Economic and Social Council

Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Transport Statistics

Seventy-first session
Geneva, 17–19 June 2020
Item 10 of the provisional agenda
Implementation of the ITC strategy to 2030 and the Programme of work for 2020–2021

Draft programme of work and biennial evaluation for 2020–2021

Note by the secretariat

I. Mandate

1.   In accordance with the decision of the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) to review its programme of work every two years, the next review period beginning in 2020 (ECE/TRANS/200, para. 120), the Working Party is requested to review and adopt its programme of work for 2020–2021 as well as the relevant parameters allowing for its biennial evaluation.

2.   Although the United Nations system no longer functions on a biennial budget and given that an alternative approach has not been developed and mandated at ITC level it is suggested that for the moment that the programme of work continue on a biennial basis to allow member States the ability to monitor the activities of the Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6).

II. Programme of work for 2020–2021

A. Introduction

3.   The present document sets out the draft programme of work for the subprogramme on "Transport statistics" of the ITC for 2020–2021. The Working Party on Transport Statistics is invited to consider this programme for adoption at its current session. The Working Party and ITC will have the opportunity to adjust its programme of work during the course of the biennium.

4. The draft programme of work applies a results-based approach. It comprises, for each cluster of activities, an expected accomplishment and a list of outputs/activities proposed to be carried out in 2020–2021. The delivery of these outputs/activities is expected to contribute to achieving the expected results.

5. The grouping of programme activities into clusters is the same as that used by ITC for the biennial evaluation of its subprogramme performance.

6. The following clusters of activities make up the transport subprogramme at the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE):

Cluster No	Subprogramme: 02 Transport
1.	Overall coordination (Inland Transport Committee and Bureau)
2.	Transport trends and economics (including Euro-Asian transport links)
3.	Harmonization of vehicle regulations, climate change and intelligent transport systems (ITS)
4.	Rail transport and Trans-European network for rail (TER) Project
5.	Inland waterway transport
6.	Intermodal transport and logistics
7.	Customs questions affecting Transport
8.	Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European programme (THE PEP)
9.	Transport of dangerous goods (UNECE)
10.	Transport of dangerous goods (ECOSOC)
11.	Globally Harmonized System for the Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) (ECOSOC)
12.	Transport of perishable foodstuffs
13.	Transport statistics
14.	Road transport and Trans-European north-south motorway (TEM) project
15.	Road traffic safety

7. For ease of reference, new outputs/activities are indicated as "additional" and in "bold text".

8. The outputs/activities have been listed under the cluster of activities to which they belong according to the following main categories: (a) meetings and related parliamentary documentation; (b) publications and other information material; and (c) technical cooperation, including, seminars, workshops, training sessions, advisory services and online tools.

9. The relevant indicators of achievement, together with baseline and target data, against which performance will be measured, are presented below.

10. The present document is based on the programme of work agreed at the sixty-eight session of the Working Party (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2017/4) and seeks to implement the ITC Strategy to 2030 (ECE/TRANS/288/Add.2), and so should be read with the document

setting out how the ITC strategy would be implemented in relation to the work on transport statistics (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2020/6) .

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/288/Add.2, ECE/TRANS/WP.6/2020/6

B. Objective and strategy

11. The objective of the UNECE subprogramme on transport is to facilitate the international movement of persons and goods by inland transport modes and improve safety, environmental protection, energy efficiency and security in the transport sector to levels that contribute effectively to sustainable transport.

12. The responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in the Sustainable Transport Division.

C. Outputs/activities to be delivered in the 2020-2021 biennium

13. Outputs/activities to be delivered in the 2020–2021 biennium are as follows:

Subprogramme: 02 Transport

Cluster 13: Transport Statistics

Description of cluster (optional)	Expected accomplishments from this cluster
Collection and compilation of transport statistics, including data on motor traffic, road traffic accidents and rail traffic. Development and maintenance of the online UNECE Transport Statistics Database in order to maintain good quality, relevant, user friendly and timely transport statistics.	Improved availability and scope of transport statistical data
Development of appropriate and common methodologies and terminology for the harmonization of statistics, with a particular focus on data for the transport-related Sustainable Development Goal indicators. This includes: methodologies for the collection and compilation of statistics on road, rail, inland waterway, pipeline and combined transport as well as on road traffic accidents, in cooperation and coordination with other UNECE bodies, related international organizations, in order to promote the availability of comprehensive, timely and reliable statistics for sustainable transport planning and analysis and to improve international comparability of transport statistics.	Periodical refinement and additions to the Glossary for Transport Statistics.

Main actions by the Sustainable Transport Division:

- Act as secretariat to the Working Party on Transport Statistics and its team of specialists

- Maintain and improve an online database on inland transport statistics

- Actively contribute to monitoring the transport-related Sustainable Development Goal indicators, through raising awareness, data production and methodological guidance.

- Represent UNECE in the Intersecretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics

- Coordinate the compilation and dissemination of data for the 2020 E-Road and E-Rail traffic censuses.

- Provide technical support for technical cooperation and capacity-building in transport statistics.

Outputs/activities

(a)   *Meetings and related parliamentary documentation*

15.1   Working Party on Transport Statistics (seventy-first session, 2020)

Documentation:

Report of the annual session of the Working Party. Documents on methodological development and harmonization of transport statistics, on data gathering in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals, on methodological guidance and increased visibility of the transport-related Sustainable Development Goals, on activities of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics (Eurostat, International Transport Forum (ITF), UNECE), on the 2020 E-Road and E-Rail traffic censuses, , and on implementation of the UNECE road map on collection and dissemination of transport statistics.

15.2   Working Party on Transport Statistics (seventy-second session, 2021)

Documentation:

Report of the annual session of the Working Party. Documents on methodological development and harmonization of transport statistics, on data gathering in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals, on methodological guidance and increased visibility of the transport-related Sustainable Development Goals, on activities of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics (Eurostat, International Transport Forum (ITF), UNECE), on the 2020 E-Road and E-Rail traffic censuses, and on implementation of the UNECE road map on collection and dissemination of transport statistics.

(b)   *Publications and other information material*

15.3   Online database on land transport statistics

15.4   Publication of UNECE Transport Statistics for Europe and North America (biennial)

15.5   Publication of UNECE Road Traffic Accident Statistics in Europe and North America (biennial)

15.6   Publication of maps and data of the 2020 E-Road traffic census

15.7   Publication of maps and data of the 2020 E-Rail traffic census

15.8   Publication of annual main transport indicators in the UNECE region (Transport Statistics Infocards) (annual)

15.9   Dissemination and promotion of fifth edition of the Glossary of Transport Statistics in cooperation with Eurostat and ITF.

(c)   *Technical cooperation*

15.10   Support for technical cooperation and capacity building to assist countries in the collection, organization and automation of transport statistics, including the convening of

training workshops, drawing also on expertize of member Governments and international organizations. In particular, assisting countries to measure the transport-related Sustainable Development Goal indicators.

III. Biennial evaluation

14. On the basis of decisions taken at its sixty-eight session in June 2017 (ECE/TRANS/WP.6/173, para. 60), the activities of the Working Party are measured, as part of the biennial evaluation, against one expected accomplishment, two indicators of achievement and corresponding actual performance measures. In February 2018, this approach was approved by the ITC as part of the performance planning for evaluation of the biennium 2018-2019 (ECE/TRANS/2018/22).

15. The Working Party may wish to review these parameters as well as the actual performance measures for 2018-2019 as provided below with a view to either maintaining them or establishing new ones for the biennium 2020-2021.

16. The table for evaluation 2020-2021 has been updated compared with the previous biennium. These changes reflect the difficulty in tracking the success of the Working Party in terms of numbers of downloads of data, and to focus more on statistics production for the Sustainable Development Goals.

	Biennial Assessment *Review of performance measures for 2018–2019*		
Cluster	*Expected Accomplishments*	*Indicators of Achievement*	*Actual Performance Measures*
13 Transport Statistics	Improved availability and scope of transport statistical data	(a) Number of reliable statistical products available on the Internet	
		Performance measures:	
		Baseline 2016-2017: Complete online statistical database	Complete statistical database online
		Target 2018-2019: Maintenance of online statistical database	Improved data availability (in terms of scope and completeness)
		(b) Use of data as measured by website downloads	
		Performance measures:	
		Target 2014-2015: 88 000 downloads	95 839 downloads
		Target 2016–2017: 90 000 downloads	83 520 downloads
		Target 2018–2019: 92 000 downloads	128 000 downloads[1]

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[1] There has been a change of how web hits are counted, which somewhat explains the discrepancy and makes comparisons across years difficult.

Cluster	Expected Accomplishments	Indicators of Achievement	Actual Performance Measures
	Biennial Assessment		
	Establishment of targets for 2020-2021		
13 Transport Statistics	Better engagement with member States on transport statistics	(a) Number of participants in the two annual meetings of the Working Party	
		Performance measures:	
		Baseline 2016-2017: 70 participants (total)	69 participants
		Target 2018-2019: 80 participants (total)	89 participants
		Target 2020-2021: 90 participants (total)	
		(b) Abilities of countries to produce SDG data, specifically for road fatalities by gender, road tonne-km, rail tonne-km, inland waterway tonne-km	
		Performance measures:	
		Baseline 2018-2019: number of countries producing road tonne-km data	35 countries (for year 2016)
		Target 2020-2021:	39 countries
		Baseline 2018-2019: number of countries producing rail tonne-km data	42 countries (for year 2016)
		Target 2020-2021:	45 countries
		Baseline 2018-2019: number of countries producing inland waterway tonne-km data	20 countries (for year 2016)
		Target 2020-2021:	22 countries
		Baseline 2018–2019: number of countries producing gender-disaggregated road traffic fatality statistics	40 countries (for year 2016)
		Target 2020–2021:	44 countries

IV. Next steps

16. The Working Party may wish to consider this document for adoption, propose changes to its format for the 2020–2021 period, and decide whether to continue using it in this time period in lieu of further ITC decisions.

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