

Strategic Framework 2018-2019

Subprogramme 04: Economic cooperation and integration

I. Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures

Objective of the Organization: To promote a policy, financial and regulatory environment conducive to the sustained economic growth, innovative development and greater competitiveness of economies in the ECE region

| <i>Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat</i> | <i>Indicators of achievement</i> | <i>Performance measures</i> | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|----|
| | | <i>2018-2019</i> | <i>2016-2017</i> | <i>2014-2015</i> | |
| (a) Improved knowledge of policy options to promote sustained economic growth, innovative development and greater competitiveness in the ECE region | (i) Number of new international good practices and standards | Target | 8 | 8 | 6 |
| | | Estimate | | 8 | 6 |
| | | Actual | | | 6 |
| (b) Improved understanding at national level of policy options to promote sustained economic growth, innovative development and greater competitiveness | (i) Number of national assessments and sets of tailored policy recommendations | Target | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| | | Estimate | | 4 | 4 |
| | | Actual | | | 4 |
| (c) Enhanced implementation at national level of ECE policy recommendations and standards on promoting a policy, financial and regulatory environment conducive to sustained economic growth, innovative development and greater competitiveness | (i) Number of new measures taken by member States to implement ECE policy recommendations. | Target | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| | | Estimate | | 12 | 12 |
| | | Actual | | | 12 |
| | (ii) Number of capacity-building events requested by and organized for countries in the region | Target | 13 | 13 | 13 |
| | | Estimate | | 13 | 13 |
| | | Actual | | | 18 |

A. Strategy

1. The Economic Cooperation and Trade Division is responsible for implementing the subprogramme. The strategy for achieving this objective rests on three pillars:

(a) international and regional policy dialogues promoting a policy, financial and regulatory environment conducive to sustained economic growth, innovative development and greater competitiveness, and resulting in the identification and development of international good practices and, where appropriate, international standards;

(b) national assessments on request from Governments of policy, financial and regulatory environments in the areas of the subprogramme's work, resulting in tailored policy recommendations;

(c) capacity building and policy advice to support implementation of ECE policy recommendations and standards.

2. The subprogramme focuses on two complementary areas:

(a) innovation and competitiveness policies; and

(b) public-private partnerships for infrastructure development.

3. The work on innovation and competitiveness policies supports sustainable economic growth, innovative development and competitiveness by promoting best practices in national innovation systems, innovation financing and the creation of a supportive business climate. The work on public-private partnerships supports the same objective by promoting innovative ways of financing, building and managing critical infrastructure for innovation and international competitiveness.

4. Policy dialogues will draw on the knowledge of national and international experts in order to identify a wide range of best practices. Implementation will be supported through the development of implementation recommendations and standards based on intergovernmental consensus. Policy advisory services and capacity-building assistance will be based on both the best practices and the normative work.
5. The subprogramme will contribute to the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and to the post-2015 development agenda by promoting the achievement of those SDGs related to innovation, competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships, including SDGs 8, 9, 12, and 17 at the national and regional levels.
6. The subprogramme will establish synergies, as appropriate, with other ECE subprogrammes including Environment, Statistics, Sustainable Energy, Trade and Transport.
7. The subprogramme will draw upon the work of other relevant organizations and institutions operating in this field. It will strengthen partnerships with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and national public-private partnership units in the region.
8. The work of the subprogramme will be supported by two teams of specialists (on innovation and competitiveness policies and on public-private partnerships), involving government representatives, other stakeholders and a broad network of experts.
9. The subprogramme will contribute to the work of the Project Working Group on Knowledge-based Development under the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia.

B. External factors

10. The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objective and expected accomplishments on the assumption that:
 - (a) there is active participation and contribution by experts from Governments, academia and the private sector to expert group meetings and networks;
 - (b) Governments are willing to engage in policy dialogue and take measures to implement policy recommendations and standards; and
 - (c) extrabudgetary resources for capacity-building, advisory services and field projects are available.
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