



Quarterly Report

to the 159th Meeting of the

Committee of Permanent Representatives

April – June 2022

(Advance Unedited Version)

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1 Significant Developments

Global

Stockholm+50

As mandated by United Nations General Assembly Resolutions 75/280 and 75/32, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) served as the focal point for the Stockholm+50 international meeting on 2-3 June 2022. The meeting, which marked 50 years since the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, was co-hosted by Sweden and Kenya.

Stockholm+50 brought together 5,000 participants from over 140 countries, as well as more than 2,000 civil society representatives along with 135,000 online views. The summit resulted in the [Stockholm+50 Recommendations and Actions for Renewal and Trust](#) as well as other outputs reaffirming the need to accelerate system-wide transformations to address a healthy planet for all. Innovative initiatives and ideas were framed around three organizing principles of engagement: intergenerational responsibility; interconnectivity; and implementation opportunity.

During the meeting, the Coalition for Digital Environmental Sustainability (CODES) – comprised of 1,000 stakeholders from over 100 countries committed to leveraging digital technologies to meet the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and address the triple planetary crisis – launched an [Action Plan for a Sustainable Planet in the Digital Age](#), calling for three systemic shifts to integrate environmental sustainability into digital transformation resulting in a twin transition. The Conference was also a pivotal moment for youth engagement in environmental multilateralism, as they articulated their demands for a sustainable future in a [Global Youth Policy Paper](#) and took centre stage in their Youth Assembly; as well interfaith representatives, including those of indigenous traditions, who advocated for a [valuesbased approach](#) to shape global environmental governance and policymaking.

The Environment Management Group (EMG) also made an important joint UN system contribution to Stockholm+50 titled [The Impact of the Stockholm Conference on the UN System: Reflections of 50 Years of Environmental Action](#), focusing on the achievements and challenges encountered in addressing the environmental agenda since the 1972 Stockholm Conference, as well as aspirations and commitments toward accelerating mandates and actions to address the planetary crises.

UNEP's communications efforts around Stockholm+50 and [World Environment Day 2022](#) (5 June) were connected and mutually reinforced under the shared slogan #OnlyOneEarth. Both campaigns built momentum, disseminated knowledge and rallied global environmental action to address the triple planetary crisis. The 2022 World Environment Day's multilingual campaign resonated around the world with over 65 million views to global conversations initiated online. The day saw a host of global commitments from governments and the private sector. Media coverage included over 48,000 news articles in 166 countries and 54 languages -- breaking media campaign records.

UN Ocean Conference

The [UN Ocean Conference](#) was held in Lisbon, Portugal, from 27 June to 1 July, to scale up ocean action based on science and innovation for the implementation of [SDG 14 Life Below Water](#). The Conference saw the unanimous adoption of the [Lisbon Declaration](#), a suite of science-based and innovative actions, taking into account the capacity challenges facing developing countries, in particular, Small Island Developing States and Least Developing Countries. UNEP's contribution to the Conference included engagement in high-level activities, bilateral meetings with Member States and technical workshops, supported by Jason Momoa, the newly appointed Ambassador for SDG 14 Life Below Water. Its engagement in negotiations and events included support to fundraising events for the Global Fund for Coral Reefs. Through the Conference, UNEP actively advanced ocean science and innovation that can help to resolve the triple planetary crisis.

UNEP at the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

On 5-6 May 2022, UNEP contributed to the ECOSOC's [7th Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation \(STI\) for the Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#), where it highlighted the need to build trust in science and STI as an opportunity to address urgent challenges. UNEP also presented the UNEA5 report at the ECOSOC Management segment on 9 June 2022. UNEP contributed to the High-Level Thematic Debate on Tourism convened on 4 May by the President of the General Assembly, in which Member States and stakeholders discussed strategies, shared best practices and experiences on how tourism can advance recovery for people, planet, and prosperity.

On 18 May 2022, UNEP's Executive Director attended the ECOSOC Operational Activities for development segment, showcasing UNEP's support to Member States in the 2030 Agenda implementation. The [2022 ECOSOC Operational activities for development segment](#) provided some [important recommendations](#) on accelerating action for the Sustainable Development Goals.

Towards a legally binding Instrument on plastic pollution

In response to resolution 5/14, UNEP convened an ad hoc open-ended working group (OEWG) to prepare for the work of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment. The meeting was held from 30 May to 1 June 2022 in Dakar, Senegal, in a hybrid format to set the stage for the INC process ahead. The [meeting](#) proposed a nominal timetable for the five INC meetings to take place before the end of 2024 and a list of documents to be prepared before INC-1. The draft rules of procedure for the INC were discussed and they were forwarded to the INC, with bracketed text, for consideration and adoption at INC-1.

A series of multi-stakeholder dialogues were organized in conjunction with the meeting. A total of 689 participants joined the OEWG meeting, with 244 participants joining in person. 124 Member States and the European Union were represented in the meeting. INC-1 is confirmed to take place in Punta del Este, Uruguay, from 28 November to 2 December 2022, with the multi-stakeholder forum taking place on 26 November and regional meetings on 27 November.

The Global Environment Facility (GEF)

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) Council approved its final Work Programme of the GEF-7 cycle on 21 June 2022, including 36 new UNEP-led projects with a combined value of over US\$63 million – bringing the total value of UNEP GEF-7 approvals to over US\$744 million, or about 18% of the GEF-7 replenishment.

GEF-7 witnessed UNEP's greatest replenishment share to date, including a sharp uptick in what has been a long-term trend of growth. GEF is increasingly a key enabler of UNEP's work, with GEF projects and programmes representing more than 38% of UNEP's delivery on its 2018-2021 MTS – including 70% of its work on ecosystem management, 40% of its work on climate change, and over 34% of its delivery on chemicals and waste. For instance, UNEP's efforts towards a pollution-free planet are boosted by GEF's endorsement of new projects with a combined value of US\$42 million on chemicals in textiles, plastics, mercury use in artisanal gold mining processes and in products such as dental amalgam. At the launch of the GEF-8 cycle at the 62nd GEF Council Meeting Member States pledged over US\$5.3 billion to fund the partnership's work over the next four years – an almost 30% increase on the GEF-7 total.

Accelerating action on desertification, land degradation and drought

Member States gathered to seek progress on desertification, land degradation and drought at the [UNCCD COP15](#) held in Abidjan from 9 to 20 May 2022, under the theme, 'Land. Life. Legacy: From scarcity to prosperity.' With nearly 7,000 participants, including a dozen Heads of State and Government, approximately 50 ministers and high-level delegates, notable outcomes from the [38 decisions](#) adopted included the establishment of an Intergovernmental Working Group on Drought (2022–2024) to accelerate coordinated drought management through regional and global instruments; calls to improve women's involvement in land management and tenure with associated improvements in data collection, monitoring and accountability frameworks; accelerating progress on the [Great Green Wall](#); and, renewed commitments to restore one billion hectares of degraded lands globally. The announcement of a US\$2.5 billion Abidjan Legacy Programme to help future-proof agriculture supply chains while tackling deforestation and climate change was also a notable achievement. Discussions also

focused on improved target setting and synergies across the Rio Conventions, with nature-based solutions offering an opportunity to enhance complementary impacts.

UNEP's technical support to Member States prior to and at the COP focused on drought, ecosystem restoration, Great Green Wall and food systems transformation. In addition, UNEP supported 122 parties to meet their reporting obligations under the Convention through GEF-enabling grants. UNEP, through the Environment Management Group, also produced a [report](#) to assist Member States to advance a human rights-based approach to desertification, land degradation, and drought by addressing climate change and unsustainable production and consumption through over-use of land, water, and natural resources.

First Global Meeting of National Focal Points under Montevideo Programme

From 6 to 9 June 2022, the in-person segment of the First Global Meeting of National Focal Points (NFPs) under the Fifth Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law was held in Nairobi. NFPs identified initial priority areas for implementation relating to legal response to address the pollution crisis, the climate crisis, and the biodiversity crisis, as supplemented by crosscutting activities.

Policy and Legislation for Integrated Waste Management during a pandemic

In April 2022, UNEP launched a [Guidance Publication on Policy and Legislation for Integrated Waste Management during a Pandemic](#) which builds on the [UNEP 2016 Guidelines for Framework Legislation for Integrated Waste Management](#). The Guidance provides support to countries in their efforts to develop or revise legislation and policies to be better prepared for and respond to health and environmental risks associated with waste management in case of future pandemics. It presents a checklist of measures for countries to consider to better deal with waste management challenges in future pandemic scenarios.

Global Tourism Plastics Initiative (GTPI)

The [Global Tourism Plastics Initiative \(GTPI\)](#), developed within the framework of the UNEP-hosted One Planet Sustainable Tourism Programme and co-led by UNEP and UNWTO with technical support from the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, expanded to 121 signatories from 1 April to 30 June. The Initiative works across the tourism value chain with relevant stakeholders including suppliers and waste management platforms, accommodations (large multinational companies and SMEs), tour operators, cruise lines and online booking platforms, with a combined estimated annual revenue of over US\$43 billion.

Africa

A hybrid meeting of the African Union [Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change](#) (CAHOSSC) was hosted by Kenya on 27 June 2022. The meeting, held on the sidelines of the 2022 U.N. Ocean Conference in Lisbon, aimed at advancing a common agenda for Africa in preparation of 27th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27). Among the key issues covered was the need for equity and justice in climate financing, especially for climate adaptation. The meeting called for a collective Africa positioning to make financing available as a means to achieve its climate goals. The meeting, *inter alia*, concluded with the adoption of the [African Union Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan \(2022 to 2032\)](#), an instrument to support regional collaboration on climate change and more effective international partnerships for climate action that addresses the continent's priorities.

UNEP renewed the cooperation agreement with The African Network for Animal Welfare (ANAW) on 2 June 2022. The agreement provides a framework for the cooperation between UNEP and ANAW, including the organization of the yearly Africa Animal Welfare Conference.

On 20-21 June 2022, African Major Groups and Stakeholders met in Rabat, Morocco to discuss the outcomes of UNEA 5 and expectations for UNEA 6. The meeting was hosted and co-sponsored by the Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection. Major Groups reiterated their commitment to support the UNEA-6 presidency and work together to push for more implementation of the resolutions.

Asia and the Pacific

The seventy-eighth session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), was held in a hybrid modality from 23- 27 May 2022 at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok and online. The UNEP's Acting Deputy Executive Director attended the High-level thematic roundtable on 24 May 2022 and highlighted that the SDGs cannot be achieved without addressing the triple planetary crisis as well as the need to turn plastic pollution into an opportunity for multilateralism.

The [2022 Annual General Meeting of the China Council of International Cooperation on Environment and Development \(CCICED\)](#) was held online from 13-16 June 2022. The UNEP Executive Director, serving as the Vice Chairperson of CCICED, made an intervention at the Closing Session on 16 June 2022 that highlighted the importance of Phase VII of CCICED (2022-2026), and China's 14th Five Year Plan (2021-2025) in galvanizing action and China's leadership in areas of energy transition, circular economy, and innovative finance and investment.

The Fifth edition of the biennial CleanEnviro Summit Singapore (CESG) was held on 17-21 April 2022 in Singapore. UNEP attended the event and delivered a statement at the Environment and Water Leaders Forum that highlighted the fact that cities represent the single greatest opportunity for tackling climate change; circular economy approaches are key for the transformation of urban infrastructure; and shifting the needle on plastic pollution by creating a circular plastic economy. The [event](#) spotlighted how cities and organisations can transform sustainability challenges into opportunities in the work towards a climate resilient future.

Europe

The Geneva Environment Network organized over 30 events relating to the global environment agenda, with particular focus on the Inter-governmental Negotiating Committee (INC) to end plastic pollution, the UN Ocean Conference, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports, Human Rights and Environment and Climate. During this period, the Issue Based Coalition on Environment and Climate also designed a training programme on "Green Transitions", which will focus on Finance, Energy, Plastics and the Circular Economy. It also contributed to the 2022 Regional Forum on Sustainable Development by organizing three peer-learning roundtables on SDG 4, SDG 14 and SDG 15, whose [recommendations](#) have been included in the region's official input to the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development.

In line with its mandate, and ongoing Disasters and Conflicts-related work, and at the request of the government of Ukraine, and in coordination with other United Nations partners, UNEP has stepped up work to support the mapping and assessment of the environment damage resulting from the conflict in Ukraine, as well as the provision of technical assistance to support containment, mitigation and remediation efforts underway by the national authorities.

At the request of the United Nations Resident Coordinator, UNEP deployed a dedicated senior environmental affairs officer to support UN-wide response to the environmental dimensions of the crisis, and to advance the work on monitoring, technical assistance and assessment preparation. This includes preparing for field assessment work by pre-identifying priority themes and sites, logistical considerations and required expertise, necessary technical facilities, suitable methodological processes, oversight mechanisms and partnership arrangements. An environmental field advisor was also deployed under the auspices of the UNEP/OCHA Joint Environment Unit, to cover the environmental dimensions of the humanitarian crisis. The provision of such support is core to the services offered by UNEP under its mandate, the agreed Medium-Term Strategy and Programme of Work, and applicable UNEA resolutions, namely 2/15 (Protection of the environment in areas affected by armed conflict) and 3/1 (Pollution mitigation and control in areas affected by armed conflict or terrorism).

Latin America and the Caribbean

On 5-6 April 2022, a Regional Multi-Stakeholder consultation for Stockholm+50 in Latin America and the Caribbean took place with two plenaries and six working groups, reaching over 800 participants. Many voices were brought to the table, in particular indigenous people, youth, women, and faith-based organizations.

In the framework of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), LAC climate change directors provided evidence on how the region would benefit from consolidating a more united position in the framework of common priorities in the climate negotiations. As a result, the climate change director's working group of the Forum asked UNEP to facilitate a regional dialogue on loss and damage and access to finance. As a follow up to the Special Session of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment held in San José, Costa Rica, in January 2022, where countries advocated for the establishment of a robust science-policy interface to advise LAC Ministers, a proposal for a scientific advisory body to the Forum has been developed and is now under discussion among countries.

North America

On 22 June 2022, the Government of Canada published the [Single-use Plastics Prohibition Regulations](#). This is the latest action in advancing the long-term efforts of the government in phasing out plastics — following up its 2019 pledge to eliminate more than 1.3 million tons of plastic waste over a decade. The Regulations prohibit the manufacture, import, sale and eventually export of most single-use plastic check out bags, straws, cutlery, food service ware, ring carriers and stir sticks.

On the same day, US Agency for International Development (USAID) Administrator [announced](#) the launch of the Save Our Seas Initiative. The Initiative includes US\$62.5 million of initial funding and the launch of 14 new country and regional programmes that collectively represent 40% of total global mismanaged plastic waste. The initiative builds upon USAID's six years of focus on solid waste management systems and strengthens policies and practices for the 3R's (reduce, reuse and recycle).

West Asia

UNEP organized the West Asia Regional Multi-Stakeholder meeting for Stockholm + 50 on 11-12 May 2022. The [consultations](#) attracted more than 130 participants, with 20 speakers drawn from government representatives, civil society, youth, women associations, and UN agencies. Messages and recommendations that stressed the need to address the triple planetary crisis were shared widely by different stakeholders through meetings, national statements, and youth initiatives during Stockholm+50.

2 Programme of Work Implementation

A. Climate Stability

Carbon Call

UNEP helped catalyse the [Carbon Call](#) - a multi-stakeholder initiative that aims to achieve a new level of carbon accounting that is increasingly reliable, interoperable, and up to the task of measuring progress and challenges using the best available data and digital technologies. Carbon Call members are mobilizing collective action, investment, data and digital technologies to expand transparent, comprehensive, and regular reporting of greenhouse gas emissions from companies amongst other objectives. The Carbon Call will be aligned to the needs of the Enhanced Transparency Framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Core Carbon Principles

UNEP supported the [Integrity Council for the Voluntary Carbon Market](#) to develop the Core Carbon Principles and the Assessment Framework, which are now under public consultations. During the period, support was also provided on approaches and best practices to ensure inclusive participatory processes, including with indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs) and women.

Climate Action in Tourism

The number of signatories of the [Glasgow Declaration on Climate Action in Tourism](#) reached the milestone of 600 organizations and governments during the reporting period. The Declaration is led by UNWTO with the Travel Foundation, within the framework of the UNEP-hosted One Planet Network Sustainable Tourism Programme and the Tourism Declares a Climate Emergency initiative. The signatories committed to developing climate action plans within a year and pledged to halve emissions over the next decade and reach Net Zero Emissions as soon as possible before 2050. Between April and June 2022, three workshops were also organized to support signatories with the identification and prioritization of activities that need to be covered by climate action plans and measurement of CO₂ emissions.

Sustainable lifestyles for climate action

UNEP published a policy brief called "[Enabling Sustainable Lifestyles in a Climate Emergency](#)", which offers insights on what forces shape our lifestyles, from our values and norms to economic factors and government regulations, underpinned by the physical infrastructure within which we live. The brief also introduces the policy tool of "choice editing" which is critical to kickstart the transition to sustainable lifestyles. In addition, it offers concrete policy strategies for local and national governments in response to the latest [IPCC report on mitigation \(AR6 WG3\)](#).

Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator

As part of the Adaptation Fund Climate Innovation Accelerator, UNEP and the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) are administering US\$5 million worth of grants (up to US\$250,000 each) to enhance climate resilience in developing countries. The deadline for applications in the third call for proposals is 30 September 2022.

Ecosystem-based adaptation

A [guide](#) co-developed by UNEP and United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) showing how to bring 'ecosystem-based adaptation' into National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) garnered more than 5,787 enrolments.

Engaging government and academia on adaptation

UNEP engaged municipalities and universities on adaptation through its Global Adaptation Network provided financial support for a training series to bring the [EPIC Model to Africa](#). The EPIC Model is a pioneering scheme for tackling sustainability challenges by creating partnerships between municipalities and their local university faculties and students.

The Government of Mongolia with UNEP supported the University of Mongolia to incorporate a climate change adaptation course into its curriculum. This integration is an important step towards building long-term national capacity to address climate change. In [São Tomé and Príncipe](#), the Government in partnership with the UNEP, launched a process to develop a national adaptation plan (NAP) to reduce the country's vulnerability to climate change impacts.

UN-REDD Programme

UNEP, through the [UN-REDD Programme](#) continued to support six countries (Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, Ghana, Papua New Guinea, Uganda, Viet Nam) to increase their capacities to deliver on the mitigation goals of the Paris Agreement by helping them meet safeguards requirements to access potential results-based finance through the [Lowering Emissions by Accelerating Forest Finance](#) (LEAF) Coalition. UN-REDD also supported seven countries (Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, Ghana, Peru, Uganda, Viet Nam) to mobilize results-based financing for future (2022-2026) anticipated REDD+ results from the LEAF Coalition, totalling over \$1 billion.

Climate Information and Knowledge Services

UNEP launched a US\$49.9 million GCF-funded programme on [Enhancing Climate Information and Knowledge Services](#) in the Cook Islands, Niue, Palau, the Marshall Islands and Tuvalu. The programme will establish multi-hazard early warning systems and build capacities to access and use science to inform policy development, preparedness, and early action for increased resilience.

Systematic Observations Financing Facility

The [Systematic Observations Financing Facility \(SOFF\)](#), co-founded through a partnership between World Meteorological Organization (WMO), UNDP and UNEP, became operational in June 2022. It will provide technical and financial assistance to close critical weather and climate data gaps in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs), which limit adaptation efforts worldwide.

Climate, Land, Agriculture and Biodiversity (CLAB-AFRICA) project

UNEP is co-implementing the [Climate, Land, Agriculture and Biodiversity \(CLAB-AFRICA\) project](#) which aims to provide a platform for Africa's leading scientists to engage Africa's political leadership and elevate specific knowledge on climate change, land, agriculture, and biodiversity. In this context, four thematic webinars and four regional workshops were held during the reporting period to review and discuss four policy briefs.

Climate and environmental advocacy

From 28-30 May 2022, UNEP, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), together with civil society and youth partners, organized the [Asia Regional Dialogue on Climate justice for children, youth and future generations](#). The regional dialogue provided a dedicated space to discuss climate and environmental advocacy strategies and provided a platform for children and youth to share their local and national experiences on climate change and advocacy work. They also shared best practices and experiences with youth representation in negotiations and decision-making processes at regional and global levels.

B. Living in Harmony with Nature

UN Biodiversity Lab 2.0

The [UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre](#) (UNEP-WCMC) has continued to invest in the further development of the [UN Biodiversity Lab 2.0](#) (UNBL) as a free, open-source platform and digital public good developed in collaboration with the UNDP and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). As of April 2022, more than 400 state-of-the-art maps and data on nature, climate change and human development had been aggregated by the UNBL. These open data sets enable governments and other actors to

access relevant information on new ways to generate insight for nature and sustainable development in the progress reporting process to the CBD. So far, more than 60 countries have accessed the UNBL data as part of their national reporting to the CBD. As of April 2022, the UNBL is also receiving data and analytical support from the Microsoft Planetary Computer and the Impact Observatory through a new technical collaboration.

Venice Agreement on Peatlands

In response to the UNEA4 Resolution on the Conservation and Sustainable Management of Peatlands, the UNEP-led Global Peatlands Initiative (GPI) supported the establishment of the [Venice Agreement on Peatlands](#). The Agreement was signed on 2 June 2022 during World Peatlands Day at La Biennale di Venezia and was inspired by the [Turba Tol Hol-Hol Tol](#) Chilean Pavilion which was themed entirely on peatlands. The Venice Agreement will advance South-South cooperation to protect global peatlands by joining local initiatives. Indonesia, supported by the GPI organized a series of [three workshops](#) for G20 countries to support implementation of the UNEA4 Resolution. This work will further support the inclusion of peatlands restoration and conservation in the fight against land degradation while supporting rapid climate and nature action.

Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

On 8 June 2022, UNEP and the CBD secretariat, organized a [regional briefing meeting](#) for Asia - attended by approximately 160 participants, mostly from governments, NGOs and UN agencies - on the status of negotiations on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and preparations for the fourth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework (WG2020-4). The OEWG was hosted by UNEP from 21-26 June 2022 in Nairobi and discussions covered the entire framework text, which includes four goals, 23 proposed targets, and all of the elements that will enable nations to meet them. Delegates also made progress on the issue of Digital Sequence Information; a separate agenda item related to the framework. Parties will continue to work on multiple tracks including political consultations with ministers; a 5th OEWG proposed to be held just before COP 15.2; and continuing intersessional work on resource mobilization, indicators, finance and DSI.

Sustainable Blue Economy

In June 2022, UNEP supported by the ASEAN secretariat organized a [regional webinar](#) on the Sustainable Blue Economy for the ASEAN. The discussion built on the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on the Blue Economy adopted at the ASEAN Summit in October 2021.

UNEP and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) collaborated in the [UN Joint Programme "Accelerating SDGs Investment in Indonesia"](#) (ASSIST) which drew on synergies from the technical expertise of the UNIDO's ["Global Quality and Standards Programme \(GQSP\) Indonesia SMART Fish-2"](#). Through this collaboration, on 12 May 2022, a hybrid awareness-raising event was organized in Central Lombok where shrimp farmers were introduced to the benefits of the transition towards organic aquaculture, which enables producers to improve their sales performance while reducing environmental impacts through preserving biodiversity, avoiding the use of synthetic chemicals, and increasing nutrient efficiency. The know-how generated has the potential to unlock access to SDG-linked loans as an innovative financing scheme, enabling farmers to expand their businesses, investments, and cooperation opportunities through global market networks while also supporting green economy initiatives at large.

Marine Protected Areas

As the Coordinator of the North American Marine Protected Areas Network (NAMPAN), UNEP created the first ever [interactive map](#) of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) throughout North America. The map integrates data from Canada, Mexico, the USA and the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC). It will provide MPA practitioners in the region, useful tools to facilitate the sharing of effective conservation and restoration approaches across similar sites in different regions for better conservation outcomes.

UNEP facilitated a side event on [Fostering multi-stakeholder partnerships and regional cooperation for SDG14](#) at the UN Ocean Conference held on 29 June 2022, in Lisbon. The side event highlighted successful examples of regional cooperation, such as collaborative MPAs, for protecting marine biodiversity, fighting pollution, and mitigating climate change.

Ecosystems Restoration

The [European Restoration Flagships Project](#), a key contribution to the implementation of the UN Decade on Ecosystems Restoration in Europe, was completed in June 2022. Main outputs delivered by the project include:

a summary of criteria for the identification of ecosystem restoration flagships; a composite index to evaluate them; and the delivery of capacity building for 80 participants, including practitioners, governments representatives, and other relevant stakeholders.

UNEP supported the [Restore Nature – Brazilian Ecosystem Restoration Olympics](#) on ecosystems restoration for schools organized and coordinated by *Quero na Escola*, a non-profit institution dedicated to education. 7424 students were involved in its first phase. Aligned with the [UN Decade on Ecosystems Restoration](#), the competition considers that introducing restoration themes with the school curriculum can be a meaningful way to restore nature and people's connection to it.

True Value Accounting

Also in June, UNEP organized two regional symposia on [True Value Accounting](#) via the UNEP-hosted initiative -- *The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity for Agriculture and Food* (TEEBAgriFood). The virtual events featured high-level panel discussions, sessions on private sector engagement and thematic sessions on various topics from the role of agroforestry in food systems transformation to the potential impact of labelling and certification.

C. Towards a pollution-free planet

Digital Product Passports

On 1 June 2022, UNEP, along with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), held a [workshop](#) to examine the overarching concept of Digital Product Passports (DPP) geared towards circularity and sustainability. DPPs store key data to improve traceability of products and encourage eco-design and sustainability through standardizing information on a product's reusability, reparability and upgradability. The workshop brought together manufacturers, operators, policymakers, and other relevant stakeholders. Key governance needs and standards were identified by the workshop to contribute to the design of DPPs.

Special Programme on Institutional Strengthening for the Chemicals Cluster

The Executive Board of the [Special Programme on Institutional Strengthening for the Chemicals Cluster](#) approved nine new projects (in Argentina, Belize, Burkina Faso, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Madagascar, Serbia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe) under the fifth round of funding. These countrydriven projects are aimed at strengthening institutions at the national level for the sound management of chemicals and waste and bring the total Special Programme project portfolio to 66 projects, worth US\$17.8 million.

Addressing marine litter

In June 2022, UNEP and its partners produced and released a [Review of Current Knowledge and Data on Marine Litter in Asia](#) which aims to provide a science-based review of marine litter in the coastal countries of South Asia, North-East Asia and South-East Asia.

The [Action Plan on Marine Litter for the Northeast Pacific Region 2022 – 2026](#) was launched on 8 June 2022, UN World Oceans Day with an aim to address plastic pollution problems in the region. UNEP and its partners of the [Mississippi River Plastic Pollution Initiative](#) launched a [new phase](#) in Greenville, Mississippi, on 11 June 2022, to engage most vulnerable communities with an aim of increasing understanding on the state of plastic pollution.

Under the mandate of the XXII Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean, UNEP and the Latin America and the Caribbean Working Group on Marine Litter and Microplastics prepared a [Report](#) on existing financial and technical mechanisms to address marine litter and microplastics in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Waste management

UNEP, together with Petroleum Development Oman, finalized the Waste Minimization Guidelines for Oman, which the Environment Authority of Oman will use to improve its waste management procedures. The Supreme Council for the Environment, Bahrain, endorsed the first ever E-Waste Inventory for Bahrain developed by UNEP in June 2022.

On 7 June 2022, 33 Small Island Developing States (SIDS) joined a half-billion-dollar [initiative](#) for sound management of hazardous waste, led by UNEP in collaboration with UNDP, Food and Agriculture Organisation

of the UN (FAO) and Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) with co-financing, mostly from key private sector partners such as Swire Shipping, Carnival Cruise Lines, and Iberostar. It will prevent the release of over 23,000 metric tons of toxic chemicals and more than 185,000 metric tons of marine litter within five years focusing on sectors such as tourism, shipping, and recycling

Lead Paint

In May 2022, UNEP and [The Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint](#) launched the [Lead Paint Reformulation Technical Guidelines](#) (available in all UN languages) under the Global Environment Facility (GEF) project “[Global Best Practices on Emerging Chemical Policy Issues of Concern under SAICM](#)”. The guidelines support paint reformulation efforts of 25 small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in China, Colombia, Ecuador, Indonesia, Nigeria, Jordan and Peru.

Environmental Observatories for Sound Management of Chemicals in Africa

Nine pilot countries (Ethiopia, Gabon, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Senegal, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe) through the project “Environmental Observatories for the Sound Management of Chemicals in Africa” (ChemObs), completed technical reports using the [Economic Cost of Inaction and the Relative Risks and vulnerability calculators](#) and made their results available on a [single platform](#) for the first time. ChemObs is a partnership between UNEP, WHO and the Africa Institute, that aims to build capacity in setting up integrated health and environment observatory surveillance and information management systems in Africa, to establish evidence-based policies and make sustainable decisions on sound management of chemicals and related disease burdens.

Improving Air Quality

Four countries (Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Peru and Uganda) under UNEP’s project “Supporting Countries to Monitor and Improve Air Quality” strengthened their capacities on air quality monitoring and developed air quality action plans. Capacity-building and information exchange activities on priority issues related to the air quality management cycle were carried out within the framework of the Intergovernmental Network on Atmospheric Pollution for Latin America and the Caribbean.

The [Nairobi City Council Air Quality Bill 2021](#) was officially launched on 14 June 2022. The Bill, supported by UNEP, establishes “a legal and institutional framework for the protection of the right to a clean and healthy environment within Nairobi City County and the prevention of air pollution.

D. Cross-cutting Implementation

Strategic Foresight at UNEP

UNEP is advancing the use of strategic foresight and futures thinking through a series of coordinated efforts with key partners and staff. The work is expected to culminate in a framework to expand the operational and strategic application of tools such as horizon scanning, scenario planning and normative futures. Adopting an agile, data-driven foresight framework for UNEP’s short, medium and long-term strategy could significantly strengthen the culture of preparedness across the organization, and more effectively respond to evolving priorities, member state needs, stress test proposals, uncover blind spots, and prepare for contingencies.

SDG Indicators

For the first time, UNEP reported data to the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) SDG Global Database for all 25 SDG Indicators and provided the related storylines for 21 SDG Indicators, (nine of which dealt with issues related to COVID-19) in Goals 6, 8, 12, 14, 15 and 17 that are included in the [UN Sustainable Development Goals report, 2022](#). UNEP and UNESCO signed a UN to UN agreement to build a global Index of Coastal Eutrophication Potential model (ICEP) for the production of data to be used for reporting on SDG Indicator 14.1.1a.

Global Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production

On 1 June 2022, the One Planet Network along with partners launched the [Regional Science Partners for Sustainable Consumption and Production](#) (SCP). It builds capacity and directly supports regional and national stakeholders in science-based policy and decision-making through the use of the SCP [Hotspot Analysis Tool](#) (SCP-HAT) and other scientific tools and resources.

The ongoing process of consultations and inclusive development of a Global Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) and SDG-12 presents a landmark opportunity to support the decoupling

of economic growth from environmental degradation through sustainable consumption and production, including resource efficiency and circularity, in the context of the 2030 Agenda. The Strategy will enhance the UNEP-hosted One Planet Network's ability to convene UN bodies, regional programmes, country representatives, and its network of partner organizations to launch a new phase of accelerated implementation of SDG 12 and other SDG targets related to SCP, including SDG 8.

The Strategy is aligned with UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy (2022-2025), which maps out, through its seven sub-programmes, the actions needed to reshape consumption and production patterns towards sustainability. It aims at supporting greater integration across economic and environmental agendas through a systemic approach targeting the drivers of unsustainable consumption and production and their impacts on climate, biodiversity and pollution, across high-impact systems and sectors identified as priorities in the MTS. While the Strategy is coherent with UNEP's enabling sub-programme on Economic and Financial Transformations, the main challenges remain the ability to increase country commitments to use SCP consistently and across high-impact sectors as a pathway to achieving the objectives set under the three thematic programmes. The Strategy will be presented to the CPR on the 22nd of September and will be endorsed by the General Assembly in the fall of 2022.

Sustainable Public Procurement

In June 2022 in Ecuador, six training sessions were held on Sustainable Public Procurement. The training sessions encouraged companies, especially large companies and transnational corporations, to adopt sustainable procurement practices.

Circular economy

On circularity and circular economy approaches that contribute to sustainable consumption and production, a hybrid training on Circular Economy: Policies and Practices for Sustainable Infrastructure was held in Thailand on 7-10 June 2022. The aim of the training was to broaden knowledge and create a clear understanding of possible applications of a circular economy in infrastructure development.

In Lebanon, UNEP signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Lebanese American University to include circular approaches and sustainable lifestyles in curricula, starting with sustainable textiles and circular business models. Under the EU-funded Regional Policy and Advocacy component of SWITCHAsia, on 6 May 2022, UNEP organized the third consultation meeting of a zero-waste roadmap on plastics for cities in China, held both in English and Chinese.

Green Customs Guide to Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)

In April 2022, UNEP officially published an updated English version of the [Green Customs Guide to MEAs](#). The Guide provides information about, and guidance for, the implementation of trade related MEAs and the Convention on Chemical Weapons, and describes the activities undertaken by the Green Customs Initiative (GCI) partners in green customs. The Guide sensitizes customs and border control officers on the role they play in promoting sustainable trade and encourages them to adopt a proactive attitude in protecting the environment. It considers the gender perspective of the daily work of customs and border control officers.

Environmental Rights in ASEAN

In June 2022, the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR), in collaboration with UNEP, OHCHR, and UNESCAP, conducted an Inception Workshop for the Preparation of a Work Plan to Develop a Regional Declaration on Environmental Rights in ASEAN. Participants commended AICHR's progress in working with UN partners and stakeholders towards the declaration, to which two follow-up meetings are planned for September and November 2022. One will be on modalities of work to consider the terms of reference and membership of the working group and the work plan, and the other will be on the substantive elements of the draft declaration.

Faith for Earth

The [Moral Imperative Initiative](#) for Children is an effort by high-level faith leaders to encourage financial service providers to accelerate the shift to renewables. In May 2022, the initiative launched an [appeal](#) on climate-responsible finance signed jointly by UNEP, the World Council of Churches, the Muslim Council of Elders and the New York Board of Rabbis.

Poverty-Environment Action

In May 2022, the Prime Minister of Bangladesh unveiled a [revised mapping publication](#) of ministers and divisions and partner agencies for SDG Implementation in Bangladesh, prepared with the support of the UNDP-UNEP Poverty-Environment Action for SDGs. The mapping document will add value by supporting ministries and agencies to understand their roles and responsibilities clearly. The document helps ministries to chart their programmes and interventions for accelerated achievement of the sustainable development agenda while also providing an understanding of the current SDG Indicators and reporting progress at the global level.

Investing in Natural Infrastructure

The Environment Management Group in close collaboration with the UNEP's Sustainable Infrastructure Investment Team, UNDP and the Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE), organized a Nexus Dialogue on "Investing in Natural Infrastructure", with a focus on how natural infrastructure can deliver on the SDGs while stimulating economies and building the resilience of infrastructure systems in the COVID-19 recovery context.

Gender

After a 10-month review, the Independent Evaluation of UNEP's Policy & Strategy for Gender Equality and the Environment (2015-2020) was completed in June 2022. The Evaluation provided 13 recommendations, that addressed strengthening organisation-wide gender mainstreaming, capacity building, improving results reporting and strengthening UNEP's gender architecture. The Evaluation's findings will inform the preparation of UNEP's 2nd Policy and Strategy on Gender Equality and the Environment that started in May 2022 and will be completed by December 2022.

UNEP continued its [capacity building](#) support to governments, regional organizations, and non-state actors to advance gender responsive renewable energy policy in the Asia Pacific (AP) region where it trained more than 90 people on the interlinkages of Gender Equality, Human Rights, Climate Action and Renewable Energy. Furthermore, the Chair of the Renewable Energy Sub-Sector Network (RE-SSN) of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Energy Cooperation adopted a [Roadmap](#) on Accelerating ASEAN Renewable Energy Deployment through Gender-Responsive Energy Policy supported by Strengthening Human Rights and Gender Equality through Climate Change Action and Disaster Risk Reduction (EmPower). Implemented by ASEAN with the support of UNEP and UN-Women, the project will bring systemic changes in ASEAN member states to deploy renewable energy and support changes in the energy mix.

Identification of entry points of gender in UN-REDD activities and deliverables were defined for 2022, and follow-up will continue throughout the year to promote gender mainstreaming. Under the Sustainable Forest Trade in the Lower Mekong Region ([SFT-LMR](#)) project, efforts were made to identify sources of gender data to include in the webpage on data and tools for social and environmental monitoring. An article on catalysing change with gender-responsive, climate-forest finance was published on the UN-REDD [website](#) and [June](#) newsletter.

UNEP publications

UNEP is improving its publication planning and quality control processes, including the development of a digital publications system, updated publications policy and guidelines, as well as a strengthened governance structure. From 2023, publication metrics will be captured in a dashboard to provide transparency and insights into the performance of the publications. These reforms are being implemented further to a full analysis of UNEP's publications process and the reach and uptake of publications. Please click [here](#) for a list of publications released in 2022 so far and a provisional list of concepts for release at later date. The concepts have been approved by the Publications Board but some of these publications may be changed, merged or cancelled.

E. Main Opportunities, Challenges and Lessons Learned

Climate Action

In terms of climate action, there is a need for UNEP to build upon and strengthen its collaboration with implementing partners such that they develop and implement their portfolios within the framework of their partnership with UNEP, which in turn will further the deliverance of UNEP's work. More concerted efforts to mobilize resources are starting to show promise and remain a major opportunity for UNEP's climate work as current funding levels continue to be insufficient. Under REDD+, the absence of country offices has proven to be

both an advantage and a weakness -- fewer offices imply lower implementation costs, but also mean fewer people on the ground liaising with governments and national stakeholders to push things forward. To address this deficit, UNEP will continue to improve how it leverages the support of UN partners and member states.

Chemicals and Pollution Action

With sector specific interventions at the regional level such as food waste and sustainable fashion programmes in West Asia gaining momentum, such progress provides UNEP with an opportunity to prevent and reduce pollution. To take advantage of this, UNEP will need to match interventions on high impact sectors with opportunities for each region. In the transport sector, refinery upgrades pose a major financial challenge to countries that seek to implement cleaner fuels.

Digital Transformations

When it comes to digital transformations within UNEP the main challenge faced by the subprogramme is offering sufficient incentives and new business models for private sector companies to embrace a digital sustainability agenda. While digital technologies can bring full supply chain transparency in terms of environment or carbon impact, some companies do not want to publicly disclose this information. As a result, investments are needed on the regulatory side in terms of requiring full disclosure, as well as on the standards for disclosing this information in a machine-readable format that can be used to inform consumers. Global standards for digital product passports will be needed to achieve this broader goal.

3 Resources and Management Issues

A. Financial Resources

1.1 Financial Update as at 30 June 2022

Overview of income^[1]

Figure 1: Budget and Income /January 2022 - June 2022

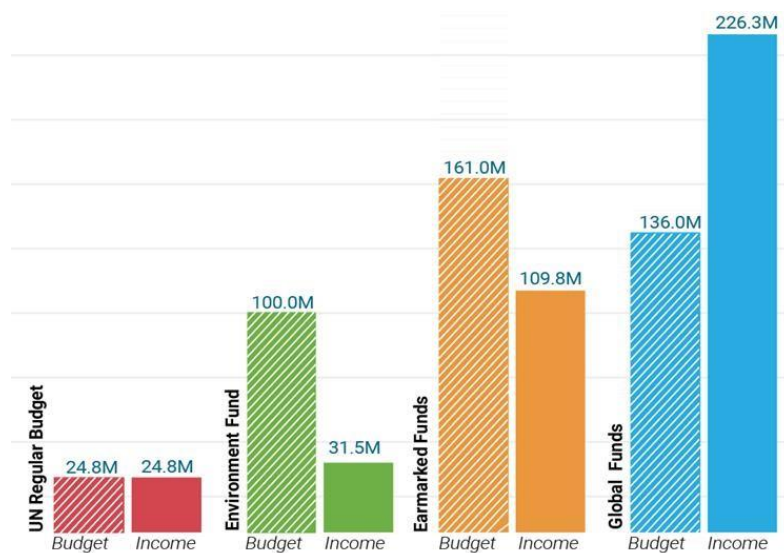
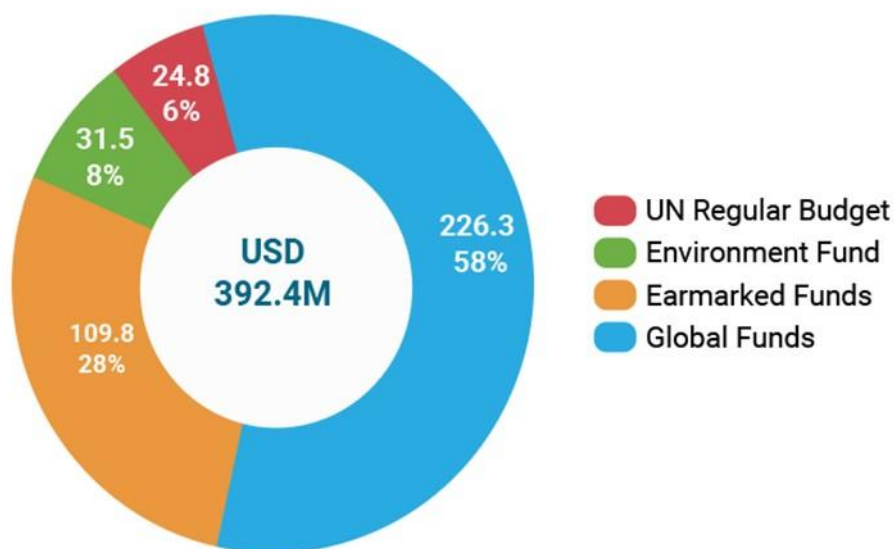


Figure 2: Income per source of funding (in million US\$) /January 2022 - June 2022



Core Funding

United Nations Regular Budget

The United Nations Regular Budget finances a portion of core work in science, capacity building, management, and oversight. The Office of the Controller has made progress in managing the liquidity situation and therefore this year's allotment has been released in full.

The Environment Fund

Together with the UN Regular Budget, the Environment Fund provides the core funding for the organization which gives UNEP the flexibility to implement its programme of work as agreed to by Member States. The core funding supports the organization's essential capacity to:

- Provide science policy interface
- Convene stakeholders for global decision making
- Innovate and advocate for solutions to environmental challenges
- Build capacity of Member States and partners, and
- Respond to emerging challenges, such as Covid-19

The core funds also provide for leadership, stewardship and direction as well as robust oversight for the organization.

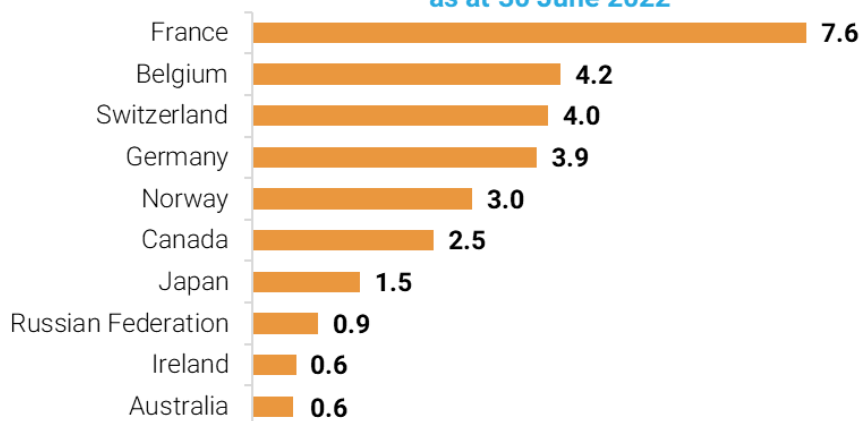


In June 2022, the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD-DAC) retained UNEP's Official Development Assistance (ODA) co-efficiency rating at 100%.

As at 30 June 2022, the Environment Fund income amounted to 32% of the approved 2022 budget. However, the retention of the ODA coefficient at 100% should change the situation as Member States start to release their contributions. Fifty-two (52) Member States pledged to contribute to the Environment Fund (up from 28 Member States in Q1/2022). This represents 27% of the 193 Member States, out of which 23 contributed at their 'full share'.

¹ The figures do not include conventions and protocols administered by the UNEP. Per the United Nations Secretariat interpretation and application of the International Public Service Accounting Standards (IPSAS), UNEP's financial and administrative management platform, Umoja, does not allow a breakdown of multi-year contributions into annual figures for income.

Top 10 contributors to Environment Fund (in million \$) as at 30 June 2022



Member States that contributed their full share as represented by the VISC (January -June 2022)

Paid			Pledged
Albania	Georgia	Norway	Barbados
Angola	Iceland	Seychelles	Fiji
Antigua and Barbuda	Ireland	Slovenia	New Zealand
Belize	Latvia	Timor-Leste	Switzerland
Cyprus	Luxembourg	United Republic of Tanzania	
Eritrea	Mauritius		
France	Myanmar		

Earmarked Contributions

Earmarked Funds

Earmarked funds enable the scaling-up and replication of results of our core work, including capacitybuilding in more countries and with more partners. Where possible, UNEP encourages *soft earmarking* of the funding, rather than *tight earmarking*. This gives more flexibility in targeting funds to where they are most needed while also reducing resources spent on administrative procedures and reporting requirements.

By 30 June 2022, the organization has received 68% of the budgeted amount, out of which 7% was softly earmarked funds provided by Sweden. This percentage is set to grow as UNEP capitalizes on the [Three Thematic Funds](#) to support Climate Stability, Living in Harmony with Nature and a Pollution Free Planet.

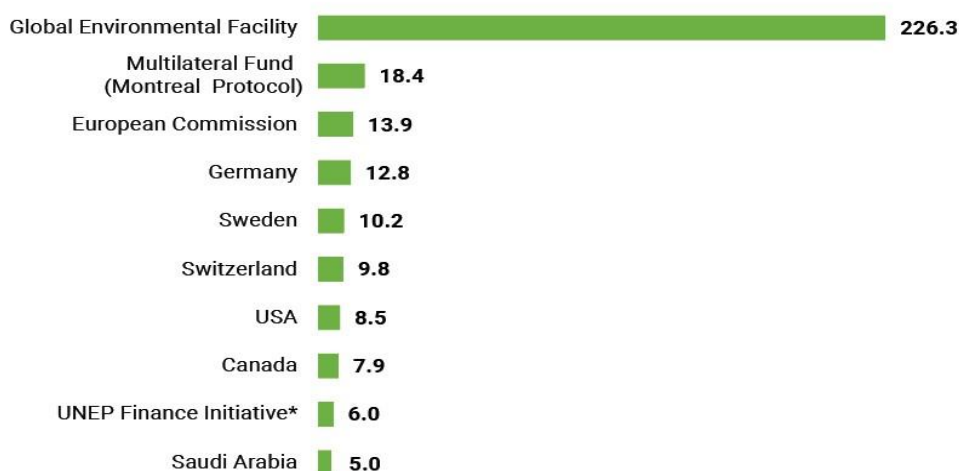
Global Funds

The funds provided by the GEF and the GCF are earmarked for specific programmes and projects. Only GEF contributed by the end of June which amounted to 166% of the budgeted income.

1.2 Status of Allocations and Expenditures as at 30 June 2022

2022 Core Budgets - Programme of work budget (\$)					
	Functional Area Name	Environment Fund	Overhead Trust Account	Regular Budget	Grand Total
A	Policy Making Organs	2,000,000	10,000	8,100	2,018,100
B. 1	Executive Direction & Management	4,000,000	-	3,304,200	7,304,200
B. 2	United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects on Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR)	-	-	806,900	806,900
	Subtotal A + B	6,000,000	10,000	4,119,200	10,129,200
C	Programme of Work				-
1.	Climate action	12,000,000	2,250,000	2,181,300	16,431,300
2.	Digital transformations	7,000,000	650,000	1,532,400	9,182,400
3.	Nature action	12,000,000	1,200,000	2,564,000	15,764,000
4.	Environmental governance	13,000,000	650,000	4,547,300	18,197,300
5.	Chemicals and pollution action	12,000,000	1,550,000	1,780,000	15,330,000
6.	Finance and economic transformations	13,000,000	1,250,000	1,969,000	16,219,000
7.	Science-policy	13,000,000	350,000	3,081,100	16,431,100
	Subtotal C	82,000,000	7,900,000	17,655,100	107,555,100
D	Fund Programme Reserve	5,000,000			5,000,000
	Subtotal C + D	87,000,000	7,900,000	17,655,100	12,555,100
E	Programme Management and Other				-
	Programme Support	7,000,000	8,100,000	1,138,100	16,238,100
	Subtotal E	7,000,000	8,100,000	1,138,100	16,238,100
Total (A+B+C+D+E)		100,000,000	16,010,000	22,912,400	138,922,400

**Top 10 earmarked funds by category (in million \$)
as at 30 June 2022**



*Partnership between UNEP and the global financial sector to mobilize private sector finance for sustainable development.

2022 Core Budgets - Allotments as at 30 June 2022 (\$)

	Functional Area Name	Environment Fund	Overhead Trust Account	Regular Budget	Grand Total
A	Policy Making Organs	1,739,393	-	8,100	1,747,493
B. 1	Executive Direction & Management	3,955,990		3,304,200	7,260,190
B. 2	United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects on Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR)	-	-	806,900	806,900
	Subtotal A + B	5,695,383		4,119,200	9,814,583
C	Programme of Work	-			
1	Climate action	9,695,654	229,875	2,181,300	2,106,829
2	Digital transformations	6,371,857	-	1,532,400	7,904,257
3	Nature action	9,314,669	1,500,538	2,564,000	13,379,207
4	Environmental governance	10,380,559	783,525	4,547,300	15,711,384
5	Chemicals and pollution action	9,210,002	1,225,614	1,780,000	2,215,616
6	Finance and economic transformations	9,597,582	2,004,577	1,969,000	13,571,159
7	Science-policy	10,099,420	279,313	3,081,100	13,459,833
	Subtotal C	64,669,743	6,023,442	17,655,100	88,348,285
D	Fund Programme Reserve	4,431,033	-	-	4,431,033
	Subtotal C + D	69,100,776	6,023,442	17,655,100	92,779,318
E	Programme Management and Other				
	Programme Support	5,203,841	13,275,375	1,138,100	19,617,316
	Subtotal E	5,203,841	13,275,375	1,138,100	19,617,316
Total (A+B+C+D+E)		80,000,000	19,298,817	22,912,400	122,211,217

2022 Core Budgets - Expenditures as at 30 June 2022 (\$)					
	Functional Area Name	Environment Fund	Overhead Trust Account	Regular Budget	Grand Total
A	Policy Making Organs	1,038,768	-	32,320	1,071,088
B. 1	Executive Direction & Management	1,995,803	-	1,651,306	3,647,109
B. 2	United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects on Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR)	-	-	342,141	342,141
	Subtotal A + B	3,034,570	-	2,025,768	5,060,338
C	Programme of Work				
1.	Climate action	4,550,598	326,437	990,659	5,867,694
2.	Digital transformations	1,587,647	-	621,030	2,208,677
3.	Nature action	5,034,944	987,851	1,282,726	7,305,521
4.	Environmental governance	5,227,745	306,782	2,145,016	7,679,543

5.	Chemicals and pollution action	4,017,643	416,300	787,251	5,221,194
6.	Finance and economic transformations	4,509,831	346,323	676,234	5,532,388
7.	Science-policy	4,551,446	16,613	1,489,930	6,057,989
	Subtotal C	29,479,854	2,400,306	7,992,845	9,873,006
D	Fund Programme Reserve	316,176	-	-	316,176
	Subtotal C + D	29,796,030	2,400,306	7,992,845	40,189,182
E	Programme Management and Other				
	Programme Support	2,238,938	6,161,423	400,573	8,800,933
	Subtotal E	2,238,938	6,161,423	400,573	8,800,933
	Total (A+B+C+D+E)	35,069,538	8,561,729	10,419,186	54,050,454

B. Resource Mobilization Strategy

The implementation of the UNEP's Resource Mobilization Strategy to resource the Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) 2022-2025 and the related Programmes of Work has advanced and yielded concrete results in three priority areas:

- i) Increased outreach to Member States
- ii) Transition from tightly to softly earmarked funding and new public and private resource partners
- iii) Engaging with

Close collaboration with Regional Offices has translated into an expanded engagement with capitals and Nairobi-based missions, and has already helped secure contributions from ten Member States that did not contribute in previous years, especially from the African region. This is 19% of all Environment Fund contributors for 2022 to date.

While administrative and governance procedures for the three thematic funds to address the interconnected planetary crises on Climate, Nature and Pollution are being completed, this new and innovative channel is already open to public and private contributions.

C. Human Resources

General Overview

As at 30 June 2022, UNEP employed 1304 staff members consisting of 794 (61 per cent) in the professional and above categories, 9 (1 per cent) in the National Professional Officer (NPO) category and 501 (38 per cent) in the general service category. Of these 801 (61 per cent) are female and 503 (39 per cent) are male.

1. Senior Level Staff (UNEP Secretariat and MEAs)

Total staff at P-5 and above as at 30 June 2022

Level	USG	ASG	D2	D1	P5
No. of Staff	1	3	10	53	139

Note: USG = Under Secretary -General; ASG = Assistant Secretary-General; D = Director; P= Professional

2. Senior Appointments

Senior appointments in the second quarter (April to June) 2022*

Position Title	Grade	Gender	Nationality	Division
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PROGRAMME	D-1	Male	Belgian	Ecosystems Division (DEPI)
CHIEF OF BRANCH, PROGRAMME**	D-1	Female	Malawian	Ecosystems Division (DEPI)
SENIOR PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT OFFICER	P-5	Female	South African	Policy and Programme Division (PPD)

* Excluding Temporary Job Openings **Staff member to assume office after 30 June 2022.

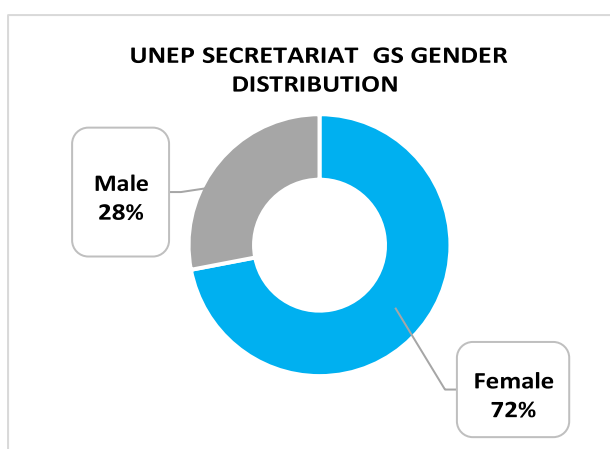
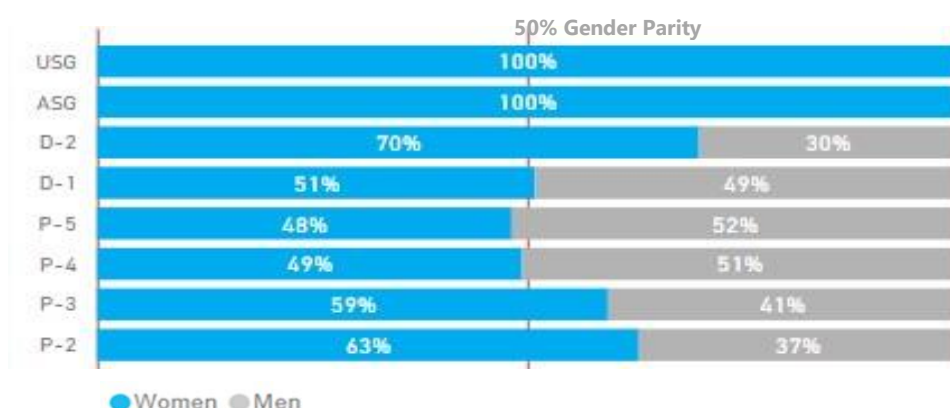
3. Gender Parity Status

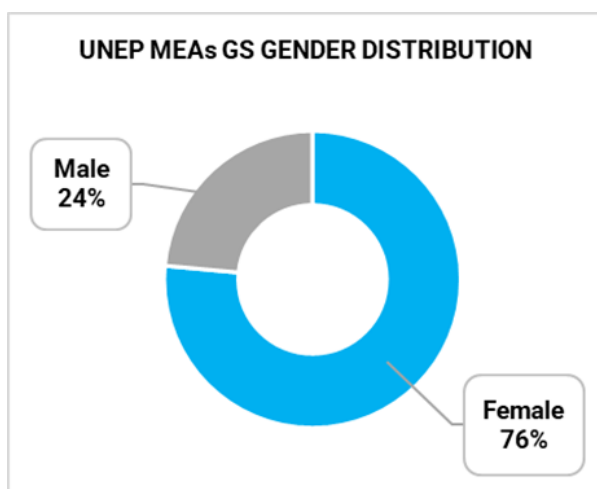
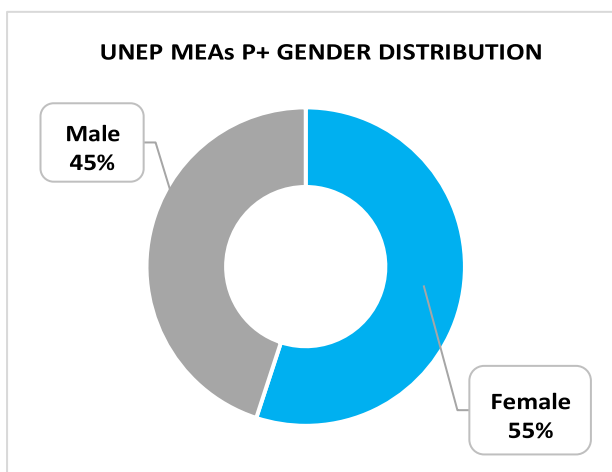
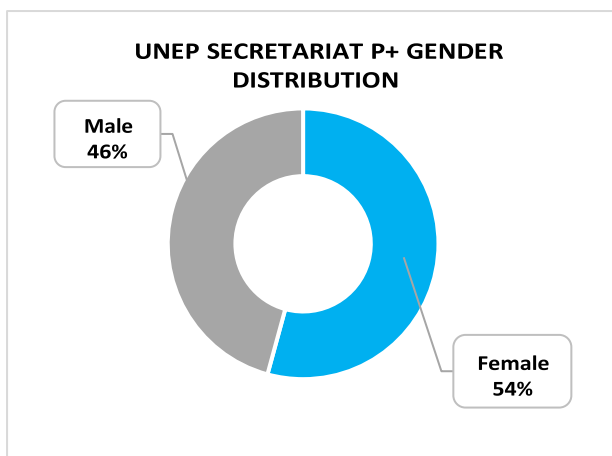
The overall gender parity status remains the same as that of the 1st quarter (January to March) of 2022.

Gender	USG	ASG	D2	D1	P5	P4	P3	P2	Total P+	Total GS	Total NPO	Total
Female	1	3	7	27	67	128	136	63	432	366	3	801
Male	0	0	3	26	72	131	93	37	362	135	6	503
Total	1	3	10	53	139	259	229	100	794	501	9	1304

Note: USG=Under-Secretary-General; ASG=Assistant Secretary-General; D=Director; P=Professional

UNEP Overall P+ Gender Parity Status





Gender Distribution – UNEP Secretariat and MEAs

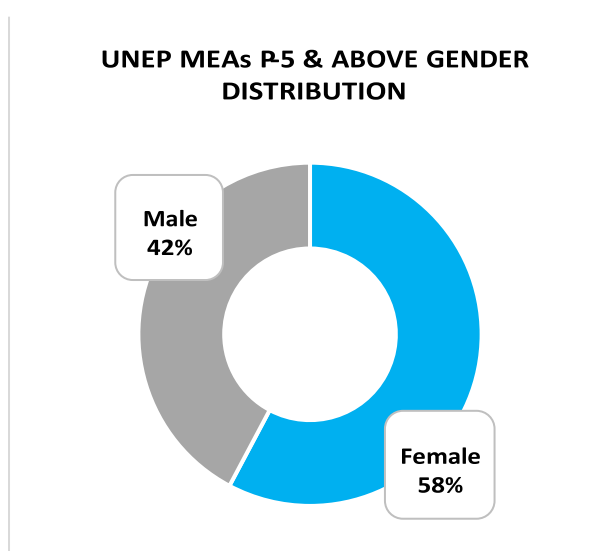
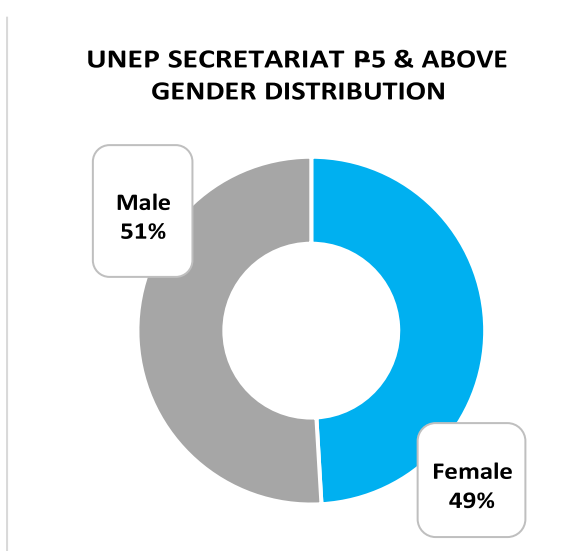
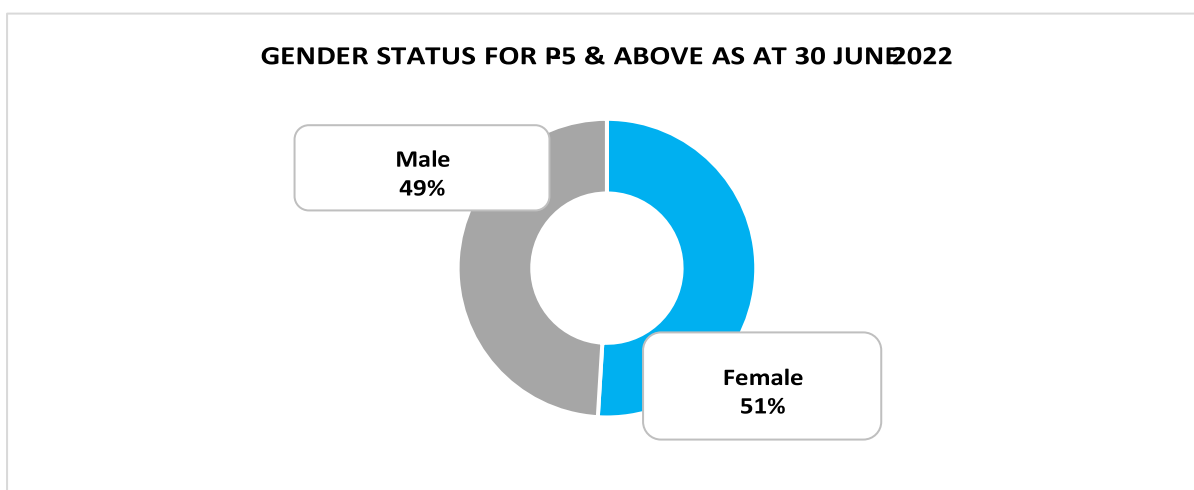
The table below disaggregates the gender distribution between UNEP Secretariat and MEAs.

UNEP SECRETARIAT												
Gender	USG	ASG	D2	D1	P5	P4	P3	P2	Total P+	Total NPO	Total GS	Total
Female	1	2	4	22	50	100	112	48	339	3	275	617
Male	0	0	2	22	58	109	73	22	286	6	107	399
MEAs												

Gender	USG	ASG	D2	D1	P5	P4	P3	P2	Total P+	Total NPO	Total GS	Total
Female	0	1	3	5	17	28	24	15	93	0	91	184
Male	0	0	1	4	14	22	20	15	76	0	28	104
Total	1	3	10	53	139	259	229	100	794	9	501	1304

4. Gender Status for P5 and Above Level – UNEP Secretariat and MEAs as at 30 June 2022

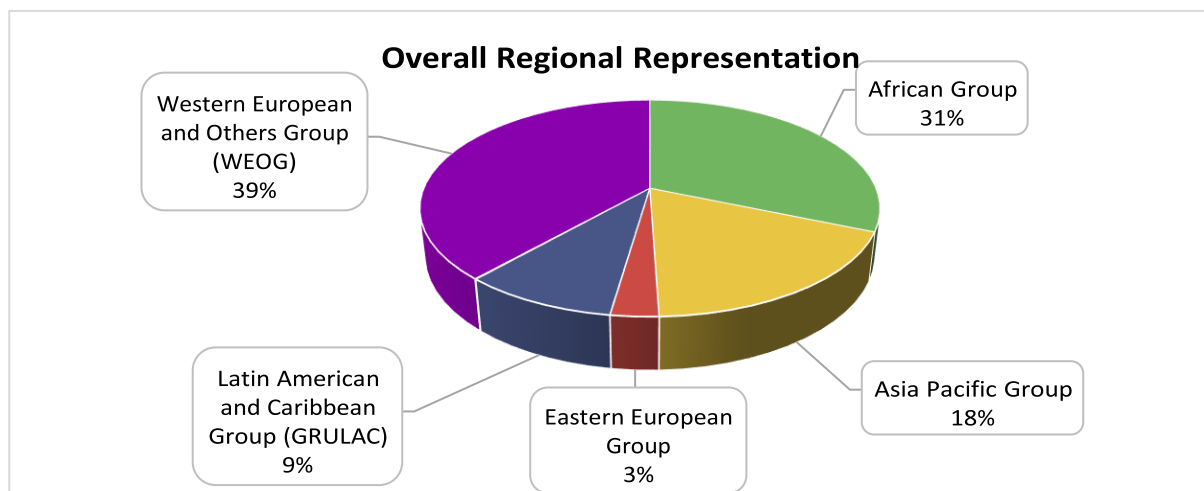
Gender	USG	ASG	D2	D1	P5	Total
Female	1	3	7	27	67	105
Male	0	0	3	26	72	101
Total	1	3	10	53	139	206
Female %	100%	100%	70%	51%	48%	51%
Male %	0%	0%	30%	49%	52%	49%



5. Overall Regional Representation of Staff (UNEP and MEA Secretariats) as at 30 June 2022

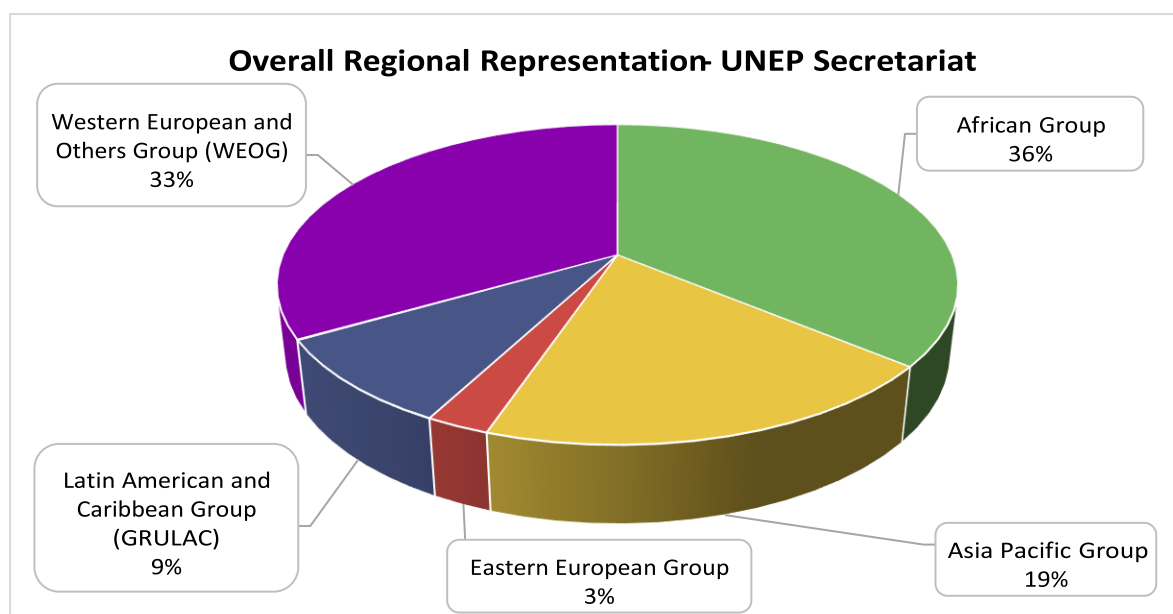
Region	Total
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African Group	409
Asia Pacific Group	238
Eastern European Group	41
Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC)	114
Stateless	1
Western European and Others Group (WEOG)	501
Total	1304



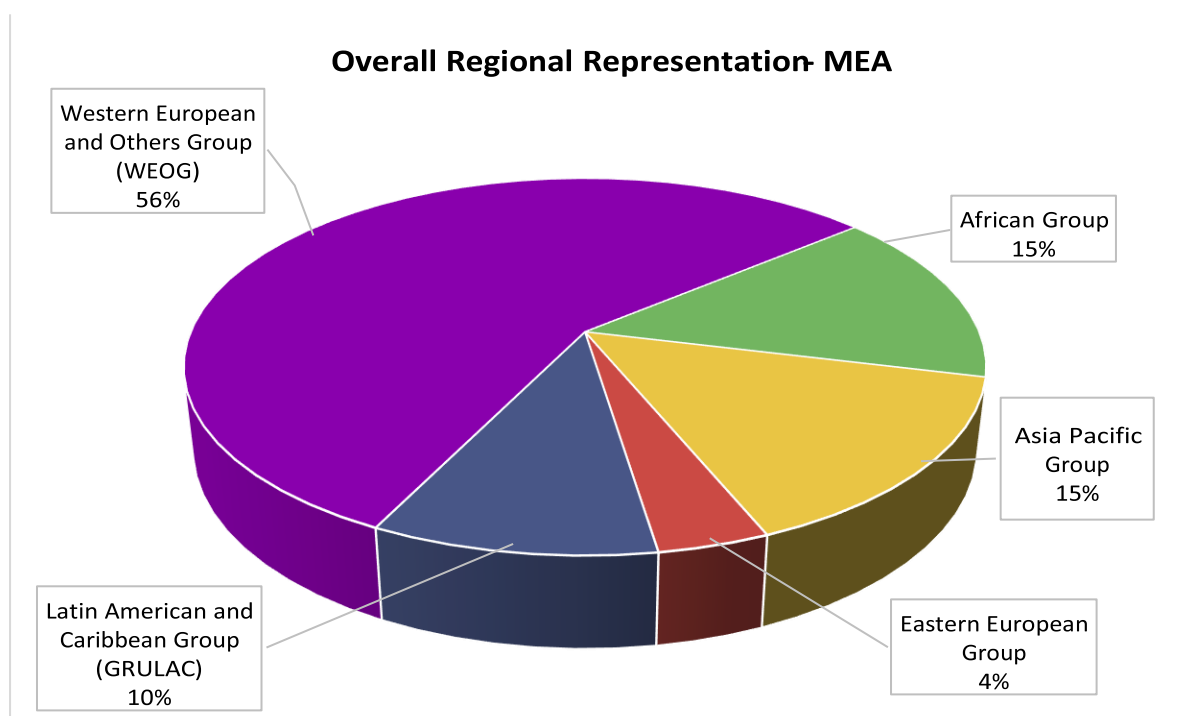
Overall Regional Representation – UNEP Secretariat

Region	Total
African Group	366
Asia Pacific Group	195
Eastern European Group	30
Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC)	86
Stateless	1
Western European and Others Group (WEOG)	338
Total	1016



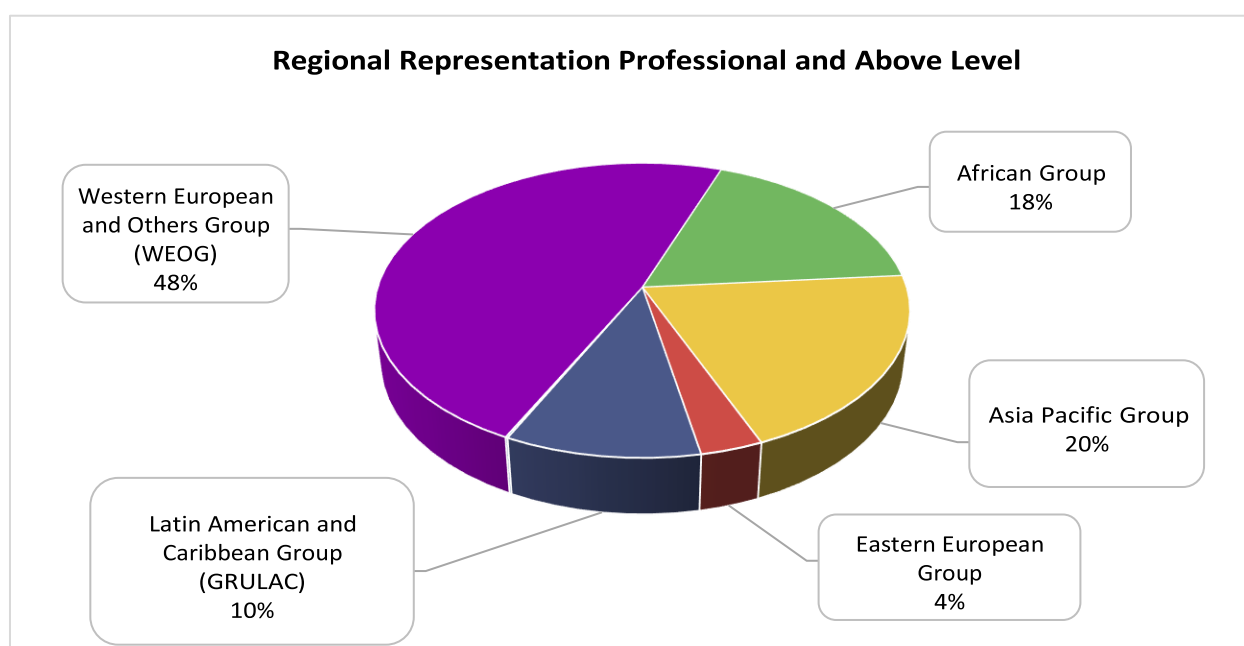
Overall Regional Representation – MEAs

Region	Total
African Group	43
Asia Pacific Group	43
Eastern European Group	11
Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC)	28
Western European and Others Group (WEOG)	163
Total	288



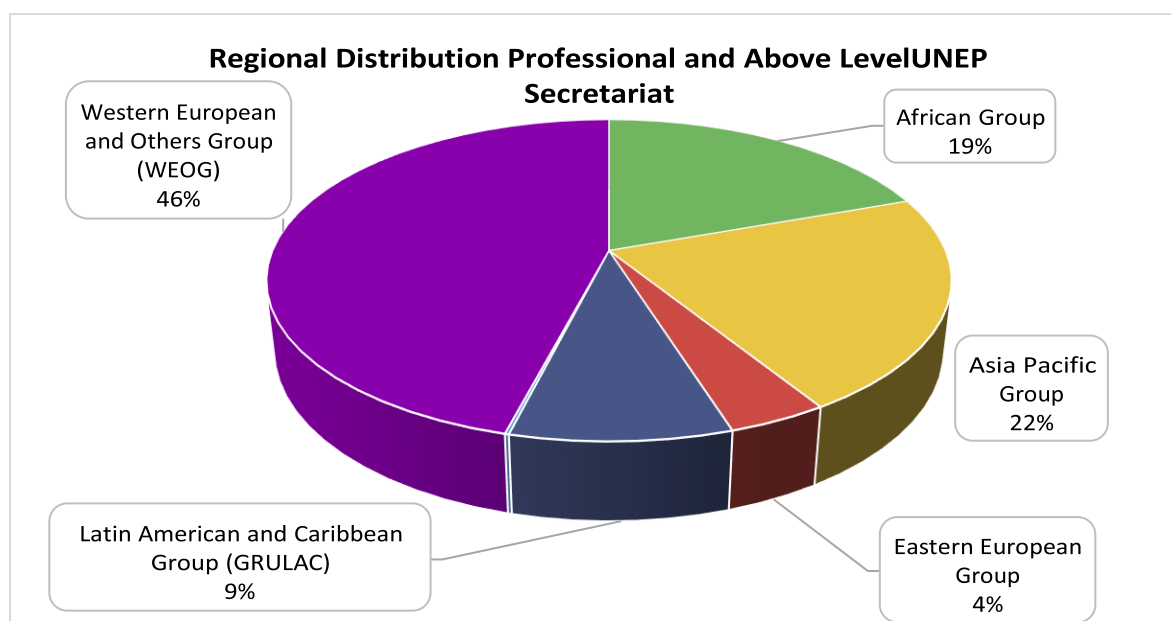
6. Regional Representation of UNEP's Professional and Above Level Staff

Regional Representation	Professional & Above Level								Total
	USG	ASG	D2	D1	P5	P4	P3	P2	
African Group		1	3	4	32	58	38	8	144
Asia Pacific Group		1	2	10	25	47	48	27	160
Eastern European Group				5	5	9	5	6	30
Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC)			2	5	19	22	20	8	76
Stateless							1		1
Western European and Others Group (WEOG)	1	1	3	29	58	123	117	51	383
Total	1	3	10	53	139	259	229	100	794



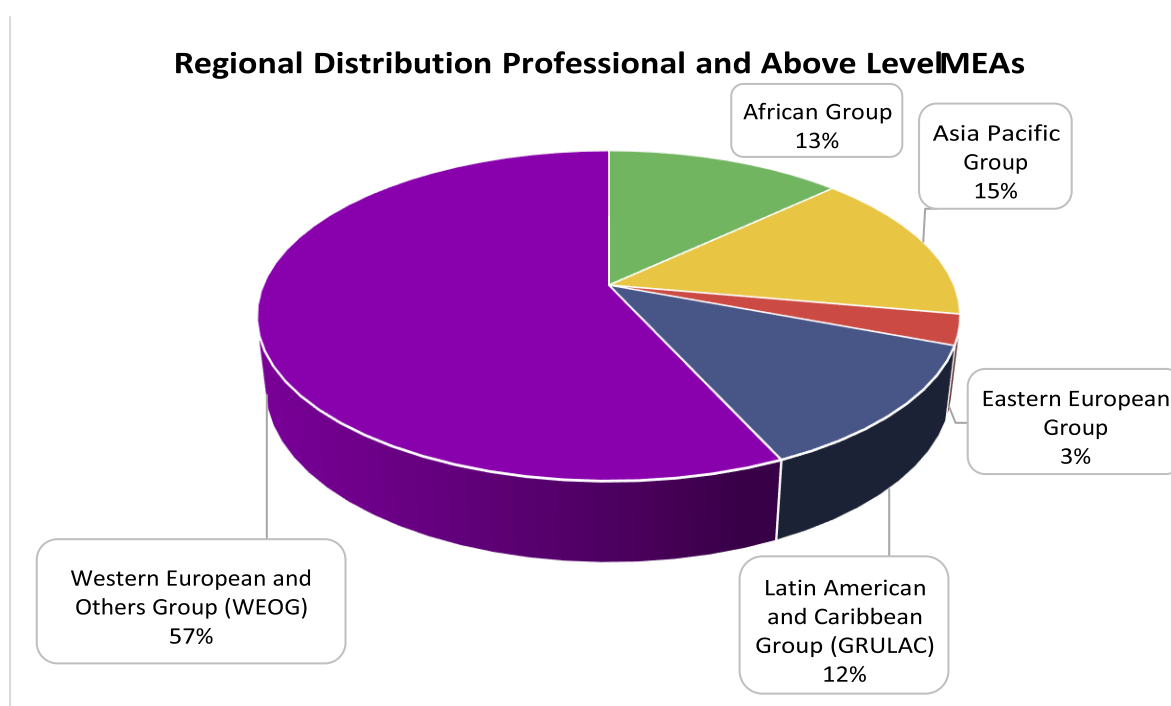
Regional Representation Professional and Above Level – UNEP Secretariat

Regional Representation	UNEP Secretariat Professional & Above Level								Total
	USG	ASG	D2	D1	P5	P4	P3	P2	
African Group			2	3	23	54	34	6	122
Asia Pacific Group		1	1	7	20	40	43	23	135
Eastern European Group				4	4	8	4	5	25
Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC)			1	4	13	16	16	5	55
Stateless							1		1
Western European and Others Group (WEOG)	1	1	2	26	48	91	87	31	287
Total	1	2	6	44	108	209	185	70	625



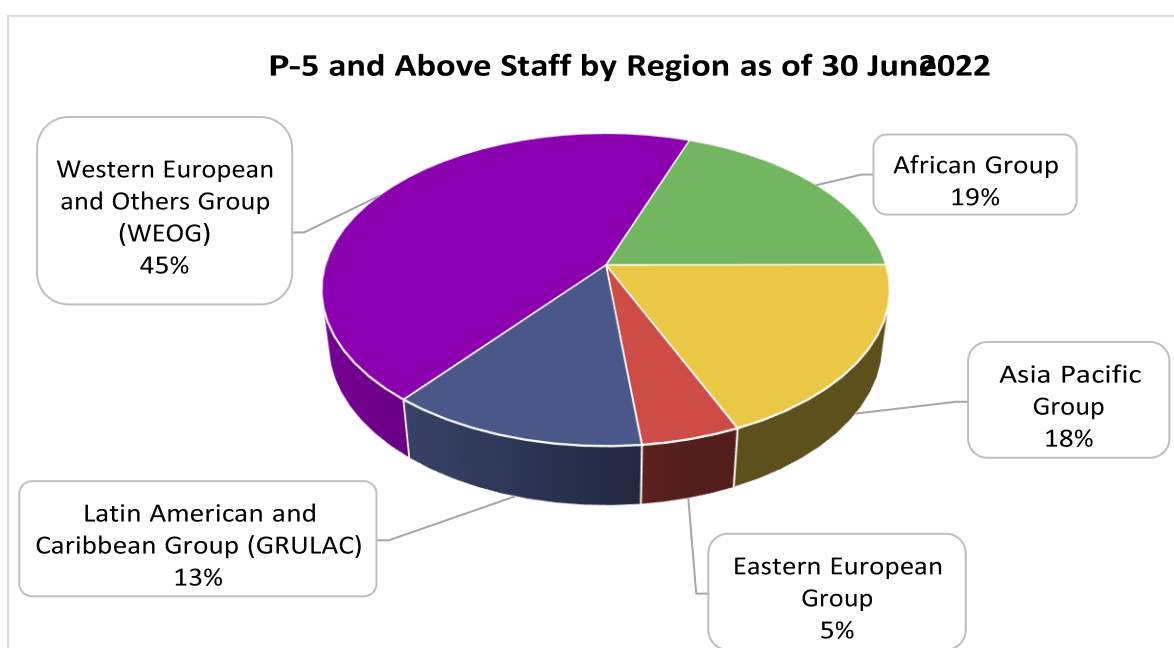
Regional Representation Professional and Above Level – MEAs

Regional Representation	MEAs Professional & Above Level							Total
	ASG	D2	D1	P5	P4	P3	P2	
African Group	1	1	1	9	4	4	2	22
Asia Pacific Group		1	3	5	7	5	4	25
Eastern European Group			1	1	1	1	1	5
Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC)		1	1	6	6	4	3	21
Western European and Others Group (WEOG)		1	3	10	32	30	20	96
Total	1	4	9	31	50	44	30	169



7. Regional Representation P5 and above as of 30 June 2022

Regional Representation	P5 and Above					Total
	USG	ASG	D2	D1	P5	
African Group		1	3	4	32	40
Asia Pacific Group		1	2	10	25	38
Eastern European Group				5	5	10
Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC)			2	5	19	26
Western European and Others Group (WEOG)	1	1	3	29	58	92
Total	1	3	10	53	139	206



Regional Representation P5 & Above – UNEP Secretariat

Regional Representation	UNEP Secretariat P5 and Above					Total
	USG	ASG	D2	D1	P5	
African Group			2	3	23	28
Asia Pacific Group		1	1	7	20	29
Eastern European Group				4	4	8
Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC)			1	4	13	18
Western European and Others Group (WEOG)	1	1	2	26	48	78
Total	1	2	6	44	108	161

Regional Distribution P5 & Above UNEP Secretariat

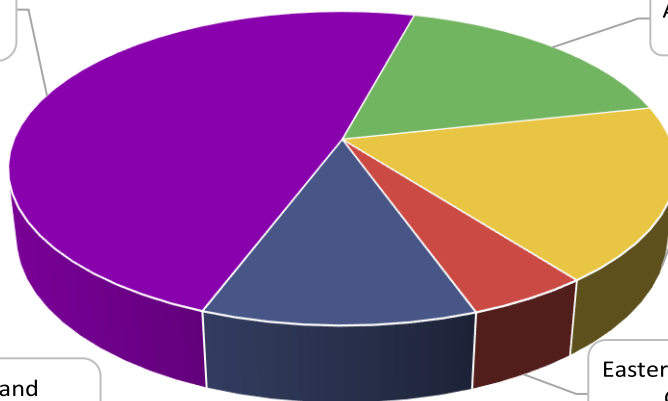
Western European and Others Group (WEOG)
49%

African Group
17%

Asia Pacific Group
18%

Eastern European Group
5%

Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC)
11%



Regional Representation P5 & Above - MEAs

Regional Representation	MEAs P5 and Above					Total
	USG	ASG	D2	D1	P5	
African Group		1	1	1	9	12
Asia Pacific Group			1	3	5	9
Eastern European Group				1	1	2
Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC)			1	1	6	8
Western European and Others Group (WEOG)			1	3	10	14
Total		1	4	9	31	45

Regional Distribution P5 & Above MEAs

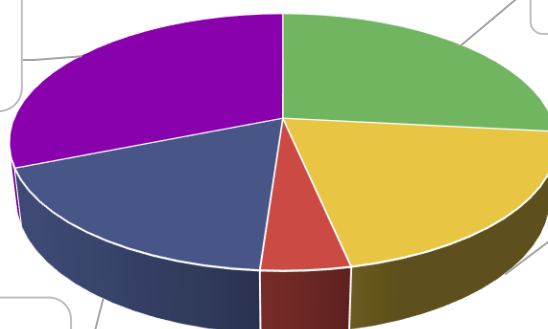
Western European and Others Group (WEOG)
31%

African Group
27%

Asia Pacific Group
20%

Eastern European Group
4%

Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC)
18%



8. Key Human Resource Risks and Issues

Gender

UNEP has reached its gender parity targets to achieve the Secretary General's UN System-Wide Gender Parity Strategy. At the professional level, UNEP's overall gender ratio is 54 per cent female to 46 per cent male. At every individual grade of the professional level UNEP has also reached parity. Under the United Nations Secretariat Framework Gender Parity Strategy, parity is achieved within the 47 to 53 per cent margin. In the previous quarter two out of three senior position appointments were female. UNEP is consistently monitoring and reviewing its overall gender targets against those set out in the implementation plan to ensure parity is maintained.

Geographic Distribution

UNEP has been tasked by the UN Environment Assembly to improve geographical representation within the staffing of the organization. The organization's strategy toward this is covered in the four-point plan outlined in [the Executive Director's Report to the Fifth Session of the Environment Assembly \(UNEP/EA.5/26, para. 29\)](#) on the application of the principle of equitable geographical distribution in the recruitment strategy of UNEP towards greater Regional Group Diversity.

In line with the four-point plan, UNEP is working on increasing internal direction, messaging, guidance and monitoring and awareness campaigns targeting top management and operations, strengthening accountability mechanisms.

UNEP is also working towards increasing its outreach efforts, including by using new tools and platforms to promote jobs and increase employer branding. Outreach efforts are aimed at broadening the pool of potential applicants at all levels and highlight the organization as an employer of choice, especially to attract new talent adapted to its needs and enhancing regional group diversity and equitable geographical distribution. As of June 2022, UNEP had embarked in various outreach events with different partners, internal and external to the organization, reaching a total direct and indirect engagement of nearly 6000 potential candidates.

UNEP also advanced the design of a Young Talent Pipeline initiative for entry level professional positions that will focus on improving geographical representation in the organization. The Pipeline will aim to attract young talent from less represented regional groups and un- and underrepresented Member States, who are young graduates or have entry level work experience to gain work experience in UNEP. The pipeline will seek to increase geographic representation while building skills of the participants in areas of importance to the organization and promote retention such that they become future leaders within the organization.

Additionally, UNEP is exploring options to leverage knowledge, experience and resources of partners (Member States, United Nations organizations, international organization networks, internal networks). For example, UNEP has established a strategic partnership with the OneUN Talent Outreach working group (including 20+ UN entities, agencies, funds and programmes) to increase the competitiveness and visibility of UNEP as an employer of choice for young talent from un- and underrepresented Member States and less represented regional groups. Two online events on "Women in STE(A)M in the UN" (an event on women working on Science, Technology, Engineering, (Art), Mathematics fields within UN agencies) and on "Explore Opportunities in Environment and Climate Change" were held during the reporting period.

D. Audits

Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS)

Closed Audits:

Evaluation of the prevention, response and victim support efforts against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse.

Ongoing Audits:

2021:

Accounts Receivable and Payable

Secretariat of the Multilateral Fund

Convention on International Trade and Endangered Species (CITES)

2020:

Regional Office for Africa

2019:

Partnerships Management
Convention on Biological Diversity

2017:

Abidjan Convention

Planned 2022:

Barcelona Convention
Projects in Cameroon
Ecosystems Division
Procurement
Cybersecurity preparedness

Board Of Auditors (BOA)

A Financial audit was conducted in April 2022 and 25 new recommendations were issued. 58 of the 85 prior year recommendations closed with 25 under implementation and 2 not implemented.

E. Evaluations

During the reporting period:

- **Nine** project evaluations were brought to completion. (Cumulative total for 2022, 11) • **30** project evaluations are currently ongoing.

The Biennial Evaluation Synthesis Report and the Evaluation of the Gender Policy and Strategy were completed and will be presented to the CPR in the next quarter.

A selected lesson from **The Terminal Evaluation of the UNEP/GEF Project “Building Capacity for LDCs to participate effectively in intergovernmental climate change processes”**: **The coherence and complementarity with other initiatives and efforts were key for sustainable achievement of outcomes and enhanced likelihood of impact.** Project design and implementation ensured that the support provided by the project was aligned with existing initiatives which were already receiving support from other sources, namely from bilateral donors. In addition, from a project implementation/management perspective, the project profited from synergies with other Global Support Programme (GSP) projects implemented by UNEP and UNDP. From an agency perspective this allowed for an efficient management and allowed for activities under the different GSP to, when applicable, mutually reinforce each other.