

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Ninety-third Meeting  
Geneva, 26 September 2017

Item 8

Informal Document No. **2017/55**

**Extrabudgetary projects**

**Strengthening the capacity of Central Asian countries  
to implement trade facilitation measures and better integrate  
into the international rules-based trading system**

**UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT FORM**

**PART I. Planning**

**(to be filled in before submission to EXCOM) maximum 1 page**

<b>1. Project title and project number:</b> Strengthening the capacity of Central Asian countries to implement trade facilitation measures and better integrate into the international rules-based trading system		
<b>2. Expected timing/ duration:</b> January 2018 - December 2019		
<b>3. Objective and brief summary of the project:</b> The Central Asian countries and Azerbaijan, countries participating in the UN Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA), are among the last in the world to accede to the international rules-based trading system (WTO). Trade policy and capacity-building events, as well as Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) readiness assessments in Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan, have shown demand for trade facilitation support. The objective of this project is to strengthen national capacities of the beneficiary countries to implement trade facilitation measures and better integrate into the international rules-based trading system. This objective will be achieved by implementing the following activities: A1.1. Adaptation and development of training materials and modules for national TF courses to cover the relevant target areas in the TFA for the implementation of WTO TFA provisions related to Articles 10.1 on formalities and documentary requirements; 10.3 on use of international standards; 10.4 on single window; and 23.2 on national trade facilitation committee (NTFCs); A1.2. Organization of two capacity-building seminars for members of NTFBs, regulatory agencies and other relevant stakeholders on the development of national TF roadmaps, including for the implementation of the WTO targeted TFA measures; A1.3. Organization of one sub-regional SPECA capacity-building and experience sharing conference to strengthen cooperation on the implementation of TF measures and supporting international standards, including on the aspects of Single Window interoperability; A1.4. Translation of the training materials developed (under A1.1) into Russian. A2.1. Development of training materials on benchmarking mechanisms to measure progress and achieve policy coherence in the implementation of TF measures, based on the UN/CEFACT Trade and Transport Facilitation Monitoring Methodology (TTFMM) in the beneficiary countries; A2.2. Organization of two capacity-building seminars for NTFBs on the development of national benchmark mechanisms to measure progress and achieve policy coherence in TF based on the UN/CEFACT TTFMM methodology; A2.3. Translation of learning materials and training courses into Russian; A2.4. Update and maintenance of the UNECE Trade Facilitation Implementation Guide (TFIG) by incorporating project results and lessons learned and the new learning materials, including through the development of new itineraries providing a step by step approach to the implementation of TF measures in the project target areas, and the drafting of case stories; A2.5. Organize a concluding Conference (in the context of the UN/CEFACT Forum) on regulatory cooperation for TF to disseminate project outcomes and share lessons learned from project target countries.		
<b>4. Expected results of the project:</b> EA1. Enhanced capacities of policymakers and experts in NTFCs, regulatory agencies and other relevant stakeholders, to develop and implement TF policies and measures, notably in the area of WTO TFA Articles 10.1; 10.3; 10.4; and 23.2; EA2. Improved capacities of policymakers and experts to measure progress in the implementation of TF, and to achieve internal and cross-border policy coherence for the simplification and harmonization of trade procedures.		
<b>5. Target group and beneficiaries of the project:</b> The target group are senior trade policy makers, national experts in trade policy and trade facilitation, representatives of the business community, representatives of academia. The beneficiary countries are Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.		
<b>6. Justification of project and its relationship to the programme of work:</b> The project is directly linked to the Expected accomplishment (a) Increased consensus on and strengthened implementation of ECE recommendations, norms, standards, guidelines and tools for trade facilitation and electronic business of the Subprogramme 6 "Trade" of the UNECE Strategic Framework for 2018-2019.		
<b>7. Estimated UN regular budget resources (work months of RB staff/level of Staff):</b> 4 months of one RB P4 staff time		
<b>8. Estimated extra budgetary resources:</b>		
<b>Donor</b> Russian Federation	<b>Amount (US\$)</b> 350,000\$	
<b>9. Project Manager:</b> Maria Rosaria Ceccarelli Date: 14.09.2017	<b>10. Section/Division:</b> Economic Cooperation and Trade Division	
<b>11. Cleared by Programme Management Unit:</b> Catherine Haswell Acting Director Date: 14.09.2017	<b>12. Approved by EXCOM<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>26.09.2017</b>

<sup>1</sup> See paragraph 31 (a) of Commission decision A(65).

**Annex**  
**Results-based budget for the extra-budgetary project**

<b>Part I. Planning</b> (to be filled in before submission to EXCOM)			<b>Part II. Implementation</b> (to be used for reporting on progress in the implementation of the project in real time) <sup>1,2</sup>	
Expected accomplishments	Planned activities	Estimated costs (US\$)	Implemented activities <sup>3</sup>	Actual expenditures <sup>4</sup> (US\$)
EA1. Enhanced capacities of policymakers and experts in NTFCs, regulatory agencies and other relevant stakeholders, to develop and implement TF policies and measures, notably in the area of WTO TFA Articles 10.1; 10.3; 10.4; and 23.2	A.1.1. Adaptation of learning materials and training courses for the region Temporary assistance to support implementation of the project x 2 work month x (\$4,000 1 international consultant x 4 work-months x\$5,000 Travel of 1 UNECE staff \$3,000	31,000  8,000 20,000 3,000		
	A.1.2. Organization of two capacity-building seminars Temporary assistance to support implementation of the project x 1 work month x \$4,000 1 International consultant x 2 work months x \$5,000 Travel of 2 UNECE staff x \$3,000 per mission Contractual services Travel of 18 meeting participants x \$2,000	70,800  4,000 10,000 6,000 14,800 36,000		
	A.1.3. Organization of one sub-regional SPECA capacity-building and experience sharing conference. Temporary assistance to support implementation of the project x\$4,000 Travel of 1 UNECE staff Contractual services Travel of 9 meeting participants \$2,000	32,400  4,000 3,000 7,400 18,000		
	A.1.4. Translation of learning materials and training courses Contractual services	6,000		

<sup>1</sup> The secretariat shall inform EXCOM in case of unexpected developments or serious problems of any kind in the project implementation.

<sup>2</sup> Questions from member States on project implementation will be forwarded to the secretariat.

<sup>3</sup> Relevant information should be uploaded by the project manager on the Project Monitoring Tool within one month from the end of the activity and include the following:

(a) For an advisory service (including at a workshop/seminar/training organized by other organizations): title; venue; dates; project expenditures; and hyperlink(s) to presentation(s) and other relevant documents;

(b) For a workshop/conference/training organized by UNECE: title; venue; dates; project expenditures; and hyperlinks to the meeting agenda, list of participants, presentation(s) made by UNECE, conference documents, training materials and reports;

(c) For a consultancy: project expenditures; hyperlinks to the consultancy ToR and main outputs (study, report, training material, presentation, etc.) produced by the consultant/s;

(d) For other outputs not included under bullet points above: hyperlink to relevant documents.

<sup>4</sup> Relevant financial information – certified by the Executive Office - should be uploaded by the project manager on the Project Monitoring Tool within one month from the end of the activity.

EA2. Improved capacities of policymakers and experts to measure progress in the implementation of TF, and to achieve internal and cross-border policy coherence for the simplification and harmonization of trade procedures	A.2.1. Development of learning materials and training courses on benchmarking mechanisms into Russian. Temporary assistance to support implementation of the project x 2 work month x \$4,000 per work month 1 international consultant x 2 work months x \$5,000 Travel of 2 UNECE staff \$3,000	24,000 8,000 10,000 6,000		
	A.2.2 Organization of two capacity-building seminars Temporary assistance to support implementation of the project x 1 work month x \$4,000 per work month 1 international consultant x 2 work month x \$5,000 per month Travel of 2 UNECE staff x \$3,000 Contractual services Travel of 18 meeting participants x \$2,000	72,000 4,000 10,000 6,000 16,000 36,000		
	A.2.3 Translation of learning materials and training courses on benchmarking mechanisms into Russian. Contractual services	6,000		
	A.2.4. Update and maintenance of the UNECE TFIG. Contractual services	40,000		
	A.2.5 Organize a concluding Conference Temporary assistance to support implementation of the project x 1 work month x \$4,000 per work month Travel of 2 UNECE staff x \$3,000 Travel of 6 meeting participants x \$2,000	22,000 4,000 6,000 12,000		
	Budget summary	304,200		
Project evaluation	6,084			
13% of Programme Support Costs	40,337			
<b>Total (rounded)</b>	<b>350,000</b>			