

RESULTS REPORT
OF THE REGIONAL
COLLABORATIVE
PLATFORM
FOR EUROPE AND
CENTRAL ASIA
2023



UNITED NATIONS
REGIONAL
COLLABORATIVE
PLATFORM



EUROPE AND
CENTRAL ASIA

Table of Contents

I. Introduction and regional development context

II. Highlights of system-wide results at the regional level

A. Policy support

Support in transition areas

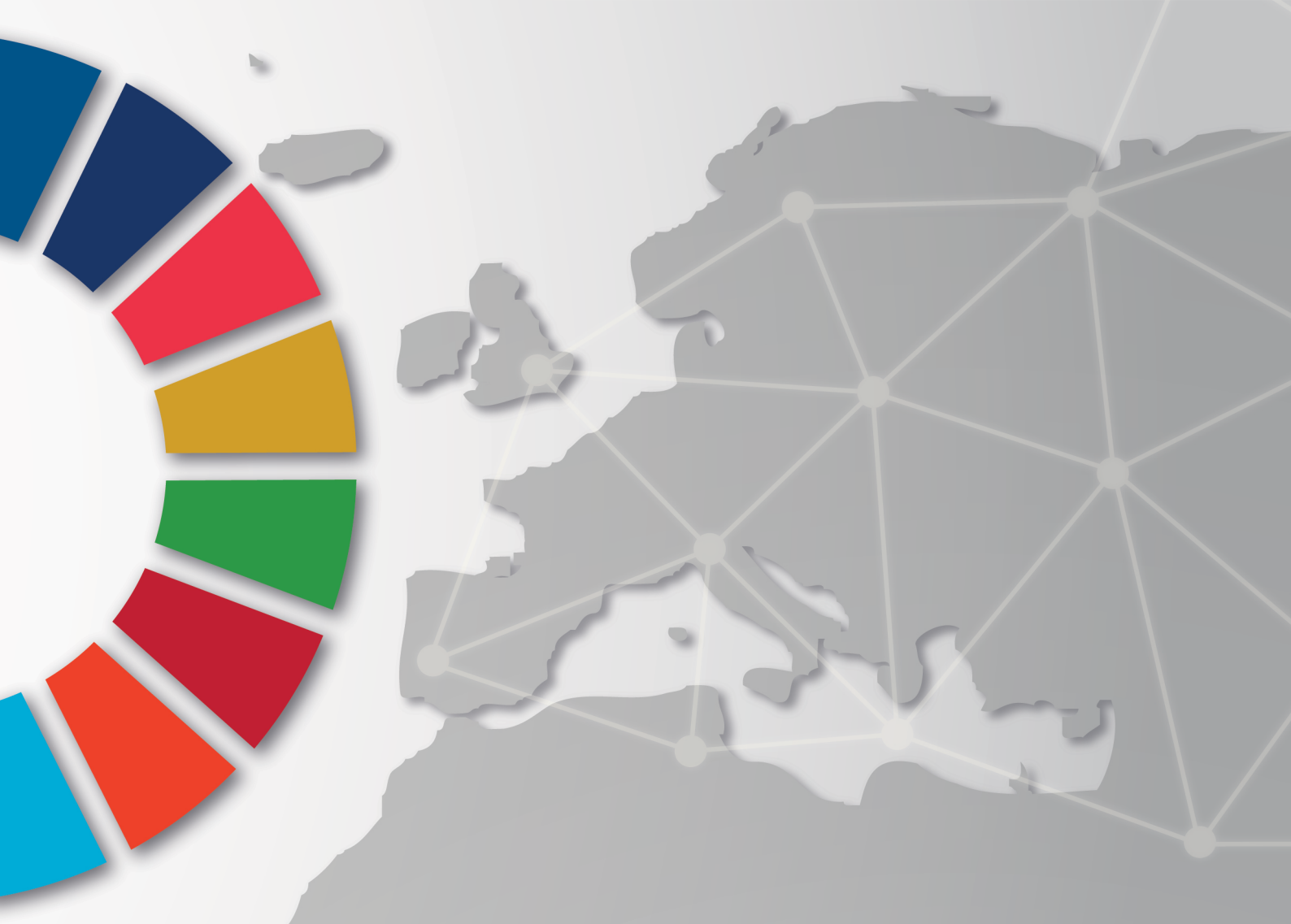
1. Environment and Climate Change
2. Sustainable Food Systems
3. Digital Transformation
4. Social Protection

Support in other crucial policy areas

5. Gender Equality
6. Health and Well-being
7. Large Movements of People, Displacement and Resilience
8. Adolescents and Youth
9. Data and Statistics
10. Regional efficiencies
11. Peer Support Group

B. Engagement in regional and global processes

III. Conclusion



I. Introduction and regional development context

1. In 2023, the cooperation between the regional UN development system, organized in the Regional Collaborative Platform (RCP) for Europe and Central Asia, focused on jointly supporting the acceleration of progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); responding to multiple crises, conflicts and human rights challenges; and following up on global and regional policy priorities.
2. Regional tools and expertise were directed to advancing sustainable transitions in key policy areas. Strategic opportunities were sought to provide policy, technical and operational support at regional, subregional and country levels. In doing so, the RCP aimed at leveraging the momentum around the SDG Summit in September 2023, which provided high-level political guidance and recommitment by Member States to SDG acceleration and transformative action.
3. While focusing on opportunities to drive structural transformations, the joint efforts of UN development system were carried out in a challenging regional context, which continues to affect regional cooperation and generates economic frictions. In particular, the ongoing war against Ukraine has created large humanitarian and reconstruction needs, with no end of the war in sight and prospects that remain uncertain and dependent on the provision of international financing. Compounded by the devastating earthquakes in Türkiye, challenges to political, social and human rights, and a refugee crisis in Armenia, 2023 was a challenging year for the region, which continued to face the cost-of-living, financing, food and energy crisis, coupled with that of human displacement.

4. The economic context in the region was better than previously expected in 2023, with estimated GDP growth of 0.5% in the European Union (EU), 2.2% in South-Eastern Europe and 3.3% in the Commonwealth of Independent States and Georgia.¹ However, for several economies in Central Asia and the Caucasus, a slowdown is expected to set in. The countries in South-Eastern Europe remain economically and financially vulnerable and dependent on investment and trade links with the EU. In Albania and Montenegro, the level of general government debt decreased, but continued to exceed 60% of GDP, the highest level among programme countries in the region.²

5. While much emphasis has been placed on climate mitigation efforts, climate change is already a reality in the region that has been reducing agricultural yields, affecting infrastructure and impacting human health. From water scarcity in Central Asia to devastating floods in the Western Balkans, increased attention is required to prevent and minimize damages.

6. Overall, progress towards the SDGs continued to be insufficient. According to the 2024 UNECE SDG Progress Report³, the region as a whole will achieve only 20 targets (17 per cent of measurable targets) by 2030. This is down from 21 targets assessed as on track last year. For 80 targets (up from 79 last year), progress should accelerate, and for 17 targets (up from 15 last year), the current trend must be reversed. In recent years, the UNECE region has been shaken by the COVID-19 pandemic, the war against Ukraine, energy crisis and surging inflation. The 2024 assessment reveals additional negative impacts of these crises on the prospective achievement of the SDGs.

7. According to an analysis carried out for the DCO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia⁴, overall SDG progress in the programme countries and territories of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia is also slow, and considerable inter-country variation was observed within this group for all goals. Furthermore, limited data availability constrains the formulation of policies to accelerate progress towards the goals.

8. While the Europe and Central Asia region as a whole includes the member states of the European Union and other high-income Western and Northern European countries, support to the country level was targeted to the 17 countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia with UN Resident Coordinators (RCs) present,⁵ as well as to Kosovo (in the context of UN Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999)).

¹ United Nations, World Economic Situation and Prospects 2024, New York, 2024.

² International Monetary Fund (IMF), Global Debt Database: Albania 63% of general government debt to GDP in 2023 (after 66% in 2022), and Montenegro 66% (after 72% in 2022).

³ UNECE, Sustainable Development in the UNECE Region: [Facing Headwind in 2024](#), Geneva, 2024. See also snapshot of SDG progress in the UNECE region in the annex, figure 1. The representation of the status of SDGs and targets throughout the text is drawn from this source.

⁴ United Nations University, Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology, SDG Progress Report 2023, prepared for: DCO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, Maastricht 2023

⁵ Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, North Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Tajikistan, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.



II. Highlights of system-wide results at the regional level

9. In the reporting period, the RCP mainly addressed the acceleration opportunities through its Issue-based Coalitions (IBC) and regional interagency groups in support of both member States and UN entities at country-level.⁶ These have evolved since 2016 and have been empowered and repositioned in line with UN development system (UNDS) reform and country priorities.⁷ They are covering cross-cutting issues in which joint action and the pooling of expertise and knowledge is most effective due to the complementarity of mandates and profiles of a critical mass of regional UN development system entities. Currently, the IBCs and groups are aligned to four of the key transition areas⁸: environment and climate change; sustainable food systems; digital transformation; and social protection.

10. Furthermore, targeted and demand-driven support was provided by the RCP on other critical enablers and accelerators of sustainable development: gender equality; large movements of people, displacement and resilience; youth and adolescents; health and well-being; and data and statistics. In addition, support and quality assurance to Common Country Analyses (CCAs) and UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCFs) has been provided by the Peer Support Group (PSG), and the regional efficiency agenda has been pursued by the Regional Operations Management Team (R-OMT).

11. Support requests from RCs and UNCTs to the regional level have been collected through a survey in a systematic manner and have been responded to in the course of 2023.

⁶ See organigramme in the annex, figure 3.

⁷ See annex, figure 2 for a snapshot of progress against SG recommendations 2-5.

⁸ See UNSDG, [Six transitions](#): Investment pathways to deliver the SDGs, New York 2023.

A. Policy support

Support in transition areas

1) Environment and Climate Change

12. The region as a whole is off track to reach the climate change and environmental goals (SDGs 12-15). Only two targets in this cluster are on track; for seven targets the trend must be reversed, including on fossil fuel subsidies, climate change policies, desertification and land degradation, and loss of biodiversity:

GOAL 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION & PRODUCTION

12.2	Sustainable use of natural resources
12.4	Managing chemicals & wastes
12.5	Reduction in waste generation
12.b	Sustainable tourism monitoring
12.c	Fossil-fuel subsidies
12.1	Programmes on SCP
12.3	Food waste & losses
12.6	Corporate sustainable practices
12.7	Public procurement practices
12.8	Sustainable development awareness
12.a	Support for R&D capacity for SD

GOAL 13 CLIMATE ACTION

13.1	Resilience & adaptive capacity
13.2	Climate change policies
13.3	Climate change awareness
13.a	UNFCCC commitments
13.b	Climate change planning & mgmt.

GOAL 14 LIFE BELOW WATER

14.6	Fisheries subsidies
14.b	Small-scale artisanal fishing
14.1	Marine pollution
14.5	Conservation of coastal areas
14.7	Marine resources for SIDS & LDCs
14.a	Research capacity & marine technology
14.2	Marine & coastal ecosystems
14.3	Ocean acidification
14.4	Sustainable fishing
14.c	Implementing UNCLOS

GOAL 15 LIFE ON LAND

15.1	Terrestrial & freshwater ecosystems
15.2	Sustainable forests management
15.4	Conservation of mountain ecosystems
15.6	Utilization of genetic resources
15.8	Invasive alien species
15.a	Resources for biodiversity & ecosystems
15.b	Resources for forest management
15.3	Desertification and land degradation
15.5	Loss of biodiversity
15.7	Protected species trafficking
15.9	Biodiversity in national & local planning
15.c	Protected species trafficking (global)

13. Responding to the pressing support needs on environment and climate change, several regional and subregional events were held by the IBC on Environment and Climate Change in 2023, accompanied by related knowledge products.⁹ A major event was the [Regional workshop](#) on integrating climate change, pollution, biodiversity and just transition in the Cooperation Framework processes, held in September 2023, in which 6 RCs and representatives from 12 agencies and RCOs/UNCTs across 15 countries and territories developed ideas for future collaboration at country and regional levels.

14. Furthermore, a biodiversity webinar in June 2023 built the capacity of UNCTs to support countries to deliver on the targets of Global Biodiversity Framework, including through incorporation into Cooperation Framework processes.

15. An informal discussion on water cooperation in Central Asia was held online in February 2023. It resulted in increased UNCTs' awareness of available platforms that provide reliable data and evidence for country-level work and in further commitments to work at subregional level on water issues.

16. The IBC provided assistance directly to several UNCTs in 2023:









- Georgia: Webinar on the nexus of climate action and LNOB

⁹ For profiles of IBCs and groups and their membership, terms of reference, areas of work, menu of support services, knowledge products and events, see the regional knowledge management hub at uneuropecentralasia.org.

- Turkmenistan: Webinar on disability-inclusive climate change adaptation and DRR, and innovative “green schools” solutions
- Kazakhstan: Informal discussion on achieving the water-related SDGs

2) Sustainable Food Systems

17. On SDG 2 on hunger and food security, not a single target is on track in the region as a whole. Access to sufficient and nutritious food and food security is not universal in the UNECE region:

GOAL 2	ZERO HUNGER
	2.1 Undernourishment and food security
	2.2 Malnutrition
	2.3 Small-scale food producers
	2.5 Genetic resources for agriculture
	2.a Investment in agriculture
	2.4 Sustainable agriculture
	2.b Agricultural export subsidies
	2.c Food price anomalies

18. Against this background, and while the regional work on sustainable food systems contributes to multiple SDGs, the IBC on Sustainable Food Systems, which saw further growing membership in 2023, organized knowledge exchange and shared expertise through a range of activities and products. The majority of the activities focused on the preparations and information-sharing related to the UN Stocktaking Moment (UNFSS+2). The IBC co-organized together with the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub the Regional Preparatory Meeting to the UN Stocktaking Moment in Geneva, on 28 March 2023, and contributed to the Regional Touchpoint Meeting for Europe and Central Asia, on 26 May 2023. The main objective of the latter was to provide a platform to share experiences and monitor progress on the implementation of the National Pathways for National Convenors, as well as prepare countries' participation in the UN Food Systems Stocktaking Moment, including the preparation and submission of voluntary progress reports. The IBC was also present at the UNFSS+2 event and shared resources with the participants.


19. The IBC also advocated with UNCTs to actively encourage and support countries in the nomination of a National Convenor and in initiating efforts towards food systems transformation. Additional Food Systems Talks were also released, focusing on circular economy and climate change impacting food systems. In addition, the collaboration on school feeding was strengthened, a detailed methodology was agreed, the baseline assessment is ongoing, and resources have been mobilized to implement the landscape analysis in 2024.

20. The IBC provided direct assistance to UNCTs in 2023 as follows:

- Turkmenistan: technical support to the organization of the Food security and climate change conference (9-10 March 2023).
- Briefing of almost all RCs/UNCTs in collaboration with the UNFSS Hub in preparation of the UN Food Systems Stocktaking Moment and participation in the Regional Touchpoint Meeting for Europe and Central Asia.

3) Digital Transformation

21. Access to Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and internet penetration (target 9.c) is widespread in the region:

 9.c Access to ICT & the Internet

22. In order to harness the related opportunities of digital transformation in accelerating SDG progress, the UN Regional Digital Transformation Group focused its efforts in 2023 on knowledge products, capacity-building and regional events.

23. A major output has been the [UN Digital Development Toolbox: Guidelines, Frameworks and Tools supporting the UN development system delivery on digital in Europe and Central Asia](#), which was rolled out together with a related webinar for UNCTs and RCs in the region, held in May 2023. The toolbox captures the main UN frameworks, guidelines, capacity-building and other tools related to ICTs. It provides a key reference to UNCTs and RCs that may be utilized in initiatives related to digital development. The webinar engaged all agencies participating in the development of the toolbox¹⁰ and representatives of all UNCTs in the region.

24. In May 2023, a special session on “One UN for digital development in Europe with ITU as the UN agency for digital” was held with members of the Digital Transformation Group and UNCT/RCO representatives at the ITU Regional Development Forum for Europe. The session served to discuss joint delivery on digital transformation by the UN system.

4) Social Protection

25. Progress on social protection is slow in the UNECE region. Those at the highest risk of poverty, such as persons with disabilities and families with young children, are well covered by social protections in the UNECE region (target 1.3), but not everyone who would benefit from this type of support is receiving it:

1.3 Social protection

26. In 2023, the IBC on Social Protection kickstarted a repositioning exercise anticipating the launch of the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions, which provides the opportunity to expand technical assistance in this area to countries in the Europe and Central Asia region.

27. The design phase of the Global Accelerator, one of the 12 High-impact initiatives displayed at the 2023 SDG Summit, has been completed and the initial work in selected “Pathfinder” countries has commenced as of mid-2023. In the region, Albania and Uzbekistan are the Pathfinder countries, with both countries having held initial consultations for the design of a roadmap for Global Accelerator implementation. The launch of the Global Accelerator is a positive development, with the potential to spur reforms not only in pathfinders, but in countries across the region.

¹⁰ FAO, UNECE, UNEP, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNOPS, UN Women, UNWTO, WHO, UNDP and WMO.

Support in other crucial policy areas

5) Gender Equality

28. Progress towards SDG 5 on gender equality in the UNECE region is improving, but at current pace most targets would fall short of parity in 2030. Moreover, progress on gender equality can be measured for less than half of targets only:

GOAL 5	GENDER EQUALITY
	5.b Technology for women's empowerment
	5.1 Discrimination against women & girls
	5.4 Unpaid care and domestic work
	5.5 Women in leadership
	5.2 Violence against women & girls
	5.3 Early marriage
	5.6 Reproductive health access & rights
	5.a Equal economic rights
	5.c Gender equality policies


29. In addition, a pushback to gender equality has been noted in parts of the region. Against this background, the IBC on Gender Equality developed, tested, and refined a set of key messages and talking points to be used by RCOs and UNCTs as a tool to 'push back against the pushback', following two webinars held in April 2023 featuring external experts and experiences from the UN system.

30. Furthermore, members of the IBC leveraged the momentum of the 2021 Generational Equality Forum: FAO and UNWTO organized a side-event on "*Empowering rural women: the potential of agritourism and the power of digitalization*", and UNDP and UNICEF a Virtual Side Event at the 67th Session of the Commission of the Status of Women in March 2023 on women and girls in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). UN Women and UNESCO co-organized a side event on "[*Breaking boundaries for efficient water diplomacy - untapped potential of women's leadership*](#)", on the sidelines of the UN 2023 Water Conference, on how to empower women in water diplomacy and facilitate an intergenerational multi-stakeholder dialogue.

31. In terms of direct support to the country level, a help desk supported 16 UNCTs on quality assurances of the UNCT SWAP Gender Equality Scorecard assessments realized in 2023, a standardized assessment of UN country-level gender mainstreaming practices and performance.

6) Health and Well-being

32. On health and well-being (SDG 3), the region is set to achieve targets on child and maternal mortality (targets 3.1 and 3.2) and non-communicable diseases and mental health (target 3.5) while improvements must accelerate on all the other targets. Progress assessment is possible for all the 13 targets under goal 3:

GOAL 3	GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
	3.1 Maternal mortality
	3.2 Child mortality
	3.4 NCD & mental health
	3.3 Communicable diseases
	3.5 Substance abuse
	3.6 Road traffic accidents
	3.7 Sexual & reproductive health
	3.8 Universal health coverage
	3.9 Health impact of pollution
	3.a Tobacco control
	3.b R&D for health
	3.c Health financing & workforce
	3.d Management of health risks

33. The IBC on Health and Well-being contributed to the global guide to implementing the One Health Joint Plan of Action at national level, and the global Guidance for UN Country Teams on One Health and the Cooperation Frameworks.

34. As a knowledge product, a [guidance note](#) on “*Supporting mainstreaming and elevating health and well-being in the United Nations Sustainable Development Framework*” was disseminated to RCs and UNCTs in 2023.

35. The Pandemic Fund approved grants to support a multi-country proposal “Pandemic Preparedness and Response (PPR) through a One Health Approach” in Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan) to strengthen surveillance systems, laboratory networks, and workforce for PPR. This is a joint undertaking by the World Bank, FAO, UNEP, WHO and WOA.

36. Ongoing direct country support was provided to Uzbekistan’s government to develop a comprehensive strategy and action plan on healthy and active longevity. Outside of the region’s programme countries, collaboration was extended to a project in Poland for ageing refugees.

7) Large Movements of People, Displacement and Resilience

37. More work is needed in the UNECE region to achieve safe migration and mobility (target 10.7):

10.7 Safe migration & mobility

38. In 2023, the IBC on Large Movements of People, Displacement and Resilience focused on capacitating the UNCTs in Central Asia on migration issues. Trainings were provided on the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) and the integration of migration issues in the Cooperation Frameworks in the second half of 2023 for Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan.

39. To address the urban dimension of migration, a side event to the 2023 Regional Forum on Sustainable Development on “*Cities as front-line actors for the inclusion of people on the move - building sustainable structures to leave no-one behind*” was held in March 2023, followed up by a knowledge product containing the event’s key take-aways.

40. The IBC also undertook work on a joint study on the socio-economic impact of the war against Ukraine on the country and on the region, which is undergoing finalization.

8) Adolescents and Youth

41. Most countries in the region have implemented dedicated strategies for youth employment and this target is on track to be achieved (target 8.b). Nonetheless, the region must accelerate efforts to reduce the share of youth not in employment, education or training (target 8.6), which is still over 10% in most countries. The share of both youth and adults with information and communications technology skills is increasing slowly (indicator 4.4.1).

8.b Strategy for youth employment

8.6 Youth NEET

4.4 Skills for employment

42. More broadly, the youth agenda is gaining further interest and commitments, notably with a view to the Summit of the Future and the chapter on youth and future generations in the related Pact for the Future.

43. The IBC continued its role as a bridge for youth into critical regional and global processes. In this context, the IBC established cooperation with the IBC on Environment and Climate Change and reviewed the draft Climate messages 2023 for RCs and RCOs, ahead of the Climate COP28.

44. Youth consultations and inputs were supported at the International conference on Primary health care policy and practice: implementing for better results in Astana, Kazakhstan, in October 2023, as well as at the WHO Europe Youth Forum on Immunization in December 2023.

45. Furthermore, the IBC contributed to a number of knowledge products in 2023:

- [“Empowering youth in health emergencies: an implementation tool”](#)
- [“Youth engaged for mental health”](#)
- Interagency Factsheet on *“Refugee and Migrant Children in Europe - Accompanied, Unaccompanied and Separated”*, October 2023

46. A regional UN youth event calendar was maintained to facilitate improved cross-agency information sharing and collaboration, and an approach for the effective use of UN Youth Scorecards in country level programming was agreed.

9) Data and Statistics

47. To step up the coordination and collaboration on data and statistics, the Regional Coordination Group on Data and Statistics for Europe and Central Asia was established in 2020, in response to the UN Secretary General's recommendation on regional UNDS reform.

48. Various regional and subregional events on data and statistics were held by members of the group in 2023, including joint activities by UNECE, EFTA, Eurostat and OECD on a Global Assessment of national statistical systems in Kazakhstan and Georgia, which involved UNCT data experts; a High-Level Seminar on Modernizing Statistical Production; and a Thematic Conference on managing a statistical organization in times of changes.

10) Regional efficiencies

49. In 2023, the R-OMT continued to ensure the full compliance of the Europe and Central Asia region with corporate requirements for a Regional Business Operations Strategy 2.0. R-OMT agencies have identified a number of services for collaboration (Human Resources, Finance, Procurement, ICT and Admin/facilities).

11) Peer Support Group

50. The PSG provided structured support to the UNCT in Ukraine in the Cooperation Framework design process. It also held dialogue-sessions with a number of RCs and UNCTs prior to PSG quality assurance on annual results reports and joint work plans.

51. The PSG engaged in the quality review of the JWPs of Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, in close engagement with respective RCOs. The report with findings and recommendations was shared with respective RCs.

52. Furthermore, the PSG provided a qualitative review to the 2022 Annual Results Reports of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kosovo (in the context of UNSCR 1244(1999)), North Macedonia and Turkmenistan. Sessions with RCs and UNCTs were held to disseminate the findings from the analysis and the recommendations.

53. As a knowledge product, the PSG prepared an analysis of Cooperation Framework processes and their content. A periodic feedback loop between RC/UNCT and PSG was established, and cross-regional exchange initiated with the PSG in Asia and the Pacific.

54. A PSG retreat was held in December 2023, resulting in a matrix of action to guide the work in 2024.

55. PSG membership from UNDP and UNEP was further strengthened with senior level representation to respond to the needs for effective quality review and support to 12 UNCTs that will start the development of the new Cooperation Framework cycle in 2024.

B. Engagement in regional and global processes

56. The RCP and its institutional structure were actively engaged in positioning regional priorities and processes at the global level.

57. The regional RCP entities as well as the IBCs and interagency groups played a crucial role as co-organizers of various sessions at the 2023 [Regional Forum on Sustainable Development](#), which formulated the regional contribution to the 2023 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). UN Women provided an [analysis](#) of how gender equality and women's empowerment perspectives were integrated into the various segments of the RFSD.

58. The Digital Transformation Group, led by ITU, organized a round table on SDGs 9 and 17 focusing on digital transformation and ICT for the SDGs. The round table shared policy recommendations and actions to support an inclusive and green digital transformation. The IBC on Adolescents and Youth supported young peoples' physical participation in the 2023 Regional Forum in Geneva and helped prepare the virtual youth pre-meeting.

59. The Digital Transformation Group organized a session on "*Accelerating digital development in Europe and Central Asia: On our way to Agenda 2030*" at the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum in March 2023, with the participation of several member States. The event sought to understand how to advance the digital development scenario of the region.

60. Regional UN entities collaborated in the run-up to the 7th Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health held in Budapest, Hungary in July 2023. The IBC on Adolescents and Youth supported engagement from various youth networks and constituencies at the conference.

61. Moreover, prior to the International Conference on Population and Development ICPD30 Regional Conference held in Geneva in October 2023, UNFPA, UNECE and UN AIDS worked together to consult young people across the region on their aspirations related to the ICPD and to engage them in the event.

III. Conclusion

62. In 2023, the RCP and its architecture succeeded to provide policy support at the country-level as well as voice regional priorities at the global level, despite resource constraints. The momentum around the 2023 SDG Summit and towards the 2024 Summit of the Future will continue to bolster acceleration action at the regional level.

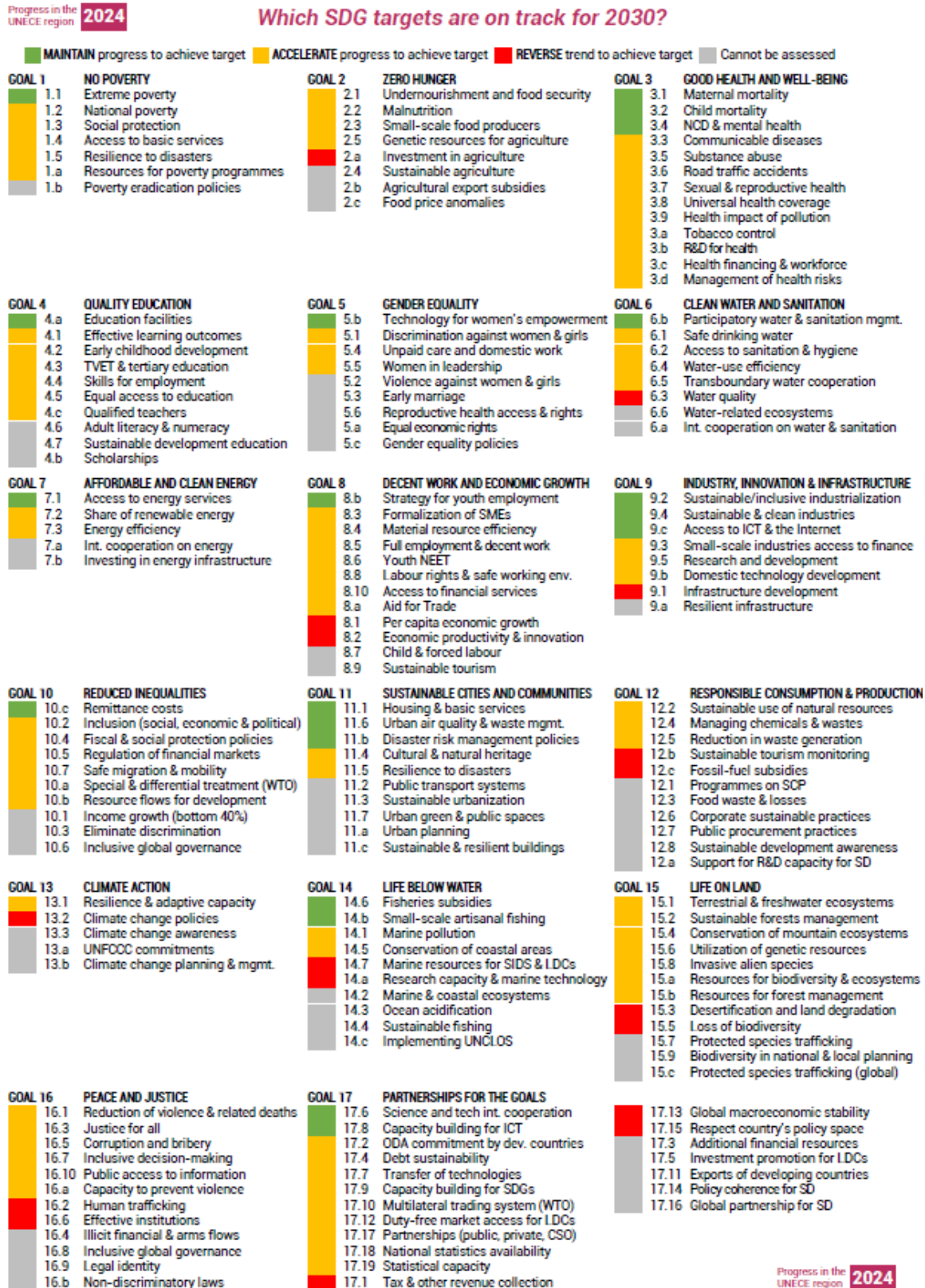
63. Looking ahead, the regional support modalities will be further strengthened and better structured. For 2024, over 60 support requests have been submitted by the country-level to the RCP and its IBCs and groups, the response to which will be monitored throughout 2024. This will include supporting RCs and UNCTs in their work on food systems transformation; advancing energy accessibility and energy transition, while also addressing the potential negative social consequences through new jobs and social protection measures; supporting RCs and UNCTs on digital transformation in the lead-up to the Summit of the Future and on climate change in the lead-up to COP 29 to take place in Azerbaijan. Other priorities for support include education; refugee and internal displacement crises generated by the war against Ukraine; health; and the empowerment of women and youth.

64. The IBCs have been engaged as co-organizers in the 2024 Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, particularly on SDGs 1, 2, 13 and 17/digitalization. Regional UN collaboration will also take place in the preparation of the regional Beijing+30 review, to be held in October 2024.

65. The start of the work on 12 new UN Sustainable Cooperation Frameworks to enter into effect in 2026 will provide a strategic opportunity to inject regional expertise into country-level dynamics. Furthermore, the IBCs and groups are in the process of considering whether thematic or structural adjustments are necessary in their work, including regarding the possible further alignment with the key transition areas and other global and regional processes, e.g. on food systems and migration.

ANNEX

Figure 1: Snapshot of SDG Progress in the UNECE Region



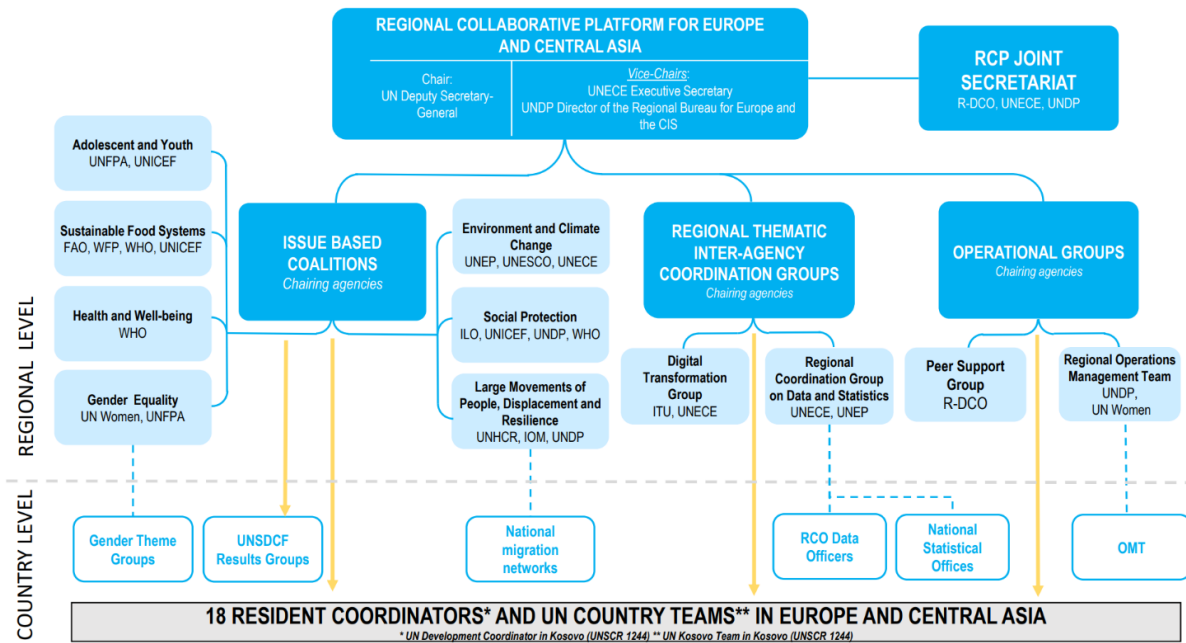
Source: UNECE, Sustainable Development in the UNECE Region: Facing Headwind in 2024, Geneva, 2024

Figure 2

Status of implementation of five reform areas – Europe and Central Asia

1	Establishment of the RCP ACHIEVED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed in 2021.
2	Establishment of Knowledge Management Hub IN PROGRESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The dedicated regional UN collaboration website for Europe and Central Asia is available at: https://uneuropecentralasia.org. The website provides enhanced features for the IBCs and groups to disseminate information, reach out to stakeholders and offer support services. The key areas of work, a structured menu of support services and contact information of all IBCs and groups is available to users, in particular from the country level, to identify and request joined-up regional support and tap into knowledge and expertise on cross-cutting policy issues. Cost-effective technological options are being assessed to support the search for regional UN knowledge products (documents).
3	Enhance transparency and results based management ACHIEVED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RCP Annual Results report produced annually. The annual results report of the RCP for 2023 has been prepared and is currently undergoing clearance. It was prepared under the lead of the RCP secretariat and with inputs from all IBCs and other regional working groups (Peer Support Group, Regional Operations Management Team, Regional Coordination Group on Data and Statistics).
4	Consolidate statistical and data capacities ACHIEVED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Regional Coordination Group on Data and Statistics was established in 2020 to provide support in closing the data gaps in economic, social, demographic and environment statistics and to promote the modernization of statistical production. It provides a mechanism to coordinate such activities, with a specific focus on capacity development. One of its key roles is to provide capacity building support to data and reporting officers in RCOs, and to connect key players to ensure that the UN and key external partners are delivering as one.
5	Regional efficiencies IN PROGRESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A regional Business Operations Strategy (R-BOS) has been developed in 2022. Capacity building support has been provided for the implementation of the BOS 2.0 guidance and online tool. Based on the R-BOS, 3 areas of work were identified for enhanced collaboration to achieve efficiency gains: Finance, Human Resources and ICT service lines. In the first quarter of 2024, the R-OMT will review the common services implementation progress.

Figure 3: Organigramme of Regional Collaborative Platform





UNITED NATIONS
REGIONAL
COLLABORATIVE
PLATFORM

•••••
EUROPE AND
CENTRAL ASIA