



Executive Board of the United Nations
Human Settlements Programme
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Financial, budgetary and administrative matters, including the implementation of the resource mobilization strategy in accordance with the strategic plan for the period 2020–2025 and action by UN-Habitat to address geographical and gender imbalances in the composition of its staff

Financial status of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme as at 31 December 2023

Report of the Executive Director

I. Introduction

1. The present report provides an overview of the interim financial position of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) as at 31 December 2023 and describes the performance of the main funding segments of UN-Habitat, namely the United Nations regular budget appropriations provided to UN-Habitat and the UN-Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation non-earmarked, programme support, Foundation earmarked and technical cooperation funds, for the period ended 31 December 2023.

2. Table 1 provides an overview of revenue, budget and expenses as at 31 December 2023 for all the major funding segments alongside the budget figures from the approved work programme for 2023. A statement of financial performance showing the revenue, expenses, fund balances and reserves for each funding segment is set out in annex I. The status of Foundation non-earmarked contributions for the years 2020 to 2023 is set out in annex II, while annex III shows the status of earmarked voluntary contributions as at 31 December 2023.

Table 1

Overview of the revenue, budget and expenses of the main funds as at 31 December 2023^a

(Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Component</i>	<i>Regular budget (section 15)</i>	<i>Foundation non- earmarked</i>	<i>Foundation earmarked</i>	<i>Technical cooperation</i>	<i>Programme support</i>	<i>Total</i>
Revenue	12 358.5	4 729.4	71 794.9	121 127.7	12 986.2	222 996.7
Budget	13 275.7	3 152.2	39 076.6	96 709.7	10 050.4	162 264.6
Expenses	12 358.4	3 000.0	44 810.2	114 877.7	8 109.1	183 155.4

^a Revenue includes contributions and other sources of revenue and is stated net of adjustments.

* HSP/EB.2024/1.

3. Table 2 shows the composition of all voluntary contributions received during the year by type of contributor, while table 3 shows the voluntary contributions by region. As is shown in annex I, voluntary contributions comprise the majority of revenue.

Table 2
Voluntary contributions, by type of contributor
(Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Component</i>	<i>Civil society</i>	<i>Foundations</i>	<i>Governments</i>	<i>Inter-governmental</i>	<i>Local authorities</i>	<i>Private sector</i>	<i>United Nations entities</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>
Foundation non-earmarked	–	–	4 383.6	–	–	–	–	–	4 383.6
Foundation earmarked	705.9	2 607.0	55 341.5	8 166.9	800.0	238.6	2,126.3	19.2	70 005.4
Technical cooperation	986.5	70.3	31 114.8	51 949.1	247.3	6 217.3	33 756.3	–	124 341.6
Total	1 692.4	2 677.3	90 839.9	60 116.0	1 047.3	6 455.9	35 882.6	19.2	198 730.6

Table 3
Voluntary contributions, by region
(Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Component</i>	<i>African States</i>	<i>Asia-Pacific States</i>	<i>Eastern European States</i>	<i>Latin American and Caribbean States</i>	<i>Western European and other States</i>	<i>Global</i>	<i>Total</i>
Foundation non-earmarked	657.8	892.2	560.3	5.0	2 268.3	–	4 383.6
Foundation earmarked	13 277.9	7 877.9	791.7	1 068.9	44 624.0	2 365.0	70 005.4
Technical cooperation	940.3	22 503.0	500.0	6 890.8	59 751.2	33 756.3	124 341.6
Total	14 876.0	31 273.1	1 852.0	7 964.7	106 643.5	36 121.3	198 730.6

II. Performance of core funds

4. Foundation non-earmarked contributions and United Nations regular-budget appropriations are the core resources of UN-Habitat.

A. Foundation non-earmarked fund

5. The resources of the Foundation non-earmarked fund, also known as the Foundation general purpose fund, are allocated against budget priorities approved by the Executive Board of UN-Habitat.

6. Traditionally the main source of Foundation non-earmarked fund revenue has been non-earmarked contributions from Member States. The Foundation non-earmarked fund constitutes the main source of funding for the implementation of the UN-Habitat strategic plan and for mandated normative work, executive direction and management and a baseline level of programme support.

7. The 2023 approved budget for the Foundation non-earmarked fund was \$3.1 million. Total revenue amounted to \$4.7 million and expenses totalled \$3.0 million, resulting in a net operational surplus of \$1.7 million. Expenses consisted of \$1.6 million in post costs and \$1.4 million in operating expenses. A statutory operational reserve of \$3.0 million is provided for in accordance with paragraph 11 of Executive Board decision 2022/5.1 Revenue, expenses and closing net assets for the Foundation non-earmarked fund for the years 2014–2023 are shown in table 4 and the figure below it.

¹ Available at <https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2023/02/2226800e.pdf>.

Table 4
Revenue, expenses and closing net assets for the Foundation non-earmarked fund
 (Thousands of United States dollars)

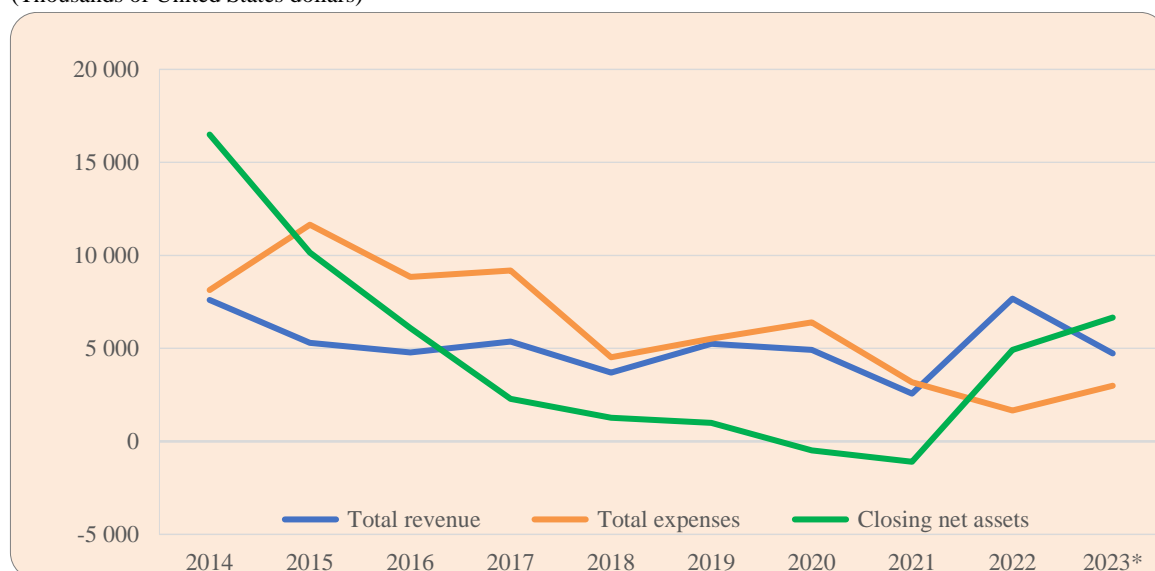
Description	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023 ^a
Total revenue	7 610.0	5 307.0	4 785.0	5 373.0	3 699.0	5 239.0	4 916.0	2 570.0	7 677.0	4 729.4
Total expenses	8 134.0	11 651.0	8 851.0	9 182.0	4 519.0	5 518.0	6 396.0	3 185.0	1 662.0	3 000.0
Closing net assets	16 498.0	10 154.0	6 088.0	2 279.0	1 280.0	1 001.0	(479.0)	(1 094.0)	4 922.0	6 651.4

^a Projected data.

8. The figure below, which charts the trends in the Foundation non-earmarked fund, shows the gradual decline, on average, in revenue in the years prior to 2022, alongside an average decline in expenses. Despite the implementation of financial austerity plans, expenses exceeded revenue in the years prior to 2022, which resulted in unsustainable deficit spending and an ensuing steady decline in net assets. In 2022 contributions reached their highest level since 2014 and, with reinvigorated expense controls in place, UN-Habitat reported its first surplus in more than a decade. In addition, the Foundation non-earmarked fund returned to solvency. In 2023, while revenue returned to a historically consistent level, net assets continued to increase thanks to prudent management of expenses.

Trends in the Foundation non-earmarked fund

(Thousands of United States dollars)



* Projected data.

9. In 2017, the secretariat approved a loan of \$3.0 million from the programme support account to the Foundation non-earmarked fund. Repayments of \$0.5 million were made in 2022 and 2023, for a total of \$1.0 million repaid to date.

B. Regular-budget fund

1. Section 15

10. An appropriation approved by the General Assembly is provided to UN-Habitat under section 15 (Human settlements) of the United Nations regular budget. In 2023, the appropriation amounted to \$13.3 million. Post costs accounted for 91.4 per cent of the \$12.4 million in expenses recorded by 31 December 2023.

2. Sections 23 and 35

11. UN-Habitat also receives resources under sections 23 (Regular programme of technical cooperation) and section 35 (Development account) of the United Nations regular budget. In 2023,

appropriations under section 23 amounted to \$1.4 million, of which \$1.2 million was spent, and appropriations under section 35 totalled \$1.6 million, of which \$1.2 million was spent.

C. Programme support fund

12. The 2023 programme support budget approved by the Executive Director totalled \$10.0 million. Total revenue as at 31 December 2023 amounted to \$13.0 million while total expenses amounted to \$8.1 million, resulting in a surplus of \$4.9 million. Post costs represented 43.2 per cent of total expenses.

13. Programme support resources are generated through the charge levied as a percentage of direct earmarked expenses, in accordance with administrative instruction ST/AI/286. This charge is for recovery of incremental indirect costs to ensure that the additional cost of supporting earmarked activities is not paid from core funds intended for the implementation of the approved work programme. Revenue, expenses and closing net assets for the programme support fund for the years 2014–2023 are shown in table 5.

Table 5

Revenue, expenses and closing net assets for the programme support fund

(Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Description</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2023^a</i>
Total revenue	11 942.0	11 341.0	11 000.0	9 975.0	11 543.0	10 400.0	12 709.0	12 189.0	12 876.0	12 986.2
Total expenses	12 241.0	10 536.0	8 966.0	10 277.0	12 514.0	12 700.0	13 304.0	12 270.0	10 363.0	8,109.1
Closing net assets	12 843.0	13 648.0	15 981.0	15 679.0	14 887.0	12 587.0	11 992.0	11 911.0	14 762.0	17 762.0

^a Projected data.

III. Performance of earmarked funds

A. Foundation earmarked fund

14. Voluntary contributions to the Foundation earmarked fund are intended for the implementation of specific activities in the work programme that are consistent with the mandate and work programme of UN-Habitat. Such activities generally comprise global thematic and multi-country projects.

15. For 2023, the approved budget was \$39.1 million while total revenue before refunds to donors was \$75.5 million, which includes voluntary contributions of \$70.0 million. Net revenue after refunds to donors amounted to \$71.8 million. Total expenses incurred were \$44.8 million. Gross project balances at the end of the year amounted to \$120.5 million, including a reserve of \$4.0 million. The reported surplus of \$27.0 million is notional, as it results from the utilization of part of the project resources carried over from 2022.

B. Technical cooperation fund

16. Voluntary contributions to the technical cooperation fund are for the implementation of specific technical activities at the country and regional levels that are consistent with the mandate and work programme of UN-Habitat.

17. The approved budget for 2023 was \$96.7 million, while total revenue before refunds to donors was \$135.6 million, which includes voluntary contributions of \$92.5 million. Net revenue after refunds to donors amounted to \$121.1 million, while expenses were \$114.9 million. Gross project balances at the end of 2023 amounted to \$288.1 million, including a reserve of \$11.4 million.

Annex I

Statement of financial performance for the period ended 31 December 2023, by segment

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category	Sources of funding									Intersegment elimination	Grand total	
	REGB	FNDN	FNDE	TECH	PRGS	Subtotal	RPTC	DEVT	Subtotal			Total
R01. Assessed contributions	12 358.4	–	–	–	–	12 358.4	1 86.0	1 218.8	2 404.8	14 763.2	–	14 763.2
R02. Voluntary contributions	–	4 383.6	68 093.5	92 476.8	–	164 953.9	–	–	–	164 953.9	–	164 953.9
R03. Other transfers and allocations	–	–	1 911.9	31 864.8	–	33 776.7	–	–	–	33 776.7	–	33 776.7
R04. Refunds to donors	–	–	(3 680.6)	(14 438.5)	–	(18 119.1)	–	–	–	(18 119.1)	–	(18 119.1)
R05. Programme support revenue	–	–	8.0	–	12 164.2	12 172.2	–	–	–	12 172.2	12 172.2	–
R06. Investment revenue	–	325.1	5 435.7	9 903.6	822.0	16 486.4	–	–	–	16 486.4	–	16 486.4
R07. Other revenue	–	20.7	26.4	1 321.0	–	1 368.1	–	–	–	1 368.1	–	1 368.1
Total revenue	12 358.4	4 729.4	71 794.9	121 127.7	12 986.2	222 996.6	1 186.0	1 218.8	2 404.8	225 401.4	12 172.2	213 229.2
E01. Post costs	11 292.7	1 610.6	–	–	3 453.0	16 356.3	18.0	–	18.0	16 374.3	–	16 374.3
E02. Other staff costs	102.8	–	21 379.3	31 308.1	682.9	53 473.1	867.8	(3.3)	864.5	54 337.6	–	54 337.6
E03. Hospitality	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
E04. Consultants and experts	168.0	–	–	–	14.9	182.9	125.7	709.3	835.0	1 017.9	–	1 017.9
E05. Travel of representatives	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4.0	4.0	4.0	–	4.0
E06. Travel of staff	130.3	321.6	3 180.5	3 737.4	125.5	7 495.3	84.9	52.2	137.1	7 632.4	–	7 632.4
E07. Contractual services	107.9	566.6	2 031.5	31 726.8	2 289.9	36 722.7	43.5	219.3	262.8	36 985.5	–	36 985.5
E08. General operating expenses	496.0	477.2	2 730.4	311.2	1 517.5	5 532.3	32.1	88.2	120.3	5 652.6	–	5 652.6
E09. Supplies and materials	4.8	0.8	15.7	2 575.8	2.6	2 599.7	53.1	1.1	54.2	2 653.9	–	2 653.9
E10. Furniture and equipment	55.9	24.1	301.5	3 321.5	3.6	3 706.6	6.8	1.2	8.0	3 714.6	–	3 714.6
E11. Grants and contributions	–	(0.9)	15 103.5	41 633.7	19.2	56 755.5	(45.9)	146.8	100.9	56 856.4	12 172.2	44 684.2
E12. Other expenses	–	–	67.8	263.2	–	331.0	–	–	–	331.0	–	331.0
Total expenses	12 358.4	3 000.0	44 810.2	114 877.7	8 109.1	183 155.4	1 186.0	1 218.8	2 404.8	185 560.2	12 172.2	173 388.0
Surplus	–	1 729.4	26 984.7	6 250.0	4 877.1	39 841.2	–	–	–	39 841.2	–	39 841.2
Gross fund balances as at 1 January 2023	–	4 922.0	93 493.0	281 823.0	14 050.9	394 288.9	–	–	–	394 288.9	–	394 288.9

<i>Category</i>	<i>Sources of funding</i>									<i>Intersegment elimination</i>	<i>Grand total</i>	
	<i>REGB</i>	<i>FNDN</i>	<i>FNDE</i>	<i>TECH</i>	<i>PRGS</i>	<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>RPTC</i>	<i>DEVT</i>	<i>Subtotal</i>			<i>Total</i>
Gross fund balances (31 December 2023)	–	6 651.4	120 477.7	288 073.0	18 928.1	434 130.2	–	–	(16 881.8)	417 248.4	–	417 248.4
Statutory operating reserves	–	3 000.0	4 023.0	11 360.0	2 932.0	21 315.0	–	–	–	21 315.0	–	21 315.0
Net fund balances (31 December 2023)	–	3 651.4	116 454.7	276 713.0	15 996.1	412 815.2	–	–	–	412 815.2	–	412 815.2

Abbreviations: DEVT – development account (S.35); FNDE – Foundation earmarked; FNDN – Foundation non-earmarked; PRGS – programme support; REGB – regular budget; RPTC – regular programme of technical cooperation (S.23); TECH – technical cooperation.

Note: “R02. Voluntary contributions” and “R03. Other transfers and allocations” are both voluntary contributions.

Annex II

**Status of annual voluntary contributions to the Foundation
non-earmarked fund during the period of the 2020–2025 strategic
plan**

(United States dollars)

<i>Contributor</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>Total</i>
Algeria	10 000	10 000	–	–	20 000
Angola	–	–	400 000	–	400 000
Azerbaijan	–	–	3 000 000	500 000	3 500 000
Barbados	14 706	15 000	14 814	–	44 520
Benin	–	–	–	47 993	47 993
Botswana	40 000	20 000	20 000	–	80 000
Burkina Faso	–	17 590	–	48 702	66 292
Burundi	–	–	–	10 000	10 000
China	350 000	350 000	350 000	350 000	1 400 000
Czechia	6 731	6 820	6 022	6 585	26 158
Dominican Republic	4 975	–	6 000	5 000	15 975
Egypt	–	50 000	–	–	50 000
France	227 740	–	528 346	252 193	1 008 279
Germany	184 049	174 419	1 028 807	1 093 502	2 480 777
Guinea	–	–	41 030	–	41 030
India	145 455	100 000	–	100 000	345 455
Indonesia	–	–	–	50 000	50 000
Israel	–	–	3 000	3 426	6 426
Italy	–	118 906	–	–	118 906
Japan ^a	31 455	31 458	28 312	30 011	121 236
Kenya	99 975	100 000	100 000	100 000	399 975
Kiribati	–	50 000	–	–	50 000
Malawi	20 000	10 000	–	–	30 000
Malaysia	–	–	1 000 000	200 000	1 200 000
Mali	–	10 012	–	–	10 012
Mauritius	–	25 000	–	75 000	100 000
Mexico	500 000	500 000	50 000	–	1 050 000
Myanmar	9 980	–	–	–	9 980
Namibia	–	–	–	150 000	150 000
Nigeria	75 000	–	–	–	75 000
Norway	2 180 130	–	–	–	2 180 130
Pakistan	5 941	5 992	5 843	5 824	23 600
Philippines	50 000	50 000	50 000	50 000	200 000
Portugal	–	–	–	125 000	125 000
Republic of Korea	84 365	84 066	70 033	76 405	314 869
Rwanda	–	10 000	–	–	10 000
Senegal	44 868	–	–	–	44 868
Singapore	–	–	30 000	30 000	60 000
Slovakia	–	–	–	53 706	53 706
Somalia	–	–	–	2 500	2 500

HSP/EB.2024/2

<i>Contributor</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>Total</i>
South Africa	150 000	160 000	160 000	160 000	630 000
Spain	–	–	52 975	194 229	247 204
Sri Lanka	25 000	25 000	–	–	50 000
Tunisia	–	–	–	55 494	55 494
Türkiye	–	200 000	–	–	200 000
United States of America	650 000	812 997	700 000	600 000	2 762 997
Zimbabwe	–	–	–	8 002	8 002
Total	4 910 370	2 937 260	7 645 182	4 383 572	19 876 384

* Contributions from Japan have been adjusted as per donor specifications.

Annex III

Status of earmarked voluntary contributions as at 31 December 2023

(Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Contributor</i>	<i>United Nations regional group</i>	<i>Foundation earmarked</i>	<i>Technical cooperation</i>	<i>Total</i>
Adaptation Fund Board	Western European and other States	–	32 012.0	32 012.0
Aga Khan Agency for Habitat	African States	648.5	–	648.5
Ahmed Farid Mustapha Consultants	Asia-Pacific States	–	99.8	99.8
Al-Mestakbel Al-Raqmi for Communications and Information Technology	African States	–	231.7	231.7
Alwaleed Philanthropies	Asia-Pacific States	–	850.0	850.0
Argentina	Latin American and Caribbean States	–	1 339.4	1 339.4
Association of Southeast Asian Nations	Asia-Pacific States	–	3 321.8	3 321.8
Azerbaijan	Eastern European States	400.0	500.0	900.0
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation	Western European and other States	2 074.1	–	2 074.1
Block By Block	Western European and other States	200.5	–	200.5
Brazil	Latin American and Caribbean States	–	5 132.0	5 132.0
C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group Inc.	Global	219.5	–	219.5
Cameroon	African States	48.7	229.8	278.5
China	Asia-Pacific States	4 624.8	1 450.0	6 074.8
Democratic Republic of the Congo	African States	383.1	–	383.1
Dubai Municipality	Asia-Pacific States	–	150.3	150.3
Egypt	African States	10 034.6	234.6	10 269.2
European Commission	Western European and other States	7 549.4	16 401.3	23 950.7
Finland	Western European and other States	54.3	–	54.3
Fondation Botnar	Western European and other States	44.5	–	44.5
France	Western European and other States	1 972.9	–	1 972.9
Fukuoka International Exchange Foundation	Asia-Pacific States	–	70.3	70.3
Germany	Western European and other States	15 438.9	486.5	15 925.4
Global Utmaning	Western European and other States	9.4	–	9.4
Here Be Dragons Investment Group	Western European and other States	–	136.5	136.5
HSBC Bank Middle East Limited	Asia-Pacific States	–	920.0	920.0
Ideella Foreningen Teknikforetagen i Sverige Med Firma Foreningen	Western European and other States	48.0	–	48.0
India	Asia-Pacific States	–	64.4	64.4
Islamic Development Bank	Asia-Pacific States	–	75.0	75.0
iSoftstone Smart Technology Company, Limited	Asia-Pacific States	–	150.0	150.0
Israel	Western European and other States	37.0	–	37.0
Italy	Western European and other States	1 906.5	–	1 906.5
Japan	Asia-Pacific States	951.2	10 737.0	11 688.2
Jordan	Asia-Pacific States	8.9	–	8.9
Kosmos Energy São Tomé and Príncipe Company BV – Shell São Tomé and Príncipe	African States	–	169.5	169.5
Kuwait	Asia-Pacific States	–	250.0	250.0

<i>Contributor</i>	<i>United Nations regional group</i>	<i>Foundation earmarked</i>	<i>Technical cooperation</i>	<i>Total</i>
Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development	Asia-Pacific States	–	139.0	139.0
Malawi	African States	–	210.5	210.5
Monaco	Western European and other States	–	246.9	246.9
Morocco	African States	1 515.0	–	1,515.0
Mozambique	African States	–	33.7	33.7
Município de Juiz De Fora	Latin American and Caribbean States	–	152.9	152.9
Município de Querétaro	Latin American and Caribbean States	800.0	–	800.0
Município de São Paulo	Latin American and Caribbean States	–	28.9	28.9
Netherlands	Western European and other States	487.6	1 919.7	2 407.3
Norway	Western European and other States	106.8	687.9	794.7
Poland	Western European and other States	–	178.2	178.2
Republic of Korea	Asia-Pacific States	1 645.5	3 627.2	5 272.7
KTH Royal Institute of Technology	Western European and other States	438.1	–	438.1
Russian Federation	Eastern European States	177.1	–	177.1
RX France	Western European and other States	10.7	–	10.7
Sandals Foundation	Latin American and Caribbean States	268.9	–	268.9
Senegal	African States	128.0	–	128.0
Slovakia	Eastern European States	214.6	–	214.6
Spain	Western European and other States	11 326.3	310.5	11 636.8
Strategy& Saudi Arabia	Asia-Pacific States	–	748.2	748.2
Sweden	Western European and other States	2 704.1	119.9	2 824.0
Switzerland	Western European and other States	8.1	36.3	44.4
Technische Universität Berlin	Western European and other States	27.4	–	27.4
Tunisia	African States	500.0	–	500.0
Türkiye	Asia-Pacific States	647.5	–	647.5
United Nations entities	Global	2 126.3	33 756.3	35 882.6
United States of America	Western European and other States	–	3 167.4	3 167.4
Other contributors	Global	19.2	–	19.2
World Bank headquarters	Western European and other States	179.4	–	179.4
Wuppertal Institut für Klima, Umwelt, Energie	Western European and other States	–	3 898.1	3 898.1
Zambia	African States	20.0	–	20.0
Total		70 005.4	124 341.6	194 347.0