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**United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment** Programme

United Nations Environment Assembly of the **United Nations Environment Programme** Fifth session Nairobi (online), 22-26 February 2021\* Item 6 of the provisional agenda\*\* Programme of work and budget and other administrative and budgetary issues

# For people and planet: the United Nations Environment Programme strategy for 2022–2025 to tackle climate change, loss of nature and pollution

Addendum

### Programme of work and budget for the biennium 2022-2023

The present addendum contains, in the annex, the United Nations Environment Programme programme of work and budget for 2022–2023, as a supplement to the medium-term strategy for 2022-2025 (UNEP/EA.5/3).

<sup>\*</sup> In accordance with the decisions taken at the meeting of the Bureau of the United Nations Environment Assembly held on 8 October 2020 and at the joint meeting of the Bureaux of the United Nations Environment Assembly and the Committee of Permanent Representatives held on 1 December 2020, the fifth session of the Assembly is expected to adjourn on 23 February 2021 and resume as an in-person meeting in February 2022. \*\* UNEP/EA.5/1/Rev.1.

# Annex

# Programme of work and budget for 2022–2023

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#### Introduction

1. This document presents the programme of work for the United Nations Environment **Programme (UNEP) for the biennium 2022–2023, along with the associated budget**. The programme of work sets out the UNEP results framework for the biennium, focused on the three strategic objectives outlined in the medium-term strategy.

2. Section I of the document describes the UNEP results framework in terms of a set of integrated interventions measured by relevant indicators, in line with the medium-term strategy. It sets out a theory of change for each of the three strategic objectives of the medium-term strategy, "climate stability", "living in harmony with nature" and "towards a pollution-free planet". The results framework sets out the core UNEP areas of work, consisting of three principal areas of action (encapsulated in the climate action, nature action and chemicals and pollution action thematic subprogrammes) supported by two foundational subprogrammes (science-policy and environmental governance) and two enabling subprogrammes (finance and economic transformations and digital transformations). These thematic, foundational and enabling subprogrammes *are interdependent*, *designed to work together to support the achievement of the global goals of the* 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other internationally agreed frameworks.

3. **Overall, the programme of work shows how the UNEP thematic subprogrammes** (supported by the enabling and foundational subprogrammes) will drive the transformational shifts targeted by the medium-term strategy for 2022–2025; outlines the means of measuring the effectiveness of UNEP in its direct, enabling and influencing roles; and defines a time-bound trajectory that aligns the organization with the 2030 Agenda. The three thematic subprogrammes will work towards a set of 2025 outcomes, supported by relevant indicators for measuring the results achieved in an integrated and focused manner that takes into account the contributions of the foundational and enabling subprogrammes to sustainable consumption and production.

4. Section II underlines how the executive leadership of UNEP, coherent policy-setting and efficient programme management and support will drive the organization forward from the inside towards greater focus and effectiveness of results on the outside. Building on lessons learned from the UNEP transformation process launched in 2019, these elements will guide UNEP efforts to deliver more impactful results.

5. Section III presents the UNEP budget for the biennium 2022–2023. An overview of UNEP resources for the biennium is followed by more detailed data regarding allocations by subprogramme and funding source, as well as a snapshot of UNEP efforts to increase resource mobilization and optimize its human resources practices. The final section is followed by three appendices that provide the evaluation plan for 2022–23, audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019 and an organization chart for UNEP.

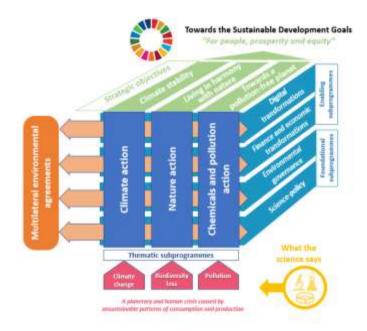
# I. UNEP results framework for 2022–2023

# A. A set of integrated results on the road towards climate stability, living in harmony with nature and a pollution-free planet

6. **Three strategic objectives will drive the UNEP results framework.** The programme of work for 2022–2023 articulates the UNEP results framework around three strategic objectives that will contribute to the UNEP vision for the 2030 Agenda and the decade of action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals (figure 1). The three strategic objectives are "climate stability", "living in harmony with nature" and "towards a pollution-free planet".

Figure 1

#### UNEP medium-term strategy for 2022–2025 – on the road to 2030



7. The programme of work demonstrates how the UNEP subprogrammes come together in an integrated manner to deliver interconnected and mutually beneficial results. Building on pre-existing work, with an integrated approach that leverages partnerships and cross-sectoral initiatives such as the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns, UNEP will accelerate and scale up transformational shifts towards sustainable patterns of consumption and production while targeting the drivers of, and proposing solutions to, the challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.<sup>1</sup>

8. **UNEP interventions will aim to benefit from the comparative advantage of each subprogramme to improve cost-effectiveness and have a greater, more strategic impact.** Enhanced coordination and greater focus on the strategic linkages among UNEP subprogrammes will secure greater efficiency and effectiveness, optimize resources and generate consistent results that benefit from the supporting actions of the foundational and enabling subprogrammes to achieve multiple outcomes for the three UNEP thematic subprogrammes.

9. The theories of change shown in figures 2, 3 and 4 map out a path for UNEP to its strategic objectives of climate stability, living in harmony with nature and towards a pollution-free planet. Each theory of change follows an integrated approach with a causal pathway that:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Including by adopting integrated approaches that target nexus issues such as sustainable food systems, urban development, oceans and blue economy, waste, water and wastewater, sustainable energy and green jobs, poverty eradication, circular economy and resource efficiency, climate, environment and security, as well as the broader poverty-environment nexus.

(a) **Connects the 2025 outcomes of the UNEP thematic subprogrammes with the UNEP vision for the 2030 Agenda, the decade of action and beyond,** as outlined in the medium-term strategy, setting out a trajectory for UNEP for the period 2026–2029 through intermediate outcomes;

(b) **Encompasses a set of direct outcomes that show how the interventions across the UNEP thematic, foundational and enabling subprogrammes come together in an integrated manner**: each theory of change highlights direct outcomes supported by one or more of the seven subprogrammes, with foundational interventions under the leadership of the science-policy and environmental governance subprogrammes and enabling interventions under the leadership of the finance and economic transformations and digital transformations subprogrammes, while thematic interventions are led by the climate action, nature action and chemicals and pollution action subprogrammes;

(c) Outlines the assumptions, drivers and external risks that UNEP will take into account to achieve its strategic aspirations.

#### Figure 2 Climate stability – theory of change

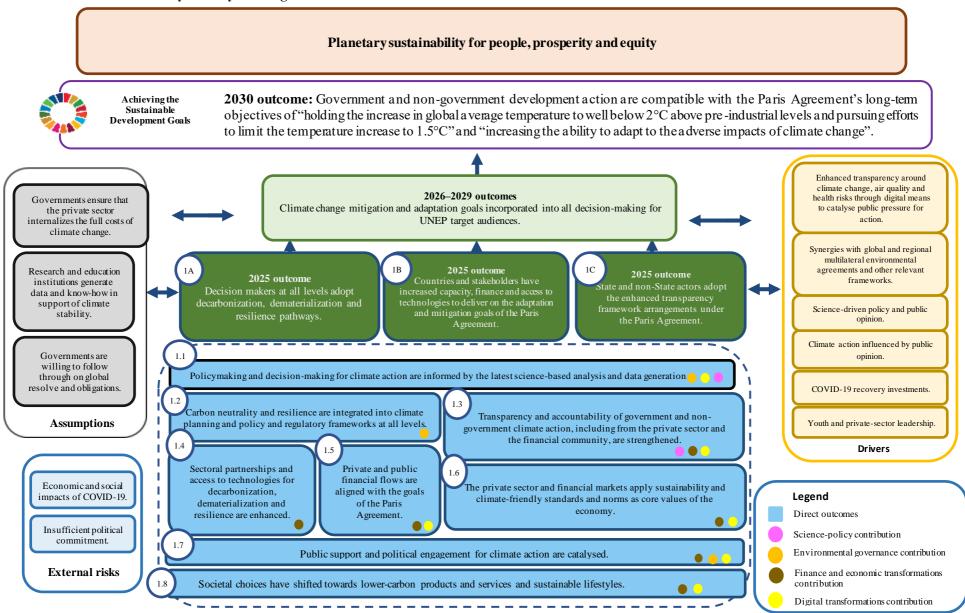
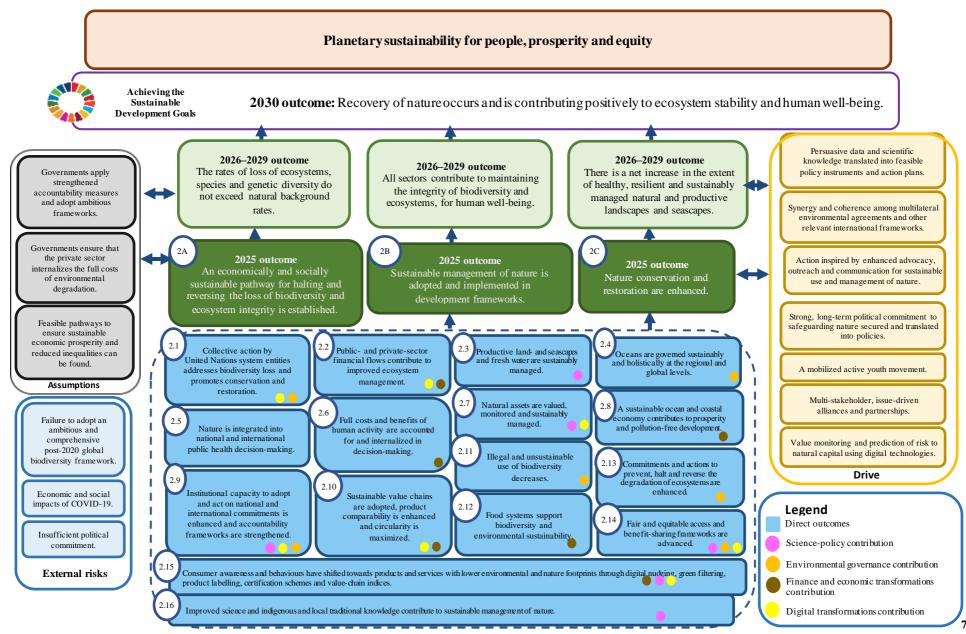


Figure 3 Living in harmony with nature – theory of change



#### Figure 4 Towards a pollution-free planet – theory of change

