Supporting Ukraine’s reconstruction
At the request of the government, UNECE is supporting Ukraine in multiple areas. This includes developing master plans for the reconstruction of Kharkiv and Mykolaiv; enhancing Ukraine’s capacities to prevent, prepare for and respond to industrial accidents, including those with cross-border effects; conducting an analysis of the critical raw material resources needed for building a low carbon energy infrastructure; recommendations for the digitalization of information exchange to facilitate trade flows in the land corridors connecting Ukraine with Romania, Poland and Bulgaria, using UN/CEFACT standards; identifying and preparing a list of infrastructure and rolling stock/resources requirements that would operationally boost the capacity of railways/road transport in the country.

Helping countries to address biodiversity threats
In cooperation with FAO, UNECE supports countries in the region for sustainable forest management, a strategic priority since forests host around 80% of the world’s terrestrial biodiversity. UNECE’s Multilateral Environmental Agreements are also key instruments for strengthened action across a range of key biodiversity challenges linked to air and water pollution, the protection of natural habitats and sites, public participation or the use of genetically modified organisms.

Developing tools for climate action
At COP27, UNECE showcased its work on the sustainable management of critical raw materials, which will be needed in massive quantities over the next decades to deploy low-carbon technologies, on climate change adaptation and mitigation through water resilience, and on accelerating the circular economy agenda to reduce carbon emissions. UNECE issued a technology brief highlighting pathways to decarbonize energy intensive industries (cement, iron and steel, and chemicals).

Monitoring SDGs progress in the region
UNECE’s 2022 SDGs report showed that halfway to 2030, the region is on track to achieve only 26 of 169 SDGs targets, calling for strengthened commitment.

Advancing digital and green transformations
At the 70th session of the Commission, governments will discuss how to advance the digital and green transformations for Sustainable Development.

Fostering gender equality
UNECE supports gender equality in the region by providing policy guidance to address gender gaps in ageing societies, building the ICT skills of women entrepreneurs, strengthening gender statistics, analysing impacts on the care economy, and mobilizing 79 standard-setters through our Gender-Responsive Standards Initiative.

Engaging with cities
The second Forum of Mayors discussed the lessons learned by some 45 cities in the region in recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic while advancing the implementation of the SDGs, highlighting the critical need for resilient and sustainable urban development.

Supporting green and healthy transport
The Pan-European Master Plan for Cycling Promotion, aims to double cycling in the region by 2030 to prevent 30,000 premature deaths and generate indirect economic benefits of €78 billion per year.