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Proposed programme budget for 2025

Proposed programme budget for 2025

Part V

Regional cooperation for development

Section 23

Regular programme of technical cooperation**

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* [A/79/50](#).

** In keeping with paragraph 10 of resolution [77/267](#), 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.



Overview

Overall orientation

- 23.1 The regular programme of technical cooperation, established by the General Assembly in its resolution 58 (I) in 1946, serves to support developing countries, least developed countries, countries with economies in transition and countries emerging from conflict in their capacity development efforts. These efforts are geared towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals, and the outcomes of related United Nations conferences and summits. The programme's broad objective is to support and advance processes aimed at developing the capacity of Governments, through both individuals and institutions, to formulate and implement policies for sustainable economic and social development. The sharing of experiences across countries and regions, South-South cooperation, the use of national expertise from the beneficiary countries to the extent possible and the building of knowledge networks to facilitate continued exchange and assistance and promote sustainability are characteristic of the programme.
- 23.2 The programme enables the Secretariat to offer Member States access to the diverse global and regional specialized development expertise and knowledge readily available within the programme's implementing entities: the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the five regional commissions (Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).
- 23.3 The capacity development activities of the implementing entities draw substantively from their normative and analytical work and respond to the policy guidance and programmes of action agreed by Member States through the intergovernmental mechanisms. This enables developing countries to benefit from both the knowledge acquired through that work and from the experiences of various geographical regions, allowing for the sharing and exchange of innovative and good practices. Of equal importance is the contribution that the capacity development work brings to the normative and analytical activities and, ultimately, to the support provided to the intergovernmental dialogue.
- 23.4 The defining features of the programme are that it is demand-driven, quick to respond and of a short-term nature, responding to an expressed need by Member States for capacity development support. At the same time, in order to ensure that services complement and are aligned with the overall and mandated strategic priorities of the implementing entities, they cannot be delivered solely on an ad hoc basis, but rather must be part of more strategic programmatic approaches on the basis of a thorough understanding and appreciation of national needs.
- 23.5 Member States have recognized that part of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda is the adoption of new, transformative and innovative approaches to integrate sustainability into national development planning, policies, budgets, law, institutions and monitoring and accountability frameworks. Doing so will require considerable individual, institutional, analytical and statistical capacities to address the complexity and cross-cutting nature of the sustainable development challenges in a coherent and integrated fashion. While countries have made important strides in some of these areas, the challenges remain enormous. For this reason, capacity development is a central requirement to advancing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development and the outcome of the upcoming Fourth International Conference.
- 23.6 The devastating effect of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic challenged hard-won development gains and hampered progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The world is facing interlinked global food, energy, financial and climate crises that threaten the economies

of many developing countries. The agile modality of the programme allows the implementing entities, when applicable, to support Member States in designing response measures to mitigate the adverse effects of the various crises for a sustainable and inclusive recovery. The programme will, among others, provide policy advice, facilitate the exchange of information, scientific knowledge and best practices and provide capacity development while increasingly adopting new and innovative approaches, including virtual training sessions, meetings and advisory services.

- 23.7 The programme will support countries in strengthening their resilience to external shocks and global crises leading to rising food prices, rising energy prices and tightening financial conditions, with dramatic implications for social cohesion, financial systems and global peace and security.
- 23.8 While the programme cannot address the many facets of these ongoing global challenges, the strategic use of the programme's resources facilitates quick responses and initial support by implementing entities and is complementary to other development funds, including the United Nations Development Account and extrabudgetary resources, which optimizes the programme's impact through strengthened links and follow-through.
- 23.9 Global and regional entities of the Secretariat implementing activities under the programme coordinate those activities through established internal mechanisms. The Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs, the main focus of which is the harmonization of its members' programmes, helps to achieve a rational division of labour and complementarity between the global and regional entities by promoting programmatic coordination and identifying synergies for operational work. At another level, the engagement of implementing entities within the United Nations Sustainable Development Group brings about greater awareness by a larger group of entities of the specific expertise and operational strengths available in the United Nations system, thereby increasing potential cooperation to implement projects and undertake operational work at the country level and improving system-wide coherence in the context of relevant country processes and cooperation frameworks.

Coordination with the resident coordinator system and other partners

- 23.10 The implementing entities of the programme are all non-resident agencies. Accordingly, they engage with the resident coordinator and resident agencies to maximize the impact of country-level development work. Such cooperation enables access to up-to-date information on national development priorities and better positioning in the broader development cooperation environment. For resident agencies, it enables access to the knowledge and expertise of non-resident agencies. This cooperation can include joint programming, including through the common country analysis, the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework and the poverty reduction strategy paper process, as well as joint needs assessments, joint workplans and, where appropriate, joint fundraising.
- 23.11 Many non-resident agencies have entered into institutional cooperation agreements with resident agencies, often in the form of memorandums of understanding. Some resident coordinators have a dedicated liaison officer to engage with non-resident agencies. There has been improvement in non-resident agency/resident agency cooperation in terms of better communication and coordination, including through increased awareness of one other's mandates, participation in knowledge networking and better advance planning by the non-resident agencies when undertaking country missions by engaging directly with the resident coordination offices and resident agencies on country-level work. The development and adoption of the standard operating procedures for countries wishing to adopt the "delivering as one" approach is an important milestone in providing concrete, flexible solutions for United Nations country teams that are in line with the reform agenda, as formulated in the resolution on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review.
- 23.12 Cooperation with partners within the broader development assistance community, including the Bretton Woods institutions, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), regional development banks and other regional organizations will continue to be pursued as partners work together to align with and improve coherence of development priorities among country clusters (least developed countries/landlocked developing countries/small island developing States), within regional and subregional groupings, and at the country level for greater impact of the programme's activities in the field.

Objective and strategy

- 23.13 The overarching objective that guides the programming of the resources allocated to individual entities under the programme and the overall strategy and criteria followed for implementation are as follows:
- (a) **Objective.** The objective to which each subprogramme of the entities of the regular programme of technical cooperation contributes can be found in the relevant fascicle of the proposed programme plan for 2025 (A/79/6), for each implementing entity;
 - (b) **Strategy.** The strategy consists of:
 - (i) Responding to the requests of Governments for urgent advice on policy-related issues;
 - (ii) Providing Governments with specific advice on sectoral matters relevant to their development strategies and programmes;
 - (iii) Assisting Governments in the formulation or evaluation of programmes and projects leading to the enhancement of national programmes;
 - (iv) Developing networks of experts and practitioners in the relevant sectoral areas to facilitate information-sharing, synergies and potential collaboration, especially through information and communications technology (ICT), workshops and seminars;
 - (c) **Criteria.** The following criteria are relevant to all implementing entities of the programme:
 - (i) Activities should be responsive primarily to the requests of developing countries and be of a short-term nature (i.e., conceived and implemented within less than two calendar years); longer-term initiatives that require a phased approach and that build on knowledge acquired through previous interventions may continue, pending the mobilization of external resources; regular programme of technical cooperation requests may also lead to United Nations Development Account projects, in order to provide longer-term and sustainable support to the countries;
 - (ii) Activities should fall within one of the main work areas of the implementing entity as mandated by its governing body, and the entity should play a demonstrable leadership role in normative and analytical functions relating to the activities;
 - (iii) Activities should build capacity in developing countries, including for meeting treaty and related normative obligations and, through the sharing of experience gained at the country level, enrich the analytical functions of the implementing entity for the benefit of all Member States;
 - (iv) Activities that aid in the preparation of specialized components of a country's development strategy or that help to prepare requests for larger-scale funding from other sources are encouraged.
- 23.14 In line with General Assembly resolution [2514 \(XXIV\)](#) and Economic and Social Council resolution [1434 \(XLVII\)](#), activities financed under the present budget section will continue to focus on short-term advisory services, training and field projects, as outlined below. Activities will be based on needs expressed by Member States and by regional and subregional cooperation groups, either at the request of a State or as guided by the intergovernmental process, bearing in mind the criteria set forth for the purposes and uses of the programme.

Short-term advisory services

- 23.15 Advisory services ensure the provision of high-level technical expertise, the transfer of knowledge from global and regional entities to Governments on policy-related issues and development strategies and the formulation, assessment or evaluation of projects and programmes. The core of the programme is built around regional and interregional advisers who are specialists in both capacity development and in the substantive knowledge of the subprogramme. These advisers represent the critical interface between the countries and the implementing entities, facilitating country-level

access to the expertise of the Organization. Advisory services may also be provided by national consultants, supported by the implementing entity, or any other member of staff tasked with programming funds of the regular programme of technical cooperation. Services may be provided through an advisory mission, involving travel to the target country or by virtual or hybrid means. Advisory services may lead to the formulation of technical cooperation projects, implemented either by a Government or in partnership with a United Nations entity. Advisory services may also lead to United Nations Development Account projects, providing a natural platform to pursue longer-term and sustainable support to the countries.

- 23.16 To ensure that the pool of interregional and regional advisers represents the highest calibre of technical skills and knowledge, all implementing entities of the programme have committed themselves to reviewing their advisory capacities so as to be able to replace advisers, as needed, to ensure that they have the best skills and knowledge to respond to the changing needs of Member States.
- 23.17 In line with past intergovernmental guidance, the implementing entities have taken steps to utilize complementary resources for the provision of advisory services, including the recruitment of short-term advisers who respond to very specific, distinct assignments of a limited duration, as well as consultancy assignments, in which national and regional expertise are drawn upon, in particular when addressing issues that are country-specific and for which expert knowledge of national or regional issues is fundamental in ensuring the most relevant and targeted support. The entities also rely on national or regional institutions, in particular in the context of national workshops, which ensures the transfer of local knowledge and expertise and promotes local follow-up actions.

Field projects

- 23.18 Field projects provide a link between research and analysis that is based on implementation experiences and provide opportunities to test-drive policy or other normative recommendations on a small scale in which the impact can be gauged quickly and closely. The projects are designed in response to demands by Member States regarding a clearly articulated need, while simultaneously reflecting programmatic and subprogramme goals. They are longer-term initiatives and are often supplemented by extrabudgetary resources or the United Nations Development Account in order to scale up their activities. Such projects may be country-based but can also be interregional or subregional.

Training

- 23.19 Training is aimed at building knowledge and skills that will contribute to strengthening national capacity for policy development and the effective implementation of national policies. Training is often conducted through seminars and workshops, as well as through the provision of short-term fellowships, which foster peer-to-peer opportunities for learning. The exchange of good practices and South-South cooperation are fostered consistently. The main consideration guiding the training conducted under the programme is that the topics should play a catalytic role in the development process and should contribute to linking local needs and conditions with the follow-up of major conferences. Even where the organizing entity is a global one, the participation of the relevant regional commissions is encouraged in the interest of sustainability and continued regional support after the event.
- 23.20 Training is undertaken in response to an identified capacity gap in one or more countries and at the request of Member States. Interregional advisers, staff and/or consultants may lead and participate in seminars and workshops by developing training modules, facilitating discussions and providing hands-on training. Training can be held virtually, in person or through hybrid means. Seminars and workshops are held at the subnational, national and regional levels.

Alignment and complementarity of the regular programme of technical cooperation and the United Nations Development Account

- 23.21 Implementing entities have used the complementarity of the activities of the regular programme of technical cooperation and the United Nations Development Account, as well as extrabudgetary resources, to create multiplier effects that contribute to longer-term sustained development results.

Initial support funded by the regular programme is followed through often by developing projects by the Development Account and extrabudgetary resources. For example, advisory missions undertaken under the regular programme of technical cooperation may lead to the establishment of Development Account projects that provide a natural platform to pursue longer-term and sustainable support to countries. This serves to enhance the multiplier effects that contribute to longer-term, sustained impact.

Status of internal assessment

- 23.22 Considering the decentralized nature of the regular programme of technical cooperation, each implementing entity assesses the results of its regular programme activities and conducts periodic evaluations. The implementing entities agreed to engage the support of an independent consultant for the preparation of the ninth progress report, covering 2023. The report is expected to be finalized by June 2024 and will provide information on, among others: (a) results achieved; (b) links between the regular programme, the United Nations Development Account, extrabudgetary resources and the resident coordinator system; (c) the programme's outreach; and (d) the programme's delivery modalities. The activities will be reported on the basis of agreed common reporting standards.

Office of Internal Oversight Services evaluation of section 23

- 23.23 In response to recommendations made by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraphs V.103, V.111 and V.112 of its report on the proposed programme budget for 2023 (A/77/7) and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 77/262, the Office of Internal Oversight Services undertook an evaluation of the regular programme of technical cooperation in 2023 on its relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and coherence to enhancing Member States' capacity to formulate and implement national development policies, strategies and laws. The evaluation report¹ was published as a programme manager's report in February 2024.
- 23.24 It was found that, through the regular programme of technical cooperation, implementing entity technical cooperation support contributed substantially to Member States' capacity development and policymaking, and that implementing entities were highly responsive to Member States' needs. It was also found that the unique flexibility of the regular programme of technical cooperation enabled implementing entities to deploy their normative tools and advice in response to Member States' technical cooperation requests, often in a catalytic manner. The Office of Internal Oversight Services also made recommendations, accepted by management, to improve the sharing of good practices among implementing entities, improving internal guidelines, improving communication with the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance, and evaluating regular programme of technical cooperation contributions to outcomes.

Overview of resources for the regular budget

- 23.25 As shown in tables 23.1 and 23.2 and figures 23.I and 23.II, the overall resources proposed for 2025 amount to \$48,241,700 before recosting, reflecting an increase of \$2,000,000, or 4.3 per cent, compared with the approved budget for 2024. Resource changes result from other changes. The overall increase takes into account anticipated additional requests for support in specific areas, including in the context of continuing recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and increased efforts towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In response to the anticipated increase in the volume of requests for assistance from Member States, all implementing entities would provide additional support to Member States. For example, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs expects to support countries in increasing their capacity to submit timely monthly and annual trade data and ECA expects to respond to a greater number of requests for technical assistance and advisory services throughout the region, in order to support policymaking to drive Africa's development agendas.
- 23.26 The proposed level of resources provides for the full, efficient and effective implementation of mandates.

¹ Available at <https://oios.un.org/file/10201/download?token=UFy407jy>.

Table 23.1
Evolution of financial resources by component and programme

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Technical adjustments	Changes			Total	Percentage	2025 estimate (before recosting)
				New/ expanded mandates	Other				
I. Sectoral advisory services									
1. Economic and social affairs	9 888.8	10 806.4	—	—	350.5	350.5	350.5	3.2	11 156.9
2. Trade and development	1 994.1	2 141.6	—	—	69.5	69.5	69.5	3.2	2 211.1
3. Human settlements	1 052.8	1 440.3	—	—	46.7	46.7	46.7	3.2	1 487.0
4. International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice	927.1	1 189.5	—	—	38.7	38.7	38.7	3.3	1 228.2
5. Human rights	2 676.9	2 895.7	—	—	93.9	93.9	93.9	3.2	2 989.6
6. Humanitarian assistance	672.0	824.5	—	—	26.8	26.8	26.8	3.3	851.3
Subtotal, I	17 211.7	19 298.0	—	—	626.1	626.1	626.1	3.2	19 924.1
II. Regional and subregional advisory services									
1. Economic and social development in Africa	9 203.1	9 840.3	—	—	819.2	819.2	819.2	8.3	10 659.5
2. Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	3 788.2	3 968.3	—	—	128.7	128.7	128.7	3.2	4 097.0
3. Economic development in Europe	2 536.8	2 688.2	—	—	87.2	87.2	87.2	3.2	2 775.4
4. Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	5 029.4	5 377.7	—	—	174.4	174.4	174.4	3.2	5 552.1
5. Economic and social development in Western Asia	5 114.8	5 069.2	—	—	164.4	164.4	164.4	3.2	5 233.6
Subtotal, II	25 672.3	26 943.7	—	—	1 373.9	1 373.9	1 373.9	5.1	28 317.6
Total	42 884.1	46 241.7	—	—	2 000.0	2 000.0	2 000.0	4.3	48 241.7

Table 23.2
Evolution of financial resources by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes		2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Total	Percentage	
Other staff costs	21 618.0	24 754.9	(874.4)	(3.5)	23 880.5
Consultants	6 549.2	5 970.5	696.7	11.7	6 667.2
Experts	1 060.6	—	—	—	—
Travel of representatives	52.9	—	—	—	—
Travel of staff	3 732.5	3 174.0	444.8	14.0	3 618.8
Contractual services	2 082.8	1 645.9	714.0	43.4	2 359.9
General operating expenses	1 440.3	427.3	210.6	49.3	637.9
Supplies and materials	67.2	0.7	—	—	0.7
Furniture and equipment	581.3	58.6	41.3	70.5	99.9
Construction, alteration and maintenance	1.7	—	—	—	—

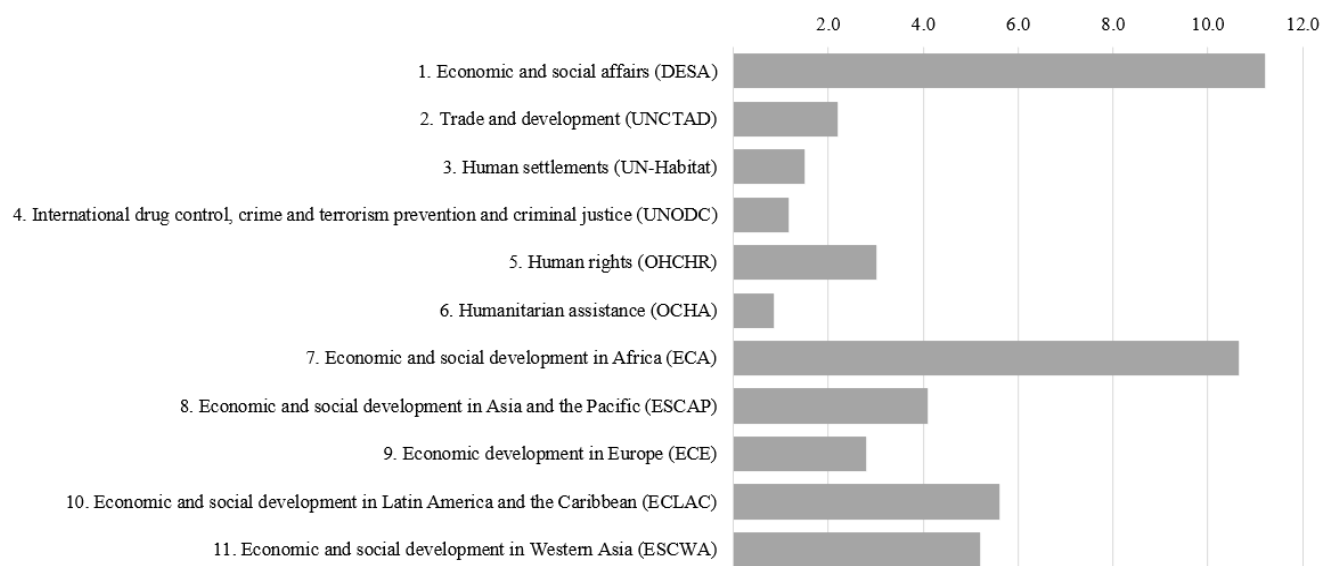
Part V Regional cooperation for development

Object of expenditure	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes		2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Total	Percentage	
Grants and contributions	5 685.1	10 209.8	767.0	7.5	10 976.8
Other	12.6	—	—	—	—
Total	42 884.1	46 241.7	2 000.0	4.3	48 241.7

Figure 23.I

Distribution of proposed resources for 2025 by implementing entity

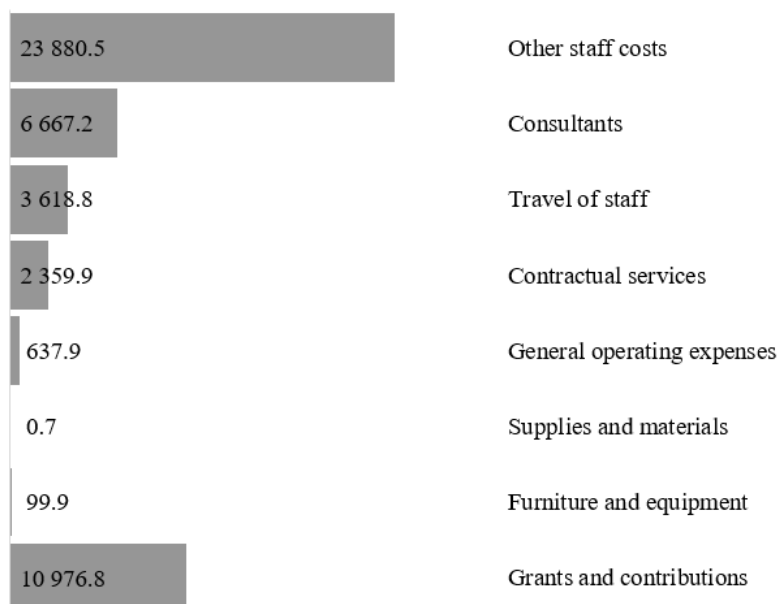
(Millions of United States dollars)



Abbreviations: DESA, Department of Economic and Social Affairs; ECA, Economic Commission for Africa; ECE, Economic Commission for Europe; ECLAC, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; ESCAP, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; ESCWA, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia; OCHA, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; OHCHR, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; UN-Habitat, United Nations Human Settlements Programme; UNCTAD, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; UNODC, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

Figure 23.II
Distribution of proposed resources for 2025 (before recosting)

(Thousands of United States dollars)



I. Sectoral advisory services

1. Economic and social affairs

A. Programmatic activities delivered through the regular programme of technical cooperation

23.27 The assistance to Member States provided by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs through the regular programme of technical cooperation leverages the Department's multidisciplinary expertise and mandates on economic, social and environmental issues to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda through the following subprogrammes: subprogramme 2, Inclusive social development; subprogramme 3, Sustainable development; subprogramme 4, Statistics; subprogramme 5, Population; subprogramme 6, Economic analysis and policy; subprogramme 7, Public institutions and digital government; subprogramme 8, Sustainable forest management; and subprogramme 9, Financing for sustainable development.

23.28 In implementing these responses, the regular programme of technical cooperation contributes to the objectives and planned results of the subprogrammes and complements the strategies and deliverables, which can be found in the relevant paragraphs of the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 9\)](#)).

Outreach and dissemination of guidelines to Member States on the opportunities for assistance through the regular programme of technical cooperation

23.29 The Department leverages various channels to promote the regular programme of technical cooperation. Its website provides information on its projects, approach and funding modalities and houses an interactive map and audiovisual material. Targeted engagement with government officials takes place in the context of intergovernmental meetings, conferences and workshops. Given the demand-driven nature of this programme, raising awareness of the Department's offerings for Member States is integral for all communications.

- 23.30 The Department also builds on its convening power at international conferences such as the annual high-level political forum on sustainable development, the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals and the Economic and Social Council partnership forum, to engage with Member States on issues and solutions to advance the 2030 Agenda and to highlight the role of the Department as a thought leader and source of strategic foresight and capacity-building through the promotion of major publications and key policy recommendations covering the three pillars of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. These efforts are often availed by Member States through direct requests from their capitals, permanent missions or through the resident coordinator offices.
- 23.31 The Department's Digital Learning Centre is a curated repository of the Department's digital capacity-building portfolio, which includes self-paced courses and microlearning and is open to anyone interested in learning together with the experts. The Department sees digital engagement and connecting with stakeholders through the platform as a privilege that allows the Department to overcome time and space restrictions and offer its content to a much larger audience.

Complementarity with the resident coordinator system

- 23.32 All country-level interventions, including activities funded by the regular programme of technical cooperation, are governed by the new departmental policy for country-level support in the context of the resident coordination system and related standard operating procedures for country-level engagement, adopted in May 2023 and May 2020, respectively. In line with this new guidance, the country-level interventions of the Department are expected to be aligned with and contribute to the national priorities and objectives outlined in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework. Country-level activities are expected to be complementary to ongoing United Nations efforts at the regional and national levels and address needs that cannot be fulfilled by United Nations regional entities and/or the United Nations country team. In line with the General Assembly's vision for the new resident coordinator system, the Department's country-level activities are designed in close collaboration with the resident coordinators and the United Nations country teams to meet Member States' requests for stronger United Nations policy at the country level to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Collaboration with the resident coordinator system, including in the formulation and implementation of the Cooperation Framework, has provided opportunities to the Department for partnerships and joint work with other United Nations entities for the implementation of specific Cooperation Framework outcomes.

Review of high-level positions at headquarters duty stations (Department of Economic and Social Affairs)

- 23.33 In response to the recommendation of the Advisory Committee endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution [77/262](#), the Department launched a management reform of regular programme of technical cooperation, including of general temporary assistance positions. This reform is intended to ensure a more strategic use of interregional adviser resources to maximize the impact of the regular programme of technical cooperation to meet the growing needs of Member States and serve the growing number of developing countries. The role, level, duration and number of interregional adviser positions will be adjusted to this new approach, codified in a new departmental policy and guidelines for recruitment of general temporary assistance positions, for the use of the regular programme of technical cooperation. The goal is to identify possible modalities that might reduce the need for interregional advisers in the long run without negatively affecting the Department's ability to effectively address the needs of Member States. The Department will continue to monitor closely Member States' need for support relating to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals to ensure that regular programme of technical cooperation resources continue to be responsive to and effectively address their requests and priorities.

Response provided to Member States' requests for support in 2023

An interdisciplinary look at implementation of the Sustainable Development

Goals – *the Global Sustainable Development Report*

(Result 1 of subprogramme 3 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 9\)](#)))

- 23.34 In 2023, subprogramme 3, Sustainable development, provided support to Member States on a variety of topics towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including on effective national-to-local achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals through voluntary local reviews, initiatives to drive achievement of the Goals such as multi-stakeholder partnerships, and national science, technology and innovation for the Goals road maps. The subprogramme has organized virtual global events, regional events on the margins of the regional forums on the Goals and hands-on national training workshops in response to requests from Member States to enhance the capacity of local and national governments to advance achievement of the Goals through localization and monitoring of progress through the preparation of voluntary local reviews. This work supported localization processes for the Goals in Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), the Gambia, Ghana, Honduras, Mozambique, Paraguay, South Africa and Zimbabwe, with added (largely virtual) participation by experts from the relevant United Nations regional commissions, UN-Habitat, OECD, United Cities and Local Governments, and mayors and planning experts from other developing countries.
- 23.35 The above-mentioned work contributed to strengthened integrated planning for achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals through improved horizontal coordination across sectors and vertical coordination across levels of government. The planning applies the insights and recommendations of the 2023 *Global Sustainable Development Report* focusing on localizing the global calls for action to support transformative achievement of the Goals. This work contributed to result 1 of subprogramme 3, and the related performance measure (see table 23.3), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 9\)](#)).

Table 23.3

Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
<p>The new independent group of scientists gave a briefing to Member States during the 2021 high-level political forum on sustainable development with the outline of the report finalized</p> <p>A call for input is widely circulated to secure evidence from stakeholders, including underrepresented communities</p>	<p>Member States received a briefing by the independent group of scientists during the 2022 high-level political forum and participated in regional consultations, providing context-specific insights to inform the <i>Global Sustainable Development Report</i></p>	<p>The 2023 <i>Global Sustainable Development Report</i> was formally launched in September and reflected in the political declaration adopted at the Sustainable Development Goals Summit (General Assembly resolution 78/1)</p> <p>A first series of global and regional briefings started after the launch in Asia Pacific, Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean, focusing on localizing the global calls for</p>	<p>Member States integrate the findings of the report into their national development strategies and policies</p> <p>Appointment of a new group of 15 scientists for the preparation of the 2027 <i>Global Sustainable Development Report</i></p>	<p>The draft outline of the 2027 <i>Global Sustainable Development Report</i> is agreed and calls for input are launched</p> <p>Findings of the 2023 <i>Global Sustainable Development Report</i> are reflected in intergovernmental processes and decisions</p>

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
		action to support transformative implementation in different contexts		

Expected response to anticipated requests for support in 2025

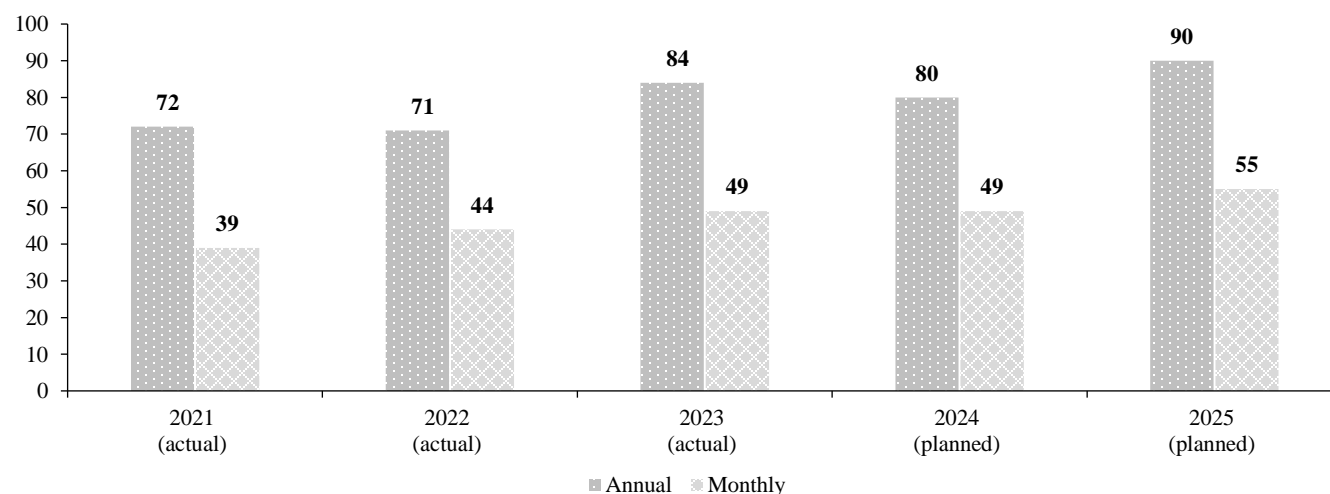
Increased engagement with trade statistics

(Result 1 of subprogramme 4 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 9\)](#)))

- 23.36 In 2025, subprogramme 4, Statistics, will focus on assisting countries in increasing their capacity to submit timely monthly and annual trade data by providing the following: (a) technical advice on methodological issues for the production of trade statistics; (b) capacity-building on innovation of trade statistics methods; (c) training of statisticians on trade data processing techniques; (d) development of training materials and e-learning courses for trade statistics; and (e) providing tools and associated training for the production of new and improved trade indicators. This will be achieved, in part, through the conduct of training workshops and the development of e-learning materials as part of regular programme of technical cooperation activities.
- 23.37 The subprogramme will pursue its capacity development goals and objectives by working closely with United Nations country teams and resident coordinators, United Nations regional commissions and other partners in the United Nations system, building on complementarity and boosting the capacity of developing countries to produce high-quality statistics to effectively measure the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.
- 23.38 The expected response in 2025 would contribute to an increase in the number of countries that submit timely trade data, which is reflected in result 1 of subprogramme 4, and the related performance measure (see figure 23.III), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 9\)](#)).

Figure 23.III

Performance measure: number of countries that submitted timely trade data



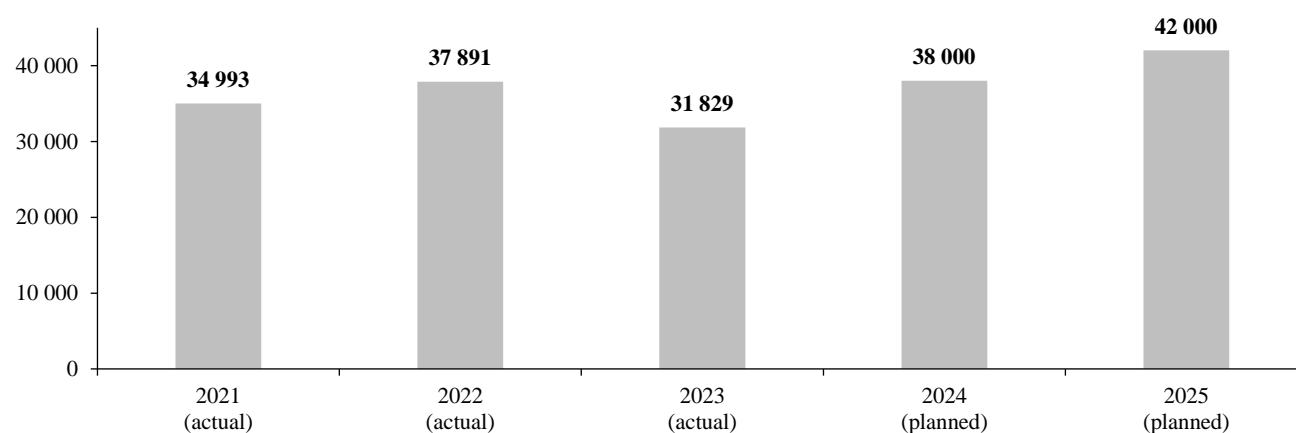
UNdata modernization: a single entry point for authoritative statistical data from the United Nations system

(Result 3 of subprogramme 4 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 9\)](#)))

- 23.39 Subprogramme 4 will focus on the modernization of the UNdata portal and on assisting countries in: (a) providing technical advice on methodological issues in the transmission and dissemination of statistical data; (b) capacity-building on developing and maintaining Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange-compliant data collection and distribution systems; and (c) providing tools and associated training for client-oriented dissemination of statistics.
- 23.40 The training workshops organized through the regular programme of technical cooperation programme and technical assistance hotlines will be a significant contribution to supporting the increase in countries' capacity to maintain such data collection and distribution systems and adhere to data transmission standards. The expected response from these activities will contribute to an increase in users, such as policymakers, being able to gain access to high-quality country data through the UNdata portal and national data portals, which is reflected in result 3 of subprogramme 4, and the related performance measure (see figure 23.IV), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 9\)](#)).

Figure 23.IV

Performance measure: average number of UNdata user sessions per month



Towards attracting sustainable investment by developing countries for the Sustainable Development Goals

(Result 1 of subprogramme 9 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 9\)](#)))

- 23.41 In 2025, subprogramme 9, will support meaningful engagement of at least 14 developing countries in the Sustainable Development Goals Investment Fair platform, as well as their enhanced readiness to present investment-ready projects having an expected value of \$5.4 billion for consideration by investors. Responses to anticipated requests are expected to include both global and country-level interventions involving the provision of technical advice to and training of actors on employing knowledge tools to support the assessment of pre-investment phase projects that can advance the Sustainable Development Goals. The Department will convene workshops, global public-private partnership-building events and South-South peer exchanges, with specific attention given to countries in special situations. This will be supported by evidence-based analysis to inform deliberations between policymakers and discussions with investors.
- 23.42 The Department is also expecting further requests for capacity development support on infrastructure asset management, especially from Asia and the Pacific and Africa (Middle East and North Africa region and sub-Saharan Africa), and on international development cooperation (Latin America and the Caribbean and the Middle East and North Africa region). Requests for infrastructure asset management support are likely to increase owing to new requirements of the International Monetary Fund and multilateral development banks for developing countries to introduce national registries

for infrastructure assets as a prerequisite for further technical assistance on public financial management reforms. The expected response would contribute to result 1 of subprogramme 9, and the related performance measure (see table 23.4), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 (A/79/6 (Sect. 9)).

Table 23.4
Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
8 developing countries participated in the Sustainable Development Goals Investment Fair	10 developing countries participated in the Sustainable Development Goals Investment Fair	14 developing countries participated in the Sustainable Development Goals Investment Fair, with presented investment projects of \$4,869 million	13 developing countries participate in the Sustainable Development Goals Investment Fair and interact with prospective investors	14 developing countries participate in the Sustainable Development Goals Investment Fair, with estimated presented investment projects of \$5,367 million
Private investors, such as the members of the Global Investors for Sustainable Development Alliance, welcomed the Fair as an opportunity to engage with Governments				
Investors followed up with some countries on specific projects				

B. Deliverables

Table 23.5
Department of Economic and Social Affairs: deliverables for the period 2023–2025, by category and subcategory

	2023 planned	2023 actual	2024 planned	2025 planned
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	347	305	334	322

C. Proposed non-post resource requirements for 2025

Table 23.6
Financial resources by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes		2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Total	Percentage	
Other staff costs	6 035.1	7 120.0	(1 586.1)	(22.3)	5 533.9
Consultants	1 017.6	949.5	545.4	57.4	1 494.9
Experts	226.0	—	—	—	—
Travel of representatives	2.6	—	—	—	—
Travel of staff	892.4	820.3	373.0	45.5	1 193.3
Contractual services	367.7	227.5	463.6	203.8	691.1
General operating expenses	232.5	44.7	116.7	261.1	161.4
Furniture and equipment	9.8	51.4	14.5	28.2	65.9
Grants and contributions	1 103.9	1 593.0	423.4	26.6	2 016.4
Other	1.4	—	—	—	—
Total	9 888.8	10 806.4	350.5	3.2	11 156.9

- 23.43 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025 amount to \$11,156,900 before recosting, reflecting an increase of \$350,500, or 3.2 per cent, compared with the approved budget for 2024. The proposed increase is attributable to increases under consultants (\$545,400), travel of staff (\$373,000), contractual services (\$463,600), general operating expenses (\$116,700), furniture and equipment (\$14,500) and grants and contributions (\$423,400), offset by a decrease under other staff costs (\$1,586,100), in line with expected requests from Member States in 2025, including to advise, build capacity and deliver training on statistical data, collection and distribution, as well as infrastructure asset management.

2. Trade and development

A. Programmatic activities delivered through the regular programme of technical cooperation

- 23.44 The activities under trade and development are implemented by UNCTAD. The programmatic activities are implemented under all subprogrammes of UNCTAD.
- 23.45 In implementing these activities, the regular programme of technical cooperation contributes to the objectives and expected results of the above subprogrammes and complements their strategies and deliverables, which can be found in the relevant paragraphs of the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 12\)](#)).

Outreach and dissemination of guidelines to Member States on the opportunities for assistance through the regular programme of technical cooperation

- 23.46 To raise awareness of the opportunities for developing countries to benefit from assistance offered through the regular programme of technical cooperation, UNCTAD disseminates notifications on various training offerings, in addition to face-to-face meetings with government officials, including permanent representatives from developing countries, in the context of intergovernmental meetings, conferences and various capacity-building events organized by the entity. This is coupled with regular and close communication with the permanent missions to the United Nations based in Geneva with respect to the processes involved in the nominations of capital-based policymakers for regional

courses on key issues on the international economic agenda (the “paragraph 166” course), on the one hand, and the selection of topics for short courses, on the other. UNCTAD outreach and dissemination efforts also include the use of newsletters and dedicated online platforms, especially with regard to its activities to support developing countries to build their readiness to engage in and benefit from e-commerce and digital trade. In 2023, the etradeforall.org online platform maintained a robust performance, with more than 50,000 visitors annually, and 11 of the top 20 countries with the most visitors were developing countries.

Response provided to Member States’ requests for support in 2023

Improved availability of digital economy statistics in developing countries

(Result 3 of subprogramme 4 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 12\)](#)))

- 23.47 Subprogramme 4, Technology and logistics, contributes to harnessing innovation and technology, including e-commerce and the digital economy, improving trade logistics and increasing human capacity for inclusive and sustainable trade and development in developing countries and economies in transition. In 2023, the subprogramme continued its engagement with developing countries on assessing the state of play of their e-commerce enabling environment through eTrade Readiness Assessments and assisting them in the development of e-commerce strategies to serve as road maps of how e-commerce could support their strategic development goals. Four Readiness Assessments were completed in 2023, for Ghana, Mauritania, Mongolia and Peru, and four more were started, for Algeria, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago and Zimbabwe. The development of national e-commerce strategies building on existing Readiness Assessments was undertaken in Côte d’Ivoire and Fiji. The regular programme for technical cooperation contributed to the development of the Readiness Assessment for Algeria and the e-commerce strategy for Côte d’Ivoire. In Algeria, the Readiness Assessment is intended to increase the awareness and understanding of government officials of the bottlenecks and opportunities to the development of the e-commerce system through a review of seven policy areas, namely, e-commerce strategy formulation, ICT infrastructure, payment solutions, trade facilitation and logistics, legal and regulatory frameworks, skills development, and access to financing. The Readiness Assessment report provides recommendations for addressing constraints and identifies potential development partners for their implementation. In Côte d’Ivoire, building on the Readiness Assessment completed in 2021, the e-commerce strategy development project is intended to deliver a national strategy, resulting in enhanced awareness of the policy and regulatory reforms necessary to support inclusive e-commerce development, and of the pathways for their implementation. Through an implementation support mechanism, UNCTAD continued to foster synergies among development partners, facilitate access to e-commerce capacity-building development solutions and monitor progress on the implementation of Readiness Assessment recommendations in partner countries. The third review, which was released in November 2023, in time for the UNCTAD eWeek, confirmed previous trends and uncovered novel insights regarding the implementation processes of e-commerce policy actions and the role of the Readiness Assessments, while also singling out the urgent need to bolster the capabilities of nascent governance arrangements to fast-track implementation.
- 23.48 The above-mentioned work contributed to the result of improved availability of digital economy statistics in developing countries, which is reflected in result 3 of subprogramme 4, and the related performance measure (see table 23.7), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 12\)](#)).

Table 23.7

Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
—	—	Establishment of the international task group on measuring e-commerce value	Member States participate in developing internationally agreed guidelines	At least 2 countries started using the internationally agreed guidelines

Expected response to anticipated requests for support in 2025**Developing countries are equipped with policy proposals and measures to develop sustainable industrialization strategies to establish more resilient economies**(Result 2 of subprogramme 1 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 12\)](#)))**Enhanced policymaking to facilitate economic diversification through increased data capacities in services trade**(Result 2 of subprogramme 3 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 12\)](#)))

- 23.49 In response to an anticipated and an actual increase in the volume of requests for assistance from Member States, UNCTAD will continue to support developing countries in building their readiness to engage in and benefit from e-commerce and digital trade. UNCTAD has received new requests for technical cooperation with the development and/or implementation of e-commerce strategies, including from Kenya, Mauritania, Mongolia and Tunisia. In addition, all subprogrammes are expected to continue to support government officials and policy practitioners in developing countries on key issues on the international economic agenda, with a view to increasing their capacity to build more effective and integrated policy responses to a changing global economy, as mandated in paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action and subsequently reconfirmed in the Sao Paulo Consensus, the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries and the Nairobi Maafikiano of 2016. It was recognized in the Bridgetown Covenant, the most recent outcome document of the fifteenth session of UNCTAD, held in 2021, that the activities under paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action were of great importance and utility and should be continued.
- 23.50 In this regard, UNCTAD will continue to provide its flagship “paragraph 166” course on key issues on the international economic agenda for policymakers, Geneva-based delegates and other stakeholders from developing and transition economies. The course would continue to be based on the development perspective of UNCTAD and focus on the links between trade, finance, investment, technology, logistics and macroeconomic policies in the context of major economic trends and debates in multilateral forums, but also focusing on recovery and resilience in its overall curricula.
- 23.51 More specifically, the subprogrammes will:
- (a) Continue to address in the curriculum the challenges that developing economies face, including coping with the economic consequences of crises and building resilience and response to shocks;
 - (b) Develop the modules of the capacity-building programme focusing on development, development policies and the role of international trade and finance in a globalized world; harnessing benefits from trade and changing dynamics in the multilateral trading system, as well as trade logistics, regional trade agreements and the digital economy; and enhancing the productive capacity of developing countries through foreign direct investment, enterprise development and science, technology and innovation;
 - (c) Roll out three regional courses in three of the five developing regions, covering Latin America and the Caribbean, (to be held in Buenos Aires), the Middle East and North Africa (to be held in Cairo) and Eastern Europe (to be held in Skopje). These courses will be tailored to the specific requirements of each region;
- 23.52 The response would complement the planned work of all UNCTAD subprogrammes to be undertaken through the regular budget of section 12 to further enhance the capacity of policymakers to formulate policies and provide advisory services in the context of major economic trends and debates in multilateral forums, emphasizing various approaches that countries have taken to derive maximum development gains.
- 23.53 The expected response in 2025 would contribute to results under all five subprogrammes, including to developing countries being equipped with policy proposals and measures to develop sustainable industrialization strategies to establish more resilient economies, which is reflected in result 2 of subprogramme 1, and the related performance measure (see table 23.8); to consensus reached by a subgroup of Latin American countries on priority industrial policy measures to deploy at the regional

level and at the domestic level to favour the development of sustainable regional value chains; and to enhanced policymaking capacities to facilitate economic diversification through increased data capacities in services trade, which is reflected in result 2 of subprogramme 3, and the related performance measure (see table 23.9), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 12\)](#)).

Table 23.8

Performance measure

<i>2021 (actual)</i>	<i>2022 (actual)</i>	<i>2023 (actual)</i>	<i>2024 (planned)</i>	<i>2025 (planned)</i>
Consultations with an array of stakeholders on launching UNCTAD work on sustainable industrialization	Member States have access to a vast array of sustainable industrial policy options and ideas to mobilize resources to finance sustainable industrialization through the UNCTAD Division on Globalization and Development Strategies publication entitled “South-South cooperation for climate adaptation and sustainable development”	The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela identified its priority sustainable value chains and Brazil and Honduras started the identification process and definition of the overall integration strategy to be pursued over the period 2024–2027	Consensus reached by a subgroup of Latin American countries on priority industrial policy measures to deploy at the regional level and at the domestic level to favour the development of sustainable regional value chains	At least 2 countries in Latin America are prepared and have the capacity to implement the priority industrial policies

Table 23.9

Performance measure

<i>2021 (actual)</i>	<i>2022 (actual)</i>	<i>2023 (actual)</i>	<i>2024 (planned)</i>	<i>2025 (planned)</i>
Policymakers from Morocco and Paraguay have increased capacities to formulate national services trade policies in, inter alia, transport and logistics services	Member States benefit from the establishment of an open-ended and time-bound working group on data for services trade and development policies	Angola and Uzbekistan revised their services trade-related policies informed by better data collection and use	At least 3 additional countries adopt, revise or implement services trade-related policies informed by better data collection and use	At least 4 additional countries adopt, revise or implement services trade-related policies

B. Deliverables

Table 23.10

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development: deliverables for the period 2023–2025, by category and subcategory

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>	<i>2023 actual</i>	<i>2024 planned</i>	<i>2025 planned</i>
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	46	50	51	51

C. Proposed non-post resource requirements for 2025

Table 23.11

Financial resources by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	<i>2023 expenditure</i>	<i>2024 approved</i>	<i>Changes</i>		<i>2025 estimate (before recosting)</i>
			<i>Total</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	
Other staff costs	1 322.3	1 365.3	38.5	2.8	1 403.8
Consultants	91.6	—	—	—	—
Experts	21.9	—	—	—	—
Travel of staff	214.3	298.7	17.5	5.9	316.2
Contractual services	18.8	—	—	—	—
General operating expenses	125.8	—	—	—	—
Supplies and materials	4.4	—	—	—	—
Furniture and equipment	42.2	—	—	—	—
Grants and contributions	150.5	477.6	13.5	2.8	491.1
Other	2.3	—	—	—	—
Total	1 994.1	2 141.6	69.5	3.2	2 211.1

- 23.54 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025 amount to \$2,211,100 before recosting, reflecting an increase of \$69,500, or 3.2 per cent, compared with the approved budget for 2024. The increases under other staff costs (\$38,500), travel of staff (\$17,500) and grants and contributions (\$13,500) will allow UNCTAD to respond to anticipated requests from Member States, including for advice on and support for the development of sustainable industrialization strategies, and to build their readiness to engage in e-commerce and digital trade.

3. Human settlements

Programmatic activities delivered through the regular programme of technical cooperation

- 23.55 The activities under human settlements are implemented by UN-Habitat, through all four subprogrammes, contributing to their objectives and expected results and complementing their relevant strategies and deliverables. Over the period of the strategic plan for the period 2020–2025, activities under the regular programme of technical cooperation include:

- (a) Responses provided to Member States' requests for support;

- (b) Short-term advisory services on strategically selected, high-priority issues;
 - (c) The identification, development and launch of innovative and illustrative cooperation programmes;
 - (d) Specialized support to the implementation, monitoring and replication of such cooperation programmes.
- 23.56 The aim is to support Governments and partners in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the human settlements dimension of other multilateral agreements, such as the Sustainable Development Goals (with a focus on Goal 11), with a stronger focus on crisis-affected countries. UN-Habitat supports Member States in the development of sustainable cities and human settlements through its normative and operational work at all levels. In implementing such activities, the regular programme of technical cooperation contributes to the objectives and expected results of the subprogrammes and complements their relevant strategies and deliverables, which can be found in the relevant paragraphs of the programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 15\)](#)).

Outreach and dissemination of guidelines to Member States on the opportunities for assistance through the regular programme of technical cooperation

- 23.57 UN-Habitat raises awareness of opportunities for countries to gain access to assistance with meetings, workshops and seminars with government officials and in the context of intergovernmental meetings, conducts initial assessments of needs and attempts to match them with in-house expertise, and seeks to integrate long-term requests with relevant flagship programmes.

Response provided to Member States' requests for support in 2023

- 23.58 In 2023, UN-Habitat responded to requests on sustainable urban development from a wide range of regions, countries and locations. It developed a comprehensive set of digitized tools in the areas of urban planning, governance and municipal finance, including applications based on the Global Urban Monitoring Framework, which were piloted in Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Malaysia, Tunisia and Zambia. The application of methodology and tools for cities were provided to a broad range of cities, including tools adopted in 10 cities in Ghana, and were promoted, among others, in Costa Rica and Türkiye. UN-Habitat also supported the establishment of technical hubs in Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Costa Rica, Ghana, Morocco, Portugal, Tunisia and Türkiye, as well as in Kosovo,² and sought to complementarily apply the methodology and tools to specific thematic contexts at key events, including women's leadership at the Commission on the Status of Women and sport as a driver of Sustainable Development Goals localization at the Sustainable Development Goals Summit.
- 23.59 UN-Habitat's technical cooperation with Azerbaijan resulted in the "2023 Azerbaijan Urban Week", including the second National Urban Forum, the first Organization of Turkic States ministerial meeting on housing and sustainable urbanization and the global observance of the 2023 World Habitat Day in Baku. Consequently, this furthered demand by countries from the wider region. Aiming to incentivize cities to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and New Urban Agenda implementation, UN-Habitat and the Shanghai municipal government co-launched the Global Award for Sustainable Development in Cities ("Shanghai Award") in October 2023 on World Cities Day, awarded to five cities from countries in Africa, Latin America and Asia-Pacific (Australia, Brazil, China, Malaysia and Uganda) at events at which more than 400 participants from more than 30 countries participated. The Shanghai Manual for 2023 was also launched, providing 24 best practice cases and policy recommendations from 14 countries across 6 regions.

² All references to Kosovo should be understood within the context of Security Council resolution [1244 \(1999\)](#).

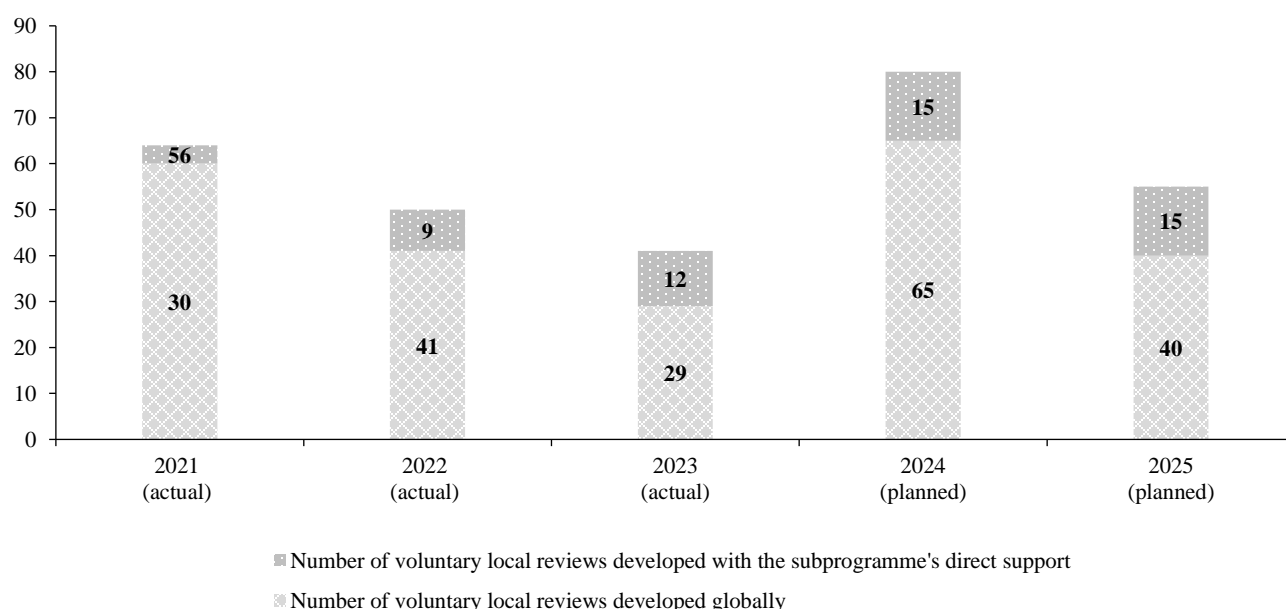
Voluntary local reviews to enhance the shared prosperity of cities and regions globally through Sustainable Development Goals localization

(Result 2 of subprogramme 2 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 15\)](#)))

- 23.60 The regular programme of technical cooperation, along with the United Nations Development Account, allowed UN-Habitat to cooperate in joint regional initiatives in Eastern Europe and Central Asia with various United Nations partners; with the United Nations Environment Programme on nature-based solutions to address urban air pollution and sustainable urban mobility; and with ECE in the preparation of voluntary local reviews for selected urban areas in the region. UN-Habitat also supports the implementation of the Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement, emphasizing the urban dimension of displacement, with a focus on Burkina Faso, Colombia, Iraq and Somalia.
- 23.61 UN-Habitat's work contributed to the development of 12 voluntary local reviews, which exceeded the planned target of 10 such reviews. This work also contributed to the development of 29 voluntary local reviews globally, which did not meet the planned target of 60 such reviews but nevertheless generated interest in voluntary local reviews for urban development planning through a regional initiative in four cities in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (Nis, Serbia, Tbilisi, Bishkek and Dushanbe). This is reflected in result 2 of subprogramme 2, and the related performance measure (see figure 23.V), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 15\)](#)).

Figure 23.V

Performance measure: number of voluntary local reviews prepared by local and regional governments (annual)



Expected response to anticipated requests for support in 2025

Voluntary local reviews to enhance shared prosperity of cities and regions globally through Sustainable Development Goals localization

(Result 2 of subprogramme 2 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 15\)](#)))

- 23.62 For 2025, Member States are expected to increase requests for technical advisory services on integrated programming, resulting in more transformative action that allows countries and cities to accelerate their achievement of the urban dimensions of the Sustainable Development Goals and the implementation of those dimensions in the New Urban Agenda and other global agendas as set forth in the decade of action to deliver the Goals. The localization of the Goals, housing, and climate and urban crisis response in

selected countries in sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East and North Africa, Central and South-East Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Eastern Europe will be a specific focus.

23.63 In response to the anticipated requests in 2025, UN-Habitat will continue to support result 2 of subprogramme 2, as referenced in the section above on 2023 results, by undertaking the following activities:

- (a) Providing technical advisory services, in particular to countries in the Eastern Europe and Central Asia regions, alongside the establishment of subregional presences;
- (b) Providing technical advisory services in response to urban crisis situations, focusing on preparedness, response, recovery and reconstruction, risk reduction and resilience, including on identifying solutions to urban displacement;
- (c) Providing technical advisory services to least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States on climate adaptation and access to adequate housing;
- (d) Providing capacity-building support to least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, including in identifying capacity gaps and developing capacity-building strategies in support of implementing the New Urban Agenda and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;
- (e) Providing technical advisory services and knowledge exchange for supporting countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and landlocked developing countries in the south Caucasus and Central Asia in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and implementing the New Urban Agenda;
- (f) Promoting technical cooperation and knowledge exchange among regions, including through the Shanghai Award for 2025, the Shanghai Adapted Index and Shanghai Manual for 2025.

23.64 The expected response in 2025 would contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of the urban dimensions of the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda, which is reflected in result 2 of subprogramme 2, and the related performance measure (see figure 23.V), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 15\)](#)).

Deliverables

Table 23.12

United Nations Human Settlements Programme: deliverables for the period 2023–2025, by category and subcategory

	<i>2023 planned</i>	<i>2023 actual</i>	<i>2024 planned</i>	<i>2025 planned</i>
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	28	32	28	28

C. Proposed non-post resource requirements for 2025

Table 23.13
Financial resources by object of expenditure

	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes		2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Total	Percentage	
Other staff costs	752.6	1 008.0	46.7	4.6	1 054.7
Consultants	125.7	192.0	—	—	192.0
Travel of staff	84.9	95.0	—	—	95.0
Contractual services	43.5	111.2	—	—	111.2
General operating expenses	32.1	26.2	—	—	26.2
Supplies and materials	53.1	0.7	—	—	0.7
Furniture and equipment	6.8	7.2	—	—	7.2
Grants and contributions	(45.9)	—	—	—	—
Total	1 052.8	1 440.3	46.7	3.2	1 487.0

- 23.65 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025 amount to \$1,487,000 before recosting, reflecting an increase of \$46,700, or 3.2 per cent, compared with the approved budget for 2024. The proposed increase under other staff costs (\$46,700) will enable UN-Habitat to respond to additional requests from Member States in 2025, including to advise on the achievement of the urban dimensions of the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda.

4. International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice

A. Programmatic activities delivered through the regular programme of technical cooperation

- 23.66 The activities under this sector are implemented by UNODC under subprogramme 8, Technical cooperation and field support, and contribute to the objectives and expected results of all subprogrammes. Expected results are implemented in close coordination with the UNODC field office network, which complements the subprogrammes' relevant strategies and deliverables, which can be found in the relevant paragraphs of the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 16\)](#)).
- 23.67 In 2023, the strategic priority of strengthening work with young people in Africa was identified in order to implement the cross-cutting commitment to youth empowerment in the UNODC strategy for the period 2021–2025 and the Strategic Vision for Africa 2030. In response, in 2024 UNODC placed a new Regional Adviser on Youth Programming and Mainstreaming based in Pretoria because this region has the least ongoing activities for and with young people and a great need for UNODC support. The Regional Adviser will provide policy advice, partnership-building, fundraising and development of holistic youth programmes or initiatives that span across UNODC mandates.

Outreach and dissemination of guidelines to Member States on the opportunities for assistance through the regular programme of technical cooperation

- 23.68 The outreach and dissemination of guidelines to Member States are provided through regular dialogues with national counterparts; national campaigns to observe the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, World Day against Trafficking in Persons and International Anti-Corruption Day; and fundraising initiatives and strategic partnerships with regional and international stakeholders. UNODC also liaises with United Nations country team members to

discuss pending requests for regular programme of technical cooperation support and devise coordinated approaches to Member States' needs.

Responses provided to Member States' requests for support in 2023

Enhanced fuel controls in the Galapagos, Ecuador, to disrupt maritime crime

(Programme performance in 2023 of subprogramme 8 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 16\)](#)))

- 23.69 UNODC receives a number of requests from Member States, in a broad range of areas covering the entirety of the Office's mandate. UNODC supports policy advice and technical capacity annually through two interregional advisers' full-time work and missions and a number of field projects that are devised to support specific action. As an example of the 23 field initiatives funded by the regular programme of technical cooperation in 2023, UNODC received a request to support the Government of Ecuador and the relevant agencies in responding to the challenges hindering effective maritime law enforcement in the Galapagos, Ecuador. The Office provided targeted technical assistance aimed at enhancing interinstitutional coordination against maritime crime. Through two technical assistance sessions, held in 2022 and 2023, UNODC facilitated discussions and knowledge-sharing among relevant stakeholders to address inadequacies in administrative controls and information exchange. This work contributed to strengthen administrative controls on fuel supply in the Galapagos, thereby disrupting the operations of criminal networks involved in drug trafficking and other maritime crimes. In addition, tracking the sex-disaggregated data (e.g., 6 women of 12 total participants) highlighted the inclusivity and gender sensitivity of the training initiative.
- 23.70 The above-mentioned work contributed to disrupting maritime crime in the region and ensuring the protection of its unique marine ecosystem and the safety of local communities to assess the threat posed by fuel trafficking and maritime crime in the Galapagos through operational and legal analysis and an endorsement of interinstitutional guidelines for maritime law enforcement coordination by the Consejo de la Judicatura, which is reflected in the program performance in 2023, and the related performance measure (see table 23.14), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 16\)](#)).

Table 23.14

Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)
—	Law enforcement agencies in the Galapagos establish mechanisms to improve interinstitutional coordination in their response against fuel trafficking and maritime crime	Strengthened administrative controls on fuel supply through endorsement of interinstitutional guidelines for maritime law enforcement in the Galapagos

Expected response to anticipated requests for support in 2025

Navigating challenges to safety at sea through strengthened maritime safety management systems

(Result 3 of subprogramme 8 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 16\)](#)))

- 23.71 For 2025, UNODC expects to receive an increasing number of requests from Member States across a number of themes. In response, it plans to contribute, through policy advice and technical support to developing countries, countries in transition and post-conflict countries, to: (a) acceding to and implementing international instruments on drug and crime control; (b) strengthening and reforming Member States' criminal justice systems in line with norms, standards and existing good practices; (c) supporting the development of the capacity of national counterparts in the areas of drug control and addressing organized crime, terrorism prevention and criminal justice; and (d) developing new youth-focused projects and programmes in all UNODC mandate areas at the country, subregional and regional levels. In this regard, UNODC will arrange technical workshops and deliver training to

criminal justice practitioners, policymakers and professionals in specialized areas, hold expert group meetings, and undertake strategic missions and assessments on a specific country or thematic needs with the aim of engaging in the subsequent design of upscaled, longer-term technical assistance programmes. Through regular programme of technical cooperation funds, UNODC will focus on least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as on vulnerable groups and fragile States' crises.

- 23.72 As a concrete example, UNODC will work, among others, on maritime enforcement. In fact, maritime trade routes in the South Atlantic and the Indian Oceans are linked by port facilities that face challenges with regard to maritime enforcement, compliance with international standards for safety and security, and regional cooperation. The subprogramme's work strengthened the safety of navigation in nine countries in the region and ensured the development and implementation of port security legislations and related compliance frameworks. The expected response in 2025 would contribute to results under all subprogrammes concerned, among others, to increase international cooperation and strengthen the institutional and legislative capacity of Member States to detect, prevent, investigate and prosecute transnational organized crime and new and emerging crimes. The capacity-building activities will enable competent national authorities to conduct daily patrolling, strengthen International Ship and Port Facility Security Code compliance in additional ports and facilitate inter-agency security meetings. Expected deliverables are: (a) a reduced volume of substandard vessels posing threats to seafarers and to the economies of coastal States; (b) five ports in the region become Code-compliant; and (c) at least one port in each target country becomes Code-compliant.
- 23.73 The expected response in 2025 would contribute to strengthened port security and maritime safety management systems, which is reflected in result 3 of subprogramme 8, and the related performance measure (see table 23.15), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 16\)](#)).

Table 23.15
Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
9 countries review/establish mechanisms to domesticate international regulations on maritime crime in domestic legislation	Enhanced regional coordination in the prosecution of maritime crime	Ports in 9 countries start conducting daily patrols and review their port facility security plans Protected radiata tortoises seized in Madagascar A new port control unit established in Maputo	9 ports become International Ship and Port Facility Security Code-compliant	At least 1 port in each of the 9 countries assisted is International Ship and Port Facility Security Code-compliant

- 23.74 In line with recently developed regular programme of technical cooperation standard reporting guidelines, the performance measure will be the number of technical workshops and training sessions delivered to criminal justice practitioners, policymakers and professionals in specialized areas with sex-disaggregated data and the contribution by UNODC to the development of new policies, law, national plans and strategies. In particular, the expected response in 2025 would contribute to increased international cooperation and strengthened institutional and legislative capacity of Member States to detect, prevent, investigate and prosecute transnational organized crime and new and emerging crimes, thereby enhancing maritime safety, security and compliance with international standards in the South Atlantic and Indian Ocean regions. This work will bolster regional cooperation, reduce transnational organized crime and safeguard the economies and welfare of coastal States and seafarers.

Efforts to ensure complementarity with the resident coordinator system

- 23.75 UNODC has aligned with the resident coordinator system to deliver a coherent, effective, efficient and accountable response in accordance with national needs and priorities in country settings and the implementation of the country-level chapter of the management and accountability framework. As of January 2024, UNODC supported 150 countries and territories through United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks or the common country analysis. UNODC is present in 97 countries and territories and without a physical presence in 53 others. It contributes to strengthening system-wide analysis, planning and reporting through Cooperation Frameworks and regional collaborative platforms.

B. Deliverables

Table 23.16

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: deliverables for the period 2023–2025, by category and subcategory

	2023 planned	2023 actual	2024 planned	2025 planned
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	25	23	25	18

C. Proposed non-post resource requirements for 2025

Table 23.17

Financial resources by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes		2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Total	Percentage	
Other staff costs	345.2	745.0	–	–	745.0
Consultants	168.0	69.9	–	–	69.9
Travel of staff	84.2	64.0	–	–	64.0
Contractual services	148.2	131.4	38.7	29.5	170.1
General operating expenses	48.5	4.1	–	–	4.1
Supplies and materials	1.3	–	–	–	–
Furniture and equipment	39.9	–	–	–	–
Grants and contributions	90.2	175.1	–	–	175.1
Other	1.5	–	–	–	–
Total	927.1	1 189.5	38.7	3.3	1 228.2

- 23.76 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025 amount to \$1,228,200 before recosting, reflecting an increase of \$38,700, or 3.3 per cent, compared with the approved budget for 2024. The increase in contractual services would provide for additional capacity-building support required in the delivery of technical assistance as a result of the growing number of requests by Member States.

5. Human rights

A. Programmatic activities delivered through the regular programme of technical cooperation

- 23.77 The activities under human rights are implemented by OHCHR and will contribute to building and strengthening national, subregional and regional capacity and structures to address implementation gaps for the protection and promotion of all human rights.
- 23.78 The expected results are implemented under subprogramme 1, Human rights mainstreaming, right to development, and research and analysis, and subprogramme 3, Advisory services, technical cooperation, and field activities. The regular programme of technical cooperation contributes to the objectives and expected results of these subprogrammes and complements their relevant strategies and deliverables, which can be found in the relevant paragraphs of the proposed programme budget for 2025 (A/79/6 (Sect. 24)).
- 23.79 In 2025, regular programme of technical cooperation-funded activities will enhance Member States' capacity to formulate and implement national development policies, national plans, strategies and laws to address implementation gaps for the protection and promotion of all human rights. They will also be intended to promote the sharing and exchange of knowledge and practices across geographical regions, focusing on providing technical assistance to Member States, at their request, in: (a) enhancing the awareness, knowledge and skills of policymakers and public officials, as well as of regional and subregional organizations, on international human rights standards and mechanisms and on the human rights implications of their work; (b) adopting laws that establish national human rights institutions or strengthen their capacity; (c) enhancing cooperation among Governments, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations within their relevant regions in addressing human rights issues that require a regional approach and initiative; and (d) advancing the integration of human rights, including the right to development, into development processes, with a focus on supporting Member States in their efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and in contributions to be made by the United Nations in the field.
- 23.80 OHCHR, through regular programme of technical cooperation interventions at the national, subregional and regional levels in the form of advisory services, through global, regional and national technical cooperation projects, through conferences, seminars, workshops and group training, and through fellowships and partnerships, will pursue its technical assistance objectives by working closely with the national and regional human rights structures, civil society and other stakeholders, and the United Nations country teams and other partners for effective coordination, building on complementarity.
- 23.81 Priority will continue for the needs of least developed countries, small island developing States, countries emerging from conflict and other countries with special needs, such as post-conflict or landlocked developing countries, placing the principles of equality, non-discrimination and participation at the centre of OHCHR activities, with special attention given to marginalized groups. Emphasis will also be placed on assistance for operationalizing the commitment to leaving no one behind, as well as on economic and social rights and the Secretary-General's call for a new social contract.

Outreach and dissemination of guidelines to Member States on the opportunities for assistance through the regular programme of technical cooperation

- 23.82 The subprogrammes receive requests for support through word of mouth and face-to-face meetings with government officials from Member States. Outreach takes place in the context of intergovernmental meetings, meetings with government officials, national human rights institutions and civil society in countries where OHCHR has a field presence, as well as through capacity-building activities, including conferences, workshops and wider consultations. These informal settings allow for an initial assessment of country needs and attempts at matching them with in-house expertise.

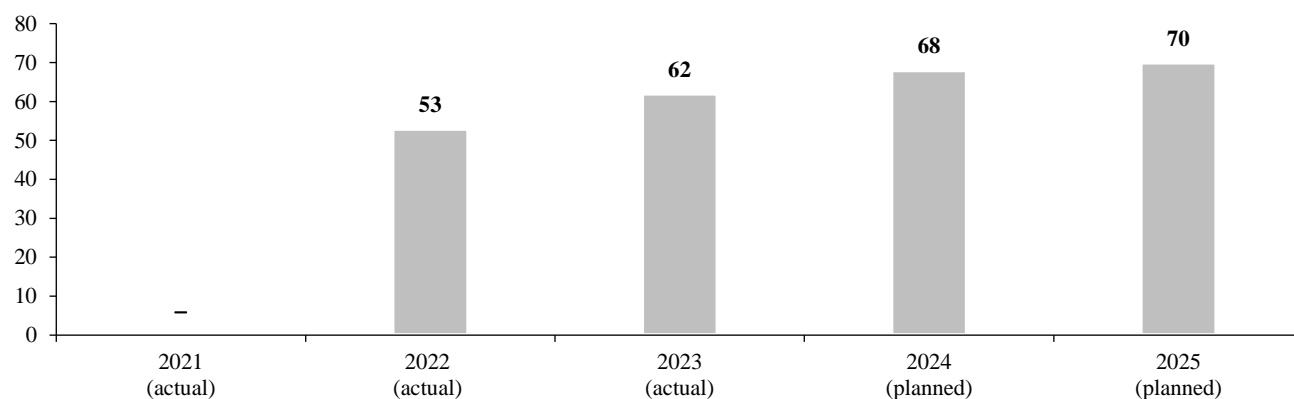
Response provided to Member States' requests for support in 2023**Towards implementation by Member States of recommendations emanating from international human rights mechanisms**

(Result 2 of subprogramme 3 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 24\)](#)))

- 23.83 In 2023, OHCHR engagement in sub-programme 1 resulted in the strengthening of the integration of human rights and human rights-based approaches into the common country analysis and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, including development plans and policies, such as economic policies, aimed at achieving the 2030 Agenda at the country level.
- 23.84 With regard to the common country analysis and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework processes, OHCHR provided operational advice, research, and analytical and programmatic content to the socioeconomic sections of the analysis, including the political economy and social inclusion dimensions, resulting in new Cooperation Frameworks for Angola, Malawi, Lesotho and Mauritius referring to the enhancement of human rights.
- 23.85 With regard to the strengthened and sustained capacities of United Nations staff to assist resident coordinator offices, United Nations country teams and Governments in mainstreaming human rights and leave no one behind and gender equality and women's empowerment guiding principles, OHCHR organized a training-of-trainers session, which resulted in training for the United Nations country team in Nepal, in Guinea-Bissau for the National School of Administration and for staff from resident coordinator offices and United Nations country teams in the eight African countries designing a new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework.
- 23.86 OHCHR contributed to the 2023 knowledge exchange on approaches and tools for the 2023 voluntary national reviews, organized by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, by presenting the publication titled "Human rights and voluntary national reviews: operational common approach guidance note". OHCHR also co-organized, with the University for Peace, an online workshop on mainstreaming the right to development in voluntary national review reporting for realizing the Sustainable Development Goals. The 149 participants from 60 countries strengthened their capacity to work towards operationalizing the right to development in implementing the 2030 Agenda.
- 23.87 In 2023, the subprogrammes' work continued to provide advisory services and deliver technical cooperation activities to least developed countries and small island developing States to enhance their capacity to implement recommendations emanating from international human rights mechanisms. For example, the Caribbean capacity-building workshop on treaty body reporting and the strengthening of the national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up in October 2023 strengthened the understanding and commitment of government representatives from 13 Caribbean countries to establish and strengthen those mechanisms and gain access to the national recommendation tracking database, and increased compliance with reporting obligations to treaty bodies, which is reflected in result 2 of subprogramme 3, and the related performance measure (see figure 23.VI), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 24\)](#)).

Figure 23.VI

Performance measure: number of least developed countries and small island developing States that implement recommendations emanating from international human rights mechanisms (cumulative)



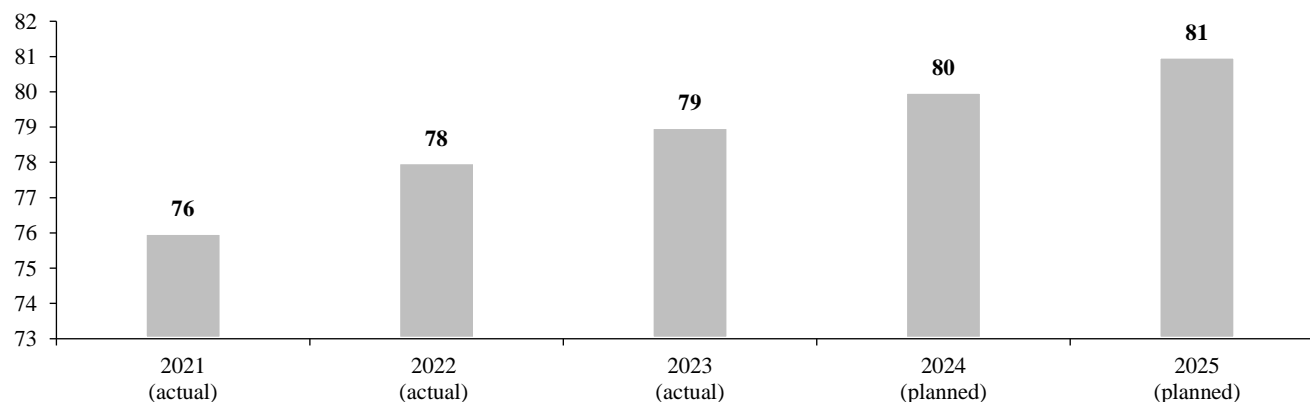
Expected response to anticipated requests for support in 2025

Strengthened effectiveness of national human rights institutions in line with the Paris Principles
(Result 3 of subprogramme 3 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 24\)](#)))

- 23.88 In 2025, OHCHR will continue to respond to requests linked to subprogramme 1 on human rights mainstreaming, right to development and research and analysis, to sustain efforts towards addressing implementation gaps for the protection and promotion of all human rights, including as regards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, its Sustainable Development Goals and the principle of leaving no one behind.
- 23.89 Lastly, subprogramme 3 will continue to provide Member States and stakeholders in all regions with advisory services and technical cooperation programmes to establish or strengthen the effectiveness of national human rights institutions, in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Paris Principles). The expected response would contribute to the advancement of the promotion and the protection of the effective enjoyment by all of all human rights, through enhanced capacity-building, including assistance to requesting States, which would be demonstrated by an increased number of national human rights institutions established or strengthened with the subprogramme's support, which is reflected in result 3 in subprogramme 3, and the related performance measure (see figure 23.VII), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 24\)](#)).

Figure 23.VII

Performance measure: number of national human rights institutions established or strengthened in line with the Paris Principles (cumulative)



B. Deliverables

Table 23.18

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights: deliverables for the period 2023–2025, by category and subcategory

	2023 planned	2023 actual	2024 planned	2025 planned
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	245	284	272	290

C. Proposed non-post resource requirements for 2025

Table 23.19

Financial resources by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes		2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Total	Percentage	
Other staff costs	1 193.0	1 312.7	—	—	1 312.7
Consultants	276.5	178.5	—	—	178.5
Travel of representatives	35.1	—	—	—	—
Travel of staff	225.3	96.4	—	—	96.4
Contractual services	158.4	45.2	—	—	45.2
General operating expenses	265.5	132.2	93.9	71.0	226.1
Supplies and materials	1.7	—	—	—	—
Furniture and equipment	25.9	—	—	—	—
Grants and contributions	492.5	1 130.7	—	—	1 130.7
Other	2.9	—	—	—	—
Total	2 676.9	2 895.7	93.9	3.2	2 989.6

- 23.90 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025 amount to \$2,989,600 before recosting, reflecting an increase of \$93,900, or 3.2 per cent, compared with the approved budget for 2024. The proposed increase under general operating expenses (\$93,900) is intended to address the increasing number of requests from Member States worldwide to facilitate remote participation to enhance inclusivity and accessibility for meeting and workshop participants unable to attend meetings in person, thereby improving the regular programme of technical cooperation's technical cooperation assistance.

6. Humanitarian assistance

A. Programmatic activities delivered through the regular programme of technical cooperation

- 23.91 The activities under humanitarian assistance are implemented by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs under all four subprogrammes. In implementing these activities, the regular programme of technical cooperation contributes to the objectives and expected results of the above subprogrammes and complements their relevant strategies and deliverables, which can be found in the relevant paragraphs of the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 27\)](#)).

Outreach and dissemination of guidelines to Member States on the opportunities for assistance through the regular programme of technical cooperation

- 23.92 In 2024, the first Global Learning Forum was held, drawing on a report of one year of learning from the flagship initiative countries, in which the resident and humanitarian coordinators of the four pilot countries (Colombia, the Niger, the Philippines and South Sudan), partners and donors came together to take stock of the approach and discuss lessons learned and persistent challenges across the various contexts.

Response provided to Member States' requests for support in 2023

Addressing emerging risks in the humanitarian operating environment (Result 2 of subprogramme 1 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 27\)](#)))

- 23.93 The subprogramme's work contributed to the identification of gaps in the protection of the humanitarian system against risks associated with the use of ICT and availability of operational guidance on data responsibility in humanitarian action, which covers principles and recommended action to ensure the safe, ethical and effective management of personal and non-personal data at all levels of the humanitarian system, as reflected in result 2 of subprogramme 1, and the related performance measure (see table 23.20), in the proposed programme budget ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 27\)](#)).

Table 23.20
Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
Increased availability of information and use of strategic technologies by humanitarian actors	Member States and the humanitarian community discuss risks associated with the use of ICT	Gaps identified in the protection of the humanitarian operating environment against risks associated with the use of ICT Operational guidance on data responsibility in humanitarian action available to humanitarian community	Humanitarian community begins to develop collective solutions to address gaps in the protection of the humanitarian operating environment against risks associated with the use of ICT	Humanitarian community begins to implement collective solutions to address gaps in the protecting the humanitarian operating environment against risks associated with the use of ICT

Expected response to anticipated requests for support in 2025

Increased engagement of communities in humanitarian response to effectively address their needs (Result 3 of subprogramme 1 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 27\)](#)))

- 23.94 In 2025, efforts to enhance disaster response preparedness will continue, leveraging the collaborative successes of 2023, including in the Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and Asia and the Pacific regions. It is expected that more requests for data, documented evidence and lessons of best practices will be received from Member States.
- 23.95 A significant focus will be placed on strengthening the capacity and methodologies of Governments, non-governmental organizations and the private sector across these areas. The objective is to improve their collaborative effectiveness during the critical initial phases of disasters. This will be

achieved through continued strengthening of the rapid-response capacities through standardized and improved response methodologies. For 2025, the Regional Consultative Group on Humanitarian Civil-Military Coordination for Asia and the Pacific will bring together humanitarian actors, local organizations, government officials and military actors involved in disaster preparedness and response in the region to share lessons learned and best practices.

- 23.96 These concerted efforts will refine international disaster response mechanisms, such as those developed by the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group and the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination Team, making them more versatile and applicable to various disaster situations.
- 23.97 The expected response in 2025 would contribute to crisis-affected people receiving humanitarian assistance in the immediate aftermath of a catastrophe as emergency responders become equipped with the skills and capacity to deploy and respond to sudden-onset emergencies, which is reflected in result 3 of subprogramme 1, and the related performance measure (see table 23.21), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 27\)](#)).

Table 23.21
Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
—	—	Stakeholders in the humanitarian system, including Governments, partners and communities in 4 countries (Colombia, the Niger, the Philippines and South Sudan) commence pilot initiative for community-centric coordination and response structures	Increased active listening approaches adopted in pilot countries	Increased community participation and local actors' engagement in the design and implementation of humanitarian coordination and response structures, including financing, with a view to assessing practices for further scaling and replicating for other contexts

B. Deliverables

Table 23.22
Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs: deliverables for the period 2023–2025, by category and subcategory

	2023 planned	2023 actual	2024 planned	2025 planned
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	28	174	28	156

C. Proposed non-post resource requirements for 2025

Table 23.23

Financial resources by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes		2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Total	Percentage	
Other staff costs	422.6	562.5	–	–	562.5
Consultants	99.8	77.7	–	–	77.7
Travel of staff	26.9	94.3	–	–	94.3
Contractual services	25.8	53.2	–	–	53.2
General operating expenses	10.5	16.2	–	–	16.2
Furniture and equipment	72.4	–	26.8	–	26.8
Grants and contributions	13.2	20.6	–	–	20.6
Other	1.0	–	–	–	–
Total	672.0	824.5	26.8	3.3	851.3

- 23.98 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025 amount to \$851,300 before recosting, reflecting an increase of \$26,800, or 3.3 per cent, compared with the approved budget for 2024. The increase (\$26,800) under furniture and equipment is to purchase emergency ICT equipment for locations with limited or no connectivity, in support of anticipated requests for assistance from Member States.

II. Regional and subregional advisory services

7. Economic and social development in Africa

A. Programmatic activities delivered through the regular programme of technical cooperation

- 23.99 The activities under economic and social development in Africa are implemented by ECA, through all subprogrammes, and are used to support African countries in their capacity development efforts and technical advisory services.
- 23.100 In implementing these activities, the regular programme of technical cooperation contributes to the objectives and expected results of the subprogrammes and complements their relevant strategies and deliverables, which can be found in the relevant paragraphs of the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 18\)](#)).

Response provided to member States' requests for support in 2023

- 23.101 In 2023, ECA received a number of requests from member States to strengthen their capacity to mobilize domestic resources through effective debt management and development of domestic capital markets. The ability of Governments to mobilize domestic resources to meet financing needs is central to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063 of the African Union: The Africa We Want. To support them, subprogramme 1 convened peer learning workshops for policymakers from Ethiopia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, the Sudan and Zambia to facilitate experience-sharing among States in debt management strategies and capacity-building in debt statistics compilation for effective debt restructuring. Subprogramme 3 supported the capacity-building of policymakers from line ministries, central banks and development financial institutions in sovereign ratings and assessments of the country's readiness for a sovereign credit rating exercise.

Subprogramme 5 supported the Sustainable Debt Coalition initiative in advocating for the comprehensive reform of the global sovereign debt architecture to help developing countries to achieve their climate commitments.

Expected additional requests for support from Member States for 2025

- 23.102 In response to an anticipated increase in the volume of requests for assistance from Member States, in the context of the realignment of its programme of work ECA would provide additional support alongside the main areas of focus: macroeconomic policies and development financing; regional integration, economic diversification and sustainable industrialization; infrastructure development, including energy; technology, innovation and connectivity; and climate action and food security as enablers of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063, in the context of the second 10-year implementation plan of Agenda 2063 launched at the thirty-seventh ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, in February 2024. ECA will address emerging challenges and opportunities in Africa through, primarily, upscaling its work on land and agriculture transformation aimed at improving food security, and increasing investment in climate action for enhanced resilience and innovative financing tools and economic governance instruments to boost domestic resource mobilization, as well as address debt management. It will also seek the enhanced mainstreaming of data and statistics and the improved integration of social dimensions towards strengthening links between social and economic development programmes.

Efforts to ensure complementarity with the resident coordinator system

- 23.103 ECA has developed and endorsed a strategy towards enhancing close collaboration with the resident coordinator system at all levels, including the regional, subregional and national levels, encompassing all sources of funding, including the regular programme of technical cooperation. While designing their project proposals, subprogrammes have to meet several strategic criteria as defined in internal guidelines and templates updated on an annual basis and follow annual reporting templates and recommendations emanating from United Nations Headquarters-based budget and administrative committees. One of these criteria is related to the consultation and sustained collaboration with the resident coordinator system while implementing projects in the framework of beneficiary country United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks, which will be demonstrated and evidenced during reporting.
- 23.104 ECA also collaborates with the resident coordinator system and United Nations country teams, including on regular programme of technical cooperation projects through the Regional Collaborative Platform, in which the resident coordinators request support through the Regional Collaborative Platform joint secretariat and relevant opportunity/initiative-based coalitions are deployed to provide the requested support. At this regional level, ECA works closely with the Africa office of the Development Coordination Office in planning this type of support. In addition, the ECA subregional offices, which serve as non-resident members of the United Nations country teams in their relevant regions, contribute to the work of the United Nations country teams, including on the development of common country analyses, United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks and technical advisory services, some of which is funded under the regular programme of technical cooperation. Leveraging on its strength in convening a wide range of stakeholders on Africa's development priorities, ECA further engage resident coordinators in the planning, organization and delivery of its intergovernmental regional platforms such as the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development.

Review of high-level positions at headquarters duty stations

- 23.105 The main function of interregional advisers is to provide technical expertise, facilitate the transfer of knowledge from global deliberations and the most recent analytical work to Governments and institutions, and contribute to the formulation, assessment and/or evaluation of national and subregional policies, strategies, programmes and projects of Member States and regional economic communities, upon their request. The specific roles, functions and areas of expertise are reflected in

the job descriptions and terms of reference and are classified at the appropriate level. Any new appointments and extensions of appointments of interregional advisers are subject to the review and approval of the head of entity and onward processing by the human resources and the budget sections. The specific focus of each of these positions evolves over time in line with the ECA strategic focus areas, shifting Member State priorities and regional trends.

Outreach and dissemination of guidelines to member States on the opportunities for assistance through the regular programme of technical cooperation

- 23.106 ECA leveraged various communication channels to raise awareness and promote the regular programme of technical cooperation. A total of 34 outreach activities were undertaken, reaching 43 member States. ECA builds on its convening power through intergovernmental meetings, conferences and workshops, for example, the African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, the annual Africa Climate Resilience Investment Summit and the Conference on Land Policy in Africa, to raise awareness of regular programme of technical cooperation opportunities.

Response provided to Member States' requests for support in 2023

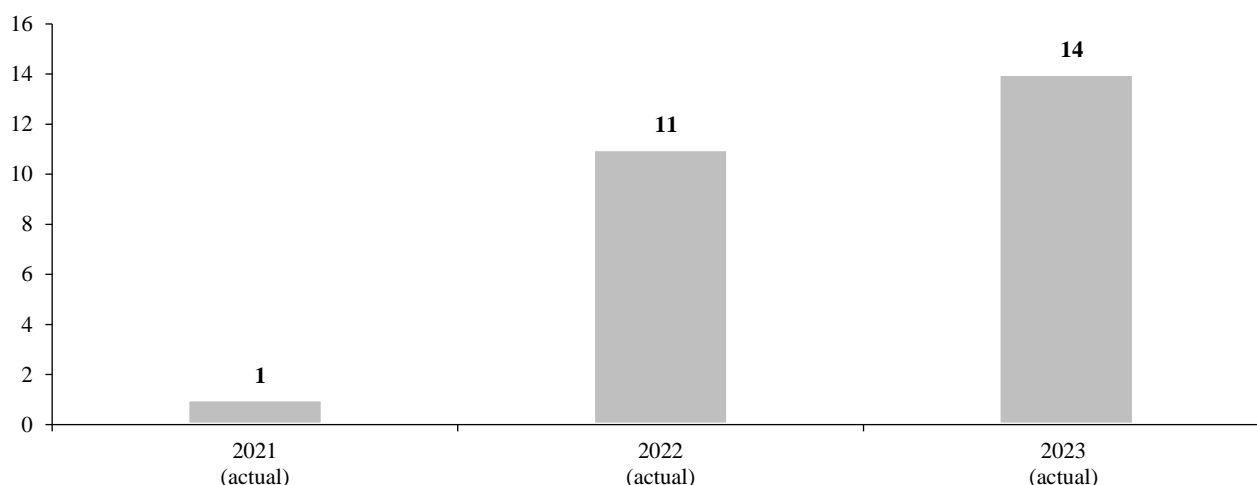
Improvement in census undertakings as a result of digital applications

(Programme performance in 2023 of subprogramme 4 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 18\)](#)))

- 23.107 In 2023, ECA provided a response focused on the use of digital solutions to conduct national censuses in Burundi, Namibia and Senegal. In these countries, as is the case on most of the African continent, the quality and timeliness of population and housing census data continue to be a challenge. In addition, the cost of national censuses is a debilitating factor for many member States in terms of being able to conduct regular censuses to ensure up to-date population and housing statistics for national decision-making. Census data are central to, among other uses, national planning, effective resource allocation and service delivery, and provide vital information for the monitoring of and reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals. Therefore, ensuring the high quality, timeliness and frequency of national census data is a crucial factor in national development.
- 23.108 In response, ECA supported member States in strengthening capacity in census-mapping, geospatial data management and the development of geocoding schemes for the geospatial analysis of census data. ECA provided advisory services in census planning, questionnaire design and field management towards the implementation of censuses. It also supported the deployment of mobile technology for the collection of census and survey data, resulting in enhanced data quality and augmented efficiency in data production. Burundi, Namibia and Senegal were able to conduct their censuses and disseminate official statistics in a record time of approximately 4 months, compared with a continental average of 18 months. The utilization of resulting data and statistics is essential for any development intervention and tailor-made policymaking, hence the need to further upscale such support to other African countries, with a view to enhancing contributions of United Nations Development Account projects such as strengthening capacity for evidence-based social protection policies for responding to the triple global crisis in fuel, food and finance.
- 23.109 The above-mentioned work contributed to member States improving the quality and timeliness of census undertakings through technological applications, reflected in the section on programme performance in 2023 under subprogramme 4, and the related performance measure (see figure 23.VIII), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 18\)](#)).

Figure 23.VIII

Performance measure: number of members of the Economic Commission for Africa improving the quality and timeliness of census undertakings through technological applications (cumulative)



Expected response to anticipated requests for support in 2025

Southern African members of the Economic Commission for Africa revise and implement their national industrial policy frameworks in line with regional industrialization strategies
(Result 2 of component 5 of subprogramme 7 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 18\)](#)))

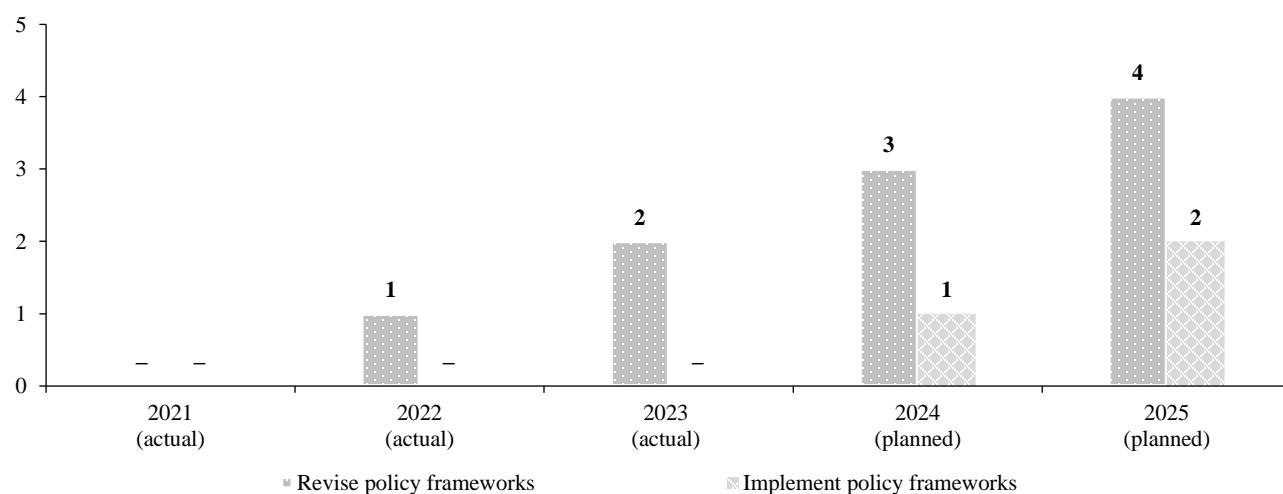
- 23.110 Subprogramme 7, component 5, supports 11 countries, namely, Angola, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe. In pursuit of its mandate to deepen regional integration and strengthen capacities to achieve inclusive and sustainable industrialization for the reduction in poverty and inequality in the Southern Africa subregion, the subprogramme provides technical support to ECA member States, regional economic communities (Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa and Southern African Development Community) and other intergovernmental organizations in enhancing their capacity to formulate and implement policies, strategies, and high-impact subregional initiatives in support of regional integration and inclusive and sustainable industrialization. Furthermore, the subprogramme collaborates with the African Union's Southern Africa regional office and other development organizations and United Nations entities to strengthen the capacities of member States to advance inclusive and sustainable development through implementation of the Southern African Development Community industrialization strategy and road map (2015–2063) and industrial policy (2015–2030).
- 23.111 ECA receives many requests for technical support from Member States on, among others, the review and formulation of national industrial policies and ensuring harmonization and alignment with regional policy frameworks on industrialization; the formulation of local content frameworks as strategies to enhance the participation of local enterprises in industrialization; interventions to develop special economic zones and industrial parks; and the development of regional value chains. For example, the subprogramme has, recently and upon request, supported Malawi (in 2022) and Zimbabwe (in 2023) in reviewing and developing their national industrial policies. Furthermore, the subprogramme also assisted Zimbabwe, in 2023, in developing its local content thresholds for the pharmaceutical, fertilizer and packaging subsectors as one of the key strategies for promoting industrialization and industrial growth in line with the country's newly formulated national industrial policy. The local content thresholds enhanced the capacity of local private sector players, including micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, in Zimbabwe to tap into inherent economic potential across sectors to boost investment, beneficiation, value addition and the development of value chains. The thresholds would progressively increase the share of locally sourced labour, goods,

services and capital in the value chains of the three subsectors. These interventions were carried out within the framework of a United Nations Development Account project on innovative approaches towards entrepreneurship and private sector development to promote trade and inclusive industrialization in Southern Africa.

- 23.112 In response to the anticipated increased number of requests for support in 2025, the subprogramme will provide technical assistance and advisory services to more countries in Southern Africa, assisting them in aligning and harmonizing their national policies with regional policy frameworks to support industrial development in the subregion and assist them in stimulating an export diversification strategy through value addition and manufacturing, with the aim of increasing the share of manufacturing value added in gross domestic product.
- 23.113 The anticipated support would lead to national industrial policies harmonized and aligned with regional industrialization frameworks for improved industrial competitiveness of the southern Africa subregion. This would further result in economic diversification and transformation through value addition and the development of regional value chains, accelerated by transboundary industrial clusters, hubs and special economic zones in selected members of ECA, as well as enhanced capacities of local private sector actors, including micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, to participate in industrial activities and in national and regional value chains.
- 23.114 The expected response in 2025 would contribute to enhancing the capacity of an increased number Southern Africa members of ECA to revise and implement their national industrial policy frameworks in alignment with regional industrialization strategies, which is reflected in result 2 of component 5 of subprogramme 7, and the related performance measure (see figure 23.IX), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 (A/79/6 (Sect. 18)).

Figure 23.IX

Performance measure: number of Southern Africa members of the Economic Commission for Africa that revise and implement their national industrial policy frameworks in alignment with regional industrialization strategies (cumulative)



B. Deliverables

Table 23.24

Economic Commission for Africa: deliverables for the period 2023–2025, by category and subcategory

	2023 planned	2023 actual	2024 planned	2025 planned
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops, and training events (number of days)	426	330	440	460

C. Proposed non-post resource requirements for 2025

Table 23.25

Financial resources by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes		2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Total	Percentage	
Other staff costs	2 716.9	3 690.3	307.2	8.3	3 997.5
Consultants	1 464.6	1 674.2	139.3	8.3	1 813.5
Experts	796.6	–	–	–	–
Travel of representatives	11.1	–	–	–	–
Travel of staff	939.9	428.5	35.7	8.3	464.2
Contractual services	645.3	447.5	37.3	8.3	484.8
General operating expenses	519.0	–	–	–	–
Supplies and materials	4.6	–	–	–	–
Furniture and equipment	383.3	–	–	–	–
Construction, alteration and maintenance	1.7	–	–	–	–
Grants and contributions	1 722.7	3 599.8	299.7	8.3	3 899.5
Other	(2.5)	–	–	–	–
Total	9 203.1	9 840.3	819.2	8.3	10 659.5

- 23.115 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025 amount to \$10,659,500 before recosting, reflecting an increase of \$819,200, or 8.3 per cent, compared with the approved budget in 2024. The increase under other staff costs (\$307,200), consultants (\$139,300), travel of staff (\$35,700), contractual services (\$37,300) and grants and contributions (\$299,700) would enable ECA to respond to anticipated additional requests for technical assistance and advice from member States in 2025 relating to the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063, given the context of the second 10-year implementation plan of Agenda 2063, launched in February 2024.

8. Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific

A. Programmatic activities delivered through the regular programme of technical cooperation

- 23.116 The activities under economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific are implemented by ESCAP under all nine subprogrammes.

- 23.117 In response to an anticipated increase in the volume of requests for assistance from member States, ESCAP would provide additional funds for advisory services in response to continued demand from member States in Asia-Pacific for technical cooperation assistance and tailored services, including in the areas of climate finance, official statistics and environment statistics, with an emphasis on the advisory function to member States and intergovernmental organizations.
- 23.118 In implementing these activities, the regular programme of technical cooperation contributes to the objectives and expected results of the above subprogrammes and complements their relevant strategies and deliverables, which can be found in the relevant paragraphs of the proposed programme budget report for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 19\)](#)).

Outreach and dissemination of guidelines to Member States on the opportunities for assistance through the regular programme of technical cooperation

- 23.119 The secretariat of ESCAP continues to enhance awareness of the opportunities for technical assistance and services that the programme offers, upon request, in particular through: (a) official documentation of intergovernmental meetings, conferences, other events and forums and related public information; (b) regular briefing of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission; (c) bilateral meetings of the Executive Secretary with senior officials and permanent representatives of member States; (d) official missions and advisory services of ESCAP senior management and other staff; and (e) official correspondence addressed to seats of Government relating to advisory and other technical assistance offerings available to member States upon request.

Response provided to member States' requests for support in 2023

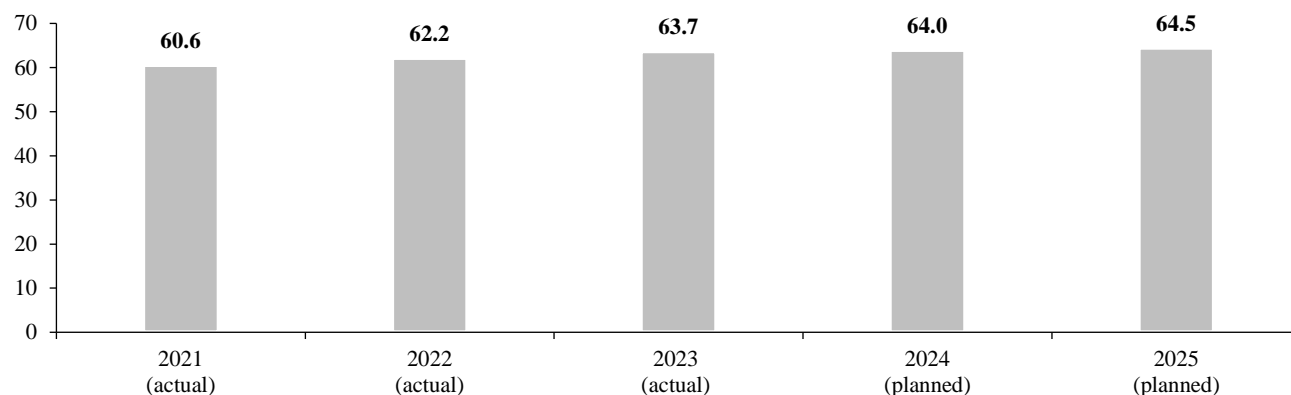
More sustainable and efficient trade processes through increased digital and sustainable trade facilitation measures

(Result 3 of subprogramme 2 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 19\)](#)))

- 23.120 In 2023, subprogramme 2, Trade, investment and innovation, responded to requests from member States to build capacity for trade negotiations. For example, ESCAP delivered a training workshop for officials in Mongolia on e-commerce-related negotiations, digital trade provisions and chapters in preferential trade agreements. The workshop included training on the use of the ESCAP online Trade Intelligence and Negotiation Adviser. The training sessions will ultimately be consolidated into an online course to be made available to all other interested stakeholders from the Asia-Pacific region starting in 2024. Several other online training sessions were also conducted in 2023, including on climate-smart trade and investment for sustainable development and on using the Trade Intelligence and Negotiation Adviser, with certificates of completion issued for participants in 11 countries in South-East and South Asia. Following specific requests from development partners, including the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Programme and the Asia Development Bank, member States from the North and Central Asian subregion benefited from several training sessions on trade negotiations, including on using the Trade Intelligence and Negotiation Adviser.
- 23.121 The above-mentioned work contributed to more sustainable and efficient trade processes through increased digital and sustainable trade facilitation and the related performance measure of the implementation rate of digital and sustainable trade facilitation measures in Asia and the Pacific, which is reflected in result 3 of subprogramme 2, and the related performance measure (see figure 23.X), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 19\)](#)).

Figure 23.X
Performance measure: implementation rate of digital and sustainable trade facilitation measures in Asia and the Pacific (annual)

(Percentage)



Expected response to anticipated requests for support in 2025

Strengthened financing for sustainable development, with a focus on innovative and emerging financing options in the Asia-Pacific region

(Result 1 of subprogramme 1 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 19\)](#)))

Improved policymaking for macroeconomic and financing for development issues

(Result 3 of subprogramme 1 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 19\)](#)))

- 23.122 At the fourth session of the Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development, held from 1 to 3 November 2023, note was taken of the key findings contained in the ESCAP report titled *Sustainable Finance: Bridging the Gap in Asia and the Pacific* and recommended that ESCAP continue to provide capacity-building support and promote peer-to-peer learning and the sharing of experiences among member States in the areas of sustainable finance and public debt. Accordingly, subprogramme 1 focuses on providing country-level technical assistance for policymakers to identify enabling factors that can accelerate sustainable financing, which includes financing the energy transition, and to help to close investment gaps. In 2025, requests to support policy research in financing options and modalities for the energy transition, peer-learning activities and country-level training workshops are expected to increase. This would build on the work implemented in 2024 on addressing the challenges of financing the energy transition and strengthening green bond frameworks in the Asia-Pacific region, which is being delivered to Indonesia, the Philippines and Viet Nam.
- 23.123 Additional requests are also expected from a few countries in South-East and Central Asia in the area of financing climate action. The expected results complement activities being delivered under the sixteenth tranche of the United Nations Development Account, on catalysing climate finance and investment while ensuring debt sustainability in Asia-Pacific countries in special situations, including in Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji and Mongolia. These achievements will also contribute to results 1 and 3 of subprogramme 1.
- 23.124 The expected response in 2025, to be delivered in particular through policy research, peer-learning activities and country-level training workshops, would contribute to strengthened financing for sustainable development, with a focus on innovative and emerging financing options in the Asia-Pacific region, which is reflected in result 1 of subprogramme 1, and the related performance measure (see table 23.26), in the programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 19\)](#)), and improved policymaking for macroeconomic and financing for development issues, which is reflected in result 3 of subprogramme 1, and the related performance measure (see table 23.27), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 19\)](#)).

Table 23.26
Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
New policy initiatives or reforms by 3 Member States (Bangladesh, Cambodia and Vanuatu) to strengthen financing and resource mobilization and allocation for sustainable development	New policy initiatives or reforms by 3 Member States (Bangladesh, Bhutan and Cambodia) to strengthen financing and resource mobilization and allocation for sustainable development	New policy initiatives or reforms by 3 Member States (Bhutan, Cambodia and Sri Lanka) to strengthen financing and resource mobilization and allocation for sustainable development	New policy initiatives or reforms by 3 Member States to strengthen financing and resource mobilization and allocation for sustainable development	New policy initiatives or reforms by 3 Member States to strengthen financing and resource mobilization and allocation for sustainable development

Table 23.27
Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
Member States accessed macroeconomic policy knowledge and recommendations through the ESCAP website	Member States benefited from updates on policy research through the Consultative Group on Financing Strategies for the Sustainable Development Goals	Policymakers engaged in interactive discussions with experts through policy dialogues on flagship publications	At least 60 per cent of policymakers acknowledge policy awareness on emerging macroeconomic and financing for development issues	At least 65 per cent of policymakers acknowledge strengthened policy awareness on emerging macroeconomic and financing for development issues

Augmented use of geospatial data for accelerating Sustainable Development Goal monitoring and implementation(Result 1 of subprogramme 5 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 19\)](#)))**Increased adoption of digitally driven innovations to enable transformative adaptation to climate change**(Result 3 of subprogramme 5 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 19\)](#)))

- 23.125 Following the eightieth session of ESCAP, convened in 2024 under the theme of leveraging digital innovation for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific, subprogramme 5, Information and communication technology and disaster risk reduction, will deliver technical assistance, upon request, to strengthen the capacity of countries to develop and deploy innovative digital solutions in support of sustainable development.
- 23.126 In 2025, subprogramme 5 is expected to receive requests for strengthening national frameworks on disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation from small island developing States in the Pacific subregion that would build on the work undertaken in 2024 in the Hindu Kush Himalaya and the Mekong subregions. In response to those requests, the subprogramme will roll out interventions to strengthen early warning systems through improved disaster risk data analytics in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and in support of the Early Warnings for

All initiative of the United Nations. It will further build digital skills for geospatial data analysis and interpretation in developing countries, upon request, to ensure that all countries are able to benefit from the applications of digital technologies. The subprogramme will also support countries in integrating digital technologies and innovations with traditional space applications to further geospatial information applications and to facilitate the regional sharing of related good practices, in line with ESCAP resolution [E/ESCAP/RES/79/9](#).

23.127 Given that digital connectivity is an important precondition for undertaking the work described above, subprogramme 5 is expected to continue to receive requests for strengthening national capacities on digital connectivity, digital technologies and applications, and digital data. The subprogramme will respond to these by implementing capacity-building and information-sharing activities under the Asia-Pacific information superhighway.

23.128 The expected response in 2025 would contribute to the augmented use of geospatial data for Sustainable Development Goal monitoring and achievement under result 1 of subprogramme 5, and the related performance measure (see table 23.28), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 19\)](#)), and the increased adoption of digitally driven innovations to enable transformative adaptation to climate change, and the related performance measure (see table 23.29), under result 3 of subprogramme 5, in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 19\)](#)).

Table 23.28
Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
Members and associate members gained access to training and tools to enhance the use of geospatial data	3 countries (Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Thailand) initiated policy actions or projects on integrating geospatial and sectoral data for monitoring and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals	Kyrgyzstan established the Central Asia Drought Information System and the Philippines the use of satellite data to improve air quality monitoring	Increased availability of geospatial and sectoral data for tracking progress on the Sustainable Development Goals in 2 countries	5 countries, including at least 2 countries in special situations, capitalize on digitally driven geospatial applications to accelerate progress on the Sustainable Development Goals

Table 23.29
Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
Members States gained access to disaster risk data analytics	All ESCAP subregions gained access to downscaled climate scenario data through the ESCAP Risk and Resilience Portal	Members States access an updated version of disaster risk data analytics	2 countries make progress in achieving transformative adaptation in agriculture or the energy sector	2 additional countries make progress in achieving transformative adaptation in agriculture or the energy sector

B. Deliverables

Table 23.30

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific: deliverables for the period 2023–2025, by category and subcategory

	<i>2023 planned</i>	<i>2023 actual</i>	<i>2024 planned</i>	<i>2025 planned</i>
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	140	246	150	155

C. Proposed non-post resource requirements for 2025

Table 23.31

Financial resources by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	<i>2023 expenditure</i>	<i>2024 approved</i>	<i>Changes</i>		<i>2025 estimate (before recosting)</i>
			<i>Total</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	
Other staff costs	884.5	883.1	154.9	17.5	1 038.0
Consultants	1 302.9	1 362.3	(26.2)	(1.9)	1 336.1
Travel of representatives	4.1	–	–	–	–
Travel of staff	454.3	458.8	–	–	458.8
Contractual services	329.4	598.6	–	–	598.6
General operating expenses	107.7	203.9	–	–	203.9
Furniture and equipment	1.0	–	–	–	–
Grants and contributions	702.7	461.6	–	–	461.6
Other	1.6	–	–	–	–
Total	3 788.2	3 968.3	128.7	3.2	4 097.0

- 23.129 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025 amount to \$4,097,000 before recosting, reflecting an increase of \$128,700, or 3.2 per cent, compared with the approved budget for 2024. The proposed increase under other staff costs (\$154,900) is to provide additional regional advisory services in response to anticipated increased demand from member States in the Asia-Pacific region for technical cooperation assistance and tailored services, including in the areas of climate finance, official statistics and environment statistics, with an emphasis on the advisory function to member States, taking into account existing subregional and intergovernmental frameworks such as those under the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and in the northern Pacific subregion on capacity development in support of implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Paris Agreement. This increase would be offset by a decrease under consultants (\$26,200), in line with expected requests from member States in 2025.

9. Economic development in Europe

A. Programmatic activities delivered through the regular programme of technical cooperation

- 23.130 The activities under economic development in Europe are implemented by ECE in support of programme 17 under all ECE subprogrammes.
- 23.131 Technical cooperation activities are focused on the United Nations programme countries in the ECE region, where the Commission is a signatory of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework. ECE technical cooperation is intended to strengthen national capacities to accede to and implement the Commission's international legal instruments, norms and standards. The activities promote regional, subregional and transboundary cooperation and support Governments in accelerating the implementation and the achievement, respectively, of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 23.132 In 2025, ECE will provide technical advice and policy options to Governments in the areas of environmental governance, transport and connectivity, statistics, public-private partnerships, innovation, sustainable energy, trade, forestry, urban development and population. Sectoral and cross-sectoral advisory services, training and field projects within ECE mandate and expertise areas will continue to be delivered in response to demands from member States.
- 23.133 In line with its technical cooperation strategy, ECE will continue to work closely with the resident coordinators and United Nations country teams in the United Nations programme countries. ECE technical cooperation activities funded from the regular programme of technical cooperation complement the United Nations Development Account projects and integrate the six transitions in its interventions.³ Cross-sectoral activities include digitalization, circular economy, green transformation, sustainable urban solutions, sustainable mobility and connectivity. Technical cooperation activities also integrate South-South cooperation and a peer learning component in order to share experience on various capacity development approaches and policy options that could be replicated in and outside of the region.
- 23.134 In response to an anticipated increase in the volume of requests for assistance from member States, ECE would provide additional advisory services in cooperation with relevant partners.
- 23.135 In implementing these activities, the regular programme of technical cooperation contributes to the objectives and expected results of the above subprogrammes and complements their relevant strategies and deliverables, which can be found in the relevant paragraphs of the proposed programme budget for 2025 (A/79/6 (Sect. 20)).

Outreach and dissemination of guidelines to member States on the opportunities for assistance through the regular programme of technical cooperation

- 23.136 ECE consistently strengthens its outreach efforts to provide information on technical cooperation opportunities for the United Nations programme countries in the ECE region through meetings with government officials in the context of intergovernmental sessions, briefings and meetings with permanent missions to the United Nations based in Geneva, workshops, advisory missions, regular meetings with the resident coordinators and United Nations country teams, and participation in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework processes.
- 23.137 Some examples include the following: (a) targeted presentations at regular intergovernmental sessions for policymakers to promote multilateral environmental agreements, United Nations transport-related legal instruments and other ECE norms, tools and standards; (b) discussion on technical cooperation needs at the annual high-level seminar on capacity development for heads of national statistical offices in programme countries in the ECE region and through the Regional

³ The transitions are food systems, energy access and affordability, digital connectivity, education; jobs and social protection, and climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.

Coordination Group on Data and Statistics for Europe and Central Asia; (c) briefings for permanent missions to the United Nations based in Geneva on sustainable energy; (d) participation in regional and subregional platforms such as the European Union-Central Asia working group on the environment, the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia, the inter-State commission on sustainable development and annual meetings of the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia thematic working groups, organized jointly by ECE and ESCAP; (e) meetings of the Issue-based Coalition on Environment and Climate Change and outreach to the offices of resident coordinators and United Nations country teams on integrating the environment and climate change into the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks; and (f) regular briefings for the resident coordinators and country teams on ongoing and planned technical cooperation portfolios, including the participation of ECE regional advisers in country teams and relevant Cooperation Framework results group meetings.

- 23.138 Regular discussions with the resident coordinators and country teams contribute to identifying areas for partnerships and joint programming as an important means of awareness-raising and leveraging funding through such instruments as the Joint Sustainable Development Goals Fund. ECE coordinates its technical cooperation portfolio with other United Nations organizations to ensure synergies and complementarities with national and subregional intervention and to build essential partnerships to multiply the impact and sustainability of ECE technical cooperation interventions.

Response provided to member States' requests for support in 2023

Increased number of United Nations Member States becoming parties to multilateral environmental agreements serviced by the Economic Commission for Europe

(Result 2 of subprogramme 1 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 20\)](#)))

Increased number of countries collaborating on developing and using machine learning techniques for the production of official statistics

(Result 1 of subprogramme 3 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 20\)](#)))

- 23.139 In 2023, ECE focused its technical cooperation on delivering integrated policy and capacity-building responses to facilitate transboundary cooperation, enhance connectivity, strengthen data and statistics systems, support green transformation and digitalization, and respond to emerging needs and mounting challenges in the region.
- 23.140 ECE delivered several assessments to improve national capacities in the areas of environment and statistics (subprogramme 1, Environment, and subprogramme 3, Statistics). In Uzbekistan, ECE supported the country in preparing a national state of the environment report, which provided an analysis of environmental issues and trends using the drivers-pressures-state-impacts-responses framework methodology to draw connections between the state of the environment and drivers and pressures on the environment. The report improved overall public accessibility of environmental data and, by making the data on the environment available, fostered public participation in environmental decision-making, helping the country to accede to the Aarhus Convention. The global assessments of the national statistical systems of Georgia and Kazakhstan reviewed the national statistical systems in terms of their compliance with internationally agreed methodologies, international quality frameworks and adequacy of resources. Assessments noted progress made and plans considered to make further improvements. The recommendations were subsequently used to prepare the development plans for the national statistical systems in both countries and serve as a guide for multilateral and bilateral assistance.
- 23.141 The above-mentioned work contributed to an increased number of United Nations Member States becoming parties to multilateral environmental agreements serviced by ECE, which is reflected in result 2 of subprogramme 1, and the related performance measure (see figure 23.XI), and the increased number of countries collaborating on developing and using machine learning techniques for the production of official statistics, which is reflected in result 1 of subprogramme 3, and the related performance measure (see figure 23.XII), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 20\)](#)).

Figure 23.XI

Performance measure: number of parties to multilateral environmental agreements serviced by the Economic Commission for Europe (cumulative)

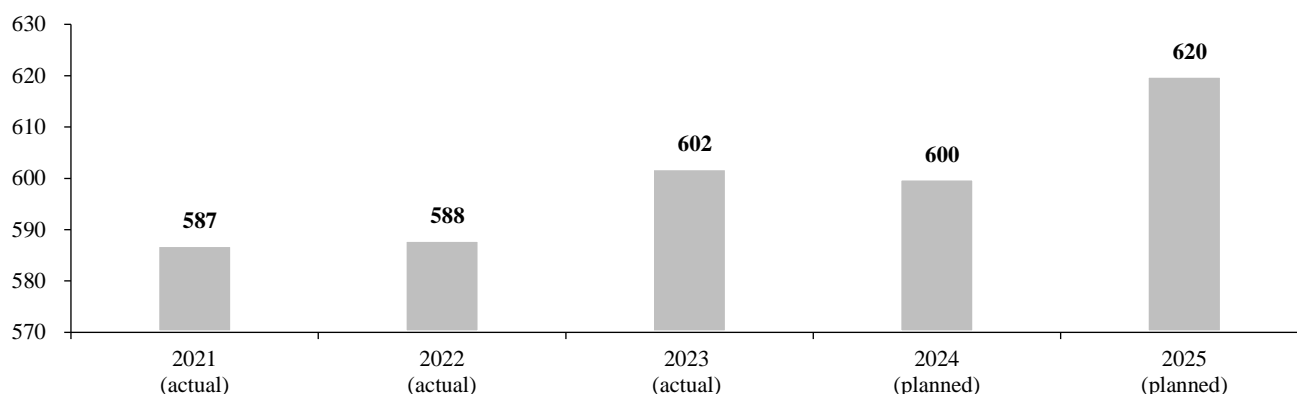
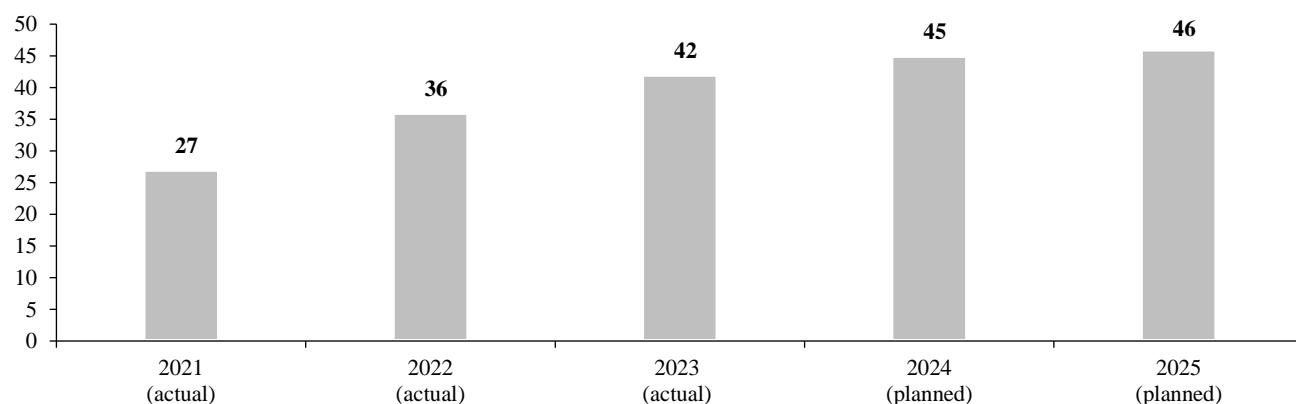


Figure 23.XII

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



Expected response to anticipated requests for support in 2025

Enhanced regulatory framework for sustainable inland transport systems

(Result 1 of subprogramme 2 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 20\)](#)))

More public-private partnership infrastructure projects assessed as compliant with the Sustainable Development Goals

(Result 3 of subprogramme 4 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 20\)](#)))

Enhanced resilience of energy systems in the Economic Commission for Europe region

(Result 2 of subprogramme 5 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 20\)](#)))

Increased facilitation of agricultural trade through the adoption of agricultural quality and electronic business standards in Economic Commission for Europe member States

(Result 1 of subprogramme 6 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 20\)](#)))

Evidence-based planning and action for the sustainable production and consumption of forest products

(Result 3 of subprogramme 7 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 20\)](#)))

Acceleration of the city-level implementation of best practices in housing and land management and urban development

(Result 2 of subprogramme 8 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 20\)](#)))

More age-sensitive and inclusive policies to respond to the opportunities and challenges of individual and population ageing

(Result 3 of subprogramme 8 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 20\)](#)))

- 23.142 In response to anticipated requests in 2025, ECE subprogrammes will: (a) support the ratification and implementation of ECE international norms and standards; (b) address specific national and transboundary challenges; (c) improve connectivity; and (d) build economic and environmental resilience, including through the platform provided by the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia.
- 23.143 ECE subprogrammes, more specifically, will focus on:
- (a) Supporting Tajikistan's accession to the Industrial Accidents Convention;
 - (b) Supporting the establishment of an interinstitutional working group on tailing safety and the prevention of accidental water pollution in Uzbekistan, based on the results in Kazakhstan and Tajikistan;
 - (c) Enhancing capacities of South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia member States in terms of efficient implementation of the United Nations transport legal instruments with the aim of deploying digitalized transport services and improving national road safety systems;
 - (d) Strengthening the capacities of national statistical systems in programme countries, including by supporting the implementation of the recommendations stemming from global assessments of national statistical systems;
 - (e) Supporting institutional structures for innovation and technology in the United Nations programme countries and building an enabling environment for public-private partnerships;
 - (f) Providing capacity-building and analytical support, with a focus on the digitalization of the energy sector, on the enhanced resilience of energy systems and on more sustainable and resilient natural resource management based on United Nations Framework Classification for Resources, for countries of Central Asia and the Caucasus;
 - (g) Strengthening the capacity of the Central Asia, Caucasus, western Balkans and Eastern Europe regions to implement the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business standards for the digitalization of multimodal data and document exchange, which will help to speed up information flows along cross-border trade and transport corridors and improve the efficiency of international trade and transport in the region;
 - (h) Supporting the sustainable consumption and production of forest products, sustainable forest management and urban and peri-urban forestry in countries of Eastern and South-East Europe;
 - (i) Supporting national and local governments in Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe in the development of evidence-based urban and housing policies through the preparation of a country profile on urban development, housing and land management and/or in the preparation of smart sustainable cities profiles or Sustainable Development Goal voluntary local reviews;
 - (j) Developing road maps for mainstreaming ageing into United Nations programme countries.
- 23.144 The expected response would contribute to results under all subprogrammes, including, for example, an enhanced regulatory framework for sustainable inland transport systems, which is reflected in result 1 of subprogramme 2, and the related performance measure (see figure 23.XIII); more public-private partnership infrastructure projects assessed as compliant with the Sustainable Development Goals, which is reflected in result 3 of subprogramme 4, and the related performance measure (see figure 23.XIV); the enhanced resilience of energy systems in the ECE region, which is reflected in result 2 of subprogramme 5, and the related performance measure (see figure 23.XV); the increased

facilitation of agricultural trade through the adoption of agricultural quality and electronic business standards in Economic Commission for Europe member States, which is reflected in result 1 of subprogramme 6, and the related performance measures (see figure 23.XVI); evidence-based planning and action for the sustainable production and consumption of forest products, which is reflected in result 3 of subprogramme 7, and the related performance measure (see figure 23.XVII); the acceleration of the city-level implementation of best practices in housing and land management and urban development, which is reflected in result 2 in subprogramme 8, and the related performance measure (see table 23.32); and more age-sensitive and inclusive policies to respond to the opportunities and challenges of individual and population ageing, which is reflected in result 3 of subprogramme 8, and the related performance measure (see table 23.33) of the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 20\)](#)).

Figure 23.XIII

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

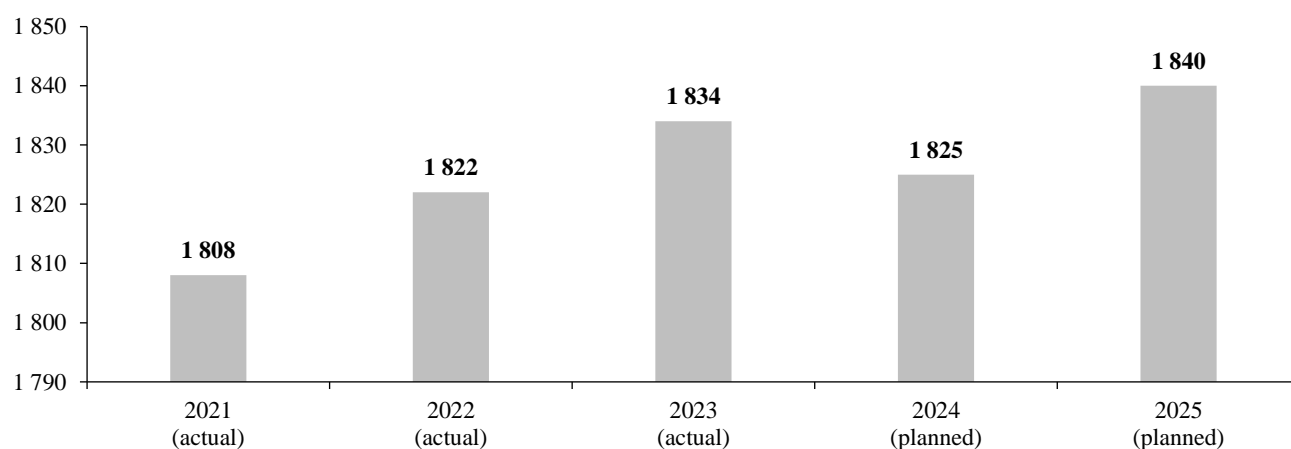


Figure 23.XIV

Performance measure: number of public-private partnership infrastructure projects assessed as Sustainable Development Goal-compliant using the public-private partnership and infrastructure evaluation and rating system methodology (cumulative)

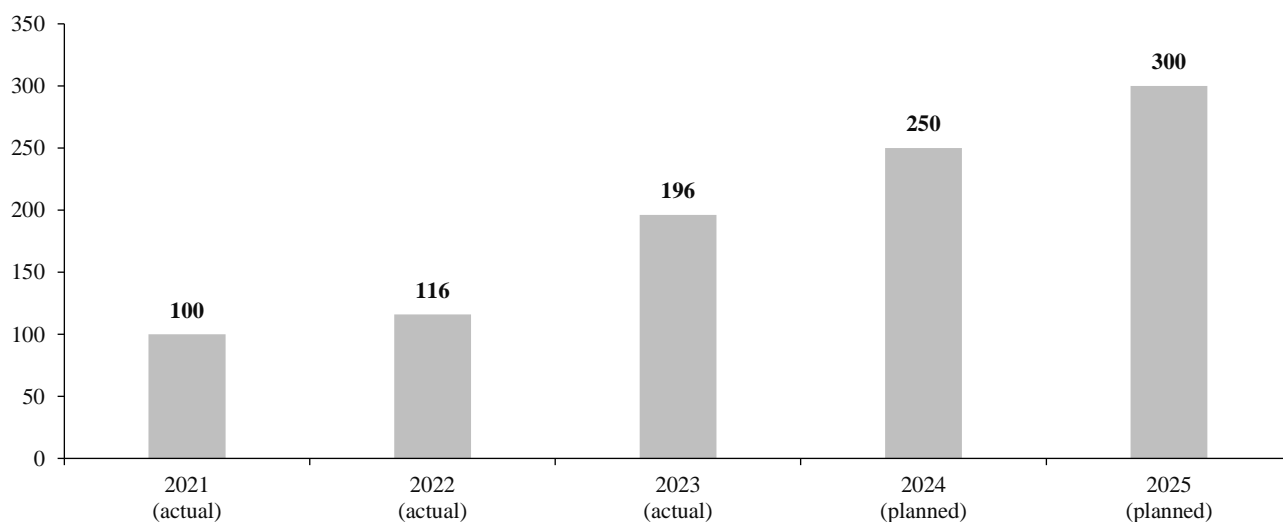


Figure 20.XV

Performance measure: number of member States using Economic Commission for Europe mechanisms to enhance the resilience of energy systems in the Economic Commission for Europe region (cumulative)

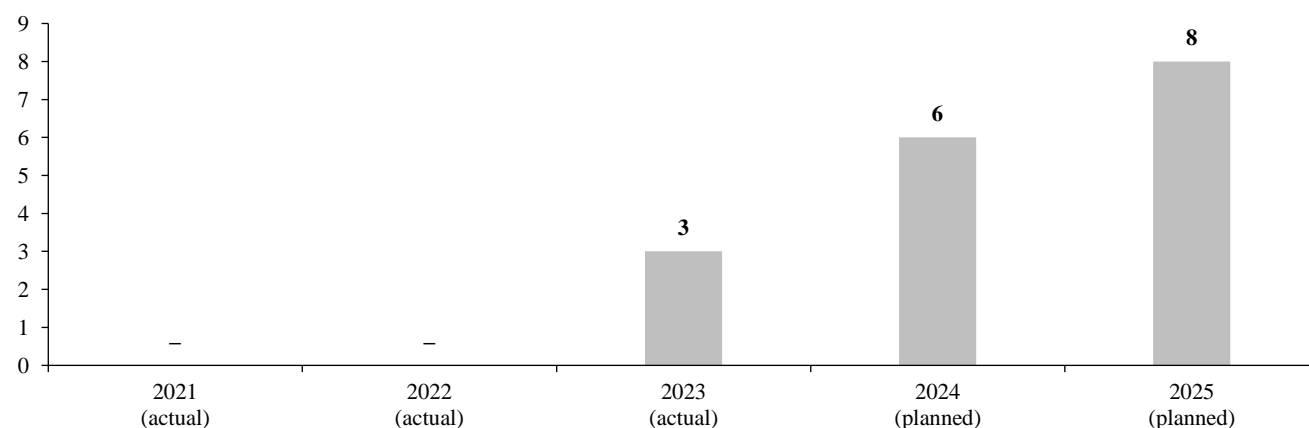
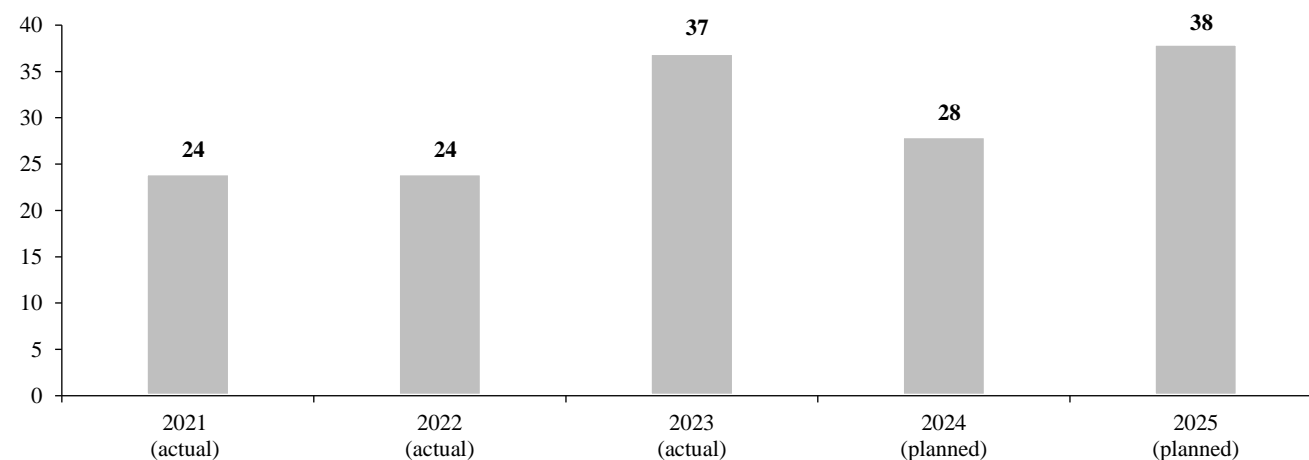


Figure 23.XVI

Performance measure: number of Economic Commission for Europe member States fully or partially implementing the Commission's standard for "electronic application and issuance of electronic sanitary and phytosanitary certificates"^a (cumulative)



^a The data for 2022 are based on past progress as reflected in the survey conducted in 2021, given that the data are captured every two years through the United Nations Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation.

Figure 23.XVII

Performance measure: number of assessments of wood-based commodities, regarding their production, trade and consumption, and number of member States that report the use of information from these assessments (cumulative)

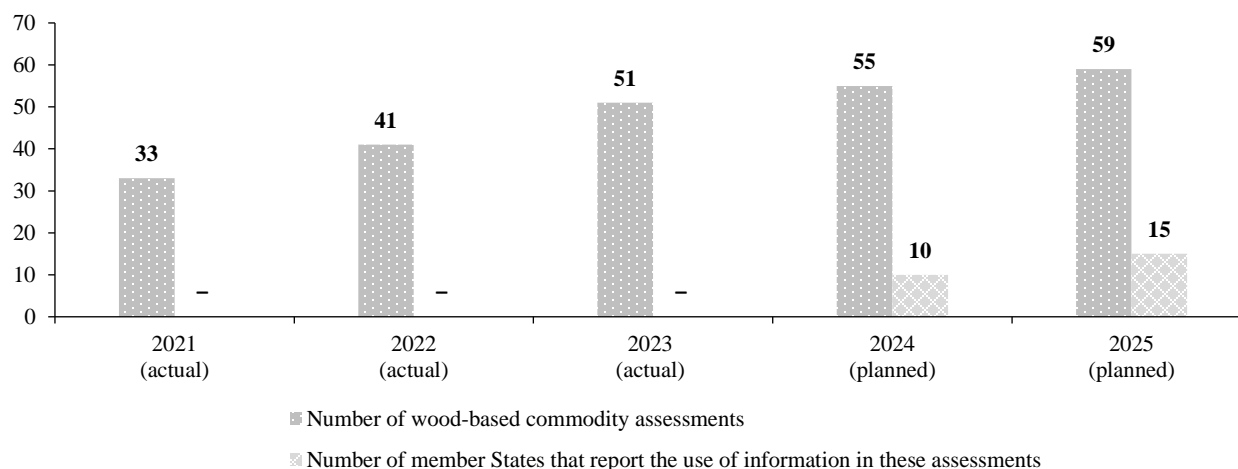


Table 23.32

Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
–	<i>Place and Life in the ECE – A Regional Action Plan 2030: Tackling Challenges from the COVID-19 Pandemic, Climate and Housing Emergencies in the Region, City, Neighbourhood and Homes</i> adopted by member States	1 country profile (Albania) implemented recommendations contained in the thematic policy briefs and guidelines on housing, land management and urban development	2 countries/cities implementing recommendations contained in the thematic policy briefs and guidelines on housing, land management and urban development	4 countries/cities implementing recommendations contained in the thematic policy briefs and guidelines on housing, land management and urban development

Table 23.33

Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
–	Development of an ageing policies database was included in the programme of work of the Standing Working Group on Ageing	Member States agreed on the scope and design of the ageing policies database	Ageing policies database is accessible	At least 15 member States share ageing-related policy updates for inclusion in the ageing policies database

B. Deliverables

Table 23.34

Economic Commission for Europe: deliverables for the period 2023–2025, by category and subcategory

	2023 planned	2023 actual	2024 planned	2025 planned
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	75	75	75	77

C. Proposed non-post resource requirements for 2025

Table 23.35

Financial resources by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes		2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Total	Percentage	
Other staff costs	1 708.1	1 739.3	–	–	1 739.3
Consultants	440.0	414.7	38.2	9.2	452.9
Experts	11.8	–	–	–	–
Travel of staff	169.6	202.9	18.6	9.2	221.5
Contractual services	60.1	–	–	–	–
General operating expenses	9.3	–	–	–	–
Supplies and materials	1.2	–	–	–	–
Grants and contributions	135.5	331.3	30.4	9.2	361.7
Other	1.3	–	–	–	–
Total	2 536.8	2 688.2	87.2	3.2	2 775.4

- 23.145 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025 amount to \$2,775,400 before recosting, reflecting an increase of \$87,200, or 3.2 per cent, compared with the approved budget level for 2024. The proposed increases under consultants (\$38,200), travel of staff (\$18,600) and grants and contributions (\$30,400) are to provide regional advisory services in response to the increasing requests for technical cooperation anticipated to be received from member States in the ECE region to implement the 2030 Agenda.

10. Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

A. Programmatic activities delivered through the regular programme of technical cooperation

- 23.146 The activities under economic and social development in Latin American and the Caribbean are implemented by ECLAC through the following subprogrammes: 1, International trade, integration and infrastructure; 2, Production and innovation; 3, Macroeconomic policies and growth; 4, Social development and equality; 6, Population and development; 7, Sustainable development and human settlements; 8, Natural resources; 10, Statistics; 11, Subregional activities in Central America, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Mexico, and; 12, Subregional activities in the Caribbean.

- 23.147 In implementing these activities, the regular programme of technical cooperation contributes to the objectives and expected results of the above subprogrammes and complements their relevant strategies and deliverables, which can be found in the relevant paragraphs of the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 21\)](#)).

Outreach and dissemination of guidelines to member States on the opportunities for assistance through the regular programme of technical cooperation

- 23.148 In line with the demand-driven nature of the regular programme of technical cooperation, ECLAC raises awareness of the opportunities for Latin American and Caribbean countries to gain access to technical support from regular programme of technical cooperation resources through outreach and notifications and announcements on various ECLAC training offerings, and face-to-face meetings with government officials, including permanent representatives, of the countries of the region, in the context of intergovernmental meetings, conferences, seminars, workshops and various capacity-building events organized by the entity. These informal settings are better suited for an initial assessment of country needs and an attempt at matching them with in-house expertise.

Efforts to ensure complementarity with the resident coordinator system

- 23.149 The work of ECLAC is aligned closely with the resident coordinator system, through whose offices ECLAC receives enquiries for support from member States. After internal revision, ECLAC determines the most appropriate subprogramme(s) to provide support to the member States, also taking into consideration the mandates entrusted to the Commission.

Response provided to member States' requests for support in 2023

Increased coordination of Latin America and Caribbean countries to build regional positions for international tax cooperation

(Programme performance in 2023 of subprogramme 3 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 21\)](#)))

- 23.150 In 2023, subprogramme 3, Macroeconomic policies and growth, contributed to fostering suitable and inclusive growth in Latin America and the Caribbean by strengthening the capacity of policymakers and other stakeholders in the region to analyse current and emerging macroeconomic and development finance issues and to evaluate, design and implement development-centred macroeconomic and development for financing policies that incorporate a gender perspective and are based on a comparative analysis. In Latin American and Caribbean countries, the deteriorating global macroeconomic and financial environment has put pressure on public debt, which remains at high levels.
- 23.151 In this regard, ECLAC continued to receive requests to support countries of the region in addressing challenges relating to fiscal policy and tax systems in the region. In particular, in 2023 advisory services were delivered by ECLAC, in its capacity as technical secretariat of the Regional Tax Cooperation Platform for Latin America and the Caribbean, to Colombia to support the creation of the Platform and to develop the governance structure and coordinate the Platform's working groups. This technical support contributed to the approval by ministers and high-level officials from 16 countries from the region of the instrument establishing the governance of the Platform at the First Latin American and Caribbean Summit for an Inclusive, Sustainable and Equitable Global Tax Order, held in Cartagena, Colombia, in July 2023.
- 23.152 The above-mentioned work contributed to the increased coordination of Latin America and Caribbean countries to build regional positions for international tax cooperation, which is reflected in the 2023 performance of subprogramme 3, and the related performance measure (see table 23.36), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 21\)](#)).

Table 23.36
Performance measure

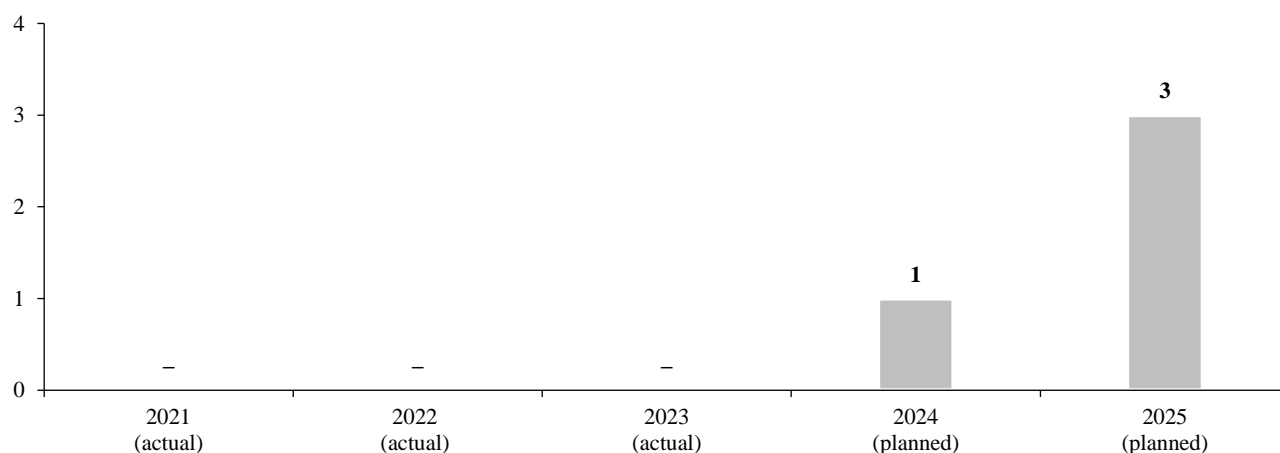
2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)
Countries of the region identify the need to have coordination mechanisms to advocate for their interests and priorities in international tax policy forums	–	The regional platform for tax cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean (Plataforma Regional de Cooperación Tributaria para América Latina y el Caribe) was presented by Colombia at the thirty-fifth Regional Seminar on Fiscal Policy and a charter was opened for signature at the First Summit for an Inclusive, Sustainable and Equitable Global Tax Order

Expected response to anticipated requests for support in 2025**Increased and enhanced cluster initiatives and other territorial productive articulation initiatives**(Result 3 of subprogramme 2 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 21\)](#)))

- 23.153 In 2025, subprogramme 2, Production and innovation, will continue to support national officials and government authorities from countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in enhancing the diversification and structural transformation of productive structures through investment, innovation and the diffusion of new technology and in strengthening links and networks among firms. In line with the growing cross-cutting nature of issues relating to digital transformation and productive development, the subprogramme has been providing technical assistance to line ministries, industrial associations and other public sector institutions to foster greater coordination not only among various sectors, but also among various levels (national, regional and municipal). In addition, the subprogramme has been supporting public sector institutions in advancing associative approaches on the basis of collaboration of actors from the private and public sectors, academia and civil society, given that these approaches have demonstrated success in addressing the processes of sophistication and productive diversification that are required to promote a model of sustainable and inclusive development. The subprogramme is planning to facilitate coordination using its convening power and through the organization of seminars and workshops to foster dialogue.
- 23.154 In response to the anticipated requests in 2025, the subprogramme will: (a) tailor its advisory services to better respond to the needs of the countries of the region providing updated information, analysis, and policy recommendations; and (b) provide technical assistance and support knowledge dissemination and the sharing of best practices through expert meetings, seminars and workshops.
- 23.155 The expected response in 2025 would contribute to the increased capacity of member States to develop policy measures aimed at promoting cluster or other productive articulation initiatives, which is reflected in result 3 of subprogramme 2, and the related performance measure (see figure 23.XVIII), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 21\)](#)).

Figure 23.XVIII

Performance measure: number of new policy measures adopted by productive development governmental institutions aimed at promoting cluster initiatives or other territorial productive articulation initiatives (cumulative)

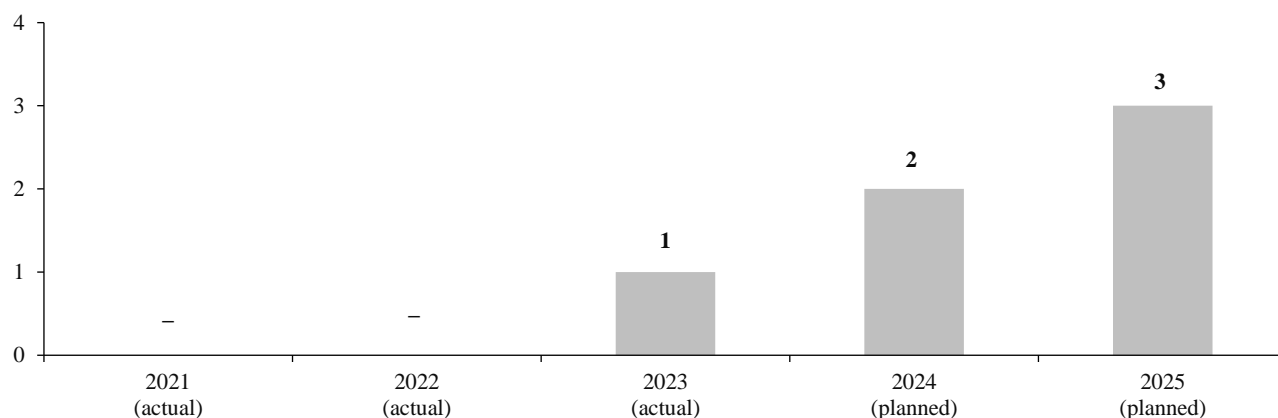


Expanding social protection systems to include informal and independent workers
(Result 3 of subprogramme 4 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 21\)](#)))

- 23.156 In 2025, subprogramme 4, Social development and equality, will continue to support countries of Latin American and the Caribbean in improving the overall well-being of the people of the region and in achieving greater social and economic equality in line with the 2030 Agenda and with full respect for human rights. The subprogramme has been working with various Governments of the region in recent years with the aim of raising the awareness member States on the importance of strengthening social protection systems to incorporate the excluded population, given that technological transformation has translated into changes in labour demand and that available information on digital platform workers shows their limited access to social protection.
- 23.157 In response to the anticipated requests in 2025 the subprogramme will: (a) assist countries in capacity-building and technical cooperation in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of strategies, policies and programmes; (b) promote policy dialogue for inclusive social development among policymakers, academics, members of civil society organizations and other stakeholders and facilitate the exchange of experiences and good practices; and (c) provide capacity-building activities and technical assistance through training and expert meetings, seminars and workshops.
- 23.158 The expected response in 2025 would contribute to the increased number of national policies or strategies that include actions for the expansion of social protection measures oriented to informal and independent workers, which is reflected in result 3 of subprogramme 4, and the related performance measure (see figure 23.XIX), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 21\)](#)).

Figure 23.XIX

Performance measure: number of national policies or strategies that include actions for the expansion of social protection measures oriented to informal and independent workers (cumulative)

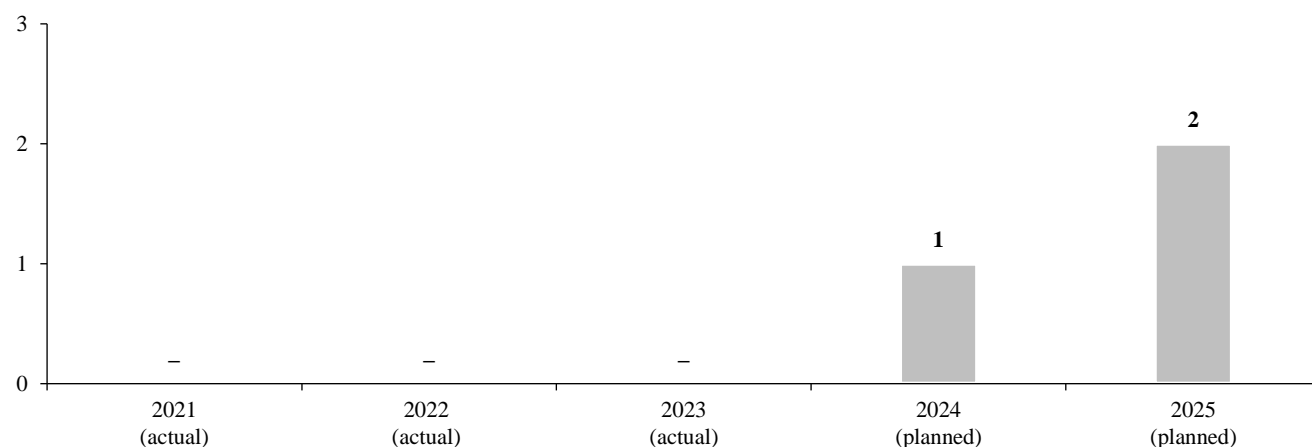


Countries in the region supply critical minerals for the energy transition with increased economic, social and environmental sustainability
(Result 3 of subprogramme 8 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 21\)](#)))

- 23.159 In 2025, subprogramme 8, Natural resources, will continue to support countries of the region in improving the governance and enhancing the sustainable use and exploitation of natural resources in Latin America and the Caribbean, focusing on water resources management, affordable, inclusive, and clean energy, extractive resources efficiency and biodiversity. The subprogramme is planning to promote dialogues, the exchange of experiences and the generation of knowledge, and support the implementation of policies to promote a more economically, socially and environmentally sustainable supply of critical minerals for the energy transition.
- 23.160 In response to the anticipated requests in 2025, the subprogramme will: (a) support countries of the region in the design of policies relating to the energy transition, including greater participation of renewable sources of energy and increased energy efficiency, and to the sustainable management of water transition; and (b) advisory services and technical assistance to support multi-stakeholder dialogue, within the framework of more sustainable governance of the extractive industries, focusing on critical minerals for the energy transition.
- 23.161 The expected response in 2025 would contribute to an increased number of new initiatives developed by countries in the region to promote the sustainable supply of critical minerals, which is reflected in result 3 of subprogramme 8, and the related performance measure (see figure 23.XX), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 21\)](#)).

Figure 23.XX

Performance measure: number of new initiatives developed by countries in the region to promote the sustainable supply of critical minerals (cumulative)



B. Deliverables

Table 23.37

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean: deliverables for the period 2023–2025, by category and subcategory

	2023 planned	2023 actual	2024 planned	2025 planned
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	60	60	65	68

C. Proposed non-post resource requirements for 2025

Table 23.38

Financial resources by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes		2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Total	Percentage	
Other staff costs	2 756.8	3 052.0	—	—	3 052.0
Consultants	939.8	835.2	—	—	835.2
Experts	4.3	—	—	—	—
Travel of staff	379.4	380.4	—	—	380.4
Contractual services	—	—	174.4	—	174.4
General operating expenses	0.2	—	—	—	—
Grants and contributions	945.7	1 110.1	—	—	1 110.1
Other	3.3	—	—	—	—
Total	5 029.4	5 377.7	174.4	3.2	5 552.1

- 23.162 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025 amount to \$5,552,100 before recosting, reflecting an increase of \$174,400 or 3.2 per cent, compared with the approved budget for 2024. The proposed increase under contractual services (\$174,400) is to provide support in the preparation of substantive content for training courses and capacity-building workshops and the adaptation of course materials to virtual settings, in line with anticipated requests from member States in 2025.

11. Economic and social development in Western Asia

A. Programmatic activities delivered through the regular programme of technical cooperation

- 23.163 The activities under economic and social development in Western Asia are implemented by ESCWA, under subprogramme 1, Climate change and natural resource sustainability; subprogramme 2, Gender justice, population and inclusive development; subprogramme 3, Shared economic prosperity; subprogramme 4, Statistics, the information society and technology; subprogramme 5, 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goal coordination; and subprogramme 6, Governance and conflict prevention.
- 23.164 ESCWA is mandated to promote inclusive and sustainable socioeconomic development in the Arab region. While the region holds all the human capital and resources vital for achieving shared prosperity and a dignified life for all its peoples, social, economic, and environmental challenges and conflict continue to have adverse impact on its progress towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. Within the mandates entrusted in it, ESCWA is uniquely positioned to support national and regional efforts in this regard, through generating evidence, convening dialogue around key development issues and providing policy advice and building Governments' capacities through the regular programme of technical cooperation. ESCWA will therefore continue to ensure complementarity between the regular programme of technical cooperation and the programme plan implemented through the regular budget, as well as United Nations Development Account and extrabudgetary activities. Staff, regional advisers and consultants will operate jointly to provide technical assistance on the basis of knowledge products and consensus built under the regular programme plan, and through experience accumulated in technical cooperation activities.
- 23.165 In response to an anticipated increase in the volume of requests for assistance from member States in 2025, ESCWA would provide additional capacity-building activities and advisory services, with a focus on the newest member States that are also least developed countries, namely, Djibouti and Somalia. Additional requests are also anticipated from other least developed countries, such as Mauritania and Yemen, and countries in conflict or under occupation, namely, Libya, the Sudan and the Syrian Arab Republic, as well as the State of Palestine. Such an increase is witnessed year on year in the total number of regular programme of technical cooperation requests received since 2020. The fact that half of ESCWA member States are least developed countries and/or undergoing/affected by conflict renders in-person assistance costly (some regions within those countries are not always accessible nor safe), albeit necessary owing to a lack of Internet infrastructure and equipment needed for remote services. Such activities will require additional funding.
- 23.166 In implementing these activities, the regular programme of technical cooperation contributes to the objectives and expected results of the above subprogrammes and complements their relevant strategies and deliverables, which can be found in the relevant paragraphs of the proposed budget report for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 22\)](#)).

Outreach and dissemination of guidelines to member States on the opportunities for assistance through the regular programme of technical cooperation

- 23.167 Outreach on the regular programme of technical cooperation is undertaken through several formal and informal channels. In December 2023, ESCWA organized the annual meeting of its technical cooperation network, composed of national technical cooperation focal points in member States, to discuss their priorities and needs, highlight modes of regular programme of technical cooperation

delivery and means of requesting assistance, and present an overview of the main technical cooperation interventions in member States in 2023. Throughout the year, ESCWA also placed a discussion of regular programme of technical cooperation on the agendas of all formal policy dialogues held with member States in the context of intergovernmental committees, namely, the committees on social development, women, energy, water resources, trade policies, and transport and logistics. ESCWA presented sectoral reports to those committees on its technical cooperation activities in their fields.

- 23.168 In 2023, the Executive Secretary of ESCWA led five outreach visits to various member States to advance the regular programme of technical cooperation assistance provided to them. Less formal outreach channels were also activated throughout the year: staff from the various subprogrammes organized briefings or participated in meetings to showcase ESCWA technical cooperation services, contributing to some 45 outreach activities, including conferences, meetings and seminars on technical cooperation services that ESCWA renders in all areas of its work.

Response provided to member States' requests for support in 2023

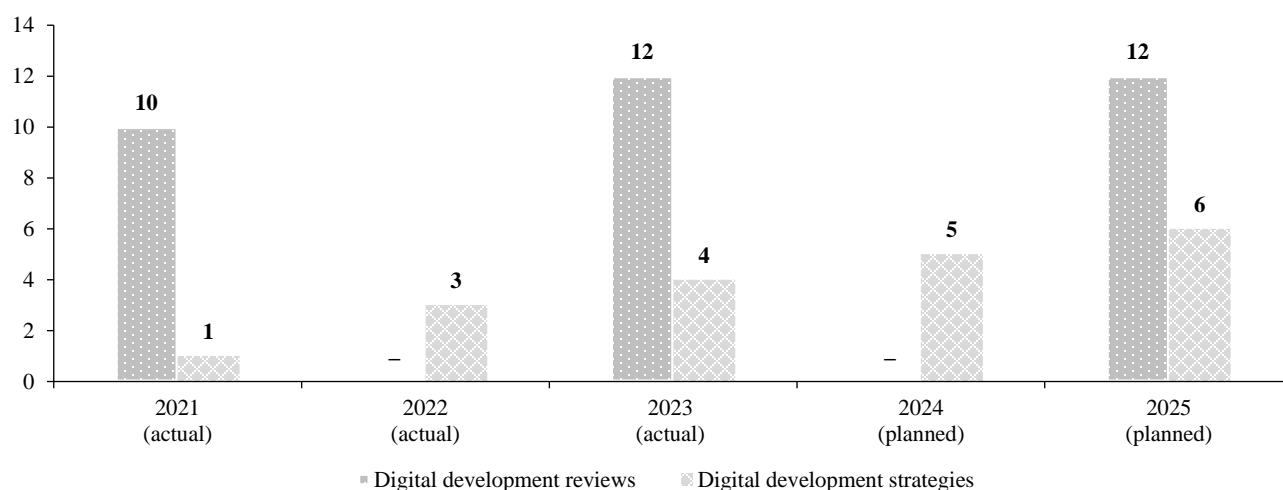
Advancement of digital development assessments and strategies at the national and regional level in the Arab region

(Result 1 of subprogramme 4 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 22\)](#)))

- 23.169 Throughout 2023, ESCWA received and responded to 30 requests on advancing digital transformation in the Arab region. The support, provided through a combination of advisory services and capacity-building activities, included Arab least developed countries such as Mauritania, Somalia and the Sudan; countries in conflict or affected by it such as Jordan, Libya and the Syrian Arab Republic, as well as the State of Palestine; or middle- and high-income countries such as Morocco and the United Arab Emirates.
- 23.170 The support also covered various aspects of the digital transformation agenda, including the formulation of strategies and policy frameworks in areas such as cybersecurity, accessibility, e-participation and digital transformation. Advisory services were also provided in accelerating digital transformation in specific sectors, such as the education sector. Support was further provided in improving the regulatory environments of member States in areas such as the Internet of things, and for establishing a telecommunications regulatory authority and an e-registration platforms for small and medium-sized enterprises.
- 23.171 To complement assistance under the regular programme of technical cooperation, ESCWA has leveraged a number of related United Nations Development Account projects, namely, on strengthening the capacity of small and medium-sized enterprises and government entities that support small and medium-sized enterprises in the Arab region, on establishing effective relationships between innovation actors in the Arab region to expand the science-policy nexus in support of the 2030 Agenda, and on blockchains for facilitating trade and enhancing competitiveness implemented under subprogrammes 3 and 4, to support member States, including Jordan, Oman and Syrian Arab Republic, which are three of the countries that requested technical assistance under the regular programme of technical cooperation to improve their e-registration systems and review some of their technology frameworks and regulations.
- 23.172 The above-mentioned work contributed to member States adopting sound national policy frameworks deploying emerging technologies and innovation for digital transformation, digital accessibility, enhanced public institutions and citizen engagement in decision-making, and enabling socioeconomic development, an expected result under result 1 of subprogramme 4, and the related performance measure (see figure XXI), which is reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 22\)](#)).

Figure 23.XXI

Performance measure: number of member States that undertook biennial national digital development reviews and design digital development strategies (cumulative)



Expected response to anticipated requests for support in 2025

Arab policymakers gain access to on-demand, reliable evidence enabled by artificial intelligence and geospatial capacities

(Result 2 of subprogramme 4 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 22\)](#)))

- 23.173 ESCWA member States are increasingly requesting from ESCWA the means to improve evidence-based policymaking and development planning underpinned by analysis on the basis of an ESCWA suite of interactive, data-driven modelling and policy simulation tools and knowledge repositories. This work cuts across all the ESCWA subprogrammes.
- 23.174 One of the artificial intelligence and data-driven tools developed by ESCWA is the Index Simulator for Policymakers in the Arab Region. The tool is intended to support decision-making processes by providing an easy-to-use platform to simulate the potential impact of specific policies on national rankings in a large selection of international indicators. The Simulator assists in identifying effective and efficient policies and measures that could be implemented in the short, medium and long terms to enhance countries' ranking and to have an impact on socioeconomic development on the national level. It forms part of the United Nations Arab Region Data and Policy Support Hub of ESCWA, which leverages the important role of evidence-based policies and data in advancing the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. To date, support has been provided to Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia and the Syrian Arab Republic in using the Simulator, through advisory services to customize the tool to the national priorities of each country, and capacity-building to train policymakers on the tool.
- 23.175 In 2025, further development of the tool and requests for using it are expected. This work will also be complemented by the United Nations Development Account project on dynamic simulators to address ranking deficiencies of international indices platforms in the Arab region, which will provide additional capacity-building for member States to use the tool.
- 23.176 The expected response in 2025 would contribute to result 2 of subprogramme 4, and the related performance measure (see table 23.39), in the proposed programme budget for 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 22\)](#)).

Table 23.39
Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
Member States gained access to 8 interactive policy simulation tools	Member States gained access to additional national, regional and global (statistical and non-statistical) data sets	Member States gained access to a centralized, regional data management and analytics platform (United Nations Arab Region Data and Policy Support hub)	Member States generate evidence and simulate policy options and related impacts through at least 5 artificial intelligence- and geospatial-enabled interactive tools	Member States have access to national data and policy dashboards through a one-stop shop for evidence-based policymaking

Contextualised economic modelling informs development of economic, social and trade policies(Result 2 of subprogramme 3 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 22\)](#)))

- 23.177 To further support the above objective of improving policymaking in its member States, ESCWA is making available evidence-based policymaking tools relating to trade, which are a means of enhancing investment in sustainable development priorities. ESCWA has developed a modelling tool for trade policy simulations, linking tariffs and other trade costs to a range of indicators, including foreign direct investment flows, greenhouse gas emissions, and movements and stocks of migrants and remittances. In that regard, support has been provided to Oman and the United Arab Emirates to have them benefit from its trade model it and tailor it to their needs, and it is expected that more countries will make such requests through 2025. This support will be complemented by advisory services and training for national statistical offices to provide the required national data and, for ministries of trade and economy, to tailor the model to their specific needs and use cases.
- 23.178 The expected response in 2025 would contribute to result 2 of subprogramme 3 and the related performance measure (see table 23.40), bearing in mind that the trade tool is part of the computable general equilibrium modelling tools, in the proposed programme budget 2025 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 22\)](#)).

Table 23.40
Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
Pilot web-based computable general equilibrium model used by Jordan	2 national computable general equilibrium models used by Yemen, as well as the State of Palestine	3 member States (Mauritania, Oman and United Arab Emirates) used computable general equilibrium models	3 additional member States use computable general equilibrium models	2 additional member States use computable general equilibrium models

Improved consumer protection in the Arab region(Result 2 of subprogramme 6 ([A/79/6 \(Sect. 22\)](#)))

- 23.179 Member States are also seeking to improve economic governance and strengthen public institutions, in particular in the two key areas of consumer protection and competition. ESCWA has been working to improve the regulatory frameworks of member States by carrying out analytical work on the Arab business legislative frameworks and producing country profiles, outlining policy recommendations for improving national consumer protection frameworks. It also developed the Arab Legislation

Portal, comprising information on existing consumer protection laws and regulations. Coupled with that analytical work, it sought to foster regional consensus in those two areas by establishing annual competition and consumer protection forums.

23.180 These efforts have generated requests under the regular programme of technical cooperation from Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman and Saudi Arabia. In 2025, it is expected that more requests will be received to support member States in building human and institutional capacities and in formulating national plans and strategies for consumer protection and competition. It is also expected that more support will be sought in strengthening the regulatory environment in these two areas, which would include support in establishing new institutions and formulating legislation in line with international best practices.

23.181 The expected response in 2025 would contribute to result 2 of subprogramme 6, and the related performance measure (see table 23.41), as reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2025 (A/79/6 (Sect. 22)).

Table 23.41

Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
Second joint ESCWA-UNCTAD-OECD Competition Forum for the Arab Region is attended by 16 member States	All 20 Arab member States participated in the third Competition Forum for the Arab Region	Arab policymakers gained access to recommendations on how to improve national consumer protection frameworks	Member States exchange knowledge and good practices on consumer protection	1 additional member State establishes or reforms its consumer protection laws or enforcement procedures
3 member States (Kuwait, Oman and Saudi Arabia) implemented new legislation on competition	1 member State (Lebanon) introduced competition legislation and 1 additional member State (Kuwait) introduced further legislation on competition 1 member State (Oman) expanded its dedicated competition authority	Arab member States gained access to the Arab Legislation Portal, comprising information on existing consumer protection laws and regulations	2 member States establish or reform their consumer protection laws	

B. Deliverables

Table 23.42

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia: deliverables for the period 2023–2025, by category and subcategory

	2023 planned	2023 actual	2024 planned	2025 planned
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	82	82	190	190

C. Proposed non-post resource requirements for 2025

Table 23.43

Financial resources by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes		2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Total	Percentage	
Other staff costs	3 481.0	3 276.7	164.4	5.0	3 441.1
Consultants	622.7	216.5	–	–	216.5
Travel of staff	261.3	234.7	–	–	234.7
Contractual services	285.7	31.3	–	–	31.3
General operating expenses	89.2	–	–	–	–
Supplies and materials	0.9	–	–	–	–
Grants and contributions	374.0	1 310	–	–	1 310
Total	5 114.8	5 069.2	164.4	3.2	5 233.6

- 23.182 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025 amount to \$5,233,600 before recosting, reflecting an increase of \$164,400, or 3.2 per cent, compared with the approved budget for 2024. The proposed increase in other staff costs would provide additional support to least developed countries (including the newest members, Djibouti and Somalia), including additional capacity development activities in the countries that suffer from political instability and conflict, which pose additional capacity challenges, in line with anticipated requests from member States.