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Proposed programme plan for 2024

Note by the secretariat

Summary

The proposed programme plan for 2024 is submitted to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific for its consideration.

In preparing the proposed programme plan, every effort has been made to reflect the priorities of member States and the vision of the secretariat to support member States in achieving a prosperous Asia and the Pacific based on inclusive and sustainable development. Furthermore, the following were taken into consideration: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, lessons learned from the implementation of past programme plans and the outcomes of a series of evaluations. The proposed programme plan is also aimed at ensuring a balance between the Commission's normative, analytical and capacity-building work and at maximizing its comparative advantages, including through the adoption of multisectoral approaches with a strong focus on issues that are regional in nature. The proposed programme plan builds on partnerships between organizations within and outside of the United Nations system and strengthens linkages between subregions within the Asia-Pacific region for the mutual benefit of all member States.

The present document comprises two sections: a foreword by the Executive Secretary; and the proposed programme plan for 2024 and information on programme performance in 2022. The latter section sets out the overall orientation of the programme of the Commission and the programmes of work for each subprogramme or subprogramme component. Each subprogramme or component framework covers: (a) the objective to which the subprogramme or component contributes; (b) the strategy for achieving the objective; (c) information on programme performance in 2022; (d) the planned results for 2024; and (e) the deliverables for the period 2022–2024.

The Commission may wish to endorse the proposed programme plan and provide the secretariat with further guidance.

After it is considered by the Commission, the proposed programme plan for 2024 will be reviewed by the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly. The Secretary-General's proposed programme budget document for secretariat entities will subsequently be submitted to the Assembly for approval at its seventy-eighth session.

Please recycle

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* In keeping with paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 77/267, the part consisting of the programme plan and programme performance information (part II) is submitted through the Committee for Programme and Coordination for the consideration of the Assembly.

Foreword

Given recent setbacks due to cascading crises, renewed efforts to fully implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are more critical than ever if the Asia and Pacific region is to attain its development goals by the end of the decade.

While this diverse region includes some of the largest, most dynamic countries in the world, more than half of them are least developed countries, landlocked developing countries or small island developing States. These countries have fewer options and resources to counter exogenous shocks and to implement the measures necessary for the attainment of their development goals.

In a world where peoples' lives are intertwined environmentally, economically and socially, national policies must be coupled with regional cooperation to reach long-lasting solutions. In the Bangkok Declaration Commemorating the Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific: a Common Agenda to Advance Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) reaffirmed their commitment to leave no one behind; put people, including women and girls, at the centre of their efforts; protect the planet from the challenges to the shared environment, including climate change; work together to enhance regional connectivity and improve digital cooperation; keep markets open; and align public and private financial resources to effectively pursue their sustainable development aspirations.

The journey to reach long-lasting solutions begins with one step. It must transcend immediate concerns, focus on what is held in common and build the trust necessary to bridge gaps. The proposed programme budget for ESCAP for 2024 reflects the Commission's commitment to forge consensus on the future of Asia and the Pacific and to take steps to secure it.

(*Signed*) Armida Salsiah **Alisjahbana**
Executive Secretary, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Proposed programme plan for 2024 and programme performance in 2022

Overall orientation

Mandates and background

19.1 As the principal intergovernmental platform of the United Nations in the region, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) assists its members and associate members in pursuing solutions for sustainable development. The mandates derive from the priorities established in relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, including Council resolution 37 (IV), by which the Commission was established, and Council resolution 1895 (LVII), which amended its mandate to include the social dimension of integrated development.

19.2 The work of ESCAP is also grounded in its resolution 77/1, by which the Commission reaffirmed the importance of international and regional cooperation to strengthen the resilience of member States to the socioeconomic effects of pandemics, and its resolution 78/1, in which the Commission stressed its leadership role in catalysing regional cooperation and supporting actions to confront regional, transboundary and common challenges faced by its membership.

19.3 Through its three core functions, namely, research and analysis, the facilitation of intergovernmental consensus-building and norm-setting, and capacity development, ESCAP supports the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In fulfilling these functions, ESCAP is guided by General Assembly resolutions, including Assembly resolution 74/4, and the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda in Asia and the Pacific, endorsed by the Commission in its resolution 73/9, which serve as reference frameworks.

Strategy and external factors for 2024

19.4 The Commission’s overall programme strategy is founded on the balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development, implemented through its nine subprogrammes at the regional and subregional levels that focus on the following issues: macroeconomics, poverty reduction and financing for development; trade, investment and innovation; transport; environment; information and communications technology and disaster risk reduction and management; social development; statistics; and energy. Through its nine subprogrammes, ESCAP addresses the needs and requests of its member States, paying particular attention to those in special situations, namely, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.

19.5 Improving regional connectivity plays an important role in advancing inclusive and sustainable development, reducing poverty and addressing inequalities in Asia and the Pacific. Therefore, ESCAP encourages all member States to work jointly to develop integrated and seamless connectivity across the region and strengthen regional cooperation. To help member States in closing connectivity gaps, ESCAP identifies, analyses and advocates action-oriented and cross-sectoral approaches that stimulate innovative policymaking. It also builds consensus on norms and agreements to assist member States in responding effectively to the changing and emerging needs of the region and coordinates region-wide inclusive policy dialogue in close collaboration with the United Nations development system and relevant stakeholders.

19.6 In 2024, ESCAP will advocate pathways that help its member States to protect people and the planet, especially people in vulnerable situations, including women, youth, older persons, migrants and persons with disabilities. In this regard, the Action Plan to Strengthen Regional Cooperation on Social Protection in Asia and the Pacific is the guiding framework for member States on preventing poverty and reducing vulnerability through the provision of universal health coverage and

investment in inclusive national social protection systems that improve access to essential services, resources, human capital development, education, employment and decent jobs and strengthen health resilience. The promotion of the active participation of women in decision-making and in the design and implementation of social protection policies and programmes is inherent in these efforts.

19.7 Member States reaffirmed their commitment to taking measures towards disability-inclusive development in the Jakarta Declaration on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2023–2032. Consequently, ESCAP will accord priority to assisting member States in the effective implementation of the Incheon Strategy to "Make the Right Real" for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific and the Beijing Declaration, including the Action Plan to Accelerate the Implementation of the Incheon Strategy, and to strengthening disability inclusion for the full and effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Asia and the Pacific during the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2023–2032. It will also follow up on the outcome of the Seventh Asian and Pacific Population Conference to further support member States in making progress towards the regional implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the commitments contained in the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development.

19.8 In support of the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Protecting our Planet through Regional Cooperation and Solidarity in Asia and the Pacific, ESCAP will foster stronger regional cooperation on climate action, the protection of ecosystems and oceans, and sustainable urban development, and support the implementation of the framework principles on human rights and the environment throughout 2024 and beyond. ESCAP plans to assist its member States in identifying ecosystem-based approaches and nature-based solutions to climate change and curbing greenhouse gas emissions and build the capacity of member States to deliver policy packages that enhance energy access and efficiency, ensure climate-resilient infrastructure and preserve biodiversity. This includes the implementation of the Regional Action Programme on Air Pollution, which was adopted at the seventh session of the Committee on Environment and Development, and lays the foundation for stronger science-based and policy-driven cooperation among member States to improve air quality management, inter alia, through improved air quality standards, the sharing of open data and the exchange of best practices.

19.9 Shifting to inclusive and sustainable development pathways requires additional fiscal and financial resources. In support of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, ESCAP will analyse pathways to align government expenditures with the Sustainable Development Goals and climate priorities. It will facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogue on debt issues and solutions to combat illicit cross-border financial flows and tax evasion and promote the financing of climate action. This will also include promoting better debt management to reduce the cost of servicing public debt, advocating progressive forms of taxation, developing domestic capital markets and raising funds through innovative financing instruments and mechanisms, including thematic bonds and debt swaps for development. In this regard, the Goals offer a comprehensive framework for multi-year planning and value creation that enhances returns, reduces risk and achieves impact at scale.

19.10 International trade and foreign investment could be greater engines for inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction in the region. As an impartial convener, ESCAP has developed and implemented several regional cooperation agreements and frameworks focused, inter alia, on enhancing transport and on trade integration. To further simplify and digitize trade procedures, ESCAP will continue to drive the implementation of the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific while also focusing on sustainable trade practices. It will analyse the opportunities to expand sustainable cross-border e-commerce for greater cooperation among countries, as well as between international organizations and the private sector. Moreover, ESCAP plans to undertake in-depth analysis to better understand the impact of, as well as opportunities for, making trade more sustainable and assess the potential for response strategies in the Asia-Pacific region.

19.11 Through the implementation of the Regional Action Programme for Sustainable Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific (2022–2026), ESCAP will support member States in addressing

the negative externalities generated by freight transport, including greenhouse gas emissions. It will implement capacity-building projects to strengthen regional and interregional transport connectivity, fast-track transformative action in transport for the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals and promote the integration of the environmental aspects of international supply chains and the introduction of digital and intelligent transport systems. Further, it will encourage the cooperation of member States and coordinate their efforts to improve transport infrastructure to ensure a seamless and sustainable transport system in the Asia-Pacific region.

19.12 To implement the second phase of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative, ESCAP will support member States in making digital solutions the default, enabling access to an affordable, reliable and safe Internet to stimulate e-government services and a thriving e-commerce sector. Leveraging the socioeconomic development opportunities offered by digitization, member States will be assisted in expanding the coverage of digital services implemented within robust policy and regulatory frameworks that protect data and privacy. The introduction of universal digital identification can improve access to a wider range of government and non-governmental services and help member States to enhance transparency and identify those most likely to be left behind, with the aim of increasing their inclusion in social protection systems, including for better crisis preparedness. Thus, ESCAP will advocate the development of user-friendly platforms and applications to enhance equitable Internet access and reduce inequalities between rural and urban areas and among vulnerable groups. ESCAP will also serve as a platform for collaboration between Governments and the business sector to enable the implementation of training programmes that match market requirements, with a view to creating digital job opportunities for the youth of the region.

19.13 Data and statistics are enablers to facilitate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. ESCAP will deepen its support related to the assessment of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals at the regional, subregional and national levels and focus on guiding member States to implement complementary statistics relating to gross domestic product (GDP) that will measure inclusive and sustainable growth and prosperity, building on the work of the Statistical Commission. Priority will be given to assisting the decision-making of member States by strengthening the capacity of statistical departments to raise the visibility of vulnerable groups in statistical data by disaggregating data, including by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability and geographical location, as well as other characteristics relevant in national contexts. Across all sectors, ESCAP will invest more in improving data collection, analysis and dissemination, as well as assist member States in developing strategic foresight to manage systemic risk and policies that incentivize all individuals and the private sector to protect people and the planet. Through its Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development, ESCAP will also facilitate the provision of high-resolution satellite imagery and big Earth data analytical tools for consistent natural disaster risk monitoring and reduction, with a focus on countries in special situations.

19.14 With more than half its member States belonging to the group of countries in special situations, ESCAP is mainstreaming the implementation of the various programmes of action into all subprogrammes to assist these countries in attaining relevant goals and targets. The year 2024 will mark the end of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, and ESCAP plans to support the reviews of those programmes of action. As a member of the inter-agency task force on least developed country graduation, and with 5 of the 11 least developed countries in the region due to graduate from the category by 2026, ESCAP will continue to provide advice to those member States.

19.15 Together with a broad range of partners, including member States, United Nations development system entities, other international and regional organizations, the private sector and civil society, ESCAP will convene the eleventh Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development in 2024. The Forum will enable multi-stakeholder engagement for the regional follow-up to and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the follow-up to the outcomes of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, and the regional preparations for the Summit of the Future.

19.16 With regard to cooperation with other entities at the global, regional, national and local levels, ESCAP will strengthen its linkages with global, regional and subregional organizations and support the organization of the meeting of the Secretary-General with regional organizations. It will collaborate with the following: regional development banks, including the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and the Islamic Development Bank; international, regional and subregional organizations, including but not limited to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the Eurasian Economic Union; and research institutes, associations and other civil society organizations. ESCAP will also proactively engage with its development partners to strategically implement its programme, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, as appropriate. Each component under subprogramme 8 is aimed at strengthening cooperation, in particular with subregional organizations on transboundary issues.

19.17 With regard to inter-agency coordination and liaison, ESCAP works with an array of United Nations development system entities at the global, regional and national levels. Its multisectoral expertise will contribute to global products, as well as to common country assessments and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks. Its subregional offices will serve as the main point of contact for resident coordinator offices and United Nations country teams. Jointly with the Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Development Coordination Office regional office for Asia and the Pacific, ESCAP will provide secretariat services to the Regional Collaborative Platform for Asia and the Pacific, and its substantive divisions will collaborate in supporting issue-based coalitions. ESCAP will continue to co-lead the issue-based coalition on raising ambitions on climate action with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), where its expertise, geared to help the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 7 and 13 and the implementation of the Paris Agreement, is of specific relevance. Furthermore, the “Asia-Pacific knowledge management hub”, co-led by ESCAP and the Development Coordination Office, is the main platform for sharing policy expertise, showcasing analytical work and providing rapid response to the needs of countries and United Nations country teams relating to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

19.18 With regard to the external factors, the overall plan for 2024 is based on the following planning assumptions:

(a) National Governments maintain and strengthen their commitment to the Commission as the principal intergovernmental platform in the region for leveraging regional cooperation to meet transboundary and common challenges;

(b) Governments and other stakeholders continue to collaborate with the Commission in undertaking the proposed programme activities with the necessary capacity and resources;

(c) Extrabudgetary funding for technical cooperation continues to be available.

19.19 ESCAP integrates a gender perspective in its operational activities, deliverables and results, as appropriate, and will lead the regional review in preparation for the global review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (Beijing+30). Gender equality is a thematic area for subprogramme 6, while advancing the disaggregation of data, including disaggregation by sex, is a focus of subprogramme 7. In the 2024 programme plan, subprogrammes 2, 6 and 7, and components 4 and 5 of subprogramme 8, will specifically contribute results to gender equality and women’s economic empowerment, while subprogrammes 2 to 4 and 9, and components 1 to 4 of subprogramme 8, will address gender equality in their respective strategies.

19.20 In line with the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy and the Commission’s disability inclusion policy, subprogramme 6 incorporates disability-specific interventions to protect and empower persons with disabilities and, ultimately, to build disability-inclusive societies. ESCAP will continue to provide support to member States to further advance the implementation of the Incheon Strategy and to strengthen disability inclusion for the full and effective implementation of

the 2030 Agenda in Asia and the Pacific during the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2023–2032, in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Impact of the pandemic and lessons learned

19.21 The continuation of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic into 2022 had an impact on the implementation of mandates, in particular the modalities for implementing mandates and the programme of work. The vast geographical area of Asia-Pacific region, with time zones spanning 9.5 hours, posed challenges to the servicing of virtual and hybrid meetings since the differences in working hours permitted only meetings of relatively short duration. Nevertheless, the hybrid format afforded a certain flexibility in terms of engaging a wider audience through leveraging virtual and e-conferencing platform opportunities and continued to facilitate the engagement of member States from across the region, in particular small island developing States, for which in-person participation is linked to extensive travel. However, in these cases, opportunities for interpersonal engagement during breaks or on the sidelines of a meeting were available only to representatives who were physically present.

19.22 Since travel continued to be restricted, the ability to undertake national consultations remained limited. ESCAP shifted its capacity-building activities to online platforms and engaged local experts to compensate for the absence of its own staff, thereby ensuring the continuity of its technical cooperation and advisory services. An example of such online capacity-building on trade policy negotiation and facilitation is highlighted under subprogramme 2.

19.23 ESCAP continues to mainstream lessons learned and best practices related to the adjustments to and adaptation of the programme as a result of the pandemic. The overall focus of its programme is geared towards increasing the resilience of economies, social protection systems and the environment to emerging risks, with the aim of reducing vulnerabilities that have further widened during the pandemic. Building on those lessons, ESCAP will deepen its work through local institutions and the engagement of local experts to ensure the sustainability of its work. ESCAP will also continue to carefully consider the most effective modalities, including hybrid and virtual modalities, for implementing its programme of work, as appropriate.

Legislative mandates

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

General Assembly resolutions

61/16	Strengthening of the Economic and Social Council
66/288	The future we want
67/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community
69/15	SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway
69/137	Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024
69/142	Realizing the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond
69/277	Political declaration on strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations
69/283	Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030
69/313	Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)
70/1	Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
70/170	Towards the full realization of an inclusive and accessible United Nations for persons with disabilities
70/192	Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development
72/279	Repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

73/133	Graduation of countries from the least developed country category
74/3	Political declaration of the high-level meeting to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway
74/4	Political declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly
74/15	Political Declaration of the High-level Midterm Review on the Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024
74/297	Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
74/306	Comprehensive and coordinated response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic
74/307	United response against global health threats: combating COVID-19
75/90	The situation in Afghanistan
75/233	Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
75/268	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization
75/288	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum
75/290 A	Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/305 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council
	Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 67/290 on the format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and 70/299 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level
	Economic and Social Council
75/290 B	High-level political forum on sustainable development
75/324	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization
76/136	Promoting social integration through social inclusion
76/154	Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto: participation
76/200	Agricultural technology for sustainable development
76/213	Science, technology and innovation for sustainable development
76/215	Development cooperation with middle-income countries
76/216	Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries
76/224	Towards global partnerships: a principle-based approach to enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and all relevant partners
76/258	Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries
76/273	Enhancing accessibility for persons with disabilities to conferences and meetings of the United Nations system
76/296	Our ocean, our future, our responsibility
77/12	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations
77/18	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation
77/21	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
77/162	Promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, building on Agenda 21
77/171	Combating sand and dust storms
77/179	Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027)
77/181	Women in development
77/183	Eradicating rural poverty to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
77/184	Operational activities for development of the United Nations system
77/185	South-South cooperation
77/186	Agriculture development, food security and nutrition
77/189	Inclusive development for and with persons with disabilities
77/203	Rights of Indigenous Peoples
77/212	The right to development
77/223	Human rights and extreme poverty
77/245	Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
77/246	Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries
77/248	Oceans and the law of sea

Economic and Social Council resolutions

37 (IV)	Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East
1895 (LVII)	Change of name of the "Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East" to "Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific"
1998/46	Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields
2013/19	Conclusion of the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development
2014/11	Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development
2016/11	Committing to the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific
2018/5	Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all
2019/6	Addressing inequalities and challenges to social inclusion through fiscal, wage and social protection policies
2020/5	Strengthening coordination of the statistical programmes in the United Nations system
2022/8	Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twenty-fourth session
2022/11	A conference structure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to advance sustainable development
2022/18	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system
2022/19	Programme of action for the least developed countries for the decade 2022–2031
2022/21	Support to Non-Self-Governing Territories by the specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

66/1	Incheon Declaration
66/9	Full and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and its regional and global outcomes in the Asia-Pacific region
66/15	Strengthening of the evaluation function of the secretariat of the Commission
67/14	Cooperation between the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and other United Nations and regional and subregional organizations serving Asia and the Pacific
68/8	Enhancing coordination within the United Nations system and cooperation with regional organizations for promoting regional development
71/1	Restructuring the conference structure of the Commission to be fit for the evolving post-2015 development agenda
71/2	Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 in Asia and the Pacific
71/3	Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024
71/4	Implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway
72/6	Committing to the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific
72/8	Fostering regional cooperation and partnerships to respond to the climate change challenge in the Asia-Pacific region
72/9	Regional cooperation to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific
73/2	Strengthening the regional mechanism for the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024
73/3	Advancing integrated and seamless connectivity for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific
73/5	Strengthening Asia-Pacific's support for the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14
73/9	Regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific
74/1	Supporting the smooth transition of the least developed countries in Asia and the Pacific towards a sustainable graduation
74/6	Advancing disaster-related statistics in Asia and the Pacific
74/10	Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Enhancing Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration to Support the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Asia and the Pacific
75/1	Implementation of the outcome of the Euro-Asian Regional Midterm Review of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024
75/2	Committing to strengthening the links between national, regional and global follow-up to and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific
75/3	Advancing partnerships within and across regions for the sustainable development of Asia and the Pacific

75/4	Strengthening regional cooperation to tackle air pollution challenges in Asia and the Pacific	77/1	Building back better from crises through regional cooperation in Asia and the Pacific
76/1	Strengthening cooperation to promote the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific	78/1	Bangkok Declaration Commemorating the Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific: A Common Agenda to Advance Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific
76/2	Regional cooperation to address the socioeconomic effects of pandemics and crises in Asia and the Pacific	78/2	A conference structure of the Commission to advance sustainable development

Subprogramme 1
Macroeconomic policy, poverty reduction and financing for development

General Assembly resolutions

77/152	International financial system and development	77/153	External debt sustainability and development

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

E/CN.11/63	Statistical and economic documentation work	71/5	Implementing the outcome of the Asia-Pacific High-level Consultation on Financing for Development

Subprogramme 2
Trade, investment and innovation

General Assembly resolutions

77/151	International trade and development	77/160	Entrepreneurship for sustainable development

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

68/3	Enabling paperless trade and the cross-border recognition of electronic data and documents for inclusive and sustainable intraregional trade facilitation	72/3	Statute of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology
		72/4	Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific
70/5	Strengthening regional cooperation and capacity for enhanced trade and investment in support of sustainable development	72/12	Harnessing science, technology and innovation for inclusive and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific
70/6	Implementation of the decision of the Ad Hoc Intergovernmental Meeting on a Regional Arrangement for the Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade	75/8	Advancing science, technology and innovation for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific

Subprogramme 3
Transport

General Assembly resolutions

69/213	Role of transport and transit corridors in ensuring international cooperation for sustainable development	72/212	Strengthening the links between all modes of transport to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals
70/197	Towards comprehensive cooperation among all modes of transport for promoting sustainable multimodal transit corridors	74/299	Improving global road safety
		76/294	Political declaration of the high-level meeting on improving global road safety

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

70/7	Implementation of the Suva Declaration on Improving Maritime Transport and Related Services in the Pacific	72/5	Strengthening regional cooperation on transport connectivity for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific
71/6	Maritime transport connectivity for sustainable development	73/4; 78/3	Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Transport Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific
71/7	Adoption of the Regional Cooperation Framework for the Facilitation of International Railway Transport	74/2	Promotion of the regional framework for the planning, design, development and operation of dry ports of international importance
71/8	Strengthening intraregional and interregional connectivity in Asia and the Pacific	74/3	Improving road safety in Asia and the Pacific for sustainable transport systems

Subprogramme 4
Environment and development

General Assembly resolutions

71/222	International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028	75/212	United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028
71/256	New Urban Agenda		
74/212	International Day of Clean Air for blue skies	77/167	Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its contribution to sustainable development
		77/169	Harmony with Nature

Economic and Social Council resolution

2017/24	Human settlements

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

70/11	Implementing the outcome of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development	72/2	Statute of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization
70/12	Strengthening efforts on human settlements and sustainable urban development for the Asia-Pacific region	74/4	Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Development for Asia and the Pacific, 2017
71/9	Strengthening cooperation on sustainable management of water resources in Asia and the Pacific		

Subprogramme 5
Information and communications technology and disaster risk reduction and management

General Assembly resolutions

70/125	Outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society	77/121	International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space
		77/150	Information and communications technologies for sustainable development
77/29	International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development	77/164	Disaster risk reduction

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2015/14	Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	2018/14	Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters
2015/31	Establishment of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management	2022/15	Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society
2016/27	Strengthening institutional arrangements on geospatial information management		

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

71/12	Strengthening regional mechanisms for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 in Asia and the Pacific	73/7	Enhancing regional cooperation for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 in Asia and the Pacific
72/7	Regional cooperation to combat sand and dust storms in Asia and the Pacific	75/5	Implementation of the Ulaanbaatar Declaration of the 2018 Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction
72/10	Regional review of the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society action lines	75/6	Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific and the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development (2018–2030)
72/11	Advancing disaster-related statistics in Asia and the Pacific for implementation of internationally agreed development goals	75/7	Advancing the implementation of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative through regional cooperation

Subprogramme 6
Social development

General Assembly resolutions

49/128	Report of the International Conference on Population and Development	75/161	Intensification of efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls
65/234	Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014	75/226	International migration and development
65/312	Outcome document of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding	76/135	Cooperatives in social development
68/4	Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development	76/139	Preparations for and observance of the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family
69/147	Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls	76/142	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
73/195	Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration	76/146	The girl child
73/326	Format and organizational aspects of the international migration review forums	76/168	Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities
74/121	Policies and programmes involving youth	76/266	Progress Declaration of the International Migration Review Forum
74/126; 76/140	Improvement of the situation of women and girls in rural areas	77/188	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
75/131	United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021–2030)	77/190	Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing
75/156	Strengthening national and international rapid response to the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on women and girls		
75/157	Women and girls and the response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19)		

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2016/25	Future organization and methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development
2017/12	Promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and strengthening the mainstreaming of disability in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
2018/6	Third review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002
2020/8	Modalities for the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002
2021/8	Future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development
2022/4	Future organization and methods of work of the Commission on the Status of Women
2022/5	Thirtieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions and decisions

74 (XXIII)	Regional co-operation in the field of population
66/12	Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference
67/5	Full and effective implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing in the Asia-Pacific region
67/6	Enhancing accessibility for persons with disabilities at ESCAP
69/13	Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013–2022, and the Incheon Strategy to "Make the Right Real" for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific
69/14	Implementation of the Bangkok statement on the Asia-Pacific review of the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing
70/14	Enhancing participation of youth in sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific
Decision 70/22	Report of the Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference
71/13	Implementation of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
74/7	Towards disability-inclusive sustainable development: implementation of the Beijing Declaration, including the Action Plan to Accelerate the Implementation of the Incheon Strategy
74/11	Strengthening regional cooperation to tackle inequality in all its forms in Asia and the Pacific
Decision 74/26	Report of the Asia-Pacific Intergovernmental Meeting on the Third Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing
Decision 75/7	Report of the Midterm Review of the Asia and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development including the Chair's summary
Decision 76/8	Asia-Pacific indicator framework for monitoring progress towards the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and of the commitments contained in the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development
Decision 77/6	Report of the Asia-Pacific Regional Review of Implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Subprogramme 7
Statistics

General Assembly resolutions

68/261	Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics
71/313	Work of the Statistical Commission pertaining to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2006/6	Strengthening statistical capacity
2011/15	Revision of the statute of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific
2013/21	Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics
2017/7	Work of the Statistical Commission pertaining to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
2022/3	Ensuring that the work in the field of statistics and data is adaptive to the changing statistical and data ecosystem

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

246 (XLII)	Statistical services in Asia and the Pacific	69/16	A core set of population and social statistics to guide national capacity development in Asia and the Pacific
65/2	Regional technical cooperation and capacity-building in statistics development in Asia and the Pacific	71/14	Asian and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade, 2015–2024
67/10	A core set of economic statistics to guide the improvement of basic economic statistics in Asia and the Pacific	74/8	Accelerating the implementation of the Regional Action Framework on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific
67/11	Strengthening statistical capacity in Asia and the Pacific	75/9	Implementation of the Declaration on Navigating Policy with Data to Leave No One Behind
67/12	Improvement of civil registration and vital statistics in Asia and the Pacific	78/4	Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration on Building a More Resilient Future with Inclusive Civil Registration and Vital Statistics
69/15	Implementing the outcome of the High-level Meeting on the Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific		

Subprogramme 8
Subregional activities for development

General Assembly resolutions

63/260	Development-related activities	72/283	Strengthening regional and international cooperation to ensure peace, stability and sustainable development in the Central Asian region

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolution

244 (XLI)	The Commission's Activities in the Pacific

Subprogramme 9
Energy

General Assembly resolutions

65/151	International Year of Sustainable Energy for All	77/170	Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
67/215	Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy		

Economic and Social Council resolution

2011/14	Promoting regional cooperation for enhanced energy security and the sustainable use of energy in Asia and the Pacific

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolutions

64/3	Promoting renewables for energy security and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific	70/9; 74/9	Implementation of the outcomes of the Asian and Pacific Energy Forum
67/2	Promoting regional cooperation for enhanced energy security and the sustainable use of energy in Asia and the Pacific	73/8	Strengthening regional cooperation for sustainable energy development in Asia and the Pacific

Deliverables

19.25 Table 19.1 lists all cross-cutting deliverables of the programme.

Table 19.1
Cross-cutting deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	**11**	**14**	**11**	**9**
Reports for:				
1. The Commission	5	4	5	3
2. The Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development	6	6	6	6
3. The Third Ministerial Conference on Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration in Asia and the Pacific	–	4	–	–
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	**36**	**40**	**36**	**36**
Meetings of:				
4. The Commission	10	10	10	10
5. The Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development	6	8	8	8
6. The Third Ministerial Conference on Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration in Asia and the Pacific	–	5	–	–
7. The Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission	6	6	6	6
8. The expert groups on least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States	3	2	3	3
9. The Committee for Programme and Coordination	1	1	1	1
10. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	2	2	2	2
11. The Fifth Committee	2	2	2	2
12. The Regional Collaborative Platform for Asia and the Pacific	6	4	4	4
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	**1**	**2**	**2**	**2**
13. On selected issues pertinent to the sustainable development of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States	1	2	2	2
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	**6**	**2**	**5**	**2**
14. Subregional workshops on priorities of the programmes of action for least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States	3	1	3	1
15. Policy dialogues based on the *Asia-Pacific Countries with Special Needs Development Report*	3	1	2	1
Publications (number of publications)	**5**	**5**	**5**	**5**
16. ESCAP theme study	1	1	1	1
17. *Asia-Pacific Countries with Special Needs Development Report*	1	1	1	1
18. On the implementation of the 2030 Agenda	1	1	1	1
19. *Asia-Pacific Sustainable Development Journal*	2	2	2	2
Technical materials (number of materials)	**4**	**5**	**4**	**4**
20. On issues relevant to Asia-Pacific least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States	4	5	4	4
C. Substantive deliverables				
Databases and substantive digital materials: Asia-Pacific Sustainable Development Goal partnership data portal.				

Category and subcategory	2022 planned	2022 actual	2023 planned	2024 planned
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: observance of United Nations international days, including United Nations Day; outreach programmes upon demand for the general public, including for academic organizations, for approximately 300 participants.				
External and media relations: press releases and op-ed articles on the work and activities of ESCAP; press conferences/press briefings and press interviews for major publications and events.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: multimedia promotional content, including videos and educational materials for major publications and events; blog posts for the ESCAP website and content for ESCAP social media accounts.				

Evaluation activities

19.26 The following evaluations conducted by ESCAP and completed in 2022 have guided the proposed programme plan for 2024:

(a) Evaluation of subprogramme 5: phase 1 (2018–2022) of the implementation of the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development (2018–2030);

(b) Evaluation of subprogramme 8.

19.27 The results and lessons of the evaluations referenced above have been taken into account for the proposed programme plan for 2024 and were used to focus the work of ESCAP on the environment, climate and urbanization that maximizes its comparative advantages, and that is transboundary in nature and fully aligned with the relevant ministerial declarations, such as those reflected in the strategy of subprogramme 4. The results were also used to identify concrete regional initiatives driven by member States and pathways to support the implementation of the second phase of the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications for Sustainable Development (2018–2030), which were discussed at the fourth Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, held in Jakarta on 26 October 2022, and have been reflected in the strategy of subprogramme 5.

19.28 The following evaluations conducted by ESCAP are planned for 2024:

(a) Evaluation of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific;

(b) Evaluation of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization;

(c) Evaluation of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management.

Programme of work

Subprogramme 1
Macroeconomic policy, poverty reduction and financing for development

Objective

19.29 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen the capacity of member States to achieve stable, inclusive and sustainable economic development in Asia and the Pacific.

Strategy

19.30 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will support member States in transforming their economies in a manner that is consistent with the 2030 Agenda, contributing in particular to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 8–10, 12 and 17, as well as promote a

development approach that goes beyond the primary focus on economic growth. Specifically, the subprogramme will:

(a) Support member States in exploring, adopting and mainstreaming economic development policies and financing strategies aligned with the achievement of the Goals through methodologies developed through and policy recommendations emerging from knowledge products, technical advisory and capacity-building efforts and the facilitation of knowledge exchange and consensus-building among member States;

(b) Undertake research, advisory and capacity-building services on country-level policymaking and regional-level policy coordination, guided by the Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development of the Commission and further supported through the Consultative Group on Financing Strategies for the Sustainable Development Goals;

(c) Undertake outreach and follow-up of the subprogramme's research and knowledge products through policy dialogues and closer cooperation of members of the Consultative Group, policy think tanks, resident coordinator offices and United Nations country teams to further integrate the subprogramme's research and capacity-building work;

(d) Provide substantive inputs to global and United Nations system-wide processes, task teams and publications coordinated by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and to United Nations system-wide initiatives, in particular on financing for development issues.

19.31 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a) Evidence-based economic policies and development strategies for strengthened economic resilience, inclusive development and environmental sustainability;

(b) The strengthened ability of member States, in particular least developed countries, to mobilize and allocate financial resources for sustainable development, including by mainstreaming sustainable development into public and private financing;

(c) The improved ability of member States to employ economic and financial policy levers to promote the transformation of their economies towards resilient, inclusive and sustainable development pathways.

Programme performance in 2022

Sri Lanka addresses economic and financing challenges

19.32 Confronted with multiple and severe economic difficulties in 2022, the Government of Sri Lanka requested assistance from the subprogramme for its engagement with development partners to address those challenges, as well as technical advice on innovative development financing options and long-term sustainable development planning.

19.33 Following a direct request from the Government of Sri Lanka, and in close coordination with the resident coordinator, the subprogramme provided direct advisory support to Sri Lanka on long-term socioeconomic policies and the development of a sovereign green bond framework for effective pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals in partnership with the Sustainable Development Council of Sri Lanka.

19.34 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.2).

Table 19.2
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*
–	–	Sri Lanka developed a draft sovereign green bond framework using a macroeconomic model for sustainable development developed specifically for the Sri Lankan context

Planned results for 2024

Result 1: member States design policies and strategies for resilient economies

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.35 The subprogramme's work contributed to three member States (Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan and Samoa) implementing national strategies and policy initiatives to increase the resilience of their economies, including but not limited to fiscal and financial measures, informed by knowledge products prepared under the subprogramme, which met the planned target.

19.36 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.3).

Table 19.3
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
–	Member States decided to establish the Consultative Group on Financing Strategies for the Sustainable Development Goals and requested further support in areas such as pandemic economic recovery, poverty alleviation and transformation towards resilient, inclusive and sustainable economies	Three member States (Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan and Samoa) implemented national strategies and policy initiatives to increase the resilience of their economies, including but not limited to fiscal and financial measures	Three member States take policy actions to implement national strategies and policy initiatives to increase the resilience of their economies	Three member States take additional policy actions to implement national strategies and policy initiatives to increase the resilience of their economies

Result 2: strengthened financing for sustainable development, with a focus on innovative and emerging financing options in the Asia-Pacific region

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.37 The subprogramme's work contributed to three member States (Bangladesh, Bhutan and Cambodia) taking policy actions, informed by knowledge products prepared under the subprogramme, intended to strengthen financing for development, which met the planned target.

19.38 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.4).

Table 19.4
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
New initiatives by seven member States (Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, China, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Samoa and Sri Lanka) to design and implement financing strategies to bridge financing gaps for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda	New policy initiatives or reforms by three member States (Bangladesh, Cambodia and Vanuatu) to strengthen financing and resource mobilization and allocation for sustainable development	New policy initiatives or reforms by three member States (Bangladesh, Bhutan and Cambodia) to strengthen financing and resource mobilization and allocation for sustainable development	New policy initiatives or reforms by three member States to strengthen financing and resource mobilization and allocation for sustainable development	New policy initiatives or reforms by three member States to strengthen financing and resource mobilization and allocation for sustainable development

Result 3: engagement of member States for evidence-based and forward-looking macroeconomic policymaking aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals

Proposed programme plan for 2024

19.39 Influencing and informing the macroeconomic policymaking of member States, under rapidly changing economic conditions, is one key area of work of the subprogramme. The need for targeted evidence-based and forward-looking macroeconomic policy advice has become even more pronounced, given the growing macroeconomic uncertainties and the urgency of accelerating progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, both within the region and worldwide. A deliberate effort has been made by the subprogramme to link its knowledge products with its capacity-building activities to better translate research outcomes into direct impacts on policymaking at the country level.

Lessons learned and planned change

19.40 To realize the full benefits of broad macroeconomic research in supporting changes at the national level, the lesson for the subprogramme was that, in addition to focused and targeted capacity-building activities, direct and substantive interactions with member States can be mutually beneficial, and that and current interactions could be expanded further. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme plans to strengthen these interactions by seeking direct partnerships with the relevant policymaking bodies of member States. It will do so through the recently established Consultative Group on Financing Strategies for the Sustainable Development Goals and jointly organize macroeconomic policy dialogues informed by the subprogramme's flagship policy reports, as well as partner with resident coordinators and United Nations country teams for several targeted country interventions.

19.41 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.5).

Table 19.5
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
National policy dialogues on substantive macroeconomic policy involved policymakers as participants	National policy dialogues on substantive macroeconomic policy involved policymakers as participants	National policy dialogues on substantive macroeconomic policy involved policymakers as participants	Relevant ministries of three member States engage on the organization of substantive macroeconomic policy dialogues	Relevant ministries of an increasing number of member States engage on the organization of substantive macroeconomic policy dialogues

Deliverables

19.42 Table 19.6 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 19.6
Subprogramme 1: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	**1**	**1**	**4**	**1**
Reports for:				
1. The Commission	1	1	1	1
2. The Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development	–	–	3	–
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	**8**	**11**	**11**	**11**
Meetings of:				
3. The Committee on Macroeconomic Policy, Poverty Reduction and Financing for Development	–	–	6	–
4. Subregional Sustainable Development Goal forums, with a focus on financing for development	–	–	1	1
5. Expert groups on financing for development	4	4	–	4
6. Expert groups on the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific*	4	5	4	4
7. The Consultative Group on Financing Strategies for the Sustainable Development Goals	–	2	–	2
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
8. On selected economic policy and financing for development issues	1	1	1	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	**6**	**17**	**4**	**4**
9. Policy-focused discussions based on research outlined in the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific* and *Financing for Development in Asia and the Pacific*	6	6	4	4
10. Training on the Sustainable Banking Academy of the Finance Flows partnership	–	6	–	–

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*
11. Workshops on financing for development	–	5	–	–
Publications (number of publications)	**1**	**1**	**2**	**1**
12. *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific*	1	1	1	1
13. *Financing for Development Series*	–	–	1	–
Technical materials (number of materials)	**10**	**16**	**10**	**10**
14. Knowledge products on economic issues and policies tailored to countries' specific circumstances	4	8	4	4
15. Working paper series on macroeconomic policy, poverty reduction and financing for development	2	4	2	2
16. Policy briefs on macroeconomic policy, poverty reduction and financing for development	4	4	4	4

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: side event on financing for development at the Economic and Social Council; technical advice to all member States on financing for development and macroeconomic policy; technical advisory notes and presentation materials on macroeconomic policy, poverty reduction and financing for development; advisory services for the issue-based coalition on inclusive economic growth and COVID-19 recovery.

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: presentations, videos, brochures and infographics on the *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific*.

External and media relations: press releases and op-ed articles on macroeconomic policy, poverty reduction and financing for development; press interviews for major publications and events.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: web pages on economic assessment and sustainable development, and on financing for development.

Subprogramme 2
Trade, investment and innovation

Objective

19.43 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen the capacity of member States to implement policies and programmes that more effectively harness the potential of trade, investment, innovation, technology and enterprise development for sustainable development and regional integration in Asia and the Pacific.

Strategy

19.44 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will:

(a) Support member States in formulating and implementing policies and measures to promote and facilitate trade, investment, innovation and enterprise development in support of inclusive and sustainable development, with a specific focus on the needs of countries in special situations;

(b) Build the capacity of member States, in cooperation with global and regional partners, such as ADB, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the World Trade Organization (WTO), to negotiate and implement trade and investment agreements aligned with the 2030 Agenda and to design and implement trade and investment facilitation policies and measures, including through the adoption of paperless trade systems;

(c) Provide capacity-building in close cooperation with the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology, including workshops, training activities and policy advice; develop knowledge

products on sustainable foreign direct investment (FDI), innovation, technology cooperation and transfer, emerging and frontier technologies, responsible and inclusive business, social enterprise, impact investment and innovative finance for women's entrepreneurship; and support member States in making progress towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 3, 5–9, 13 and 17;

(d) Support member States and micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in the areas of trade facilitation and support trade digitization, such as paperless and contactless trade, in particular to maintain trade flows of critical goods in times of global and regional crises;

(e) Support member States in formulating policies for sustainable FDI, infrastructure financing and micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, with a key focus on private sector engagement through the ESCAP Sustainable Business Network and on developing innovative financial and digital tools to support women entrepreneurs with regard to reducing vulnerabilities;

(f) Support regional cooperation platforms and expand expert networks in the areas of trade, investment, technology and innovation and sustainable business, including through public-private partnerships, for knowledge transfer and peer learning.

19.45 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a) Reduced trade costs and increased participation and competitiveness of companies, especially micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, in international trade;

(b) The adoption by member States of more effective rules and procedures governing trade, leading to more efficient trade outcomes aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals;

(c) The adoption by member States of policies and measures aimed at achieving more inclusive and sustainable outcomes of private sector activities, including public-private partnerships;

(d) The integration of inclusive and sustainable practices into technology and innovation policies in the region;

(e) The increased resilience of supply chains by enabling continued trade activities and using technology and innovation to mitigate the impact of crises.

Programme performance in 2022

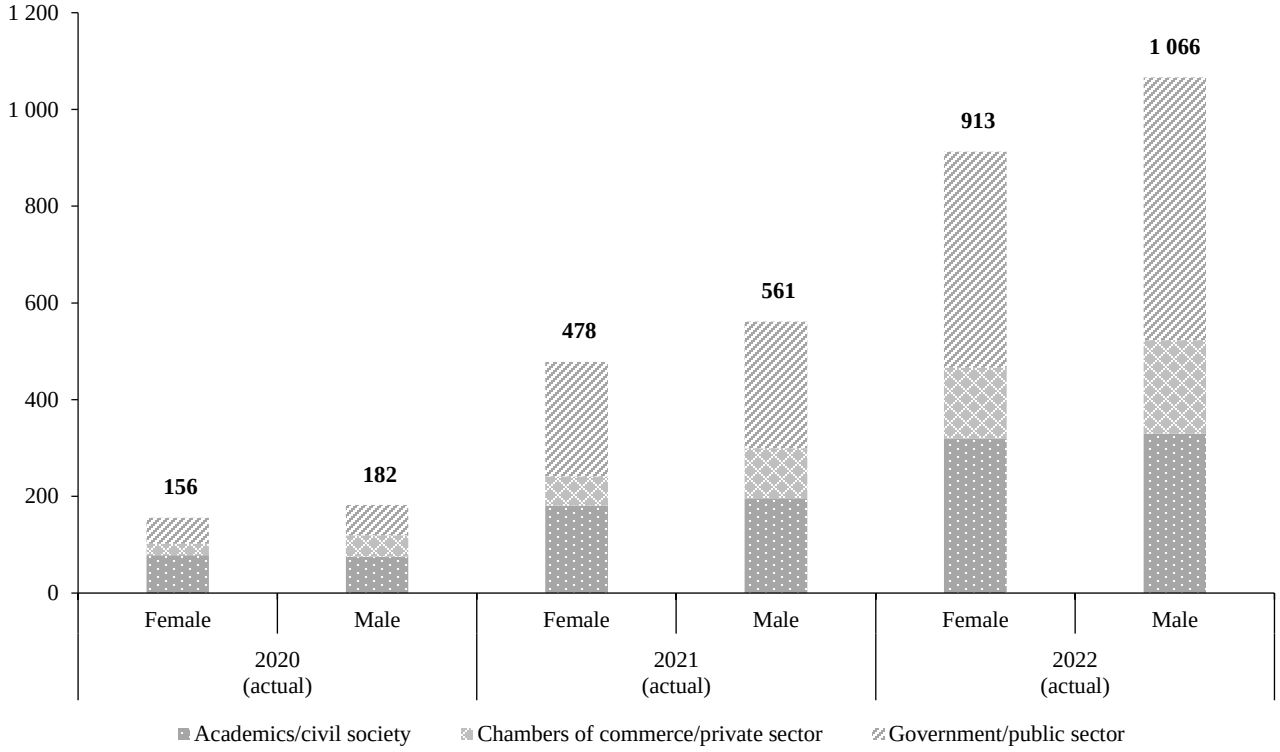
Certified improved understanding among policymakers and other stakeholders of trade policy negotiation and facilitation

19.46 The importance of trade facilitation was highlighted during the COVID-19 pandemic when export bans and other measures affected access to essential goods. In addition, several countries in the region are in the process of graduating from least developed country status and are in need of building their capacity to negotiate trade agreements to reduce the impact of losing the preferential treatment associated with this status.

19.47 To address these challenges and opportunities, the subprogramme rolled out several e-learning courses in 2021 and 2022 on trade policy negotiation and trade facilitation aimed at policymakers and other stakeholders in the trade policy ecosystem. The e-learning courses were developed in collaboration with global and regional partners such as UNCTAD, WTO and ADB. Courses covering topics such as trade facilitation, global value chain analysis, trade negotiations in times of crises and sustainable development in trade agreements have been made available online. All courses include quizzes that need to be passed in order for participants to receive a completion certificate. These online courses were used to complement and support in-person capacity-building workshops.

19.48 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 19.I).

Figure 19.I
Performance measure: number of stakeholders certified as successfully completing an online course offered by the Commission on issues related to trade policy negotiation and facilitation (cumulative)



Planned results for 2024

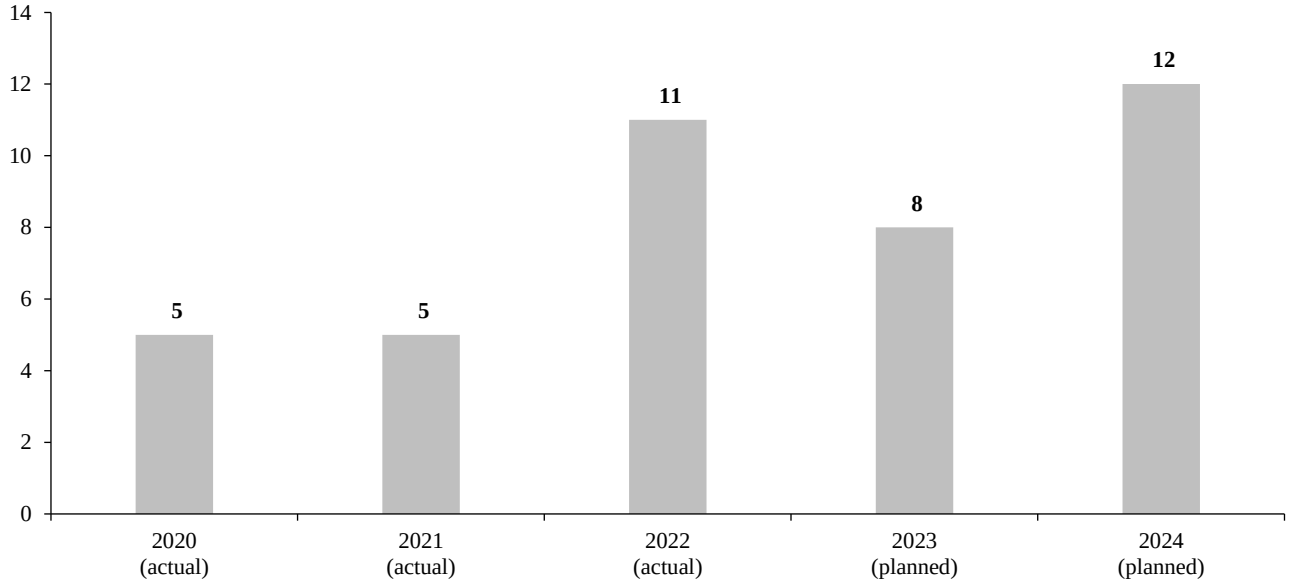
Result 1: more efficient, transparent and safer trade processes through paperless and contactless trade

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.49 The subprogramme's work contributed to six additional countries (Mongolia, Republic of Korea, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Turkmenistan and Tuvalu) having acceded to the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific, bringing the number of countries that have acceded to or ratified the Agreement to 11, which exceeded the planned target of 7 countries.

19.50 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 19.II).

Figure 19.II
Performance measure: number of countries having acceded to or ratified the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific (cumulative)



Result 2: strengthened commitment of the private sector in support of the Sustainable Development Goals in Asia and the Pacific

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.51 The subprogramme's work contributed to 81 private sector organizations adopting a declaration on the Asia-Pacific Green Deal for Business, including five business transformational opportunities for an environmentally friendly economy, which met the planned target.

19.52 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.7).

Table 19.7
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
The private sector supported the idea for an Asia-Pacific Green Deal for businesses in the Asia-Pacific region	The private sector developed a draft of an Asia-Pacific Green Deal for businesses and gave its full support thereto	A total of 81 private sector organizations, including 33 small and medium-sized enterprises, adopted the Asia-Pacific Green Deal for Business	An increased number of private sector organizations pledge their support to an Asia-Pacific Green Deal for businesses and sign a declaration to that effect	There is a further increase in the number of private sector organizations that sign a declaration on the Asia-Pacific Green Deal for Business, of which the majority are small and medium-sized enterprises

Result 3: enhanced policy measures to promote inclusive business for sustainable development

Proposed programme plan for 2024

19.53 An inclusive business model in which businesses have social and/or environmental objectives alongside economic objectives and provide products, services and livelihoods to people living at the base of the economic pyramid can help to meet the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda.

19.54 The subprogramme's work on inclusive business supports ESCAP member States in developing and implementing policies, measures and initiatives that promote inclusive business models for sustainable development, with a specific objective of facilitating the establishment and strengthening of women-led and women-owned businesses and their integration into the formal economy.

Lessons learned and planned change

19.55 Based on previous initiatives, the lesson for the subprogramme was the need for a whole-of-government approach to promote inclusive business and to build the capacities of stakeholders. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will work closely with relevant line ministries in member States to advance recognition of the opportunities offered by inclusive business models for the sustainable development of their economies and to facilitate the development of enabling policy frameworks and measures, such as inclusive business accreditation systems and national strategies. The dissemination of ESCAP knowledge products on that topic through the organization of more frequent webinars is one of the approaches to be taken to that end. Moreover, the subprogramme will increase opportunities for sharing successful experiences from the region among policymakers.

19.56 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.8).

Table 19.8
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
–	–	Member States (Cambodia, Philippines and Viet Nam) implemented measures to promote inclusive businesses	Policy measures developed by member States to promote inclusive businesses	Additional policy measures developed by member States to promote inclusive businesses

Deliverables

19.57 Table 19.9 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 19.9
Subprogramme 2: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	**16**	**13**	**18**	**12**
Reports for:				
1. The Commission	2	2	1	1
2. The Committee on Trade, Investment, Enterprise and Business Innovation	–	–	6	–
3. The Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation	3	2	–	–
4. The Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology	3	3	3	3
5. The Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement Standing Committee	4	–	4	4
6. The Paperless Trade Council of the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific and the Standing Committee of the Framework Agreement	4	6	4	4
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	**33**	**26**	**34**	**28**
Meetings of:				
7. The Committee on Trade, Investment, Enterprise and Business Innovation	–	–	6	–
8. The Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation	3	2	–	–
9. The Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology	4	4	4	4
10. The Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement Standing Committee	8	–	8	8
11. The Paperless Trade Council of the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific and the Standing Committee of the Framework Agreement	6	7	4	4
12. The expert group on trade, investment and innovation	8	7	8	8
13. The ESCAP Sustainable Business Network	2	2	2	2
14. The United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia Working Group on Trade	2	1	2	2
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	**4**	**12**	**6**	**6**
15. On women's entrepreneurship: innovative finance component	1	1	1	–
16. On the ESCAP Sustainable Business Network and public-private partnerships	–	1	–	1
17. On trade policy and facilitation	1	3	1	1
18. On investment, enterprise and innovation	1	4	1	1
19. On new and emerging technologies	1	3	3	3
Publications (number of publications)	**2**	**2**	**3**	**3**
20. *Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report*	–	–	1	–
21. *Studies in Trade, Investment and Innovation*	1	1	2	2
22. *Science, Technology and Innovation in Asia and the Pacific*	1	1	–	1
Technical materials (number of materials)	**9**	**10**	**11**	**10**
23. Trade, Investment and Innovation Working Paper Series	2	2	2	2
24. Policy briefs on trade, investment, and innovation	3	4	4	3
25. Reports on trade facilitation and paperless trade implementation	–	–	1	1
26. *Asia-Pacific Tech Monitor*	4	4	4	4

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: advisory services on trade, investment and innovation, technology cooperation and transfer, and emerging and frontier technologies; regional knowledge networks linking researchers, policymakers and practitioners in trade, investment and innovation, including the Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade and the United Nations Network of Experts for Paperless Trade and Transport in Asia and the Pacific; advisory support for the task forces of the ESCAP Sustainable Business Network and for the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia Working Group on Innovation and Technology for Sustainable Development.

Databases and substantive digital materials: two online courses and databases on trade, investment and innovation; the comprehensive trade cost database; the Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Agreements Database; trade performance indicators on non-tariff measures; the online Trade Intelligence and Negotiation Adviser.

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: country fact sheets, multimedia materials and briefings on trade, investment and innovation; side event on trade investment and innovation at the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development.

External and media relations: press releases and op-ed articles on trade, investment, and innovation; press interviews for major publications and events.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: website of the Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade and web pages on technology and innovation, business and investment, trade facilitation and digital trade, trade policy and integration, infrastructure financing and public-private partnerships.

Subprogramme 3
Transport

Objective

19.58 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to achieve sustainable transport connectivity, logistics and mobility in the Asia-Pacific region.

Strategy

19.59 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will:

(a) Serve as the secretariat for the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network, the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Trans-Asian Railway Network and the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports, and provide technical expertise to the intergovernmental deliberations of the relevant working groups, including on operational issues and issues of particular relevance to landlocked developing countries;

(b) Provide technical assistance and conduct related research and analysis on land and maritime transport, with due consideration for the specific needs of landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, focusing on enhanced operational connectivity through promoting knowledge products and best practices, including efficient operational arrangements and harmonized legal frameworks for multimodal transport, and facilitate systematic regional and, as appropriate, interregional dialogue to foster regional and interregional connectivity;

(c) Facilitate the exchange of good practices on the utilization of new and emerging technologies, and support the wider deployment of smart transport systems through the development of a regional road map and by raising awareness through knowledge products and capacity development;

(d) Undertake policy advocacy and capacity-building in the areas of sustainable urban transport and low greenhouse gas emissions and logistics, including by promoting and facilitating an

accelerated transition to electric mobility, clean and energy-efficient transport and environmentally friendly supply chains and applying the sustainable urban transport index developed by ESCAP;

(e) Provide technical assistance in the areas of road safety and inclusive transport and mobility, including through a regional plan of action for road safety and regional guidelines addressing accessibility, to support reductions in poverty and inequality and promote inclusive transport for people with different travel requirements, including but not limited to women, children, older persons, low-income transport users, rural inhabitants and persons with disabilities;

19.60 These workstreams will support member States in making progress towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 3, 7, 9, 11–13 and 17 and the objectives of the Regional Action Programme for Sustainable Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific (2022–2026).

19.61 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a) A more sustainable, efficient and resilient transport infrastructure along the regional transport networks (Asian highways, trans-Asian railways and dry ports) and at maritime ports to support freight and, where appropriate, passenger operations that are affordable, safe, accessible and environmentally friendly;

(b) Enhanced regional land, maritime and interregional transport connectivity to preserve regional transport linkages and foster regional cooperation to support interregional and intraregional trade and people connectivity;

(c) The formulation and implementation of sustainable transport and mobility policy initiatives in member countries, including the planning and development of urban public transport systems, measures and mechanisms to promote the use of low-greenhouse-gas-emission transport and smart mobility approaches, and measures to improve transport safety and promote inclusive transport in the region.

Programme performance in 2022

Strengthened legal framework to facilitate multimodal transport operations

19.62 Countries with a higher use of multimodal transport (utilization of different available modes of transport, i.e. road, rail, air or waterborne transport) showed increased resilience in preserving their transport connectivity during the pandemic, especially when rail transport was combined with other transport modes.[1] The existing legal framework for multimodal transport operations in Asia and the Pacific consists of several international conventions designed to regulate unimodal carriage, diverse regional and subregional agreements, national laws and standard term contracts, which could benefit from enhancements to reflect developments in the transport sector in terms of transport patterns, technology and markets.

19.63 The subprogramme has raised the awareness of ESCAP member States of the importance of shifting from unimodal to multimodal transport to increase the resilience of their transport networks, including in response to disruptions such as those experienced as a result of the pandemic. It identified several options for how to approach the harmonization of national legal frameworks for multimodal transport, facilitated expert analysis and country consultations and finalized the "Guidelines for harmonization of national laws on multimodal transport in Asia and the Pacific".

19.64 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.10).

[1] Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, "COVID-19 and its impact on the railway sector in Asia and the Pacific", policy brief, 30 October 2020, Available at www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/5NOV_Railway_Green_SCREEN.pdf.

Table 19.10
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*
The Committee on Transport underscored the importance of facilitating multimodal transport operations by further improving the existing legal framework in Asia and the Pacific	ESCAP member States decided to work towards a harmonized legal framework for multimodal transport in Asia and the Pacific at the fourth session of the Ministerial Conference on Transport	ESCAP member States welcomed the "Guidelines for harmonization of national laws on multimodal transport in Asia and the Pacific"

Planned results for 2024

Result 1: accelerated transformative action in transport for the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.65 The subprogramme's work contributed to the development of eight new policies and measures by member States that intensify support for the efficiency and resilience of supply chains, the environmental dimensions of transport systems and improvements in transport safety to accelerate progress towards achieving the transport-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals, which met the planned target.

19.66 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.11).

Table 19.11
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
ESCAP member States advanced discussions on priority areas that would balance economic, social and environmental dimensions of transport and support the decade of action for the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030	ESCAP member States adopted seven regional transport priority areas, including three new priority areas, that accelerate impactful change towards sustainability while recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic	ESCAP member States developed eight new policies and measures that intensify support for the efficiency and resilience of supply chains, the environmental dimensions of transport systems and improvements in transport safety to accelerate the progress towards achieving the transport-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals	Eight new policies and measures by member States that intensify support for the efficiency and resilience of supply chains, the environmental dimensions of transport systems and improvements in transport safety to accelerate the progress towards achieving transport-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals	Three ESCAP member States enhance: • The economic efficiency of supply chains • The environmental dimensions of transport systems • Transport safety

Result 2: leveraged regional transport network to address the environmental dimension of transport development and international supply chains

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.67 The subprogramme's work contributed to progress made by several member States (China, India, Russian Federation and Thailand) in fulfilling the transport-related emission reduction commitments, including the development of long-term polices and road maps to accelerate the transition to electric mobility to support climate action (China, India and Thailand), which met the planned target.

19.68 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.12).

Table 19.12
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
ESCAP member States encouraged a holistic approach to strengthen the environmental and social dimensions of transport development and operations	Countries utilized the Working Groups on the Asian Highway, on the Trans-Asian Railway Network and on Dry Ports to discuss a regional approach towards enhancing the sustainability of freight transport, listing the environmental dimension of transport development among its priorities	Several member States (China, India, Russian Federation and Thailand) fulfilled their transport-related emission reduction commitments, including the development of long-term polices and road maps to accelerate the transition to electric mobility to support climate action (China, India and Thailand)	Countries further institutionalize an agenda to address the environmental dimension of transport development and operations, and implement projects and policy actions along the regional land transport network and supply chains	Members of the existing intergovernmental working groups and initiatives introduce more ambitious policy measures to address the environmental dimension of freight transport operations

Result 3: enhanced policies for safe and inclusive transport and mobility

Proposed programme plan for 2024

19.69 Globally, the number of road traffic fatalities and serious injuries did not decrease during the first Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011–2020,[2] putting at risk the achievement of targets 3.6 and 11.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals. The subprogramme provided analytical and technical advice to members and associate members to develop the Regional Plan of Action for Asia and the Pacific for the Second Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021–2030, which serves as a guiding document to support efforts to reduce road traffic deaths and injuries. To enhance safe and inclusive transport, it has also assessed available inclusive transport measures implemented by countries and identified best practices in addressing the needs of different transport users, including strengthening the socioeconomic resilience of rural communities in the region.

[2] The Global Health Observatory web page of the World Health Organization, available at www.who.int/data/gho/data/indicators/indicator-details/GHO/estimated-number-of-road-traffic-deaths.

Lessons learned and planned change

19.70 The lesson for the subprogramme was the increased demand for enhancing the capacity of policymakers to effectively address safe and inclusive transport and better align its interventions to assist member States in realizing the full benefits of the implementation of the Regional Plan of Action. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will coordinate its technical cooperation portfolio to maximize existing synergies in its activities at the national level. It will also enhance the capacity of member States to improve road safety management, including the safety of motorized two-wheelers and infrastructure, as well as plans for more accessible, inclusive and innovative urban transport systems. In supporting member States to develop safe and inclusive transport policies through comprehensive approaches, the subprogramme will also build on the specific expertise of subprogrammes 5 and 6 to jointly implement relevant initiatives.

19.71 Expected progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.13).

Table 19.13
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
ESCAP member States highlighted the need for a holistic approach to strengthen the safety and inclusiveness of transport systems and infrastructure	ESCAP member States agreed to include safe and inclusive transport in the Regional Action Programme for Sustainable Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific (2022–2026) as one of its three overarching objectives	The Regional Plan of Action for Asia and the Pacific for the Second Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021–2030 was welcomed by the Committee on Transport ESCAP member States contributed to the development of regional guidelines on enhancing social inclusion and innovations in urban transport systems in Asia-Pacific cities	Three ESCAP member States initiate the formulation and/or implementation of national road safety policies to improve road safety	Three additional member States formulate and/or implement national policies and measures to reduce road traffic deaths and injuries by at least 50 per cent between 2021 and 2030

Deliverables

19.72 Table 19.14 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 19.14
Subprogramme 3: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	**4**	**5**	**1**	**4**
Reports for:				
1. The Commission	1	1	1	1
2. The Committee on Transport	3	4	–	3
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	**22**	**22**	**28**	**22**
Meetings of:				
3. The Committee on Transport	6	6	–	6
4. The Asian Highway Network	–	–	4	–
5. The Trans-Asian Railway Network	–	–	4	–
6. Meetings on dry ports	–	–	4	–
7. The United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia Working Group on Sustainable Transport, Transit and Connectivity	4	4	4	4
8. Expert groups on transport connectivity and logistics	8	8	8	8
9. Expert groups on mobility	4	4	4	4
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	**8**	**15**	**10**	**8**
10. On transport connectivity and logistics	4	6	3	4
11. On mobility	4	9	7	4
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	**–**	**–**	**1**	**–**
12. On transport connectivity and logistics	–	–	1	–
Publications (number of publications)	**2**	**2**	**2**	**3**
13. On transport developments in Asia and the Pacific	–	–	1	2
14. On transport connectivity, logistics and mobility	2	2	1	1
Technical materials (number of materials)	**3**	**3**	**3**	**2**
15. On transport connectivity and logistics	2	2	2	1
16. On mobility	1	1	1	1
C. Substantive deliverables				
Databases and substantive digital materials: Asian Highway database, the Trans-Asian Railway Network and the network of dry ports.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: infographics on road safety for regional and global access.				
External and media relations: press releases, blogs and op-ed articles on the Asian Highway Network, environmentally sustainable transport, the Trans-Asian Railway Network, dry ports and intermodal transport, connecting to global supply chains, urban transport, and safe and inclusive transport; press interviews for major publications and events.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: web pages on the Asian Highway Network, environmentally sustainable transport, the Trans-Asian Railway Network, dry ports and intermodal transport, connecting to global supply chains and safe and inclusive transport.				

Subprogramme 4
Environment and development

Objective

19.73 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to reduce the negative impacts of growth on the natural environment and to improve human well-being in urban and rural environments through building the capacity of member States to strengthen climate action and sustainable resource use, realize sustainable urban development and eliminate pollution and waste.

Strategy

19.74 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will:

(a) Support member States in the development of ambitious climate action policies and plans aligned with the Paris Agreement and the decisions to be adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its twenty-eighth session and by the Commission, as well as those adopted by the Committee on Environment and Development at its seventh session, and support the implementation of these policies and plans at the regional, national, subnational and local levels;

(b) Generate evidence on status and trends related to the common environment and the health impacts of environmental degradation in Asia and the Pacific, including from an urban perspective, and provide technical support for integrated policies to promote and strengthen ecosystem-based approaches, nature-based solutions and food systems, reduce pollution and strengthen procedural rights for environmental protection, including through multi-stakeholder engagement and partnerships, while taking into account the needs of women and promoting their participation in decision-making processes;

(c) Promote regional cooperation on air pollution, including through support for implementation of the Regional Action Programme on Air Pollution, by, inter alia, facilitating dialogues and the exchange of best practices on air quality management and providing technical support to member States on the assessment of air quality, standards and data;

(d) Build the capacity of city officials to strengthen urban planning processes, provide technical and policy support to facilitate the adoption of urban resilience strategies, the application of appropriate smart technologies and the financing of resilient urban infrastructure, and increase awareness of sustainable and inclusive urban solutions, including issues related to environmental protection, resource consumption, infrastructure needs, air pollution, climate change and disaster risk reduction;

(e) Support regional cooperation to prevent ocean pollution and protect marine ecosystems, including by coordinating the regional implementation of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, by, inter alia, providing participatory, multi-stakeholder dialogue platforms such as the Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean, and by promoting the implementation of international conventions and region-wide initiatives, as appropriate.

19.75 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a) Enhanced action to address climate change through accelerating the implementation of the Paris Agreement in Asia-Pacific countries;

(b) Increased sustainability and resilience of communities and reduced negative impacts of urbanization;

(c) Improved policy scenarios, plans, legislation and action to address the risk of air pollution in the region;

(d) Enhanced action to protect the environment and support the transition to healthy ecosystems, especially healthy oceans and food systems;

(e) Advancement of a regional legal framework as a foundation to enshrine the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment;

(f) Strengthened and revitalized multilateral cooperation on environmental action.

Programme performance in 2022

Increased cooperation to advance the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, including procedural and substantive rights in South-East Asia

19.76 Following a recommendation to develop an Asia-Pacific framework analogous to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters in Europe and the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, the subprogramme contributed to building understanding on best practices for developing such an instrument. Subsequently, it enabled the initiation of an intergovernmental process, chaired by the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights, in 2022 to develop a framework for a subregional legal instrument. Providing technical and legal advice to the ASEAN Environmental Rights Working Group, the subprogramme has drawn on the experience of the above-mentioned regional agreements for environmental access rights while ensuring consideration of the specific regional dynamics and national attributes in South-East Asia and supported the achievement of sustainable development.

19.77 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.15).

Table 19.15
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*
Legal experts recommended to the secretariat that it support the development of a subregional legal instrument on the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment	The ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights decided to pursue the development of a subregional framework on the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment and requested the support of the subprogramme	The ASEAN Environmental Rights Working Group was established to agree on the substantive and procedural elements of an ASEAN-wide framework agreement on the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment

Planned results for 2024

Result 1: member States strengthen regional cooperation on natural resource management, adopt sustainable urban development pathways and develop climate and air pollution mitigation actions

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.78 The subprogramme's work contributed to the adoption of terms of reference for a technical expert group on environment and development by the Committee on Environment and Development to strengthen access to technical expertise and capacity-building activities, supporting the implementation of the Regional Action Programme on Air Pollution, which did not meet the planned target of member States having enhanced access to technical expertise and capacity-building activities under the substantive coordination of the technical expert group. The target was not met, as the establishment of the technical expert group was delayed by a year.

19.79 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.16).

Table 19.16
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
The Committee on Environment and Development decided to establish the technical expert group on environment and development to enhance regional exchange and to mobilize technical expertise to accelerate environmental and sustainable development action	Member States deliberated the terms of reference for a technical expert group on environment and development	The terms of reference for a technical expert group on environment and development were adopted during the seventh session of the Committee on Environment and Development	Member States make voluntary commitments and adopt national and/or local policies to address air pollution	The Regional Action Programme on Air Pollution is implemented

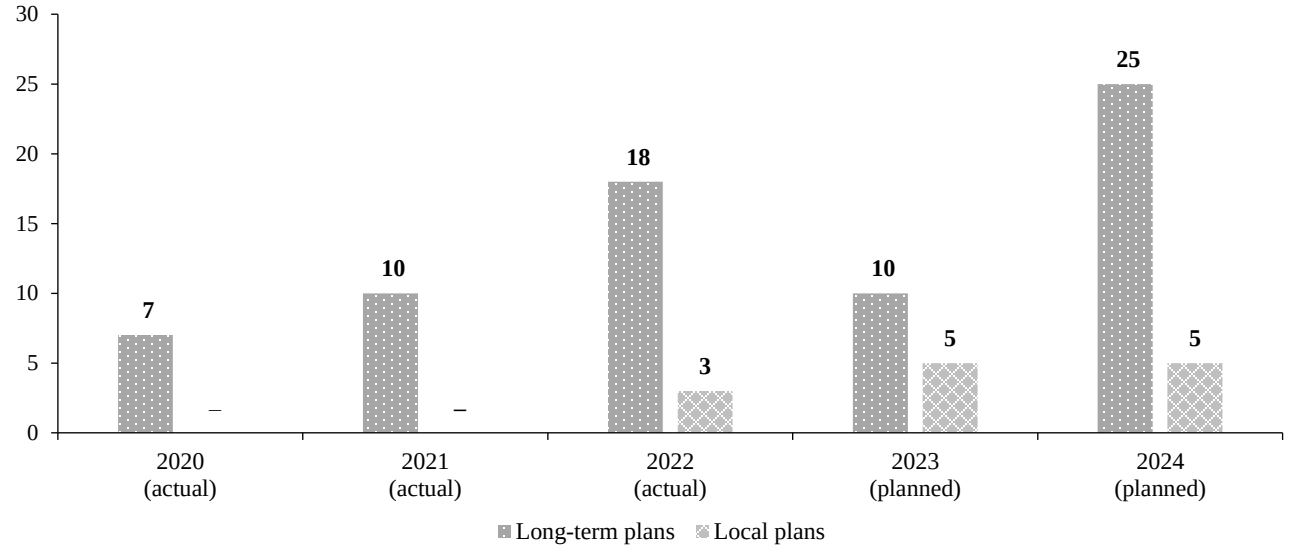
Result 2: accelerated implementation of climate action

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.80 The subprogramme's work contributed to 18 Asia-Pacific countries developing long-term, low-carbon and low-emissions development strategies and 3 Asia-Pacific countries developing local climate and/or air pollution action plans, which exceeded the planned target of 10 Asia-Pacific countries.

19.81 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 19.III).

Figure 19.III
Performance measure: number of Asia-Pacific countries that develop local climate and/or air pollution action plans and long-term, low-carbon and low-emissions development and recovery strategies (cumulative)



Result 3: local governments localize the Sustainable Development Goals and contribute to national climate strategies

Proposed programme plan for 2024

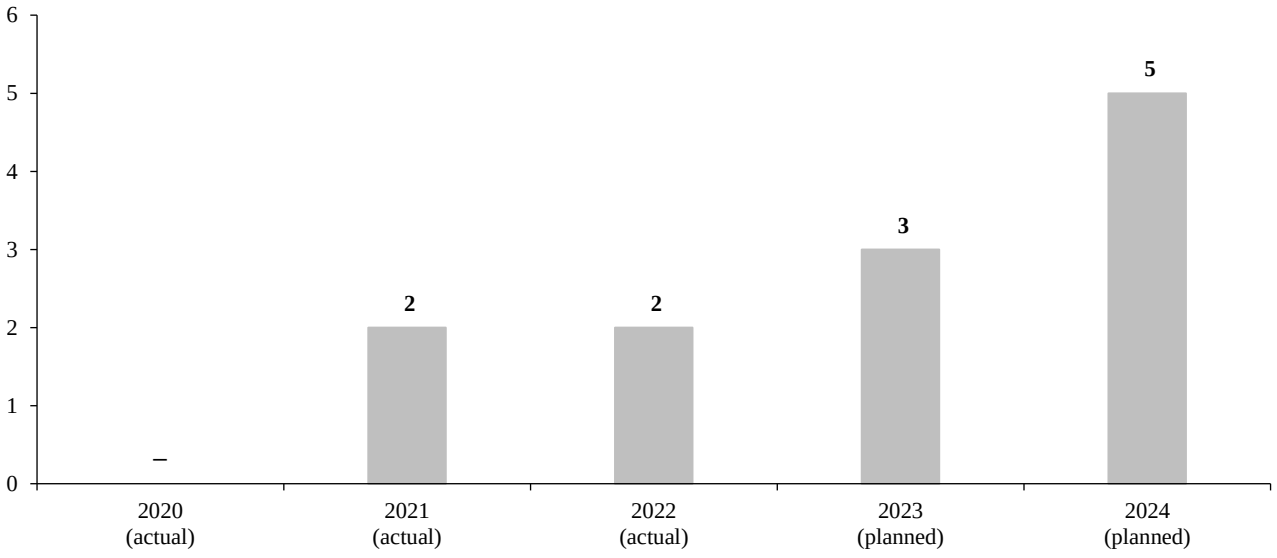
19.82 The subprogramme built the capacities of local authorities to undertake voluntary local reviews to implement the outcomes of the seventh Asia-Pacific Urban Forum, including its ministerial segment, held in 2019. To better integrate local and national actions in reporting on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, ESCAP issued regional guidelines for voluntary local reviews in 2020, which emphasize a "whole-of-government approach" to Goal localization. Since the issuance of the guidelines, the subprogramme has technically supported four cities in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia and Nepal in finalizing their voluntary local reviews. In addition, the city of Melbourne, Australia, undertook its voluntary local review in 2022 using the methodology developed by ESCAP.

Lessons learned and planned change

19.83 The lesson for the subprogramme was that it needed to adjust the criteria for cities participating in the voluntary local review process to better align with the voluntary national review reporting at the high-level political forum to strengthen the vertical integration between national, subnational and local authorities. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will assist in strengthening national urban policies to enable local authorities to implement sustainable urban action, such as on solid waste management and urban air quality. It will further support the collection of local data across all of the Sustainable Development Goals and assist cities in taking local actions that contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, including local climate actions that contribute to nationally determined contributions developed under the Paris Agreement.

19.84 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 19.IV).

Figure 19.IV
Performance measure: number of cities developing voluntary local reviews and/or Sustainable Development Goal localization plans with the direct support of the Commission (annual)



Deliverables

19.85 Table 19.17 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 19.17
Subprogramme 4: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	**2**	**4**	**1**	**2**
Report for:				
1. The Commission	1	1	1	1
2. The Committee on Environment and Development	1	3	–	1
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	**24**	**18**	**25**	**28**
Meetings of:				
3. The Committee on Environment and Development	5	5	–	5
4. The Governing Council of the Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization	2	2	2	2
5. The Asian and Pacific Network for Testing of Agricultural Machinery	5	5	5	5
6. Expert groups for the implementation of internationally agreed agendas related to the environment and development	2	2	2	2
7. Expert groups on sustainable and resilient cities in the Asia-Pacific region	8	3	8	8
8. The Seoul Initiative Network on Green Growth	2	1	2	6
9. The Asia-Pacific Urban Forum	–	–	6	–
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	**5**	**10**	**6**	**10**
10. On the sustainable management of natural resources	1	2	1	1
11. On sustainable urban development	1	3	1	2
12. On sustainable agricultural mechanization	1	1	2	2
13. On sustainable economic growth	1	1	1	1
14. To support countries in Asia-Pacific to meet commitments to the Paris Agreement	1	3	1	–
15. On air pollution	–	–	–	1
16. On environmental access rights	–	–	–	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	**13**	**8**	**11**	**6**
17. On the integrated management of straw residue	1	1	1	1
18. On strengthening human resources for sustainable agricultural mechanization	1	1	1	1
19. Regional forum on sustainable agricultural mechanization in Asia and the Pacific	1	1	1	–
20. On promoting sustainable agricultural mechanization through South-South cooperation	1	1	1	2
21. Asia-Pacific Day for the Ocean	1	1	1	1
22. Asia-Pacific Climate Week	5	–	5	–
23. International Day of Clean Air for blue skies	1	1	1	1
24. Executive training for high-level policy and decision-makers on environment and development	2	2	–	–
Publications (number of publications)	**1**	**1**	**2**	**1**
25. On environment and development	1	1	1	1
26. On progress towards sustainable urbanization in Asia-Pacific	–	–	1	–
Technical materials (number of materials)	**4**	**5**	**4**	**4**
27. On the environment and development	1	2	1	1
28. On agricultural machinery	3	3	3	3

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: advisory services on environment and development provided in collaboration with the broader United Nations system.

Databases and substantive digital materials: 16 e-learning courses on the environment and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: information material on agricultural mechanization; United Nations international days such as the International Day of Clean Air for blue skies, World Cities Day, World Environment Day and World Habitat Day, including special events on sustainable urban development and environment and development; side event on environment and development at the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development.

External and media relations: press releases and op-ed articles on reducing the negative impacts of growth on the natural environment and improving human well-being in urban and rural environments; press interviews for major publications and events.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: web pages of the subprogramme on safeguarding natural resources, sustainable agricultural mechanization, cities for a sustainable future and sustainable growth.

Subprogramme 5
Information and communications technology and disaster risk reduction and management

Objective

19.86 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen information and communications technology (ICT), space technology applications and disaster risk reduction and management for resilient and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific through regional cooperation and the sharing of best practices.

Strategy

19.87 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will support member States in making progress towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 4, 5, 9–11, 13–15 and 17 by developing norms for inclusive digital connectivity, geospatial data-sharing and disaster risk reduction and resilience-building, supported by policy analysis and evidence-based research. Specifically, the subprogramme will:

(a) Build capacity, especially of countries with special needs, in the above-mentioned areas, anchored in regional cooperation mechanisms that promote technical cooperation through the South-South and North-South modalities and are augmented by the programmes of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development and the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management;

(b) Promote regional policy dialogue and cooperation through expert group meetings on transboundary challenges related to connectivity and disaster risks, including those related to major development challenges such as climate change;

(c) Promote the implementation of the Action Plan for Implementing the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway Initiative, 2022–2026, by carrying out diagnostic studies on the digital divide, assessing policy and regulatory frameworks and providing policy recommendations, supplemented by advocacy, networking and partnerships in support of regionally agreed frameworks;

(d) Guided by the Jakarta Ministerial Declaration on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific and the Asia-Pacific Plan of Action on Space Applications

for Sustainable Development (2018–2030), assist member States in harnessing recent advances in space technology applications and geospatial data, facilitate timely and expanded access to space-derived geospatial data, pool expertise and resources at the regional and subregional levels, promote the sharing of knowledge and good practices and create synergies with other existing regional initiatives;

(e) Augment and leverage subregional and regional cooperation in disaster risk reduction, adaptation and climate-resilient pathways for action, including through the implementation of the activities of the Asia-Pacific Disaster Resilience Network and the ESCAP multi-donor trust fund for tsunami, disaster and climate preparedness, and disaster information management services provided by the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management, including the activities under the Regional Plan of Action on Sand and Dust Storms in Asia and the Pacific;

(f) Further build the resilience of human and institutional capacity, in particular by providing assistance in the advancement of inclusive digital transformations, the use of innovative risk analytics and geospatial data applications and the provision of targeted solutions for the special needs of countries that face a high disaster risk.

19.88 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a) The bridging of the digital divide, and an accelerated digital transformation;

(b) The anticipation of disaster risks and the enhancement of disaster risk reduction and management solutions benefiting all levels of society;

(c) Enhanced applications of integrated geospatial information to reduce disaster risk and accelerate the monitoring and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Programme performance in 2022

Renewed commitment to digital cooperation in Asia and the Pacific

19.89 Digital divides in Asia and the Pacific, which have exacerbated the unequal distribution of digital dividends, have the potential to perpetuate cycles of economic inequality within the region. The subprogramme supported member States in enhancing ICT connectivity through the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative, which has been recognized as a regional platform for the promotion of digital cooperation.[3] The subprogramme facilitated the formation and discussions of the working groups that drafted the Action Plan for Implementing the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway Initiative, 2022–2026, and supported the organization of the first Asia-Pacific Digital Ministerial Conference, which was convened by the Republic of Korea. Additionally, the subprogramme conducted analytical work and launched a regional capacity-building programme on frontier ICTs.

19.90 Furthermore, the subprogramme co-organized, jointly with the Government of Indonesia, the fourth Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific, under the theme of “Space+ for our Earth and future” and facilitated the dissemination of good practices and lessons learned through the publication *Geospatial Practices for Sustainable Development in South-East Asia 2022: A Compendium* and its associated database and dashboard. The maintenance and updating of the Risk and Resilience Portal leveraged digital innovations to provide customized adaptation solutions to countries by converting the vast array of publicly available geospatial, statistical and remote sensing information into usable data analytics for disaster risk-informed decision-making.

19.91 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.18).

[3] ESCAP/RES/78/1.

Table 19.18
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*
The Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation recommended the creation of a drafting group to develop an action plan for the next phase of implementation of the Master Plan for the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway, for the period 2022–2026	Under the leadership of Maldives, with Tonga and Mongolia as vice-chairs, the drafting group reviewed and provided further guidance on the draft Action Plan for Implementing the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway Initiative, 2022–2026	The Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation endorsed the Action Plan for Implementing the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway Initiative, 2022–2026 The fourth Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific adopted the Jakarta Ministerial Declaration on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific

Planned results for 2024

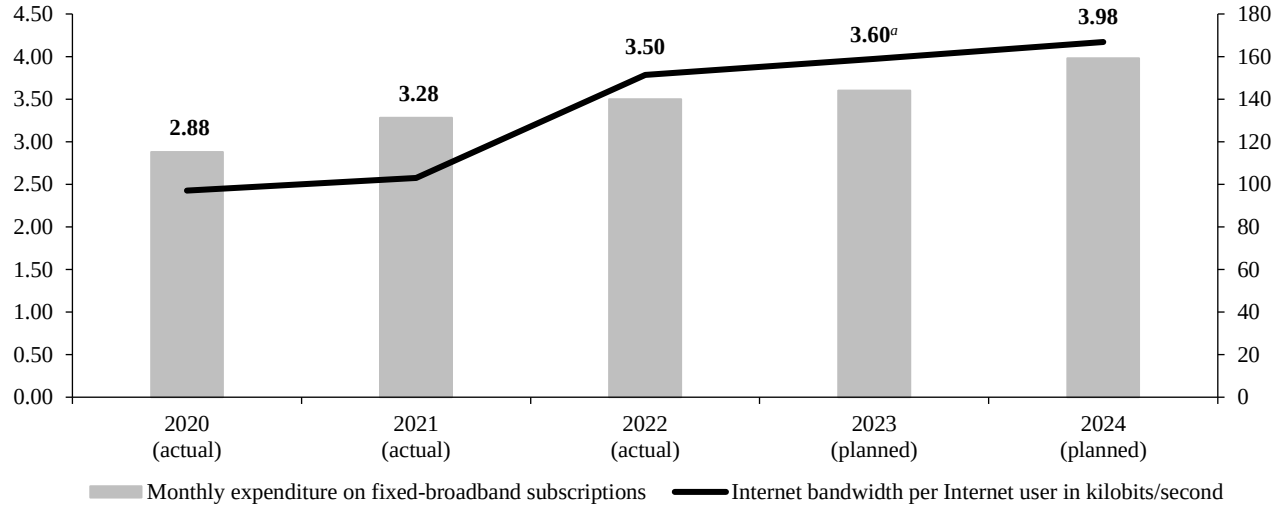
Result 1: bridging development divides through accelerated access to affordable and resilient digital connectivity

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.92 The subprogramme's work contributed to monthly expenditure in the Asia-Pacific region on fixed-broadband subscriptions as a percentage of gross national income per capita in the amount of 3.50 per cent, which did not meet the planned target of 2.55 per cent. The target was not met due to the sudden surge in bandwidth demand for more advanced cellular technologies (from third-generation to fourth- and fifth-generation technologies) and higher speed capabilities during the COVID-19 pandemic, which led to an increase in the price of subscriptions globally, including in Asia and the Pacific.

19.93 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 19.V).

Figure 19.V
Performance measure: average monthly expenditure in the Asia-Pacific region on fixed-broadband subscriptions as a percentage of gross national income per capita



[a] The latest statistics issued by the International Telecommunication Union in its ICT Price Basket 2022 revised the projections for monthly expenditure on fixed-broadband subscriptions for the year 2023 from 3.60 per cent to 3.73 per cent of gross national income per capita (see www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Dashboards/Pages/IPB.aspx). Planned figures for 2024 are based on past years' average percentage changes.

Result 2: augmented use of geospatial data for accelerating Sustainable Development Goal monitoring and implementation

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.94 The subprogramme's work contributed to the initiation of the integration of geospatial and sectoral data for monitoring and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in three countries (Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Thailand), which exceeded the planned target of two countries.

19.95 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.19).

Table 19.19
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
Members and associate members requested support to enhance their capacity to produce a common data format and methodologies	Members and associate members gained access to training and tools to enhance the use of geospatial data	Three countries (Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Thailand) initiated policy actions or projects on integrating geospatial and sectoral data for monitoring and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals	Two additional countries initiate policy action(s) or project(s) on integrating geospatial and sectoral data for monitoring and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals	Increased availability of geospatial and sectoral data for tracking progress on the Sustainable Development Goals in two countries

Result 3: strengthened national and subregional frameworks on disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation

Proposed programme plan for 2024

19.96 The region continues to be affected by multiple disasters related to climate change, and there has been a continued trend of global warming. The impacts of warming trends in different subregions of the Asia-Pacific region are varied, and each subregion can benefit from a risk profile with subregional specificities. To support the understanding of subregional warming trends, the subprogramme customized the flagship *Asia-Pacific Disaster Report 2021* for each subregion and used it to guide the development of subregional disaster risk reduction and resilience-building frameworks.

Lessons learned and planned change

19.97 The lesson for the subprogramme was that it had to incorporate the fast-changing and compounding impacts of the pandemic, which has reshaped and expanded the "riskscape" of the Asia-Pacific region, into its analytical, capacity-building and intergovernmental work, including by building partnerships with subregional organizations, space agencies and other stakeholders to adapt its programme of work and operating modalities to the cascading disaster risks at the subregional level. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will deepen these partnerships further by providing knowledge services to partner organizations, including on-demand analysis of the state of the climate and customized decision-support systems to accelerate the adoption and implementation of adaptation and resilience pathways. The subprogramme will also leverage digital transformation by providing additional online solutions to countries through the following: the ESCAP Risk and Resilience Portal and the online geospatial good practice database and dashboard; platforms for knowledge-sharing on the application of geospatial data for disaster risk reduction and resilience, as well as on sand and dust storms; and the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management.

19.98 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.20).

Table 19.20
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
ASEAN member countries adopted a declaration on adaptation to drought	ASEAN member countries translated the declaration into an action plan	Three countries (Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Thailand) translated the action plans into national strategies	Two subregional organizations adopt disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation frameworks and support the Early Warning for All by 2027 initiative	Two additional subregional organizations adopt disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation frameworks and support the Early Warnings for All initiative

Deliverables

19.99 Table 19.21 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 19.21
Subprogramme 5: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	**7**	**10**	**4**	**5**
Reports for:				
1. The Commission	1	4	2	2
2. The Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction	–	–	2	–
3. The Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation	4	4	–	3
4. The fourth Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific	2	2	–	–
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	**32**	**27**	**28**	**32**
Meetings of:				
5. The Committee on Information and Communications Technology, Science, Technology and Innovation	3	3	–	6
6. The Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction	–	–	6	–
7. The fourth Ministerial Conference on Space Applications for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific	2	2	–	–
8. The Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development	2	1	1	1
9. The Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management	1	2	1	1
10. The United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia Working Group on Innovation and Technology for Sustainable Development	4	2	4	4
11. The World Meteorological Organization (WMO)/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones	4	4	4	4
12. The Intergovernmental Consultative Committee on the Regional Space Applications Programme for Sustainable Development	4	4	4	4
13. The ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee	4	4	4	4
14. Expert groups on space applications	4	1	–	4
15. Expert groups on the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway	4	4	–	4
16. Expert groups on disaster risk reduction	–	–	4	–
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	**6**	**12**	**8**	**8**
17. On disaster information management	1	1	1	1
18. On disaster risk reduction	2	2	1	1
19. On promoting ICT connectivity	2	4	2	2
20. On space technology applications	1	5	4	4
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	**10**	**35**	**14**	**14**
21. On ICT	10	35	14	14
Publications (number of publications)	**4**	**3**	**3**	**2**
22. On disaster information management	2	1	1	–
23. On geospatial practices for sustainable development	1	1	1	1
24. On digital transformation for sustainable development	1	1	1	1
Technical materials (number of materials)	**6**	**4**	**5**	**8**
25. On disaster information management	2	–	2	3
26. On disaster risk reduction	1	1	–	2
27. On ICT, including infrastructure and connectivity	2	2	2	2

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*
28. On geospatial information applications	1	1	1	1

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: advisory services for working groups on disaster risk reduction and resilience, including the Issue-Based Coalition on Building Resilience; advice to the task forces of the ESCAP Sustainable Business Network; advice for committees and consultations with organizations on issues related to disaster risk reduction, space applications and ICT; briefing notes on digital development for senior government officials from ICT-related ministries and agencies.

Databases and substantive digital materials: ESCAP Risk and Resilience Portal; digital materials on space technology applications for regional and global access; geospatial practices database and dashboard with 80 new data entries and 30 institutional users; digital material for the development and management of disaster information databases and spatial data infrastructure; two new e-learning courses of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development.

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: brochures and/or online materials to raise awareness on disaster information management.

External and media relations: press releases and op-ed articles on ICT, space technology applications and disaster risk reduction and management for resilient and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific; press interviews for major publications and events.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: online presence of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management; web pages on the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway, building resilience to disasters, e-resilience, regional cooperation in disaster risk reduction, monitoring drought from space, the integration of geospatial information for resilience-building, and space and geospatial information systems for disaster management.

Subprogramme 6
Social development

Objective

19.100 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to realize inclusive and equitable societies that protect, empower and leave no one behind in Asia and the Pacific, with a focus on population and development, social protection, disability, and gender equality and the empowerment of women.

Strategy

19.101 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will bring together Governments on critical issues related to social development in the region and inform these intergovernmental processes through analysis and by drawing upon the complementary strengths of ESCAP through its regional convening power and the capacity of United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to support national implementation to advance the Sustainable Development Goals. Specifically, the subprogramme will:

(a) Support Governments in the continued implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration by strengthening the evidence base with regard to population and development issues, with a focus on ageing, migration and population dynamics, poverty reduction and leaving no one behind;

(b) Facilitate the monitoring of the implementation of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development through the framework that was endorsed at the sixth session of the Committee on Social Development;

(c) Provide support to member States in identifying the population groups that are at the highest risk of being left behind through its Leave No One Behind methodology, analytical reports and capacity-building;

(d) In line with the Action Plan to Strengthen Regional Cooperation on Social Protection in Asia and the Pacific, consolidate national progress and experiences related to extending social

protection coverage in periodic progress reports; develop a regional platform for member States to share good practices; and provide new and innovative analytical tools and products and capacity-development tools and training sessions to Governments;

(e) Conduct research and analysis and provide capacity-building support to member States on building disability-inclusive societies, guided by the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Incheon Strategy to "Make the Right Real" for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific and the Jakarta Declaration on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2023–2032, and support other subprogrammes in mainstreaming disability inclusion;

(f) Follow up on the outcomes of the Asia-Pacific regional 25-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action by supporting Governments in accelerating the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

(g) Provide technical assistance in developing policies in the context of economic empowerment and entrepreneurship for women and support other subprogrammes in mainstreaming a gender perspective;

(h) Provide knowledge products, seminars and technical advice on bridging gaps in the legal framework for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and for designing strategies and policy provisions specific to women-led enterprises.

19.102 The above-mentioned work will help support member States in their progress towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11 and 17.

19.103 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a) The development of regional frameworks for social development;

(b) The development of responsive policies and programmes in the domain of population dynamics and social development;

(c) Enhanced skills and knowledge to enable countries to design and implement inclusive social protection policies;

(d) Improved national policies and strategies to advance gender equality and women's empowerment, including responsive business development and investment policies and programmes;

(e) Improved national policies and programmes in support of disability-inclusive development;

Programme performance in 2022

Strengthened policy environment for women's economic empowerment and entrepreneurship

19.104 The subprogramme has fostered a strong policy and institutional environment for women's economic empowerment and entrepreneurship in the Asia and Pacific region through partnerships with five ministries for small and medium-sized enterprises and two ministries of women's affairs. Laws, regulations and policies continue to pose barriers to women entrepreneurs in starting and managing their businesses. Through the regional programme of ESCAP on catalysing women's entrepreneurship, specific provisions for women entrepreneurs have been incorporated in the laws and policies on small and medium-sized enterprises in several countries. In Cambodia and Viet Nam, the subprogramme supported a review of existing legal frameworks, provided technical inputs to draft policies and organized multi-stakeholder consultations throughout the policy review process.

19.105 Furthermore, the subprogramme has generated evidence and supported policymakers in five countries in addressing the impact of COVID-19 on women entrepreneurs and gaps in accessing information and services. The subprogramme supported the establishment of one-stop hubs in Viet Nam (with an estimated 300,000 users) and in Bangladesh. ESCAP has also partnered with the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises to develop a comprehensive toolkit to guide ASEAN countries in strengthening policy support for women-led micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, which has been adopted by all 10 ASEAN member States.

19.106 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.22).

Table 19.22
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*
Five ESCAP member States (Bangladesh, Cambodia, Fiji, Samoa and Viet Nam) participated in consultations on reforms of policies to enhance women's entrepreneurship at the country level	Four policy measures and initiatives were undertaken by Cambodia and Viet Nam that addressed the needs of women entrepreneurs in support of their business development	Three additional policy measures and initiatives were undertaken by Bangladesh, Cambodia and Viet Nam to address the needs of women entrepreneurs in support of their business development

Planned results for 2024

Result 1: advancing data and guidance for evidence-based policy related to population ageing, in line with the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.107 The subprogramme's work contributed to ESCAP member States adopting an outcome document entitled "Accelerating Implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, to Build a Sustainable Society for All Ages in Asia and the Pacific", which contained recommendations for action at the regional and national levels to address the economic and social impacts of population ageing, especially on older women, which met the planned target.

19.108 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.23).

Table 19.23
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
ESCAP member States supported the mapping of policies on population ageing and the collection of data to monitor population ageing	Five ESCAP member States in special situations (Bhutan, Cambodia, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives and Mongolia) conducted national reviews on data and policies through bottom-up approaches and interministerial meetings to prepare for the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing in the context of the 2030 Agenda	ESCAP member States adopted an outcome document ("Accelerating Implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, to Build a Sustainable Society for All Ages in Asia and the Pacific"), which contained recommendations for action at the regional and national levels to address the economic and social impacts of population ageing, especially on older women	Three additional ESCAP member States address population ageing and other population and development concerns in policy frameworks and action plans	50 per cent of ESCAP member States have provided input to an online ESCAP repository of policies and data on implementing the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing 20 per cent of member States use the online ESCAP repository, and implement recommendations therein, when drafting new policies, laws, programmes and guidelines on population ageing

Result 2: strengthened national policies and programmes to promote the rights of, and advance the empowerment of, persons with disabilities, including women with disabilities

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.109 The subprogramme's work contributed to the adoption and implementation of policies and programmes to empower persons with disabilities, including women and children with disabilities, by three ESCAP member States (Bhutan, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Philippines), which met the planned target.

19.110 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure (see table 19.24).

Table 19.24
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
Three ESCAP member States (China, India and the Lao People's Democratic Republic) developed and implemented evidence-informed socially inclusive policies to ensure that no one was left behind, in particular in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic	Two ESCAP member States developed and implemented evidence-informed inclusive policies to support persons with disabilities	Three ESCAP member States (Bhutan, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Philippines) adopted and implemented policies and programmes to empower persons with disabilities	Three additional ESCAP member States adopt and implement policies and programmes to empower persons with disabilities	Three ESCAP member States further strengthen their policy frameworks on disability-inclusive development, in particular in the areas of employment, social protection and accessibility

Result 3: advancement of data and guidance for inclusive and evidence-based policy design and implementation to reduce inequality of opportunity and leave no one behind

Proposed programme plan for 2024

19.111 Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the long-term positive trajectory of poverty reduction has seen a deterioration, leaving millions of people in Asia and the Pacific vulnerable and without access to basic services and opportunities that are key for human, social and economic development. The subprogramme has widened the knowledge base, developed a Leave No One Behind policy tool and, through training, strengthened policymakers' capacity to identify those who have been left furthest behind in accessing opportunities or facing barriers to benefiting from nine Sustainable Development Goals.

Lessons learned and planned change

19.112 With the popularity of the Leave No One Behind policy tool widening, the lesson for the subprogramme was that the tool needs to be easily understandable and more user-friendly in order to be employable by a broad range of stakeholders. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will improve the user interface of the data analysis component to facilitate policymakers' use of and access to the tools available to disaggregate and analyse data on the circumstances shared by the population groups left furthest behind. It will provide more capacity-building opportunities for policymakers to fully understand and interpret the results obtained, while offering more advanced training to technical officials, with the purpose of extending the application of the tool to cover additional Sustainable Development Goals and the use of national data sets. The subprogramme will

actively leverage global, regional, subregional and national events and forums to showcase the relevance of its innovative tools and advocate for the design and monitoring of evidence-based inclusive policies that leave no one behind.

19.113 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.25).

Table 19.25
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
–	An interactive and online Leave No One Behind tool was made available for member States to identify the furthest behind groups in relation to 15 Sustainable Development Goal indicators covering nine Goals in more than 25 countries across Asia and the Pacific	Five ESCAP member States (Mongolia, Philippines, Tonga, Turkmenistan and Tuvalu) conducted national training sessions to enhance understanding and use of the Leave No One Behind tool	Three ESCAP member States capitalize on the Leave No One Behind tool to generate their own data and evidence, with a view to informing inclusive policies	20 per cent of ESCAP member States that commit to voluntary national reviews in 2024 use data and evidence generated by the Leave No One Behind tool and that inform inclusive policies

Deliverables

19.114 Table 19.26 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 19.26
Subprogramme 6: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	**7**	**10**	**4**	**5**
Reports for:				
1. The Commission	1	2	1	1
2. The Committee on Social Development	2	4	–	2
3. The fourth regional review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing	2	2	–	–
4. The regional review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (Beijing+30)	–	–	–	2
5. The final review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013–2022	2	2	–	–
6. The Seventh Asian and Pacific Population Conference	–	–	3	–
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	**32**	**34**	**20**	**26**
Meetings of:				
7. The Committee on Social Development	6	6	–	6
8. The fourth regional review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing	6	6	–	–

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*
9. The final review of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2013–2022	6	6	–	–
10. The regional review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (Beijing+30)	–	–	–	6
11. The United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia Thematic Working Group on Gender and Sustainable Development Goals	2	2	2	2
12. The Seventh Asian and Pacific Population Conference	–	–	6	–
13. Expert groups on disability inclusion	4	4	4	–
14. Expert groups on social inclusion	–	–	–	4
15. Expert groups on social policies	4	4	4	4
16. Expert groups on population	4	6	4	4
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	**6**	**9**	**6**	**3**
17. On gender equality	1	3	1	1
18. On population and development	1	2	1	–
19. On disability inclusion	3	3	3	2
20. On inequality	1	1	1	–
Publications (number of publications)	**3**	**3**	**2**	**3**
21. On disability inclusion	1	1	1	–
22. On gender equality	–	–	–	1
23. *Social Outlook for Asia and the Pacific*	1	1	–	1
24. On population and development	1	1	1	–
25. *Asia-Pacific Migration Report 2024*	–	–	–	1
Technical materials (number of materials)	**11**	**11**	**11**	**10**
26. On gender equality	1	1	1	–
27. On disability inclusion	1	1	1	1
28. On population	2	2	2	2
29. On inequality	2	2	2	2
30. Datasheets on population	1	1	1	1
31. On social development	4	4	4	4

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: advisory services for working groups on issues related to social development, including the Issue-Based Coalition on Inclusion and Empowerment; and for the Working Group on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities, 2023–2032.

Databases and substantive digital materials: online databases and resource facilities on social development for regional and global access.

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: United Nations international days, including special events on gender equality, population and disability inclusion.

External and media relations: press releases and op-ed articles on population and development, social protection, disability, and gender equality and the empowerment of women; press interviews and media outreach for major publications and special events.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: web pages on ageing societies, disability-inclusive development, gender equality and women's empowerment, inequality and leaving no one behind, international migration, population and development, social inclusion, social protection and youth empowerment.

Subprogramme 7
Statistics

Objective

19.115 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to improve the availability, accessibility and use of quality data and official statistics in support of sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific.

Strategy

19.116 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will:

(a) Support statistical development in the region, regional cooperation and the formulation of regional positions to advance official statistics in line with existing commitments, including Advancing official statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: a collective vision and framework for action by the Asia-Pacific statistical community, the Declaration on Navigating Policy with Data to Leave No One Behind, and the Ministerial Declaration on Building a More Resilient Future with Inclusive Civil Registration and Vital Statistics;

(b) Provide technical assistance, training and capacity-building support, in collaboration with the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific:

(i) To enhance national statistical capacities to produce, disseminate and communicate statistical products and services, including but not limited to gender-sensitive and sex-disaggregated data and statistics, with an emphasis on those countries left further behind, such as the least developed countries and small island developing States;

(ii) To modernize national statistical systems and empower national statistical offices in the region to benefit from the data sources generated by the various components of national data ecosystems, including administrative data and big data produced and owned by other governmental agencies and the private sector;

(c) Provide statistical products and services, such as the *Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report* and the Asia-Pacific Sustainable Development Goals Gateway, that make regional data and official statistics accessible in order to assess progress in the Asia-Pacific region towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;

(d) Develop and support the production of knowledge products in the form of research papers, working papers, statistics briefs and blogs to raise awareness of and share knowledge and experience relating to official statistics;

(e) Promote cooperation and facilitate consensus-building among member States, regional entities and other partners working in data and statistics through regional and country-specific initiatives. This includes, among other things, advancing the Declaration on Navigating Policy with Data to Leave No One Behind, in cooperation with member States and development partners, which will constitute the foundation for enhanced statistical capacity in Asia and the Pacific;

(f) Expand its work to transform national statistical systems so that they are resilient to future shocks similar to the COVID-19 pandemic, including through virtual platforms, which promote cooperation and consensus-building.

19.117 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a) The improved availability, accessibility and use of quality data and official statistics in support of sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific;

(b) The improved capacity of national statistical systems to review progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Programme performance in 2022

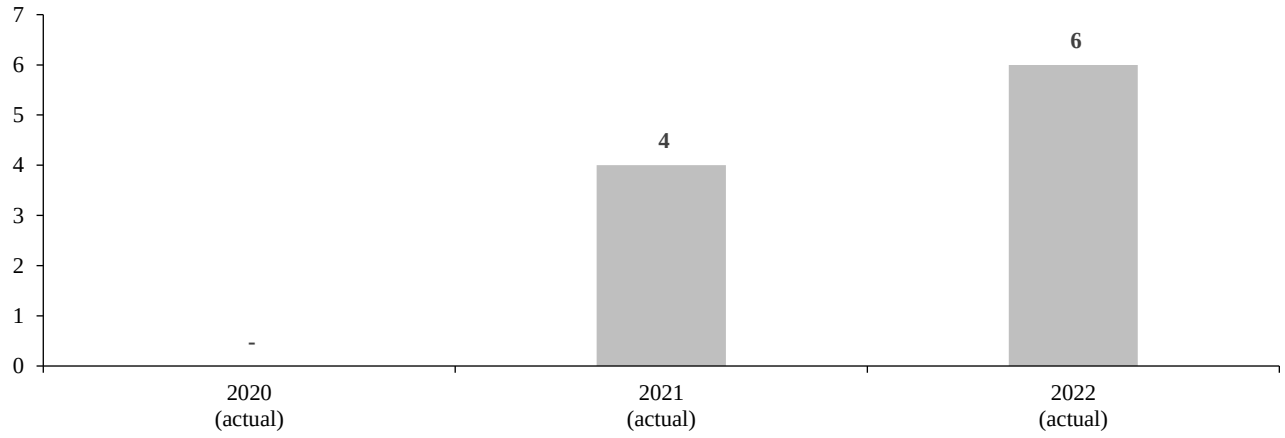
Countries track progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals at the national level

19.118 The subprogramme supported countries in improving their capacity to track the Sustainable Development Goals through technical assistance and knowledge-sharing, thereby providing vital information for policymakers to assess progress and take corrective action where needed at the country level.

19.119 In 2021, the subprogramme launched the National SDG Tacker in selected countries, which has allowed countries to add data, enter national target values and track their progress. Following the launch of the Tracker, the subprogramme provided technical assistance related to national Sustainable Development Goal assessments in Brunei Darussalam, Fiji, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, the Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu and Uzbekistan. Six of these countries have completed the implementation of the Tracker. A side event at the eighth session of the Committee on Statistics provided an opportunity for other countries to learn from the experience of countries adopting the tool. It also provided an opportunity for all countries to exchange views on challenges and concerns regarding the measurement of national progress towards the Goals.

19.120 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 19.VI).

Figure 19.VI
Performance measure: number of countries that have put in place the National SDG Tracker (cumulative)



Planned results for 2024

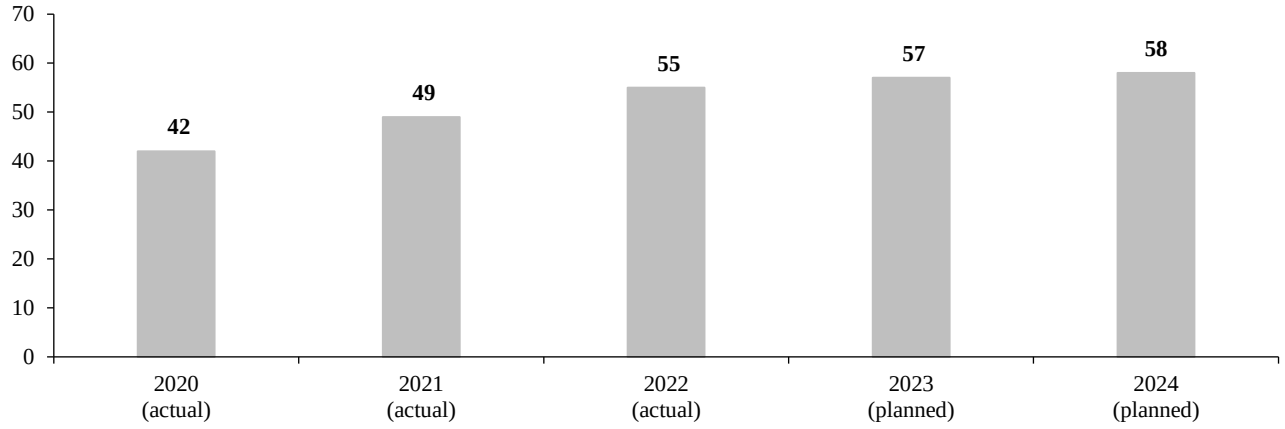
Result 1: Asia-Pacific national statistical systems are better equipped to review progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.121 The subprogramme's work contributed to countries across the region being able to fill data gaps relating to the Sustainable Development Goals, with 55.4 per cent of Goal indicators having sufficient data for the Asia-Pacific region, which exceeded the planned target of 54 per cent.

19.122 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 19.VII).

Figure 19.VII
Performance measure: percentage of Sustainable Development Goal indicators having sufficient data for the Asia-Pacific region (cumulative)



Result 2: enhanced capacity of Asia-Pacific national statistical systems to measure development progress beyond economic growth

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.123 The subprogramme's work contributed to 10 countries (Bangladesh, Cambodia, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Nepal, Palau, Samoa, Thailand and Uzbekistan) demonstrating an enhanced capacity of national statistical systems to measure development progress beyond GDP, including on ocean accounts, ecosystem accounts, disaster-related statistics, climate change and environmental statistics, which met the planned target.

19.124 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.27).

Table 19.27
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
The Committee on Statistics noted with appreciation the increased efforts to compile environmental accounts in the region Eight countries demonstrated enhanced capacity of national statistical systems to measure development progress beyond GDP	13 countries demonstrated enhanced capacity of national statistical systems to measure development progress beyond GDP	10 countries (Bangladesh, Cambodia, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Nepal, Palau, Samoa, Thailand and Uzbekistan) enhanced capacities to measure development progress beyond GDP, including on sustainability, well-being and the environment	11 countries have enhanced capacities to measure development progress beyond GDP	12 countries have enhanced capacities to measure development progress beyond GDP

Result 3: national statistical systems advance the mainstreaming of a gender perspective

Proposed programme plan for 2024

19.125 Gender equality is recognized as essential to the process of sustainable development and to ensuring that no one is left behind in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. Gender statistics and indicators are important tools for promoting gender equality. At its seventh session, the Committee on Statistics decided to "advance the mainstreaming of gender in its work".[4] The Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific held three training courses during 2022 with a specific focus on incorporating a gender perspective in statistics. These courses provided countries with the knowledge and skills for gender mainstreaming in the production of official statistics. In addition, a specific Asia-Pacific Stats Café was held to discuss the issue of women in leadership in official statistics and, following this event, an informal network of female heads of national statistical offices in Asia-Pacific countries was established.

Lessons learned and planned change

19.126 The lesson for the subprogramme was the need to strengthen gender mainstreaming in all aspects of programming, from the leadership of national statistical offices to training and knowledge-sharing. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will share the experiences gained from providing technical assistance to countries to promote gender mainstreaming in statistical work. It also plans to support national statistical offices in ensuring that data on different segments of society, including women and girls, are available to enable countries to monitor and measure the impact on people in vulnerable situations. In particular, the subprogramme will focus on working with national statistical offices to strengthen inclusive data governance frameworks that promote analysis and the use of gender statistics throughout the data value chain.

19.127 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.28).

Table 19.28
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
The seventh session of the Committee on Statistics decided to advance the mainstreaming of gender in its work	Statistical training courses for Asia-Pacific countries integrated a gender perspective	Government statisticians from 35 countries attended training courses on how to integrate a gender perspective in statistics	One national statistical system applies gender mainstreaming in its statistical work	Two national statistical systems apply gender mainstreaming in their statistical work

Deliverables

19.128 Table 19.29 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

[4] ESCAP/CST/2020/6.

Table 19.29
Subprogramme 7: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	**2**	**5**	**1**	**2**
Reports for:				
1. The Commission	1	2	1	1
2. The Committee on Statistics	1	3	–	1
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	**33**	**19**	**23**	**24**
Meetings of:				
3. The Committee on Statistics	6	6	–	6
4. The Governing Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific	3	1	3	3
5. Expert groups on the use of non-traditional and complementary data sources in official statistics	6	4	6	3
6. The Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific	6	2	6	6
7. Expert groups on strengthening national statistical systems for enhanced quality and trust in official statistics	6	2	–	3
8. The technical working group on disaster-related statistics in Asia and the Pacific	6	3	6	2
9. The Regional Steering Group on Population and Social Statistics	–	–	2	–
10. The Steering Group for the Regional Programme for the Improvement of Economic Statistics in Asia and the Pacific	–	1	–	1
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	**5**	**5**	**4**	**4**
11. On statistics	5	5	4	4
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	**13**	**10**	**13**	**13**
12. Seminars on statistics	13	10	13	10
13. Seminars and workshops on gender equality-related statistics and issues	–	–	–	3
Publications (number of publications)	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
14. *Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report*	1	1	1	1
Technical materials (number of materials)	**2**	**2**	**2**	**2**
15. On a variety of official statistics topics	2	2	2	2

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: advisory support for subregional networks on official social, economic and environmental statistics.

Databases and substantive digital materials: ESCAP statistical database accessible at the regional and global levels; database on statistical training materials and resources.

D. Communication deliverables

External and media relations: press releases and op-ed articles on improving the availability, accessibility and use of quality data and official statistics in support of sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific; press interviews for major publications and events.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: multimedia promotional content and web pages on investment and user engagement, skills development, quality assurance and trust in statistics, statistical business process modernization and integrated statistics and analysis.

Subprogramme 8
Subregional activities for development

Component 1
Subregional activities for development in the Pacific

Objective

19.129 The objective, to which component 1 of the subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen regional cooperation and integration for sustainable development, in line with the subregional priorities of the Pacific, which include building resilience against natural disasters and climate change to reduce vulnerabilities and to improve socioeconomic conditions.

Strategy

19.130 To contribute to the objective, the component will be guided by the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries. In particular, it will:

(a) Provide subregional and in-country capacity development support in the area of ocean accounts using the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting and data standards under the Global Ocean Accounts Partnership, in cooperation with subprogramme 7;

(b) Provide technical assistance to member States and create knowledge-exchange opportunities between member States and civil society to develop nationally appropriate indicator frameworks and promote women's economic empowerment, social protection and disability policies, in cooperation with subprogramme 6;

(c) Provide technical assistance and advisory services with regard to addressing the socioeconomic challenges of the subregion and devising appropriate recovery responses through national frameworks for Sustainable Development Goal financing and regional cooperation on transboundary issues, in line with the outcomes of relevant assessments;

(d) Organize annual meetings and facilitate dialogues on sustainable development, including a subregional forum on sustainable development, among government officials, civil society, experts and other stakeholders, and on the sharing of information on subregional implementation efforts;

(e) Promote coordination with and collaboration among subregional intergovernmental organizations and member States for an effective representation of subregional perspectives at regional and global consultations, and provide implementation support for the Commission's subprogrammes relating to the subregion's priorities;

(f) Advance the Pacific Road Map for Sustainable Development and serve as the focal point for the Commission's engagement with the resident coordinator system and United Nations country teams, including through substantive assistance in preparing common country assessments and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks, in particular with regard to the transboundary dimensions of sustainable development, and assist country-level programming by providing subregional perspectives and access to regional networks and facilitating South-South and triangular cooperation;

(g) Strengthen coordination with Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and other Council of Regional Organizations of the Pacific agencies in the Pacific to deliver the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent in line with the 2030 Agenda.

19.131 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a) Improved data availability for evidence-based policymaking on climate-resilient development;

(b) Strengthened capacity of member States to implement and monitor the 2030 Agenda while ensuring that no one is left behind and that development activities address socioeconomic conditions and reach people in vulnerable situations;

(c) Stronger subregional cooperation to address transboundary issues;

(d) Advanced inclusive economic development in the Pacific subregion.

Programme performance in 2022

Strengthened cooperation of Pacific small island developing States on debt sustainability

19.132 Existing debt and fiscal sustainability challenges facing Pacific small island developing States have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, with increasing fiscal deficits leading to heightened debt stress for the majority of these States, which affects sovereign debt risk.

19.133 To address these challenges, the component contributed to delivering the Pacific Regional Debt Conference in April 2022, co-hosted by the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and co-convened by the Government of Fiji (Chair of the Pacific Islands Forum) and the Government of Tuvalu (Chair of the Forum Economic Ministers Meeting). Work involved preparing a technical assessment on the debt and fiscal sustainability challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic, developing a contextualized agenda with high-level speakers from government, civil society, the private sector, development partners and academia and bringing together the perspectives of both debtors and creditors to discuss policy options for increasing fiscal space.

19.134 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.30).

Table 19.30
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*
Economic ministers from the subregion recognized that debt and fiscal risks posed by the impact of COVID-19 pandemic had put a strain on the fiscal resources of Pacific small island developing States	Based on the results of an impact assessment, the Pacific Islands Forum Economic Ministers Meeting requested technical support to convene a debt conference for the Pacific	The Pacific Islands Forum Economic Ministers Meeting called for the development of a subregional mechanism to engage with development partners on debt sustainability in the Pacific

Planned results for 2024

Result 1: Pacific small island developing States strengthen their capacity for socioeconomic recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.135 The component's work contributed to three member States (Marshall Islands, Samoa and Solomon Islands) developing new or improved national policies and frameworks for social protection and sustainable development financing, which met the planned target.

19.136 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.31).

Table 19.31
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
Pacific member States strengthened their commitment to expanding and strengthening social protection systems	Two member States (Samoa and Cook Islands) developed social protection measures to address socioeconomic challenges in the context of COVID-19 recovery	Three member States (Marshall Islands, Samoa and Solomon Islands) developed new or improved national policies and frameworks for social protection and sustainable development financing	Implementation of the new and improved national policies, strategies, planning systems and frameworks by three member States	Pacific member States share good practices and lessons learned to overcome socioeconomic challenges

Result 2: Pacific small island developing States strengthen regional cooperation in addressing transboundary issues and building resilience

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.137 The component's work contributed to one member State (Tuvalu) formulating a national strategy to address climate- and disaster-related resilience and reduce vulnerabilities, which aligned with regional priorities, which met the planned target.

19.138 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.32).

Table 19.32
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
–	Pacific island countries considered the development of a regional strategy to address the regional priorities on climate- and disaster-related resilience and reduce vulnerabilities	One member State (Tuvalu) formulated a national strategy to address climate- and disaster-related resilience and reduce vulnerabilities, which aligned with regional priorities	One additional country formulates a national strategy to address climate- and disaster-related resilience and reduce vulnerabilities, which aligns with regional priorities	An increased number of Pacific member States join agreed regional frameworks to address transboundary issues related to climate and disaster resilience

Result 3: advancing implementation of the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent for Pacific small island developing States

Proposed programme plan for 2024

19.139 Pacific Islands Forum leaders, in 2022, endorsed the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent as the overarching blueprint for advancing the interests of the Pacific region for the next three decades, articulating the region's long-term vision, values and key thematic areas and strategic pathways. The component has been providing expert advice on economic policy development and knowledge products on building resilience to contribute to the process of strategy development.

Lessons learned and planned change

19.140 The lesson for the component was that it was required to strengthen implementation modalities for sustainable economic development through the plans and strategies of Council of Regional Organizations of the Pacific agencies, such as the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent. Furthermore, it needed to effectively align socioeconomic policy analysis with the Pacific development architecture to enhance the timely delivery of subregional and in-country support, where applicable, with other United Nations agencies, funds and programmes. In applying the lesson, the component, in partnership with the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, other agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations of the Pacific and the United Nations development system will assist in developing the Pacific Road Map for Economic Development. The component will further provide policy advice and technical support to develop resilient and inclusive economic and financing strategies and pathways for advancing sustainable economic prosperity in the Pacific through regional cooperation and collaboration, in cooperation with subprogrammes 1–6 and 9.

19.141 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.33).

Table 19.33
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
–	–	Pacific Islands Forum leaders endorsed the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent	Pacific small island developing States develop and adopt a regional framework/plan for one of the thematic areas of the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, including a regional framework on the Pacific Road Map for Economic Development	Pacific small island developing States commence implementation of the regional framework/plan as endorsed by Pacific Islands Forum leaders

Deliverables

19.142 Table 19.34 lists all deliverables of the component.

Table 19.34
Component 1: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
1. Report for the Commission	1	1	1	1
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	**8**	**8**	**8**	**8**
Meetings of:				
2. Expert groups on policy and programme options to address emerging sustainable development issues in the Pacific	4	4	4	4
3. The Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development	4	4	4	4

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	**3**	**5**	**2**	**2**
4. On institutional programmatic priorities of ESCAP in the Pacific	–	1	1	1
5. On economic and social development	3	4	1	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	**–**	**–**	**2**	**2**
6. On sustainable development and building resilience in the Pacific	–	–	2	2
Publications (number of publications)	**1**	**1**	**–**	**–**
7. On sustainable development in the Pacific	1	1	–	–
Technical materials (number of materials)	–	**–**	**1**	**1**
8. On regional cooperation and sustainable development in the Pacific	–	–	1	1
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: expert advice to member States in the subregion to strengthen regional cooperation and integration for sustainable development and to build resilience against natural disasters and climate change to reduce vulnerabilities and improve socioeconomic conditions.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: newsletter with updates related to the Sustainable Development Goals in the Pacific.				
External and media relations: press releases and op-ed articles.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: web pages of the component.				

Component 2
Subregional activities for development in East and North-East Asia

Objective

19.143 The objective, to which component 2 of the subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen regional cooperation and integration for sustainable development, in line with the subregional priorities of East and North-East Asia, which includes sustainable connectivity, environmental sustainability and innovation for inclusive and resilient societies.

Strategy

19.144 To contribute to the objective, the component will:

(a) Facilitate multisectoral dialogues and promote knowledge-sharing among member States on sustainable development, trade, transport, energy and ICT connectivity, as well as on emerging technologies and their deployment in priority sectors, through regional and subregional platforms, including the North-East Asia Regional Power Interconnection and Cooperation Forum, the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation and the North-East Asia Clean Air Partnership;

(b) Support the implementation of a road map for sustainable power connectivity and promote intergovernmental processes for sustainable connectivity, environmental sustainability and innovation in East and North-East Asia;

(c) Develop knowledge products and foster peer-to-peer exchanges on inclusive science, technology and innovation policies and programmes with a focus on people in vulnerable situations, including on ageing societies, disaster resilience and gender equality in the technology industry;

(d) Identify and promote innovative approaches to facilitate cross-border connectivity, including contactless cross-border trade and transport solutions, and cross-border data exchanges between railway and customs authorities, with a particular focus on Mongolia as the only landlocked developing country in North-East Asia;

(e) Build the capacity of member States on the above-mentioned focus areas and promote coordination with and collaboration among subregional intergovernmental organizations and member States for an effective representation of subregional perspectives at regional and global consultations;

(f) Provide implementation support for the Commission's subprogrammes relating to the subregion's priorities and serve as the focal point for the Commission's engagement with the resident coordinator system and United Nations country teams, including through substantive assistance with regard to preparing common country assessments and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks, in particular with regard to the transboundary dimensions of sustainable development, and assist country-level programming by providing subregional perspectives and access to regional networks and facilitating South-South and triangular cooperation.

19.145 These work streams will help member States make progress towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 3, 5, 7, 9–11, 13–15 and 17.

19.146 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a) Policy coherence and the integration of connectivity initiatives among member States, for example, with regard to trade and transport facilitation;

(b) Coordinated actions among stakeholders and Governments to counter common environmental challenges, including air pollution, and to promote low greenhouse gas emissions;

(c) Improved use of science, technology and innovation in building inclusive and resilient societies in the subregion, including resilience to natural and human-caused disasters;

(d) More effective formulation and implementation of policies and strategies consistent with the 2030 Agenda, including through the North-East Asia Multi-stakeholder Forums on the Sustainable Development Goals;

(e) Enhanced collaboration among Governments, the United Nations, subregional organizations and other stakeholders to address priority challenges in the subregion.

Programme performance in 2022

National officials engage in the prospective development of dry ports in Mongolia

19.147 Disruptions caused by the pandemic highlighted the potential of inland intermodal facilities such as dry ports to efficiently meet supply chain requirements and shorten the amount of time needed to get goods to markets. Port infrastructure, including dry ports, is also a key element of the economic corridor programme involving China, Mongolia and the Russian Federation. To support the implementation of the economic corridor programme, Mongolia established the Investment Research Centre. In 2019, Mongolia requested the technical assistance of ESCAP in building the Centre's capacity, including with regard to improving knowledge on dry ports.

19.148 The component organized workshops in 2020 and early 2021 on effective corridor management, with a focus on the development of dry ports. The component also developed a dry ports learning module covering the basic concepts and functions of dry ports, as well as guiding principles and a regional framework in line with the Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports. In 2022, the component conducted a study on dry ports which provided the first-ever comprehensive technical assessment of seven dry port locations in Mongolia and recommendations for seamless connections to seaports in China and the Russian Federation. The component organized a technical consultation during which officials from China, Mongolia and the Russian Federation deliberated on the study's recommendations.

19.149 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.35).

Table 19.35
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*
Strengthened awareness of the Government of Mongolia of the basic concepts, guiding principles and regional frameworks on dry port development	During the fourth meeting of the Working Group on Dry Ports, Mongolia noted the continued need to develop its knowledge and capacity on dry ports	National officials from China, Mongolia and the Russian Federation engaged in the prospective development of dry ports based on a comprehensive technical assessment of dry ports in Mongolia

Planned results for 2024

Result 1: improved subregional power grid connectivity in East and North-East Asia

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.150 The component's work contributed to three member States (China, Mongolia and Republic of Korea) expressing their support for the North-East Asia road map on power system connectivity at the North-East Asia Regional Power Interconnection and Cooperation Forum, which met the planned target.

19.151 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.36).

Table 19.36
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
Member States strengthened their awareness and understanding of potential strategies for improving connectivity	Member States strengthened their awareness and understanding of the technical and regulatory requirements for power interconnections using renewable sources of energy	Three member States (China, Mongolia and Republic of Korea) expressed their support for the North-East Asia road map on power system connectivity at the North-East Asia Regional Power Interconnection and Cooperation Forum	One of six member States begins implementing the North-East Asia road map on power system connectivity	One additional member State begins implementing the North-East Asia road map on power system connectivity

Result 2: enhanced multilateral and multi-stakeholder cooperation for climate action in East and North-East Asia

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.152 The component's work contributed to the engagement of government officials and other stakeholders, including marine protected area networks, cities and city networks, in subregional cooperation on climate action in East and North-East Asia, such as at the International Forum on

Low-Carbon Cities, which was attended by around 450 participants, including those from 10 cities and 12 city networks working on city-led climate action, which met the planned target.

19.153 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.37).

Table 19.37
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
Member States adopted the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation Strategic Plan 2021–2025 for subregional collaboration containing five priority areas: air pollution; biodiversity and nature conservation; marine protected areas; low carbon cities; and desertification and land degradation	The first International Forum on Low-Carbon Cities convened governments, international organizations, regional city networks, academia and research institutions to advance multi-stakeholder cooperation on climate action	Government officials and other stakeholders engaged in subregional cooperation on climate action in East and North-East Asia	Midterm evaluation of the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation Strategic Plan 2021–2025 demonstrates an increase in subregional collaboration on environmental protection and climate action	Member States increase joint activities on environmental protection and climate action in the subregion

Result 3: strengthened collaboration for monitoring and addressing air pollution in East and North-East Asia

Proposed programme plan for 2024

19.154 As deteriorating air quality has become a pressing concern in North-East Asia, countries have been making efforts to reduce air pollution. In 2018, for example, member States launched the North-East Asia Clean Air Partnership to ensure protection of the environment and human health from air pollution. The Partnership serves as a voluntary framework for addressing air pollution, covering multiple pollutants. The component has been supporting member States in building their capacity to monitor and model air pollutants and facilitating dialogues for subregional cooperation in addressing air pollution.

Lessons learned and planned change

19.155 The lesson for the component was that there were opportunities to further leverage its convening power to build trust among members to identify the next steps in advancing collaboration to address air pollution in North-East Asia. In applying the lesson, the component will take a step-by-step approach, first consulting with member States on their priorities and then fostering a common understanding with the aim of implementing joint activities on air pollution and in support of the Regional Action Programme on Air Pollution. It plans to utilize national focal points of the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation and the Science and Policy Committee of the North-East Asia Clean Air Partnership in formulating recommendations on addressing air pollution in North-East Asia to the Senior Officials Meeting for its decision-making.

19.156 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.38).

Table 19.38
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
Member States adopted the workplan for 2021–2025 of the North-East Asia Clean Air Partnership to enhance collaboration on air pollution in North-East Asia	The Science and Policy Committee of the North-East Asia Clean Air Partnership recommended joint activities under the workplan	Member States approved the plan to publish a policy analysis report on air pollution in 2023 and organize two policy dialogues by 2024	Midterm evaluation of the workplan for 2021–2025 reflects the strengthened collaboration of member States in addressing air pollution	Two joint activities of member States on addressing air pollution are approved or initiated

Deliverables

19.157 Table 19.39 lists all deliverables of the component.

Table 19.39
Component 2: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
1. Report for the Commission	1	1	1	1
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	**11**	**10**	**9**	**9**
Meetings of:				
2. Expert groups on policy and programme options to address emerging economic and social development issues in East and North-East Asia	4	4	2	2
3. Senior officials of the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation	3	2	3	3
4. The North-East Asian Multi-stakeholder Forum on Sustainable Development Goals	4	4	4	4
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	**4**	**6**	**4**	**4**
5. On institutional programmatic priorities of ESCAP in East and North-East Asia	3	5	3	3
6. North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation	1	1	1	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	**–**	**–**	**2**	**2**
7. On transport and energy connectivity	–	–	1	1
8. On science, technology and innovation for low-carbon and low-emissions and resilient cities and on North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation-related events	–	–	1	1
Publications (number of publications)	**–**	**–**	**–**	**1**
9. On digital literacy among older persons in North-East Asia	**–**	–	–	1
Technical materials (number of materials)	**–**	**–**	**2**	**1**
10. On technology and social issues	–	–	2	1

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: expert advice to member States of the subregion on sustainable connectivity, environmental sustainability and innovation for inclusive and resilient societies; side events at the Commission session.

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: newsletters, infographics and side activities on major events on sustainable connectivity, environmental sustainability and innovation for inclusive and resilient societies.

External and media relations: press releases and op-ed articles on sustainable connectivity, environmental sustainability and innovation for inclusive and resilient societies; press interviews for major publications and events.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: web page of the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation; web pages on environmental sustainability, strengthening intraregional connectivity and innovation for resilient and inclusive societies.

Component 3
Subregional activities for development in North and Central Asia

Objective

19.158 The objective, to which component 3 of the subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen regional cooperation and integration for sustainable development, in line with the subregional priorities of North and Central Asia, including sustainable connectivity, economic transformation, and social inclusion and resilience, and through follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda.

Strategy

19.159 To contribute to the objective, the component will:

(a) Provide secretariat support to and coordinate the seven thematic working groups of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia to ensure that priorities emanating from the Governing Council and the Economic Forum of the Special Programme regarding trade facilitation, innovation and technology, transport, energy and digital connectivity, innovative financing and investment tools and environmental sustainability are incorporated into their workplans, and that discussions held in the working groups contribute to the deliberations of the Governing Council and the Economic Forum;

(b) Coordinate high-level dialogues and working meetings to support the implementation of the road map for the accelerated implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action in the remaining five years;

(c) Support member States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by providing policy advice and technical assistance on subregional connectivity, gender equality and women's economic empowerment, and climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies, helping member States make progress towards achieving Goals 5, 10 and 13;

(d) Organize annual meetings and facilitate dialogues on sustainable development, including a subregional forum on sustainable development, among government officials, civil society, experts and other stakeholders, and on the exchange of information on subregional implementation efforts, helping member States review progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal 17;

(e) Support voluntary national review processes at the request of member States, including the voluntary national review twinning programme, and build human and institutional capacity for sustainable and resilient development, in line with the 2030 Agenda;

(f) Further support cooperation with subregional intergovernmental organizations and institutions such as the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Eurasian Economic Commission and the Eurasian Development Bank for an effective representation of subregional perspectives at regional and global consultations;

(g) Provide implementation support for the Commission's subprogrammes relating to the subregion's priorities and serve as the focal point for the Commission's engagement with the resident coordinator system and United Nations country teams, including through substantive assistance in preparing common country assessments and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks, in particular with regard to the transboundary dimensions of sustainable development, and assist country-level programming by providing subregional perspectives and access to regional networks and facilitating South-South and triangular cooperation.

19.160 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a) Enhanced application by member States of, evidence-based solutions for, and strengthened subregional cooperation on, programmes to improve trade and transport facilitation as well as energy and digital connectivity;

(b) The adoption of policy options for economic transformation in the subregion;

(c) Increased knowledge-sharing in cooperation with intergovernmental organizations and bodies;

(d) Increased skills and knowledge on digital connectivity and digital transformation in the subregion as a driver to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

Programme performance in 2022

Enhanced structural economic transformation through policy advice and dialogue

19.161 The landlocked countries of Central Asia, located between the three large consumer markets of Europe, South Asia and China, have undergone significant economic transformation as a result of the adoption of market-oriented policies over the years. Nevertheless, economic growth in the subregion has slowed in recent years and widening inequalities were observed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and increasing geopolitical tension. Special attention is needed to support those economies towards sustainable and equitable development, including through continued structural economic transformation and greater connectivity, so that countries are better able to gain access to neighbouring consumer markets.

19.162 To support member States in implementing structural economic transformation strategies in their national plans, the component organized a North and Central Asia multi-stakeholder forum to review progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, including Goals 7, 9 and 11. Member States recognized the need to leverage digitization and innovation as a means of advancing economic and social transformation and the need to strengthen policy measures to build an inclusive and resilient post-pandemic society. The component facilitated exchanges among experts and member States on the implementation of policy recommendations for environmentally friendly economic development through a dedicated expert group meeting and the 2022 Economic Forum of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia.

19.163 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.40).

Table 19.40
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*
Member States recognized, at the 2020 Economic Forum of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia, that a more integrated approach to structural economic transformation was needed for efficient socioeconomic development with a view to achieving the Goals	Member States in the subregion recognized structural economic transformation as one of the key drivers for accelerating progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals	Two member States (Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan) implemented structural transformation policies as part of their strategies to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic

Planned results for 2024

Result 1: strengthened sustainable subregional connectivity

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.164 The component's work contributed to two member States initiating measures to enhance subregional connectivity, which led to the consideration by member States in the subregion of options relating to the operating modalities of the digital solutions centre in Kazakhstan, and the development of a plan by Uzbekistan on the thematic scope of the regional centre for the development of transport and communication interconnection, which exceeded the planned target.

19.165 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.41).

Table 19.41
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
–	Two member States (Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan) initiated measures to enhance subregional connectivity	Options relating to the operating modalities of the digital solutions centre in Kazakhstan by were considered by member States Uzbekistan developed a plan on the thematic scope of the regional centre for the development of transport and communication interconnection, with the support of ESCAP	Policymakers from two member States enhance their skills and knowledge to advance digital technologies to further develop the sustainability of connectivity	New and/or revised policies and initiatives on connectivity in the subregion are adopted

Result 2: enhanced subregional cooperation on the use of new technologies for improving railway operational performance

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.166 The component's work contributed to 92 per cent of policymakers from Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan reporting an increase in awareness of new technologies to increase the efficiency of rail transport, which met the planned target.

19.167 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.42).

Table 19.42
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
Border crossings were facilitated by paper-based documentation and customs clearance software with low interoperability	Available data on border crossings indicated 39 per cent of transit time in trans-Eurasian transportation was related to customs clearance and documentation formalities	92 per cent of policymakers from Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan reported an increase in awareness of new technologies to increase the efficiency of rail transport	Policymakers adopt policy recommendations on strengthening regional cooperation for improving railway operational performance	Policymakers review and align railway operation standards for the further implementation of digital transformation for resilient and competitive railway operation

Result 3: landlocked developing countries advance the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 and the new programme of action beyond 2024

Proposed programme plan for 2024

19.168 The comprehensive High-level Midterm Review on the Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, held in 2019, revealed that accelerated action by landlocked developing countries was required to achieve the Vienna Programme of Action targets. At the request of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries, a road map for the accelerated implementation of the Programme of Action was developed. The road map identified transit, trade and transport facilitation, energy and ICT, and structural economic transformation as the priority areas that required urgent focus.

19.169 In the subregion, seven out of nine member States are landlocked developing countries. The component has been providing support to these countries in the above priority areas. For instance, the component facilitated the participation of policymakers in subregional expert group meetings to discuss the alignment of member States' national development plans with the road map and identify development gaps in each priority area.

Lessons learned and planned change

19.170 The lesson for the component was that dedicated technical support and advice to the countries of the subregion could help to further advance the implementation of the road map and the 2030 Agenda. In applying the lesson, the component will offer additional peer-learning opportunities and coordinate the interventions of ESCAP subprogrammes with the aim of identifying practical advice and complementary actions for implementing the Vienna Programme of Action and achieving its targets. The component will do so by working closely with the resident coordinator offices in the

subregion and by engaging United Nations agencies and development organizations. Concerning its analytical contribution, the component plans to work in tandem with the International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries. It will also provide technical support to the landlocked developing countries of the subregion for the Euro-Asian regional review leading to the global review of the Vienna Programme of Action in 2024.

19.171 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.43).

Table 19.43
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
–	–	Landlocked developing countries in the subregion agreed to strengthen collaboration in developing transport and transit corridors, facilitating energy transit and promoting digital inclusion	One initiative or measure is implemented through the joint efforts of landlocked developing countries in the subregion, in line with the priority areas recommended in the road map	Four countries in the subregion report progress towards reaching the targets of the Vienna Programme of Action

Deliverables

19.172 Table 19.44 lists all deliverables of the component.

Table 19.44
Component 3: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
1. Report for the Commission	1	1	1	1
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	**12**	**12**	**12**	**12**
Meetings of:				
2. The Governing Council of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia	1	1	1	1
3. The Economic Forum of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia	3	4	3	3
4. Expert groups on policy and programme options to address emerging economic and social development issues in North and Central Asia	4	3	4	4
5. The subregional forum on the Sustainable Development Goals in North and Central Asia	4	4	4	4
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	**1**	**1**	**1**	–
6. On regional cooperation and integration for the landlocked and transit developing countries	1	1	1	–

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*
Technical materials (number of materials)	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
7. On regional cooperation and integration for the landlocked and transit developing countries	1	1	1	1

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: advocacy with member States of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia on regional and subregional priority issues; side events for member States and regional organizations at the annual session of the Commission.

D. Communication deliverables

External and media relations: press releases and op-ed articles on sustainable connectivity, economic transformation, social inclusion and resilience, and follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda; press interviews for major events.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: web pages on sustainable connectivity, economic transformation, social inclusion and resilience, the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia and the review of the 2030 Agenda.

Component 4
Subregional activities for development in South and South-West Asia

Objective

19.173 The objective, to which component 4 of the subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen regional cooperation and integration for sustainable development, in line with the subregional priorities of South and South-West Asia, including sustainable connectivity, women's economic empowerment and the sustainable graduation of the least developed countries.

Strategy

19.174 To contribute to the objective, the component will:

(a) Prepare analytical papers and provide technical assistance on sustainable transport, energy, ICT and trade and investment facilitation to advance transboundary connectivity among countries of the subregion, including the landlocked developing countries, in alignment with the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 and the road map for its accelerated implementation, and to prepare graduating least developed countries for post-graduation challenges;

(b) Provide tailored analytical support, policy advice and technical assistance to member States and other stakeholders, upon request, including on transboundary connectivity in transport, energy, ICT and supply chains, women's economic empowerment and disaster risk reduction to ensure that development challenges can be met in a coherent manner;

(c) Convene subregional consultations on the Sustainable Development Goals, including through the South Asia Network on the Sustainable Development Goals, to facilitate the sharing of good practices and the articulation of subregional perspectives that contribute to the relevant ESCAP knowledge products and forums, such as the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development and the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

(d) Promote coordination with and collaboration among subregional intergovernmental organizations and member States for an effective representation of subregional perspectives at regional and global consultations;

(e) Serve as the focal point for the Commission's engagement with the resident coordinator system and United Nations country teams, including through substantive assistance in preparing common country assessments and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks, in particular with regard to the transboundary dimensions of sustainable

development, and assist country-level programming by providing subregional perspectives, access to regional networks and facilitating South-South and triangular cooperation;

(f) Forge partnerships with other United Nations entities, multilateral and bilateral development agencies, and civil society organizations in common areas of work, for enhanced impact in supporting member States towards their achievement of the Goals;

(g) Deepen linkages and synergies with other ESCAP subprogrammes and components in common areas of work, for enhanced harmonization and coherence in the delivery of assistance to member States.

19.175 The above-mentioned work will help member States make progress towards achieving Goals 1, 5, 7–10, 12, 13 and 17.

19.176 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a) The smooth and sustainable transition of countries graduating from least developed country status in South Asia;

(b) Enhanced connectivity in the subregion, especially for landlocked developing countries and least developed countries;

(c) Strengthened capacity of member States, especially least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, to reduce the risk of disasters, including those induced by climate change;

(d) The exchange of experiences and best practices between governments, civil society, academia/think tanks, the private sector, United Nations agencies, subregional organizations and other international organizations and financial institutions to bridge knowledge gaps for addressing the Sustainable Development Goals.

Programme performance in 2022

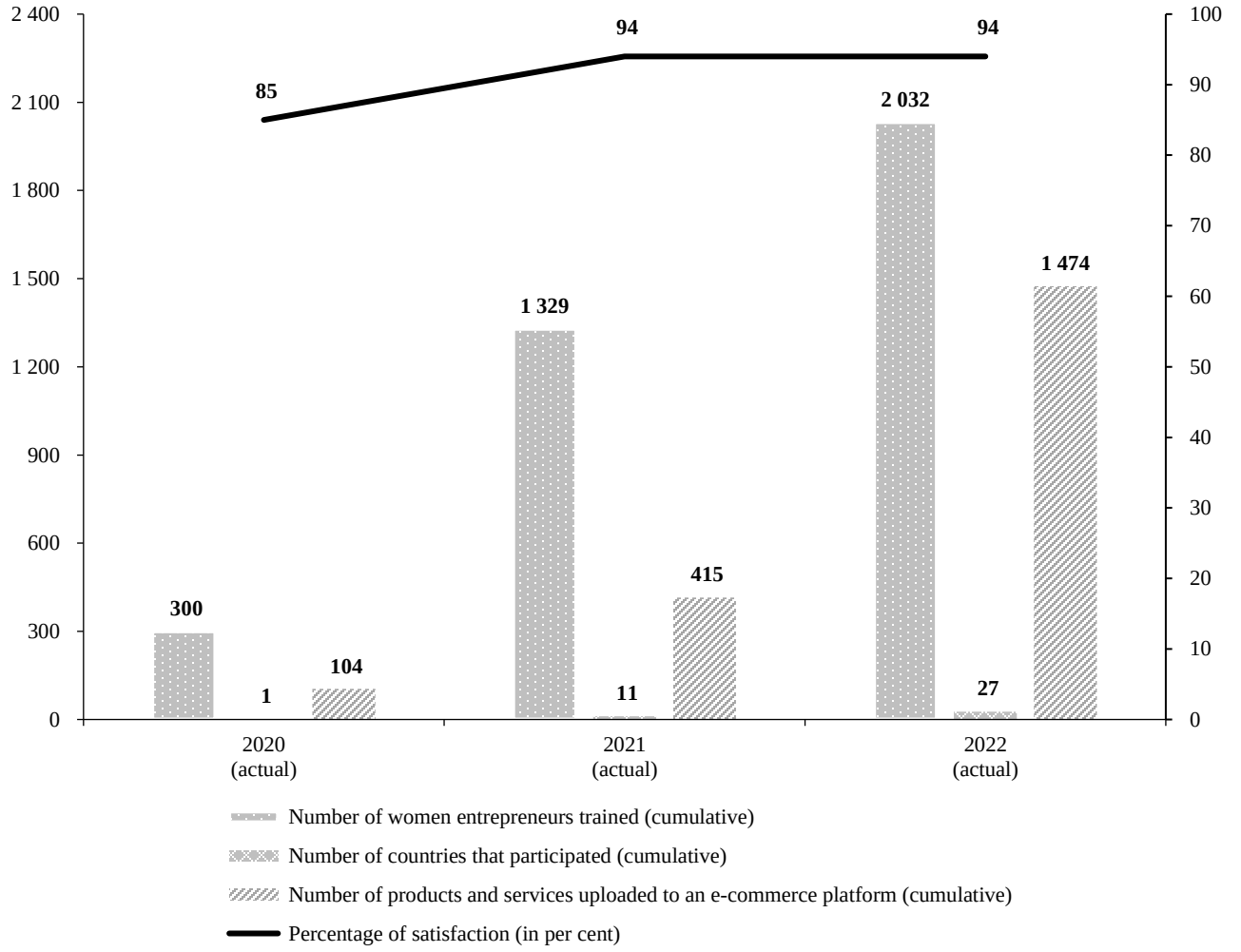
Increased participation of women entrepreneurs in local, regional and global supply chains in South and South-West Asia

19.177 To bolster the skills and knowledge of women entrepreneurs to utilize e-commerce to expand their businesses, the component introduced a training initiative on e-commerce and digital marketing targeted at women entrepreneurs of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in South and South-West Asia in 2019. The component developed manuals, training modules and an e-commerce training portal, and integrated hands-on practical sessions with real-time support and peer exchange through the creation and facilitation of networking groups on social messaging applications. Training and networking also focused on creating opportunities for integration into local, regional and global supply chains.

19.178 In 2022, due to the success of the initative, the component was requested by the Governments of Bhutan and Sri Lanka and the State government of Karnataka, India, to conduct such training for their women entrepreneurs and officials on a State-sponsored basis. In addition, the Commonwealth partnered with the component to expand the training initiative interregionally to include women entrepreneurs in other Asia-Pacific subregions and the African continent.

19.179 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 19.VIII).

Figure 19.VIII
Performance measure: number of women entrepreneurs in South and South-West Asia benefiting from support to engage in e-commerce and digital marketing and participate in local, regional and global supply chains



Planned results for 2024

Result 1: think tanks in South Asian least developed countries improve their capacity for evidence-based policy analysis to support policymaking to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.180 The component's work contributed to a think tank in Afghanistan and a think tank in Bhutan providing inputs to, and holding informed debates on, strategies for accelerating the achievement of the Goals at meetings of the South Asia Network on the Sustainable Development Goals, and a think tank engaging policymakers from the Government of Bhutan at a policy dialogue on supporting the development and implementation of the country's thirteenth five-year plan, which met the planned target.

19.181 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.45).

Table 19.45
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
Engagement of emerging think tanks in Afghanistan and Bhutan with established counterparts in other South Asian countries in addressing the policy challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic to accelerating the achievement of the Goals	A think tank in Afghanistan advanced the use of analytical tools in research and analysis to gauge progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals	A think tank in Afghanistan and a think tank in Bhutan provided inputs to, and held debates on, strategies for accelerating the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and sustainable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic at meetings of the South Asia Network on the Sustainable Development Goals A think tank engaged policymakers from the Government of Bhutan at a policy dialogue on supporting the development and implementation of that country's thirteenth five-year plan	The think tank in Bhutan provides policy inputs in developing strategies for its achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals	Enhanced peer learning on developing strategies towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals is enabled by think tanks in Bhutan sharing experiences and expertise with other think tanks in South and South-West Asia

Result 2: increased integration of disaster risk-related analysis in national and local planning in countries of South and South-West Asia

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.182 The component's work contributed to the identification of existing gaps in disaster risk management, including with regard to data availability, by disaster management authorities in Maldives through the use of customized techniques, database development and data collection, which met the planned target.

19.183 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.46).

Table 19.46
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
–	Evidence-based approaches to disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation are not yet institutionalized and operationalized in a practical manner	Disaster management authorities in Maldives identified existing gaps in disaster risk management through the use of customized planning tools, database development and data collection	Policymakers from two countries in South Asia use customized planning tools, techniques and guidelines to facilitate the undertaking of disaster risk-related analyses for national and local planning purposes	Enhanced peer learning on improving disaster risk resilience is enabled by two countries in South Asia sharing their expertise in undertaking disaster risk-related analyses for planning purposes with other countries in South and South-West Asia

Result 3: improved flow of goods and services at border crossing points in Eastern South Asia

Proposed programme plan for 2024

19.184 Eastern South Asia contains extensive land linkages between Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal, with more than 5,437 km of shared border, which offer the potential for expanded economic linkages and exchanges at border crossing points and the improvement of livelihoods for people residing in those areas. However, the flow of goods and services at border crossing points can be hampered due to limited transboundary connectivity in transport, energy, ICT and supply chains, which stems from infrastructural, regulatory, procedural and other bottlenecks. The component conducted a scoping mission to Shillong, India, in 2022 to ascertain the nature and extent of barriers to connectivity in that area.

Lessons learned and planned change

19.185 The lesson for the component was that it could further enhance its engagement with all relevant stakeholders concerning the flow of goods and services at border crossing points, including national and local State authorities; civil society, including community organizations; businesses; and development partners, as well as strengthen the assessment of existing policies, regulations, practices and norms that have an impact on the flow of goods and services at border crossing points and the opportunities and challenges related to enhancing transboundary connectivity in those areas. In applying the lesson, the component will undertake a comprehensive mapping of stakeholders, the legal framework and the socioeconomic environment and conditions of selected border crossing points in Eastern South Asia and conduct a detailed analysis of the enablers of and barriers to promoting transboundary connectivity at these points. Thereafter, the component will convene stakeholders to jointly explore avenues for improving transboundary connectivity and the flow of goods and services at these border crossing points and forge a consensus, including the prioritization of specific action points, on the way forward.

19.186 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.47).

Table 19.47
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
–	–	The flow of goods and services at border crossing points in Eastern South Asia is hampered due to limited transboundary connectivity in transport, energy, ICT and supply chains in those localities	Two member States express interest in working jointly to improve the transboundary flow of goods and services at border crossing points in Eastern South Asia	Stakeholders of at least one border crossing point in Eastern South Asia reach a shared understanding of the bottlenecks to be mitigated for enhanced transboundary connectivity and the flow of goods and services

Deliverables

19.187 Table 19.48 lists all deliverables of the component.

Table 19.48
Component 4: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
1. Report for the Commission	1	1	1	1
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	**6**	**6**	**6**	**4**
Meetings of:				
2. Expert groups on policy and programme options to address emerging sustainable development issues in South and South-West Asia	2	1	2	–
3. The South and South-West Asia Forum on the Sustainable Development Goals	4	5	4	4
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	**1**	**3**	**2**	**1**
4. On institutional programmatic priorities of ESCAP in South and South-West Asia	1	3	2	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	**–**	**–**	**2**	**2**
5. On thematic areas related to sustainable development	–	–	2	2
Technical materials (number of materials)	**5**	**5**	**5**	**5**
6. Development paper series on economic and social development	5	5	5	5
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: expert advice to member States of the subregion in implementing the 2030 Agenda and promoting regional economic cooperation and integration.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: sessions at the South Asia Economic Summit; the sustainable development conference organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Pakistan; other subregional events; a newsletter related to the Sustainable Development Goals in South Asia.				
External and media relations: press releases and op-ed articles on sustainable connectivity, women's economic empowerment and the sustainable graduation of the least developed countries; press interviews for major events.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: web portal of the South Asia Network on the Sustainable Development Goals; web pages on regional cooperation for accelerating progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, sustainable connectivity, women's economic empowerment and the sustainable graduation of the least developed countries.				

Component 5
Subregional activities for development in South-East Asia

Objective

19.188 The objective, to which component 5 of the subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen regional cooperation and integration for sustainable development, in line with the subregional priorities of South-East Asia, including sustainable connectivity, inclusive and equitable societies, the efficient management of natural resources and resilient development.

Strategy

19.189 To contribute to the objective, the component will:

(a) Coordinate high-level dialogues and working meetings to support the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations (2021–2025), as well as the complementarities road map for the period 2020–2025;

(b) Create knowledge products, in collaboration with relevant subprogrammes, on regional and subregional perspectives on global issues for member States in South-East Asia;

(c) Further expand cooperation with ASEAN through increased engagement with the ASEAN secretariat and relevant sectoral bodies and committees, as appropriate, and on initiatives to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and subregional goals, including through support for the implementation of the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework;

(d) Promote coordination with and collaboration among subregional intergovernmental organizations and member States for an effective representation of subregional perspectives at regional and global consultations;

(e) Further develop partnerships and cooperation with civil society organizations in support of people in vulnerable situations to enhance synergy and effective participation at the subregional Sustainable Development Goals forum and raise awareness of the Goals among youth through a collaboration with the Association of Pacific Rim Universities in mutual areas of interest;

(f) Provide implementation support for the Commission's subprogrammes relating to the subregion's priorities, serve as the focal point for the Commission's engagement with the resident coordinator system and United Nations country teams, including through substantive assistance in preparing common country assessments and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks, in particular with regard to the transboundary dimensions of sustainable development, and assist country-level programming by providing subregional perspectives and access to regional networks and facilitating South-South and triangular cooperation;

(g) Support coordination among the various agencies and partners, with a focus on sustainable investment and finance, inclusive and equitable societies, the efficient management of natural resources and resilient development, while ensuring synergy in the implementation of the processes.

19.190 The above-mentioned work will help support member States in their progress towards the achievement of Goals 3, 5, 9, 10, 13 and 17.

19.191 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a) Enhanced sustainable FDI to support the development of sustainable investment and financing in the subregion;

(b) Fairer and more equitable access to social protection, especially for those most vulnerable, such as women, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, and strengthened disability statistics, ageing and disability policies and social protection floor costing;

(c) The improved coordination and coherence of technical assistance provided under the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework in the subregion.

Programme performance in 2022

Strengthened cooperation and relations between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

19.192 To implement the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between ASEAN and the United Nations (2021–2025), which guides cooperation efforts, the component organized a session on sustainable infrastructure investment as part of the fifth South-East Asia Multi-stakeholder Forum on the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, and considered how the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement could help attract and promote sustainable private sector investment in those areas through public-private partnerships. It also held a high-level dialogue on accelerating the implementation of the complementarities initiative in enhancing resilience and tackling climate change and organized a policy dialogue with the ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue to discuss collaborative policy actions to mitigate climate-related disasters and promote health resilience in the subregion, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030.

19.193 Further advancing the implementation of the Plan of Action, the component collaborated with the Centre for Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle Subregional Cooperation to advance sustainable urbanization in Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand. For the sixth South-East Asia Multi-stakeholder Forum on the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, the component worked closely with the Centre, which, jointly with the three countries, organized a session on urbanization and sustainable development.

19.194 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.49).

Table 19.49
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*
Adoption of the ASEAN-United Nations Plan of Action for 2021–2025	Member States exchanged information and best practices on initiatives to promote sustainable investment at the ASEAN Forum on Sustainable Investment and the fifth South-East Asia Multi-stakeholder Forum on the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, in line with the ASEAN-United Nations Plan of Action for 2021–2025	ASEAN member States identified pathways for collaborative policy actions for multi-hazard early warning systems that support climate and health resilience, implementing one initiative of the joint ASEAN-United Nations Plan of Action for 2021–2025

Planned results for 2024

Result 1: women entrepreneurs in the subregion empowered to overcome the socioeconomic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.195 The component's work contributed to member States in the subregion endorsing a toolkit designed to facilitate the design of policies and actions plans for strengthening women's entrepreneurship in national micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, which did not meet the planned target of two member States in the subregion implementing projects with a focus on enhancing the financial access and inclusion of women entrepreneurs. The target was not met due to delays experienced in

collecting feedback from all stakeholders, which was needed to maintain a participatory approach to capturing the needs and the buy-in of all member States in the subregion.

19.196 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.50).

Table 19.50
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
Member States expressed interest in initiatives to address barriers faced by women entrepreneurs	Two member States (Cambodia and Viet Nam) established institutional mechanisms for collaboration across ministries and sectors to increase access to financing and business support services for women entrepreneurs	Member States in the subregion endorsed a toolkit designed to facilitate the design of policies and action plans for strengthening women's entrepreneurship in national micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises	Two additional member States from the subregion implement projects with a focus on enhancing the financial access and inclusion of women entrepreneurs	Two member States establish a baseline using the policy toolkit to monitor the longitudinal progress of initiatives targeted at advancing women-owned and women-led micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises

Result 2: increased use of innovative financing policies and instruments to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.197 The component's work contributed to building consensus among member States to use Sustainable Development Goal-linked bonds as an instrument to catalyse energy investment opportunities to address post-COVID-19 financing needs and achieve the 2030 Agenda, which met the planned target.

19.198 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.51).

Table 19.51
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
Member States expressed interest in discussing sustainable bonds in the ASEAN region and with other subregions	Member States agreed to further study the use of sustainable and Sustainable Development Goal-linked bonds as an instrument to address post-COVID-19 financing needs and achieve the 2030 Agenda	Consensus is achieved among member States on using Sustainable Development Goal-linked bonds as an instrument to catalyse energy investment opportunities to address post-COVID-19 financing needs and achieve the 2030 Agenda	Member States implement initiatives that facilitate innovative financing mechanisms	Member States adopt guidelines on sustainable environmental finance that will facilitate innovative financing mechanisms towards climate mitigation and adaptation

Result 3: improved sustainable foreign direct investment strategies in the subregion

Proposed programme plan for 2024

19.199 Since the onset of the pandemic, there have been reductions in FDI inflows in the subregion and globally, with such flows continuing to decline steadily in 2022.

19.200 The component, in collaboration with subprogramme 2, organized a round-table discussion to explore ways to maximize the potential of intraregional FDI, which historically has been the second-highest source of FDI in the subregion. Following this round-table discussion, member States in the subregion expressed an interest in promoting intraregional FDI as a means for inclusive recovery and development.

Lessons learned and planned change

19.201 The lesson for the component was that it needed to change the modality of its support to member States from providing platforms for a conceptual agreement to delivering technical support for the development of an intraregional investment strategy and concrete national strategies for the promotion of FDI that channel appropriate investments to suit country-specific situations. In applying the lesson, the component, in collaboration with subprogramme 2, will work on delivering sector-specific capacity-building activities to promote sustainable FDI and devising country-specific FDI strategies in line with the strategic priorities of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks of the countries in the subregion.

19.202 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.52).

Table 19.52
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
–	The ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Investment, the ASEAN secretariat and member States organized a session on sustainable investment at the fifth South-East Asia Multi-stakeholder Forum on the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals to kickstart the discussion on subregional sustainable FDI	Member States in the subregion agreed to promote intraregional sustainable FDI as a means for inclusive recovery and development	The capacity of member States to promote sustainable FDI in the subregion is enhanced	One member State in the subregion develops a national strategy to attract sustainable FDI

Deliverables

19.203 Table 19.53 lists all deliverables of the component.

Table 19.53
Component 5: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
1. Report for the Commission	1	1	1	1
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	**7**	**5**	**9**	**9**
Meetings of:				
2. Expert groups on policy and programme options to address emerging sustainable development issues in South-East Asia	–	–	2	2
3. The South-East Asia Multi-Stakeholder Forum on the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals	4	4	4	4
4. ASEAN member States, the ASEAN secretariat and the ASEAN sectoral working groups on sustainable development in South-East Asia	3	1	3	3
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	**1**	**–**	**1**	**1**
5. On institutional programmatic priorities of ESCAP in South-East Asia	1	–	1	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	**1**	**1**	**2**	**2**
6. On the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations (2021–2025)	1	1	1	1
7. On the implementation of sustainable FDI indicators	–	–	1	1
Technical materials (number of materials)	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
8. On the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations (2021–2025)	1	**1**	1	1
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: consultations and advisory support to the subregional member States on sustainable connectivity, inclusive and equitable societies, the efficient management of natural resources and resilient development; advocacy with member States on the subregional findings of the Commission's publications; and side events at the Commission session.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: subregional launch of ESCAP publications; side events at the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development.				
External and media relations: press releases and op-ed articles on sustainable connectivity, inclusive and equitable societies, the efficient management of natural resources and resilient development; press interviews for major publications and events.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: web pages on climate action, environment, social development, and trade and financial integration.				

Subprogramme 9
Energy

Objective

19.204 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all in Asia and the Pacific by enhancing member States' capacity for energy access, renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy connectivity.

Strategy

19.205 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will enhance the evidence base for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 7 and Goals with interlinkages to it, and support member States in progressing towards Goal 7. Specifically, the subprogramme will:

(a) Facilitate intergovernmental dialogue and develop and disseminate evidence-based policy recommendations and guidance related to expanding access to modern energy, growing the share of renewable sources of energy in the energy mix, adopting energy efficient technologies and approaches, and increasing energy connectivity;

(b) Provide capacity-building activities focused on facilitating planning and policy development for achieving Goal 7, based on local contexts and in alignment with national priorities, in cooperation with resident coordinator offices to leverage institutional resources and ensure the efficiency of work programme implementation;

(c) Produce and contribute to the development of knowledge products focused on broadening understanding of the benefits and implications of energy connectivity for energy security and resilience, affordability and sustainability;

(d) Provide access to up-to-date data, policy information and energy infrastructure maps through the Asia Pacific Energy Portal and other knowledge platforms;

(e) Provide support through the development and implementation of road maps and plans (Goal 7 road maps, the regional road map on power system connectivity and national cooling action plans) and by promoting the use of modelling and policy planning tools and methodologies;

(f) Focus capacity-building efforts on the acceleration of progress towards inclusive access to clean cooking fuels and technologies, on energy connectivity in Pacific Island states and on power system connectivity, including in countries in special situations;

(g) Mainstream a gender perspective by facilitating dialogue and producing knowledge products that include the energy system's impacts on women and highlight their contribution to a sustainable and just energy transition, working jointly with subprogramme 6.

19.206 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:

(a) The adoption of evidence-based policies, strategies and investment plans to increase energy access, energy efficiency and the use of renewable sources of energy at the national and subnational levels;

(b) Improved capacity to implement policies for the transition to renewable sources of energy, environmentally sound energy technologies and national net-zero emissions goals, targets and ambitions;

(c) Increased capacity of policymakers and regulators to plan and implement power system connectivity initiatives that enable the scaling up of renewable energies;

(d) Better access by member States to clean energy, energy research and technology;

(e) Greater recognition among policymakers of a gender perspective in the sustainable energy transition, including the potential for women to accelerate progress.

Programme performance in 2022

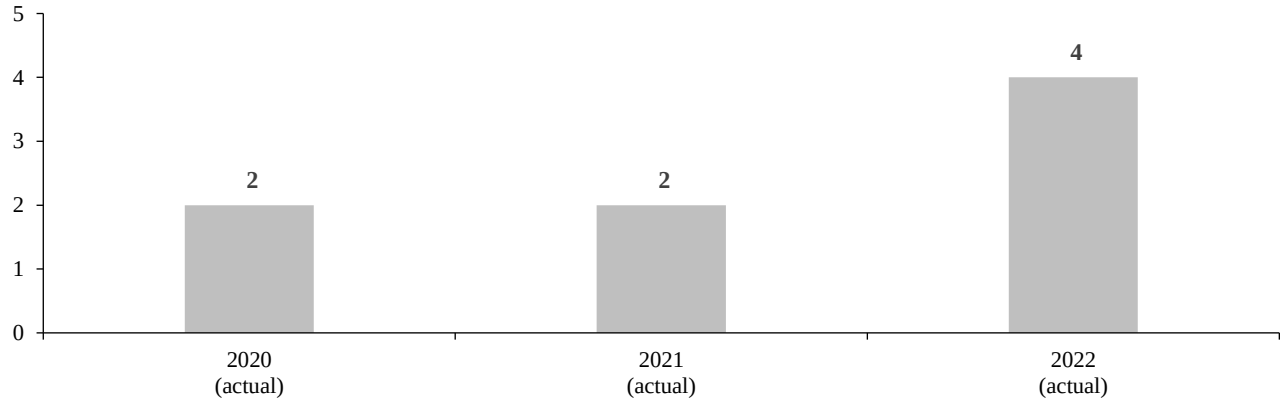
Adoption of national policy and planning frameworks for improving the energy efficiency of cooling technologies and approaches

19.207 The rising demand for cooling and the associated increase in energy demand and greenhouse gas emissions is placing a strain on power systems and hindering progress towards the achievement of climate goals. Ensuring the transition to efficient, climate-friendly cooling for all is particularly beneficial for climate action and sustainable development.

19.208 The subprogramme, in collaboration with UNEP under the framework of the Cool Coalition, supported the development of a national cooling action plan methodology – a tool for countries to establish a framework to catalyse integrated and comprehensive action to improve the energy efficiency of cooling technologies and approaches, and to mitigate the sector's greenhouse gas emissions. The development of this methodology drew on experiences from early national efforts, such as in China and India, and provides a comprehensive assessment and planning approach across cooling subsectors. The holistic methodology was released in 2021 and piloted in Cambodia, where the subprogramme reviewed and analysed the cooling sector and its subsectors, and consultations with national stakeholders contributed to the findings. It also modelled current and future demand for cooling to develop policy recommendations that were compiled into a comprehensive national cooling action plan, which was adopted in 2022, the first such plan in South-East Asia. Building on this experience, the subprogramme extended its support to Indonesia and Viet Nam to develop national cooling action plans.

19.209 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 19.IX).

Figure 19.IX
Performance measure: number of Asia-Pacific countries that have released national cooling action plans (cumulative)



Planned results for 2024

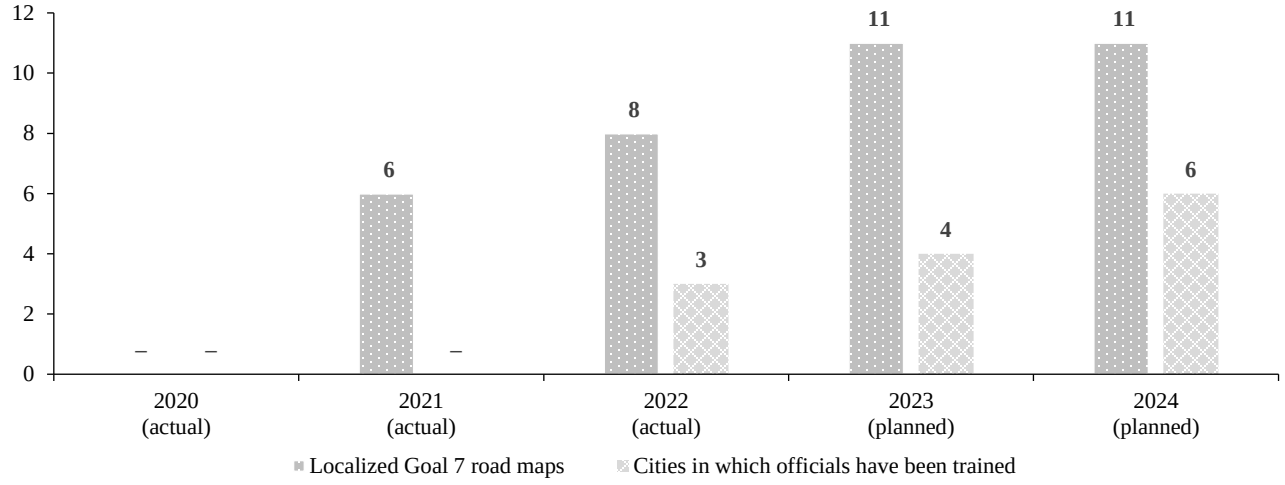
Result 1: localization of Sustainable Development Goal 7: evidence-based energy efficiency and renewable strategies for urban areas

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.210 The subprogramme's work contributed to the development of two additional city-level road maps for the City of Borongan and the City of Ormoc in the Philippines, for a cumulative total of eight localized road maps on Sustainable Development Goal 7, which did not meet the planned target of 10 such road maps. The target was not met due to unforeseen delays in mobilizing complementary resources to finalize two additional road maps by year end.

19.211 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 19.X).

Figure 19.X
Performance measure: number of localized road maps on Sustainable Development Goal 7 taken up at the city level in the Asia-Pacific region (cumulative) and number of cities where officials have been trained in the Goal 7 planning strategy (cumulative)



Result 2: evidence-based strategies for increasing sustainable power system connectivity

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

19.212 The subprogramme's work contributed to ESCAP member States providing updates on connectivity activities on a voluntary basis at meetings of the Expert Working Group on Energy Connectivity and meeting or developing the time frames for achieving the road map milestones, which met the planned target.

19.213 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.54).

Table 19.54
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
ESCAP member States agreed on draft text of a regional road map on power system connectivity through informal consultation	Committee on Energy endorsed the regional road map on power system connectivity at its third session, and the Commission endorsed it at its seventy-seventh session	ESCAP member States provided updates on connectivity activities on a voluntary basis at meetings of the Expert Working Group on Energy Connectivity Time frames for achieving the road map milestones have been met or are under development	ESCAP member States analyse gaps in policies, regulations and standards in each subregion and agree on a set of principles for enabling sustainable power system connectivity	At least one subregion demonstrates progress on establishing multilateral power trading

Result 3: increased ambition of national commitments by member States towards modern and clean energy in support of Goal 7

Proposed programme plan for 2024

19.214 New national pathways toward a just energy transition can help increase the share of energy produced from renewable sources, energy efficiency and access to electricity and clean cooking, while setting the region on a net-zero trajectory.

19.215 Through the Committee on Energy and its expert groups, the subprogramme worked to enhance the capacity of member States to develop and implement national commitments towards modern and clean energy.

Lessons learned and planned change

19.216 The lesson for the subprogramme was that it needed to strengthen activities to implement mandates given by member States and provide alignment with the Commission, the Asian and Pacific Energy Forum and the Committee on Energy for their deliberations. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will facilitate intergovernmental deliberations at the sessions of the Committee and Commission and streamline the workflow and coordination among intergovernmental bodies. The subprogramme will also deliver knowledge products that support member States in achieving the energy transition and Goal 7.

19.217 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 19.55).

Table 19.55
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	*2021 (actual)*	*2022 (actual)*	*2023 (planned)*	*2024 (planned)*
–	At the Committee on Energy, member States announced commitments to increasing energy access, energy efficiency and renewable capacity	Member States provided updates on the development of sustainable energy policies at meetings of the Expert Working Group on Universal Access to Modern Energy Services, Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Cleaner Use of Fossil Fuels	Member States agree on accelerated Sustainable Development Goal 7 actions in specific areas in support of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement	Member States announce more ambitious national commitments to increase the share of energy from renewable sources, and to adopt advanced energy efficiency and enhance access to electricity and clean cooking technologies, research, technology and investments in clean energy

Deliverables

19.218 Table 19.56 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 19.56
Subprogramme 9: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	*2022 planned*	*2022 actual*	*2023 planned*	*2024 planned*
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	**1**	**1**	**4**	**1**
Reports for:				
1. The Commission	1	1	1	1
2. The Asian and Pacific Energy Forum	–	–	3	–
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	**10**	**10**	**16**	**10**
Meetings of:				
3. The Asian and Pacific Energy Forum	–	–	6	–
4. The Expert Working Group on Universal Access to Modern Energy Services, Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Cleaner Use of Fossil Fuels	4	4	4	4
5. The Expert Working Group on Energy Connectivity	4	4	4	4
6. The United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia Working Group on Water, Energy and Environment (energy-related issues)	2	2	2	2
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	**2**	**7**	**1**	**2**
7. On the implementation of Goal 7	2	7	1	2
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
8. Policy dialogues on energy	1	1	1	1
Publications (number of publications)	**4**	**4**	**3**	**2**
9. On ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	4	4	3	2
Technical materials (number of materials)	**2**	**2**	**1**	**4**
10. On ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	2	2	1	4
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: policy advice to all member States, upon request, on the implementation of Goal 7 and energy connectivity.				
Databases and substantive digital materials: Asia Pacific Energy Portal (containing more than 200 data sets, 3,000 policy documents and a mapping of more than 6,000 power plants).				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: information materials on subregional statistical perspectives on sustainable energy, primarily for government officials and technical experts in the region.				
External and media relations: press releases, social media posts, blog posts and op-ed articles on energy access, renewable sources of energy, energy efficiency, and energy connectivity; press interviews for major publications and events.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: web pages on renewable sources of energy, energy efficiency, cleaner use of fossil fuels, access to electricity, access to clean cooking, energy connectivity and regional cooperation.				