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Proposed programme budget for 2026

Programme planning

Implementation of projects financed from the Development Account: fourteenth progress report

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The Development Account is a capacity-development programme of the United Nations Secretariat aimed at enhancing capacities of developing countries in the priority areas of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/237 and provides information on the implementation of projects funded from the Development Account since the submission of the thirteenth progress report (A/78/85), as well as updates on the management of the Development Account.

* A/80/50.

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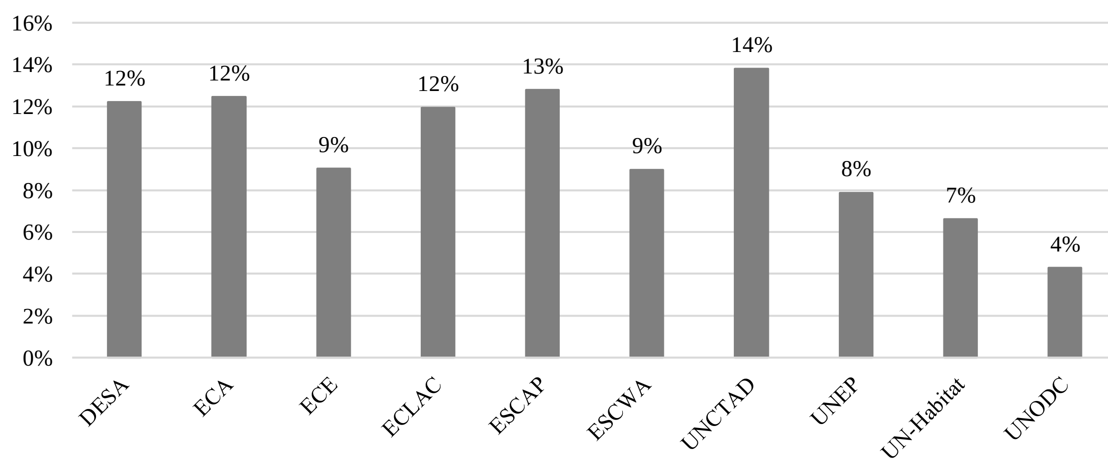
1. The present report provides an update on the performance and management of the Development Account since the issuance of the thirteenth progress report (A/78/85). The mandate of the report is contained in General Assembly resolution 56/237 and in the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions that the report be submitted in the context of the presentation of the proposed programme budget (see A/57/7/Add.5 and A/58/7/Add.1–30). All previous progress reports, as well as information on individual projects, budget fascicles and further information on mandates, are available at the Development Account website (da.desa.un.org). A summary of all Development Account tranches can be found in annex I to the present report. An update on the implementation status of the ongoing fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth tranche projects is provided in annex II.

I. Review of the closed twelfth tranche

A. Overview

2. The twelfth tranche comprised 22 projects implemented by the 10 Development Account entities (see figure I). They are the latest projects financed from the Development Account to close. The projects were delivered under challenging circumstances owing to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, which began just after their implementation was begun.

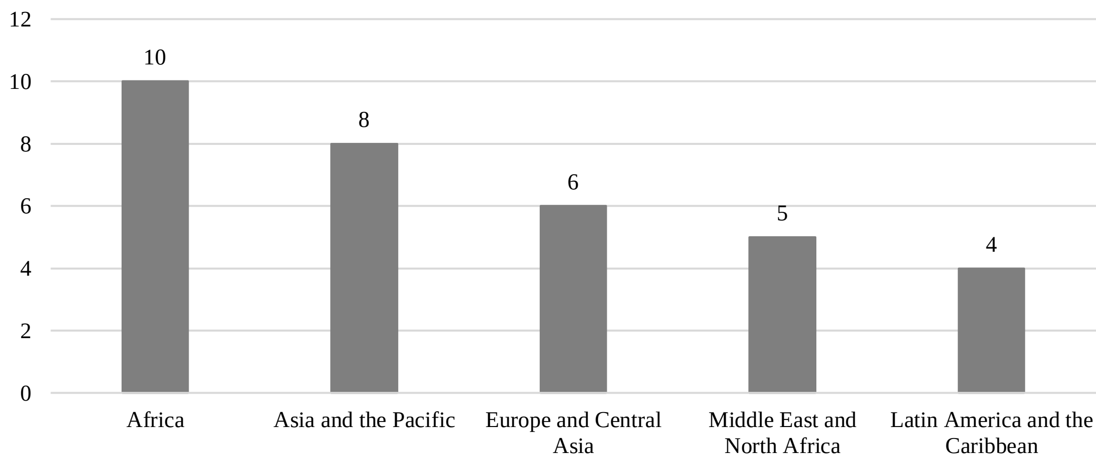
Figure I
Budget distribution by implementing entity



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; UNCTAD, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; UNEP, United Nations Environment Programme; UN-Habitat, United Nations Human Settlements Programme; UNODC, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

3. In total, 102 countries received capacity-development assistance, with some countries benefiting from multiple projects. This support reached 65 countries overall. Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Europe and Central Asia were the regions that received the most support (see figure II).

Figure II
Regional distribution of projects

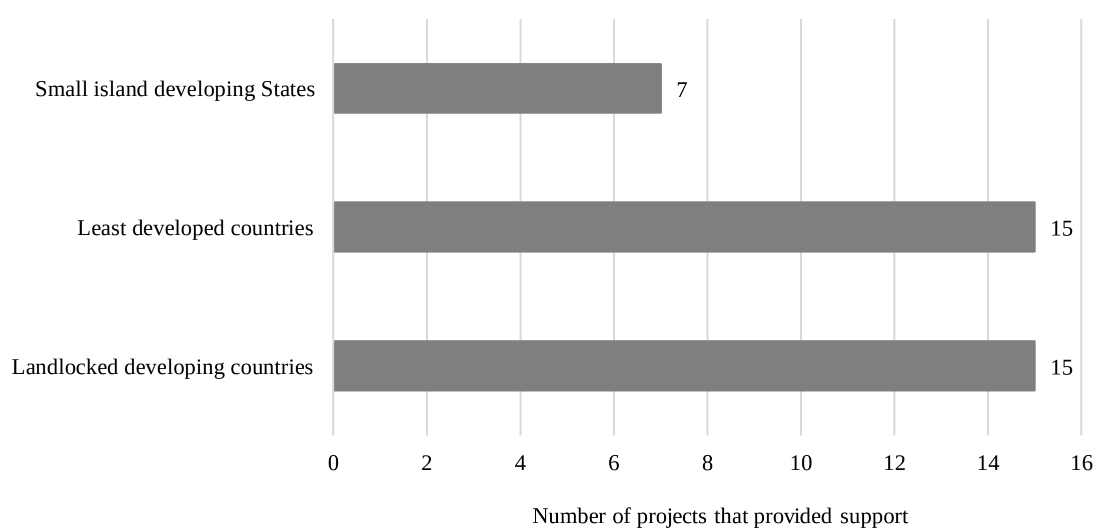


Note: Several projects supported countries in multiple regions.

B. Support provided to vulnerable countries

4. The tranche included strong support for least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, with more than 80 per cent of the projects providing targeted support to countries from at least one of these categories. A total of 7 projects supported small island developing States, 15 projects supported least developed countries and 15 projects supported landlocked developing countries (see figure III). In all, 34 least developed countries, 29 landlocked developing countries and 21 small island developing States benefited from Development Account support.

Figure III
Support provided to vulnerable countries, by category

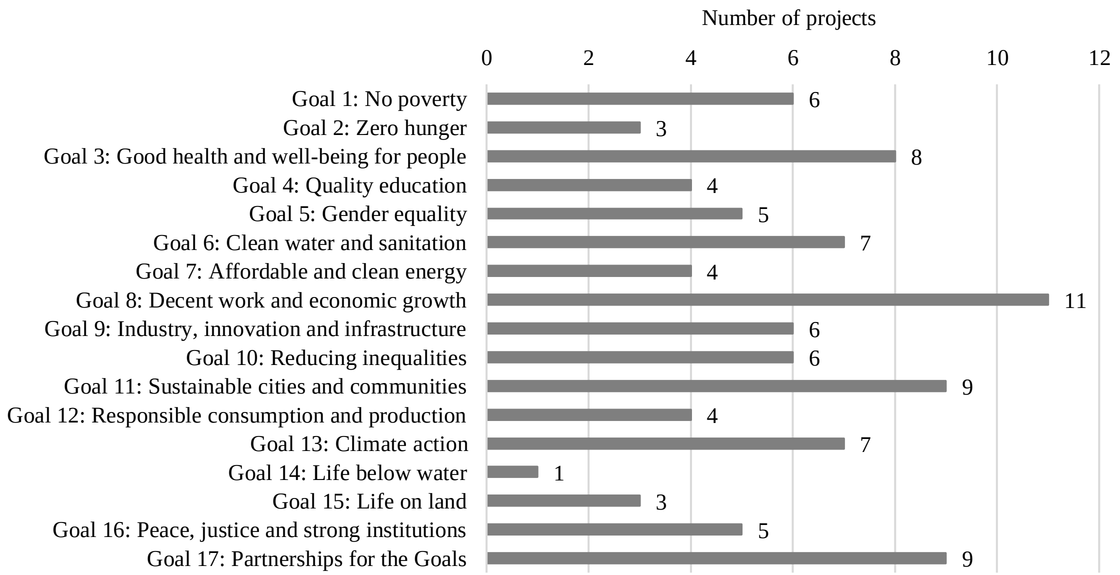


Note: Many projects provided support to countries in different groups.

C. Supporting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals

5. All the projects supported the efforts of target countries to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The majority of the projects supported the advancement of multiple Goals, with the most frequently supported Goals being Goal 8, Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all; Goal 11, Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable; and Goal 17, Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development (see figure IV).

Figure IV
Projects by Sustainable Development Goals supported

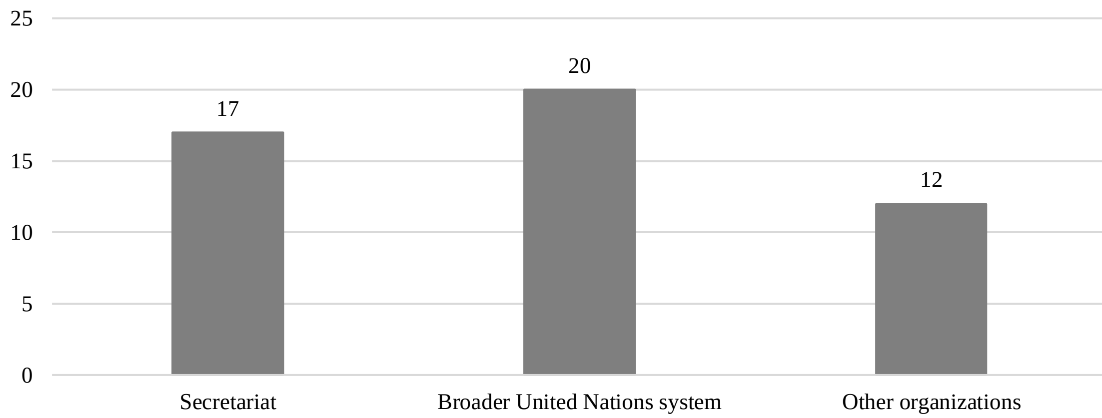


Note: Most projects supported multiple Goals.

D. Partnerships

6. Collaboration is an essential feature of all Development Account projects. Implementing entities are encouraged to deliver projects in partnership with entities within and outside the United Nations system. Partnerships are aimed at creating synergies, avoiding duplication and ensuring the efficient, effective use of resources. Most projects were delivered through partnerships among the Development Account implementing entities and/or entities in the broader United Nations system. More than half the projects also involved partnerships with external organizations outside the United Nations system. In total, 17 projects included partnerships with United Nations Secretariat entities, 20 projects partnered with the broader United Nations system and 12 projects included partnerships with other organizations (see figure V). The partnerships included a diverse array of international, regional and local organizations, from international financial institutions such as the World Bank and international organizations including the International Union of Railways to regional intergovernmental organizations such as the Caribbean Community and the African Union to local organizations and educational institutions including the Bangladesh Business and Disability Network and Kathmandu University.

Figure V
Projects by partnership category

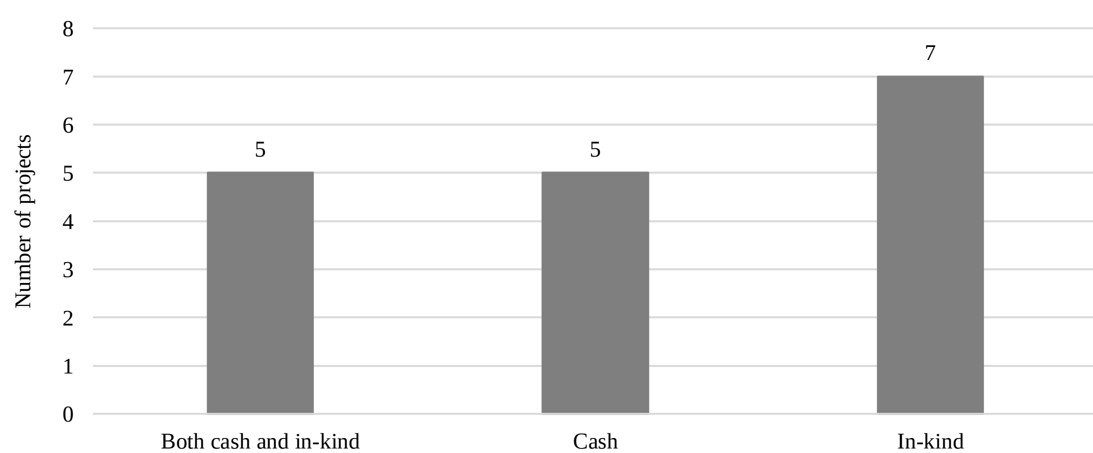


Note: Several projects entailed more than one category of partnership.

E. Financial and in-kind support

7. Through partnerships, projects were able to incorporate the expertise and resources of the collaborating entities. More than three quarters of the projects received financial and/or in-kind support to supplement their funding, including five that received cash support only, seven that received in-kind support only, and five that received both cash and in-kind support (see figure VI). In-kind support included the provision of meeting venues and payment of related expenses, the payment of travel of participants and resource persons attending workshops, and the provision of staff and experts. Cash support was used to pay for the travel and daily subsistence allowance of participants and staff in workshops and working groups; an expert consultant; the completion of specific deliverables and activities, such as a policy handbook, fact-finding missions, reports, capacity-building workshops and studies; and services, such as translation, editing and printing.

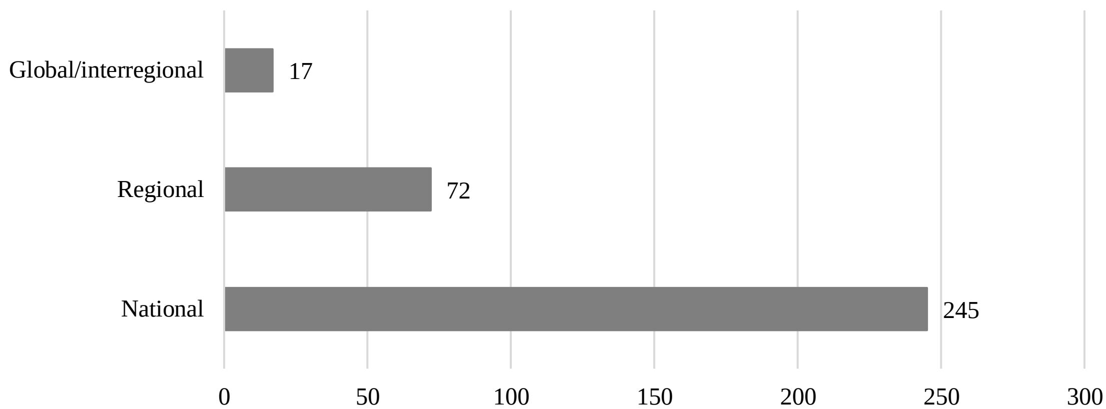
Figure VI
Projects provided with cash and in-kind support



F. Deliverables

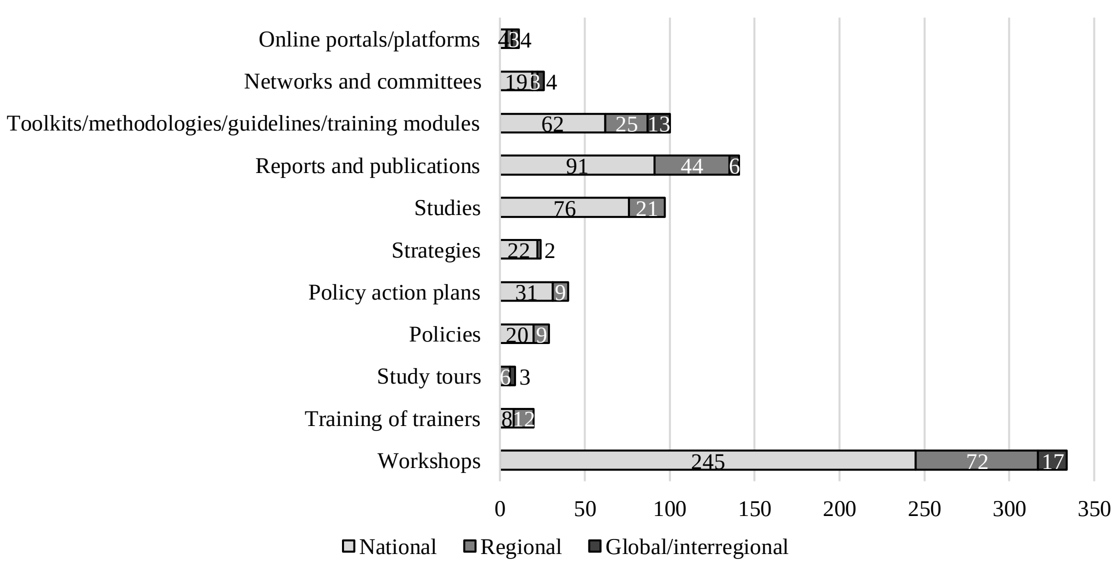
8. A total of 334 workshops were organized, of which 245 were national, 72 were regional and 17 were global/interregional (see figure VII). Over 13,000 participants attended the workshops, including 8,000 at national workshops, 4,000 at regional workshops and some 1,000 at global/interregional workshops.

Figure VII
Number of national, regional and global/interregional workshops



9. In addition, 29 policies, 40 policy action plans and 24 strategies were developed to support the policymaking efforts of Member States, and various analytical products were developed, including 97 studies, 141 reports and publications, and 100 toolkits, methodologies, guidelines and training modules. Through the projects, 26 networks and committees and 11 online portals/platforms were established and 20 training-of-trainers sessions to support Member States were organized. To promote South-South and triangular cooperation and learning, nine study tours were also conducted (see figure VIII).

Figure VIII
Project deliverables



II. Highlights of projects of the twelfth tranche

10. In line with the theme for the twelfth tranche, projects were focused on supporting Member States in strengthening coherent policies and approaches to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at local, national and regional levels. The highlights of four projects are provided below.

A. Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Time-use data for better policies in Africa, Western Asia and Latin America

11. Time-use data – quantitative information on how people allocate their time – are gaining recognition as essential for reshaping how prosperity is measured and informing a wide range of public policies, in particular supporting the design and monitoring of effective care-related interventions. This project is aimed at strengthening the capacity of selected countries in Africa, Western Asia and Latin America to produce and utilize time-use statistics to support national development planning, monitoring of the Goals and evidence-based policymaking. Government officials were introduced to modernized, cost-effective and internationally aligned methods for time-use data collection that enabled faster production of policy-relevant statistics. A major achievement of the project was the development of the *Guide to Producing Statistics on Time Use* by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, endorsed by the Statistical Commission and translated into French. The *Guide* promotes flexible and inclusive approaches, offering a basket of options suited to each country's context while upholding the principle of leaving no one behind. The project led to the launch of a time-use data resources hub, which provided a regularly updated repository of tools, methods, practical examples and materials related to time-use statistics to support continued learning and application. At the national level, the project supported Mexico, Morocco and South Africa. As a result, Mexico enhanced its 2024 national time-use survey methodology, including by incorporating new topics to inform care-related policies and calculating and disseminating indicators for supervisory care to complement indicator 5.4.1 of the Goals. The improvements coincided with the survey's designation as being of national interest by the National Institute of Statistics and Geography, the statistical authority of Mexico, ensuring its continued relevance and policy impact. The implementation of the project in Mexico will also have multiplier effects due to the regional leadership that Mexico has in promoting time-use surveys to inform public policies. Morocco enhanced its capacity in preparation for its 2025 time-use survey, advanced in valuating unpaid domestic work and produced an unpaid household service work satellite account for the System of National Accounts. South-South and triangular cooperation under the project is expected to catalyse similar efforts regionally. South Africa elevated the role of time-use and gender statistics through a national high-level user-producer dialogue and the Global Forum on Gender Statistics, facilitated by the project. This event provided African and other developing countries with a platform through which to take stock and learn good practices in measuring unpaid domestic and care work, thereby informing care policies. In other countries, the project contributed to global progress. In 2020, three countries – Bangladesh, Georgia and Kenya – conducted time-use surveys for the first time following international standards, and 20 additional countries produced new time-use data, significantly increasing the data points available in the Global Sustainable Development Goal Indicators Database for monitoring target 5.4 of the Goals.

B. Economic Commission for Africa

Migration statistics and skills recognition in Africa for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

12. Intra-African migration represents approximately 70 per cent of African migratory flows, and migrant skills and employment across national boundaries is an important aspect of migration policy. This project is aimed at strengthening the capacity of six countries in Africa to collect, analyse and disseminate migration-related data and enhance mutual recognition of the skills and qualifications of African workers to implement the migration-related targets of the Goals and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. Through the project, special attention was paid to strengthening capacity to collect, analyse and disseminate migration-related data that was disaggregated by gender, age, qualifications and migratory status to develop policies and programmes that enhanced employment opportunities for migrants across Africa. Specifically, the project supported Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Morocco, Senegal, South Africa and Zimbabwe through the organization of 29 workshops and the production of 11 reports on migration statistics, as well as recognition of the skills of migrants, in partnership with the countries. In addition, five regional/subregional workshops were organized, bringing together all six target countries, as well as Ghana and Mauritania, and providing an opportunity to share achievements and exchange experiences and best practices. Through the project, a digital platform for migration statistics was developed in Mali, Morocco and Senegal to enable those countries to have an official and centralized tool for migrants' statistics. The platform also serves as a tool for using statistics on migrants to inform public policies and design effective strategies. Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Morocco, Senegal and South Africa developed and adopted national action plans to enhance mechanisms for recognizing the skills of migrants (a consultation committee for the mobilization and recognition of skills was created by ministerial decree in Côte d'Ivoire). Action plans to improve migration statistics were also developed in the six countries, and 303 government officials and 249 stakeholders were trained in migration statistics. The Economic Commission for Africa also provided technical support and advisory services to develop a national road map in each country. A multi-partner national working group was created by Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Morocco, Senegal, South Africa and Zimbabwe that included all stakeholders (governmental and non-governmental) and development partners working on migration issues to ensure better coordination and collaboration. Through the project, partnerships were strengthened among major national stakeholders in each country. The project also established an African network of migration experts, comprising 27 experts from the six target countries that aims to facilitate the exchange of experts between African countries and the sharing of knowledge of and expertise in migration statistics and skills recognition.

C. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Social expenditure monitor: an integrated framework for supporting macro-fiscal policies and the Sustainable Development Goals in the Arab region

13. This project is focused on the development and implementation of the social expenditure monitor tool to provide comprehensive mapping of public social expenditure to inform budgeting and social policy reforms. The tool helps policymakers to improve efficiency and effectiveness of social expenditure and supports policy reforms toward optimizing the relationship between social expenditure, social development priorities and macro-fiscal sustainability. The tool was successfully launched in the target countries, Jordan and Tunisia, and capacity-building and training workshops equipped stakeholders with technical skills in monitoring,

analysis and informed budgeting using the tool. The tool was also expanded to include social expenditure data and analysis for seven additional member States. Officials were trained to use the tool for policy analysis and to update information through an automation procedure that ensures the sustainability of the tool. The project also facilitated the production of statistical guidelines for coherent data reporting on social expenditures. National and regional stakeholders have used the tool to improve their capacity for policy analysis. Four national training workshops and three regional workshops on social expenditure monitoring were implemented during the project cycle. Due to the high quality of the tool's output and its usefulness to member States, finance ministries in both target countries requested that a duplicate version of the tool be developed for their internal use. Although the requests exceeded the project's planned activities, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) successfully developed and deployed the tool in the Ministry of Finance in Jordan and Tunisia and delivered training to enable national officials to update and use the tool, with technical support as required. The tool has been integrated as part of their budgeting processes, allowing the target countries to analyse preliminary budgets throughout the budget cycle. Furthermore, the project generated requests from four additional member States. In 2023, the project was extended though technical cooperation with Egypt, Kuwait and Yemen to provide training and capacity-development support at the national level. Strategic partnerships with the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the International Monetary Fund and United Nations country teams were leveraged to strengthen the quality of outputs, increase exposure and gain access to additional resources to support project expansion. The activities undertaken by the project have made significant contributions to the Goals and the principle of leaving no one behind. The framework of the social expenditure monitor tool maps public services and their beneficiaries and is aligned with several targets under several Goals, fuelling progress on education, health, housing and community amenities, social protection, environment, poverty and inequality. Building on the success of the tool, UNICEF and ESCWA are renewing their partnership in 2025 to enhance the tool and foster regional policy dialogue. This will include a series of dialogues on Arab public finance and budgeting, held over four years, to generate actionable insights by linking analysis of the tool with policy choices to strengthen budget planning and promote equitable, efficient and effective public finance systems.

D. United Nations Environment Programme

Investing in walking and cycling policies in African cities within least developed countries

14. In many African countries, most people walk and cycle as their daily mode of transport, often out of necessity, and risk their lives doing so due to a lack of investment in safe infrastructure and exposure to air pollution. This project is focused on strengthening the capacity of three least developed countries in Africa – Ethiopia, Rwanda and Zambia – to better design and implement policies and make investment decisions that prioritize the needs of pedestrians and cyclists, in particular those without access to other modes of transportation. In Ethiopia, the establishment of the national Road Safety and Insurance Fund Service under the Ministry of Transport and Logistics, as well as continued technical assistance, were instrumental in integrating walking and cycling into the broader national road safety efforts, and the transport and logistics State Minister committed to strengthening collaboration among members of the non-motorized transport committee and improving the implementation of the national non-motorized transport strategy. In Zambia, together with ongoing meetings and technical assistance, a national stakeholder meeting was held in May 2023 with

civil society, academia and several ministries, at which it was proposed that authorities establish a dedicated non-motorized transport budget line at the national and local levels and that stakeholders work together to ensure resource mobilization. In Rwanda, a workshop was organized at Don Bosco Primary School in Kigali to identify children's challenges and the interventions required to ensure safe and sustainable mobility in their commutes to and from school. In addition, following the Africa Regional Forum for Action: Inclusive and Active Mobility in a Changing Climate, engagement with local authorities in Rwanda led to the twenty-third annual Walk21 Conference, on the theme "Action for walking", being held for the first time on the African continent. Co-hosted by Kigali, the Walk21 Foundation, the United Nations Environment Programme and the University of Rwanda, 300 delegates from across Africa and the world attended the conference, which featured workshops and engagement on affordable and essential steps to improve walkability. The conference increased regional momentum for the non-motorized transport agenda and proved to be a pivotal moment for the development of the Pan-African Action Plan for Active Mobility. Through an evaluation, it was found that the project had fully achieved its objective and that it had been implemented efficiently and effectively, despite COVID-19, resulting in each country and selected city committing to increasing non-motorized transport investment and improving non-motorized transport infrastructure, as well as enhanced engagement between policymakers and vulnerable groups.

III. Management of the Development Account

A. Coordination with United Nations entities and programmes

15. Since the previous progress report, the Development Account has further incorporated cooperation with resident coordinators into its project guidelines and reporting. All project documents are required to include plans for engaging resident coordinators in each target country, and actual engagement is then reported in annual progress reports and final reports. In some instances, Development Account implementing entities are also part of the United Nations country teams. Where relevant, implementing entities are also expected to collaborate with the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States when preparing project documents and implementing projects.

16. Collaboration between Development Account implementing entities has also been enhanced on the basis of lessons learned from evaluations, with newer guidance on joint projects to ensure that entities are working jointly on outcomes and outputs for jointly implemented projects, avoiding siloed work and encouraging bringing their respective expertise together to achieve better results in the target countries. See also section I.D on partnerships.

B. Strengthening the management of the Development Account through evaluation

17. Development Account project evaluations are managed by the implementing entities and conducted by external evaluators (consultants) contracted by the entities, using the evaluation funds allocated under the Development Account. The evaluations are guided using the Development Account project evaluation guidelines and a supplementary guidance note for the specific tranche, as well as the implementing entities' respective evaluation policies and guidelines. In addition, evaluations of projects that are implemented jointly by multiple entities are also informed by the

Development Account guidance note on terminal evaluation of joint projects. All Development Account project evaluations are expected to include an examination of the project's relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability, as well as any additional criteria required by the entities' evaluation policies, while also addressing human rights and gender equality.

18. For the twelfth tranche, 11 of the 22 projects were selected for evaluation. At the time of drafting of the present report, 9 of the 11 planned evaluations had been completed, while the remaining 2, including the evaluation of a joint project implemented by six entities, were still under way, with an estimated completion date of the end of June and the end of July 2025, respectively. In accordance with the administrative instruction on evaluation in the United Nations Secretariat (ST/AI/2021/3), all completed project evaluation reports and management responses are published on the Development Account website,[1] beginning with the twelfth tranche.

19. For the nine completed evaluations, the evaluation terms of reference were finalized, on average, two weeks before the project was completed, ranging from 4.5 months before to 4.5 months after project completion, and the evaluation reports were finalized, on average, 7.1 months after project completion, ranging from 1 to 12 months after project completion. The average duration from the finalization of the evaluation terms of reference to the completion of the evaluation report was 7.7 months, ranging from 4 to 14 months. The Development Account funds spent on the evaluation, including consultant fees and, if applicable, travel costs, ranged from $11,500 to $32,319, representing between 2.0 and 4.6 per cent of the project budget.[2] Four of the nine evaluations involved travel by the evaluators as part of data collection.

20. All nine evaluations included feedback from the project's beneficiary government officials as a key line of evidence. All feedback was received through in-person or remote interviews, while in four evaluations, feedback was also sought from a greater number of beneficiary government officials through online surveys. In the majority of the evaluations (seven out of nine), however, challenges were encountered in securing the participation of government officials in evaluation interviews due to their competing priorities and/or the difficulty of recalling specific project activities among the many provided by the entity or other United Nations actors.

21. Through the nine project evaluations, it was confirmed that the projects had contributed to strengthening national capacities, and evidence-based policy solutions were proposed to address the needs of their beneficiary developing countries in diverse thematic areas. This was achieved through, among others, the development of tools designed to inform evidence-based policy decisions and training to support their use, country-specific assessments of policy or capacity gaps and targeted capacity-building activities, or other country-specific studies with policy options and other recommendations. Drawing on the implementing entities' regional or subregional knowledge and experiences, several projects also included activities designed to enhance regional or subregional capacities, for example, through developing regional or subregional databases, providing forums or platforms for exchanging knowledge and experiences, and facilitating collaboration among the countries.

22. It was also found in the evaluations, however, that the significant interruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic during the projects' first year, and in much of the second year in many regions, had prevented many twelfth tranche projects from

[1] https://da.desa.un.org/evaluation.

[2] Including two project evaluations that were undertaken as part of a larger consultancy contract covering multiple evaluation assignments, funded through Development Account funds ($11,500 and $12,000, respectively) and other sources.

realizing the full integration of the policy solutions into the national systems and policy frameworks of the target countries during the projects' lifetime. The government officials of the beneficiary countries overwhelmingly highlighted the need for continued support from the implementing entities in their efforts to realize long-term impact.

23. Lessons learned from the projects underscore the importance of engaging with national stakeholders consistently in both project design and implementation, including in the monitoring of progress, for greater ownership and sustainability. Moreover, flexible and adaptive management proved essential to respond to the evolving needs of the beneficiary countries. While online delivery allowed the projects to reach a greater number of beneficiaries, including those outside of their main target countries, both project staff and beneficiaries highlighted that the online setting was not ideal for capacity-building interventions, as it limited opportunities for interactive discussions, exchange and networking among the participants, thereby hindering potential follow-up with and among the participants in the events.

C. Data, innovation and digital aspects of the twelfth tranche

24. Development Account projects often contribute to improving data and include digital and innovative components. A total of 6 of the 22 twelfth tranche projects included a specific focus on increasing the data capacities of target countries. They included projects on producing and using time-use data to improve policies (project A); compiling data and statistics for more gender-responsive trade policies (project D); using statistics and data for measuring illicit financial flows (project K); collecting, analysing and disseminating migration-related data (project L); producing, disseminating and using climate change- and disaster-related data and statistics for evidence-based policy (project Q); and integrating a tool for monitoring social expenditure data to support macro-fiscal policies (project U).

25. Twelfth tranche projects also made extensive use of digital tools, especially given the impact of COVID-19. Travel and in-person activities were in many cases restricted, and virtual and hybrid options were utilized to ensure that meetings and training could continue. For example, just over half the workshops organized for twelfth tranche projects were held through virtual or hybrid modalities, with about 55 per cent of participants in workshops attending through virtual or hybrid means. While this demonstrates the flexibility and responsiveness of the Development Account and its implementing entities to achieve results during the COVID-19 pandemic, it should be noted that virtual and hybrid modalities should not be seen as a complete substitute for in-person work. Challenges posed by virtual engagement were also noted, including difficulties in identifying and securing the participation of national institutional representatives, difficulties in working with government counterparts and other in-country actors due to the lack of face-to-face interaction, decreased ability to coordinate with government officials when there was a lack of Internet stability or accessibility in country, and online workshop fatigue among government counterparts.

26. Regarding innovation, while one project was focused specifically on strengthening countries' capacity to harness innovation to drive sustainable growth and regional integration (project N), Development Account projects are also aimed at utilizing innovative approaches for project delivery. Innovative approaches used in twelfth tranche projects included using guidelines for innovative financing to support the development of pipelines of projects for promoting the sustainable and smart development of cities (project O); using geospatial information for statistical purposes to improve research and analysis of climate change (project Q); identifying

opportunities from big data to supplement traditional data sources in developing various types of risk analytics (project S); and using dynamic, interactive data visualization dashboards to disseminate social expenditure data and analysis and facilitate more informed, faster decision-making processes (project U).

D. Demand from countries

27. Development Account projects respond to expressed demand from and capacity-development needs of Member States. An analysis of country demand for twelfth tranche projects showed that before the projects began implementation, 85 per cent of target countries had expressed demand for the projects they were involved in, with an additional 13 per cent having expressed interest in the topic covered by the specific project in workshops or events. Given this, 98 per cent of target countries for twelfth tranche projects had expressed either specific interest in the project they were included in or general interest in the topic covered by it. Demand was demonstrated most frequently through formal or informal requests for assistance sent to the implementing entities (82 per cent of target countries), with other countries' demand having originated through ongoing work in a country on a particular topic, which had led to additional demand (3 per cent) or interest in a topic being conveyed at a workshop or event (13 per cent). The report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the effectiveness and impact of the Development Account will provide additional details on demand from project target countries.

IV. Recommendation

28. **The General Assembly may wish to take note of the present report.**

Annex I

Summary of Development Account tranches as at 30 April 2025

Biennium/year	*Theme*	*Tranche*	*Approved (thousands of United States dollars)*	*General Assembly resolution*	*Total number of projects*	*Number of active projects*	*Implementation period*	*Status/ percentage of approved budget spent as at 30 April 2025*
1998–1999	Support for the implementation of global conferences	1	13 065.0	53/220 A	7	–	–	Closed
2000–2001	Networking and regional and subregional expertise	2	13 065.0	54/249	16	–	–	Closed
2002–2003	Capacity-building for managing globalization	3	13 065.0	56/254 A	20	–	–	Closed
2004–2005	Capacity-building for Millennium Development Goals through partnerships, knowledge management and taking advantage of information and communications technologies	4	13 065.0	58/270	23	–	–	Closed
2006–2007	Supporting progress towards the internationally agreed development goals, through knowledge management, networking and partnerships	5	13 065.0	60/247	24	–	–	Closed
		5A	3 415.9	60/246 and 61/252	6	–	–	Closed
		5B	5 071.0	62/235	10	–	–	Closed
2008–2009	Supporting progress towards achieving internationally agreed development goals, through innovation, networking and knowledge management	6	16 480.9	62/237	27	–	–	Closed
		6A	2 170.4	62/236, 62/237 and 62/238	5	–	–	Closed
		6B	7 500.0	64/242 A	15	–	–	Closed
2010–2011	Support for addressing key global development challenges to further the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, through collaboration at the global, regional and national levels	7	18 651.3	64/244 A	28	–	–	Closed
		7A	4 000.0	Residual balances from tranches 1–4	12	–	–	Closed
		7B	5 000.0	64/243 and 64/244	11	–	–	Closed
2012–2013	Supporting Member States in accelerating progress towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in the context of the multiple and interrelated development challenges	8	23 651.3	66/248 A	40	–	–	Closed
		8A	5 591.9	66/246	12	–	–	Closed
2014–2015	Supporting Member States in designing and implementing strategies and policies towards sustainable, equitable and inclusive development	9	28 398.8	68/248 A	46	–	–	Closed
		9A	7 113.0	Residual balances from tranches 5–6	13	–	–	Closed
2016–2017	Supporting Member States in implementing the post-2015 development agenda: strengthening statistics and data, evidence-based policies and accountability	10	28 398.8	70/249	33	–	–	Closed
		10A	5 657.4	Residual balances from tranche 7	10	–	–	Closed
2018–2019	Supporting Member States in strengthening evidence-based policy coherence, integration and participatory implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels	11	27 856.4	72/253 A–B	45	–	–	Closed
		11A	6 305.1	Residual balances from tranche 8	10	–	–	Closed

Biennium/year	Theme	Tranche	Approved (thousands of United States dollars)	General Assembly resolution	Total number of projects	Number of active projects	Implementation period	Status/ percentage of approved budget spent as at 30 April 2025
2020	Supporting Member States to strengthen coherent policies and approaches to implement the 2030 Agenda at local, national and regional levels	12	14 199.4	74/264 A–C	22	–	–	Closed
		12A	17 448.5	Joint COVID-19 projects	5	–	–	Closed
2021	Supporting Member States in utilizing innovative and catalytic approaches to accelerate progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals	13	15 199.4	75/254 A–C	21	–	–	Closed
2022	Recovering better from COVID-19: for greener, resilient, inclusive and equal post-pandemic societies that leave no one behind	14	16 199.4	76/247 A–C	21	21	2022–2025	71
2023	Supporting Member States to address the risk of widening inequality in the post-pandemic recovery through inclusive, resilient and green policy support that leaves no one behind	15	16 491.3	77/264 A–C	22	22	2023–2026	50
2024	Supporting Member States in developing and implementing policies for accelerating the Sustainable Development Goals for transformational change, resilience and just transitions addressing the economic and social aftermath of ongoing crises and shocks while ensuring that no one is left behind	16	18 502.9	78/254 A–C	28	28	2024–2027	25
2025	Supporting Member States in accelerating actions to adapt to and mitigate climate change with a focus on social and economic resilience in pursuit of the 2030 Agenda	17	19 011.9	79/259 A–C	26	26	2025–2028	3
Total approved			**377 640.0**		**558**	**97**		
2026	Supporting Member States to catalyse digital transformation and an enabling policy environment for a sustainable, responsible and inclusive digital society that leaves no one behind, with a focus on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls	18	19 011.9	Proposed programme budget for 2026 (A/80/6 (Sect. 35))	27	–	2026–2029	–
Grand total			**396 651.9**		**585**	**97**		

Abbreviation: COVID-19, coronavirus disease.

Annex II

Update on the status of the fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth tranche projects: implementation rates

Table 1
Projects funded from section 35, Development Account, of the programme budget for 2022 (fourteenth tranche) as at 5 May 2025

	Project title	*Implementing entity*	*Project budget (A)* (thousands of United States dollars)	*Expenditures (B)* (thousands of United States dollars)	*Implementation rate (percentage) [(B)/(A)]*100*
A	Resilient and agile national statistical systems to meet post-COVID-19 data needs to recover better	DESA, ECA, ECE, ESCAP, ECLAC, ESCWA, UNDP and UNODC	3 000.0	2 024.8	67
B	Smooth transition beyond graduation for least developed countries in Africa, Asia and the Pacific in a post-COVID-19 environment	DESA	500.0	435.3	87
C	Strengthened resilience of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in Africa and Asia	DESA	500.0	328.9	66
D	Mobilizing external financial resources beyond COVID-19 for greener, more equal and sustainable development in selected vulnerable small island developing States in Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean	UNCTAD	700.0	313.2	46
E	Sustainable smart ports for African countries, including small island developing States, to “recover better” from COVID-19	UNCTAD	600.0	312.4	52
F	TrainForTrade blended learning strategy to boost the digital economy in small island developing States of Africa, the Caribbean and Asia and the Pacific	UNCTAD	600.0	355.1	59
G	Nature-based solutions for enhanced resilience to COVID-19 and urban air pollution in the Western Balkans and Central Asia	UNEP	430.0	409.9	98
H	Leveraging sustainable public procurement for COVID-19 recovery in the small island developing States of the Caribbean	UNEP	430.0	–	–
I	Strengthened capacities of African, Caribbean and Pacific small island developing States for green, resilient and pro-poor pandemic recovery	UN-Habitat	570.0	403.7	71
J	Voluntary local reviews: evidence for greener, resilient and sustainable urban recovery in Eastern European and Central Asian countries in transition	UN-Habitat	570.0	553.9	97
K	Gender-responsive land governance in Africa as a pathway for enhancing women’s resilience in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic	ECA	500.0	387.3	77
L	Catalysing the post-pandemic resurgence of the tourism industry in East Africa	ECA	500.0	452.1	90
M	Food-water-energy nexus support to post-COVID-19 recovery in Central Asia, the Middle East and Africa	ECE	700.0	505.4	72

	Project title	Implementing entity	Project budget (A)	Expenditures (B)	Implementation rate (percentage) [(B)/(A)]*100
			(thousands of United States dollars)		
N	Enhanced capacities of selected countries in the ECE region for pandemic-resilient and sustainable cross-border trade and transport	ECE	430.0	304.1	71
O	Resilient and inclusive public management systems for sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean	ECLAC	500.0	432.1	86
P	Building back better in tourism-dependent Caribbean economies post-COVID-19	ECLAC	500.0	404.1	81
Q	Strengthening energy policies of countries with special needs to build back better from COVID-19	ESCAP	700.0	530.5	76
R	Digital and transport connectivity for the socioeconomic resilience of rural communities post-COVID-19 in Asia-Pacific countries	ESCAP	500.0	345.6	69
S	Sustainable debt financing strategies to enhance fiscal space and financing for the Sustainable Development Goals in the Arab region	ESCWA	370.0	365.9	99
T	Improved water security in Arab States	ESCWA	370.0	370.0	100
U	Blockchains for facilitating trade and enhancing competitiveness	ESCWA	663.0	395.2	60

Abbreviations: COVID-19, coronavirus disease; 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; UNCTAD, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; UNDP, United Nations Development Programme; UNEP, United Nations Environment Programme; UN-Habitat, United Nations Human Settlements Programme; UNODC, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

Table 2
Projects funded from section 35, Development Account, of the programme budget for 2023 (fifteenth tranche) as at 5 May 2025

	Project title	*Implementing entity*	*Approved (A)* (thousands of United States dollars)	*Expenditures (B)* (thousands of United States dollars)	*Implementation rate (percentage) [(B)/(A)]*100*
A	Inclusive and sustainable economic growth in a society for all ages in the post-COVID-19 era in Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean	DESA, ECLAC and ESCAP	880.0	246.5	28
B	Integrated and coherent national recovery strategies promoting social inclusion, macroeconomic stability, effective governance and protection of the environment for selected small island developing States	DESA	700.0	366.3	52
C	Turning the tide on deforestation: building partnerships to combat intensifying impacts of climate change, forest fires and zoonotic diseases	DESA	600.0	339.1	57
D	Quantifying South-South cooperation to mobilize funds for the Sustainable Development Goals	UNCTAD	800.0	397.0	50
E	Supporting structural economic progress towards and beyond graduation from least developed country status by the pre-qualified African and Asian countries	UNCTAD and ECA	900.0	393.9	44
F	Automated System for Relief Emergency Consignments for innovative coordination and facilitation of relief consignments in times of disaster in the Pacific region	UNCTAD	650.0	542.5	83
G	Financing nature-based solutions for a green and inclusive recovery in Latin America	UNEP	500.0	387.1	77
H	Environmentally sounder and safer waste management frameworks in Africa	UNEP	500.0	324.1	65
I	Harnessing urbanization for a more resilient, inclusive and green recovery in francophone least developed countries	UN-Habitat	500.0	361.5	72
J	Building back safe, sustainable and resilient transport and urban mobility systems in Western Balkan and Central Asian landlocked developing regions	UN-Habitat, UNEP and ECE	940.0	241.5	26
K	Innovative biodiversity monitoring and impact assessment to support payments for ecosystem services with better economic deals for Indigenous communities in the Amazon rainforest	UNODC	300.0	–	–
L	Expanded and resilient urban fiscal space for an inclusive and resilient COVID-19 recovery in Africa	ECA and UN-Habitat	940.0	546.6	58
M	Measuring and curbing illicit financial flows	ECA, ECLAC, ESCAP and ESCWA	1 500.0	532.2	35
N	Circular forest product value chains and nature-based solutions in Central Asia and the Caucasus	ECE	500.0	203.3	41
O	Equitable access to water and sanitation services for all and in all settings and strengthened climate resilience in the water and sanitation sector	ECE	500.0	185.0	37
P	Regional network and observatory for inclusive and sustainable water management	ECLAC	730.0	449.5	62
Q	Resilient health systems with universal health coverage in Latin America and the Caribbean	ECLAC	567.6	251.9	44
R	Regional integration and cooperation to promote affordable and equitable access to vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics in Asia and the Pacific	ESCAP	650.0	314.8	48

	Project title	Implementing entity	Approved (A)	Expenditures (B)	Implementation rate (percentage) [(B)/(A)]*100
			(thousands of United States dollars)		
S	Enhancing investments for equitable and accelerated climate action in the post-COVID-19 recovery	ESCAP	650.0	431.1	66
T	Expanding the potential of small and medium-sized enterprises in the Arab region	ESCWA	350.0	343.8	98
U	Dynamic simulators to address ranking deficiencies of international indices platforms in the Arab region	ESCWA	350.0	125.4	36
V	Use of forecasting and analysis of megatrends to support decision-making for the Sustainable Development Goals in the ESCWA region	ESCWA	350.0	252.2	72

Abbreviations: COVID-19, coronavirus disease; 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; UNCTAD, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; UNEP, United Nations Environment Programme; UN-Habitat, United Nations Human Settlements Programme; UNODC, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

Table 3
Projects funded from section 35, Development Account, of the programme budget for 2024 (sixteenth tranche) as at 5 May 2025

	Project title	*Implementing entity*	*Approved (A)*	*Expenditures (B)*	*Implementation rate (percentage) [(B)/(A)]*100*
			(thousands of United States dollars)		
A	National social protection policies and capacities to respond to the triple crisis in Africa and Asia and the Pacific	DESA, ECA and ESCAP	1 014.5	352.6	35
B	Attracting finance and investment for the energy transition in Africa	UNCTAD and DESA	1 014.5	216.4	21
C	Harnessing trade policy and transport and logistics to build sustainable and resilient food supply chains in the Caribbean and the Middle East and North African regions	UNCTAD, ECLAC and ESCWA	1 014.5	190.6	19
D	Energy security and resilience through energy transition	ECE, ESCAP and ECLAC	760.9	188.8	25
E	Sustainable production, use and reuse of critical raw materials for low-carbon transitions	ECE and ESCAP	760.9	127.6	17
F	Urban economic resilience for inclusive response and recovery from crises	ECE, ECA, ESCWA, ESCAP and ECLAC	760.9	193.2	25
G	Innovative financing instruments for sustainable development in Arab States, Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean	ESCWA, ECA and ECLAC	760.9	139.1	18
H	Identifying and addressing vulnerabilities to aggressive tax-avoidance in developing countries	DESA, ECA, ECLAC and ESCAP	771.7	153.1	20
I	Strengthening capacity for evidence-based policymaking: using innovative data sources and methods to formulate policies for responding to global crises in fuel, food and finance	DESA	668.8	21.8	3
J	Innovation and digital government transformation in the Caribbean small island developing States	DESA and ECLAC	514.5	186.1	36
K	Strengthening capacity for evidence-based policymaking and the economic resilience of Caribbean Community	UNCTAD	617.4	107.8	17
L	Strengthening sustainability reporting to foster sustainable finance and investment in selected developing countries in Asia and Latin America	UNCTAD	617.4	59.8	10
M	Regional integration and industrial policy for transformational change and resilience in Latin America	UNCTAD	617.4	179.8	29
N	Innovative circular economy approaches to agricultural and municipal waste management for better air quality in Asia and the Pacific and the Western Balkans	UNEP	576.2	2.6	0
O	Strengthening policies and capacities for green jobs for youth in Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean	UNEP	576.2	67.1	12
P	Overcoming barriers to adequate housing for marginalized groups in cities in Eastern Europe and Central Asia with evidence-based approaches to housing policy	UN-Habitat and ECE	576.2	146.3	25
Q	Promoting a multi-scaled territorial approach to better prepare urban areas in the Sahel for protracted displacement	UN-Habitat	576.2	474.5	82

	Project title	Implementing entity	Approved (A) (thousands of United States dollars)	Expenditures (B) (thousands of United States dollars)	Implementation rate (percentage) [(B)/(A)]*100
R	Identifying and mitigating corruption risks to strengthen peacebuilding efforts in Africa	UNODC	576.2	88.6	15
S	Strengthening the migration-development nexus in Africa	ECA	771.7	127.4	17
T	Innovative digital trade under the African Continental Free Trade Area for promoting food security and agricultural value chains in Africa	ECA	617.4	127.9	21
U	Green, circular and resilient public-private partnerships in support of the Sustainable Development Goals for transformational change in Africa, Central Asia, Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean	ECE, ECLAC and ECA	771.7	273.6	35
V	Accelerated clean air policies in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus	ECE, UNEP	514.5	193.9	38
W	Advancing care policies for transformative recovery in Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific and the Arab States	ECLAC, ESCAP and ESCWA	771.7	324.4	42
X	Sustainable and inclusive energy transition in Latin America and the Caribbean	ECLAC	617.4	188.4	31
Y	Catalysing finance and investments for climate action while ensuring debt sustainability in Asia-Pacific countries in special situations	ESCAP	617.4	165.2	27
Z	Building disaster and climate resilience to food and energy crises in Asia and the Pacific	ESCAP	617.4	301.6	49
AA	Promoting equality through youth inclusion and development of small and medium-sized enterprises in Arab and African States	ESCWA	514.5	169.0	33
AB	Bridging the social protection gaps in the Arab and African regions	ESCWA	514.5	70.5	14
AC	Moving towards efficient, resilient, low carbon and accessible port cities in Asia-Pacific small island developing States to achieve better transport connectivity and accessibility for all	ESCAP	777.1	159.2	20
AD	Strengthened capacity to design and implement policies to enhance resilience in Caribbean small island developing States	ECLAC	777.1	119.8	15

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; UNCTAD, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; UNEP, United Nations Environment Programme; UN-Habitat, United Nations Human Settlements Programme; UNODC, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

Table 4
Projects funded from section 35, Development Account, of the programme budget for 2025 (seventeenth tranche) as at 5 May 2025

	Project title	Implementing entity	Approved (A)	Expenditures (B)	Implementation rate (percentage) [(B)/(A)]*100
			(thousands of United States dollars)		
A	Evidence-based climate action through artificial intelligence and data innovation in Caribbean small island developing States	DESA and UNCTAD	1 033.7	–	–
B	Science, technology and innovation for integrated climate action for small island developing States	DESA and ECA	761.7	–	–
C	Promoting climate-resilient agricultural cooperatives for rural small-holder farmers	DESA	704.5	–	–
D	Climate-smart trade facilitation for economic and climate resilience in Africa and Asia-Pacific	UNCTAD	848.6	48.0	6
E	Stronger and greener productive capacities for just transitions in Caribbean small island developing States	UNCTAD	848.6	34.1	4
F	Sustainable product export strategies and traceability for a green, sustainable and inclusive economy in Asia	UNCTAD	848.6	11.7	1
G	Measuring climate change with a gender dimension for better adaptation and mitigation policies	UNEP and DESA	783.4	–	–
H	Safer, healthier and cleaner transport in Africa	UNEP and UN-Habitat	783.4	–	–
I	Equitable and climate-resilient sanitation services for low-income urban communities in South and South-East Asia	UN-Habitat and ESCAP	750.2	–	–
J	Accelerating urban resilience and pro-poor climate action in landlocked developing countries and small island developing States in the Caribbean and Africa	UN-Habitat and UNEP	816.5	–	–
K	Detection and disruption of illicit financial flows related to illegal logging and trafficking to reduce illegal deforestation	UNODC	704.5	–	–
L	Improved climate knowledge and disaster risk governance for mine tailings facilities in Central Asia	ECE and ESCAP	582.1	30.1	5
M	Better statistics and data for effective, inclusive and transparent climate action in Europe and Central Asia	ECE	582.1	–	–
N	Leveraging trade for a just transition to a low-carbon and circular economy in the Western Balkans, Southern Caucasus and Central Asia	ECE	582.1	37.7	6
O	Improved mapping and monitoring of solar energy access for enhanced climate policy action and socioeconomic resilience in ESCWA member States	ESCWA	603.9	24.1	4
P	Better policies for accelerated transition to a circular economy and enhanced climate action in Arab States	ESCWA	560.4	–	–
Q	Bridging the climate-food nexus: coherent climate action and food system transformation for resilient Arab least developed countries	ESCWA	582.1	–	–
R	Better production and use of statistics for effective climate action in Asia and the Pacific	ESCAP	652.8	–	–
S	Low-carbon and resilient transport action plans in Asia and the Pacific	ESCAP and ECE	652.8	13.1	2

	Project title	Implementing entity	Approved (A)	Expenditures (B)	Implementation rate (percentage) [(B)/(A)]*100
			(thousands of United States dollars)		
T	Sustainable cooling to address climate change and inequality in small island developing States of the Asia-Pacific region	ESCAP and UNEP	652.8	–	–
U	Better climate change statistics and indicators in Latin America and the Caribbean	ECLAC	652.8	7.7	1
V	Labour inclusion to address climate change and its impacts on the future of work in Latin America and the Caribbean	ECLAC	652.8	0.2	–
W	Rural agricultural value chains and climate-smart technology policies at the subnational level in Latin America and the Caribbean	ECLAC	652.8	–	–
X	Empowering African small and medium-sized enterprises in the agrifood industry for sustainable transition	ECA	652.8	–	–
Y	Accelerating food system transformation for resilience to climate change in Africa	ECA	652.8	–	–
Z	Innovative climate action to accelerate green industrialization in the Southern Africa region	ECA	652.8	–	–

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; UNCTAD, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; UNEP, United Nations Environment Programme; UN-Habitat, United Nations Human Settlements Programme; UNODC, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.