



**United Nations Conference
on Trade and Development**

Distr.: General
2 March 2022

English only

Trade and Development Board

Working Party on the Programme Plan and Programme Performance

Eighty-third session

Geneva, 7–9 and 11 February 2022

Item 3 of the agenda

**Review of the draft UNCTAD programme plan and
performance information for the year 2023,
part II of the proposed programme budget**

**Draft UNCTAD programme plan and performance
information for the year 2023, part II of the proposed
programme budget***

* As approved by the Working Party at its closing plenary meeting on 11 February 2022.
This document has not been formally edited.



Foreword

UNCTAD's 2023 Programme Plan is unique for three reasons. First, because of its urgency – being, as we are, in a divergent recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, one that is risking another lost decade in much of the developing world. Second, because it follows our 15th Ministerial Conference, whose bold outcome document – the Bridgetown Covenant – strengthens UNCTAD's mandate and asks us to break new ground. And third, because it is my first Programme Plan as UNCTAD Secretary General, a post to which I have vowed to bring renewed vision, effort, and purpose.

This is therefore an ambitious document. It details how we seek to revitalize our three pillars of work, across all our divisions, to support member states' ambition of a post-pandemic world that is still in time for the 2030 Agenda, and more resilient for future crises.

This implies closer and more cross-cutting coordination with the UN System, and the UNSG's Our Common Agenda, of which we are the focal point for the *integrated treatment* of trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment, and sustainable development. As part of the Bridgetown Covenant, we need to include the areas of gender, and environment and climate change under an integrated framework from a new development perspective.

Tackling old problems from new angles, and novel issues through time-tested tools, I will lead UNCTAD in this undertaking, under the conviction that our most important work is still ahead of us. And that much, indeed, depends on our collective effort.

(Signed) **Rebeca Grynspan**

Secretary-General

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

A. Proposed programme plan for 2023 and programme performance for 2021

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 now more critical than ever, in light of the highly regressive impact of the COVID-19 crisis both within and among countries, as highlighted by the Bridgetown Covenant – the outcome document of our fifteenth quadrennial ministerial conference. The Bridgetown Covenant calls for UNCTAD to contribute to the coordinated international dialogue on COVID-19 response and recovery measures to counter the negative impact of the pandemic on the global economy and trade, to help developing countries 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 Bridgetown Covenant also reaffirmed UNCTAD's 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. In the face of a complex set of global challenges, such as growing inequality and vulnerabilities, including high debt levels; accelerating climate change and continuing environmental degradation; and the widening digital divide, UNCTAD will use its three pillars of work to support countries to build a fairer, more equitable, resilient, inclusive, just and sustainable world, that is, a world of shared prosperity. It will also give account to a number of essential underlying issues, most notably, gender equality and respect for human rights.

Strategy and external factors for 2023

12.2 The COVID-19 pandemic has strongly affected the challenges central to UNCTAD's work and mandates. It has been disrupting trade, finance, debt, technology and logistics. It is widening inequalities in the global economy, leaving much of the developing world behind. And it is testing multilateralism. New contexts require new strategies, and in time of crisis, these must be agile, responsive and proactive. Therefore, as suggested by the Bridgetown Covenant, securing an inclusive global recovery from the pandemic forms the basis of UNCTAD's goals to revitalize its three interrelated pillars of work: (a) conducting high-quality and evidence-based research and policy analysis that feed 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 based on such analysis to developing countries; 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 In the context of deepening interdependence among all countries, UNCTAD will continue addressing interrelated issues essential to all countries in attaining sustainable and equitable growth and development, while being particularly mindful about the needs and priorities of developing countries. This requires extensive cross-fertilization and cooperation across UNCTAD subprogrammes. Its work on issues related to South-South and triangular cooperation and regional integration will also contribute to this objective, including by promoting dialogue between all stakeholders and relevant institutions with the

view to enhancing and exchanging best practices and experiences, towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

12.4 In accordance with its mandate in the interrelated areas of trade and sustainable development, UNCTAD will contribute to the implementation, monitoring and review of the 2030 Agenda, and the relevant Sustainable Development Goal targets. UNCTAD is custodian of eight Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators at the global level and actively contributes to the monitoring and implementation of a wide range of SDGs, with its main contributions to SDGs 8, 9, 10 and 17, and with important contributions to SDGs 2, 5, 12, 14, 15 and 16. UNCTAD will continue to contribute to the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators, supporting monitoring of and follow-up to the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda. UNCTAD activities are also aligned with other relevant agendas, most notably Our Common Agenda– the vision on the future of global cooperation of the United Nations Secretary-General, as appropriate, the agreed outcome of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Agenda 2063 of the African Union, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, the outcomes and the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action of the World Summit on the Information Society, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway. In its efforts to enhance climate resilience and promote sustainable development, UNCTAD will also align its activities with the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its outcomes.

12.5 Along with the global agendas, UNCTAD will strive in particular to ensure the implementation of mandates resulting from and reinforced by its fifteenth session held in 2021, and which are outlined in its outcome document - 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.

12.6 To ensure a world of shared prosperity, UNCTAD will contribute to the building of a new integrated treatment of development economics, one which more fully integrates inclusiveness, climate change and the environment in a new global trade, financial and policy framework, as highlighted also in the Bridgetown Covenant.

12.7 UNCTAD will continue its efforts to enhance its efficiency, effectiveness, impact, transparency and accountability, including through results-based management across the organization, ensuring a member State-driven process through the intergovernmental machinery, and effective employment of resources.

12.8 For 2023, UNCTAD planned deliverables will support Member States’ ongoing management of and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Member States requested UNCTAD to contribute to the coordinated international dialogue on COVID-19 response and recovery measures to counter the negative impact of the pandemic on the global economy and trade. UNCTAD technical cooperation will continue to support countries in addressing the challenges exacerbated or revealed as a result of the pandemic and build 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.

12.9 Reflecting the importance of continuous improvement and responding to the needs of Member States, UNCTAD has mainstreamed lessons learned and best practices related to the adjustments to and adaptation of its programme owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes integrating analysis of COVID-19 related-challenges and economic recovery

into UNCTAD programming; adapting delivery methods through broader use of IT-based approaches (e.g. online trainings, online/hybrid meetings, use of e-platforms such as investment policy hub); and adapting technical cooperation and capacity-building to the emerging needs and priorities of countries (e.g. capacity building on port resilience – Subprogramme 4).

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 in order to maximize the impact provided to beneficiaries. UNCTAD remains actively engaged with the United Nations development system reform process, by collaborating with UN Resident Coordinator Offices, serving as reviewer for projects of the Joint SDG Fund and supporting integrated national financing frameworks. Most recently, in the context of its 15th Ministerial Conference, UNCTAD collaborated with Resident Coordinator Offices in 24 least developed countries to mobilize high-level participation, host and communicate country-level Conference events. A joint letter of the DCO Office and UNCTAD on the engagement with RCOs has generated several requests for collaboration and partnerships. UNCTAD is also increasingly involved in the preparation of Common Country Assessments (CCAs) and UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs). In 2020 and 2021 alone, it contributed to 20 CCAs and 20 UNSDCFs. This implies that since 2008, UNCTAD has signed more than 40 UNDAFs/UNSDCFs. UNCTAD also actively supports regional organizations, such as the Secretariat of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement, to tap the full potential of regional integration. In addition, UNCTAD has fostered partnerships with various international organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), inter-governmental organizations, academic institutions and private sector entities. Recent examples include UNCTAD signing a new agreement with the Pacific Islands Forum in 2020, UNCTAD 15 featuring a Civil Society Forum with more than 400 organizations which culminated in a specific Declaration, and the World Investment Forum bringing together a broad range of private sector entities. Moreover, UNCTAD will continue enhancing its partnership mechanisms with the private sector by enhancing its due diligence guidelines and drawing from the experiences and new strategy of the United Nations Global Compact.

12.11 With regard to inter-agency coordination and liaison, UNCTAD participates actively in the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and its subsidiary bodies. As one of the five major institutional stakeholders of the financing for development follow-up process, UNCTAD is leading 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, with a particular focus on its trade, finance, investment and technology dimensions. UNCTAD contributes to the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development and continues to lead the United Nations Inter-Agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity in “delivering as one” operational activities at the country level, in collaboration with 14 other entities. As a member of the United Nations inter-agency task team on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals and as secretariat to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, UNCTAD will continue contributing to 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. UNCTAD remains part of the steering committee for the multi-partner trust fund for the socioeconomic response to the COVID-19 pandemic, contributes to the Task Force on the Digital Financing of the SDGs, and supports the UN system in the implementation of Our Common Agenda.

12.12 With regard to external factors, the overall plan for 2023 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) There is an agreed outcome of the Twelfth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO);
- (e) There is an agreed outcome of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

12.13 Where feasible, the programme plan for 2023 continues to incorporate novel approaches to implement mandates that were put in place in response to the changed operational conditions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. At the same time, the programme plan for 2023 assumes that those operational conditions have improved and allow for mandate implementation through formerly established approaches. Any modifications to planned deliverables would be in pursuance of the objectives, strategies and mandates and would be reported as part of the programme performance information.

12.14 In line with the Bridgetown Covenant, UNCTAD is committed to the integrated and cross-cutting treatment of gender in trade and development. 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. Some recent analysis includes supporting small-scale and informal cross-border traders in Eastern and Southern Africa, applying a gender lens to financial inclusion and exploring the untapped potential for women in the blue economy. In the context of the pandemic, UNCTAD has been active in analysing the gender impact of the pandemic and advocating for policy responses that are not gender blind. UNCTAD will also continue its pioneering work on trade and sex-disaggregated statistics and measuring the different ways that women and men experience the impacts of trade.

12.15 UNCTAD will continue providing reliable statistical information and indicators to support its member States with objective, relevant and timely statistics across trade and development areas, and to promote structural transformation, as requested by Bridgetown Covenant. To ensure greater coordinated statistical capacity development at the organizational level, support the implementation of the four transformations outlined by the Bridgetown Covenant, and catalyse the support provided to member States to achieve the SDGs, UNCTAD offers a cross-cutting service which will ensure synergies and quality controls.

12.16 In line with the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy and to contribute to strengthening the United Nations action in the field of human rights, UNCTAD will continue to support the advancement of disability inclusion in both its programmatic work and its operational activities, in close collaboration with the United Nations Office at Geneva. For instance, it ensures that all venues and conference facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities.

Programme performance in 2021

Impact of COVID-19

12.17 The continuation of the pandemic into 2021 impacted the implementation of mandates, in particular the negotiation process of the Bridgetown Covenant. Following two postponements of UNCTAD 15 in the wake of the uncertainty created by the pandemic, it was decided to hold the Conference on a virtual platform in October 2021. Two studios - one in Bridgetown, Barbados, and one in Geneva, Switzerland - enabled maximizing visibility of the host country and enabling full participation of the membership. It also allowed for hybrid elements of the Conference, namely the in-person participation of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Moreover, 24 LDCs had antenna offices from where stakeholders with less connectivity could participate in the Conference. In contrast, the Asia eCommerce week to be held in Abu Dhabi got first postponed to October 2021 but eventually cancelled.

Legislative mandates

12.18 The list below 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
35/63	Restrictive business practices
60/252	World Summit on the Information Society
63/204	Report of the twelfth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
63/303	Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development
66/188	Addressing excessive price volatility in food and related financial and commodity markets
66/288	The future we want
67/221	Smooth transition for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries
67/226	Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
68/18	Graduation of countries from the least developed country category
68/219	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
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
69/15	SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway
69/137	Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024
69/213	Role of transport and transit corridors in ensuring international cooperation for sustainable development
69/217	Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
69/283	Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030
69/313	Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)
70/1	Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
70/125	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
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
70/186	Consumer protection
71/312	Our ocean, our future: Call for action
72/212	Strengthening the links between all modes of transport to achieve the SDGs
72/227	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
72/234	Women in development
72/279	Repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
75/316	Impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the SDGs and targets
73/241	International migration and development
76/217	Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries
73/245	Promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection
76/218	Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027)
73/291	Buenos Aires outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation
74/3	Political declaration of the high-level meeting to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway
74/7	Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba
74/15	Political Declaration of the High-level Midterm Review on the Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024
74/198	International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development, 2021
76/191	Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries

76/192	International financial system and development
76/194	Commodities
74/205	Financial inclusion for sustainable development
76/198	Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for 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
74/228	Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
76/213	Science, technology and innovation for sustainable development
74/234	Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027)
76/221	South-South cooperation
75/17	International cooperation to address challenges faced by seafarers as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic to support global supply chains
75/20	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People
76/126	Assistance to the Palestinian people
76/189	Information and communications technologies for sustainable development
76/190	International trade and development
76/193	External debt sustainability and development
76/196	Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development
76/197	Promoting investments for sustainable development
75/211	Entrepreneurship for sustainable development
75/225	Towards a new international economic order
76/216	Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries
76/202	Promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, building on Agenda 21
76/203	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
76/215	Development cooperation with middle- income countries

Economic and Social Council resolutions

2015/26	Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society
2017/29	Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its nineteenth session
2018/27	Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twentieth session
2019/8	Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twenty-first session
2020/12	Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society
2020/13	Science, technology and innovation for development
2021/28	Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society
2021/29	Science, technology and innovation for development
2021/30	Open-source technologies for sustainable development

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

Deliverables

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

Table 12.1

Cross-cutting deliverables for the period 2021–2023, by category and subcategory

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>	<i>2021 actual</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents, per entity/theme)	10	10	10	10
1. conference room paper for the Trade and Development Board	1	1	1	1
2. follow-up to the major United Nations conferences and summits in the areas of UNCTAD expertise	1	1	1	1
3. 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. 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, per entity/theme)	104	111	107	107
8. Trade and Development Board, including annual, special and executive sessions of the Board and its subsidiary bodies	92	94	92	92
9. Working Party on the Programme Plan and Programme Performance	12	14	12	12
10. Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	–	1	1	1
11. Fifth Committee	–	1	1	1
12. Committee for Programme and Coordination	–	1	1	1
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	9	22	24	24
13. Ad hoc expert discussions on topics to be determined by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD, in consultation with member States	3	3	3	3
14. 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	1	1	2	2
15. Raúl Prebisch lecture on topical trade and development issues	1	1	1	1
16. Multi-stakeholder dialogues on topical international trade and development issues	1	1	1	1
17. High-level events with UNCTAD special advisers and advocates	1	2	2	2
18. Cabinet meeting on the coordination of national development strategies oriented towards sustainable development	1	0	1	1
19. Civil society and youth networking events, including online networking discussions	1	14	14	14
Technical materials (number of materials)	9	7	9	8
20. Policy briefs on trade and development issues	1	0	1	1
21. Reports on evaluations of United Nations Development Account projects and of external evaluations required by contribution agreements	8	7	8	7
C. Substantive deliverables				
Databases and substantive digital materials: UNCTAD civil society database and civil society electronic alerts and UNCTAD Youth Network				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: “UNCTAD at a Glance”; outreach programmes; special events; regional outreach materials; press kits, media briefs and flyers for flagship publications; news briefs and opinion pieces; public information materials on UNCTAD including brochures and posters); and specialized information sessions for students, delegates, academics and youth				

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>	<i>2021 actual</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>
visiting UNCTAD and, upon request, in other locations, including online outreach.				
External and media relations: press conferences, press releases and information notes				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: UNCTAD website and social media content, including podcasts and blogs about UNCTAD's meetings and events publications, including policy briefs				

Evaluation activities

12.20 The following evaluations completed in 2021 have guided the proposed programme plan for 2023:

(a) Office of Internal Oversight Services: Strengthening the role of evaluation and the application of evaluation findings on programme design, delivery and policy directives

(b) Independent project evaluations completed by UNCTAD:

- Cluster Evaluation of UNCTAD support to Capacity Building on Trade and Gender – Online Training;
- AfCFTA support programme to eliminate non-tariff barriers, increase regulatory transparency and promote industrial diversification;
- Transparency in Trade Regulation and Facilitation in the Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations (PACER) Plus;
- Improving the value added of cotton by-products in Eastern and Southern Africa;
- Development policies for sustainable economic growth in Southern Africa;
- Indices for benchmarking productive capacities for evidence-based policymaking in landlocked developing countries.

12.21 The results and lessons of the evaluations referenced above have been taken into account for the programme plan for 2023. For example, in response to a recommendation from the evaluation of a project implemented jointly by teams under Subprogrammes 2, 3 and 4 that called for strengthened gender mainstreaming under relevant areas of work, UNCTAD has conducted a background analysis on the gender dimensions and impact of non-tariff measures/barriers. The results will guide the next phase of this work by actively addressing three dimensions of gender bias: Access to training; Access to information; and Access to complaint mechanisms. Regarding a recommendation to strengthen and systematize relationships with the United Nations Country Teams from an evaluation of UNCTAD's work to develop the Productive Capacities Index under Subprogramme 5, UNCTAD has already cooperated with UN RCOs in the organization of workshops related to the Productive Capacities Index in the participating countries, but will aim to extend this cooperation to the data-analysis stage, through greater involvement of the economists in the Resident Coordinators' Offices in the National Productive Capacities Gap Assessments. UNCTAD is also improving engagement with United Nations resident coordinator offices by showcasing UNCTAD's expertise through seminars and communications with Resident Coordinators and participating more actively in the UN Economist Network where several Country Office economists are present. From an evaluation of work on development policies for sustainable economic growth in Southern Africa under Subprogramme 1, UNCTAD was recommended to find a way to foster more substantial engagement with key stakeholders in the project design or inception phases to ensure that incentives and ownership is established from the beginning. In this regard, UNCTAD will explore how to better engage with key partner institutions with national presence that can support sustainability of project results at national level after the end of its projects.

12.22 The following evaluations are planned for 2023:

(a) Evaluations to be carried out by UNCTAD are the following:

1. Independent evaluation of UNCTAD's Subprogramme 2 – Investment and enterprise;

2. Independent evaluation of UNCTAD's Subprogramme 3: International trade and commodities (to be presented in 2024);
3. Independent evaluations of completed projects covering various subprogrammes.

Programme of work

Subprogramme 1

Globalization, interdependence and development

Objective

12.23 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

12.24 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will:

(a) continue to 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 its three pillars, namely research and policy analysis, consensus-building and technical cooperation.

(b) support developing countries in their efforts to formulate development strategies and practical policy options and recommendations at all levels, including through technical assistance, training and, disseminating best practices for developing countries.

(c) continue to provide high-quality and timely statistics to support the efforts of developing countries to develop their national statistical systems by providing technical assistance and capacity-building programmes.

(d) continue to promote stronger cooperation at all levels of the interplay between successful development finance strategies, debt sustainability and effective debt management, through the provision of important contributions, in accordance with its mandate and complementing the work done by other relevant stakeholders, on debt and debt sustainability and on enhancing the efficiency of the global economic system.

(e) focus on the challenges to short and long-term debt sustainability in developing countries and on sustainable domestic and international financial resource mobilization for development, which will help member States to make progress towards the achievement of SDG 16 and 17 and facilitate progress on debt and development finance issues.

(f) continue to undertake research and analysis on trends and prospects for closer cooperation and integration among developing countries.

(g) in responding to the request by the General Assembly in its resolutions [75/20](#), on the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, and [76/126](#), on assistance to the Palestinian people, the subprogramme will continue to provide technical assistance and research and analysis to support the Palestinian people, in line with paragraph 127 (bb) of the Bridgetown Covenant.

(h) analysing specific ways in which South-South cooperation can enhance development effectiveness, contribute to post-pandemic recovery and build resilience in developing countries.

(e) As stated in paragraph 75 of the Bridgetown Covenant, 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. In this sense, the subprogramme will continue to analyse the relation between trade and development, and environment and propose sustainable development policies pertaining to its mandate, for achieving the 2030 Agenda.

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

(a) increased understanding of the 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;

(d) increased understanding by developing countries of the global economic environment and of policy choices for inclusive and sustained development;

(e) contributed to the understanding at the international level of debt issues and debt sustainability;

(f) increased understanding, at all levels, of the challenges from a trade and development perspective posed by climate change and the type of support and actions needed.

Programme performance in 2021

Promote policy proposals to enhance structural transformation towards sustainable development and a resilient economy in developing countries.

12.26 Achieving higher growth rates, while promoting environmentally sustainable policies, is the key challenge facing the international community for the foreseeable future. The subprogramme, in its 2021 edition of the Trade and Development Report titled “From recovery to resilience: the development dimension”, released ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (UN COP26), argued for effective ways of sustaining growth and promoting structural transformation through international and national actions promotion of productive capacities and investment, and enhancement of physical and social infrastructure. Developing countries are more exposed not only to environmental shocks but also a more permanent state of economic stress because of climate impacts. To advance both their developmental and environmental agendas, ahead of the meeting in Glasgow, UNCTAD called for nations to increase funding for developing countries to adapt to the worsening impacts of climate change and fulfil the \$100billion a year pledge for the Green Climate Fund. UNCTAD report recommended specific reforms including on Official Development Assistance (ODA) commitments; debt relief and restructuring for developing countries; increased availability of capital for multilateral development banks; and green bond markets to help raise long-term financing. The COP 26 outcome has recognized the slow progress in channelling additional climate finance and has made renewed commitments to accelerate such flows and fulfil the financial goal by 2023. Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 12.2).

Table 12.2
Performance measure:

2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)
Member States supported in better understanding of the imbalances in the global economy through UNCTAD’s analytical work.	Member States supported in the advancement of FFD issues through contributions to the implementation of the initiative of the United Nations “FFD in the Era of COVID-19 and	Member States supported in the international discussion of additional allocation of special drawing rights through UNCTAD’s analytical work.

2019 (actual)

2020 (actual)

2021 (actual)

Beyond” under the leadership of Canada and Jamaica and to the launch of the United Nations Research Road Map for the COVID-19 Recovery

Planned results for 2023

Result 1: improving industrial policy and fostering regional value chains in Southern Africa

Programme performance in 2021 and target for 2023

12.27 The subprogramme’s work contributed to the capacity of Mauritius, Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia to design industrial policy and enhance governments’ engagement with the private sector in economic policy discussions, both in the conceptual and implementation phases, including to expanding cross-border activities of firms in the region. For example, The Mauritius Industrial Policy and Strategic Plan (IPSP) (2020-2025), launched with the support of the subprogramme, benefited from increased cooperation of private sector. Sub-committees in several focus areas were identified and established (Domestic Enterprises, Textile and Clothing, Food Processing and Fish Preparations, Medical Devices, Pharmaceuticals and Medical Products, and Jewellery) with the cooperation of key representatives from the private sector organizations. Furthermore, the introduction of an “Export Development Certificate” provided several incentives to export enterprises, favouring the progressive expansion of cross-border activities of firms in the region. Building on the successful experience in favouring industrial policy coordination and RVCs in Southern Africa, UNCTAD plans to support integration efforts in Latin America through strengthened economic integration and industrial policy capacity over the period 2023-2026. Progress towards the objective and target for 2023 are presented in the performance measure below (see Table 12.3).

Table 12.3
Performance measure

2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)	2022 (planned)	2023 (planned)
Initial proposals developed for a regional industrial policy of several SADC countries.	At least three sectors identified (agroprocessing, mining machinery and energy provision) in which regional value chains can be established and relevant stakeholders identified, brought together and presented to several SADC countries and to private sector companies.	Increased engagement of the private sector in economic policy discussions through identification of 6 sub-committees in the framework of the Mauritius Industrial Policy and Strategic Plan (IPSP) (2020-2025) and “Export Development Certificate” introduced, providing several incentives to export enterprises favouring the progressive expansion of cross-border activities of firms in the region.	Increased capacities of developing countries to formulate and implement industrialization strategies.	Increased intra-regional trade of the targeted countries to at least three Latin American countries)

Result 2: advancement of analysis and policy proposals for monitoring the debt situation of developing countries

Programme performance in 2021 and target for 2023

12.28 The subprogramme's work contributed to the analysis of debt issues in developing countries and necessary policies to improve their external sustainability, affected by the pandemic through several transmission channels, including unprecedented non-resident portfolio capital outflows, reductions in foreign direct investment, sharp falls in export earnings and a slump in commodity prices. The planned target of further advancing debt issues in international forums through the organization of an international debt conference with the participation of representatives from at least 40 countries and international institutions to discuss further measures for debt relief was not met as the conference had to be postponed to mid-2022 due to Covid-19 related meeting restrictions. However, a number of policy proposals for advancing debt issues were presented in the Secretary General's report to the Second Committee (A/76/214), in particular the need to ensure private creditor participation in debt cancellations, support for proposals to promote debt buy-back programmes of commercial debt, and the creation of a public registry for loan and debt data that includes sovereign bonds. To this end, the subprogramme will continue its analytical and policy work and technical assistance on debt issues, including the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System programme, and promote policies for responsible sovereign borrowing and lending, complementing the work done by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund and other stakeholders, as appropriate. In so doing, the subprogramme aims at contributing to the reduction of risks to sovereign debt sustainability in developing countries, by measuring and building debt management capacity in at least 30 developing countries. Progress towards the objective and target for 2023 are presented in the performance measure below (see Table 12.4).

Table 12.4

Performance measure

<i>2019 (actual)</i>	<i>2020 (actual)</i>	<i>2021 (actual)</i>	<i>2022 (planned)</i>	<i>2023 (planned)</i>
Developing countries are provided with analysis of the current challenges to their debt sustainability and a platform for discussion on improving the global debt restructuring mechanism.	Debt issues and policy measures are advanced through proposals and initiatives by representatives of developing countries, including through a global initiative on debt relief for developing countries proposed by the Prime Minister of Pakistan based on the subprogramme's work as presented in the Trade and Development Report 2020.	Debt issues are further advanced in the Second Committee through the analysis of current debt positions of developing countries and the formulations of proposals for improving their debt sustainability.	The risk and severity of debt issues in developing countries are diminished through the proposal of multilateral measures for debt alleviation and a fairer debt rescheduling framework, with at least 30 developing countries continuing building their debt management capacity.	Assessment of at least 30 developing countries of their debt management capacity.

Result 3: Increased agility and reflection of member States challenges in providing evidence-based and data driven analysis to implement 2030 Agenda for all

Proposed programme plan for 2023

12.29 Reliable and timely data and statistics are key to global efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development while recovering from the setbacks related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since 2019, the subprogramme has been providing latest statistics and data-driven analysis as an annual online publication (SDG Pulse) becoming a tool for member States and all other interested stakeholders to monitoring sustainable development

while informing them of the progress made and the challenges facing the world today. The 2021 update of the SDG Pulse illustrated in numbers countries' progress and challenges faced by the countries in achieving the goals by 2030 and presented analyses for a range of indicators relevant to trade, investment, financing for development, debt, transport and technology. One example is the UNCTAD's B2C E-commerce Index that informs countries on their preparedness for e-commerce, or UNCTAD's Index of Remoteness helping countries to mitigate geographic distance and enhance connectivity.

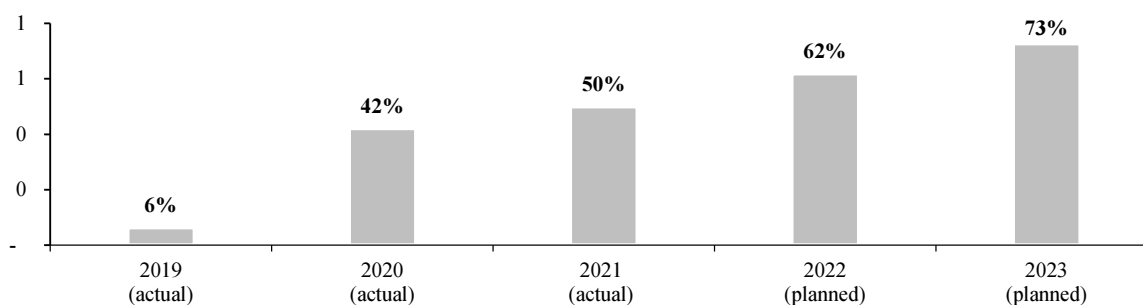
Lessons learned and planned change

12.30 The lesson for the subprogramme was that at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the SDG Pulse did not provide timely data on the sudden changes brought by it and its analysis did not address its many impacts on sustainable development. In applying the lesson learned, the subprogramme reviewed the focus of the SDG Pulse to be further developed as an agile tool to offer timely data on SDG indicators while illustrating persisting inequalities, emerging risks and vulnerabilities faced by the developing countries, including in the context of the pandemic. The review also included the changing of the annual themes selected to address a topical policy challenge reflecting the needs of the member States, especially developing countries, to enable targeting efforts in an evidence-based approach to implement the 2030 Agenda for all. Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 12.1).

Figure 12.1

Performance measure: SDG Pulse as an agile information tool to implement 2030 Agenda for all, reflecting the needs of member States

[Share of content included in SDG Pulse, with a changing focus or a new topic]



Deliverables

12.31 Table 12.5 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 12.5

Subprogramme 1: deliverables for the period 2021–2023, by category and subcategory

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>	<i>2021 actual</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents, per entity/theme)	10	9	8	8
1. external debt sustainability and development, assistance to the Palestinian people, the economic cost of occupation for the Palestinian people and the situation of and assistance to Palestinian women for the General Assembly	5	4	4	4
2. fifteenth session of UNCTAD	–	0	–	0
3. on financing for development issues and on UNCTAD assistance to the Palestinian people, and the overview of the <i>Trade and Development Report</i> for the Trade and Development Board	3	3	2	2
4. the Trade and Development Commission and the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission	1	1	1	1

Category and subcategory	2021 planned	2021 actual	2022 planned	2023 planned
5. the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development	1	1	1	1
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings, per entity/theme)	24	39	18	18
6. the General Assembly (Second Committee) and the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies	4	4	4	4
7. the fifteenth session of UNCTAD, including preparatory meetings	–	25	–	--
8. the Trade and Development Board (annual and executive sessions)	3	2	3	3
9. the Working Party on the Programme Plan and Programme Performance	2	2	2	2
10. the Trade and Development Commission and related multi-year expert meetings	3	0	3	3
11. the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development	6	6	6	6
12. Debt Management Conference	6	0	0	0
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects, per entity/theme)	19	17	17	17
13. enhancing public, private and/or international capacity related to assistance to the Palestinian people	1	1	1	1
14. trade in services development for the member countries of the West African Economic and Monetary Union	1	1	–	0
15. development policies for sustainable economic growth in Southern Africa	1	1	–	0
16. installation, update and maintenance of the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System	15	13	15	15
17. measuring illicit capital flows in sub-Saharan Africa (jointly with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Economic Commission for Africa)	1	1	1	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	126	136	145	150
18. Seminars and workshops for policymakers, including on formulating development strategies and policy recommendations; sovereign borrowing and lending; and globalization, trade and development	30	30	28	28
19. Ad hoc expert discussions, including on inclusive growth and the SDGs and the interdependence between trade, finance, investment, technology and macroeconomic policies	6	6	7	7
20. Debt Management and Financial Analysis System training courses for administrators and debt auditors from selected countries in recording debt data, reporting, debt statistics, debt analysis and debt auditing	90	100	110	115
Publications (number of publications)	10	11	10	10
21. <i>Trade and Development Report</i>	1	1	1	1
22. <i>UNCTAD Handbook of Statistics</i>	1	1	1	1
23. <i>SDG Pulse</i>	1	1	1	1
24. <i>Development and Globalization: Facts and Figures</i>	–	1	–	0
25. Studies on external debt, resource mobilisation, illicit financial flows and their underlying activities, South-South cooperation, regional integration, enhancing the efficiency of the global economic system, international trade and debt sustainability, and on Palestinian economic development	7	7	7	7
Technical materials (number of materials)	12	13	12	11
26. on macroeconomic, development, financing and debt, structural transformation and South-South cooperation issues	6	6	5	5
27. Economic and maritime statistical country profiles	2	2	2	2
28. Debt Management and Financial Analysis System documentation and software	3	5	3	4
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, debt sustainability and statistical capacity in the area of trade and development.				
Databases and substantive digital materials: UNCTAD financial database; world economic macro-level modellers database; UNCTAD statistical data centre with approximately 250,000 users, 500,000 sessions, and 8 million page views annually; and 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; and 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**

12.32 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

12.33 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will:

(a) continue to assist member States through research, policy analysis and technical assistance to design and implement active policies to scale up mobilization of public and private finance and enhanced investment and entrepreneurship for sustainable development. This will help member States to make progress towards achieving the SDGs 1, 8, 10, 12, 13 and 17

(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, business facilitation and innovative financing for the SDGs, including through stock exchanges and institutional funds, as well as on incentives in the context of the global tax reform implications for developing countries.

(e) contribute to the enhancement of the international competitiveness of member States' enterprises through enterprise policies aimed at stimulating enterprise development, including through mobilizing global efforts in financing and investment in MSMEs to support their sustainable development transformation, as well as by promoting best practices in corporate social responsibility and accounting and reporting.

(f) foster dialogue and an exchange of best practices related to investment and enterprise development issues through consensus-building mechanisms and the World Investment Forum.

(g) provide an assessment of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on investment, global value chains and enterprise development, as well as policy advice, frameworks and tools during the recovery phase and beyond.

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

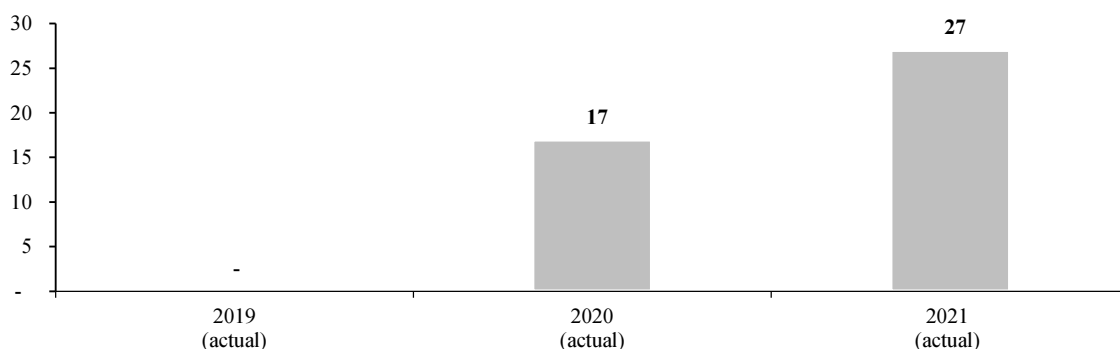
- (a) Increased capacity of developing countries in their efforts to close the gaps related to Sustainable Development Goals investment, especially as regards climate change mitigation and adaptation in particular for countries that are most vulnerable to the adverse impact of climate change;
- (b) Improved ability of countries to address key and emerging issues related to investment and investment policies that promote development, including issues on taxation related to investment policy, and on international investment agreements and their development dimension;
- (c) Additional resources leveraged and channelled towards global investment development objectives and addressing concerns pertaining to “SDGs-washing”;
- (d) Enhanced understanding of enterprise development issues and ability to boost productive capacity, including through assistance to attract investment capital, grow business linkages with transnational corporations and participate in global and regional value chains.
- (e) Increased awareness of member States of policies, innovations and tools aimed at gaining traction and driving investment for sustainable development
- (f) Mitigation of the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on the ability of member States to attract and benefit from investment for development and in fostering private sector recovery.

Programme performance in 2021

Increased resilience of member States through the use of e-tools for continuity of business during Covid-19 pandemic

12.35 Facilitating business through simplified administrative procedures reduces informality and corruption, empowers small entrepreneurs, removes bureaucratic barriers to trade and investment, and increases government revenue, thereby fostering enterprise creation and operation and ultimately contributing to economic growth and sustainable development. During the Covid-19 pandemic, e-government platforms proved to be a value-for-money, adaptable and easy-to-implement solutions for governments to ensure they stay open for business in times of crisis, fostering the resilience of public and private sector stakeholders. The subprogramme provided essential policy advice and assistance to member States through its e-platforms and e-tools, thereby allowing for continuity of business in a generalised context of restrictions and lockdowns. UNCTAD eGovernment platforms were used to adapt to Covid-19, mitigate its impact and prepare for post crisis recovery by providing business support activities and facilitating the implementation of Covid-19 fiscal rescue measures. Concrete applications include social security administration for temporarily retrenched workers, processing of business grant requests, handling of tax reliefs or late payments administration, monitoring of disbursements and post-crisis recovery of state aid through tax systems. Enterprise competitiveness programmes were adapted to help beneficiary countries’ entrepreneurs identifying and tapping new business opportunities. Overall and as of 31 December 2021, a total of 27 member States had used at least one of the e-tools and e-platforms developed by UNCTAD to ensure that they remained open for business and mitigate the effects of the pandemic. Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 12.II).

Figure 12.II
Performance measure: Member States using UNCTAD e-Tools to mitigate the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic
 [number of member States]



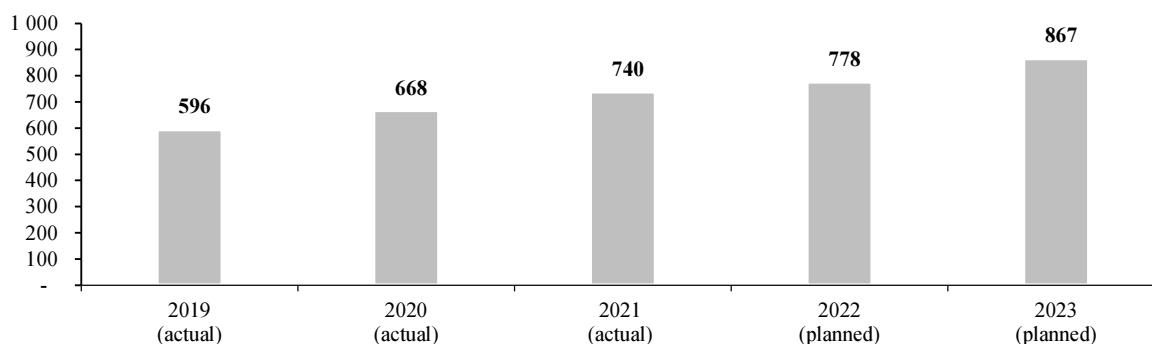
Planned results for 2023

Result 1: an investment chain to bridge the Sustainable Development Goal financing gap

Programme performance in 2021 and target for 2023

12.36 The subprogramme's work contributed to 740 individual investment stakeholders adhering to UNCTAD principles and recommendations, which *exceeded* the planned target of 683. This result reflects the efforts made to engaging the entire spectrum of investment-development stakeholders in bridging the financing gap for the Sustainable Development Goals and in particular, the impact of initiatives aimed at enabling a reorientation of financial markets to fully integrate sustainability, creating new Goal-related investment compacts and "addressing the concerns of green-washing" and changing the business mindset. Progress towards the objective and target for 2023 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 12.III).

Figure 12.III
Performance measure: number of individual investment stakeholders adhering to United Nations Conference on Trade and Development principles and recommendations
 [cumulative number]



Result 2: investment and enterprise development for recovery and resilience

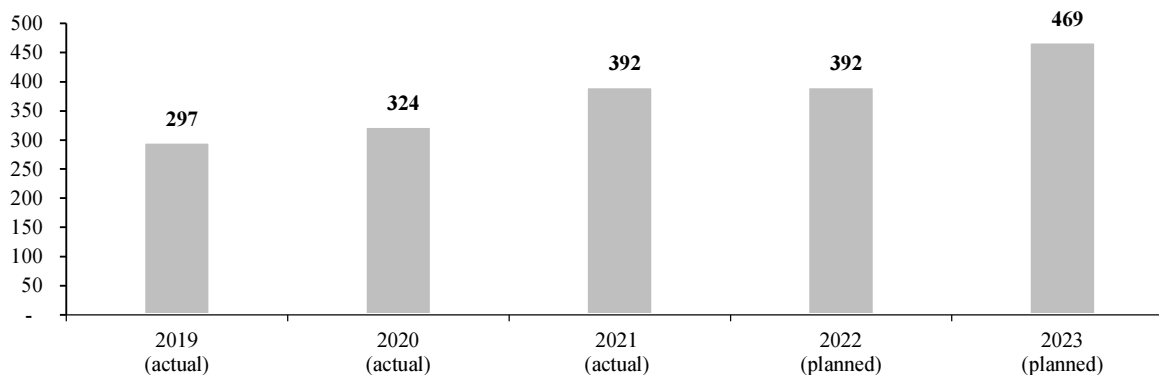
Programme performance in 2021 and target for 2023

12.37 The subprogramme's work contributed to 392, which exceeded the planned target of 356 public and private sector stakeholders, including sustainability-themed funds, reporting the integration of UNCTAD tools related to investment for sustainable development, such as the Investment Policy Framework for Sustainable Development and the guidance on core

indicators, into their activities. This included the preparation of case studies on their implementation of the guidance on core indicators by several companies and organizations from diverse regions including Africa, Latin America and the Commonwealth of Independent States. Progress towards the objective and target for 2023 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 12.IV).

Figure 12.IV

Performance measure: number of stakeholders integrating United Nations Conference on Trade and Development tools related to investment for sustainable development by the subprogramme into their activities
[cumulative number]



Result 3: Reignited investment policies in support of member States Covid-19 recovery and sustainable development

Proposed programme plan for 2023

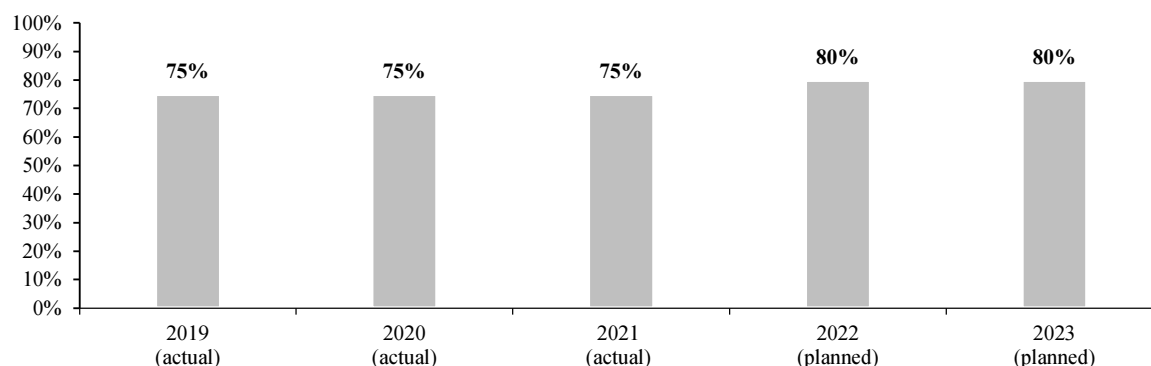
12.38 The pandemic shed into light the importance of global supply chains and the dependency of all economies on their efficiency and resilience. If global investment is growing again, it is at an uneven pace and global trends hide dramatic regional differences, with the poorest nations being left behind. To address pandemic and climate change-related challenges, the subprogramme will continue supporting member States taking advantage of the opportunities offered by the realignment of global value chains and foreign investment to revitalize investment as an engine of growth and - through structural transformation and economic diversification - build back together, differently and better for sustainable development.

12.39 The lesson for the subprogramme was that the reconfiguration of global value chains for recovery and resilience will have profound implications for inclusive and sustainable growth. This includes addressing three new challenges, including: (1) update of the investment frameworks for development strategies, which require new industrial development policies and smart investment promotion strategies including through the development of “SDG model zones”; (2) promotion of investment in infrastructure and the energy transition, to attract significant project outlays, which requires development of a pipeline of bankable projects; and (3) boosting of the investment in the SDGs sectors where needs are greatest, including climate change mitigation and adaptation in countries that are the most vulnerable to the adverse impact of climate change, based on SDG investment portion strategies. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will place additional emphasis on supporting investment policy makers by addressing these three investment recovery challenges through assistance in implementing the recommendations emanating for UNCTAD’s investment policy framework in support of Covid-19 recovery and sustainable development. Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 12.V)

Figure 12.V

Performance measure: Beneficiaries that have implemented recommendations emanating from UNCTAD's investment policy framework in support to Covid-19 recovery and sustainable development

[Percentage]



Deliverables

12.40 Table 12.6 below lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 12.6

Subprogramme 2: deliverables for the period 2021–2023, by category and subcategory

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>	<i>2021 actual</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents, per entity/theme)	8	8	8	8
1. the Secretary-General to the General Assembly on investment and entrepreneurship for sustainable development	1	1	1	1
2. the Trade and Development Board on investment for development	1	0	1	1
3. the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission and related expert meetings	4	2	4	4
4. the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting	2	5	2	2
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings, per entity/theme)	24	31	24	42
5. the fifteenth session of UNCTAD, including preparatory meetings	–	1	0	0
6. the Trade and Development Board	2	2	2	2
7. the Working Party on the Programme Plan and Programme Performance	2	2	2	2
8. the Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission and related expert meetings	14	2	14	12
9. the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting	6	4	6	6
10. the World Investment Forum	–	20	–	20
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	60	70	60	68
11. on regional investment issues analysis	3	3	3	3
12. on investment policy reviews	8	8	8	8
13. on policy options in investment for development including on taxation as it relates to investment policy	–	–	–	5
14. on special economic zones including piloting SDG model zones	2	2	2	2
15. on international investment regimes	8	13	8	10
16. on investment promotion and facilitation, including strengthening investment promotion agencies	3	3	3	3
17. on intellectual property rights for development	1	1	1	1

Category and subcategory	2021 planned	2021 actual	2022 planned	2023 planned
18. on investment guides	2	5	2	3
19. on business facilitation initiatives	10	11	10	10
20. on enterprise development initiatives, including MMEs financing and business linkages	3	4	3	3
21. on entrepreneurship development programme (EMPRETEC)	6	6	6	6
23. on accounting and reporting	3	3	3	3
24. on the contribution of foreign direct investment to inclusive growth and the Sustainable Development Goals, including on climate change mitigation and adaptation for LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS.	5	5	5	5
25. on institutional investors	2	2	2	2
26. on family businesses	2	2	2	2
27. on responsible investment	2	2	2	2
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	107	195	107	136
28. Seminars on foreign direct investment, its development dimension and the themes of the <i>World Investment Report</i>	6	14	6	12
29. Training workshops on best practices in national and international policies related to investment, including on taxation related to investment policy	4	4	4	4
30. National workshops on investment policy reviews, follow-up and investment facilitation enhancement	14	15	14	14
31. Training workshops on international investment statistics and survey methodologies	5	9	5	5
32. Ad hoc expert discussions on key issues in investment for development including concerns of “green-washing” and “SDGs-washing”	3	16	3	3
33. Training workshops on investment promotion and facilitation for policymakers, investment promotion officials and diplomats	10	14	10	10
34. Training workshops on the negotiation, implementation and reform of international investment agreements	15	15	15	15
35. Ad hoc expert discussions on investment policies for sustainable development	4	6	4	4
36. Training workshops on intellectual property for development	10	16	10	10
37. Training workshops on enterprise development policies	16	19	16	15
38. Training seminars on accounting and sustainability reporting	6	23	6	12
39. Workshops and seminars on responsible investment issues	4	30	4	20
40. Ad hoc expert discussions on the development of SMEs and start-ups	6	6	6	6
41. Seminars on institutional investors and sustainable development	2	5	2	3
42. Ad hoc expert discussions on family businesses	2	3	2	3
Publications (number of publications)	25	26	25	22
43. <i>World Investment Report</i> and its overview	2	2	2	2
44. 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	7	8	7	8
45. on investment policies for development, including <i>Investment Policy Reviews</i> and <i>studies on policy options on investment for development</i>	9	9	9	6
46. on investment promotion and facilitation, including on investing in Sustainable Development Goal sectors and SDGs model zones development	3	3	3	2
47. on enterprise development and entrepreneurship policy support	2	2	2	2
48. on international standard of accounting and reporting	2	2	2	2
Technical materials (number of materials)	13	20	13	16
49. <i>Global Investment Trends Monitor</i> (series), including the <i>Sustainable Development Goals Investment Trends Monitor</i>	4	4	4	4
50. Global Investment Policy Monitors (series)	–	–	3	3
50. Investment guides	2	3	2	2
51. on measures affecting international investment	2	4	2	2

Category and subcategory	2021 planned	2021 actual	2022 planned	2023 planned
52. International investment agreement issues notes	2	4	2	2
53. on intellectual property rights for development	1	1	1	1
54. on enterprise development and entrepreneurship policy support	1	3	1	1
55. On ambassadors Round Table	1	1	1	0

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: policy advice to developing countries, including on formulating policies to attract foreign direct investment for development; advice on statistics and analysis on international investment, including responsible investment; policy 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 those in the most vulnerable situation, accounting and reporting standards; and advocacy and advisory services to some 200 investment promotion agencies, special economic zones and other stakeholders in the global investment chain and EMPRETEC centres with a specific focus on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on investment and enterprise development

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

D. Communication deliverables

External and media relations: International Standards of Accounting and Reporting updates, EMPRETEC newsletters (both electronic newsletter are distributed to 2,000+ subscribers and made available online) and newsletters, booklets and newsflashes on responsible investment; World Investment Forum report for more than 8,000 recipients.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: Global Enterprise Registration portal; and Investment Policy Hub

Subprogramme 3

International trade and commodities

Objective

12.41 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

12.42 To contribute to the objective and in support of implementation of the four major transformations outlined by the Bridgetown Covenant, the subprogramme will:

(a) continue to support developing countries to foster structural transformation through economic diversification entailing timely analysis of global trade trends, measures to effectively address market access barriers, breaking the chains of commodity dependence and the vulnerabilities it generates, as well as supporting the emergence of other sectors with higher value added, thus helping developing countries to make progress towards achieving SDGs 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 12 and 13.

(b) continue to promote and support developing countries transformation towards a more sustainable and more resilient economy by designing and implementing integrated trade, environment, climate change and sustainable development strategies to concurrently decouple economic growth from environmental degradation and greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate its adverse effects, to help member States make progress towards SDGs 7, 12, 13, 14 and 15.

(c) continue to work to strengthening the multilateral trading system ensuring that the system works effectively for developing countries and is a drive for inclusive and sustainable development by providing impact assessment of alternative scenarios upon a country's sustainable development strategies, and helping them to make progress towards achieving SDGs 1, 2, 8, 10 and 17.

(d) support the adoption, improvement and enforcement of national and regional competition and consumer protection legislation, through best practices, guidelines and peer reviews, in light of the current sustainability and digital challenges, helping member States achieve inclusive development and make progress towards SDGs 8, 10, 12, and 17.

(e) foster mainstreaming gender equality in trade policies, strengthening the capacity of member States to design and implement trade policies that allow women to benefit more from the opportunities arising from international trade ensuring that no one is left behind and helping them make progress towards SDGs 1, 5, 8 and 17.

(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 the *World Economic Situation and Prospects*.

(g) monitor and analyse the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on international trade by providing specific policy recommendations including through market studies, consumer protection analysis and competition impact assessments, for a better recovery in specific sectors.

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

(a) Mitigation of the effect of the pandemic on the ability of member States to benefit from international trade and in fostering the recovery of the trade sectors; and

(b) Improved capacity of member States to design and implement trade-policy responses to the climate crisis from a development perspective;

(c) Improved capacity of member States to identify and address the trade barriers and supply-side obstacles that disproportionately affect women and girls;

(d) Continue its work on the impact of non-tariff measures on trade relations, market access, investment and transit, and thus their development implications and impact on the well-being of the population of affected countries, including through the strengthening of its cooperation on the topic with other relevant partners, as well as through participation in the Multi-Agency Support Team on the non-tariff measures database;

(e) Member States achieving positive development outcomes in relation to increased trade integration and activity;

(f) Improved capacity to seize 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 ocean-based sectors and devise integrated sustainable use and trade action plans;

(i) Member States create an enabling environment for the promotion of services and the creative economy to leap-frog into new, high-growth sectors of the world economy towards achieving the SDGs;

(j) Mitigation of the effect of the pandemic on the ability of member States to benefit from international trade and in fostering the recovery of the trade sectors; and

(k) Improved capacity of member States to design and implement trade-policy responses to the climate crisis from a development perspective.

Programme performance in 2021

Trade and biodiversity advanced and incorporated into development frameworks of member States to create valuable economic opportunities and improved livelihoods

12.44 Goods and services sustainably sourced from biodiversity that are commercialized and traded respecting people and nature has generated income for rural communities and created jobs and businesses in new biodiversity-based sectors. At the same time, the grave

threat of climate change, and the immense challenge of biodiversity loss and environmental degradation, have become key challenges for sustainable development. The subprogramme updated and made available for countries the UNCTAD BioTrade Principles and Criteria, a set of guidelines for governments and companies to conduct biodiversity-friendly trade and to address new challenges and priorities now and in the future. The update added important new elements such as climate resilience, marine biodiversity and sustainable tourism, as well as workers' rights, health and safety, and access and benefit sharing. The update also aligned the guidelines with landmark international agreements, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing. The implementation of these principles has enabled countries, such as Ecuador, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Peru, to diversify their economies and capture opportunities arising from new market trends in biodiversity-friendly sectors by incorporating trade and biodiversity issues into their existing regulations and/or national strategies. UNCTAD and its BioTrade programme partners have called for the updated principles and criteria to be reflected in the new Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, which will provide the biodiversity roadmap for the next decade. Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 12.7).

Table 12.7

Performance measure

<i>2019 (actual)</i>	<i>2020 (actual)</i>	<i>2021 (actual)</i>
One (1) country (Peru) incorporates trade and/or biodiversity issues in their sustainable development policy and legal frameworks.	Two (2) countries (Lao People's Democratic Republic and Peru) are incorporating trade and/or biodiversity issues into their sustainable development policy and legal frameworks; updated BioTrade Principles and Criteria made available for countries and companies to use in their work related to trade and biodiversity.	Five (5) countries (Colombia, Ecuador, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Peru, South Africa, Saint Lucia) are incorporating trade and biodiversity issues into their sustainable development policy and legal frameworks and an online self-assessment tool is developed to enable projects, companies and entrepreneurs to assess their activities against the updated BioTrade Principles and Criteria available for the products and services related to the marine and terrestrial ecosystems.

Planned results for 2023**Result 1: oceans economy – supporting small island developing States and coastal developing countries in realizing economic benefits from the sustainable use of marine resources****Programme performance in 2021 and target for 2023**

12.45 The subprogramme's work contributed to the production, validation, adoption and implementation Oceans Economy and Trade Strategies (OETS) of Belize (a multispecies finfish management plan) and Costa Rica (a collective trademark for fish and seafood products), which *met* the planned target. Progress towards the objective and target for 2023 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 12.8).

Table 12.8
Performance measure

2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)	2022 (planned)	2023 (planned)
Member States have increased interest and are better supported in formulating national oceans economy and trade strategies, including as a result of the United Nations Trade Forum	Member States have increased their capacities to formulate national oceans economy and trade strategies as a result of the subprogramme's activities, including two member States (Belize and Costa Rica) which formulated such a strategy	Two oceans Economy Strategies were produced, validated and published for Belize and Costa Rica.	Member States identify actions and realign efforts for progress and compliance with trade-related targets of SDG 14 as a result of the Fourth Oceans Forum and at least two blue biotrade value chain assessments for selected species and a regional action plan are developed by the subprogramme	Three more member States take steps to replicate the approach and implement an oceans economy and trade strategy or blue biotrade value chains analysis

Result 2: tearing down trade barriers – transparent and streamlined regulations for sustainable development

Programme performance in 2021 and target for 2023

12.46 The subprogramme's work contributed to enhanced transparency in trade on non-tariff measures and enabling policymakers to design "good regulations" by registering a total of 17,530 users, which *exceeded* the planned target of increased use of the information published on non-tariff measures on trade portals, with at least 1,500 additional users registered (14,500 in total). In addressing the immediate needs of the member States related to the pandemic, the result was enriched by the monitoring and reporting undertaken by the subprogramme on COVID-19 related NTMs, such as export restriction of medicine products. Progress towards the objective and target for 2023 are presented in the performance measure below (see table 12.9).

Table 12.9
Performance measure

2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)	2022 (planned)	2023 (planned)
Increased awareness among member States of the importance of non-tariff measures for international trade. Development and improvement of non-tariff measures data portals to facilitate access to information on such measures collected by the subprogramme, specifically for developing countries	Increased use of the information published on non-tariff measures on trade portals, with 13,000 total users registered	Increased use of the information published on non-tariff measures on trade portals, with 17,530 total users registered	Increased use of the information published on non-tariff measures on trade portals, with at least 2,000 additional users registered (16,500 in total)	Increased use of the information published on non-tariff measures on trade portals, with at least 2,500 additional users registered (22,000 in total)

Result 3: Integrated climate change dimension into the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) agreement on the national level

Proposed programme plan for 2023

12.47 The AfCFTA is a landmark agreement for the African Continent, being the largest free trade area in the world in terms of participating countries, bringing together 1.2 billion people with a combined gross domestic product of USD 2 trillion. At the same time, Africa is facing extensive threats from climate change and extreme weather events and its biodiversity is under “threat”, negatively impacting the implementation of the agreement and the sustainable economic development of the continent. The Bridgetown Covenant explicitly refers to the importance of supporting the African countries in the implementation of the AfCFTA, but also highlights the climate change is one of the biggest challenges for the sustainable economic development, with decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation being crucial to ensure sustainable progress. While sustainable development is one of the main objectives of the AfCFTA, the text has not much developed the link between trade, environment and sustainability under its provisions or commitments negotiated so far. The subprogramme’s recent analysis focused on the implications of the AfCFTA for BioTrade making an important contribution by identifying several opportunities in the agreement for establishing relevant Protocols with a potential to green the AfCFTA; while the *2021 Trade and Environment Review* highlighted trade-climate readiness challenges focusing on ways that developing countries can enhance the resilience of their trade to climate change. With a view towards putting the analysis into action, the subprogramme plans to identify the best options to mitigate and adapt to climate change that fit into the AfCFTA process, with specific focus given at incorporating green initiatives into National AfCFTA Implementation Strategies, and identifying climate change adaptation actions needed to maintain productivity in prominent sectors in the coming decades as climate variability increases.

Lessons learned and planned change

12.48 A lesson for the subprogramme was that the AfCFTA allows for green value chains (GVCs) to play a substantial role in driving regional and continental trade, and the need to advance the development of RGVCs while adapting to climate variability in relevant sectors to ensure RGVCs climate change resilience. RGVCs can also help countries to optimally adjust to shifts in agricultural and food production patterns resulting from climate change. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will support research and analyses undertaken by regional and national experts on RGVCs while focusing on climate change and green transition, for promising green value chains selected by regional and national stakeholders. The subprogramme will also support the development of value addition strategies focusing on green initiatives. Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 12.10).

Table 12.10

Performance measure

<i>2019 (actual)</i>	<i>2020 (actual)</i>	<i>2021 (actual)</i>	<i>2022 (planned)</i>	<i>2023 (planned)</i>
5 African countries supported by the subprogramme in developing sustainable product export strategies through National Green Export Reviews	12 African countries supported by the subprogramme in the implementation of AfCFTA Annex on Non-Tariff Barriers, and increase of regulatory transparency.	The subprogramme identified several opportunities in the agreement establishing the AfCFTA and relevant implementing Protocols that have potential to “green” the AfCFTA and boost BioTrade and presented the African countries with options on how they can	Preparation of value chain analysis, with a specific focus on climate change and green transition, on selected priority value chains identified through new research and analyses,	10 African countries to develop green AfCFTA implementation strategies and to develop at least 2 regional green value chains through collaboration with other countries in their respective regions

2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)	2022 (planned)	2023 (planned)
		enhance their resilience of their trade to climate change through economic diversification and adaptation actions.		

Deliverables

12.49 Table 12.11 below lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 12.11

Subprogramme 3: deliverables for the period 2021–2023, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	2021 planned	2021 actual	2022 planned	2023 planned
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents, per entity/theme)	21	18	20	19
1. international trade and development and world commodity trends and prospects for the General Assembly	2	2	1	2
2. the fifteenth session of UNCTAD	–	2	–	–
3. 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	2	3	2	3
4. Background documentation for the Trade and Development Commission and for related expert meetings, including on non-tariff measures and sustainability standards	7	2	7	4
5. the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy and the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy	10	9	10	10
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings, per entity/theme)	33	55	33	33
6. the General Assembly (Second Committee)	2	2	2	2
8. the fifteenth session of UNCTAD, including preparatory meetings	–	26	–	–
9. Annual and executive sessions of the Trade and Development Board	2	3	2	2
10. the Working Party on the Programme Plan and Programme Performance	2	7	2	2
11. the annual sessions of the Trade and Development Commission and related expert meetings	16	6	16	16
12. 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
13. 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)	24	22	20	20
on trade, gender and development	1	1	1	1
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 dispute settlement and commercial diplomacy	7	7	6	6
on competition and consumer protection laws and policies	4	4	4	4
on trade, the environment and development	4	4	4	4
on collecting, monitoring, reporting and disseminating data on non-tariff measures, on formulating development-oriented trade policies, and on sustainability standards	4	2	2	2
on assistance to commodity-dependent countries in achieving greater diversification and value addition	4	4	3	3
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	125	171	108	118
on the World Integrated Trade Solution, the Trade Analysis and Information System and non-tariff measures, and sustainability standards	10	10	15	17

Category and subcategory	2021 planned	2021 actual	2022 planned	2023 planned
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	24	38	25	27
on trade, gender and development	23	48	10	12
on trade, the environment and development	20	32	25	27
on competition and consumer protection laws and policies	20	20	20	22
20. for supporting commodity-dependent developing countries to formulate strategies and policies and harness development gains, and respond to the challenges and opportunities of commodity markets	10	13	5	5
21. on the changing international trade landscape and trade costs	1	1	1	1
22. on challenges and opportunities of international trade for the promotion of sustainable development	12	4	2	2
23. Ad hoc expert discussion on the role of competition law and policy and on consumer protection and policy	1	1	1	1
24. 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	38	36	35
25. on trade and sector-specific publications	5	2	1	1
26. on trade, multilateralism and the Sustainable Development Goals	12	11	17	14
on trade and the environment	6	6	6	6
on trade, gender and development	4	2	4	3
on trade, services, the international trading system, and the creative economy	7	5	7	6
27. on trade trends and policy in the international context	8	8	9	9
28. on trade, market efficiency and consumer welfare and on competition and consumer protection policies	4	6	6	6
29. on trade, commodities, economic diversification and value addition	6	11	3	5
Technical materials (number of materials) ^a	12	13	12	12
30. Reports on UNCTAD work on competition and consumer protection policies and on the Global Commodities Forum	2	2	1	2
31. 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
32. <i>Manual on Consumer Protection</i>	1	1	1	1
33. Model law on competition	1	1	1	1
34. on competition and consumer protection under the UNCTAD Research Partnership Platform	1	1	1	1
35. UNCTAD, WTO and International Trade Centre publication <i>World Tariff Profiles</i>	1	1	1	1
36. Trade-related aspects of the <i>Sustainable Development Goals Report</i>	1	1	1	1
37. the United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standards	–	–	1	–
38. on topics in international trade negotiations	2	3	2	2

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: policy advice on trade-related decision-making provided to five member States and two regional South-South economic integration groupings, integration into the global economy and participation in regional and multilateral trade agreements, integration of trade concerns into national trade and services policies, cooperation and partnerships for inclusive growth and sustainable development, trade and gender, developing competition and consumer protection frameworks, 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 course on non-tariff measures for approximately 300 people annually

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: multi-stakeholder meeting on commodities and development; BioTrade Congress; event on trade and gender; event on illicit trade for more than 100 people; 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 gender and on commodity policy research and implementation and projects; and 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: proceedings of meetings conducted by the subprogramme; interactive tools related to national competition and consumer protection laws, commercial diplomacy and dispute settlement; UNCTAD, WTO and International Trade Centre website on trade-related SDGs and indicators; electronic version of the model law on competition; online course on negotiating regional trade agreements for trade in times of crisis and pandemic; and teaching package on trade and gender.

Subprogramme 4

Technology and logistics

Objective

12.50 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.

Strategy

12.51 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will:

(a) Identify and disseminate policy options, good practices and lessons in the areas of technology and logistics, to limit the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and promote resilient and sustainable recovery;

(b) Provide timely research and analysis and policy recommendations for capturing value in the digital economy, including through the flagship publication *Digital Economy Report*; and support developing countries to measure e-commerce and the digital economy;

(c) Ensure the interests of developing countries are identified and integrated in 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 the annual eCommerce Week;

(d) Assist developing countries to systematically assess their state-of-play, readiness to engage and integrate into the digital economy, including through eTrade Readiness Assessments, e-commerce strategies, by supporting the improvement of legal frameworks, and helping women's participation in e-commerce;

(e) Ensure international debates on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) incorporate the perspectives and priorities of developing countries through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, among others;

(f) Inform policies and deliberations on STI for development, especially on frontier technologies, through research and analysis including the flagship publication *Technology and Innovation Report*, and other reports analysing policy options including for the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development;

(g) Build capacities of member States in STI for development, including through STI policy reviews, support the implementation of technology assessment and foresight exercises, and provide substantive support to the inter-agency task team on STI for the SDGs of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism;

(h) Support implementation of trade facilitation reforms, including the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade Facilitation, and enhance its support to the development and the implementation of appropriate legal and regulatory frameworks that reduce trade transaction costs. To that end, the subprogramme will support trade facilitation reforms and automation through the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA);

- (i) Provide technical guidance, data and policy recommendations and promote sharing of best practices on the integration of developing countries into regional and global supply chains and transport networks, including through the flagship publication *Review of Maritime Transport* and other research products, legislative frameworks and capacity building;
- (j) Foster international policy dialogue on trade logistics issues, ensuring the interests and specific challenges facing developing countries are addressed in relevant regional and international forums. In this context, continue to address specific trade logistics challenges affecting small island developing States and landlocked countries;
- (k) Deliver training courses on key issues on the international economic agenda and the Training Development in the Field of International Trade (TrainForTrade) programme, to enhance capacities of relevant stakeholders and government experts on various aspects of trade policies and interrelated issues of finance, investment, technology and sustainable development, including port management, trade statistics and digital economy;
- (l) Mainstream gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, across the three pillars of work of the subprogramme, thus contributing to the promotion of inclusive development, with a special focus on enhancing their economic and digital skills and opportunities;

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

- (a) Improved policy formulation at the national, regional and global level on e-commerce and digital economy for sustainable development
- (b) Improved coordination of 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 development
- (c) Improved knowledge, understanding of policy options, and international consensus on emerging challenges and opportunities in STI for development
- (c) The implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and the implementation of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism;
- (d) Increased capacities of member States to harness STI for their national development strategies;
- (e) Improved ability of countries to address key and emerging issues in trade logistics, including maritime transport policies;
- (f) Better knowledge and capacity of member States to implement Trade Facilitation reforms, including the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade Facilitation;
- (g) Enhanced capacity to design and implement policies and actions aimed at improving the efficiency of trade transactions as well as the management of transport operations, including through the ASYCUDA Programme;
- (h) Increased capacity of policymakers to assess, analyze and formulate policies on key issues on the international economic agenda through the UNCTAD Paragraph 166 Programme and through the TrainForTrade programme on port management, trade statistics and the digital economy;
- (i) Increased understanding of policy options to mitigate the impact and accelerate the recovery from COVID-19 pandemic and other shocks, in the areas of technology, and trade logistics;

Programme performance in 2021

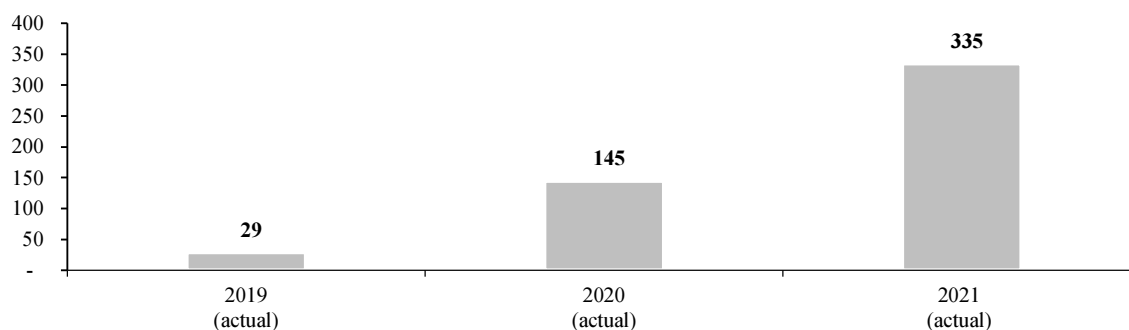
Enriched international dialogue on science, technology and innovation (STI) for development leading to enhanced cooperation for harnessing technology for the Sustainable Development Goals.

12.53 The Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) is the focal point within the United Nations for science, technology and innovation (STI) for development and plays a central role in analysing how STI, including frontier technologies, serve as enablers of the 2030 Agenda. Supported by subprogramme's analysis, the CSTD, the only ministerial-level intergovernmental forum in which developing countries can address their technology and development agenda, provides intellectual leadership and policy guidance for the UN to address the economic, social and ethical impact of frontier technologies, including their unintended consequences. This work is fully aligned with the strategic role of STI for structural transformation that is underscored in the outcome document of UNCTAD 15. The work of the CSTD is enabled by recognised research (for example UNCTAD's *Technology and Innovation Report 2021* which focused on frontier technologies and inequality), and access to leading scientific expertise. As the secretariat to the CSTD, the subprogramme also connects technology stakeholders in various development-oriented partnerships. In this context, programmes initiated at the CSTD, such as national STI policy reviews, have helped developing countries strengthen their innovation systems. CSTD member States also benefited from partnerships for technological capacity building including with scholarships for young female scientists, and capacity building to use space technologies and big data to monitor crops and improve food security. The subprogramme also facilitated partnerships for training policymakers from developing countries on good practices in technology and innovation policy. Following CSTD deliberations in 2021 and its resolution on STI, the subprogramme launched a new project to develop the capacity of STI stakeholders in African countries to conduct technology assessments so that they can make better choices concerning the introduction of frontier technologies to progress towards the SDGs. Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 12.VI).

Figure 12.VI

Performance measure: Developing country policymakers benefiting from CSTD initiatives

[Number of policymakers *trained each year*]



Planned results for 2023

Result 1: strengthened capacity of developing countries to comply with international and regional trade facilitation rules and standards

Programme performance in 2021 and target for 2023

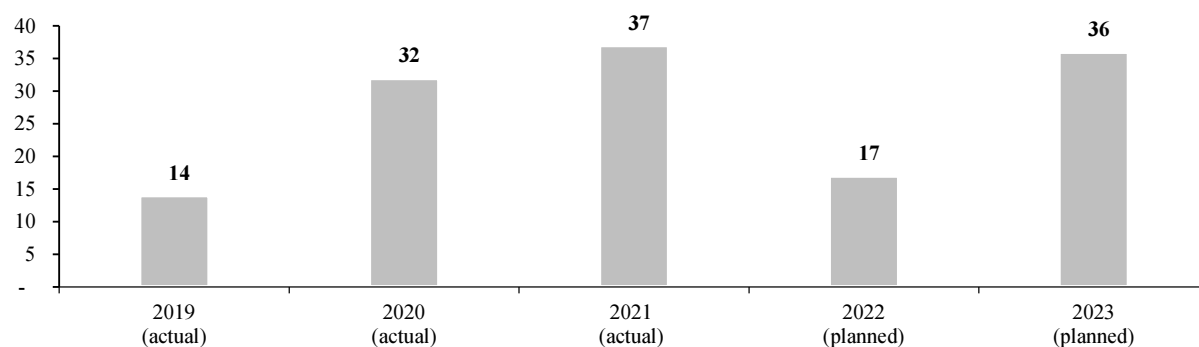
12.54 The subprogramme's work contributed to 37 National Trade Facilitation Committees (NTFCs) being assisted by UNCTAD in identifying their national implementation obligations with regard to the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation,

which exceeded the planned target of 15. Progress towards the objective and target for 2023 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 12.VII).

Table 12.VII

Performance measure: Trade facilitation committees assisted by the UNCTAD in identifying their national implementation obligations with regard to the Agreement on Trade Facilitation of the World Trade Organization (annual)

[Number of trade facilitation committees]



Result 2: women digital entrepreneurs empowered to build a more inclusive digital economy

Programme performance in 2021 and target for 2023

12.55 The subprogramme's work contributed to a cumulative total of 200 women digital entrepreneurs from over 20 developing countries with improved business and leadership skills by participating in capacity and community-building activities under the leadership of eTrade for Women Advocates, as well as in policy dialogues with policymakers on digital transformations, which exceeded the planned target of 100. As global consumers have shopped more than ever online during the COVID-19 pandemic, raising e-commerce's share of global retail trade, supporting women entrepreneurs striving to succeed in the digital space has thus become even more critical since the outbreak. Progress towards the objective and target for 2023 are presented in the performance measure below (see Table 12.12).

Table 12.12

Performance measure

2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)	2022 (planned) ^a	2023 (planned)
Increased awareness of Governments and the private sector regarding the role of eTrade for Women advocates in building a more inclusive digital economy	Improved business and leadership skills of 50 women digital entrepreneurs participating in eTrade for Women activities	Improved business and leadership skills of a cumulative total of 200 women digital entrepreneurs participating in eTrade for Women activities	Improved business and leadership skills of a cumulative total of 200 women digital entrepreneurs participating in eTrade for Women activities. At least four eTrade for Women communities active across regions	Improved business and leadership skills of a cumulative total of 300 women digital entrepreneurs participating in eTrade for Women activities. At least four eTrade for Women communities active across regions

Result 3: Simplified trade procedures through ASYCUDA Single Windows

12.56 As recognised by the Bridgetown Covenant, dealing with trade administrative procedures is often complicated and costly for trade stakeholders in developing countries, due to a multiplicity of un-coordinated processes required to clear goods with various cross

border regulatory agencies. The UNCTAD Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA) Programme, led by the subprogramme, is an integrated customs management system running in over 100 countries and territories, including 39 least developed countries, 34 small island developing states and 21 landlocked developing countries. It has also created a platform on which to build an electronic Single Window enabling the integration of processes between government agencies, cross border regulatory agencies, and customs, allowing traders to submit import/export paperwork online, through a single interface. Single Windows have multiple benefits, simplifying and streamlining trade procedures, and increasing customs revenues for beneficiary countries. In Jamaica, it is expected that Single Window for Trade will reduce clearance times to less than 29 hours in 2023 against approximately 32 hours in 2020 and lowering associated costs by 20%. ASYCUDA Single Window projects have been or are currently being implemented in Burundi, the Comoros, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Rwanda, Uganda, Vanuatu, and Zimbabwe. Barbados, Timor-Leste, and Turkmenistan have also recently embarked on implementing ASYCUDA Single Window systems.

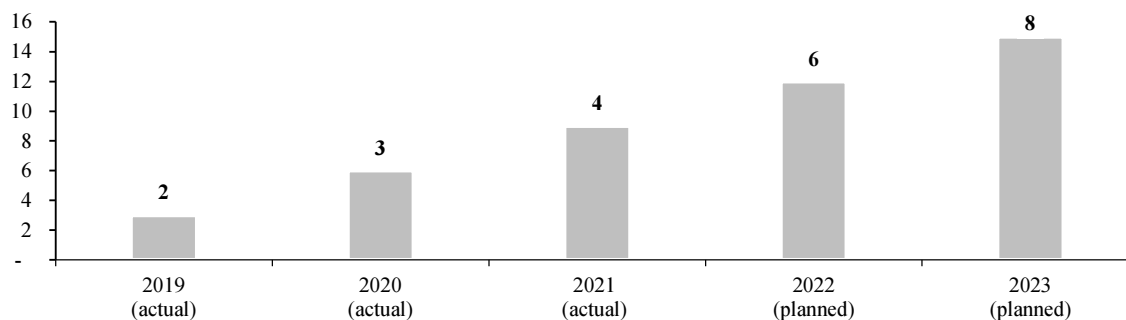
Lessons learned and planned change

12.57 The lesson for the subprogramme was that it is important to gather and analyse socioeconomic data before starting a trade automation project to better assess the state of play and impact and associated benefits of the Single Window once implemented. In applying this lesson, the ASYCUDA programme is exploring to raise resources to bolster the analytical capacity to establish baselines, assess socioeconomic impacts, and report results more systematically. Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 12.VIII)

Figure 12.VIII

Performance measure: Border Regulatory Agencies and Partner Governmental Agencies implementing and benefitting from the ASYCUDA Single Window system

[Average number of new agencies per project]



Deliverables

12.58 Table 12.13 below lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 12.13

Subprogramme 4: deliverables for the period 2021–2023, by category and subcategory

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>	<i>2021 actual</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents, per entity/theme)	22	12	21	20
1. Outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, and on science and technology for development for the General Assembly	2	2	1	2
2. Commission on Science and Technology for Development and its intersessional panels	6	6	6	6
3. Fifteenth session of UNCTAD	–	0	–	–
4. Trade and Development Board	2	1	2	2

Category and subcategory	2021 planned	2021 actual	2022 planned	2023 planned
5. Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission and related expert meetings on issues related to science, technology and innovation	4	1	4	2
6. Trade and Development Commission and related expert meetings	4	0	4	4
7. Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy	2	0	2	2
8. Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy	2	2	2	2
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings, per entity/theme)	51	33	50	50
9. 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	3
10. Commission on Science and Technology for Development	16	13	16	16
11. fifteenth session of UNCTAD, including preparatory meetings	–	4	–	–
12. Trade and Development Board	3	1	3	3
13. Working Party on the Programme Plan and Programme Performance	2	2	2	2
14. Investment, Enterprise and Development Commission and related expert meetings	7	2	7	5
15. Trade and Development Commission and related expert meetings on transport, trade logistics and trade facilitation	7	2	7	7
16. Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy	6	0	6	6
17. Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy	4	4	4	4
18. Multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the SDGs of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism (with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat)	2	2	2	2
19. eCommerce Week	1	0	1	1
20. Global Trade and Transport Facilitation Forum	0	0	0	1
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	32	32	32	32
21. Training Development in the Field of International Trade (TrainForTrade) capacity-building programme: port management; issues related to trade, including e-commerce and statistics; and pedagogical methodology	7	7	7	7
22. National, regional and interregional projects on transport and related services, including the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA)	22	22	22	22
23. Transport, trade facilitation and trade logistics	2	2	2	2
24. E-commerce and the digital economy	1	1	1	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	458	448	404	406
25. TrainForTrade train-the-trainer events	55	40	–	–
26. TrainForTrade national delivery workshops	260	260	300	300
27. Seminars, workshops, fellowships and training events on transport, trade logistics and trade facilitation	80	91	52	52
28. Ad hoc expert discussions on transport, trade logistics and trade facilitation	1	1	1	1
29. Ad hoc expert discussions on the role of technology (including information and communications technology) and innovation in development, including for the operationalization of technology transfer	1	1	1	1
30. 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	10	10	10	12
31. Training courses on key issues on the international economic agenda (paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action), regional and short courses	36	30	25	25
32. Seminars, workshops and training events on science, technology and innovation and development	15	15	15	15
Publications (number of publications)	25	17	19	17
33. <i>Technology and Innovation Report</i> and overview	–	–	1	–

Category and subcategory	2021 planned	2021 actual	2022 planned	2023 planned
34. <i>Digital Economy Report</i> and overview	1	1	–	1
35. <i>Review of Maritime Transport, and overview</i>	1	1	1	1
36. Science, technology and innovation policy reviews	3	3	2	2
37. e-Commerce Strategies	3	2	2	2
38. <i>Current Studies on Science, Technology and Innovation</i> series	2	2	2	1
39. Transport and trade logistics and transport and trade facilitation series	2	2	2	2
40. Thematic reports on e-commerce and the digital economy, including statistics, cyberlaw, gender	2	3	1	2
41. <i>TrainForTrade Port Management</i> series	1	1	1	1
42. eTrade Readiness Assessments	10	2	7	5
Technical materials (number of materials)	12	13	12	12
43. Policy briefs on the following topics: science, technology and innovation; e-commerce and the digital economy; and trade logistics	4	4	4	4
44. <i>ASYCUDA annual report</i>	1	1	1	1
45. <i>Year in Review</i> of the eCommerce and Digital Economy Programme	1	1	1	1
46. Technical notes on information and communications technology (including e-commerce and the digital economy) for development	2	3	2	2
47. Technical notes on trade facilitation	1	1	1	1
48. Background notes for the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals	1	1	1	1
49. Economic and maritime country profiles	1	1	1	1
50. Report of the UNCTAD Advisory Group on Strengthening Training Capacity and Human Resource Development	1	1	1	–
51. Technical note on Science, Technology and Innovation for Development	–	–	–	1

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: Africa eCommerce Week; multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the SDGs; sessions of the UNCTAD Advisory Group on Strengthening Training Capacity and Human Resource Development; and policy advice on science, technology and innovation policies for development, policy and practical aspects of e-commerce and the digital economy for development, measuring 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; TrainForTrade; 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; and eTrade for All online platform

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: newsletters on ASYCUDA, eTrade for All for over 2,000 recipients and transport and trade facilitation for over 5,000 recipients, STI Digest newsletter, brochures, flyers and information kits.

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; ASYCUDA and paragraph 166 of the Bangkok Plan of Action website; eTrade for All Platform; and online platforms for innovation policy learning.

Subprogramme 5

Africa, least developed countries and special programmes

Objective

12.59 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

12.60 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will:

(a) carry out research and technical cooperation activities to diversify the export and productive structures of the above-mentioned countries, in order to foster sustained economic growth and sustainable and inclusive development, including through contributions to reports of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly, including the reports on the implementation and follow-up of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024; the agreed outcome of the Fifth United Nations Conference on LDCs; and the 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;

(b) continue to translate the policy guidance and recommendations emanating from research and analysis work into pragmatic and targeted technical cooperation programmes, to promote structural transformation through diversification, as part of the four major transformations identified by the Bridgetown Covenant, that are needed to move to a more resilient and inclusive world of shared prosperity;

(c) play an advocacy role in promoting consensus in the international development community regarding the policy measures that best address the sustainable development problems of the above groups of countries, including at the multilateral level, through the identification of new issues and approaches, training and capacity-building workshops, as well as greater interaction with research institutes in LDCs and with development partners;

(d) continue to strengthen efforts to formulate and provide domestic policy support and capacity-building to the targeted groups derived from its innovative research and analysis and technical support;

(e) increase the availability of strategic policy-based options aimed at enhancing domestic productive capacities and structural transformation for sustainable development in developing countries and facilitate their implementation through the development of demand-driven technical cooperation and programmatic support within its areas of expertise;

(f) continue to provide support to the least developed countries, who are either in the process of graduation or recently graduated from the least developed country category, to ensure a smooth transition towards their new status;

(g) broaden its country-based technical support to include aspects such as national strategies for the development of productive capacities and structural transformation, rules of origin, inequality and vulnerability, enhanced market access and preference utilization, value addition in strategic products and geographical indications, which will help member States, in particular LDCs and other groups of countries in special situations, to make progress towards the achievement of SDGs 9 and 17;

(h) address the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 on economies in target countries, through research work and technical cooperation, in order to facilitate specific policy design and implementation in the short, medium and long term aimed at building resilience to future economic shocks;

(i) continue to support African countries in addressing their special concerns and needs, including as articulated in the New Partnership for Africa's Development and in the Agenda 2063, as well as to contribute to the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area, most notably through research, technical cooperation and targeted policy advice;

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

- (a) Greater structural transformation and inclusive growth in beneficiary countries;
- (b) member States improved development policy formulation and implementation capacities, including capacities to account for current and future shocks, reduce exposure to external shocks and build resilience;
- (c) improved development policy formulation and implementation capacities in countries with specific needs for more effective technical cooperation strategies;
- (d) member States supported in the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area.

Programme performance in 2021

Enhanced understanding of policy makers of debt, economic diversification and natural resources challenges in SIDS

12.62 Small island developing States (SIDS) face unique vulnerabilities given their propensity to natural disasters alongside their small-size and remoteness. This is compounded by a largely undiversified economic structure and high dependence on sensitive imports and external financial inflows. As they strive to recover from the impact of the COVID-19 crisis amid vulnerabilities worsened by the pandemic, to help these countries in their resilience-building efforts and long-run development planning for building back better, the subprogramme has conducted targeted policy-oriented research on ‘Building resilience in SIDS’. This compendium expanded the knowledge of policy makers on the issues of debt, economic diversification, post-COVID tourism revenues, and potential development of products in a freshwater scarcity environment. By providing a unique perspective on SIDS challenges, the compendium served as a useful analytical tool and equipped the policy makers to formulate policies and plan their next steps for their economic development. Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 12.14)

Table 12.14

Enhanced understanding of policy makers of debt, economic diversification, and water resource issues in SIDS

2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)
-	To address the COVID-19 negative impact on SIDS’ tourism-related revenue, simulation-related research is initiated to drive targeted policy-measures.	Policy makers from SIDS are better equipped to address their specific challenges due to available evidence-based research and policy recommendations on issues of debt, economic diversification, tourism, and the development of products in a fresh-water scarcity environment.

Planned results for 2023

Result 1: building economic resilience in the least developed countries

Programme performance in 2021 and target for 2023

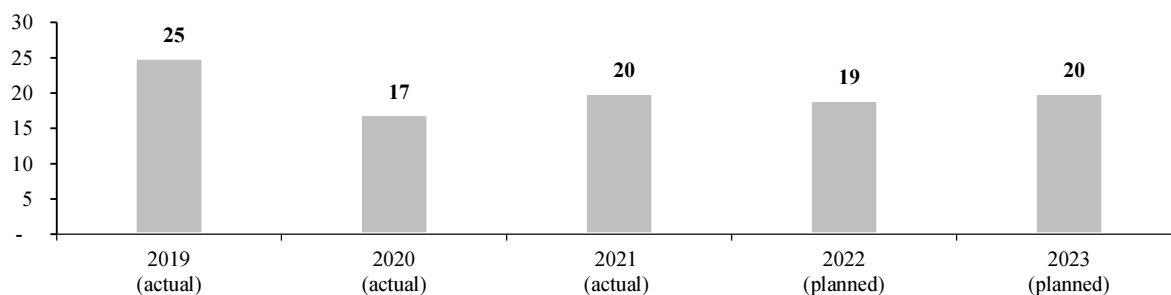
12.63 The subprogramme’s work, including the provision of policy recommendations through our flagship research and ad hoc publications, contributed to increased efforts of the least developed countries to economically diversify their production structures in order to achieve graduation with momentum out of the LDC category, enhance their regional and multilateral integration efforts and understanding of their vulnerabilities in order to build resilience. The above-mentioned work contributed to enhancing awareness of the need for economic resilience in the least developed countries but did not meet the planned target of

28 least developed countries experiencing a reduction in their export concentration index due to the negative effects derived from the pandemic on their economic output, resulting in a reconcentration of exports, greater unemployment and higher poverty rates. Progress towards the objective and target for 2023 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 12.IX)

Figure 12.IX

Performance measure: Least developed countries experiencing a reduction in their export concentration index

[Number of countries per year]



Note: The performance measure for 2021 is estimated, as actual data for 2021 was not available at the time of preparing this document.

Result 2: improved participation of African countries in regional and global value chains

Programme performance in 2021 and target for 2023

12.64 The subprogramme's work contributed to the assessment of the Regional Customs Network for Transit Trade (SIGMAT) in Burkina Faso and the Niger and the evaluation of cross-border performance in Malanville Border Post, between Benin and the Niger, with the cooperation of the interministerial working group. The subprogramme drafted a road map for an inter-State transit programme and supported the national implementation units in the beneficiary countries through supporting the activities related to the inter-State transit programme in the region, which met the planned target of making an inventory of existing protocols for inter-State road transit in Benin, Burkina Faso and the Niger. This was validated by the beneficiary countries, through the established interministerial working group, as a road map for a functional inter-State transit programme. Progress towards the objective and target for 2023 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 12.15).

Table 12.15

Performance measure

2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)	2022 (planned)	2023 (planned)
Recognition by the ministries of commerce, transport and planning, chambers of commerce and private sector actors of the need for a transit and transport coordination mechanism due to UNCTAD raising awareness of the issue	Raising awareness among the beneficiary countries through the established interministerial working group to the benefits arising from implementation of the regional convention on transit (ECOWAS Convention relating to Inter-States Road Transit of Goods) and the WTO Agreement on	Assessment of the Regional Customs Network for Transit Trade (SIGMAT) in Burkina Faso and the Niger and evaluation of cross-border performance in Malanville Border Post (between Benin and the Niger) as well as supported activities related to the inter-State transit	Increase in inter-State trade between the three beneficiary countries (Benin, Burkina Faso and the Niger) resulting from UNCTAD policy guidance and advisory support made available for the coordinated implementation of inter-State transit and transport policies	Enhanced management of joint border post among the three beneficiary countries (Benin, Burkina Faso and the Niger) and an enhanced understanding of the domestic reforms for implementation of the regional convention on transit (ECOWAS Convention relating to Inter-States Road Transit of Goods) and the WTO

2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)	2022 (planned)	2023 (planned)
	Trade Facilitation	programme in the region.		Agreement on Trade Facilitation

Result 3: Enhanced understanding of the challenges and opportunities to foster productive capacities and structural transformation in countries with special needs

Proposed programme plan for 2023

12.65 The Bridgetown Covenant called upon UNCTAD to support the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing states and other structurally weak and vulnerable economies to enhance their productive capacities, address acute macro and structural vulnerabilities and promote structural economic transformation. Institutional mechanisms to systematically evaluate, monitor and diagnose the evolution of the level of productive capacities are not developed in targeted beneficiary countries, leading to a gap between the present productive development challenges and national and regional strategies, policy guidelines, frameworks and recommendations to address them. The subprogramme, using UNCTAD's Productive Capacities Index (PCI), is enabling countries to formulate and implement policies that are better tailored to national circumstances.

Lessons learned and planned change

12.66 The lesson for the subprogramme was that the implementation of targeted policies by developing countries, LDCs in particular, to undertake their productive transformation and achieve structural transformation was lacking a systematic assessment of the specific productive capacities gap affecting their development. In applying this lesson, the subprogramme started operationalizing UNCTAD's Productive Capacities Index through National and Regional Productive Capacities Gap Assessments (NPCGA) that will allow countries to enhance their capability to develop, maintain and utilize productive capacities, in line with the Bridgetown Covenant and relevant Ministerial Declarations of LDCs and LLDCs. Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 12.16)

Table 12.16

Performance measure: Operationalization of UNCTAD's Productive Capacities Index (PCI) through National Productive Capacities Gap Assessments (NPCGA)

2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)	2022 (planned)	2023 (planned)
Lack of understanding and awareness by national and regional authorities of gaps and limitations to productive capacities development due to insufficient policy-oriented methodologies to assess gaps and data-driven tools to measure productive capacities gaps.	Enhanced awareness by national and regional policy makers of the challenges and areas where productive capacities are lagging thanks to the development of UNCTAD's Productive Capacities Index (PCI).	UNCTAD's PCI made available for all countries on a dedicated web portal and developed a coherent structure for NPCGAs	NPCGAs are undertaken, utilizing the PCI and related analysis of national policies and programmes, for at least five countries. Countries design and validate policies and programmes to address the identified gaps and limitations to the building and use of productive capacities.	NPCGAs are used as inputs to the General Assembly-mandated Vulnerability Profiles of those countries found eligible to leave the LDC category for the first time.

Deliverables

12.67 Table 12.17 lists all deliverables of the subprogramme.

Table 12.17

Subprogramme 5: deliverables for the period 2021–2023, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	2021 planned	2021 actual	2022 planned	2023 planned
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents, per entity/theme)	9	5	4	7
1. the Economic and Social Council, including on vulnerability profiles	5	4	1	5
3. the overviews of the <i>Economic Development in Africa Report</i> , on UNCTAD-wide activities for LDCs, UNCTAD-wide activities in favour of Africa and the implementation of the outcome of the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries for the Trade and Development Board	4	1	3	2
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings, per entity/theme)	8	8	9	9
4. the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and its Committee for Development Policy	1	2	2	2
6. the Trade and Development Board	5	4	5	5
7. 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)	4	4	7	2
8. on trade, transit and development to build national capacity	2	2	5	1
1 9. on the Enhanced Integrated Framework	2	2	2	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	18	32	25	26
10. Workshops on trade issues relevant to LDCs, 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 developing country status	14	22	14	13
11. Workshops on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, issues of thematic or sectoral relevance to landlocked developing countries, the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, the agreed outcome of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, and trade and poverty	3	8	9	10
12. Workshops on matters relevant to development in LDCs and Africa	1	2	2	3
Publications (number of publications)	10	10	12	14
13. The <i>Least Developed Countries Report</i> and its overview	2	2	2	2
14. <i>Economic Development in Africa Report and its overview</i>	1	1	1	2
15. Report on building and measuring productive capacities	–	–	1	3
16. Report on enhancing coherence between trade and industrial strategies for poverty alleviation in Africa and a special issues paper on Africa	1	1	1	2
17. Analytical studies on duty-free and quota-free market access and rules of origin	1	1	1	1
18. Lessons learned on geographical indications and related analysis for least developed countries	2	2	1	–
19. Sectoral, statistical and thematic issues of interest for landlocked developing countries: policy implications for the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 and the Sustainable Development Goals	2	2	1	1
20. Challenges faced by least developed countries in terms of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and actions to take in the context of the final appraisal of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020	1	1	–	–
21. Research papers on economic development issues in least developed countries and Africa	–	–	4	3
Technical materials (number of materials)	6	5	8	4
22. Technical material on trade and poverty	2	2	2	2

Category and subcategory	2021 planned	2021 actual	2022 planned	2023 planned
23. Technical material on trade and development in vulnerable economies, including small island developing States	2	1	4	6
24. Enhanced Integrated Framework-related documents, including on transit, transport and trade facilitation	2	2	2	–

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: policy advice to ministries of trade, transport and planning on the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 and to national statistical offices on measuring productive capacities for LLDCs; policy advice on smooth transition strategies for graduating and graduated LDCs; policy advice on trade and development issues for SIDS, LLDCs and African countries; policy advice on trade issues relevant to LDCs, including duty-free and quota-free market access, to LDCs and the Enhanced Integrated Framework; 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 LDCs and African development, globalization, development strategies and policy coherence for the benefit of member States, for a minimum of 100 participants; and policy briefs related to *The Least Developed Countries Report* and the *Economic Development in Africa Report*.

External and media relations: press releases on *The Least Developed Countries Report* and the *Economic Development in Africa Report*, opinion pieces on salient policy recommendations from the flagship reports and other topical research, press conferences on *The Least Developed Countries Report* and the *Economic Development in Africa Report* and interviews on research results and policy proposals.