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Proposed programme budget for 2025

Programme planning

Proposed programme budget for 2025

Part IV

International cooperation for development

Section 12

Trade and development

Programme 10

Trade and development

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
A. Proposed programme plan for 2025 and programme performance in 2023**	3
Overall orientation	3
Programme of work	11
Subprogramme 1. Globalization, interdependence and development	11
Subprogramme 2. Investment and enterprise	16
Subprogramme 3. International trade and commodities	23
Subprogramme 4. Technology and logistics	29
Subprogramme 5. Africa, least developed countries and special programmes	36
B. Proposed post and non-post resource requirements for 2025***	42
Overview	42

* A/79/50.

** 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.

*** In keeping with paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 77/267, the part consisting of the post and non-post resource requirements (part III) is submitted through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for the consideration of the Assembly.



Policymaking organs	47
Executive direction and management	48
1. Executive direction and management	48
2. Memorandum of Understanding between the Russian Federation and the Secretariat of the United Nations on promoting Russian food products and fertilizers to the world markets	51
Programme of work	53
Subprogramme 1. Globalization, interdependence and development.	53
Subprogramme 2. Investment and enterprise	54
Subprogramme 3. International trade and commodities	54
Subprogramme 4. Technology and logistics	55
Subprogramme 5. Africa, least developed countries and special programmes	56
Programme support.	57
Annexes	
I. Organizational structure and post distribution for 2025	59
II. Summary of proposed post changes, by component and subprogramme	60

A. Proposed programme plan for 2025 and programme performance in 2023

Overall orientation

Mandates and background

- 12.1 The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is responsible for assisting developing countries in integrating beneficially into the global economy in support of inclusive, resilient and sustainable growth and development. This task is more critical than ever, in the light of multiple current crises and the highly regressive impacts left behind by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The Bridgetown Covenant, the outcome document of the fifteenth quadrennial session of UNCTAD, contains calls for UNCTAD to counter the negative impact of the pandemic on the global economy and trade and to help developing countries to transform their economies through diversification, sustainability and resilience, to transform how development is financed, and to strengthen multilateralism. Special attention is called for the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States, African countries, other structurally weak, vulnerable and small economies, and countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, while also taking account of the challenges of middle-income countries and countries with economies in transition. The Covenant also contains a reaffirmation of the UNCTAD role as the focal point within the United Nations system for the integrated treatment of trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development. It will also give account to a number of essential underlying issues for sustainable, inclusive and equitable growth and development, as mandated in the Bridgetown Covenant.

Strategy and external factors for 2025

- 12.2 The world faces multiple and cascading challenges: debt distress, high inflation and large increases in the cost of living, growing poverty and hunger, geopolitical tensions, armed conflicts and climate change. Therefore, fostering more inclusive and sustainable development and enhancing resilience to these challenges will continue to guide the work of UNCTAD, in accordance with the particular needs and challenges of the member States and the Bridgetown Covenant. In line with its mandate, UNCTAD will continue to rely on its three interrelated pillars of work: (a) conducting high-quality and evidence-based research and policy analysis that contribute to national, regional and international policies, with the aim of generating inclusive and sustainable development under the principle of leaving no one behind; (b) providing technical cooperation to developing countries on the basis of such analysis; and (c) bringing member States together through its intergovernmental machinery to build consensus on policies that allow developing countries to maximize the opportunities of globalization and economic integration, as well as to address cross-cutting economic, social and environmental challenges.
- 12.3 The challenges that countries face are multiple and interrelated. In particular, mounting debt in low-income, and also many middle-income, developing countries remains a major obstacle to development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Servicing debt also constrains the ability of many developing countries to adapt to climate change and transform to low-emission economies. UNCTAD will thus continue addressing debt vulnerability and the high cost of debt, while also strengthening its support relating to how trade, investment and technology can offer means for transforming to low-emission economies. UNCTAD will remain committed to addressing interrelated issues essential to all countries in attaining sustainable and equitable growth and development, while being particularly mindful of the needs and priorities of developing countries. This requires extensive cross-fertilization and cooperation across the UNCTAD subprogrammes. UNCTAD will also address such interrelated issues through its work on South-South and triangular cooperation and regional integration.

- 12.4 In accordance with its mandate in the interrelated areas of trade and development, UNCTAD will support the implementation, monitoring and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the relevant targets of the Sustainable Development Goals. UNCTAD is the custodian of nine Goal indicators at the global level. These indicators fall under Goals 9, 10, 12, 16 and 17 and cover topics related to trade, tariffs, development finance, debt, investment, illicit finance and enterprise sustainability. UNCTAD will continue to support member States to make progress not only towards the achievement of Goals 8, 9, 10 and 17, but also towards Goals 2, 5, 12, 14, 15 and 16, including by continuing to develop international standards and recommending methodologies for monitoring Goal indicators.
- 12.5 Alongside global agendas, UNCTAD will strive, in particular, to ensure the implementation of mandates reconfirmed and reinforced at its fifteenth session as outlined in the Bridgetown Covenant. UNCTAD will be guided by four major transformations, outlined in the document, to move to a more resilient, inclusive and sustainable world: transforming economies through diversification; transforming to a more sustainable and more resilient economy; transforming how development is financed; and transforming multilateralism. UNCTAD will also adapt to any mandate that is adopted at its sixteenth quadrennial session, to be held 2025.
- 12.6 The Bridgetown Covenant emphasized the threat of climate change and the need to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation and enhance climate resilience. UNCTAD will support the building of a new methodology for the treatment of development economics that more fully integrates inclusiveness, climate change and the environment into a new global trade, financial and policy framework, as highlighted in the Bridgetown Covenant. This work will focus on scaling up climate finance, reducing greenhouse gas emissions of the logistics of trade and global value chains, boosting sustainable investments and supporting a transition to a low-emission, competitive and climate-resilient and sustainable economy. UNCTAD will continue to promote and advance the issue of the integrated treatment of development economics in international forums, such as the annual sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. UNCTAD will ensure organizational coherence and synergies on climate and the environment across subprogrammes through an established cross-divisional environment and climate change working group.
- 12.7 To support its member States and to promote structural transformation, as requested pursuant to the Bridgetown Covenant, UNCTAD will continue to support developing countries in making more accurate diagnostics and to inform policy choices by measuring productive capacities. UNCTAD will continue its work to make digitalization, a key driver for transforming economies, a force of inclusivity.
- 12.8 The UNCTAD Statistics Service will continue to provide timely and high-quality statistical information and indicators in the interrelated areas of trade and development. UNCTAD will treat data as an integrated and cross-cutting resource and ensure coordinated statistical capacity development at the organizational level. The Service will support developing countries in building their capacity to collect and compile data and measure progress in sustainable, inclusive and equitable trade, growth and development. The Service will strive to further develop its databases and make use of novel methods, as appropriate and requested, such as enhancing nowcasts through combining the power of artificial intelligence and official statistics, or using data collected and reported by countries of the South within their own framework to inform global debates on development support. The Service will continue to report on developments relating to the Goals by providing an update on the evolution of a selection of official indicators and complementary data and statistics and an update on progress in the development of new concepts and methodologies.
- 12.9 As requested in the Bridgetown Covenant, UNCTAD will continue to support countries, through technical cooperation, in addressing the challenges exacerbated or exposed by the pandemic and in building their resilience to future economic shocks by building productive capacities, develop the capacity of Governments to formulate and implement policies on financing for development, investment, international trade, science and technology and logistics, and support sustainable development in line with an updated technical cooperation strategy and toolkit.

- 12.10 With regard to cooperation with other entities at the global, regional, national and local levels, UNCTAD will continue to combine its expertise with the reach and in-country presence of partners. Regionally, UNCTAD will continue to work closely with partner organizations, such as the secretariat of the African Continental Free Trade Area through its Regional Office for Africa, as well as regional economic communities, business communities and strategic development partners, to foster regional economic integration and growth. In addition, UNCTAD will continue to foster cooperation with international financial institutions, multilateral development banks, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the Group of 20 to contribute to international policy debates on trade, investment and finance.
- 12.11 With regard to inter-agency coordination and liaison, UNCTAD will continue to collaborate with resident coordinator offices, including through involvement in the preparation of common country assessments and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks. UNCTAD will continue to work with the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the International Trade Centre (ITC) in a complementary manner to support developing countries in their efforts to be integrated into the multilateral trading system. As one of the five major institutional stakeholders of the financing for development follow-up process, UNCTAD will lead the inter-agency dialogue on monitoring and accountability of the means for the implementation of targets through the dedicated follow-up to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda commitments and participation in the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development. UNCTAD will continue to support the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators and lead the United Nations Inter-Agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity in “delivering as one” operational activities at the country level. As a member of the United Nations inter-agency task team on science, technology and innovation for the Goals and as secretariat to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, UNCTAD will continue to support the implementation of outcomes related to science, technology and innovation of the 2030 Agenda, including the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries. As part of the Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance and similar mechanisms, UNCTAD will continue to provide critical data and analysis for fostering understanding of the economic consequences of armed conflicts and will help decision makers to develop strategies and mobilize solutions by working closely with United Nations system entities.
- 12.12 With regard to the external factors, the overall plan for 2025 is based on the following planning assumptions:
- (a) Up-to-date and accurate economic and financial information and data at the country and regional levels continue to be available and cooperation continues with relevant entities on the production of statistics;
 - (b) Extrabudgetary funding continues to be available for technical cooperation programmes, and conditions and capacities exist in member States to adopt and implement policies and strategies;
 - (c) There is political will to achieve consensus in intergovernmental meetings;
 - (d) Member states will adopt a new mandate for UNCTAD at its quadrennial session in 2025.
- 12.13 UNCTAD integrates a gender perspective in its operational activities, deliverables and results, as appropriate, and in line with the Bridgetown Covenant. It will continue to strengthen the capacity of member States to design and implement policies and establish institutions, frameworks and/or mechanisms that support women’s economic empowerment, economic security and rights, and enhance their economic and digital skills and opportunities. UNCTAD will continue to analyse the impact of armed conflict on gender equality and other emerging phenomena, and advocate for policy responses that are gender-sensitive. UNCTAD will expand its work on trade and sex-disaggregated statistics and on measuring the ways in which women and men participate in and benefit from trade. Lastly, organizational coherence and synergies across divisions will be further increased through the interdivisional committee that provides strategic guidance on the substantive work on gender equality and trade.

- 12.14 In line with the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy, UNCTAD will continue to incorporate disability inclusion considerations in the design and evaluation of technical cooperation projects. Operationally, access by delegates of member States and participants to UNCTAD meetings organized at the headquarters facilities is managed and ensured by the United Nations Office at Geneva, in line with the existing United Nations Secretariat policy and guidance on disability. For meetings serviced outside the duty station UNCTAD ensures that all venues and conference facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities.

Legislative mandates

- 12.15 The list below, which was reviewed in the preparation of the proposed programme budget, provides all mandates entrusted to the programme.

General Assembly resolutions

1995 (XIX)	Establishment of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as an organ of the General Assembly	76/258	Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries
63/204	Report of the twelfth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	76/264 77/179	State of global food insecurity Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027)
63/303	Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development	78/134 78/135	International trade and development Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries
66/288	The future we want		
69/15	SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway	78/136	International financial system and development
69/137	Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024	78/140	Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development
69/313	Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)	78/151	Promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, building on Agenda 21
70/1	Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development		
70/133	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly	78/162 78/163	Development cooperation with middle-income countries Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries
72/234	Women in development	78/167	South-South cooperation
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	78/230 78/231	Promotion of inclusive and effective international tax cooperation at the United Nations Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development
73/241	International migration and development		
73/245	Promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection	78/232	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
73/291	Buenos Aires outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation		
75/233	Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system		

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2021/30	Open-source technologies for sustainable development	2023/11	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system
2022/3	Ensuring that the work in the field of statistics and data is adaptive to the changing statistical and data ecosystem		

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development reports

TD/442, TD/442/Corr.1 and TD/442/Corr.2	Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its twelfth session	TD/519/Add.2 and TD/519/Add.2/Corr.1	Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its fourteenth session: Nairobi Maafikiano
TD/500/Add.1	Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its thirteenth session: the Doha Mandate	TD/541/Add.2	Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its fifteenth session: the Bridgetown Covenant

**Subprogramme 1
Globalization, interdependence and development**

General Assembly resolutions

66/188	Addressing excessive price volatility in food and related financial and commodity markets	77/22	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People
72/227	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence	77/174	Towards a New International Economic Order
74/205	Financial inclusion for sustainable development	78/121	Assistance to the Palestinian people
		78/137	External debt sustainability and development

**Subprogramme 2
Investment and enterprise**

General Assembly resolutions

77/160	Entrepreneurship for sustainable development	78/141	Promoting investments for sustainable development
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**Subprogramme 3
International trade and commodities**

General Assembly resolutions

35/63	Restrictive business practices	78/7	Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba
70/186	Consumer protection		
71/312	Our ocean, our future: Call for action		
74/198	International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development, 2021	78/133	Promoting creative economy for sustainable development
74/216	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development	78/138	Commodities

**Subprogramme 4
Technology and logistics**

General Assembly resolutions

60/252	World Summit on the Information Society	75/17	International cooperation to address challenges faced by seafarers as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic to support global supply chains
69/213	Role of transport and transit corridors in ensuring international cooperation for sustainable development		
69/283	Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030	75/316	Impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets
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	78/132 78/160	Information and communications technologies for sustainable development Science, technology and innovation for sustainable development
72/212	Strengthening the links between all modes of transport to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals		

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2015/26; 2020/12; 2023/3	Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society	2023/4 2023/33	Science, technology and innovation for development Support to Non-Self-Governing Territories by the specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations
2021/30	Open-source technologies for sustainable development		

**Subprogramme 5
Africa, least developed countries and special programmes**

General Assembly resolutions

67/221	Smooth transition for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries	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
68/18	Graduation of countries from the least developed country category		
68/225	Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation	78/164 78/232	Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027) 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
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	78/233	Follow-up to the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2020/10	Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twenty-second session	2022/8	Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twenty-fourth session
2021/11	Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twenty-third session	2023/10	Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twenty-fifth session

2023/29 Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the decade 2022–2031

Deliverables

12.16 Table 12.1 lists all cross-cutting deliverables of the programme.

Table 12.1
Cross-cutting deliverables for the period 2023–2025, by category and subcategory

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>	<i>2023 actual</i>	<i>2024 planned</i>	<i>2025 planned</i>
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	10	10	10	10
1. Conference room paper for the Trade and Development Board	1	1	1	1
2. Report on the follow-up to the major United Nations conferences and summits in the areas of UNCTAD expertise	1	1	1	1
3. Report on matters requiring action by the Trade and Development Board in relation to the fifteenth session of UNCTAD	1	1	1	1
4. Conference room papers and working papers prepared for the Working Party on the Programme Plan and Programme Performance	4	4	4	4
5. Overview of the external evaluations of UNCTAD programmes and projects	1	1	1	1
6. Report on the external evaluation of an UNCTAD subprogramme	1	1	1	1
7. Review of the technical cooperation activities of UNCTAD and their financing	1	1	1	1
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	107	97	107	103
Meetings of:				
8. The Trade and Development Board, including annual, special and executive sessions of the Board and its subsidiary bodies	92	80	92	88
9. The Working Party on the Programme Plan and Programme Performance	12	14	12	12
10. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	1	1	1	1
11. The Fifth Committee	1	1	1	1
12. The Committee for Programme and Coordination	1	1	1	1
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	1	1	1	1
13. On statistics related to trade and development (such as measuring and tracking illicit financial flows)	1	1	1	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	24	26	24	28
14. Seminars on topics to be determined by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, in consultation with member States (e.g., ad hoc expert discussions)	3	3	3	3
15. Seminars, including a public symposium, with civil society and member States to generate and transfer knowledge in connection with the work programme of UNCTAD, subject to further consideration and decision by the Trade and Development Board	2	2	2	2
16. Seminar on topical trade and development issues (Raúl Prebisch lecture)	1	1	1	1
17. Seminar on topical international trade and development issues, such as multi-stakeholder dialogues	1	1	1	1
18. Seminars with UNCTAD special advisers and advocates	2	2	2	2
19. Seminar on the coordination of national development strategies oriented towards sustainable development (Cabinet meeting)	1	1	1	1

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>	<i>2023 actual</i>	<i>2024 planned</i>	<i>2025 planned</i>
20. Workshops with civil society and youth, including networking events and online networking discussions	14	16	14	18
Publications (number of publications)	3	3	3	3
21. <i>UNCTAD Handbook of Statistics</i>	1	1	1	1
22. <i>SDG Pulse</i>	1	1	1	1
23. UNCTAD annual report	1	1	1	1
Technical materials (number of materials)	10	10	12	11
24. Policy briefs on trade and development issues	1	1	3	2
25. Reports on evaluations of United Nations Development Account projects and of external evaluations required by contribution agreements	7	7	5	5
26. Economic and maritime statistical country profiles	2	2	2	2
27. Statistical papers, including on international trade and development	–	–	2	2

C. Substantive deliverables

Databases and substantive digital materials: UNCTAD civil society database and civil society electronic alerts and UNCTAD Youth Network; UNCTAD statistical data centre; UNCTAD trade in services statistics production system; UNCTAD global data set of indicators on gender equality in trade.

Consultation, advice and advocacy: policy advice to policymakers for statistical capacity in the area of trade and development.

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: “UNCTAD at a Glance”; press kits, media briefs and flyers for flagship publications; news briefs and opinion pieces; public information materials, including brochures and posters; and at least 10 specialized information sessions for students, delegates, academics and youth visiting UNCTAD and, upon request, in other locations, including online outreach.

External and media relations: around 10 press conferences, 25 press releases, 20 media alerts and information notes.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: UNCTAD website (more than 4.2 million sessions in 2022) and social media content (more than 500,000 followers, including 85,000 new followers in 2022), including podcasts and blogs about UNCTAD meetings, events and publications, including policy briefs.

Evaluation activities

- 12.17 The following evaluations completed in 2023 have guided the proposed programme plan for 2025:
- (a) UNCTAD subprogramme 2, Investment and enterprise;
 - (b) United Nations Development Account project 1819Y on defining, estimating and disseminating statistics on illicit financial flows in Africa;
 - (c) United Nations Development Account project 1819K on evidence-based and policy-coherent oceans economy and trade strategies;
 - (d) United Nations Development Account project 1819H on enabling policy frameworks for enterprise sustainability and Sustainable Development Goals reporting in Africa and Latin America;
 - (e) Enhanced Integrated Framework project: promoting gender-responsive trade policy in the least developed countries;
 - (f) Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States and European Union project: seizing the trade and business potential of blue biotrade products for promoting sustainable livelihoods and conservation of marine biodiversity in selected Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States countries;
 - (g) The UNCTAD–Kingdom of the Netherlands strategic partnership.

- 12.18 The results and lessons of the evaluations referenced above have been taken into account for the proposed programme plan for 2025. For example, in response to recommendations to further streamline monitoring and reporting mechanisms for more systematic data collection and analysis of medium- to long-term results, the Office of the Secretary-General has developed a new organizational-level results framework and is working closely with divisions on aligning indicators and reporting on results through the integrated planning, management and reporting tool. Subprogramme 2 has introduced an e-tool – the live implementation matrix for UNCTAD investment policy reviews – for beneficiary countries to report progress on the implementation of their investment policy review recommendations. In addition, all newly renewed agreements between UNCTAD and Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EMPRETEC) centres require periodic impact measurement and regular reporting to UNCTAD.
- 12.19 The following evaluations are planned for 2025:
- (a) Evaluation of subprogramme 4, Technology and logistics;
 - (b) Evaluation of subprogramme 5, Africa, least developed countries and special programmes;
 - (c) Five evaluations of completed projects covering various subprogrammes.

Programme of work

Subprogramme 1

Globalization, interdependence and development

Objective

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

Strategy

- 12.21 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will identify specific needs and measures arising from the interdependence of trade, finance, investment, technology and macroeconomic policies, from the point of view of their effects on development through the three pillars of work of UNCTAD referred to in paragraph 12.2 above. Specifically, the subprogramme will:
- (a) Support developing countries in their efforts to formulate development strategies and practical policy options and recommendations at all levels, including through technical cooperation, training and the dissemination of best practices;
 - (b) Promote cooperation at all levels of the interplay between successful development finance strategies, debt sustainability and effective debt management, in accordance with its mandate and complementing the work done by other relevant stakeholders;
 - (c) Focus on the challenges in short- and long-term debt sustainability in developing countries and sustainable domestic and international financial resource mobilization for development, which will help member States to make progress towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 16 and 17;

- (d) Undertake research and analysis on trends and prospects for closer cooperation and integration among developing countries, in particular on specific ways in which South-South cooperation can enhance development effectiveness;
- (e) Provide technical assistance and research and analysis to support the Palestinian people, in line with paragraph 127 (bb) of the Bridgetown Covenant and responding to the request of the General Assembly in its resolutions [77/22](#), on the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, and [77/30](#), on assistance to the Palestinian people;
- (f) Analyse the relation between trade and development and the environment and propose sustainable development policies, in line with paragraph 75 of the Bridgetown Covenant, given that transforming to a more sustainable economy under the current climate trends requires enhancing the ability of countries and economies to adapt to higher temperatures, thus necessitating a better understanding of how trade and development will be affected by a warmer world.

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

- (a) Increased coherence between international economic rules, practices and processes and national policies and development strategies;
- (b) Strengthened linkages between economic and development policies and decision-making and improvements in the compilation and dissemination of the official statistics of member States;
- (c) Strengthened national capacities for effective debt management and an increased understanding at the international level of debt issues and debt sustainability;
- (d) Increased understanding by developing countries of the global economic environment and of policy choices for inclusive and sustained development;
- (e) Trade and development policies that are responsive to the challenges posed by climate change and the type of support and action needed.

Programme performance in 2023

Enhanced knowledge of key policy debates on climate and finance

12.23 The subprogramme continued to support the policymakers of developing countries in their efforts to design optimal adaptation and mitigation strategies to deal with the effects of climate change. In preparation for the twenty-eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the subprogramme continued to support the development of the know-how and capacities of developing countries and their negotiators with regard to development finance, debt, macroeconomics and climate change issues. The subprogramme organized two workshops for climate finance negotiators from developing countries with the objective of connecting the topics of development, finance and climate change. These events informed the analytical papers on the loss and damage finance facility, the new collective quantified goal on climate finance and article 2, paragraph 1 (c), of the Paris Agreement, and furthered the discussions between negotiators. The papers focused on systemic challenges that developing countries disproportionately encounter in financing and achieving climate-resilient development and meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement.

12.24 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 12.2).

Table 12.2
Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)
The 2021 <i>Trade and Development Report</i> , which focused on climate adaptation and mitigation strategies, was used by developing country negotiators in their preparations for the twenty-sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	Knowledge among developing country climate negotiators was increased ahead of the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change through targeted research on climate and debt, and just transition pathways	52 developing country negotiators on climate and finance issues were able to address their development and climate finance needs in their preparations for the twenty-eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Planned results for 2025

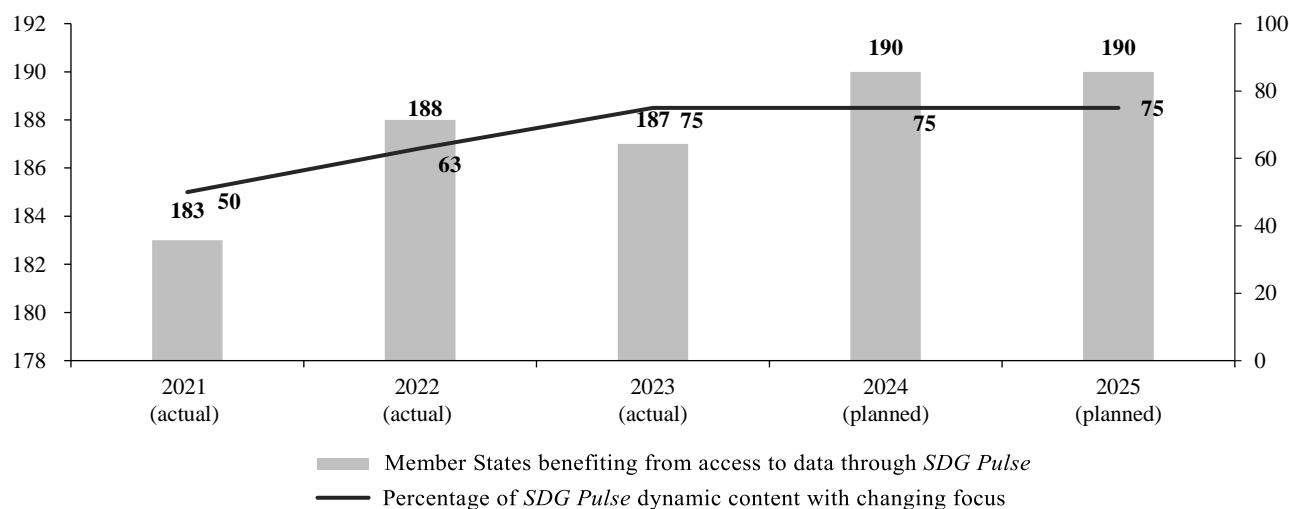
Result 1: increased agility in providing evidence-based and data-driven analysis to implement the 2030 Agenda for all, reflecting the challenges of member States

Programme performance in 2023 and target for 2025

- 12.25 The subprogramme’s work contributed to 187 member States benefiting from access to data through *SDG Pulse* and 75 per cent of the content in *SDG Pulse* being dynamic content with changing focus, which exceeded the planned target of 187 member States and 73 per cent.
- 12.26 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2025 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 12.I).

Figure 12.I

Performance measure: number of member States benefiting from the agile *SDG Pulse* with dynamic content, including on new data on Sustainable Development Goal indicators



Result 2: developing countries are equipped with policy proposals and measures to develop sustainable industrialization strategies to establish more resilient economies

Programme performance in 2023 and target for 2025

- 12.27 The subprogramme’s work contributed to the identification of sustainable value chains in one country, with two other countries having started the process, which did not meet the planned target of at least three countries identifying priority sustainable value chains, due to longer than anticipated process timelines.
- 12.28 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2025 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 12.3).

Table 12.3
Performance measure

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

Result 3: enhanced debt data transparency of developing countries

Proposed programme plan for 2025

- 12.29 The General Assembly, in its resolution [77/153](#), on external debt sustainability and development, underlined the importance of debt sustainability, debt transparency and effective debt management to the efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The subprogramme has been focusing on promoting increased access to timely data related to public debt for citizens, academia and civil society, as well as the international community, to help inform discussions on public borrowing, including with regard to prioritization by governments and possible predatory loan practices.

Lessons learned and planned change

- 12.30 The lesson for the subprogramme was that demonstrable benefits of debt transparency, including use cases and studies, can help to promote the efficacy of enhancing debt transparency globally. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will identify three pilot countries with which it will work on enhancing debt transparency through improved data collection and monitoring, and use these results to work on a global initiative in this area.

12.31 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 12.4).

Table 12.4
Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
–	New approach to increase debt transparency available to member States	Informal discussions and consultations resulting in at least three countries expressing interest in being involved in the pilot initiative	At least three developing countries agree to participate in the pilot initiative Guidelines on the implementation of the initiative are available to the fiscal authorities of the three selected countries	Improved data collection, monitoring and transparency on public debt in three countries

Deliverables

12.32 Table 12.5 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 12.5
Subprogramme 1: deliverables for the period 2023–2025, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	2023 planned	2023 actual	2024 planned	2025 planned
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	8	5	6	6
1. Reports for the General Assembly, including on external debt sustainability and development, and the economic cost of occupation for the Palestinian people	4	2	2	2
2. Reports for the Trade and Development Board, including on financing for development issues and on UNCTAD assistance to the Palestinian people, and the overview of the <i>Trade and Development Report</i>	2	2	2	2
3. Reports for the Trade and Development Commission and the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission	1	0	1	1
4. Reports for the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development	1	1	1	1
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	18	16	19	18
Meetings of:				
5. The General Assembly (Second Committee) and the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies	4	2	4	4
6. The Trade and Development Board (annual and executive sessions)	3	3	3	3
7. The Working Party on the Programme Plan and Programme Performance	2	2	2	2
8. The Trade and Development Commission and related multi-year expert meetings	3	3	3	3
9. The Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development	6	6	6	6
10. The Debt Management Conference	–	–	1	–

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>	<i>2023 actual</i>	<i>2024 planned</i>	<i>2025 planned</i>
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	16	21	16	16
11. Enhancing public, private and/or international capacity related to assistance to the Palestinian people	1	1	1	1
12. Installation, update and maintenance of the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System	15	20	15	15
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	150	219	142	142
13. Seminars and workshops for policymakers, including on formulating development strategies and policy recommendations; sovereign borrowing and lending; and globalization, trade and development	28	28	22	22
14. Seminars on inclusive growth and the Sustainable Development Goals, including ad hoc expert discussions on the interdependence between trade, finance, investment, technology and macroeconomic policies	7	6	5	5
15. Training events on Debt Management and Financial Analysis System for administrators and debt auditors from selected countries in recording debt data, reporting, debt statistics, debt analysis and debt auditing	115	185	115	115
Publications (number of publications)	8	5	6	6
16. <i>Trade and Development Report</i>	1	1	1	1
17. Studies on external debt, resource mobilization, illicit financial flows and their underlying activities, South-South cooperation, regional integration and Palestinian economic development	7	4	5	5
Technical materials (number of materials)	9	7	7	7
18. On macroeconomic, development, financing and debt, structural transformation and South-South cooperation issues	5	3	4	4
19. Debt Management and Financial Analysis System documentation and software	4	4	3	3

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: policy advice to policymakers, including on domestic resource mobilization, structural transformation, growth policy (Group of 20), debt renegotiation at the Paris Club, financial instability and debt sustainability.

Databases and substantive digital materials: UNCTAD financial database; world economic macro-level modellers database; financial stress and debt sustainability indicators.

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: lectures and presentations on external debt, development finance and macroeconomic and development policy issues; newsletters and brochures on the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System and the Virtual Institute.

External and media relations: press releases, press conferences and interviews, including on developing country debt and external financing, South-South cooperation and regional integration and assistance to the Palestinian people.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: Debt Management and Financial Analysis System; Virtual Institute.

Subprogramme 2 Investment and enterprise

Objective

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

Strategy

12.34 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will:

- (a) Assist member States through research, policy analysis and technical assistance in designing and implementing policies to scale up mobilization of public and private finance and enhanced investment and entrepreneurship for sustainable development;
- (b) Monitor, assess and analyse regional and global trends and prospects in international investment and prepare the annual *World Investment Report* and other analytical publications on international investment for development;
- (c) Conduct reviews of national investment policies and backstop policy dialogue on the international investment agreement regime and support and design new international investment agreements that are better aligned with nationally and internationally agreed development objectives;
- (d) Provide policy advice to Governments on investment promotion, including on incentives in the context of the global tax reform implications for developing countries, and support with the implementation of business practices and investment facilitation for development agreements, including through digital government tools;
- (e) Promote innovative financing for the Sustainable Development Goals, including through stock exchanges and institutional funds, as well as incentives in the context of the global tax reform implications for developing countries;
- (f) Support the enhancement of the international competitiveness of member States' enterprises through advice on policies aimed at stimulating enterprise development, including mobilizing global efforts in financing and investment in micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises to support their sustainable development transformation, as well as by promoting best practices in corporate social responsibility, accounting and sustainability reporting;
- (g) Foster dialogue and an exchange of best practices related to investment and enterprise development issues through consensus-building mechanisms and the World Investment Forum;
- (h) Provide an assessment of the impact of multiple and cascading challenges on investment, global value chains and enterprise development, as well as policy advice, frameworks and tools for recovery;
- (i) The above-mentioned work will help member States to make progress towards achieving Goals 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16 and 17.

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

- (a) Increased capacity of member States to close the gaps related to Sustainable Development Goal investment, especially with regard to climate change mitigation and adaptation, in particular for countries that are most vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change;
- (b) Improved ability of countries to leverage policies, innovations and tools, and to address key and emerging issues related to investment and investment policies that promote development, including on international investment agreements and their development dimension;
- (c) Member States collect, analyse and report on foreign direct investment and multinational enterprise data and formulate development-oriented investment policies;
- (d) Additional resources leveraged and channelled towards global investment development objectives and addressing concerns pertaining to "SDG washing" and "greenwashing";¹

¹ The terms "SDG washing" and "greenwashing" refer to products and strategies presented as sustainable without making a meaningful contribution to sustainable development, including the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

- (e) Increased productive capacity, including through attracting investment capital, growing business linkages with multinational enterprises and participating in global and regional value chains;
- (f) Mitigation of the effect of multiple and cascading challenges on the ability of member States to attract and benefit from investment for development and in fostering private sector recovery.

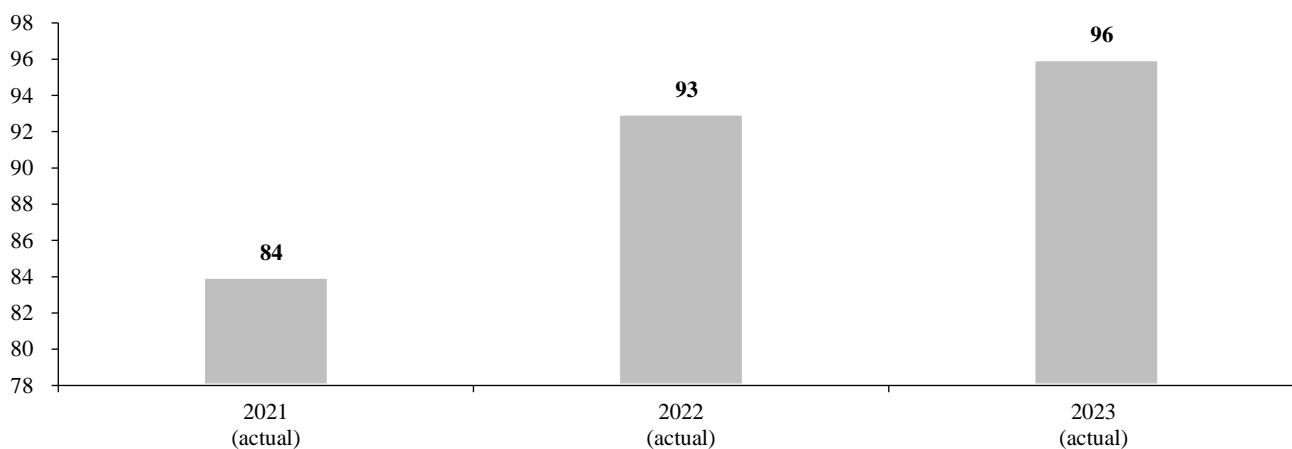
Programme performance in 2023

Improved business, investment and trade climate

- 12.36 A conducive business, investment and trade environment is a prerequisite to sustainable development. The provision of information, transparent rules and regulations, and streamlined administrative procedures, among other measures, can help in the achievement of a conducive business, investment and trade environment. The subprogramme has developed digital government tools, such as information portals and online single windows, which contribute to enhancing transparency and access to trade and investment-related information and the regulation and simplification of administrative procedures.
- 12.37 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 12.II).

Figure 12.II

Performance measure: number of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development trade and investment facilitation platforms used by member States (cumulative)



Planned results for 2025

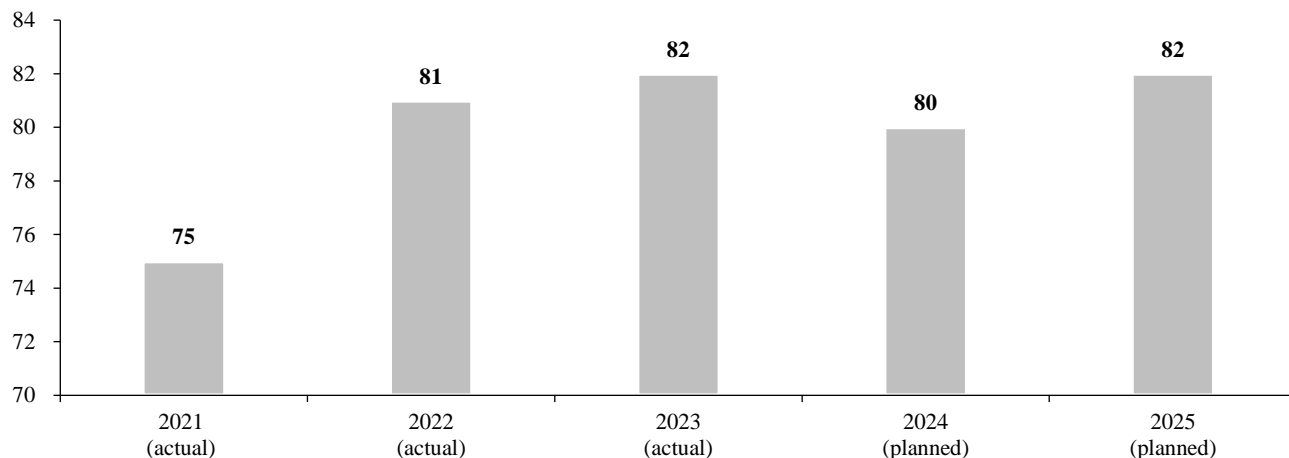
Result 1: reignited investment policies in support of member States' COVID-19 recovery and sustainable development

Programme performance in 2023 and target for 2025

- 12.38 The subprogramme's work contributed to 82 per cent of beneficiaries having implemented recommendations emanating from the UNCTAD investment policy framework in support of COVID-19 recovery and sustainable development, including those pertaining to national and international investment policies and enterprise development policies, which exceeded the planned target of 80 per cent.
- 12.39 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2025 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 12.III).

Figure 12.III

Performance measure: percentage of beneficiaries that have implemented recommendations emanating from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development investment policy framework in support of COVID-19 recovery and sustainable development (cumulative)



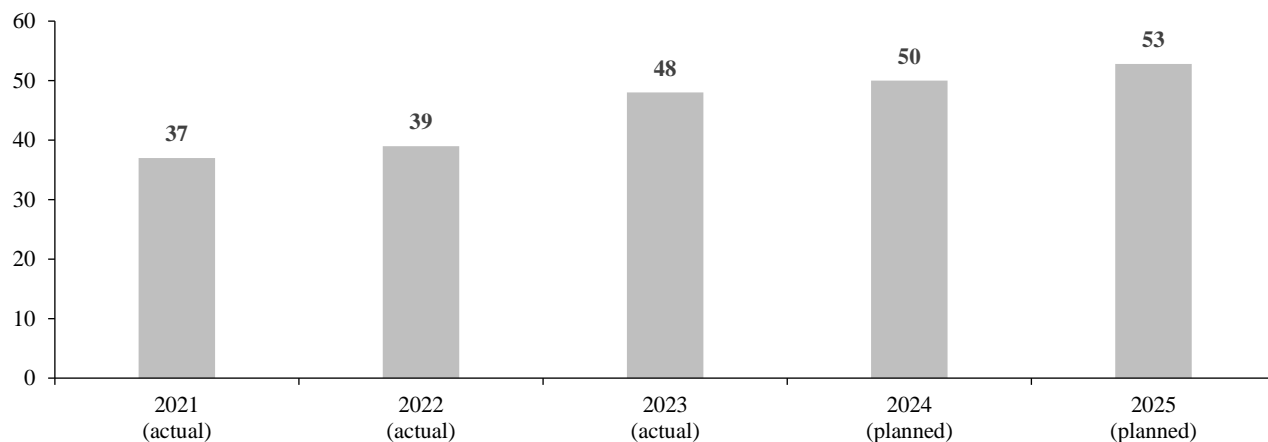
Result 2: investment financing strategies and tools to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation

Programme performance in 2023 and target for 2025

- 12.40 The subprogramme’s work contributed to 48 member States adopting United Nations Conference on Trade and Development investment financing strategies and tools in support of the attainment of the climate and environmental goals of the 2030 Agenda, which exceeded the planned target of 45 member States.
- 12.41 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2025 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 12.IV).

Figure 12.IV

Performance measure: number of member States adopting United Nations Conference on Trade and Development investment financing strategies and tools in support of the attainment of the climate and environmental goals of the 2030 Agenda (cumulative)



Result 3: accelerated Sustainable Development Goal investment

Proposed programme plan for 2025

12.42 At the midpoint of the 2030 Agenda, the investment gap across all Sustainable Development Goal sectors has increased from \$2.5 trillion in 2015 to about \$4 trillion annually, as also revealed by *World Investment Report 2023*.² The need to channel additional resources towards global development objectives will require promoting investment from all sources. To help promote broader investment, the subprogramme has supported member States in attracting and channelling foreign direct investment for the Goals through its action plan.

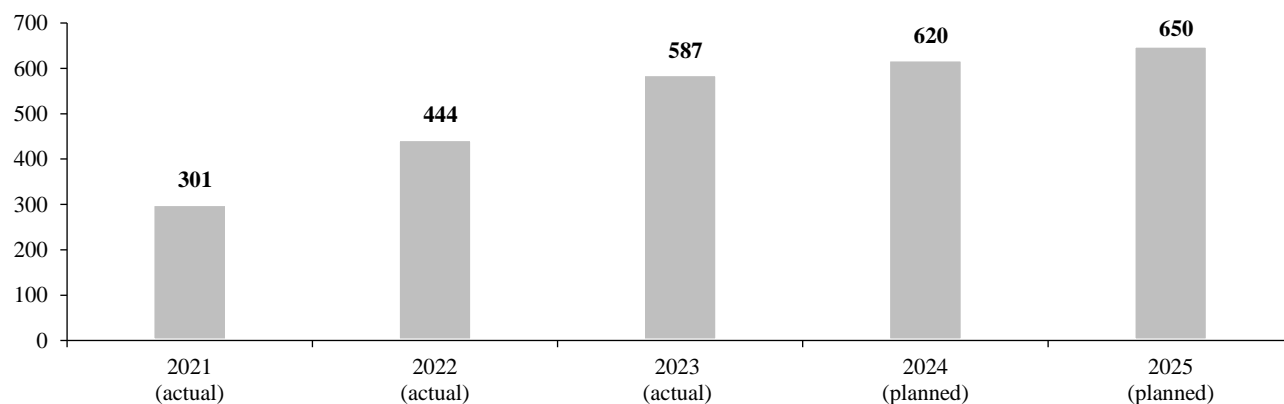
Lessons learned and planned change

12.43 The lesson for the subprogramme was that a comprehensive set of priority actions would help support the acceleration of Sustainable Development Goal investment, which required increased engagement from all investment-development stakeholders, including through national, regional and international alliances and partnerships. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will provide stakeholders with priority actions, such as the reorientation of investment promotion strategies, the formulation of a new generation of international investment treaties and guarantees, innovative financing mechanisms and the reorientation of financial markets, along with options to sustain Goal investment in recurrent crises. The subprogramme will raise awareness of priority actions and stimulate the building of the capacity of all investment-development stakeholders to design and use priority policies, tools and instruments to accelerate Goal investment.

12.44 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 12.V).

Figure 12.V

Performance measure: number of investment-development stakeholders that have adopted recommendations from the set of priority actions to accelerate investment in the Sustainable Development Goals (cumulative)



Deliverables

12.45 Table 12.6 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

² https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/wir2023_en.pdf.

Table 12.6
Subprogramme 2: deliverables for the period 2023–2025, by category and subcategory

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>	<i>2023 actual</i>	<i>2024 planned</i>	<i>2025 planned</i>
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	8	6	9	8
Reports of:				
1. The Secretary-General to the General Assembly on investment and entrepreneurship for sustainable development	1	1	2	1
2. The sixteenth quadrennial session of UNCTAD on investment and enterprise for development	–	–	–	1
3. The Trade and Development Board on investment for development	1	1	1	1
4. The Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission and related expert meetings	4	–	4	3
5. The Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting	2	4	2	2
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	42	44	22	58
Meetings of:				
6. The Trade and Development Board	2	3	2	2
7. The sixteenth quadrennial session of UNCTAD, including preparatory meetings	–	–	–	20
8. The Working Party on the Programme Plan and Programme Performance	2	3	2	2
9. The Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission and related expert meetings	12	–	12	8
10. The Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting	6	6	6	6
11. The World Investment Forum	20	32	–	20
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	67	68	72	67
12. On regional investment issues	3	4	3	3
13. On investment policy reviews	8	5	8	6
14. On policy options in investment for development	5	5	5	4
15. On special economic zones, including piloting Sustainable Development Goals model zones	2	2	2	2
16. On international investment regimes	10	10	10	10
17. On investment promotion and facilitation, including strengthening investment promotion agencies	3	2	3	3
18. On business facilitation initiatives	13	13	13	12
19. On enterprise development initiatives, including micro-, small and medium-sized enterprise and start-up financing and business linkages	3	4	3	3
20. On EMPRETEC	6	6	10	10
21. On accounting and reporting, with a particular focus on sustainability reporting	3	4	3	3
22. On the contribution of foreign direct investment to inclusive growth and the Sustainable Development Goals, including on climate change mitigation and adaptation for least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States	5	5	5	6
23. On sustainable financing and investing, including by family business and institutional investors	6	8	7	5
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	136	204	200	199
24. Seminars on foreign direct investment, its development dimension and the themes of the <i>World Investment Report</i>	12	14	12	12

Part IV International cooperation for development

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>	<i>2023 actual</i>	<i>2024 planned</i>	<i>2025 planned</i>
25. Training events on best practices in national and international policies related to investment, including on taxation related to investment policy	4	5	5	5
26. Training events on investment policy reviews, follow-up and investment facilitation enhancement (national)	14	16	14	14
27. Training events on international investment statistics and survey methodologies	5	5	6	5
28. Ad hoc expert discussions on key issues in investment for development, including concerns about “greenwashing” and “SDG washing”	3	4	3	4
29. Training events on investment promotion and facilitation for policymakers, investment promotion officials and diplomats	10	38	30	10
30. Workshops on business facilitation procedures	–	22	–	20
31. Training events on the negotiation, implementation and reform of international investment agreements	15	21	15	15
32. Ad hoc expert discussions on investment policies for sustainable development	4	6	4	6
33. Training workshops on enterprise development policies and entrepreneurship	15	16	46	40
34. Training seminars on accounting and sustainability reporting	12	14	12	20
35. Workshops and seminars on responsible investment issues, including those related to intellectual property	30	25	40	35
36. Ad hoc expert discussions on the development of small and medium-sized enterprises and start-ups	6	9	6	6
37. Seminars on institutional investors and sustainable development	3	3	4	4
38. Ad hoc expert discussions on family businesses	3	6	3	3
Publications (number of publications)	22	23	19	18
39. <i>World Investment Report</i> and its overview	2	2	2	2
40. On investment issues for development, including the <i>Transnational Corporations Journal</i> , best practices and lessons learned in foreign direct investment in the least developed countries, and studies on responsible and sustainable investment	8	8	6	6
41. On investment policies for development, including <i>Investment Policy Reviews</i> and studies on policy options on investment for development	6	6	5	5
42. On investment promotion and facilitation, including on investing in Sustainable Development Goal sectors and Sustainable Development Goal model zones development	2	3	2	2
43. On enterprise development and entrepreneurship policy support	2	2	2	2
44. On the International Standards of Accounting and Reporting	2	2	2	1
Technical materials (number of materials)	15	17	17	16
45. <i>Global Investment Trends Monitor</i> (series), including the <i>Sustainable Development Goals Investment Trends Monitor</i>	4	4	4	3
46. <i>Global Investment Policy Monitor</i> (series)	3	2	3	3
47. Investment promotion and facilitation	2	–	2	2
48. On measures affecting international investment	2	2	2	2
49. International investment agreement issues notes	2	4	3	3
50. On responsible and sustainable investment, including intellectual property rights for development	1	3	1	2
51. On enterprise development and entrepreneurship policy support	1	2	2	1

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: policy advice to developing countries, including on policies to attract foreign direct investment; advice on statistics and international investment, including responsible investment; advice to all member States, upon request, on national policies and international investment agreements and sustainable development, as well as investment promotion and facilitation, intellectual property rights, entrepreneurship and enterprise development and business facilitation, with a focus on the most vulnerable, and on accounting and reporting standards; and advocacy and advisory services to some

Category and subcategory	2023 planned	2023 actual	2024 planned	2025 planned
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200 investment promotion agencies, over 5,000 special economic zones and other stakeholders in the global investment chain and some 50 EMPRETEC centres.

Databases and substantive digital materials: databases on foreign direct investment, national policies, international investment agreements and related databases; sustainable finance and gender equality databases.

D. Communication deliverables

External and media relations: International Standards of Accounting and Reporting updates, electronic EMPRETEC newsletters for more than 2,000 subscribers and newsletters, booklets and newsflashes on responsible investment; World Investment Forum report for more than 8,000 recipients; development and maintenance of the World Investment Network of over 18,000 recipients.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: Global Enterprise Registration portal; Investment Policy Hub; other digital platforms pertaining to investment and enterprise for development.

Subprogramme 3 International trade and commodities

Objective

- 12.46 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to ensure that international trade and commodities enable the economic diversification, sustainable and resilient economy and multilateralism transformations needed to create a more inclusive, resilient, sustainable and prosperous world through the participation of all member States.

Strategy

- 12.47 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will:
- (a) Support developing countries in fostering structural transformation through economic diversification towards a more sustainable and resilient economy;
 - (b) Enhance the participation of developing countries in the multilateral and regional trading systems, ensuring that developing countries’ participation in trade in goods and services works as a driver for inclusive and sustainable development;
 - (c) Support the adoption of, improvement in and enforcement of national and regional competition and consumer protection legislation, through best practices, guidelines and peer reviews;
 - (d) Strengthen the capacity of trade policymakers to make well-informed policy decisions through improved understanding of and transparency in international trade and trade policy trends and trade-related regulations, and build private sector capacities to cope with policy and market requirements;
 - (e) Foster the mainstreaming of gender equality into trade policies and build the capacity of member States through research findings, training workshops and policy dialogues to design and implement trade policies that allow women to benefit more from the opportunities arising from international trade;
 - (f) Contribute to research on international trade as an engine for development in the report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development, *The Sustainable Development Goals Report*, *World Tariff Profiles* and *World Economic Situation and Prospects*;
 - (g) Monitor and report on current trade trends and policies and their impact on inclusive, sustainable and resilient development to provide policy recommendations to member States;

- (h) Examine the effects of climate change in terms of trade on developing countries, and how environmental sustainability can promote global trade and inclusive development, including through trade policies facilitating global energy transition and supporting the competitiveness of developing countries in the production and trade of renewable and low-emission energy;
- (i) Support member States, through research, capacity-building activities and the fostering of policy dialogue, in their efforts to break away from commodity dependence and realize trade and economic diversification gains, including for critical minerals, by adding value to their commodities and strengthening non-commodity activities;
- (j) The above-mentioned work will help member States to make progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14 and 17.

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

- (a) Enhanced understanding and policy response regarding current trends in the global economy, including ongoing environmental degradation, and improved ability of member States to benefit from international trade and foster the recovery of the trade sectors;
- (b) Member States designing and implementing trade-policy responses to climate change from a development perspective;
- (c) Member States identifying and addressing the trade barriers and supply-side obstacles that disproportionately affect women and girls;
- (d) Member States and the international community understanding and addressing the cost and market access impacts of non-tariff measures, as well as their beneficial use for inclusive and sustainable development policies;
- (e) Member States achieving positive development outcomes in relation to increased trade integration and activity;
- (f) Member States seizing opportunities emerging from commodity trade and enhanced international and regional cooperation;
- (g) Member States' increased adoption, revision and/or effective implementation of competition and consumer protection legislation and institutional frameworks;
- (h) Member States harnessing opportunities related to trade in environmentally sustainable products, and increasing capacities to assess the economic potential of the ocean, biodiversity and plastic substitutes-related sectors, and devising integrated sustainable use and trade action plans;
- (i) Member States creating an enabling environment for the promotion of services and the creative economy to leapfrog into new, high-growth sectors of the world economy;

Programme performance in 2023

Enhanced consumer product safety

12.49 The revised United Nations guidelines for consumer protection recognize the importance of protecting consumers from hazards to their health and safety, and address physical safety and standards for the safety and quality of consumer goods and services. The subprogramme, in response to requests from member States, established an informal working group on consumer product safety to facilitate information exchange and consultations to contribute to more consistent product quality and product variations between countries that do not have a negative impact on consumers. The activities of the working group led to the drafting and adoption of the first recommendation of UNCTAD on product safety, aimed at curbing the flow of unsafe products being traded internationally, which was approved by the eighth United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive

Business Practices. Following approval of the recommendation on preventing the cross-border distribution of known unsafe consumer products, UNCTAD prepared a note on modalities for implementing the recommendation (TD/B/C.1/CPLP/28).

12.50 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 12.7).

Table 12.7
Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)
Member States renewed the mandate of the working group on consumer product safety	Modalities for the implementation of the recommendations on preventing unsafe products from crossing borders were approved by member States	72 additional member States reported national measures and implemented initiatives on enhancing consumer product safety in their markets Reporting by member States on enhancing consumer product safety to the World Consumer Protection Map increased by 20 per cent, to 109 countries

Planned results for 2025

Result 1: integrated climate change dimension into the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area agreement at the national level

Programme performance in 2023 and target for 2025

- 12.51 The subprogramme’s work contributed to the development by 9 African countries of sustainable African Continental Free Trade Area implementation strategies and the establishment of two regional sustainable value chains, which did not meet the target of 10 African countries, due to a change in the number of countries participating in the planned activities.
- 12.52 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2025 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 12.8).

Table 12.8
Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
The subprogramme identified several opportunities in the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area and relevant implementing protocols that have the potential to add the sustainability perspective of the African Continental Free Trade Area and	Detailed value chain analysis made available to member States, with 10 African countries selecting priority sectors for the development of competitive intraregional and continental sustainable value chains	Nine African countries developed sustainable African Continental Free Trade Area implementation strategies Two regional sustainable value chains were established	Ten African countries adopt sustainable value chain development plans as part of their African Continental Free Trade Area implementation strategies	A platform to share lessons learned and experiences in the implementation of sustainable value chain development plans is available to participating countries

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
boost BioTrade, and presented the African countries with options on how they can enhance the resilience of their trade to climate change through economic diversification and adaptation actions				

Result 2: enhanced policymaking to facilitate economic diversification through increased data capacities in services trade

Programme performance in 2023 and target for 2025

- 12.53 The subprogramme’s work contributed to the mapping of creative industries for Angola, with an emphasis on creative services, and a review of financial services policies for Uzbekistan, which met the planned target.
- 12.54 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2025 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 12.9).

Table 12.9
Performance measure

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

Result 3: strengthened implementation of nationally determined contributions through trade policies by developing countries

Proposed programme plan for 2025

- 12.55 The subprogramme supports developing countries in better leveraging trade policies to reduce emissions and enhance their adaptation capacity, with a focus on the use of trade-related measures, including through the implementation of nationally determined contributions.

Lessons learned and planned change

- 12.56 The lesson for the subprogramme was that lack of data and policy-oriented research on the link between trade and climate change can limit the capacity of developing countries to scale up mitigation, adaptation and just energy transition actions. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will undertake a nationally determined contribution mapping and develop an integrated methodology that takes into account multiple factors, such as the physical impacts of climate change, trade flows and the regulatory environment, and that can deliver better environmental outcomes. The subprogramme will develop a

new integrated approach and strategy to take into consideration trade, finance and climate-related measures in the design and implementation of nationally determined contributions.

12.57 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 12.10).

Table 12.10
Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
<i>Trade and Environment Review 2021</i> was available to member States	–	Preliminary mapping of trade-related measures in nationally determined contributions, and a pilot analysis on fishing fleets and the energy transition, were available to member States	Recommendations on trade-related measures for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in nationally determined contributions are available to member States A framework for the increased use of trade measures in nationally determined contributions are available to member States	At least one pilot country increases the integration of trade policies in its nationally determined contributions Trade and development policy capacity of 100 decision makers and stakeholders is increased

Deliverables

12.58 Table 12.11 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 12.11
Subprogramme 3: deliverables for the period 2023–2025, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	2023 planned	2023 actual	2024 planned	2025 planned
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	19	20	19	20
1. Reports to the General Assembly on international trade and development and world commodity trends and prospects	2	2	1	2
2. Reports on trends in trade and on trade regulations and sustainability standards and ad hoc reports on commodities trends and prospects for the Trade and Development Board	3	4	3	3
3. Background documentation for the Trade and Development Commission and for related expert meetings	4	5	6	6
4. Reports of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy and the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy	10	9	9	9
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	33	31	33	31
5. Meetings of the General Assembly (Second Committee)	2	2	2	2
6. Annual and executive sessions of the Trade and Development Board	2	3	2	2
7. Meetings of the Working Party on the Programme Plan and Programme Performance	2	4	2	2

Part IV International cooperation for development

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>	<i>2023 actual</i>	<i>2024 planned</i>	<i>2025 planned</i>
8. Meetings of the annual sessions of the Trade and Development Commission and related expert meetings	16	11	16	14
9. Meetings of the annual sessions of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy and the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy	10	10	10	10
10. Annual meeting of the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development	1	1	1	1
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	20	27	20	20
11. On trade, a gender perspective and development	1	5	1	1
12. On assisting developing countries in acceding to WTO, on generalized and global systems of trade preferences, on services, regional and multilateral trading negotiations, on strengthening the creative economy, and on dispute settlement and commercial diplomacy	6	6	6	6
13. On competition and consumer protection laws and policies	4	4	4	3
14. On trade, the environment and development	4	4	4	4
15. On collecting, monitoring, reporting on and disseminating data on non-tariff measures, on formulating development-oriented trade policies, and on sustainability standards	2	8	3	4
16. On assistance to commodity-dependent countries in achieving greater diversification and value addition	3	–	2	2
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	118	240	156	170
17. On the World Integrated Trade Solution, the Trade Analysis and Information System and non-tariff measures, and sustainability standards	17	49	27	31
18. On preferential trading arrangements, WTO accession, services policies and frameworks, emerging development challenges in the international trading system and trade, international trade negotiations, and the creative economy	27	49	39	44
19. On trade, a gender perspective and development	12	29	12	12
20. On trade, the environment and development	27	36	29	29
21. On competition and consumer protection laws and policies	22	48	27	33
22. On supporting commodity-dependent developing countries to formulate strategies and policies and harness development gains, and respond to the challenges and opportunities of commodity markets	5	5	14	10
23. On the changing international trade landscape and trade costs	1	2	1	3
24. On challenges and opportunities of international trade for the promotion of sustainable development	2	17	2	3
25. Ad hoc expert discussions on the role of competition law and policy, and on consumer protection law and policy	1	1	1	1
26. Geneva Trade and Development Workshop series, held jointly by UNCTAD, WTO, the University of Geneva and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies	4	4	4	4
Publications (number of publications)	35	32	26	17
27. On trade and the environment	6	9	4	4
28. On trade, a gender perspective and development	3	4	3	2
29. On trade, services, the international trading system and the creative economy	6	3	4	3
30. On trade trends and policy in the international context	9	5	8	3
31. On trade, market efficiency and consumer welfare and on competition and consumer protection policies	6	6	4	2
32. On trade, commodities, economic diversification and value addition	5	5	3	3

Category and subcategory	2023 planned	2023 actual	2024 planned	2025 planned
Technical materials (number of materials)	12	12	13	12
33. Reports on UNCTAD work on competition and consumer protection policies and on the Global Commodities Forum	2	2	2	2
34. Handbooks and policy briefs on classification of non-tariff measures, the Generalized System of Preferences and effective competition and/or consumer protection agencies	3	3	3	3
35. <i>Manual on Consumer Protection</i>	1	1	1	1
36. Model law on competition	1	1	1	1
37. On competition and consumer protection under the UNCTAD Research Partnership Platform	1	1	1	1
38. UNCTAD, WTO and ITC publication <i>World Tariff Profiles</i>	1	1	1	1
39. Trade-related aspects of the <i>Sustainable Development Goals Report</i>	1	1	1	1
40. United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standards	–	–	1	–
41. On topics in international trade negotiations	2	2	2	2

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: advice on trade-related decision-making to five member States and two regional South-South economic integration groupings; advice on integration into the global economy and participation in regional and multilateral trade agreements; advice on integration of trade concerns into national trade and services policies; consultation on cooperation and partnerships for inclusive growth and sustainable development; advice on trade and a gender perspective; advice on developing competition and consumer protection frameworks; consultation on trade and environment issues and creative economy potential for sustainable development.

Databases and substantive digital materials: World Integrated Trade Solution and Trade Analysis and Information System; online training courses on non-tariff measures for approximately 300 people and on negotiating regional trade agreements for trade in times of crisis and pandemic; a teaching package on trade and a gender perspective.

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: multi-stakeholder meeting on commodities and development; BioTrade Congress; event on trade and a gender perspective; event on the creative economy; lectures and exhibits on issues related to the work of the subprogramme; newsletters on the Generalized System of Preferences and on UNCTAD work on competition and consumer protection; brochures and flyers on trade and a gender perspective and on commodity policy research and implementation and projects; booklets and fact sheets related to the work of the subprogramme.

External and media relations: press releases and op-ed pieces.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: interactive tools related to national competition and consumer protection laws, commercial diplomacy and dispute settlement; UNCTAD, WTO and ITC website on trade-related Sustainable Development Goals and indicators; electronic version of the model law on competition.

Subprogramme 4 Technology and logistics

Objective

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

Strategy

- 12.60 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will:
- (a) Provide research and analysis and policy recommendations for capturing value in the digital economy and generating more inclusive outcomes, including through the flagship publication *Digital Economy Report*, and support developing countries in measuring e-commerce and the digital economy;

- (b) Foster and ensure that the interests of developing countries are identified and integrated into international policy dialogues on e-commerce and the digital economy, including through the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy and UNCTAD eWeek;
- (c) Assist developing countries in systematically assessing the state of play and readiness to engage and integrate into the digital economy, through eTrade Readiness Assessments, e-commerce strategies and action plans, as well as by providing sustained support for their implementation, including through the eTrade Reform Tracker, to facilitate the coordination, monitoring and follow-up of national e-commerce policy reform actions;
- (d) Ensure that international debates on science, technology and innovation incorporate the perspectives and priorities of developing countries through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, among others;
- (e) Inform policies and deliberations on science, technology and innovation for development, especially on frontier technologies, through research and analysis, such as the flagship publication *Technology and Innovation Report* and other reports analysing policy options, including for the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development;
- (f) Develop knowledge of policymakers on various aspects of trade policies and interrelated issues of finance, investment and technology and sustainable development, and build capacities of member States in science, technology and innovation for development, including through science, technology and innovation policy reviews, technology assessment and foresight exercises;
- (g) Support implementation of trade facilitation reforms, in particular the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation, and enhance its support for the development and the implementation of appropriate legal and regulatory frameworks that reduce trade transaction costs, as well as supporting trade facilitation reforms and automation through the Automated System for Customs Data;
- (h) Provide technical assistance, data and policy recommendations and promote the sharing of best practices on the integration of developing countries into regional and global supply chains and transport networks, through the flagship publication *Review of Maritime Transport* and other research products, legislative frameworks and capacity-building, including the Training Development in the Field of International Trade (TrainForTrade) programme on port management;
- (i) Foster international policy dialogue on trade logistics issues, ensuring that the interests and specific challenges facing developing countries are addressed in relevant regional and international forums, and in this context continue to address specific trade logistics challenges affecting small island developing States and landlocked developing countries;
- (j) Mainstream the cross-cutting issue of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls across the three pillars of the subprogramme, with a special focus on empowering women digital entrepreneurs and enhancing their digital skills and opportunities.

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

- (a) Improved capacity and policy formulation at the national, regional and global levels on e-commerce and digital economy for sustainable and inclusive development;
- (b) Improved coordination among Governments, together with development partners, civil society and the private sector, to implement policies on e-commerce and the digital economy that work for sustainable and inclusive development;
- (c) Improved knowledge and understanding of policy options by policymakers and international consensus on emerging challenges and opportunities in science, technology and innovation for sustainable and inclusive development, as well as increased capacity of policymakers to assess, analyse and formulate policies on key issues on the international economic agenda;
- (d) Member States implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism;

- (e) Member States harnessing science, technology and innovation for their national development strategies;
- (f) Countries addressing key and emerging issues in trade logistics, including maritime transport policies and port management;
- (g) Member States implementing trade facilitation reforms, including the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation;
- (h) Enhanced capacity of member States to design and implement policies and action aimed at improving the efficiency of trade transactions, as well as the management of transport operations, including through the Automated System for Customs Data programme.

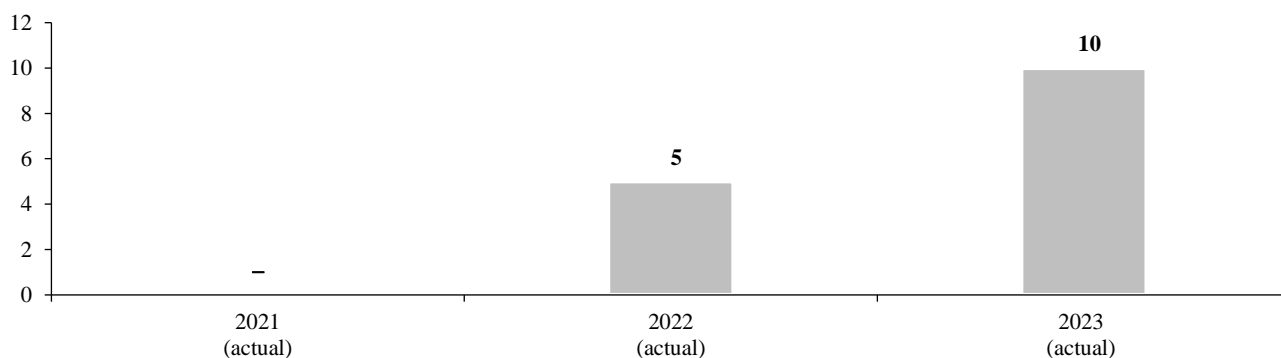
Programme performance in 2023

Enhanced food security of developing countries through satellite technology

- 12.62 Crop monitoring through Earth observation can enable better food security planning and sustainable agriculture. The CropWatch Innovative Cooperation Programme, implemented by the subprogramme in the context of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, uses satellite data made available through partnerships to monitor crop conditions and integrates such data with other climate-related data on drought, pests and disease for better farm management. Algeria, Ghana, Mauritius, Nigeria, Zambia and Zimbabwe, among others, gained access to satellite data and remote-sensing technology and were trained to use it, allowing participating countries to better deal with food security issues and to increase harvests and, therefore, food supply.
- 12.63 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 12.VI).

Figure 12.VI

Performance measure: number of developing countries using satellite data and remote-sensing monitoring systems in addition to manual agricultural surveys (cumulative)



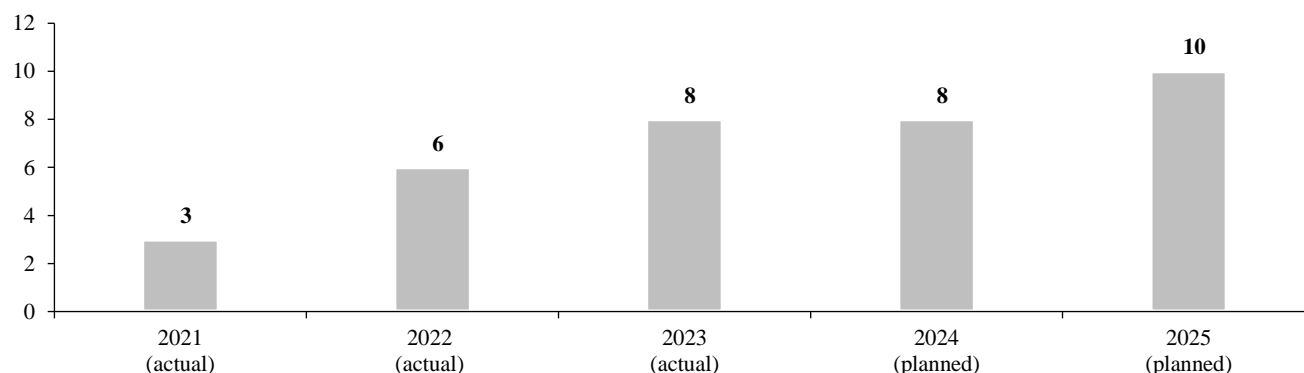
Planned results for 2025

Result 1: simplified trade procedures through the Automated System for Customs Data Single Window

Programme performance in 2023 and target for 2025

- 12.64 The subprogramme’s work contributed to eight new border regulatory agencies and partner governmental agencies participating in and benefiting from the Automated System for Customs Data Single Window system, which met the planned target.
- 12.65 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2025 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 12.VII).

Figure 12.VII
Performance measure: number of new border regulatory agencies and partner governmental agencies participating in and benefiting from the Automated System for Customs Data Single Window system (cumulative)



Result 2: efficient and resilient port management in developing countries for their integration into regional and global supply chains

Programme performance in 2023 and target for 2025

- 12.66 The subprogramme’s work contributed to 12 port entities in developing countries adopting policy measures to improve resilience by enhancing the essential skills and capacities of 1,774 port practitioners from 134 port communities related to ports management during pandemics and disruptions, which exceeded the planned target of five port entities adopting such policy measures.
- 12.67 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2025 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 12.12).

Table 12.12
Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
Increased essential skills and capacities of 809 port practitioners from 96 port communities related to ports management during pandemics and disruptions	Increased essential skills and capacities of 1,000 port practitioners from 112 port communities related to ports management during pandemics and disruptions	12 port entities in 12 countries (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, Ecuador, Ghana, Namibia, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Togo and United Republic of Tanzania) adopted policy measures to improve resilience by delivering more efficient port management in order to increase trade flows and by creating port networks	At least five additional port entities adopt policy measures to improve resilience resulting from increased essential skills and capacities of 1,200 port practitioners from 130 port communities related to ports management during pandemics and disruptions	At least 10 port entities adopted policy measures identified in the compendium on building port resilience against pandemics

Result 3: improved availability of digital economy statistics in developing countries

Proposed programme plan for 2025

12.68 Limited availability of statistics can diminish the ability of policymakers to establish benchmarks and monitor progress in their transformation to a digital economy, as well as to guide digital economy policy that works for development, and can hamper investment decisions by businesses. In responding to the needs of member States, the subprogramme supported national statistical offices or other competent authorities in better capturing, collecting and measuring digital economy-related data in areas such as enterprise surveys on the use of information and communications technology, online retail sales, business-to-consumer and business-to-business e-commerce, and cross-border digital trade, which can provide insights that cover a wider range of countries, especially developing countries.

Lessons learned and planned change

12.69 The lesson for the subprogramme was the importance of statistics to illustrating the diverse ways in which digital transformation is affecting countries at all stages of development, as well as the importance of better statistics on the value of e-commerce to understand its economic role and contributions to GDP, employment and development. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will support the newly established task group on measuring e-commerce value, with the goal of developing international guidelines to be used for providing training at the regional and national levels to build the capacity of member States to produce relevant statistics.

12.70 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 12.13).

Table 12.13
Performance measure

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

Deliverables

12.71 Table 12.14 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 12.14
Subprogramme 4: deliverables for the period 2023–2025, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	2023 planned	2023 actual	2024 planned	2025 planned
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	20	15	18	20
1. Reports to the General Assembly on the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, and on science and technology for development	2	2	1	3
2. Reports to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and its intersessional panels	6	6	6	6
3. Background notes and reports for the Trade and Development Board	2	2	2	2
4. Note by the UNCTAD secretariat and reports for the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission and related expert meetings on issues related to science, technology and innovation	2	1	2	1

Part IV International cooperation for development

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>	<i>2023 actual</i>	<i>2024 planned</i>	<i>2025 planned</i>
5. Note by the UNCTAD secretariat and reports for the Trade and Development Commission and related expert meetings	4	–	4	4
6. Note by the UNCTAD secretariat and reports for the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy	2	2	2	2
7. Note by the UNCTAD secretariat and reports for the Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy	2	2	2	2
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	55	51	47	52
8. Meetings of the General Assembly (Second Committee) and the Economic and Social Council on the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society	3	3	2	2
9. Annual session and intersessional expert panels of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development	16	14	16	16
10. Annual and executive sessions of the Trade and Development Board	3	3	3	3
11. Meetings of the Working Party on the Programme Plan and Programme Performance	2	2	2	2
12. Annual sessions of the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission and related expert meetings	5	4	3	4
13. Annual sessions of the Trade and Development Commission and related expert meetings on transport, trade logistics and trade facilitation	7	7	7	7
14. Meetings of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy	6	6	6	6
15. Meetings of the Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy	4	4	4	4
16. Multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism (with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat)	2	2	2	2
17. Meetings for UNCTAD eWeek	6	6	1	6
18. Meetings of the Global Supply Chain Forum	1	–	1	–
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	32	32	26	26
19. Training Development in the Field of International Trade (TrainForTrade) capacity-building programme: port management; issues related to trade, including e-commerce and statistics; pedagogical methodology	7	7	1	1
20. National, regional and interregional projects on transport and related services, including the Automated System for Customs Data	22	22	22	22
21. Transport, trade facilitation and trade logistics	2	2	2	2
22. E-commerce and the digital economy programme	1	1	1	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	406	549	398	417
23. TrainForTrade seminars, workshops and training sessions	300	300	300	300
24. Seminars, workshops, fellowships and training events on transport, trade logistics and trade facilitation	52	177	33	52
25. Ad hoc expert discussions on transport, trade logistics and trade facilitation	1	1	1	1
26. Seminar on the role of technology (including information and communications technology) and innovation in development, including for the operationalization of technology transfer, including ad hoc expert discussions	1	1	1	1
27. Seminars, workshops and training events on e-commerce and the digital economy for development, including on information economy statistics, economic, technical, legal and regulatory aspects of e-commerce and the digital economy for development and e-commerce, and measuring the digital economy and eTrade for Women	12	12	12	12
28. Training courses on key issues on the international economic agenda (paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action), regional and short courses	25	25	36	36
29. Seminars, workshops and training events on science, technology and innovation and development	15	33	15	15

Section 12 Trade and development

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>	<i>2023 actual</i>	<i>2024 planned</i>	<i>2025 planned</i>
Publications (number of publications)	17	17	14	14
30. <i>Technology and Innovation Report</i> and overview	–	–	1	1
31. <i>Digital Economy Report</i> and overview	1	–	–	–
32. <i>Review of Maritime Transport</i> and overview	1	1	1	1
33. Reports on science, technology and innovation policy reviews	2	2	1	1
34. E-commerce strategies	2	3	2	2
35. <i>Current Studies on Science, Technology and Innovation</i> series	1	1	1	1
36. Transport and trade logistics and transport and trade facilitation series	2	2	2	2
37. Thematic reports on e-commerce and the digital economy, including statistics, cyberlaw and a gender perspective	2	2	1	2
38. TrainForTrade <i>Port Management</i> series	1	1	2	1
39. eTrade Readiness Assessments	5	5	3	3
Technical materials (number of materials)	12	12	13	13
40. Policy briefs on the following topics: science, technology and innovation; e-commerce and the digital economy; and trade logistics	4	4	4	4
41. Automated System for Customs Data annual report	1	1	1	1
42. <i>Year in Review</i> of the e-commerce and the digital economy programme	1	1	1	1
43. Technical notes on information and communications technology (including e-commerce and the digital economy) for development	2	2	2	2
44. Technical notes on trade facilitation	1	1	1	1
45. Background notes for the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals	1	1	1	1
46. Economic and maritime country profiles	1	1	1	1
47. Report of the UNCTAD TrainForTrade Advisory Group on Strengthening Training Capacity and Human Resource Development	–	–	1	1
48. Technical note on science, technology and innovation for development	1	1	1	1

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: UNCTAD eWeek; advisory services in the area of e-commerce and the digital economy; multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals; sessions of the UNCTAD TrainForTrade Advisory Group on Strengthening Training Capacity and Human Resource Development; policy advice on science, technology and innovation policies for development and consultations on policy and practical aspects of e-commerce and the digital economy, transport policies and international legal instrument standards and rules related to the facilitation of international trade, transport and transport security for port operators and the eTrade for All initiative.

Databases and substantive digital materials: UNCTAD platform for learning and capacity-building managed by the TrainForTrade programme, which trains approximately 1,500 beneficiaries per year; port performance statistics platform; online repository on national trade facilitation committees; Global Cyberlaw Tracker; online e-learning modules for the courses on key issues on the international economic agenda, for 200 users annually; online platform for sustainable freight transport; eTrade for All online platform; digital economy statistics in the UNCTADstat database.

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: newsletters on the Automated System for Customs Data and eTrade for All for more than 3,000 subscribers; transport and trade facilitation newsletter for more than 6,000 recipients; newsletter on science, technology and innovation; brochures, flyers and information kits on the work of the subprogramme.

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

Digital platforms and multimedia content: TrainForTrade; Commission on Science and Technology for Development; Automated System for Customs Data and paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action website; eTrade for All platform; online platforms for innovation policy learning.

Subprogramme 5

Africa, least developed countries and special programmes

Objective

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

Strategy

- 12.73 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will:
- (a) Carry out research and technical cooperation activities to diversify the exports, foster the productive capacities and explore the financing structures of the above-mentioned countries, including through contributions to reports of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly and the reports on the implementation and follow-up of relevant agendas and programmes of action;
 - (b) Implement technical cooperation programmes and develop strategic evidence- and policy-based options to promote sustainable structural economic transformation through productive capacity-building, diversification and support aimed at addressing vulnerability and building resilience, in particular for developing countries;
 - (c) Advocate consensus in the international development community regarding the policy measures that best address the sustainable development problems of least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, including at the multilateral level, through the identification of new policy approaches and methodologies, training and capacity-building workshops, as well as greater interaction with research institutes in least developed countries and with development partners;
 - (d) Strengthen efforts to provide domestic policy support and capacity-building to the targeted groups derived from its innovative research and analysis, development of analytical tools and technical support;
 - (e) Provide technical support to least developed countries that are either in the process of graduation or recently graduated from the least developed country category, including through the provision of General Assembly-mandated vulnerability profiles, as applicable, to ensure their graduation with momentum and a smooth transition towards their new status;
 - (f) Broaden its country-based technical support to include aspects such as national strategies for the development of productive capacities and structural economic transformation, regional trade integration, rules of origin, inequality, poverty and vulnerability, enhanced market access and preference utilization, value addition in strategic products and geographical indications;
 - (g) Support member States in addressing the socioeconomic impact of external shocks on economies in target countries, through research work and technical cooperation, in order to facilitate specific, data-driven policy design and implementation aimed at building resilience;
 - (h) Support African countries in addressing their special concerns and needs, including as articulated in the New Partnership for Africa's Development and in Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want;
 - (i) Support implementation by UNCTAD of the signed memorandum of understanding with the African Continental Free Trade Area secretariat, most notably through research, technical cooperation and targeted policy advice in the targeted areas;

- (j) Deliver training, capacity-building activities and ad hoc research on market access, the productive capacities index, trade preferences and rules of origin to support the WTO least developed countries group to identify and negotiate a common position for the relevant WTO committee meetings;
- (k) The above-mentioned work will help member States, in particular least developed countries and other groups of countries in special situations, to make progress towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 9 and 17.

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

- (a) Enhanced role of productive capacities in fostering structural transformation for inclusive growth and development in beneficiary countries;
- (b) Enhanced capacity of member States to develop and implement policies and programmes to deepen domestic and regional markets and accelerate industrialization and socioeconomic transformation;
- (c) Improved development policy formulation and implementation capacities in countries with specific needs for more effective technical cooperation;
- (d) Enhanced implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area by member States;
- (e) Greater participation by member States in multilateral forums dedicated to enhanced trade through transparent, predictable and simple rules of origin;
- (f) Improved development policy formulation, implementation and monitoring capacities of member States, including greater policy coherence, and capacities to account for current and future shocks, reduce exposure to external shocks and build resilience.

Programme performance in 2023

Increased intraregional trade in West Africa due to the convergence of the legal frameworks on transport, intermediation, transit and trade

12.75 The subprogramme facilitated the creation of ad hoc working groups within the national trade facilitation committees of Benin, Burkina Faso, the Niger and Togo to identify and reach consensus on a common legal framework for transport, intermediation, transit and trade to support increased intraregional trade. The subprogramme further supported the countries through the provision of in-depth analysis and targeted capacity-building activities, and facilitated the signing of the quadrilateral declaration on the convergence of the legal frameworks on transport, intermediation, transit and trade, enhancing the efficiency of the trade corridors linking these countries and facilitating socioeconomic growth and intraregional trade.

12.76 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 12.15).

Table 12.15
Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)
Ad hoc working groups created on transit and transport, with the participation of Benin, Burkina Faso and the Niger	The working groups on transit and transport of the national trade facilitation committees of Benin, Burkina Faso, the Niger and Togo agreed on the elements for the convergence of the legal framework for transport, intermediation, transit and trade	Quadrilateral declaration on the convergence of the legal frameworks on transport, intermediation, transit and trade signed by the ministers of trade and transport of Benin, Burkina Faso, the Niger and Togo

Planned results for 2025

Result 1: enhanced understanding of the challenges and opportunities to foster productive capacities and structural transformation in countries with special needs

Programme performance in 2023 and target for 2025

- 12.77 The subprogramme's work contributed to incorporating the findings of the national and regional productive capacities gap assessments into the vulnerability profiles of those countries found eligible for graduation from the least developed country category in 2021, which met the planned target.
- 12.78 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2025 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 12.16).

Table 12.16

Performance measure

<i>2021 (actual)</i>	<i>2022 (actual)</i>	<i>2023 (actual)</i>	<i>2024 (planned)</i>	<i>2025 (planned)</i>
The UNCTAD productive capacities index made available for all countries on a dedicated web portal, and the subprogramme developed a coherent structure for national and regional productive capacities gap assessments	National productive capacities gap assessments undertaken in six countries (Angola, Ethiopia, Haiti, Kenya, Nigeria and Zambia) Angola and the United Republic of Tanzania designed policies aimed at closing the productive capacity gaps at the domestic level, as indicated in their Common Country Assessments	National and regional productive capacities gap assessments used as input to the General Assembly-mandated vulnerability profiles of those countries found eligible for graduation from the least developed country category (Cambodia, Comoros, Djibouti, Senegal and Zambia)	At least three countries have access to comprehensive and holistic multi-year support programmes to address productive capacity gaps and domestic priorities Improvement of the productive capacities of Angola and the United Republic of Tanzania in areas targeted by the designed policies	Enhanced structural transformation of member States as proxied by performance on the productive capacities index

Result 2: least developed countries are able to graduate through the development of comprehensive strategies and policies for a graduation with momentum and beyond

Programme performance in 2023 and target for 2025

- 12.79 The subprogramme's work contributed to road maps to guide the transition towards graduation for Cambodia (jointly with the Ministry of Commerce), Senegal (jointly with the Ministry of the Economy, Planning and Cooperation) and Zambia (jointly with the Ministry of Finance and National Planning), which met the planned target.
- 12.80 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2025 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 12.17).

Table 12.17
Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
Least developed countries have access to analytical research on how to achieve “graduation with momentum” and fundamental concepts, including the identification of a quantitative evidence base and data sources	Least developed countries have access to policy guidance on the development of a strategy for “graduation with momentum”	Three least developed countries (Cambodia, Senegal and Zambia) that have qualified for graduation have taken steps towards the drafting of a strategy for “graduation with momentum”	At least two least developed countries use industrial policy more effectively to graduate with momentum	At least two least developed countries implement industrial policy measures as articulated in the vulnerability profile At least two least developed countries have engaged in new trade initiatives to adjust their trade policies as a result of graduation

Result 3: enhanced statistical capacity of least developed countries and other developing countries, to help embrace a paradigm shift in the formulation of holistic economic diversification policies

Proposed programme plan for 2025

12.81 To identify gaps in productive capacities and help with economic diversification, the subprogramme has developed benchmarking indices presented under the productive capacities index to identify specific needs and measure progress in structural transformation, as well as provided statistical training sessions to targeted national stakeholders. The subprogramme has also developed a web-based portal containing detailed data on the rate of utilization of the Generalized System of Preferences, allowing policymakers and firms to draw policy conclusions to make informed choices on trade policies and business practices.

Lessons learned and planned change

12.82 The lesson for the subprogramme was that strengthening the statistical capacity of national policymakers can help with obtaining national buy-in and ownership of national development strategies for economic diversification. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will strengthen engagement with beneficiary countries to upgrade their statistical capacity and share revised methodological approaches to enable beneficiaries to use the productive capacities index more effectively in the implementation of national development strategies and holistic programmes. In addition, the subprogramme will enhance its support to the most vulnerable countries to develop forward-looking trade policies for regional and multilateral trade to ensure the successful implementation of regional trade initiatives, including the African Continental Free Trade Area and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, leveraging updated generalized system of preferences data.

12.83 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 12.18).

Table 12.18
Performance measure

2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (actual)	2024 (planned)	2025 (planned)
First generation of the productive capacities index was made available to member States	Capacities of national statisticians in nine least developed countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nepal, Timor-Leste and Zambia) were enhanced on the use of the productive capacities index for policymaking and on the database on rates of utilization of the Generalized System of Preferences	Second generation of the productive capacities index was made available to member States	At least two least developed countries or other most vulnerable countries make reference to productive capacities, including the productive capacities index, in their national development strategies The updated database on rates of utilization of the Generalized System of Preferences and statistical training are available to member States	At least two least developed countries or other most vulnerable countries apply the statistical tools, including the productive capacities index, to monitor trade and development progress, contributing to structural economic transformation

Deliverables

12.84 Table 12.19 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 12.19
Subprogramme 5: deliverables for the period 2023–2025, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	2023 planned	2023 actual	2024 planned	2025 planned
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	7	7	3	3
1. Reports for the Economic and Social Council, including on vulnerability profiles	5	5	1	1
2. Reports for the Trade and Development Board on UNCTAD-wide activities for least developed countries and UNCTAD-wide activities in favour of Africa	2	2	2	2
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	9	9	8	8
3. Meetings of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and its Committee for Development Policy	2	2	1	1
4. Annual and executive sessions of the Trade and Development Board	5	5	5	5
5. Meetings of the Working Party on the Programme Plan and Programme Performance	2	2	2	2
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	2	3	3	1
6. On trade, finance, transit and development to build national capacity	1	1	3	1
7. On the Enhanced Integrated Framework	1	2	–	–

Section 12 Trade and development

Category and subcategory	2023 planned	2023 actual	2024 planned	2025 planned
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	26	48	30	50
Workshops:				
8. On trade issues relevant to least developed and African countries, including on duty-free and quota-free market access, diagnostic trade integration study and post-diagnostic trade integration study and trade activities under the Enhanced Integrated Framework and structural transformation and progress towards post-least developed country status	13	25	10	22
9. On the implementation of the new initiatives that will replace the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, issues of thematic or sectoral relevance to landlocked developing countries, the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the decade 2022–2031, national productive gap assessments and holistic development programmes, the agreed outcome of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, and trade and poverty	10	17	14	20
10. On matters relevant to development in least developed countries and Africa	3	6	6	8
Publications (number of publications)	14	13	13	12
11. <i>The Least Developed Countries Report</i> and its overview	2	2	2	2
12. <i>The Economic Development in Africa Report</i> and its overview	2	2	2	2
13. Report on building and measuring productive capacities	3	3	1	1
14. Report on enhancing coherence between trade and industrial strategies for poverty alleviation in Africa and a special issues paper on Africa	2	2	2	1
15. Analytical studies on duty-free and quota-free market access and rules of origin	1	–	1	1
16. Lessons learned on geographical indications and related analysis for least developed countries	–	–	1	1
17. Sectoral, statistical and thematic issues of interest for developing countries: policy implications for fostering productive capacities and structural economic transformation and on the national productive capacities gap assessments	1	1	1	2
18. Research papers on economic development issues in least developed countries and Africa	3	3	3	2
Technical materials (number of materials)	8	9	5	7
19. Technical material on trade and poverty	2	1	2	1
20. Technical material on trade and development in vulnerable economies, including small island developing States	6	7	3	5
21. Technical material on transit, transport and trade facilitation	–	1	–	1

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: policy advice to ministries of trade, transport and planning on the new programme of action that will replace the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 and to national statistical offices on measuring productive capacities for targeted groups of countries; advice on strategies for graduation with momentum for graduating and graduated least developed countries; advice on trade and development issues for small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries; advice for least developed countries on trade issues relevant to them; consultations on UNCTAD activities related to the New Partnership for Africa's Development; and consultations with United Nations partner agencies and African countries for the implementation of the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa.

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: lectures on issues related to least developed countries and African development, trade policy, globalization, trade development strategies and policy coherence for the benefit of member States, for a minimum of 100 participants; and policy briefs related flagship reports.

External and media relations: press releases, press conferences and interviews and opinion pieces on flagship reports and other topical research, including policy recommendations.

B. Proposed post and non-post resource requirements for 2025

Overview

12.85 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025, including the breakdown of resource changes, as applicable, are reflected in tables 12.20 to 12.22.

Table 12.20

Overall: evolution of financial resources by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes				Total	Percentage	2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other				
Posts	71 640.1	75 250.5	–	–	(202.5)	(202.5)	(0.3)	75 048.0	
Other staff costs	1 104.1	1 865.2	–	–	–	–	–	1 865.2	
Hospitality	6.9	9.8	–	–	–	–	–	9.8	
Consultants	977.4	1 112.7	–	–	–	–	–	1 112.7	
Experts	103.9	399.0	–	–	–	–	–	399.0	
Travel of representatives	131.8	207.1	–	–	–	–	–	207.1	
Travel of staff	806.7	1 058.5	–	–	–	–	–	1 058.5	
Contractual services	1 226.4	957.5	–	–	–	–	–	957.5	
General operating expenses	1 964.4	2 112.2	–	–	119.6	119.6	5.7	2 231.8	
Supplies and materials	70.1	223.1	–	–	–	–	–	223.1	
Furniture and equipment	314.8	393.8	–	–	–	–	–	393.8	
Grants and contributions	16.7	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Other	15.1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	
Total	78 378.6	83 589.4	–	–	(82.9)	(82.9)	(0.1)	83 506.5	

Table 12.21

Overall: proposed posts and post changes for 2025

(Number of posts)

	Number	Details
Approved for 2024	388	1 USG, 1 ASG, 5 D-2, 20 D-1, 52 P-5, 66 P-4, 76 P-3, 35 P-2/1, 10 GS (PL), 122 GS (OL)
Establishment	1	1 Economic Affairs Officer (P-3) under subprogramme 1
Abolishment	(2)	1 Documents Management Assistant (GS (OL)) and 1 Staff Assistant (GS (OL)) under subprogramme 1
Proposed for 2025	387	1 USG, 1 ASG, 5 D-2, 20 D-1, 52 P-5, 66 P-4, 77 P-3, 35 P-2/1, 10 GS (PL), 120 GS (OL)

Note: The following abbreviations are used in the tables and figures: ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; GS (OL), General Service (Other level); GS (PL), General Service (Principal level); USG, Under-Secretary-General.

Table 12.22
Overall: proposed posts by category and grade^a

(Number of posts)

Category and grade	2024 approved	Changes				Total	2025 proposed
		Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other			
Professional and higher							
USG	1	–	–	–	–	–	1
ASG	1	–	–	–	–	–	1
D-2	5	–	–	–	–	–	5
D-1	20	–	–	–	–	–	20
P-5	52	–	–	–	–	–	52
P-4	66	–	–	–	–	–	66
P-3	76	–	–	1	1	1	77
P-2/1	35	–	–	–	–	–	35
Subtotal	256	–	–	1	1	1	257
General Service and related							
GS (PL)	10	–	–	–	–	–	10
GS (OL)	122	–	–	(2)	(2)	(2)	120
Subtotal	132	–	–	(2)	(2)	(2)	130
Total	388	–	–	(1)	(1)	(1)	387

^a Includes four temporary posts (1 Senior Economic Affairs Officer (P-5), 2 Economic Affairs Officers (P-4) and 1 Economic Affairs Officer (P-3)).

12.86 Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2025 are reflected in tables 12.23 to 12.25 and figure 12.VIII.

12.87 As shown in tables 12.23 (1) and 12.24 (1), the overall resources proposed for 2025 amount to \$83,506,500 before recosting, reflecting a net decrease of \$82,900 (or 0.1 per cent) compared with the approved budget for 2024. Resource changes result from other changes. The proposed level of resources provides for the full, efficient and effective implementation of mandates.

Table 12.23
Overall: evolution of financial resources by source of funding, component and subprogramme

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) Regular budget

Component/subprogramme	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes				Total	Percentage	2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other				
A. Policymaking organs	212.2	224.7	–	–	–	–	–	224.7	
B. Executive direction and management									
1. Executive direction and management	8 522.9	9 282.1	–	–	–	–	–	9 282.1	
2. Memorandum of Understanding	1 565.4	2 645.5	–	–	–	–	–	2 645.5	
Subtotal, B	10 088.4	11 927.6	–	–	–	–	–	11 927.6	

Part IV International cooperation for development

Component/subprogramme	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes					2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
C. Programme of work								
1. Globalization, interdependence and development	8 636.6	9 608.8	–	–	(202.5)	(202.5)	(2.1)	9 406.3
2. Investment and enterprise	13 413.6	14 855.0	–	–	–	–	–	14 855.0
3. International trade and commodities	15 884.5	16 405.7	–	–	–	–	–	16 405.7
4. Technology and logistics	10 630.9	10 368.2	–	–	–	–	–	10 368.2
5. Africa, least developed countries and special programmes	5 926.6	6 150.0	–	–	–	–	–	6 150.0
Subtotal, C	54 492.2	57 387.7	–	–	(202.5)	(202.5)	(0.4)	57 185.2
D. Programme support	13 585.7	14 049.4	–	–	119.6	119.6	0.9	14 169.0
Subtotal, 1	78 378.6	83 589.4	–	–	(82.9)	(82.9)	(0.1)	83 506.5

(2) *Extrabudgetary*

Component/subprogramme	2023 expenditure	2024 estimate	Change	Percentage	2025 estimate
A. Policymaking organs	–	–	–	–	–
B. Executive direction and management					
1. Executive direction and management	2 449.5	2 449.5	–	–	2 449.5
2. Memorandum of Understanding	–	–	–	–	–
Subtotal, B	2 449.5	2 449.5	–	–	2 449.5
C. Programme of work					
1. Globalization, interdependence and development	7 609.6	7 609.6	–	–	7 609.6
2. Investment and enterprise	5 429.9	5 429.9	–	–	5 429.9
3. International trade and commodities	3 227.4	3 227.4	–	–	3 227.4
4. Technology and logistics	35 056.1	35 056.1	–	–	35 056.1
5. Africa, least developed countries and special programmes	2 308.7	2 308.7	–	–	2 308.7
Subtotal, C	53 631.7	53 631.7	–	–	53 631.7
D. Programme support	5 244.8	5 244.8	–	–	5 244.8
Subtotal, 2	61 326.0	61 326.0	–	–	61 326.0
Total	139 704.6	144 915.4	(82.9)	(0.1)	144 832.5

Section 12 Trade and development

Table 12.24

Overall: proposed posts for 2025 by source of funding, component and subprogramme

(Number of posts)

(1) *Regular budget*

Component/subprogramme	Changes				Total	2025 proposed
	2024 approved	Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other		
A. Policymaking organs	–	–	–	–	–	–
B. Executive direction and management						
1. Executive direction and management	49	–	–	–	–	49
2. Memorandum of Understanding	–	–	–	–	–	–
Subtotal, B	49	–	–	–	–	49
C. Programme of work						
1. Globalization, interdependence and development	46	–	–	(1)	(1)	45
2. Investment and enterprise	75	–	–	–	–	75
3. International trade and commodities	82	–	–	–	–	82
4. Technology and logistics	52	–	–	–	–	52
5. Africa, least developed countries and special programmes	29	–	–	–	–	29
Subtotal, C	284	–	–	(1)	(1)	283
D. Programme support	55	–	–	–	–	55
Subtotal, 1	388	–	–	(1)	(1)	387

(2) *Extrabudgetary*

Component/subprogramme	2024 estimate	Change	2025 estimate
A. Policymaking organs	–	–	–
B. Executive direction and management			
1. Executive direction and management	1	–	1
2. Memorandum of Understanding	–	–	–
Subtotal, B	1	–	1
C. Programme of work			
1. Globalization, interdependence and development	–	–	–
2. Investment and enterprise	–	–	–
3. International trade and commodities	–	–	–
4. Technology and logistics	1	–	1
5. Africa, least developed countries and special programmes	–	–	–
Subtotal, C	1	–	1

Part IV International cooperation for development

Component/subprogramme	2024 estimate	Change	2025 estimate
D. Programme support	13	–	13
Subtotal, 2	15	–	15
Total	403	(1)	402

Table 12.25

Overall: evolution of financial and post resources

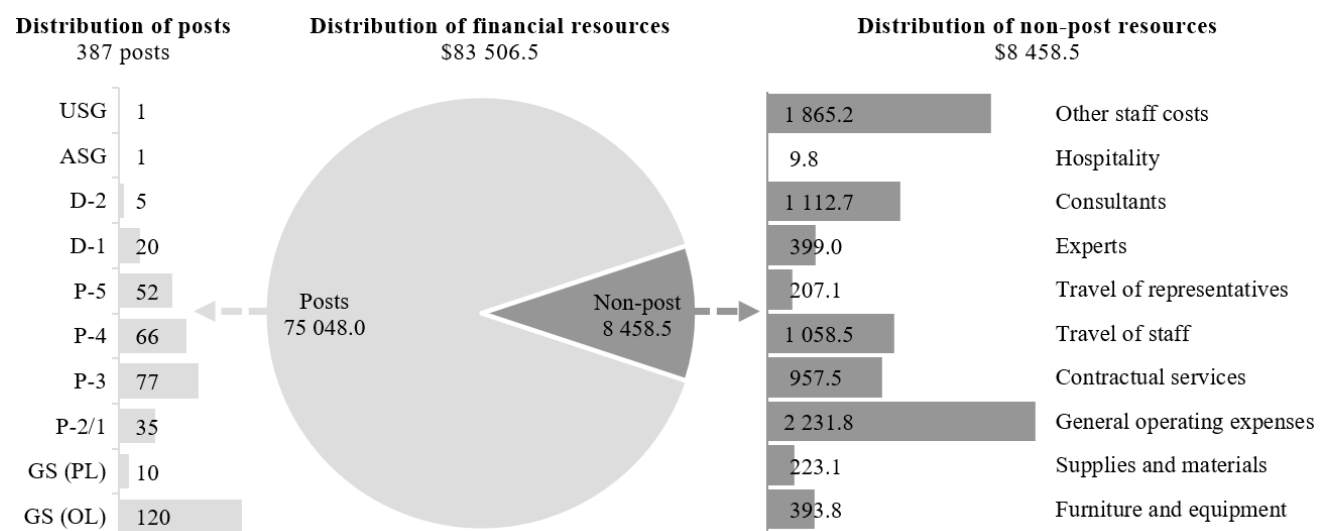
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes					2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Posts	71 640.1	75 250.5	–	–	(202.5)	(202.5)	(0.3)	75 048.0
Non-post	6 738.4	8 338.9	–	–	119.6	119.6	1.4	8 458.5
Total	78 378.6	83 589.4	–	–	(82.9)	(82.9)	(0.1)	83 506.5
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		256	–	–	1	1	0.4	257
General Service and related		132	–	–	(2)	(2)	(1.5)	130
Total		388	–	–	(1)	(1)	(0.3)	387

Figure 12.VIII

Distribution of proposed resources for 2025 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Explanation of variances by factor, component and subprogramme

Overall resource changes

Other changes

12.88 As shown in table 12.23 (1), resource changes reflect a net decrease of \$82,900, as follows:

- (a) **Subprogramme 1, Globalization, interdependence and development.** The net decrease of \$202,500 under posts relates to the proposed abolishment of one Documents Management Assistant (General Service (Other level)) and one Staff Assistant (General Service (Other level)), offset in part by the proposed establishment of one Economic Affairs Officer (P-3), as reflected in annex II;
- (b) **Programme support.** The increase of \$119,600 under general operating expenses relates to the higher anticipated requirements for: (i) the information and communications technology services provided by the United Nations Office at Geneva and the United Nations International Computing Centre reflecting increased digitalization efforts; and (ii) document reproduction-related services provided by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management reflecting increased information dissemination and outreach activities.

Extrabudgetary resources

12.89 As reflected in tables 12.23 (2) and 12.24 (2), extrabudgetary resources amount to \$61,326,000. The resources would complement regular budget resources and would be used to provide for 15 posts (1 D-2, 1 P-5, 2 P-4, 2 P-3 and 9 General Service (Other level)) to perform mainly the administrative functions related to the extrabudgetary activities. In addition, non-post resources would be used to perform various technical cooperation activities, such as technical advisory services, training, workshops, seminars and field projects.

12.90 The extrabudgetary resources under the present section are subject to the oversight of UNCTAD, which has delegated authority from the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Polymaking organs

12.91 The resources proposed under this component would provide for the polymaking organs as shown in table 12.26.

Table 12.26

Polymaking organs

(Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Polymaking organ</i>	<i>Additional information</i>	<i>2024 approved</i>	<i>2025 estimate (before recosting)</i>
Commission on Science and Technology for Development	Mandate: General Assembly resolution 46/235 Membership: 43 government experts One session per year One intersessional panel per year	170.8	170.8
Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission	Mandate: General Assembly resolution 49/130 TD/442 , TD/442/Corr.1 and TD/442/Corr.2 (Accra Accord), para. 202 Membership: 16 experts One session per year	36.3	36.3

Part IV International cooperation for development

<i>Policymaking organ</i>	<i>Additional information</i>	<i>2024 approved</i>	<i>2025 estimate (before recosting)</i>
Quadrennial session of UNCTAD	Mandate: General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) , para. 2 Held every four years	17.6	17.6
Total		224.7	224.7

12.92 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025 amount to \$224,700 and reflect no change compared with the approved budget for 2024. Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2025 are reflected in table 12.27 and figure 12.IX.

Table 12.27
Policymaking organs: evolution of financial resources

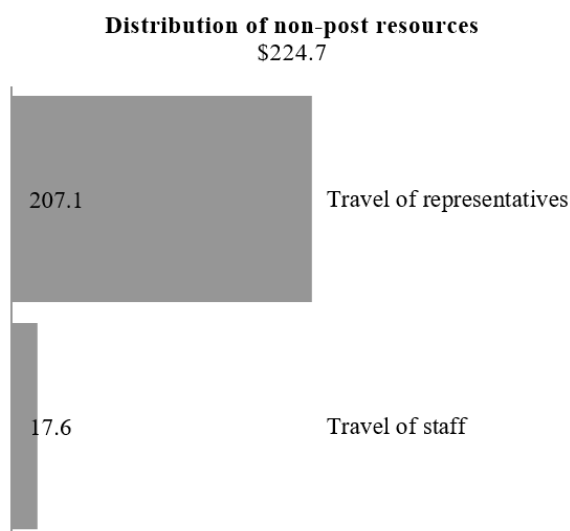
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	<i>2023 expenditure</i>	<i>2024 approved</i>	<i>Changes</i>				<i>Total</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>2025 estimate (before recosting)</i>
			<i>Technical adjustments</i>	<i>New/expanded mandates</i>	<i>Other</i>				
Financial resources by main category of expenditure									
Non-post	212.2	224.7	–	–	–	–	–	224.7	
Total	212.2	224.7	–	–	–	–	–	224.7	

Figure 12.IX

Policymaking organs: distribution of proposed resources for 2025 (before recosting)

(Thousands of United States dollars)



Executive direction and management

1. Executive direction and management

12.93 The Office of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD coordinates cross-cutting institutional processes, such as the systematic inclusion of gender equality aspects in all areas of the work of UNCTAD and reaching gender parity in staff. To that end, the Office of the Secretary-General will continue to

coordinate the Gender Task Force, which is chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD and is mandated to improve and better coordinate gender mainstreaming activities, including by appointing, for each UNCTAD subprogramme, gender focal points whose responsibilities include reviewing and clearing trust fund project documents from a gender mainstreaming perspective. The Statistics Coordination Task Force, chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD, which has the mandate to improve the coordination of statistical activities in UNCTAD and to exploit synergies, sets strategic priorities for UNCTAD statistics and coordinates statistical activities, including production, dissemination and capacity development.

- 12.94 In addition, the Office of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD undertakes communication and external relations activities, which include the planning and delivery of UNCTAD media outreach and external relations activities, web content management, civil society liaison and implementation of the communications strategy, including the production and dissemination of information and media products targeted to specific audiences. It also promotes cooperation and working relationships with civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), trade unions, academia and intergovernmental organizations, and carries out fundraising and intergovernmental liaison activities in respect of civil society work.
- 12.95 Furthermore, the Office of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD coordinates and conducts evaluation activities that serve to ensure and enhance the quality and resonance of UNCTAD programmes and projects, by providing internal oversight, including oversight and management of external evaluations mandated by the Trade and Development Board, oversight and management of project evaluations funded by the United Nations Development Account and external evaluations required by contribution agreements, thus providing strategic support and advice to the management on oversight, self-assessments and self-evaluations.
- 12.96 Additionally, the work of enhancing outreach and promoting UNCTAD objectives at United Nations Headquarters and with relevant actors based in New York and Washington, D.C., including enhancing coordination with all United Nations system entities, funds and specialized programmes, diplomatic missions, the press corps, research institutions, NGOs and technical assistance agencies in the areas of trade, investment, technology and development, is undertaken by the liaison office in New York under the direct guidance of the Office of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD.
- 12.97 The Statistics Service is responsible for supporting the coordination, standardization and coherence of statistical activities throughout the organization and conducting independent quality assurance on UNCTAD statistics. The cross-organizational Service provides relevant and timely statistics and indicators on trade and development, cutting across the areas of work of UNCTAD, including the interrelated issues of finance, technology, transport, investment and sustainable development, for enhanced and data-driven research, analysis and policy action, and, by implementing the UNCTAD Statistics Quality Assurance Framework, aligning the organization's overall statistical requirements to enable better planning, more synergies and quality controls. The Service coordinates data and statistical activities in UNCTAD by developing methods, standards and tools for the collection, compilation, dissemination and use of high-quality statistics adhering to international standards. The Service also contributes to the development of national statistical capacity and global statistics, supports countries' efforts to strengthen their national statistical capacity and develops statistics with international collaboration on topics related to the UNCTAD mandate.
- 12.98 In accordance with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular target 12.6 of the Sustainable Development Goals, in which organizations are encouraged to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycles, and in compliance with the cross-cutting mandate set out in paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution [72/219](#), UNCTAD is integrating environmental management practices into its operations. UNCTAD will continue to reduce its carbon footprint by reviewing all air travel at the senior management level to ensure that all alternatives are considered, and substituting air travel through the use of information and communications tools whenever possible. As a non-resident entity housed within the premises of the United Nations Office at Geneva, the UNCTAD carbon footprint comprises exclusively air travel-related emissions.

Part IV International cooperation for development

12.99 Information on the timely submission of documentation and advance booking for air travel is reflected in table 12.28. UNCTAD will continue to make efforts to further increase the compliance rate, including by monitoring advance ticket purchase compliance in the Management Information System (UNCTAD management dashboard) and reporting to senior management once a month. The Mission Travel Portal, which identifies requests that are not compliant with the advance air ticket purchase policy and sends automated warnings to senior managers, is used by staff members to clear their travel requests with senior management before initiating travel requests in Umoja. In addition, UNCTAD continues to make efforts to raise awareness among staff members and to encourage early planning of meetings and conferences, whenever possible.

Table 12.28
Compliance rate

(Percentage)

	2021 actual	2022 actual	2023 actual	2024 planned	2025 planned
Timely submission of documentation	97	100	100	100	100
Air tickets purchased at least 2 weeks before the commencement of travel	37	52	72	100	100

12.100 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025 amount to \$9,282,100 and reflect no change compared with the approved budget for 2024. Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2025 are reflected in table 12.29 and figure 12.X.

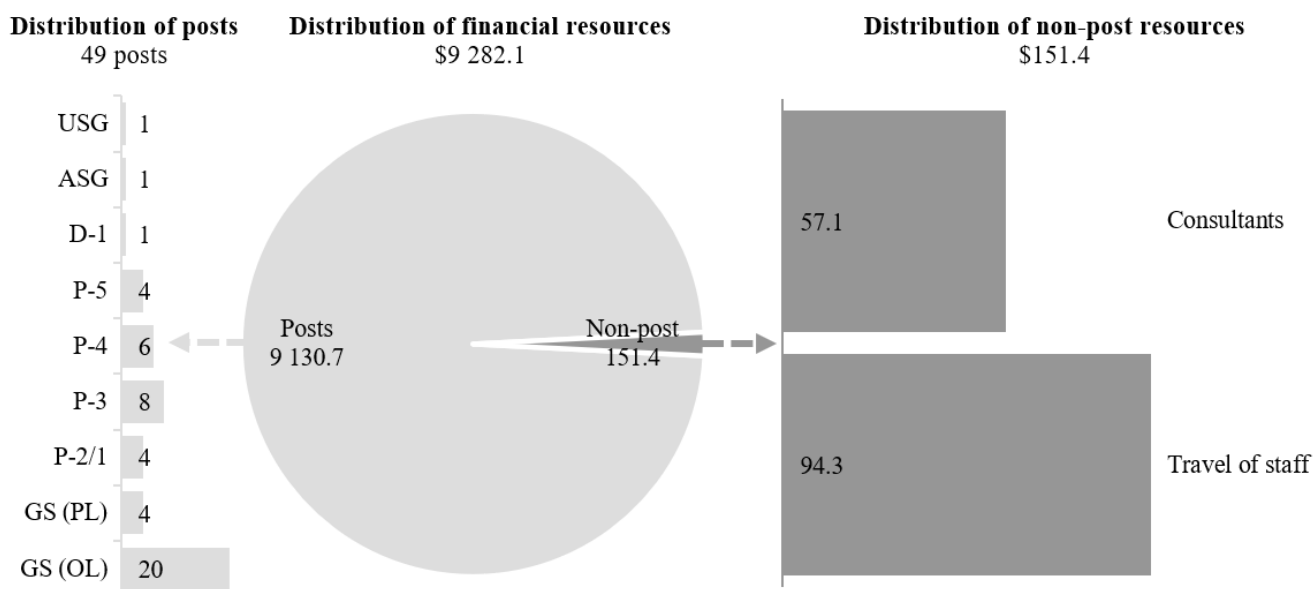
Table 12.29
Executive direction and management: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes				Total	Percentage	2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other				
Financial resources by main category of expenditure									
Posts	8 377.7	9 130.7	–	–	–	–	–	9 130.7	
Non-post	145.2	151.4	–	–	–	–	–	151.4	
Total	8 522.9	9 282.1	–	–	–	–	–	9 282.1	
Post resources by category									
Professional and higher		25	–	–	–	–	–	25	
General Service and related		24	–	–	–	–	–	24	
Total		49	–	–	–	–	–	49	

Figure 12.X
Executive direction and management: distribution of proposed resources for 2025 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



2. Memorandum of Understanding between the Russian Federation and the Secretariat of the United Nations on promoting Russian food products and fertilizers to the world markets

12.101 On 22 July 2022, the Secretary-General, as part of his efforts to address the recent increase in global food insecurity, signed a memorandum of understanding with the Russian Federation on promoting Russian food products and fertilizers to the world markets to facilitate the unimpeded access to the global markets of Russian food products and fertilizers, which are not subject to sanctions. This initiative, known as the Memorandum of Understanding between the Russian Federation and the Secretariat of the United Nations on promoting Russian food products and fertilizers to the world markets, is aimed at bringing stability to global food markets by facilitating global access to agricultural products, including fertilizers and raw materials required to produce fertilizers.

12.102 The Memorandum of Understanding is aimed at the following:

- (a) Continuation of commercial supplies of food and fertilizers from the Russian Federation to the countries in need of such products;
- (b) Continuation of efforts by the Secretariat of the United Nations to facilitate the transparent unimpeded access of food and fertilizers, including raw materials required to produce fertilizers (including ammonia), originating from the Russian Federation to the world market; under the initiative, the Russian Federation informs the Secretariat of any potential or existing impediments to such access that may arise in the sectors of finance, insurance and logistics;
- (c) Facilitation by the Russian Federation of the unimpeded export of food, sunflower oil and fertilizers from the Ukrainian ports.

12.103 To support the Memorandum of Understanding, UNCTAD leads the endeavour to engage with relevant authorities and the private sector to effectively exempt food products and fertilizers, including raw materials required to produce fertilizers (including ammonia), originating in the Russian Federation from measures imposed on the Russian Federation, based on the principle that those measures do not apply to food products and fertilizers.

Part IV International cooperation for development

- 12.104 UNCTAD undertakes in-scope requests from the Russian Federation and provides technical guidance to the Russian Federation and to Russian companies relating to trade facilitation in the context of the Memorandum of Understanding.
- 12.105 In this context, UNCTAD has established a task team to support the Memorandum of Understanding. Its activities include the following:
- (a) Establishment of channels for the mutual exchange of information between the Russian Federation and the Secretariat of the United Nations for the purposes of implementing the Memorandum of Understanding and informing the Secretariat on any impediments to the access of food and fertilizers originating from the Russian Federation to global markets;
 - (b) Facilitation of and support for the efforts of bilateral and multilateral sectoral working groups, involving relevant actors from the government and private sectors;
 - (c) On the basis of in-scope requests received from the Russian Federation, liaison with the private sector, including business associations, industry groups and companies, to address issues arising from non-sanctioned trade related to the Memorandum of Understanding.
- 12.106 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025 amount to \$2,645,500 and reflect no change compared with the approved budget for 2024. Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2025 are reflected in table 12.30 and figure 12.XI.

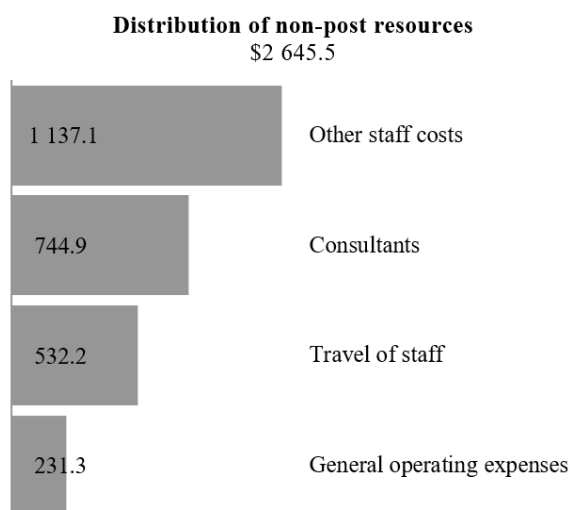
Table 12.30
Memorandum of Understanding: evolution of financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes				Total	Percentage	2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other				
Financial resources by main category of expenditure									
Non-post	1 565.4	2 645.5	–	–	–	–	–	–	2 645.5
Total	1 565.4	2 645.5	–	–	–	–	–	–	2 645.5

Figure 12.XI
Memorandum of Understanding: distribution of proposed resources for 2025 (before recosting)

(Thousands of United States dollars)



Programme of work

Subprogramme 1 Globalization, interdependence and development

12.107 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025 amount to \$9,406,300 and reflect a decrease of \$202,500 compared with the approved budget for 2024. The proposed change is explained in paragraph 12.88 (a). Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2025 are reflected in table 12.31 and figure 12.XII.

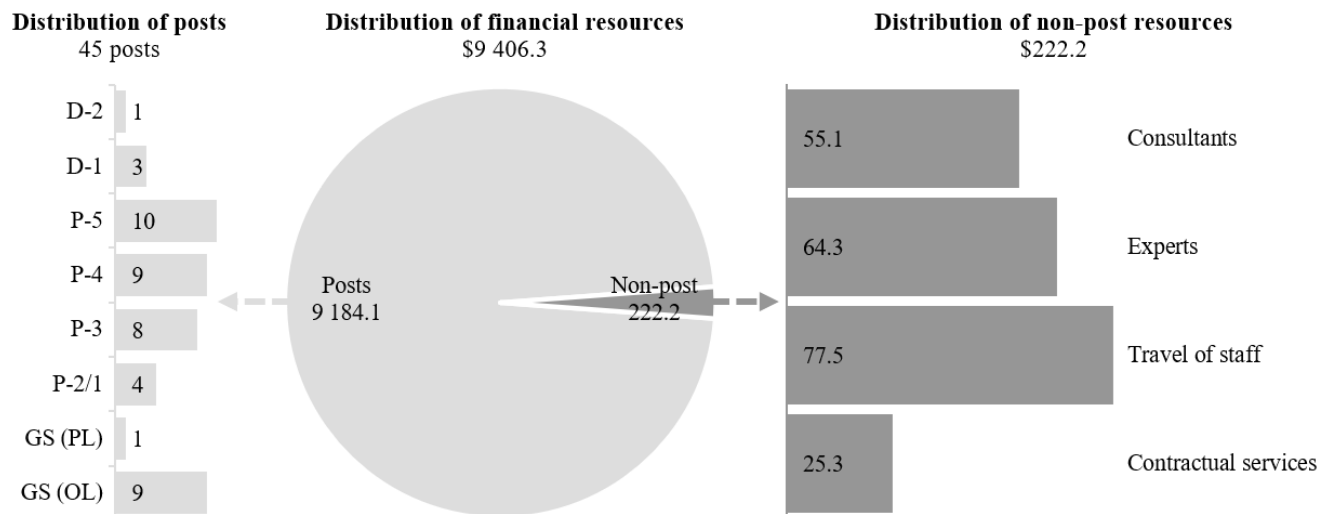
Table 12.31
Subprogramme 1: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes				2025 estimate (before recosting)	
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total		Percentage
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Posts	8 417.8	9 386.6	–	–	(202.5)	(202.5)	(2.2)	9 184.1
Non-post	218.8	222.2	–	–	–	–	–	222.2
Total	8 636.6	9 608.8	–	–	(202.5)	(202.5)	(2.1)	9 406.3
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		34	–	–	1	1	2.9	35
General Service and related		12	–	–	(2)	(2)	(16.7)	10
Total		46	–	–	(1)	(1)	(2.2)	45

Figure 12.XII
Subprogramme 1: distribution of proposed resources for 2025 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



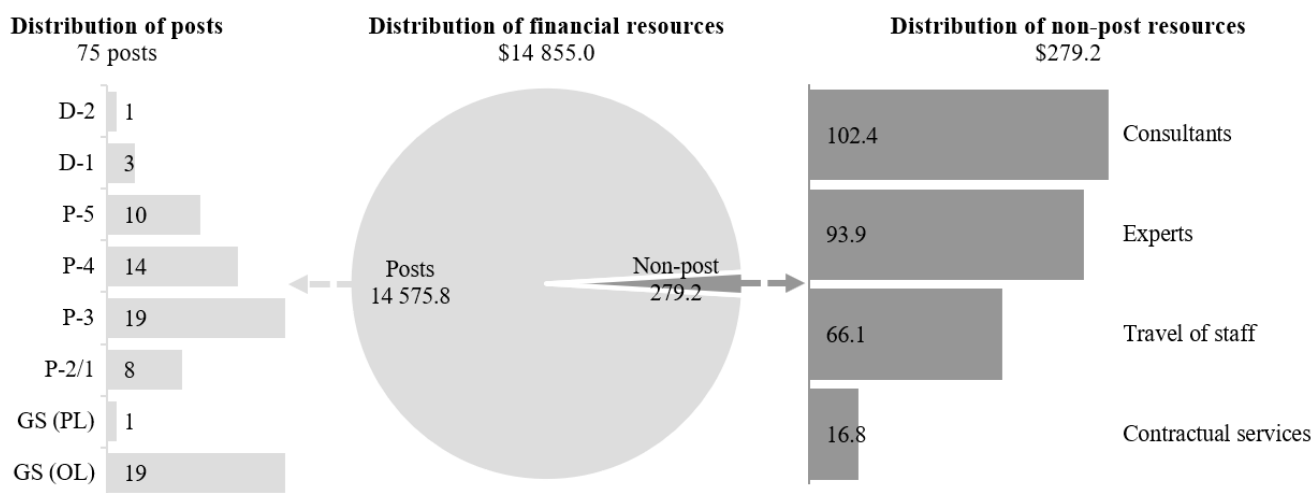
Subprogramme 2 Investment and enterprise

12.108 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025 amount to \$14,855,000 and reflect no change compared with the approved budget for 2024. Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2025 are reflected in table 12.32 and figure 12.XIII.

Table 12.32
Subprogramme 2: evolution of financial and post resources
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes				2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure							
Posts	13 142.5	14 575.8	–	–	–	–	14 575.8
Non-post	271.1	279.2	–	–	–	–	279.2
Total	13 413.6	14 855.0	–	–	–	–	14 855.0
Post resources by category							
Professional and higher		55	–	–	–	–	55
General Service and related		20	–	–	–	–	20
Total		75	–	–	–	–	75

Figure 12.XIII
Subprogramme 2: distribution of proposed resources for 2025 (before recosting)
(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Subprogramme 3 International trade and commodities

12.109 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025 amount to \$16,405,700 and reflect no change compared with the approved budget for 2024. Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2025 are reflected in table 12.33 and figure 12.XIV.

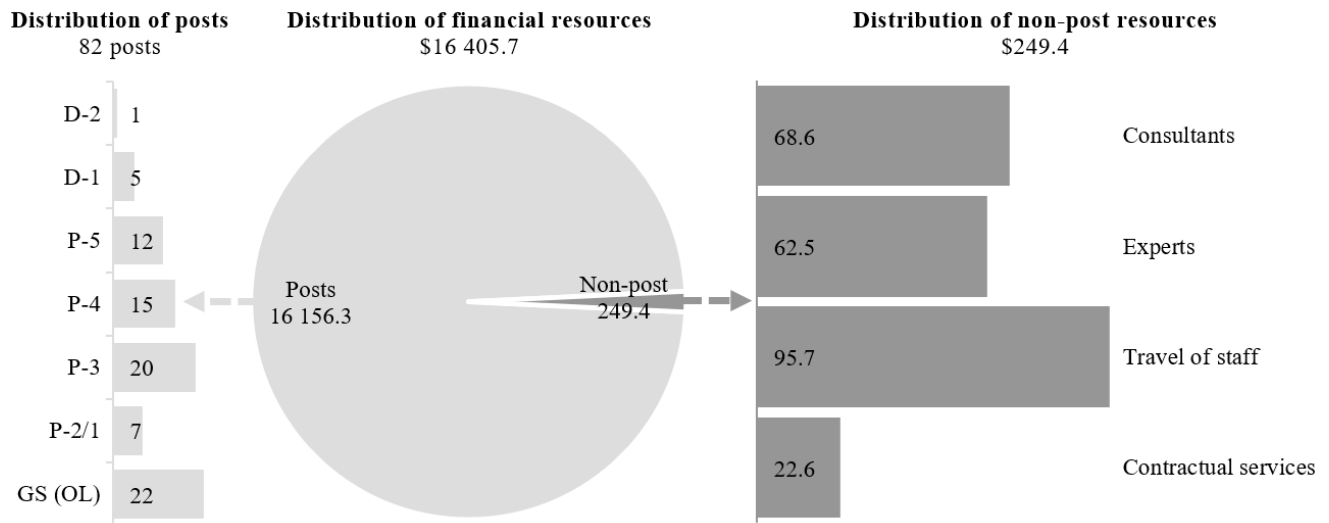
Table 12.33
Subprogramme 3: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes			Total	Percentage	2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other			
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Posts	15 644.5	16 156.3	–	–	–	–	–	16 156.3
Non-post	240.0	249.4	–	–	–	–	–	249.4
Total	15 884.5	16 405.7	–	–	–	–	–	16 405.7
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		60	–	–	–	–	–	60
General Service and related		22	–	–	–	–	–	22
Total		82	–	–	–	–	–	82

Figure 12.XIV
Subprogramme 3: distribution of proposed resources for 2025 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



**Subprogramme 4
 Technology and logistics**

12.110 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025 amount to \$10,368,200 and reflect no change compared with the approved budget for 2024. Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2025 are reflected in table 12.34 and figure 12.XV.

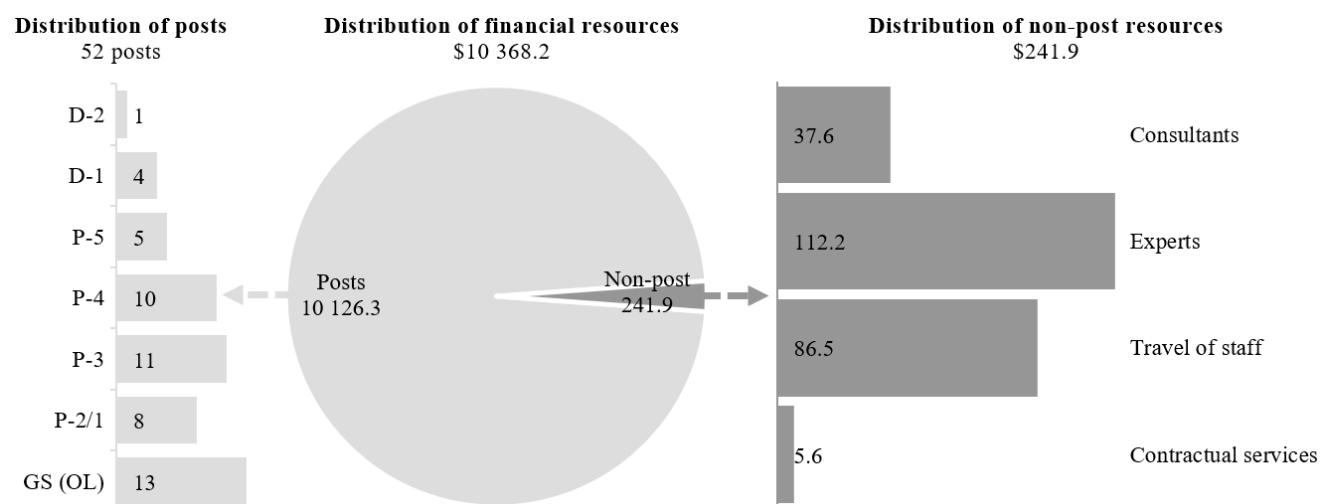
Table 12.34
Subprogramme 4: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes			Total	Percentage	2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other			
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Posts	10 391.2	10 126.3	–	–	–	–	–	10 126.3
Non-post	239.7	241.9	–	–	–	–	–	241.9
Total	10 630.9	10 368.2	–	–	–	–	–	10 368.2
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		39	–	–	–	–	–	39
General Service and related		13	–	–	–	–	–	13
Total		52	–	–	–	–	–	52

Figure 12.XV
Subprogramme 4: distribution of proposed resources for 2025 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



**Subprogramme 5
 Africa, least developed countries and special programmes**

12.111 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025 amount to \$6,150,000 and reflect no change compared with the approved budget for 2024. Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2025 are reflected in table 12.35 and figure 12.XVI.

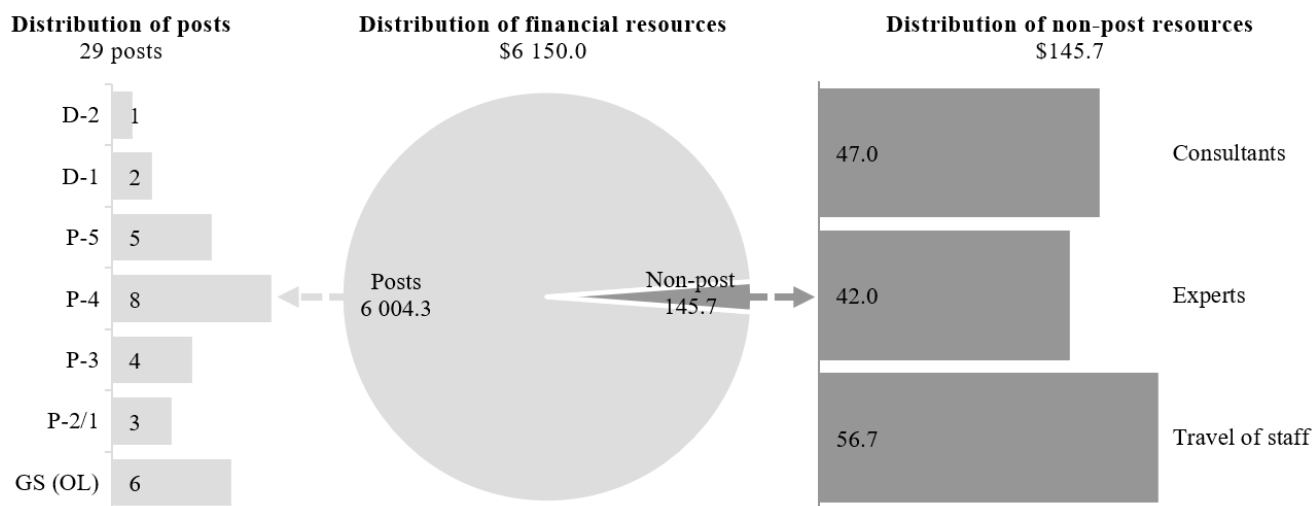
Table 12.35
Subprogramme 5: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes			Total	Percentage	2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other			
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Posts	5 783.4	6 004.3	–	–	–	–	–	6 004.3
Non-post	143.2	145.7	–	–	–	–	–	145.7
Total	5 926.6	6 150.0	–	–	–	–	–	6 150.0
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		23	–	–	–	–	–	23
General Service and related		6	–	–	–	–	–	6
Total		29	–	–	–	–	–	29

Figure 12.XVI
Subprogramme 5: distribution of proposed resources for 2025 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Programme support

12.112 Programme support is responsible for administrative activities that support the smooth work of the programme, including in the areas of human resources, finance and budget, programme planning, intergovernmental activities and technical cooperation.

12.113 The proposed regular budget resources for 2025 amount to \$14,169,000 and reflect an increase of \$119,600 compared with the approved budget for 2024. The proposed change is explained in paragraph 12.88 (b). Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2025 are reflected in table 12.36 and figure 12.XVII.

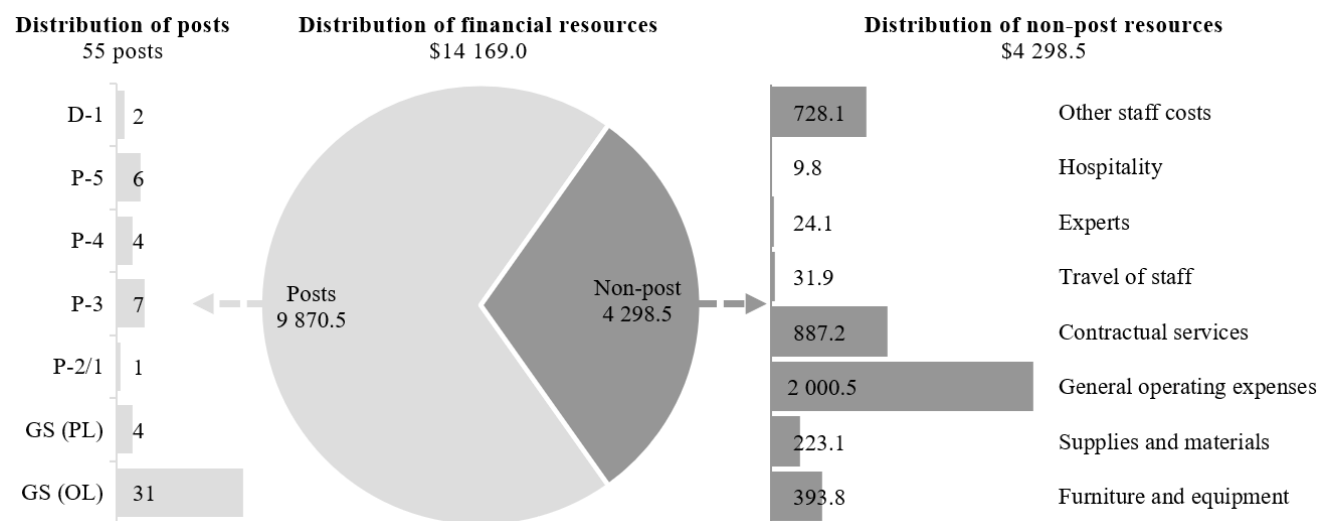
Table 12.36
Programme support: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2023 expenditure	2024 approved	Changes			Total	Percentage	2025 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other			
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Posts	9 883.0	9 870.5	–	–	–	–	–	9 870.5
Non-post	3 702.7	4 178.9	–	–	119.6	119.6	2.9	4 298.5
Total	13 585.7	14 049.4	–	–	119.6	119.6	0.9	14 169.0
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		20	–	–	–	–	–	20
General Service and related		35	–	–	–	–	–	35
Total		55	–	–	–	–	–	55

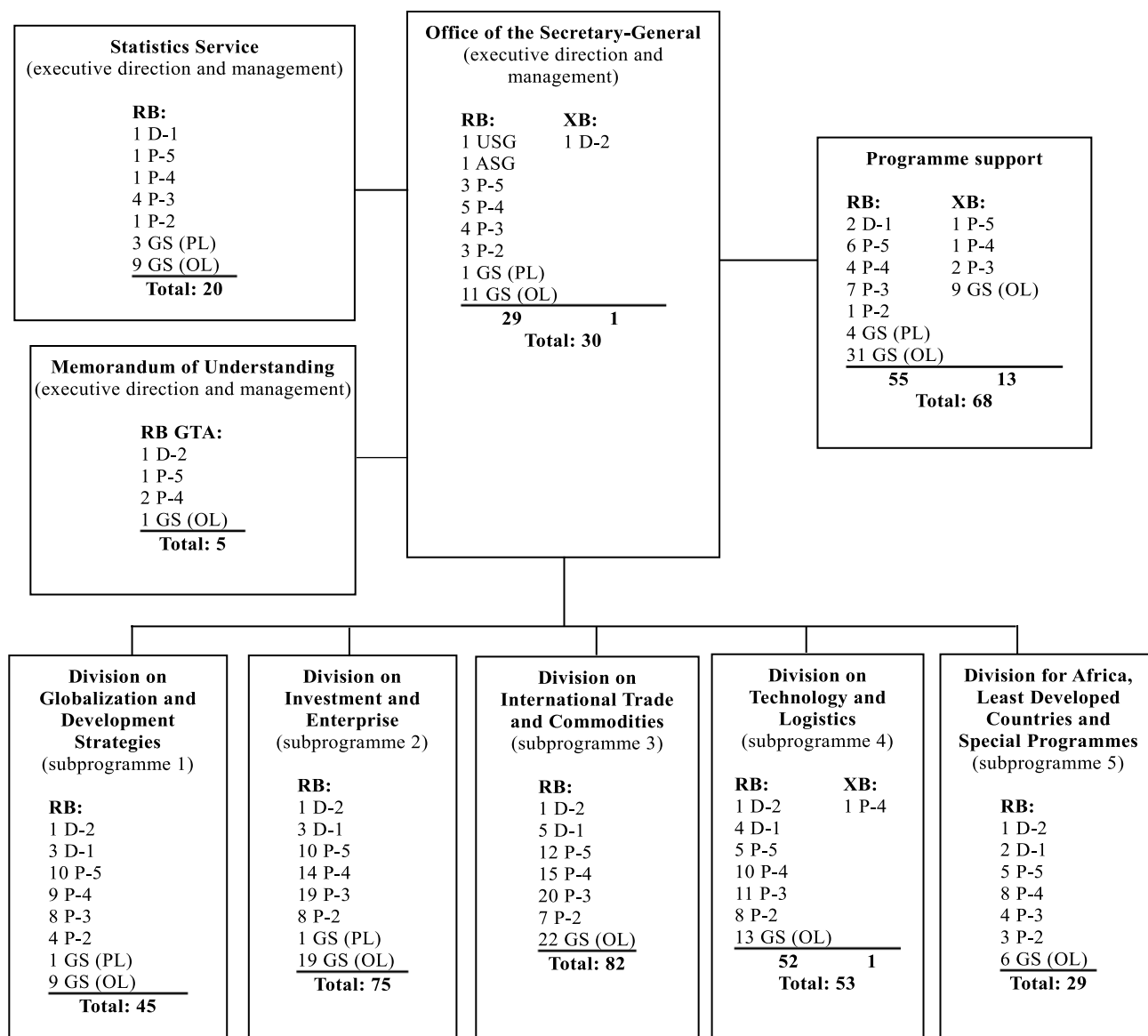
Figure 12.XVII
Programme support: distribution of proposed resources for 2025 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Annex I

Organizational structure and post distribution for 2025



Abbreviations: ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; GS (OL), General Service (Other level); GS (PL), General Service (Principal level); GTA, general temporary assistance; RB, regular budget; USG, Under-Secretary-General; XB, extrabudgetary.

Annex II

Summary of proposed post changes, by component and subprogramme

<i>Component/subprogramme</i>	<i>Posts</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Reason for change</i>
Subprogramme 1, Globalization, interdependence and development	(2)	GS (OL)	Abolishment of one Documents Management Assistant and one Staff Assistant	The proposed abolishment of two posts is related to the restructuring of responsibilities within the subprogramme and the automatization and digitalization of documents management-related processes.
Subprogramme 1, Globalization, interdependence and development	1	P-3	Establishment of one Economic Affairs Officer	The proposed establishment of one post is related to the strengthening of the UNCTAD programme of assistance to the Palestinian people, including relevant studies. It is proposed that one Economic Affairs Officer be established to be responsible for, and make contributions to, the technical, modelling and quantitative analysis carried out by the Assistance to the Palestinian People Unit. In addition, the Economic Affairs Officer would: (a) provide overall statistical support, including methodology identification, model-building, calibration, estimation and simulations, to the Unit; and (b) contribute to parliamentary and technical reports and documents, technical cooperation projects and the maintenance of the Unit's website.

Abbreviation: GS (OL), General Service (Other level).