

TENTH PROGRESS REPORT OF THE REGULAR PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION (2024)

May 2025

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United Nations

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1. List of selected acronyms

ACABQ	Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions
AfCFTA	African Continental Free Trade Area
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
CCA	Common Country Analysis
CRS	Common Reporting Standards
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DA	Development Account
DCO	UN Development Coordination Office
DESA	UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs
DMSPC	UN Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance
ECA	UN Economic Commission for Africa
ECE	UN Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ESCAP	UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
HC	Humanitarian Coordinator
IBC	Issue Based Coalition
ICT	Internet and Communication Technology
IRA	Inter-Regional Advisor
IE	Implementing Entity
LDC	Least Developed Country
LLDC	Landlocked Developing Country
LNOB	Leave No-One Behind
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MS	Member States

NHRI	National Human Rights Institution
NSO	National Statistics Office
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
OHCHR	UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OIOS	Office of Internal Oversight Services
PMT	Project Monitoring Tools
RA	Regional Advisor
RC	Resident Coordinator
RCO	Resident Coordinator's Office
RPTC	Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
UN	United Nations
UNCT	UN Country Team
UNDAC	UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination
UNDP	UN Development Programme
UNEP	UN Environment Programme
UN-Habitat	UN Human Settlements Programme
UNODC	UN Office on Drugs and Crime
UNSDCF	UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
VLR	Voluntary Local Review
VNR	Voluntary National Review
WHO	World Health Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization
XB	Extra-Budgetary Contributions

2. Executive Summary

The Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation (RPTC) is a budget section of the UN Secretariat aimed at supporting developing countries, least developed countries (LDCs), countries with economies in transition and countries emerging from conflict, in their capacity-development efforts, specifically to formulate and implement policies for sustainable development.

This is the Tenth Progress Report, covering the year 2024. It will facilitate discussions of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) on the proposed 2026 programme budget. It provides detailed data on the RPTC activities of the 11 Implementing Entities (IEs) and highlights specific achievements of these IEs.

In 2024, IEs received a total of 1164 requests for assistance and responded to 1040 with RPTC interventions. 169 countries were supported using RPTC funds, via a total of 2614 RPTC interventions across all levels (national, sub-regional, regional and global). This included 792 advisory services, (including 511 advisory missions), 1121 capacity building events (488 hybrid / virtual), 112 fellowships (60 female), 76 field projects, 7 grants, 261 knowledge projects, and 357 knowledge networks. 78343 people were reached, including 37930 women.

IEs were able to provide RPTC support to 100% of LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS. At the national level, 147 countries were assisted with RPTC funds, including 36 LDCs (82% of LDCs), 26 LLDCs (81% of LLDCs) and 34 SIDS (87% of SIDS). IEs report that RPTC interventions contributed to 203 intermediate outcomes across 95 separate countries, an increase of 22% on 2023 in terms of contribution to outcomes.

Several strengths of the RPTC have been identified in recent years, notably:

- RPTC's flexibility.
- RPTC's clear links with DA/XB.
- RPTC's wide geographic reach.
- RPTC remains well anchored in inter-governmental decisions and mandates.
- RPTC technical support and expertise is of high quality.
- RPTC is well managed overall.

Certain challenges remain, and are explored in this report, notably:

- There is a lack of common understanding of the nature of the RPTC between IEs and the ACABQ.
- There are issues with the implementation of the agreed common approach between IEs around outreach, contribution to outcomes and geographic scope.
- There is a lack of visibility of data over time, which makes it difficult to understand the evolution of RPTC and to identify potential gaps in countries served.
- Some countries are better positioned to work with RPTC than others, making far more requests and receiving far more support.
- Ongoing financial complications in the UN provide a challenging backdrop to the RPTC, with IEs continuing to be asked to implement their work programme within a reduced spending ceiling.

Moving forward, the RPTC could be further strengthened in four key areas:

1. Ensure shared understandings of RPTC across the UN, notably between IEs and ACABQ.
2. Focus on analysing data over time and act on this analysis.
3. Develop clear principles and guidelines to help guide decisions in times of financial uncertainty.
4. Consider producing the RPTC Progress Report every three years.

These areas will be further developed throughout the report.

3. Introduction

The RPTC is a budget section of the UN Secretariat aimed at supporting developing countries, least developed countries (LDCs), countries with economies in transition and countries emerging from conflict, in their capacity-development efforts. Funded from Section 23 of the UN's Regular Budget, the RPTC has two components implemented by 11 UN Implementing Entities (IEs):

(1) **Sectoral advisory services** implemented by the sectorally driven entities: the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

(2) **Regional and sub-regional advisory services** implemented by the five regional commissions: the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).

The objective of the RPTC is to support and advance processes aimed at developing the capacity of governments, individuals, and institutions to formulate and implement policies for sustainable development. The RPTC draws on the normative and analytical expertise of the IEs to transfer knowledge and promote learning to support and advance national efforts to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). To this end, assistance provided under the RPTC focuses on governments' requests for: (i) urgent advice and capacity development support on a broad range of policy issues; (ii) specific advice on macroeconomic and sectoral matters that are relevant to national development strategies and programmes; and (iii) the formulation or evaluation of projects leading to the enhancement of national programmes.

The modalities used by the RPTC include: (a) advisory services; (b) advisory missions; (c) capacity building and other initiatives to develop capacities (both individual and institutional) such as trainings, workshops, seminars, simulation exercises, and individual fellowships; (d) field projects, aiming to test or operationalize new approaches or pilot activities; (e) knowledge products, including toolkits, case studies, guides, technical papers; and (f) knowledge networks - groups of people with a defined area of interest working on a common body of knowledge in their respective organizations, often with specific peer learning and South-South cooperation aspects.

In 2024, the ACABQ requested that the RPTC Progress Reports continue to be presented annually, recommending that the report be presented to the General Assembly. This is the Tenth Progress Report, covering the year 2024. It will facilitate discussions of the ACABQ on the proposed 2026 budget for the RPTC.

This report starts by presenting the accomplishments of IEs; the complementarity of their RPTC work; challenges they faced in 2024; and how they integrated human rights, disability and gender concerns into RPTC activities. The report then provides a cross-cutting analysis of the geographic scope, outreach and relevance of the RPTC; its sustainability; the complementarity of action among IEs, with the DA/XB, with Resident Coordinator's Offices (RCOs) / UN Country Teams (UNCTs), and with other UN entities; and M&E arrangements - including details of how IEs have implemented lessons learned. It includes a specific section on the contribution of RPTC interventions to 'intermediate outcomes' and ends with future-oriented recommendations.

The report does **not** cover administrative or budgetary aspects. It should **not** be considered an evaluation, rather a stock taking of the work undertaken by IEs during the year.

Methodology

The report is informed by key documents such as ACABQ budget reviews, proposed programme budgets, past progress reports, the independent review by the OIOS, and relevant General Assembly resolutions.

Data was gathered from IEs using three templates and an excel spreadsheet to capture national, sub-regional, regional and global data. Follow-up discussions were held with various IEs to clarify various points.

Accomplishments cited in section 5 are not exhaustive - they simply offer examples of IEs' RPTC work. Full data, including details of all requests and all interventions per country and per IE, which should be of interest to MS, can be found in the various annexes.

Data was analyzed using the lens of the Common Reporting Standards (CRS), aiming to keep as close as possible to the definitions agreed collectively by the IEs. Ensuring coherency and consistency between IEs has become easier over time, as IEs have become more used to working with these definitions. That said, some data issues remain and are explored in the body of this report.

Three methodological points are important to take into consideration:

- In this report, the CRS definition of 'advisory services' and 'advisory missions' has been closely followed. This means that advisory missions are considered a subset of advisory services, and as such have not been counted in the calculation of the total number of RPTC interventions made by the IEs. As per the CRS, to calculate the total number of interventions, the number of advisory services, capacity building events, field projects, grants, knowledge products and knowledge networks were added together.
- When calculating the number of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) supported at the national level, the report only focuses on the [39 SIDS](#), not the extra 18 SIDS which are associate members of the UN Regional Commissions. This ensures comparability with the previous Progress Reports.
- In efforts to simplify the reporting demands on IEs, certain questions simply enquire whether any changes have occurred since the previous Progress Report.

[4. Programme and Policy Context](#)

The Ninth Progress Report of the RPTC referred to the three Cs of 2023: **COVID-19, climate and conflict**. Unfortunately, these three Cs still form an important part of the global context in 2024. While OECD countries have largely recovered from the pandemic years, the picture is much less positive in LDCs. The UN's Human Development Report notes that only 49% of LDCs have recovered from the pandemic induced 'setbacks' caused by COVID-19 in 2020-2021, as opposed to 100% of OECD countries.¹

Deaths in battle and displacement from violent conflicts are increasing, reaching the highest levels since World War II.² Conflicts in Gaza and Ukraine continue to rage and dominate global attention, while serious conflicts persist in Myanmar, Syria, Sudan, and numerous other countries.³ Wars are upending millions of lives, forcibly displacing some 120 million people and creating nearly 40 million refugees. Civilian casualties in armed conflicts rose by 72% between 2022 and 2023, the highest spike since the adoption of the SDGs in 2015.⁴

The climate crisis continues to threaten our planet. We experienced the warmest year on record in 2024, with global temperatures about 1.55°C above pre-industrial levels.⁵

Economic growth in half the world's most vulnerable countries is now slower than in advanced economies for the first time this century, and the external debt stock in low- and middle-income countries remains at unprecedentedly high levels. The investment gap in the SDGs in developing countries is estimated at a staggering \$4 trillion per year.

World leaders came together under the auspices of the UN to agree on the [Pact of the Future](#), aiming to address these issues (and many others), and recommitted to making all efforts to achieve the SDGs by 2030, despite the extremely challenging context.

Looking more closely at the RPTC's context in 2024, IEs made continued efforts to strengthen the RPTC, aiming to respond to the OIOS's four recommendations:

¹ [Human Development Report](#), p4. UN. 2024.

² Ibid, foreword, v.

³ See [Armed Conflict Location and Event Data](#) (ACLED).

⁴ [The Sustainable Development Goals Report](#), p3. UN. 2024.

⁵ [Press Release](#), World Meteorological Organization. January 2025.

1. Create a forum for sharing good practices and lessons learned on RPTC administration, implementation, monitoring, request tracking and outreach.
2. Review or develop RPTC guidelines pertaining to post and non-post uses.
3. Establish communication with the Department of Management, Strategy, Policy and Compliance (DMSPC) on strategic issues of RPTC use.
4. Take steps to better assess or evaluate outcomes of RPTC support.

The General Assembly also encouraged IEs to take concrete steps to strengthen the effectiveness of the RPTC, and has requested a Secretary-General's report on this, which will reflect on the following elements:

- a. Options for models to enhance the coordination of the programme, including a uniform tracking system to monitor requests for assistance from MS.
- b. The principles and underlying criteria to be used for selecting requests for assistance.
- c. A common evaluation framework, including meaningful, measurable and quantifiable indicators of achievement across all IEs.
- d. An outreach plan, within existing resources, to raise awareness of the existence of the programme among MS and in programme countries.⁶

IEs are collaborating through the newly created 'RPTC Focal Points Network' to work through these issues, exchanging good practise and ideas to increase effectiveness.

Finally, the ongoing liquidity crisis at the UN has continued to provide a challenging backdrop to the RPTC. IEs report continuing to be asked to implement their work programme within a reduced spending ceiling, creating clear financial challenges – including the need or expectation to respond to an increasing number of demands from MS with limited resources. One IE notes that “There are rising needs for advisory services and capacity development with the deadline for the 2030 Agenda approaching, yet resources allocated to those services are not following that rise”.

This context presents numerous challenges to IEs in their efforts to support developing countries, LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS, countries with economies in transition and countries emerging from conflict, in their development efforts.

⁶ A/RES/79/257, p8. UN. 2024.

5. Overview and Accomplishments by Implementing Entity

United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

DESA implemented RPTC activities under eight subprogrammes.⁷ It aimed to support MS to formulate viable national strategies, policies and programmes that integrate the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and other relevant policy frameworks, in particular in relation to the achievement of the SDGs and other internationally agreed development goals.

	Requests responded to	Advisory Services	Advisory Missions	Capacity Building events
Total	69	37	28	131
National	43	24	20	88
Sub-regional	1	0	0	1
Regional	25	11	8	18
Global	0	2	0	24

DESA received 92 requests for support in 2024, and used RPTC to respond to 69 requests, funding 193 national interventions⁸ in 33 countries. 43 requests (leading to interventions) came from the national level, including 12 requests from 8 LDCs, 11 from 9 LLDCs and 9 from 7 SIDS. DESA organized 131 capacity building events (16% virtual), training 5617 people (including 39% women). 12% of these participants were trained virtually. DESA developed 17 knowledge products; supported 8 knowledge networks; and helped 19 countries create or update 27 policies, laws, national plans, strategies, frameworks, sign regional or international conventions or meet reporting requirements for international agreements.

DESA's accomplishments

Supporting Zambia's Trade Transparency through ePing Training

Under Sub-Programme (SP) 6,⁹ DESA worked with partners including the **Zambian** Ministry of Commerce, Trade, and Industry (MCTI); World Trade Organization (WTO) and International Trade Centre (ITC) to support **Zambia's** trade transparency through the provision of ePing training. This intervention contributed to SDGs 8 and 17.



DESA contributed to the organization and delivery of an ePing training workshop in **Zambia**, in collaboration with the **Zambian** MCTI. The workshop introduced key stakeholders to the ePing platform and its smartphone application, providing them with the necessary skills to navigate the WTO transparency framework on product requirements. Participants, including government officials from Sanitary and Phytosanitary and Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) National Enquiry Points and private sector representatives, were trained in utilizing the platform's administrative functionalities to stay informed on upcoming changes in product regulations across foreign markets.

⁷ SP2. Inclusive social development; SP3. Sustainable development; SP4. Statistics; SP5. Population; SP6. Economic analysis and policy; SP7. Public institutions and digital government; SP8. Sustainable forest management; SP9. Financing for sustainable development.

⁸ As per the CRS, to calculate the number of interventions, the advisory services, capacity building events, field projects, grants, knowledge products and knowledge networks are added together.

⁹ SP6 aims to strengthen national capacities and international policy coordination for identifying and managing short-term macroeconomic risks.

The training enabled trade officials and exporters to access up-to-date information on regulatory developments, allowing them to respond to new trade requirements. The training strengthened **Zambia's** capacity to leverage ePing for monitoring and adapting to international trade regulations, facilitating compliance with WTO transparency obligations under the TBT Agreement. **Zambia** saw an increase in registered ePing users from 133 to 174 following the workshop, which brought together key players from the public and private sectors, and included 42 female participants, 97 male participants, and 34 others.

DESA supported the establishment of a knowledge network to support this initiative. The network is composed of a group of government officials who keep up to date with trade requirements and provide guidance to local producers. These officials are expected to support consultations on proposed regulations at national or international levels. Following the workshop, the **Zambian** government has drafted an ePing implementation plan to institutionalize the platform's use.

The training enhanced Zambia's capacity to monitor and adapt to international trade regulations, enabling government officials to take timely and well-informed decisions that support the country's export and trade strategy.

Enhancing national capacity on ratification and implementation of UNCRPD in Tajikistan

Under SP2,¹⁰ DESA worked with partners including government ministries of **Tajikistan** and the Regional Country Office to support the implementation of the National Action Plan for the ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). This intervention contributed to SDGs 1, 4 and 10.



DESA (specifically, the Division for Inclusive Social Development, DISD) contributed to enhancing the capacity of the staff of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Population of **Tajikistan**, other Ministries, local government, and representatives of national organizations of persons with disabilities involved in the preparation for the ratification and implementation of the UNCRPD. DESA also supported the drafting of guidelines to facilitate the ratification process.

As part of this initiative, six national training workshops on promoting the ratification and implementation of the UNCRPD were conducted in different regions of **Tajikistan**, training a total of 180 participants. Additionally, four national training workshops on water, sanitation, and hygiene for persons with disabilities were organized, reaching 120 participants. A national capacity-building workshop on planning for the ratification of the UNCRPD in the framework of the National Strategy for Social Protection took place in Dushanbe, training 40 participants.

With DESA's support, the Government of **Tajikistan** adopted a resolution in July 2024 regulating the work of advisers (who are persons with disabilities) to local councils. The guidelines for the implementation of the National Action Plan for the ratification of the UNCRPD were prepared with DESA's support, contributing to the capacity-building of government officials and representatives of national organizations of persons with disabilities.

DESA's support contributed to Tajikistan's plan to ratify the UNCRPD in 2025.

Strengthening government capacities for localizing SDGs in Eswatini, Honduras and Malawi

Under SP3,¹¹ DESA worked with the RCOs of **Eswatini**, **Honduras** and **Malawi**; UNDP, ECA; ECLAC and UN-Habitat to strengthen national and local government capacities for localizing SDGs through Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs). This intervention contributed primarily to SDG 11, as well as to SDGs 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13 and 16.

¹⁰ SP2 aims to advance policies for the eradication of poverty, the reduction of inequality and the achievement of greater social inclusion and well-being.

¹¹ SP3 aims to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets and commitments, through increased engagement of Member States and other stakeholders.

DESA collaborated with UN-Habitat, Regional Commissions, and UNCTs to enhance the ability of government officials at national, regional, and local levels to assess SDG progress and integrate findings into national planning processes.



In **Eswatini**, DESA, in collaboration with the Ministries of Economic Planning and Development and Housing and Urban Development and the RCO, organized a national capacity-building workshop on VLRs in October 2024, training 70 participants. The workshop was preceded by three preparatory webinars on SDG localization, stakeholder engagement, and data and statistics for VLRs. Following the workshop, **Eswatini** launched its first Voluntary National Review (VNR) and seven city-level VLRs, with preparations underway for presentation at the HLPF in 2025.

In **Honduras**, DESA supported the development of the country's first two VLRs. The support included a national capacity-building workshop on SDG localization and VLRs and the provision of a national consultant who assisted two municipalities with data collection, stakeholder consultations, and SDG assessment. The VLRs were prepared alongside **Honduras's** 2024 VNR, which includes a dedicated chapter on SDG localization and findings from the VLRs. All activities were conducted in coordination with the UNCT, ECLAC, and the Ministry of Strategic Planning.

In **Malawi**, DESA supported a national capacity-building workshop on SDG localization and VLRs in collaboration with the UNCT, UN-Habitat, and ECA, training 47 participants. Following the workshop, **Malawi** requested further support to conduct a comprehensive SDG review through an integrated VNR/VLR process, with completion planned for 2026.

Following these interventions, the Government of **Eswatini** has requested DESA's continued support in finalizing the VNR and VLR processes in 2025; the RCO in **Honduras** has requested further support in implementing strategic SDG acceleration actions in 2025, including the execution of VNR and VLR recommendations; and the Government of **Malawi** has expressed interest in further capacity development support to prepare for its integrated VNR/VLR process in 2026.

DESA's support contributed to the integration of VLRs into national SDG reporting processes, strengthening the alignment between local and national sustainable development planning in Eswatini, Honduras, and Malawi.

Complementarity of Action

Linkages with DA/XB Funds: In the Ninth Progress Report, DESA reported intensifying efforts to align RPTC interventions with DA and XB funding, aiming for a more strategic and sustainable impact, with RPTC resources catalyzing longer-term DA or XB engagements. DESA also reported that in 2023 they revised RPTC guidelines and templates, intending to ensure that at the planning stage, there is a conscious effort to develop DA projects that build on RPTC interventions and vice-versa, promoting a development approach that is strategic and impactful. No changes have been reported in 2024.

Linkages with UN RCOs and UNCTs: DESA reports engaging RCOs / UNCTs in the following ways:

When we receive a request	When we decide to act on the request	When we are planning an intervention	When we are undertaking an intervention	After we have undertaken an intervention
Usually	Usually	Usually	Usually	Usually

DESA reports systematically engaging RCs and UNCTs in planning, implementation, and follow-up of RPTC activities, ensuring that technical cooperation efforts align with national priorities and have long-term impact. Examples of this coordination include:

- The Advisory Mission on Omnichannel Service Delivery in **Azerbaijan**, working closely with RCs and UNCTs.

- SDG Localization and VLR initiatives in **Eswatini, Honduras, and Malawi**, engaging with RCs and UNCTs to implement RPTC activities.

Links with Other UN Entities: Examples of DESA's collaboration with other UN entities include:

- Organizing the SEADGov Forum in **South Africa** in collaboration with UNU-EGOV and ECA to enhance digital governance in Southern and Eastern Africa.
- Conducting the Strategic Foresight Workshop in **Pakistan** in coordination with UNDP, UNICEF, WFP, UNESCO, UNHCR, and FAO to facilitate knowledge-sharing on foresight methodologies for sustainable governance.
- Implementing the Chitral Strategic Foresight Initiative in **Pakistan** in collaboration with the RCO, DPIDG, and national and local government authorities to develop a long-term district development plan based on strategic foresight.
- Participating in the UN Public Service Forum 2024 in **Republic of Korea** alongside UNDP and UN-Habitat, contributing to capacity-building activities and discussions on public sector innovation.

UNSDCF and Lessons Learned: DESA reports that RPTC interventions are complementary to the desired outcomes of UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCF). In 2024, DESA supported the implementation of the UNSDCF for **Tanzania** through a workshop on digital technologies and financial accessibility for women smallholder farmers, held in May 2024, in Dar es Salaam. The activity aligned with Output 2.1.24 of the UNSDCF, contributing to policy recommendations on sustainable agricultural development, gender equality, and poverty reduction. The workshop brought together government ministries, UN agencies, financial institutions, mobile operators, and women smallholder farmers to discuss challenges and opportunities in digital financial accessibility. Key policy recommendations included promoting digital education, strengthening women's land rights, improving rural electrification, and enhancing the accessibility of digital applications. The initiative reinforced national development priorities outlined in the UNSDCF by addressing financial inclusion, digital transformation, rural development, and gender equality.

In the Ninth Progress Report DESA reported lessons learned from engagement with UNSDCF which included:

- Early Communication with UNCTs helps to ensure country readiness for RPTC activities and to align interventions with UNSDCF priorities. Clear communication facilitates the integration of RPTC initiatives into longer-term development plans.
- Tailored Support to MS: Collaboration with UNCTs enables DESA to provide tailored support to MS. By aligning RPTC with UNSDCF outcomes, DESA enhances the effectiveness of its capacity-building efforts.
- Robust M&E: Implementing a robust mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of RPTC activities is essential. Continuous assessment allows DESA to refine its approaches, ensuring alignment with MS' needs and UNSDCF priorities. That said, RPTC activities are not integrated into the UNSDCF results framework, and are thus not evaluated in the same way as longer-term interventions.

No changes or new lessons have been reported in 2024.

Challenges

DESA encountered several challenges in 2024, including those stemming from the ongoing reform of its use of RPTC resources, which seeks to reduce reliance on Inter-Regional Advisors (IRAs), decrease the use of General Temporary Assistance funded positions, and integrate capacity development more broadly across the Department. While these reforms aim to enhance efficiency and align RPTC support with DESA's strategic priorities, broader expertise and comparative advantage, transitioning to the new delivery model has required adjustments. The redistribution of responsibilities for capacity development support across staff, coupled with the reduced availability of dedicated IRA resources, has posed difficulties in ensuring the seamless continuity of technical cooperation activities. Additionally, logistical challenges persisted in organizing hybrid events, necessitating innovative planning to effectively balance in-person and virtual participation. The UN's liquidity crisis further constrained financial resources, affecting the feasibility of in-person workshops and requiring greater reliance on virtual formats, which, in turn, demanded additional investments in IT infrastructure and digital engagement tools. Despite these challenges, DESA has taken steps to streamline RPTC operations, improve coordination among IEs, and strengthen monitoring and reporting mechanisms as part of its 2024 Implementation Plan.

Looking ahead to 2025 and beyond, DESA anticipates continued challenges in implementing the RPTC reform while maintaining high-quality technical cooperation. The shift away from dedicated IRAs necessitates an internal

restructuring to leverage expertise across divisions, build internal capacity for capacity development delivery, and enhance collaboration with IEs. Ensuring continuity in RPTC-supported activities while undergoing these structural adjustments will require a concerted effort to optimize internal coordination and develop innovative technical cooperation approaches, particularly through digital modalities. Additionally, hybrid engagement models—blending in-person and virtual activities—will continue to present logistical and financial hurdles, particularly in regions with limited digital infrastructure. The UN’s ongoing liquidity constraints further challenge RPTC implementation, making it essential to explore cost-effective delivery methods and strengthen partnerships. Furthermore, DESA must remain agile in adapting its capacity development efforts to evolving global challenges, including climate resilience, digital transformation, and economic recovery, ensuring alignment with MS’ priorities and the UNSDCFs. By proactively addressing these challenges, DESA aims to reinforce the impact and sustainability of RPTC as a key mechanism for technical cooperation and capacity development.

DESA has identified six areas which need to be strengthened to better respond to MS requests, notably: expanding staff training and knowledge-sharing initiatives; increasing investments in digital tools and virtual collaboration platforms to improve accessibility, particularly for LDCs and SIDS; improving monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to assess RPTC outcomes and integrate lessons learned into future activities; adopting cost-effective delivery modalities and strengthening partnerships to address financial constraints; enhancing engagement with RCs and UNCTs to align RPTC initiatives with national development priorities, capacities, political momentum and existing UNCT activities; and integrating gender equality and social inclusion across all RPTC activities.

Integration of human rights, gender equality and disability concerns in DESA interventions

Human rights and the ‘Leave No-One Behind’ (LNOB) principle continue to be fundamental to UN DESA’s RPTC activities. RPTC-funded interventions in 2024 have integrated inclusive and participatory approaches to ensure that disadvantaged and vulnerable groups are meaningfully engaged in decision-making processes and benefit from technical assistance. Key initiatives include the Capacity Development Workshop on Empowering Digital Transformation in South and East Africa and the Workshop on Strengthening Institutional Capacities in Africa for the 2030 Agenda and African Union Agenda 2063. These events focused on promoting digital inclusion, enhancing governance practices, and ensuring historically marginalized groups, such as women and rural populations, benefit from technical assistance and decision-making processes. Discussions centred on reducing digital exclusion, improving access to public services, and fostering equitable participation in governance.

Gender integration efforts within DESA’s RPTC framework are demonstrated through targeted capacity-building initiatives, such as the workshop on digital technologies and financial accessibility for women smallholder farmers in **Tanzania**. This event addressed financial inclusion challenges, cultural barriers, and the gender digital divide, proposing solutions such as digital education, enhanced land rights, and financial services tailored for women. By embedding gender-sensitive strategies in its interventions, DESA strengthens its commitment to equitable development and institutionalizing inclusive governance practices. Sex disaggregated data was provided almost systematically, showing that 39% of people trained were female.

Similarly, with regards to disability, DESA’s targeted support to **Tajikistan** to enhance capacity of the representatives of national organizations of persons with disabilities and government officials on the process of the ratification and implementation of the UNCRPD illustrates this integrated approach.

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

UNCTAD implemented RPTC activities under five subprogrammes.¹² It aimed to support government officials and policy practitioners from developing countries on key issues on the international economic agenda, with a view to increasing capacity to build more effective and integrated policy responses to a changing global economy.

	Requests responded to	Advisory Services	Advisory Missions	Capacity Building events
Total	10	39	16	24
National	4	8	6	7
Sub-regional	6	13	0	0
Regional	0	10	10	2
Global	0	8	0	15

UNCTAD received 20 requests for support in 2024, and used RPTC to respond to 10 requests, funding 25 national interventions¹³ in 4 countries. 4 requests (leading to interventions) came from the national level, including 1 request from 1 LDC. UNCTAD organized 24 capacity building events (33% virtual), training 793 people (including 34% women). 31% of these participants were trained virtually. UNCTAD developed 18 knowledge products; supported 11 knowledge networks; and helped 3 countries create or update 6 policies, laws, national plans, strategies, frameworks, sign regional or international conventions or meet reporting requirements for international agreements.

UNCTAD's accomplishments

Advancing Inclusive Digital Transformation through National E-Commerce Strategies in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire

Under SP4,¹⁴ UNCTAD worked with [eTrade for all](#) partners; RCOs, UNCTs and other development partners to support inclusive e-commerce development among government officials in **Ghana** and **Côte d'Ivoire**. This intervention contributed to SDGs 5, 8, 9, 10, and 17.

Using RPTC funds, UNCTAD supported the development and implementation of national E-Commerce Strategies in **Ghana** and **Côte d'Ivoire** in 2024. In **Ghana**, the strategy was formulated in partnership with the Ministry of Trade and Industry under the Joint SDG Fund's Window on Digital Transformation, a joint initiative involving UNCDF, UNCTAD, and UNDP. The draft strategy was informed by the 2023 [eTrade Readiness Assessment](#) and shaped through extensive multistakeholder consultations held in Accra in June 2024. The draft was submitted to the Government in November, with further consultations scheduled with the newly appointed administration in the second quarter of 2025.



UNCTAD supported capacity building through an [eTrade workshop](#) held in Geneva in May 2024, which gathered 28 Focal Points (including 8 women) from partner countries and Regional Commissions across Africa (including **Ghana** and **Côte d'Ivoire**), Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean. The event provided participants with practical training on the eTrade Reform Tracker, digital trade agreements, and e-commerce marketplaces, strengthening their

¹² SP1. Globalization, interdependence & development; SP2. Investment & enterprise; SP3. International trade & commodities; SP4. Technology & logistics; SP5. Africa, LDCs & special programmes.

¹³ As per the CRS, to calculate the number of interventions, the advisory services, capacity building events, field projects, grants, knowledge products and knowledge networks are added together.

¹⁴ SP4 aims to harness innovation and technology, including e-commerce and the digital economy, improve trade logistics and increase human capacities for inclusive and sustainable trade and development in developing countries and economies in transition.

awareness of the policy reforms needed to foster inclusive e-commerce development. UNCTAD developed a draft national strategy for **Ghana** and facilitated the validation and endorsement of the strategy and implementation plan in **Côte d'Ivoire**. A community of national focal points was also established to promote knowledge exchange and peer learning among beneficiary countries.

Follow-up support for the implementation of both strategies will be provided through the Implementation Support Mechanism, which continues to coordinate development partner engagement and track implementation progress.

UNCTAD's interventions led to the development of a draft national E-Commerce Strategy for Ghana, and the validation and endorsement of Côte d'Ivoire's national Strategy and its implementation plan in 2024. Developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Trade and Industry, Côte d'Ivoire's strategy aligns with the [ECOWAS regional E-Commerce Strategy](#) adopted in July 2023 with UNCTAD's support.

Strengthening Policy Capacity in Africa and Asia-Pacific through UNCTAD's P166 Regional Courses

Under SP4, UNCTAD worked with partners including the University of Nairobi and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in **Pakistan** to support enhanced knowledge on trade, finance, investment, and sustainable development through the delivery of the P166 courses. This intervention contributed to SDGs 1, 4, 5, 8, 9 and 17.

Using RPTC funds, UNCTAD supported the delivery of the fifty-first and fifty-second regional courses on key issues on the international economic agenda in **Kenya** and **Pakistan** in 2024. These courses were part of UNCTAD's long-standing Paragraph 166 (P166) [mandate](#).



UNCTAD's interventions led to enhanced policy capacity among 44 government officials from 27 countries across Africa, and Asia and the Pacific. In **Kenya**, the regional course held in April 2024 was organized in collaboration with the Faculty of Economics, University of Nairobi, and supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The course trained 24 participants from 20 countries. In **Pakistan**, the December 2024 course, held with the Foreign Service Academy, welcomed 20 participants from eight countries. The curricula focused on the design and coherence of development policies, resilience to economic shocks, and the interlinkages between international trade, investment, technology, and innovation.

Delivered by the Policy Capacity Building Section of the Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD supported simulation exercises, policy development role-play, and interactive lectures during both regional courses. These capacity-building activities deepened mid-level policymakers' understanding of the global economic system, improved their skills in strategic planning and policy formulation, and strengthened their ability to assess and apply analytical tools for economic development. Participants highlighted the utility of the training in areas such as trade negotiations; small and medium enterprise development; science, technology and innovation; and employment generation. The updated modules in 2024 placed emphasis on policy resilience and practical case studies to illustrate lessons learned and best practices.

Moving forward, UNCTAD will launch the post-course surveys to assess longer-term impact, with data already collected for the African course and the Asia-Pacific survey scheduled for June 2025. The next regional courses are planned for **Argentina** and Eastern Europe in 2025, and for **Egypt** and **Pakistan** in 2026, depending on RPTC resources.

UNCTAD contributed to sustained knowledge exchange through the P166 Alumni Network, which facilitates peer learning and the sharing of good practises among past participants. The positive feedback received and outcomes reported align with evaluations from the OIOS, confirming that UNCTAD's P166 programme continues to create new skills and capacities essential for effective economic policy making in developing countries.

Supporting Developing Countries in Shaping a New Climate Finance Goal

Under SP1,¹⁵ UNCTAD worked with G77 + China to support developing countries in strengthening their ability to design climate-resilient strategies through capacity building and advisory services in 2024. This intervention contributed to SDGs 7, 9, 11, 12, 13 and 17.

Focusing on the linkages between climate, finance, and sustainable development, UNCTAD organized the “[Workshop on development priorities for a collective quantified goal on climate finance fit for developing countries’ needs](#)” in **Azerbaijan** in September 2024. This event, held back-to-back with the 11th Technical Expert Dialogue and the third meeting of the Ad Hoc Work Programme, was attended by 37 negotiators from 24 developing countries. Participants included representatives from **Barbados, the Marshall Islands, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, China, Colombia, Cook Islands, Dominican Republic, the Gambia, Guinea, Kenya, India, Iran, Iraq, Lesotho, Malawi, Maldives, Nepal, Panama, Samoa, Sudan, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe**. The workshop emphasized equal representation across G77 and China political sub-groups.



To further support negotiators, UNCTAD developed the report, “[The New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance: Quantitative and qualitative elements](#)”, launched in November 2024. Based on macroeconomic modelling with the UN Global Policy Model, the report proposed a new NCQG of USD 0.89 trillion in 2025, increasing to USD 1.46 trillion by the fifth year of implementation. Two complementary [policy briefs](#) and a [news story](#) in three languages were also produced. An online launch event attracted over 100 participants, including representatives from **South Africa, Iraq, Brazil, Japan, Jamaica, Nepal, Pakistan, Mauritius, Russia, Republic of Seychelles, Barbados, Spain, UK, Niger, Argentina, Bahamas, and the European Union**, as well as CSOs.

At COP29, UNCTAD provided in-person advisory services to over 20 negotiators from G77 and China, supporting them in advancing the interests of developing countries in the climate finance discussions.

Follow-up activities in 2025 include continued work on the “Baku to Belem Roadmap to \$1.3 Trillion,” with a potential workshop planned in **Brazil**, subject to funding.

UNCTAD’s interventions led to improved preparedness and coordination among climate finance negotiators from developing countries, resulting in strengthened common positions and informed contributions to the adoption of a new global climate finance goal. In addition, at the closing of COP29, Parties agreed to a goal of \$300 billion per year to be mobilized by developed countries for developing countries by 2035, within the context of a wider goal involving all actors to scale up financing to developing countries to at least \$1.3 trillion per year by 2035.

Complementarity of Action

Linkages with DA/XB Funds: In the Ninth Progress Report, UNCTAD reported that while there is no formal system in place to ensure RPTC and DA linkages, there is an integrated approach at the management level in considering the coherence and relevance of substance with respect to RPTC and DA at the sub-programme level. No changes have been reported in 2024.

¹⁵ SP1 aims 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.

Linkages with UN RCOs and UNCTs: UNCTAD reports engaging RCOs / UNCTs in the following ways:

When we receive a request	When we decide to act on the request	When we are planning an intervention	When we are undertaking an intervention	After we have undertaken an intervention
Sometimes	Usually	Always	Always	Usually

UNCTAD engages with UNCTs and RCOs to support the coordination and implementation of its activities at the country level. For example, in **Ghana**, UNCTAD supported the development of the national e-commerce strategy in collaboration with the Ministry of Trade and Industry. This was part of a joint programme under the Joint SDG Fund's Window on Digital Transformation, implemented by UNCDF, UNCTAD, and UNDP, and coordinated by RCO. In **Côte d'Ivoire**, UNCTAD worked with the RCO to organize meetings with development partners in support of implementing the national e-commerce strategy. The P166 capacity-building programme curriculum is developed in cooperation with the relevant UN Regional Commissions, ensuring regional relevance and alignment with broader UN development frameworks. Prior to each regional P166 course, the programme liaised with the RCs by sharing information and inviting them to opening events.

Links with Other UN Entities: UNCTAD actively seeks to collaborate with other UN entities in the planning and implementation of its RPTC-funded and co-funded activities as far as possible. For example, through the *eTrade for all* initiative—comprising 35 partner organizations, including 14 from the UN system—UNCTAD promotes coordinated support for the implementation of national e-commerce strategies, drawing on the comparative advantages of participating agencies.

UNSDCF and Lessons Learned: Examples of UNCTAD's alignment with UNSDCFs include:

- The development of the national e-commerce strategy in **Ghana**, which is aligned with the UNSCDF 2023-2025, and which includes digital transformation and innovation as one of the accelerators.
- In **Côte d'Ivoire**, the intervention supports Expected Result 2 of the UNSCDF 2021-2025 –“By 2025, small and medium businesses/industries have more access to innovative systems of sustainable and inclusive economic diversification and to opportunities for trade and investment.”

In the Ninth Progress Report, UNCTAD reported that lessons learned from engagement with UNSDCF included:

- Building on the strengthened role of UNRCs, there is still room for eTrade for all and other development partners to improve in-country coordination and provide e-commerce development assistance more efficiently. This could be done by leveraging eT Ready recommendations and capacities built through the assessment and implementation process.
- The importance of keeping communication lines open with UNRCs during the preparation and implementation of country activities and missions.

No changes have been reported in 2024.

Challenges

In the Ninth Progress report, UNCTAD reported encountering several challenges in 2023, including limited resources to follow up on the implemented activities; limited resources to be able to respond to an increasing number of new requests from MS, and the limited availability of high-level experts to participate in activities and/or institutions and agencies responsible for providing technical assistance.

In 2024, UNCTAD reports the same challenges, in addition to ensuring gender balance of participants, representatives and speakers in areas that are predominantly male dominated.

UNCTAD foresees similar challenges for 2025, in particular around the UN's ongoing liquidity crisis; limited resources to follow up on the implemented activities, and an increasing number of new requests from MS. UNCTAD sees a need to strengthen its capacity to ensure a gender balance among participants, representatives and speakers in the events; to deliver technical assistance in local languages and have documentation available in the local languages, and to access funding opportunities to complement RPTC funds.

Integration of human rights, gender equality and disability concerns in UNCTAD interventions

In the Ninth Progress Report, UNCTAD reported that their technical cooperation strategy includes the more systematic incorporation of human rights considerations into its technical cooperation and the establishment of the Technical Cooperation Committee. UNCTAD has made efforts to work on the implementation of the strategy, by considering gender, human rights, environmental, sustainable, and inclusive dimensions when planning and implementing its technical cooperation programmes. All technical cooperation interventions place human rights principles at the centre to ensure that economic activities, trade agreements, and development initiatives contribute positively to the realization and protection of human rights. No changes have been reported in 2024.

In 2024, UNCTAD reported that women's meaningful participation is sought throughout the strategy development process. Gender balance is considered in the recruitment of consultants and experts. Where applicable, knowledge products include gender-specific or gender-sensitive measures to support women's participation in e-commerce and the digital economy. For example, the draft E-commerce Strategy of **Côte d'Ivoire** focuses on inclusion as one of the four main strategic orientations, leading to measures specifically aimed at enhancing women's opportunities in e-commerce. The workshop to validate **Côte d'Ivoire's** draft National E-commerce Strategy in June 2024 benefited from the participation of members of the regional community of eTrade for Women for French-speaking Africa. Similarly, in the case of the P166 programme, UNCTAD sought to ensure that the selection of policymakers from developing countries included gender parity to ensure that both men and women have access to training opportunities. In 2024, out of 45 people who participated in the P166 programme, 20 were women.

Sex disaggregated data was provided systematically, showing that 34% of people trained by UNCTAD were female.

Accessibility issues for UNCTAD meetings in Geneva HQ are managed in line with existing UN Secretariat policy and guidance on disability. In other locations, UNCTAD ensures, through host country agreements, that all venues and conference facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Both the national E-commerce Strategies of **Ghana** and **Côte d'Ivoire** underscore the importance of making e-commerce inclusive, bridging gaps in accessibility and equity to ensure no one is left behind in the digital economy.

United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat)

In 2024, UN-Habitat implemented RPTC activities under four subprogrammes.¹⁶ It aimed at supporting governments and partners to meet commitments and contribute to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the human settlements dimension of other multilateral agreements such as the SDGs, with a focus on Goal 11. UN-Habitat does so by providing technical services to requesting Governments, and other New Urban Agenda partners, through: (a) short-term advisory services on strategically selected, high priority issues; (b) the identification, development and launch of innovative and illustrative cooperation programmes; and (c) specialized support to the implementation, monitoring, and replication of such cooperation programmes.

	Requests responded to	Advisory Services	Advisory Missions	Capacity Building events
Total	52	55	28	53
National	35	36	18	27
Sub-regional	16	13	9	17
Regional	1	1	1	1
Global	0	5	0	8

UN-Habitat received 35 requests for support in 2024, and used RPTC to respond to 52 requests, funding 85 national interventions¹⁷ in 14 countries. 35 requests (leading to interventions) came from the national level, including 11 requests from 7 LLDCs. UN-Habitat organized 53 capacity building events (38% virtual), training 2441 people (including 38% women). 20% of these participants were trained virtually. UN-Habitat developed 7 knowledge products; supported 15 knowledge networks; and helped 1 country create or update 1 policy, law, national plan, strategy, framework, sign regional or international conventions or meet reporting requirements for international agreements.

UN-Habitat's accomplishments

Advancing Sustainable Urban Development and Housing Policy in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia

Under SP1, SP2 and SP3,¹⁸ UN-Habitat worked with partners including UNDS; National Ministries for Housing, Construction, and Urban Development; and Ministries of Foreign Affairs and International Financial Institutions to strengthen institutional and technical expertise on sustainable urbanization. This intervention contributed to SDGs 3, 10, 11, 13 and 17.

Using RPTC funds, UN-Habitat advanced the localization of the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda across Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia through targeted sub-regional approaches. In the Caucasus, UN-Habitat provided technical assistance in **Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia**, facilitating national urban development agendas. At COP29, an urban climate adaptation roadmap was introduced, aligning with preparations for WUF13 (World Urban Forum) in Baku (2026), and a Country Profile on Urban Development, Housing,



¹⁶ SP1. Reduced spatial inequality & poverty in communities across the urban rural continuum; SP2. Enhanced shared prosperity of cities & regions; SP3. Strengthened climate action & improved urban environment; SP4. Effective urban crisis prevention & response.

¹⁷ As per the CRS, to calculate the number of interventions, the advisory services, capacity building events, field projects, grants, knowledge products and knowledge networks are added together.

¹⁸ SP1 aims to reduce inequality between and within communities and to reduce poverty in communities across the urban-rural continuum through increased and equal access to basic services, sustainable mobility, accessible and safe public space, increased and secure access to land, adequate and affordable housing and effective human settlements growth and regeneration; SP2 aims to enhance the shared prosperity of cities and regions through improved spatial connectivity and productivity, increased and equitably distributed locally generated revenue and expanded deployment of frontier technologies and innovation, and; SP3 aims to strengthen climate action and improve urban environments through reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving air quality, improving resource efficiency and protecting ecological assets, and the effective adaptation of communities and infrastructure to climate change.

and Land Management was developed with ECE, while **Georgia** received recommendations on its National Spatial Development Concept, emphasizing housing and data systems.

UN-Habitat supported all Central Asian MS' participation in WUF12, catalyzing interest in sustainable urbanization and housing policy. A fact-finding mission was initiated in **Uzbekistan** to assess opportunities for integrated urban programming, and UN-Habitat provided technical support to urban initiatives addressing air quality, nature-based solutions, housing, and mobility. VLRs were also supported as tools for linking local governance to national and global commitments.

UN-Habitat's interventions led to stronger institutional capacities through advisory services focusing on policy reviews, sustainable planning, resilience, circular economy, and smart urban technologies. Peer-to-peer learning among transition economies and urban forums, including COP29 and WUF13, facilitated knowledge exchange and multi-level governance collaboration. UN-Habitat also advanced urban data use, with 160 stakeholders participating in trainings on mobility, housing, VLRs, and nature-based solutions.

Using RPTC funds, UN-Habitat also implemented field projects supported by UNDA and the SDG Fund in **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Georgia, and Kyrgyzstan**, promoting SDG localization and resilience through governance reform, data improvements, and multi-sectoral planning. UN-Habitat supported knowledge dissemination by translating the "[My Neighbourhoods for Mountainous Cities](#)" principles and the [New Urban Agenda e-learning course](#) into Russian and Georgian. The Community of Practice on Urban Development fostered peer exchange among countries in economic transition, enabling the formulation and spatialization of national development plans aligned with global policy advice. Follow-up steps include fact-finding missions and the development of UN-Habitat Country Programme Documents, supported by stakeholder engagement and a monitoring and evaluation framework to track the impact on SDG localization and sustainable urban development.

UN-Habitat's interventions led to the approval of a \$10 million urban climate resilience project in Azerbaijan and catalyzed the development of UN-Habitat Country Programme Documents in Central Asia, advancing evidence-based, climate-resilient, and inclusive urban planning. They also strengthened national-local coordination, data-driven urban policies, low-carbon transport strategies, and inclusive housing frameworks for marginalized communities in transition economies.

Promoting Sustainable Urban Development through the 2024 Shanghai Award and Shanghai Manual

Under SP1, SP2 and SP3, UN-Habitat worked with partners including the Shanghai Municipal Government; the **Chinese** Ministry of Housing and Urban Rural Development, the Government of **Egypt**; Shanghai World Cities Day Coordination Centre; and Tongji University to support the implementation of the second cycle of the "Global Award for Sustainable Development in Cities (Shanghai Award)" in 2024. This intervention contributed to SDGs 11 and 13.

Using RPTC funds, UN-Habitat facilitated the call for applications, technical review, and final selection process for the Shanghai Award, which included an international jury. A total of 55 cities from 28 countries submitted applications. Five cities—Agadir (**Morocco**), Thiruvananthapuram (**India**), Iztapalapa (**Mexico**), Melbourne (**Australia**), and Doha (**Qatar**)—were selected as 2024 Shanghai Award recipients based on their progress in promoting sustainable urban development and climate resilience. The awards were presented at the 2024 Global Observance of World Cities Day in October in Alexandria, **Egypt**.



UN-Habitat provided technical advice and advisory support for the finalization of the award's annual theme and materials, including the coordination of the online Info Session held in May 2024. This session was attended by 160 participants from 23 countries. UN-Habitat also contributed to the organization of the technical review meeting and International Jury meeting held in August 2024, which included 50 participants. Representatives of winning cities participated in subsequent side events during the 12th session of the WUF12 in **Egypt**. These side events, co-hosted by UN-Habitat and **Chinese** partners, focused on urban sustainability experience-sharing and SDG localization, and were attended by approximately 90 participants.

UN-Habitat supported the development and publication of the “[Shanghai Manual – 2024 Annual Report](#)” in collaboration with **Chinese** partners. The Manual includes 18 city case studies and 24 policy recommendations across six global regions. It also includes the case examples from the five Shanghai Award-winning cities. The Manual was officially launched during the 2024 Global Observance of World Cities Day and disseminated at WUF12. UN-Habitat engaged all regional offices in the case selection process and provided technical guidance and advisory support for drafting and finalizing chapters. UN-Habitat also supported the translation of the Manual into Arabic, French, and Russian, which will be published in April 2025.

Knowledge and practices from the Shanghai Award and Manual were disseminated through [UN-UN-Habitat’s New Urban Agenda Platform](#) and the [SDG Cities Global Network](#). These knowledge platforms contributed to strengthening the capacity of local governments to access policy recommendations, case-based approaches, and implementation strategies in line with the SDGs and the New Urban Agenda.

Follow-up activities include the launch of the third cycle of the Shanghai Award in March 2025; the organization of an online info session; the International Jury selection in August 2025; and the presentation of new winning cities at the Global Observance of World Cities Day in October 2025. The “Shanghai Manual 2025” will be published alongside these activities.

UN-Habitat’s interventions led to the recognition of five cities across three regions for their progress in sustainable urban development and supported the dissemination of 18 international best practices and 24 policy recommendations through the 2024 Shanghai Manual.

[Supporting the SDG Cantons Network for Scaled-Up SDG Localization in Costa Rica](#)

Under SP1, SP2, SP3 and SP4,¹⁹ UN-Habitat worked with the **Costa Rican** Ministry of Planning and Economic Policy; IFAM²⁰; 32 local municipalities; the RC’s Office, UN-Women; and UNDP to support SDG localization in **Costa Rica**. This intervention contributed to SDGs 9, 10, 11 and 17.

Using RPTC funds, UN-Habitat supported the capacity development of the SDG Cantons Network, a national network of 32 municipalities in **Costa Rica**, aimed at localizing the SDGs. UN-Habitat adapted and translated its [SDG Cities Toolkit](#) to the national context, including, VLR guidelines, diagnostic tools, and “Our City Plans,” and provided training through a “training of trainers” approach.

UN-Habitat conducted a workshop with five municipalities and nine municipal officers to assess data collection, planning, finance, and investment capacities. Three municipalities (Palmares, Atenas, Sarchí) received targeted support through the Joint SDG Fund project “Accelerating SDG Localization through Digital Transformation,” jointly implemented by UN-Habitat, UNDP, and UN-Women. UN-Habitat provided direct support on data and strategic decision-making, delivered through the SDG Cities processes. UN-Habitat also advised IFAM on options to scale up local financing via international financial institutions, apply SDG markers to project pipelines, and explore links to the Cities Investment Facility. Advisory support was provided in coordination with IFAM, the **Costa Rican** Ministry of Planning and Economic Policy, and the UNRCO.



Moving forward, UN-Habitat will build on the work done in 2024 to adapt and translate relevant knowledge products to the **Costa Rican** context, such as the [SDG Localization Toolkit](#) and [Urban Monitoring Framework](#); provide technical assistance to three municipalities; lead on the expansion of training across the SDG Cantons Network; further toolkit adaptation; and collaborate with IFAM on local financing strategies.

¹⁹ SP4 aims to enhance urban crisis prevention and response and advance social integration and inclusive communities as well as improved living standards and the inclusion of migrants, refugees, internally displaced persons and returnees.

²⁰ Instituto de Fomento y Asesoría Municipal (Municipal Promotion and Advisory Institute)

UN-Habitat's interventions led to the national adaptation of SDG localization tools and the training of municipalities within a growing network of 32 local governments in Costa Rica, thus enhancing Costa Rica's national strategy for SDG Localization.

Complementarity of Action

Linkages with DA/XB Funds: In 2024, UN-Habitat continued to strengthen the linkages between RPTC and DA projects through key initiatives, both in terms of implementing ongoing DA initiatives and the development of new initiatives. The [UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2020–2025](#) and the elaboration of a new Strategic Plan for 2026 – 2029 enhances policy coherence and integrates RPTC and DA activities within a unified framework. Enhanced coordination mechanisms, including regular consultations, ensure that RPTC initiatives complement DA project objectives, optimizing resource use and impact. Additionally, improved monitoring and evaluation systems track progress, identify synergies, and enhance effectiveness.

In 2024, several RPTC/ DA initiatives were approved and supported, notably:

- Building Climate Resilient Cities and Communities in **Azerbaijan**.
- SDG Localization Through Healthy Food Systems Transformation in **Bosnia and Herzegovina**.
- Green Futures Brighter Beginnings – Localizing the SDGs for Climate Resilience and Children's Rights in **Serbia**.
- Empowering Bishkek Stakeholders for Sustainable Development through SDG awareness and capacity building in **Kyrgyzstan**.
- UNDA T14: Nature-based solutions for resilience to COVID-19 and urban air pollution in the Western Balkans and Central Asia (UNEP-led, UN-Habitat contributing).
- UNDA T15: Building back safe, sustainable and resilient transport and urban mobility systems in Western Balkan and Central Asian landlocked regions (led by UN-Habitat).
- UNDA T16: Promoting a Multi-Scaled Territorial Approach to Better Prepare Urban Areas in the Sahel for Protracted Displacement

Linkages with UN RCOs and UNCTs: UN-Habitat reports engaging RCOs / UNCTs in the following ways:

When we receive a request	When we decide to act on the request	When we are planning an intervention	When we are undertaking an intervention	After we have undertaken an intervention
Always	Always	Always	Always	Always

In 2024, UN-Habitat collaborated with the RCO and UNCT in **Kyrgyzstan** to align RPTC activities with national priorities through joint missions and capacity-building workshops on sustainable urban development.

Links with Other UN Entities: UN-Habitat's RPTC activities are coordinated with other UN entities through mechanisms such as UNCTs, RCOs, and the UNSDCF to ensure alignment with national priorities. Collaboration with agencies including IOM, UNECE, UNDP, UNEP, UNHCR, UNICEF, and UNDRR supports joint efforts on urbanization, housing, and climate resilience. UN-Habitat also engages in Multi-Partner Trust Funds, Joint SDG Fund programs, and regional coordination platforms to strengthen coherence, policy alignment, and knowledge exchange.

UNSDCF and Lessons Learned: Working within the SDCF framework, in 2024, UN-Habitat supported the preparation of a VLR in **Kyrgyzstan** and facilitated discussions on urban policy, air quality, mobility, and housing. The collaboration complemented ongoing initiatives by UNDP and ECE, promoting a coordinated, multi-agency approach and reinforcing national ownership.

Lessons learned from engagement with UNSDCF in 2024 include:

- Enhanced Multilevel Collaboration. Strengthening partnerships with local and regional governments has proven essential for effective SDG implementation. By engaging local and regional governments in UN country operations, UN-Habitat has facilitated more impactful and context-specific interventions.

- **Inclusive Planning Processes.** Conducting in-depth consultations with MS, UN entities, and other stakeholders during the development of strategic plans has been vital. This inclusive approach has enriched the planning process and fostered a sense of shared ownership and commitment.

Challenges

UN-Habitat encountered several challenges in 2024, including:

- **Capacity.** A significant increase in demand for support has been received for technical support from MS in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. This has impacted the capacity of IRAs to respond to all requests.
- **Institutional structure.** UN-Habitat's lack of a finalised regional structure – including the missing element of a Regional Office for Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia – has limited their ability to provide sufficient technical assistance to MS.
- **Focusing more on LDCs LLDCs and SIDS.** UN-Habitat is starting to explore ways to better engage with these target country groups, specifically with the support of catalytic funding, based on OIOS recommendations.
- **Policy Integration.** Developing robust national urban policies is essential for sustainable urban development. However, integrating these policies across various levels of government and among diverse actors remains a complex task, requiring effective coordination and shared vision.

UN-Habitat foresees the following challenges for 2025:

- Climate change and urban resilience.
- Financial constraints and resource mobilization.
- Digital transformation and equity.
- Coordination among multiple stakeholders.
- Political instability and conflict, all of which pose significant challenges to the implementation of RPTC programmes.

UN-Habitat sees a need to strengthen its capacity to respond effectively to the above challenges, including, for example to increase MS capacity to develop and integrate comprehensive urban policies that align with international frameworks.

Integration of human rights, gender equality and disability concerns in UN-Habitat's interventions

In 2024, UN-Habitat advanced the integration of the Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) in RPTC interventions. Efforts focused on inclusive urban planning that ensured the participation of marginalized groups, including women, youth, persons with disabilities, and refugees. Monitoring mechanisms were strengthened to assess the human rights impact of interventions, while capacity-building initiatives trained local authorities on rights, equity, and justice. Community engagement was also enhanced to align urban development with the social and economic rights of all citizens.

UN-Habitat made significant progress in mainstreaming gender into RPTC activities. Urban planning processes became more gender-responsive, addressing the specific needs of women and gender minorities through safer public spaces and improved access to services and housing. Gender considerations were systematically embedded in training and technical support, empowering stakeholders to promote gender equality. The use of gender-disaggregated data informed targeted project design, while partnerships with women's organizations helped ensure interventions were inclusive and transformative. Sex disaggregated data was provided systematically, showing that 38% of people trained by UN-Habitat were female.

RPTC interventions in 2024 placed greater emphasis on disability inclusion, aligning with the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy. Urban planning applied universal design principles to enhance accessibility across public infrastructure, housing, and transport. Disability awareness was integrated into capacity-building for urban planners and local authorities. UN-Habitat also improved consultation processes to include persons with disabilities in decision-making and partnered with disability organizations to ensure interventions reflected lived experiences and expert input.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

UNODC implemented RPTC activities under SP8, Technical Cooperation and Field Support, which aims at strengthening MS-owned programmes countering drugs, crime and terrorism.

	Requests responded to	Advisory Services	Advisory Missions	Capacity Building events
Total	15	13	10	372
National	12	8	8	366
Sub-regional	3	5	2	6
Regional	0	0	0	0
Global	0	0	0	0

UNODC received 19 requests for support in 2024, and used RPTC to respond to 15 requests, funding 384 national interventions²¹ in 11 countries. 12 requests (leading to interventions) came from the national level, including 4 requests from 2 LDCs, 3 from 2 LLDCs and 1 from 1 SIDS. UNODC organized 372 capacity building events (71% virtual), training 36383 people (including 61% women). 44% of these participants were trained virtually. UNODC developed 6 knowledge products; supported 3 knowledge networks; and helped 2 countries create or update 2 policies, laws, national plans, strategies, frameworks, sign regional or international conventions or meet reporting requirements for international agreements.

UNODC's accomplishments

Strengthening Integrated Responses to Riverine Pollution in the Tapajós River Basin

UNODC worked with partners including the **Brazilian** national and state governments; the federal police of **Brazil**; the **Brazilian** Institute of Environment and Renewable Natural Resources; and the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation to combat environmental crime in Brazil. This intervention contributed to SDGs 14 and 16.

Using RPTC funds, UNODC supported the development of coordinated strategies to address riverine pollution in the Tapajós River Basin, a region impacted by transnational organized crime (TOC), illegal mining, and mercury contamination. Through targeted advisory services and capacity-building activities, UNODC worked closely with national and subnational institutions, facilitating consensus on the urgency of integrated responses to environmental crime.



UNODC's interventions led to the active participation and buy-in of key stakeholders, including the Federal Public Prosecution Office of **Brazil** (MPF),²² state environmental authorities, and local enforcement bodies. Despite initial resistance due to limited state presence and the socio-economic complexity of the region, UNODC supported authorities to identify actionable measures, such as the creation of a state-led management authority for riverine resources, the reinforcement of intelligence-led enforcement under federal oversight, and the implementation of education and training initiatives for local populations and enforcement actors.

²¹ As per the CRS, to calculate the number of interventions, the advisory services, capacity building events, field projects, grants, knowledge products and knowledge networks are added together.

²² Ministério Público Federal.

The capacity-building component included a two-day inter-institutional workshop in Belém with 22 participants from 15 agencies, and a seven-day field mission to Belém and Santarém. These activities enhanced participants' skills in intelligence-led enforcement, interagency coordination, and community-focused education to combat TOC-related pollution. The mission further supported strategic alignment among stakeholders, strengthening institutional cooperation on riverine pollution prevention.

Moving forward, future capacity-building initiatives based on the outcome of the mission are expected to involve further specialized workshops and training focused on enforcement techniques, intelligence analysis, and sustainable resource management in riverine areas. Other follow-up actions include the MPF's commitment to adapt successful methodologies from other river basins to the Tapajós River Basin, alongside plans to secure internal resources and explore joint fundraising with UNODC through mechanisms such as the Amazon Fund. UNODC is also preparing donor concept notes, including one submitted to the European Union, with positive support from **Brazil's** Integrated Preventive Inspection Programme. Continued collaboration with MPF and other stakeholders will focus on scaling enforcement and educational efforts.

UNODC's interventions led to the development of coordinated, multi-agency strategies to address riverine pollution in the Tapajós River Basin, including the establishment of actionable enforcement, oversight, and education measures endorsed by state and federal authorities, as well as the expansion of the Integrated Preventive Inspection Program in Brazil.

Enhancing National Capacities to Prevent and Respond to Cybercrime in Guinea

UNODC worked with partners including **Guinea's** Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Education; the **Guinean** Gendarmerie; the **Guinean** Police; the Office on Protection of Gender and Women, and various educational institutions to strengthen national efforts in preventing and managing cybercrime.



UNODC supported activities such as awareness campaigns, training workshops, and skills development for criminal justice practitioners, focusing on online child protection and cybercrime investigation techniques. For example, UNODC supported the delivery of the "Let's Chat Cyber in Schools" campaign, training 500 students (215 females) in two schools in Conakry on cyber threats and prevention. The campaign addressed topics such as online safety, social engineering, and responsible digital behaviour. The initiative was developed in response to identified gaps in youth awareness and digital literacy.

UNODC led a four-day Cybercrime Investigations and Digital Evidence Training for 49 investigators and prosecutors. The course covered cybercrime typologies, digital evidence handling, and international cooperation. Over 80% of participants demonstrated increased knowledge in managing cybercrime cases and using investigative tools such as open-source intelligence.

Moving forward, the "Let's Chat Cyber in Schools" campaign will be rolled out in 2025, with a new workplan under development in collaboration with the Ministry of Education. UNODC also plans to support the Government of **Guinea** in developing a National Strategy for Online Child Protection, involving key ministries and a proposed five-year implementation period. Further initiatives will focus on ongoing training, establishing a digital evidence framework, launching public awareness campaigns, and enhancing cross-border cooperation on cybercrime.

UNODC's interventions have equipped government officials with the knowledge and tools to strengthen Guinea's cybercrime prevention efforts and online child protection measures. The programme has also paved the way for the creation of a National Strategy for Online Child Protection, a crucial step to reinforce the country's national plan to address cyber threats and safeguard citizens, especially children, from digital risks. This contributes directly to aligning Guinea's strategies with international standards and best practices in cybersecurity.

Advancing Human Rights-Based and Gender-Sensitive Police Reform in Saint Lucia

UNODC worked with the Royal **Saint Lucia** Police Force (RSLPF); the Ministry of Home Affairs; the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court; the Attorney General's Chambers; the Regional Security System (RSS); and the Caribbean Community Implementation Agency for Crime and Security to support human rights-based and gender-sensitive policy reform in **Saint Lucia**. This intervention contributed to SDG 16.

UNODC supported the RSLPF and the Ministry of Home Affairs through the facilitation of a two-day capacity-building workshop titled "Human Rights-Based and Gender-Sensitive Policing for Modernization and Reform." The activity directly contributed to the implementation of the RSLPF Strategic Plan 2023–2028 (the Strategic Plan) by providing technical guidance on integrating inclusive, rights-based practices into law enforcement.

UNODC's interventions led to the development of actionable recommendations to modernize policing in **Saint Lucia**, including the creation of multidisciplinary teams, the establishment of victim support units, and the drafting of gender-sensitive policies to address sexual harassment and discrimination. Operational reforms were also discussed, such as updating the use of force policy and piloting the use of body cameras and less-lethal alternatives.

UNODC supported the delivery of training to 20 participants (50% women) from key national institutions, including the RSLPF, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Attorney General's Chambers, and the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court. The workshop equipped participants with knowledge on human rights-based policing, gender inclusivity, victim-centered approaches, and police transparency mechanisms.



An advisory mission conducted in August 2024 provided technical support to the RSLPF and national authorities on integrating human rights and gender considerations into the Strategic Plan. The mission also reviewed institutional frameworks related to transparency and accountability, contributing to the broader national police reform agenda and alignment with SDG16.

Moving forward, the Government of **Saint Lucia**'s has committed to implementing trauma-informed, gender-sensitive policing practices and establish a comprehensive victim support and witness protection system. Planned reforms also include the review of the Police Act, development of a police human resources department, expanded training in evidence-based policing, and a continued emphasis on regional cooperation. Additional funding secured through a proposal submitted to **Canada** will support further capacity-building and initiatives to strengthen police accountability across **Saint Lucia** and neighbouring Caribbean countries.

UNODC's interventions led to the integration of gender-sensitive and human rights-based recommendations into the RSLPF Strategic Plan 2023–2028, supporting police reform and institutional accountability in Saint Lucia.

Complementarity of Action

Linkages with DA/XB Funds: In 2024, two RPTC funded initiatives undertaken in **Brazil** and **Ukraine** contributed to larger interventions which received XB funds.

Linkages with UN RCOs and UNCTs: UNODC reports engaging RCOs / UNCTs in the following ways:

When we receive a request	When we decide to act on the request	When we are planning an intervention	When we are undertaking an intervention	After we have undertaken an intervention
Sometimes	Sometimes	Usually	Usually	Never

While UNODC's engagement with RCOs / UNCTs is specific to each region and country, field offices are encouraged to follow the Management and Accountability Framework (MAF) recommendations, to ensure a consistent approach to support MS. For example, in **Angola**, UNODC coordinated an RPTC-funded workshop on case management and access to justice with the UNRC and UNCT. The collaboration ensured that the workshop's objectives were consistent with the country's national priorities and the sustainable development agenda. The UNRC's office and UNCT supported the planning process and facilitated the participation of relevant stakeholders, resulting in a coherent and integrated approach to justice sector reform.

Links with Other UN Entities: UNODC's programmes are connected to Common Country Analysis (CCA) and derived from UNSDCF's, therefore there is often complementarity between its interventions and other UNCTs members. For example, in the advisory mission to **Uzbekistan**, RPTC activities were closely linked with other UN entities, including UNDP **Uzbekistan** as well as the European Union, to enhance anti-corruption efforts in **Uzbekistan**. Collaborative initiatives, such as the IV Tashkent Anti-Corruption Forum, have fostered joint actions, ensuring alignment of efforts across governance and rule of law programmes. These partnerships strengthened national capacities and contributed to sustainable anti-corruption strategies in **Uzbekistan**.

UNSDCF and Lessons Learned: UNODC works with UNCTs to ensure that countering drugs, crime, terrorism, and corruption are contained within the outcomes of the UNSDCF's. RPTC interventions are complementary to the work that is discussed in the outcomes of UNSDCF's. For example, the activities related to Restorative Justice in **Nigeria** support Priority Area 4 of the UNSDCF 2023-2027, which focuses on promoting inclusive, transparent, and gender-equitable governance and justice systems. By integrating restorative justice into **Nigeria's** criminal justice framework, the RPTC interventions contribute to fostering a more participatory, peaceful, and cohesive society, addressing inequities within the justice system, and ensuring equal access to justice for all. These efforts reinforce the UNSDCF's objectives of enhancing human rights, promoting gender-responsive justice, and advancing the rule of law.

Lessons learned from engagement with UNSDCF in 2024 include:

- Early engagement with all relevant stakeholders, including local communities, is essential to ensure that interventions are well-received and have a lasting impact.
- Flexibility in adapting approaches to local contexts and challenges enhances the effectiveness and sustainability of projects, ensuring they remain relevant throughout the implementation phase.
- Strengthening communication and collaboration among UN agencies and local actors promotes shared ownership and increases the likelihood of successful, long-term outcomes.

Challenges

In the Ninth Progress Report, UNODC reported encountering several challenges in 2023, including:

- Geopolitical dynamics, security concerns and ongoing crises can severely disrupt the implementation of RPTC activities.
- Scarcity of local expertise in areas relevant to UNODC's mandate, such as forensic analysis of drug samples or investigation techniques for transnational organized crime. This scarcity can hinder the provision of effective capacity building interventions, as local counterparts may lack the necessary knowledge or experience.
- Changes in leadership or shifting priorities within counterpart institutions and organizations can lead to delays or changes in the implementation of planned activities. This can disrupt the continuity of skills strengthening initiatives and mentoring programs.

No changes have been reported in 2024.

UNODC foresees several challenges for 2025. A primary constraint under the Regular Budget is the limited availability of resources for technical cooperation, with funding shortfalls posing a risk to the scale and scope of planned activities. In addition, evolving geopolitical dynamics may impact project implementation in certain regions, creating potential uncertainties and operational challenges on the ground.

UNODC sees a need to strengthen its capacity to meet growing demands from MS. The challenge lies not in a lack of institutional capacity, but in the availability of adequate resources. Enhancing funding, personnel, and technical tools would enable UNODC to respond more effectively and efficiently to MS requests.

Integration of human rights, gender equality and disability concerns in UNODC interventions

In the Ninth Progress Report, UNODC reported mainstreaming human rights-based approaches across all RPTC interventions. This is still the case.

In 2023, UNODC reported that their activities are guided by the UNODC [Strategy for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment](#). There is a continuing commitment towards global efforts to promote just, inclusive and resilient societies. The strategy aims to improve delivery of equal access to justice, gender-responsive policing and activities related to prevention of organized crime and illicit trafficking, countering corruption, prevention of terrorism and radicalisation, and drug rehabilitation. No changes to the approach were reported. In 2024, sex disaggregated data was provided systematically, showing that 61% of people trained by UNODC were female.

UNODC also reported in 2023 that their activities are guided by the Disability Inclusion Strategy. UNODC, in line with its mandate, promotes equality of treatment and opportunities for persons with disabilities in the justice system by facilitating the access to justice, providing legal aid and other services, carrying out research (collecting data) and awareness raising campaigns. People Living with Disabilities (PLWD) are consulted in the development and implementation of UNODC Country/Regional Programmes in line with the principle "Nothing for us without us". UNODC has a dedicated Disability Inclusion Focal Points Network to coordinate technical assistance to PLWD and contribute to the work of UN Country Teams. Targeted awareness raising activities were carried out at the field level to amplify the voices of PLWD.

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

OCHA implemented RPTC activities under four subprogrammes.²³ It aimed to mobilize and coordinate assistance in humanitarian crises and provide advisory services and training, to help ensure timely, coherent, coordinated and principled responses by the international community to disasters and emergencies. OCHA also facilitates the transition from emergency relief to rehabilitation and sustainable development, to help crisis-affected people rapidly get the humanitarian assistance and protection they need. OCHA contributed to strengthening the national capacities by supporting the elaboration of national emergency preparedness and response plans in disasters and post-disaster emergency situations, as well as promoting the standardization of national contingency planning in disaster-prone and crisis-affected countries. OCHA also worked to increase awareness and build the capacity of partners at the global, regional and national levels to ensure that those in need of humanitarian assistance are reached, and that humanitarian needs are reduced.

	Requests responded to	Advisory Services	Advisory Missions	Capacity Building events
Total	24	22	45	34
National	21	19	41	22
Sub-regional	1	1	1	1
Regional	2	2	3	7
Global	0	0	0	4

OCHA received 14 requests for support in 2024, and used RPTC to respond to 24 requests, funding 41 national interventions²⁴ in 20 countries. 21 requests (leading to interventions) came from the national level, including 9 requests from 8 LDCs, 4 from 4 LLDCs and 5 from 5 SIDS. OCHA organized 34 capacity building events (41% virtual), training 1751 people (including 14% women).²⁵ 46% of these participants were trained virtually. OCHA developed 4 knowledge products; and helped 1 country create or update 1 policy, law, national plan, strategy, framework, sign regional or international conventions or meet reporting requirements for international agreements.

OCHA's accomplishments

Strengthening Community-Led Humanitarian Action

Under SP1,²⁶ OCHA worked with partners including the Childhood and Development Corporation in **Colombia**; Volontaires Nigériens pour le Développement in **Niger**; ECOWEB in the **Philippines**, and Women Committee Access for Humanitarian Foundation in **South Sudan** to improve approaches to participatory community engagement across the humanitarian and development nexus. This intervention contributed to SDG 16.

Using RPTC funds and under the Flagship Initiative, OCHA contributed to redesigning humanitarian responses in **Colombia, Niger, the Philippines, and South Sudan** by decentralizing decision-making and strengthening community-led approaches. A series of pilot projects were carried out in these four countries with the aim of creating the basis for a more effective, agile, and sustainable humanitarian system – one that empowers crisis-affected communities and builds resilience against future humanitarian crises.

²³ SP1. Policy & Analysis; SP2. Coordination of humanitarian action & emergency response; SP3. Emergency support services; SP4. Humanitarian emergency information and advocacy.

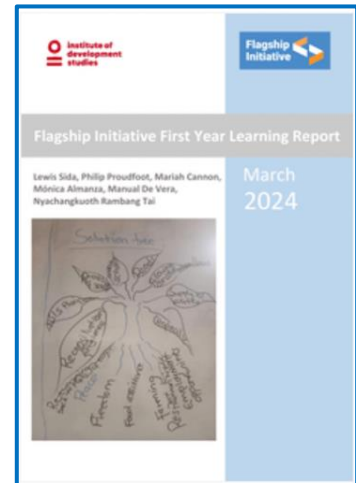
²⁴ As per the CRS, to calculate the number of interventions, the advisory services, capacity building events, field projects, grants, knowledge products and knowledge networks are added together.

²⁵ Sex disaggregated data was not provided systematically, therefore the percentage of women trained presented in this report does not accurately reflect reality.

²⁶ SP1 aims to provide overarching policy guidance for humanitarian community on systemic issues of common importance.

Following expressions of interest from the Humanitarian Coordinators in **Ethiopia** and **Somalia** in joining the Flagship Initiative, OCHA conducted advisory missions to both countries to initiate the process and transfer learning from the first four pilots under the Initiative around people-centred coordination, IDPs and access.

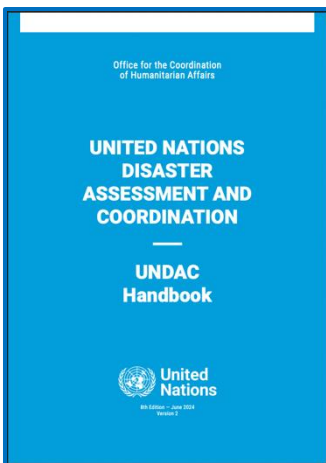
Sharing learning from **the Philippines** on identifying community priorities, risks, and capacities, a “Train the Trainers” activity was carried out in **Colombia, South Sudan, Ethiopia, and Niger**, training 200 people to enhance participatory approaches in humanitarian action. Good Practice captured throughout the pilots included engaging with communities to understand their priorities, risks, capacities, and aspirations, coordinating those priorities at a decentralized level. Targeted financing was directed to a coalition of partners to deliver tailored support aligned with community priorities, while simultaneously strengthening local capacity.



OCHA facilitated global learning and knowledge sharing through the Flagship Initiative Global Learning Forum in **Luxembourg** in March 2024. The forum brought together global stakeholders to assess the first year of the initiative. Participants concluded that constrained funding, growing humanitarian needs, and the lack of decentralized decision-making render the current international humanitarian model ineffective. They emphasized the urgency of shifting towards a system that engages communities to understand their priorities, coordinates around those priorities at the local level, and finances a coalition of partners to deliver needs-based assistance. These findings were further refined during a **Technical Learning Event**, where emerging practices and implementation challenges were discussed. These events informed the [Annual Flagship Learning Report](#), which captures key lessons, documents good practices, and supports South-South cooperation in humanitarian response.

[Enhancing Earthquake Response Preparedness in Ecuador](#)

Under SP2,²⁷ OCHA worked with partners including USAID; WHO; and the National Emergency Management Authority in **Ecuador** to support coordination mechanisms for effective emergency response in **Ecuador**. This intervention contributed to SDGs 3, 16 and 17.



Using RPTC funds, OCHA supported the International Earthquake Response Exercise (IERE) in **Ecuador** in December 2024 to strengthen disaster preparedness and response capabilities at national and international levels. The event, a key component of the Americas International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) Regional Action Plan, was organized in collaboration with **Ecuador's** National Disaster Risk Secretariat. Over 400 participants from 14 countries took part, including 20 Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) teams, a four-member UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) team, and representatives from international organizations, the private sector, and emergency medical teams. The exercise tested coordination structures, operational readiness, and information-sharing mechanisms using established INSARAG and UNDAC methodologies.

To ensure a well-prepared exercise, OCHA provided extensive advisory support over six months, including 18 online meetings and two in-country missions to refine protocols, assess venues, and align methodologies with national and international standards.

Capacity-building efforts included an online training session for controllers and volunteers and a pre-IERE preparation workshop for member states and UN agencies. USAR teams from multiple countries improved their technical proficiency by working in simulated disaster environments which were designed to align with INSARAG check-list standards. These activities strengthened the technical proficiency of the USAR teams, supporting national accreditation efforts and enhancing regional response capacity.

Key outcomes of this initiative include the [8th edition of the UNDAC Handbook \(2024\)](#) and a dedicated [UNDAC website](#) to facilitate information management and networking.

²⁷ SP2 aims to ensure a coherent, effective, and timely humanitarian response to alleviate human suffering in natural disasters and complex emergencies.

Moving forward, the IERE's findings will inform **Ecuador's** disaster response strategy, with national authorities integrating lessons learned into ongoing preparedness improvements. OCHA will continue providing remote support to USAR teams to further strengthen their operational readiness.

OCHA's interventions led to improved national USAR capacity in Ecuador, contributing to enhanced response protocols, upgraded equipment, and new strategies for deploying teams in international disaster response missions.

Strengthening Disaster Preparedness and Response in Central Africa

Under SP2, OCHA worked with partners including Civil Protection Focal Points from the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and representatives from several organizations, including the RCO; WFP; UNICEF; UNDRR; IFRC; and the Red Cross of **São Tomé and Príncipe** to strengthen disaster preparedness and response in Central Africa. This intervention contributed to SDGs 13, 16 and 17.

Using RPTC funds, OCHA's Regional Office for West and Central Africa (ROWCA) led the organization of the 10th Annual Consultation on Disaster Preparedness and Response in Central Africa, in partnership with the ECCAS, in **São Tomé and Príncipe** in September 2024. The event brought together civil protection focal points from eight ECCAS MS (**Angola, Burundi, Central Africa Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, and São Tomé and Príncipe**), ECCAS leadership, climate experts, technical and financial partners (including WFP, UNICEF, IFRC, UNDRR), and the Global Network for Disaster Risk Reduction. Discussions focused on strengthening disaster preparedness and response capacities, enhancing anticipatory action mechanisms, and improving climate information dissemination for disaster risk management.

The consultation facilitated the exchange of lessons learned from **Angola, Gabon, the Central African Republic, and Chad** on disaster preparedness, response, and anticipatory action in addressing hydro-meteorological disasters. Participants gained knowledge on the phases of anticipatory action, the role of climate information in disaster risk management, and the importance of civil-military coordination in emergency response. The event also introduced the regional program "Global Alliance for Climate Change," funded by the African Union Commission, which aims to strengthen climate resilience in the region. OCHA ROWCA deployed four staff to support the Government of **São Tomé and Príncipe** and ECCAS leadership in organizing the event. The forum resulted in key recommendations, including establishing a multi-stakeholder working group on Early Warning Systems and Anticipatory Actions at the regional level, strengthening civil-military coordination, and creating a roadmap for anticipatory actions.



Moving forward, ECCAS will establish a database and mapping system for anticipatory action coordination, support MS in post-disaster needs assessments, and promote the integration of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation into national policies and education systems. Technical and financial partners will continue to strengthen data collection, early warning systems, and contingency planning across the region.

OCHA's interventions led to MS renewing their commitment to combating the effects of climate change and strengthening efforts to reduce disaster risks, as well as to the appointment of National Focal Points in all ECCAS MS under the Regional Program of the Global Climate Change Alliance, who will identify priority actions and participate in the regional steering committee for shared governance of the project. The intervention also led to ECCAS' short-term commitment to support Equatorial Guinea—the only MS without a meteorological service—in establishing a Meteorological Directorate or agency to enhance regional climate information for disaster risk management.

Complementarity of Action

Linkages with DA/XB Funds: In the Ninth Progress Report, OCHA reported not having a system in place to ensure RPTC and DA linkages. No changes were reported in 2024.

Linkages with UN RCOs and UNCTs: OCHA reports engaging RCOs / UNCTs in the following ways:

When we receive a request	When we decide to act on the request	When we are planning an intervention	When we are undertaking an intervention	After we have undertaken an intervention
Always	Always	Always	Always	Always

Through interventions such as the Flagship Initiative, which is RC/Humanitarian Coordinator (HC)-led, OCHA's activities are designed to strengthen RC capacities at their request, by providing direct support in disaster preparedness and emergency response efforts. OCHA also deploys UNDAC teams to extend RCO capacities during emergencies, ensuring effective coordination and response efforts. For example:

- The UN Resident Coordinator in **Ecuador** played an active role in the IERE, delivering opening and closing remarks and observing the exercise to enhance national response capacity and international coordination.
- Following Hurricane Beryl's landfall in **Grenada**, OCHA deployed UNDAC teams and operational support partners to **Barbados, Grenada, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Jamaica**, supporting RCs and Humanitarian Country Teams in coordinating emergency response efforts with national authorities.

Links with Other UN Entities Examples of OCHA's collaboration with other UN entities include:

- RPTC activities were linked to other UN entities through established networks such as ECCAS, INSARAG, and the UNDAC system. OCHA coordinated with multiple UN agencies, including WHO, UNICEF, and WFP, within these mechanisms to enhance preparedness and response efforts.
- OCHA's Emergency Response Section (ERS) provided integrated operational readiness and response services to strengthen national and regional crisis management capacities. ERS collaborated with WFP, UNICEF, and IOM to implement skill transfers and enhance localization efforts.
- Through its support of the UNDAC course, RPTC reinforced inter-agency collaboration, strengthening UN partnerships and mutual assistance.
- Various UN agencies benefited from and contributed to capacity-building efforts through the annual Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week, fostering inter-agency coordination and knowledge exchange.

UNSDCF and Lessons Learned: Although humanitarian work falls outside of UNSDCFs, OCHA aims to ensure that UNSDCFs align with reducing humanitarian need. For example, the activities related to the IERE are part of the UNSDCF component to improve MS national capacity on preparedness and response for various types of emergencies.

In the Ninth Progress Report, OCHA reported the following lessons learned from engagement with UNSDCF:

- As the Flagship Initiative is "bottom up", (it is implemented at the country level, led by the RC / HCs, while supported by the HCTs and UNHQ), it has proven to be extremely effective for leading innovation in the field.
- When working closely with UNRC / UNCTs, programmes are well planned, events are well organized, participants are selected according to pre-established criteria, and recommendations are well implemented.

No changes have been reported in 2024.

Challenges

OCHA foresees the following challenges for 2025: Reduced funding at the global level, which could severely impact the countries where OCHA has been operational, as they become deprioritized in humanitarian need.

OCHA sees a need to strengthen its capacity to increase staffing and field missions, to support community-led humanitarian action, and to coordinate emergency preparedness activities with other international organizations.

Integration of human rights, gender equality and disability concerns in OCHA interventions

In the Ninth Progress Report, OCHA reported that the Flagship Initiative prioritizes programmes that support local initiatives and community priorities, with a specific focus on women-led organizations.

Within humanitarian coordination structures, in 2024, the gender balance improved, from 32% UNDAC female staff (2022) to 37% (2024). The UNDAC Induction Course and Handbook were updated to emphasize the centrality of protection and mainstreaming gender equality, gender-based violence and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse in the first phase of a sudden-onset response. 50% women participated in the 2024 UNDAC Induction Course in **Kenya**. Sex disaggregated data was not provided systematically, therefore the percentage of women trained by OCHA presented in this report (14%) does not accurately reflect reality.

In the Ninth Progress Report, OCHA reported that during the 2023 Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week, 21 sessions were organized to discuss inclusion. Disability was mainstreamed in most of these sessions, and seven of them discussed disability specifically. No changes on disability inclusion have been reported in 2024.

United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

OHCHR implemented RPTC activities under two subprogrammes.²⁸ It aimed to assist MS, UNCTs, RCOs, National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) and CSOs with integrating human rights and applying a rights-based approach to the 2030 Agenda review and follow up.

	Requests responded to	Advisory Services	Advisory Missions	Capacity Building events
Total	54	104	53	66
National	29	29	27	34
Sub-regional	18	27	21	12
Regional	7	48	5	9
Global	0	0	0	11

OHCHR received 63 requests for support in 2024, and used RPTC to respond to 54 requests, funding 108 national interventions²⁹ in 50 countries. 29 requests (leading to interventions) came from the national level, including 6 requests from 5 LDCs, 10 from 7 LLDCs and 1 from 1 SIDS. OHCHR organized 66 capacity building events (33% virtual), training 826 people³⁰ (including 39% women). 27% of these participants were trained virtually. OHCHR developed 50 knowledge products; supported 28 knowledge networks; and helped 6 countries create or update 8 policies, laws, national plans, strategies, frameworks, sign regional or international conventions or meet reporting requirements for international agreements.

OHCHR accomplishments

Strengthening investigations of human rights violations during social protests in Peru

Under SP3,³¹ OHCHR worked with partners including the Public Prosecutor's Office's Special Team of Prosecutors investigating the human rights violations that occurred during the 2022-2023 protests (EFICAVIP)³² in **Peru**, and the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT), to support their ongoing investigations into use of force during the 2022-2023 protests and ensure alignment with international commitments to strengthen accountability for human rights violations. This intervention contributed to SDGs 16 and 5.



Using RPTC funds, OHCHR responded directly to requests from EFICAVIP to support improved forensic analysis, application of the Istanbul Protocol, enhanced investigation techniques and strategic litigation skills. The RPTC activities included three in-person missions by international forensic experts specializing in digital forensics, medical and forensic anthropology, and ballistics. These experts provided direct technical assistance to national forensic teams and prosecutors in Ayacucho, Puno, and Apurímac, the areas in **Peru** most affected by the protests. To further enhance investigative capabilities, three capacity-building sessions were conducted for EFICAVIP prosecutors by international forensic experts, covering best practices in evidence collection and analysis.

²⁸ SP1. Human rights mainstreaming, right to development, & research and analysis; SP3. Advisory services, technical cooperation & field activities.

²⁹ As per the CRS, to calculate the number of interventions, the advisory services, capacity building events, field projects, grants, knowledge products and knowledge networks are added together.

³⁰ OHCHR did not provide figures detailing the number of participants for all capacity building events organized in 2024.

³¹ SP3 aims to advance the promotion and protection of the effective enjoyment by all of all human rights, through enhanced capacity-building, including through assistance to requesting States.

³² In Spanish: Equipo Especial para casos con víctimas durante las protestas sociales; EFICAVIP.

The technical assistance provided by OHCHR has led to further national initiatives. Following initial RPTC interventions, EFICAVIP has requested continued collaboration to strengthen forensic expertise in human rights investigations. The work has also led to additional interventions with the Institute of Forensic Medicine, including capacity building of forensic experts, who will apply their new skills ensuring a human rights approach in subsequent criminal cases, ensuring capacity-building beyond the RPTC intervention period.

OHCHR's RPTC interventions contributed to increased awareness and understanding among officials of Peru regarding relevant analysis, policy advice, and recommendations, supporting them in making timely and well-informed decisions in crises and urgent situations. Additionally, the activities enhanced the capacity of judicial officials to handle human rights cases, strengthened national forensic capacities in human rights investigations, and increased victim participation and trust in legal processes.

Advancing Human Rights Integration in Sustainable Development for Regional Impact

Under SP1,³³ OHCHR worked with partners including RCOs, UNCTs, the **Namibian** Ministry of Finance, and the Parliamentary Budget Office of **South Africa** to support the mainstreaming of HRBA principles in UN policies and programmes for the benefit of marginalized groups across Southern Africa, Europe and Central Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean. This intervention contributed to SDGs 1, 3, 8, 10, 16 and 17.

The RPTC activities included providing advisory services, training, and research to strengthen the integration of human rights into UN policies and programmes, with a particular focus on economic, social, and cultural rights. In Southern Africa, the SDG Adviser played a key role in mainstreaming human rights by contributing to UN programming, engaging in sectoral consultations, and providing technical advice on national development plans. These efforts aimed to ensure that human rights considerations, especially those related to economic policies, were effectively incorporated into national and regional decision-making processes.



In the LAC region, OHCHR worked closely with ECLAC to integrate human rights principles such as HRBA and LNOB into regional and national planning frameworks. The SDG Adviser facilitated capacity-building initiatives, providing training to over 400 UN personnel across **Guatemala, Mexico, Argentina, Cuba, and Panama** through the cooperation framework process, as well as targeting interagency working groups in **Bolivia and Trinidad and Tobago**. Additionally, in **Nicaragua**, an in-person course was delivered to resident UN agencies, further strengthening their ability to incorporate human rights into their work.

In Europe and Central Asia, OHCHR supported UNCTs in 17 countries, including **Kosovo***, to enhance human rights integration in UN Country Assessments and the development of UNSDCF. A marginalized-group analysis in **North Macedonia** helped identify structural barriers to equality, while a project in **Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan** focused on advancing the right to a healthy environment. To reinforce these efforts, OHCHR organized capacity-building initiatives on human rights economy principles, HRBA integration, and human rights-based budget analysis. These activities enhanced the knowledge and skills of UNCT members, government officials, and civil society actors, promoting a stronger HRBA in sustainable development planning.

A two-month long forum was also co-organized between OHCHR and ECLAC, co-moderated by the SDG LAC Advisor, aiming at mainstreaming Human Rights in VNRs / VLRs. The incorporation of the HRBA into the territorialization of the 2030 Agenda, as well as the role of youth in monitoring the SDGs and the preparation of voluntary local reviews, were key points of discussion during the forum.

Moving forward, capacity building initiatives on a Human Rights Economy are planned for **South Africa and Namibia**, the two most unequal countries in the world. Equally, because of the project implemented in **Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan**, the OHCHR Regional Office for Central Asia developed a concrete work plan on the right to a clean, healthy

³³ SP1 aims to advance the promotion and protection of all human rights through strengthened integration of all human rights into areas of work of the UN system.

and sustainable environment, integrated into its 2025 annual work plan and into its four-year strategy. Resources permitting, follow up activities are planned for 2025, including a regional capacity building activity on human rights-based budget analysis with a focus on the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment.

With this accomplishment, OHCHR contributed to strengthened laws, policies and practices that promote and protect economic, social and cultural rights, the right to development and human rights economy - especially for marginalized groups - by states in Southern Africa. For example, the awareness raising mission focusing on human rights economy enhanced Namibia's support of the issue and supported South Africa's new Government of National Unity's priorities.

Supporting the creation of a national human rights institution in the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI)

Under SP3, OHCHR worked with partners including the Government of **Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI)**, members of the Nitijela (Parliament), civil society representatives; and diplomatic corps (**Australia** and **Japan**) to support the establishment of a National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) in the **RMI**. This intervention contributed to SDG 16. The mainstreaming of human rights and the key role an independent NHRI will be key for the successful realization of all 17 SDGs in the **RMI**.



Using RPTC funds and supporting a One UN approach, OHCHR assisted the **RMI** in its efforts to establish a NHRI in line with the Paris Principles. Technical assistance ensured compliance with international human rights standards, reinforcing the government's commitment to human rights protection. In collaboration with the Asia-Pacific Forum, OHCHR conducted a mission to Majuro, engaging government officials,

Parliament members, the National Nuclear Commission, and civil society to design a roadmap for NHRI establishment while raising awareness of its importance.

The mission provided capacity-building support through consultations on NHRI models, legislative drafting, and the Ombudsman's role in human rights protection. OHCHR engaged with CSOs, women's and youth-led organizations, and the academic sector, fostering national support. These efforts enhanced understanding among **RMI** officials of the requirements for an NHRI, considering financial and human resource constraints. OHCHR also provided guidance on drafting NHRI legislation, drawing from Pacific Island examples such as **Samoa** and the **Cook Islands**.

Moving forward, OHCHR will continue offering technical support, advising on legislative frameworks and institutional models to ensure alignment with international human rights standards. The focus remains on assisting national authorities in advancing the NHRI's establishment in line with their commitments and priorities.

OHCHR's support has directly contributed to the RMI government's progress in formulating and revising policies to establish a NHRI and meet its international commitments. These efforts align with the RMI government's commitments made under the Human Rights 75 initiative and are expected to strengthen the country's capacity to uphold human rights, particularly for marginalized groups such as women, children, LGBTIQ+ people and people with disabilities. The OHCHR presence and face-to-face interactions clearly contributed to the design of a roadmap with a timeline for implementation of a NHRI in the RMI. The strong engagement of the President emphasized the political will to establish a NHRI.

Complementarity of Action

Linkages with DA/XB Funds: In the Ninth Progress Report, OHCHR reported that it does not have any mechanism to ensure linkages with DA/XB funds. No changes have been reported in 2024. However, following initial RPTC interventions in 2024 in **Peru**, the **UK** Magna Carta Fund Project was approved to support prosecutorial investigations, securing an XB contribution of \$130 000.

Linkages with UN RCOs and UNCTs: OHCHR reports engaging RCOs / UNCTs in the following ways:

When we receive a request	When we decide to act on the request	When we are planning an intervention	When we are undertaking an intervention	After we have undertaken an intervention
Usually	Usually	Usually	Usually	Usually

In **Mongolia**, the RC was fully involved in the design of a regional workshop and contributed to its success with key remarks during the event. The RC has also been involved in a series of human rights related activities in the country, including special procedure visits, OHCHR visits and support to the National Human Rights Forum. In **Panama**, the collaboration with UNRC was exemplified during the regional forum, where joint planning with UNHCR and IOM ensured that the outcomes aligned with the overarching goals of the UN Regional Migration Networks and the UNSDCF. In **North Macedonia**, the RC played a key role in launching the LNOB Analysis project. In **Liberia**, the Senior Human Rights Advisor and RCO co-facilitated a Transitional Justice dialogue, engaging key stakeholders from civil society, government, and international organizations.

Links with Other UN Entities: Examples of OHCHR's collaboration with other UN entities include:

- Convening a consultation on the reparation for civilian victims of the 1992-1995 conflict in **Bosnia and Herzegovina**. This event, also attended by other UN agencies, sought to ensure coherence in transitional justice efforts, aligning with the Peacebuilding Fund's components on dealing with the past, as well as the Women, Peace, and Security components.
- Coordinating closely with UNHCR and IOM in **Panama** to ensure migrant protection and human rights monitoring complement broader UN efforts on migration management.
- Partnering with UNOCA and UNESCO in **Gabon** to deliver a seminar on press freedom during political transition, enhancing media professionals' ability to counter misinformation and uphold professional standards.
- Engaging with multiple UN entities, including UN Women, UNDCO, and UNSSC, to roll out the second e-learning course on HRBA-LNOB-GEWE principles for the UNSDCF.
- Contributing content to UN DESA's Virtual Knowledge Exchange on Approaches and Tools for the 2024 VNR brochure alongside UNDP.

UNSDCF and Lessons Learned: OHCHR works to ensure that UNSDCFs integrate HRBA, LNOB, and Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE). OHCHR's engagement has contributed to key UNSDCF outcomes in various countries:

- In **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, OHCHR designed interventions as part of the current and future UNSDCF, ensuring consultations inform the development of the 2026-2030 framework with a focus on LNOB, participation, non-discrimination, civic space, and peacebuilding.
- In **Mongolia**, the workshop advanced key UNSDCF outcomes related to SDGs, particularly under Outcome 3: 'People-centered Governance, Rule of Law, and Human Rights'.
- In **Fiji**, OHCHR supported the inclusion of an independent NHRI in the UNSDCF and Country Implementation Plan under the Peace Pillar.
- In **Liberia**, interventions complemented Outcome 3 of the UNSDCF, aimed at strengthening social cohesion, access to justice, security services, and human rights protection.
- In **Kazakhstan**, OHCHR organized activities to support the UNCT in integrating HRBA into the new UNSDCF through high-level engagement with the RC and programmatic staff.

Lessons learned from engagement with UNSDCF include:

- Early engagement is critical. OHCHR's involvement at the initial stages of UNSDCF and CCA development ensures that human rights principles are mainstreamed effectively. Late-stage quality review often limits the ability to make substantive changes.
- Stronger UNCT engagement is needed. While UNCTs seek OHCHR's support for capacity building, human rights integration often remains siloed within OHCHR rather than being treated as a shared UN responsibility.

- Applying HRBA in economic and environmental analysis remains a challenge. UNCTs struggle to implement guidance on integrating human rights in these areas, and further resources are needed to bridge this gap. OHCHR has initiated discussions on the concept of a human rights economy as a potential solution.
- Adaptation of training formats improves impact. The second edition of the moderated e-course on HRBA, LNOB, and GEWE was adjusted for greater interactivity and peer exchange, leading to increased success, with 97% of participants recommending its inclusion in UNCT and RCO staff inductions.

Challenges

OHCHR encountered several challenges in 2024, including: finding effective interpretation services in the range of languages needed, significantly limiting the participation of experts who do not have English as a working language in their events. In addition, the postponing of missions by the MS also posed challenges to the implementation of RPTC funded activities. The UN's current financial crisis has also had a negative impact on mandate implementation.

OHCHR foresees the following challenges for 2025: Sustaining the current pace of regular regional events until the UN regional human rights centre is in place, as well as the challenge of being able to respond to an increasing number of requests given the global context of multi-crises.

OHCHR sees a need to strengthen its capacity to enhance flexibility to provide immediate technical assistance in response to requests from MS in the event of a major crisis.

Integration of human rights, gender equality and disability concerns in OHCHR interventions

In the Ninth Progress Report, OHCHR reported that human rights, gender equality, and disability inclusion were central to all RPTC-funded activities. A HRBA was integrated into planning and implementation, ensuring the protection of marginalized groups. Gender equality informed OHCHR's contributions to UN planning documents and capacity-building efforts. No changes have been reported in 2024.

In 2024, sex disaggregated data was provided almost systematically, showing that 39% of people trained by OHCHR were female.³⁴

³⁴ Sex disaggregated data was provided for all events apart from 13 online/hybrid capacity-building events held in **Peru**, with 94 participants.

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

ECA implemented RPTC activities through all subprogrammes.³⁵ It aimed to support African countries in capacity-development efforts, geared towards achieving inclusive and sustainable economic and social development in support of accelerating Africa's structural transformation, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Agenda 2063, the New Partnership for Africa's Development and other internationally agreed development agendas.

	Requests responded to	Advisory Services	Advisory Missions	Capacity Building events
Total	218	59	30	93
National	111	37	24	36
Sub-regional	26	4	3	10
Regional	81	18	3	44
Global	0	0	0	3

ECA received 286 requests for support in 2024, and used RPTC to respond to 218 requests, funding 126 national interventions³⁶ in 23 countries. 111 requests (leading to interventions) came from the national level, including 90 requests from 16 LDCs, 34 from 7 LLDCs and 13 from 4 SIDS. ECA organized 93 capacity building events (23 virtual), training 11500 people (including 28% women). 65% of these participants were trained virtually. ECA developed 57 knowledge products; supported 24 knowledge networks; and helped 21 countries create or update 37 policies, laws, national plans, strategies, frameworks, sign regional or international conventions or meet reporting requirements for international agreements.

ECA's accomplishments

Enhancing Africa's capacities in the new generation of NDCs in the Post-COP28 Global Stock Take environment

Under SP5,³⁷ ECA worked with partners including African Union Commission (AUC); African Development Bank (AfDB) and the African Union Development Agency-NEPAD to support MS in the formulation of new generation Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to align with the Paris Agreement commitments. This intervention contributed to SDGs 5, 6, 7, 8 and 13.

ECA supported **Liberia** and **Zimbabwe** in formulating new generation NDCs to align with the Paris Agreement commitments. In response to the COP28 Global Stock Take outcome, which called for capacity-building support, ECA facilitated national stakeholder consultations across climate-sensitive sectors to inform the NDCs. **Zimbabwe** was one of 13 countries globally to submit its third-generation NDC on time, while **Liberia** successfully developed its NDC 3.0. To enhance climate action and NDC implementation, ECA supported nine MS — **Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Uganda, and Zambia**—in applying the Climate, Land, Energy, and Water Systems (CLEWs) model. Additionally, ECA provided technical advice to



³⁵ SP1. Macroeconomic policy & governance; SP2. Regional integration & trade; SP3. Private sector development & finance; SP4. Data & statistics; SP5. Climate change, environment & natural resources management; SP6. Gender Equality & Women Empowerment; SP7. Sub-regional activities for development; SP8. Economic development & planning; SP9. Poverty, inequality & social policy.

³⁶ As per the CRS, to calculate the number of interventions, the advisory services, capacity building events, field projects, grants, knowledge products and knowledge networks are added together.

³⁷ SP5 aims to advance inclusive and sustainable development through the strengthened capacity of members of ECA to harness new technologies and innovation, natural resources and the green and blue economies, and to enhance climate resilience.

Namibia on scaling up CLEWs application for enhanced climate resilience and mitigation planning.

Using RPTC funds, ECA conducted capacity-building initiatives to enhance climate knowledge and implementation skills. A regional training workshop trained 30 experts (10 female) from nine MS on CLEWs Integrated Modelling Systems and Energy Modelling. Additionally, ECA organized multisectoral stakeholder workshops for 41 policymakers and climate experts (10 female) in **Liberia** and 35 policymakers and experts (14 female) in **Zimbabwe** on the development of their respective NDC 3.0, focusing on awareness of the Paris Agreement and the role of NDCs.

ECA's intervention led to Liberia and Zimbabwe successfully formulating their new generation Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), strengthening their commitments under the Paris Agreement. Additionally, ECA's support enhanced the capacity of nine MS to apply the Climate, Land, Energy, and Water Systems (CLEWs) model, improving climate resilience and mitigation planning.

Using big data, machine learning, and digital technologies for improved economic monitoring

Under SP4,³⁸ ECA worked with partners including National Statistical Offices (NSOs) to support MS in integrating big data, machine learning, and alternative data sources into national accounting frameworks to improve the availability, accuracy, and timeliness of economic and social statistics. This contributed to SDGs 12 and 17.



In **Eritrea**, ECA provided technical assistance towards the compilation of preliminary GDP estimates for 2022 and 2023 using the production approach. In **Nigeria**, ECA supported the successful piloting of nowcasting techniques using Google Trends data, demonstrating the potential of Machine Learning to produce real-time indicators for economic monitoring. In **Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, and Sao Tome and Principe**, ECA applied machine learning techniques to expand business register coverage, incorporating digital economy activities to enhance economic monitoring. Additionally, in **Sao Tome and Principe**, ECA facilitated the integration of natural capital accounting and environmental statistics into economic planning using satellite imagery and geospatial data.

At the continental level, ECA developed a [Google Trends-based nowcasting tool](#) to support NSOs in producing timely economic estimates. A webinar series on big data for economic statistics trained over 100 statisticians and data scientists in applying big data to economic monitoring. ECA also organized four capacity-building workshops, including one hybrid and one virtual session, to improve national accounts and economic statistics.

ECA strengthened national statistical capacity by training 31 statisticians (4 female) in **Eritrea** on GDP compilation methodology, data collection tools, and sampling frameworks. In **Nigeria**, 20 statisticians (three female) were trained in GDP nowcasting using Google Trends data, while in **Sao Tome and Principe**, 10 statisticians (two female) were trained in measuring ecosystem services and integrating environmental data into national accounts.

ECA's support contributed to MS' ability to formulate, revise, and implement transformative and innovative policies aligned with international best practices, improving the availability of economic and administrative statistics.

³⁸ SP4 aims to strengthen the production, dissemination and use of credible data, statistics and geospatial information at the national, regional and global levels for evidence-based policy and decision-making.

Supporting evidence-based SDG monitoring

Under SP9,³⁹ ECA worked with partners including ESCAP and UN-Habitat to support five MS to conduct VNRs and VLRs to track progress and foster collective action toward sustainable development. Given the focus of this intervention, the project can be considered to have contributed to all SDGs.



ECA facilitated VLRs for five cities - Boualos and Balbala in **Djibouti**, Dire Dawa and Addis Ababa in **Ethiopia**, and Lusaka in **Zambia**—to improve SDG localization and inform policy and decision-making. Additionally, ECA supported **South Sudan** and **Seychelles** in conducting VNRs, providing technical guidance and convening city planners to enhance their understanding of VLR guidelines. Notably, the **South Sudan** VNR enables full VNR coverage for the African region at the HLPF. In **Ethiopia**, the Addis Ababa VLR was conducted in parallel with the country's VNR process, enhancing synergies and cost efficiencies. The VLRs informed policy processes in two MS. In **Djibouti**, the VLRs for Boualos and Balbala contributed to the country's new employment strategy, particularly in shaping youth employment priorities. In **Zambia**, the Lusaka VLR informed the city's 10-year Integrated Development Plan.

Using RPTC funds, ECA developed the [Africa Urbanization Portal](#) to enhance access to urbanization data, reports, and visualizations, strengthening African cities' capacity to conduct VLRs and fostering knowledge sharing. ECA also provided in-person advisory services to **Djibouti**, **Ethiopia**, **South Sudan**, **Seychelles**, and **Zambia**, supporting VLR and VNR implementation. Engagement with mayoral offices in **Djibouti**, **Ethiopia**, and **Zambia** improved stakeholder participation, including multisectoral groups.

ECA's interventions supported MS in meeting their reporting obligations under the 2030 Agenda and SDGs.

Complementarity of Action

Linkages with DA/XB Funds: In the Ninth Progress Report, ECA reported that their system includes a key criterion for the approval of RPTC proposals - demonstration of linkages and/or complementarity to DA/XB funded projects. No changes to the system have been reported in 2024.

ECA reports no new DA/XB projects being approved in 2024 following initial RPTC interventions.

Linkages with UN RCOs and UNCTs: ECA reports engaging RCOs / UNCTs in the following ways:

When we receive a request	When we decide to act on the request	When we are planning an intervention	When we are undertaking an intervention	After we have undertaken an intervention
Sometimes	Always	Always	Usually	Sometimes

ECA reports leveraging partnerships with RCOs and UNCTs to scale the reach of its interventions. For example, under SP1, ECA co-convenes the annual Africa Economic Conference with UNDP and AfDB, bringing together more than 250 stakeholders from government, academia, civil society organizations (including women and youth), private sector, international organizations, and development partners to share experience on prospects for creative and sustainable pathways to Africa's economic resilience.

Links with Other UN Entities: ECA reports that they have reinforced engagement at the country level to ensure linkages and synergies with on-going work at the country level. For example, a standard operating procedure was developed to

³⁹ SP9 aims to eradicate extreme poverty and reduce inequality through ensuring that members of ECA have improved policies and strategies for social investment and productive urban job creation.

guide subprogrammes on mechanisms for country level action, including ensuring linkages to the One UN plan and the UNSDCF.

UNSDCF and Lessons Learned: In **Eritrea**, ECA's intervention under SP3 on improving the sustainability of the energy and transport sectors in Africa to build capacities in renewable energy was directly linked to the UNSDCF priority area 2 on 'Inclusive, Diversified and Climate Resilient Economy', and is aligned to outcome 4; 'by 2026 people in **Eritrea** have benefited from climate resilient, sustainable environment and natural resources management'.

In the Ninth Progress Report, ECA reported the following lessons learned from engagement with UNSDCF:

- **Timing.** It is important to start discussions with governments early to ensure decisions and focus areas are defined in time to allow for meaningful engagements with the RCOs and key UNCT agencies in time for country-level annual planning processes.
- **Coherence.** ECA is exploring the opportunities of integrating its work in the 'One UN' plans, particularly for MS requests that are received, and support agreed in time for the country level planning. It is important to review UNSDCF of target countries to identify areas of synergy.

No changes have been reported in 2024.

Challenges

In the Ninth Progress Report, ECA reported the main challenges they experienced being a lack of centralized tracking mechanisms to track all MS requests; ensuring SPs mainstream outreach activities in their regular work and establishing formal mechanisms for outreach at the level of the Commission; and ensuring enough resources to meet the demand from MS. No changes have been reported in 2024.

ECA foresees the following challenges for 2025: Increasing demand from MS for ECA support; and balancing the breadth of support provided with depth and impact to enable achievement of outcomes to effectively demonstrate RPTC impact.

ECA sees a need to strengthen its capacity to implement effective Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning frameworks for more efficient management and reporting of RPTC interventions.

Integration of human rights, gender equality and disability concerns in ECA interventions

In the Ninth Progress Report, ECA reported that their programme and project management manual recognizes the centrality of human rights in programming, and that they apply a HRBA to interventions. Through the application of HRBA principles, ECA ensures that under-served countries are reached by making targeted efforts to raise awareness on the opportunities for RPTC, and that RPTC interventions deliver sustainable results.

ECA also reported in 2023 that from planning to evaluation, they ensure the collection of sex disaggregated data and encourages MS to ensure gender balance within its participants in capacity building events. ECA also ensures that specific RPTC interventions are targeted at improving the situation of women. Sex disaggregated data was provided systematically, showing that 28% of people trained were female.

ECA is yet to mainstream disability inclusion in its programming and interventions.

No changes have been reported in 2024.

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)

ECE implemented RPTC activities under 8 subprogrammes.⁴⁰ Technical cooperation activities are focused on the 17 programme countries in the ECE region, with a view to strengthening their national capacities to accede to and implement ECE and international legal instruments, norms and standards.

	Requests responded to	Advisory Services	Advisory Missions	Capacity Building events
Total	100	69	74	51
National	72	33	33	17
Sub-regional	28	3	12	8
Regional	0	31	29	22
Global	0	2	0	4

ECE received 161 requests for support in 2024, and used RPTC to respond to 100 requests, funding 78 national interventions⁴¹ in 13 countries. 72 requests (leading to interventions) came from the national level, including 51 requests from 8 LLDCs. ECE organized 51 capacity building events (27% virtual), training 2201 people (including 39% women). 34% of these participants were trained virtually. ECE developed 15 knowledge products; supported 12 knowledge networks; and helped 5 countries create or update 7 policies, laws, national plans, strategies, frameworks, sign regional or international conventions or meet reporting requirements for international agreements.

ECE's technical cooperation tracking tool, launched in 2024, documents the demands from ECE MS, and the responses provided. It will also enable the secretariat to analyse the coverage of countries and adjust its outreach if required.

ECE's accomplishments

Supporting energy systems' transformation in the ECE region

Under SP5,⁴² ECE worked with partners including ESCAP and relevant ministries in programme countries to support the integration of digital technologies into energy systems in order to create new opportunities for economic growth and environmental sustainability. This intervention contributed to SDG 7.

ECE supported the transformation of energy systems in the region by developing key studies and conducting capacity-building activities. The study on [Integrating Twin Transition with Legacy Energy Systems](#) provided a framework for modernizing legacy energy systems and ensuring equitable access to clean energy across the region. Another study on

⁴⁰ SP1. Environment; SP2. Transport; SP3. Statistics; SP4. Economic cooperation & integration; SP5. Sustainable energy; SP6. Trade; SP7. Forests; SP8. Housing, land management & population.

⁴¹ As per the CRS, to calculate the number of interventions, the advisory services, capacity building events, field projects, grants, knowledge products and knowledge networks are added together.

⁴² SP5 aims to ensure secure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector in the region.



[Establishing a National Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Agency in Georgia](#) analyzed existing agencies in **Albania, Azerbaijan, Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine** to inform the establishment of a dedicated agency in Georgia.

UNECE presented the key findings and recommendations of these studies at the [Thirteenth International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development](#) (IFESD-13) in Bangkok in December 2024. Two capacity-building workshops were held: one on [integrating digital technologies into energy systems](#), and another on [the role of renewable energy and energy efficiency agencies in promoting sustainability](#). A validation workshop was

conducted in Tbilisi in June 2024 to support the [establishment of a national energy agency in Georgia](#). Findings were also shared at the [11th session of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy](#) in Geneva in September 2024.

Using RPTC funds, ECE facilitated knowledge acquisition on digital energy transformation, interoperability with existing energy systems, and the role of renewable energy and energy efficiency agencies in reducing carbon footprints and fostering economic growth. Advisory missions were carried out in Tbilisi in June 2024 on establishing a State Agency on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in **Georgia**, and in Bangkok in December 2024 to enable South-South cooperation.

ECE's [studies](#) contributed to policy discussions in Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Albania, and Belarus on updating energy transformation policies. Findings from the twin transition study informed a joint UNDA project proposal on digital transformation, with ECE, ESCAP, and ESCWA as implementing partners. The activity supported knowledge networks within ECE, ESCWA, and ESCAP to promote sustainable energy initiatives across the region.

[Supporting Georgia to reduce nitrogen pollution from agriculture](#)

Under SP1,⁴³ ECE worked with partners including the **Georgian** Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, UNDP, and WHO to support **Georgia** to reduce nitrogen – and consequently ammonia – emissions produced in agricultural practices. This intervention contributed to SDGs 3, 9, 11, 13 and 15.



ECE supported **Georgia** in promoting sustainable nitrogen management and implementing its national Code of Good Agricultural Practices, developed in line with the [Ammonia Framework Code](#) and under the 2024-2025 workplan for the [Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution](#). In collaboration with the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, UNECE assessed existing legislation and surveyed current agricultural practices. A [workshop](#) held in Tbilisi in September 2024 brought together national and international experts to discuss nitrogen management strategies, feeding

practices, and technical options for reducing ammonia emissions. Prior to the workshop, advisory services were provided to assess legislation and survey agricultural practices. During the workshop, participants worked on ammonia reduction scenarios and attended a site visit showcasing best practices on a cattle farm. The practical workshop and site visit showcased the benefits of implementing the Ammonia Framework Code and other guidelines on reducing ammonia emissions developed under the Convention.

Through this intervention, ECE developed a bilingual [booklet](#) on Farming for a Cleaner Environment, which provides practical strategies for reducing emissions in the livestock and poultry sectors.

Follow-up activities include continued support under the Convention's Work Programme to develop and promote a national advisory code of good agricultural practices.

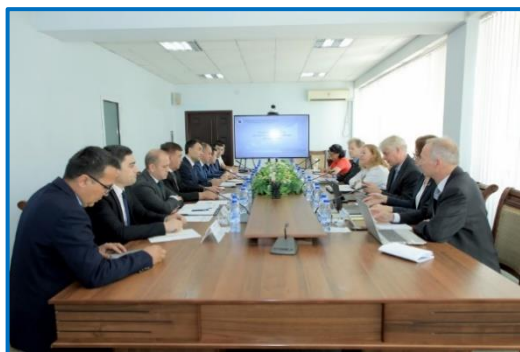
⁴³ SP1 aims to improve environmental governance and performance for safeguarding the environment and health.

ECE's support enabled Georgia to advance the ratification and implementation of the Gothenburg Protocol by aligning its National Code of Good Agricultural Practices with the Ammonia Framework Code. This has strengthened the country's capacity to set emission reduction targets and adopt mitigation techniques. ECE's interventions also contributed to improving Georgia's reporting obligations under the Convention.

Strengthening national statistical systems and supporting national statistical development plans in EECCA countries

Under SP3,⁴⁴ ECE worked with ESCAP, the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association to enhance statistical production for environmental and climate change-related statistics in the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. This intervention contributed to SDG 17.

ECE supported the strengthening of national statistical systems in the countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia by conducting Global Assessments and Sector Reviews, ensuring compliance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. In 2024, ECE conducted a Global Assessment of **Uzbekistan's** National Statistical System and provided 85 concrete recommendations for further improvements. Sector Reviews on Environment and Climate Change Statistics were conducted in **Georgia** and **Kazakhstan**, with participation from experts across the region, fostering South-South cooperation and knowledge exchange. These assessments and reviews informed national statistical development plans and guided bilateral and multilateral assistance. Reports from these assessments serve as key knowledge products, providing best practices and actionable recommendations to improve statistical production and organizational efficiency.



Moving forward, a Sector Review on the implementation of the Generic Statistical Business Process Model, the Generic Activity Model for Statistical Organizations, and the Generic Statistical Information Model in **Uzbekistan** will enhance statistical efficiency by transitioning to a process-based organization. A peer review of **Armenia's** national statistical system is scheduled for 2025, alongside further technical assistance for **Kazakhstan** on geospatial-statistical data integration, open-source software adoption, and population projections. Standard questionnaires and tools developed during the assessments continue to support statistical capacity development across the region.

ECE's interventions led to Georgia, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan incorporating the recommendations from Global Assessments and Sector Reviews into their national statistical development plans, enhancing the quality and timeliness of their official statistics.

Complementarity of Action

Linkages with DA/XB Funds: In the Ninth Progress Report, ECE reported that all RAs are authorized to use RPTC funds as seed money for the development of DA and XB projects. This is captured in the [Technical Cooperation strategy](#). In 2023, a new technical cooperation tracking tool was also developed to ensure better monitoring of all technical cooperation interventions.

In 2024, ECE implemented and finalized the development of numerous DA and XB projects which were linked to RPTC interventions. Examples include:

- Urban Economic Resilience for inclusive responses and recovery from crises (UNDA 2427F).
- Improved climate knowledge and disaster risk governance for mine tailings facilities in Central Asia (UNDA 2528L).

⁴⁴ SP3 aims to advance official statistics at the national and international levels for evidence-based policymaking and assessing progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and to ensure the coordination of statistical activities in the ECE region under the Conference of European Statisticians.

- Leveraging trade for a just and green transition in the Central Asia, Southern Caucasus and Western Balkans sub-regions (UNDA 2528N).
- Enhancing capacity and cooperation for sustainable urban development in **Ukraine** (XB).
- Shaping environmental policy in the pan-European region through applying foresight methodologies (XB).
- Promoting Just Energy Transition in **Uzbekistan** (ECE component of the Joint SDG Seed Funding project) (XB).

Linkages with UN RCOs and UNCTs: ECE reports engaging RCOs / UNCTs in the following ways:

When we receive a request	When we decide to act on the request	When we are planning an intervention	When we are undertaking an intervention	After we have undertaken an intervention
Always	Always	Always	Always	Always

In 2024, ECE reports that they engage with RCOs and UNCTs through all relevant TC activities that involve joint implementation. Similarly, ECE regularly updates RCOs and UNCTs on all planned TC interventions, including RPTC activities, through briefings at Deputy Executive Secretary level, participation in UNCT meetings, and quarterly updates on ECE missions to countries. A well-established system of RAs ensures steady collaboration with the RC system and UNCTs in the region (each regional advisor incorporates cross-sectorial role for three countries in the region in addition to sectorial portfolio).

ECE has developed the following regular communication streams with RC Offices and UNCTs:

- Regular presentations on ECE portfolio in 17 UN programme countries through participation in the UNCT meetings.
- Under the leadership of the ECE Deputy Executive Secretary and RCs, briefings for RCOs and UNCTs on existing tools, instruments, ongoing projects and identification of new entry points for joint programming, including cross sectoral and subregional initiatives.
- Joint ECE - ESCAP presentations upon demand from the RCs.

Links with Other UN Entities: Examples of ECE's collaboration with other UN entities include:

- Working with UNDP and ILO on Promoting Just Energy Transition in **Uzbekistan**.
- Working with UNDP on Green Energy Transition in **Turkmenistan**.
- Working with ESCAP, UN-Habitat and UNDP on Empowering Bishkek Stakeholders for Sustainable Development and Awareness and Capacity Building for SDG Action in **Kyrgyzstan**.

UNSDCF and Lessons Learned: ECE is currently a signatory to all UNSDCFs in the region and country-specific activities are integrated in the joint work plans, annual result reports and UN-Info. ECE contributions are typically included under pillars on environment and economic development, data is included under governance, and road safety and ageing are reported under the social pillar.

Lessons learned from engagement with UNSDCF include:

- The importance of participation for identifying synergies within the UNCT family for joint programming, particularly through opportunities like the SDG Fund.
- Regular engagement with RCs/RCOs and participation in UNCT meetings has proven effective in making regional expertise accessible at the country level.
- Issue-Based Coalitions (IBCs), such as ECE co-chaired IBC on environment and climate change, and the inter-agency Peer Support Group (PSG)⁴⁵, have proven to be valuable mechanisms for supporting RCOs and UNCTs in specific areas of expertise.

⁴⁵ Peer Support Groups accompany and support UNCTs during their analytic work and UNDAF/One Programme planning and development processes.

Challenges

In 2024, ECE has continued to receive demand that outstrips resources, particularly with the UN Development System reform, and the support required for MS to achieve the SDGs. ECE also reports that delays in allocations of funding also affect smooth planning and implementation of RPTC interventions. Like other entities, ECE suffered a 10% cut in RPTC funding in 2024.

Moving forward, ECE expects capacity to remain a challenge, due to governments asking for additional capacity building in view of a final breakthrough to achieve the SDGs and respond to growing challenges in the region.

Integration of human rights, gender equality and disability concerns in ECE interventions

In the Ninth Progress Report, ECE reported that human rights and gender are markers for all activities integrated in UNSDCF. ECE also has an organization-wide framework on gender, applicable to RPTC, and follows all other mandatory guidelines on gender and HRBA. No changes have been reported in 2024.

Sex disaggregated data was provided systematically, showing that 39% of people trained by ECE were female.

United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

ECLAC implemented RPTC activities under 10 subprogrammes.⁴⁶ It aimed to strengthen the technical capacity of LAC countries to design, formulate, implement and evaluate public policies to improve their regional integration and foster productivity, convergence and innovation, and promote sustainable growth while taking into consideration the economic, social and environmental dimensions of development, address social inequalities and demographic changes and develop accurate statistics to support evidence based public policy formulation.

	Requests responded to	Advisory Services	Advisory Missions	Capacity Building events
Total	217	217	103	73
National	133	133	73	45
Sub-regional	5	5	2	1
Regional	79	79	28	27
Global	0	0	0	0

ECLAC received 217 requests for support in 2024 and used RPTC to respond to all of these requests, funding 239 national interventions⁴⁷ in 33 countries. 133 requests (leading to interventions) came from the national level, including 3 requests from the only LDC in the region, 10 from the only 2 LLDCs in the region and 29 from 16 SIDS. ECLAC organized 73 capacity building events (31 virtual), training 5867 people (including 49% women). 61% of these participants were trained virtually. ECLAC developed 75 knowledge products; supported 13 knowledge networks; and helped 14 countries (and 1 regional integration mechanism) create or update 18 policies, laws, national plans, strategies, frameworks, sign regional or international conventions or meet reporting requirements for international agreements.

ECLAC's accomplishments

Strategic Support for the recovery of Haiti

Under SP11,⁴⁸ ECLAC worked with partners including RCO **Haiti**; World Bank; the EU, the Inter-American Development Bank; and El Colegio de **México** to strengthen **Haiti's** capacity to formulate policies and implement action plans and strategies to foster economic recovery. This intervention contributed to SDGs 1, 8, 16 and 17.



ECLAC contributed to **Haiti's** economic recovery efforts following the establishment of the Transitional Presidential Council and the Council of Ministers under the Kingston Declaration of March 2024. In collaboration with the World Bank, the EU, and the Inter-American Development Bank, the **Haitian** government launched the Rapid Crisis Impact Assessment (RCIA) to evaluate the impact of multiple crises between 2021 and 2024 and define key stabilization priorities. The RCIA focuses on security, economic recovery, governance, justice, and elections as pillars for restoring stability and guiding recovery efforts. ECLAC contributed to this process by reviewing and integrating the economic sections of the report,

⁴⁶ SP1. International trade, integration and infrastructure; SP2. Production and innovation; SP3. Macroeconomic policies and growth; SP4. Social development and equality; SP6. Population and development; SP7. Sustainable development and human settlements; SP8. Natural resources; SP10. Statistics; SP11: Subregional activities in Central America, **Cuba**, the **Dominican Republic**, **Haiti** and **Mexico**; and SP12. Subregional activities in the Caribbean.

⁴⁷ As per the CRS, to calculate the number of interventions, the advisory services, capacity building events, field projects, grants, knowledge products and knowledge networks are added together.

⁴⁸ SP11 aims to improve the formulation of evidence-based public policies in the economic, social and environmental fields in the countries in the subregion.

engaging in discussions with national counterparts and international organizations, and coordinating cooperation areas with the RCO.

ECLAC also supported the RCO through advisory services, providing an analysis of **Haiti's** economic and social situation. In alignment with UN resolutions and the Multinational Security Support Mission, ECLAC co-organized a hybrid academic [seminar](#) in Mexico City in October 2024 with El Colegio de **México**. This forum brought together representatives from academia, civil society, and international organizations to examine **Haiti's** security and development challenges. A key outcome of this activity was a published [report](#) outlining policy recommendations to support the country's stabilization and long-term growth. Knowledge products, including the RCIA and an upcoming bilingual report on the seminar, were developed to disseminate findings and recommendations to policymakers and stakeholders.

ECLAC will continue to provide support through this SP in the form of technical assistance and capacity building activities on this issue, upon request from national authorities from **Haiti** and the RCO. A report on the RCIA seminar, capturing key insights and policy discussions, will also be published in Spanish and French to enhance dissemination and impact.

ECLAC's contributions, including integrating economic analysis; engaging with national counterparts; and coordinating international cooperation, have supported the development of national stabilization strategies, enhancing government officials' understanding of key policy priorities for governance, security, and economic recovery.

[Mainstreaming a gender perspective in policy analysis and policy formulation in Latin America and the Caribbean](#)

Under SP4,⁴⁹ ECLAC worked with partners including UN Women; INEGI (**Mexican** National Institute for Statistics and Geography), Inmujeres (**Mexican** National Women's Institute) and National Women's Machineries to support the integration of gender perspectives into policy analysis and formulation across the LAC region. This intervention contributed to SDGs 5, 8 and 10.

ECLAC contributed to integrating gender considerations into policy analysis and formulation across multiple sectors in the region. In **Chile**, technical assistance was provided to the Ministry of Social Development and Family for the territorial implementation of the National Care System. Using RPTC funds, ECLAC supported the advancement of care policies through regional cooperation and knowledge-sharing activities. The XXV Session of the International Meeting on Gender Statistics was held in **Mexico** in September 2024, in collaboration with national and international organizations. The event emphasized the role of gender statistics in shaping care policies and was attended by over 170 in-person participants and 300 virtual attendees from 18 countries. Additionally, the "Working Meeting on Guiding Principles for Care Policies" was held in **Uruguay** on in December 2024. This meeting contributed to preparations for the XVI Meeting of the Regional Conference on Women in 2025.



ECLAC also worked to mainstream a gender perspective in the exports and tourism sectors. Under the Trifinio Plan, technical assistance was provided in **El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras** to incorporate gender considerations into tourism value chains. A pilot project applied ECLAC's 2023 methodology to assess tourism routes and promote gender-responsive economic opportunities. In **Paraguay**, ECLAC collaborated with the Investment and Export Network and the Ministry of Industry and Trade to identify women-led export enterprises, supporting gender mainstreaming in trade analysis and informing public policies to enhance women's participation in international trade. A webinar on the study's findings will be organized in early 2025.

To facilitate knowledge-sharing, ECLAC engaged with the Investment and Export Network, supporting collaboration among stakeholders to promote women's participation in trade. Follow-up activities include finalizing consultations in

⁴⁹ SP4 aims to improve the overall well-being of the people of the region and achieve greater social and economic equality in line with the 2030 Agenda and with full respect for human rights.

Paraguay and hosting a webinar to present study results. Additionally, regional cooperation efforts will continue in preparation for the XVI Regional Conference on Women in 2025.

ECLAC's interventions supported the integration of gender considerations into care, trade, and tourism policies across multiple countries in the LAC region. Notably, ECLAC's technical assistance supported Chile in developing a territorial approach to care policies; Paraguay in strengthening women's participation in exports; and El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras in mainstreaming gender within tourism value chains.

Assessing Disaster Impact and Strengthening Recovery in Brazil and in Caribbean countries

Under SP7,⁵⁰ ECLAC worked with the Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs and Investment (**Barbados**), UNDRR, UNDP, The Ministry of Integration and Regional Development (MIDR) of **Brazil**, the Government of Rio Grande do Sul, the Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank; FAO; ILO and The Pan American Health Organization to strengthen national capacities for disaster response and resilience planning.

In response to severe flooding in **Brazil** in April and May 2024, ECLAC conducted a Damage and Loss Assessment (DaLA)



at the request of the **Brazilian** Ministry of Integration and Regional Development. Working in close collaboration with federal and state authorities, international financial institutions, and UN agencies, the assessment evaluated the impacts on infrastructure, social services, economic activity, and macroeconomic indicators such as fiscal balance and employment. The DaLA report, delivered in July 2024, played a key role in informing **Brazil's** first national disaster response plan. Following this, **Brazil** requested additional capacity-building support, leading to a DaLA methodology training workshop attended by 25 national officers. National officers were equipped with skills to assess damages, losses, and recovery needs across multiple sectors. A follow-up training course has been confirmed to further enhance national capacities in disaster assessment and resilience planning.

ECLAC also provided technical support to Caribbean countries affected by Hurricane Beryl in July 2024, assisting **Barbados**, **Grenada**, and **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** in conducting disaster impact assessments. In **Barbados**, ECLAC collaborated with FAO, ILO, and PAHO to assess damages and losses in key sectors, including housing, health, transport, and agriculture, quantifying macroeconomic impacts and informing national reconstruction efforts. In **Grenada**, ECLAC supported a Post-Disaster Needs Assessment, focusing on macroeconomic, fisheries, agriculture, and tourism impacts to guide recovery planning. In **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**, ECLAC conducted an assessment on the macroeconomy and tourism sector, ensuring an evidence-based approach to long-term resilience strategies.

As a result of ECLAC's support, a report was published on the [Assessment of the Effects and Impacts of the Floods in Rio Grande do Sul](#) in November 2024, providing critical data to inform **Brazil's** disaster response and recovery planning.

ECLAC supported MS to create national plans to respond to environmental disasters and to share good practice from experts in the field.

Complementarity of Action

Linkages with DA/XB Funds: ECLAC's Programme Planning and Evaluation Unit, part of the Programme Planning and Operations Division, oversees the implementation of both RPTC resources and the DA projects, allowing identification of synergies and areas of cooperation, ensuring the link between RPTC and DA. DA projects continued to build on ongoing RPTC efforts focusing on enhancing SIDS resilience in the Caribbean through various activities, including capacity building and policy formulation.

⁵⁰ SP7 aims to ensure the integration and due consideration of environmental, climate and urban management concerns and opportunities in policymaking and policy implementation, with a rights-based approach and ensuring that no one is left behind.

Linkages with UN RCOs and UNCTs: ECLAC reports engaging RCOs / UNCTs in the following ways:

When we receive a request	When we decide to act on the request	When we are planning an intervention	When we are undertaking an intervention	After we have undertaken an intervention
Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Usually	Usually

ECLAC collaborates with RCOs by both informing them of the activities that take place, as well as engaging with them to organize the activities. ECLAC sub-regional headquarters and national offices fully participate in the UNCT's work and provide regular direct support, inputs and data on selected economic and social development perspectives to the RCOs and UNCTs in their respective countries. ECLAC also provides regular support and inputs for the elaboration of selected areas of the CCA and UNSDCF. Through its participation in the Peer Support Group, ECLAC also participates in quality assurance reviews of all CCAs and UNSDCF.

ECLAC has actively increased its support to UNCTs through the provision of advice; the development of an inception programme for RCs; the UN economists' network; and communication on upcoming travel by staff to the respective countries. RCs are regularly invited to intergovernmental meetings and meetings of the subsidiary bodies to share lessons learned, experiences and identify areas for mutual technical assistance and cooperation to advance on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. RCs are also invited to annual sessions of the Forum of the Countries of LAC on Sustainable Development.

Links with Other UN Entities: Examples of ECLAC's collaboration with other UN entities include:

- Joint project implementation with ESCAP and ESCWA on advancing care policies for transformative recovery and resilience in LAC, Asia-Pacific and the Arab States.
- Joint project implementation with the other five Regional Commissions and UN-Habitat on Urban Economic Resilience.

UNSDCF and Lessons Learned: ECLAC participates in the CCA exercises of the countries of the region providing the regional, subregional and transboundary perspective on economic, social and environmental development issues. It also participates in the Peer Support Group, whose function is to ensure the quality of the CCA and the UNSDCF, and the Partnership and Communications Working Group, whose role is to strengthen inter-agency cooperation and make the work of the RCP more visible. For example, the ECLAC national office in **Argentina** participates in all monthly meetings of the UNCT and in ad-hoc extraordinary meetings if required, such as those related to the preparation of the UNSDCF for 2025-2029. The office also participates in regular meetings of the Programme Management Team and other interagency working groups. At the request of the RC, the ECLAC Office has led and coordinated two inputs for the CCA in 2024, which will be used as references for the upcoming UNSDCF.

ECLAC's main lesson learned from engagement with UNSDCF is that communication is essential for effective engagement. As such, ECLAC reaches out to UNRCs / UNCTs to appraise them of forthcoming activities.

Challenges

In 2024 ECLAC reported experiencing three major challenges, notably lower travel budgets; unequal internet access throughout the region; and adapting to hybrid modalities. The use of hybrid modalities to deliver capacity building activities and trainings, given the need to provide simultaneous face-to face and virtual activities, requires adaptation of presentation content and format. The same challenges are anticipated in 2025.

ECLAC continues to make efforts to strengthen its capacities to better support MS, providing technical support through virtual means.

Integration of human rights, gender equality and disability concerns in ECLAC interventions

ECLAC reported that their activities and outputs respect and promote human rights. This means, among other things, that ECLAC interventions strive to treat beneficiaries as equals, safeguard and promote the rights of minorities, and help to empower civil society.

ECLAC also reported mainstreaming gender as much as possible in all activities, in line with its Gender Mainstreaming Strategy. Sex disaggregated data was provided systematically, showing that 49% of people trained were female.

ECLAC's activities are in line with the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy and the ECLAC Disability Inclusion Strategy. As such, ECLAC includes comprehensive measures regarding accessibility, security and improvements in audiovisual technology in conference rooms, reasonable adaptation of office spaces and furniture, and access to employment opportunities for persons with disabilities. The aim is to facilitate their full participation in the daily work of the Commission, with a view to further advance their inclusion and ensuring the full realization of their rights.

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

ESCAP implemented RPTC activities under 9 subprogrammes.⁵¹ It aimed to build capacities in developing countries and, in particular, the LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS in the region. Tailored support is provided to LDCs for their graduation and post-graduation adjustments and in identifying new priorities for policy making.

	Requests responded to	Advisory Services	Advisory Missions	Capacity Building events
Total	127	67	63	137
National	119	45	44	49
Sub-regional	6	11	8	40
Regional	2	11	11	45
Global	0	0	0	3

ESCAP received 127 requests⁵² for support in 2024, and used RPTC to respond to all requests received, funding 170 national interventions⁵³ in 40 countries. 119 requests (leading to interventions)⁵⁴ came from the national level, including 21 requests from 5 LDCs, 38 from 10 LLDCs and 27 from 14 SIDS. ESCAP organized 137 capacity building events (30% virtual), training 7661 people (including 41% women). 41% of these participants were trained virtually. ESCAP provided 4 grants for MS, developed 97 knowledge products; supported 137 knowledge networks; and helped 26 countries create or update 60 policies, laws, national plans, strategies, frameworks, sign regional or international conventions or meet reporting requirements for international agreements.

ESCAP's accomplishments

Strengthening the Care Economy in ASEAN

Under SP6,⁵⁵ ESCAP worked with partners including the ASEAN Secretariat; the ASEAN Committee on Women; the **Philippine** Commission on Women; **Lao** Women's Union; Oxfam in Asia; The Asian Development Bank and the Institute of Development Studies to support enhanced knowledge and capacity among government officials to integrate care economy considerations into national policies. This intervention contributed to SDGs 5 and 17.

ESCAP provided technical and advisory support to ASEAN MS in developing policy measures to recognize the value of unpaid care and domestic work and enhance investments in the care economy. This support contributed to the adoption of the [ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening the Care Economy and Fostering Resilience Towards the Post-2025 ASEAN Community](#) at the 2024 ASEAN Summit. The Declaration aligns with ESCAP's Model Framework for Action on the Care Economy, incorporating key policy pillars on care infrastructure, social protection, care services, and employment.



⁵¹ SP1. Macroeconomic policy, poverty reduction & financing for development; SP2. Trade, investment & innovation; SP3. Transport; SP4. Environment & development; SP5. ICT & disaster risk reduction & management; SP6. Social development; SP7. Statistics; SP8. Sub-regional activities for development; SP9. Energy.

⁵² ESCAP is developing an online tool to track such requests for capacity building support received from member States.

⁵³ As per the CRS, to calculate the number of interventions, the advisory services, capacity building events, field projects, grants, knowledge products and knowledge networks are added together.

⁵⁴ In some cases, ESCAP designs interventions for a group of countries that have submitted requests for support in the same areas. In 2024, 27 of the 119 country requests ESCAP responded to (from 12 countries) were delivered through activities at the subregional or regional levels. These figures follow the methodology established by ESCAP and allows them to ensure data comparability and consistency across years.

⁵⁵ SP6 aims to realize inclusive and equitable societies that protect, empower and leave no one behind in Asia and the Pacific, with a focus on population and development, social protection, disability, and gender equality and the empowerment of women.

To facilitate national implementation of the Declaration, ESCAP organized multi-stakeholder consultations in **the Philippines** and **Lao PDR**. In **the Philippines**, ESCAP supported the National Care Economy Policy Framework Consultation, which engaged 25 representatives from the government, private sector, and civil society to finalize the National Care Economy Policy Framework. In **Lao PDR**, ESCAP co-organized a national workshop, convening 118 stakeholders to advance the localization of the Declaration. 89% of participants reported an increased understanding of the care economy's importance.

ESCAP developed key knowledge products to support policy development, including the [Model Framework on the Care Economy](#), which served as a foundation for the ASEAN Declaration, and a Policy Brief, [“Investing in Our Common Future: Building a ‘Caring’ Society,”](#) which highlights the economic and social benefits of investing in care. ESCAP's technical assistance strengthened the capacity of policymakers to integrate care economy considerations into national policies, contributing to **Lao PDR's** plans to develop a national action plan on care and integrate care priorities into the **Lao Women's Development Plan**, as well as the finalization of the National Care Economy Policy Framework in **the Philippines**.

In 2025, ESCAP will continue supporting the implementation of the Declaration by working with the **Lao Women's Union** and **Malaysia** as the incoming ASEAN Chair to finalize a guidance note. National care consultations are also planned in **Thailand** and **Timor-Leste** to further strengthen policymakers' capacity to translate the Declaration into concrete actions.

ESCAP's interventions played a crucial role in the formulation and revision of transformative policies across ASEAN countries. A key milestone in this regard is the [ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening the Care Economy](#), a regional framework that supports national policy development and investments in the care economy across ASEAN countries.

Strengthening Environmental Statistics for Sustainable Decision-Making in Tonga

Under SP7,⁵⁶ ESCAP supported the **Tonga** Statistics Department; the Department of Planning; the Ministry of Finance; the Department of Environment and the World Bank to enhance the quality and use of environmental statistics for policy decision-making. This intervention contributed to SDGs 12, 13, 14 and 15.

ESCAP supported the identification of priority climate change-related statistics, leading to an agreement to develop land accounts as a statistical foundation for ecosystem and ocean accounting, alongside improvements in energy balances. To strengthen technical capacity, ESCAP conducted hands-on training on compiling energy balances and accounts, using draft commodity and energy balances prepared under a World Bank-funded initiative. 25 government representatives participated, gaining practical experience in applying energy statistics to policymaking. A high-level workshop involving 16 officials from eight government agencies reinforced the importance of land accounts and energy balances in tracking **Tonga's** resilience to climate change and natural disasters.



The workshop resulted in a short-term work plan, with the **Tonga** Statistics Department designated as the lead agency for implementation over the following six months.

ESCAP developed frameworks to align **Tonga's** energy balances with international best practices, particularly those recommended by the International Energy Agency, ensuring consistency and interoperability with global reporting standards. Through a needs assessment, participants mapped **Tonga's** Government Priority Area 1 on climate resilience to specific System of Environmental-Economic Accounting accounts, including ecosystem, ocean, land, and emissions accounts. These tools will facilitate evidence-based policymaking on environmental sustainability.

⁵⁶ SP7 aims to improve the availability, accessibility and use of quality data and official statistics in support of sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific.

ESCAP will continue to support the **Tonga** Statistics Department virtually and through advisory missions, providing further technical assistance by the Regional Adviser through to the end of 2025.

ESCAP's interventions led to the prioritization of land accounts and energy balances as key statistical tools for Tonga, strengthening the country's capacity to track climate resilience and integrate environmental statistics into policy decisions.

Legislative Review for Compliance with the UNCRPD in Kiribati

Under SP8,⁵⁷ ESCAP worked with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community; the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat; OHCHR and the Pacific Disability Forum to support the legislative review for compliance with the UNCRPD in **Kiribati**. This intervention contributed to SDGs 4, 5, 10 and 16.

ESCAP organized the **Kiribati** Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) Legislative Review and Training-of-Trainers Workshop in February 2024 as a validation process for the Legislative Review. The review includes key recommendations, informed by input from government and non-government stakeholders, to support the development of the **Kiribati** Disability Act and the integration of disability rights into existing legislation. The workshop strengthened stakeholder awareness of CRPD principles, enhanced understanding of compliance gaps in national laws, and built capacity for future CRPD-related reporting. 18 government officials from the **Kiribati** National Human Rights Task Force and non-government partners participated. The workshop also introduced reasonable accommodation measures, such as sign language interpretation, to ensure inclusive participation. This work was linked to two previous advisory missions, which involved a consultation with the Ministry of Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs (MWYSSA) to update the initial draft report of the Legislative Review in November 2022, and a consultation with MWYSSA and Te Toa Matoa – an organization in **Kiribati** that advocates for people with disabilities, to finalize the inception report and kick-start the updating of the report on the Legislative Review in November 2023.



ESCAP developed a comprehensive report for government legal experts, providing a summary of key recommendations to guide the development of the **Kiribati** Disability Act. Training materials tailored for **Kiribati** were also produced to support capacity building on CRPD implementation and reporting. The initiative leveraged an informal network of regional partners to enhance technical assistance and knowledge sharing.

ESCAP remains engaged in discussions under the United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, led by UNICEF, and is ready to provide further technical support to the Government of **Kiribati**, as requested.

ESCAP's interventions led to the finalization of the Kiribati Legislative Review for CRPD Compliance, establishing a framework to support the development of the Kiribati Disability Act and the mainstreaming of disability rights into national legislation.

Complementarity of Action

Linkages with DA/XB Funds: While ESCAP has no formal mechanism to ensure such linkages, DA, XB and RPTC projects are managed by the same section, allowing for a holistic approach to project management and knowledge sharing, including through semi-annual consultations with all SPs. ESCAP reports paying special attention at project elaboration stage to ensure cross-references are made with DA projects. Occasionally, synergies between RPTC and DA work are directly created as SPs implementing RPTC also execute DA account projects on similar thematic focus. Examples of such synergies can be found in various DA project documents, including under the 17th tranche.

⁵⁷ SP8 aims to strengthen regional cooperation and integration for sustainable development, in line with the subregional priorities of the Pacific, which include building resilience against natural disasters and climate change to reduce vulnerabilities and to improve socioeconomic conditions.

In 2024, three DA projects (under the 16th Tranche) were approved:

- Moving towards efficient, resilient, low carbon and accessible port cities in Asia-Pacific SIDS to achieve better transport connectivity and accessibility for all.
- Catalyzing finance and investments for climate action while ensuring debt sustainability in Asia-Pacific countries in special situations.
- Building disaster and climate resilience to food and energy crisis in Asia-Pacific.

The project on Catalyzing Finance and Investments for Climate Action builds on key lessons learned from relevant RPTC work on developing strategies and on foreign direct investment and on climate finance, which informed the design and development of the subsequent DA project.

Linkages with UN RCOs and UNCTs: ESCAP reports engaging RCOs / UNCTs in the following ways:

When we receive a request	When we decide to act on the request	When we are planning an intervention	When we are undertaking an intervention	After we have undertaken an intervention
Always	Usually	Usually	Usually	Usually

ESCAP ensures that all RPTC-supported country-level activities are aligned with the respective UNSDCF and coordinated with RCs from the planning stage. This coordination is particularly evident in ESCAP's subregional engagements. In **Bhutan**, the Subregional Office for South and South-West Asia coordinated closely with the UNRC to facilitate the Executive Secretary's visit in July 2024 and co-organized a multistakeholder workshop on cross-border trade and transport connectivity in **Bhutan** in October 2024, with participation from the RCO Economist.

Links with Other UN Entities: Examples of ESCAP's collaboration with other UN entities include joint implementation of capacity-building activities under the Environment and Development subprogramme in 2024. For example, DESA co-organized a regional workshop in **Kazakhstan** on greenhouse gas emissions monitoring and emissions factors tools. In Central Asia, UNFCCC and UNEP collaborated with ESCAP on capacity-building related to NDC target setting. In **Indonesia**, UNDP and the RC partnered with ESCAP to deliver advisory services and training on integrated climate mitigation and adaptation in support of the country's NDC update. In **India**, ESCAP partnered with UN Women India, a member of the UNCT, to deliver an online training for rural women entrepreneurs in September 2024, which was attended by 70 rural women entrepreneurs.

UNSDCF and Lessons Learned: ESCAP is a direct signatory to 16 UNSDCF across the Asia-Pacific region, covering countries including **Bhutan, India, Kazakhstan, Nepal, Sri Lanka**, and **Uzbekistan**, as well as a regional UNSDCF for 14 Pacific countries.

In the Ninth Progress Report ESCAP reported the following lessons learned from engagement with UNSDCF:

- Timing. It is important to ensure early engagement on both the form and substance of collaboration, and availability of funds. This helps ensure enough time to build a strong understanding of one another's work and priorities, and outcomes tend to be stronger.
- Building shared understanding. UN agencies need a common understanding of their respective work priorities to identify areas of joint collaborations and strengthen coherence; and to leverage the comparative advantage of each UN agency, to ensure complementarity as opposed to duplication.
- Funding issues. RCs typically do not have a budget allocated for travel outside their host country - this can constrain extensive collaboration, preventing participation in workshops.

ESCAP did not report on any new lessons learned from engagement with UNSDCF in 2024.

Challenges

The Ninth Progress Report highlighted difficulties in obtaining accurate spending forecasts from implementing divisions and ensuring liquidity in anticipation of late-stage expenditures. In 2024, ESCAP reports that this challenge remains, as they continued to face issues in strategically balancing the distribution of resources within limited timeframes and managing complex reporting requirements.

A new challenge reported in 2024 was the uncertainty regarding the timing and amount of funds made available. ESCAP initially planned and projected activities based on the assumption that the full 2024 appropriation would be received. However, only 94% of the expected funds were ultimately allocated due to liquidity constraints at the organizational level. This led to additional and ultimately unnecessary mid-year planning efforts across implementing offices, in anticipation of a second phase of funding that did not materialize.

In terms of anticipated challenges for 2025, ESCAP foresees liquidity constraints persisting, particularly in relation to the timeliness and adequacy of fund disbursement. ESCAP reports that this ongoing uncertainty continues to result in shortened implementation periods, as SPs must remain ready to implement activities but are unable to commence until funds are formally made available.

ESCAP sees a need to strengthen its capacity to establish a comprehensive mechanism for tracking all requests for RPTC support across the organization. Currently, requests from MSs are submitted through various channels and stored inconsistently, making it difficult to grasp the full range of requests, likely resulting in underreporting of requests submitted. In response, ESCAP is developing an interim request logging system to improve internal tracking and management.

Integration of human rights, gender equality and disability concerns in ESCAP interventions

In the Ninth Progress Report, ESCAP reported that their interventions are broadly aligned with the mandate to promote cooperation among MS in the Asia-Pacific region in pursuit of solutions to sustainable development challenges. RPTC interventions are all grounded in the universal and cross-cutting rights-based approach, with particular emphasis on the LNOB principle, including gender-responsive, disability-friendly and inclusive and participatory processes. No changes to this approach have been reported in 2024.

With specific regards to gender, ESCAP reports that in 2024, in preparation for the 2025 mandatory gender tagging requirement in Umoja's Integrated Planning, Management and Reporting (IPMR) system, ESCAP made the application of the gender marker mandatory for all RPTC projects submitted in 2024.⁵⁸ Projects could only be approved in IPMR if gender tagging was completed. This approach ensures that ESCAP is aligned with the UN-wide Secretariat's obligation under the Chief Executive Board's Data Standards, which from 2025 will require gender tags across all log frame elements to be considered complete. Sex disaggregated data was provided systematically, showing that 41% of people trained were female.

ESCAP continued to mainstream disability inclusion through targeted initiatives in areas such as transport and inclusive employment. In Central Asia, ESCAP implemented a project on safe and inclusive road design, ensuring road infrastructure standards address the needs of persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups. Additionally, ESCAP delivered a regional project to support disability-inclusive employment and business ecosystems under the [Asia-Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities 2023–2032](#), focusing on capacity building for governments, Organizations of People with Disabilities, and business associations. In 2024, 26% of RPTC activities were implemented with disability inclusion considerations. All RPTC projects in IPMR now include disability data, and from 2025, disability tagging will be mandatory for project approval.

⁵⁸ This built on the mandatory application of the Gender marker at ESCAP since 2021 across all funding sources and this was reflected in the system in 2024 as ESCAP transitioned to using Umoja for the management of RPTC that year.

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

ESCWA implemented RPTC activities under six subprogrammes.⁵⁹ It aimed to support MS in implementing their development plans, aligning them with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and adapting and implementing policies and programmes to make further progress in achieving the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.

	Requests responded to	Advisory Services	Advisory Missions	Capacity Building events
Total	154	110	61	87
National	137	109	60	70
Sub-regional	2	0	0	2
Regional	15	1	1	15
Global	0	0	0	0

ESCWA received 130 requests for support in 2024, and used RPTC to respond to 154 requests,⁶⁰ funding 190 national interventions⁶¹ in 21 countries. 137 requests (leading to interventions) came from the national level, including 35 requests from 5 LDCs. ESCWA organized 87 capacity building events (31 virtual), training 3191 people (including 49% women). 49% of these participants were trained virtually. ESCWA developed 11 knowledge products; supported 10 knowledge networks; and helped 20 countries create or update 52 policies, laws, national plans, strategies, frameworks, sign regional or international conventions or meet reporting requirements for international agreements.

ESCWA's accomplishments

Supporting Evidence-Based and Inclusive Public Policy Making in Oman

Under SP2, 3 and 4,⁶² responding to several requests from **Oman**, a MS from the underserved region of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), a group of countries that do not traditionally reach out to the UN for services, ESCWA worked with partners including the **Omani** Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation; Ministry of Social Development; Ministry of Economy; and the **Omani** National Centre for Statistics and Information to support the development of inclusive, evidence-based public policy-making. This intervention contributed to SDGs 8, 9, 16 and 17.

In 2024, ESCWA implemented interventions in **Oman** to strengthen evidence-based policymaking and support public sector modernization, leveraging RPTC funds and securing additional national funding. It provided advisory services and capacity development across multiple sectors, ensuring data-driven policymaking aligned with global best practises. ESCWA collaborated with the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Youth on youth and future skills studies, partnered with the Ministry of Higher Education to improve higher education and skill development, and supported the Royal Academy for Management in evaluating public sector skills.

⁵⁹ SP1. Climate change and natural resource sustainability; SP2. Gender justice, population and inclusive development; SP3. Shared economic prosperity; SP4. Statistics, the information society and technology; SP5. 2030 Agenda and SDG coordination; and SP6. Governance and conflict prevention.

⁶⁰ Including several requests which were received in 2023 and responded to in 2024.

⁶¹ As per the CRS, to calculate the number of interventions, the advisory services, capacity building events, field projects, grants, knowledge products and knowledge networks are added together.

⁶² SP2 aims to achieve equitable and inclusive social development and reduced inequality, poverty and unemployment in line with the principle of leaving no one behind; SP3 aims to achieve equitable economic growth, amplify regional interconnectedness and integration, and advance the effective implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development in support of the 2030 Agenda; SP4 aims to strengthen the development of official statistical frameworks, improve the quality and availability of statistics and advance the information society by accelerating the integration of technology and innovation for sustainable development in the Arab region.

ESCWA assisted the Ministry of Social Development in amending labor laws to formalize unpaid childcare leave and advised on policy changes for families with children with disabilities. It also provided expert input on **Oman's Beijing+30 report** and gender-related commitments. Digital transformation efforts included remote sensing for groundwater estimation, strengthening SDG data reporting through the Monitoring Application for Reporting on SDGs, and developing the Governorate Competitiveness Index. ESCWA also guided the Ministry of Finance on debt management, organizing a workshop on sustainable debt and planning to introduce iBIT tools⁶³ in 2025.

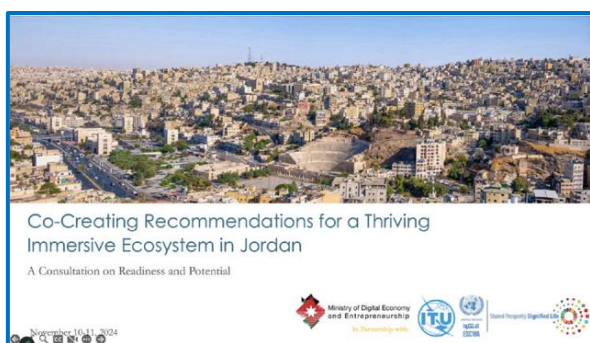


Key knowledge products developed included a national version of the [Arab Trade Simulator Interface](#), an updated Computable General Equilibrium economic model, the [Governorate Competitiveness Index digital platform](#), and reports for the mid-term assessment of **Oman's Tenth Five-Year Development Plan**. Follow-up activities will focus on competition in the building sector, expanding the Competitiveness Index, financial management support, a regional conference on higher education and skills, and further reskilling initiatives with the Royal Academy of Management.

Following ESCWA's advisory work on inclusive policymaking, the Ministry of Social Development in Oman amended the national labor law to institute a formal right to unpaid childcare leave for women. This change represents a shift from previous legislation and reflects ESCWA's capacity-building efforts in developing gender indicators and reviewing policy frameworks. Additionally, the Ministry has initiated discussions on further amendments to introduce special care leave provisions for families with children with disabilities.

[Supporting Digital Transformation and Modernization of Public Administration in the Arab Region](#)

Under SPs 4 and 6,⁶⁴ ESCWA worked with partners including the International Telecommunications Union; OECD; UNCTAD; the International Institute of Administrative Sciences; the International Association of Schools and Institutes of public administration; and Mohamed Ben Rashed School of Government (MBRSG) of the **United Arab Emirates** to support digital transformation for effective public governance for sustainable development. This intervention contributed to SDGs 8, 9, 16, 17.



In 2024, ESCWA provided advisory and capacity development services to support Arab countries in adopting emerging digital technologies while ensuring their effective regulation. For example, ESCWA provided advisory support to **Jordan** in formulating a national blockchain policy, assessing government readiness for immersive technologies, and classifying AI entities. **Iraq, Mauritania, and the Syrian Arab Republic** received support in drafting national AI strategies, while **Iraq** was also assisted with its cloud computing policy. Further advisory services included digital transformation strategies for **Somalia and Libya** and cybersecurity policies for

Djibouti and Yemen. ESCWA also worked with **Tunisia, Morocco and Libya** on digital accessibility policies to ensure that persons with disabilities and older persons are included in national digital transformation efforts.

ESCWA developed key knowledge products, including the [GEMS-2023 Maturity Index](#), which serves as a tool for policymakers to evaluate and enhance digital government services. Moving forward, ESCWA will support skills and job description development for the public sector in **Iraq and Oman**, organize the second Arab Regional Forum on Public Administration, and provide advisory services for AI and cloud computing strategies in **Libya and Somalia**. Requests from **Mauritania** for digital transformation strategies, regulatory frameworks for IoT and blockchain, and assessment tools for digital technologies will also be addressed.

⁶³ ESCWA developed an artificial budget intelligence powered toolkit (iBIT) to amplify the returns on public spending and optimize public expenditure efficiency. The toolkit is also aimed at maximizing SDG performance across a wide spectre of national targets, especially in countries facing severe fiscal space constraints: <https://www.unescwa.org/AI-budgeting>.

⁶⁴ SP6 aims to advance just, peaceful and inclusive societies, especially for people living under occupation or in conflict or post-conflict settings; to improve governance and strengthen effective, efficient and accountable public institutions; and to enhance service delivery.

ESCWA's advisory services directly contributed to the formulation of ten national policies and strategies in AI, cloud computing, digital transformation, cybersecurity, blockchain, and digital accessibility across multiple Arab countries. These frameworks support the modernization of public administration and the responsible adoption of emerging technologies in governance.

Strengthening Social Policy-Making and Digital Transformation in Somalia

Under SPs 2 and 4, ESCWA worked with UNDP; the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI); the UN Assistance Mission in **Somalia**; UNFPA; UN Women; the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics (AITRIS) and the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics of **Egypt** (CAPMAS) and the **Somali** Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation to support evidence-based social policy-making in **Somalia**. This intervention contributed to SDGs 1, 5, 10, 16, 17.

In 2024 ESCWA provided targeted support to **Somalia**, including through a Multidimensional Poverty Assessment, building on previous training and the establishment of a National Multidimensional Poverty Committee in 2023. In 2024, ESCWA provided technical guidance on optimizing **Somalia's** [national Multidimensional Poverty Index](#) (MPI) framework and finalized a policy brief on poverty reduction strategies. Statistical support was also extended to **Somalia's** National Institute of Statistics through advisory services on digital census methodologies and a South-South cooperation study tour to **Egypt's** CAPMAS in September 2024.



Follow-up activities include the provision of tablets from **Djibouti** to support **Somalia's** digital census, continued advisory services on social protection efficiency, and the deployment of ESCWA's SDG Monitoring Application to enhance national data coordination. ESCWA will also conduct further capacity-building activities on social justice integration and disability-inclusive policymaking.

ESCWA supported the development of [Somalia's National Strategy on Migration](#) by conducting a situation analysis, facilitating stakeholder consultations, and organizing a national validation workshop in March 2024 in Mogadishu. Based on stakeholder feedback, ESCWA updated and finalized the draft strategy, which was submitted in June 2024. ESCWA also supported the formulation of the Older Persons Act and its Executive Regulations, the [National Strategy on Ageing](#), and the Strategy to End Violence Against Women and Girls 2024-2029, ensuring a coordinated approach to social protection and inclusion.

Complementarity of Action

Linkages with DA/XB Funds: There have been no changes to ESCWA's system to ensure RPTC and DA/XB linkages, but the existing mechanisms continue to lead to DA projects being developed based on RPTC interventions. In 2024, ten such projects were approved, notably:

- 'Innovative Financing Instruments for Climate Action and Sustainable Development in Arab States, Africa, and Latin America'. (DA) This builds on RPTC interventions in **Egypt, Jordan, Tunisia, Oman, and Mauritania**.
- 'Establishing a Sustainable Social Security System and Developing a Comprehensive National Social Protection Profile for **Egypt**'. (XB) This follows RPTC interventions on social protection in **Egypt**.
- 'Capacity-Building on Climate Change Issues: Strengthening Regional Approaches to Support Science-Based Policymaking'. (XB) This builds on RPTC support to Arab countries on climate change negotiations and access to innovative climate finance.
- 'Poverty Reduction in Egypt and Other Arab Countries'. (XB) This builds on RPTC work on multidimensional poverty in **Egypt**.
- 'Mid-Term Evaluation of the Tenth Five-Year Plan 2020-2025 of **Oman**'. (XB) This follows an initial technical support intervention under RPTC that initiated the evaluation.

Linkages with UN RCOs and UNCTs: ESCWA reports engaging RCOs / UNCTs in the following ways:

When we receive a request	When we decide to act on the request	When we are planning an intervention	When we are undertaking an intervention	After we have undertaken an intervention
Always	Sometimes	Sometimes	Usually	Sometimes

In 2024, ESCWA collaborated with the UNDP Country Office in **Djibouti**, the UNDP regional office, and national stakeholders to support the development of a census-based MPI to inform poverty reduction policies. At the request of the Ministry of Economy and Finance in Charge of Industry, ESCWA and UNDP organized a stakeholder workshop in November 2024. ESCWA's regional adviser and UNDP experts provided technical presentations on MPI concepts, methodologies, regional experiences, and optimization tools, while the Ministry outlined national poverty reduction policies, and the National Statistical Institute presented findings from the 2019 MPI. The workshop included group discussions on defining dimensions and indicators for the 2025 MPI.

Links with Other UN Entities: Examples of ESCWA's collaboration with other UN entities include:

- Partnering with UNDP, UNSOM, UNFPA, and UN Women to organize a training and national validation workshop for the Strategy to End Violence against Women and Girls 2024–2029 in **Somalia**.
- Collaborating with UNFPA and the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics to organize a study tour for **Somali** statisticians to **Egypt's** Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics to learn about conducting digital population and housing censuses.
- Engaging with UN-Habitat and UNODC on advisory services and capacity-building activities related to urban planning, housing policy, and crime prevention in selected Arab countries.
- Coordinating with UN Women to mainstream gender considerations in national social and economic policies, including interventions in **Morocco** and **Mauritania**.

ESCWA continues to inform UNCTs of requests received from MS and seeks opportunities for collaboration with relevant UN agencies to enhance the effectiveness of its advisory and capacity-building support.

UNSDCF and Lessons Learned: ESCWA increased its participation in UNCT meetings in 2024 and contributed to discussions on CCAs and UNSDCFs where possible. This engagement ensured that ESCWA remained informed about UNSDCFs, continued to align its normative work with these frameworks, and provided advisory services that respond to MS priorities and support their desired outcomes.

For example, in 2024 ESCWA actively contributed to UNCT meetings and working groups in **Syria**, providing written comments on the UNCT's document on common messaging regarding the UN approach in **Syria** following changes in the country's leadership. Additionally, ESCWA reviewed and provided feedback on the CCA update of UNCT **Syria** in October 2024.

In the Ninth Progress Report, ESCWA reported lessons learned from engagement with UNSDCF including:

- The importance of clarity. The contribution of non-resident agencies (NRAs) such as ESCWA is stronger when the request for support is specific, well-articulated, timely and makes optimal use of the capacities, resources and knowledge on offer from the NRA.
- Using technology for outreach. ESCWA has started offering RCOs and UNCTs webinars to clarify how it can support CCAs, UNSDCFs and SDG implementation.

No changes have been reported in 2024.

Challenges

ESCWA encountered several challenges in 2024, including: shifts in priorities, with MS focused more on security and humanitarian issues, deprioritizing development-related requests and leading to a shift in policy focus; the situation in ESCWA's Host Country, **Lebanon**, deteriorated significantly in 2024, forcing staff evacuations and making in-person meetings impossible; and operational disruptions, with staff dispersed across different countries and facing logistical

challenges, organizing RPTC missions became complex. The mental and physical toll of the war further reduced the capacity to implement activities effectively.

ESCWA also highlighted internal scrutiny as a particular challenge. Despite positive evaluations from the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) on the RPTC's effectiveness and adaptability, UN committees have raised concerns and requested additional reports to demonstrate impact. This may stem from a lack of clarity regarding the role of the RPTC, raising concerns that future changes in its structure or resource allocation could limit its benefits for policymakers.

ESCWA foresees the following challenges for 2025: Political instability and military conflicts will continue to affect the majority of ESCWA MS, which will continue to pose challenges in the planning of mid to long-term priorities, as well as project implementation and service delivery; an increasing demand for advisory services and capacity development with the deadline for the 2030 Agenda approaching compared with the allocated resources to enable those services; and a lack of the necessary ICT infrastructure to deliver services in a large proportion of ESCWA MS.

ESCWA sees a need to strengthen its capacity through enhanced resources to enable them to respond effectively to increasing demand for support services, in addition to resources that enable longer-term interventions to achieve more sustainable impact.

Integration of human rights, gender equality and disability concerns in ESCWA interventions

In the Ninth Progress Report, ESCWA reported that they place special importance on mainstreaming social justice concerns in public policies, programmes and plans to ensure that economic and social human rights are adhered to. Gender is also an important area of ESCWA's mandate. ESCWA pays specific attention to the number of female beneficiaries, advocates for its increase, and reports on it. Gender concerns were also mainstreamed through interventions on older persons, on persons with disabilities, on migration, on rural development, on social justice, on youth empowerment, on SME empowerment and digitization, etc. No changes have been reported. In 2024, sex disaggregated data was provided systematically, showing that 49% of people trained were female.

ESCWA is the only UN entity working in the Arab region that has a Regional Advisor on Disability Issues and a whole programme on ensuring that the rights of persons with disabilities are advanced in Arab countries. ESCWA consults persons with disabilities in the delivery of relevant advisory services and has hired persons with disabilities as part of its team working on social development issues. No changes have been reported in 2024.

In 2024 ESCWA received four requests specifically on advancing the rights of persons with disabilities, including for a training with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights for **Qatar** on the human rights of persons with disabilities in the country.

6. Contributions to outcomes

The 2024 OIOS evaluation highlighted how IEs have strong mechanisms for capturing feedback following RPTC-funded activities (via surveys, evaluation forms etc), effectively capturing RPTC contribution to immediate outcomes. However, it recognised that mechanisms to capture RPTC contributions to intermediate outcomes are less clear.

For the purposes of this Report, IEs have been using the following four intermediate outcomes, reflecting both the OIOS recommendations and the wider history of RPTC work and reporting.

- MS formulate, revise and / or implement transformative and innovative policies and good practices in line with IE's policy advice.
- MS ratify laws, international commitments, trade agreements in line with IE's support.
- MS update or create national plans, strategies in line with IE's support.
- MS meet specific reporting obligations in line with IE's support.

IEs continue to highlight challenges associated with assessing the contribution of RPTC to intermediate outcomes: small budgets, short time scales of interventions, the fact that RPTC interventions are often co-funded, and the time it takes for policies, laws, and strategies to be finalized. Despite these challenges, the fact that IEs have been working with these concepts for two years, and with the Common Reporting Standards for three years, seems to have helped standardize reporting. While the Ninth Progress Report highlighted that in 2023, RPTC interventions contributed to 166 intermediate outcomes across 79 countries, in 2024, RPTC contributed to 203 intermediate outcomes across 95 countries, a 22% increase in contributions to outcomes.

Figure 1. RPTC Contribution to national level intermediate outcomes 2023 - 2024

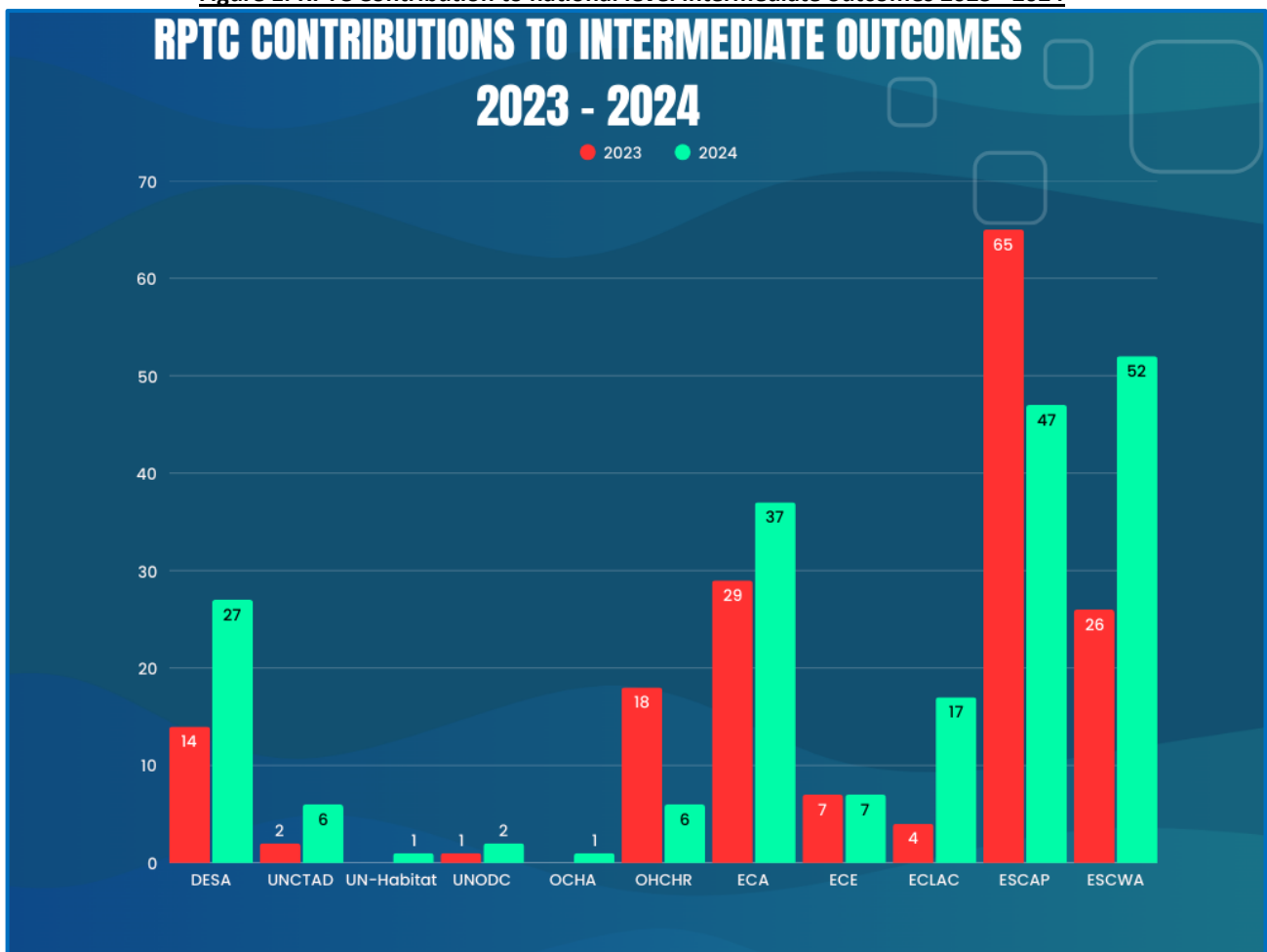
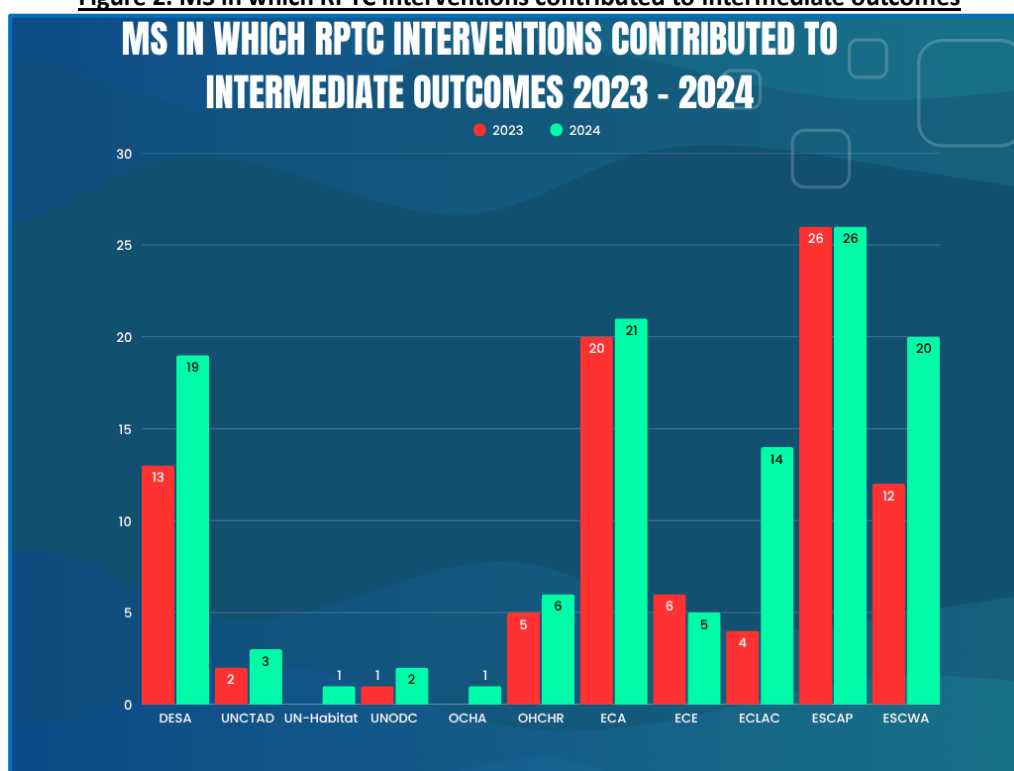


Figure 2. MS in which RPTC interventions contributed to intermediate outcomes



IEs report a total of 118 countries - however, in some instances more than one IE has contributed to outcomes in a certain country - so some countries are effectively 'double-counted'. The total figure of countries where RPTC interventions have contributed to outcomes is 95. For full details, see [this dataset](#).

IEs RPTC interventions seem most tailored to the first intermediate outcome ("MS formulate, revise and / or implement transformative and innovative policies and good practices in line with IE's policy advice"), reporting contributing to 86 such outcomes.

Intermediate Outcome	# of RPTC interventions contributing to this outcome in 2024
MS formulate, revise and / or implement transformative and innovative policies and good practices in line with IE's policy advice	86
MS ratify laws, international commitments, trade agreements in line with IE's support	5
MS update or create national plans, strategies in line with IE's support	44
MS meet specific reporting obligations in line with IE's support	29

Naturally, it seems harder to ascertain RPTC contributions to the ratification of laws, international commitments and trade agreements, given the nature and duration of these processes. That said, three IEs were still able to identify five instances where RPTC interventions contributed to this intermediate outcome:

Kyrgyzstan: ESCAP provided technical advice and capacity development activity to facilitate accession of intergovernmental agreements on Trans-Asian Railways and on Dry Ports.

Cuba: ECLAC helped the government to develop the National System on Care and update of the Law on Social Security.

Tajikistan: DESA supported the government's process to ratify and implement the UNCRPD.

Uzbekistan: DESA developed draft legislation to support the implementation of the UNCRPD.

Republic of Moldova: DESA developed a draft law on the Rights of Older Persons.

Many IEs also report acting on recommendations from OIOS and the Ninth Progress Report to strengthen their M&E, effectively enabling them to better capture outcomes (see Section 8 for further details). For example, UNODC has strengthened its RPTC management by devising indicators for each intervention. ESCAP has adopted the UN's IPMR for the management of RPTC interventions, revising how it tracks results. This has led to a marked improvement in data quality, ensuring data fields are aligned with reporting requirements. ECE has developed a tool to capture all technical cooperation requests. DESA has refined performance indicators for RPTC activities, ensuring that outcomes are systematically captured and reported. These performance indicators are now embedded in DESA's RPTC reporting template for each funded activity.

	<u>Intermediate Outcomes to which RPTC interventions contributed at the national level</u>
UN DESA	Suriname: Capacity building and development of the National Forest Financing strategy. Uruguay: Training to statistical officers from ministries that work with the Nutrition, Child Development and Health Survey, to inform policies on social protection.
UNCTAD	Ghana: Support for the development of a national E-commerce Strategy. Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Guinea, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Senegal, Tanzania, Togo, Zambia: Increased capacities of WTO LDC Group Delegates to negotiate and achieve positive results during Committees on Rules of Origin and Ministerial Conferences.
UN-Habitat	Georgia: Technical advisory services to support development of a National Spatial Development Concept. Armenia: Supporting the implementation of recommendations made in the Country Profile on Sustainable Urbanisation, Housing and Land Management.
UNODC	Uzbekistan: Support in development of National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2030. Saint Lucia: Workshop in Saint Lucia on Access to Justice, supporting the development of the Police Force's Strategic Plan for 2023–2028
OCHA	South Sudan, Colombia, Philippines and Niger: Community Consultation to identify Humanitarian Priorities.
OHCHR	Marshall Islands: Technical advisory services to support the establishment of a NHRI. Peru: Forensic technical assistance to prosecutors for human rights violations during protests.
ECA	Mauritius: Empowering Communities through Digital ID and Innovation, supporting the formulation of the National Fintech strategy. Burkina Faso, Niger, and Togo: Strengthening capacities in operationalizing Demographic-Sensitive Budgeting approach.
ESCAP	Mongolia: Developing a draft strategic framework to accelerate the transition to electric mobility in public transport. Papua New Guinea: Enhancing capacity to address the "Leave No One Behind" pledge in the VNR, through evidence generation (of LNOB data) and presentation to policymakers for a more inclusive, evidence-based VNR.
ECE	Kyrgyzstan: Development of a comprehensive national system of statistical indicators. Turkmenistan: National State of the Environment Report, supporting compliance with international environmental obligations.
ECLAC	Costa Rica: Technical assistance to support the development of the national Plan of Territorial Rural Development. Saint Kitts and Nevis: Technical assistance to develop and update existing policies and legislation to address commitments outlined in the National Development Planning Framework.
ESCWA	Lebanon: Support in preparing the national report on the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action +30.

Mauritania: Support in reviewing the national artificial intelligence (AI) strategy for updates and inclusion of best practice.

For the full detailed list of outcomes contributed to per IE, see this [dataset](#). IEs have also reported contributing to outcomes at sub-regional and regional levels.

Figure 3. RPTC contributions to intermediate outcomes at the sub-regional and regional levels

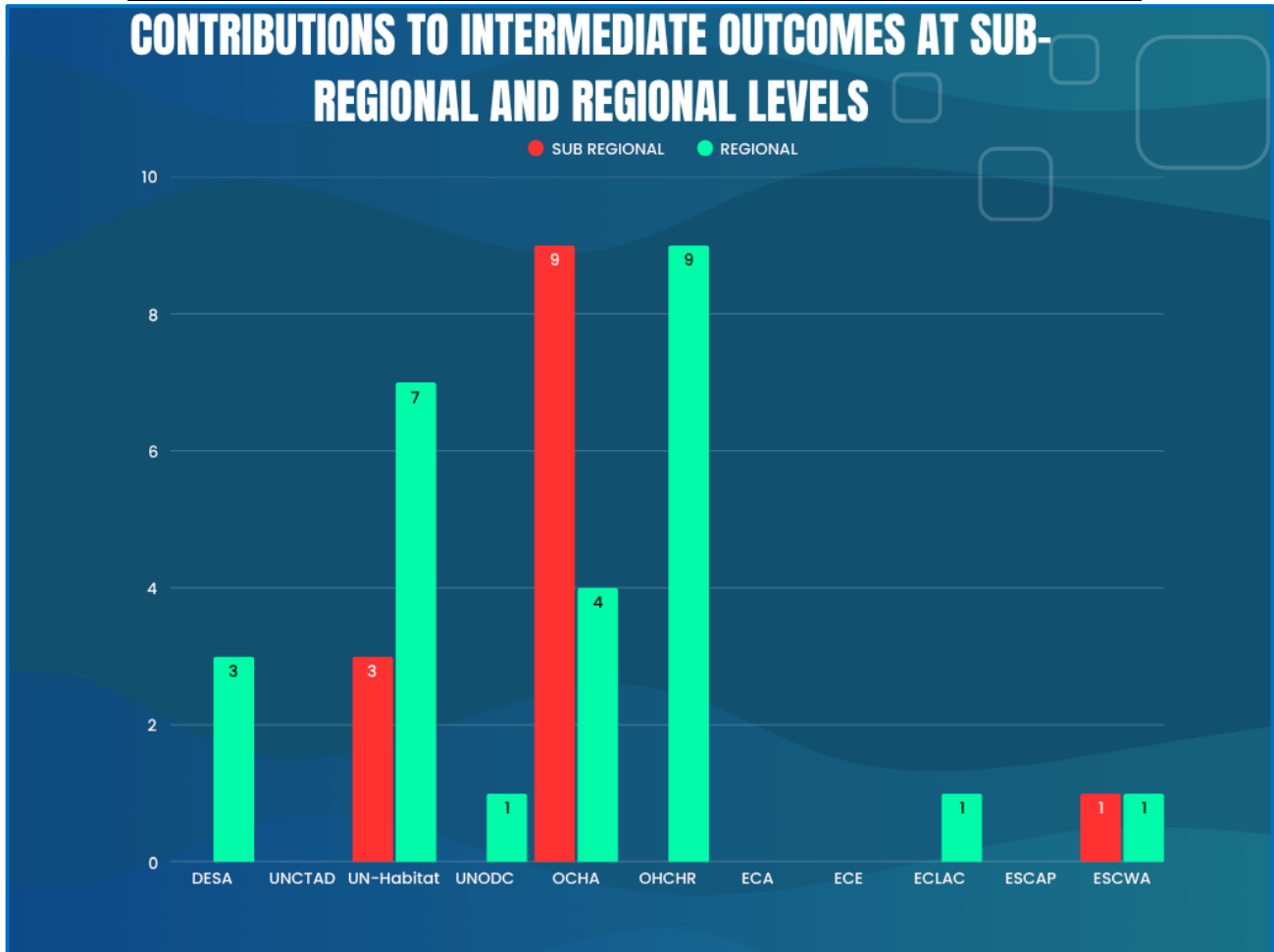
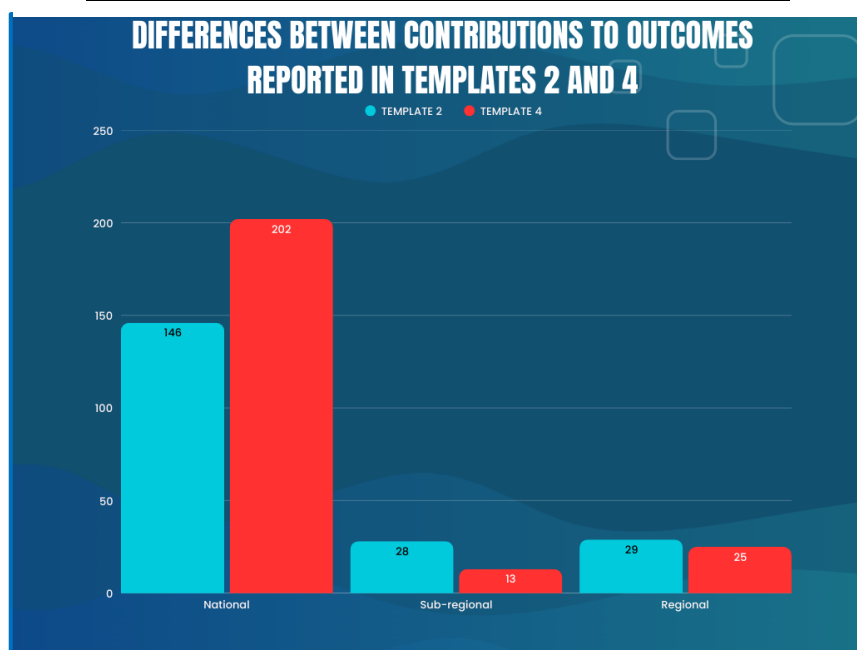


Figure 4. Differences in outcomes reported in Templates 2 and 4



It is noteworthy that we see variations between IEs reporting on contribution to outcomes via Template 4 (quantitative) and Template 2 (qualitative). Three IEs undertook this part of the reporting as expected, but we note important discrepancies between the data of the other eight IEs between the two templates. Over 50 fewer contributions to outcomes were reported in Template 2 at the national level, and 15 less were reported in Template 4 at the sub-regional level. While this has not yet been explored with the IEs, these differences may be due to a lack of clarity in the monitoring and reporting processes of most IEs, when it comes to contributing to outcomes, or issues in implementing the standardized approach.

We still see a significant variation among IEs regarding the contributions to outcomes. While three IEs report fewer than five instances of contributions to outcomes, four report over 25 such instances. There is also a trend of the Regional Commissions reporting more contributions to outcomes than those IEs providing sectoral advice services, with the exceptions of DESA (27 outcomes reported) and ECE (7 outcomes reported). Again, this has not yet been explored with IEs, but perhaps differing budgets and mandates may go some way to explain these differences.

Discussions around how to capture contributions to outcomes have been ongoing for several years. The CRS explored these issues, recognizing that “RPTC support will rarely lead directly to new policies, laws, plans or strategies, but the support may well contribute to the development of policies, laws, plans or strategies, and this should be relatively straightforward to capture.” The CRS make a practical recommendation about how IEs could adapt their Project Monitoring Tools to better capture if interventions are designed to contribute to a specific outcome, and further check boxes which could enable tracking of whether the policy, law, plan or strategy has eventually been developed or not. For the Ninth report, two IEs reported having fully implemented this recommendation, with five saying that implementation was ongoing. Discussions are currently ongoing via the RPTC Focal Points Network⁶⁵ to share good practises on capturing these contributions to outcomes, and this is expected to continue. As mentioned above, IEs recognise the difficulties in attributing contributions to interventions in the short term and are reflecting on whether, and how, a longer-term approach would be more useful to measure the contribution of RPTC interventions.

Several countries have received RPTC interventions contributing to between five and ten intermediate outcomes, notably **Somalia** with eight, **Kyrgyzstan, Jordan, Kenya, Oman, Philippines** and **Tajikistan** with seven, and **Uzbekistan** with six.

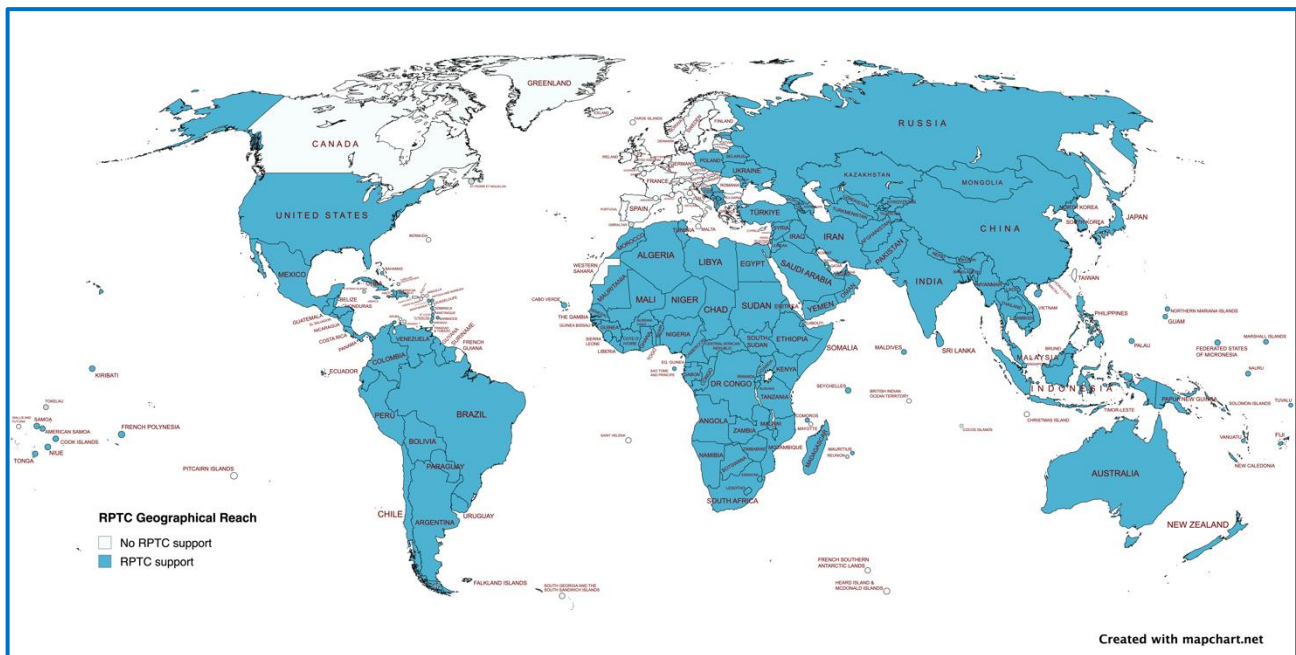
⁶⁵ See details in Section 8.3

7. Cross-cutting Analysis

7.1 Geographic Coverage

Overall, 169 countries⁶⁶ were supported using RPTC funds. IEs responded to 1040 requests, leading to 2614 RPTC interventions. For details, see Figure 5, below.⁶⁷

Figure 5. RPTC Geographical Reach



National level

At the national level, 147 countries were assisted using RPTC funds (12% more than in 2023). This includes 36 LDCs (82% of LDCs), 26 LLDCs (81% of LLDCs) and 34 SIDS (87% of SIDS).⁶⁸ IEs responded to 716 requests for assistance (26% more than in 2023), coming from 139 countries (17% more than 2023), including 43 LDCs (98% of LDCs),⁶⁹ 14 LLDCs (44% of LLDCs)⁷⁰ and 23 SIDS (59% of SIDS).

For a visual representation of the origin of requests to which IEs responded, see Figure 6, below. For details broken down by IE, see [this dataset](#) from [Annex 4](#).⁷¹

⁶⁶ Australia and New Zealand are members of ESCAP, and thus by default benefit from ESCAP's regional activities. OHCHR also supported a Fellow from New Zealand, and from USA.

⁶⁷ The designations employed and the presentation of material on these maps do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the UN Secretariat concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or any area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

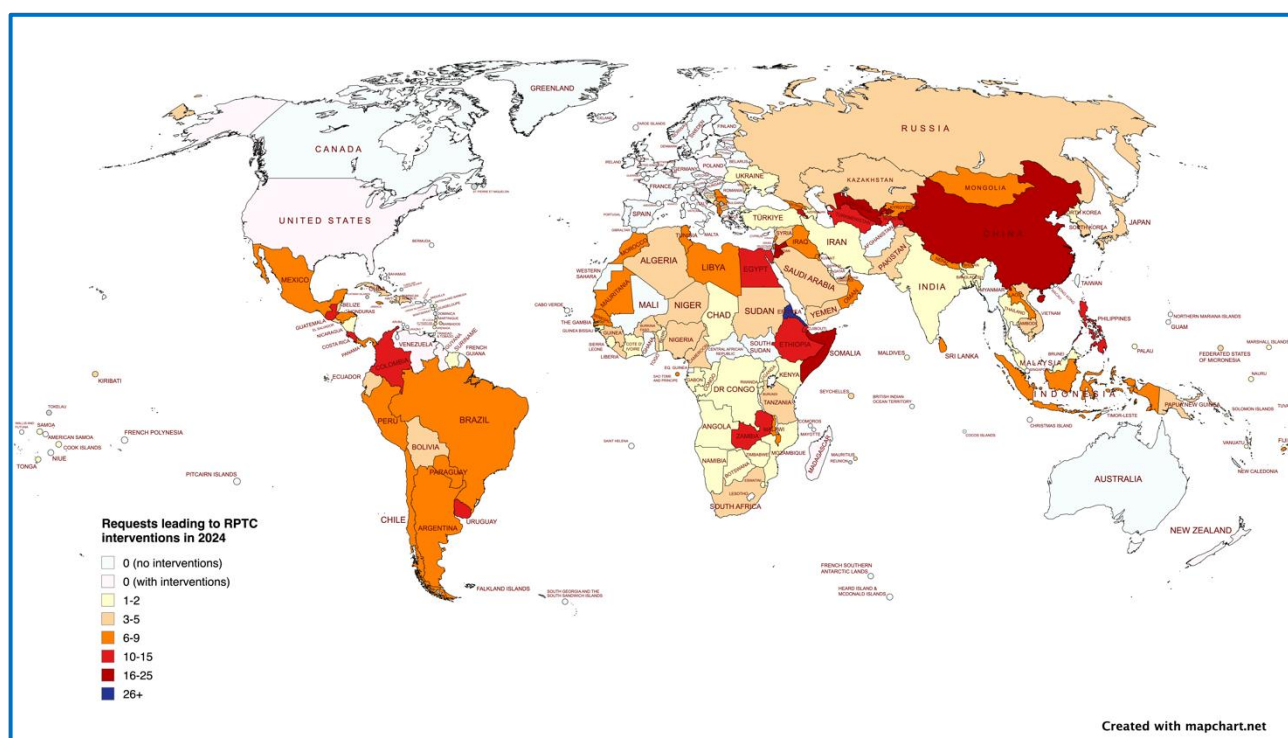
⁶⁸ This represents an increase from 75% of SIDS supported at the national level in 2023.

⁶⁹ This represents an increase from 70% of LDCs making requests at the national level in 2023.

⁷⁰ This represents a decrease from 81% of LLDCs making requests at the national level in 2023.

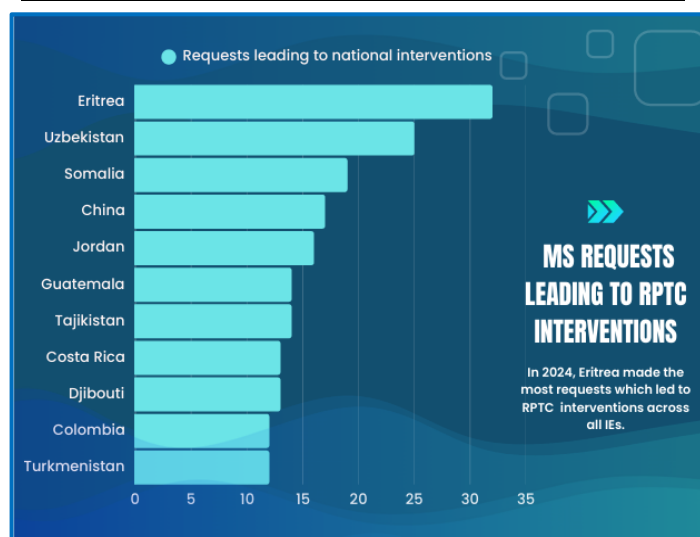
⁷¹ Note that there were a number of issues with data received from ECA about country level requests. Data reported here may be somewhat higher than the actual number of requests received, particularly in relation to Eritrea.

Figure 6. Requests leading to RTPC interventions in 2024⁷²



At the national level, RTPC assistance was provided through 481 advisory services, 354 advisory missions, 761 capacity building events (of which 49% were virtual / hybrid), 43 field projects, 61 fellowships, 198 knowledge products, 85 knowledge networks, and 4 grants. 49609 people benefited from national level support (259% more than 2023),⁷³ including 56% women.

Figure 7. MS requests leading to national level interventions



Three LDCs and three LLDCs feature among the countries making the most requests for support leading to interventions in 2024. **Jordan, Somalia, Guatemala** remain in the top 10 in 2024. See Figure 7 for details.⁷⁴

It is noteworthy that several countries (including LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS and economies in transition) did not submit any requests for support.⁷⁵ While these MS may have received RTPC support at the sub-regional or regional levels, it may be worth considering implementing outreach activities in these countries to ensure they are aware of the opportunities available. That said, there may also be structural issues related to absorptive capacity or

⁷² The designations employed and the presentation of material on these maps do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the UN Secretariat concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or any area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

⁷³ This significant increase results from UNODC which reported 32620 participants in capacity-building events in India in 2024.

⁷⁴ Note that there were a number of issues with data received from ECA about country level requests. Data reported here may be somewhat higher than the actual number of requests received, particularly in relation to Eritrea.

⁷⁵ **Afghanistan, Belarus, Cabo Verde, Central African Republic, Comoros, Dominica, Equatorial Guinea, Guyana, Madagascar, Mali, Timor-Leste and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).**

institutional challenges which could explain this lack of requests for support.

Sub-regional level

At the sub-regional level, 133 countries were assisted using RPTC funds (87% more than 2023). This figure includes 39 LDCs (89% of LDCs),⁷⁶ 30 LLDCs (94% of LLDCs)⁷⁷ and 24 SIDS (61% of SIDS). IEs provided this support through 82 advisory services (including 58 advisory missions), 98 capacity building events (of which 26 were virtual / hybrid), 22 field projects, 35 knowledge products and 52 knowledge networks. 3378 participants benefited from sub-regional support, including 37% women.

Regional level

At the regional level, 166 countries were assisted using RPTC funds (30% more than 2023). This figure includes 100% of LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS. IEs provided this support through 212 advisory services, (including 99 advisory missions), 190 capacity building events (of which 32% were virtual / hybrid), 11 field projects, 51 fellowships (24 females), 104 knowledge products and 99 knowledge networks. 17890 participants benefited from regional support, including 36% women.

Global level

At the global level, IEs conducted 72 capacity building events (of which 43% were virtual / hybrid), reaching 7466 people. IEs developed 20 global level knowledge products and supported 25 global knowledge networks.

LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS

Across all levels, 100% of LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDS⁷⁸ were assisted in 2024. IEs are clearly focused on supporting LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS, and this support is delivered across all levels. For details see the table below, and [Annex 3](#).

	National	Sub-Regional	Regional	Total
# LDCs served	36	39	44	44/44
# LLDCs served	26	30	32	32 / 32
# SIDS served	34	24	39	39 / 39

7.2 Relevance

The vast majority of IEs' RPTC assistance was provided following direct country requests – defined in the CRS as “(1) a request for an IE to provide capacity development assistance to a MS that are communicated to the IE by the Government or RCO in the country concerned, or (2) requests by a MS for UN assistance that are referred to an IE by any UN entity or intergovernmental organization. Requests may be received in writing (letters or emails), during advisory visits, during conferences, through UN resolutions, through reports of Capacity Building events, or through UNCTs”. For example, ECA responded to a request from **Eritrea** focusing on energy and statistics. Following this request, ECA developed the capacity of 31 energy experts from relevant line ministries in the design and formulation of bankable renewable energy projects, and provided advisory services to the Ministry of Energy and Mines on advancing geothermal energy development. OCHA responded to a request from the RC in **Mauritania** to support the country's interagency

⁷⁶ This represents a notable increase compared to 11% of LDCs supported at the subregional level in 2023.

⁷⁷ This represents a notable increase compared to 41% of LLDCs supported at the subregional level in 2023.

⁷⁸ This represents an increase from the 90% of SIDS supported across all levels in 2023.

preparedness team by conducting a workshop aimed at strengthening emergency preparedness plans, focusing on multi-risk disaster response.

By responding to specific requests for assistance from MS, RPTC support directly addressed national priorities and needs as defined by MS themselves. For example, OHCHR responded to a request from the **Peruvian** Public Prosecutor's Office to strengthen accountability for human rights violations. Technical assistance was tailored to support forensic investigations into alleged human rights violations during the 2022 / 2023 protests in **Peru**, ensuring adherence to international human rights standards. UN-Habitat responded to a request from the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development of **China** by providing technical advisory support to the **Chinese** team drafting the "China National Report on implementing a New Urban Agenda".

As in previous years, RPTC activities have been well anchored in inter-governmental decisions and mandates that have preceded and guided their programming, with the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs as their overarching framework. For example, DESA received a request from the Ministry of Sport, Arts and Culture of **South Africa** and the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture of **Namibia** for technical assistance to enhance their capacity to formulate effective policies linking sport with sustainable development. In response, DESA designed and delivered two in-person training workshops where 117 policymakers and practitioners from government, civil society, and academia learnt how to develop, implement, and review inclusive policies that leverage sport for social inclusion, gender equality, and youth empowerment. Another example is that of the tailored support provided by ESCAP to **Sri Lanka** on inclusive and sustainable businesses, following a request for assistance from the MS. This led to the preparation (under the purview of the Sustainable Development Council of **Sri Lanka**, with technical expertise from ESCAP) of a strategy on this issue, and ultimately its formal launch in 2024. These interventions demonstrate how RPTC directly responds to MS-defined needs while ensuring alignment with UN mandates on sustainable development and social inclusion.

7.2 Outreach

IEs have responded to the ACABQ's request for enhanced outreach activities in various ways. All outreach activities are strongly linked to the overall outreach strategy for capacity development within each entity. Most IEs have promoted the RPTC during intergovernmental meetings, conferences or departmental workshops, via direct and informal communication with MS. This was complemented by specific outreach activities. Overall, IEs estimate that they carried out 601 outreach activities in 2024.

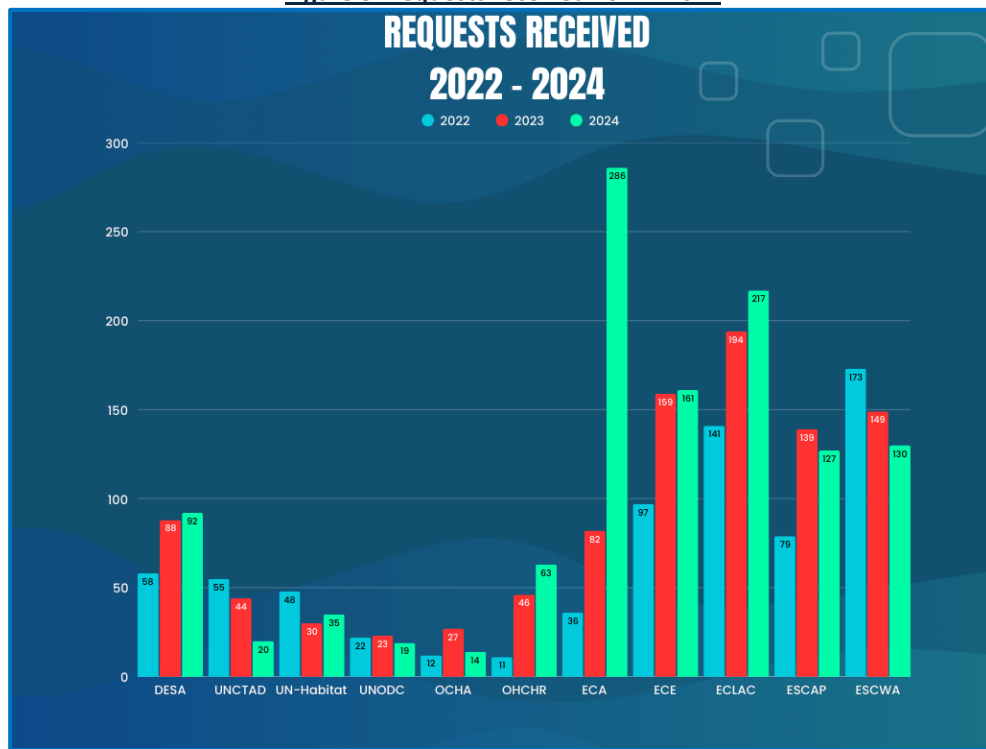
[DESA](#), [ECE](#), [ECLAC](#), [ESCAP](#) and [ESCWA](#) have a section on their websites dedicated to the promotion of RPTC. UN-Habitat anticipates the creation of a dedicated RPTC section on their website as part of an ongoing website revision process to ensure greater visibility and coherence in presenting RPTC activities and impact. In addition, [DESA](#), [ECE](#) and [UNCTAD](#) promote their technical cooperation activities with specific brochures. ESCAP also publishes "[Technical Cooperation Highlights](#)" on its website, while ESCWA sends out reports on technical cooperation activities by email to MS focal points to promote RPTC.

Specific outreach activities led to multiple new requests for assistance. For example, ESCWA conducted a particularly impactful outreach activity in 2024: a high-level visit led by their Executive Secretary to **Algeria** – a MS designated by the OIOS evaluation as underserved by the whole UN. This visit was coupled with a general technical cooperation workshop during which the main themes of ESCWA RPTC interventions were presented to over 60 senior officials from different ministries. This generated 10 new requests from **Algeria**, the responses to two of which started in 2024, and others will be implemented in 2025. Similarly, in 2024, a high-level ECA delegation to **Eritrea** led by the Executive Secretary met with the President, culminating into requests for support that were responded to using RPTC, including addressing data gaps in economic and social statistics and building capacities for energy transitions. These engagements led to the inclusion of ECA support in the areas of energy and statistics into **Eritrea's** UNSDCF. ESCAP carried out formal outreach activities to MS representatives. One such activity, through the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives resulted in ESCAP receiving a range of enquiries from different ministries and national agencies within the Government of **Thailand** (Ministry of Interior, the National Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology of **Thailand** and the Ministry of Digital Economy and Society of **Thailand**).

Overall, the outreach is continuing to bear fruit, resulting in most IEs receiving new requests for assistance. In 2024, across all levels of intervention, IEs received 1164 requests for assistance (19% more than in 2023) and responded to 1040 requests (14% more than in 2023). Figure 8 below illustrates the numbers of requests received, per IE, from 2022 until 2024. While UNCTAD has received fewer requests for assistance every year for the last three years, and some IEs,

such as UNODC, remain stable I the number of requests received, DESA, ECA, ECE, ECLAC, and OHCHR have received an increasing number of requests for the last three years.⁷⁹

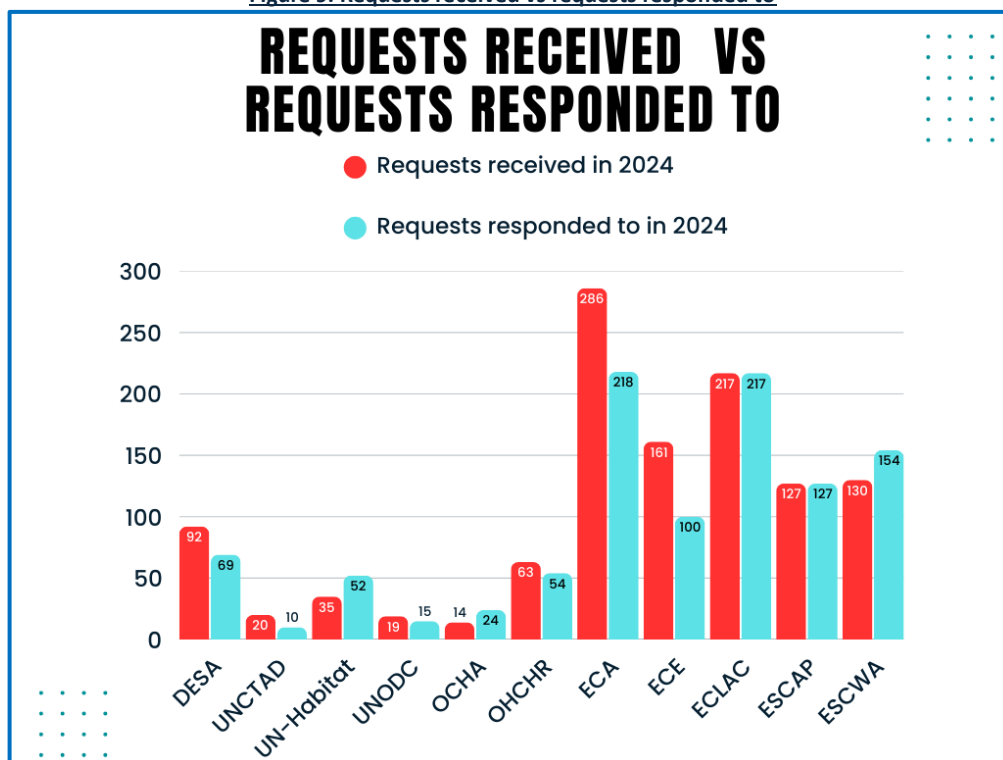
Figure 8. Requests received 2022 - 2024



While outreach has been effective in increasing demand for RPTC support overall, it has meant that several IEs do not have sufficient resources to effectively respond to the increasing number of requests received: six out of eleven IEs received more requests than they could respond to in 2024 (see figure 9 below for details). Conversely, IEs may respond, in any given year, to requests received in previous years, which is why some IEs responded to more requests in 2024 than they received that year.

⁷⁹ There were issues with ECA's data, which means that the number of requests received they originally reported may be higher than the actual figure. Uncertainty over ECA's figures may also represent a change in how ECA is reporting on requests received. This should be rediscussed within the RPTC Focal Points Network, to ensure consistency across IEs.

Figure 9. Requests received vs requests responded to



7.3 Sustainability

This section examines the extent to which RPTC activities have encouraged national ownership and continuity. It is guided by considerations of the RPTC's performance in transferring knowledge to and enhancing capacities of developing countries, particularly when carried forward under the DA, XB projects or other means.

A key feature of the RPTC is that support is demand-driven, responding to MS needs. To encourage national ownership in 2024, 10 out of 11 IEs reported that national agencies host / co-host / co-fund TC activities⁸⁰ and that activities relate to pre-existing strategies and programmes of work.⁸¹ For example, the **Pakistani** government requested support from UNODC to enhance HIV prevention and care services for vulnerable populations, including drug users and prisoners. The Ministry of Health, Ministry of Interior, and Provincial Health and Prison Departments were involved in the planning and implementation, ensuring alignment with national priorities. **Pakistan** committed to incorporating the knowledge products - including policy advice and training materials - into national policies such as the National HIV Strategy and provincial health protocols, ensuring sustainability and national ownership of the initiative. UN-Habitat's RPTC activities have also encouraged national ownership. Government institutions actively participated in organizing and financing initiatives, ensuring alignment with national priorities and fostering long-term sustainability in the contexts of the National Urban Fora in **Georgia, Kyrgyzstan and Serbia**.

Seven IEs disseminated outputs in local languages, where appropriate. For example, OCHA's RPTC-funded activities as part of its [Flagship Initiative](#) were hosted by local authorities and NGOs, and lessons learnt, reports and outcome documents were translated in Spanish (**Colombia**) and French (**Niger**), while sessions were held in local languages, including Tagalog in the **Philippines**.

RPTC activities often have a multiplier effect at the national, sub-regional, or regional level: they are replicated or developed by other partners under the guidance of MS and / or follow-up work is organized by MS. For example, following requests from **Honduras** and **Brazil** to receive training on the ECLAC Damage and Loss Assessment methodology, ECLAC designed the training as a "train the trainer" capacity building event, after which national officers

⁸⁰ All IEs apart from UNODC.

⁸¹ All IEs apart from OCHA.

could replicate the training and disseminate the new knowledge within their institutions. UNODC's RPTC activities catalyzed the development of **Uzbekistan's** National Anti-Corruption Strategy through consultations with the Anti-Corruption Agency and other national institutions. These efforts also stimulated follow-up actions, including capacity-building initiatives and regional collaboration, such as the Model Conference of the Conference of the States Parties at the Law Enforcement Academy, which engaged youth leaders in anti-corruption discussions. Additionally, **Uzbekistan** has requested continued support for the implementation of the strategy and the development of anti-corruption methodologies in collaboration with international partners. In **Panama**, OHCHR used RPTC funds to develop a comprehensive guide aimed at monitoring the human rights situation of migrants in detention centers or similar situations, which significantly strengthens the capabilities and role of relevant NHRIs. The guidelines developed for NHRIs were adopted by multiple institutions across different countries, enhancing the regional approach to human rights monitoring. Follow-up training sessions were requested by other MS, indicating the replication potential of the initiatives. A regional forum facilitated the formation of new agreements and cooperative mechanisms, prompting requests for further collaboration and support in establishing similar mechanisms in other regions.

Most RPTC activities enhance the capacities of developing countries via South-South cooperation and knowledge transfer. For example, ESCWA, under RPTC and other sources of funding, ensures exchange of expertise among countries of the region: when they received a request from the Central Bureau of Statistics of **Sudan** about building resilience of statistical work in times of conflict, they organized a workshop about ensuring continuity of statistical work in times of crises where staff from the national statistical offices of **Libya**, the **State of Palestine**, the **Syrian Arab Republic** and **Yemen** presented their approach to ensuring continuity of statistical work in their countries. In the context of the P166 regional courses, UNCTAD seeks country experts for each regional course to provide knowledge on the economic development, and related aspects, of the host country's experiences. Working with national institutions, P166 also promotes the knowledge and expertise of national stakeholders, who share their knowledge with UNCTAD and with participants from their respective regions.

In 2024, many RPTC activities were carried forward under the DA, XB or other means. All IEs apart from ECA, OCHA and UNCTAD listed projects that were approved in 2024 relating to RPTC interventions: 31 projects were identified (37 such projects were identified in 2023). ECE accounts for five DA and seven XB projects; ESCWA for three DA and seven XB projects; UN-Habitat for eight projects; and DESA for three DA projects. In addition, three DA projects were complemented and strengthened by ESCAP's RPTC activities in 2024.⁸²

7.4 Complementarity of action

Linkages between RPTC and DA projects

In 2024, UN-Habitat strengthened the linkages between RPTC and DA projects through key initiatives, such as the elaboration of a new Strategic Plan for 2026 – 2029 which enhances policy coherence and integrates RPTC and DA activities within a unified framework. Enhanced coordination mechanisms, including regular consultations, ensure that RPTC initiatives complement DA project objectives, optimizing resource use and impact. Additionally, improved monitoring and evaluation systems track progress, identify synergies, and enhance effectiveness. ECE also strengthened linkages between RPTC and other technical cooperation interventions with a new technical cooperation tracking tool which allows ECE to improve its monitoring of all technical cooperation interventions. ECE's [Technical Cooperation strategy](#) also authorizes RAs to use RPTC funds as seed money for the development of DA and XB projects.

In the Ninth Progress Report, DESA, ESCWA and ECA reported having formal systems in place to ensure linkages between RPTC and DA projects. DESA encourages the use of RPTC resources as seed funding to help pave the way for longer-term engagements under DA or XB-funded projects, and has revised its RPTC guidelines and reporting templates to promote greater synergies and complementarity with DA and XB projects. ESCWA uses an online portal to register all MS requests, advisory services and capacity development interventions, which enables staff to identify linkages and leverage DA resources to build on RPTC requests. One of ECA's criteria for the approval of RPTC proposals is a demonstration of the linkages and complementarity to the regular programme of work, including DA and XB projects. ECA's templates also

⁸² DA14 with ECE on Food-Water-Energy nexus support to post-COVID-19 recovery in Eastern Europe, Western Balkans, Central Asia, the Middle East and Africa; DA15 on Enhancing investments for equitable and accelerated climate action in the post-COVID-19 recovery; DA16 with IDD Building disaster and climate resilience to food and energy crisis in Asia and the Pacific.

include a dedicated section to demonstrate complementarity and synergies between RPTC interventions and ongoing or proposed DA and XB projects.

Other IEs use various methods to ensure linkages between RPTC and DA projects: some rely on personnel who are responsible for oversight of both RPTC and DA to identify synergies and areas of cooperation, while others rely on management teams and annual planning exercises to identify such linkages.

Linkages between IEs and other UN entities

In 2024, IEs continued collaborating with each other, and with other UN entities, in many spaces. For example, OCHA's RPTC activities were linked to other UN entities through collaborative partnerships and joint initiatives. Mechanisms ensuring these linkages included coordination through established networks such as the Economic Community of Central Africa States, INSARAG and UNDAC systems, where multiple UN agencies such as WHO, UNICEF and WFP work alongside OCHA. UNODC's interventions are connected to CCAs and derived from UNSDCF, thereby ensuring complementarity with other UNCT members. During the advisory mission to **Uzbekistan**, UNODC's RPTC activities to enhance anti-corruption efforts were closely linked with other UN entities, including UNDP. OHCHR's RPTC interventions in **Panama** were closely linked with UNHCR and IOM to ensure that the interventions in migrant protection and human rights monitoring were complementary to broader UN efforts in managing migration and protecting vulnerable populations. In 2024, UNCTAD's P166 programme curriculum was designed in collaboration with ECA and ESCAP.

Linkages with RCOs and UNCTs

IEs are, in principle, following the UN's MAF, which clarifies that the "RC is responsible for the coordination of operational activities for development of the UN in support of countries' efforts towards implementation of the 2030 Agenda" and sets out relationships between RCOs and IEs, especially when IEs are members of the UNCT.

Cooperation with UNCTs and RCOs is strong across the board, particularly during the planning and implementation of RPTC interventions. Seven IEs report always (four) or usually (three) involving RCs when they receive a request for support, eight IEs always (four) or usually (four) involve them when deciding to act on that request for support; nine IEs always (four) or usually (five) involve them when planning an intervention, all IEs always (four) or usually (seven) involve them when undertaking an intervention, and eight IEs always (three) or usually (five) involve them after they have undertaken an intervention.

Linkages with UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks

Most IEs are either signatories to, or have participated in, the elaboration of many UNSDCFs at the national level, recognizing the need to work in a collaborative manner and under a common framework. For example, when ECA supported **Eritrea** to build capacities in renewable energy, their support was directly linked to the UNSDCF Priority Area 2 on 'Inclusive, Diversified and Climate Resilient Economy'. In **Argentina**, ECLAC participates in all UNCT monthly meetings and ad-hoc extraordinary meetings, if required, such as those related to the preparation of the UNSDCF 2025-2029. Following a request from the RC, ECLAC has led and coordinated two inputs for the CCA in 2024, which will be used as references for the upcoming UNSDCF: one section on SDGs indicators and "traffic lights" at the subnational level, and another section on the digital transition in **Argentina**. In **Liberia**, OHCHR's RPTC interventions are complementary to Outcome 3 of the current UNSDCF: "By 2024, Liberia will consolidate, sustain peace and enhances social cohesion, has strengthened formal and informal institutions capable of providing access to inclusive, effective, equitable justice and security services, capable of promoting and protecting the human rights of all." In the context of the eCommerce programme in **Ghana**, UNCTAD's intervention is aligned with the [UNSCDF 2023-2025](#), which includes digital transformation and innovation as one of the accelerators. In **Côte d'Ivoire**, UNCTAD's intervention supports Expected Result 2 of the UNSCDF 2021-2025 – "By 2025, small and medium businesses/industries have more access to innovative systems of sustainable and inclusive economic diversification and to opportunities for trade and investment."

Lessons learnt for effective engagement with UNSDCF and UNRCs / UNCTs

In the Ninth Progress Report, IEs identified several lessons which are still relevant in 2024: regular, open communication; early engagement for more tailored and effective support; and adding value.⁸³

⁸³ DESA, as a non-resident entity with no presence on the ground, has limited resources to participate in multiple UNCTs. Decisions to join UNCTs are based on where its contribution adds the most value and impact, and where it provides complementarity to the UNCTs resources. ESCWA, also a non-resident entity, noted that their contributions become more optimal when the request for support is specific, well-articulated and makes optimal use of the added value (capacities, resources and knowledge) of the IE.

Regular, open communication. In 2024, ECE developed regular communication streams with RC Offices and UNCTs, including participation in UNCT meetings and presentation of ECE portfolio in 17 UN programme countries; briefings for RCOs and UNCTs on existing tools, instruments, ongoing projects and identification of new entry points for joint programming, including cross sectoral and subregional initiatives; and joint ECE-ESCAP presentations upon demand from the RCs. ECE reports that engaging with UNSDCF, regular communication with RCs and RCOs, and taking part in UNCT meetings are efficient mechanisms to make regional expertise available to the country level. ESCWA has also been attending more UNCT meetings, following up on discussions, and engaging with working groups and working on CCAs, when possible. This enhanced engagement ensures that ESCWA's normative work is linked to UNSDCF and that emerging needs falling outside the UNSCDF are addressed through RPTC support. UN-Habitat also emphasizes the importance of regular contact with RCOs to provide timely responses to government requests.

Early engagement for more tailored and effective support. In 2024, UN-Habitat learnt a lesson about inclusive planning processes: conducting in-depth consultations with MS, UN entities, and other stakeholders during the development of strategic plans is essential. This inclusive approach enriched the planning process and fostered a sense of shared ownership and commitment. UNODC also reported that early engagement with all relevant stakeholders, including local communities, is necessary to ensure that interventions are well-received and have a lasting impact. OHCHR underscores how important early engagement is in the development of CCAs and UNSDCF, as all too often the IE is still presented with near final documents at the Peer Support Group quality review stage, making addressing any issue with HRBA mainstreaming very difficult. While UNCTs and RCOs have been reaching out to OHCHR for support, including capacity building and briefings for UNCT Heads of Agencies and working level staff, OHCHR reports that more efforts need to be made. OHCHR reports that addressing and integrating human rights issues is often left to OHCHR although human rights are one of the UN pillars and should be advanced by all UN entities.

In 2024, ECE also reports that Issue-Based Coalitions and inter-agency Peer Support Groups are efficient mechanisms to support RCOs and UNCTs in specific areas of expertise (e.g. ECE co-chairing IBC on environment and climate change). Finally, UN-Habitat lists national consultants as key to the success of the SDG Localization work of the UNCT in **Costa Rica**, and enhanced multilevel collaboration to ensure effective SDG implementation. Strengthening partnerships with local and regional governments resulted in more impactful and context-specific interventions.

8. Learning lessons

8.1 Monitoring and Evaluation within RPTC

All IEs, apart from ECA and UNCTAD, report new measures to institutionalize or strengthen monitoring and evaluation within the RPTC in 2024. For example, ECLAC has been enhancing the centralized System for Technical Assistance Requests (a monitoring tool), which aims to strengthen planning, coordination, and monitoring of all technical cooperation provided. UN-Habitat adopted a new [Evaluation Policy](#) in 2024 which provides a comprehensive framework for conducting evaluations, emphasizing accountability, learning, and transparency. It outlines clear roles, responsibilities, and processes to ensure systematic assessment of programs and projects. UN-Habitat also conducted a mid-term evaluation of their Strategic Plan, which informed adjustments to enhance programme consistency and impact. Finally, UN-Habitat's Evaluation Unit has improved systems for coordinating evaluation activities, including developing policies and guidelines, managing evaluations, and maintaining a tracking system for follow-up on strategic and mandatory evaluations. ESCWA also issued a new organization-wide [Evaluation Policy and Guidelines](#) in 2024, institutionalizing evaluation and ensuring that evaluations conform to internationally accepted principles. The policy considers that "Subprogramme evaluations cover the work of a cluster, section, division or center. These can be a whole-of-subprogramme evaluation, or an evaluation focused on one or more specific functions, activities, processes and/or projects in the subprogramme", thus considering that RPTC work of a subprogramme would be evaluated under subprogramme evaluations, which is indeed the practice at ESCWA. This update of the policy institutionalizes and strengthens monitoring and evaluation at ESCWA at large, including RPTC. Moreover, the RPTC team continues to collect and analyze RPTC workshop evaluations, as well as undertake advisory services evaluations. DESA refined indicators for RPTC activities, ensuring that outcomes are systematically captured and reported. These indicators are now embedded in their RPTC reporting template for each funded activity. Additionally, DESA has enhanced internal data tracking systems to improve coherence between activity-level reporting and strategic monitoring. Finally, DESA has collaborated with other implementing entities to refine the CRS, ensuring greater consistency and coherence in RPTC reporting across different entities. These actions align with the OIOS recommendation to improve RPTC evaluations and performance monitoring, contributing to a more structured and evidence-based approach to assessing the impact of technical cooperation activities.

8.2 Mainstreaming good practices and lessons learnt within RPTC

Seven IEs⁸⁴ reported new examples of how lessons learned and good practises from RPTC implementation have been mainstreamed and embedded in their RPTC activities in 2024. For example, in **The Philippines**, OCHA produced an Implementation Guide based on the work supported by RPTC activities: lessons from earthquake responses in **Türkiye** in 2023, such as mobilizing infrastructural damage assessment and environmental experts in the first deployed team were implemented in the **Vanuatu** earthquake response. ECE and ESCWA both report on RPTC to intergovernmental committees and their Executive Committees with an [annual report on Technical Cooperation](#). Regular meetings of the ECE Working Group on Technical Cooperation provide a platform to exchange new ideas, discuss operational issues, share lessons learned and good practices among RAs. Good practices are then reflected in the planning of the next RPTC cycle. ECE also developed tools to better monitor TC requests and the ensuring interventions. DESA's RPTC activities continuously integrate insights from prior interventions, ensuring sustained national engagement, capacity-building, and improved policy implementation, as illustrated by the training workshop on the ePing platform in **Zambia**. The workshop was developed based on previous engagements and lessons learned from implementing trade-related technical assistance in other regions. Notably, the workshop led to an increase in ePing user registrations from 133 to 174 in **Zambia**, demonstrating the direct impact of capacity development efforts.

8.3 Implementation of recent recommendations

The Ninth Progress Report included eight recommendations, four of which focused solely on IEs:

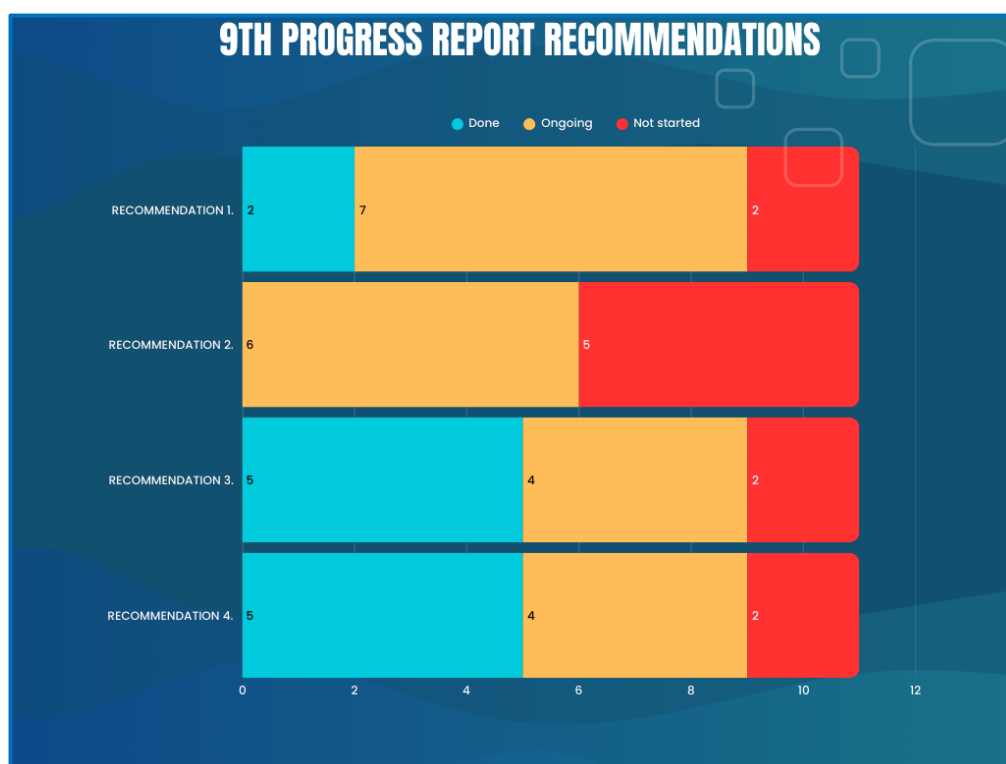
1. IEs should fully implement the OIOS recommendation to “assess or evaluate the contributions of RPTC via a combination of RPTC specific performance indicators, broader evaluations with attention to RPTC work and/or specific assessments or evaluations of a sample of RPTC support interventions.”
2. IEs should collectively agree on evaluating a sample of RPTC interventions of a period of 3-5 years, which would allow time to fully evaluate the contribution of interventions to intermediate outcomes.
3. IEs should focus on systematically providing sex disaggregated data for all events, improving systems used for virtual events to this end, and ensuring that partners do the same.
4. IEs leadership should consider the results of the OIOS evaluation.

As illustrated in Figure 10 below, most IEs have either started (seven IEs) or completed (two IEs)⁸⁵ the implementation of the first recommendation. Five IEs have not yet started to implement the second recommendation, while six IEs reported that its implementation is ongoing. As for the third and fourth recommendations, nine IEs reported having either completed or started their implementation, and two reported not having started. However, each IE was requested to provide a management response to the OIOS evaluation, and all have done so.

⁸⁴ ECA, ECLAC, OHCHR and UNCTAD did not report any new examples of how lessons learned and good practices from RPTC implementation were mainstreamed in their RPTC activities in 2024.

⁸⁵ UNODC reported that they completed the implementation of the first recommendation, as they have strengthened their Results-Based Management of RPTC by devising indicators for each intervention. They also suggested to rely on broader assessment and evaluation exercises which cover RPTC supported interventions.

Figure 10. Implementing recommendations from the Ninth Progress Report



In 2024, eight IEs were able to systematically provide sex disaggregated data, compared to seven in 2023. ECA and ESCAP have improved their systems and are now able to provide this systematically. Three IEs reported a significant increase in the proportion of women trained: ESCAP (10%), UNCTAD (14%) and UNODC (35%).

Responding to longstanding recommendations on coordination, IEs have developed the RPTC Focal Points Network, which brings together representatives of all 11 IEs under the following objectives:

- To offer a platform to discuss and address management challenges, promote innovation, and propose solutions based on collective insights.
- To facilitate the exchange of experiences, challenges, lessons learned, and good practices in the implementation of RPTC activities.
- To contribute to building a more coherent approach to RPTC across IEs.
- To promote collaboration among IEs to improve RPTC outcomes, notably in response to issues raised by OIOS and ACABQ.
- To support the refining of, and use of, the CRS and the preparation of the RPTC Progress Reports, ensuring all IEs report consistently.

The Focal Points Network started working in December 2024 and quickly finalized its Terms of Reference. This has been the main modality that the IEs have used to respond to various recommendations about internal coordination, and this Network is expected to continue its work throughout 2025 and beyond.

8.4 Common Reporting Standards: outstanding challenges

Only four IEs (ECA, ECE, ECLAC and UN-Habitat) report outstanding challenges with the CRS. Issues which may need to be worked through collectively include the following:

- What constitutes a request for support and what does not, and whether a single request covering multiple thematic areas counts as one request or multiple requests.
- Definition of 'intermediate outcomes', as the current definition seems to make it difficult for some IEs to identify contributions to outcomes.

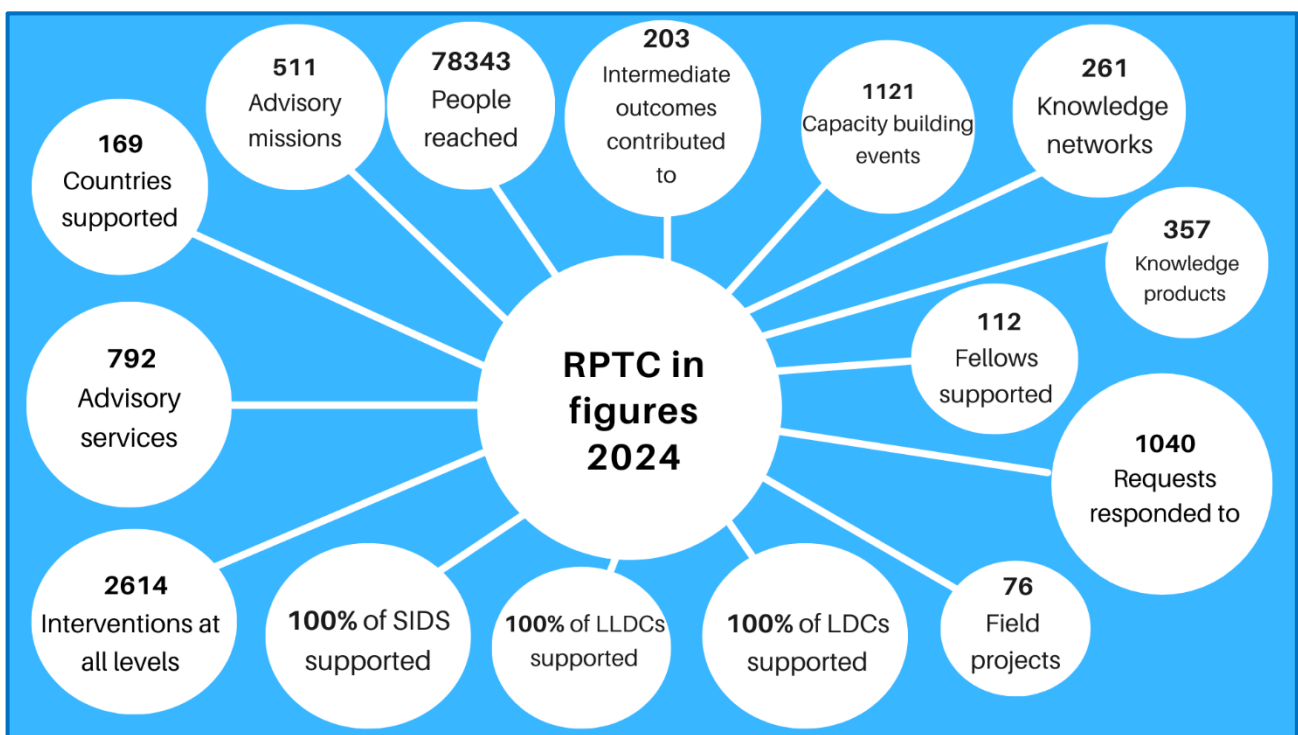
More generally, IEs also propose the following in terms of reporting:

- Clearer guidance for tailored reporting, and more consistent data reporting, particularly concerning gender and disability inclusion.
- A more robust mechanism to track long-term impacts, such as policy changes and institutional strengthening.
- Better integration of human rights and gender principles within core development outcomes to enhance the relevant and effectiveness of the CRS.
- Shorter and more streamlined reporting templates.

9. Conclusion

The overall objective of the RPTC is to support and advance processes aimed at developing the capacity of governments, individuals and institutions to formulate and implement policies for sustainable development. Key results in relation to this objective are outlined in Figure 11 below:

Figure 11. RPTC in figures 2024



In recent years, IEs have been encouraged to strengthen a number of areas within the RPTC: coordination, sharing of good practise, outreach, tracking systems, and evaluation of contributions to outcomes. MS seem particularly keen to have a clear picture of the amount of RPTC support which has been provided to each target country.

There is plenty of evidence of IEs making progress in all these areas. Responding to recommendations on coordination, as noted above, IEs have developed the RPTC Focal Points Network, which started working in December 2024. This has been the main modality that the IEs have used to respond to various recommendations about internal coordination, and this Network is expected to continue its work throughout 2025 and beyond.

IEs continue to focus on improving outreach for the RPTC, while recognising that the RPTC is a budget section⁸⁶ of each IE rather than a programme of work in and of itself. Most IEs have promoted the RPTC during intergovernmental meetings, conferences or departmental workshops, via direct and informal communication with MS. This was complemented by specific outreach activities. Overall, IEs estimate that they carried out 601 outreach activities in 2024, a decrease from the 925 outreach activities reported in the Ninth Report. However, it remains clear that many IEs find it extremely difficult to provide a reliable figure, as some PMTs have not yet been tweaked to enable meaningful tracking of RPTC outreach, and the very notion of RPTC outreach is questioned, as most IEs talk about their technical cooperation portfolio as a whole, rather than dividing it, somewhat artificially, by funding source.

Perhaps more importantly, despite the fewer number of outreach activities reported in 2024, this outreach seems to lead to increased awareness of the possibility of receiving technical support from IEs, with MS submitting 1164 requests for assistance (981 in 2023). However, IEs report difficulties in responding to the increasing number of requests. Over half of the IEs received more requests than they could respond to in 2024, and many point out that the available funding does not match this increasing demand. As we approach 2030, the deadline of the SDGs, IEs expect the number of requests for support to continue to rise. If they are to be able to respond to this increasing demand, the UN will need to make the necessary finance available.

IEs seem to have made progress in tracking RPTC contribution to intermediate outcomes. IEs report that RPTC interventions contributed to 203 intermediate outcomes across 95 separate countries. There is evidence of several IEs strengthening their tracking systems to better report on contributions to outcomes, and this seems to be bearing fruit. There are contributions to outcomes in 44 new countries in 2024.

Across 2023 and 2024, RPTC interventions have contributed to 369 intermediate outcomes across 119 separate countries. Many countries have only seen one outcome supported, while some countries have over 10. IEs may want to analyze and explore these differences through the RPTC Focal Points Network.

Several **strengths** of the RPTC have been identified in recent years, both in previous Progress Reports and in the OIOS evaluation. These strengths are still evident. These include:

- **RPTC's flexibility** – allowing IEs to use mandated and normative work to respond to emerging MS requests as they are received, in a quick and agile way.
- **RPTC's clear links with DA/XB** - RPTC interventions often 'seeding' larger projects from these sources.
- **RPTC's wide geographic reach** – it continues to support many countries, and notably 100% of LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS.
- **RPTC remains well anchored in inter-governmental decisions and mandates** - IEs can link every intervention to specific SDGs and highlight numerous examples of RPTC activities which are directly linked to many other Conventions and International Legal Instruments.
- The **high-quality technical support and expertise** provided by IEs enhanced capacity of beneficiaries, leading to new skills, innovative approaches, tools, models, and peer learning between countries.
- **RPTC is well managed overall** – IEs employ tailored decision-making models for administering RPTC within their organizations.
- **IEs are responding to challenges** – a RPTC Focal Points Network has been established, PMTs have been tweaked to enable stronger reporting on contribution to outcomes, and IEs appear to be focusing more on evaluation of their technical cooperation work.

However, we can also point to some ongoing weaknesses which should be addressed, notably:

- **Lack of common understanding of RPTC.** IEs follow the Terms of Reference of the RPTC, and value its decentralized and flexible nature which allows them to provide support to MS based on requests coming from the MS themselves, and thus based on MS priorities. IEs clearly understand (and utilize) the RPTC as a budget section, providing supplementary funding to support technical cooperation of their main programmes.

⁸⁶ The 2020 RPTC budget guidance explicitly states that, in line with GA resolution 72/266, RPTC is to be presented using the same methodology as other sections of the regular budget, not as a standalone programme). Budget elements such as objectives, SDG alignment, performance information, and deliverables are integrated into the broader departmental budget submissions by IEs.

However, when the RPTC is reviewed by the ACABQ, there is a sense that it is treated more like a programme than a budget section. A common understanding between IEs and ACABQ would be beneficial for all concerned.

- **Lack of common approach around outreach, contribution to outcomes and geographic scope.** Some IEs have questioned the shared definition of outreach, and the methodology used to classify interventions as national, sub-regional or regional, prioritising an approach which allows them to ensure comparability with their internal figures across time, rather than ensuring comparability with the figures of other IEs. We also see a difference in willingness to attribute contribution to outcomes to RPTC interventions across IEs. This continues to pose challenges.
- **Lack of visibility of data over time.** The Progress Reports is annual and presents the data annually. Despite efforts to make comparisons with previous years, a data visualization across time, across IEs and across MS would make it much simpler to understand the evolution of the RPTC over time, to identify potential gaps in countries served.
- **Some countries are better positioned to receive support through RPTC than others.** As the OIOS evaluation report mentioned, pressure on IEs to deliver in short timeframes meant that some MS may be better positioned to work with them than others. Some countries received high volumes of RPTC support across all IEs, while others received comparatively little support. For example, in 2024, over 30 countries made only one request for support, while Uzbekistan made 25.⁸⁷ 14 RPTC ‘target’ countries, including a few LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS, did not make any requests for support. This is perhaps not specific to the RPTC, but reflects how engaged any particular MS is with the UN at a certain point in time.
- **Financial complications.** The liquidity crisis at the UN has continued to provide a challenging backdrop to the RPTC, with IEs continuing to be asked to implement their work programme within a reduced spending ceiling, creating clear financial challenges – including the expectation to respond to an increasing number of demands from MS with limited resources. This leads to a reticence to undertaking extra RPTC outreach – IEs are understandably cautious of creating extra demand if they are unlikely to respond with concrete support.

Moving forward, the RPTC could be further strengthened in four key areas:

1. Ensuring shared understandings across the UN

- IEs should work through some outstanding issues, including geographical scope, outreach and contribution to outcomes, aiming to ensure that, as best as possible, IEs are reporting in a coherent way, based on a shared understanding and implementation of the CRS. These issues should be discussed within the RPTC Focal Points Network.
- IE should build a shared understanding of the CRS (including any revisions that may be needed) within their organizations, aiming to ensure that all colleagues involved in reporting understand the terminology and methodology.
- IEs and ACABQ should discuss differences of understanding of the RPTC, aiming to work through these differences and come to a common understanding and approach, specifically around the nature of the RPTC.

2. Focus more on analysing data over time, and act on this analysis

- IEs should explore the interoperability of their tracking systems, so that RPTC data can be effectively compiled, presented and analysed.
- IEs should ensure that the data from recent years is properly analysed, focusing on finding underserved countries and reaching out to those MS directly. It is not more outreach which is needed, it is better targeted outreach.

3. Develop clear principles and guidelines to help guide decisions in times of financial uncertainty

- The UN should clarify where it expects prioritization to be given. For example, if more RPTC funds are expected to be directed to technical cooperation in certain priority areas (geographical or thematic) then this should be clear to all involved. If the priority is to provide support to MS which have previously been underserved, then this should be clearly stated.

⁸⁷ These figures refer to country requests submitted rather than to interventions received – however, those countries submitting large numbers of requests received much more support than submitting small numbers of requests.

4. Consider producing the RPTC Progress Report every three years

- The ACABQ could consider producing the RPTC progress report on a triennial basis as opposed to conducting it annually. This would permit a more comprehensive assessment of its contributions to intermediate outcomes. Annual reporting could be maintained in a more streamlined format, focused primarily on quantitative data and essential programmatic information based on the CRS.

In the coming years, it is anticipated that the RPTC will continue to support key development priorities, specifically the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, other internationally agreed development goals, and the outcomes of UN conferences and summits. IEs, through the RPTC and other programmes, will continue to provide upstream policy advice, emphasizing the integration of economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, and improving the complementarity of global, regional, sub-regional and national efforts.

IEs will also continue to focus on sharing lessons learned and best practise with each other through the RPTC Focal Points Network throughout 2025. Finally, IEs will carefully consider the anticipated report of the Secretary General which will focus on strengthening the effectiveness of the RPTC.

Annex 1. Summary of RPTC activities undertaken in 2024

	National	Sub-regional	Regional	Global	Total
INTERVENTIONS					
Advisory Services	481	82	212	17	792
Advisory Missions	354	58	99	0	511
Capacity Building Events	761	98	190	72	1121
<i>Of which hybrid / virtual</i>	371	26	60	31	488
Fellowships	61	0	51	0	112
<i>Of whom female</i>	36	0	24	0	60
Field projects	43	22	11	0	76
Grants provided from RPTC	4	0	3	0	7
Knowledge Products developed	198	35	104	20	357
Knowledge Networks created / supported	85	52	99	25	261
People reached (Capacity Building events and Fellowships)	49609	3378	17890	7466	78343
Women reached (Capacity Building events and Fellowships)	27899	1262	6489	2280	37930

Annex 2. Summary of Interventions and Outcomes at the national level by IE

2.1 DESA

Modality/Type of Intervention	2024
Advisory services	24
Advisory Missions	20
Capacity Building events (workshops, seminars, courses)	88 (14 virtual)
Fellowships	0
Field projects	0
Grants	0
Knowledge Products	14
Knowledge Networks	0

Outcomes	2024
Countries making requests which led to national level interventions	33
New policies, laws, plans or strategies introduced; conventions signed; reporting requirements for international agreements met following RPTC support	27 (19 countries)

2.2 UNCTAD

Modality/Type of Intervention	2024
Advisory services	8
Advisory Missions	6
Capacity Building events (workshops, seminars, courses)	7 (0 virtual)
Fellowships	0
Field projects	2
Grants	0
Knowledge Products	5
Knowledge Networks	3

Outcomes	2024
Countries making requests which led to national level interventions	4
New policies, laws, plans or strategies introduced; conventions signed; reporting requirements for international agreements met following RPTC support	6 (3 countries)

2.3 UN-Habitat

Modality/Type of Intervention	2024
Advisory services	36
Advisory Missions	18
Capacity Building events (workshops, seminars, courses)	27 (11 virtual)
Fellowships	4
Field projects	9
Grants	0
Knowledge Products	5
Knowledge Networks	8

Outcomes	2024
Countries making requests which led to national level interventions	14
New policies, laws, plans or strategies introduced; conventions signed; reporting requirements for international agreements met following RPTC support	1 (1 country)

2.4 UNODC

Modality/Type of Intervention	2024
Advisory services	8
Advisory Missions	8
Capacity Building events (workshops, seminars, courses)	366 (265 virtual)
Fellowships	0
Field projects	1
Grants	0
Knowledge Products	6
Knowledge Networks	3

Outcomes	2024
Countries making requests which led to national level interventions	11
New policies, laws, plans or strategies introduced; conventions signed; reporting requirements for international agreements met following RPTC support	2 (2 countries)

2.5 OCHA

Modality/Type of Intervention	2024
Advisory services	19
Advisory Missions	41
Capacity Building events (workshops, seminars, courses)	22 (6 virtual)
Fellowships	0
Field projects	0
Grants	0
Knowledge Products	0
Knowledge Networks	0

Outcomes	2024
Countries making requests which led to national level interventions	20
New policies, laws, plans or strategies introduced; conventions signed; reporting requirements for international agreements met following RPTC support	1 (1 country)

2.6 OHCHR

Modality/Type of Intervention	2024
Advisory services	29
Advisory Missions	27
Capacity Building events (workshops, seminars, courses)	34 (13 virtual)
Fellowships	50 (31 female)
Field projects	0
Grants	0
Knowledge Products	42
Knowledge Networks	3

Outcomes	2024
Countries making requests which led to national level interventions	22
New policies, laws, plans or strategies introduced; conventions signed; reporting requirements for international agreements met following RPTC support	8 (6 countries)

2.7 ECA

Modality/Type of Intervention	2024
Advisory services	37
Advisory Missions	24
Capacity Building events (workshops, seminars, courses)	36 (1 virtual)
Fellowships	0
Field projects	11
Grants	0
Knowledge Products	29
Knowledge Networks	13

Outcomes	2024
Countries making requests which led to national level interventions	23
New policies, laws, plans or strategies introduced; conventions signed; reporting requirements for international agreements met following RPTC support	37 (21 countries)

2.8 ECE

Modality/Type of Intervention	2024
Advisory services	33
Advisory Missions	33
Capacity Building events (workshops, seminars, courses)	17 (3 virtual)
Fellowships	0
Field projects	20
Grants	0
Knowledge Products	8
Knowledge Networks	0

Outcomes	2024
Countries making requests which led to national level interventions	13
New policies, laws, plans or strategies introduced; conventions signed; reporting requirements for international agreements met following RPTC support	7 (5 countries)

2.9 ECLAC

Modality/Type of Intervention	2024
Advisory services	133
Advisory Missions	73
Capacity Building events (workshops, seminars, courses)	45 (22 virtual)
Fellowships	5 (3 female)
Field projects	0
Grants	0
Knowledge Products	56
Knowledge Networks	5

Outcomes	2024
Countries making requests which led to national level interventions	28
New policies, laws, plans or strategies introduced; conventions signed; reporting requirements for international agreements met following RPTC support	17 (14 countries)

2.10 ESCAP

Modality/Type of Intervention	2024
Advisory services	45
Advisory Missions	44
Capacity Building events (workshops, seminars, courses)	49 (10 virtual)
Fellowships	2 (2 female)
Field projects	0
Grants	4 (value of \$93500)
Knowledge Products	23
Knowledge Networks	49

Outcomes	2024
Countries making requests which led to national level interventions	39 ⁸⁸
New policies, laws, plans or strategies introduced; conventions signed; reporting requirements for international agreements met following RPTC support	47 (26 countries)

⁸⁸ In some cases, ESCAP designs interventions for a group of countries that have submitted requests for support in the same areas. In 2024, 27 of the 119 country requests ESCAP responded to (from 12 countries) were delivered through activities at the subregional or regional levels. These figures follow the methodology established by ESCAP and allows them to ensure data comparability and consistency across years.

2.11 ESCWA

Modality/Type of Intervention	2024
Advisory services	109
Advisory Missions	60
Capacity Building events (workshops, seminars, courses)	70 (26 virtual)
Fellowships	0
Field projects	0
Grants	0
Knowledge Products	10
Knowledge Networks	1

Outcomes	2024
Countries making requests which led to national level interventions	21
New policies, laws, plans or strategies introduced; conventions signed; reporting requirements for international agreements met following RPTC support	52 (20 countries)

Annex 3. Breakdown of RPTC interventions in LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS, by IE⁸⁹

IE	Requests responded to	Total # of countries	LDC requests responded to	Total # of LDCs	LLDC requests responded to	Total # of LLDCs	SIDS requests responded to	Total # of SIDS
DESA	43	33	12	8	11	9	9	7
UNCTAD	4	4	1	1	0	0	0	0
UN-Habitat	35	14	0	0	11	7	0	0
UNODC	12	11	4	4	3	2	1	1
OCHA	21	20	9	8	4	4	5	5
OHCHR ⁹⁰	29	50	6	11	10	12	1	1
ECA	111	23	90	16	34	7	13	3
ECE	72	13	0	0	51	8	0	0
ECLAC	133	28	3	1	10	2	29	16
ESCAP ⁹¹	119	39	21	5	38	10	27	14
ESCWA	137	21	35	5	0	0	0	0

For a detailed breakdown by requests responded to with RPTC interventions in each LDC, LLDC and SIDS by each IE, see [here](#).

⁸⁹ These figures differ from those reported in Section 5, which also included sub-regional and regional requests. This table only includes national level data.

⁹⁰ The number of requests responded to is lower than the total number of countries supported, as OHCHR does not treat fellowships as emanating from requests for support.

⁹¹ 27 of the 119 country requests ESCAP responded to (from 12 countries) were delivered through activities at the subregional or regional levels. These figures follow the methodology established by ESCAP and allows them to ensure data comparability and consistency across years.

Annex 4. Number of national level requests which led to RPTC interventions, per country

According to data provided by IEs, a total of 716 requests, from 139 countries, led to RPTC interventions at the national level. See the full breakdown [here](#).

Annex 5. List of selected references

- A/78/6 Section 23: Proposed programme budget for 2024 (2023)
 - A/79/6 Section 23: Proposed programme budget for 2025 (2024)
 - A/79/7: Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, Section 2023 - First report on the proposed programme budget for 2025 (2024)
 - A/RES/79/1 [Pact for the Future](#). UN. (2024)
 - Common Reporting Standards for the UN's RPTC. Williams. (2023)
 - [Evaluation of the Regular Programme for Technical Cooperation](#). OIOS. (2024)
 - Eighth RPTC Progress Report. Williams and Van Doosselaere. (2023)
 - Ninth RPTC Progress Report. Williams and Van Doosselaere. (2024)
 - [SDG 2024 Report](#). UN.
 - [UN Human Development Report 2024](#)
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