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Subprogramme 7

Subregional activities for development

Component 1: Subregional activities in North Africa

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Objective

- 22.60 The objective, to which this component contributes, is to enhance employment creation environment in North Africa through strengthened economic diversification and regional integration and a better recognition of migrant workers' qualifications and skills.

Strategy

- 22.61 To contribute to the strengthening of economic diversification, the component will develop the macroeconomic model by using available macroeconomic data, rolling out the model and conducting simulations with ministries of finance and planning and central banks in partner countries. The component will also provide technical assistance through partnerships with statistical institutes, to strengthen countries' capacity to develop data analysis and models to quantify distortions and identify the public policy changes to be carried out. In addition, the component will conduct research work on employment, addressing youth employment through "industries without smokestacks" projects, in collaboration with the Brookings Institution, and will convene regional workshops on best practices for job creation in Africa, in collaboration with the South-South Cooperation Platform. This work will contribute to the progress of Member States in achieving SDGs 4 (targets 4.4 and 4.5), 8 (targets 8.2 and 8.3), and 9 (targets 9.2 and 9.5). Furthermore, it is expected to result in Member States' adopting evidence-based pro-employment macroeconomic policies; redirecting resource allocations towards sectors that have more economic potential in terms of productivity, competitiveness and employment; and also facilitating access to finance for small and medium-sized enterprises and stimulating job creation. Past results in this area include the development by three North Africa countries (Algeria, Egypt and Mauritania) of macroeconomic modelling tools with ECA support. Progress has also been made in Tunisia, whose Ministry of Trade has conducted an impact analysis of the country's accession to the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA).
- 22.62 To contribute to the strengthening of regional integration, the component will continue to analyse constraints and obstacles relating to sectors where value chains in North Africa can be built. It will provide advisory services and hold subregional consultations to support Member States in building their capacity and developing their national strategies for implementation of the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area, in partnership with ministries of trade, the African Union and the European Union. This work will contribute to the progress of Member States in achieving SDG 17 (targets 17.6, 17.11 and 17.14). Furthermore, it is expected to result in enabling Member States to design appropriate policies that foster regional integration, enhance productivity and create new jobs. Past results in this area include ratifications of the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area and its three protocols by Egypt and Mauritius. Progress has also been made on the assessment of the existing regional value chains and their potential for growth in North Africa in ten sectors (automotive industry; textiles and clothing; phosphates; oil and gas; renewable energy; fruits; vegetables and derivative products; essential oils and derivative products; fishing; and grains and sugar). Analytical work is guiding the strategic and sectoral positioning of Member States within the framework of the African Continental Free Trade Area, in North Africa and the rest of the continent.
- 22.63 To contribute to a better recognition of migrant workers' qualifications and skills, the component will work to strengthen capacities in six African countries (Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Morocco, Senegal, South Africa and Senegal) to collect, analyse and disseminate migration-related data and enhance the recognition of skills and qualifications of African workers and to implement the migration-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Migration. This work will contribute to the progress of Member States in achieving SDGs targets 8.8, 10.7, 10.C, 16.2 and 17.18.

The component will focus on strengthening member States capacity in implementing the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. This will be carried out in partnership with the African Union, the Department for Economic and Social Affairs, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and is expected to result in improved availability and use of migration statistics, and greater recognition of skills across the continent through the roll-out of the African Continental Qualification. Past results in this area include the work undertaken during the regional consultations in Africa on the Global Compact, led by ECA, by strengthening national capacities to “collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies” (Objective 1 of the Global Compact) and to “facilitate mutual recognition of skills, qualifications and competences” (Objective 18 of the Global Compact).

Programme performance in 2019, against planned result

- 22.64 A planned result for 2019, which is strengthened capacity of member States in the North Africa subregion and regional economic communities to implement subregional development priorities in line with the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063, with due consideration for youth and gender perspectives, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019, was achieved, as evidenced by all the seven north African countries that initiated the process of adopting or implementing the African Continental Free Trade Area, using ECA technical support, tools, methodologies and advisory services related to normative work and policy orientation. This includes the work accomplished with Mauritania on the design of its national strategy for smooth implementation of the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area, and the three national forums on the implementation of that Agreement organized in Algeria, Mauritania and Tunisia and the impact analysis of the accession by Tunisia to COMESA, and Mauritania’s voluntary national review and the adaptation of its national strategy for accelerated growth at the local level, integrating the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. In addition, a revised road map (2019–2020) was adopted for implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in North Africa.

Programme performance in 2019: Implementation of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA)

- 22.65 The subprogramme ... [explain the work that has been done and that contributed to make progress towards your objective]
- 22.66 The activities carried out by the office have helped to improve data collection, analysis and reporting in Africa, specifically when it comes to the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) and for the SEEA for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (SEEA-AFF).
- 22.67 The African common project on the implementation of the System of Environmental and Economic Accounting Central Framework (SEEA CF 2012) developed by the international statistical community was launched by ECA in 2018 to move forward the implementation of the enhanced 2012 statistical framework consisting of a set of tables and accounts that largely meets this need, to improve data collection, analysis and reporting in Africa. During the first and second phase of the project, ECA provided technical assistance in the form of online training, face to face training in South Africa, on the system of integrated economic and environmental accounts (SEEA 2012) to the African countries with support for the two targeted sectors namely the forest and the energy.
- 22.68 The Component provided technical advisory services to the Government of Morocco to.....

Progress towards attainment of the objective and performance measures

- 22.69 This work contributed to the improvement and alignment of the concept, definitions, methodologies, tools, practices, and standards for the collection and analysis of economic and environment data, in addition to support the implementation of the 2012 SEEA in Africa. In 2019, the Government of Morocco adopted the implementation of the 2012 SEEA CF as a result of ECA’s intervention by providing technical advisory services during the period between 2017 to 2019. The adoption can be evidenced by the fact that Morocco has used the 2012 SEEA CF methodology to come up with a more accurate estimate Physical

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and monetary Supply and Use Table (SUT) on forestry sector with the improved data collection in the following sectors: economic, social, agriculture, forestry, and informal sector.

22.70 **This work contributed to** enhancing employment creation environment in North Africa, **as demonstrated by** the adoption of the implementation of the 2012 SEEA CF by the Government of Morocco.

22.71 The Office cooperated with the High Commissioner for Planning, represented by the National Accounting Department, the High Commission for Water and Forests and the Fight against Desertification, the Ministry of Agriculture, Maritime Fisheries, Rural Development and Waters and Forests represented by the Department of Strategy and Statistics, as well as with ACS and FAO.

Table 18.xx

Performance measure

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
		Technical advisory services on the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) provided to African countries	Launching () of the African common project on the implementation of the System of Environmental and Economic Accounting Central Framework (SEEA CF 2012)	Adoption of the implementation of the 2012 SEEA CF by the Government of Morocco

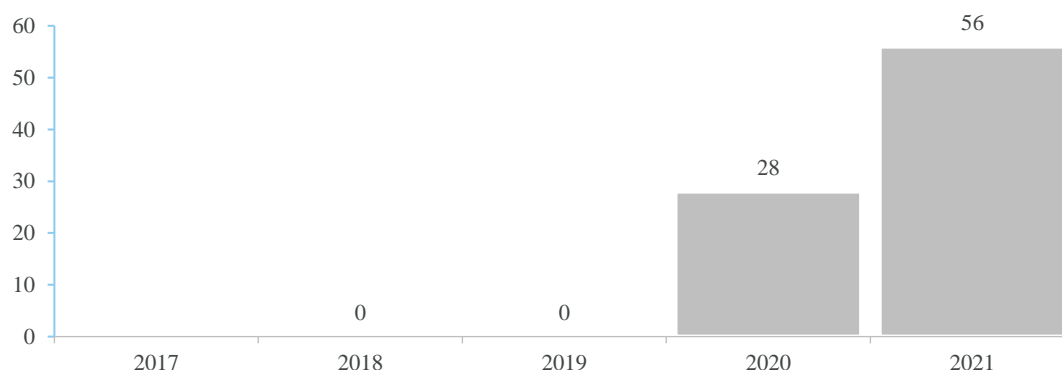
Planned results for 2021: Launching of project on best practices in employment creation in North Africa

Result 1: Strategies and policies for employment creation (result carried-forward from 2020)

22.72 The subprogramme will continue the work related to employment creation, in line with its mandate, and will assist countries identifying gaps and implement solutions that promote employment opportunities, which is expected to be demonstrated by the performance measure for 2021 below. For 2020, a proxy performance measure is indicated, to reflect that the General Assembly, in its resolution 74/251, approved a programme narrative at the subprogramme level that is composed solely of the objectives approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 71/6 and the deliverables for 2020.

Figure 22.xx

Performance measure: Cumulative number of policymakers trained to better assess the gaps in public policies and design and implement suitable policies to reduce unemployment



Result 2: Launching a new approach to employment in North Africa (new result)

22.73 The component has been working in North Africa to support governments in their efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. Since January 2019, the focus of this work has shifted to employment and skills for sustainable development as an area of specialization, since, for many decades, North Africa has had one of the lowest labour market participation rates in the world. The aim is to support North African countries in taking action on the business climate and macroeconomic balance, offering diversification and competitiveness enhancement, and ultimately, strengthening their human capital. The subprogramme has been working on building consensus among member States to adopt appropriate measures for enhancing job creation in North Africa.

Internal challenge and response

22.74 The challenge for the component was that North African countries did not have consensus on the appropriate measures for enhancing job creation. The experiences in creating new jobs and the associated challenges vary from country to country, making the adoption of single approach less effective. In response, the subprogramme will tailor its work in this area according to the needs of each country and will work on building strategic partnerships with regional and national institutions which share the same objectives.

Expected progress towards attainment of objective and performance measures

The social and political turmoil that spread across the North African sub region at the turn of the 2010s was the expression of a youthful population demanding more justice and jobs. Governments across North Africa have recognized the unemployment challenge. Employment creation, particularly for youth, has come centre-stage in their social and economic agendas.

The work of SRO-NA in 2021 will focus on the best practices in employment creation in many African countries, for example the Foundation Mohammed V for Solidarity in Morocco through their training center promoted youth employability using many workshops such as electricity building workshops, carpentry, aluminum, plumbing, painting, glazing, cladding facades, as well as a laboratory of civil engineering.

This work is expected to contribute to enhancing employment creation environment in North Africa by a commitment made by at least one country in North Africa sub region to decrease the unemployment rate through implementing one programme for job creation.

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Performance measure

2019	2020	2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none">The component identified the need to design and implement suitable policies to reduce unemployment	<p>The research work need to focus on designing and implementing suitable policies to reduce unemployment. Hence, result can be - a road map developed to design and implement suitable policies to reduce unemployment (this is as a result of the research work conducted, dialogues held with member stakeholders,)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">	<ul style="list-style-type: none">At least one country in North Africa sub- region learn and make a commitment to adopt the best practice on employment creation and implement one programme for job creation.

Legislative mandates

22.75 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme, component 1 .

General Assembly resolutions

- 61/234 Enhancing the role of the subregional offices of the Economic Commission for
- S-21/2 key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development
- 69/3 Priorities and vision articulated in Agenda 2063, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development
- 73/195 Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Economic and Social Council resolutions

- 671 A (XXV) Promoting the economic and social development of its member States, fostering intra-regional integration, and promoting international cooperation for Africa's development

Economic Commission for Africa resolutions

- 928(XLVIII) Implementing Agenda 2063: planning, mobilizing and financing for development
- 935(XLVIII) Least developed countries in Africa
- 874 (XLIII) Strengthening the subregional offices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

Deliverables

22.76 Table 22.xx lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2019–2021 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 18.xx

Subprogramme 7, component 1: output performance for the period 2019–2021, by category and subcategory

<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2019 Actual</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2021 Planned</i>
Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies:				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	4	4	4	4
1. Report to the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts for the Subregional Office for North Africa	1	1	1	1
2. Subregional profile on socioeconomic developments in the member States	1	1	1	1
3. Regional and international agendas and other special initiatives in the member States	1	1	1	1
4. Annual report on the work of ECA in North Africa	1	1	1	1
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	11	11	11	11
5. Session of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts of the Subregional Office for North Africa	11	11	11	11
Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	1	1	1	2
6. Project on the implementation of the Maghreb action plan to boost intra-African trade	1	1	-	-
7. Support to member States for the implementation of the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area	-	-	-	1
8. Employment project to build the capacity of senior policymakers from North African countries in strategy and policy formulation and implementation, to boost employment for young people and women	-	-	1	-
9. Building a database on migration in selected member States	-	-	-	1
Seminars, workshops, fellowships and training events (number of days)	8	8	12	4
10. North Africa Development Forum (employment)	2	2	-	2
11. International Colloquium for economic development in North Africa	4	4	4	-
12. Training for policy makers on pro-employment macroeconomic policies	-	-	8	-
13. Employment forum	2	2	-	2
Publications (number of publications)	4	2	1	1
14. Publication on fiscal policy for financing sustainable development in North Africa	1	1	-	-
15. Publication on tools for assessing employment statistics	1	-	-	-
16. publication on trade facilitation	1	1	-	-
17. Publication on climate risk management	1			
18. Publication on employment	-	-	1	1
Technical materials (number of materials)	2	3	3	3
19. Policy paper to support decision-makers on employment	-	1	1	-
20. Policy paper to support decision-makers on institutional quality and structural transformation	1	1	-	1
21. Policy paper to support decision-makers on climate risk management	-	-	1	-
22. Policy paper on private sector financing	1	1	-	-

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<i>Deliverables</i>	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2019 Actual</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2021 Planned</i>
23. Policy paper to support decision-makers on improvement of the role of private sector in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals	-	-	1	-
24. Policy paper on migration	-	-	-	1
25. Policy paper on implementation of the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area	-	-	-	1

C. Substantive deliverables:

Consultations, advice and advocacy: Advisory services to member states to develop national macroeconomic models; Advisory services to member States to build their national strategies on implementation of the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area; technical assistance to member States to produce datasets on migration; technical assistance to member States on implementation of the 2030 Agenda; advisory services to member States on increasing productivity through a better allocation of resources within the economy; advisory services to member States on private sector financing for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals

D. Communication deliverables:

Digital platforms and multi-media content: maintenance of knowledge management websites, platforms, customer relationship management, library, communities of practice and related content, wide electronic diffusion of publications to communities of practice

Media and external relations: press releases, newsletters, briefings, social media and other communication materials