

United Nations Development Account

Terminal Evaluation of the DA (10th Tranche)

Programme on Statistics and Data

2016-2021

In-depth assessment of Component 2
(Environment Statistics and Indicators)

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List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

CDO	Capacity Development Office
CDPMO	Capacity Development Programme Management Office (DESA)
CRVS	Civil Registration and Vital Statistics
DA	Development Account
DA-PMT	Development Account Programme Management Team (CDPMO/DESA)
DESA	Department of Economic and Social Affairs
EA	Expected Accomplishment
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
EECCA	Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
EU	European Union
FDES	Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics
IA	Indicator of Achievement
KII	Key Informant Interviews
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
MTE	Mid-Term Evaluation
NSDS	National Strategy for the Development of Statistics
NSO	National Statistical Office
NSS	National Statistical System
PCT	Programme Coordination Team
ProDoc	Programme Document
SC	Steering Committee (Development Account)
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEEA	System of Environment and Economic Accounting
TAG	Technical Advisory Group
ToC	Theory of Change
ToRs	Terms of Reference
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEG	United Nations Evaluation Group
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlement Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNSD	United Nations Statistics Division
USG	Under-Secretary-General

Executive summary

Background

The Development Account (DA) is a United Nations Secretariat-supported capacity development programme, aimed at enhancing capacities of developing countries in the priority areas of the United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda. The DA is funded from the Secretariat's regular budget and implemented by global and regional entities, covering all regions of the globe. Work is typically programmed in tranches, which represent the Account's programming cycle. The Programme on Statistics and Data (#1617A) is funded under the 10th tranche.

A Terminal Evaluation is being carried out on the overall Programme **UNDA T10 1617A "Programme for Statistics and Data" (2016 – 2021)**. As the Programme was designed with seven components, three of these were selected to have in-depth assessments, namely Component 1 on Means of Implementation (the focus of the Programme level assessment), Component 4 on Gender Statistics and Indicators and Component 2, which focuses on environmental statistics and data.

The focus of this in-depth assessment report is to assess the performance (in terms of relevance, effectiveness and efficiency and to evaluate the achievement of outcomes and likelihood of impacts) of **Component 2 (Environment statistics and indicators)**. For Component 2, UNEP was the lead entity, with the UN Statistics Division (UNSD) being the co-lead. Five further UN entities were engaged in the implementation of Component 2 activities/outputs, to varying degrees (Economic Commission for Africa (ECA); Economic Commission for Europe (ECE); Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC); Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP); and Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)).

Component 2 was devised as a way to address the lack of necessary environmental data and statistics for making evidence-based decisions, monitoring the SDGs, and reporting on environmental agreements, including Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). It sought to do so by building and strengthening environmental statistical capacity at the national level in relevant institutions such as Ministries of Environment and National Statistical Offices (NSOs).

Component 2 was originally designed to span the period September 2016 to December 2019. In March 2019, an extension of the overall Programme was approved until the end of 2020, with the provision of an additional \$1.4 million from DA residual balances. As a consequence of economic shutdowns due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Programme was further extended to April 2021.

Component 2 had an original budget of USD 1.9 million. The budget extension decided in March 2019 allocated an extra USD 170,000 envelop to the component.

Component 2 was managed under the UNEP Project "Strengthening data and indicator frameworks for monitoring and reporting on the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs" (PIMS ID 01959 - 732.1).

This assessment

This In-depth Assessment of Component 2 is directly linked to the overall Terminal Evaluation of the Global Programme for Statistics and Data, which is being led by the Capacity Development Programme Management Office of UNDESA.

This In-depth Assessment of Component 2 has two primary purposes: (i) to provide evidence of results to meet accountability requirements, and (ii) to promote operational improvement, learning and knowledge sharing through results and lessons learned within UNEP, UNDESA and main component partners. While the evaluation approaches within UNEP and UNDA are largely similar, some rationalisation of criteria/coverage has been undertaken to maximize efficiency, as reflected in the Evaluation/Assessment Matrix. The assessment will feed into the Final Evaluation Report, which will synthesize the findings from the two in-depth thematic component assessments and the global (programme-level) assessment. It is hoped that the Final Evaluation Report will identify lessons of operational relevance for future project/programme formulation and implementation, specifically for the 14th tranche UNDA joint programme to be implemented over a 4-year period from 2022 to 2026.

It is anticipated that the findings from this In-depth Assessment will be of value and interest to a) those who have been involved in implementing the component, b) all partners and parties who were expected to participate in, or benefit from, the work, c) UNEP staff active in similar areas of work, d) other countries and organisations implementing work with UNDA funding, e) UN agencies and staffs which will be involved in the future phase of the Programme.

Key findings

Component 2 of the UNDA 10th Tranche Programme for Statistics and Data was a relevant initiative that sought to meet developing countries needs within the realm of environment statistics.

Collaboration and coordination with activities supported by other funding mechanisms varied across the respective implementing partners. Capacity issues (resourcing, time etc) within some of the respective implementing partners meant that the exploration of synergies and collaboration with interventions conducted under additional funding sources was limited in some regions.

For Component 2, results were reported to have been achieved and realized for both the development of SDG indicator methodologies as well as capacity development on data collection for SDG indicators. More progress [in terms of meeting the initial targets for each Indicator of Achievement (IA)] was made in Expected Accomplishment 1 (EA1) and EA3 than in EA2. EA2 did not have the same level of demonstrable output and outcome success as EA1 (see section 2.2 for further background on the Components objectives and expected accomplishments).

Component 2 helped foster and bolster coordination and collaboration on environment statistics amongst the UN Secretariat agencies, with opportunities for cross-learning and sharing of best practice amongst the implementing entities occurring regularly.

Component 2 had a very limited budget, especially considering its high ambition level. Coordinating and supporting the implementation of Component 2, given the complexity of the institutional architecture, would have benefited from a fulltime position for a staff member.

Some issues from component design had an impact on the efficient/effective delivery of activities, and by extension, the achievement and realization of results. Issues pertaining to: (i) misunderstandings as to what constituted “supplementary funding”; (ii) the lack of a clear definition of the role, responsibility, and authority of the leads of the Component; (iii) changes in target countries; (iv) confusion over the role of UNEP regional offices in relation to Component 2; (v) limited engagement of other/external partners and interrelated initiatives; and, (vi) a lack of a

clear theory of change for achieving the desired impact of the Component, all stemmed from issues pertaining to the quality of component design.

The component provided significant support to national policies and strategies for environment indicators, however, their implementation and continuation is uncertain.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1: In order to ensure the sustainability and longevity of key Component 2 outcomes, UNEP should continue to promulgate the new guidance on SDG indicators that was developed for SDG 8.4.1, 8.4.2, 12.2.1, 12.2.2, 14.1.1, 14.2.1, 14.5.1 under EA2 of Component 2, as well as the Environment SDG Online self-paced course that was also developed as a key outcome of Component 2.

Recommendation 2: The implementing entities of Component 2 should continue to explore avenues to bolster the UN Secretariat-wide community of practice on environment statistics that was formed as a result of this component.

Recommendation 3: Continued engagement on environment statistics with national-level stakeholders/beneficiaries who benefited from Component 2 activities should be sought by the respective implementing entities beyond the end of the Programme.

Recommendation 4: In diffuse global programs such as Component 2 of the UNDA 10th tranche, greater stakeholder analysis and tailoring of activities during component design should be undertaken.

Recommendation 5: In multi-entity programs, the authority of lead and co-lead entities should be clearly defined and articulated from the outset of component design and implementation.

Recommendation 6: Clear guidance, and consistent reporting on 'supplementary funding' should be a key consideration for future UNDA programs.

Lessons Learned

Lesson Learned 1: The scope of Component 2 should have been determined based on the knowledge of the available budget and staff capacity. Barring this, the implementing entities should have ensured that other resources were made available to support the implementation of Component 2, which had a scope broader than the DA funding was to allow for.

Lesson Learned 2: Component-specific design aspects (i.e., such as Theory of Change, national level needs analysis, sustainability/exit strategy etc.) should not be overlooked, even for multi-component initiatives such as the UNDA 10th tranche programme for statistics and data.

1. Introduction

1. This document is the report of the In-depth Assessment of the Component 2 (Environmental Statistics and Data) of the Development Account (DA) 10th Tranche Programme on Statistics and Data (the Programme).
2. A Terminal Evaluation is being carried out on the Programme. The Programme was designed with seven components, three of these were selected to have in-depth assessments, namely Component 1 on Means of Implementation (the focus of the Programme level assessment), Component 4 on Gender Statistics and Indicators and Component 2, which focuses on environmental statistics and data (the evaluand of this report). The three assessments are being carried out by different independent consultants and led by different Entities¹. The findings of all three assessments will be consolidated into a Final Evaluation Report-
3. The overall Programme, including Component 2, was originally designed to span the period 2016 to 2019 with a budget of USD 10 million. In March 2019, an extension of the Programme was approved until December 2020 and with the provision of an additional \$1.4 million from DA residual balances. As a consequence of economic shutdowns due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Programme was further extended to April 2021.
4. Component 2 of the Programme was led by UNEP and managed under the UNEP Project “Strengthening data and indicator frameworks for monitoring and reporting on the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs” (PIMS ID 01959 - 732.1). It had an original budget of USD 1.9 million. The budget extension decided in March 2019 allocated an extra USD 170,000 envelop to the component.
5. This performance assessment was initiated in July 2021 to provide insights at the end of the Programme’s operational period and with the intention to inform future project/programme formulation and implementation, specifically for the 14th tranche UNDA joint programme to be implemented over a 4-year period from 2022 to 2026.
6. The primary audiences for this report are: a) those who have been involved in implementing the component (i.e. the 7 UN implementing entities of Component 2), b) all partners and parties who were expected to participate in, or benefit from, the work, (i.e. target countries, beneficiary countries and their respective line ministries/NSOs), c) UNEP staff active in similar areas of work, d) other countries and organisations implementing work with UNDA funding and e) UN agencies and staffs which will be involved in the future phase of the Programme such as the 14th tranche of UNDA.

2. Description of the Component

2.1 Programme Context

7. The Programme on Statistics and Data (#1617A) was funded under the 10th tranche of Development Account. The Programme involved four pillars, consisting of a total of seven components, as outlined in Table 1. It was implemented jointly by all 10 DA implementing

¹ Global assessment (including In-depth Assessment of Component 1: Capacity Development Programme Management Office (CDPMO) of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)
Component 2: UNEP Evaluation Office
Component 4: Strategic Programme Development, Coordination and Partnership Section of CDPMO/DESA

entities, namely the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). The Programme was coordinated by the Statistics Division of DESA (UNSD).

Table 1. Programme Pillars and Components

Pillar	Component	Title	Lead/ co-lead	Other participating implementing entities	Budget (USD)
1	1	Means of implementation	UNSD/ ESCAP	ECA, ECE, ECLAC, ESCWA	3,585,500
2	2	Environment statistics and indicators	UNEP/ UNSD	ECA, ECE, ECLAC, ESCAP, ESCWA	2,070,000
3		Social and demographic statistics and indicators			
3.1	3	Population and demographic statistics and indicators	UNSD/ UN-Habitat	ECA, ECE, ECLAC, ESCAP, ESCWA	1,290,000
3.2	4	Gender statistics and indicators	UNSD/ ECE	ECA, ECLAC, ESCAP, ESCWA, UNEP, UNODC	1,099,500
3.3	5	Poverty and inequality statistics and indicators	ECLAC/ ESCWA	ECA, ECE, ESCAP, UN-Habitat	735,000
3.4	6	Peaceful and inclusive societies statistics and indicators	UNODC/ ECA		470,000
4	7	Economic statistics and indicators	UNSD/ UNCTAD	UNEP, ECA, ECE, ECLAC, ESCAP, ESCWA	1,650,000
Total					10,900,000²

8. The Programme objective was “to strengthen the statistical capacity of developing countries to measure, monitor and report on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in an accurate, reliable and timely manner for evidence-based policymaking”. It had 4 Expected Accomplishments. Table 2 below presents them and their links with the 7 components of the Programme.

² This figure excludes the central support costs of USD 500,000 included in the total budget.

Table 2. Linkages Between Components and Programme-level Expected Accomplishments

Component Programme-level expected accomplishments (EA)	1. Means of implementation	2. Environment statistics & indicators	3. Population and demographic statistics & indicators	4. Gender statistics & indicators	5. Poverty and inequality statistics & indicators	6. Peaceful and inclusive societies statistics & indicators	7. Economic statistics & indicators
EA1: Enhanced capacity of developing countries to strengthen statistical institutional environments to measure, monitor and report on the sustainable development goals							
EA2: Strengthened capacity in developing countries to improve statistical production processes to address increased data needs across multiple statistical domains							
EA3: Strengthened capacity in developing countries to measure and monitor indicators and targets in new statistical and data areas							
EA4: Enhanced leveraging, partnerships and collaboration by United Nations system and other partners to help countries strengthen their national statistical systems for measuring the sustainable development goals							

9. “Environment statistics and indicators” made up Pillar 2 and Component 2 and were expected to contribute to the EA 3 and 4 of the Overall Programme. Expected Accomplishments are understood to be intermediated states of the intervention, i.e., they reflect changes in capacity at a national/institutional level as a result of key component outcomes.

2.2 Component expected accomplishments/results

10. The Outcome of the Rio+20 conference (June 2012) included recognition of the “need to support developing countries in their efforts to collect environmental data”.
11. In response, the objective of Component 2 of the Programme on Statistics and Data was “strengthening capacity in developing countries to measure and monitor sustainable development goal indicators in environment statistics areas”. Component 2 was devised as a way to address the lack of necessary environmental data and statistics for making evidence-based decisions, monitoring the SDGs and reporting on environmental agreements, including Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). It sought to do so by building and strengthening environmental statistical capacity at the national level in relevant institutions such as Ministries of Environment and National Statistical Offices. An

increased capacity to produce environmental statistics forms a foundation for the delivery of high-quality information to be integrated into SDGs reporting. Additionally, strengthening the capacity within regions helps build the ability to analyse and develop strategies at the regional level on transboundary issues and common regional priorities.

12. Component 2 was designed with the aim to promote awareness of resources (including international and regional standards and guidelines and training material and national best practices) on environment statistics at a single, accessible online location. This included the guidelines and standards produced by the UN Statistics Division (UNSD) on environment statistics, energy and environmental-economic accounting, as well as knowledge generated over the course of the Programme and information from Regional Commissions and others.
13. Coupled with limited statistical capacity at the national level, it was recognised that there was a dearth of information that was available at the global level. Global level data was impaired by a lack of consistent definitions and methodologies used across countries; unclear metadata that allowed users to assess the quality of national data for inclusion in global databases; limited data accessibility and data sharing; and limited understanding and guidance on using Big Data and new technologies for data.
14. The programme document (ProDoc) recorded the objective for Component 2 as: “strengthen capacity in developing countries to measure and monitor sustainable development goal indicators in environment statistics areas”. To achieve the long-term objective of Component 2, three intermediated states were articulated under the three component-level ‘Expected Accomplishment’ as follows:
 - EA1:** Enhanced capacity of targeted developing countries to produce and sustain environment statistics related to the Tier I and II SDG indicators;
 - EA2:** Enhanced capacity of developing countries to adopt and apply statistical methods related to the Tier III and the less methodologically developed Tier II indicators; and
 - EA3:** Partnerships developed which support environment statistical strengthening and complement and/or expand on the Programme’s outputs (at no cost to the programme).
15. A brief overview of Component 2’s results framework, as established in the ProDoc, is presented in Table 3 below. The Component’s full Results framework is included as Annex III to this report.

Table 3. Summary of Component 2’s Results Framework

Expected Accomplishments	Indicators of Achievement
EA1: Enhanced capacity of targeted developing countries to produce and sustain environment statistics related to the Tier I and II SDG indicators.	<p>IA1.1 90% of national workshop participants confirm increased understanding of the institutional arrangements and coordination required for measuring and reporting data for the SDGs, MEAs and NDCs.</p> <p>IA1.2 75% of the 35 target countries develop or improve an existing strategy for environment statistics based on national policy priorities</p> <p>IA1.3. 50% of target countries make data on a new environment related SDG area publicly available</p>
EA2: Enhanced capacity of developing countries to adopt and apply statistical methods related to the Tier III and the less methodologically developed Tier II indicators	IA2.1 75% of target countries have developed a strategic document for improving environment statistics on a specific topic, which has been classified as Tier II or Tier III (either SCP, Oceans, Land, Climate Change or Disasters).

	<p>IA2.2 Guidelines published on the E-Portal are referred to by developing countries.</p> <p>IA2.3 National reports on measuring SDGs include Tier III indicators.</p>
<p>EA3: Partnerships developed which support environment statistical strengthening and complement and/or expand on the Programme’s outputs (at no cost to the programme)</p>	<p>IA3.1 Number of participants attending regional workshops funded by other sources.</p> <p>IA3.2 Number of additional countries receiving support from the programme with other resources</p> <p>IA3.3 Number of partnerships created with external partners to support environment statistical strengthening at national/local, regional and international levels.</p>

2.3 Component strategies and key activities

16. It was envisaged that through the support of EA1, the UN implementing partners would work to assess and support improvements in the institutional framework and coordination necessary for the monitoring of the SDG indicators focusing on the Tier I and Tier II indicators and underlying data and statistics. EA1 sought to provide countries with a broad overview of the SDG process and the linkages between national data, international reporting and the representation of national data in global SDG databases. It also aimed to provide countries with targeted support for taking a selected aspect of the SDGs forward (i.e. water, energy, waste, air quality and some aspects of ecosystems and biodiversity). Activities under EA1 primarily focused on national and regional-level workshops for developing country member states to assist in the compilation and production of new environmental indicators. For instance, Component 2 activities under EA1 included those designed to support the compilation of water accounts and environment indicators on water for 2018 and 2019 based on the System of Economic and Environmental Accounting (SEEA) in Asia and the Pacific.
17. For EA2, Component 2 sought to focus on building a knowledge base for the production of a comprehensive set of environment statistics, in particular through in-country case studies and methodological research. Activities under EA2 focused on the production of key guidance material on Tier III environmental indicators. In addition to guidance material, EA2 also included a focus on developing capacity building tools such as online resources and courses. Component 2 activities under EA2 included the development of the Environmental SDG Indicators Online Course. This is a self-paced course focusing on the environmental SDG indicators. This course is presented in 10 modules and provides an overview of the importance of monitoring the environmental dimension of development, linking existing statistical frameworks (FDES and SEEA), and using environment statistics in decision making.
18. Based on a preliminary review of the programme reports prepared by the Programme Coordination Team at UNSD and factsheets provided by the implementing entities, a list of the activities undertaken by Component 2 was developed by the Global Evaluation team. Table 4 (below) presents the activity types, and the corresponding number undertaken under Component 2 in comparison with the overall Programme.

Table 4. Number of Activities per Type

Type of Activity	Component 2	% in Component 2	Overall Programme	% in Overall Programme
Workshop / seminar / training	62	41%	245	25%
Advisory services / country mission	36	24%	114	32%
Guidelines / methodology / tools	18	12%	82	22%
Training material / case study / best practice	16	10%	68	24%
Expert group / technical group meeting	17	11%	57	30%
Participation in third party meeting / advocacy	3	2%	29	10%
Website/Portal	1	1%	8	13%
Grand Total	153	100%	603	25%

Source: Global Assessment Report, May 2022

19. As can be seen in Table 4, the 153 Component 2 activities made up 25% of the Programme's total. 32% of the Advisory services / country missions and 30% of the Expert group / technical group meeting of the overall Programme were conducted under Component 2. Under Component 2, the most significant activity type has been workshops and training (62 activities (41% of Component 2 activities)), followed by advisory services and country missions (36 activities (24%)).
20. Table 5 shows that 53% of Component 2 activities have been National in scope, and 25% have been Regional in scope. The remainder have been either Global (16%) or Sub-regional (6%). Component 2 had a comparatively higher number of national-level activities than the majority of other components, indeed 38% of the national scope activities of the overall Programme were conducted under Component 2 (33% for the sub-regional activities). Similar to the majority of other components of the programme, Component 2 undertook more activities at a regional level than a global (39 to 24 respectively).

Table 5. Scope of Activities

Scope & activities	Component 2	% in Component 2
Global	24	16%
Expert group / technical group meeting	4	
Guidelines / methodology / tools	10	
Participation in third party meeting / advocacy	1	
Training material / case study / best practice	6	
Website/Portal		
Workshop / seminar / training	3	
National	81	53%
Advisory services / country mission	36	
Expert group / technical group meeting		
Guidelines / methodology / tools	2	
Participation in third party meeting / advocacy		
Training material / case study / best practice	4	
Workshop / seminar / training	39	

Regional	39	25%
Advisory services / country mission		
Expert group / technical group meeting	13	
Guidelines / methodology / tools	4	
Participation in third party meeting / advocacy	1	
Training material / case study / best practice	4	
Website/Portal	1	
Workshop / seminar / training	16	
Sub-regional	9	6%
Expert group / technical group meeting		
Guidelines / methodology / tools	2	
Participation in third party meeting / advocacy	1	
Training material / case study / best practice	2	
Workshop / seminar / training	4	
Grand Total	153	100%

Source: Factsheets Database. November 2021

21. As can be seen from Table 6, EA2 was the only activity area where implementing entities had distinct/separate roles and responsibilities for Component 2. Entities were attributed to their own thematic specialty areas across the activity-level planned interventions, whereas for EA1 and EA3, the responsibility for engaging in the subsequent activities was planned/attributed to all entities (i.e. with no targeted breakdown of roles/differentiated focus for the given entities). For EA2 (i.e. the activity area in which entities had distinct thematic specific focus areas) several entities indicated (during the conduct of KIIs for this in-depth assessment) their preference to cover certain thematic specific areas during programme design. These were then reflected in the ProDoc, with UNEP being allotted to a focus on 'Oceans and biodiversity', UNSD and ECE with 'Climate Change', and ESCAP with 'Disasters'. ECLAC, ECA, and ESCWA all did not have a thematic specific focus for EA2 activities. This can be partly attributed (via information gained during the conduct of KIIs with relevant focal points) to the fact that these regional commissions do not have the same extent of previous experience/portfolio in environment-related SDG indicators that UNEP and UNSD had. The tailoring of EA2 thematic focus by entities allowed for greater efficiency as entities were able to use/further refine previously developed skills, expertise and tools within these given 'specialism' areas.

Table 6. Implementing entities: Planned activity area coverage

Activity description	Implementing Entities
EA1: Enhanced capacity of targeted developing countries to produce and sustain environment statistics related to the Tier I and II SDG indicators.	
A.1.0 Development of a common assessment and reporting tool	UNEP, ECE, ECA, ESCWA, ESCAP, ECLAC and UNSD (jointly led)
A.1.1 Country sensitization and initiation workshops	ECE, ECA, ESCWA, ESCAP, ECLAC, UNSD and UNEP
A.1.2 Regional workshop on sharing of lessons learned and views on monitoring the environmental dimension of the SDGs	ECE, ECA, ESCWA, ESCAP, ECLAC
A.1.3 Blended training module (online plus a regional workshop) on monitoring the environmental dimension of the SDGs	UNEP lead in collaboration with ECE, ECA, ESCWA, ESCAP, ECLAC and UNSD

A.1.4 Compilation of documents on Environment statistics	UNEP lead in collaboration with ECE, ECA, ESCWA, ESCAP, ECLAC and UNSD
A.1.5 Advisory missions to countries	ECE, ECA, ESCWA, ESCAP, ECLAC, UNSD and UNEP
EA2 Enhanced capacity of developing countries to adopt and apply statistical methods related to the Tier III and the less methodologically developed Tier II indicators	
A.2.1 Implementation of case studies	Disasters (ESCAP) SCP (UNEP) Climate change (ECE and UNSD) Oceans and Land (UNEP)
A.2.2 Outreach on best practices	ECE, ECA, ESCWA, ESCAP, ECLAC, UNSD and UNEP
A.2.3 Development of guidance material on Tier III indicators	Disasters (ESCAP) Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) (UNEP) Climate change (ECE and UNSD) Oceans and biodiversity (UNEP)
A.2.4 Expert Group Meetings on guidance documents	Disasters (ESCAP) SCP (UNEP) Climate change (ECE and UNSD) Oceans and biodiversity (UNEP)
A.2.5 Pillar implementation meetings	UNEP lead, in collaboration with ECE, ECA, ESCWA, ESCAP, ECLAC and UNSD
A.2.6 Contribution to the knowledge platform developed under the Means of Implementation pillar of the project	UNEP lead, in collaboration with ECE, ECA, ESCWA, ESCAP, ECLAC and UNSD
EA3 Partnerships developed which support environment statistical strengthening and complement and/or expand on the Programme's outputs (at no cost to the programme)	
A.3.1. Issue invitations to Resident Coordinators to attend (sub-) regional meetings under self-financing arrangements, and to co-finance government participation.	All entities
A.3.2. Issue invitations to regional statistical organization to attend sub-regional meetings under self-financing arrangements,	All entities
A.3.3 Participate in donor round-tables to support national resource mobilization efforts for strengthening environment statistics.	All entities

2.4 Beneficiaries and target countries

22. Within the framework of the overall programme, countries that were engaged in Component 2 can be categorised into two distinct (but interrelated) groups, i.e., beneficiary countries and target countries, as defined by the Programme Coordination Team.

Beneficiary countries have participated in sub-regional, regional, inter-regional and global events and activities.

Target countries are a sub-group of the beneficiary countries that have also received specific and tailored support. This has taken the form of national workshops, country advisory services, training seminars, or a combination of any of these. Target countries were explicitly mentioned in the end year and final progress reports.

23. For Component 2, the ProDoc established a set of criteria for the selection of target countries. Target countries were to be selected based on:

- *An interest in being part of this initiative for improving information on the environment and SDGs reporting based on countries priorities.*
- *Opportunities to create synergies with other initiatives.*
- *Developing countries, in particular, LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs were given preference.*
- *Opportunities for regional expertise on specific aspects of the pillar, in order to facilitate regional knowledge sharing and future South-South and North-South cooperation within regions.*
- *Demonstrated commitment to using national data for integrated national planning and decision making.*

24. From the outset/component conceptualization the ProDoc did not include an explicit list of target countries, but used a section on 'regional analysis' to present some potential options. The results framework ('Indicators of achievement' section of the ProDoc) further implied that 35 countries would be target countries for Component 2 (as outlined in IA1.2 "75% of the 35 target countries develop or improve an existing strategy for environment statistics based on national policy priorities").
25. The first point at which target countries were made explicit is the End-Year Progress Report for 2017. This report listed 43 target countries for Component 2, as opposed to the initial 35 that were originally planned. As illustrated in Table 7, target countries changed during 2017 and 2018 and thereafter remained the same until the end of the component's operational period.

Table 7. Component 2 Target Countries

Final Report Year	Target Countries	Total	Changes
2017	Afghanistan, Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao PDR, Malawi, Maldives, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Palestine, Panama, Philippines, Senegal, South Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tunisia, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Vietnam.	43	N/A
2018	Afghanistan, Armenia, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao PDR, Lebanon, Malawi, Maldives, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Palestine, Panama, Philippines, Russian Federation, Samoa, Senegal, South Africa, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uruguay, Vanuatu and Vietnam.	49	Additions (12) ³ : Argentina, Bolivia, Equatorial Guinea, Moldova, Mongolia, Russian Federation, Lebanon, Samoa, Turkmenistan, Uruguay, Ukraine, South Africa Removed (6) ⁴ : Nicaragua, Myanmar, Thailand, Tunisia, South Sudan, Uzbekistan

26. The spread of national-level activities per country for Component 2 varied slightly for the different target countries. Two countries (i.e. Kazakhstan and Panama) were engaged with 4 national-level activities for Component 2, which represents the highest number of

³ End-Programme Report: "As a result of savings and co-financing experienced by the project"

⁴ End-Programme Report: "Due to other reasons, including safety and health"

activities per country. Seven other countries were engaged with 3 activities, 15 countries with 2 activities and 20 countries with 1 activity.

27. Table 8 below presents the list of countries which benefited from national-level activities. In total 45 different countries benefited from national-level activities (9 of which were LDCs). 13 different South and Central American countries benefited from 22 national-level activities. 11 different African countries benefited from 24 national-level activities. 10 different Asian and Oceanian countries benefited from 14 national-level activities. Few European and Central Asian countries (6) and Arab region countries (5) also benefited from national-level activities.
28. The spread of activities per country for Component 2 varied slightly for the different target countries. Two countries (i.e. Kazakhstan and Panama) were engaged with 4 national-level activities for Component 2, which represents the highest number of activities per country. Seven other countries were engaged with 3 activities, 15 countries with 2 activities and 21 countries with 1 activity.

Table 8. List of countries which benefited from Component 2 national-level activities

Country ⁵	# Activities	Country	# Activities	Country	# Activities
Africa (11)	24	South & Central America (13)	22	Asia and the Pacific (10)	14
Ghana	3	Panama	4	Samoa	2
Gambia*	3	Bolivia	2	Fiji	2
Namibia	3	Mexico	2	Philippines	2
Senegal*	3	Uruguay	2	India	2
Tanzania*	3	El Salvador	2	Lao PDR*	1
Burkina Faso*	2	Guatemala	2	Bhutan*	1
Malawi*	2	Honduras	2	Mongolia	1
Cameroon	2	Costa Rica	1	Maldives	1
Equatorial Guinea	1	Argentina	1	Vanuatu	1
South Africa	1	Colombia	1	Afghanistan*	1
Zambia*	1	Chile	1		
Europe and Central Asia (6)	12	Dominican Republic	1		
Kazakhstan	4	Cuba	1		
Russia	2	Arab region (5)	9		
Ukraine	2	Egypt	3		
Moldova	1	Jordan	3		
Armenia	1	Palestine	1		
Tajikistan	1	Lebanon	1		
Multiple	1	Oman	1		

Source: Factsheets Database. November 2021

⁵ Least Developed Countries are marked with *.

29. In analysing the outputs/activities at a national level (as documented and collated in the factsheets), four countries have received support via Component 2 for national-level activities that were not in fact target countries. 8.5% (i.e., 7 of the 82 national-level outputs) for Component 2 went to countries which were not identified as target countries (See Table 9).

Table 9. Component 2 National-level activities: non-target countries

Country	# Activities
Mexico	2
Oman	1
Tanzania	3
Zambia	1
Grand Total	7

30. In addition, 9 target countries did not have a single national-level output/activity. These countries were: Bahrain, Bangladesh, Cuba, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Nepal, Turkmenistan and Vietnam. None of the target countries that were “dropped” from the Component 2 target country list (see Table 7) received a national-level output/activity.
31. Limitations with the data recorded in factsheet, i.e. with missing participants/attendance lists, a lack of specific/detailed information on the exact type of target stakeholder (i.e. ‘NSO & Ministries’ being grouped together in the template for recording of factsheets etc) meant that establishing an explicit and exhaustive list of the direct beneficiary institutions was not possible. As such the disaggregation of direct institutional beneficiary data followed the format/breakdown that was submitted as per the factsheet templates. In addition, two activities have been included as ‘national-level activities’ but within the factsheets they were defined as benefiting ‘multiple’ countries. These two activities were ‘Workshop on environment SDG indicators in Cuba’ and ‘Translation of GIS Tools and Guidelines from English to Russian’. The first of these two activities was clearly mislabelled in the development of the factsheets. It is considered as a Cuban national activity. The second of these activities is now considered as a “Multiple” national level activity for the Europe and Central Asia region.
32. In terms of the direct/individual institutional beneficiaries of Component 2, in the member countries as outlined above, beneficiaries can be broken down into the following key groups.
33. The primary beneficiaries for Component 2, in terms of recipients/participants in beneficiary countries were the National Statistics Office (NSO). Before the implementation of the programme, many NSOs in developing countries had inadequate institutional and technical capacity, and so struggled to produce high-quality statistics and indicators in line with international statistical standards. However, it was not just a matter of low technical capacity. As indicated in the Theory of Change (presented in Section 3.3), and outlined in the ProDoc, the ability of NSO stakeholders to produce high-quality statistics was also affected by: the level of political support for data system; whether there was legislation in place to ensure the integrity of data; and, whether guidelines and standards governing data terminology are in place and used.
34. As per the ProDoc, another significant beneficiary group for Component 2 was determined to be officials within the statistics units of environmental and natural resource management line ministries. These units would often be both data producers and data users. Data

producers within the line ministries required an increased awareness of the monitoring and reporting requirements associated with the SDGs, including the need for disaggregated data which elaborates on the situation of women as compared to men. The users of data within these ministries had also been a key focus of Component 2's efforts, as line ministries needed relevant statistics and descriptive indicators that contributed to informed policy decisions towards achieving the SDGs, as well as for measuring progress and the impact of their own policies and programmes.

35. Secondary beneficiaries, who were also Component 2 stakeholders included academia, civil society, women's groups, the media, and the private sector. All of these groups require reliable statistics on SDG targets and indicators to identify opportunities for individual and collective actions, and to assess policymakers' progress towards achieving the goals. The role of civil society is also paramount, as this will be one of the main avenues through which the public is informed of national progress towards the SDGs. The ProDoc makes the point that *... "strong involvement of civil society and other groups may influence the establishment of official accountability mechanisms that in turn rely on up-to-date and accurate statistics, keeping governments incentivized to strengthen their national statistical systems"*. Whilst engagement with this secondary group of beneficiaries was outlined in the ProDoc, evidence (as extracted from the factsheets) indicates that engagement with this secondary group was rather weak, especially in terms of "civil society, women's groups, the media, and the private sector". Component 2 did have some engagement, at an activity-level, with universities/academia (especially for the development of methodologies and guidelines), however engagement with the other listed groups was not demonstrated.
36. Of the 153 activities (for which factsheets have been developed), the majority (118 or 77%) targeted National Statistics Offices (either solely or jointly with other Ministries Agencies, and/or sectors). This is above the average of 69% for the Overall Programme. Component 2 was the only programme component to also include activities targeted at Environmental Stakeholders⁶ (6), and Ministries/National Agencies (5) (i.e., not linked directly to NSOs). Another somewhat unique aspect of Component 2's activities (as recorded in the factsheets) was the targeting of five activities to DA implementing agencies⁷. Only Component's 4 and 7 also had activities targeted at this group, (and there was only one such activity for Component 4, and five for Component 7).

Table 10. Target Groups as Reported by the Programme Factsheets

Target Institution/Group	Component 2	% total of Component 2	Overall Programme	% Of total
NSOs & Ministries	118	77%	418	69%
NSO & Ministries	93		187	
NSOs	21		136	
NSO & others	4		95	
Statisticians, Experts and/or Practitioners	18	12%	121	20%
Policy makers	1	1%	20	3%

⁶ Environmental stakeholders are not defined throughout the ProDoc nor in the factsheets. Through a KII with the relevant focal point it was insinuated that these constituted other UN agencies working on the topic of environmental statistics (i.e. but outside of the DA implementing partners). However, the activity factsheets were missing participant lists so this could not be confirmed.

⁷ These included the development of the 'Assessment Tool' (UNEP, 2017), DA Pillar Meeting (UNEP, 2017), Regional Seminar on the FDES-UNSD contribution (UNSD), and DA Pillar II second meeting; experience sharing at the United Nations Statistical Commission 50th Session (UNEP, 2019)

DA Implementing Agencies	5	3%	11	2%
Environmental Stakeholders	6	4%	6	1%
Ministries/National Agencies	5	3%	5	1%
Others			22	4%
Grand Total	153	100%	603	100%

Source: Global Assessment Report, May 2022

2.5 Implementing partners and other key stakeholders

37. The component was implemented by 7 UN entities. The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) was the lead entity, the UN Statistics Division (UNSD) was the co-lead.
38. The following UN regional commissions were the participating implementing entities:
 - Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
 - Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)
 - Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
 - Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
 - Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).

Situating Component 2 inside UNEP's work

Inside UNEP, Component 2 was managed under the UNEP Project "Strengthening data and indicator frameworks for monitoring and reporting on the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs" (PIMS ID 01959 - 732.1) whose objective was 'to strengthen the national, regional and global data and indicator frameworks for monitoring and reporting on the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs'. Whilst the objective for Component 2, as specified in the ProDoc, was 'to strengthen capacity in developing countries to measure and monitor sustainable development goal indicators in environment statistics areas.

UNEP project 732.1, which ran from September 2016 to December 2020, was an umbrella project with three components:

- Component 1 supported UNEP to fulfil its international obligations to report on the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda and progress on the SDGs to the IAEG-SDG, UN Statistical Commission and the HLPF, as well as support UNEP reporting to UNEA on the environmental Dimension of the 2030 Agenda and the synergies between MEAs and SDGs.
- Component 2 supported UNEP's work across sub-programmes in delivering outputs aimed at capacity development for policy and decision-making that contributes to sustainable development and improved well-being.
- Component 3 focused on building national and regional capacity to produce and use environment statistics for monitoring the SDGs and broader policy monitoring based on national priorities.

39. The roles and responsibilities of the implementing entities (both for Component 2 and for the Programme as a whole) were initially outlined in the ProDoc, which stated that " *the global entities will primarily assume the lead role in the strengthening of existing standards and development of new statistical standards and methodologies in distinct sectoral areas, including data disaggregation*", whilst Regional Commissions (i.e. ECA, ECE, ESCAP, ECLAC, ESCWA) " *will take the lead role in developing new data areas*" in areas where they have " *a strong comparative advantage or interest such as methodological work for climate change or disasters*".

40. As such, it was envisaged that regional commissions would take the responsibility for disseminating new methodologies and statistical standards to their countries and regions, through the *“organization of national, subregional and regional workshops/seminars to transfer relevant skills and knowledge...The global entities would participate as experts/resource persons in these initiatives, as relevant.”*
41. As lead entity for Component 2, UNEP was tasked with the coordination and the general implementation of the environment pillar (i.e., Component 2) from UNEP Headquarters in Nairobi, in collaboration with the UNEP regional and sub-regional offices for national and regional activities. As lead entity, UNEP was also tasked with ensuring the *“cohesiveness of the interventions”*. To do so, it was envisaged that UNEP would *“call for virtual meetings of the co-leads and partners involved in the implementation of this pillar at least once per month, usually held before the monthly meetings of the TAG. UNEP will also ensure full coordination with the Programme Coordination Team established by UNSD to oversee implementation of the entire Programme.”* Activities conducted at the regional level were to *“be coordinated by the relevant Regional Commission, in collaboration with the UNEP regional offices”*.
42. Of the 153 activities that were recorded for Component 2 via the completion of Factsheets, UNEP was the lead delivery entity (either solely or in collaboration) for 39.
43. UNSD was the lead delivery entity for 12 activities, which is the smallest number of activities for any entity except ECA. Spread, in terms of number of activities recorded in the factsheets, was evenly shared amongst all of the regional commissions (except for ECA), with 26 (ECLAC), 25 (ESCWA), and 24 (ESCAP) respectively.

Table 11. Component 2 Activities undertaken by Entity

Entity	Count of Activities as registered by Factsheet (authors)
ECA	8
ECE	19
ESCAP	24
ECLAC	26
ESCWA	25
UNEP	39
UNSD	12
TOTAL	153

44. References to the involvement of UNEP regional offices were made throughout the ProDoc. This was evident in the following excerpt from the ProDoc which states: *“The pillar will utilize the statistical expertise and strong relationships that the Regional Commissions have with the National Statistical Offices within the region, and the environmental policy knowledge and networks that the UNEP Regional Offices have with the Ministries of Environment in order to maximize impact at the country level”*. End-Year progress reports and associated documentation did not describe instances of this inter-collaboration in fine-level detail. However, their involvement and engagement varied across regions. KIIs indicated that collaboration with UNEP regional offices in Europe were particularly strong, whilst in LAC coordination and collaboration with the UNEP regional offices was somewhat weaker. This is further supported by the activity-level data that has been extracted from the factsheets, which indicates that UNEP was only involved/engaged on 4 of the 26 (i.e., 15.4%) activities undertaken by ECLAC, whilst for ECE activities, UNEP participated in 7 of the 19 (i.e. 36.8%).

Further analysis of the direct involvement of UNEP regional offices is somewhat limited, as the data provided by implementing entities as part of the factsheets did not specify whether the involvement of UNEP included regional office staff, or simply HQ-based staff/lead for the Component.

2.6 Resources

45. The overall Programme, including Component 2, was originally designed to span the period January 2016 to December 2019 (as per the original concept note). The delay with developing and finalizing the programme document resulted in the programme only starting in September 2016 based on the ProDoc which was finalized in August 2016. In March 2019, an extension of the Programme was approved until December 2020 and with the provision of an additional \$1.4 million from DA residual balances. As a consequence of economic shutdowns due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Programme was further extended to April 2021.
46. Even though the budget was allocated in September 2016, the first activity (as recorded in the factsheets) for Component 2 was completed on 13/04/2016⁸, with the final activity being completed on 30/04/2021. Component 2 had an original budget of USD 1.9 million. The budget extension decided in March 2019 allocated an extra USD 170,000 envelop to the component. The total budget of Component 2 was therefore USD 2,070,000 divided as presented in Table 12 among the seven implementing entities:

Table 12. Component 2 Budget Allocation per Implementing Agency (USD)⁹

Implementing entities	Total budgeted without extension	Extension approved in 2019	Total budgeted with extension
ECA	219 000	-	219 000
ECE	273 500	23 000	296 500
ECLAC	212 500	24 000	236 500
ESCAP	340 500	-	340 500
ESCWA	203 000	14 000	217 000
UNSD	131 500	23 000	154 500
UNEP	520 000	86 000	606 000
Total	1 900 000	170 000	2 070 000

47. The end programme report (2021) indicated that Component 2 consumed 1,901,180 USD of the total 2,070,000 USD budget. This equates to a consumption rate of 92% of financial resources.
48. In addition, Component 2 has benefited from supplementary funding provided by several co-financiers. Table 13 lists the cash and in-kind contributions made by co-financiers to support projects that may have assisted with achieving the Expected Accomplishments outlined in Table 3, as extracted and compiled from the end-year progress reports.

⁸ <https://archive.unescwa.org/events/expert-group-meeting-water-related-sustainable-development-goals-sdgs>

⁹ Extracted from end-year progress reports.

49. ‘Supplementary funding’ was captured and presented in each of the End-Year progress reports. Throughout the implementation of Component 2, several different supplementary fundings have been included in project reporting (as outlined in the End-Year progress reports). The DA progress report template asked to include, within the ‘Supplementary Funding’ section of the report, “any form of additional funding (financial or in-kind) that has been leveraged to further the implementation of the project through partnerships and/or donors (e.g., paying for additional participants at workshops, venues, or additional activities, etc.)”. This will be further explored in Section 5.3 ‘Efficiency’.
50. Information recorded and presented on “supplementary funding”, especially for Component 2, was rather vague within the end-year progress report templates. For Component 2, it appears that several “relevant” projects, or projects with similar objectives, are included as supplementary funding. With the exception of in-kind support provided by the Committee on Statistics of Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and GIZ support for the LAC region, the majority of ‘supplementary funding’ as indicated in the end-year reports for Component 2 represent complimentary funding rather than ‘supplementary’. This shall be further explored in section 5.4 (‘Efficiency’) of this report.
51. When contacted, ECLAC focal points were unaware of the Brazilian “Support capacity building in Latin America” funding, and stated that they had not implemented any Component 2 related activities through this supplementary funding window.

Table 13. Financial Leveraging for Component 2¹⁰

Donor	Purpose / Activity	Amount raised	
		Cash (USD)	In-Kind
European Commission	Support Sustainable Consumption and Production indicator development and testing	600,000	
Brazil	Support the capacity building in Latin America	200,000	
European Commission	Shared Environment Information Systems in Africa, Asia and Europe	2,000,000	
Committee on Statistics of Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan	Travel of national participants, meeting facilities, translation of online SEEA training courses, etc.		Yes
Russian ODA	Support for CIS countries to improve environmental monitoring and SEEA implementation	2,000,000	
German Cooperation	Support to environment SDG indicators production in Latin America and the Caribbean	150,000	
UNDP Panama	Support the sub-regional workshop on environment SDG indicators for Central America		7,000
UNU	Support collection of E-waste data in Central Asia	50,000	

¹⁰ As reported in the end-year progress reports for the overall programme.

Donor	Purpose / Activity	Amount raised	
		Cash (USD)	In-Kind
Statistics Netherlands	Support in SEEA training		Yes
Statistics Luxembourg	Support in training on climate change-related Statistics		Yes
National Statistical Committee of Belarus	Support in SEEA training (meeting facilities, translation of online training courses)		Yes
National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic	Support in SEEA training (meeting facilities, translation of online training courses)		Yes

2.7 Link to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

52. Component 2 was developed with the main objective of “strengthening capacity in developing countries to measure and monitor sustainable development goal indicators in environment statistics areas”. Explicit links to focusing on SDGs 6,7,12,13,14 and 15 were included from the outset (and directly referenced in the ProDoc). For Component 2, in most cases strong linkages between the activities and the objectives of measuring and developing the SDG indicators were present.
53. As a result of Component 2, UNEP has completed guidelines related to the following SDG indicators:
- 8.4.1, 8.4.2,
 - 12.2.1, 12.2.2,
 - 14.1.1, 14.2.1, 14.5.1
54. With co-financing guidelines were also completed for the following indicators:
- 12.3.1, 12.4.1, 12.4.2, 12.6.1 and 12.7.1.

3. Assessment objectives, scope and questions

3.1 Purpose and objectives

55. As indicated earlier, the overall Programme terminal evaluation includes two in-depth assessments of thematic components, with Component 2 focused on environmental statistics and indicators. Because Component 2 was led by UNEP, the UNEP Evaluation Policy¹¹ and UNEP Programme Manual¹² are relevant, and this in-depth assessment is required to be undertaken at completion of the Component to assess component performance (in terms of relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability), and determine outcomes and impacts (actual and potential) stemming from the component.
56. The assessment has two primary purposes: (i) to provide evidence of results to meet accountability requirements, and (ii) to promote operational improvement, learning and

¹¹ <http://www.unep.org/eou/StandardsPolicyandPractices/UNEPEvaluationPolicy/tabid/3050/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

¹² http://www.unep.org/QAS/Documents/UNEP_Programme_Manual_May_2013.pdf . *This manual is under revision.*

knowledge sharing through results and lessons learned within UNEP and main component partners. While the evaluation approaches within UNEP and UNDA are largely similar, some rationalisation of criteria/coverage has been undertaken to maximize efficiency, as reflected in the Evaluation/Assessment Matrix. The assessment will feed into the Final Evaluation Report, which will synthesize the findings from the two in-depth thematic component assessments and the global (programme-level) assessment (including the In-depth assessment of Component 1). It is hoped that the Final Evaluation Report will identify lessons of operational relevance for future project/programme formulation and implementation, specifically for the 14th tranche UNDA joint programme to be implemented over a 4-year period from 2022 to 2026.

57. It is anticipated that the findings from this In-depth Assessment will be of value and interest to a) those who have been involved in implementing the component (i.e. the lead, co-leads and UN implementing entities) b) all partners and parties who were expected to participate in, or benefit from, the work, (beneficiary countries, target countries, and their respective NSOs and line ministries) c) UNEP staff active in similar areas of work, d) other countries and organisations implementing work with UNDA funding, e) UN agencies and staffs which will be involved in the future phase of the Programme.

3.2 Assessment scope, criteria and questions

58. The scope of this assessment report covers the entirety of activities that were conducted as part of Component 2. It covers the full timeline of implementation, including the extensions that were undertaken (i.e., from September 2016 to April 2021), the full budget (i.e. USD 2,070,000 after additional/extension funding had been included), and covers activities undertaken by all 7 of the implementing partners of Component 2. It does not constitute nor cover the entirety of complimentary/similar activities and projects that were referenced in the end-year progress reports as “supplementary fundings”. However, where relevant the assessment will draw upon key findings/references from such additional/complimentary fundings and how they were framed with regards to Component 2.
59. The evaluation questions for this in-depth assessment of Component 2 have been designed with the following prerequisites in mind:
- (i) the DA Project Evaluation Guidelines
 - (ii) the evaluation criteria and tentative questions presented in Table 4 of the Component 2 In-depth Assessment ToR
 - (iii) the evaluation matrix that was prepared by the global evaluation team as part of the inception report of the global assessment
 - (iv) the evaluation matrix developed for the in-depth assessment of Component 2
60. As a consequence, the evaluation questions presented in Annex IV were used to assess the performance of Component 2 against the criteria of relevance, coherence, efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability. (It is noted that UNEP considers aspects of Coherence under *Complementarity with Existing Interventions* (under Strategic Relevance and under Efficiency). To meet the requirements of the UNEP Assessment Ratings Table, the evaluation/assessment matrix (Annex IV) also includes questions relating to the Quality of Component Design, Financial Management, and Monitoring and Reporting.

61. The Performance Ratings Table (Annex II) includes a set of UNEP cross-cutting criteria focused on Factors Affecting Performance. These criteria consist of: preparation and readiness; quality of component management and supervision; stakeholders' participation and cooperation; safeguards; country ownership and driven-ness; and, communication and public awareness. These questions do not appear as "stand-alone" in the assessment/evaluation matrix but will be covered by other questions relating to the main criteria.
62. The following additional criteria are mentioned in the UNDA guidelines:
 - * **Partnerships:** Partnerships typically refer to joint/collaborative implementation of projects among the United Nations Development Account Implementing Entities, other UN agencies as well as sub-regional, regional and global level stakeholders. Direct beneficiaries of projects are not, however, referred to as implementing partners.
 - * **Human Rights and Gender Equality:** This requires explicit attention to the principles of equality, inclusion and non-discrimination as part of the evaluation. It should consider the specific vulnerabilities of disadvantaged groups including women, youth and children and those living with disabilities.
63. The first of the UNDA criteria will be addressed as part of the Efficiency and Effectiveness evaluation criteria. The last mentioned (human rights and gender equality) merits its own set of sub-questions in the evaluation/assessment matrix (Annex IV).

3.3 Theory of Change

64. A Theory of Change (ToC) is a key component for evaluation. It should illustrate how the intervention intends to achieve the desired results. No obvious ToC of the overall programme was presented in the ProDoc, although Section 15.3 presented a model for the relationship between the Components, their Expected Accomplishments, the overall Programme EAs, and the final, high-level Objective. This model provided a foundation for the proposed Theory of Change presented here as Figure 1.
65. No Theory of Change was presented for Component 2 within the ProDoc, rather a simplified logical framework was presented. For the purposes of this assessment, a ToC has been developed, based on the reformulated logical framework that was developed by the evaluators during the drafting of the inception report (see Annex VIII).
66. Within the results framework/logical framework for Component 2, certain key results areas were initially missing. The logical framework presented Activities, Outcomes, Indicators of Achievement and Expected Accomplishments. Key result areas such as Outputs, Intermediate States, Drivers and Assumptions were somewhat missing throughout the simplified logical framework for Component 2 as outlined in the original ProDoc.
67. The long-term impact/objective of Component 2 was "*To strengthen capacity in developing countries to measure and monitor sustainable development goal indicators in environment statistics areas.*" Whilst ambitious, the impact of the component is achievable given the expertise of implementing agencies and the timeframe for the component. For the purposes of the Theory of Change, the long-term impact has been slightly adjusted to include considerations for the longevity of the intervention. As such, the long-term impact/objective of the Component has been adjusted to "*Sustained high-quality measurement and monitoring of SDG indicators in environment statistics areas.*"

68. The EAs have been included within the auspices of the Theory of Change as intermediated states towards the realization of long-term impact. The Outcomes, as specified in the logical framework for Component 2, had to be significantly reformulated. Several of the originally listed 'outcomes' could more accurately be classified as outputs or activities of the component. Given the nature and scope of the component under review, outcomes have been reformulated to focus on uptake and demonstration of implementable achievements rather than more output-related activities/results such as attendance of workshops or access to documents.
69. The 'activities' as listed in the original ProDoc have remained the same, whilst Outputs have been derived from the originally listed Outcomes and Activities.
70. Several key drivers and assumptions are implied for the realisation of results for Component 2.

Assumptions (which are highlighted in the grey box in the Theory of Change diagram (Figure 1)) include:

- (i) Active involvement of stakeholders
- (ii) Political champions support data systems under well-defined management structures
- (iii) Legislation in place to ensure integrity of data
- (iv) Demand for environmental statistics and data
- (v) Existence of base-level data literacy
- (vi) Strategy and funding exist to ensure sustainability
- (vii) Guidelines and standards governing data terminology are in place and used.

Key drivers for Component 2 include:

- Regional cooperation on environmental statistics/indicators needs to be strengthened
 - Best practice could be shared and leveraged more efficiently, both intra, and inter-regionally
 - The national capacity to measure environmental indicators needs to be improved.
 - Awareness in the regions and at country level of the value of using up-to-date data and information to keep the environment under review exist
71. In the reconstructed ToC, three output areas are presented. The first set of outputs (i.e. 1.0-1.3) involve the production of key guidance documentation and capacity building activities for member states to produce Tier I and II environmental statistics/indicators. An example of one of the key outputs under this area includes 'access to a common assessment and reporting tool for environmental indicators'. The second area of outputs under the reconstructed ToC, includes supporting increased knowledge on Tier II indicators through specific thematic case studies and the provision of access to guidance material for compiling environment-related Tier III indicators¹³. The final set of outputs focuses on the Components ability to build partnerships and leverage additional financing for the delivery of Component 2 activities. An example of this is output 3.1 'Financial support from the

¹³ related to climate change, disasters, SCP, oceans and biodiversity

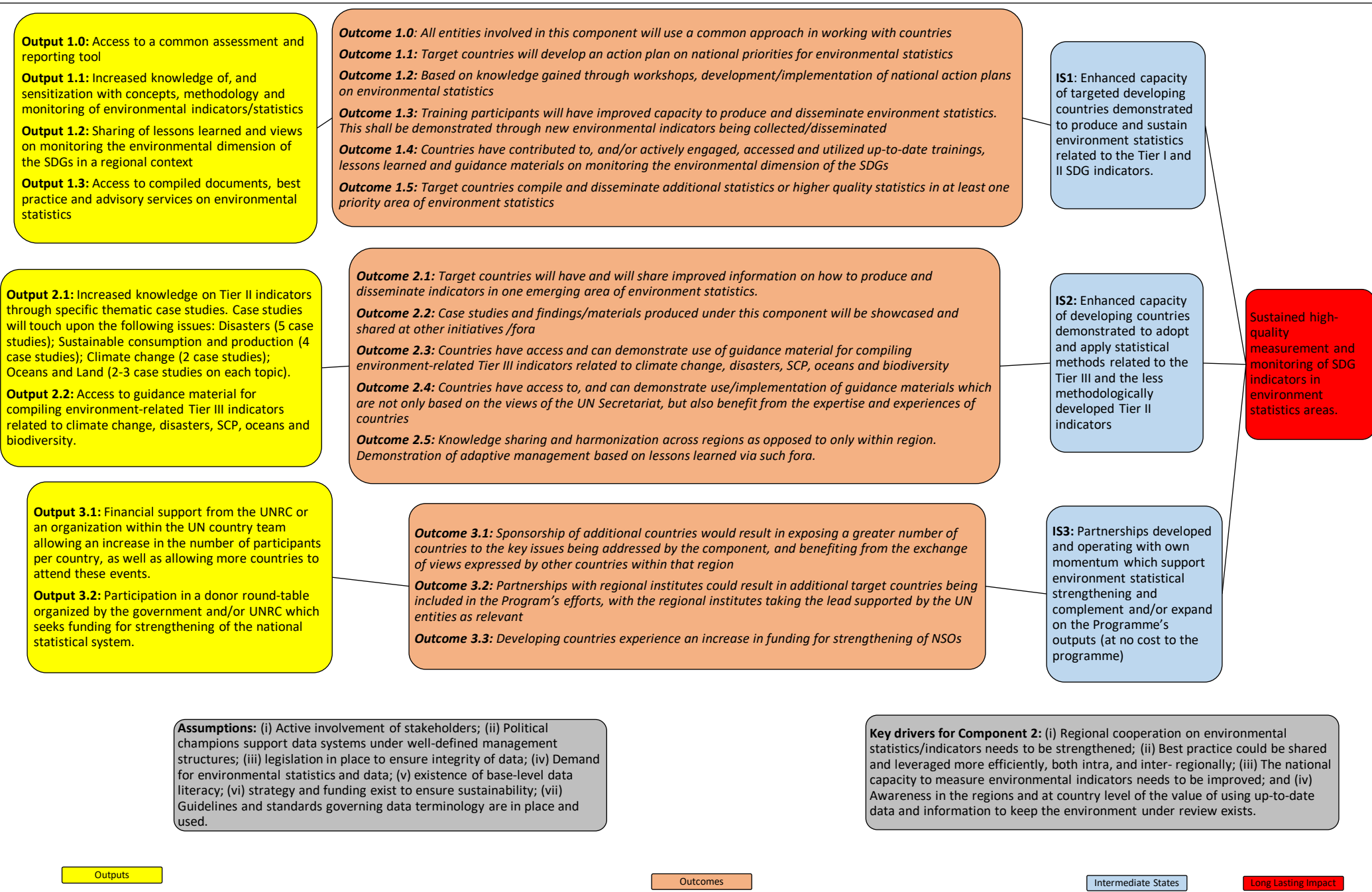
UNRC or an organization within the UN country team allowing an increase in the number of participants per country, as well as allowing more countries to attend these events.

72. By accomplishing/delivering on the key output areas as identified in the reconstructed ToC, a selection of key outcomes could be arrived at. For the reconstructed ToC, outcomes have had to be revised to focus more concretely on uptake and demonstration of component achievements (as opposed to the more activity-level output focus as they were framed in the original Prodoc).
73. In order to reach outcomes 1.0-1.5, the first set of outputs (i.e. 1.0-1.3) would have to be executed/achieved. This first set of outputs focused primarily on two dimensions of building member states capacity on environmental Tier I and II indicators. The first dimension was on developing common tools and best practice with regards to collecting, monitoring and reporting on Tier I and II environmental indicators (ie. Output 1.0) the second dimension was on their uptake and socialisation (i.e. Outputs 1.1-1.3) with developing country member states. In order for the outputs to be achieved, and thus lead to the associated set of outcomes, the following assumptions had to hold; (i) active engagement and involvement of key stakeholders/beneficiaries, (ii) demand from developing country member states for guidance and capacity building services on Tier I and II environmental statistics, and (iii) Guidelines and standards governing data terminology are in place and used. If these assumptions did not hold the achievement of outputs (and as a result the associated outcomes and long-term impact) could be jeopardized. In addition, to the assumptions that would need to hold, key drivers must be in place if results at the output and outcome level are to be realised. Three key drivers were pertinent for this area; (i) Regional cooperation on environmental statistics/indicators needs to be strengthened, (ii) The national capacity to measure environmental indicators needs to be improved, and (iii) Awareness in the regions and at country level of the value of using up-to-date data and information to keep the environment under review exist
74. The second set of outputs (2.0 and 2.1) focused on the supporting member states with guidance on Tier II indicators (and less methodologically developed Tier II indicators). This set of outputs had a high ambition level, as can be seen with the associated outcomes that have been listed in the reconstructed ToC (i.e. 2.1-2.5). The successful of achievement of this second set of outputs relied upon the following key assumptions holding: (i) legislation in place to ensure integrity of data; (ii) existence of base-level data literacy; and (iii) strategy and funding exist to ensure sustainability. Given the complexity of Tier III and II indicators, one of the key challenges in achieving results within this output and outcome area relates to capacity both at the Component 2 UN entity-level as well as the potential beneficiary country. Without adequate base-level data literacy, the achievement of results under this area may be hampered. Another crucial assumption that must hold is the sustainability/long term strategy for interventions involving Tier III indicators. In addition, to the assumptions that would need to hold, key drivers must be in place if results at the output and outcome level are to be realised. Three key drivers were pertinent for this area; (i) Regional cooperation on environmental statistics/indicators needs to be strengthened, (ii) The national capacity to measure environmental indicators needs to be improved, and (iii) Awareness in the regions and at country level of the value of using up-to-date data and information to keep the environment under review exist.
75. The final set of outputs focuses on the Components ability to build partnerships and leverage additional financing for the delivery of Component 2 activities. To achieve results at the output level, and thus lead to the associated set of outcomes (i.e. 3.1-3.3),

assumptions that had to hold include: (i) Political champions support data systems under well-defined management structures, (ii) donor engagement and interest on environmental statistics, (iii) strong interest from external parties on the activities of Component 2, and (iv) strategy and funding exist to ensure sustainability. The key driver that had to be in place for the successful realisation of this result area was; Best practice could be shared and leveraged more efficiently, both intra, and inter- regionally.

76. In order for the outcome areas to result in the desired long-term impact of the Component (i.e. "Sustained high-quality measurement and monitoring of SDG indicators in environment statistics areas."), certain intermediated results/states are required. The intermediated states that serve as a bridge to the achievement of impact correspond to the EA's of the Component. The long term impact of the Component relies on the successful execution of the preceding outputs and outcomes and their relevant assumptions holding. The likelihood of impact is assessed in further detail in Section 5.4 (i.e. 'Effectiveness') of this report. In order to achieve results and move from the outcome areas to the intermediated states key assumptions had to hold in order to achieve results in the respective outcome areas. For Outcome area 1, in order to realise the corresponding intermediated state, the following assumptions had to hold; (i) active engagement and involvement of key stakeholders/beneficiaries, (ii) demand from developing country member states for guidance and capacity building services on Tier I and II environmental statistics, and (iii) Guidelines and standards governing data terminology are in place and used. For Outcome area 2, the following key assumptions had to hold at the Outcome level, otherwise progression to intermediated states could be jeopardized: (i) legislation in place to ensure integrity of data; and (ii) strategy and funding exist to ensure sustainability. And finally for outcome area 3, the following key assumptions had to be in place for realisation of the corresponding intermediated state; (i) strong interest from external parties on the activities of Component 2, and (ii) strategy and funding exist to ensure sustainability.
77. For the change process from intermediated states to impact, the following key assumptions have been assessed as necessary to ensure the change process can be achieved; (i) Political champions support data systems under well-defined management structures, (ii) Strategy and funding exist to ensure sustainability; (iii) Guidelines and standards governing data terminology are in place and used.

Figure 1: Reconstructed Theory of Change for Component 2



4. Methodology

4.1 Background

78. This is a summative assessment of performance, so particular attention has been paid to learning from the implementation of Component 2. The assessment of Component 2 has therefore sought to go beyond an assessment of what happened, to try to develop an understanding of why and how the performance was as it was. Information collected has been triangulated as far as possible.

4.2 Role of the Principal Evaluator and Evaluation Specialist

79. The evaluation/assessment of Component 2 was undertaken by two independent consultants under the purview and guidance of an Evaluation Manager from UNEP's Evaluation Office. The evaluation/assessment consultant team was separated into two roles/positions. The Principal Evaluator was responsible for the overall execution of the Component 2 assessment report. The Principal Evaluator has served as the main focal point throughout the evaluation process and was also charged with the drafting of all final products that were produced under this assessment.
80. The Principal Evaluator has been supported by an Evaluation Specialist. The Evaluation Specialist supported the Principal Evaluator throughout the inception and evaluation phase of this assessment, with a key focus on the collection, collation and analysis of Component 2 related information/data. The Evaluation Specialist assisted in undertaking interviews, the conduct of surveys/questionnaires, and the assessment of component performance related monitoring data (i.e. factsheets, end-year progress reports etc).

4.3 Data Collection

4.3.1 Primary data sources

81. Primary data collection has focused on the main beneficiaries (NSOs and environmental/natural resource line ministries) and the internal stakeholders involved in the implementation of Component 2 activities (including Lead, Co-Lead Focal Points, and the Programme Coordination Team).

4.3.1.1 Sampling Strategy

82. Given the complexity and interconnected nature of the Component 2 Assessment with that of the Global Assessment, and with the in-depth assessment for Component 4, establishing a sound sampling strategy was important.
83. The sampling strategy was informed by the Stakeholder Analysis undertaken as part of the assessment's inception report, the analysis of focus/target countries for Component 2, as well as the following set of criteria:
- *Non duplicative*: It should be noted that close coordination was undertaken with the Global Evaluation Manager, to ensure that duplication of questionnaire recipients, survey subjects, and interviewees was avoided.

Given the breadth and depth of data collection that was undertaken for the Global Assessment, all data collection for Component 2 sought to complement rather than duplicate the same respondents.

- *Complementary:* For the primary data collection for the Component 2 assessment, efforts were made to complement and align to the structure, protocol and question types that were to be used for the Global Assessment. This was undertaken to allow for the findings and raw data to be shared, utilised and analysed by both evaluation teams, hence creating further efficiencies and complementarities between the data collection for both teams.
- *Informative:* The purpose of the collected primary data on Component 2 was to inform the in-depth assessment. The targeted audience was informed by initial findings/lines of inquiry that were initially identified during the inception phase. This included a focus on analysing the supplementary funding streams for Component 2, which were comparatively higher than that for other components. Other areas of initial lines of inquiry that informed the data collection included national level activities/interventions that took place in non-target countries, and countries that were at the outset indicated as target countries which never hosted any activities for Component 2 throughout the component's timeframe. As illustrated earlier (see Section 2.3), Component 2 was the only programme component to also include activities targeted at Environmental Stakeholders (7), and Ministries/National Agencies (5) (i.e. not linked directly to NSOs). This too was factored into the data collection/sampling strategy. .
- *Representative:* Data collected sought to be representative of Component 2 as a whole. Factors such as geographic scope, activity type, expected accomplishment area, were factored in to the decision on the data sample.

4.3.1.2 Data Collection tools

84. The data collection tools for the assessment of Component 2 included virtual key informant interviews with internal stakeholders who were involved in the implementation of the Component (focal points, lead, co-lead and component partners) and an electronic questionnaire to gather opinions from target countries and activity beneficiaries.

Key Informant Interviews

85. Key informant interviews (KII) were an important component of data collection for the in-depth Assessment of Component 2. It served as the main source of primary data collection for the in-depth analysis of Component 2.
86. For Component 2, Key informant Interviews were conducted with the lead, co-lead and focal points (present and former). In two instances, focal points recommended follow-up interviews with other key component personnel (who were involved in 'supplementary funding activities') (See Annex VI for a full list of interviewees). The interviews themselves were semi-structured in character and while an interview guide was prepared prior to the Interviews (see Annex V), it served only as a guide, where key questions directed and

enabled participants to expand freely on their own views of experience and expertise. All interviews were conducted virtually, either through skype or zoom.

87. KIs were conducted with 15 participants (7 of whom were women). Each interview lasted between 1.5 and 2 hours.

88. An overview of the sample of focal points interviewed is presented in the below table.

Table 14. Overview of UN entity focal points interviewed

	# people involved in Component 2 (entire component period)	# people contacted	# people interviewed	% of people involved in Component 2 interviewed
UNEP	4 ¹⁴	2	2	50%
UNSD	2	2	2	100%
ECA	2	2	2	100%
ECE	1	1	1	100%
ECLAC	4	4	2	50%
ESCAP	2	2	1	50%
ESCWA	1	1	1	100%

Online Survey for Component 2 Activity Partners, Target Countries and beneficiaries

89. An electronic questionnaire was sent out to beneficiaries for Component 2. The questionnaire sought to establish and further understand Member States experience/engagement with Component 2 activities. The target audience for the questionnaire included:

- (I) *Non-target countries which received support through a national-level activity for Component 2*
- (II) *Selection of target countries/ NSOs that participated in over 2 national-activities¹⁵ from Component 2*
- (III) *'Environmental Stakeholders'*
- (IV) *Ministries/National Agencies (i.e., not directly linked to NSOs) that participated in Component 2 activities¹⁶.*

90. Based on the above, questionnaires were sent out to 31 national-level stakeholders in 26 different countries who were engaged in Component 2 activities. The individual respondents were selected/provided by the relevant focal points. The contacts provided were either heads of NSO's, heads of equivalent line ministries, or heads of ministerial departments (as such they represented their country in terms of feedback on the performance of UNDA Component 2 activities). Of the 31, 10 responses from 8 different countries were received. For this assessment report, the unit of analysis for the survey data is intended to be beneficiary countries. As such, where two respondents have answered a question on behalf of the same country, the data shall be aggregated to arrive at an average for the given country (where possible). This should assist in removing any biases that could occur as a result of having multiple responses from one country.

¹⁴ 2 focal points, 1 Finance Management officer, 1 Finance DA Focal Point

¹⁵ By using 2 national-level activities as a cut-off for the survey, the sample of respondents were selected so that they had been engaged with UNDA supported activities over a longer period of time, rather than just through a single, one-off engagement

¹⁶ These included government bodies such as the Natural Resource Ministries, Economic Affairs ministries etc.

91. Four follow-up emails were sent to the targeted respondents (two from the UNEP Evaluation Manager, and two directly from the UN responsible entity/regional commission). In some instances, two individuals were contacted from a country. This was undertaken on the suggestion from UN focal points who indicated that other individuals within the same institution may be more likely to respond to the survey request.

Table 15. Target Audience: Online Survey

	Countries ¹⁷	Number of Beneficiaries contacted
<i>Non-target countries which received support through a national-level activity for Component 2</i>	Mexico*	1
	Oman	1
	Tanzania*	1
	Zambia	1
<i>Countries that included 'Environmental Stakeholders' as part of their activities</i>	Gambia*	1
	Namibia*	1
<i>Ministries/National Agencies (i.e., not directly linked to NSOs) that participated in Component 2 activities.</i>	Egypt*	2
	Jordan*	1
	India*	2
<i>Selection of target countries/ NSOs that participated in over 2 Component 2 activities</i>	Panama	1
	Egypt*	2
	Gambia*	1
	Ghana	2
	Jordan*	1
	Senegal	1
	Namibia*	1
	Kazakhstan	2
	Burkina Faso	2
	Bolivia	1
	Malawi	1
	Samoa	1
	Uruguay	1
	Philippines	1
	Cameroon	1
	El Salvador	1
	Ukraine	1
	Fiji	1
	Guatemala	1
	Honduras	1
India*	2	
Russia	1	

92. Of the 29, 10 responses from 8 different countries¹⁸ were received (3 in Africa, 2 in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2 in the Arab region and 1 in Asia and the Pacific). The respondents participated in the following types of Component 2 activities: Workshops/seminars/trainings, and advisory services/country missions. The respondents

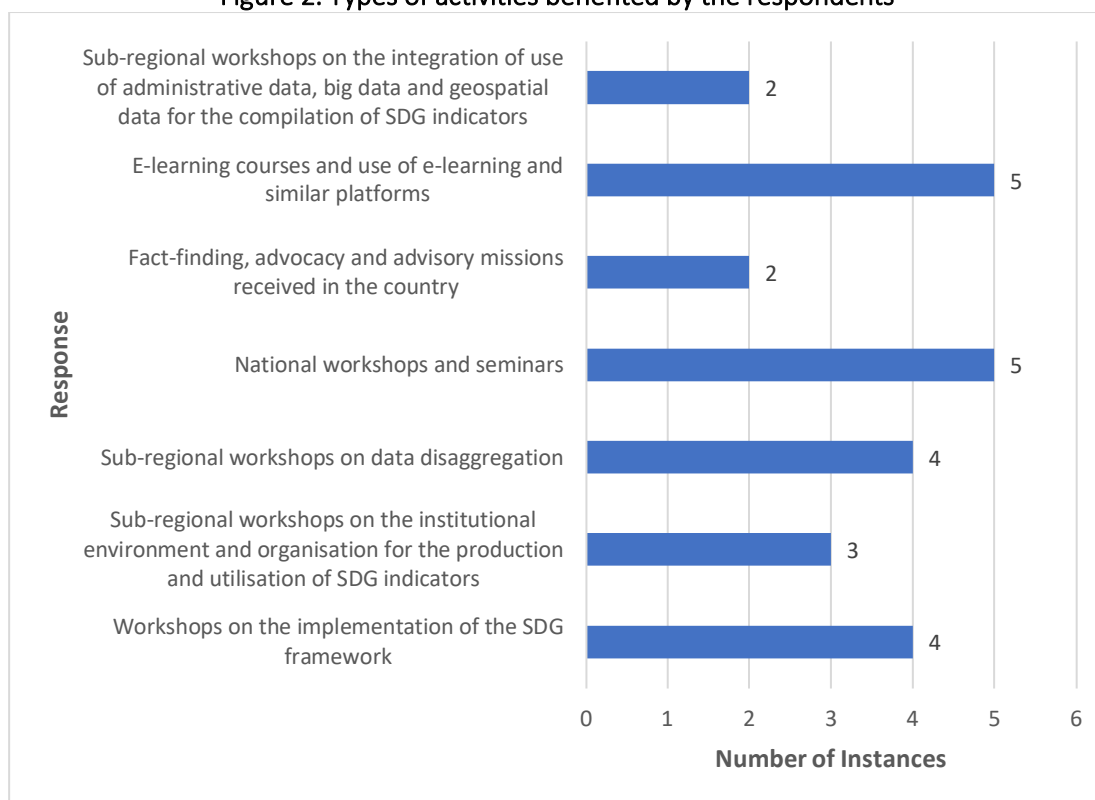
¹⁷ * indicates that the country appears twice on the list, due to it fitting into multiple categories

¹⁸ El Salvador, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Jordan, Namibia, Panama and Oman

represented beneficiaries of activities conducted by all Component 2 entities except for ECE. It should also be noted that only one non-target country beneficiary responded to the survey (i.e. Oman).

93. To further assist in the interpretation of the results from the survey, respondents were asked to indicate what type of activities they were engaged in/benefited from (see Figure 2 below)¹⁹.

Figure 2. Types of activities benefited by the respondents



4.3.2 Secondary data sources

94. Secondary data collection and analysis was relied upon to further assist in the assessment process. As the assessment matrix (Annex IV) shows, document review served as the broadest aspect of secondary data collection. It consisted mainly of an analysis of the following document types:

- * Component progress reports;
- * End programme report
- * Factsheets;

95. The Factsheets served as one of the main data sources for this assessment. The factsheets represent the main source of activity-level reporting document. Each responsible entity was required to complete and upload a factsheet outlining the key activity information (such as list of attendees, output type, geographic scope of activity, target stakeholders, component

¹⁹ “Workshops on the implementation of the SDG framework were either regional workshops (where the content obviously focused on how to implement FDES in a national context) or specific national-level activities on FDES (this was the case for Namibia and Gambia).

partners involved, etc.). It should be noted that the factsheets vary considerably in both content and quality. A dataset has been extracted and developed in collaboration with the Global Assessment Evaluation team.

96. One particular challenge faced during the conduct of the in-depth assessment of Component 2 was the inability to obtain relevant documents from the co-financed, complimentary projects.

4.3.3 Data Collection Challenges, Limitations and Risks

97. This in-depth assessment, and the evaluation of the overall Programme, of which it is an important part, were significantly affected by government rules on travel as a consequence of responses to COVID-19. For example, the data collection undertaken was entirely virtual, with no face-to-face work being conducted.
98. Another key challenge faced in the collection of data was the low response rate (i.e. 32%) received as part of the delivery of the stakeholder questionnaire. The evaluation team sought to address this by sending repeated follow-up requests (via both the UNEP Evaluation Manager and the respective UN focal point/s). The low response rate could be attributed to a variety of issues, including; (i) high-turnover in key NSO/line ministries, (ii) time passing since the activities were undertaken (in some cases it has been 5 years since participants attended a workshop/activity under Component 2, and (iii) general lack of knowledge about the UNDA 10th tranche Component 2 and how their attendance at a workshop/training event was related to the larger component.
99. In order to address the low response rate, the report has sought to not rely solely on the survey responses for key findings (using other primary and secondary data sources to support any findings based on the survey results where possible). In addition, findings based on the survey have been caveated where necessary so as to only speak to the type of activities/regional coverage that the survey respondents represented.
100. In all possible instances, data collected as part of this in-depth assessment included the gender disaggregation.

4.4 Data Analysis

101. A mixture of analytical processes was applied to the collected data during the assessment phase. The primary data, and relevant information from secondary data, was analysed to reach a set of findings for each evaluation question. The analysis used the reconstructed Theory of Change structure (see Section 3.3) and an exploration of the evidence gathered to determine the extent to which the causal pathways were met. The assessment team also used extensive analysis of programme documentation and deliverables to map the achievement of outcomes, allowing for conclusions to be reached about whether outcomes have been met and the likelihood of impacts.

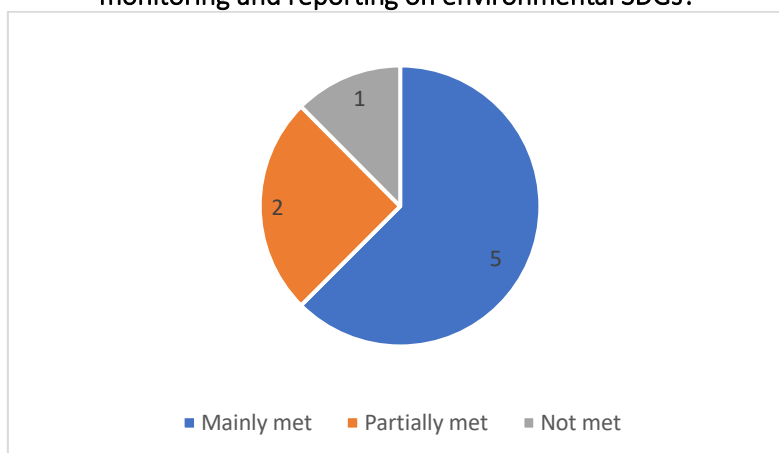
5. Findings

5.1 Relevance

Needs and Priorities of developing Country member States

102. Through KIIs with key focal points, it was stated that before the implementation of Component 2, there was a clear need for support to member countries on environment statistics and Component 2 sought to meet this demand. Component 2 was designed to meet the needs of developing countries for measuring SDG indicators, and this has been reflected in the ProDoc which sets out clearly and in detail the objectives, scope and the content of the planned activities. Based on the regional and national training organized over the programme's duration (EA1 of Component 2), national-level engagement on environmental statistics was sought to be strengthened.
103. Through the conduct of KIIs it was repeatedly stated that in the design of the component, implementing entities (especially the Regional Commissions which have a depth of knowledge and understanding of the needs of recipient member states through their pre-existing relationships) provided background/contextual information regarding the state of environment statistics needs within their respective regions. Whilst this 'needs' analysis was reflected in the ProDoc, detail was only provided at a regional level. There was a lack of description/analysis of the needs for each of the specified target countries. This was also exemplified during programme implementation, where the list of initial designated target countries was changed on several occasions.
104. The component was aligned to UNEP strategic priorities, and has direct references to the potential for further South-South cooperation included in the section on 'Regional Analysis' of the ProDoc. Component 2 had clear alignment to UNEP's mandate and mission to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment. The component was approved under the UNEP Medium-term Strategy covering the period 2014-2017. Component 2 clearly links to 2 of the key strategic focus areas outlined in the 2014-17 Medium-Term Strategy, i.e. 'Environmental Governance' (*"At the national level, and in partnership with relevant United Nations agencies, UNEP will help countries develop and implement policies and laws to improve their environmental governance... and will offer technical support in their efforts to integrate environment into development policies"*), and "Environment Under Review" (*"UNEP uses this expertise to facilitates global, regional and national policymaking and to set the global environmental agenda."*).
105. During the implementation of Component 2 there were several requests from target countries for further engagement on the topic of environmental statistics. The nature of these requests/needs of the specific countries varied across regions. For example, while there has been emphasis in Africa on the need for increased focus on user engagement, the specified needs in Latin-America were more focused on the use of geospatial data. These requests for further engagement during component implementation demonstrate that there was a need and desire from member states for the activities of Component 2, while also suggesting that greater stakeholder analysis and tailoring of activities during component design could have been undertaken.

Figure 3. Did the focus and the content of the DA10 C2 activities in which the NSO/line Ministry participated meet the most pressing needs of your institution/country in relation to measuring, monitoring and reporting on environmental SDGs?



106. The extent to which Component 2 met the needs of participating developing countries was also examined through the conduct of the online survey with key component beneficiaries (see Figure 3 above). The majority (88%) of respondents indicated that Component 2 had either partially met (25%) or mainly met (63%) the most pressing needs of the respective countries in relation to measuring, monitoring and reporting on environmental statistics.

Adjustments in response to new priorities and needs

107. The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in the cancellation of several planned national-level activities (including ECE Activity 1.2 ‘EECCA countries training workshop on climate-change related statistics’, ESCAP Activity 1.4 ‘Case study on applying SEEA waste accounting at a micro scale’); however, after the TAG meeting of 1 March 2020 and guidance from the coordination team, more flexibility was granted to reprogram the remaining activities into feasible alternatives as non-travel consultancies. The majority of Component 2 activities were completed before the outbreak of Covid, which minimised the need for this component to reprogramme activities. Only 9 Component activities had to be completed in 2021.

108. One of the key adjustments that was undertaken was the use of redirected travel funds to the development of an online training manual on environmental SDG indicators. This was developed by UNEP with support from SIAP of ESCAP and UNITAR, and served as a self-paced 10 module course focusing on environmental SDG indicators. It presents an overview of the importance of monitoring the environmental dimension of development, linking existing statistical frameworks (FDES and SEEA), and using environment statistics in decision making.

Rating for Strategic Relevance: **Satisfactory**

5.2 Quality of Component design

109. To assess the quality of design for Component 2, the UNEP-UNDA Quality of Design template was employed. Applying the template and its weighing of thirteen section criteria,

results in a total score of 3.52 on a scale from 1 to 6, which is categorized as **Moderately Satisfactory**.

110. The Analysis for the quality of design for Component 2 is presented in table 16 below.
111. Key areas of weakness from the component design include a lack of detail and attention on the ‘intended results and capacity’ element of component design, as well as the issues pertaining to the formulation of the logical framework. The ProDoc did not include ‘outputs’, rather, outputs (for the purposes of this evaluation/assessment) must be derived from the activities listed. However, the programme’s logical framework did reflect the scope of work for Component 2, and had concrete linkages to the Objectives of Component 2 as presented in the programme documents (i.e., “To strengthen capacity in developing countries to measure and monitor sustainable development goal indicators in environment statistics areas”). There were no distinct milestones included within the monitoring plan. The ProDoc for Component 2 did not include explicit detail on monitoring and reporting requirements. These were outlined in the overall programme ProDoc. The design of Component 2 also suffered from a lack of a clearly articulated sustainability/exit strategy.
112. The design of component 2 also had several strengths. The relevance and situational/problem analysis of the component were clearly articulated, with a direct link to needs of developing country member states within the realm of environment statistics/indicators. The roles and responsibilities across Expected Accomplishments and Indicators of Achievements were also clearly articulated in the component design document.

Table 16. Review of Component 2 Design

	Criteria	Rating (1-6)	Explanation
A	Operating Context	5	The ProDoc, as it pertains to Pillar & Component 2, did not address potential issues relating to instability/conflict in potential beneficiary/target countries. Given the multi-country and regional focus of Component 2, it is fair to believe that instability/conflict in one of the beneficiary countries would not have a large impact on the success of the component as a whole. Changes in government could have an impact on performance/success, and NSOs or other key beneficiaries/stakeholders may change with a government. While NSOs are targeted as key beneficiaries, the potential risk for political change is not fully addressed in the ProDoc for Component 2.
B	Project Preparation	4	The ProDoc clearly outlined situational/problem analysis. Very few countries, especially developing countries, have undertaken a thorough analysis to determine which areas of environmental information to prioritize given the numerous policy demands at the national level as well as reporting requirements arising from environmental agreements and conventions, including NDCs. The component sought to fill this gap through its interventions. Clear and thoughtful situation analyses was presented in both the ‘Development Challenge’ and ‘Regional Analyses’ sections of the ProDoc for Component 2. The stakeholder analysis section of the ProDoc was rather limited, focusing solely on a brief description of NSOs. No mention of stakeholder consultations during the programme design process was included in the ProDoc for Component 2.

	Criteria	Rating (1-6)	Explanation
C	Strategic Relevance	5	<p>The Component was aligned to UNEP strategic priorities, and had direct references to the potential for further South-South cooperation included in the section on 'Regional Analysis' of the ProDoc.</p> <p>The priorities and interlinkages between national, regional and global priorities was presented as part of the overall programme's ProDoc, however for Component 2, the analysis was only made at a regional level.</p>
D	Intended Results and Causality	3	<p>No theory of change was included within the ProDoc. No outputs were included within the ProDoc/logical framework for Component 2.</p> <p>Impact drivers and assumptions were not clearly identified within the logical framework for Component 2. At some points in the ProDoc, i.e., sections on 'SDG Goals, Targets, and Indicators' and 'Results Strategy', drivers were implied for impact of the component to be realized. The roles of key actors were partly described under the 'activity' description for most of the expected accomplishment areas for Component 2. However, some activity-outcome pathways did not include an explicit mention of the roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders.</p>
E	Logical Framework and Monitoring	3	<p>The ProDoc did not include 'outputs', rather, outputs (for the purposes of this evaluation/assessment) must be derived from the activities listed. The programme's logical framework did reflect the scope of work for Component 2, and had concrete linkages to the Objectives of Component 2 as presented in the ProDoc (i.e., "To strengthen capacity in developing countries to measure and monitor sustainable development goal indicators in environment statistics areas").</p> <p>There were no distinct milestones included within the monitoring plan. The ProDoc for Component 2 did not include explicit detail on monitoring and reporting requirements. These were outlined in the overall programme ProDoc. Comprehensive monitoring mechanisms were established to ensure continuous oversight of the Programme's activities by multiple individuals and groups with varying roles and responsibilities (DA Steering Committee, PMG, TAG, CDO and the pillar and component lead/co-lead). In addition, there were multiple layers of progress and financial reports which promoted a continuous flow of information to monitor the Programme and to assist in decision-making.</p> <p>The workplan was clear, however it was a bit optimistic. Component 2 activities A.10, A1.4, A2.3, and A .6 were the only activities for the thematic components of the programme which were scheduled to start on Q3 of 2016. This is fairly ambitious as the architecture for the overall programme was only initiated in Q3 of 2016.</p>

	Criteria	Rating (1-6)	Explanation
F	Governance and Supervision Arrangements	4	<p>Governance and Supervision arrangements were clearly defined for the overall programme. The overall programme had several governance mechanisms to which Component 2 was accountable. The roles and responsibilities of these were outlined in the ProDoc section “Management and Governance Arrangements”, where the responsibilities of the Development Account Steering Committee, the Programme Management Group, the Technical Advisory Group, and pillar/component leads were outlined.</p> <p>Whilst it was clear that UNEP was the lead entity for Component 2 (with UNSD being the co-lead), and the overarching responsibilities for UNEP were specified, the role of UNEP regional offices, and their relationship with the regional commissions for national/regional-level activities remained somewhat undefined. The delineation of responsibilities and roles between the regional commissions and UNEP regional offices would have benefited from a more concrete description/governance structure,</p>
G	Partnerships	4	<p>Analysis and identification of the roles and responsibilities of external partners was very limited with regards to Component 2 in the ProDoc.</p> <p>Partner capacity was not assessed as part of programme design, nor was it included in the documents for Component 2. Within the overall programme ProDoc, the risk of inadequate capacity within ministries/statistics offices is outlined in brief detail.</p> <p>Whilst partner capacity assessment was not undertaken, the structure of Component 2, with its pooling of entity knowledge, resources, networks and best practice represented an ambitious model for partnership building within the area of environmental indicators/statistics.</p>
H	Learning, Communication and Outreach	3	<p>A clear visibility/communication plan was not included in the ProDoc. However, it did describe the way the component could benefit from complementarities with other relevant interventions to enhance the communication and learning of the component.</p> <p>Sharing of results and south-south cooperation were core elements of the component design. Utilising the existing networks and working groups (via both UNEP regional offices and the regional Commissions) for the dissemination of results was also included as a key element of the ProDoc for Component 2</p>
I	Financial Planning / Budgeting	3	<p>Financial planning during the design phase appeared to be clear. During the course of the component implementation, various ‘supplementary funding’ streams were included.</p> <p>The ProDoc stated that the “The \$10 million allocated to the Programme is insufficient to meet the costs associated with producing the expected outcomes, particularly for costs such as translation, interpretation, and rental of venue for workshops”. There was an assumption in the ProDoc that organizational costs for the national workshops would largely have to be met by the target countries.</p>

	Criteria	Rating (1-6)	Explanation
J	Efficiency	3	As mentioned above, the amount of funding for effective delivery of the overall programmes expected accomplishments was flagged as an issue in the ProDoc (i.e., “The \$10 million allocated to the Programme is insufficient to meet the costs associated with producing the expected outcomes”). For Component 2, Expected Accomplishment 3 (which did not have a cost to the component associated with it) had a pure focus on establishing partnerships so that Component 2 could further leverage itself. The ProDoc mentioned some complementarities of the component with other relevant interventions/data sources (UNEP Live project 711.1, UNSD Environmental Indicators website). However, more concrete links, at the output level, could have benefited efficiency within the component design stage.
K	Risk identification and Social Safeguards	5	Given the scope and nature of interventions (i.e., without a ‘hard component’ for the component) an environmental/social risk assessment or screening was not conducted. No ToC or Risk table was presented in the ProDoc. The logical framework for Component 2 did not include any mention of potential risks.
L	Sustainability / Replication and Catalytic Effects	3	The section of the ProDoc which outlined Component 2 did not include a specific section on Sustainability and exit strategy of the interventions. However, the ProDoc for the Overall programme did. As the 2030 Agenda places new and heightened responsibilities on the NSOs, the advancements made in the target countries were not only expected to continue once the Programme had concluded, but should serve as a catalyst for strengthening statistical production processes up to 2030.
M	Identified Project Design Weaknesses / Gaps	N/A	The component did not go through the PRC process.

Rating for Quality of Component Design : Moderately Satisfactory

5.3 Coherence

113. Component 2 possessed clear strategic linkages to other UNEP project/programmes outside of the 10th tranche Development Account Programme on Statistics and Data (#1617A). The most notable example was the UNEP PIMS ID 01959 - 732.1 (*“Strengthening data and indicator frameworks for monitoring and reporting on the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs”*). The PIMS 01959-732.1 (hereinafter UNEP Project 732.1) project ran from September 2016- June 2020.
114. The scope and objectives of the UNEP project 732.1 were closely interlinked with those of Component 2. UNEP Project 732.1’s objective was *‘to strengthen the national, regional and global data and indicator frameworks for monitoring and reporting on the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs’*. Whilst the objective for Component 2, as specified in the ProDoc, was *‘to strengthen capacity in developing countries to measure and monitor sustainable development goal indicators in environment statistics areas.’*
115. UNEP project 732.1 was an umbrella project with three components:

- Component 1 supported UNEP to fulfil its international obligations to report on the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda and progress on the SDGs to the IAEG-SDG, UN Statistical Commission and the HLPF, as well as support UNEP reporting to UNEA on the environmental Dimension of the 2030 Agenda and the synergies between MEAs and SDGs.
 - Component 2 supported UNEP’s work across sub-programmes in delivering outputs aimed at capacity development for policy and decision-making that contributes to sustainable development and improved well-being.
 - Component 3 focused on building national and regional capacity to produce and use environment statistics for monitoring the SDGs and broader policy monitoring based on national priorities.
116. Direct interlinkages between UNDA Component 2 (i.e., the subject of this evaluation) and UNEP project 732.1 were not explicitly referenced and outlined in component documentation. However, UNDA Component 2 clearly contributed most closely to Component 3 of UNEP project 732.1. Through the conduct of KIIs, it was established that Component 2 and UNEP project 732.1 were developed in tandem by the same focal point. During the KII with the focal point in question, they indicated that they knew there would be funding coming from UNDA10 Component 2, and therefore they used that fact to embed some of the key objectives and outcomes of UNDA Component 2 within the framework of the UNEP project 732.1.
117. Whilst informal linkages to UNEP project 732.1 existed, direct/explicit links to other complimentary initiatives outside of UNDA was rather weak. For some of the regional commissions involved in the delivery of Component 2 activities, given their resourcing and capacity issues, their interventions under Component 2 were the sole focus with regards to environment statistics/SDG indicators (i.e. they did not undertake any other activities in this area during the timeline of Component 2).

Rating for Coherence : **Moderately Satisfactory**

5.4 Efficiency

Efficient delivery of Component services, products and events

118. The overall Programme was originally designed to span the period 2016 to 2019. In March 2019, an extension of the Programme was approved until end of 2020 and with the provision of an additional \$170,000 USD for Component 2 from DA residual balances. As a consequence of economic shutdowns due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Programme was further extended to April 2021.
119. Component 2 was conducted in an efficient manner. Most activities and tasks were completed before the revised planned end-date (December 2020), with some minor delays due to Covid-19. Because of the pandemic, travel funds were redirected to the development of an online training manual on environmental SDG indicators. The Environmental SDG Indicators Online Course²⁰ was developed by UNEP, SIAP, and UNITAR and is a self-paced course focusing on the environmental SDG indicators. The course includes 10 distinct

²⁰ Available at: <https://www.unitar.org/event/full-catalog/environmental-sdg-indicators>

modules and provides an overview of the importance of monitoring the environmental dimension of development, linking existing statistical frameworks (FDES and SEEA), and using environment statistics in decision making.

120. Concerning internal coherence and coordination, the focal points (including lead and co-lead) had regular bi-weekly meetings which were well attended. This assisted in establishing a clear line of communication amongst all parties for the most part. The authority of leads and co-leads within the architecture of the Component was not well defined in the ProDoc. It was made clear during key informant interviews that the joint implementation, and cooperation (between implementing entities), in Component 2 was stronger than for other components of the programme.
121. According to KIIs with component focal points, the internal Programme's website, where factsheets could be uploaded, also served as a very useful unintended collaboration tool. Initially designed purely to capture and monitor activity-level output data, the factsheets began to be used by focal points as a way of seeing what was being done in other regions by other entities (even outside of Component 2, i.e., in other thematic components) and establishing internal synergies at an activity-level.
122. In some regions, cooperation, and by extension efficient delivery of activities, worked better than others. KIIs indicated that collaboration with UNEP regional offices in Europe were particularly strong, whilst in LAC coordination and collaboration with the UNEP regional offices was somewhat weaker. This is further supported by the activity-level data that has been extracted from the factsheets, which indicates that UNEP was only involved/engaged on 4 of the 26 (i.e. 15.4%) activities undertaken by ECLAC, whilst for ECE activities, UNEP participated in 7 of the 19 (i.e. 36.8%) Close working relationships between regional commissions and other entities allowed for more efficient delivery, with some entities being able to modify certain tools and guidance material that had been produced by another entity (for example ECA running national-level workshops on FDES, which was a UNSD developed tool, in Burkina Faso and Ghana). Another example of this close collaboration working to enhance efficiency was the close working relationship between UNSD and ECA. ECA did not have the same expertise and capacity on environmental statistic that UNSD had, but did possess good connections and relationships with NSO's in the region. A collaborative approach was used by both entities where UNSD was able to bring its expertise and delivery of key guidance materials to the network that ECA possessed in Africa. One of the key additional benefits of the implementation of Component 2 was the creation of a UN Secretariat wide community of practice on environmental statistics (this is further elaborated in Section 5.4 'Effectiveness'). Internally it was believed (as determined through the conduct of KIIs) that this collaboration (which has continued to varying degrees past the end of the component's timeline) further enabled Component 2 to be delivered in an efficient manner.
123. The tailoring of EA2 thematic focus by entities allowed for greater efficiency as entities were able to use/further refine previously developed skills, expertise and tools within these given 'specialism' areas.
124. Responses from beneficiaries to the online survey also indicated that the delivery of services and products under component 2 were of a good quality and delivered in a timely and suitable manner, with one respondent from a NSO stating "**All of the activities were of high and good quality, which has enabled us to compile and calculate certain SDG indicators pertaining to the environment.**"

Non-DA resources leveraged for efficient delivery

125. With regards to Component 2's ability to leverage additional funding sources, 'Supplementary funding' is captured and presented in each of the End-Year progress reports. Throughout the implementation of Component 2, several different supplementary funding sources have been included in project reporting. The DA progress report template asks to include, within the 'Supplementary Funding' section of the report, *"any form of additional funding (financial or in-kind) that has been leveraged to further the implementation of the project through partnerships and/or donors (e.g., paying for additional participants at workshops, venues, or additional activities, etc.)"*.
126. Information recorded and presented on "supplementary funding", especially for Component 2, was rather vague within the end-year progress report templates. Detailed follow-up has been conducted with each of the relevant focal points. In interviews there was no singularly accepted understanding of what constituted supplementary funding. Some entity focal points stated that they considered supplementary funding to include the funding of participants to attend Component 2 activities, whilst others indicated that they understood supplementary funding to constitute the funding of other, external projects/programmes that in some way contributed to the general intervention logic of the UNDA 10th Component 2. For Component 2, it appears that several "relevant" projects, or projects with similar objectives, are included as supplementary funding. Some of the projects included in the list for Component 2 seem to represent complementary rather than supplementary funding, for the Programme.
127. EA3 for Component 2 was explicitly designed to further develop key partnerships and leverage other key capacity development work that was being undertaken. Implementing partners were able to leverage Bilateral and multilateral partner organizations²¹ to assist in funding participants to be engaged in activities under Component 2. As a result of leveraging this cooperation/coordination (and as reported in the end-programme report), 311 participants attended regional workshops using funding sources outside of the Component 2 budget.
128. Collaboration and coordination with activities supported by other funding mechanisms varied across the respective implementing partners. Capacity issues (resourcing, time etc) within some of the respective implementing partners meant that the exploration of synergies and collaboration with interventions conducted under additional funding sources was limited in some regions. The implementation of Component 2 activities could constitute a fulltime job for a staff member in each entity, and without any additional funds being allocated to support his function, it was noted in interviews with some of the regional commissions that searching for further external collaboration/co-financing was a challenge given the above-mentioned issues. This collaboration was potentially further hampered by the fact that the analysis and identification of the roles and responsibilities of external partners, within the component design (i.e. ProDoc and concept note) was somewhat limited with regards to Component 2.

Rating for Efficiency : Highly Satisfactory

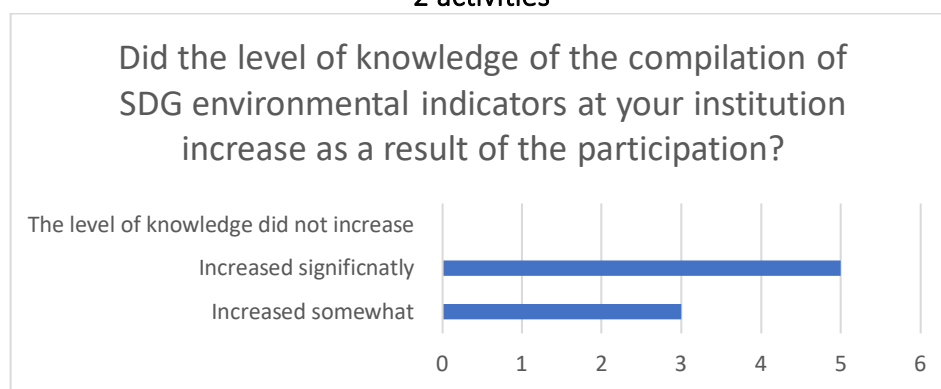
²¹ The University of New South Wales (UNSW), the World Bank, the International Energy Agency (IEA), UNDP, EFTA, The Netherlands, Kazakhstan, Kenya, FAO, Belarus and the League of Arab States

5.4 Effectiveness

Changes to member states capacity to measure, monitor and report on environment statistics

129. Evidence gathered (via document review of key activity outputs, KIIs and responses from member states/beneficiaries to the online questionnaire) has indicated that Component 2 has been effective in many aspects. For instance, all the 8 countries participating in the online survey, indicated that the level of knowledge of the compilation of SDG environmental indicators at their respective institutions increased (either significantly (5 respondents) or somewhat (3 respondents)) as a result of participation in Component 2 activities. None of them indicated that their level of knowledge did not increase.

Figure 4. Survey Responses regarding institutional knowledge increase as a result of Component 2 activities



130. Evidence from the online survey of target beneficiaries for Component 2 also tends to suggest that the capacity of some developing country member states to launch or improve institutional mechanisms and procedures for the production of environmental SDG indicators has increased. One respondent stated that Component 2 had significantly supported ***“Increasing the national capabilities to correct and unify the environmental statistical number with the shareholders”***.
131. Results were achieved and realized for both the development of SDG indicator methodologies as well as capacity development on data collection for SDG indicators. It should be noted that some issues that hampered the full realization of effective delivery of Component 2 outcomes stemmed from component design. For example, changes in target countries have caused some confusion over reporting results achievement (i.e. “IA 1.3: “50% of the 15 target countries (initially 35) make data on a new environment-related SDG area publicly available”).
132. Component beneficiaries have indicated several examples of how Component 2 activities have helped their institution in the collection of environmental data and the publishing of a relevant statistical approach. One example provided (via the online survey) illustrated this through the following statement:

“ Two national workshops were conducted under the Programme on Statistics and Data of the 10th Tranche of the United Nations Development Account (DA 10th Tranche). During the second national workshop held in August 2019 discussion about contribution towards completion of Gambia’s first Environment Statistics compendium by key stakeholders took a centre stage.

This discussion helped in acquiring more data from stakeholders and the first compendium was completed and published.”

Achievement of Expected Accomplishments (EAs) and likelihood of impact

133. To assess the effectiveness of Component 2, the assessment report analysed in detail the results (reported in the End-programme report) from each EA area (See Annex III for the Full Component 2 Results Framework). It should also be noted that during the construction of the ToC, EAs have been identified as intermediated states. The key results across EAs have been summarized and are presented below:

EA1 (Enhanced capacity to produce and sustain environment statistics related to the Tier I and II SDG indicators):

- The roll out and use of tools such as the FDES and the Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool (ESSAT) has enabled member countries to produce national compendia of environment statistics (particularly in Europe, West Asia and Africa).
- Result/evidence provided for IA 1.2 were fairly limited/weak, with the end term report stating that *“100% of target countries have some form of a plan that links their current needs and activities to building environment statistics at the national level.”* This is not backed up by any primary evidence on the development of national strategies on environmental statistics based on national policy priorities.
- The objective of IA 1.3 (i.e., 50% of initial 35 target countries publishing new environmental data/indicators) was also not met, with only 15 countries supported by Component 2 making environmental-SDG indicators publicly available.
- This being said, tangible progress has been made via EA1, an example of which was an online e-training on FDES that was held by ECA, UNEP and UNSD (on 29/06/2017) and attended by 203 participants.
- Under support provided by EA1, in Latin America, Component 2 workshop participants produced 50 new environmental indicators (7 in Panama, 7 in El Salvador, 8 in Guatemala, 8 in Costa Rica, 5 in Cuba, 8 in Uruguay and 7 in Honduras).

EA2 (Enhanced capacity of developing countries to adopt and apply statistical methods related to the Tier III and the less methodologically developed Tier II indicators):

- Despite some successful achievements, for instance the uptake of Bangladesh, Indonesia, and the Philippines, which have integrated the Disaster-Related Statistics Framework (DRSF), a methodological guideline for statistical compilation, into their work²², EA2 did

²² **Bangladesh** incorporates some of the DRSF elements into their manual, [Integrating Gender and Social Inclusion in Environment, Climate Change and Disaster-related Statistics: Methodological Guidelines and Protocol for Data Producers and Users](#). (The DRSF is explicitly mentioned on p. 78 of the manual.) Bangladesh also shared their good practices in producing disaster-related statistics with other countries in [the Asia-Pacific Technical Working Group on Disaster-related Statistics \(TWG-DRS\)](#). **Indonesia** has developed [Indonesia One Disaster Data](#), a national disaster-related statistics framework, based on the DRSF. (The DRSF is explicitly mentioned on p. ii-iii and reflected throughout the document.) The national framework serves as a case study for the TWG-DRS in implementing the DRSF. Indonesia is currently piloting the national framework in 3 provinces. The country also launched their [national e-learning course on the DRSF in Bahasa](#) (with 102 graduated from a facilitated course and 32 enrolled for a self-paced course). **The Philippines** has advanced [their Disaster Risk Reduction Expenditure \(DRRE\) Satellite Accounting](#) by using the DRSF as a reference to

not have the same level of demonstrable success at the output and outcome level as EA1. This is also likely due to the methodological complexities (and resource/capacity constraints in some target countries) for Tier III indicators.

- IA 2.1 had an initial goal of 75% of target countries developing a “strategic document for improving environmental statistics on a specific topic, classified as Tier II or III”. As per the end programme report, only 7 countries had demonstrated this.
- For IA 2.2, somewhat limited evidence is provided of uptake/referencing of guidelines (that were published on the e-portal). While effective tools and guidance documents have clearly been developed as part of this Component, evidence of their uptake by Member countries is partially lacking.
- Issues in achieving results for IA 2.3 were also encountered during the implementation of Component 2. Through KIIs it was indicated that many countries are particularly reluctant to summarize information for Tier III indicators which made the demonstration of results in this IA difficult. Additionally, some indicators changed their categorization during component implementation, i.e., they became Tier II, but were Tier III when the component started (this was the case for several of the ‘water indicators’).
- Under Activity 2.3, UNEP developed guidance related to SDG 8.4.1, 8.4.2, 12.2.2, 12.2.2, 14.1.1, 14.2.1, 14.5.1 and with co-financing for SDG 12.3.1, 12.4.1, 12.4.2, 12.6.1 and 12.7.1. As a result, all of these indicators have since been upgraded to Tier II.

EA3 (Partnerships developed which support statistical strengthening and complement and/or expand on the Programme’ outputs (at no cost to the Programme):

- Component 2 was able to demonstrate tangible success for EA3.
- In addition to establishing external partnerships (i.e., 23²³) to support the strengthening of environmental statistics, cooperation and engagement between regional commissions and UN partner agencies also improved and has served as a catalytic event for cooperation on capacity building for environmental SDG-indicators moving beyond the timeline of this Programme.
- Component 2 was successful at leveraging partnerships and other funding sources to enable participants to attend regional workshops.
- Evidence (as extracted from the factsheets) indicates that engagement with third party stakeholders was rather weak, especially in terms of “civil society, women’s groups, the media, and the private sector”. Component 2 did have some engagement, at an activity-level, with universities/academia, however engagement with the other listed groups (in the ProDoc for EA3) was not demonstrated.
- Issues were encountered with Activity 3.1 under EA3 for Component 2 (“Issue invitations to Resident Coordinators to attend (sub-) Regional meetings under self-financing arrangements and to co-finance government participation”). Throughout the reporting

support decision-makers for risk informed development. The DRRE satellite accounts development was also presented at the TWG-DRS meetings

²³ As recorded in the End-programme report

cycle of the component (i.e., in each of the End of Year reports from 2017-2020) Activity 3.1 was reported as both “delayed” and “not yet started” with the following comment included “*This remains a challenge for the project as most UN Offices in countries do not have the necessary expertise*”. However, in the final end programme report (2021) Activity 3.1 is indicated as being ‘Completed’, with the following statement/comment included “*UN country teams (UNCTs) have been invited when possible, and in the ECE and ECA regions, many workshops were co-organized with the UNCT.*” However, this statement is not backed up with any evidence.

134. In order to determine the likelihood of impact in the ToC, the achievement of results across the causal pathways, was assessed to arrive at a final likelihood of impact rating. Table 17 presents the results of the likelihood of impact rating exercise.

135. Concerning the assumptions as stipulated in the ToC:

- (i) Active involvement of stakeholders (Partially hold)
- (ii) Political champions support data systems under well-defined management structures (Partially hold)
- (iii) Legislation in place to ensure integrity of data (Hold)
- (iv) Demand for environmental statistics and data (Hold)
- (v) Existence of base-level data literacy (Partially hold)
- (vi) Strategy and funding exist to ensure sustainability (Partially hold)
- (vii) Guidelines and standards governing data terminology are in place and used (Partially hold).

136. Concerning the drivers as stipulated in the ToC:

- (i) Regional cooperation on environmental statistics/indicators needs to be strengthened (In place)
- (ii) Best practice could be shared and leveraged more efficiently, both intra, and inter-regionally (In place)
- (iii) The national capacity to measure environmental indicators needs to be improved. (In place)
- (iv) Awareness in the regions and at country level of the value of using up-to-date data and information to keep the environment under review exist (Partially In place).

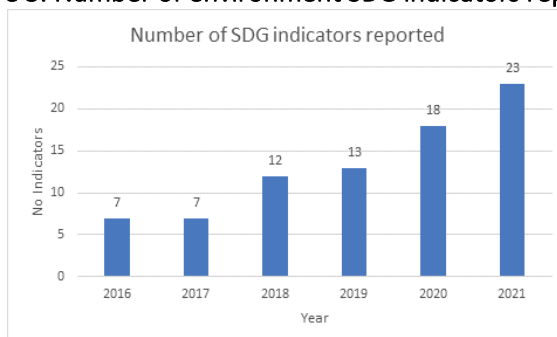
Table 17. Likelihood of impact rating

	Rating
Drivers to support transition from Outputs to Outcomes are ...	Partially in place
Assumptions for the change process from Outputs to Outcomes ...	Partially hold
Proportion of Outcomes fully or partially achieved?	All
Level of outcomes achieved	Partial
Drivers to support transition from Outcome(s) to Intermediate States are ...	Partially in place
Assumptions for the change process from Outcomes to Intermediate States ...	Partially hold
Proportion of Intermediate States achieved?	Some
Level of Intermediate State achievement?	Partial

Drivers to support transition from Intermediate States to Impact are ...	Partially in place
Assumptions for the change process from Intermediate States to Impact ...	Do not hold at present
Overall rating for likelihood of impact	Unlikely

137. While the assumptions and drivers along the casual pathway from outputs to outcomes, outcomes to intermediated states have generally held/been place in place (to varying degrees), there is a lack of evidence to categorically state that the assumptions that are required for the change process from intermediated states to impact are in place/hold, Most notably there is a lack of evidence that at the area of intermediated states (i) Political champions support data systems under well-defined management structures, and (ii) Strategy and funding exist to ensure sustainability. The sustainability of Component 2 may well be better realized if, in the short term, efforts are made to address the issues with these two key assumption areas.
138. Figure 5 presents the progress of the number of reported environment SDG indicators during the lifespan of the component. In 2016 when the component started, SDG indicators with a methodology and data available were limited to 7 out of 25 environmental related SDG indicators. In 2018, the number of environmental SDG indicators with methodology and data increased gradually²⁴.

Figure 5. Number of environment SDG indicators reported



Source: United Nations Environment Programme (2021). Measuring Progress: Environment and the SDGs. Nairobi.

Year	Number of SDG indicators reported	List of SDG indicators
2016	7	8.4.1,8.4.2,12.2.1,12.2.2,14.5.1,15.1.2 and 15.4.1
2017	7	8.4.1,8.4.2,12.2.1,12.2.2,14.5.1,15.1.2 and 15.4.1
2018	12	6.3.2,6.5.1,6.6.1,8.4.1,8.4.2,12.1.1,12.2.1,12.2.2,12.4.1,14.5.1,15.1.2 and 15.4.1
2019	13	6.3.2,6.5.1,6.6.1,8.4.1,8.4.2,12.1.1,12.2.1,12.2.2,12.4.1,12.c.1,14.5.1,15.1.2 and 15.4.1

²⁴ United Nations Environment Programme (2021). Measuring Progress: Environment and the SDGs. Nairobi.

2020	18	6.3.2,6.5.1,6.6.1,8.4.1,8.4.2,12.1.1,12.2.1,12.2.2,12.4.1,12.4.2,12.5.1,12.c.1,14.1.1a,14.5.1,15.1.2,15.4.1,15.9.1a and 15.9.1b
2021	23	6.3.2,6.5.1,6.6.1,8.4.1,8.4.2,12.1.1,12.2.1,12.2.2,12.3.1b,12.4.1,12.4.2,12.5.1,12.6.1,12.7.1,12.c.1,14.1.1a,14.1.1b,14.5.1,15.1.2,15.4.1,15.9.1a, 15.9.1b and 17.14.1

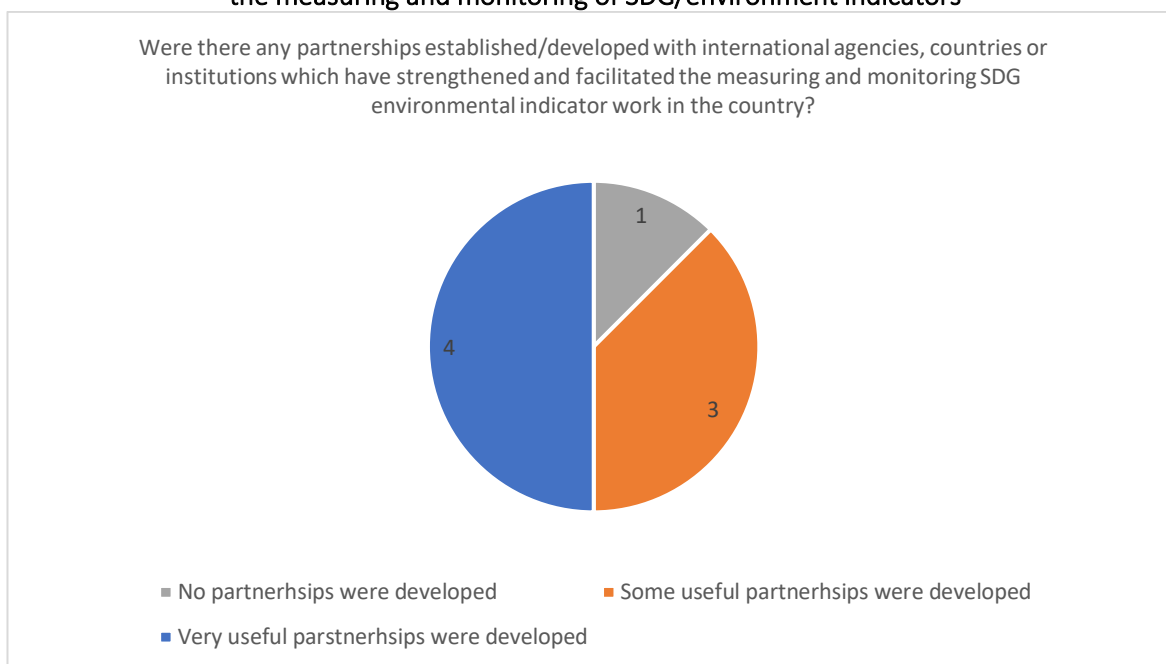
Source: United Nations Environment Programme (2021). Measuring Progress: Environment and the SDGs. Nairobi.

Enhanced leveraging, partnerships, and collaboration by the UN system & other partners to help countries strengthen their approach to environment statistics/SDG indicators

139. Data gathered from the conduct of the online survey (See figure 6 below) also indicated that Component 2, from the perspective of some member states, has helped in developing key partnerships that strengthened and facilitated the measuring and monitoring of SDG environment indicators (with 50% of respondents indicating that ‘very useful partnerships’ were established). Given the low response rate of the survey, and the lack of specific/actual partnerships established, this evidence must be considered as anecdotal as opposed to a robust finding across the component as a whole.
140. One NSO respondent from the online questionnaire provided an example of how these partnerships have been leveraged for the future, stating:

“The United Nations Development Programme Country office has since then expressed interest in collaborating with the agency²⁵ to collect and archive GHG Emissions data.”

Figure 6. Survey Responses on the establishment of partnerships via Component 2 that have facilitated the measuring and monitoring of SDG/environment indicators



141. Another example of coherence and coordination with other UN partners can be seen in the example of ECA partnering with FAO to host a capacity building programme on environment-economic accounts for forestry (SEEA-AFF). This programme aimed to

²⁵ Referring to the NSO respondents own agency

strengthen national statistical offices and related line ministries such as ministries of agriculture and forestry in data collection, compilation and production of SEEA-AFF.

Additional benefit

142. Prior to the implementation of Component 2, coordination between UN secretariat entities (and the regional commissions) was almost non-existent in the realm of environment statistics/indicators. Component 2 helped foster and bolster coordination and collaboration on environment statistics amongst the UN secretariat, with opportunities for cross-learning and sharing of best practice amongst the implementing entities occurring regularly. This was not just a useful outcome for the UN Secretariat, but also directly benefited member states/beneficiary countries who were able to benefit from the distinct knowledge and specialized expertise that each entity possessed within area of environment statistics/SDG indicators.

Rating for Effectiveness: Moderately Satisfactory

5.5 Gender and human rights mainstreaming

143. There weren't any direct links or references to gender considerations and human rights mainstreaming within the design of Component 2. Rather, gender and human rights mainstreaming were captured in Component 4 of the Overall programme. Component 4 had the objective to strengthen capacity of countries to produce Tier 1 SDG gender indicators and to enhance capacity in target countries to apply statistical methods to assess gender gaps in key areas of women's empowerment as relevant for SDG indicators. The main activities include global and regional meetings and workshops on methodological developments and practices, national training workshops and technical assistance missions all focusing on gender statistics. Some of the planned activities focused on measuring violence against women and on the relationship between gender and environment.
144. While direct/explicit gender considerations were not included within the activities for Component 2, Component 2's direct contribution to the SDGs could be considered as supporting the proliferation and uptake of certain human rights obligations by member states. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2030 Agenda are transformative development frameworks based on human rights. As the Member States make progress on the SDGs, they make progress on their human rights obligations. By fostering measurement and monitoring progress toward the SDGs, Component 2 has contributed to implementing Human Rights.
145. Whilst some of the key outcomes and the long-term objective/impact of Component 2 could have an indirect/tangential link to human rights and gender considerations²⁶, no activities were designed/captured human rights and gender mainstreaming explicitly. Only 54 of the

²⁶ Such as the DRSF, which recognizes that disasters impact different social groups disproportionately, thus the framework emphasises the need for disaggregation of disaster data by sex, age and disability (SADD) for further analysis and meaningful policy design to reduce risks faced by diverse social groups (as demonstrated in [Tables B1b and C3](#) of the manual). Guided by the DRSF in developing their national frameworks for disaster-related statistics production, Bangladesh focuses on producing and using SADD in their gender and social inclusion handbook (see examples [from p. 81 onwards](#)), while Indonesia One Disaster Data highlights the importance of disaggregation of data by social and demographic categories (see [pp. 37, 41 and 67](#)).

153 (i.e. 35%) Component 2 activities (as recorded in the factsheets) included a sex disaggregation of participants/beneficiaries.

Rating for Gender and Human rights mainstreaming: Moderately Unsatisfactory

5.6 Sustainability

146. The sustainability of the outcomes, i.e. the probability of the benefits derived from the achievement of outcomes being maintained and developed after the close of Component 2's interventions, relies on the ability of countries to utilise the tools/guidance/methodologies developed and provided as part of Component 2 to further assist in the collection of environment data.
147. In addition, several key drivers and assumptions are implied for the long-term realisation of results for Component 2. Using the ToC as a basis for review (as outlined in Section 3.3), the identified achievement of results/changes envisaged by the implementation of Component 2 are mapped as a set of interrelated pathways with each pathway showing the required outcomes in a logical relationship with respect to the others. The change processes between outcomes/intermediate states (EAs) will require certain conditions to hold. These conditions are outlined as the following list of assumptions, and include
- (i) Active involvement of stakeholders
 - (ii) Political champions support data systems under well-defined management structures
 - (iii) Legislation in place to ensure integrity of data
 - (iv) Demand for environmental statistics and data
 - (v) Existence of base-level data literacy
 - (vi) Strategy and funding exist to ensure sustainability
 - (vii) Guidelines and standards governing data terminology are in place and used.
148. In order to ensure sustainability of the intervention, the above listed assumptions will have to have been (and in some examples, continue to be) met. Assumption (vi) poses the greatest threat to the sustainability of the component. This assessment report has cast doubt on the extent to which this assumption still holds, given that a clear exit strategy/sustainability plan was not articulated in the ProDoc and implementing entities were unable to point to concrete examples of future funding to support the activities that were initiated under Component 2.
149. Sustainability strategies and the long-term uptake of Component 2 outcomes could have been articulated/assessed in more detail during the design of the Component. The section of the ProDoc which outlines Component 2 does not include a specific section on sustainability and exit strategy of the interventions. However, the ProDoc for the overall programme does. It was anticipated that the programme-level strategy would be applied to all components (including component 2), however, there was little evidence provided that the programme-wide strategy for sustainability had been strategically embedded in component 2 design/execution.
150. In the conduct of KIIs, key component partners and implementing entities mentioned the high staff turnover in government line ministries and NSOs as one of the major challenges

with regards to establishing the longevity/sustainability of Component 2's interventions. Component 2 sought to mitigate these risks by developing guidelines, tools, frameworks and methodologies for environment statistics that could last and be utilised beyond the close of the intervention. An example of this can be seen from the realisation of outputs from Activity 2.3, where UNEP developed guidance related to SDG 8.4.1, 8.4.2, 12.2.2, 12.2.2, 14.1.1, 14.2.1, 14.5.1 under this Programme and with co-financing for SDG 12.3.1, 12.4.1, 12.4.2, 12.6.1 and 12.7.1. As a result, all of these indicators have since been upgraded to Tier II²⁷. Another example can be seen through the development and proliferation of the DRSF (lead by ESCAP). This effort was recognised by the [UN Statistical Commission](#), which in turn requested the Regional Commissions and UNDRR to work together in advancing [the Common Statistical Framework on Disaster-related Statistics](#). The common framework incorporates several guidelines, including the DRSF. It is the hope that such harmonised statistics will facilitate, among other things, disaster risk modelling, vulnerability assessment and risk-informed investment, beyond the lifespan of the programme.

151. While considerations for sustainability and exit strategy may have been missing in the design of Component (as specified in the Concept Note and ProDoc), the fact that Component 2 was included as part of a larger umbrella UNEP project (PIMS 732.1) may also ensure some level of sustainability for the Component. In addition, a 14th UNDA programme is being designed that includes an environmental workstream. If the 14th UNDA programme is closely aligned to the remit of Component 2, and seeks to build off of past results and experience, the outlook for the sustainability of Component 2 may be improved.
152. The sustainability of Component 2 depends on the manner in which national governments will take up the new environment statistics tools, methodologies, and guidance that has been developed and shared as a result of the Component's activities. Without adequate follow-up support, and continued engagement by the UN implementing entities, the likelihood of uptake (based on one or two activities that were conducted for a given member state during component intervention) is questionable.

Rating for Sustainability: **Unlikely**

5.7 Financial Management, Monitoring and Reporting

Financial Management

153. Across all implementing entities, Component 2 consumed 92% of its allocated budget. As stated previously, the ambition level for Component 2, especially with regards to Tier III indicators (as specified under the activities in EA2) was fairly high. The funding that was available for Component 2 was fairly limited given this high ambition level. Whilst the component was able to leverage some funding from external partners the extent to which this met the budgetary demands for a component with such high ambition level is questionable. The budget was established before the ProDoc was developed and finalised. As such, given the knowledge that the focal points would have had concerning the budget, the planned activities were perhaps overly ambitious and not consistent with what the budget would allow for.

²⁷ Note: only the aggregates for 12.2.2 were officially reclassified

154. During the conduct of KIIs, it became clear that during the implementation of Component 2 there was some disagreement/friction between implementing entities on issue of national level activities, where countries had to pay for venues etc. themselves. This caused an issue in some regions, most notably Africa where resource mobilization by target countries was more challenging.
155. Concerning the administrative-side of financial management, the rollout of UMOJA was highlighted (in the end-year progress report) as an issue for effective and efficient payment for Component 2 related activities (such as participant travel, venue hire etc). Despite minor issues, internal stakeholders stated that the Component's implementation was never adversely affected.

Rating for Financial management: Satisfactory

Monitoring and reporting

156. Regarding the extent to which Component 2 activities were properly monitored and reported on, the Component benefited greatly from the use of an internal website/intranet that was developed by UN DESA and rolled out for the overall programme (including each of the respective thematic components). An integral aspect of the intranet site was the use of factsheets (which has been described earlier). The factsheets served a valuable source of activity tracking and were an appropriate tool given the scale and nature of Component 2 activities, and the architecture of the Programme as a whole. This being said, the quality and contents of factsheets varied considerably. In addition, there was no evidence to suggest that the monitoring of Component 2 activities and outputs had any influence on the implementation of Component 2 activities.
157. Given the fact that outputs were not clearly defined during the design of Component 2 (see Sections 3.3 and 5.4 regarding this issue), some of the key targets/indicators of achievement do not have a specific causal pathway link to an outcome result area. Key result areas such as Outputs, Intermediated States, Drivers and Assumptions were somewhat missing throughout the simplified logical framework for Component 2 as outlined in the original ProDoc. As such, reporting and monitoring progress throughout the causal pathway has been hampered. This could have been addressed if a robust, free-standing Component 2-specific Theory of Change was developed (that included the missing key result areas) during the design of the Component.

Rating for Monitoring and reporting: Moderately Satisfactory

6. Conclusions

158. Component 2 of the UNDA 10th Tranche Programme for Statistics and Data was a relevant initiative that sought to meet developing countries needs within the realm of environment statistics. It was made clear during key informant interviews that the joint implementation, and cooperation (between implementing entities), in Component 2 was stronger than for other components of the programme.
159. Component 2 possessed clear strategic linkages to other UNEP projects/programmes outside of the 10th tranche of the Development Account Programme on Statistics and Data (#1617A). The most notable example was the UNEP PIMS ID 01959 - 732.1 (*“Strengthening data and indicator frameworks for monitoring and reporting on the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs”*). Whilst these linkages to external interventions existed, there was the possibility that Component 2 could have built closer ties and synergies with those initiatives. The potential for leveraging such initiatives was fairly limited in the design of the Component.
160. Collaboration and coordination with activities supported by other funding mechanisms varied across the respective implementing partners. Capacity issues (resourcing, time etc) within some of the respective implementing partners meant that the exploration of synergies and collaboration with interventions conducted under additional funding sources was limited in some regions. The implementation of Component 2 activities could constitute a fulltime job for a staff member in each entity, and without any additional funds being allocated to support his function it was noted in interviews with some of the smaller entities that searching for further external collaboration/co-financing was a challenge given the above-mentioned issues.
161. For Component 2, results were reported to have been achieved and realized for both the development of SDG indicator methodologies as well as capacity development on data collection for SDG indicators. It is fair to say that more progress (in terms of meeting the initial targets for each IA) was made in EA1 and EA3 than in EA2. EA2 did not have the same level of demonstrable output and outcome success as EA1. Through KII with focal points, it was stated that this was also likely due to the methodological complexities (and resource/capacity constraints in some target countries) for Tier III indicators.
162. Component 2 helped foster and bolster coordination and collaboration on environment statistics amongst the UN Secretariat, with opportunities for cross-learning and sharing of best practice amongst the implementing entities occurring regularly.
163. Component 2 had a very limited budget, especially considering its high ambition level. Coordinating and supporting the implementation of Component 2, given the complexity of the institutional architecture, could have been a fulltime position for a staff member.
164. Some issues from component design had an impact on the efficient/effective delivery of activities and, by extension, the achievement and realization of results. Issues pertaining to (i) misunderstandings as to what constituted “supplementary funding”, (ii) the lack of a clear definition of the role, responsibility, and authority of the leads of the Component (iii) changes in target countries, (iv) the role of UNEP regional offices and the regional commissions’ sub-regional offices (v) engagement of other/external partners and interrelated initiatives, and (vi) a lack of a clear theory of change for achieving the desired impact of the Component, all stemmed from issues pertaining to the quality of component design.

165. The component provided significant support to national policies and strategies for environment indicators, however their implementation and continuation is uncertain.

7. Recommendations and Lessons Learned

Lessons Learned

Lesson Learned #1:	The scope of Component 2 should have been determined based on the knowledge of the available budget and staff capacity. Barring this, the implementing entities should have ensured that other resources were made available to support the implementation of Component 2, which had a scope broader than the DA funding was to allow for.
Context/comment:	Whilst the commitment of the focal points and leads for Component 2 was admirable during the implementation of the component, the time that could be committed to overseeing the successful execution of implementation was limited. A project with the scope and ambition of Component 2 should have a fulltime dedicated staffer whose sole responsibility is overseeing the successful implementation of activities.

Lesson Learned #2:	Component-specific design aspects (i.e., such as Theory of Change, national level needs analysis, sustainability/exit strategy etc.) should not be overlooked, even for multi-component initiatives such as the UNDA 10th tranche programme for statistics and data.
Context/comment:	When designing multi-component programmes, the detailed design of specific components should not be overlooked in the overall ProDoc. Due consideration should be given for the development of component specific intervention logic, theory of change, stakeholder analysis etc (i.e., these should not solely sit at a programmatic level but should be included in the relevant sub-sections for each thematic component).

Recommendations

Recommendation #1:	In order to ensure the sustainability and longevity of key Component 2 outcomes, UNEP should continue to promulgate the new guidance on SDG indicators that were developed for SDG 8.4.1, 8.4.2, 12.2.1, 12.2.2, 14.1.1, 14.2.1, 14.5.1 under EA2 of Component 2, as well as the Environment SDG Online self-paced course.
Challenge/problem to be addressed by the recommendation:	Both the guidance on the above-mentioned SDG indicators, and the online self-paced SDG course developed by UNEP as key outputs of Component 2, could serve as crucial modalities for ensuring continued engagement by national level stakeholders within the area of environment statistics (and in doing so could help with the sustainability of Component 2 outcomes).
Responsibility:	UNEP

Proposed implementation time-frame/urgency :	Immediate
Recommendation #2:	<p>The implementing entities of Component 2 should continue to explore avenues to further bolster the UN Secretariat-wide community of practice on environment statistics that was formed as a result of this component.</p> <p>Where possible these implementing entities should seek to further bolster this community of practice, either through formal channels (i.e., in future projects/programmes), or through more informal semi-regularly working group sessions.</p>
Challenge/problem to be addressed by the recommendation:	<p>One of the key additional benefits and successes of Component 2 was informal establishment of a UN Secretariat-wide community of practice on environment statistics. Before the implementation of the component, collaboration and cooperation on environment statistics was incredibly disjointed.</p> <p>Without concerted effort to foster this community of practice, this progress on key UN partnerships for environmental statistics could be lost.</p>
Responsibility:	All Component 7 UN implementing entities
Proposed implementation time-frame/:	The UN implementing entities of Component 2 should seek to establish a formal working group on environmental statistics within the next 12-21 months.

Recommendation #3:	Continued engagement on environment statistics with national-level stakeholders/beneficiaries who benefited from Component 2 activities should be sought by the respective implementing entities.
Challenge/problem to be addressed by the recommendation:	<p>To further ensure the uptake of key Component 2-level outputs and outcomes, implementing entities should continue to engage with target and beneficiary countries on issues of environment statistics/indicators. Continued engagement with Component 2 target and beneficiary countries should be factored into future work/project planning.</p> <p>Where possible, future funded projects on environmental statistic should seek to leverage the base knowledge, skills and expertise that has been initiated during the implementation of Component 2.</p> <p>The long-term sustainability and success of Component 2 relies on effective uptake and institutional knowledge of recipient NSOs/line ministries, and continued engagement by implementing partners can assist in establishing an environment that is conducive to this.</p>

Responsibility:	All Component 7 UN implementing entities
Proposed implementation time-frame:	Immediate. In developing upcoming projects/programmes, the respective UN entities should make sure they are leveraging previous engagement and partnerships with developing country member states.

Recommendation #4:	In diffuse global programs such as Component 2 of the UNDA 10th tranche, greater stakeholder analysis and tailoring of activities during project design should be undertaken.
Challenge/problem to be addressed by the recommendation:	<p>During the implementation of Component 2 there were several requests from target countries for further engagement on the topic of environmental statistics. These requests for further engagement during component implementation demonstrate that there was a need and desire from member states for the activities of Component 2, while also suggesting that greater stakeholder analysis and tailoring of activities during component design could have been undertaken.</p> <p>In addition, Activity 3.1 was designed to engage UN offices in beneficiary countries, however success in this regard was limited due to the fact that UN Cos do not have the necessary expertise on environmental statistics. This appears to suggest that the activity was not planned based on sufficient stakeholder analysis.</p>
Responsibility:	All Component 7 UN implementing entities
Proposed implementation time-frame:	Immediate. In developing upcoming projects/programmes, the respective UN entities should make sure they undertake detailed stakeholder analysis and tailor the design of interventions to the findings of any such analysis.

Recommendation #5:	In multi-entity programmes, the authority of lead and co-lead entities should be clearly defined and articulated from the outset of project design and implementation.
Challenge/problem to be addressed by the recommendation:	The ProDoc included a brief outline of the roles and responsibilities of leads (i.e. within the framework of the UNDA 10 programme), however, the authority of leads within the components was not addressed .
Responsibility:	All Component 7 UN implementing entities
Proposed implementation time-frame:	Immediate. Future UNDA initiatives should include clear guidance and consistent reporting on 'supplementary funding' streams.

Recommendation #6:	Clear guidance, and consistent reporting on 'supplementary funding' should be a key consideration for future UNDA programs.
Challenge/problem to be addressed by the recommendation:	Within the auspices of Component 2, there was a lack of clear guidance what constituted 'supplementary funding' and how it should be reported on.
Responsibility:	All Component 7 UN implementing entities
Proposed implementation time-frame:	Immediate. In developing upcoming projects/programmes, the respective UN entities should make sure they undertake detailed stakeholder analysis and tailor the design of interventions to the findings of any such analysis.

Annexes

Annex I: Response to Stakeholder Comments

GENERAL COMMENTS		
Report section	Programme and Global Evaluation Team comments	Evaluator Response
Overarching	UNEP is obviously understaffed with statisticians. Therefore, the question should not be why the Programme did not allow them to get additional HR, but rather why UNEP's top management is not taking appropriate measures to reinforce the statistical capacity of the organization. It is not the DA's objective to address these systemic issues. Still, despite UNEP's clear comparative advantages, the case to be further considered is why an organization with such a shortage of statisticians and data experts should lead this component. I am convinced that UNEP must have the lead of such a component. Still, there is a need to create a well-staffed organizational unit dealing with statistics and secure the sustainability of the Programme's achievements	
Overarching	It is important that the evaluation of component 10 also looks at the project document 732.1 when providing comments on the project document of DA10, including for example Theory of Change etc	This is well noted. While references to UNEP project 732.1 are included in the report in several instances, when assessing project/component design, only information that is included in the Concept Note and ProDoc for Component 2 can be assessed (in order to maintain a defined scope). In addition, the ProDoc and Concept Note for Component 2 do not have any direct mentions of UNEP project 732.1.
Overarching	The assessment gives the impression of targeting the UNEP rather than the entire component. That seems a critical weakness.	While the concern is noted, when discussing the scope of the assessment report (under section 3.2), it is clearly stated that the assessment "covers activities undertaken by all 7 of the implementing partners of Component 2.". Given UNEP's role as the lead entity, and the comparatively large number of activities it undertook under Component 2, its role and performance have been an area of focus for this in-depth assessment.
Supplementary funding	in several places it is argued that "supplementary funding" was poorly defined, that it might have been termed complementary funding and that this may have led to some confusion. But the main issue is largely bypassed; the total additional funding to the component 2 and related activities amounted to US\$ 5.5 million, compared with the total DA10 funded budget of 2.1 million. I strongly suggest that the impact and importance of this is analysed and discussed in the report, i.e. the very large activities that were aligned to the component 2 activities by cooperating	The comment is well noted. However, the evaluators refute this statement. Stating that confusion over whether funding was supplementary or complimentary is crucial in determining its contribution to environmental statistics and the objectives of C2. Without a clear definition of what immediately support/supplemented UNDA10 C2 activities vs. what was tangential, it is impossible to quantify the direct impact that these interventions have had in contributing to the objectives of Component 2.

	development partners. Did these activities, the total of them not surpass the anticipated impact of component 2 and indeed the whole DA10 Programme?	
Budget for the component	frequent mention is made of Component 2 being underfunded, yet it had the largest funding of the seven components. Such statements seem of doubtful value in a project assessment report. Also, much is said about the fact that the project did not provide separate funding for a designated staff member for overseeing and implementing. No mention is made of the fact that if that had been done, the budget for activities would presumably been that much lower, i.e. less had been available for activities. The mid-term evaluation had a very different view of this.	While it may have received the largest funding of any UNDA10 component, that still does not negate the fact that the ambition level (i.e. undertaking 153 activities and seeking to achieve demonstrable results across Tier II and III indicators) did not meet the resources that were provided for the successful implementation.
5.6 Sustainability	Very little mention is made of learning and training and the impact of these on sustainability; those important issues seem not to be taken into account in the overall rating on sustainability.	Well noted. Slight revisions have been made to this section (and throughout the report when discussing sustainability) to reflect this concern. However, we refrained from discussing regional breakdowns etc (in terms of the statistics provided) as we were unsure how this really aligned with evaluation questions on sustainability. There was no information for example on who the successful course completers were (i.e. NSOs? General public? Academics? etc).
SPECIFIC COMMENTS		
Para 43	UNSD was the least funded entity; somewhat normal that they also had fewer activities	Agreed. However, it is noteworthy that one of the least funded agencies (and in extension undertaking the agency which undertook some of the least number of activities) was a co-lead for the Component. Hence its inclusion in the assessment report.
Para 104	Analysis of the needs for each target country was lacking, but yet, you have found that “there was a clear need for support to member countries on environment statistics and Component 2 sought to meet this demand”?	The distinction that was meant to be sought here was that there was a broader need for support on environmental statistics. However, on a country-by country basis, Component 2 did not include a fine-detailed needs assessment for the target countries in question.
Table 16	Contradictory to the statement in para 110 that analysis of needs of target countries was missing.	This is not a contradiction, as it depicts the state of environmental statistics in a broader sense, whereas the earlier para refers to the issue of fine-level needs analysis not being conducted.
Table 16	On “No theory of change was included within the ProDoc. No project outputs were included within the project document/logical framework for Component 2. Impact drivers and assumptions were not clearly identified within the logical framework for Component 2. At some points in the project document, i.e., sections on ‘SDG Goals, Targets, and Indicators’ and ‘Results Strategy’, drivers were implied for impact of the project to be realized. The roles of key actors were partly described under the ‘activity’ description for most of the expected accomplishment areas for Component 2. However, some activity-outcome	While it is noted that UNEP project 732.1 had a Theory of change, this was for the umbrella project (i.e. 732.1) and not Component 2 specifically. This evaluation/assessment is focused on UNDA10 Component 2, and as such, for assessing the ToC it must be made at the component 2 level, not at broader level factoring in umbrella projects which cover C2 as a sub-element.

	<p>pathways did not include an explicit mention of the roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders.”</p> <p>The component 2 of the DA10 project is an integral part of project 732.1, which has a theory of change. The activities in red font on green box on the right-hand side are referring to the DA10 component 2.</p>	
Para 119	<p>So the Programme was extend by 4 months due to COVID-19, making it difficult to provide an assessment of the timeliness of the delivery. The information provided in this para indicates that travel funds were redirected to online activities due to the constraints caused by COVID-19 – without assessing the extent to which these changes affected the achievements of its expected results, we cannot determine if this helped deliver the component efficiently. The following paras state that there were regular meetings of focal points; factsheets were considered by some as a useful coordination tool; the level of cooperation varied across regions; and some beneficiaries positively rated the quality and timeliness of services/products. I'm not sure if this provides sufficient evidence for the general conclusion that the component was conducted in an efficient manner</p>	<p>In addition to the information listed, it has been consistently re-iterated (including from the Programme coordination team), that Component 2 was arguably the most efficient and well run component in terms of delivery, communication, timeliness and coordination.</p>
Para 127	<p>What is the source for this? Also, who are these 311 participants? Are they from the NSOs or relevant ministries of the developing countries? Or do they represent staff of NSOs of developed countries and partner organizations, whose own offices/institutions funded their travel to participate in the regional workshops? Also, what is the total number of participants in regional workshops that were funded with the Component 2 budget (to understand the level of external resources leveraged)?</p>	<p>Given the lack of detailed participant lists it is difficult to give an exact disaggregated breakdown of participants. However, this section has been revised to caveat that some attendees were not from target/beneficiary countries and may have represented staff of NSO developed countries and partner organisations.</p>
Para 131	<p>What is the evidence? If this is based on the survey responses, again, it is not sufficient. It can only be reported as “X number of countries responding to the survey indicated/reported”.</p>	<p>The evidence is derived from the end-term report and demonstrable outputs of the component which are further outlined in “Achievement of Expected Accomplishments” section.</p>
Para 133 on EA2	<p>On the uptake by countries, 3 countries, namely Bangladesh, Indonesia and the Philippines, have integrated the Disaster-related Statistics Framework (DRSF), a methodological guideline for statistical compilation, into their work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bangladesh incorporates some of the DRSF elements into their manual, Integrating Gender and Social Inclusion in Environment, Climate Change and Disaster-related Statistics: Methodological Guidelines and Protocol for Data Producers and Users. (The DRSF is explicitly mentioned on p. 78 of the manual.) Bangladesh also shared their good practices in producing disaster-related statistics with other countries in the Asia-Pacific Technical Working Group on Disaster-related Statistics (TWG-DRS). • Indonesia has developed Indonesia One Disaster Data, a national disaster-related statistics framework, based on the DRSF. (The DRSF is explicitly mentioned on p. ii-iii and reflected throughout the document.) The national framework serves as a case study for the TWG-DRS in 	<p>Your comment is well noted. The examples provided are useful in presenting key achievements for uptake. However, this section of the report looks at the performance of Component 2 as a whole... As reported in the end-year and end-programme reports, achievement of results in the area of EA2 was below the target as set out during project design (this is especially true for IA 2.1 and IA 2.3). This being stated, direct references to these achievements has now been included in the revised report under Para 133.</p>

	<p>implementing the DRSF. Indonesia is currently piloting the national framework in 3 provinces. The country also launched their national e-learning course on the DRSF in Bahasa (with 102 graduated from a facilitated course and 32 enrolled for a self-paced course).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Philippines has advanced their Disaster Risk Reduction Expenditure (DRRE) Satellite Accounting by using the DRSF as a reference to support decision-makers for risk informed development. The DRRE satellite accounts development was also presented at the TWG-DRS meetings <p>The DRSF use cases of these countries were also showcased at several international meetings related to climate change and disaster-related statistics (please see 1, 2, 3 and 4).</p> <p>In addition to the 3 countries, Vanuatu’s draft statistical development plan for disaster-related statistics is guided by the DRSF, whereas Thailand and Maldives have requested for ESCAP’s further support on national workshops on the DRSF, with the use of the e-learning.</p> <p>Further beyond a national scope, a guidance on the roles of national statistical systems in providing information on hazardous events and disasters, Conference of European Statisticians (CES) Recommendations on the Role of Official Statistics in Measuring Hazardous Events and Disasters, was also developed by UNECE. This handbook is designed to complement the DRSF.</p>	
Para 143	<p>This statement is not accurate. UNEP has been funded and has implemented several gender and environmental activities: https://comtrade.un.org/da10/Component/Details/3.2/A.5.2/. The main tangible outcome of these cross-component activities can be found here: https://www.unep.org/resources/report/gender-and-environment-statistics-unlocking-information-action-and-measuring-sdgs. Suppose for domains like economic and social statistics, the gender dimension is well established, and cross-fertilization occurs at the national level within NSOs; this is a challenge for environment statistics. Environment statistics is a new domain for which the compilation is disseminated in various ministries, including NSOs. Therefore, it was fundamental for gender and environment statistics that the cross-pollination happened within the Programme, which was a significant achievement. I would have liked this to be better reflected in the report.</p>	<p>While it is noted that UNEP has conducted some extensive and impressive work on gender and environment statistics, even within the auspices of the programme as a whole, the listed activity (i.e. on gender and environment statistics nexus) was not recorded as a part of Component 2. This assessment report focuses solely on Component 2 activities, and as such, this is outside of the scope of this assessment (i.e. and cannot be drawn upon).</p>
Para 144	<p>The DRSF recognises that disasters impact different social groups disproportionately, thus the framework emphasises the need for disaggregation of disaster data by sex, age and disability (SADD) for further analysis and meaningful policy design to reduce risks faced by diverse social groups (as demonstrated in Tables B1b and C3 of the manual). Guided by the DRSF in</p>	<p>This is well noted. Direct reference to this example has now been included in the revised report (as a footnote to Para 145). However, this link/consideration for gender is not an explicit aspect of the activity, i.e. guidance on sex</p>

	<p>developing their national frameworks for disaster-related statistics production, Bangladesh focuses on producing and using SADD in their gender and social inclusion handbook (see examples from p. 81 onwards), while Indonesia One Disaster Data highlights the importance of disaggregation of data by social and demographic categories (see pp. 37, 41 and 67).</p>	<p>disaggregated disaster data is a sub-aspect of the DSRF, as opposed to its primary focus.</p>
<p>Sustainability (page 54 to 56)</p>	<p>Without adequate follow-up support, and continued engagement by the UN implementing entities, the likelihood of uptake (based on one or two activities that were conducted for a given member state during project intervention) is questionable.</p> <p>I totally disagree with this rating 'unlikely'. Please check project 715.1 on PIMS that show the continuation of capacity development for countries. – Project ID 02082 - Informing Policy through strengthening national, regional and global data and indicator frameworks and integrated analysis on the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs</p> <p>We continue to develop guidelines and tools, as well as capacity development in countries, in continuing cooperation with Regional Commissions.</p> <p>Additionally, the statistics provided for the on-line training were not used in the report as part of the evaluation</p>	<p>The comment/concern on the sustainability rating is well noted. More description has been provided concerning how the situation of Component 2 within the umbrella UNEP project had a positive impact on sustainability, as has future funding windows such as UNDA 14. However, the fact remains that within the design of the component, and through interviews conducted with focal points, systematic thinking on the sustainability and longevity of the Component was not highlighted to the extent it could/should have been.</p> <p>References are made throughout the report re. the online course and its performance/reach thus far. However, we refrained from discussing regional breakdowns etc (in terms of the statistics provided) as we were unsure how this really aligned with evaluation questions on sustainability. There was no information for example on who the successful course completers were (i.e. NSOs? General public? Academics? etc)</p>
<p>Para 152</p>	<p>Under the 14th UNDA programme, a workstream on disaster and climate change statistics is included and ESCAP is one of the implementing agencies.</p>	<p>This is well noted. While UNDA 14 may be a very positive step towards ensuring the sustainability of UNDA10 Component 2, at this early stage it cannot be stated that UNDA14 will inevitably lead to the long-term success of UNDA10 Component 2.</p>
<p>Sustainability (page 54 to 56)</p>	<p>As elaborated above, countries have integrated the DRSF into their national systems and requested for ESCAP's additional supports in developing national capacity in this area. We also witnessed institutionalisation of disaster-related statistics where Bangladesh' national statistical office has established a dedicated unit for environment, climate change and disaster statistics during the DA10 implementation period. Indonesia is currently reviewing a draft regulation on Indonesia One Disaster Data, which should be promulgated soon.</p>	<p>This is well noted. The uptake by member countries of DRSF has now been included and highlighted further under para 133, which examines achievement of EA2 activities and their uptake.</p> <p>Continued engagement with RC's and request for further support is a good sign that Component 2 activities have helped in fostering a dialogue between member states and the relevant UN entities/commissions on environmental statistics. However, without specific evidence provided by countries, it is hard to explicitly draw a conclusion on the sustainability of Component 2 initiatives based on anecdotal communication and requests for support. Requests for further support, could</p>

		in some instances, be interpreted as a lack of consideration for sustainability in the design of activities.
Monitoring and reporting (page 57)	no mention is made of the biannual reports of the implementing entities and the subsequent progress report compiled and edited by the Programme Coordinator. In fact, there is no discussion of the role of the Programme Coordinator nor the role of the TAG. Both of these constituted continuous monitoring. The statement made in para 149 “there was no evidence to suggest that the monitoring of Component 2 activities and outputs had any influence on the implementation of Component 2 activities” should not go uncontested. This was certainly not the conclusion of the mid-term evaluation. Furthermore, there is evidence that factsheets were extensively used for the design of activities and funding of the extension of the Programme as well as for its reshuffling due to Covid19.	The role and importance of the factsheets is well document and reflected throughout the assessment report. With regards to the Programme Coordinator and TAG, this assessment report sought to focus primarily on the architecture of Component 2, without discussion broader/programmatic architecture concerning M&E (given that these issues will likely be discussed in the global evaluation report).
Monitoring and reporting (page 57)	The Prodoc included detailed plans for monitoring and reporting at pillar/component level (Section 12.1), which was to feed into programme-level monitoring and reporting. To what extent was the planned monitoring and reporting conducted under Component 2? Any findings related to the experience with monitoring and reporting of a component that involved 7 entities? The experience must have been quite different from other DA projects implemented or led by UNEP, and lessons learned should inform future projects involving a similar number of implementing entities	Concerning monitoring and reporting, implementing entities generally referenced the factsheets and the role regular coordination meetings. Focal points did not provide much information outside of this...therefore including any detailed findings as suggested would be somewhat tricky.
Para 164	Do not fully agree on this. With (i), the definition of the supplementary funding is in the report template – it’s not a design issue. (iii) is not a design issue, either; changes in the target countries are often inevitable as a result of the changes in the participating countries, and what was missing was the set criteria for dropping or adding target countries, as well as the requirement to properly document the changes.	Your comment is well noted. Concerning (i) Whilst it is a template issue, the project design could have clarified the definition and guidance on supplementary funding inclusion and monitoring more explicitly, (iii) Agreed to an extent. However, the lack of detailed analysis at a country-level (within project design) meant that the list of target countries changed significantly from the outset (more than would be expected). In addition, the missing criteria and requirements to document the changes (as specified in the comment) should have been included in project design.

Annex II: Performance Ratings Table

The In-depth Assessment will provide individual ratings for the evaluation criteria described in the table below.

Most criteria will be rated on a six-point scale as follows: Highly Satisfactory (HS); Satisfactory (S); Moderately Satisfactory (MS); Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU); Unsatisfactory (U); Highly Unsatisfactory (HU). Sustainability and Likelihood of Impact are rated from Highly Likely (HL) down to Highly Unlikely (HU).

A Ratings Matrix is available to support a common interpretation of points on the scale for each evaluation criterion (<https://www.unenvironment.org/about-un-environment/evaluation>). These ratings are ‘weighted’ to derive the Overall Component Rating (see ‘Weighting of Ratings’ on the website). In the conclusions section of the assessment report, ratings will be presented together in a table, with a brief justification for each rating, cross-referenced to findings in the main body of the report.

Criterion <i>(Enter each rating into the Weighting of Ratings table to arrive at the rating for each criterion and the overall component rating)</i>	Summary Assessment	Rating
A. Strategic Relevance		S
1. Alignment to UNEP’s Medium-Term Strategy and Programme of Work	The component had a high degree of alignment to UNEP strategic priorities, and has direct references to the potential for further South-South cooperation included in the section on ‘Regional Analysis’ of the ProDoc.	HS
2. Alignment to UN Environment /UNDA strategic priorities	Component 2 had clear alignment to UNEP’s mandate and mission to provide leadership and encourage partnership in caring for the environment. The component was approved under the medium-term strategy covering 2014-2017. Component 2 clearly links to 2 of the key strategic focus areas outlined in the 2014-17 Medium-Term Strategy, i.e. ‘Environmental Governance’ and ‘Environment Under Review’.	HS
3. Relevance to regional, sub-regional and national (i.e. beneficiaries’) environmental priorities	The priorities and interlinkages between national, regional and global priorities was presented as part of the overall programme’s ProDoc, however for Component 2, the analysis was only made at a regional level.	S
4. Complementarity with existing interventions/Coherence	Whilst informal linkages to UNEP project 732.1 existed, direct/explicit links to other complimentary initiatives outside of UNDA was rather weak. For some of the smaller entities involved in the delivery of Component 2 activities, given their resourcing and capacity issues, their interventions under Component 2 were the sole focus with regards to environment statistics/SDG indicators (i.e. they did not undertake any other activities in this area during the timeline of Component 2),	MS
B. Quality of Component (Pillar 2) Design	To assess the quality of design for Component 2, the UNEP-UNDA Quality of Design template was employed. Applying the template and its weighing of thirteen section criteria, results in a total score of 3.52 on a scale from 1 to 6, which is categorized as Moderately Satisfactory .	MS
C. Effectiveness		MS
1. Attainment of outputs	It is fair to say that more progress (in terms of meeting the initial targets for each IA) was made in EA1 and EA3 than in EA2. EA2 did not have the same level of demonstrable output and outcome success as EA1. This is also likely due to the methodological complexities (and resource/capacity constraints in some target countries) for Tier III indicators.	MU

Criterion <i>(Enter each rating into the Weighting of Ratings table to arrive at the rating for each criterion and the overall component rating)</i>	Summary Assessment	Rating
2. <i>Achievement of outcomes (Expected Accomplishments in Development Account terminology)</i>	Results were achieved and realized for both the development of SDG indicator methodologies as well as capacity development on data collection for SDG indicators. It should be noted that some issues that hampered the full realization of effective delivery of Component 2 outcomes stemmed from component design.	MS
3. <i>Likelihood of impact (including an analysis of the component's contribution to long-lasting results)</i>	Evidence from the online survey of target beneficiaries for Component 2 also indicated that the capacity of developing country member states to launch or improve institutional mechanisms and procedures for the production of environmental SDG indicators has increased. However, the likelihood of impact ultimately relies on uptake and continued engagement/interest from developing country member states, Utilising the likelihood of impact analysis tool (see Table 17) the overall likelihood has been assessed as unlikely.	UL
D. Financial Management		S
1. <i>Adherence to UNEP's financial policies and procedures</i>	Two financial/administrative focal points from UNEP oversaw the financial management of Component 2 and ensured continued compliance with UNEP financial procedures.	S
2. <i>Completeness of component financial information</i>	Across all implementing entities, Component 2 consumed 92% of its allocated budget. Component 2	S
3. <i>Communication between finance and component management staff</i>	KIIs confirmed that there were no issues pertaining to internal communication on financial administration.	S
E. Efficiency <i>(Includes aspects of Coherence)</i>		HS
1. <i>Economic efficiency</i>	The amount of funding for effective delivery of the overall programmes expected accomplishments is flagged as an issue in the ProDoc (i.e. "The \$10 million allocated to the Programme is insufficient to meet the costs associated with producing the expected outcomes"). For Component 2, Expected Accomplishment 3 (which does not have a cost to the component associated with it) has a pure focus on establishing partnerships so that Component 2 can further leverage itself.	HS
2. <i>Timeliness</i>	Component 2 was executed on time, with extensions being provided to the Programme as a whole.	S
3. <i>Partnerships (engagement of implementing entity with national, regional and global level stakeholders; engagement with other implementing agencies).</i>		S
F. Monitoring and Reporting		MS
1. <i>Monitoring design and budgeting</i>	There is no evidence of budgeting for monitoring for Component 2 within the programme/component documents/end year reports. However, a monitoring system was developed during component inception (through factsheets) that allowed for the collection of activity-level data in an appropriate manner.	MU
2. <i>Monitoring of component implementation</i>	Comprehensive monitoring mechanisms have been established to ensure continuous oversight of the Programme's activities by	S

Criterion <i>(Enter each rating into the Weighting of Ratings table to arrive at the rating for each criterion and the overall component rating)</i>	Summary Assessment	Rating
	multiple individuals and groups with varying roles and responsibilities (DA Steering Committee, PMG, TAG, CDO and the pillar and component lead/co-lead). In addition, there are multiple layers of progress and financial reports which promotes a continuous flow of information to monitor the Programme and to assist in decision-making	
3. <i>Project reporting</i>	Annual end-year reports were conducted for each year of component implementation. However, they varied in quality with a high-level of duplication throughout.	MU
G. Sustainability <i>(the overall rating for Sustainability will be the lowest rating among the three sub-categories)</i>		UL
1. <i>Socio-political sustainability</i>	Socio-political sustainability was not assessed or addressed in the component design nor implementation.	MU
2. <i>Financial sustainability</i>	Whilst the Component did not include an analysis/strategy for securing long-term support/scaling up, several of the outcomes have been produced in a way in which they shall outlast the timeline of the component.	ML
3. <i>Institutional sustainability</i>	In the conduct of KIIs, key component partners and implementing entities mentioned the high staff turnover in government line ministries and NSOs as one of the major challenges with regards to establishing the longevity/sustainability of Component 2's interventions	UL
H. Factors Affecting Performance	Moderately Unsatisfactory	MU
1. <i>Preparation and readiness</i>	A comprehensive inception workshop was held at component initiation. In addition, whilst UNEP took responsibility of drafting the Component 2 section of the ProDoc, all other implementing entities were involved in its finalisation.	S
2. <i>Quality of component management and supervision</i>	The majority of component staff/focal points had the necessary capacity in environment statistics to carry the component out in an satisfactory manner. The component also held bi-weekly meetings where constructive information was shared by all implementing entities on their progress and any issues encountered.	MS
3. <i>Stakeholders participation and cooperation</i>	The implementation of Component 2 began, and was undertaken with moderate analysis of stakeholder groups. The main level of analysis for Component 2 was at the regional level, with national level analysis and needs assessment only taking place during component inception.	MU
4. <i>Environmental, Social and Economic Safeguards</i>	Not applicable given the nature of the interventions	N/A
5. <i>Country ownership and driven-ness</i>	Country ownership was strong at the level of activity to output, and to a certain extent from output to outcome. However, given the nature of the intervention, and broad geographic scope that was covered, country ownership of outcomes to intermediated stats was relatively weaker. There were some examples (i.e. Kazakhstan) of	S

Criterion <i>(Enter each rating into the Weighting of Ratings table to arrive at the rating for each criterion and the overall component rating)</i>	Summary Assessment	Rating
	countries providing in-kind contributions in order to further the objectives of Component 2 at a national level.	
6. <i>Communication and public awareness</i>	Communication channels were infrequent over the lifetime of the component. The component did not include any budget for communication/further awareness raising.	MU
7. <i>Human Rights and Gender Equality</i>	Whilst some of the key outcomes and the long-term objective/impact of component 2 could have an indirect/tangential link to human rights and gender considerations, no activities were designed/captured human rights and gender mainstreaming explicitly. Only 54 of the 153 (i.e. 35%) Component 2 activities (as recorded in the factsheets) included a sex disaggregation of participants/beneficiaries.	MS
Overall Component Rating	Moderately Satisfactory	MS

Annex III: Component results framework

Component 2 Result Framework as presented in the ProDoc

Originally Planned Clusters of Activities	Outcomes	Expected Accomplishments	Indicators of Achievement
A.1.0 Development of a common assessment and reporting tool	Outcome A1.0: All entities involved in this component will use a common approach in working with countries	EA1: Enhanced capacity of targeted developing countries to produce and sustain environment statistics related to the Tier I and II SDG indicators.	IA1.1 90% of national workshop participants confirm increased understanding of the institutional arrangements and coordination required for measuring and reporting data for the SDGs, MEAs and NDCs. IA1.2 75% of the 35 target countries develop or improve an existing strategy for environment statistics based on national policy priorities IA1.3. 50% of target countries make data on a new environment related SDG area publicly available
A.1.1 Country sensitization and initiation workshops	Outcome A1.1: Target countries will develop an action plan on national priorities for environment statistics, including the identification of one or two priority areas that they will focus on first		
A.1.2 Regional workshop on sharing of lessons learned and views on monitoring the environmental dimension of the SDGs	Outcome A1.2: Workshop participants will gain knowledge needed on how to turn a national action plan on environment statistics into on-the-ground action.		
A.1.3 Blended training module (online plus a regional workshop) on monitoring the environmental dimension of the SDGs	Outcome A1.3: Training participants will have improved capacity to produce and disseminate environment statistics.		
A.1.4 Compilation of documents on Environment statistics	Outcome A1.4: All countries, not just target countries, will have access to up-to-date trainings, lessons learned and guidance materials on monitoring the environmental dimension of the SDGs		
A.1.5 Advisory missions to countries	Outcome A1.5: Target countries compile and disseminate additional statistics or higher quality statistics in at least one priority area of environment statistics (as mentioned previously, priority areas will be determined in A.1.1).		
A.2.1 Implementation of case studies	Outcome A2.1: Target countries will have and will share improved information on how to produce and disseminate indicators in one emerging area of environment statistics	EA2 Enhanced capacity of developing countries to adopt and apply statistical methods related to the Tier III and the less methodologically developed Tier II indicators	IA2.1 75% of target countries have developed a strategic document for improving environment statistics on a specific topic, which has been classified as Tier II or Tier III (either SCP, Oceans, Land, Climate Change or Disasters). IA2.2 Guidelines published on the E-Portal are referred to by developing countries. IA2.3 National reports on measuring SDGs include Tier III indicators.
A.2.2 Outreach on best practices	Outcome A2.2: The strategies of other initiatives will take into account the needs and priorities for monitoring the environmental dimension of the SDGs.		
A.2.3 Development of guidance material on Tier III indicators	Outcome A2.3: Countries have access to guidance material for compiling environment-related Tier III indicators related to climate change, disasters, SCP, oceans and biodiversity		
A.2.4 Expert Group Meetings on guidance documents	Outcome A2.4: Countries have access to guidance materials which are not only based on the views of the UN Secretariat, but also benefit from the expertise and experiences of countries.		
A.2.5 Pillar implementation meetings	Outcome A2.5: These meetings will provide an opportunity for knowledge sharing and harmonization across		

<p>A.2.6 Contribution to the knowledge platform developed under the Means of Implementation pillar of the project</p>	<p>regions, as opposed to only within regions</p> <p>Outcome A2.6: All countries, not just target countries, will have access to up-to-date trainings, lessons learned and guidance materials on monitoring the environmental dimension of the SDGs.</p>		
<p>A.3.1. Issue invitations to Resident Coordinators to attend (sub-) regional meetings under self-financing arrangements, and to co-finance government participation.</p>	<p>Outcome 3.1: The number of government officials who can be sponsored to attend training workshops is for most meetings limited to one representative per country. Financial support from the UNRC or an organization within the UN country team could increase the number of participants per country, as well as allow more countries to attend these events. The inclusion of statistical producers from the line ministries would promote an immediate dialogue with the NSOs, and contribute to higher impact of the training outcomes. Sponsorship of additional countries would result in exposing a greater number of countries to the key issues being addressed by the component, and benefiting from the exchange of views expressed by other countries within that region. Participation by the RC's office would ensure awareness of the Programme's efforts, and promote linkages with other statistical efforts at country level, including with the donor community.</p>	<p>EA3 Partnerships developed which support environment statistical strengthening and complement and/or expand on the Programme's outputs (at no cost to the programme)</p>	<p>IA3.1 Number of participants attending regional workshops funded by other sources.</p> <p>IA3.2 Number of additional countries receiving support from the programme with other resources</p> <p>IA3.3 Number of partnerships created with external partners to support environment statistical strengthening at national/local, regional and international levels.</p>
<p>A.3.2. Issue invitations to regional statistical organization to attend sub-regional meetings under self-financing arrangements,</p>	<p>Outcome 3.2: Inclusion of the regional institutes will provide for first hand exchanges with the UN entities on the complex issues surrounding implementation of the indicator framework. It will also provide an opportunity for exchanges on the various levels of statistical training which are needed and to pursue linkages with the e-learning portal. As the Programme can only finance national level activities in a limited number of target countries, partnerships with regional institutes could result in additional target countries being included in the Programme's efforts, with the regional institutes taking the lead supported by the UN entities as relevant.</p>		
<p>A.3.3 Participate in donor round-tables to support national resource mobilization efforts for strengthening environment statistics.</p>	<p>Outcome 3.3: Most developing countries will need an influx of funding to support strengthening of the NSOs, and the broader national statistical system. This would include better infrastructure with up-to-date IT technology and tools,</p>		

additional staffing, funding to implement new and innovative data sources, etc. Participation of the UN in the donor round-tables would allow for consultations on the outcomes of the national assessments, the roadmaps for strengthening the statistical environment, and the related funding requirements.

Annex IV: Evaluation/Assessment matrix for the in-depth assessment

EVALUATION QUESTIONS		
Main Evaluation Questions	Sub-questions	Indicators and Sources of Data
Strategic Relevance		
1. To what extent was the Component designed to target the priorities and most pressing needs of developing country Member States in relation to measuring, monitoring and reporting on SDGs?	a) How, and to what extent, were the priorities and needs of participating countries and regions, particularly developing countries, assessed and addressed in the Component's design?	<p>Evidence that the Component adequately targeted developing country Member States</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - document review <p>Evidence of consistency between Component areas of intervention / objectives and the priorities and needs of developing country Member States as identified at national, regional and/or global level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - document review - NSO survey <p>Views and opinions of implementing entity staff involved in the Component activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Survey Leads/Co-Leads/Focal Points etc
	b) How was the Programme adjusted during its implementation to respond to new priorities and needs, including those which emerged as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic?	<p>Evidence of adjustments made in response to COVID-19 against the new priorities/pressing needs that emerged in relation to the pandemic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - document review - NSO survey
Quality of Component Design		
2. What are the particular strengths and weaknesses in the design of the Component?	a) Has the logic from planned outputs to desired impact been clearly presented?	<p>Strengths and weaknesses in the design of the Component</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - application of quality of component design rubric
Coherence		
3. To what extent has the Component been complementary to, and coordinated with, the other relevant capacity development work undertaken by the participating entities, as well as other UN and non-UN actors?	a) To what extent have the Component interventions been coordinated with those funded with other co-financed interventions, and other funding sources?	<p>Perceptions of stakeholders of complementarity, synergies and/or coordination of capacity development work within the implementing DA entities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On-line survey of Leads, Co-Leads, FP - interviews <p>Evidence of coordination of capacity development work with other (external) Agencies and/or National/Regional organization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - document review <p>Perceptions of stakeholders of complementarity, synergies and/or coordination of capacity development work with other (external) agencies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NSO survey - On-line survey of Leads, Co-Leads, FP

		- interviews with select partners and Resident Coordinators in selected Component 2 countries
Effectiveness		
4. To what extent has the Component achieved its Expected Accomplishments (EAs)?	a) How has the Component achieved its expected accomplishments?	Evidence of improved developing countries' capabilities to strengthen statistical institutional environment, statistical production processes and to measure and monitor new statistical areas (including, beneficiary inputs indicating the indicator of achievement for the EAs) - NSO survey and additional follow-ups
	b) What changes, if any, to the participating developing country Member States' capacity to measure, monitor and report on the SDGs, can be attributed to the Component? How has this strengthened capacity been demonstrated and applied?	Perceptions of stakeholders of Component contributions made towards the main Component objective Level of satisfaction of Component stakeholders with achievement of Expected Accomplishments overall Perceptions of stakeholders of contributions made towards Component EAs - Document review - On-line survey of Leads, Co-Leads, FP - interviews
	c) What were the contributions towards developing countries demonstrated capacities to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce and sustain environment statistics related to the Tier I and II SDG indicators (EA1)? • Adopt and apply statistical methods related to the Tier III and the less methodologically developed Tier II indicators? (EA2). • Develop partnerships which support environment statistical strengthening and complement and/or expand on the Programme's outputs (EA3) 	
	d) Has the Programme contributed to enhanced leveraging, partnerships, and collaboration by the UN system & other partners to help countries strengthen their NSS?	Perceptions of stakeholders of enhanced leveraging, partnerships and collaboration across UN agencies and other partners. - on-line survey of Leads, Co-Leads, FP - interviews with select partners, Resident Coordinators in select countries participating in Component 2 - Document review
	e) Were there any unintended results?	Unintended results of the Programme as perceived by stakeholders - On-line survey of Leads, Co-Leads, FP - interviews
	f) To what extent did the adjustments made during the course of Programme implementation, including those occurring as a direct consequence of the COVID-19 situation affect the achievement of the Programme's expected accomplishments under effectiveness?	Evidence of the effects of adjustments on Component delivery Perceptions of stakeholders on the effects of adjustments on Component delivery

	g) What innovative approaches or tools, if any, did the Component use, and what were the outcomes and lessons learned from its/their application?	Examples of innovative tools/approaches - interviews
	h) To what extent did the Component management, financial management and other support provided by DA-PMT, DA Focal Points and other relevant staff of participating entities enable or hinder the effective planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Component?	Evidence of the influence of management systems on Component performance - interviews - document review
Financial Management		
5. Were financial resources effectively and efficiently managed?	a) Where resources available on time and in sufficient quantity and when not, how has the component dealt with this? Were savings/sacrifices made?	Evidence of the influence of financial management systems on Component performance - interviews - document review
	b) Did the Component adhere to UNEP's financial policies and procedures?	Evidence of adhering to the financial policies and procedures governing the UNDA grant and other funding sources - document review
Efficiency		
6. To what extent did the Component deliver its planned activities and outputs according to its timelines?	a) Were services, products and events provided in a timely and reliable manner, according to the priorities established and adjusted by the Component documents?	Evidence of timely delivery of workshops, missions, documents, guidelines & studies produced by the Component - document review - NSO survey - survey of leads/co-leads/FPs Level of satisfaction of programme stakeholders with the timeliness of completed activities - document review - NSO survey - survey of leads/co-leads/FPs
	b) What were the non-DA resources leveraged by the entities towards the Component's objective?	Records (if available) and/or estimates from DA participating entities on other non-DA resources leveraged for Component implementation - interviews with co-financiers
Monitoring and Reporting		
7. To what extent were Component activities properly monitored and reported on?	a) What evidence is there that monitoring took place?	Evidence of monitoring reports - document review
	b) What evidence is there that monitoring outputs influenced the implementation of activities?	Evidence of the link between monitoring report outputs and changed activity design/implementation - NSO survey - Lead/Co-Lead/FP survey - interviews
Sustainability		
8. To what extent are the Component's outcomes (achievement towards its expected accomplishments) sustainable?	a) What measures have been adopted to ensure the sustainability of the Component's outcomes?	Component stakeholders/institutions are actively using the guidance documents produced and capacity/knowledge gained through the Component - document review - NSO survey
Gender and Human Rights Mainstreaming		

9. To what extent, and how, were gender and human rights perspectives mainstreamed into the design, implementation and monitoring of the Component?	a) What measures have been adopted in the Component design, implementation and monitoring to ensure gender and human rights perspectives have been advanced?	Evidence of programme design considering gender and human rights perspective - document review
		Evidence of programme monitoring collecting and using gender-disaggregated data - document review
		Perceptions of key stakeholders that gender, human rights, equality issues were considered in programme interventions - On-line survey of Leads, Co-Leads, FP - interviews

Annex V: Data collection instruments

Survey of NSOs, Relevant Line Ministries and Other Component 2 Stakeholders

Delimitation

The survey is focused on and limited to activities carried out under component 2 of the DA 10 Program.

Target Audience:

- Non-target countries which received support through a national-level activity for Component 2,
- Selection of target countries/ NSOs that participated in over 3 Component 2 activities,
- 'Environmental Stakeholders', and
- Ministries/National Agencies (i.e. not directly linked to NSOs) that participated in Component 2 activities.

Questions on activities/participation

- Type of activity/ies participated in/benefitted from? Drop-down list of types of activities (no limit to the number of options selected):
 - Workshops on the implementation of the SDG framework
 - Sub-regional workshops on the institutional environment and organisation for the production and utilisation of SDG indicators
 - Sub-regional workshops on data disaggregation
 - Sub-regional workshops on the integration of use of administrative data, big data and geospatial data for the compilation of SDG indicators
 - National workshops and seminars
 - Fact-finding, advocacy and advisory missions received in the country
 - E-learning courses and use of e-learning and similar platforms
 - Use of material distributed (tools, classifications, guidance)
- In how many meetings/workshops/seminars did you participate under Component 2 (i.e. environmental indicators/statistics) of the DA10 Program?
- How many staff members participated in environmental statistic programmes/support provided through UNDA?

Questions on relevance/outcomes/usefulness

Relevance and quality

- Did the focus and the content of the DA10 C2 activities in which the NSO/line Ministry participated meet the most pressing needs of your institution/country in relation to measuring, monitoring and reporting on environmental SDGs;
 - The most pressing needs of the NSO/country (with regards to environmental indicators) were mainly met
 - The most pressing needs of the NSO/country (with regards to environmental indicators) were partly met
 - The most pressing needs of the NSO/country (with regards to environmental indicators) were not met
- Only to be answered by those who feel that the most pressing needs were not met:
 - Please tell us in a few words why you feel that the most pressing needs were not met.
- Please tell us in a few words about the quality of the activities (workshops, advisory missions, training) in which your NSO/line Ministry participated or benefitted from – did you find the quality of the activities, services, instruments, training to be of good quality or not?

Impact and sustainability

- Did you collect environmental data and publish a statistical product (for example, a compendium)?
 - Yes (If yes, please describe it)

- No
- The level of knowledge did not increase
- Did the level of knowledge of the compilation of SDG environmental indicators at your institution increase as a result of the participation?
 - The level of knowledge increased significantly
 - The level of knowledge increased somewhat
 - The level of knowledge did not increase
- What has been the impact of the DA 10 component 2 activities on the capacity of your country to launch or improve institutional mechanisms and procedures for the production of environmental SDG indicators:
 - Capacity has increased significantly
 - Capacity has increased somewhat
 - Capacity is about the same
- Only to be answered by those who feel the capacity of their country has increased significantly:
 - How likely is it that the increase in capacity is sustainable;
 - Very likely
 - Somewhat likely
 - Not likely
 - Open question: Please tell us in a few words about the way in which capacity on measuring and monitoring SDG environmental indicators has increased, which aspects of the work have been expanded or improved.

Partnerships, sharing of experience, learning from other countries

- Were there any partnerships established/developed with international agencies, countries or institutions which have strengthened and facilitated the measuring and monitoring SDG environmental indicator work in the country?
 - Very useful partnerships were developed
 - Some useful partnerships were developed
 - No partnerships were developed
- Only to be answered by those who feel that some/very useful partnerships were established:
 - Open question: Please list the main agencies, countries or institutions with which useful partnerships were established and tell us if these seem likely to be sustainable
- Has sharing of experiences with or learning from other countries through participation in the DA 10 Component 2 activities contributed to the work on SDG indicators?
 - Sharing of experience contributed significantly to the work on SDG indicators
 - Sharing of experience contributed somewhat to the work on SDG indicators
 - Sharing of experience did not contribute to the work on SDG indicators
- Only to be answered by those who feel that sharing of experience with or learning from other countries has contributed to the work on SDG indicators:

Open question:

 - Please tell us about your experience of sharing knowledge of organising work on or compiling SDG indicators with other countries.
 - Please tell us about your experience of learning from other countries about organising work on or compiling SDG indicators.
 -

Implementation

- Has the NSO (or other relevant institution compiling SDG indicators) succeeded in acquiring and using new data sources in the compilation of SDG environmental indicators?

- Yes, to a significant degree
- Yes, to some degree
- No
- Geospatial data
- Has your institution made use of the following applications or documents?:
 - Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics
 - Manual on the Basic Set of Environment Statistics
 - Environment Statistics Self Assessment Tool
 - E-learning portals for specific subjects
 - UN SDG: Learn platform
 - Collaborative on administrative data for official statistics
 - Community of Practice on data integration
 - Data4now initiative
 - E-Handbook on SDG Framework and Metadata
 - Guidelines on User Engagement
 - Handbook on Management and Organisation of Official Statistics
 - Generic statistical law
 - Covid-19 Response Web Portal

Thank you very much for you time!

Interview Guide

The interviews are scheduled to take between 1-1.5 hours and are structured around the key evaluation criteria. The questions were left open-ended to allow for the discussion to be dictated by the responses and experiences of the interviewees.

Relevance

1. How, and to what extent, were the priorities and needs of participating countries and regions, particularly developing countries, assessed and addressed in the Component's design?
2. How was the Programme adjusted during its implementation to respond to new priorities and needs, including those which emerged as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic?

Coherence

3. To what extent have the Component interventions been coordinated with those funded with other co-financed interventions, and other funding sources?

Effectiveness

4. How has the Component achieved its expected accomplishments?
(Prompt): Evidence of improved developing countries' capabilities to strengthen statistical institutional environment, statistical production processes and to measure and monitor new statistical areas
5. What changes, if any, to the participating developing country Member States' capacity to measure, monitor and report on the SDGs, can be attributed to the Component? How has this strengthened capacity been demonstrated and applied?
6. Has the Programme contributed to enhanced leveraging, partnerships, and collaboration by the UN system & other partners to help countries strengthen their NSS?
7. What innovative approaches or tools, if any, did the Component use, and what were the outcomes and lessons learned from its/their application?

Financial Management

8. Where resources available on time and in sufficient quantity and when not, how has the component dealt with this? Were savings/sacrifices made?

Efficiency

9. Were services, products and events provided in a timely and reliable manner, according to the priorities established and adjusted by the Component documents?
(Prompt): Evidence of timely delivery of workshops, missions, documents, guidelines & studies

Monitoring and Reporting

10. What evidence is there that monitoring outputs influenced the implementation of activities?

Sustainability

11. What measures have been adopted to ensure the sustainability of the Component's outcomes?

Gender and Human Rights Mainstreaming

12. What measures have been adopted in the Component design, implementation and monitoring to ensure gender and human rights perspectives have been advanced?

Any other comments?

Annex VI: List of individuals interviewed

- Gabriel Gamez, Inter-Regional Adviser - Management and Organization of National Statistical Systems United Nations Statistics Division (Programme Coordinator)
- Indira Persaud, Statistician, UN DESA (Programme Coordination Team)
- Ludgarde Coppens, Focal point and Component 2 lead
- Reena Shah, focal point at UNSD and the co-lead for Component 2
- Jillian Campbell, former focal point and component 2 lead (UNEP)
- Alberto Malmierca current focal point for Component 2 (ECLAC)
- Xiaoning Gong , focal point Component 2 (ECA)
- David Boko, ECA
- Michael Nagy, focal point Component 2 (ECE)
- Alda Diaz, focal point Component 2 (ECLAC)
- Piyapat Nakornchai, Research assistant (ESCAP)
- Wafa Aboul Hosn, focal point Component 2 (ESCWA)
- Mathew Billot, UNEP Europe Regional Office
- Tomas Marques, UNEP Project Implementation in Europe
- Emil Ivanov, UNSD

Annex VII: List of documents reviewed

- Project concept note for UNDA10 Programme on Statistics and Data
- Project Document for UNDA10 Programme on Statistics and Data
- Component 2 Activity Factsheets
- UNDA10 Programme on Statistics and Data End Programme report
- End-year progress reports (2017-2019)
- Mid-term evaluation TOR, report, and management response
- Documentation related to extension
- UNEP project 732.1 (project document)
- United Nations Environment Programme (2021). Measuring Progress: Environment and the SDGs. Nairobi.
- UNEP Medium term Strategy, 2014-2017.

- Beneficiary/user feedback collected, including, but not limited to:
 - o workshop survey results,
 - o user feedback on publications, advisory services, guidelines, methodology documents, etc.
- Requests for assistance/services received.
- List of Component activities completed and details about each activity, including but not limited to:
 - o Agenda, participant list (name, title, division/unit, organization, country, gender, email address),
 - o report and any outcomes document, for each workshop/meeting
 - o Description of each advisory service, beneficiaries (including contact details of the contact persons) and any outputs/deliverables produced
 - o List of guidelines/methodology documents/classifications developed, details on how each product was disseminated and/or used, list of recipients/users of the product (e.g., dissemination lists)
 - o Description of each research project/study, beneficiaries (including contact details of the contact persons) and any outputs/deliverables produced
- Documentation related to broader programmes or sub-programmes of the participating entities of which the Programme or its component(s) has constituted an integral part
- Documentation on other projects/activities undertaken by the participating entities, which are linked to and/or build upon/succeed the work undertaken as part of the Component

Annex VIII: Justification for Reformulation of Results Statements

	Formulation in original project document(s)	Formulation for Reconstructed ToC at Evaluation Inception (RTOC)	Justification for Reformulation
Long lasting Impact	N/A	Sustained high-quality measurement and monitoring of SDG indicators in environment statistics areas.	Adapted from the objective of Component 2 (“strengthen capacity in developing countries to measure and monitor sustainable development goal indicators in environment statistics areas”) to show the institutionalisation of the project expected results.
Intermediate States	N/A	IS1: Enhanced capacity of targeted developing countries (<i>demonstrated</i>) to produce and sustain environment statistics related to the Tier I and II SDG indicators.	Reformulation of the Component 2 Expected Accomplishment 1 to express the demonstration of the gained capacity
	N/A	IS2: Enhanced capacity of developing countries (<i>demonstrated</i>) to adopt and apply statistical methods related to the Tier III and the less methodologically developed Tier II indicators	Reformulation of the Component 2 Expected Accomplishment 2 to express the demonstration of the gained capacity
	N/A	IS3: Partnerships developed (<i>and operating with own momentum</i>) which support environment statistical strengthening and complement and/or expand on the Programme’s outputs (at no cost to the programme)	Reformulation of the Component 2 Expected Accomplishment 3 to express the operationalization and sustainability of the partnerships
Outcomes	Outcome A1.0: All entities involved in this component will use a common approach in working with countries.	Outcome 1.0: No change	
	Outcome A1.1: Target countries will develop an action plan on national priorities for environment statistics, including the identification of one or two priority areas that they will focus on first.	Outcome 1.1: Target countries will develop an action plan on national priorities for environment statistics	
	Outcome A1.2: Workshop participants will gain knowledge needed on how to turn a national action plan on environment statistics into on-the-ground action	Outcome 1.2: Based on knowledge gained through workshops, development/implementation of national action plans on environmental statistics	For this to be at outcome level the focus should be on concrete implementation of national action plans.
	Outcome A1.3: Training participants will have improved capacity to produce and disseminate environment statistics.	Outcome 1.3: Training participants will have improved capacity to produce and disseminate environment statistics. This shall be demonstrated through new environmental indicators being collected/disseminated	At outcome-level this result area should include the extent to which improved capacity has been demonstrated
	Outcome A1.4: All countries, not just target countries, will have access to up-to-date trainings, lessons learned and	Outcome 1.4: Countries have contributed to, and/or actively engaged, accessed and utilized up-to-date	“access” to said sources/services is an output. At outcome-level the

	<i>guidance materials on monitoring the environmental dimension of the SDGs</i>	<i>trainings, lessons learned and guidance materials on monitoring the environmental dimension of the SDGs</i>	prevalence of countries contributing to or utilising these services, as well as the data/indicators should be of focus.
	Outcome A1.5: <i>Target countries compile and disseminate additional statistics or higher quality statistics in at least one priority area of environment statistics (as mentioned previously, priority areas will be determined in A.1.1).</i>	Outcome 1.5: <i>Target countries compile and disseminate additional statistics or higher quality statistics in at least one priority area of environment statistics</i>	
	Outcome A2.1: <i>Target countries will have and will share improved information on how to produce and disseminate indicators in one emerging area of environment statistics.</i>	Outcome 2.1: <i>No change</i>	
	Outcome A2.2: <i>The strategies of other initiatives will take into account the needs and priorities for monitoring the environmental dimension of the SDGs.</i>	Outcome 2.2: <i>Case studies and findings/materials produced under this component will be showcased and shared at other initiatives /fora</i>	
	Outcome A2.3: <i>Countries have access to guidance material for compiling environment-related Tier III indicators related to climate change, disasters, SCP, oceans and biodiversity.</i>	Outcome 2.3: <i>Countries have access and can demonstrate use of guidance material for compiling environment-related Tier III indicators related to climate change, disasters, SCP, oceans and biodiversity.</i>	“access” alone is not sufficient at outcome-level. This has been reformulated to include the demonstration that countries have used these materials.
	Outcome A2.4: <i>Countries have access to guidance materials which are not only based on the views of the UN Secretariat, but also benefit from the expertise and experiences of countries</i>	Outcome 2.4: <i>Countries have access to, and can demonstrate use/implementation of guidance materials which are not only based on the views of the UN Secretariat, but also benefit from the expertise and experiences of countries</i>	Same rationale as above
	Outcome A2.5: <i>These meetings will provide an opportunity for knowledge sharing and harmonization across regions, as opposed to only within regions.</i>	Outcome 2.5: <i>Knowledge sharing and harmonization across regions as opposed to only within region. . Demonstration of adaptive management based on lessons learned via such fora.</i>	Slight reformulation to focus on demonstration of utilising shared knowledge in practice to improve performance. (original ‘outcome’ was more of an output,).
	Outcome A2.6: <i>All countries, not just target countries, will have access to up-to-date trainings, lessons learned and guidance materials on monitoring the environmental dimension of the SDGs</i>		This outcome has been removed in the reformulation of the logical framework. It is better suited at output -level.
	Outcome 3.1: <i>The number of government officials who can be sponsored to attend training workshops is for most meetings limited to one representative per country. Financial support from the UNRC or an organization within the UN country team could increase the number of participants per country, as well as allow more countries to attend these events. The inclusion of statistical producers from the line ministries would promote an immediate dialogue with the NSOs, and</i>	Outcome 3.1: <i>Sponsorship of additional countries would result in exposing a greater number of countries to the key issues being addressed by the component, and benefiting from the exchange of views expressed by other countries within that region</i>	

	<p>contribute to higher impact of the training outcomes. Sponsorship of additional countries would result in exposing a greater number of countries to the key issues being addressed by the component, and benefiting from the exchange of views expressed by other countries within that region. Participation by the RC's office would ensure awareness of the Programme's efforts, and promote linkages with other statistical efforts at country level, including with the donor community</p>		
	<p>Outcome 3.2: Inclusion of the regional institutes will provide for first hand exchanges with the UN entities on the complex issues surrounding implementation of the indicator framework. It will also provide an opportunity for exchanges on the various levels of statistical training which are needed and to pursue linkages with the e-learning portal. As the Programme can only finance national level activities in a limited number of target countries, partnerships with regional institutes could result in additional target countries being included in the Programme's efforts, with the regional institutes taking the lead supported by the UN entities as relevant</p>	<p>Outcome 3.2: Partnerships with regional institutes could result in additional target countries being included in the Programme's efforts, with the regional institutes taking the lead supported by the UN entities as relevant</p>	
	<p>Outcome 3.3: Most developing countries will need an influx of funding to support strengthening of the NSOs, and the broader national statistical system. This would include better infrastructure with up-to-date IT technology and tools, additional staffing, funding to implement new and innovative data sources, etc. Participation of the UN in the donor round-tables would allow for consultations on the outcomes of the national assessments, the roadmaps for strengthening the statistical environment, and the related funding requirements.</p>	<p>Outcome 3.3: Developing countries experience an increase in funding for strengthening of NSOs</p>	
<p>Outputs (These have been derived from the activities outlined in the ProDoc)</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Output 1.0: Access to a common assessment and reporting tool</p>	
		<p>Output 1.1: Increased knowledge of, and sensitization with concepts, methodology and monitoring of environmental indicators/statistics</p>	
		<p>Output 1.2: Sharing of lessons learned and views on monitoring the environmental dimension of the SDGs in a regional context</p>	

		Output 1.3: Access to compiled documents, best practice and advisory services on environmental statistics	
		Output 2.1: Increased knowledge on Tier II indicators through specific thematic case studies. Case studies will touch upon the following issues: Disasters (5 case studies); Sustainable consumption and production (4 case studies); Climate change (2 case studies); Oceans and Land (2-3 case studies on each topic).	
		Output 2.2: Access to guidance material for compiling environment-related Tier III indicators related to climate change, disasters, SCP, oceans and biodiversity.	
		Output 3.1: Financial support from the UNRC or an organization within the UN country team allowing an increase in the number of participants per country, as well as allowing more countries to attend these events	
		Output 3.2: Participation in a donor round-table organized by the government and/or UNRC which seeks funding for strengthening of the national statistical system.	