



**GREENING  
THE  
BLUE**

**UN**   
environment  
programme

# Greening the Blue Report

**2023**

The UN System's Environmental  
Footprint and Efforts to Reduce It

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United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), The Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions (BRS), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Ozone Secretariat, Multilateral Fund (MLF), Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), Minamata Convention on Mercury, United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UNHabitat), United Nations Headquarters (UNHQ), United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG), United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON), United Nations Office at Vienna (UNOV), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Other UN Secretariat entities), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations International Computing Centre (UNICC), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC), United Nations University (UNU), United Nations Volunteers Programme (UNV), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), Universal Postal Union (UPU), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO), World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), World

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# Glossary

ASR	Annual Statistical Report	Env&OSH	Environmental & Occupational Health and Safety	ISO 14001	International standard for environmental management systems (EMS)
BRS	The Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions	ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	ITC	International Trade Centre
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity	ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia	ITU	International Telecommunication Union
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism	eq	equivalent	ITU-T	International Telecommunication Union Standardization Sector
CEB	United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination	FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization	kg	kilograms
CH <sub>4</sub>	Methane	FP	Focal Point	kWh	kilowatt-hour
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	FRIM	Field Remote Infrastructure Monitoring	LCA	Life Cycle Analysis
CMS	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals	GCF	Green Climate Fund	LEED	Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
CO <sub>2</sub>	Carbon dioxide	GHG	Greenhouse gas	m <sup>3</sup>	cubic metre
COVID-19	Corona Virus Disease 2019	GWP	Global warming potential	Minamata	Minamata Convention on Mercury
CTBTO	Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization	HFCs	Hydrofluorocarbons	MINUSCA	United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic
DGBN	German Sustainable Building Council	HQ	Headquarters	MINUSMA	United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali
DOS	Department of Operational Support	IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency	MLF	Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa	ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization	MONUSCO	United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe	ICEC	ICAO carbon emissions calculator	NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development	N <sub>2</sub> O	Nitrous Oxide
EDGE	Excellence in Design Building for Greater Efficiencies	IFC	International Finance Corporation	OCEV	Cantonal Environment Office
EMS	Environmental Management System	ILO	International Labour Organization	OCHA	United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
ESS	Environmental and social safeguards	IMF	International Monetary Fund		
		IMO	International Maritime Organization		
		IOM	International Organization for Migration		
		ISO	International Organization for Standardization		

# Glossary

OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	UNEP-WCMC	United Nations Environment Programme - World Conservation Monitoring Centre	UNOV	United Nations Office at Vienna
OPCW	Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
PFCs	Perfluorochemicals	UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	UNSSC	United Nations System Staff College
PV	Photovoltaic	UNIFIL	United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon	UNU	United Nations University
QR	quick-response	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund	UNV	United Nations Volunteers Programme
REACT	Rapid Environment and Climate Technical Assistance	UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme	UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals	UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	UNWTO	World Tourism Organization
SF <sub>6</sub>	Sulfur hexafluoride	UNHQ	United Nations Headquarters	UPU	Universal Postal Union
SMP	Seismic Mitigation Project	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund	WBG	World Bank Group
SUN	Sustainable United Nations	UNICC	United Nations International Computing Centre	WFP	World Food Programme
TCC	Troop Contributing Country personnel	UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization	WHO	World Health Organization
UN	United Nations	UNISFA	United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei	WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS	UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research	WM	Waste management
UNAMID	United Nations - African Union Hybrid Operation in Darfur	UNMISS	United Nations Mission in South Sudan	WMO	World Meteorological Organization
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification	UNOG	United Nations Office at Geneva	WTO	World Trade Organization
UNCDF	United Nations Capital Development Fund	UNON	United Nations Office at Nairobi		
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services		
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme				
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme				

# Contents

Acknowledgements iii

Glossary iv

Contents vi

Preface viii

Executive Summary ix

United Nations Secretary-General Quote x

1 Introduction 1

**2 Environmental Impacts 2**

2.1 Greenhouse Gas Emissions 3

2.1.1 UN Secretariat Greenhouse Gas Emissions 4

2.1.2 Climate Neutrality: Emissions Reductions and Offsetting 5

2.1.3 Renewable Electricity 5

2.1.4 UNICEF’s Journey Towards Greenhouse Gas Reductions & Greening Premises 6

2.2 Waste 7

2.2.1 IOM Ends Use of Plastic Bags from its Movement Operations 8

2.3 Air Pollution 9

2.3.1 Reducing Air Pollution at UN Geneva 10

2.4 Water and Wastewater 11

2.4.1 Santiago’s Water Management Plan Promotes Conservation 12

2.5 Biodiversity 14

2.5.1 UNESCO Personnel Take Full Ownership in 2022 of Vegetable and Biodiversity Garden 15

**3 Mainstreaming in Management Functions 16**

3.1 Environmental Governance 17

3.1.1 United Nations Office at Nairobi First UN Headquarters to Achieve Environmental Management System ISO 14001:2015 Certification 19

3.2 Procurement 20

3.2.1 Eighty Per Cent Construction Waste Recycling Thanks to Effective Procurement Specifications at ESCAP 21

3.3 Human Resources 22

3.3.1 Mandatory Environmental Training Helps Ensure Personnel Make a Positive Impact in South Sudan 23

3.4 Reporting Completeness 25

**4 Methodology 26**

4.1 Data Collection and Inventory Process 27

4.2 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Methodology and Air Pollution & Renewable Electricity Data 28

4.2.1 GHG Emissions 28

4.2.2 Air Pollution 28

4.2.3 Renewable Electricity 28

4.3 Air Travel and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Calculator Methodology 29

4.4 Waste Methodology 30

4.5 Water Methodology and Wastewater Data 31

4.5.1 Water 31

4.5.2 Wastewater 31

4.6 Environmental Governance, Procurement and Human Resources Methodologies 32

4.6.1 Environmental Governance 32

4.6.2 Procurement 33

4.6.3 Human Resources 33

4.7 Reporting Completeness 34

4.7.1 Greenhouse Gas Emissions 34

4.7.2 Waste 34

4.7.3 Water 34

4.7.4 Environmental Governance and Human Resources 34

5 Conclusion 35

References and literature list 36

# Contents

## Annexes

1 Environmental Performance Dashboard – UN Entities’ Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Neutrality 2022 Data.....	
2 Environmental Performance Dashboard – UN Entities’ Environmental Management System Status 2022 Data.....	
3 UN Entities’ Reported 2022 Waste Data.....	
4 UN Entities’ Reported 2022 Water Data.....	
5 Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions’ Reported 2022 Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Waste and Water Data.....	
6 UN Entities’ Reporting Completeness 2022 Data.....	

VI. Entities’ Environmental Management System Status 2020 – 2022	<b>17</b>
VII. Entities’ Environmental and Social Safeguards Progress 2020 – 2022	<b>18</b>
VIII. Environmental Training for Personnel	<b>22</b>
IX. Uptake of Greening the Blue Tutorial	<b>22</b>
X. Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<b>24</b>
XI. Waste	<b>24</b>
XII. Water	<b>25</b>
XIII. Environmental Governance and Human Resources	<b>25</b>
XIV. UN System-wide GHG Emissions	<b>35</b>

## List of figures

I. Emissions by Source	<b>3</b>
II. Share of Total Emissions by Entity	<b>3</b>
III. Share of Total UN Secretariat Emissions by Entity	<b>4</b>
IV. Disposal Routes of Waste Generated by the UN System	<b>7</b>
V. Refrigerant Use in UN Offices	<b>9</b>

# Preface

The annual *Greening the Blue Report* (hereafter *Report*) provides information on the United Nations (UN) system’s environmental footprint and efforts to reduce it. It intends to determine if the UN system’s facilities and operations are “on the right track” with their environmental objectives and show where adjustment might be needed. The *Report* also serves both to inform the public on how the UN system is doing in its environmental sustainability efforts and, hopefully, as a source of inspiration for other organizations.

The *Report* reflects the progress in the implementation of the [Strategy for Sustainability Management in the United Nations System 2020-2030, Phase I: Environmental Sustainability in the Area of Management](#) (hereafter *Sustainability Strategy I*), that was endorsed by the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination in 2019.

The UN system first published its greenhouse gas emissions in 2009 for 2008 emissions. With time, reporting has improved in accuracy and scope to include environmental impact areas and management functions identified in the *Sustainability Strategy I*.

It is important to note that the annual *Report* is a snapshot in time and thus cannot reflect the current or ever-changing realities of the diverse UN system. In no way does the report rank UN system entities against one another, nor against a scale of good or bad sustainability efforts.



# Executive summary

The 2023 edition of the *Report* covers data for 2022. It focuses on the environmental impacts of over 308,000 personnel in Headquarters, in thousands of field offices and in operations on the ground. The Greening the Blue Community, which annually provides the data for the *Report*, consists of 57 entities from across the UN system and beyond i.e., the Green Climate Fund (GCF). Fifty-four of them reported to the 2022 environmental inventory, which provides the information on the environmental impact areas. Some did not report on all of the environmental impact areas. Forty-five entities reported to the 2022 environmental governance survey, which provides information on the environmental governance and human resources management functions. For these reasons, the number of personnel and the number of entities included in each reporting area is specified.

This digital PDF component of the *Report* provides the UN system-wide 2022 results on the five environmental impacts areas: greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, waste, air pollution, water and biodiversity; on the overarching management function of environmental governance; and on two of the specific management functions: procurement and human resources, identified in *Sustainability Strategy I* (United Nations, United Nations System Chief Executive Board for Coordination [CEB] 2019). A commitment to

tracking and reporting on the environmental impact areas and management functions is a key aspect of *Sustainability Strategy I*. Hence, the level of reporting completeness is also documented in the *Report*.

Highlights of the UN system-wide 2022 results include:

- GHG - the UN's operations and facilities emitted 1.4 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>eq in total or 4.6 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>eq per capita. The UN system's GHG emissions by source were 38 per cent from air travel, 47 per cent from facilities and 15 per cent from other forms of travel
- Waste - the average waste generated for the whole UN system was 321 kg/person
- Water - the average water consumption by the UN system was 49 m<sup>3</sup> per UN personnel per year
- Environmental Governance – seven UN entities have met or exceeded the criteria for implementing an environmental management system, with an additional 15 entities approaching the criteria
- Human Resources – 31 entities have environmental training available for their staff

Accompanying the 2022 data, there is a UN entity case study for each of the environmental impact areas and management functions. These case studies focus on the accomplishments the entity made in 2022 on the specific area or function.

Entity-level 2022 data are provided in the detailed data tables, which are provided as annexes to this digital PDF.

## United Nations Secretary-General Quote

“The world must work together to address the triple planetary crisis of runaway climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution. We at the United Nations must do our part with advocacy and action. I encourage all UN entities to set an example by greening the blue.”

– António Guterres, UN Secretary-General



# 1 Introduction

The *Greening the Blue Report 2023* has three main components:

- 1 This digital PDF
- 2 Entity-specific webpages at [greeningtheblue.org/performance/entities](https://greeningtheblue.org/performance/entities)
- 3 UN Entities' Reported 2022 Data Tables – available both in the annexes to this PDF and as standalone documents on [greeningtheblue.org/reports/greening-blue-report-2023](https://greeningtheblue.org/reports/greening-blue-report-2023)

All three provide the full picture of the UN system's environmental footprint and efforts to reduce it in 2022.

This digital PDF is structured following the sections of *Sustainability Strategy I*. The specific ordering of the environmental impact areas and management functions in the *Report* is taken from the organization of these items in *Sustainability Strategy I's Annex* (CEB 2019). This is done to facilitate referencing between the two documents when viewing the 2022 data.

Where possible, comparison of the 2022 results to previous years' results has been given. There are, however, limitations to the comparability of results between years for many of the reporting areas. There is also difficulty in determining

specific causation for the differences in results between years (e.g. increased facilities energy use may be because of a colder winter, etc.). For these reasons, while additional analysis of the results and possible trends in results across years is desired, the ability to do so is restricted.

Please note, throughout the *Report* percentages are rounded to the nearest integer, as a result they may not total 100.

## 2 Environmental Impacts

This section includes information on the environmental impact areas identified in the *Sustainability Strategy I* for which UN entities have provided 2022 data. For each environmental impact area, *Sustainability Strategy I* established a UN system-wide objective to be achieved by 2030 (CEB 2019). How best to achieve this objective is specific to each UN entity; for this reason, entity-specific data is available online at [greeningtheblue.org/performance/entities](https://greeningtheblue.org/performance/entities).

In each area, one case study from a UN entity that successfully made improvements in 2022 in the area is highlighted. The case studies aim to celebrate success and provide a concrete example of what can be done with determination, creativity and innovation.



# 2.1 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

## 2030 Objective

Reduce absolute greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 to limit the increase in global temperature to 1.5°C, in line with the recommendations of the 2018 report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

To achieve the objective, each entity will define its own specific targets and baselines and look at aspects such as: electricity use, energy sources, air travel and ground travel (CEB 2019, p. 15).

A detailed table with each entity’s reported 2022 data is available in the annex of the *Report* and as a standalone document at [greeningtheblue.org/reports/greening-blue-report-2023](https://greeningtheblue.org/reports/greening-blue-report-2023).

<sup>1</sup> GCF is included in this data. The reporting category of Other UN Secretariat Entities is counted as one entity in this data.

### 2022 UN System Data<sup>1</sup>

#### TOTAL EMISSIONS 2022

**1.4 million tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>eq**

#### PER CAPITA EMISSIONS

**4.6 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>eq**

**308,000** personnel in **54** UN entities are included in this system-wide data

FIGURE I  
**EMISSIONS BY SOURCE (PERCENTAGE)**

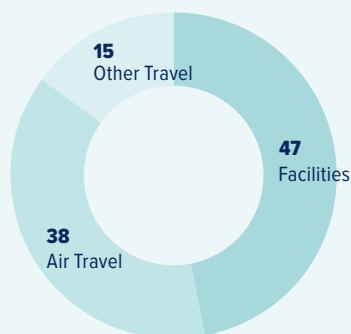
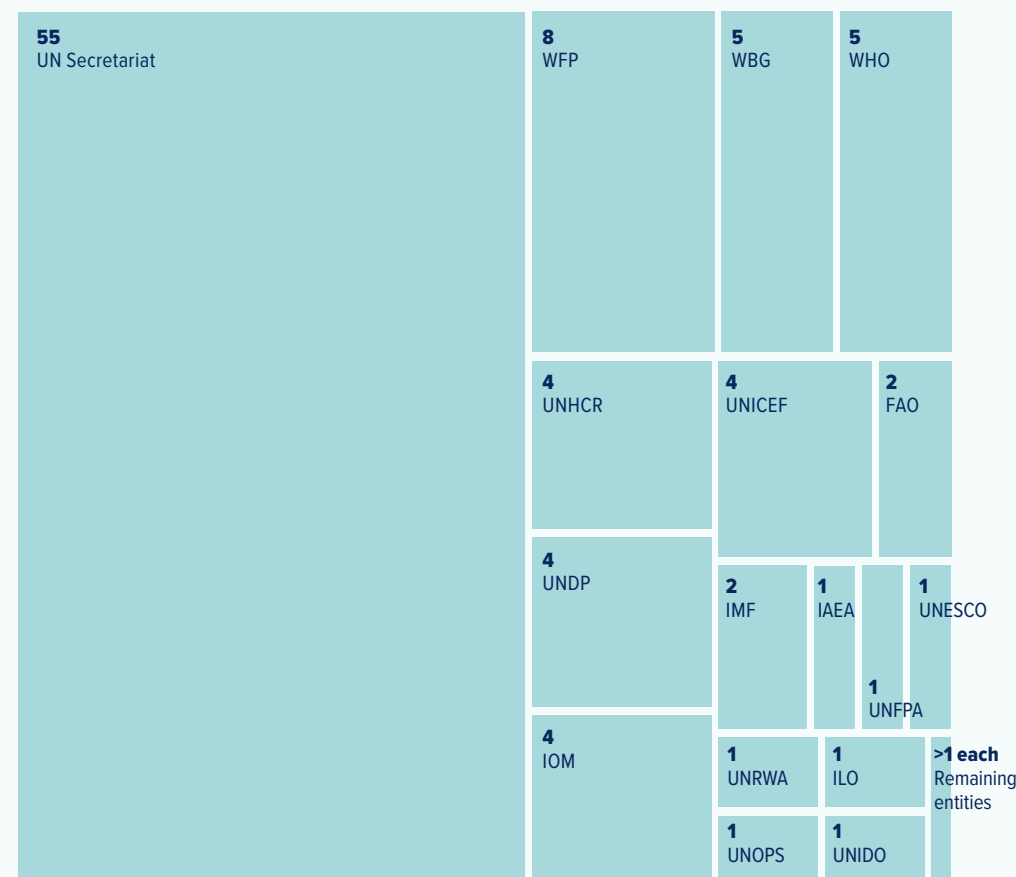


FIGURE II **SHARE OF TOTAL EMISSIONS BY ENTITY (PERCENTAGE)**





# 2.1.1 UN Secretariat Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The UN Secretariat comprises over half (55 per cent) of the UN system’s carbon footprint. It is a large and complex organization, performing different functions around the world. Here is a breakdown of the main entities comprising the UN Secretariat that contribute to the *Report*, by their respective greenhouse gas emissions.

The clustering of entities under different titles has been done based on their functions using the [UN System Chart](#) as a reference.

## TOTAL EMISSIONS 2022

~773,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>eq

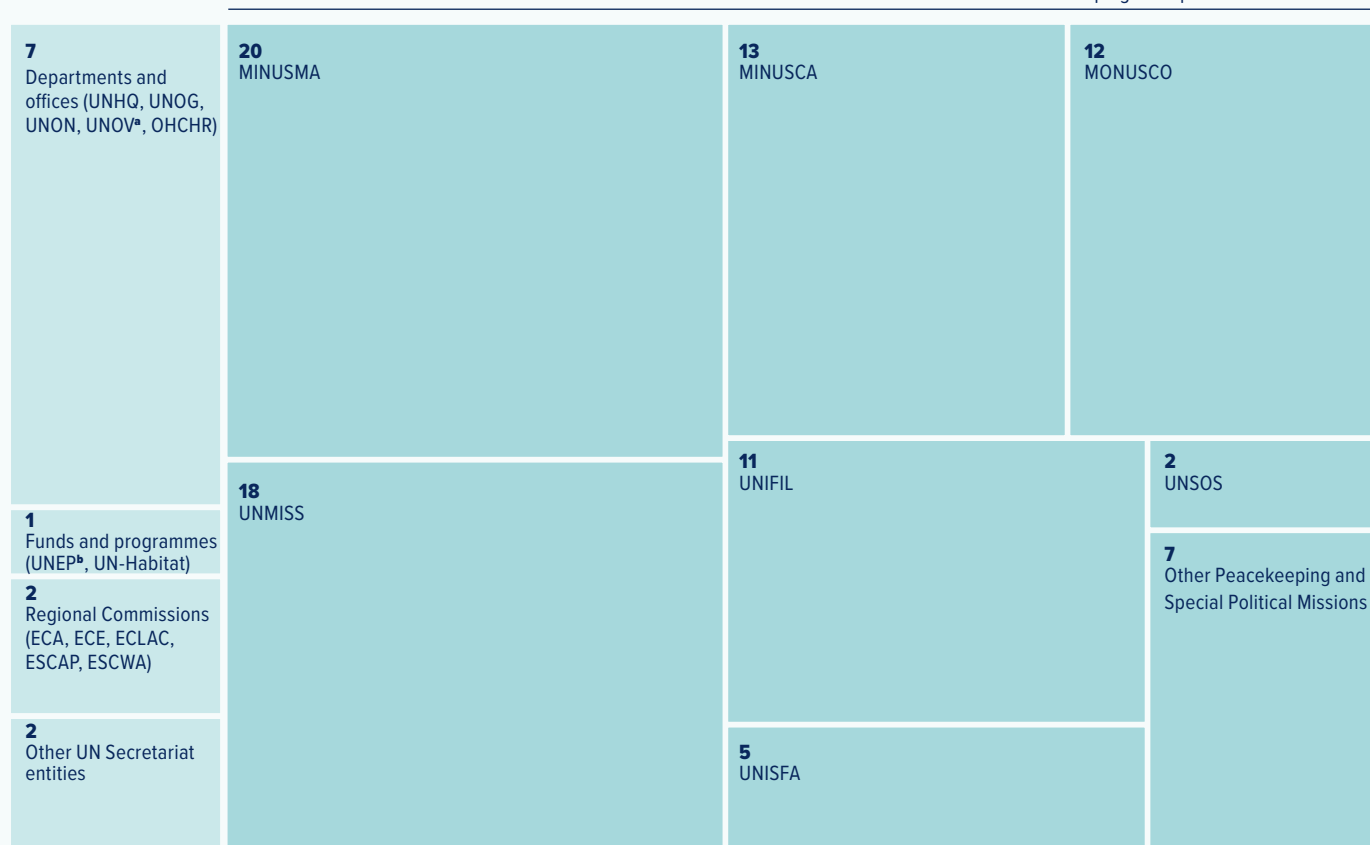
## PER CAPITA EMISSIONS

6.4 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>eq

120,000 personnel are included in this data

FIGURE III SHARE OF TOTAL UN SECRETARIAT EMISSIONS BY ENTITY (PERCENTAGE)

87 Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions\*



<sup>a</sup> UNOV includes UNODC.  
<sup>b</sup> UNEP Includes the Secretariat of the BRS conventions, CBD, CITES, CMS, Minamata, MLF and the Ozone Secretariat.

<sup>c</sup> Data from each of the Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions are available in a detailed table in the annexes of the Report and as a standalone document at [greeningtheblue](#).

[org/reports/greening-blue-report-2023](#). For more information on Peacekeeping, see [peacekeeping.un.org/en](#) For information on Special Political Missions, see [dppa.un.org/en](#)



## 2.1.2 Climate Neutrality: Emissions Reductions and Offsetting

The priority of the UN system is to reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to the greatest extent possible. However, given the mandate and mission of the UN some emissions are unavoidable. These unavoidable emissions are measured and reported annually in the *Greening the Blue Report*. In 2015, the UN system committed to offset 100 per cent of its unavoidable emissions by 2020. This goal was further reinforced in the *Sustainability Strategy I* which states that the UN: “maintain the commitment to a 100 per cent climate-neutral United Nations, through the reduction of [GHG] emissions, the transition to renewable energy sources and, for the unavoidable greenhouse gas emissions, the purchase of emission reduction certificates approved by United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change [UNFCCC]” (CEB 2019, p. 11).

In the offsetting process, each UN entity decides how to offset their unavoidable GHG emissions as calculated during the annual environmental inventory process. These offsets take the form of Certified Emission Reductions issued by projects that are part of the UN’s Clean Development

Mechanism (CDM). The quality of a project is verified and guaranteed in a process defined under the Kyoto Protocol of the UNFCCC. This process requires third party verification and approval by national governments and the CDM Executive Board. In this way, each reporting UN entity takes responsibility and compensates for their own remaining unavoidable emissions. These certified carbon credits are purchased and then “cancelled” ensuring they cannot be sold or used again.

# 92%

of the UN system’s reported 2022 GHG emissions are offset as of the *Report’s* reported offsetting deadline. To see the most up to date information on the percentage of the UN system’s reported 2022 GHG emissions offset, please see [greeningtheblue.org/entities/totalun](https://greeningtheblue.org/entities/totalun)

## 2.1.3 Renewable Electricity

Thirty-one per cent of the electricity that was consumed by the UN system in 2022 came from renewable sources. The share of electricity that comes from renewable sources includes purchased electricity from national grids, electricity generated onsite through, e.g., solar panels, and electricity from generators run on renewable fuels.

**278,000** personnel  
in **53** UN entities  
are included in this  
system-wide data

Note, in previous editions of the *Report* this section was titled Renewable Energy. The change to Renewable Electricity in this edition has been done to better reflect the data in the section.



## 2.1.4 UNICEF's Journey Towards Greenhouse Gas Reductions & Greening Premises

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)'s unwavering commitment to a greener and more sustainable environment is driving the organization's ambitious goal of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 45 per cent by 2030. With a focus on climate neutrality through measuring, reducing, and offsetting carbon emissions, UNICEF has already made significant strides, achieving a reduction percentage of approximately 20 per cent in 2022.

While air travel, building energy, and vehicle fuel usage remain the major sources of GHG emissions for UNICEF, the organization's greening efforts have experienced remarkable growth since sustainability became a core value. Now, every member recognizes the importance of integrating environmental sustainability into all aspects of their work. Here are some of the impressive initiatives that UNICEF has undertaken:

**Green building certification.** UNICEF is implementing green building certifications for all new constructions and owned premises. This enhances the progress achieved by UNICEF offices and validates the offices' greening status. Notably, the Mozambique country office has already received the preliminary Excellence in Design for Greater Efficiencies (EDGE Certificate) for its innovative design, which includes

an on-site solar photovoltaic (PV) system, energy-efficient measures, and water-saving strategies. This green building achieves 54 per cent energy savings, 28 per cent water savings, and 10.86 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> reduction annually.

UNICEF Kandahar in Afghanistan has also received a preliminary EDGE certification. This achievement reflects outstanding results: 72 per cent energy savings, 52 per cent water savings, and a significant 41 per cent reduction in embodied materials. Several UNICEF offices are in the process or have already secured multiple green certifications, including those from the [German Sustainable Building Council \(DGBN\)](#) and [LEED \(Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design\)](#).

**Renewable energy.** To meet its target of sourcing 80 per cent of electricity from renewable sources by 2030, UNICEF has launched multiple initiatives. The South Sudan Country Office and Burkina Faso's Fada N' Gourma Field Office now run entirely on 100 per cent solar power. Moreover, 62 UNICEF offices have also installed solar PV systems. In 2022, the organization's percentage of renewable energy usage rose to 32 per cent. With the establishment of Long-Term Agreements with solar service providers in each region, these projects are set to scale up even further.



**Green teams.** UNICEF boasts an impressive network of 111 active Green Teams worldwide. These teams play a proactive role in promoting staff engagement and raising awareness about sustainable behaviours. In 2022, Green Teams engaged in over 300 activities; aimed at increasing biodiversity around offices while also reducing energy and water consumption, improving waste management and reducing overall carbon footprint. In May 2022, the Supply Division in Copenhagen organized the "Bike to work" month, an initiative that saw 62 colleagues collectively biking a remarkable distance of 12,226 kilometres. This effort alone prevented three tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from entering the atmosphere.





## 2.2 Waste

### 2030 Objective

Ensure that no solid waste from United Nations facilities, operations or activities is causing pollution or other harm to the environment and local populations by avoiding the release of toxic substances into the air, soil and water bodies and preventing adverse impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems.

To achieve the objective, each entity will look at aspects such as: non-hazardous waste, hazardous waste and/or single-use plastic (CEB 2019, p. 16).

<sup>1</sup> GCF is excluded from this data. The reporting category of Other UN Secretariat Entities is counted as one entity in this data.

### 2022 UN System Data<sup>1</sup>

#### AVERAGE WASTE GENERATED

**321 kg/person**

for the whole UN system

**309 kg/person**

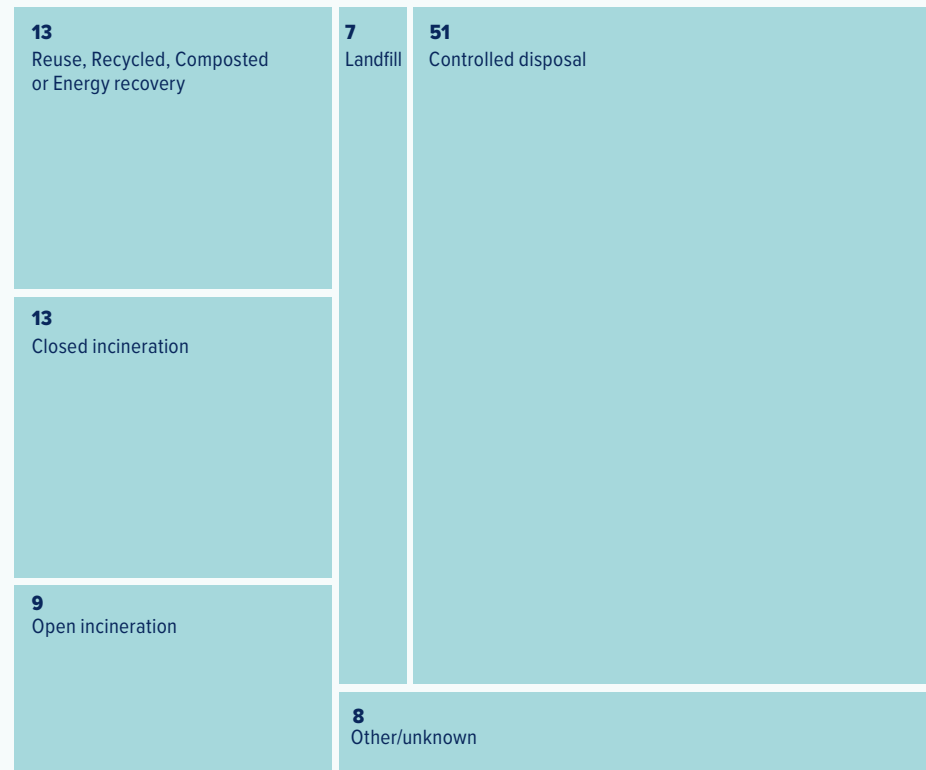
for the UN system excluding  
construction waste

**124 kg/person**

for the UN system excluding Peacekeeping  
and Special Political Missions

Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions have a higher waste generated average than other entities as their waste generation includes living quarters.

FIGURE IV DISPOSAL ROUTES OF WASTE GENERATED BY THE UN SYSTEM (PERCENTAGE)



These percentages are subject to significant variations year-to-year due to specific circumstances, such as large construction projects. A detailed table with each entity's reported 2022 data is available in the annexes of the *Report* and as a standalone document at [greeningtheblue.org/reports/greening-blue-report-2023](https://greeningtheblue.org/reports/greening-blue-report-2023).

**255,000** personnel  
in **49** UN entities  
are included in this  
system-wide data



## 2.2.1 IOM Ends Use of Plastic Bags from its Movement Operations

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) recognizes its responsibility to contribute to global sustainability efforts as the Organization witnesses firsthand the impacts of climate change on communities across the globe. The [Sustainability Strategy I](#) and the [Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations](#) emphasize the importance for humanitarian organizations to play their part in climate action (CEB 2019; International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies 2021). One of the key opportunities identified to achieve these strategic objectives is to foster environmentally responsible procurement.

In 2022 alone, IOM facilitated the safe and dignified transportation of 198,010 migrants around the globe. This encompassed a wide range of support services, including safe evacuation, family reunification, relocation, repatriation, resettlement, return, and other types of migration. To ensure migrants have their most important documents with them throughout the journey, the organization provides easily recognizable IOM bags.

To reduce the environmental impact of the supporting operations behind these international movements, IOM decided to update its IOM bag directive. The initiative began with a science-based approach that included a comparative Life Cycle Analysis (LCA) to evaluate the environmental impact of the plastic bags used and that of the various options considered for replacement.

The LCA revealed that oxo-biodegradable bags have a nearly four times higher waste footprint than compostable bags. It also showed that for compostable bags to have a lower environmental impact, they would need to be reused at least three times.

The analysis also included the examination of both the quantity and quality aspects of bag procurement. Quantity-wise, it involved assessing minimum order requirements and estimating the annual global demand for the IOM bags across all IOM missions. Quality-wise, it focused on identifying suppliers that offer durable materials while avoiding single-use items.

In the pilot phase, implemented from December 2020 to February 2023, IOM introduced a compostable bag for its Missions to consider and provide feedback on. During this time, an assessment conducted in 2022 took centre stage, focusing on the compostable bag inventory and exploring potential new vendors.

Following extensive coordination between global teams involved in resettlement and movement operations, supply chain management and environmental sustainability, and implementing IOM Missions worldwide, the organization introduced a new directive mandating the phase out of plastic bags. As of March 2023, IOM has officially replaced its plastic IOM bags with compostable and biodegradable alternatives. Over 30,000 environmentally sustainable bags have been procured since then, and another batch of the same size is currently being purchased.



The phase out of plastic IOM bags aligns with other initiatives in IOM and in its movement operations. In 2022, IOM conducted the first ever programme-level environmental inventory and carbon accounting for its movement operations under the United States Refugee Admissions Program and established an [environmental sustainability action plan](#) consistent with IOM's global environmental sustainability commitments. The action plan includes measures to improve waste and water management, increase energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and establish sustainable, climate-resilient workspaces (International Organization for Migration 2023).

With these initiatives, IOM programmes are contributing to the organization's sustainable procurement and waste reduction goals as outlined in the *Sustainability Strategy I* and creating a safer environment for both refugees and host communities.



## 2.3 Air Pollution

### 2030 Objective

Ensure that United Nations premises and fleet do not contribute to or exacerbate local air quality issues in both urban and remote community settings.

To achieve the objective, each entity will look at aspects such as: fossil fuels, refrigeration and air conditioning and/or hydrofluorocarbons (CEB 2019, p. 17).

### In the Upper and Lower Atmosphere

#### 2022 UN System Data<sup>1</sup>

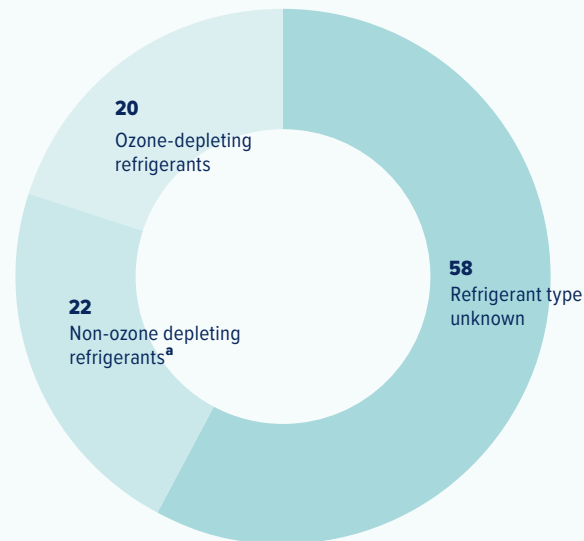
#### AIR POLLUTANTS IN THE LOWER ATMOSPHERE (GROUND-LEVEL)

The UN system utilized **~300 million litres** of fuel to run its vehicle fleets as well as its facilities' generators and boilers.

**308,000** personnel in **54** UN entities are included in this system-wide data

#### OZONE DEPLETING SUBSTANCES IN THE UPPER ATMOSPHERE (STRATOSPHERE)

FIGURE V  
**REFRIGERANT USE IN UN OFFICES**  
(PERCENTAGE)



<sup>a</sup> Offices that use non-ozone depleting refrigerants include the five per cent of offices that use low Global Warming Potential (GWP) refrigerants.

<sup>1</sup> GCF is included in this data. The reporting category of Other UN Secretariat Entities is counted as one entity in this data.



UNITED NATIONS  
GENEVA

## 2.3.1 Reducing Air Pollution at UN Geneva

For several decades, the city of Geneva has been struggling with an air pollution problem. Certain air pollutants periodically go above the limits set by regional legislation (Cantonal Environment Office [OCEV] 2017).

The [Swiss Federal Office for the Environment](#) estimates that air pollution causes thousands of premature deaths each year in Switzerland, as well as many cases of respiratory disease in children and adults (Switzerland, Federal Office for the Environment 2021). It is not just humans that are affected by air pollution. Acid depositions caused by these pollutants disrupt ecosystems and degrade buildings, particularly historic buildings like the Palais des Nations.

In Geneva, 40 per cent of local air pollution comes from vehicles, thus the reduction of emissions from vehicles is key for the city (OCEV 2017). United Nations Geneva (UN Geneva) is doing what it can to support this.

Every time a vehicle needs replacing, research is carried out to identify greener alternatives that meet the specifications and requirements. For example, two security vehicles were replaced with bicycles, bringing the total number of bicycles up to 13. As part of the Safety & Security team's vision to support the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (A/RES/70/1) all security personnel other than some specialized teams are now requested to move around the Palais des Nations on foot or by bike. Further, research is currently underway

to find a fully electric warehousing truck, and by the end of 2027 all UN Geneva security vehicles will be electric. In 2022 specifically, UN Geneva received fully electric replacements for one passenger vehicle and four utility and security vehicles.

These efforts are having positive results. Fuel consumption for these vehicles has fallen from 23,970 litres in 2018 to 11,182 litres in 2022 and in particular, diesel consumption has fallen from around 16,000 litres to less than 4,000 litres in 2022.

UN Geneva's electric vehicles can be charged on-site via dedicated charging stations, which were partly financed by donations from the Swiss Confederation and the Republic of Moldova. The electricity that is used to charge them comes from renewable sources.

These initiatives are part of UN Geneva's wider commitment to a greener United Nations and to protecting our local environment.





## 2.4 Water and Wastewater

### 2030 Objective

Ensure water conservation and avoid the release of untreated wastewater into the environment.

To achieve the objective, each entity will look at aspects such as: water management and/or wastewater management (CEB 2019, p. 18).

<sup>1</sup> GCF is included in this data. The reporting category of Other UN Secretariat Entities is counted as one entity in this data.

### 2022 UN System Data<sup>1</sup>

**49 m<sup>3</sup>**

per UN personnel per year

**4%**

of the water consumed by the UN system is recycled

**270,000** personnel in **51** UN entities are included in this system-wide data

A detailed table with each entity's reported 2022 data is available in the annexes of the *Report* and as a standalone document at [greeningtheblue.org/reports/greening-blue-report-2023](https://greeningtheblue.org/reports/greening-blue-report-2023).



## 2.4.1 Santiago's Water Management Plan Promotes Conservation

The water management plan developed for Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) Santiago addresses water management by promoting strategies that favour its conservation and prevent the discharge of untreated wastewater into the environment.

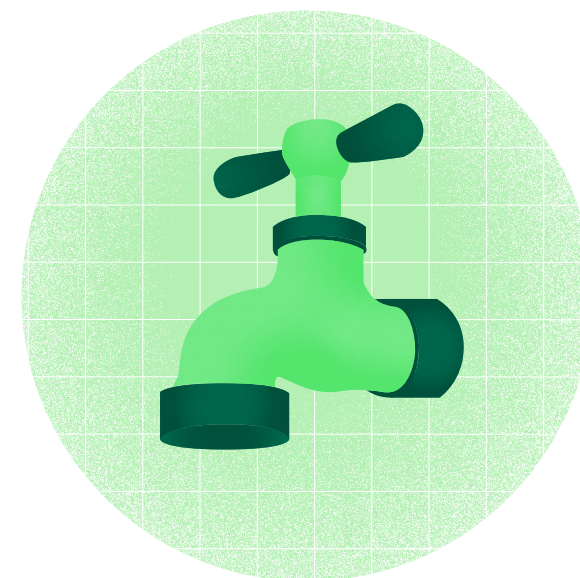
These actions, which are also comprehensively addressed in this Plan, are closely related to several goals established in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (A/RES/70/1). An example of this is that this Plan seeks to significantly increase efficiency in the use of water resources and reduce the percentage of untreated wastewater, increasing recycling and reuse (SDG 6); promote changes to responsible water consumption and management (SDG 12); and promote climate action to strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to the risks associated with climate change (SDG 13), which in central Chile are manifested through a decreasing availability of water.

Additionally, and, in alignment with the *Sustainability Strategy I*, the project includes key aspects in the water management practice, raising the level of ambition of the

United Nations system, assigning discrete impact reduction objectives and indicators to the water consumption area (CEB 2019, p. 18).

Climate change and its impacts are increasingly evident worldwide. In the case of Chile, it has been expressed in an evident decrease in the availability of water, due to a sustained increase in the average temperature throughout the country and a decrease in precipitation, generating water shortages and severe droughts. This can disrupt food production, which can lead to food insecurity, particularly for women who are often the primary caregivers and providers in households. Additionally, it exacerbates existing social and economic inequalities impacting vulnerable populations, including women and children.

In January 2022, the Ministry of Public Works signed 21 decrees of water scarcity, which cover 184 neighbourhoods, including Vitacura, which is where the ECLAC Santiago compound is located. The purpose of these decrees is to facilitate the allocation of resources and efforts to prioritize human consumption.





## 2.4.1 Santiago's Water Management Plan Promotes Conservation – continued

The water management plan includes seven related projects.

### WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN PROJECT'S OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED RESULTS

Project	Objective	Expected Results
Sustainable Landscape	Reduce the requirements of water consumption for ECLAC Santiago landscaping maintenance	Reduce the water consumption associated with vegetation, reaching 52.6% of the current water requirements, calculated to 2021.
Water Treatment Plant for landscaping	Prioritization of the use of wastewater treatment plant effluent for outdoor landscape irrigation	Increase the circularity within the premises ECLAC Santiago, through the treatment of 97% of wastewater, equivalent to 7 800 m <sup>3</sup> per year, and its subsequent use in the irrigation of green areas.
Water pond waterproofing	Reduction of water loss, leakages, and evaporation for a full optimized water usage	1. Reduce Infiltration losses generated in the cobblestone area. 2. Increase the level of dissolved oxygen and its circulation in the water pond.
Water well drilling, optimizing existing infrastructure	Rehabilitation and regularization of water use rights	Increased autonomy and water availability to satisfy water requirements other than human consumption.
Improvement of restroom fixtures	Reducing water requirements and consumption at ECLAC's facilities Santiago	1. Decrease consumption of potable water associated with showers, by up to 4.6 l/min. 2. Decrease consumption of potable water associated with use of urinals by up to 115 m <sup>3</sup> /year.
Maintenance of the rainwater systems	Increase the circularity in the water management at ECLAC	Optimal operation of the system to ensure the management at source and the use of all rainwater in the site.
Drought Plan for water consumption	Develop and implement a progressive process of water demand reduction at ECLAC compound, through a reduction of current water losses, and water consumption	Ensure the availability of a minimum flow that allows sanitary operating conditions for ECLAC Santiago and its personnel who must attend the premises.

**Economic, environmental and climate benefits, challenges and lessons learned.** As a part of its resilience strategy, ECLAC also needs to have sufficient water backup capacity to supplement the scarcity of the

resource during the exceptionally dry seasons. Without these alternative resources, demand may have to be rationed, implying potentially even higher economic costs.



## 2.5 Biodiversity

### 2030 Objective

Avoid adverse impacts on biodiversity from United Nations' facilities, operations and activities.

To achieve the objective, each entity will look at aspects such as: biodiversity conservation (CEB 2019, p. 19).

The [“Common approach to integrating biodiversity and nature-based solutions for sustainable development into the United Nations policy and programme planning and delivery”](#) was adopted in May 2021. The common approach provides an overarching framework for collective action and joint delivery on biodiversity among the entire UN system (United Nations, United Nations System Chief Executive Board for Coordination 2021a). In support of the common approach, the SUN facility worked to develop indicators during 2021 and 2022. In 2023, a piloting process began for entity-level reporting on screening for biodiversity impacts.

Early results from the pilot found that 16 per cent (nine entities) of UN entities have screened or are in the process of screening their facilities for local biodiversity impacts. These preliminary results will now be used to provide for a broad, system-wide screening of UN facilities for potential biodiversity impacts.

The UN system has also created a companion piece to “The Common Approach,” which recommends ways to integrate biodiversity and nature-based solutions. [“Biodiversity Common Approach: 50+ ways to integrate biodiversity and nature-based solutions”](#) includes recommendations such as, “addressing all forms of inequality [e.g., gender] and exclusion in sustainable use and management of biodiversity” (United Nations, United Nations System Chief Executive Board for Coordination 2021b, p. 7).





## 2.5.1 UNESCO Personnel Take Full Ownership in 2022 of Vegetable and Biodiversity Garden

Over 2022, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) staff took full ownership of the biodiversity and vegetable garden, which has been flourishing at the Organization's Headquarters in Paris since 2020. In a total of 30 workshops between April and November 2022, more than 200 colleagues participated to learn more about local biodiversity, seasonal harvesting, and pesticide-free urban gardening. The garden activities at UNESCO, which are led by a team of professional gardeners, followed guidance of a dedicated Garden Club that includes more than 150 personnel members.

**Planting.** To have a healthy balance of ecosystems, biodiversity is essential for any garden. UNESCO's free workshops allowed personnel to learn about the many different local plant and animal species that help the garden's soil to stay nutritious. The over 200 participants in 2022 now know how to identify fruits that are ripe enough for their seeds to be replanted, how to make cuttings and how to compost. Personnel also helped prepare the eco-friendly, low-tech and sustainable grow beds for the growing season by pulling out and cutting weeds.

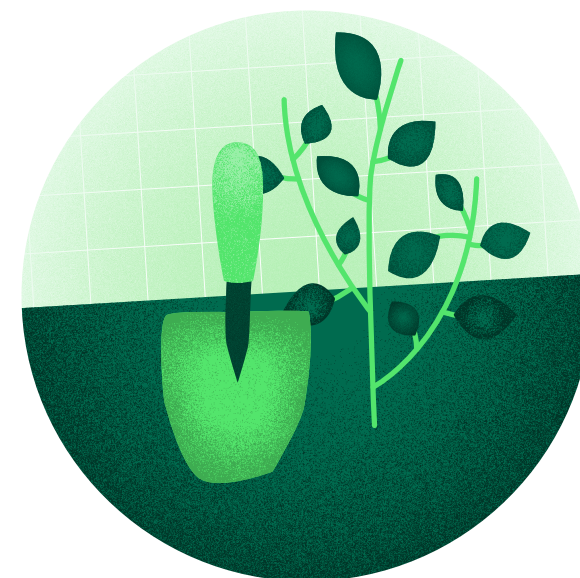
**Harvesting.** Once ripe, local vegetables, aromatic herbs, and small fruit were given out to UNESCO personnel who

had subscribed to receive regular vegetable baskets. In the 2022 harvesting season, around 40 colleagues took advantage of this offer and were provided with fresh tomatoes, squash, sweet potatoes, onions, strawberries, mint and other locally grown produce. In total 370 baskets - equalling 1.5 tonnes of locally grown vegetables - were distributed.

**Tasting.** UNESCO's vegetable and biodiversity garden also welcomed UNESCO personnel for outdoor tastings of what had been harvested. Colleagues got the chance to prepare herbal teas and eat a wide range of fruit such as strawberries, physalis, pineapple sage and black currant sage.

**Feedback.** Through a weekly feedback form, participants could have their say and shape the garden activities. Of 45 respondents, 96 per cent enjoyed the content and 82 per cent said that they learned something new from the workshops. Ninety-six per cent recommended this activity to other colleagues and every single respondent wanted to sign up for more workshops to come.

*"I always come away from the garden club workshops with valuable knowledge and practical tips. I also feel refreshed from the contact with nature, colleagues,*



*and the lovely instructors. Thank you!"* one participant responded.

**Support from the host country and partners.** The great variety of plants at UNESCO's vegetable and biodiversity garden is ensured through two complementary projects that represent a coherent spatial entity. One of the two projects, managed by the French National Commission for UNESCO with generous funding from several partners, takes advantage of the pedagogical opportunities that such a rare green oasis in an urbanized agglomerate like Paris has to offer. Plants and herbs grown here originate from more than 40 countries, representing all world regions. As well, many additional native and local plants have started to grow within and between the grow beds thanks to pollination from bees and other pollinators. Schools and other groups regularly visit the garden to learn about urban agriculture and local biodiversity. The second project, promoted in collaboration with the City of Paris to bring urban farming to UNESCO and originally managed by the Portuguese start-up Noocity, represents the "productive" (meaning the vegetables, fruit and herbs are intended for consumption) part of the garden.

### 3 Mainstreaming in Management Functions

In addition to environmental impact areas, [Sustainability Strategy I](#), identifies environmental governance as an overarching approach and five management functions to mobilize to reach the stated objectives. For each of the management functions, *Sustainability Strategy I* established a UN system-wide objective to be achieved by 2030; except for environmental management systems, which are to be implemented at entity level by 2025. As with the environmental impact areas, how best to achieve these objectives is specific to each entity (CEB 2019).

The category of Other UN Secretariat Entities has been excluded from the calculations on Mainstreaming Management Functions because it lacks organizational boundaries and its own management structure. Therefore, a total number of 57 entities is used as baseline in these sections. This number includes two entities who are reporting independently for the first time compared to the previous year.



# 3.1 Environmental Governance

Environmental Governance is a foundational commitment in the [Sustainability Strategy I](#). It includes aspects such as: system-wide coordination, environmental management systems (EMS), environmental and social safeguards, performance management systems, resource mobilization and reporting (CEB 2019, pp. 12-13).

## 2022 UN System Data<sup>1,2</sup>

### ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

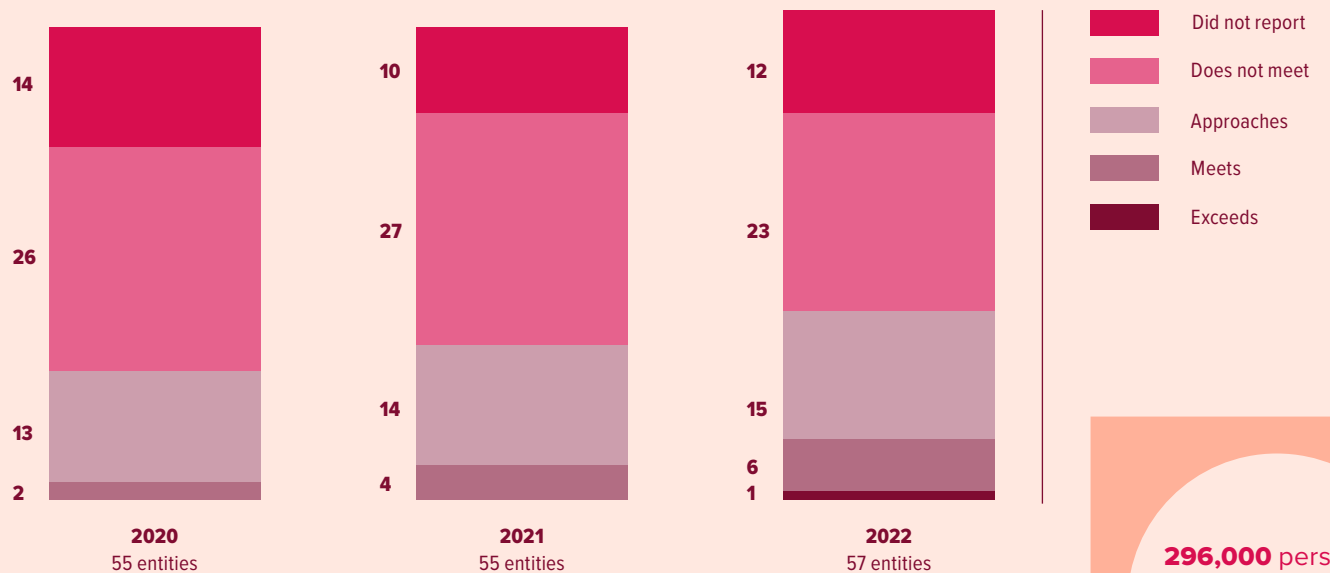
An EMS provides structure and helps organizations coordinate action to continuously and systematically improve environmental performance. UN entities that have implemented EMS are reducing the negative impacts and enhancing the positive impacts from its facilities and operations. An EMS also provides a structure for managing and reducing risks and the organization’s eventual environmental impacts.

The *Sustainability Strategy I*’s target is for all UN entities to implement an EMS by 2025 (CEB 2019, p. 12). The recommended

approach is the international standard ISO 14001:2015 (CEB 2019, p. 5), and the Greening the Blue UN system criteria on EMS are based on this standard. The reported status on EMS of UN entities is based on these Greening the Blue EMS criteria. See criteria details in the Methodology section.

While progress is evident, considering that the 2025 target year on EMS is approaching fast, the pace of EMS implementation needs to accelerate.

**FIGURE VI ENTITIES’ ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM STATUS 2020 – 2022<sup>a</sup>**  
(NUMBER OF ENTITIES)



**296,000** personnel  
in **45** entities  
reported their 2022  
data in this area.

<sup>1</sup> For more information on definitions and the data analysis criteria, please see the Methodology section.

<sup>2</sup> Twelve entities did not report in this area but are included in the system-wide reporting as they are part of the UN system-wide performance.

<sup>a</sup> GCF is included in this data.



# 3.1 Environmental Governance

## 2022 UN System Data<sup>1,2</sup>

### EMS AND HUMAN RESOURCES

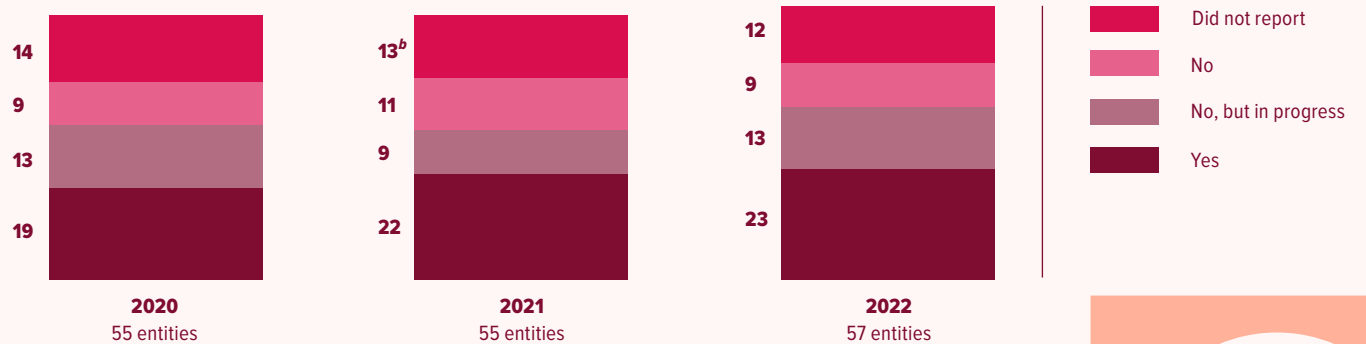
There is strong correlation, 71 per cent, for those entities that score “Meets” on EMS and with having full-time human resource/s working on environmental sustainability. One of the entities that score “Meets” has both full-time and part-time human resources. The entity that has the scoring “Exceeds” EMS has both full-time and part-time human resources. Many entities that are approaching the EMS criteria also have appointed human resources on environmental sustainability, most full-time, 73 per cent, but also some part-time, 13 per cent, or both, 13 per cent.

In the group of entities that have the EMS scoring “Does not meet,” only 11 per cent, have both full-time and part-time dedicated human resources. Another 11 per cent have full-time resources and 42 per cent have only part-time resources while 32 per cent of entities do not have anyone appointed.

### EMS AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORKS

There is a noticeable correlation between an entity’s EMS scoring and whether environmental objectives are included in its senior management performance frameworks. For entities with the EMS scoring “Exceeds” and “Meets” 71 per cent have environmental objectives included in their senior management performance frameworks. This corresponds to 60 per cent for entities that scored “Approaches.” For the scoring “Does not meet” environmental objectives in senior management performance frameworks was only 42 per cent.

FIGURE VII ENTITIES’ ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS PROGRESS 2020 – 2022<sup>a</sup> (NUMBER OF ENTITIES)



### ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS AND STANDARDS IN POLICIES, PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES

Based on UN entities self-evaluation of the status of environmental and social safeguards (ESS) at their entity, 23 entities state that they have ESS in place and another 13 report that they are progressing on the implementation of ESS.

<sup>a</sup> GCF is included in this data.  
<sup>b</sup> Includes three entities with the response “unknown.”

<sup>1</sup> For more information on definitions and the data analysis criteria, please see the Methodology section.

<sup>2</sup> Twelve entities did not report in this area but are included in the system-wide reporting as they are part of the UN system-wide performance.

**296,000** personnel in **45** entities reported their 2022 data in this area.



## 3.1.1 United Nations Office at Nairobi First UN Headquarters to Achieve Environmental Management System ISO 14001:2015 Certification

Serving as the United Nations (UN) Headquarters in Africa, the UN Gigiri Complex, located in Nairobi, Kenya, comprises 140 acres, and accommodates approximately 50 UN agencies, funds and programmes and 4,000 UN staff.

The journey of the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON) towards an Environmental Management System (EMS) and International Organization for Standardization (ISO) [ISO 14001:2015](#) certification began in 2016. This was quickly followed by trainings, scope development and documentation.

As an example, however, to support just one of the targets, waste management, it was necessary to first set up a waste management (WM) facility, contract a WM service provider and develop a waste separation at source program for all UN staff before any documentation related to waste could begin.

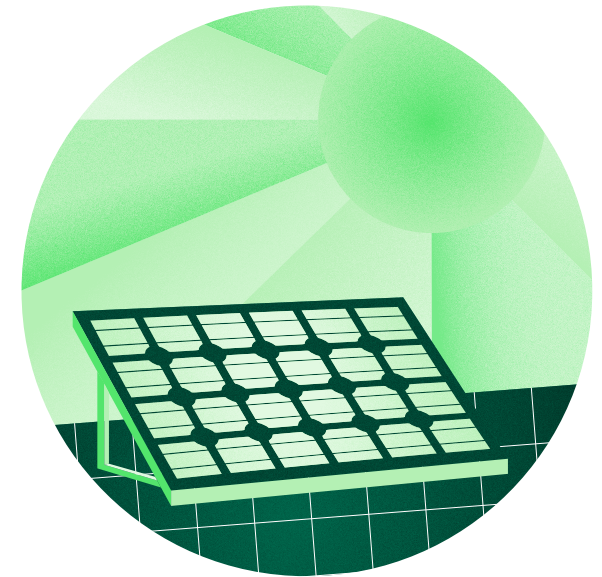
In 2019, UNON officially launched its EMS and Environmental Policy Statement on the [Greening the Blue website](#). This policy follows the environmental policy for the UN Secretariat, and in the local context of the Gigiri Complex, Nairobi, Kenya commits UNON and all its personnel and operations to stewardship and protection of the environment. Then came a series of internal audits, corrective actions and after some delays due to the COVID-19 pandemic, by 2022, UNON had completed the

two-stage external audit process by the ISO accreditation body.

UNON's EMS and ISO 14001:2015 certification is a fully integrated approach. The EMS is led by the Director General and the senior managers of the respective functions under the Director of Administration. The responsible lead is the UNON Chief of Facilities Management, supported by a team consisting of a Focal Point (FP) for Environmental Sustainability, a Lead EMS FP and Internal Auditor, as well as a team of four Facilities Technical FPs and 25 Section FPs.

Responsibility for UNON's EMS is very specifically and firmly embedded within the daily operations of the Facilities Management Section, and all staff, in addition to other daily tasks work on the EMS. With this integrated approach, environmental sustainability is always front and centre to UNON's facilities programs and projects. It is not an add-on, but rather what the entity likes to call part of the 'DNA' of their operations, focusing on the facilities related areas of energy, water, wastewater and waste management, as well as emissions reductions.

**2022 milestones.** In the spirit of continuous improvement, the facilities management section has continued to identify new opportunities to reduce the environmental footprint of UNON's activities. Special milestones in 2022 include completion of UNON's first potential net-zero building



equipped with solar panels sized to generate at a minimum the equivalent of the total energy consumed by the building throughout the year. This will be followed shortly in 2023 with start of construction on what aims to be UNON's first net-zero office facilities. Other milestones include introducing a new construction and demolition waste management plan to support an already established office waste recycling program, launching of an electric vehicle fleet service to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and as part of our reforestation strategy to restore the original forest environment on the complex, planting of indigenous biodiversity supporting tree species.

All UN agencies, funds and programmes housed on the site benefit directly from the sustainability initiatives undertaken, as the improved environmental performance is attributed proportionately to all agencies, funds and programmes and reported annually as part of *Greening the Blue Report*.

UNON is pleased to report that its efforts towards environmental sustainability at the UN Gigiri complex have as of January 2023 culminated in award of ISO 14001:2015 certification for our EMS, the first time this has been achieved by a UN Headquarters.



## 3.2 Procurement

### 2030 Objective

*Sustainability Strategy I* identifies procurement as one of the key functions in support of the UN sustainability journey. Entities are directed to systematically integrate sustainability considerations into procurement. This means entities are to: develop a sustainable procurement plan; define a list of phase-outs in line with the objectives of *Sustainability Strategy I*; and integrate environmental considerations into supply chain risk evaluation and monitoring (CEB 2019, p. 33).

In the UN system, sustainable procurement is defined as:

practices [that] integrate requirements, specifications and criteria that are compatible and in favour of the protection of the environment, of social progress and in support of economic development, namely by seeking resource efficiency, improving the quality of products and services and ultimately optimizing costs (High Level Committee on Management Procurement Network 2009).

### 2022 UN System Data

The data published here is from the *2022 Annual Statistical Report on United Nations Procurement (ASR)* (United Nations Office for Project Services [UNOPS] 2023). Data is obtained through a voluntary questionnaire that is shared with all UN organizations reporting to the ASR.

Note, when comparing these results to those from previous years, the UN Secretariat changed how they reported to the 2022 ASR from how they reported to the ASR in previous years. This resulted in a change to the total number of entities, from 39 to 29, reporting to the ASR (UNOPS 2023, p. 2).

### FOR THE 29 UN ORGANIZATIONS THAT SUBMITTED SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT DATA TO THE 2022 ASR:

# +14%

A 14 per cent increase in 2022, 24 out of 29 organizations, from 2021 in implementation of formal sustainable procurement policies in procurement processes (UNOPS 2023, pp. 29–30).

# 16 OUT OF 29

In 2022, 16 out of 29 organizations reported training their procurers in sustainable procurement practices during the previous three years (UNOPS 2023, p. 30).

# +12%

The share of UN organizations that made or planned to make additional investments in enhancing their internal capacity for sustainable procurement increased by 12 per cent compared to 2021 (UNOPS 2023, p. 30).

# +4%

The share of organizations that had included or planned to include sustainability criteria in requirements definitions increased from 86 per cent in 2021 to 90 per cent in 2022 (UNOPS 2023, p. 31)

# 22 OUT OF 29

22 of the 29 organizations incorporated all three dimensions of sustainability considerations – environmental, economic and social (such as gender inclusion and labour standards) – in procurement (UNOPS 2023, p. 31)

# -7%

In the share of organizations including or planning to include sustainability-related content in contract clauses there was a slight decrease from 69 per cent in 2021 to 62 per cent in 2022 (UNOPS 2023, p. 32)



## 3.2.1 Eighty Per Cent Construction Waste Recycling Thanks to Effective Procurement Specifications at ESCAP

Waste management stands as a pivotal focus in the United Nations' ongoing commitment to curbing the environmental impact of its global operations. As part of regular office activities, each UN entity inevitably generates waste. However, a significant challenge arises when tackling the substantial volumes of construction waste produced during renovation or maintenance projects within office facilities. This particular waste stream often remains elusive to accurate quantification and management practices, primarily because it falls under the direct purview of the awarded construction companies.

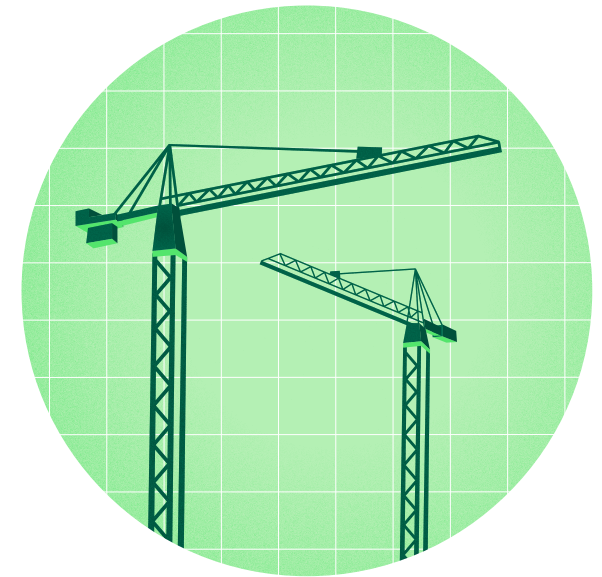
Recognizing the pressing need to account for all waste generated within its large UN Compound, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) took proactive measures. When embarking on its major renovation project, the Seismic Mitigation Project (SMP), ESCAP introduced mandatory waste management and reporting requirements for bidding companies. This approach mandated a minimum construction waste reuse and/or recycling rate of 75 per cent. Furthermore, it compelled construction companies to meticulously report the exact quantities and disposal methods employed for each type of waste generated on-site during the construction process. In addition to

these stringent measures, ESCAP incorporated packaging minimization requirements to proactively prevent waste generation, where possible.

Thanks to these procurement specifications, ESCAP achieved an important milestone in 2022 by recycling approximately 80 per cent of its construction waste in the SMP project. The recycled waste found new life within other construction sites, was sold, or sent to recycling plants.

This initiative is aligned with the [Sustainability Strategy I](#), which mandates that UN organizations ensure their primary suppliers adhere to the United Nations' environmental and social standards (CEB 2019, p. 33).

This approach not only underscores the UN's commitment to reducing its environmental footprint but also sends an important sustainability message to the private sector. By integrating these green management practices into their operations, private companies have the opportunity to optimize their processes and contribute significantly to a sustainable future. ESCAP's success story is a testament to the potential for impactful change when environmental consciousness and innovation converge.





# 3.3 Human Resources

## 2030 Objective

Environmental management is integrated with existing UN capacity-building and accountability frameworks. This objective is supported by the commitment to increased understanding and capacity among UN staff to walk the talk. Capacity-building, therefore, plays a critical role in transitioning operations and management for a more sustainable UN.

To achieve this, each entity will deliver training, integrate requirements for environmental improvements into senior-level accountability and integrate the environment into core competencies (CEB 2019, pp. 33-34).

<sup>1</sup> Twelve entities did not report in this area but are included in the system-wide reporting as they are part of the UN system-wide performance.

<sup>2</sup> GCF is included in this data.

<sup>3</sup> Two entities are reporting independently for the first time this year compared to years previous. This affects the overall percentages.

## 2022 UN System Data<sup>1,2,3</sup>

FIGURE VIII  
ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING FOR PERSONNEL  
(NUMBER OF ENTITIES)

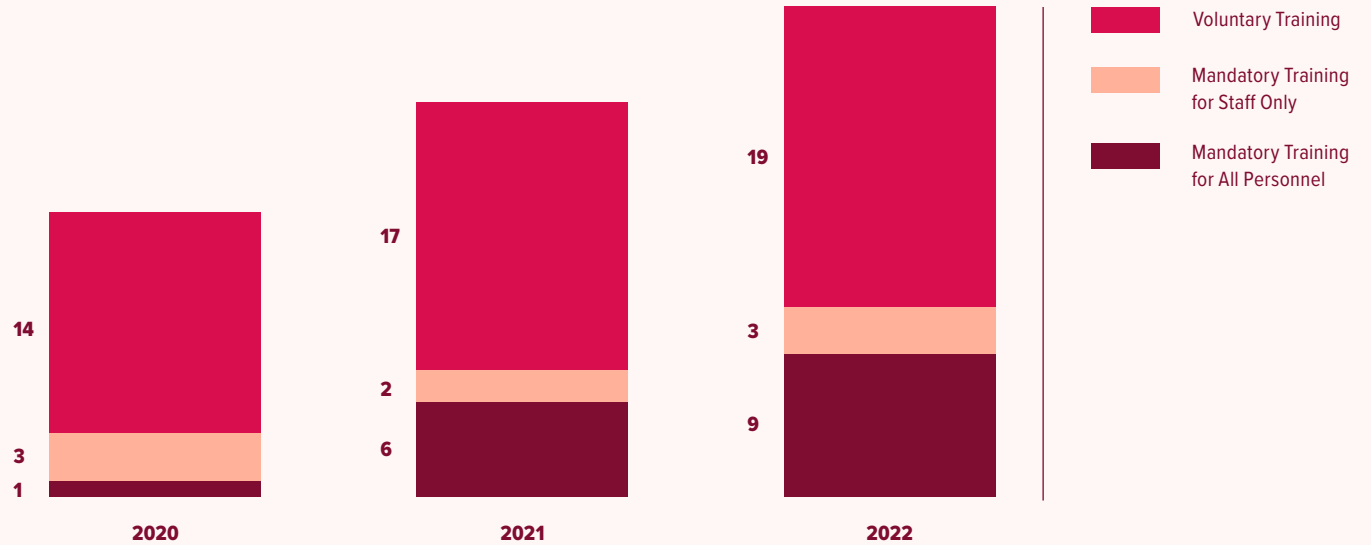
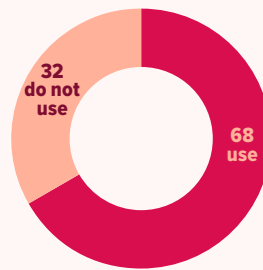


FIGURE IX  
UPTAKE OF GREENING THE BLUE TUTORIAL  
(PERCENTAGE OF ENTITIES)



Of the entities providing training to personnel in 2022, approximately two-thirds used the updated [Greening the Blue Tutorial](#), first made available in December 2021.

**45** entities, totalling **296,000** personnel, reported their 2022 data in this area.





## 3.3.1 Mandatory Environmental Training Helps Ensure Personnel Make a Positive Impact in South Sudan

Environmental management is at the heart of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS). The Environmental & Occupational Health and Safety (Env&OSH) Unit in UNMISS is firmly committed to implementing the Environment Strategy for Peace Operations, as part of their contribution to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (A/RES/70/1) and the objectives of the *Sustainability Strategy I* (CEB 2019).

To ensure that UNMISS staff are well aware of environmental concerns and how to integrate environmental risk reduction and resource efficiency into all daily operations and in the decision-making processes, mandatory environmental training activities are conducted. This enables individual staff in the mission to adopt environmentally-responsible behaviour, and support institutional actions to do no harm and leave a positive legacy to the host community. These initiatives are well aligned with the *Sustainability Strategy I* aim of increasing staff awareness and capacity building through environmental training at the entity level (CEB 2019, p. 33).

UNMISS addresses these issues by providing environmental awareness training.

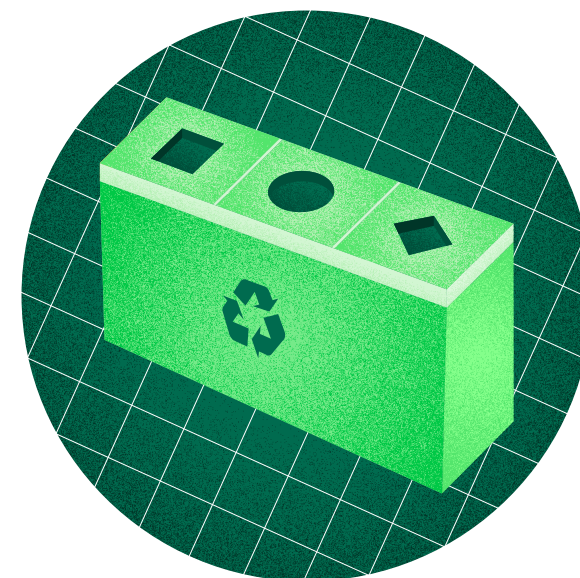
**Environmental induction.** On arrival in the mission, UNMISS personnel attend an induction training on environmental standards and compliance. All new staff members receive a face-to-face integrated Environmental Induction Training which gives a general overview of the environmental

challenges faced by the mission, strategies to mitigate water, wastewater and solid waste risks, and recommendations for reducing their environmental footprint. More than 1,250 UNMISS Civilian and Staff Officer personnel attended the induction training in 2022.

**Environmental inspection.** To ensure compliance to environmental standards, UNMISS conducts field visits and inspections of all field locations. Following environmental inspection of newly rotating Military or Police contingent, UNMISS organizes environmental training activities that are tailored to different audiences including Military, Police components, National Staff, Environmental Focal Points, and Independent Contractors. During these activities, recommendations, best practices and lessons learnt from the field are shared by the Env&OSH team.

**Field training.** More than 400 Troop Contributing Country personnel (TCC) attended the field training in 2022. These activities for TCCs have resulted in more comprehensive understanding of environmental norms, enabling TCCs to implement all the recommendations identified during environmental inspections. This ensures compliance to the Mission Environmental Standards and is imperative in future-proofing against accidents and incidents to the environment.

During the training events, UNMISS personnel are briefed on the principle of 'doing no harm' and on methods to mitigate



and reduce impacts to the environment while delivering on the mandate of the mission. To raise awareness of the importance of environmental management throughout the mission, UNMISS trains staff of the mission's environmental standards across the themes of water and wastewater, and solid waste management including composting, segregation for recycling and proper disposal of general waste. Further, training is provided on hazardous materials management, energy efficiency and good environmental practices.

The Env&OSH unit has developed an Environmental Compliance App which is a tool to monitor the progress of environmental inspections and training. The app is accessible to Field Engineers and the Field Administrative Officer. In the app, UNMISS logs and tracks the number of personnel attending each environmental training as well as individual recommendations provided during the environmental inspections and corrective actions completed.

The mission is working towards mainstreaming environmental considerations in various aspects of mission operations. By enhancing environmental awareness and knowledge of individual staff in the mission, UNMISS aims to drive positive behavioural change and envisions to uphold best practice environmental standards as part of its commitment to leave a positive legacy through its footprint and contribute to a greener United Nations.

## 3.4 Reporting Completeness

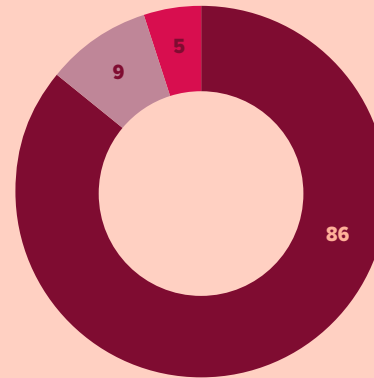
A commitment to tracking and reporting on the environmental impact areas and management functions are key aspects of the [Sustainability Strategy I](#) (CEB 2019, p. 22). Therefore, part of the performance of each entity documented in the *Greening the Blue Report* is their level of reporting completeness.

For these calculations, the Green Climate Fund is included while the category of Other UN Secretariat entities is excluded. Two entities reported independently for the first time on the environmental governance survey, which also provides data on Human Resources, but they did not report independently to the environmental inventory. Hence, a total of 56 entities is used to calculate the reporting completeness results on the environmental impact areas, whereas a total of 57 entities is used to calculate the results for the environmental governance and human resources management functions.

The methodologies for and the yearly collection of data for the *Report* is the result of close UN inter-entity coordination. The UNEP Sustainable UN team works with a network of officially appointed Sustainability Focal Points in each reporting entity. The Focal Points are responsible for coordinating the data collection process throughout their respective entity and keeping methodologies and measures up to date and harmonized with UN system-wide guidance. To this end, Focal Points and their colleagues in various country offices are trained and updated every year on the data collection methodology for the *Report*. Once the data collection is finalized, the UNEP Sustainable UN team reviews and collates results for the *Greening the Blue Report*.

### 2022 UN System Results

FIGURE X GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS  
(PERCENTAGE OF ENTITIES)



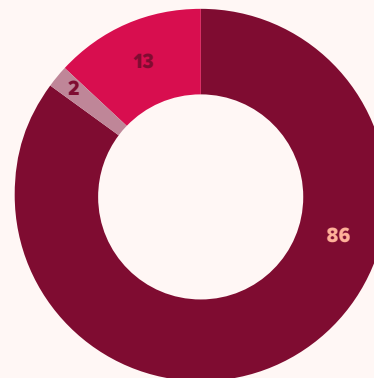
**Complete:** Entity reported on greenhouse gas emissions for all personnel with the defined boundaries for the reporting year.

**Partial:** Entity reported on greenhouse gas emissions for a percentage of total personnel for the reporting year or reported on emissions from the previous year.

**Did not report:** Entity did not report on greenhouse gas emissions.

Note, the published statistics on Air Pollution data are calculated from the Greenhouse Gas Emissions data submitted by entities. Hence, Air Pollution is not its own reporting area and lacks specific criteria for reporting completeness.

FIGURE XI WASTE  
(PERCENTAGE OF ENTITIES)



**Complete:** Entity reported quantitative data for some or all its waste for the reporting year.

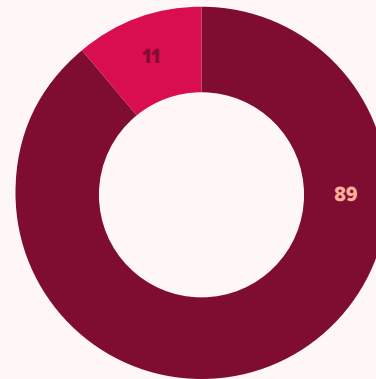
**Partial:** Entity reported qualitative data for the reporting year or reported quantitative data from previous years.

**Did not report:** Entity did not report waste data.

## 3.4 Reporting Completeness

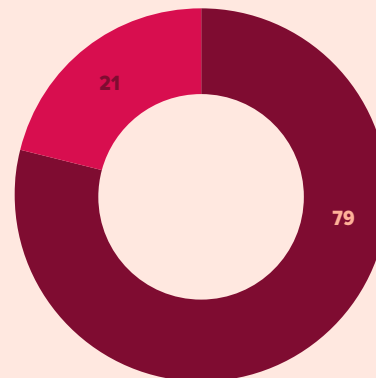
### 2022 UN System Results

FIGURE XII **WATER**  
(PERCENTAGE OF ENTITIES)



- Complete:** Entity reported quantitative data for some or all its water for the reporting year.
- Partial:** Entity reported qualitative data for the reporting year or reported quantitative data from previous years.
- Did not report:** Entity did not report water data.

FIGURE XIII **ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES**  
(PERCENTAGE OF ENTITIES)



Environmental Governance and Human Resources are grouped because data on these two areas were submitted jointly via a survey.

Entities had to complete the entire survey to submit any data, which is why partial is not a category for these areas.

- Complete**
- Did not report**

### PROCUREMENT

Procurement is not included under Reporting Completeness as data for that management function is taken from the [2022 Annual Statistical Report on UN Procurement](#), which uses its own methodologies to gather and analyse data from UN entities (UNOPS 2023).

# 4 Methodology

## 4.1 Data Collection and Inventory Process

The methodologies for the yearly collection of data for the *Greening the Blue Report* is the result of close UN inter-entity coordination. The UNEP Sustainable UN team works with a network of officially appointed Sustainability Focal Points in each reporting entity. The Focal Points are responsible for coordinating the data collection process and data quality assurance throughout their respective entity and keeping methodologies and measures up to date and harmonized with UN system-wide guidance. To this end, Focal Points and their colleagues in various country offices are trained and updated every year on the data collection methodology for the *Report*. Once the data collection is finalized, the UNEP Sustainable UN team collates, calculates, and reviews results for the *Greening the Blue Report*.

## 4.2 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Methodology and Air Pollution & Renewable Electricity Data

### 4.2.1 GHG Emissions

The inventory covers emissions under the financial and/or operational control of the UN. Following the GHG Protocol, the inventory covers all Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions. Additionally, it covers Scope 3 business travel emissions due to the major role of travel in UN operations.

The inventory includes the six GHGs originally covered by the *Kyoto Protocol*: CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, HFCs, PFCs and SF<sub>6</sub>, and all refrigerants with a global warming potential (GWP) (*Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 1997*). Total GHG emissions are reported as an aggregate using the common comparable unit of carbon dioxide equivalents (CO<sub>2</sub>eq) - the mass of each GHG multiplied by its GWP compared to that of CO<sub>2</sub>.

Collection, estimation and reporting of the GHG emissions are undertaken through the following tools:

- Formatted files for data collection, available in English, French and Spanish;

- A stand-alone air travel emissions calculator developed by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO);
- A calculator developed by Sustainable UN to generate emissions results; and,
- In addition to the above tools, some entities have developed their own emissions calculators.

### 4.2.2 Air Pollution

For the Air Pollution section of the *Greening the Blue Report*, data was derived by extracting information on refrigerant use and fuel use provided through the GHG inventory.

### 4.2.3 Renewable Electricity

For the Renewable Electricity section of the *Report*, the percentage of electricity from renewable sources was calculated by dividing the electricity that came from renewable sources with the total electricity consumption. The total electricity consumption for each building is calculated as the kilowatt-hour (kWh) equivalent of all purchased electricity

as well as electricity produced on-site through stationary combustion in generators and through renewable energy installations such as solar panels. The electricity from renewable sources is calculated as the kWh equivalent of all renewable electricity generated on-site (through renewable energy installations such as solar panels and through the combustion of renewable fuels), plus all purchased electricity from renewable sources. The renewables share of the purchased electricity is calculated by using data that entities provide on their energy mix. If this data is not provided, average values for the electricity grid of the country in which the building is located are used.

## 4.3 Air Travel and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Calculator Methodology

In April 2009, the [Environmental Management Group](#) adopted the [ICAO Carbon Emissions Calculator \(ICEC\)](#) as the official tool for United Nations entities to quantify their air travel CO<sub>2</sub> footprint, in support of their environmental commitments. Since then, organizations have reported their GHG inventories through the *Greening the Blue Report* using the ICAO carbon emissions calculator (ICEC).

The use of a common, transparent, impartial, and internationally approved methodology across the UN system facilitates the aggregation of air travel emissions data from different organizations and guarantees integrity and consistency of reported inventories.

The ICEC is limited to calculating the direct emissions released into the atmosphere by the aircraft engines during a flight. There is a substantial understanding of the components of aviation climate forcing, particularly. However, important uncertainties remain in quantifying some of the aviation non-climate terms and in the underlying physical processes. As a

consequence, there is not yet an international scientific consensus on whether and how to quantify these non-emissions. The [ICAO Impacts and Science Group](#), established under the ICAO Council Committee on Environmental Protection, is tasked to provide the latest consensus scientific understanding of non-CO<sub>2</sub> climate impacts of aviation.

In 2022, a mathematical error was identified in the tool used for the estimation of emissions from international air travel in the UN Environmental Inventories with reporting years 2018, 2019, and 2020. This error, that applies to a limited portion of the airport pairs covered by the ICAO calculator and concerns the calculator versions (5.0.4 - 0.6), with specifically 2018 as a reporting year, resulted in an overestimation of emissions from air travel in the range of 10 to 15 per cent on average. The difference for each reporting organization would depend on the travel itineraries used as input data. This issue was addressed and rectified within the 5.0.7 version of the calculator released in 2023.

For additional information on the ICEC, please visit [this webpage](#) or contact [officeenv@icao.int](mailto:officeenv@icao.int)

Text provided by ICAO.

## 4.4 Waste Methodology

The scope of the UN waste inventory is set to waste from facilities and operations. The approach requires the collection of data on waste quantities by:

- type of waste (e.g., paper, plastics, metal, e-waste, etc.);
- method of collection (e.g., municipality, private contractor, take-back scheme, etc.); and,
- type of treatment and disposal (e.g., landfill, recycling, reuse, etc.).

The approach follows the recommendations of the *Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES 2013)* developed by the Statistics Division at the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (United Nations 2017) and is in line with Global Reporting Initiative indicators.

In addition, qualitative information on activities such as the implementation of policy and waste management plans is collected to enable the sharing of best practices between UN entities.

The UN-wide figures and the information on waste averages and methods of disposal provided in the *Report* are based only on UN sites that were able to provide complete waste data.



## 4.5 Water Methodology and Wastewater Data

### 4.5.1 Water

The scope of the UN water inventory is set to water from facilities and operations. The approach requires the collection of data on water as follows:

- water usage (e.g., water source, volume of water, etc.); and,
- water recycled internally

The approach is in line with Global Reporting Initiative indicators and looks at affected water sources.

In addition, qualitative information on activities, such as the implementation of policies and water management plans, is collected to enable the sharing of best practices between UN entities.

### 4.5.2 Wastewater

Data on wastewater management is, to this date, not yet included in the UN system environmental inventory.

## 4.6 Environmental Governance, Procurement and Human Resources Methodologies

### 4.6.1 Environmental Governance

Data for the year 2022 for indicators on environmental management systems (EMS), environmental reporting and environmental and social standards of UN entities were collected via a survey to UN entities. The questions were slightly refined in the 2023 survey based on input from entity Focal Points. The scope of the questions and criteria remain aligned with the indicators for EMS in the *Sustainability Strategy I* (CEB 2019, pp. 12-13) and the Greening the Blue EMS criteria (see below) based on EMS requirements in the international standard ISO 14001:2015. The UN entities that responded to the survey performed quality assurance of their submissions before the final scoring on EMS according to the below criteria was made. Some exceptions in the reporting on EMS via the survey were made to entities (two) that adopted their environmental policy during early 2023. Their response to the survey question on environmental policy was accepted as a “Yes.”

On environmental and social standards and safeguards, some clarifications were made from entities that led to changes in response for two entities, whose responses were changed to a “Yes.”

#### EMS CRITERIA

**Exceeds.** The entity is ISO 14001 certified or has performed a self-declaration of an EMS in compliance with ISO 14001 for the year 2021. The scope of the EMS must cover a minimum of 50 per cent of the entity’s personnel.

**Meets.** The entity, in addition to the requirements in ‘Approaches’, had addressed and incorporated the following activities in their EMS: environmental aspects and impacts are identified and integrated into action plans; the entity has a mandatory staff training on environmental sustainability; environmental risk management is mapped and addressed; operational controls and procedures are in place; monitoring and measuring is conducted;

periodic internal audits on EMS are held; and, the entity holds an annual management review meeting and takes corrective actions that are integrated into action plans. The scope of the EMS must cover a minimum of 50 per cent of the entity’s personnel.

**Approaches.** The entity had an environmental policy that had been adopted and/or reviewed in the past five years, objectives and targets in place on environmental performance which all had been approved by their senior management. The scope of the EMS must cover at least headquarters or one or more outposted offices.

**Does not meet.** The entity did not yet have an environmental policy and/or environmental targets and objectives in place which had been approved by their senior management/or the scope of the EMS had not yet been defined.

For more detailed information on these requirements, email [greeningtheblue@un.org](mailto:greeningtheblue@un.org)

#### 4.6.2 Procurement

All data published in the *Greening the Blue Report 2023* is obtained from the *2022 Annual Statistical Report on United Nations Procurement*.

The ASR is compiled annually by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) on behalf of the UN system. The ASR reported on the sustainable procurement efforts of UN entities for the first time in 2008. The data is obtained through a voluntary questionnaire that is shared with all UN entities, 29 in 2022, reporting to the ASR (UNOPS 2023).

#### 4.6.3 Human Resources

Data for indicators on environmental training and awareness of UN personnel and performance management systems of senior management were collected via a survey to UN system entities. The survey remained largely unchanged since its initial release in 2021. The survey was shared with interested entity Focal Points for input and clarifications were made in the questions as needed. The scope of the indicator for environmental training and awareness covers all personnel which includes staff, consultants and independent contractors. Additionally, answers on training of staff factor into the EMS scoring as noted above.

## 4.7 Reporting Completeness

The criteria to determine an entity's reporting completeness as reflected on Annex 6 UN Entities' Reporting Completeness 2022 Data, in each area of the *Greening the Blue Report 2023* is as follows.

### 4.7.1 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Complete/filled cell on table: Entity reported on greenhouse gas emissions for all personnel with the defined boundaries for the reporting year.

Partial/Half-filled cell on table: Entity reported on greenhouse gas emissions for a percentage of total personnel for the reporting year or reported on emissions from the previous year.

Did not report/Empty cell on table: Entity did not report on greenhouse gas emissions.

### 4.7.2 Waste

Complete/filled cell on table: Entity reported quantitative data for some or all its waste for the reporting year.

Partial/Half-filled cell on table: Entity reported qualitative data for the reporting year or

reported quantitative data from previous years.

Did not report/Empty cell on table: Entity did not report waste data.

### 4.7.3 Water

Complete/filled cell on table: Entity reported quantitative data for some or all its water for the reporting year.

Partial/Half-filled cell on table: Entity reported qualitative data for the reporting year or reported quantitative data from previous years.

Did not report/Empty cell on table: Entity did not report water data.

### 4.7.4 Environmental Governance and Human Resources

Environmental Governance and Human Resources are grouped because data on these two areas were submitted jointly via a survey. Forty-five entities submitted to the survey this year.

Entities had to complete the entire survey to submit any data, which is why partial is not a category

for these areas. On the table, a filled cell means complete and an empty cell means did not report.

# 2022 – A Year of Transition

In 2022, many COVID-19 operational restrictions that began in 2020 and continued through 2021, such as those for travel and remote or ‘home-based’ work, were removed. As a result, it is possible to see changes in the UN system’s environmental footprint.

The UN system’s operations during 2020 and 2021 never completely stopped. Humanitarian, peacekeeping and on the ground essential operations also continued to bring much-needed support and relief to fragile populations. Essential travel continued; and even when almost no one was physically working in them, facilities continued to be heated, cooled and lit as necessary for security reasons and to avoid damaging infrastructure.

**Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions.** Between 2021 and 2022, the total UN system-wide GHG emissions footprint increased by 12 per cent, from 1.2 to 1.4 million tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>eq. Nevertheless, the emission levels remain below pre-pandemic levels, which were ~2 million tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>eq in 2019. The biggest impact of COVID-19 operational restrictions and their subsequent removal can be seen on air travel.

Between 2022 and 2021, emissions from air travel in the UN system increased by 48 per cent to 530,000 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>eq from 357,220 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>eq. Still, 2022 air travel emissions levels are not back to those of the pre-pandemic years of 2019 and 2018. For some entities this is due to continued COVID-19 operational restrictions in

the first quarter of 2022 that prevented events from taking place. While for others, this suggests that there has been a shift in operational modalities to other travel methods and/or that travel has been somewhat replaced with other meeting formats such as virtual and hybrid meetings.

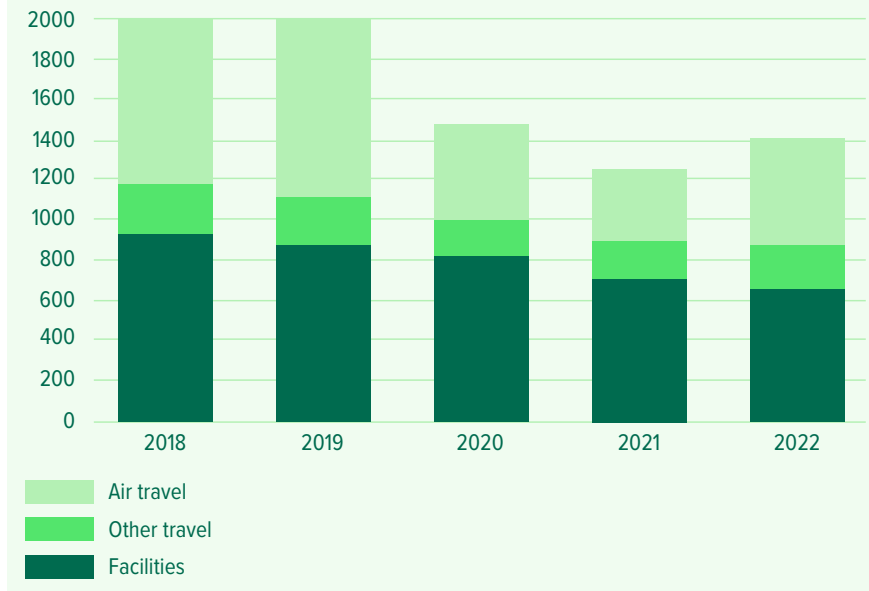
Many entities and their personnel returned to office buildings in 2022. This has not resulted in the increase in facility-related emissions that one may have expected. Emissions related to UN facilities have decreased steadily over the last five years, suggesting that this trend is disconnected to COVID-19 operational restrictions.

It was a time of transition during 2022 as various restrictions were lifted and many personnel returned to the office, to conferences, in-person negotiations and other missions. There are limitations to drawing any definite causation for the observed changes as some restrictions remained in effect and some varied by location. The observed changes have demonstrated, however, that the UN system has a variety of ways to work

and collaborate that can help reduce negative work-related environmental impacts.

It is critical that the UN system reflects upon the valuable lessons learned during COVID-19 operational restrictions. Only a continued and unflinching determination to integrate the beneficial lessons learned into policies and operational procedures will help enhance environmental performance and keep on target for the 2030 environmental sustainability commitments.

FIGURE XIV  
UN SYSTEM-WIDE GHG EMISSIONS  
(Kilo tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>eq)



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# Environmental Performance Dashboard

# UN Entities’ Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Neutrality 2022 Data

	Number of personnel	2022 Total emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq)	Rolling two-year averages for total emissions 2016-2022	2022 Per Capita emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq/personnel)	Rolling two-year averages for per capita emissions 2016-2022	Climate neutral	Percentage of total emissions		
							Air travel	Other travel	Facilities
CTBTO	297	1 141		3.8		No	69	2	29
FAO	12 126	30 892		2.5		Yes	46	21	32
GCF <sup>a</sup>	294	761		2.6		Yes	77	4	19
IAEA	2 579	20 002		7.8		Yes	65	1	34
ICAO	805	4 251		5.3		No	73	2	24
IFAD	1 218	2 976		2.4		Yes	72	7	22
ILO	3 186	8 060		2.5		Yes	61	8	31
IMF	3 966	27 395		6.9		No	53	4	43
IMO	265	1,508		5.7		Yes	38	1	61
IOM	18 934	49 515		2.6		Yes	29	28	43
ITC	482	2 188		4.5		Yes	93	2	5

**Note:** The difference in the size, nature and operations of entities, changes in coverage of offices across years, changes in methodologies, scope and underlying databases of the emissions calculator means that comparisons across entities and between years cannot be accurately made unless detailed analysis is done.

**Symbols:** n/a indicates the item is not applicable.

<sup>a</sup> Data is not available for all reporting years, 2016 to 2022.

	Number of personnel	2022 Total emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq)	Rolling two-year averages for total emissions 2016-2022	2022 Per Capita emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq/personnel)	Rolling two-year averages for per capita emissions 2016-2022	Climate neutral	Percentage of total emissions		
							Air travel	Other travel	Facilities
ITC-ILO	130	979		7.5		Yes	47	3	50
ITU	1 022	1 969		1.9		Yes	56	2	43
<b>UN Secretariat:</b>									
ECA	906	3 461		3.8		Yes	87	3	10
ECE	257	912		3.5		Yes	81	3	17
ECLAC	1 037	2 245		2.2		Yes	46	2	52
ESCAP	951	2 263		2.4		Yes	72	2	26
ESCWA	476	4 428		9.3		Yes	17	1	82
OHCHR	2 010	7 652		3.8		Yes	62	9	29
Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions	90 891	675 682		7.4		Yes	35	12	53
UNEP <sup>b</sup>	2 115	7 268		3.4		Yes	84	2	14
BRS	60	656		10.9		Yes	95	0	2

**Note:** The difference in the size, nature and operations of entities, changes in coverage of offices across years, changes in methodologies, scope and underlying databases of the emissions calculator means that comparisons across entities and between years cannot be accurately made unless detailed analysis is done.

**Symbols:** n/a indicates the item is not applicable.

<sup>b</sup> UNEP 2022 results includes data from CITES, CMS and Minamata.



	Number of personnel	2022 Total emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq)	Rolling two-year averages for total emissions 2016-2022	2022 Per Capita emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq/personnel)	Rolling two-year averages for per capita emissions 2016-2022	Climate neutral	Percentage of total emissions		
							Air travel	Other travel	Facilities
<b>CBD</b>	144	1 301		9.0		Yes	96	1	3
<b>Ozone Secretariat</b>	18	522		29.0		Yes	97	1	1
<b>MLF<sup>a</sup></b>	28	238	n/a	8.5	n/a	Yes	70	0	30
<b>UN-Habitat<sup>a</sup></b>	1 681	3 266		1.9		Yes	52	10	38
<b>UNHQ</b>	8 758	26 595		3.0		Yes	14	1	85
<b>UNOG</b>	1 374	1 224		0.9		Yes	31	3	66
<b>UNON</b>	794	1 406		1.8		Yes	74	5	21
<b>UNOV<sup>c</sup></b>	3 962	17 358		4.4		Yes	77	2	21
<b>Other UN Secretariat entities<sup>d</sup></b>	4 523	16 684	n/a	3.7	n/a	Yes	58	5	38
<b>UNAIDS</b>	789	2 691		3.4		Yes	43	12	46
<b>UNCCD</b>	80	207		2.6		Yes	97	3	0
<b>UNDP</b>	20 786	49 717		2.4		Yes	33	14	53

**Note:** The difference in the size, nature and operations of entities, changes in coverage of offices across years, changes in methodologies, scope and underlying databases of the emissions calculator means that comparisons across entities and between years cannot be accurately made unless detailed analysis is done.

**Symbols:** n/a indicates the item is not applicable.

<sup>a</sup> Data is not available for all reporting years, 2016 to 2022.

<sup>c</sup> The UNOV reporting line includes UNODC data.

<sup>d</sup> The composition of the cluster “Other UN Secretariat entities” has changed over the reporting years, 2016 to 2022, hence trendlines are not possible.

	Number of personnel	2022 Total emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq)	Rolling two-year averages for total emissions 2016-2022	2022 Per Capita emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq/personnel)	Rolling two-year averages for per capita emissions 2016-2022	Climate neutral	Percentage of total emissions		
							Air travel	Other travel	Facilities
UNESCO	4 634	12 168		2.6		Yes	57	8	35
UNFCCC	450	2 241		5.0		Yes	99	1	0
UNFPA	5 596	15 465		2.8		Yes	49	20	31
UNHCR	20 265	52 371		2.6		Yes	27	16	57
UNICC <sup>a</sup>	382	411	n/a	1.1	n/a	Yes	31	1	68
UNICEF	18 993	49 448		2.6		Yes	46	18	36
UNIDO	3 628	8 539		2.4		Yes	39	2	59
UNOPS	4 942	11 645		2.4		Yes	33	35	33
UNRWA	2 608	11 983		4.6		No	0	67	33
UNSSC <sup>a</sup>	125	107		0.9		Yes	70	1	30
UNU	124	1 754		14.1		Yes	67	1	32
UNV	150	17		0.1		Yes	88	12	0

**Note:** The difference in the size, nature and operations of entities, changes in coverage of offices across years, changes in methodologies, scope and underlying databases of the emissions calculator means that comparisons across entities and between years cannot be accurately made unless detailed analysis is done.

**Symbols:** n/a indicates the item is not applicable.

<sup>a</sup> Data is not available for all reporting years, 2016 to 2022.

	Number of personnel	2022 Total emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq)	Rolling two-year averages for total emissions 2016-2022	2022 Per Capita emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq/personnel)	Rolling two-year averages for per capita emissions 2016-2022	Climate neutral	Percentage of total emissions		
							Air travel	Other travel	Facilities
UN Women	2 561	5 884		2.3		Yes	39	10	51
UNWTO	200	377		1.9		No	49	6	45
UPU	268	621		2.3		Yes	56	2	42
WFP	23 266	108 014		4.6		Yes	27	46	28
WHO	12 556	65 662		5.2		No	33	30	36
WIPO	1 644	4 062		2.5		Yes	59	1	40
WMO	331	2 610		7.9		Yes	83	2	15
World Bank Group	18 582	74 680		4.0		Yes	43	3	54
<b>Total UN system-wide<sup>e</sup></b>	<b>307 955</b>	<b>1 404 712</b>		<b>4.6</b>		<b>92<sup>f</sup></b>	<b>38</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>47</b>

**Note:** The difference in the size, nature and operations of entities, changes in coverage of offices across years, changes in methodologies, scope and underlying databases of the emissions calculator means that comparisons across entities and between years cannot be accurately made unless detailed analysis is done.

**Symbols:** n/a indicates the item is not applicable.

**e** The Total UN system-wide figures do not include the Green Climate Fund.

**f** Percentage of the UN system’s reported 2022 greenhouse emissions offset as of 14 November 2023.

# Environmental Performance Dashboard

## UN Entities’ Environmental Management System Status 2022 Data

	<i>Exceeds</i>	<i>Meets</i>	<i>Approaches</i>	<i>Does not meet</i>	<i>Did not report</i>
CTBTO					
FAO					
GCF					
IAEA					
ICAO					
IFAD					
ILO					
IMF					
IMO					
IOM					
ITC					
ITC-ILO					
ITU					
OPCW					
UN Secretariat:					
ECA					
ECE					
ECLAC					
ESCAP					
ESCWA					
OHCHR					
Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions					
UNEP					
BRS					
CBD					
Ozone Secretariat					
UNDRR <sup>a</sup>					
UN-Habitat					
UNHQ					
UNOG					
UNON					
UNOV/UNODC					
UNAIDS					
UNCCD					
UNDP					
UNESCO					
UNFCCC					
UNFPA					
UNHCR <sup>a</sup>					
UNICC					
UNICEF					
UNIDO					
UNITAR					
UNOPS					
UNRWA					
UNSSC					
UNU					
UNV					
UN Women					
UNWTO					
UPU					
WFP					
WHO					
WIPO					
WMO					
World Bank Group					
WTO					

**Notes:** The category of “Other UN Secretariat entities” is excluded from this reporting because this entity lacks organizational boundaries and its own management structure.

Reporting and evaluation of Environmental Management System (EMS) is since the *Greening the Blue Report 2021*, further aligned with the *Sustainability Strategy I* and the requirements of the international standard on environmental management, ISO 14001:2015. The EMS criteria were updated for the year 2020 and onward, which established a new baseline of the UN system’s performance. This limits the ability to compare progress to pre-2020 data. For more information on definitions and the data analysis criteria, see the [greeningtheblue.org/methodology](https://greeningtheblue.org/methodology)

<sup>a</sup> Some exceptions in the reporting on EMS via the survey to UN entities were made to entities (two) that adopted their environmental policy during early 2023. Their response to the survey question on environmental policy was accepted as a “Yes.”



# UN Entities' Reported 2022 Waste Data

	Waste per capita (kg/person/annum)	Waste per capita excluding construction waste (kg/person/annum)	Percentage by disposal route of total waste generated					
			Reuse, Recycling, Composting or Energy recovery	Closed incineration	Open incineration	Landfill	Controlled disposal	Other/unknown
CTBTO	236	230	98	0	0	2	0	0
FAO	108	108	23	0	0	77	0	0
GCF	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
IAEA	214	210	96	0	0	2	0	2
ICAO	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
IFAD	35	35	2	0	0	0	0	98
ILO	190	184	30	0	0	52	2	16
IMF	184	184	28	0	0	72	0	0
IMO	176	176	47	0	0	51	2	0
IOM	93	87	28	1	2	7	20	41
ITC	33	33	100	0	0	0	0	0
ITC-ILO	234	212	95	0	0	0	5	0
ITU	161	160	75	0	0	0	0	25
<b>UN Secretariat:</b>								
ECA	309	229	71	0	0	23	1	5
ECE	477	129	100	0	0	0	0	0
ECLAC	250	250	80	0	0	20	0	0
ESCAP	463	227	71	0	0	29	0	0
ESCWA	118	118	41	0	0	0	59	0
OHCHR	62	55	31	21	0	3	0	44
Peacekeeping and Special Political missions	677	668	4	16	12	0	67	1
UNEP <sup>a</sup>	40	34	58	0	7	3	2	30
BRS	75	75	66	34	0	0	0	0
CBD	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ozone Secretariat	36	36	93	0	0	0	0	7
MLF	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
UN-Habitat	20	20	45	0	0	4	0	51
UNHQ	162	115	99	0	0	0	0	0
UNOG	475	128	100	0	0	0	0	0
UNON	143	63	99	1	0	0	0	0
UNOV <sup>b</sup>	101	98	96	0	0	2	0	2
Other UN Secretariat entities	344	118	94	0	0	3	0	2
UNAIDS	64	58	6	0	0	1	1	92
UNCCD	32	32	100	0	0	0	0	0
UNDP	102	102	12	0	0	0	0	88
UNESCO	119	118	5	24	0	17	0	53
UNFCCC	170	112	66	0	0	0	0	34
UNFPA	96	94	9	5	20	47	0	19
UNHCR	153	149	19	2	5	28	9	38
UNICC	118	118	18	0	0	82	0	0
UNICEF	66	66	0	0	0	0	0	100
UNIDO	108	105	94	0	0	2	0	3
UNOPS	154	154	10	3	1	47	0	39
UNRWA	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
UNSSC	76	74	65	0	0	0	1	35
UNU	25	25	100	0	0	0	0	0
UNV	39	39	68	30	0	0	0	3
UN Women	59	56	30	0	0	29	3	38
UNWTO	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	100
UPU	150	150	81	19	0	0	0	0
WFP	81	81	10	4	0	54	13	19
WHO	51	51	95	0	0	5	0	1
WIPO	139	139	98	0	0	0	0	2
WMO	164	164	56	42	0	0	2	0
World Bank Group	204	169	45	0	0	55	0	0
<b>Total UN system-wide<sup>c</sup></b>	<b>321</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>8</b>

**Symbols:** Two dots (..) indicate that data are not available or are not reported separately.

<sup>a</sup> UNEP 2022 results includes data from CITES, CMS and Minamata.

<sup>b</sup> The UNOV reporting line includes UNODC data.

<sup>c</sup> The Total UN system-wide figures do not include the Green Climate Fund.



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# UN Entities' Reported 2022 Water Data

	Water use (m <sup>3</sup> )	Water recycled (m <sup>3</sup> )	Percentage of water recycled
CTBTO	23 467	0	0
FAO	194 617	1 436	1
GCF	2 009	0	0
IAEA	175 011	0	0
ICAO	..	..	..
IFAD	13 781	1 342	10
ILO	47 731	55	0
IMF	921	0	0
IMO	12 316	0	0
IOM	519 193	3 559	1
ITC	1 767	0	0
ITC-ILO	28 512	0	0
ITU	6 976	0	0
<b>UN Secretariat:</b>			
ECA	50 408	0	0
ECE	128 073	0	0
ECLAC	21 694	2 600	12
ESCAP	31 446	589	2
ESCWA	2 518	0	0
OHCHR	22 882	4	0
Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions	4 889 944	384 778	8
UNEP <sup>a</sup>	168 826	4 866	3
BRS	805	0	0
CBD	3 966	0	0
Ozone Secretariat	253	202	80
MLF	..	..	..
UN-Habitat	29 925	3 264	11
UNHQ	307 305	63	0
UNOG	680 449	1	0
UNON	17 156	13 725	80
UNOV <sup>b</sup>	65 477	7	0
Other UN Secretariat entities	497 915	117	0
UNAIDS	31 613	146	0
UNCCD	2	0	0
UNDP	2 816 749	11 197	0
UNESCO	172 519	0	0
UNFCCC	2 922	0	0
UNFPA	68 569	122	0
UNHCR	528 038	29 634	6
UNICC	5 110	0	0
UNICEF	289 092	0	0
UNIDO	48 439	33	0
UNOPS	60 276	0	0
UNRWA	8 753	0	0
UNSSC	528	0	0
UNU	4 844	0	0
UNV	444	0	0
UN Women	60 672	1 203	2
UNWTO	594	0	0
UPU	..	..	..
WFP	778 772	1	0
WHO	14 359	0	0
WIPO	24 927	0	0
WMO	5 738	0	0
World Bank Group	243 101	0	0
<b>Total UN system-wide<sup>c</sup></b>	<b>13 109 393</b>	<b>458 943</b>	<b>4</b>

**Symbols:** Two dots (..) indicate that data are not available or are not reported separately.

<sup>a</sup> UNEP 2022 results includes data from CITES, CMS and Minamata.

<sup>b</sup> The UNOV reporting line includes UNODC data.

<sup>c</sup> The Total UN system-wide figures do not include the Green Climate Fund.



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# Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions' Reported 2022 Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Waste and Water Data

	Number of personnel	2022 Total GHG emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq)	2022 Per capita emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq/personnel)	Percentage of total GHG emissions			Water			Waste per capita <sup>b</sup> (kg/person/annum)
				Air travel <sup>a</sup>	Other travel	Facilities	Water use (m <sup>3</sup> )	Water recycled (m <sup>3</sup> )	Percentage of water recycled	
<b>Peacekeeping Missions:</b>										
MINURSO	439	8 388	19.1	69	12	19	28 195	2 719	10	621
MINUSCA	15 738	97 883	6.2	31	15	54	464 085	3 133	1	674
MINUSMA	17 034	155 706	9.1	31	9	61	865 976	251 818	29	731
MONUSCO	17 419	90 498	5.2	49	17	33	524 879	0	0	609
UNDOF	1 243	8 560	6.9	12	29	59	34 900	10 105	29	767
UNFICYP	1 007	5 888	5.9	11	30	59	78 890	0	0	558
UNIFIL	10 500	88 476	8.4	14	12	73	1 341 225	0	0	532
UNISFA	3 089	35 585	11.5	50	8	42	207 483	35 120	17	463
UNMIK	308	899	2.9	17	14	68	2 557	0	0	92
UNMISS	17 169	139 387	8.1	41	7	52	976 614	56 773	6	914
UNMOGIP	111	765	6.9	18	49	34	1 875	0	0	23
UNSOS	1 059	12 857	12.1	68	13	19	93 056	24 360	26	384
UNAMA	1 095	6 015	5.5	32	7	61	57 904	0	0	564
UNAMI	805	7 190	8.9	23	20	58	86 125	0	0	375

**Note:** Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions are represented as one entity in all other parts of the Report. For information on Peacekeeping, see [peacekeeping.un.org/en](https://peacekeeping.un.org/en). For information on Special Political Missions, see [dppa.un.org/en](https://dppa.un.org/en).

**Symbols:** Two dots (..) indicate that data are not available or are not reported separately.

**a** For Peacekeeping Missions and Special Political Missions, air travel data contains emissions from commercial flights as well as the use of own planes.

**b** For waste disposal routes, please refer to the total Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions averages published in Annex 3 UN Entities' Reported 2022 Waste Data.



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	Number of personnel	2022 Total GHG emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq)	2022 Per capita emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq/personnel)	Percentage of total GHG emissions			Water			Waste per capita <sup>b</sup> (kg/person/annum)
				Air travel <sup>a</sup>	Other travel	Facilities	Water use (m <sup>3</sup> )	Water recycled (m <sup>3</sup> )	Percentage of water recycled	
UNSCO	65	302	4.6	26	27	47	2 032	0	0	485
UNSMIL	308	2 868	9.3	52	8	40	19 942	0	0	2 762
UNSOM	362	540	1.5	71	7	21	2 776	747	27	17
UNTSO	384	2 237	5.8	9	49	42	27 225	0	0	494
UNVMC	440	2 234	5.1	79	14	7	3 884	3	0	22
<b>Service Centres:</b>										
UNLB	529	1 649	3.1	20	25	55	8 893	0	0	176
RCSE	136	2 241	16.5	43	19	38	5 394	0	0	1 346
<b>Other Special Political Missions:<sup>c</sup></b>										
BINUH	114	552	4.8	33	1	66	2 870	..	0	404
PE Mozambique	4	3	0.8	0	0	100	101	..	0	404
PE Western Sahara	2	26	12.8	81	0	19	50	..	0	404
SA Cyprus	21	74	3.5	39	0	61	529	..	0	404
SE Great Lakes	27	262	9.7	78	0	22	680	..	0	404
SE Horn of Africa	9	53	5.9	64	0	36	227	..	0	404
SE Myanmar	60	26	0.4	100	0	0	29	0	0	8
SE Resolution 1559	3	11	3.7	41	0	59	76	..	0	404

**Note:** Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions are represented as one entity in all other parts of the Report. For information on Peacekeeping, see [peacekeeping.un.org/en](https://peacekeeping.un.org/en). For information on Special Political Missions, see [dppa.un.org/en](https://dppa.un.org/en).

**Symbols:** Two dots (..) indicate that data are not available or are not reported separately.

**a** For Peacekeeping Missions and Special Political Missions, air travel data contains emissions from commercial flights as well as the use of own planes.

**b** For waste disposal routes, please refer to the total Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions averages published in Annex 3 UN Entities' Reported 2022 Waste Data.

**c** Data for the Other Special Political Missions includes estimates.



	Number of personnel	2022 Total GHG emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq)	2022 Per capita emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> eq/personnel)	Percentage of total GHG emissions			Water			Waste per capita <sup>b</sup> (kg/person/annum)
				Air travel <sup>a</sup>	Other travel	Facilities	Water use (m <sup>3</sup> )	Water recycled (m <sup>3</sup> )	Percentage of water recycled	
SE Syria	88	730	8.3	17	0	83	15 785	0	0	426
SE Yemen	100	281	2.8	36	0	64	2 518	..	0	404
UNITAMS	767	1 606	2.1	16	1	84	19 312	..	0	404
UNMHA	159	506	3.2	15	1	84	4 003	..	0	404
UNOAU	57	178	3.1	91	3	7	2 978	0	0	246
UNOCA	48	313	6.5	70	3	27	1 209	..	0	404
UNOWAS	75	509	6.8	63	2	35	1 888	..	0	404
UNRCCA	30	161	5.4	39	2	59	755	..	0	404
UNRGID	6	127	21.2	22	2	76	2 993	0	0	477
UNSCOL	82	97	1.2	54	1	45	31	0	0	5
<b>Total Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions</b>	<b>90 891</b>	<b>675 682</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>4 889 944</b>	<b>384 778</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>677</b>

**Note:** Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions are represented as one entity in all other parts of the Report. For information on Peacekeeping, see [peacekeeping.un.org/en](https://peacekeeping.un.org/en). For information on Special Political Missions, see [dppa.un.org/en](https://dppa.un.org/en).

**Symbols:** Two dots (..) indicate that data are not available or are not reported separately.

**a** For Peacekeeping Missions and Special Political Missions, air travel data contains emissions from commercial flights as well as the use of own planes.

**b** For waste disposal routes, please refer to the total Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions averages published in Annex 3 UN Entities' Reported 2022 Waste Data.



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# UN Entities' Reporting Completeness 2022 Data

	Greenhouse gas emissions <sup>a</sup>	Waste	Water	Environmental management system
CTBTO				
FAO				
GCF				
IAEA				
ICAO				
IFAD				
ILO				
IMF				
IMO				
IOM				
ITC				
ITC-ILO				
ITU				
OPCW				
UN Secretariat: <sup>b</sup>				
ECA				
ECE				
ECLAC				
ESCAP				
ESCWA				
OHCHR				
Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions				
UNDRR <sup>c</sup>				
UNEP <sup>d</sup>				
BRS				
CBD				
Ozone Secretariat				
MLF				
UN-Habitat				
UNHQ				
UNOG				
UNON				
UNODC <sup>e</sup>				
UNOV				
UNAIDS				
UNCCD				
UNDP				
UNESCO				
UNFCCC				
UNFPA				
UNHCR				
UNICC				
UNICEF				
UNIDO				
UNITAR				
UNOPS				
UNRWA				
UNSSC				
UNU				
UNV				
UN Women				
UNWTO				
UPU				
WFP				
WHO				
WIPO				
WMO				
World Bank Group				
WTO				

**Note:** For the criteria used to determine complete (filled cell), partial (half-filled cell) and did not report (empty cell) in each category, see [greeningtheblue.org/methodology](https://greeningtheblue.org/methodology).

<sup>a</sup> The published statistics on Air Pollution data are calculated from the Greenhouse Gas Emissions data submitted by entities. Hence, Air Pollution is not its own reporting area and lacks specific criteria for reporting completeness.

<sup>b</sup> "Other UN Secretariat entities" is excluded from Reporting Completeness because this category lacks organizational boundaries and its own management structure.

<sup>c</sup> UNDRR data on greenhouse gas emissions, water and waste has been reported under "Other UN Secretariat entities."

<sup>d</sup> UNEP 2022 results includes data from CITES, CMS and Minamata.

<sup>e</sup> UNODC data on greenhouse gas emissions, water and waste has been reported under UNOV.



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