

88th Session of Working Party

Review of UNCTAD Technical Cooperation

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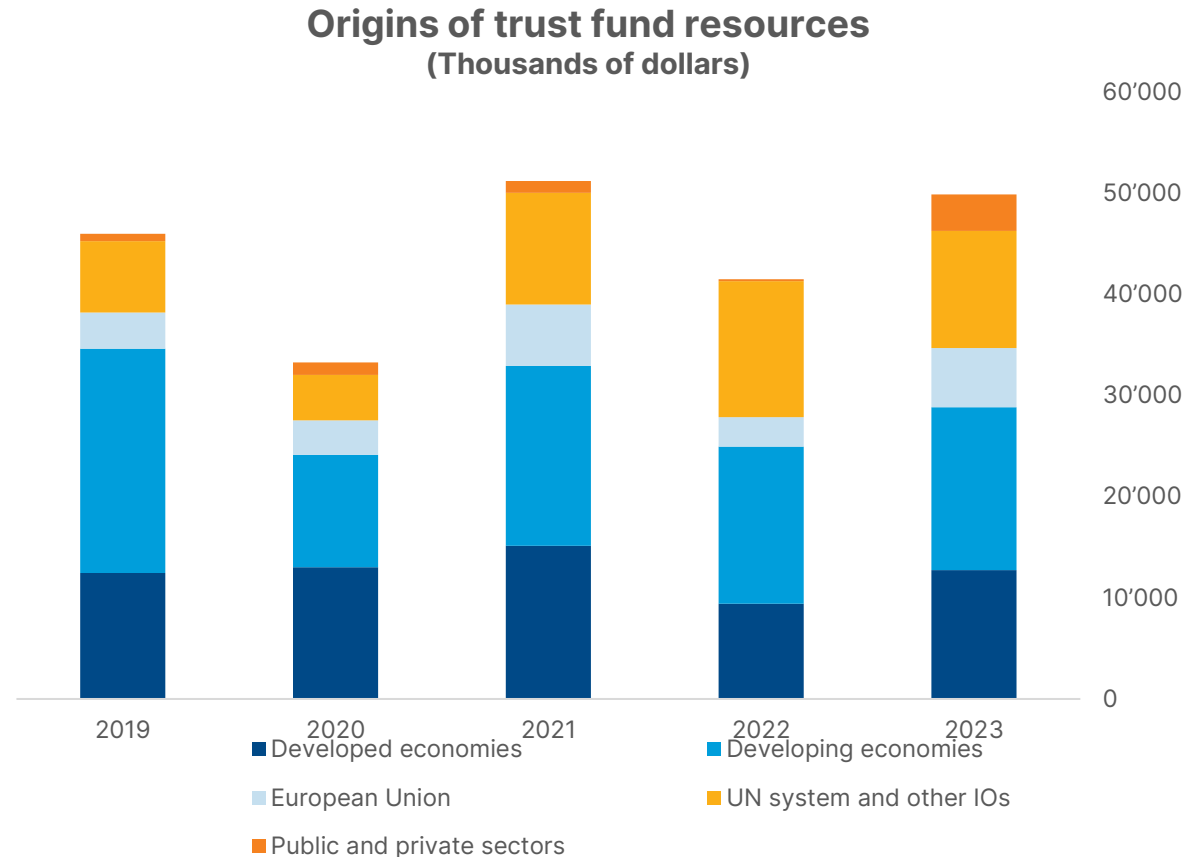
Outline

- 1. Funding sources**
- 2. Expenditures and allocation**
- 3. Structure and functioning**
- 4. Way forward**

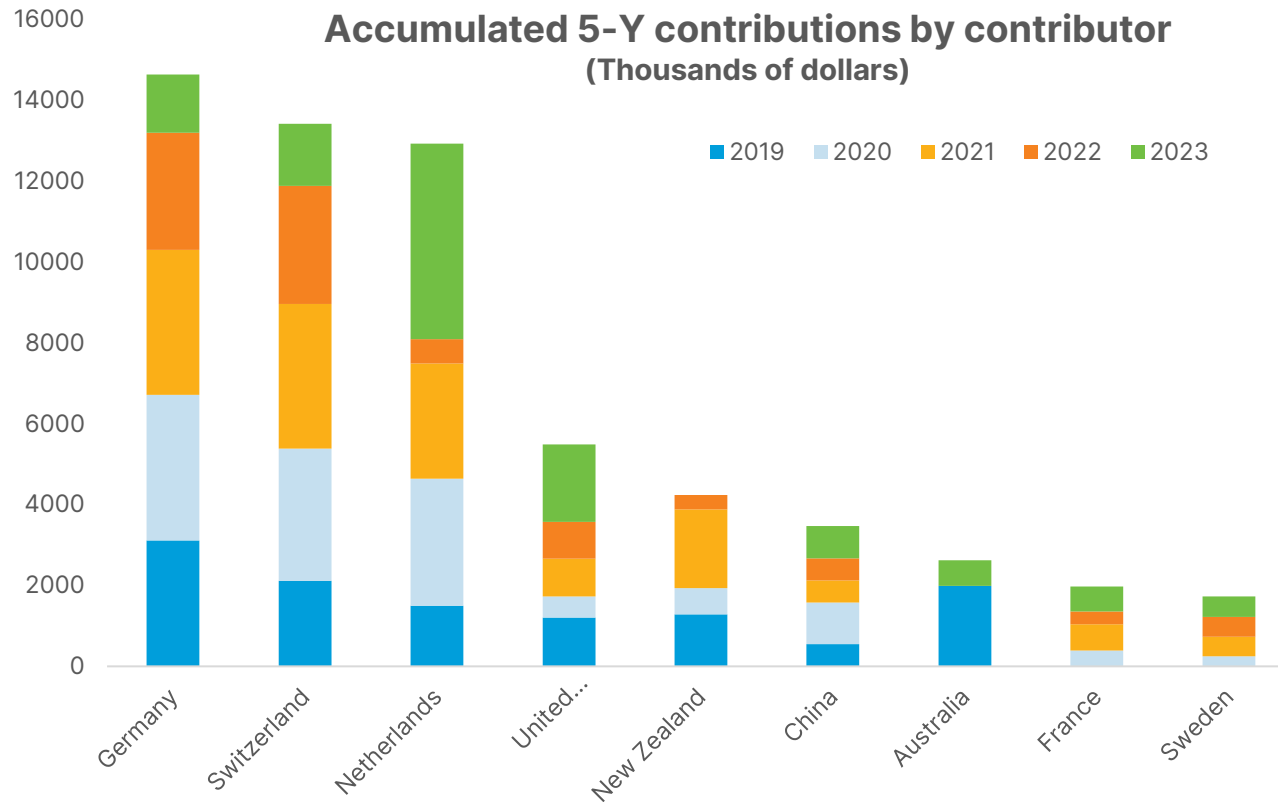
Technical Cooperation Trust Fund Resources

In 2023, total TC trust fund resources reached \$49.9M, up 20% compared with 2022.

This is driven by increases in 4 categories of funding sources, especially from developed economies (+\$3.3M), the EU (+\$2.9M) and the public and private sectors (+\$3.4M).



Major Bilateral Contributors

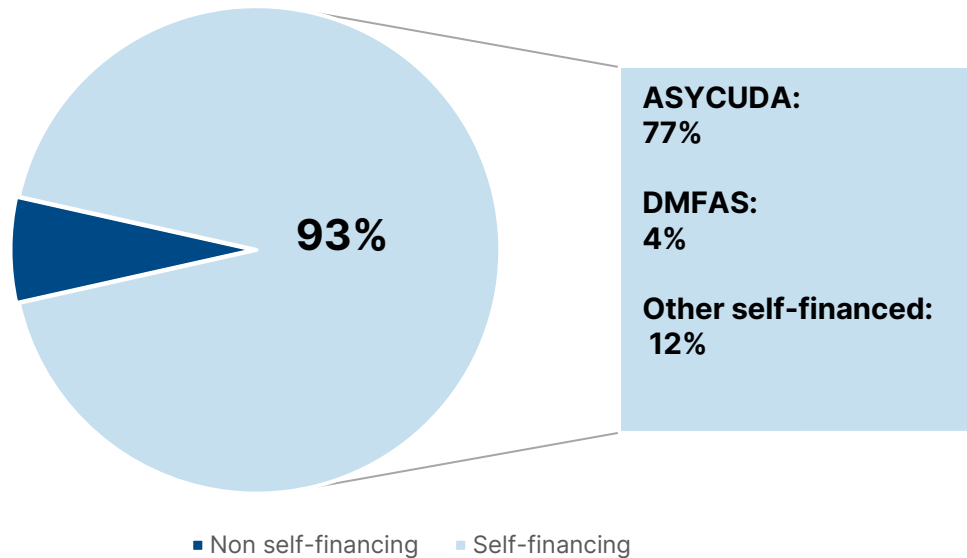


In 2023, the Netherlands was the largest developed economy donor.

If looking at 5-y accumulated contributions, Germany, Switzerland and the Netherlands remained the top three developed economy donors.

➤ Funding from Developing Economies

Self-financing vs. Non Self-financing, 2023
(Share of developing economy funding)



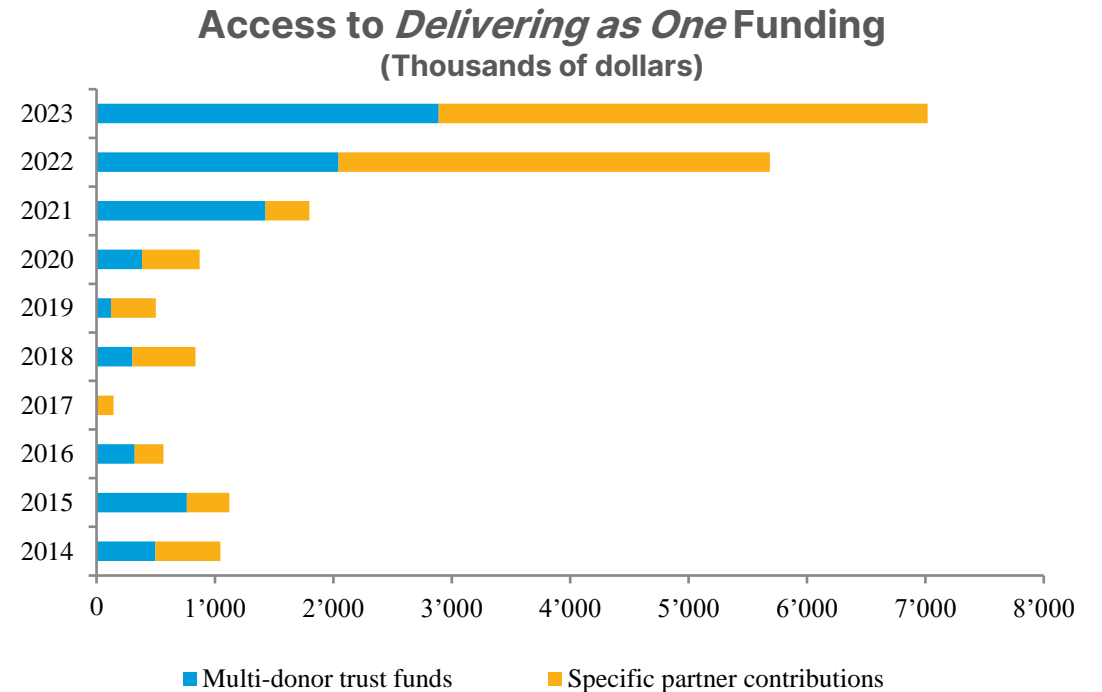
In 2023, funding from developing economies was \$16M (+4%), representing 32% of total trust fund resources.

93% of funding from developing economies was self-financing.

▶ *Delivering as One* Funding Mechanisms

In 2023, UNCTAD's access to Multi-donor Trust Funds and Specific Partner Contributions both reached a decade high.

- ▶ MDTFs: \$3M (+41%)
- ▶ SPCs: \$4M (+13%)



Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation & the UN Development Account

In 2023, expenditures under **RPTC (\$1.99M)** & **UNDA(\$1.65M)** totalled \$3.64M, representing 6% of total TC expenditures.

- ▶ P166 courses
- ▶ eT readiness assessments
- ▶ E-commerce strategies
- ▶ Rules of origin
- ▶ LDC graduation
- ▶ New 17th tranche focusing on climate change – start in 2025
- ▶ In 2023, 28 projects focused on SIDS only, including 4 DA projects, representing 17% of total TC expenditures.

➤ Financing of Junior Professional Officers

Contributing country	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
China	3	3	1	1	2
Germany	4	2	1	2	2
Italy	3	3	1	2	1
Saudi Arabia	1	1	2	2	-
UK	-	-	-	1	1
France	-	-	-	-	1
Japan	-	-	-	-	2
Total	11	9	5	8	9

Outline

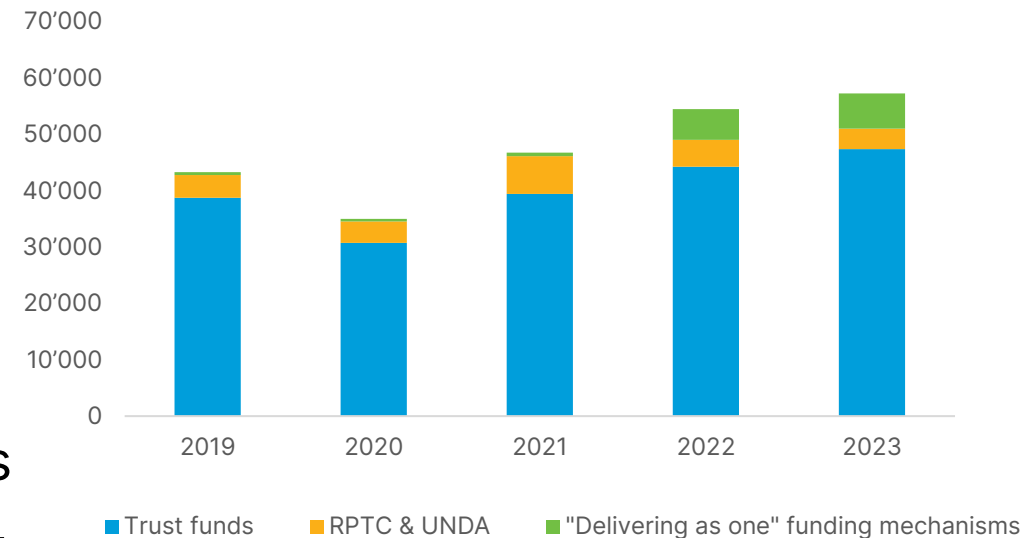
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➤ Overview of TC Expenditures

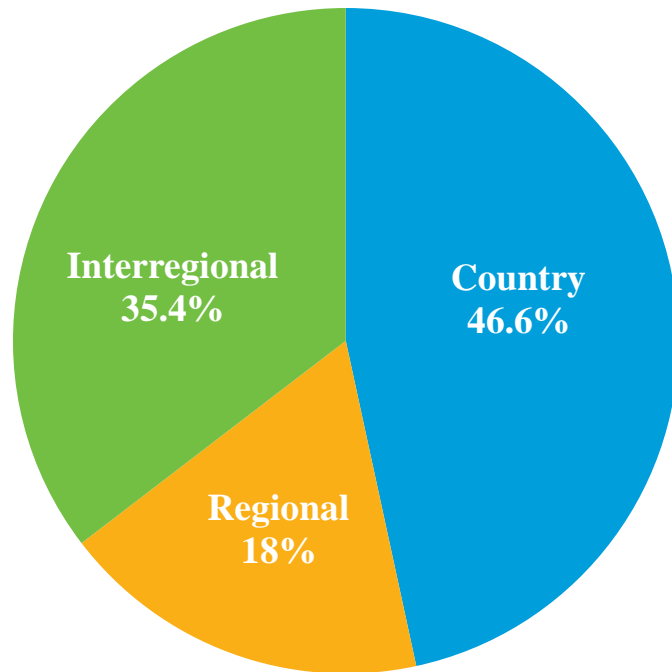
In 2023, total TC expenditures reached a new record high of \$57M.

- ▶ Rising trend since 2020
- ▶ Significant increase of share of “Delivering as One” funding mechanisms in 2022 (10%) and 2023 (11%) compared with previous years.

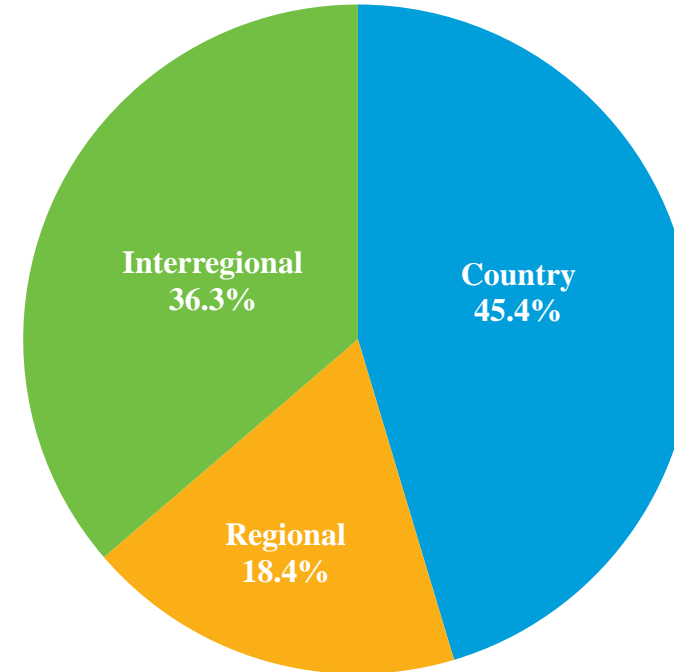
TC expenditures by funding source
(Thousands of dollars)



➤ Expenditures by Type of Project



2022



2023

➤ Expenditures by TC Product

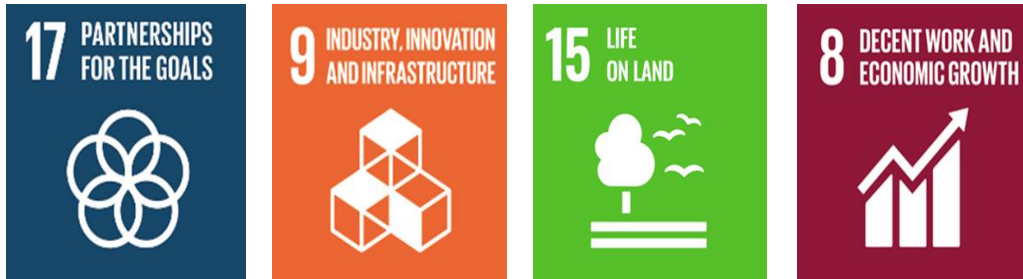
Top 7 TC products in 2023 and 2022

(Share of total TC expenditures, %)

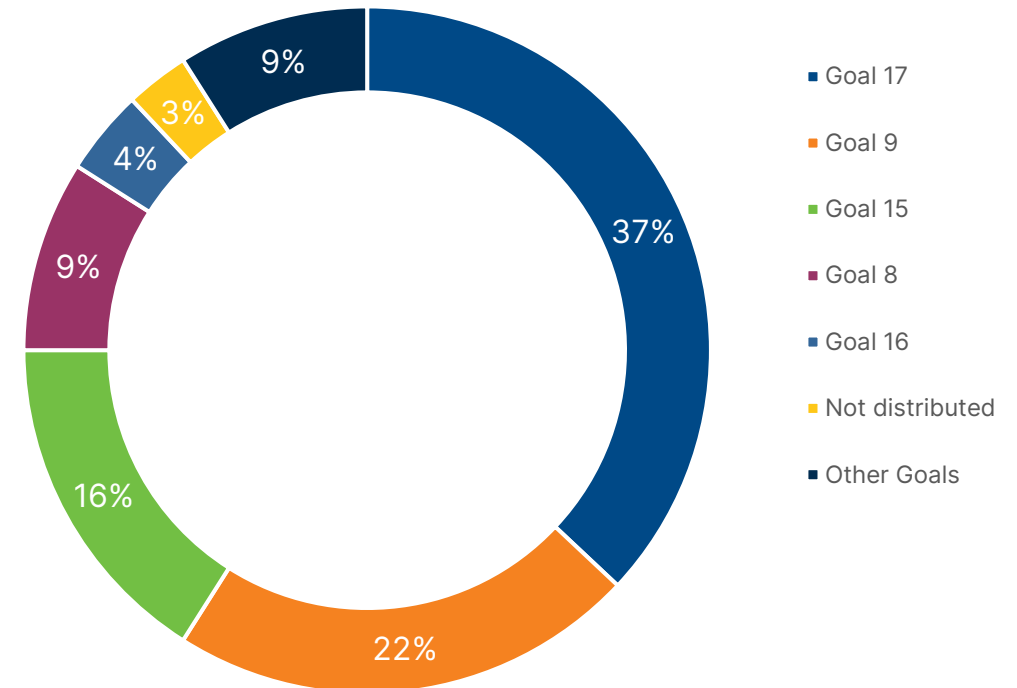
Product	2023	2022
ASYCUDA	46.6	43.7
DMFAS	11.3	11.1
E-commerce and digital economy	10.3	10.0
Business facilitation	4.8	5.8
Sustainable trade and the environment	2.4	2.6
Non-tariff measures	2.3	2.1
Trade facilitation	2.2	3.1
Total	79.9	78.4

Expenditures by SDG

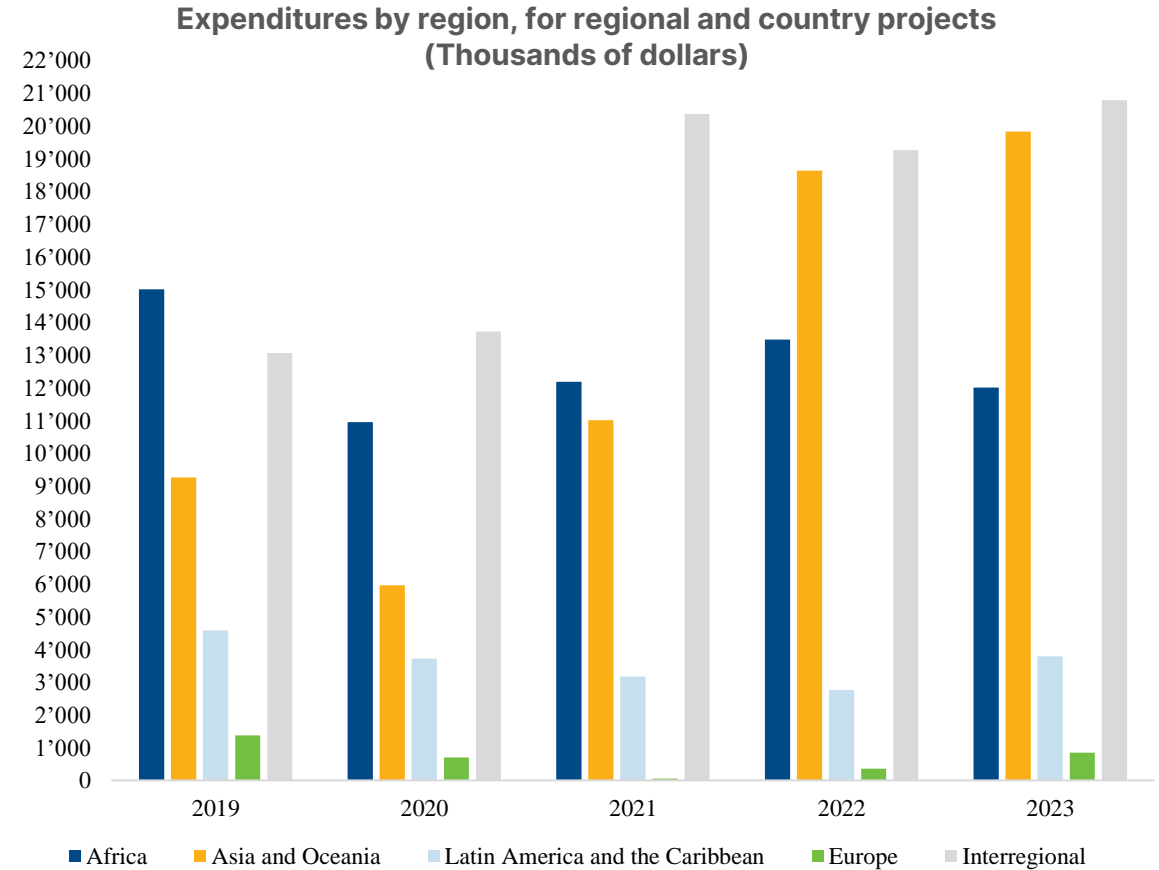
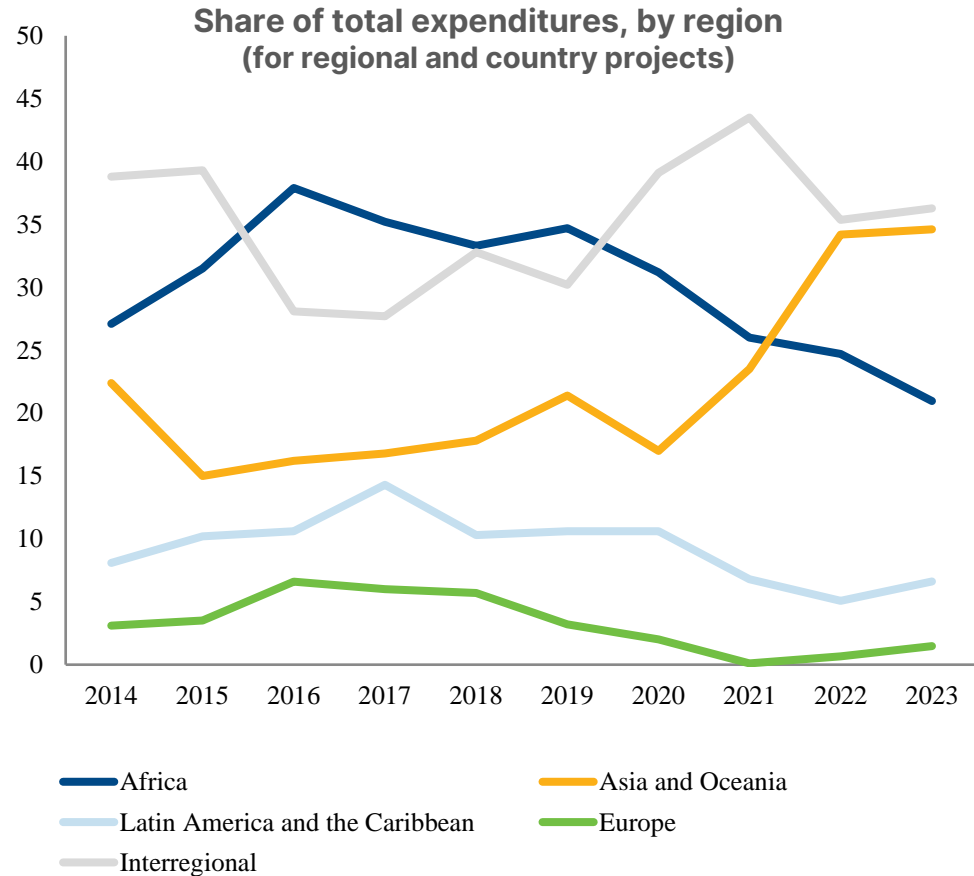
In 2023, UNCTAD technical cooperation contributed to 15 SDGs, especially to the 4 Goals.



Share of TC expenditures by Goal



Expenditures by region

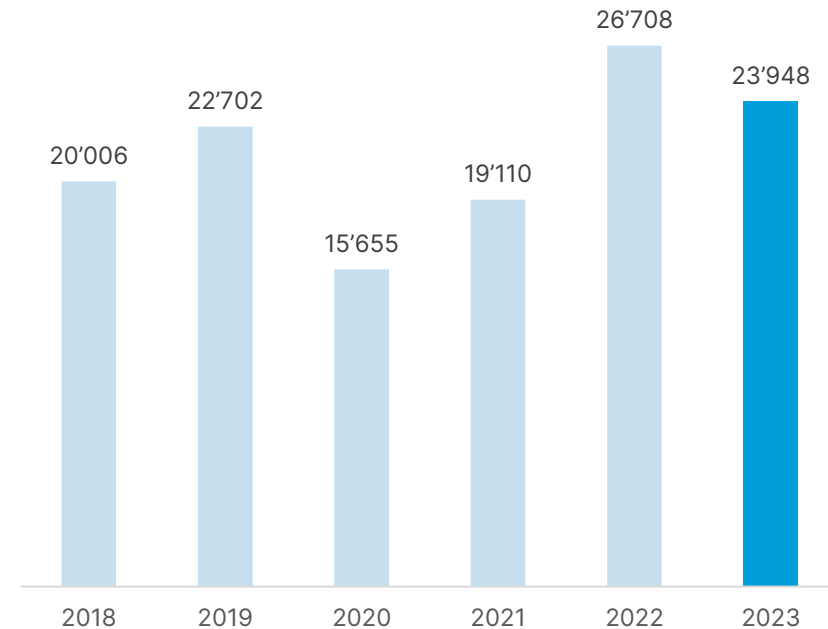


➤ Expenditures benefitting LDCs

In 2023, \$24M in TC expenditures (or 42%) benefitted LDCs, 10% less than in 2022, but 15% higher than the 2018-2022 average.

- ▶ Funding support from the Enhanced Integrated Framework to deliver TC activities in LDCs.
- ▶ Call for more contributions to the UNCTAD Multi-donor Trust Fund for the LDCs.

Expenditures in support of LDCs
(Thousands of dollars)



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➤ Engagement in the UN Development System

Continue engaging with RC system and aligning UNCTAD TC activities with the objectives of UN reform.

Data in 2023:

- ▶ UNCTAD operational activities integrated in the joint Work Plans of CFs in 39 countries.
- ▶ Participated in 18 CCA
- ▶ Received allocations of \$2.89M from MDTFs.
- ▶ Reported country-level results in 22 countries through UN INFO or Resident Coordinator Offices

➤ TC Requests

- Database on formal requests for TC (updated on 30 Sep. 2024):

<https://unctad.org/projects/formal-requests-for-technical-cooperation>

- Intranet repository:
 - 67 TC requests in 2023;
 - 224 requests received with funding required over 2019-2023.

▶ Mobilize funds:

Promoting less-earmarked multi-donor multi-year contributions, e.g. E-Commerce and Digital Economy programme

▶ Adapt delivery modality:

Leveraging digital tools to offer holistic support ranging from physical, online and hybrid workshops to e-learning courses

➤ Results-based Management

UNCTAD overarching results framework and its link with TC projects: Reporting on selected key performance indicators by all TC projects will become mandatory.

RBM Example 1

Investment Policy reviews

- Assessed the implementation of recommendations from IPRs in 21 economies
- An implementation matrix available to beneficiary countries to track the reforms

RBM Example 2

E-commerce & digital economy

- Third review of implementation of recommendations from eT readiness assessments
- A new tool - e-trade reform tracker - developed
- Updated programme monitoring and evaluation plan

RBM Example 3

Trade facilitation

- Trade facilitation reform tracker deployed in 25 countries and contributed to the improved implementation of trade facilitation obligations

➤ Integrating Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in UNCTAD's Technical Cooperation

UNCTAD overarching results framework:

- An output indicator reflecting the increasing share of women trained through capacity building.
- An outcome related to gender equality and SDG5: *Trade, investment and development policies are more gender responsive and promote gender equality and inclusion.*

1. Projects with gender equality as primary objective

- ▶ Project on gender-in-trade statistics

Six pilot countries in 2 regions compiled, for the first time, indicators that measured gender equality in international trade.

2. Projects not having gender equality as primary objective

- ▶ Project on coherent strategies for productive capacity development
 - Encourage women's participation in project activities;
 - Issue report on how to harness gender potential for productive transformation;
 - Include gender session in workshops, etc.

➤ Updating UNCTAD Toolbox

Key points:

- Consultations are ongoing and the Secretary-General of UNCTAD is leading the discussion to ensure that we produce an updated version that responds to the feedback she has been receiving during her interactions with member states and donors.
- Some of the work done so far includes:
 - Programme restructuring: Adding new ones, merging existing ones, etc.
 - Regrouping programmes under new thematic headers.
 - Linking programmes to the four transformations under the Bridgetown Covenant.

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Way forward

Funding

- Call on more donors to provide sustainable and predictable funding to UNCTAD TC, e.g. less-earmarked multi-year contributions

Delivery

- Continue delivering TC in an agile and innovative way to better address TC demand of developing countries, especially structurally weak and vulnerable economies

UN Reform

- Leverage partnerships established through UN Inter-Agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity;
- Actively engage with the Development Cooperation Office, Multi-donor Trust Fund managers and entities under the Cluster to increase UNCTAD's share of funding under MDTFs and scale up participation in Cooperation Frameworks;
- Equip project managers with knowledge and tools to better engage with Resident Coordinator Offices and Country Teams.

Thank you

