UN environment programme

The environmental performance of the UN system

GREENING THE BLUE Annual Report 2025

© 2025 United Nations Environment Programme

ISBN: 978-92-807-4247-3
Job number: RONA/2729/NY
DOI: https://doi.org/10.59117/20.500.11822/49016

This publication may be reproduced in whole or in part and in any form for educational or non-profit services without special permission from the copyright holder, provided acknowledgement of the source is made. The United Nations Environment Programme would appreciate receiving a copy of any publication that uses this publication as a source.

No use of this publication may be made for resale or any other commercial purpose whatsoever without prior permission in writing from the United Nations Environment Programme. Applications for such permission, with a statement of the purpose and extent of the reproduction, should be addressed to unep-communication-director@un.org.

Disclaimers
The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Mention of firm names and commercial products in this document does not imply endorsement by the United Nations Environment Programme or the authors. The use of information from this document for publicity or advertising is not permitted. Trademark names and symbols are used in an editorial fashion with no intention of infringement of trademark or copyright laws.

The views expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations Environment Programme. We regret any errors or omissions that may have been unwittingly made.

©Maps, photos and illustrations as specified

Suggested citation
United Nations Environment Programme (2025). *Greening the Blue Annual Report 2025: The environmental performance of the UN system*. New York. https://wedocs.unep.org/20.500.11822/49016

URL: https://www.unep.org/resources/report/greening-blue-annual-report-2025-environmental-performance-un-system.

Cover illustration: Angelica Caballero © UNEP SUN

Acknowledgements

Developed by the Sustainable UN facility of the United Nations Environment Programme, this Report was made possible by invaluable contributions from reporting entities and supporting organizations, which are listed in the chapter **Reporting UN Entities**.

UNEP extends its deepest appreciation to the members of the Greening the Blue Community across the UN system for their unwavering cooperation and dedication. Their tireless efforts in compiling data, with support from personnel across various UN entities, have been crucial in monitoring, measuring, and actively reducing the environmental footprint of each organization.

Supervision and coordination: Rie Tsutsumi (UNEP), Jacob S. Halcomb (UNEP), Isabella Marras (UNEP)
Lead author: Ilektra Papadaki
Contributing authors: Angelica Caballero, Adrian Ambagan (data)
Design and layout: Angelica Caballero

Abbreviations

ASR	Annual Statistical Report
CO_2 eq.	Carbon dioxide equivalent
EMS	Environmental Management Systems
GHG	Greenhouse gas
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
SUN	Sustainable UN facility
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
US$	United States (of America) Dollar

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements, Abbreviations iii
Introduction 1

1. Greenhouse Gas Emissions 3
2. Facilities 5
3. Renewables 6
4. Waste 7
5. Water 10
6. Environmental Governance 11
7. Procurement 13

Conclusion 14
Methodology for data collection and analysis 15
Reporting UN Entities 16
References 17

"Business as usual is incompatible with a livable future as climate impacts intensify and a temporary overshoot above 1.5 degrees is now inevitable. This demands urgent action – cutting emissions and massively scaling up adaptation and finance.

The United Nations system must lead by example – shrinking its carbon footprint, reducing waste and resource use, and mobilizing the full weight of our Organization to move further, faster."

António Guterres
Secretary-General of the United Nations

© UN Photo/Mark Garten

Introduction

Greening the Blue has been accompanying UN system efforts to reduce emissions and environmental impacts since the call of former Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon to "go green" in 2007. Under the leadership of Secretary-General António Guterres, the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination endorsed the Strategy for Sustainability Management in the United Nations system, 2020–2030 Phase I: Environmental sustainability in the area of management (Sustainability Strategy I).The Sustainability Strategy I recognizes the role of the UNEP hosted Sustainable United Nations facility (SUN) and of the Environmental Management Group in providing leadership, coordination and support to UN system entities.

The UNEP Sustainable UN facility coordinates the Greening the Blue Community, which is composed of 220 focal points representing 60 UN system entities[1].

The role of SUN is to support UN entities to measure and communicate on their environmental performance, reduce their environmental impacts and compensate residual emissions.

Throughout these years and under the umbrella of Greening the Blue, the UN system has been taking actions to reduce environmental impacts from facilities and operations.

Data and analysis as well as the progress in the implementation of the Sustainability Strategy I are presented every year in the **Greening the Blue Annual Report** (hereafter the Report).

The Report is addressed to UN system personnel and informs actions and initiatives. Additionally, it is publicly communicated and made available to enhance the credibility, accountability and transparency of the UN system. Ultimately, through transparency and the sharing of good practices, the UN system aims to inspire other organizations to take actions and to improve environmental performance in their facilities and operations.

While the Report covers the whole UN system, information on the environmental performance of individual UN entities and good practices is available through the Greening the Blue website.

Although this Report covers environmental performance and impacts from facilities and operations, it is important to put these into perspective with regard to the complete impact of the UN system on the world. In 2024 the UN system supported millions around the world including 139 million people fleeing war, famine and persecution and 123 million people receiving food assistance (UN 2025a).

[1] The 60 participating entities are part of the UN system, whose complete mapping is available at the Report of the Secretary-General on the Work of the Organization, and are listed on page 16.

2024 Highlights

This Report presents the environmental performance of the UN system in 2024, covering operations of headquarters and field offices worldwide.

GHG emissions dropped by 7.2% since last year from 1.54 million tonnes of CO_2 eq. to 1.43. A 29.7% reduction in total emissions has been achieved since 2019.
GHG emissions per capita have dropped by 29.5% since 2019 and 4.2% since last year.
GHG emissions from air travel decreased by 33% since 2019 and dropped by 9.8% in the last year.
GHG emissions from facilities decreased by 29% since 2019 and dropped by 5% since last year.

Per capita waste decreased by 36.7% since 2019 and dropped by 5.74% in comparison to last year.

Per capita water use decreased by 19.2% since 2019 and dropped by 12.5% in comparison to last year.

Environmental Management Systems, heading towards UN system-wide implementation by 2025. 29 UN system entities have in place an EMS that meets or approaches set criteria. 86.3% of UN personnel is covered by such EMS.

Reporting coverage: **312,084** personnel **60** UN system entities

Members of the Greening the Blue Community convene in Geneva.

The Gender break-down of the Greening the Blue Community is 57% women and 43% men.

© UNEP/Angelica Caballero

01 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

This section presents GHG emissions resulting from UN system facilities, vehicles, and business travel. The calculations include activities carried out by personnel assigned to UN offices and activities over which the UN system has financial and/or operational control. The main sources of GHG emissions are buildings, air and other travel.

The collection and analysis of GHG emissions data follows the Greenhouse Gas Protocol methodology, covering Scope 1 (direct emissions), Scope 2 (indirect emissions from energy production), and Scope 3 (emissions from business travel). Kyoto Protocol gases are included together with Montreal Protocol gases with global-warming potential.

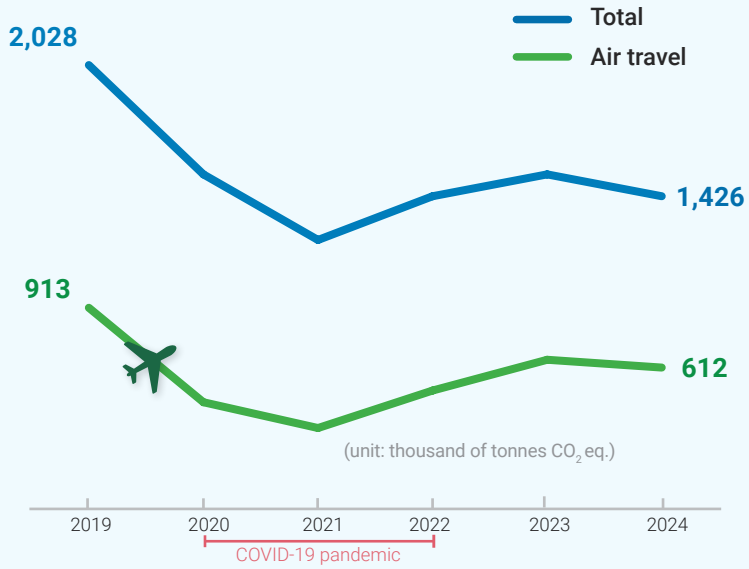
Emissions from air travel in 2024 decreased by 9.8% compared to 2023 and by 33% since 2019. For the calculation of emissions, the UN system uses the ICAO Carbon Emissions Calculator, which is the only internationally approved tool. GHG emissions calculations include emissions from air travel of meeting participants sponsored by the UN system. The UN system has taken measures to limit air travel and use videoconferencing when possible. It is important to consider that among the principal functions of the United Nations is meaningful action on the ground, conflict prevention using diplomacy and mediation as well as to convene Governments, partners, communities and Fora (UN 2025c).

GHG emissions from facilities decreased by 5% compared to 2023 and by 28.7% since 2019. Emissions from facilities originate from their operation, heating and cooling. In multiple locations, UN entities carry out initiatives to green their facilities by reducing energy needs through upgrades, digitally enabled building management and on-site energy generation from renewables. To better guide their efforts, entities often pursue green building certifications.

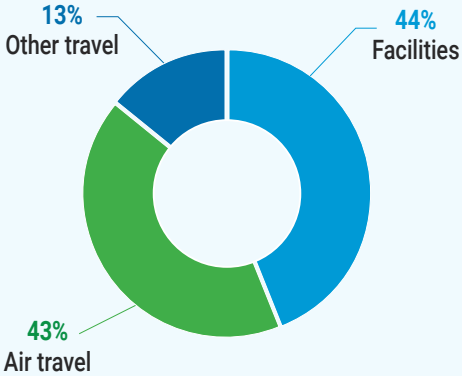
Emissions from other types of travel dropped by 10.3% compared to 2023, and by 20.9% since 2019. UN system entities have led initiatives to reduce emissions

UN system's GHG emissions 2019-2024

~30% reduction since 2019



Share of emissions by source



by joining forces and modernizing fleets. For example, the UN Mobility Platform set by the World Food Programme has been the basis for innovative vehicle booking and dispatch technology. The Smart Fleet Programme from the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees relied on ride-sharing and achieved reductions of 500 tonnes of CO_2 eq. and savings of US$700,000 (Greening the Blue 2024; UNHCR 2024).

Overall, the UN system has achieved a sustained drop of its GHG emissions, with a significant **reduction of 29.7% in total emissions since 2019**. The total GHG emissions of the UN system stood at 1.43 million tonnes of CO_2 eq. in 2024. Although a direct parallel cannot be drawn, comparisons provide a clearer understanding of emissions levels. For example, the total emissions of the UN system are similar to the estimated total CO_2 emissions of a small island nation, such as Palau (World Bank Group 2025).

The per capita emissions in 2024 stood at 4.57 tonnes of CO_2 eq. The UN system's per capita emissions are calculated by dividing total emissions by the number of personnel. However, it should be taken into consideration that these emissions include the operation of living quarters. In the context of air travel, emissions include travel of personnel and of delegates.

The UN system remains committed to reducing its GHG emissions. UN system entities purchase reduction certificates for their residual emissions, which are approved by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

1.43
million tonnes CO_2 eq. in total

4.57
tonnes CO_2 eq. per capita

Reporting coverage: high

In 2024, the UN system supported 170 countries in preparing or implementing their nationally determined contributions to reduce emissions and provided funding and support for 35 developing countries to accelerate low-carbon development initiatives (UN 2025a).

UNEP and the Global Environment Facility are assisting 41 countries, including Togo, to accelerate the uptake of electric mobility. © UNEP/Artan Jama

02 Facilities

In 2024, 44% of the UN system emissions originated from the operation of facilities. Out of the total emissions from facilities, 46.6% comes from generators, followed by purchased electricity, building refrigerants, boilers and heating.

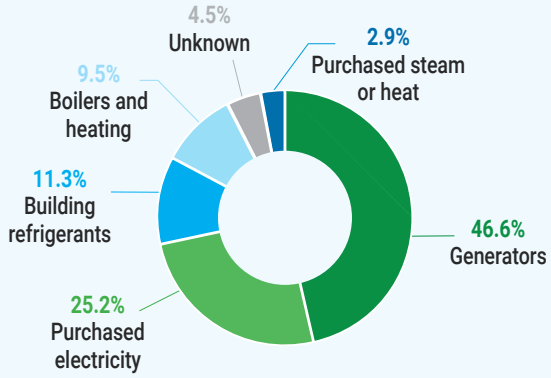
Generators are often the only viable solution in many of the sites where the UN is operating, due to frequent electricity cuts, or even complete lack of a grid. Generators might also be the only viable option in Peacekeeping Operations and Special Political Missions, which also include living quarters. As explained in the next chapter, UN system entities have been installing solar panels and are gradually phasing out the use of generators, whenever possible. Initiatives from UN system entities focus both on reducing consumption, as well as generating energy through renewables.

Efforts towards greener buildings are often guided by green building certifications that demonstrate the continued commitment of organizations on resource efficiency, renewable energy generation, waste and water management, as well as the health and well-being of users.

An example of a green building certification is EDGE, developed by the International Finance Corporation of the World Bank Group and supported by 33 countries.

Another green building certification obtained by facility management teams within the UN system is LEED. For example, for the operation and mantainance of its headquarters, the International Fund for Agricultural Development received the LEED Platinum certification.

Sources of emissions from facilities



Reporting coverage: high

110,513,123 litres of fuel
were consumed in UN facilities generators

GOOD PRACTICE

The first ever UN House in Uganda was renovated and now serves as the UNICEF, WFP and UNAIDS headquarters. Energy use dropped by 50% while **80% of the electricity is solar powered.** UNICEF's new premises in Mozambique are the country's first EDGE certified, achieving **50% energy savings, 29% water conservation and 35% less embodied carbon**. Similarly in Tajikistan, UNICEF earned the first EDGE certification in the country, reducing **energy use by 40% and saving 22% on water** usage. Continue reading

unicef WFP World Food Programme UNAIDS

03 Renewables

> "We are in the dawn of a new energy era.
> An era where cheap, clean, abundant energy powers a world rich in economic opportunity.
> Where nations have the security of energy autonomy
> And the gift of power is a gift for all.
> That world is within reach"
>
> **António Guterres**
> United Nations Secretary-General

In 2024, US$2 trillion was invested in clean energy worldwide. Prices for renewable energy technologies are dropping rapidly. Over 90% of new renewable projects are now cheaper than fossil fuel alternatives (UN 2025c).

UN entities have significantly reduced their environmental impacts by shifting to energy produced on-site from renewables, notably solar panels. Through such interventions, entities tackle emissions and budget shortages while also securing reliable supply. Some examples include:

- The UNDP Yemen Country Office became 100% solar powered, reporting annual savings of 136,275 litres of diesel.
- UNICEF offices in Madagascar are now 100% solar powered, saving 43,600 litres of diesel.
- UNHCR office in Nigeria used solar panels, batteries and an electrical grid and saving 203,500 litres of diesel.
- IOM completed the solarization of nine humanitarian hubs in Borno State, Nigeria, saving 361,000 litres of diesel.

Peacekeeping Operations and Special Political Missions generated **38%** of the UN system's solar energy production in 2024. Among them, the highest amount of solar energy was generated in:

- United Nations Mission in South Sudan **2,685,910 kWh**
- United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon **1,994,071 kWh**
- United Nations Support Office in Somalia **1,109,596 kWh**
- United Nations Assistance in Afghanistan **1,088,137 kWh**

Reporting from 2024 indicated that **34,872,592 kWh** were produced on-site from renewables, equivalent to the amount of energy required for running the United Nations Office at Nairobi and Geneva for 4 years.

38% of the UN system's solar energy production comes from Peacekeeping Operations and Special Political Missions.

Reporting coverage: high

UNICEF offices in Madagascar are now 100% solar powered.
© UNICEF/Andriantsoarana

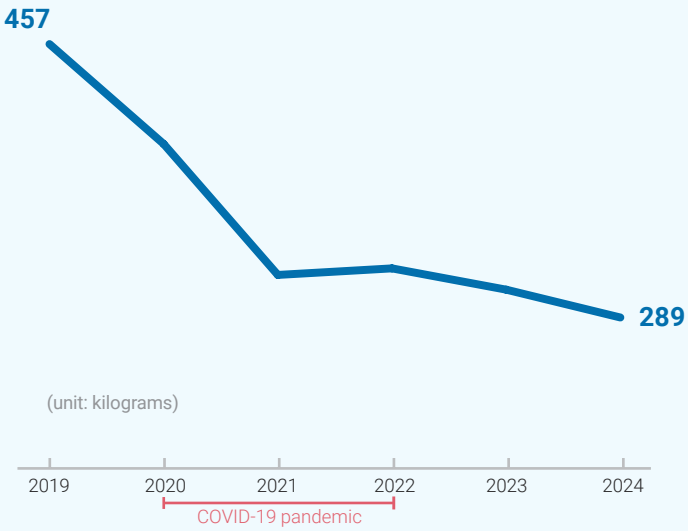
04 Waste

The UN system is committed to preventing harm to the environment and local populations from waste from facilities, operations and activities. Several efforts are carried out within UN facilities worldwide to reduce waste of all types; eliminate single-use items; handle organic and hazardous waste; and even sell waste of high recyclable value and reinvest gains in other environmental efforts.

Waste from **construction and demolition** is included in the *kg of waste generated per capita* figure. Large construction and renovation projects can lead to fluctuations of the total figure from year to year. More specifically, construction and demolition waste accounted for 3.7% of total waste in 2022, 6.5% in 2023, and 5.7% in 2024. Several UN buildings have been renovated and upgraded in the past few years, with improvements in their performance and resource consumption.

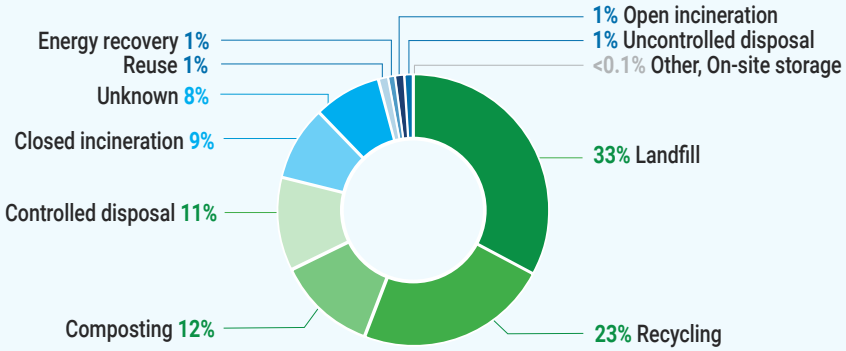
An important share of waste, specifically 65.4% in 2024, came from Peacekeeping Operations and Special Political Missions supported by 87,338 of personnel according to reporting. The high share is due to the fact that Peacekeeping Operations and Special Political Missions which include living quarters.

Waste per capita 2019-2024



Women sort through plastic at a buy back centre in South Africa © UNEP

Disposal routes of total UN system waste

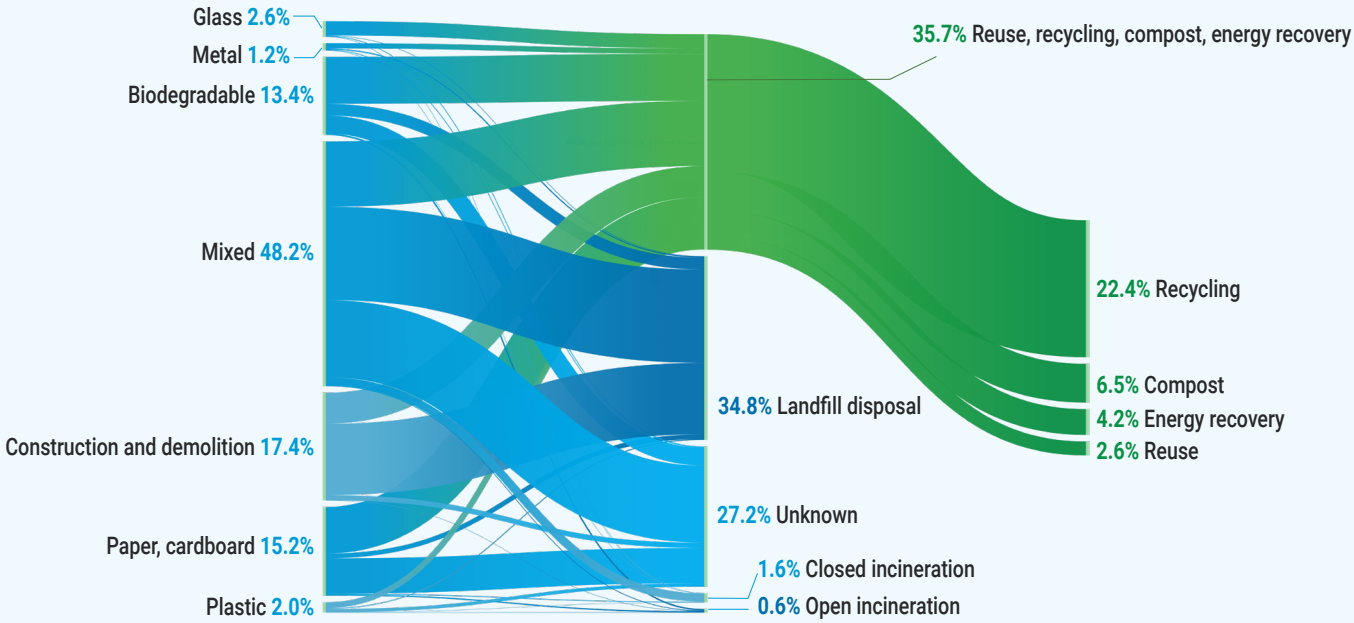


Waste from the UN system

excluding Peacekeeping Operations and Special Political Missions

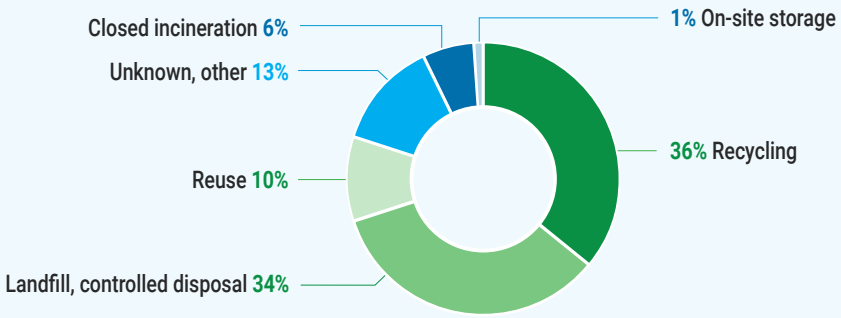
Types of non-hazardous waste and disposal routes

Total weight: 22,321 tonnes



Disposal routes of hazardous waste

Total weight: 1,884 tonnes



Reporting coverage: adequate

GOOD PRACTICE

Turning waste into environmental and financial gains

The World Food Programme Ethiopia implemented a successful waste management initiative that shows environmental sustainability can also bring significant financial benefits. **During 2023 and 2024, the office recycled over 1 million kilograms of waste, generating more than US$220,000 in revenue.** Safe and responsible recycling of tires, engine oil, plastic jerricans, e-waste, paper and other materials was ensured through long-term partnerships with local recyclers. Collaboration with local authorities and inspection of recycling facilities allowed for checking safety and labor standards. Through this initiative, World Food Programme Ethiopia reduced the environmental impact of its operations and supported the local circular economy. Continue reading

© WFP Ethiopia

GOOD PRACTICE

Methodology for waste composition analysis in office buildings

A new methodology has been developed to support offices in improving sustainable waste management through better data collection and analysis. The method involves conducting a waste composition analysis, which includes physically separating, weighing and categorizing waste to understand its composition and estimate the annual waste generated. This data helps improve waste data collection allowing the identification of measures to reduce waste, reuse materials and increase recycling. The methodology is designed for use by both UN and non-UN offices globally and was developed by Greening the Blue and the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency.

© Sweco | Waste composition analysis
A methodology for UN's office buildings

In 2024, the waste audit method was tested in two places: the UN Plaza in Almaty, Kazakhstan, and the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG). At UNOG, the audit was part of a larger effort to improve waste management at the Palais des Nations.

Guided by the UNEP SUN team and supported by personnel and service providers, the process included visits, interviews, document checks and sorting waste by hand. The audit gave a better understanding of the types of waste being produced and how they were managed. Continue reading

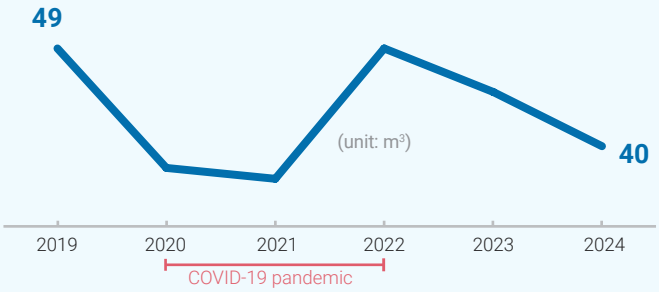
05 Water

Cabo Verde's development projects supported by the United Nations have helped moving water to irrigate and created useable farmland in an arid climate which previously was unusable for farming. © UN Photo/Mark Garten

Four billion people around the world are affected by the global water crisis (WHO 2025). UN system entities are committed to ensure water conservation and avoid the release of untreated wastewater into the environment.

UN system entities report on water use in UN facilities, including water for cooling and irrigation. Due to challenges in data collection linked to varying coverage from year to year, the indicator of water use per capita is preferred. The figure shows a sustained drop since 2019. During all reporting years the per capita figure is a low one. Although exact parallels cannot be drawn, according to Aquastat system of FAO, the international *water per capita consumption* in different countries ranges from 7.6-4,350 m^3.

Water use per capita 2019-2024



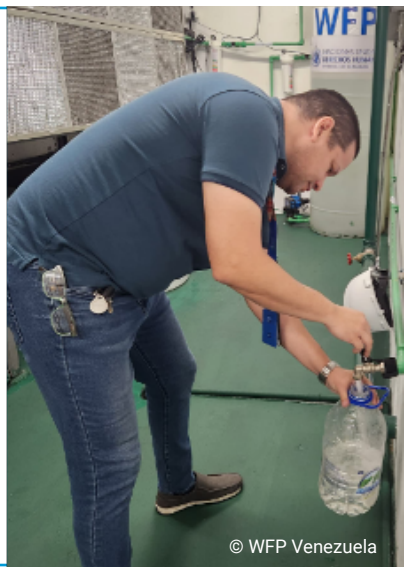
Reporting coverage: high

GOOD PRACTICE

Cutting consumption through water harvesting

In February 2024, the Venezuela Country Office of the World Food Programme launched an innovative solution to reduce water consumption: a system to harvest water from office air conditioners. So far, **the system cut the office's annual water consumption by ~25%**. Developed in close collaboration with OHCHR, the system uses real-time data monitoring to track water use accurately, enabling the reuse of water for cleaning and irrigation, setting a replicable example of how smart innovation and strong data can drive sustainable change. Continue reading

WFP World Food Programme



© WFP Venezuela

06 Environmental Governance

Environmental governance aims to help the UN system systematically address and manage risks to nature, the health of personnel, the livelihoods of people, and ultimately, its credibility and reputation. UN system entities have committed to continually improving environmental governance and coordination. First available data on environmental governance in UN system entities refers to 2020 performance.

Environmental Management Systems

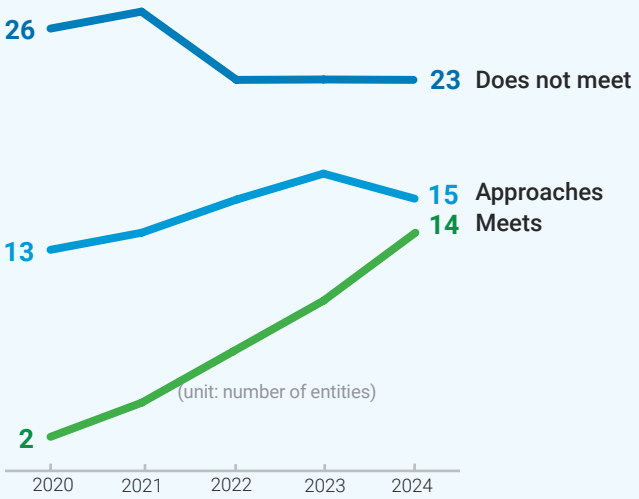
Based on the commitments described in the Sustainability Strategy I, UN system entities have agreed on a common approach in the development and implementation of Environmental Management Systems (EMS). Guidelines and criteria for EMS rely on the ISO standard 14001:2015. Each year, UNEP SUN collects data and evaluates the status of EMS of reporting entities against set criteria. Entities' EMS are scored as meeting, approaching, or not meeting the criteria.

All UN system entities are called to put in place Environmental Management Systems by 2025, as described in the Sustainability Strategy I. Data from 2024 shows that 29 entities have an EMS in place that meets or approaches the set criteria, 23 entities do not meet the criteria on EMS, while 8 entities do not report or have no EMS in place.

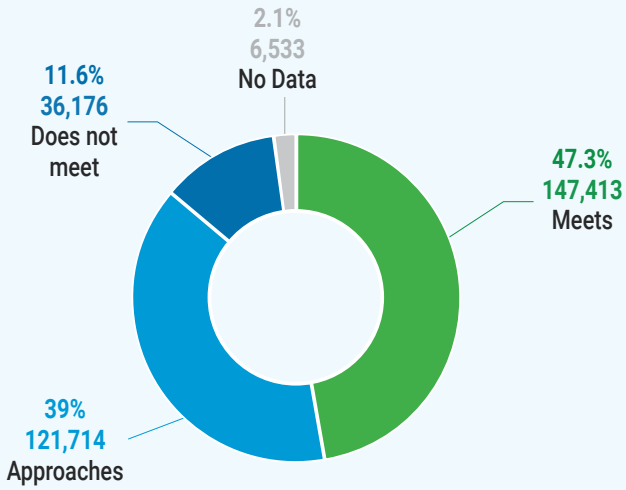
Within entities that do not report or do not meet the criteria, there are some with small numbers of personnel (in cases <100 people) that are hosted within facilities owned or managed by other entities, such as UN offices (e.g. the United Nations Office at Nairobi). This means that although some entities do not have their own EMS in place, their operations, offices, events, travels and waste may be covered by the EMS of their host.

Overall, entities that are larger in terms of personnel tend to have an EMS in place, as shown in the share and number of personnel covered. The share of personnel assigned to an entity with an EMS in place that meets or approaches set criteria stands at 86.3%.

Scoring of Environmental Management Systems of UN entities



Personnel covered by an EMS based on its scoring (2024)

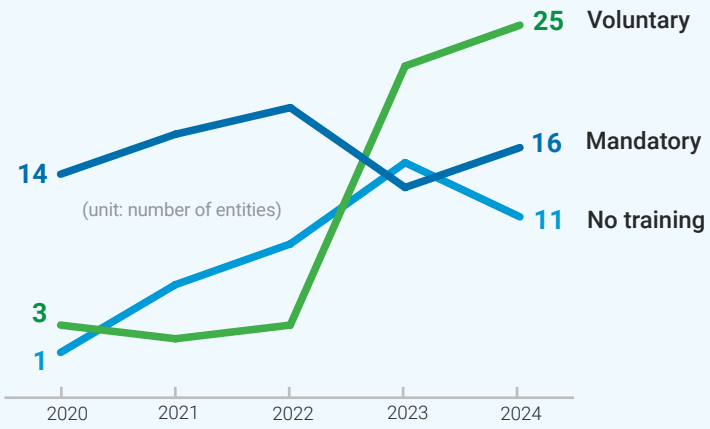


Environmental training

The UN system is committed to increasing awareness among its personnel through environmental training, and created an introductory training, the Greening the Blue Tutorial, to foster environmental sustainability at work and as a lifestyle.

In addition, trainings for specialized members of personnel such as procurers, facility managers, information technology and logistics professionals are key. The most common areas of training provided by UN entities to their personnel in 2024 were:
1. Greening the Blue Tutorial
2. Waste management
3. GHG emissions reductions, waste and wastewater management

Personnel training mandate in UN entities 2020-2024

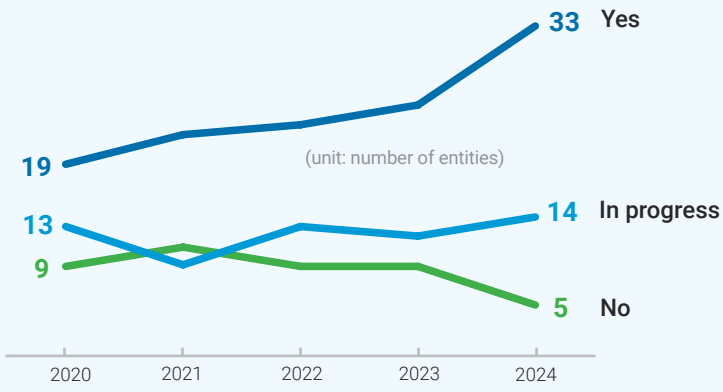


Environmental and social safeguards

The Strategy for sustainability management in the United Nations system, 2020-2030 - Phase II: Towards leadership in environmental and social sustainability, covers environmental and social sustainability in UN system policies, programming and support functions. The 2030 vision for sustainability management is that the United Nations system is a leader in integrating environmental and social sustainability considerations across its work in a systematic and coherent way, practising the principles that it promotes and leaving a positive legacy (CEB 2021).

Beyond its own operations, the UN system is committed to applying environmental and social safeguards and other accountability mechanisms in projects and programmes. Such safeguards form a framework of protection to local communities and natural systems. Since 2020, there has been a steady increase in the number of UN entities reporting that they apply environmental and social safeguards.

Integration of environmental and social safeguards by UN entities



Reporting coverage: high

07 Procurement

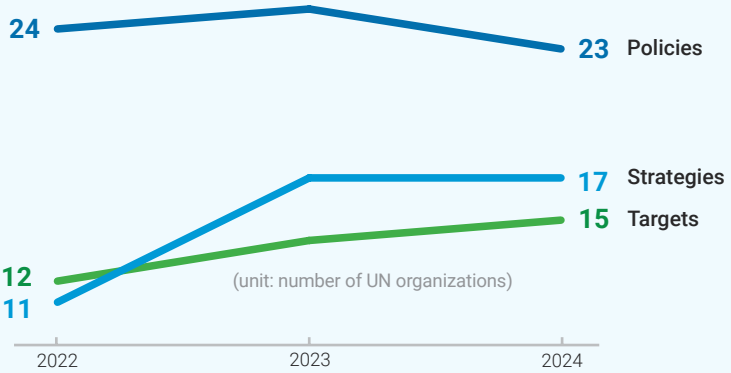
The Annual Statistical Report on United Nations Procurement provides an overview of the procurement in the UN system in support of its operations, projects and programmes. It is the main source of information on the UN system performance towards sustainable procurement.

A total of 32 organizations* participated in the ASR for 2024. Information on the integration of sustainable procurement practices is gathered through a voluntary questionnaire, completed by 31 of the 32 organizations.

In 2024, UN organizations maintained high levels of procurement activity, reflecting a continued shift from pandemic-driven emergency response to longer-term development, humanitarian support and resilience-building initiatives. Together with improvement in the number of UN organizations implementing policies, strategies and targets, sustainability practices also developed, with 27 organizations* reporting the integration of environmental, social and economic considerations in their procurement processes.

Reporting coverage: high

UN organizations implementing sustainable procurement policies, strategies and targets 2022-2024



*While Greening the Blue Reports refer to UN system entities, the ASR refers to UN organizations. For example, in the ASR, the UN Secretariat is mentioned as one UN organization, while this Report covers individually different entities that are part of the UN Secretariat. As a result, reporting coverage is evaluated based on the methodology each report applies.

Practical guidelines on environmental specifications for UN Procurement

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Office at Geneva and the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction developed guidelines to better integrate environmental considerations into frequently procured UN categories such as waste, catering and construction. After reviewing documents, analyzing procurement data, and interviewing personnel in Bangkok and Geneva, the three entities observed practical challenges in the adoption of environmental criteria. While following existing UN procurement rules, the guidelines provide hands-on ready-to-use specifications to help procurement officers and requisitioners to easily include environmental aspects in tenders. They are tailored for those with limited environmental expertise or time, while also supporting UN environmental officers in their advisory roles.

ESCAP Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
UNITED NATIONS GENEVA
UNDRR UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

The environmental sustainability path towards 2030

The 2024 performance shows progress towards environmental sustainability objectives. Sustained reductions in emissions and environmental impacts from operations and facilities have been observed since 2019, with a 30% drop in total GHG emissions, a 29% reduction in per capita emissions, 32% reduction in waste per capita and 20% in water per capita. At the same time, the adoption of Environmental Management Systems, Environmental and Social Safeguards, training and sustainable procurement has become common for UN entities. Yet the efforts continue, to better mainstream environmental considerations in policies and practices; improve data collection and its scope; and to meet the Sustainability Strategy I objectives for 2030.

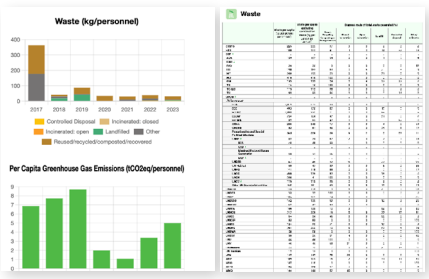
To ensure a fit-for-purpose United Nations, the Secretary-General launched the UN80 Initiative – a system-wide effort to identify operational efficiencies and opportunities for structural reforms as well as review the implementation of mandates. Within UN80, environmental sustainability efforts can remain central, considering that they often serve as measures to achieve financial savings.

Methodologies, guidance and principles developed from the Community, and modern tools put in place, such as the new Data Platform, that marked its first year of operation in 2025, are the foundations towards 2030 objectives. The UN system entities remain committed to strengthen collaboration to adapt their ways of working to further reduce emissions while maintaining the positive impacts and legacy of the UN system to the world.

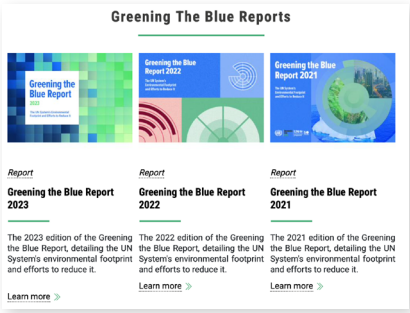
Other resources

This report presents the environmental performance of the whole UN system. UN entity-level data and performance information are available on the Greening the Blue website.

UN entity-level data including detailed performance tables



Past years' reports



Greening the Blue resources

Methodology for data collection and analysis

UNEP SUN collects, compiles, processes, and analyses data provided by UN entities around the world. Data is compiled in the Annual Reports of Greening the Blue and present the environmental performance of the UN system.

Over the years, the availability and collection of data has improved based on a commonly agreed methodology, while coverage has expanded. To move reporting to the digital age, UNEP SUN partnered with the Global Service Centre of the UN Department of Operational Support to develop the Greening the Blue Data Platform. The Data Platform allows personnel throughout the whole UN system to input environmental performance data from facilities and operations in different duty stations. This first year of the pilot operation allowed data collection from:

60 entities **1,071 duty stations** **500 users**

The data platform increased accuracy and therefore accountability on environmental performance.It has not only accelerated the annual reporting but also enabled knowledge-based action for entities. With the Data Platform Calculation Engine, entities can automatically calculate and view the results of their environmental performance. In upcoming developments, the feature to track annual evolution will be introduced.

UNEP SUN and the Global Service Centre are continuously working on improving and adding more functionalities. The continued collaboration and support from UN system entities is key.

More info on data collection at greeningtheblue.org/methodology.

The UN system is committed to providing improved coverage on its environmental performance.

Throughout the Report's sections, the coverage is flagged as high, adequate, partial and low, depending on the share of personnel the figures represent.

- **High: 76-100% of total personnel**
- **Partial: 26-50% of total personnel**
- **Adequate: 51-75% of total personnel**
- **Low: 1-25% of total personnel**

Landing page of the Greening the Blue Data Platform. © UNEP

Reporting UN Entities

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO)
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)
Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
Green Climate Fund (GCF)
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
International Labour Organization (ILO)
International Maritime Organization (IMO)
International Monetary Fund (IMF)
International Organization for Migration (IOM)
International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
International Trade Centre (ITC)
International Training Centre International Labour Organization (ITC- ILO)
Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
Multilateral Fund (MLF)
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)
Montreal Protocol Ozone Secretariat
Peacekeeping Operations and Special Political Missions (full list available at www.submissions.org)
Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions (BRS)
UN Women
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
United Nations Headquarters (UNHQ)
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)
United Nations International Computing Centre (UNICC)
United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG)
United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON)
United Nations Office at Vienna (UNOV) / United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)
United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)
United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC)
United Nations University (UNU)
United Nations Volunteers Programme (UNV)
Universal Postal Union (UPU)
World Bank Group (WBG)
World Food Programme (WFP)
World Health Organization (WHO)
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
World Tourism Organization (UN Tourism)
World Trade Organization (WTO)

References

Greenhouse Gas Protocol (2024). Standards and Guidance. https://ghgprotocol.org/standards-guidance. Accessed 17 October 2025.

Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (1997), entered into force 16 February 2005. https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-kyoto-protocol/what-is-the-kyoto-protocol/kyoto-protocol-targets-for-the-first-commitment-period.

United Nations (2025a). *For Humanity: Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization*. https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/sg_annual_report_2025_en.pdf.

United Nations (2025b). The true cost of peace. Rebalancing world military spending for a sustainable and peaceful future. https://www.un.org/en/peace-and-security/the-true-cost-of-peace. Accessed 17 October 2025.

United Nations (2025c). *Renewable energy – powering a safer and prosperous future*. https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/raising-ambition/renewable-energy. Accessed 17 October 2025.

United Nations Environment Programme (2024). *Global Waste Management Outlook. Beyond the age of waste – Turning rubbish into a resource*. Nairobi. https://wedocs.unep.org/20.500.11822/44939.

United Nations Environment Programme (2025). Greening the Blue. https://www.greeningtheblue.org. Accessed 17 October 2025.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (2024). *Focus area strategic plan for climate action 2024-2030*. https://www.unhcr.org/media/focus-area-strategic-plan-climate-action-2024-2030.

United Nations Office for Project Services (2025). *2024 Annual Statistical Report on United Nations Procurement*. https://www.ungm.org/Shared/KnowledgeCenter/Pages/asr_report.

United Nations System Chief Executive Board (2019). *Strategy for Sustainability Management in the United Nations System, 2020-2030, Phase I: Environmental sustainability in the area of management*. CEB/2019/1/Add.1.

United Nations System Chief Executive Board (2021). *Strategy for Sustainability Management in the United Nations System, 2020-2030, Phase II: Towards leadership in environmental and social sustainability*. CEB/2021/2/Add.1.

World Bank Group (2025). World Bank Open Data. https://data.worldbank.org/. Accessed 17 October 2025.

World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) (2025). *Progress on household drinking-water, sanitation and hygiene 2000-2024: Special focus on inequalities*. Geneva.

Special thanks to UNEP's funding partners. For more than 50 years, UNEP has served as the leading global authority on the environment, mobilizing action through scientific evidence, raising awareness, building capacity and convening stakeholders. UNEP's core programme of work is made possible by flexible contributions from Member States and other partners to the Environment Fund and UNEP Planetary Funds. These funds enable agile, innovative solutions for climate change, nature and biodiversity loss, and pollution and waste.

Support UNEP. Invest in people and planet.
www.unep.org/funding

UN environment programme

www.unep.org
unep-communication-director@un.org