

25 October 2022



## **DIALOGUE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS WITH THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY SECOND COMMITTEE**

**“From risk to resilience: Accelerating actions to  
achieve a more sustainable and equitable future  
through regional cooperation”**

**77th session of the UN General Assembly  
Tuesday 25 October, 10 AM – 1 PM EST**

**Olga Algayerova  
UNECE Executive Secretary**



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- 2. ECE response**
- 3. Emerging priorities for 2023: highlights**

# 1. Context: Multi-pronged crisis in the region



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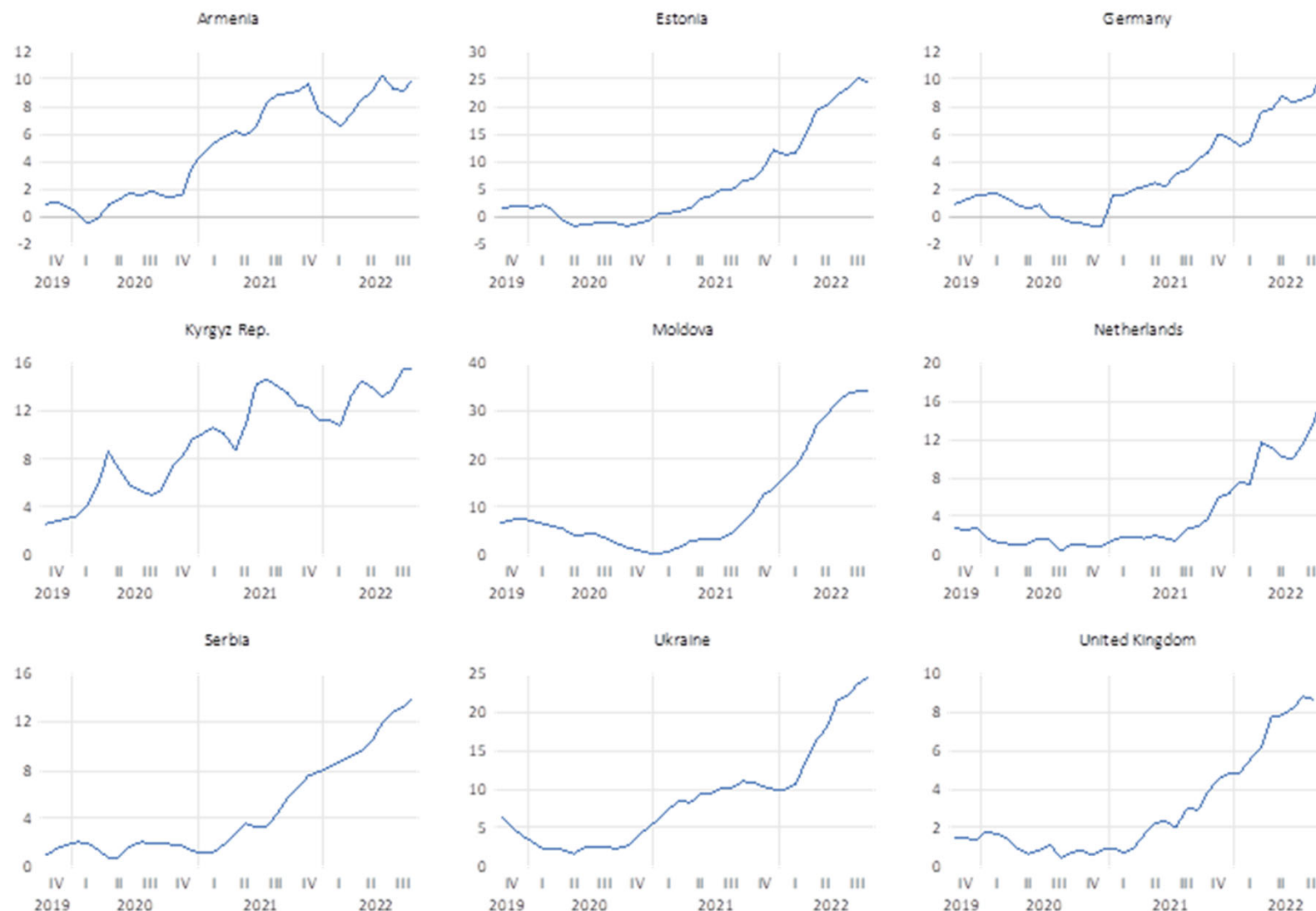
- **The multi-pronged crisis is global:** war in Ukraine, post-COVID recovery, effects of Climate Change
- **But.. ECE region especially affected:** both “East” and “West” of the region.
- **And... the geopolitical context putting a test to UNECE** as a multilateral platform of dialogue for technical issues

# Inflation pressures are widespread



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Consumer inflation, monthly, year-on-year, percentages



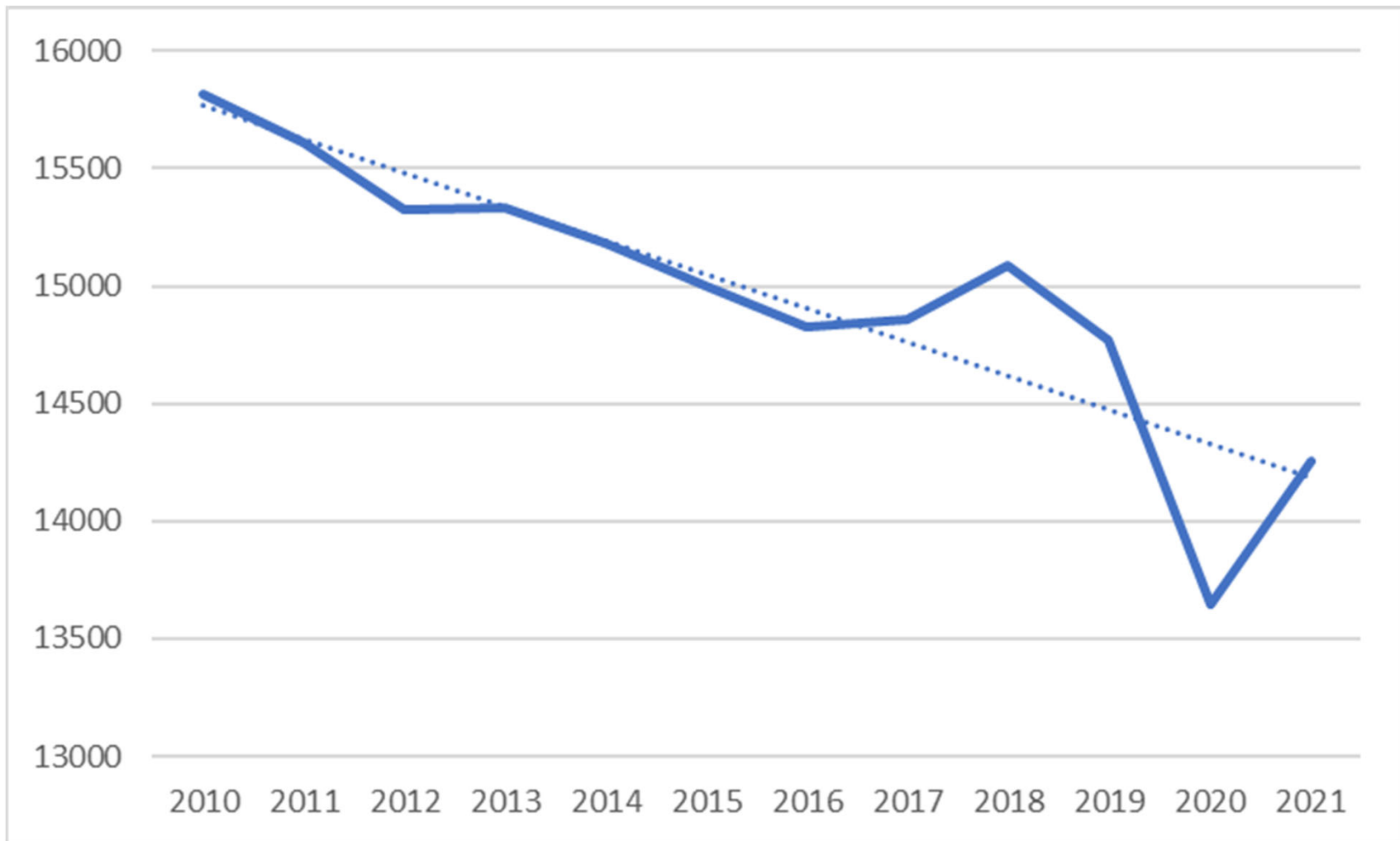
Source: IMF, national statistical offices

# Greenhouse emissions rebounded strongly in the COVID-19 recovery



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**Greenhouse gas emissions in the ECE region, million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent**



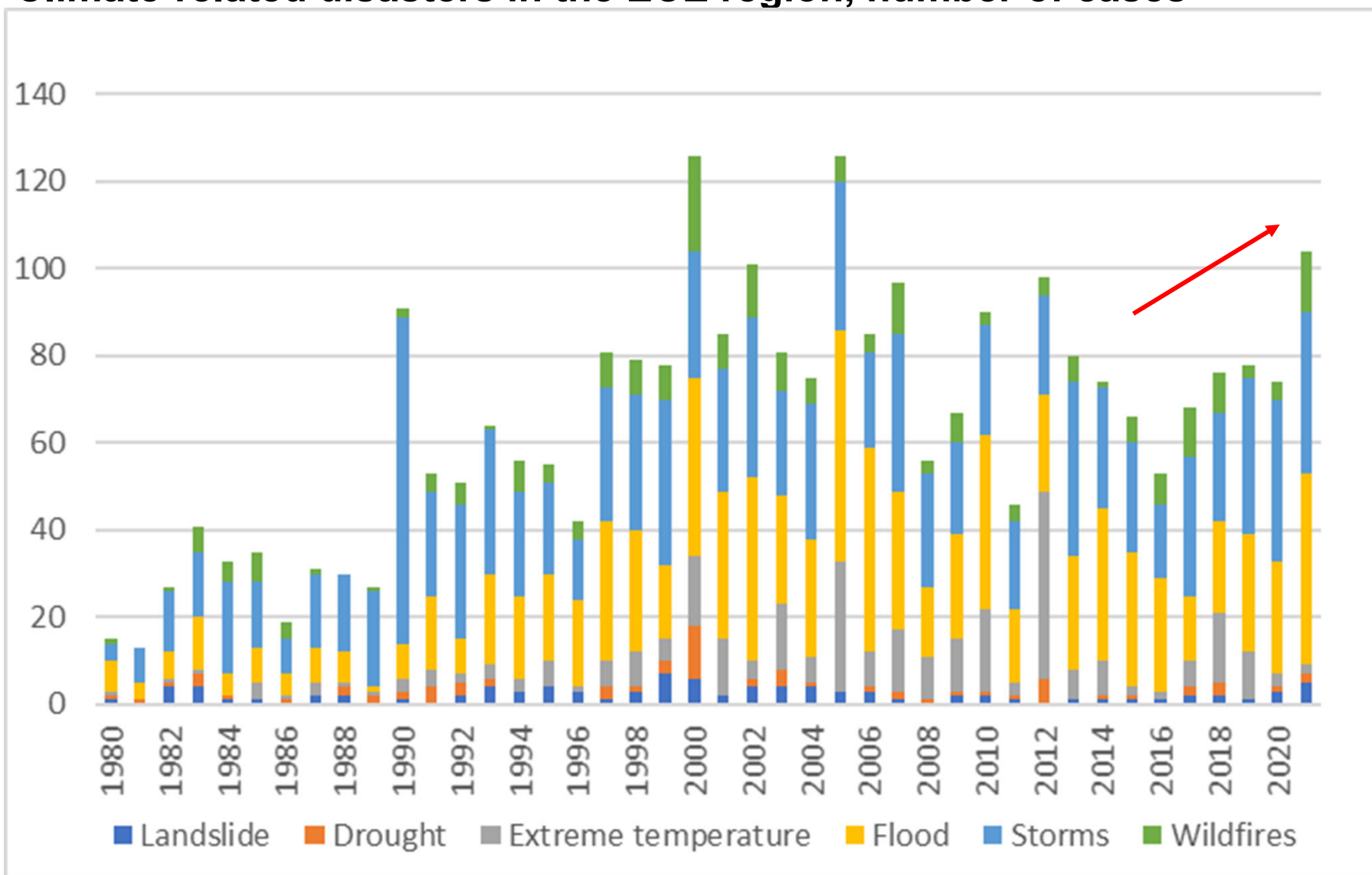
Source: OECD, IMF

# Climate-related disasters are increasing



UNEP

Climate-related disasters in the ECE region, number of cases



Source: IMF

## 2. ECE response



**UNECE at 75 is committed to preserve its role:**

- 1. Delivering its Programme of Work in full, despite challenges.**
- 2. Regional cooperation for accelerated SDG achievement**
- 3. Strengthening technical assistance to programme countries**



## **2.1. Regional cooperation for accelerated achievement of SDGs**



# Making the energy transition possible



**75** | **UNECE** | **COP27**  
Sharm El Sheikh EGYPT 2022 | **UN Climate Change High-Level Champions**

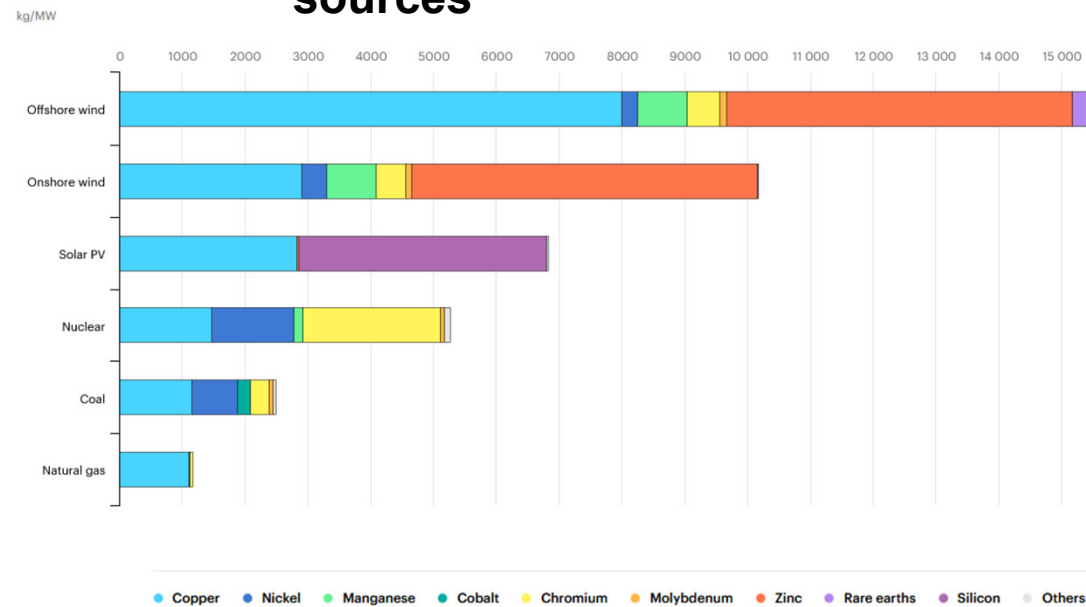
**Towards COP27: UNECE Regional Forum on Climate Initiatives to Finance Climate Action and the SDGs**

17 OCTOBER 2022 | PALAIS DES NATIONS | GENEVA & ONLINE



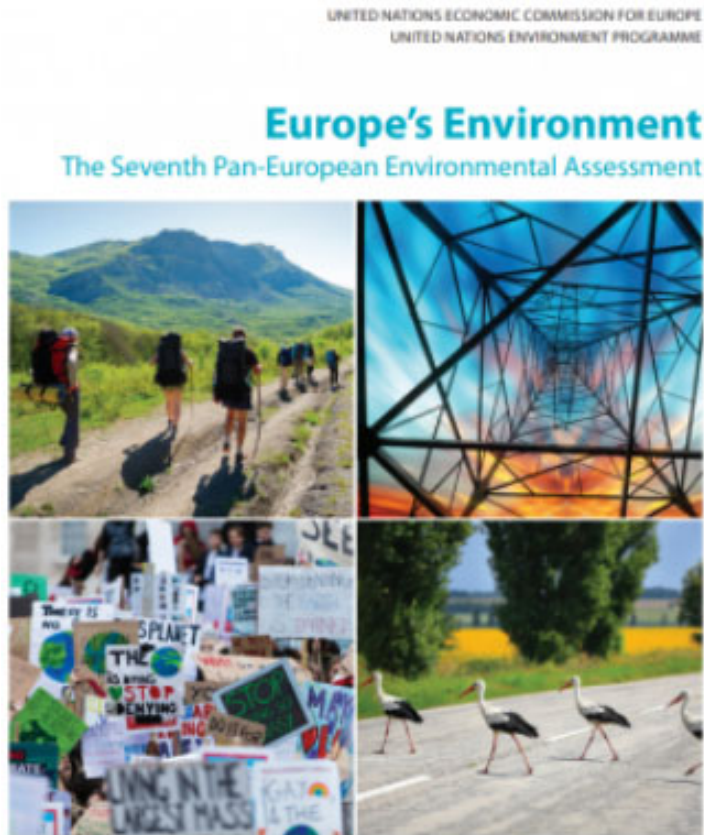
- **Critical raw materials !**
- **Circular approaches**
- **Sustainable finance as enabler**
- **Harnessing regional cooperation**
- **ECE normative work – e.g. hydrogen classification**

**Minerals used in clean energy technologies compared to other sources**



Source: IEA

# Environment for Europe: boost ambition to fight planetary crisis



## The 9th Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference:

- Green economy with sustainable infrastructure
- Global Tourism Plastics Initiative
- ECE Environmental Performance Review Programme: major contributor!

# Advancing circular economy



Designing &  
Planning for  
Circularity



Dealing with  
Waste



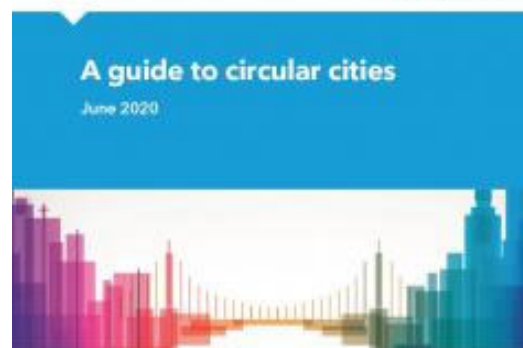
Traceability,  
Transparency  
and Data



Innovation



Natural Capital  
and Renewable  
Energy

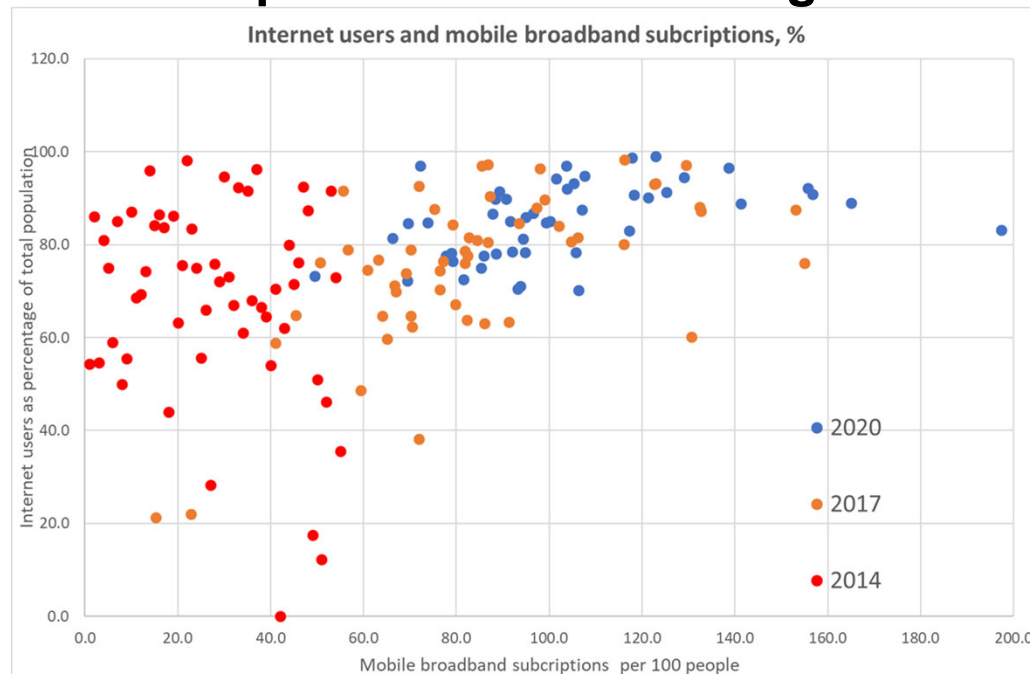


# Harnessing digital transformation to advance sustainable development



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## Developments in the ECE region



Source: ITU

- Growing digital divide
- Lacking finance
- Digital as accelerator of green
- Future proofing ECE normative work



**70<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE COMMISSION**

**DIGITAL AND GREEN TRANSFORMATIONS  
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**IN THE REGION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**18-19 APRIL 2023 | PALAIS DES NATIONS | GENEVA**



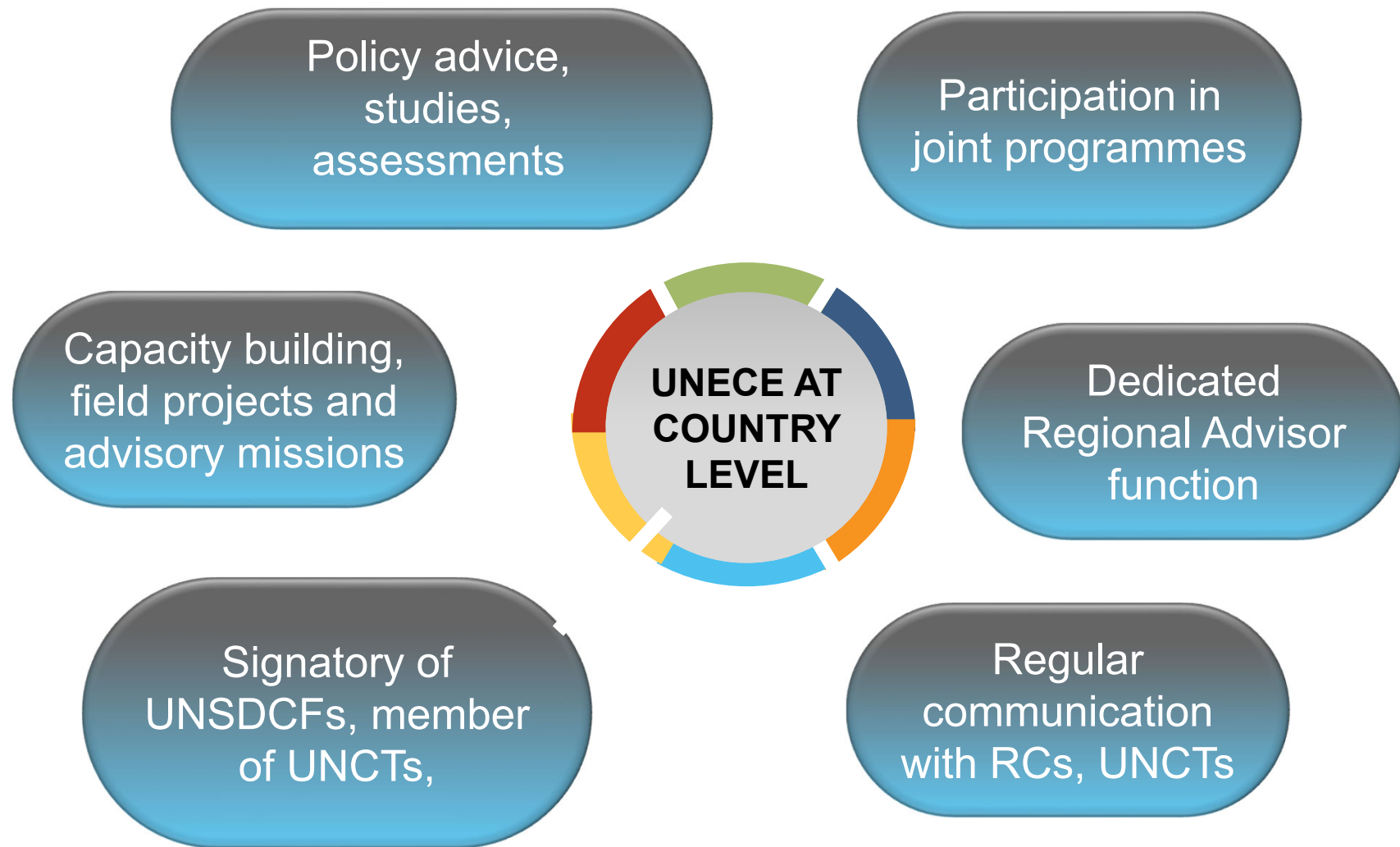
## **2.2 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN ECE PROGRAMME COUNTRIES**



# Leveraging funding sources to maximize ECE impact at country level



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# Leveraging funding sources to maximize ECE impact at country level



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- **Technical Cooperation projects = key** in helping governments accede to and ECE norms and standards.
- Seed funding from RPTC and UNDA = **catalytic & key to fast response**
- **Strong collaboration with Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams**
- **Unique system of dedicated Regional Advisors**

# Country-level engagement 2022 examples



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- **ECE part of Joint SDG Fund Development Emergency Modality**, in response to the Global Crisis on Food, Energy, Finance:
  - **Ukraine**: biofuel production potential
  - **Georgia**: energy efficiency measures in rural areas;
- **ECE repurposed part of RPTC to respond to the requests sent by the government of Ukraine**: urban reconstruction planning, energy, trade facilitation and transport.



### **3. Emerging priorities for 2023: highlights**



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- 1. A new Platform for Resilient Energy Systems**
- 2. Reconstruction and recovery in Ukraine**
- 3. Piloting Our Common Agenda in ECE:  
strategic foresight and youth in focus.**
- 4. A new Digital Transformation pathway for  
UNECE**
- 5. Special focus on Trade & Connectivity in  
Central Asia**



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**Thank you!**

**[www.unece.org](http://www.unece.org)**