



Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/ECE/1427
13 December 2004

Original: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Sixtieth session
22-25 February 2005
(Provisional agenda item 11)

UNECE TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES IN 2004: AN OVERVIEW

Note by the Executive Secretary

Executive summary

The note contains an overview of 2004 technical cooperation activities and some recent trends in the work of the UNECE Regional Advisers, technical cooperation projects carried out under local and general trust funds, UNECE cooperation with sub-regional country groupings and initiatives, as well as with other United Nations agencies and regional organizations.

Introduction

1. Technical cooperation is an important supporting instrument for implementing the UNECE core programme activities. It is being implemented in accordance with the Technical Cooperation Strategy (TCS) endorsed by the Commission at its fifty-ninth session in February 2004 and is aimed at assisting countries of the UNECE region in the application of agreed norms and standards, and implementation of relevant recommendations and legally binding instruments through strengthening their national institutional and human capacities, and supporting the development and implementation of relevant national policies, regulations and actions. It also helps interested countries in addressing cross-border and sub-regional issues of mutual interest, which are relevant to the UNECE mandate and programme of work.

2. In accordance with the TCS, the Secretarial Working Group on TC was established with a view to promoting inter-divisional cross-sectoral cooperation and synergies; elaborating

proposals aimed at facilitation and coordination of fundraising activities; identifying ways of strengthening and raising the effectiveness of technical cooperation work with sub-regional groupings and initiatives with which UNECE has established collaborative relations (CEI, SECI, Stability Pact, CIS, BSEC, IFAS); streamlining and improving reporting, monitoring and evaluation; and exchanging information on activities underway, state of implementation, lessons learned and good practice. The WGTC had three meetings in 2004. Two issues of UNECE Fundraising Framework were prepared and circulated to member States and potential donors. Measures were also undertaken to improve communication and interaction with the UNECE member States on technical cooperation issues, which included special briefings for the Group of Experts on the Programme of Work.

3. Further steps aimed at raising the overall effectiveness of the UNECE technical cooperation work and enhancing the contribution of UNECE, along with other UN regional commissions, to broader efforts of the international community in supporting countries to implement internationally agreed developmental goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), were undertaken in the context of the on-going review of technical cooperation in the United Nations carried out as part of the overall reform of the Organization, as well as of the 2004 Comprehensive Triennial Policy Review of the Operational Activities for Development.

4. In 2004, technical cooperation activities were implemented by the regular UNECE staff as well as by the Regional Advisers. As in earlier years the prevailing means of implementing technical cooperation services have been capacity-building workshops, seminars, study tours, policy advisory services and field projects. The main sources of funding were the resources made available for UNECE from the UN Regular Budget (mainly the Regular Programme for Technical Cooperation and the UN Development Account), extra-budgetary resources, usually contributed to trust funds, as well as various ad hoc and in-kind contributions.

I. Technical cooperation activities implemented by the UNECE Regional Advisers

5. In 2004, the activities of the Regional Adviser on Sustainable Energy were concentrated on the development and implementation of the following capacity building and energy efficiency projects: Energy Efficiency 21; Biomass Energy for Heating and Hot Water Supply in Belarus; Removing Barriers to Implementation of Energy Efficiency Improvements in Belarus; Capacity Building for Air Quality Management and the Application of Clean Coal Combustion Technologies in Central Asia (UNDA project jointly implemented with the Regional Adviser on Environment); Implementation of regional (inter-state) programme of rational and efficient use of fuel and energy resources in CIS countries; Opportunities for Belarus to Join the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; Low Cost Energy Saving Measures in Russian Educational Sector; Climate Change Mitigation in Ukraine through Energy Efficiency in Municipal District Heating (pilot project in the city of Rovno). Advisory services were also provided on the development of renewable sources of energy (biomass) in Ukraine and on introducing the concept of energy service company to Belarus as well as on the development of the Energy and Water Efficiency Demonstration Zones in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Ukraine with a view of transforming them into Energy Service Companies.

6. The activities of the Regional Adviser on Entrepreneurship and SMEs were concentrated on the following major areas: development of national SME policies; exchanges of experiences

on best practice in SME policies; good governance for SMEs including business ethics; social entrepreneurship, youth entrepreneurship and improving the competitiveness of SMEs through quality systems; and SME financing. During 2004, advisory services on national SME policies were provided in particular to Armenia, Croatia, Republic of Moldova, and Serbia and Montenegro. A special project was developed for the South Caucasian transition economies. The UNECE report on SMEs in transition economies in 2002-2003 was prepared. The Regional Adviser organized a Forum on Best Practice in Development of Entrepreneurship and SMEs in Countries in Transition: The Romanian and Slovak Experiences, and an Expert Meeting on Good Governance for SMEs. The activities of the Regional Adviser in the field of youth entrepreneurship focused on preparation of a "Guide on How to Promote Youth Entrepreneurship in Countries in Transition". He contributed to the establishment of a CIS International Youth Centre, the development of the Swiss project on "EYE - Entrepreneurship for Youth Empowerment" and the World Youth Bank network. The Regional Adviser actively cooperated with BSEC in business incubation and with CEI in developing entrepreneurship in rural areas. Cooperation was further strengthened with OECD in the field of entrepreneurship, e-business and SMEs. Advisory services were provided during the 2nd OECD Ministerial Conference on "Promoting Entrepreneurship and Innovative SMEs in Global Economy" (Istanbul, June 2004), in particular during the workshop on SME access to international markets.

7. Most of the activities of the Regional Advisor on Environment were focused on the development and implementation of water-related projects and activities, advising on the development of national environmental policies and sub-regional cooperation as well as supporting the implementation of the UNECE environment conventions. These included: on-going projects on Establishment of a Bilateral Kazakh-Kyrgyz Water Commission on Rivers Chu and Talas, Central Asian Regional Water Information Base, Capacity Building for Air Quality Management and the Application of Clean Coal Combustion Technologies in Central Asia (UNDA project jointly implemented with the Regional Adviser on Sustainable Energy), Dam Safety in Central Asia, Transboundary Cooperation and Sustainable Management of the Dnestr River, Modernization of governance systems in the fields of health, water and waste management in the South Caucasus, Capacity for Water Cooperation; preparation of a project on the application of the UNECE EIA Convention in Central Asia to be implemented in 2005; and participation in the Environmental Performance Review of Tajikistan. Most of the projects were implemented in collaboration with other partners such as UNESCAP, UNEP and OSCE. The Regional Adviser was also engaged in and advising on the development of national environmental policies and sub-regional cooperation, and on the development of the Environmental Strategy for the Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia regions, the EU Water Initiative and the Central Asian Initiative for Sustainable Development.

8. The activities of the Regional Adviser on Development and Policy issues focused on advisory services on implementation of the initiative by the United Nations Secretary-General to strengthen the Special Program for the Economie of Central Asia (SPECA). He participated in the preparation, conduct and follow-up of the three joint visits to Central Asia by the Executive Secretaries of UNECE and UNESCAP. He worked out the initial draft of the Strategic Approach to Central Asia, the Lessons Learned Paper on SPECA and its follow-up document, the discussion paper on SPECA reform, which have become joint UNECE-UNESCAP policy papers shared with interested Governments. He is actively participating in the preparation of the International Conference on Sub-regional Cooperation in Central Asia to be held in May 2005 in Astana, where concrete proposals for the institutional reform and better long-term funding of

SPECA will be launched. He worked out a proposal for the coordination of SPECA and the Central Asia Regional Cooperation Programme (CAREC), which includes ADB, WB, EBRD, IMF, IsDB and UNDP. The proposal was sent jointly by the Executive Secretaries of UNECE and UNESCAP to the President of ADB and is expected to be discussed at the Astana Conference. Thanks to his long OSCE experience he co-authored the UNECE "Report on the implementation of OSCE commitments in the economic and environmental dimension", presented in May 2004 at the Prague Economic Forum. He worked out the initial draft of the MoU between the UNECE and OSCE and actively participated in its negotiations. He drafted the UNECE position paper on a joint UNECE-OSCE early warning mechanism and participated in the related workshop in Vienna.

9. The activities of the Regional Adviser on Statistics were concentrated on assisting economies in transition in the implementation of international statistical standards and statistical capacity building. In particular, advisory services to statistical capacity building were provided, in cooperation with the staff of the Statistical Division, to the Republic of Moldova in enhancing its statistical capacity to produce MDG-related indicators; to Croatia and to The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in assessment of their statistical systems; to Azerbaijan and to Serbia and Montenegro on gender statistics; to Kyrgyzstan on industrial production indices and on gender statistics; to Turkmenistan on gender statistics; on national accounting issues and on gender statistics issues of concern to sub-regional groups of transition economies. Advisory services were also provided during a seminar on the application of the fundamental principles of official statistics in statistical planning in CIS countries organized by UNECE, CIS and PARIS21 secretariat in Moscow in November 2004.

10. The activities of the Regional Adviser on Trade Facilitation concentrated on providing advisory services to the transition economies of: (a) South-East Europe, in particular within the SECI/Stability Pact framework, namely, support for the network of trade facilitation bodies (SECIPRO); contributions with policy papers and projects within the Working Group on Trade Liberalization and Facilitation and the e-SEE initiative of the Stability Pact for SEE; promotion of the "UNeDocs" project, Recommendation 33 (Single Window) and other trade facilitation recommendations of UN/CEFACT; exploring possibilities for capacity-building and pilot projects; and support for the e-Southeastern Europe Initiative; (b) the Caucasus and Central Asia regions: joint action with the World Bank and the TRACECA project supported by the EU in support of UNECE international standards for trade facilitation; (c) the Russian Federation through organizing a major seminar on Trade Facilitation (Russian Federation, 22-23 November 2004) contributing to the launch of a trade facilitation programme in the Russian Federation.

11. The activities of the Regional Adviser on Transport were concentrated on providing advisory services to transition economies under the SPECA project on Development of Transport Infrastructure and Border Crossing Facilitation; Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM) and Trans-European Railway (TER) projects; UNDA project on Capacity Building in Developing Interregional Land and Land-Cum-Sea Transport Linkages; and other projects related to the development of Pan-European transport corridors and Euro-Asian transport links. Assistance was provided with EU funding to experts from the Central Asian and Caucasus countries to facilitate their participation in the meetings of the Inland Transport Committee and selected subsidiary bodies. Advisory services were also aimed at promoting the UNECE legal instruments in the field of transport and cooperation with the private sector within the PPP concept for assistance in project implementation.

12. Overall, the level of expenditures for technical cooperation activities carried out by the Regional Advisers in 2004 under the Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation remained at approximately the same level as 2003. The revised appropriations for these activities for the biennium 2004-2005 approved by the General Assembly is US\$ 2,918,900 while US\$ 2,859,875 were spent for these purposes in the biennium 2002-2003. Expenditures incurred under this programme include salaries and related costs (i.e. entitlements and separation/repatriation costs) of Regional Advisers as well as costs of regional advisory travel. The number of Regional Advisers on board in 2004 remained the same as in 2003.

13. The sectoral structure of financial resources spent from Section 23 of the Regular Budget in 2004 as compared with actual expenditures in 2002-2003 is given in Table 1. As can be seen from the table, the majority of resources (39.5%) were spent on advisory services under the mandates of the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development (three Regional Advisers were counted under this broad area) followed by the activities mandated by other committees within the margin of 3-4%. The same distribution was observed in 2003 and the whole biennium 2002-2003.

Table 1. Sectoral structure of expenditures of the resources available from the Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation for Regional Advisory activities

Sub-programme	2002-2003 ¹		2003 ²		2004 ³	
	US\$	%	US\$	%	US\$	%
Environment	390,736	13.7	186,262	15.4	151,593	13.5
Transport	479,075	16.8	180,297	14.9	181,230	16.2
Statistics	284,304	9.9	140,422	11.6	153,737	13.7
Sustainable energy	340,965	11.9	143,303	11.8	174,760	15.6
Trade development	1,364,795 ⁴	47.7	560,364 ⁴	46.3	287,039 ⁵	25.7
Industrial restructuring and enterprise development	-	-	-	-	156,592	14.0
Management of technical cooperation activities ⁶	-	-	-	-	14,077	1.3
Total	2,859,875	100.0	1,210,648	100.0	1,119,028	100.0

¹ Actual expenditures in 2002-2003

² Actual expenditures in January-October 2003

³ Actual expenditures in January-October 2004

⁴ Includes the activities of the Regional Advisers on Development and Policy Issues; Entrepreneurship and SMEs; Investment Promotion; and Trade Facilitation

⁵ Includes the activities of the Regional Advisers on Development and Policy Issues; and Trade Facilitation

⁶ Travel for advisory services on Development and Policy Issues

14. The geographic structure of the RA activities undertaken in 2004 as a percentage of the total advisory missions is presented in Table 2. The total number of regional advisory services missions in 2004 remained at the same level as 2003. The geographic distribution of these missions among the transition economies in 2004 did not change radically as compared with 2003 (see similar Table 2 in document E/ECE/1414). It should be noted that in addition to the resources available under Section 23 of the Regular Budget, part of the missions was covered from extra-budgetary resources.

Table 2. Geographic structure of the UNECE Regional Advisory Services by sector provided in 2004 (percentage of total advisory missions)

Countries	Devt. issues	Sust. Energy	Entr. SMEs	Environ- ment	Statistics	Trade Facilit.	Trans- port	Total
Albania								
Armenia			12.50					1.09
Azerbaijan				5.56	8.33	6.25		3.26
Belarus		33.33						5.43
Bosnia and Herzegovina						12.50		2.17
Bulgaria						6.25		1.09
Croatia			12.50		16.67	12.50		5.43
Czech Republic	12.50							1.09
Estonia				5.56				1.09
Georgia						6.25		1.09
Hungary			12.50			6.25	26.67	6.52
Kazakhstan		13.33		22.22		6.25	13.33	9.78
Kyrgyzstan		13.33		11.11	16.67			6.52
Latvia								
Lithuania								
Poland							6.67	1.09
Republic of Moldova			12.50	11.11				3.26
Romania								
Russian Federation		26.67		5.56	8.33	6.25		7.61
Serbia and Montenegro			12.50		8.33	12.50		4.35
Slovakia							6.67	1.09
Slovenia			12.50					1.09
Tajikistan	25.00			5.56				3.26
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia					16.67			2.17
Turkmenistan	12.50				16.67			3.26
Ukraine		13.33		11.11			6.67	5.43
Uzbekistan	12.50							1.09
Other*	37.50		25.00	22.22	8.33	25.00	40.00	21.74
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

* RA missions undertaken to other countries that in many cases served as a venue for capacity building activities and policy advisory services for transition economies as well as in order to secure support from more advanced countries of the region for technical assistance to be provided to economies in transition, in particular fund-raising. These include consultations with governmental officials, representatives of international and sub-regional organizations like EU, OSCE, World Bank, EBRD, Eurostat, OECD, SECI, CEI, BSEC, etc.

15. Another observation that should be taken into account in analysing the geographic distribution of regional advisory services missions presented in Table 2 is that in many cases the advisory services provided in a country mentioned in the table concern not only this country but a number of other countries covered by a particular multi-country and/or sub-regional project or activity. For more details on those missions see Annex I.

II. UNECE Technical Cooperation Projects under the General and Local Technical Cooperation Trust Funds, and other sources of funding for operational activities

16. A significant part of the UNECE technical cooperation activities in 2004 were financed from a Portfolio of Extra-budgetary Resources: (a) from contributions to the UNECE General Trust Fund accounts (11) and Local Technical Cooperation Trust Funds/Projects (30); and (b) from contributions from UNDP, UNFIP and UNFPA (3). Details on these funds are provided in Annex II.

17. It should be noted that in addition to four new projects/activities included in the portfolio during 2003, five new projects/activities were included in 2004, while six other projects/activities were completed during 2004.

18. Depending on the area and goals of specific projects, the implementation activities under these projects/activities were carried out either by regular staff or Regional Advisers, or both. Expenditures under these funds by sub-programme are summarized in Table 3 below.

Table 3. Sectoral structure of expenditures from the General and Local Technical Cooperation Trust Funds, and other sources as at 1 November 2004

Sub-programmes	2003 ¹		2004 ²	
	US\$	%	US\$	%
1. Environment	3,618,127	51.54	2,981,166	51.97
2. Transport	987,633	14.06	999,819	17.43
3. Statistics	60,129	0.86	63,914	1.11
4. Economic analysis	552,331	7.87	506,767	8.83
5. Sustainable energy	695,018	9.75	318,129	5.54
6. Trade development	461,645	6.58	379,400	6.61
7. Timber	1,750	0.02	21,898	0.38
8. Human settlements	187,715	2.67	119,864	2.09
9. Industrial restructuring	78,163	1.11	65,273	1.13
Office of the Executive Secretary	288,333	4.11	242,595	4.23
Technical Cooperation Unit	89,558	1.28	37,798	0.66
Total	7,020,402	100.00	5,736,623	100.00

¹ Expenditures in January-December 2003

² Expenditures in January-October 2004

19. As seen from the above table the major part of resources under the UNECE Extra-budgetary Project Portfolio in 2003 was spent on the environment sub-programme (51.54%) followed by transport (14.06%) and sustainable energy (9.75%). This reflects the constant demands of the economies in transition for technical assistance on environmental and transport issues. In 2004, this pattern remained almost unchanged: the first two places were occupied by the same sub-programmes: environment (51.97%) and transport (17.43%) followed by economic analysis (8.83%) and trade (6.61%).

20. During 2004, UNECE was involved in the implementation of three projects financed from UNDA, namely: project on Capacity-building for air quality management and the application of clean coal combustion technologies in Central Asia (UNECE, UNESCAP and UNEP; 2004-

2006; US\$ 680,000), project on Capacity-building for sustainable utilization, management and protection of internationally shared groundwater in the Mediterranean region (UNESCWA, UNECA, UNECE, UNESCO and UNDESA; 2004-2006; US\$ 360,000) and project on Capacity-building in developing interregional land and land-cum-sea transport linkages (UNECE, UNESCAP, UNECLAC, UNECA and UNESCWA; 2002-2006; US\$ 1,250,000). Expenditures under these projects in 2004 amounted to around US\$ 400,000 as at 31 October 2004.

21. In addition, there were also a number of technical cooperation activities supported by the resources of host countries/organizations, national and international donors, and private entities for projects/activities that were managed outside UNECE but where UNECE was involved in their implementation.

III. Technical cooperation with sub-regional country groupings

22. Technical cooperation with the Permanent International Secretariat of the **Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC)** is based on the Cooperation Agreement signed in July 2001 and has been developed successfully in the areas of entrepreneurship and SMEs, as well as transport. The focus of cooperation was on facilitating implementation of the 2001 BSEC Declaration on “SMEs at the Dawn of the 21st Century”; and the BSEC Transport Action Plan and Memorandum of Understanding on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods. In particular, advisory services were provided during the BSEC/UNECE/KAF workshop on Business incubators for Nurturing Start-ups (Istanbul, September 2004) and in monitoring the process of harmonization of national legislation of the BSEC Member States on the basis of their accession to major UNECE Agreements and Conventions. Advisory assistance was provided to the BSEC Working Groups on SMEs and Transport. In particular, advisory assistance was provided to the BSEC Working Groups on SMEs in preparing the Meeting of Ministers responsible for Entrepreneurship and SME Development and also to project development on Networking of Technology Incubators and Science Parks in the BSEC Countries. Consultations continued between the two secretariats on strengthening cooperation in the interrelated areas of transport and trade facilitation, protection of environment and sustainable energy. Opportunities for cooperation with the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank (BSTDB) were also explored.

23. Technical cooperation with the **Central European Initiative (CEI)** is based on the Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation Agreement on Technical Support to the CEI (May 1998) and has been developed in the areas of agricultural standards, entrepreneurship and SMEs, gender issues and transport. Advisory services were provided to the CEI Working Group on SMEs, in particular during the joint CEI/UNECE SME Meeting (Geneva, 30 March 2004), during the European Day of Entrepreneurs and workshop on “Fostering Social Cohesion through Social Entrepreneurship” (Croatia, October 2004), the 6th CEI International Conference on “Entrepreneurship – The Best Answer to the Future”, three workshops on entrepreneurship in rural areas, on energy efficiency and on monitoring progress on border-crossing facilitation in railway transport during the 7th CEI Summit Economic Forum (Slovenia, November 2004). The CEI Working Group on SME supported and participated in the UNECE training workshop on The Development of Entrepreneurship and the SME Sector in the Republic of Moldova (Republic of Moldova, June 2004).

24. Technical cooperation with the Inter-State Economic Committee of the Economic Union of the **Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)** is based on the Memorandum on

Interaction signed in April 1997. While a substantial part of the UNECE technical assistance during 2004 was provided to the CIS member countries, cooperation with the CIS bodies was focused on energy issues, statistics and entrepreneurship development, in particular under the project on Implementation of regional (inter-state) programme of rational and efficient use of fuel and energy resources in CIS countries. A seminar on the implementation of Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics in statistical planning was organized by UNECE in cooperation with the CIS Interstate Statistical Committee and others, in Moscow on 23-26 November 2004. Following the CIS Forum on Youth of the XXI Century: Realities and Perspectives (Ukraine, September 2003) advisory services were provided to the creation of a CIS network of youth entrepreneurship centres and the Association of Youth Organizations called International Youth Centre (registered on 28 April 2004 by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine) that includes national committees and youth organizations of the CIS member States and Latvia. Advisory services were also provided for the preparation of the international conference on facilitation of border crossings in railway transport, aimed at assisting CIS countries to improve their railway border crossing performances.

25. As far as cooperation within the **SECI/Stability Pact for Southeastern Europe** framework is concerned, advisory services were provided under the SECIPRO and SECI/SP Business Advisory Council network, notably on the issues of implementation of international standards for trade facilitation and e-business; trade facilitation and security; the TTFSE project of the World Bank; the e-Southeast Europe (e-SEE) initiative and the Working Group on Trade Liberalization and Facilitation of the Stability Pact. A project on assisting trade facilitation and WTO accession of Bosnia and Herzegovina, coordinated with the Stability Pact, was organized by the Regional Adviser on Trade Facilitation in Bosnia and Herzegovina with support from AITIC (Association for International Trade Information and Cooperation), Switzerland.

26. Within the **UN Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA)** advisory services were provided for the implementation of the on-going project on Development of Transport Infrastructure and Border-Crossing Facilitation, the on-going UNDA project on Capacity-building for air quality management and the application of clean coal combustion technologies in Central Asia, follow-up to the completed UNDA project on Rational and Efficient Use of Energy and Water Resources in Central Asia, and carrying out the initiative by the United Nations Secretary-General to strengthen SPECA. More information on SPECA, including its technical cooperation aspects is contained in document E/ECE/1427/Add.1.

27. Technical cooperation with the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) is based on the Memorandum of Understanding between UNECE, UNESCAP and IFAS signed on 3 June 2004 and was underway in the implementation of activities on environment protection and sustainable development, rational use of water and energy resources, and dam safety.

IV. Cooperation in the field of technical cooperation activities with other United Nations agencies and regional organizations

28. In providing technical assistance to the economies in transition UNECE has continued its cooperation with other organizations of the United Nations family and regional organizations in order to improve synergy and avoid overlapping and duplication of activities. In this cooperation UNECE relies on both financial resources and technical expertise available in these organizations.

29. Within the United Nations family organizations UNDP has been the most prominent partner, in practically all areas of UNECE technical assistance. Among regional organizations the major partners were the European Commission and OSCE.

30. Close relations and cooperation were continued with the other United Nations regional commissions, first of all with UNESCAP, in particular within the SPECA framework and under the UNDA project on Capacity-building for air quality management and the application of clean coal combustion technologies in Central Asia. All five regional commissions cooperated in the implementation of another UNDA project on Capacity-building in developing interregional land and land-cum-sea transport linkages. UNESCWA, UNECA, UNECE, UNESCO and UNDESA also cooperated within the UNDA project on Capacity-building for sustainable utilization, management and protection of internationally shared groundwater in the Mediterranean region.

31. The Bishkek Conference on Information Society and Regional Cooperation in Information and Communication Technologies for Development, organized by the Government of Kyrgyzstan in cooperation with UNECE, UNESCAP, UNDP and the UN ICT Task Force (Kyrgyzstan, 16-18 November 2004) is a good example of successful cooperation between the United Nations entities which involved both substantial and financial contributions from all sides.

32. On the whole, cooperation was further developed in the field of: sustainable energy – with UNDP, Global Environmental Facility (GEF), UN Foundation/UN Fund for International Partnerships (UNF/UNFIP), European Commission, EBRD; environment and human settlements – UNDP, World Bank, UNEP, UNESCO, European Commission, OSCE, EBRD, EEA; investment promotion – WIPO, World Trade Organization (WTO), OSCE, International Chamber of Commerce (ICC); statistics – UNDP, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), World Health Organisation (WHO), World Bank, European Commission, Council of Europe, Eurostat, OSCE; trade facilitation – World Bank, UNCTAD, UNIDO, European Commission, World Customs Organization (WCO), WTO, ICC; transport – World Bank, European Commission, EBRD, ADB. Occasional cooperation was also maintained with UNDESA and ILO.

ANNEX I

Regional Advisory Activities in 2004

Country	Purpose
Sustainable energy	
Belarus	3 projects on energy efficiency development and implementation, Minsk, 19-29 January 5 projects on energy efficiency development and implementation, Minsk, 24-31 March; 1-11 June; 17-28 August; and 21-29 October
Kazakhstan	Advisory services on project development and implementation, Almaty, 15-17 April and 8-13 November
Kyrgyzstan	Advisory services on projects development and implementation, and during UNESCAP workshop on clean development mechanism, Bishkek, 11-14 April Advisory services on projects development and implementation, 14-16 November
Russian Federation	SPECA and 3 other projects implementation, Moscow, 16-23 March; and 7-14 October Advisory services in project development and during international seminar "Russian Programme of Renewable Energy Development", Riabinsk, 27 June-1 July Advisory services during the 4 th Russian Oil and Gas Week, Moscow, 26-28 October
Ukraine	CIS and 3 other projects implementation, Kiev, 12-19 May CIS and 4 other projects development and implementation, and advisory services during 2 nd international conference "Biomass for Energy", Kiev, 20 September-1 October
Entrepreneurship and SME development	
Armenia	Advisory services during workshop "Problems for SME Statistics in Armenia" and advisory services to governmental authorities on establishment of appropriate policy framework on SMEs, Erevan, 24-27 May
Croatia	Advisory services during EU workshop "Fostering Social Cohesion through Social Entrepreneurship", Zagreb, 5-6 October
Hungary	Advisory services to Ministry of Economy and Transport and Board of Directors of the Hungarian Network of Enterprise Development Centres on micro-financing issues, Budapest, 11 March
Republic of Moldova	Advisory services during training workshop "Development of Entrepreneurship and SME Sector in the Republic of Moldova" and advisory services to governmental authorities, Chisinau, 29-30 June
Serbia and Montenegro	Advisory services to Ministry of Economy and relevant institutions on SME national policy and support measures, and during national SME Conference, Belgrade, 30 November-1 December
Slovenia	Advisory services during 6 th international conference on "Entrepreneurship – the Best Answer to the Future" and workshop on entrepreneurship in rural areas within the 7 th CEI Summit Economic Forum, Portoroz, 24-25 November
Turkey	Advisory services during 2 nd OECD Ministerial Conference on SMEs, Istanbul, 2-5 June Advisory services during BSEC workshop "Business Incubators for Nurturing Start-ups", Istanbul, 23-25 September
Environment	
Azerbaijan	Advisory services before and during workshop on a draft hazardous waste law in Azerbaijan, Baku, 27-30 September
Belgium	Consultations with EC representatives on cooperation within the EU Water Initiative including EC funding of work under the UNECE Water Convention, Brussels, 7 September
Estonia	Advisory services during conference "UNECE Transboundary Water Convention and the EU Water Framework Directive" in connection with implementation of the Chu-Talas rivers project, Tartu, 15-17 June

Italy	Advisory services during advisory group meeting of the EU Mantra-East project and planning for a workshop on public participation and information management in transboundary river cooperation in EECCA countries, Genova, 26-27 January
Kazakhstan	Advisory services during expert group meeting on the promotion of cooperation on dam safety in Central Asia and 4th meeting within Chu-Talas rivers project, Almaty, 24-27 March Advisory services during conference "Water Partnership in Central Asia", Almaty, 24-27 May Consultations on planning and implementation of the Chu-Talas rivers, air quality and EIA projects, Almaty, Astana, 2-4 March and 6-13 July
Kyrgyzstan	Advisory services in planning and implementation of the Central Asian Regional Water Information Base, Chu-Talas rivers, air quality and EIA projects, Bishkek, 28 February and 8 July
Republic of Moldova	Advisory services during 2 nd preparatory meeting for Tbilisi Conference of EECCA Environment Ministers and their partners, Chisinau, 2-3 September Advisory services in implementation of project "Transboundary cooperation and sustainable management of the Dnestr river", Chisinau, 14-17 September
Russian Federation	Advisory services during high-level meeting of EU Water Initiative, Moscow, 26-27 February
Sweden	Consultations with Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, Global Water Partnership, Swedish International Development Agency and Centre for Biodiversity of the Swedish University for Agricultural Sciences on participation and funding of projects under the UNECE Water Convention, Stockholm and Uppsala, 29 January-2 February Consultations with Ministry of Environment and Swedish Environmental Protection Agency concerning preparation of the Dnestr river project and workshop on capacity building for water cooperation in Ukraine, Stockholm, 1 June
Tajikistan	Advisory services during preparatory mission on the Environmental Performance Review of Tajikistan, Dushanbe, 28 March-6 April
Ukraine	Advisory services in preparation of the Dnestr river project and the workshop on capacity building for water cooperation, Kiev, 16-19 May and 12-13 August
Statistics	
Azerbaijan	Advisory services on gender statistics within the UNDP/UNECE project on assessment of gender statistics in SEE and CIS countries, Baku, 1-4 June
Croatia	Advisory services to governmental authorities concerning the first part of the Eurostat/UNECE global assessment of the statistical system of Croatia, Zagreb, 19-23 April, and the second part, Zagreb, 26-28 May
Kyrgyzstan	Advisory services to National Statistical Committee on improving the computation of industrial production indices, Bishkek, 29 May-6 June Advisory services during training workshop on gender statistics organised by UNECE and the World Bank for Central Asian countries, Bishkek, 14-16 December
Luxembourg	Consultations with Eurostat concerning Eurostat/UNECE global assessment of the statistical system of Croatia and The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; and advisory services during the 6 th meeting of the Management Group of Statistical Cooperation with EU candidate countries, Luxembourg, 17-19 March
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Advisory services to governmental authorities concerning the first part of the Eurostat/UNECE global assessment of the statistical system of The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Skopje, 13-17 September, and second part, Skopje, 25-27 October
Russian Federation	Advisory services to heads of national statistical offices of CIS member countries during the seminar on implementation of Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics in statistical planning, organised by UNECE with the CIS Interstate Statistical Committee, PARIS21 Secretariat, and World Bank in Moscow, 23-26 November
Serbia and Montenegro	Advisory services on gender statistics within the UNDP/UNECE project on assessment of gender statistics in SEE and CIS countries, Belgrade, 10-13 May

Turkmenistan	Advisory services on gender statistics to statisticians and analysts from Central Asian countries during sub-regional training workshop organised by UNDP, UNECE, Government of Turkmenistan, and US Bureau of Census in Ashgabat, 13-15 July Advisory services to National Institute of Statistics and Forecasting of Turkmenistan on gender statistics, in cooperation with UNFPA, in 3 rd week of December
Trade facilitation	
Azerbaijan	Consultations with TRACECA secretariat on harmonization of trade procedures, Baku, 14 May
Belgium	Advisory services during meeting of the Working Group on Trade Liberalization and Facilitation of Stability Pact for SEE, Brussels, 2 July
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Advisory services during annual meeting of the Regional Steering Committee of the Trade and Transport Facilitation for SEE programme (TTFSE), Sarajevo, 15-16 April Advisory services during workshop "Managing Globalization, Trade Facilitation and WTO Accession" and consultations with governmental authorities, Sarajevo, 3-4 June
Bulgaria	Advisory services during SECIPRO and SECI BAC meetings, and consultations with representatives of BulPRO, Bulgarian Customs, Ministry of Transport, etc., Sofia, 11-13 February
Croatia	Advisory services during WTO regional seminar on trade facilitation in SEE and CIS countries, Turkey and Afghanistan, Zagreb, 26-28 April Advisory services during meeting on the Stability Pact-eSEE Initiative and presentation of UNECE e-business strategy paper, Cavtat, 10 June
Georgia	Advisory services during the NATO seminar "Economic Aspects of Security and Defence with Particular Reference to the Experience of the South Caucasus" and UNECE-World Bank workshop on corridor development for the Caucasus countries, Tbilisi, 11-19 May
Hungary	Advisory services during meeting of the Working Group on Trade Liberalization and Facilitation of the Stability Pact for SEE, Budapest, 3-5 March
Kazakhstan	Advisory services during TRACECA capacity building seminar for senior transport executives in the TRACECA countries, Almaty, 5-8 September
Russian Federation	Advisory services in the preparation and during the workshop on "Trade Facilitation", Moscow, 22-23 November
Serbia and Montenegro	Advisory services during first Forum organized by the PRO Committee of Serbia and Montenegro, and meeting on the UneDocs project with various national stakeholders, Belgrade, July Advisory services during meeting of the Working Group on Trade Liberalization and Facilitation of the Stability Pact for SEE and the 3rd Business Forum in Serbia and Montenegro, Belgrade, 7-8 October
Turkey	Advisory services during SECIPRO/EUROPRO meeting, Istanbul, 13 September
United Kingdom	Advisory services during SECIPRO/EUROPRO meeting, London, 27-28 May
United States of America	Advisory services during US SECIPRO seminar on challenges for PRO Committees from the new security requirements in the world trade, Miami, 27 February-2 March
Transport	
France	Advisory services during international seminar on regionalization of railway passenger services, Paris, 28-30 April
Belgium	Implementation of EU funded pilot project for facilitation of participation of Central Asian and Caucasus countries in selected meetings of ITC and its SBs, Brussels, 13-14 December
Germany	Advisory services during international seminar on new transport strategies in the Danube area, Passau, 25-26 March
Greece	Advisory services during Stability Pact South Eastern European Forum on Developing Trade and Transport Cooperation, Alexandroupolis, 6-7 December
Hungary	TER project implementation, Budapest, 11-12 February TEM and TER projects implementation, Budapest, 10-11 February, 23-24 September and 14-16 November

Italy	TER project implementation, Milan, 1-2 July
Kazakhstan	Implementation of project on developing Euro-Asian transport linkages and SPECA project on transport and border crossing facilitation, 9-13 March Advisory services during 5 th International Conference on TRANSEURASI, Astana, 17-18 June
Poland	Advisory services during preparatory meeting for the international conference on facilitation of border crossing in railway transport of CIS countries, Warsaw, 15-16 June
Slovakia	TEM and TER project implementation, Bratislava, 9 February
Turkey	TEM project implementation, Antalya, 31 May-2 June
Ukraine	Implementation of project on developing Euro-Asian transport linkages, Odessa, 5-7 November
Development issues and policies	
Austria	Advisory services during OSCE Conference "Europe's Borderlands – the OSCE and Beyond: No New Dividing Lines" and consultations with the EastWest Institute and OSCE officials, Vienna, 21-22 October Advisory services during OSCE/UNECE expert meeting on a joint early warning mechanism, Vienna, 5 November
Czech Republic	Advisory services during OSCE Economic Forum, Prague, 30 May-1 June
Tajikistan	Advisory services during consultations with governmental officials on strengthening of SPECA, Dushanbe, 2-4 June Advisory services during meetings of senior officials, Ministers of Foreign Affairs and 8 th Summit of the Economic Cooperation Organization, Dushanbe, 10-14 September
Turkmenistan	Advisory services during consultations with governmental officials on strengthening of SPECA, Ashgabat, 26-27 May
United Kingdom	Advisory services during EBRD meeting on early transition countries strategic review, London, 30 June-1 July
Uzbekistan	Advisory services during consultations with governmental officials on strengthening of SPECA, Tashkent, 20-21 May

ANNEX II

UNECE Technical Cooperation Projects under the General and Local Technical Cooperation Trust Funds, and other sources of funding for operational activities
Expenditures as at 31 October 2004
(inclusive of programme support costs)

General Trust Funds

Sub-programme	Title of Trust Fund, Fund code and date established	Expenditures in US\$	
		2003 ¹	2004 ²
1. Environment	"Environment for Europe", EIA, 19.11.1993	269,337	83,132
	EMEP Sub-account "Mobile Sources of Air Pollution", LPA, 19.01.1988	6,106	7,164
	Financing of the Implementation of the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (EMEP), LRA, 11.11.1981	1,683,923	1,524,399
	EMEP Sub-account "Voluntary Contributions towards Funding of Effect-Oriented Activities under the Convention", LUA, 25.07.1997	534,635	58,336
4. Economic analysis	Supporting ECE Regional Conferences and meetings, including for Global Conference, GFA, 22.11.1994	47,648	57,076
5. Sustainable energy	Energy Efficiency 21 Project, EEA, 17.01.1991	111,515	19,884
6. Trade development	Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport (UN/EDIFACT), EAA, 12.02.1990	49,015	38,743
7. Timber	Long-Term Timber Trends and Prospects, LTA, 1.03.1991	1,750	21,898
8. Human Settlements	Human Settlements, EHA, 1.07.1975	187,715	119,864
Office of the Executive Secretary	Follow-Up Activities of the Fourth World Conference on Women, WWA, 19.07.1999	11,298	36,281
	Assistance to Countries in Transition (TFACT)*, MEA, 25.09.1992	277,035	171,887
Total		3,179,977	2,138,664

* General Trust Fund used to facilitate travel of participants and experts from countries with economies in transition to workshops, seminars and meetings organized under all substantive sub-programmes implemented by UNECE.

Local Technical Cooperation Trust Funds

Sub-programme	Title of Trust Fund, Fund code and date established	Expenditures in US\$	
		2003 ¹	2004 ²
1. Environment	Environmental Performance Review Programme, EIC-E102, 1.12.2000	113,160	115,841
	Aarhus Convention Project, ECE-E104, 1.05.2001	281,048	776,192
	Industrial Accidents Convention Project, ECE-E106, 1.07.2001	72,906	31,992
	ESPOO Convention, ECE-E115, 9.07.2002	230,393	138,286
	Environmental Monitoring, ECE-E118, 9.07.2002	382,833	89,033
	Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP), ECE-E126, 1.01.2003	43,786	100,138
	Water Convention Project, ECE-E133, 1.4.2003-31.12.2006	0	56,653

2. Transport	Trans-European North-South Motorway (TEM), ZMB (F101), 28.02.1992 ³	87,978	88,968
	Trans-European Railway (TER), ZDB (F103), 23.04.1993 ⁴	157,257	145,997
	Transport International Routier (TIR) (TIRBEX), ZLB (F116), 15.11.1998	731,686	588,718
	Trans-European Motorway (TEM) Master Plan Project, ZMB (E129), 9.09.2003	10,712	61,829
	Monitoring of Radiologically -Contaminated Scrap Metal, ECE-E127, 13.01.2004-31.12.2004	0	23,942
	Seminar on Aggressive Driving, Geneva, 5 April 2004, ECE-E131, 1.12.2003-31.12.2004	0	15,819
	Follow-up to the General Assembly Resolution 58/289 of 14 April 2004 on improving Global Road Safety, ECE-E135 1.8.2004-31.12.2006		20,407
	Facilitation of participation of Central Asian and Caucasus Countries in the meetings of the UNECE Inland Transport Committee and selected subsidiary bodies, ECE-E136 17.8.2004-31.12.2006	0	54,139
3. Statistics	Inter-Regional Seminar on the Application of Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics in Countries in Transition, ECE-E110, 15.10.2001	20,315	63,914
4. Economic analysis	PAU: Microdata Census Samples, ZCB (F102), 1.11.1993	132,530	90,093
	Population and Development Activities Project (PDAP), ECE-E125, 19.12.2002	94,852	301,550
5. Sustainable energy	Promotion and Development of a Market-Based Gas Industry in Economies in Transition (Gas Centre), EZB (F105), 15.07.1994	412,704	264,084
6. Trade development	Improving Trade Finance and Investment for the Russian Timber Sector, ZKB (F106), 28.05.1996	187,909	167,728
	UNeDocs: Development of United Nations Electronic Forms for Trade Documents, ECE-E108, 2.08.2001	122,505	73,770
	International Forum on Trade Facilitation and Follow-Up, ECE-E111, 13.03.2002	92,817	63,716
	Training Regulators from South-East Europe and countries within the Stability Pact in using good practices in the preparation & implementation of technical regulations, ECE-E130, 15.10.2003-31.03.2005	9,399	35,443
9. Industrial restructuring	Internet Enterprise Development, ECE-E105, 25.09.2001	18,133	49,815
	Real Estate Advisory Project (REAP), ECE-E117, 15.07.2002	34,662	15,458
	Central European Initiative Cooperation Project (CEICP), ECE-E122, 12.07.2002	1,811	0
	Industry - Structural Change and Development (ISCAD), ZVB (F104), 7.02.1994	23,557	0
Office of the Executive Secretary	Regional Symposium on Mainstreaming Gender into Economic Policies, ECE-E132, 1.11.2003-31.12.2004	0	34,427
Technical Cooperation Unit	Governance Systems for Environmental Protection in the South Caucasus, ECE-E109, 12.07.2002	59,417	29,685
	South East European Cooperative Initiative (SECI), ECE-E123, 15.06.2002	30,141	8,113
Total		3,352,511	3,505,750

Other Sources of Funding for Operational Activities

Sub-programme	Title of Trust Fund, Fund code and date established	Expenditures in US\$	
		2003 ¹	2004 ²
3. Statistics	Human Development Statistics and Social Trends Reporting in Eastern and Central Europe and the CIS (UNDP), UEB (F119), 9.01.2001-31.12.2003	37,841	0
	Statistical Evaluation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNDP), UEB (E121), 28.05.2002-31.12.2003	1,973	0
4. Economic analysis	Generations and Gender: Research into their Behaviour and Quality of Life (UNFPA), ZIB (F121), 1.01.2000-31.12.2004	277,301	58,048
5. Sustainable energy	Energy Efficiency Investment - Climate Change Mitigation (UNFIP), QGA (A009-ECE-CIS-99-043), 9.03.2000-31.12.2004	141,229	34,161
	Removing Barriers to Implementation of Energy Efficiency Improvements in Belarus (UNDP), UEB (E114), 26.09.2001-31.12.2003	- 404	0
	Feasibility Study on Opportunities for Belarus to join the Kyoto Convention (UNDP), UEB (E128), 1.01.2003-31.12.2004	29,974	0
Total		487,914	92,209

¹ Expenditures in January-December 2003.

² Expenditures in January-October 2004 based on UNOG Status of Allotment Report as at 31 October 2004

³ Trans-European North-South Motorway Trust fund (TEM), ZMB (Project F101,) includes an in-kind contribution for 2004 of US\$ 174,400 for two International Experts assigned to the TEM Project Office in Warsaw. These experts are provided by Slovakia and the Czech Republic. The in-kind contribution also includes Office Space and Cost of Local Staff provided by the Government of Poland in Warsaw.

⁴ Trans-European Railway Trust Fund (TER), ZDB (Project F103) includes an in-kind contribution for 2004 of US\$ 174,400 for two International Experts assigned to the TER Project Office in Budapest. These experts are provided by Austria and Romania. The in-kind contribution also includes Office Space and Cost of Local Staff provided by the Government of Hungary in Budapest.