



UNECE Grants Committee Annual Report

2018

1. Foreword

The Grants Committee was established in December 2000 to provide recommendations to the Executive Secretary of UNECE on the use of voluntary contributions, or extra-budgetary resources, received from donors for grants to non-profit partner organisations in accordance with the Guidelines approved by the Office of the Controller of the United Nations.

The overall governance and approval processes were revised in coordination with, and under the direct approval of, the UN Controller. The Guidelines for the Grants Committee (“Guidelines”) issued in 2013 clearly articulate the requirements for all Grant proposals in UNECE. These revisions brought about a more consistent approach with regard to the application of UN procurement rules and principles to the grants approval process, in particular a focus on best value for money, fairness, integrity and transparency, and ensuring the interests of UNECE are maintained at all times.

In 2018, the UNECE Grants Committee Memorandum of Understanding, and Terms of Reference were further enhanced to ensure mainstreaming of special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse. All UNECE grantees, as well as all other partners concluding signed agreements with UNECE, have been requested to ensure compliance with and acceptance of these standards, in line with the Secretary General’s Bulletin ST/SGB/2003/13.

2. Composition

The 2018 UNECE Grants Committee was established in line with its approved General Procedures. The Committee members appointed by the Executive Secretary on 1 December 2017 were as follows:

Chairperson:	Ms. Nicola Koch Chef de Cabinet, OES
Alternate Chairperson:	Ms. Polina Tarshis Economic Affairs Officer Programme Management Unit, OES
Legal:	Mr. Markus Schmidt Senior Legal Adviser, UNOG
Alternate Legal:	Ms. Regina Asariotis Chief, Policy and Legislation Section, Division of Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD

Financial: Mr. Michael Sylvester
Executive Officer, Executive Office

Alternate Financial: Mr. Alan Esser
Administrative Officer, Executive Office

3. Meetings

The Grants Committee convened eight meetings during the year 2018.

4. Grants

Compared with the prior fiscal period, the number of grants reviewed and approved by the Committee decreased by 25%, from twenty-four grants in 2017 to eighteen grants in 2018. Similarly, the aggregate value of grants approved in the period decreased by 37%, from US\$ 732,848 to US\$ 460,746 in 2018. The Environment Division of UNECE remains the predominant client of the Committee, accounting for 78% of grants submitted, with the Statistics Division, the Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, the Sustainable Transport Division, and the Programme Management Unit of the Office of the Executive Secretary each submitting one grant to the Committee during the year.

Of the 18 grants made in 2018, four were made to new partner entities, eight to continuing grantees who had been recipients in the prior fiscal period, and the remaining six to grantees returning from 2016 or earlier.

The UNECE Executive Office continued to exercise due diligence with respect to its review of all submissions and has held numerous administrative outreach sessions with programme managers of all UNECE divisions to provide further guidance and clarifications regarding Grant Committee procedures, including the grant submission, grant management and grant closure processes. Efforts initiated a number of years ago to further strengthen the Grant Committee and its oversight and controls continue to show positive results in 2018 with a continued significant reduction in potential conflict of interest cases during the year.

Moving in to 2019, the Grant Committee will continue to enhance the overall efficiency and effectiveness of its processes by offering further outreach sessions to programme managers regarding Grant Committee processes. The Executive Office will also begin the work of data collection, validation, role mapping and workflow alignment ahead of the anticipated Umoja Extension 2 Implementing Partner Management module deployment, which will allow for the online management of the entire life-cycle of all future grants out to end beneficiaries and implementing partners through the Umoja system.

5. Annexes

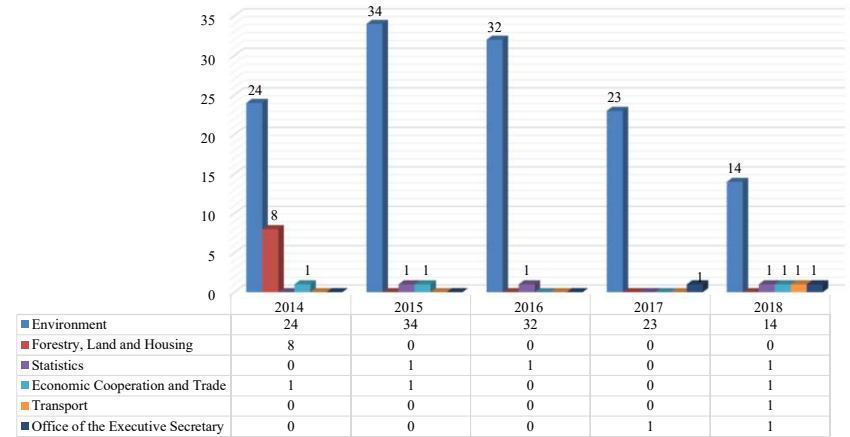
Annex I: Charts detailing grant performance during the reporting period
Annex II: Detailed list of UNECE Grants for the year 2018

Annex I

Number of Grants by Division	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Incr/(Decr) *
Environment	24	34	32	23	14	(9)
Forestry, Land and Housing	8	0	0	0	0	0
Economic Cooperation and Trade	1	1	0	0	1	1
Statistics	0	1	1	0	1	1
Transport	0	0	0	0	1	1
Office of the Executive Secretary	0	0	0	1	1	0
Total:	33	36	33	24	18	(6)

* Incr/Decr refers to the variance between 2017 and 2018.

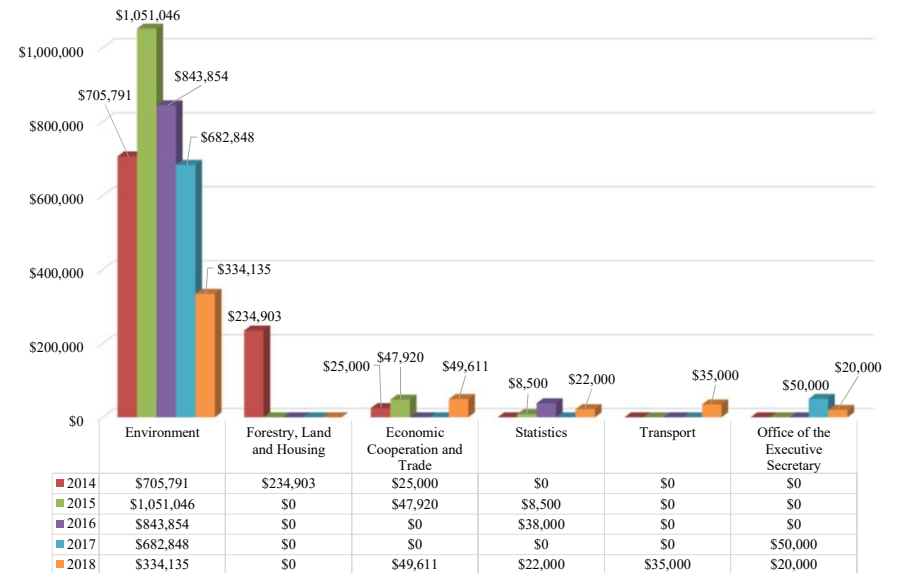
Number of Grants by Division 2014-2018



Grant Value by Division - USD Amount	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Incr/(Decr) *
Environment	\$705,791	\$1,051,046	\$843,854	\$682,848	\$334,135	(\$348,713)
Forestry, Land and Housing	\$234,903	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Economic Cooperation and Trade	\$25,000	\$47,920	\$0	\$0	\$49,611	\$49,611
Statistics	\$0	\$8,500	\$38,000	\$0	\$22,000	\$22,000
Transport	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$35,000	\$35,000
Office of the Executive Secretary	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$20,000	(\$30,000)
Total:	\$965,694	\$1,107,466	\$881,854	\$732,848	\$460,746	(\$272,102)

* Incr/Decr refers to the variance between 2017 and 2018

Grant Value in USD by Division 2014-2018



Annex II

#	Division	Grant Title	Grant Number	Project Account Code	Grant Budget	Date of Approval	Donor	Grant Recipient	Beneficiary Country/Countries	Programme Manager
1	Economic Cooperation and Trade	Maintenance and update of the UN Trade Facilitation Implementation Guide (TFIG)	ECE.GC.2018.01.001	SB-008547	\$49,611	20 April 2018	Russian Federation	International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization (ITC-ILO)	All UN Countries	Maria Tessera Pisani
2	Environment	Revision of national targets under the Protocol on Water and Health in Ukraine, stage 2	ECE.GC.2018.02.002	SB-006642	\$46,700	21 March 2018	European Union	Ukrainian national environmental NGO "MAMA-86"	Ukraine	Alisher Mamadzhonov
3	Environment	Revision of national targets in the context of the Protocol on Water and Health in Armenia and implementation of the Action Plan on equitable access to water and sanitation	ECE.GC.2018.02.003	SB-006642	\$39,600	21 March 2018	European Union	NGO Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment (AWHHE)	Armenia	Alisher Mamadzhonov
4	Environment	Support to sub-regional cooperation on dam safety in Central Asia	ECE.GC.2018.02.004	SB-008129	\$34,950	21 March 2018	Russian Federation	International Fund for the Saving the Aral Sea	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan	Batyr Hajiyev
5	Environment	Analysis of the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus in the North Western Sahara Aquifer System (NWSAS)	ECE.GC.2018.02.005	SB-001765	\$16,280	21 March 2018	Sweden (SIDA)	Royal Institute of Technology (KTH)	Algeria, Libya, Tunisia	Annukka Lipponen
6	Environment	Strengthening cooperation on water quality management in Central Asia, activities 2018	ECE.GC.2018.03.006	SB-001765	\$40,000	23 April 2018	Finland	The Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan	Batyr Hajiyev
7	Environment	Development of an action plan to ensure equitable access to water and sanitation in the region of Sumadija and Pomoravlje (Serbia)	ECE.GC.2018.05.010	SB-001769	\$23,600	18 June 2018	French Ministry of Solidarities and Health	Regional Economic Development agency for Sumadija and Pomoravlje	Serbia	Diane Guerrier
8	Environment	Support to the network of Russian speaking water management organizations of countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and organization of a network conference in Tashkent, November 2018	ECE.GC.2018.05.011	SB-008130	\$29,000	18 June 2018	Russian Federation	The Scientific Information Centre, International Commission for Water Coordination, Uzbekistan, (SIC-ICWC)	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan	Batyr Hajiyev
9	Environment	Capacity building of specialists to ensure safety of hydrotechnical installations: Training 2018	ECE.GC.2018.06.012	SB-008129	\$16,000	23 July 2018	Russian Federation	Corporate Foundation "International training centre for the safety of hydrotechnical constructions"	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan	Batyr Hajiyev
10	Environment	Legislative assistance to Uzbekistan to review its national environmental assessment legislation vis-à-vis the requirements of the Espoo Convention	ECE.GC.2018.06.013	SB-001768	\$5,000	23 July 2018	Switzerland	Uzbekistan Branch of the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC)	Uzbekistan	Elena Santer
11	Environment	Support to the revision of the national programme for implementation of the Protocol on Water and Health in the Republic of Moldova and to implementation of its selected measures	ECE.GC.2018.07.014	SB-006642	\$21,500	14 August 2018	European Union	NGO Public Association Renasterea Rurala (Rural Revival)	Republic of Moldova	Alisher Mamadzhonov
12	Transport	Jobs in green and healthy transport: making the green shift	ECE.GC.2018.07.015	SB-001782	\$35,000	14 August 2018	Government of France (through THE PEP Trust Fund)	International Labour Organization	UNECE member States	Francesco Dionori
13	Environment	Training for national experts on safety of hydrotechnical installations in Tajikistan	ECE.GC.2018.07.016	SB-008129	\$16,700	14 August 2018	Russian Federation	Development Partners Association (DEPAS)	Tajikistan	Batyr Hajiyev
14	Statistics	Pilot study for measuring poverty in Kyrgyzstan	ECE.GC.2018.09.017	SB-005305	\$22,000	12 October 2018	Russian Federation	National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic	Kyrgyzstan	Andres Vikat
15	Environment	Inception Workshop under the Project to strengthen the safety of mining operations, in particular tailings management facilities (TMFs), in Kazakhstan and beyond in Central Asia	ECE.GC.2018.09.018	SB-001767	\$12,665	12 October 2018	Switzerland	Public Fund "Water Initiatives Center"	Kazakhstan	Yelyzaveta Rubach & Claudia Kamke
16	Environment	Promotion of ratification of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment by Uzbekistan	ECE.GC.2018.09.019	SB-010148	\$11,210	12 October 2018	German Environment Agency	The branch office of the CAREC in Uzbekistan	Uzbekistan	Elena Santer

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17	Environment	Promotion of ratification of the Espoo Convention and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment by Tajikistan	ECE.GC.2018.09.020	SB-010148 & SB-001768	\$20,930	12 October 2018	German Environment Agency & Swiss Federal Office for the Environment	Tajik Branch of the Central Asian Regional Ecological Center (CAREC)	Tajikistan	Elena Santer
18	Office of the Executive Secretary	Improved understanding of the SDGs implementation in the Eastern Partnership countries	ECE.GC.2018.09.021	RPTC-17215	\$20,000	12 October 2018	United Nations Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation (RPTC)	The United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD)	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine	Catherine Haswell
Grand Total					\$460,746					