development	1	1	1	1

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: eCommerce Week, which is a multi-stakeholder forum organized over five days, with approximately 1,500 participants, over 270 speakers from more than 130 countries, in 60 substantive sessions; multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals; sessions of the UNCTAD Advisory Group on Strengthening Training Capacity and Human Resource Development; and advisory services on science, technology and innovation policies for development, policy and practical aspects of e-commerce and the digital economy for development, measuring e-commerce and the digital economy, transport policies and international legal instrument standards and rules related to the facilitation of international trade, transport and transport security for port operators and the eTrade for All initiative.

Databases and substantive digital materials: UNCTAD platform for learning and capacity-building managed by the TrainForTrade Programme, which trains approximately 1,500 beneficiaries per year; TrainForTrade; port performance statistics platform; online repository on national trade facilitation committees; Global Cyberlaw Tracker; online e-learning modules for the course on key issues on the international economic agenda (paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action); online platform for sustainable freight transport; and eTrade for All online platform.

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: newsletters on ASYCUDA, eTrade for All and transport and trade facilitation; and brochures, flyers and information kits.

External and media relations: press releases, press briefings, interviews, press conferences and news items related to issuance of major publications under the subprogramme and organization of important events.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: TrainForTrade public website (<https://tft.unctad.org/>); Commission on Science and Technology for Development website; ASYCUDA website; Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation on Public Policy Issues Pertaining to the Internet website; eTrade for All website; website on paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action; and online platforms for innovation policy learning.

Subprogramme 5

Africa, least developed countries and special programmes

Objective

- 12.84 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to enhance the effective integration of Africa, the least developed countries and other groups of countries in special situations (landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies) into the global economy through fostering structural transformation and developing domestic productive capacities in the targeted groups.

Strategy

- 12.85 To contribute to the enhancement of the effective integration of Africa, the least developed countries and other groups of countries in special situations (landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies) into the global economy by fostering structural transformation and developing domestic productive capacities in the targeted groups, the subprogramme will continue its research and technical cooperation activities to diversify the export and productive structures of the above-mentioned countries, including through contributions to the reports of the Secretary General to the General Assembly on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 and on the 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. The subprogramme will also continue to translate the policy guidance and recommendations emanating from the research and analysis work into pragmatic and targeted technical cooperation programmes. In addition, the subprogramme will play an advocacy role in promoting consensus in the international development community regarding policy measures that best address the development problems of the above groups of countries, including at the multilateral level, through the identification of new issues and approaches, training and capacity-building workshops, as well as greater interaction with research institutes in least developed countries and with development partners. This work is expected to result in greater structural transformation and inclusive growth of the least developed countries and other groups of countries in special situations at the domestic level. Past results in this area include the provision by the subprogramme of a comprehensive training manual on harnessing the potential of the fisheries sector for socioeconomic development in least developed countries and strengthening the efforts of Bhutan, Cabo Verde and Vanuatu to receive different forms of special treatment while in the least developed country category and after graduation from that category through the provision of tailored advisory services. Progress has also been made in the creation of UNCTAD centres of excellence, which are aimed at addressing persistent and emerging challenges facing the least developed countries and other vulnerable economies, including small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, through targeted training and capacity-building programmes for member States. In 2019, three new centres of excellence were created⁵ with the support of the subprogramme, to benefit policymakers and experts from least developed countries and African countries by enhancing their knowledge and ability to exchange experiences and best practices through tailored courses. This work included building the capacity of least developed countries to better harness the development potential of the fisheries and aquaculture sectors, as well as in the area of duty-free and quota-free market access, drafting and negotiating rules of origin, promoting and protecting traditional products through intellectual property rights such as geographical indications, and integrating least developed countries into global value chains more generally, directly contributing to progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal 17, in particular target 17.12, on realizing the timely implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis for all least developed countries, consistent with World Trade Organization decisions, including by ensuring that preferential rules of origin applicable to imports from least developed countries are transparent and simple, and contribute to facilitating market access. Botswana, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Namibia and Rwanda were among the member States that benefited from training sessions and advisory services focused on the estimation of domestic productive capacities, contributing to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 8, on promoting sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.
- 12.86 The subprogramme will continue to strengthen efforts to provide domestic policy support to the targeted groups derived from its innovative research, advisory services and technical support. The

⁵ The European University Institute in Florence, Italy; the Ministry of Ocean Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping of Mauritius; and the Centre for the Study of the Economies of Africa (Nigeria).

subprogramme will also enhance the availability of strategic policy-based options aimed at enhancing domestic productive capacities through the development of demand-driven technical cooperation and programmatic support within the areas of expertise of the subprogramme. Furthermore, the subprogramme will broaden its country-based technical support to include aspects such as national strategies for the development of productive capacities and structural transformation, rules of origin, enhanced market access, value addition in strategic products, and geographical indications, which is expected to result in enhanced productive capacities at the national level. This is expected to result in a greater capacity of countries to meet Sustainable Development Goal 9, on promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and Sustainable Development Goal 17. Past results in this area include an intensification of productive capacity-enhancing and trade-related technical assistance, including tailor-made support benefiting the Governments of Benin, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Haiti, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Myanmar, aimed at strengthening their trade policies and improving their socioeconomic development indicators. Furthermore, owing to the continuous and intensive support provided by the subprogramme in 2018 and 2019 through targeted research notes, training workshops and advisory services, African Union member States made significant progress in the negotiations on the annex on product-specific rules of origin to the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area during the fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, tenth and eleventh meetings of the African Continental Free Trade Area Technical Working Group on Rules of Origin.

Programme performance in 2019 against planned result

- 12.87 A planned result for 2019, which is strengthened institutional capacities among the least developed countries to promote productive capacity-building and make trade an engine of growth and development, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was fully achieved, as evidenced by more than 15 least developed countries reporting increased capacity as a result of UNCTAD trade-related assistance, including that under the Enhanced Integrated Framework. As referenced above, this has been developed through the provision of executive training and seminars to the African Union and the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area negotiators, as well as the delivery of advisory services to the Least Developed Countries Group at WTO during the WTO sessions on rules of origin, which contributed to the agreement on the annex on product-specific rules of origin to the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area.

Programme performance in 2019: strengthened institutional capacity to participate in multilateral trade

- 12.88 The subprogramme strengthened institutional capacities among the least developed countries to participate in international trade using existing initiatives aimed at promoting productive capacity-building and making trade an engine of growth and development. The subprogramme achieved this through the provision of policy guidance on rules of origin, which define the country of origin of goods. Moreover, the subprogramme participated in five meetings of the African Continental Free Trade Area Technical Working Group on Rules of Origin, drafted seven technical notes on product-specific rules of origin and related concepts, provided bilateral advisory services to negotiators on the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area, including from least developed countries, organized executive training workshops for Geneva-based representatives of least developed countries on rules of origin and geographical indications and drafted technical notes on those subjects. The subprogramme also updated two manuals on rules of origin and preferential market access for least developed countries and produced evidence-based policy recommendations through the *Economic Development in Africa Report 2019: Made in Africa – Rules of Origin for Enhanced Intra-African Trade*. In that report, the potential of rules of origin in maximizing trade in value addition and structural transformation within Africa was emphasized. The report was disseminated through public and private sector engagements on inclusive policy dialogue and better

customs and institutional capacity-building in Africa and Europe. It was also presented and discussed at the Twelfth Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the WTO Public Forum and the WTO Committee on Rules of Origin.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 12.89 This work contributed to the enhancement of the effective integration of Africa, the least developed countries and other groups of countries in special situations (landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies) into the global economy through fostering structural transformation and developing domestic productive capacities in the targeted groups, as demonstrated, in the case of African countries, by the prospective agreement on the annex on product-specific rules of origin to the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area.

Table 12.13
Performance measure

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Increased understanding of the importance of rules of origin in the African context through the delivery of workshops and training to raise the awareness of World Trade Organization members	Improved capacities of least developed countries to use rules of origin in policymaking and trade negotiation processes	Ability to formulate positions on rules of origin and trade-related issues	Participation in the African Continental Free Trade Area Technical Working Group on Rules of Origin and publication of handbooks on duty-free and quota-free market access on rules of origin	Prospective agreement on the annex on product-specific rules of origin to the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area ^a

^a The signing of the Agreement was supposed to take place in June 2019, but it was delayed.

Planned results for 2021

Result 1: building productive capacities for economic transformation (result carried over from 2020)

- 12.90 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the economic transformation of Africa and the least developed countries, in line with its mandate, and will assist landlocked developing countries in enhancing their national productive capacities aimed at achieving structural economic transformation towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, 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.

Table 12.14
Performance measure

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
N/A	Absence of benchmarking on productive capacities	Availability of a methodology for calculating a productive capacity index	Implementation of the productive capacity index by landlocked developing countries	Productive capacity index calculated for all countries, realizing its policy relevance

Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Result 2: building economic resilience in the least developed countries (new result)

- 12.91 The subprogramme has been working to support least developed countries in their efforts to build more economically diverse production systems that would enable them to graduate with momentum out of the least developed country category and participate more efficiently and more effectively in the multilateral and regional trading system. The use of preferences granted to least developed countries by development partners remains low and the share of least developed countries in world trade remains below 2 per cent. To address this issue, the subprogramme will provide smooth transition strategies for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries, which will help countries to prevent possible disruptions linked to graduation from the least developed country category and the loss of international support measures for least developed countries. The subprogramme will also prepare vulnerability profiles that will highlight the key trade and development challenges that graduating countries are facing and contain proposals for the design of action plans and programmes to address gaps in national development strategies with the aim of building resilience.

Internal challenge and response

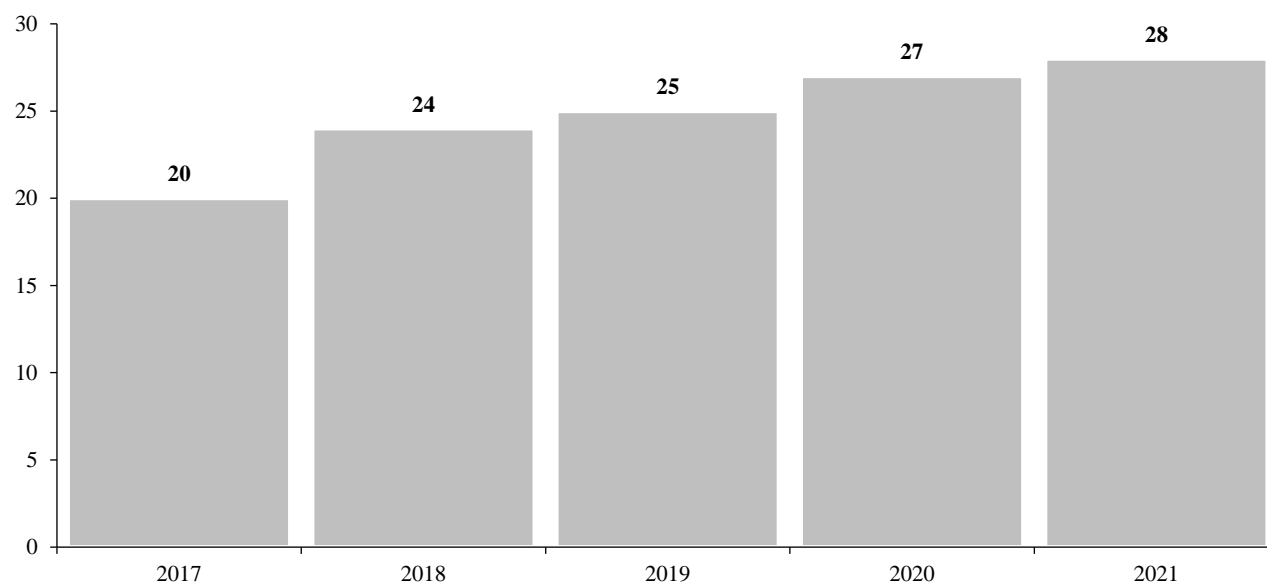
- 12.92 The challenge for the subprogramme was accessing internationally comparable data on productive capacities necessary for the provision of the smooth transition strategies for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries and the vulnerability profiles. In response, the subprogramme will establish a methodology for compiling a productive capacities index and the calculation of indices for beneficiary countries. The productive capacities index will enable the countries to benchmark progress and identify the areas where actions need to be taken to strengthen domestic productive capacities. It will also enable countries to enhance economic resilience and thus achieve their national development goals, as well as the Sustainable Development Goals. In addition, the subprogramme is planning to further enhance the contribution of its recently established centres of excellence in the provision of training, workshops and targeted policy options, with a view to reaching a greater number of countries, strengthen institutional mechanisms in the beneficiary countries and address a wider variety of topical issues.

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

- 12.93 This work is expected to contribute to the enhancement of the effective integration of Africa, the least developed countries and other groups of countries in special situations (landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies) into the global economy through fostering structural transformation and developing domestic productive capacities in the targeted groups, which would be demonstrated by 28 least developed countries experiencing a reduction in their export concentration index by 2021. This would show an enhanced economic resilience through further diversification of their export basket.

Figure 12.VI

Performance measure: total number of least developed countries experiencing a reduction in their export concentration index



Legislative mandates

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

General Assembly resolutions

67/221	Smooth transition for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries	69/217	Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
68/18	Graduation of countries from the least developed country category		
68/225	Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation	74/3	Political declaration of the high-level meeting to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway
69/15	SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway	74/232	Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries
		74/234	Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027)

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2017/29	Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its nineteenth session	2019/8	Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twenty-first session
2018/27	Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twentieth session		

Deliverables

12.95 Table 12.15 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 12.15

Subprogramme 5: 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				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	6	6	10	9
1. Reports for the Economic and Social Council, including on vulnerability profiles	1	1	3	5
2. Report of and background documents for the fifteenth quadrennial session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)	—	—	2	—
3. Reports for the Trade and Development Board, including the overviews of the <i>Economic Development in Africa Report</i> , on UNCTAD-wide activities for least developed countries, UNCTAD-wide activities in favour of small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, UNCTAD-wide activities in favour of Africa, indicators and benchmarks on productive capacity in landlocked developing countries and the implementation of the outcome of the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries	5	5	5	4
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	10	10	31	8
4. Meetings of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and its Committee for Development Policy	1	1	2	1
5. Meetings of the fifteenth quadrennial session of UNCTAD, including preparatory meetings	1	1	22	—
6. Annual and executive sessions of the Trade and Development Board	6	6	5	5
7. Meetings of the Working Party on the Strategic Framework and the Programme Budget	2	2	2	2
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	2	2	3	4
8. Projects on trade, transit and development to build national capacity	1	1	2	2
9. Projects on the Enhanced Integrated Framework	1	1	1	2
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	20	20	19	18
10. Workshops on trade issues relevant to least developed countries, including on duty-free and quota-free market access, diagnostic trade integration study and post-diagnostic trade integration study and trade activities in the Enhanced Integrated Framework and structural economic transformation and progress towards post-least developing country status	14	14	14	14
11. Workshops on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, and trade and poverty	4	4	3	3
12. Workshops on matters relevant to development in least developed countries and in Africa	2	2	2	1
Publications (number of publications)	5	6	9	10
13. <i>The Least Developed Countries Report</i> and its overview	2	2	2	2
14. <i>Economic Development in Africa Report</i>	1	1	1	1

Part IV International cooperation for development

Category and subcategory	2019 planned	2019 actual	2020 planned	2021 planned
15. Report on building and measuring productive capacities	–	1	1	–
16. Report on enhancing coherence between trade and industrial strategies for poverty alleviation in Africa and a special issues paper on Africa	–	–	1	1
17. Research and analytical studies on duty-free and quota-free market access and rules of origin	2	2	1	1
18. Lessons learned on geographical indications and related analysis for least developed countries	–	–	1	2
19. Sectoral, statistical and thematic issues of interest for landlocked developing countries: policy implications for the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 and the Sustainable Development Goals	–	–	1	2
20. Challenges faced by least developed countries in terms of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and actions to take in the context of the final appraisal of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020	–	–	1	1
Technical materials (number of materials)	3	2	4	6
21. Papers on trade and poverty	1	1	2	2
22. Research papers on trade and development in vulnerable economies	1	–	2	2
23. Enhanced Integrated Framework-related publications, including on transit, transport and trade facilitation	1	1	–	2

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: advisory services on the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 and on measuring productive capacities for landlocked developing countries; advisory services on smooth transition strategies for least developed countries; advisory services on trade and development issues for small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries; advisory services on trade issues relevant to least developing countries, including duty free and quota-free market access to least developing countries and the Enhanced Integrated Framework; consultations on UNCTAD activities in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development; and consultations for the implementation of the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa.

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: lectures on issues relating to least developed countries and African development, globalization, development strategies and policy coherence; and policy briefs relating to the *Economic Development in Africa Report* and *The Least Developed Countries Report*.

External and media relations: press releases, press conferences and interviews on research results and policy proposals.

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

Overview

- 12.96 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021, including the breakdown of resource changes, as applicable, are reflected in tables 12.16 to 12.18 below.

Table 12.16

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	65 808.6	62 537.5	—	—	—	—	—	62 537.5	1 452.3	63 989.8
Other staff costs	453.4	641.7	—	—	—	—	—	641.7	10.7	652.4
Hospitality	22.4	21.7	—	—	—	—	—	21.7	0.3	22.0
Consultants	408.4	424.0	—	—	9.6	9.6	2.3	433.6	7.2	440.8
Experts	218.1	351.1	—	—	(9.6)	(9.6)	(2.7)	341.5	5.5	347.0
Travel of representatives	101.1	175.7	—	—	—	—	—	175.7	3.4	179.1
Travel of staff	548.7	585.7	—	—	—	—	—	585.7	11.0	596.7
Contractual services	985.8	767.7	—	—	—	—	—	767.7	12.9	780.6
General operating expenses	1 890.3	1 727.6	—	—	—	—	—	1 727.6	28.9	1 756.5
Supplies and materials	80.2	341.6	—	—	—	—	—	341.6	5.7	347.3
Furniture and equipment	181.6	513.6	—	—	—	—	—	513.6	8.6	522.2
Fellowships, grants and contributions	31.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	70 729.7	68 087.9	—	—	—	—	—	68 087.9	1 546.5	69 634.4

Table 12.17

Post changes^a

	Number	Level
Approved for 2020	379	1 USG, 1 ASG, 5 D-2, 20 D-1, 51 P-5, 64 P-4, 73 P-3, 32 P-2/1, 10 GS (PL), 122 GS (OL)
Proposed for 2021	379	1 USG, 1 ASG, 5 D-2, 20 D-1, 51 P-5, 64 P-4, 73 P-3, 32 P-2/1, 10 GS (PL), 122 GS (OL)

^a No post changes are proposed for 2021.

Note: The following abbreviations are used in tables and figures: USG, Under-Secretary-General; ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; GS, General Service; OL, Other level; PL, Principal level; RB, regular budget; XB, extrabudgetary.

Table 12.18
Post resources^a

Category	Changes				Total	2021 proposed
	2020 approved	Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other		
Professional and higher						
USG	1	—	—	—	—	1
ASG	1	—	—	—	—	1
D-2	5	—	—	—	—	5
D-1	20	—	—	—	—	20
P-5	51	—	—	—	—	51
P-4	64	—	—	—	—	64
P-3	73	—	—	—	—	73
P-2/1	32	—	—	—	—	32
Subtotal	247	—	—	—	—	247
General Service						
Principal level	10	—	—	—	—	10
Other level	122	—	—	—	—	122
Subtotal	132	—	—	—	—	132
Total	379	—	—	—	—	379

^a Includes four temporary posts (1 P-5, 2 P-4 and 1 P-3).

12.97 Additional details on the distribution of proposed resources for 2021 are reflected in tables 12.19 to 12.21 and figure 12.VII

12.98 As reflected in tables 12.19 (1) and 12.20 (1) below, the overall resources proposed for 2021 amount to \$68,087,900 before recosting, and reflect no change in resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. The proposed level of resources provides for the full, efficient and effective implementation of mandates.

Extrabudgetary resources

12.99 As reflected in tables 12.19 (2) and 12.20 (2) below, UNCTAD receives both cash and in-kind contributions, which complement regular budget resources and continue to be vital in the delivery of its mandates. During the 2021 budget year, the projected cash contributions, amounting to \$43,056,300 including 15 posts, will finance various technical cooperation activities, such as technical advisory services, training, workshops, seminars and field projects. Extrabudgetary resources represent 38.2 per cent of the total resources for the programme. The projected increase of \$300,000, or 0.7 per cent, compared with the 2020 budget year reflects the nature of UNCTAD extrabudgetary resources, which are devoted almost exclusively to country-specific technical cooperation activities and are demand-driven, cyclical and subject to funding uncertainty.

12.100 Anticipated in-kind contributions with an estimated value of \$954,700 would provide for rent-free premises and substantive personnel on non-reimbursable loan to support the UNCTAD programme of work.

Table 12.19
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)	Recosting	2021 estimate (after recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage			
A. Policymaking organs	155.6	198.7	—	—	—	—	—	198.7	3.8	202.5
B. Executive direction and management	5 673.2	5 119.7	—	—	—	—	—	5 119.7	115.9	5 235.6
C. Programme of work										
1. Globalization, interdependence and development	11 449.1	10 726.7	—	—	—	—	—	10 726.7	239.9	10 966.6
2. Investment and enterprise	13 312.8	12 656.5	—	—	—	—	—	12 656.5	311.1	12 967.6
3. International trade and commodities	14 757.6	13 952.7	—	—	—	—	—	13 952.7	344.2	14 296.9
4. Technology and logistics	8 755.3	8 133.8	—	—	—	—	—	8 133.8	200.6	8 334.4
5. Africa, least developed countries and special programmes	4 406.7	4 783.5	—	—	—	—	—	4 783.5	120.4	4 903.9
Subtotal, C	52 681.4	50 253.2	—	—	—	—	—	50 253.2	1 216.2	51 469.4
D. Programme support	12 219.5	12 516.3	—	—	—	—	—	12 516.3	210.6	12 726.9
Subtotal, 1	70 729.7	68 087.9	—	—	—	—	—	68 087.9	1 546.5	69 634.4

(2) *Extrabudgetary*

	2019 expenditure	2020 estimate	2021 estimate
A. Policymaking organs	—	—	—
B. Executive direction and management	3.6	—	—
C. Programme of work			
1. Globalization, interdependence and development	5 856.0	5 837.0	5 837.0
2. Investment and enterprise	4 117.3	4 050.0	4 350.0
3. International trade and commodities	3 258.8	3 245.3	3 245.3
4. Technology and logistics	27 236.3	27 200.0	27 200.0
5. Africa, least developed countries and special programmes	1 894.1	1 842.0	1 842.0
Subtotal, C	42 362.6	42 174.3	42 474.3
D. Programme support	584.3	582.0	582.0
Subtotal, 2	42 950.6	42 756.3	43 056.3
Total	113 680.2	110 844.2	112 690.7

Table 12.20
Evolution of post resources by component and subprogramme

(1) *Regular budget*

	<i>Changes</i>				<i>2021 proposed</i>
	<i>2020 approved</i>	<i>Technical adjustments</i>	<i>New/ expanded mandates</i>	<i>Other</i>	
A. Policymaking organs	—	—	—	—	—
B. Executive direction and management	30	—	—	—	30
C. Programme of work					
1. Globalization, interdependence and development	62	—	—	—	62
2. Investment and enterprise	75	—	—	—	75
3. International trade and commodities	82	—	—	—	82
4. Technology and logistics	49	—	—	—	49
5. Africa, least developed countries and special programmes	26	—	—	—	26
Subtotal, C	294	—	—	—	294
D. Programme support	55	—	—	—	55
Subtotal, 1	379	—	—	—	379

(2) *Extrabudgetary*

	<i>2020 estimate</i>	<i>2021 estimate</i>
C. Programme of work		
4. Technology and logistics	2	2
Subtotal, C	2	2
D. Programme support	13	13
Subtotal, 2	15	15
Total	394	394

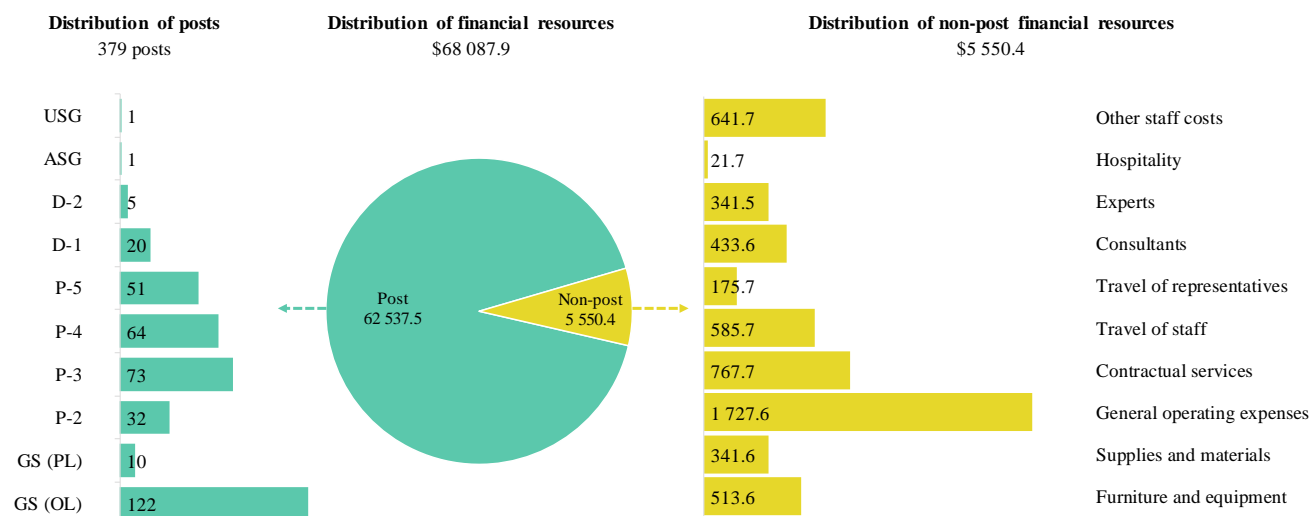
Table 12.21
Evolution of financial and post resources by main category

(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	65 808.6	62 537.5	—	—	—	—	—	62 537.5
Non-post	4 921.1	5 550.4	—	—	—	—	—	5 550.4
Total	70 729.7	68 087.9	—	—	—	—	—	68 087.9
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		247	—	—	—	—	—	247
General Service and related		132	—	—	—	—	—	132
Total		379	—	—	—	—	—	379

Figure 12.VII
Distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Polymaking organs

- 12.101 The amount of \$198,700 relates to standing intergovernmental organs and expert bodies, special sessions of the General Assembly and intergovernmental processes the servicing of which is the responsibility of UNCTAD. The provisions for experts serving on committees in their individual capacity are in accordance with Assembly resolution [46/235](#), while the provisions for members of the functional commissions are in accordance with Assembly resolution [49/130](#). Table 12.22 below provides information on the standing intergovernmental organs and related resource requirements under the regular budget.

Table 12.22
Policymaking organs

(Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Policymaking organ</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Additional information</i>	<i>2020 appropriation</i>	<i>2021 estimate (before recosting)</i>
Commission on Science and Technology for Development	The intergovernmental Commission on Science and Technology for Development provides overall direction to the related programme of work. Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolutions 2002/37 and 2006/46, the Commission meets on an annual basis and reports to the Council. In accordance with Council resolution 1993/75, the Commission receives specialized and technical advice from ad hoc panels and workshops that meet between sessions of the Commission to examine specific issues on science and technology for development. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) secretariat provides substantive support to the Commission.	Mandate: General Assembly resolution 46/235 Membership: 43 government experts One session per year	140.5	140.5
Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission	The Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission has the mandate of dealing with issues related to investment, technology and related financial issues, as well as enterprise and information and communications technology issues. The Commission is assisted by 16 expert advisers serving in their individual capacity and selected from both developed and developing countries. The Commission has a standing subsidiary expert body, namely, the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting.	Mandate: General Assembly resolution 49/130 TD/442 , TD/442/Corr.1 and TD/442/Corr.2 (Accra Accord), para. 202 Membership: 16 experts (the Commission is open to all States members of UNCTAD) One session per year	35.2	35.2
Quadrennial session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	In accordance with paragraph 2 of its resolution 1995 (XIX) , the General Assembly determines the dates and the location of the sessions of UNCTAD, taking into account the recommendations of the Conference or the Trade and Development Board. The fifteenth quadrennial session of the Conference will be held in 2020. There will be consultations with Member States on issues and mandates after the session.	General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) , para. 2 Held every four years	23.0	23.0
Total			198.7	198.7

12.102 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$198,700 and reflect no change in resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details are reflected in table 12.23 and figure 12.VIII below.

Table 12.23

Policymaking organs: evolution of financial resources

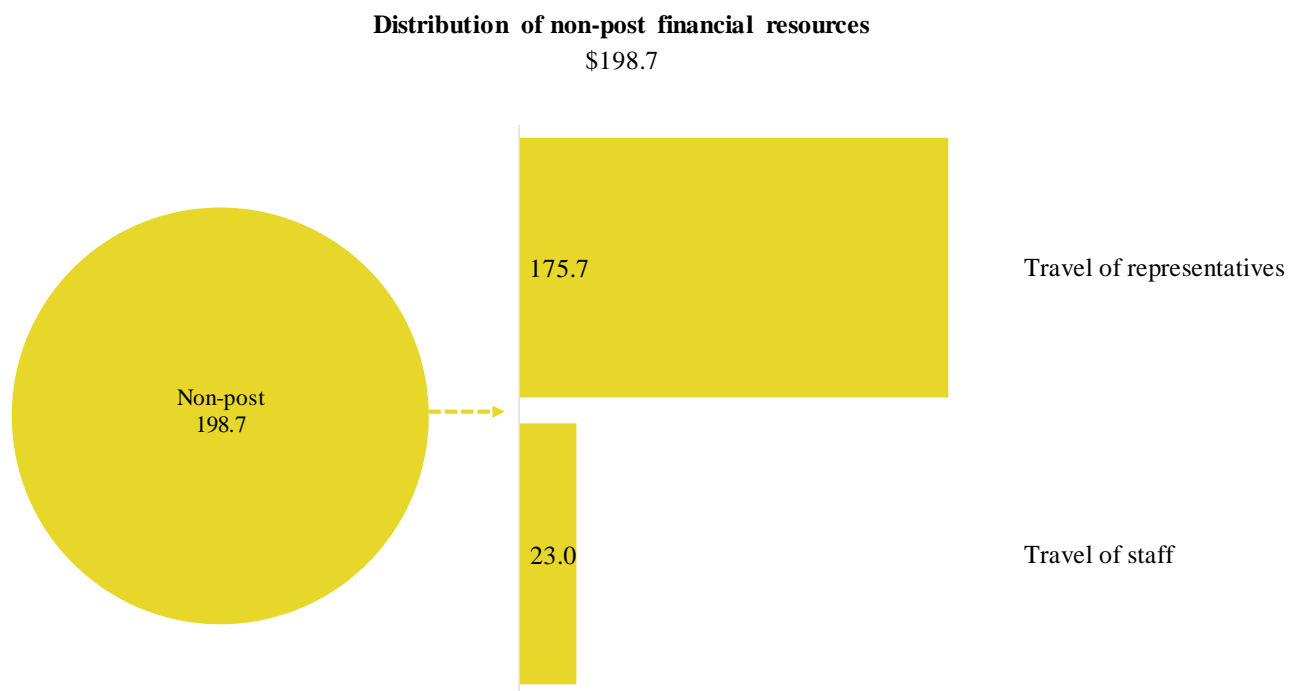
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2019 expenditure	2020 appropriation	Changes				Total	Percentage	2021 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other				
Non-post	155.6	198.7	–	–	–	–	–	–	198.7
Total	155.6	198.7	–	–	–	–	–	–	198.7

Figure 12.VIII

Policymaking organs: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Thousands of United States dollars)

**Executive direction and management**

- 12.103 The Secretary-General of UNCTAD provides overall direction on substantive and managerial matters and ensures the effective servicing of the intergovernmental machinery of UNCTAD, in particular the quadrennial sessions of the Conference and the sessions of the Trade and Development Board. The Deputy Secretary-General deputizes for the Secretary-General and oversees the operations of the secretariat regarding strategic, programmatic and managerial aspects, including promoting strategic integration and policy coherence and collaborative work with relevant entities and overseeing communications in order to enhance the visibility, use and impact of the work of UNCTAD.
- 12.104 The Office of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD assists the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General in discharging the above-mentioned responsibilities, including policy clearance of all documents and publications issued by UNCTAD, policy planning and coordination of

intergovernmental and expert meetings, programme and project clearance by the internal programme review function, technical cooperation activities, evaluation and external relations and communications.

- 12.105 The Office of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD also coordinates cross-cutting institutional processes, such as the systematic inclusion of gender equality aspects in all areas of the work of UNCTAD and reaching gender parity in staff. To that end, the Office of the Secretary-General is coordinating the Gender Task Force to reinforce and broaden the scope of the activities of UNCTAD for women's economic empowerment through trade, investment, innovation, technology and all other areas under the three pillars of the work of UNCTAD. The Gender Task Force is chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General and is mandated to improve and better coordinate gender mainstreaming activities in UNCTAD. In the same context, the Statistics Coordination Task Force, chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD, which has the mandate to improve the coordination of statistical activities in UNCTAD and to exploit synergies, sets strategic priorities for UNCTAD statistics and coordinates statistical activities, including production, dissemination and capacity development.
- 12.106 The Communications and External Relations Section is charged with the planning and delivery of UNCTAD media outreach and external relations activities, web content management, civil society liaison and implementation of the communications strategy. The work of the Section is undertaken in an integrated and mutually reinforcing manner. The main activities in the area of communications and information include the production and dissemination of information and media products targeted to specific audiences. With regard to web content management, the Section is responsible for the effective and timely maintenance and operational monitoring of the content on the UNCTAD multilingual website and the implementation of the UNCTAD web strategy. With regard to civil society outreach, the Section works on promoting cooperation and working relationships with civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, trade unions, academia and intergovernmental organizations, and carrying out fundraising and intergovernmental liaison activities in respect of civil society work.
- 12.107 The Evaluation Unit coordinates and conducts evaluation activities that serve to ensure and enhance the quality and resonance of UNCTAD programmes and projects by providing internal oversight, including oversight and management of external evaluations mandated by the Trade and Development Board, oversight and management of project evaluations funded by the United Nations Development Account and external evaluations required by contribution agreements. The Unit works towards promoting an evaluation culture through organizational evaluation frameworks and guidelines in line with best practices and innovative approaches and provides strategic support and advice to the management on evaluation-related matters, oversight, self-assessments and self-evaluations.
- 12.108 The Technical Cooperation Section is responsible for ensuring the overall coherence of the UNCTAD technical cooperation activities and the implementation of the technical cooperation strategy and project preparation and implementation. The Section ensures the effective integration of analytical work with technical cooperation and coordinates technical cooperation activities, including those carried out in partnership with other agencies, in particular, members of the Inter-Agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity, which is led by UNCTAD.
- 12.109 The UNCTAD New York Office works on enhancing outreach and promotes UNCTAD objectives at United Nations Headquarters and with relevant actors based in New York and Washington, D.C., including enhancing coordination with all United Nations system entities, funds and specialized programmes, diplomatic missions, the press corps, research and non-governmental organizations and technical assistance agencies in the areas of trade, investment, technology and development.
- 12.110 The UNCTAD Regional Office for Africa, in Addis Ababa, provides substantive support, technical expertise and advisory services to member States, regional organizations and regional economic communities in Africa. Substantive backstopping of the Office is provided by resources under the various subprogrammes, supplemented by interregional advisory services.

- 12.111 As part of its commitment to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and international agreements on climate change and protection of the environment, UNCTAD will continue to reduce its carbon footprint by substituting air travel through the use of information and communications technology tools whenever possible. As a non-resident entity housed within the premises of the United Nations Office at Geneva, the UNCTAD carbon footprint comprises exclusively air travel-related emissions. UNCTAD will continue to offset its carbon footprint to remain a carbon-neutral operation.
- 12.112 Information on compliance with regard to the timely submission of documentation and advance booking for air travel is reflected in table 12.24. UNCTAD fully recognizes the importance of compliance with the advance purchase policy and has undertaken various efforts to increase its implementation. One of the measures includes the monitoring of advance ticket purchase compliance in the Management Information System (UNCTAD management dashboard) and sharing the statistics with senior management every month. The need to justify non-compliance was reinforced and UNCTAD continues to make efforts to make staff members aware of it and to encourage early planning of meetings and conferences, whenever possible.

Table 12.24
Compliance rate
(Percentage)

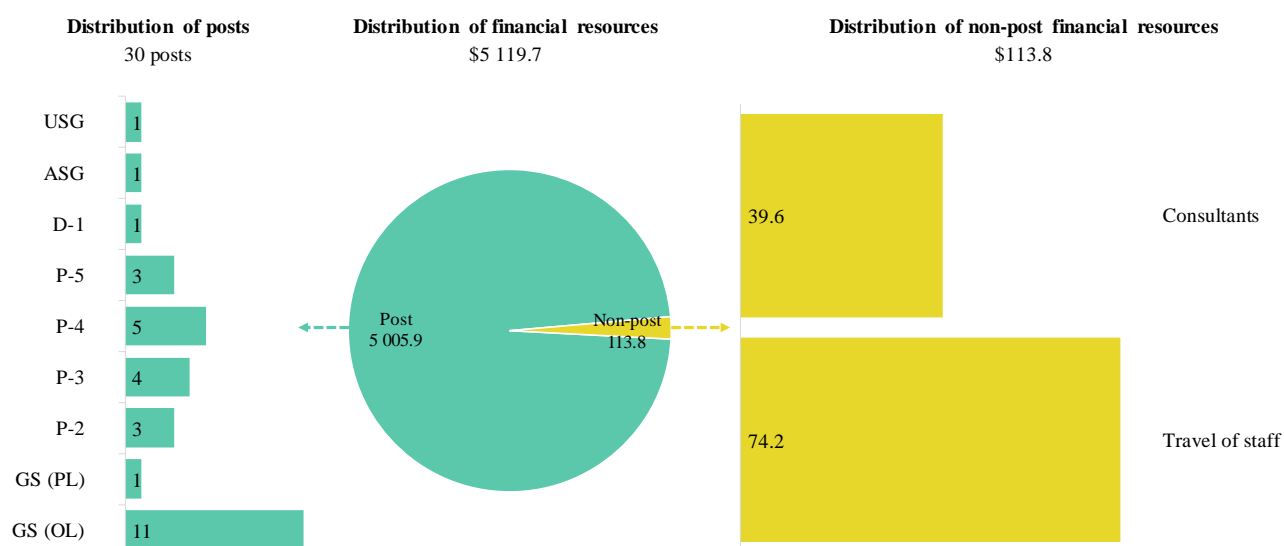
	<i>Planned 2019</i>	<i>Actual 2019</i>	<i>Planned 2020</i>	<i>Planned 2021</i>
Timely submission of documentation	100	100	100	100
Air tickets purchased at least 2 weeks before the commencement of travel	100	55	80	80

- 12.113 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$5,119,700 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details are reflected in table 12.25 and figure 12.IX.

Table 12.25
Executive direction and management: 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	5 575.5	5 005.9	—	—	—	—	—	5 005.9
Non-post	97.7	113.8	—	—	—	—	—	113.8
Total	5 673.2	5 119.7	—	—	—	—	—	5 119.7
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		18	—	—	—	—	—	18
General Service and related		12	—	—	—	—	—	12
Total		30	—	—	—	—	—	30

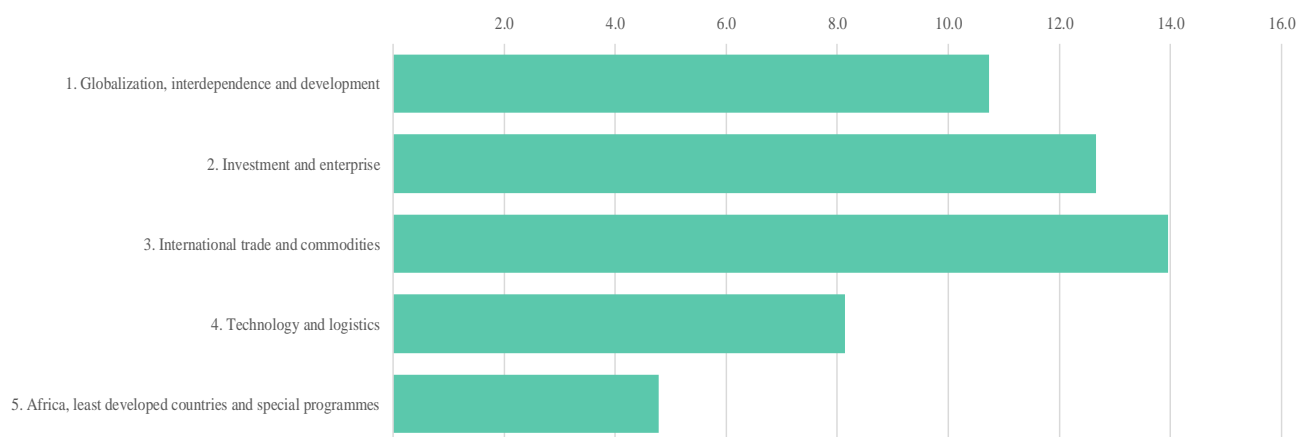
Figure 12.IX
Executive direction and management: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)
 (Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Programme of work

- 12.114 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$50,253,200 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. The distribution of resources by subprogramme is reflected in figure 12.X.

Figure 12.X
Distribution of proposed resources for 2021 by subprogramme
 (Millions of United States dollars)



Subprogramme 1

Globalization, interdependence and development

12.115 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$10,726,700 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details are reflected in table 12.26 and figure 12.XI.

Table 12.26

Subprogramme 1: evolution of financial and post resources

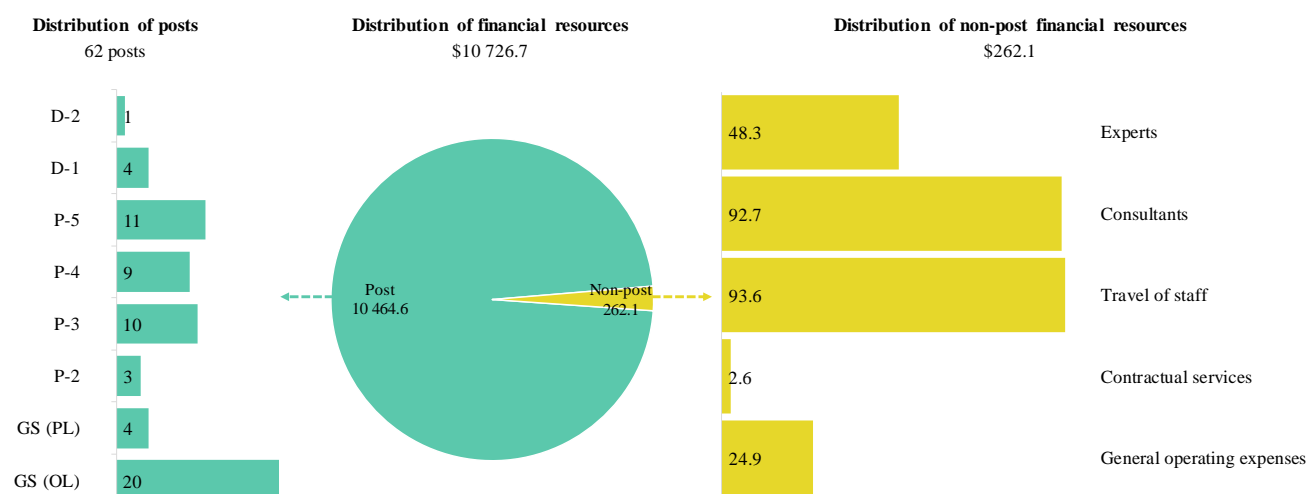
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	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	10 544.9	10 464.6	—	—	—	—	—	10 464.6
Non-post	904.2	262.1	—	—	—	—	—	262.1
Total	11 449.1	10 726.7	—	—	—	—	—	10 726.7
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		38	—	—	—	—	—	38
General Service and related		24	—	—	—	—	—	24
Total		62	—	—	—	—	—	62

Figure 12.XI

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

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Subprogramme 2 Investment and enterprise

12.116 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$12,656,500 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details are reflected in table 12.27 and figure 12.XII.

Table 12.27

Subprogramme 2: evolution of financial and post resources

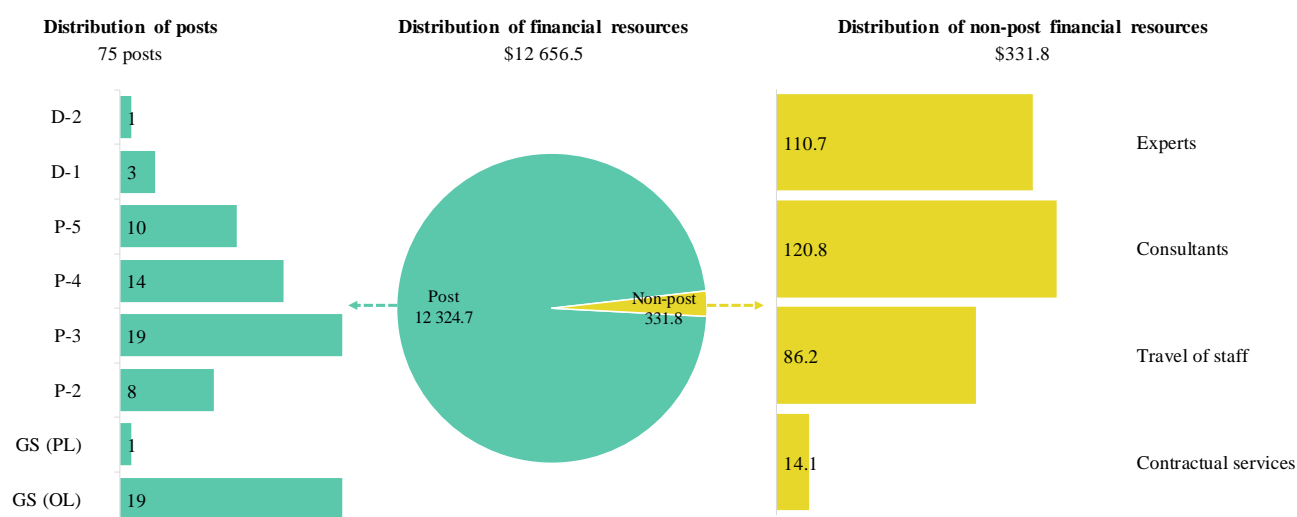
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	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	13 004.2	12 324.7	—	—	—	—	—	12 324.7
Non-post	308.7	331.8	—	—	—	—	—	331.8
Total	13 312.8	12 656.5	—	—	—	—	—	12 656.5
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		55	—	—	—	—	—	55
General Service and related		20	—	—	—	—	—	20
Total		75	—	—	—	—	—	75

Figure 12.XII

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

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Subprogramme 3 International trade and commodities

12.117 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$13,952,700 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details are reflected in table 12.28 and figure 12.XIII.

Table 12.28

Subprogramme 3: evolution of financial and post resources

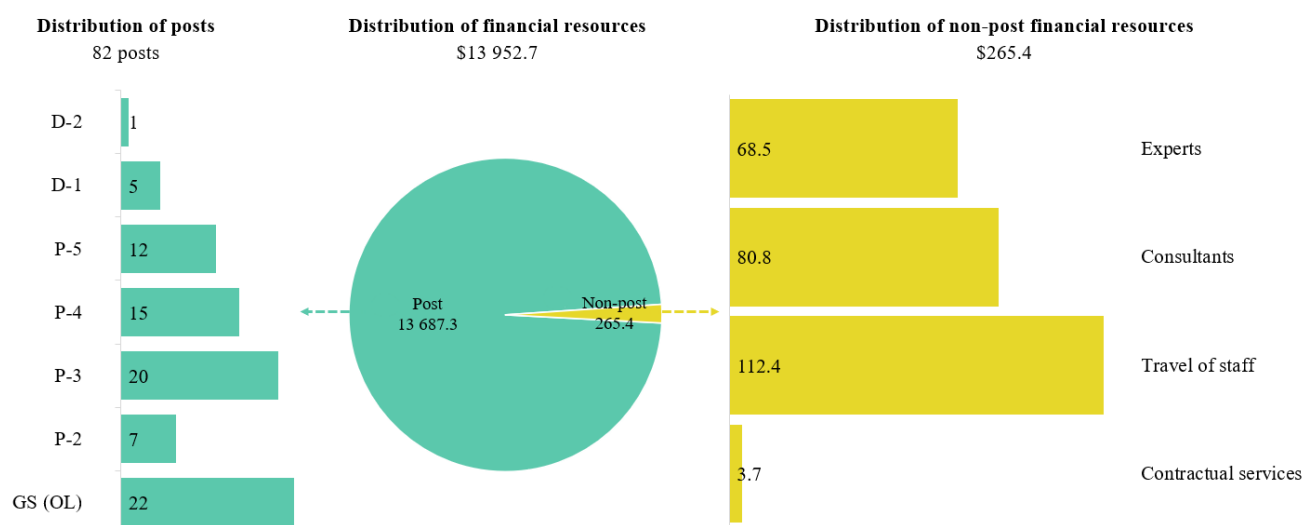
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	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	14 393.3	13 687.3	—	—	—	—	—	13 687.3
Non-post	364.3	265.4	—	—	—	—	—	265.4
Total	14 757.6	13 952.7	—	—	—	—	—	13 952.7
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		60	—	—	—	—	—	60
General Service and related		22	—	—	—	—	—	22
Total		82	—	—	—	—	—	82

Figure 12.XIII

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

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Subprogramme 4 Technology and logistics

12.118 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$8,133,800 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details are reflected in table 12.29 and figure 12.XIV.

Table 12.29

Subprogramme 4: evolution of financial and post resources

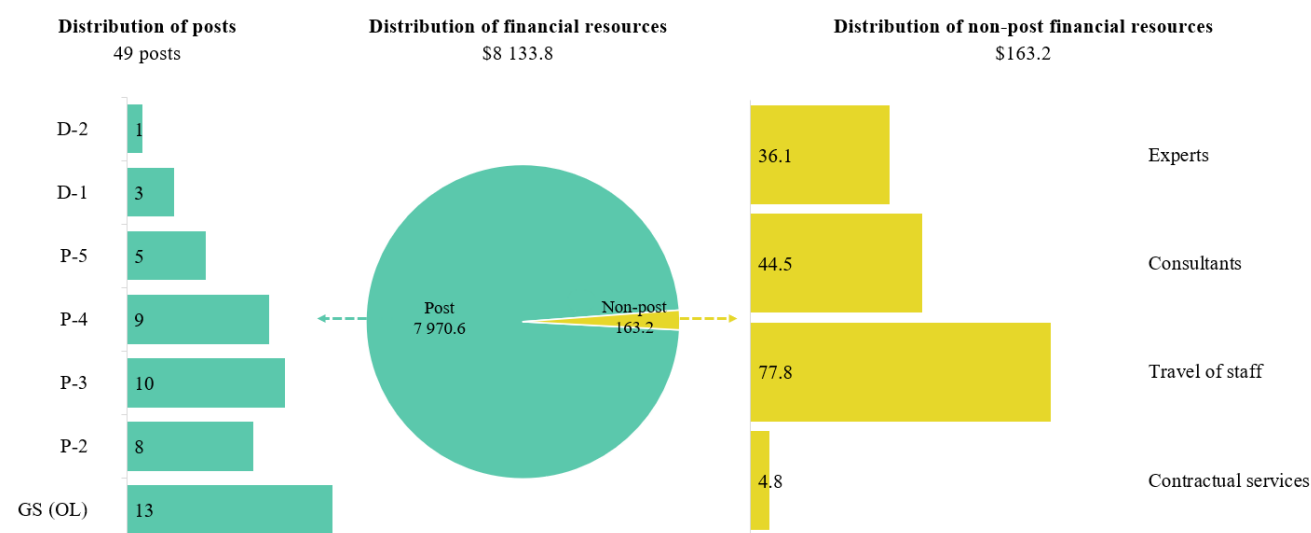
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	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	8 584.2	7 970.6	—	—	—	—	—	7 970.6
Non-post	171.1	163.2	—	—	—	—	—	163.2
Total	8 755.3	8 133.8	—	—	—	—	—	8 133.8
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		36	—	—	—	—	—	36
General Service and related		13	—	—	—	—	—	13
Total		49	—	—	—	—	—	49

Figure 12.XIV

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

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Subprogramme 5

Africa, least developed countries and special programmes

12.119 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$4,783,500 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details are reflected in table 12.30 and figure 12.XV.

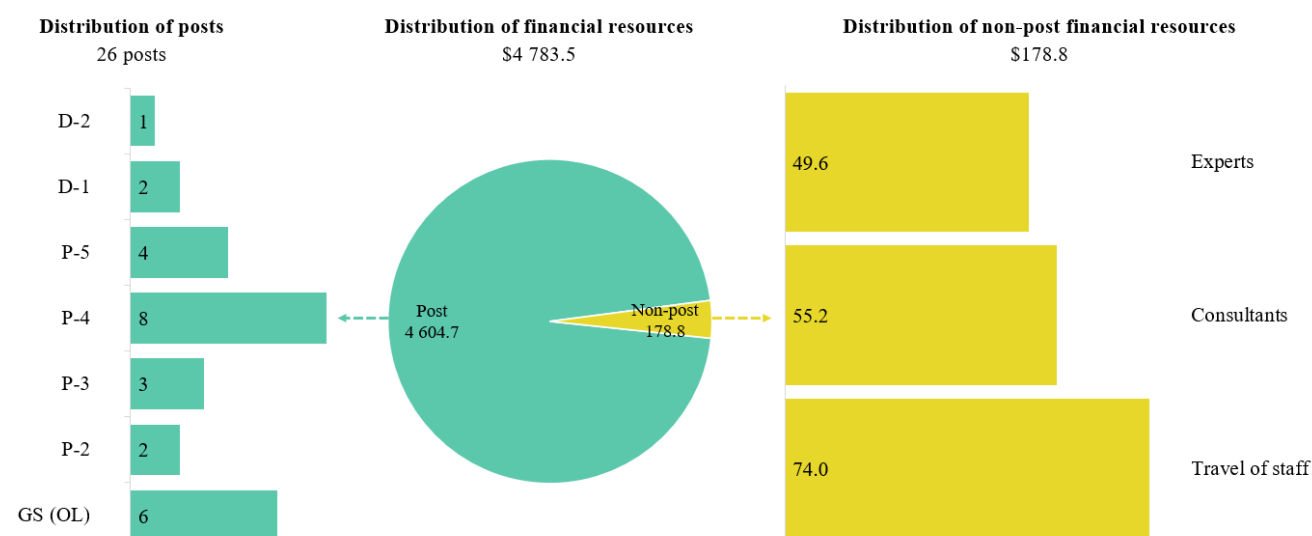
Table 12.30
Subprogramme 5: evolution of financial and post resources

(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	4 242.4	4 604.7	—	—	—	—	—	4 604.7
Non-post	164.3	178.8	—	—	—	—	—	178.8
Total	4 406.7	4 783.5	—	—	—	—	—	4 783.5
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		20	—	—	—	—	—	20
General Service and related		6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Total		26	—	—	—	—	—	26

Figure 12.XV
Subprogramme 5: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Programme support

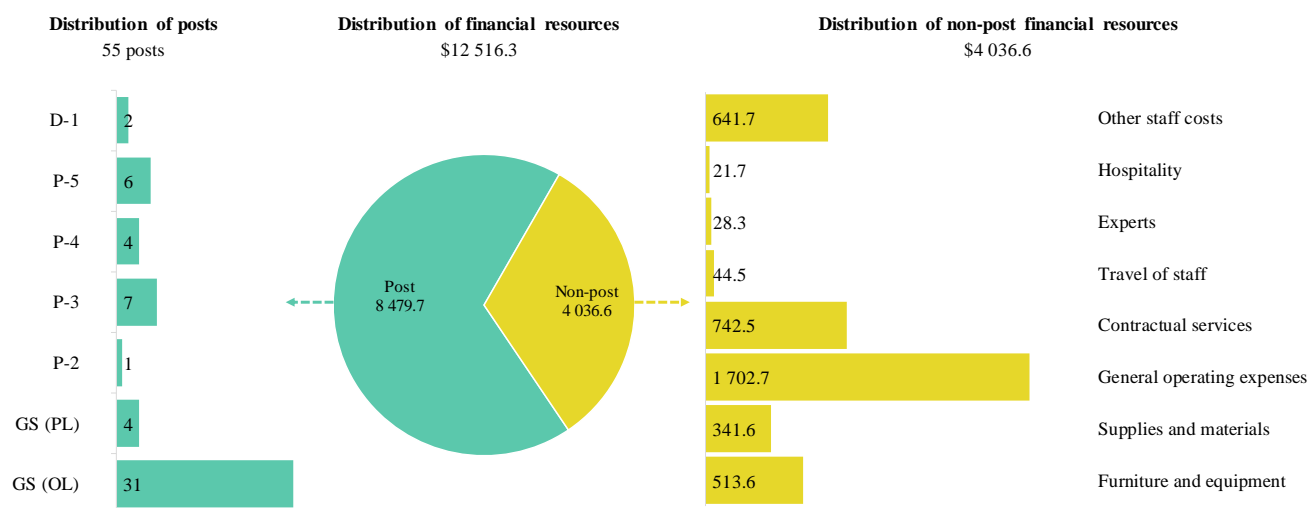
12.120 The proposed regular budget resources for 2021 amount to \$12,516,300 and reflect no change in the resource level compared with the appropriation for 2020. Additional details are reflected in table 12.31 and figure 12.XVI.

Table 12.31
Programme support: evolution of financial and post resources

	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	9 464.2	8 479.7	—	—	—	—	—	8 479.7
Non-post	2 755.2	4 036.6	—	—	—	—	—	4 036.6
Total	12 219.5	12 516.3	—	—	—	—	—	12 516.3
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		20	—	—	—	—	—	20
General Service and related		35	—	—	—	—	—	35
Total		55	—	—	—	—	—	55

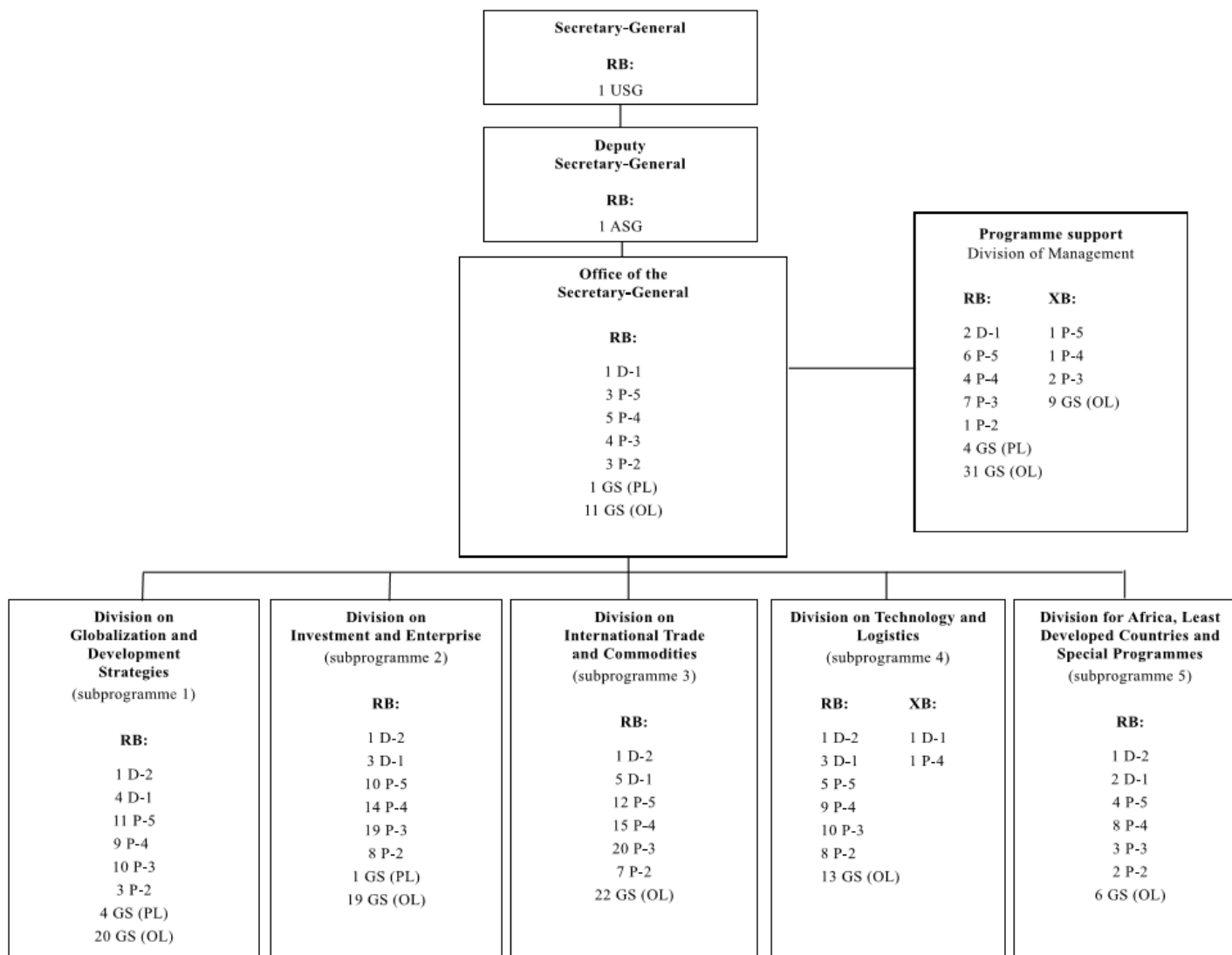
Figure 12.XVI
Programme support: distribution of proposed resources for 2021 (before recosting)

(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); 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*

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

[A/74/7](#)

The Advisory Committee recalls that the General Assembly, on a number of occasions, has expressed concern about the low rate of compliance with the advance purchase policy directive. The Committee reiterates that more efforts are required, in particular in areas where travel can be better planned (see also [A/73/779](#), para. 16). While noting that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has set ambitious targets for 2019 and 2020, the Committee is of the view that concrete plans and strategies should also be developed for achieving such targets and trusts that the Secretary-General will include information on such plans in his next budget submission (para. IV.57).

As noted in paragraph 12.112 above, UNCTAD fully recognizes the importance of compliance with the advance purchase policy and has undertaken various efforts to increase its implementation. One of the measures included the monitoring of advance ticket purchase compliance in the Management Information System (UNCTAD management dashboard) and sharing the statistics with senior management every month. The need to justify non-compliance was reinforced and UNCTAD continues to make efforts to make staff members aware of it and to encourage early planning of meetings and conferences, whenever possible.