

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ninety-fourth Meeting
Geneva, 6 November 2017

Item 6

Informal Document No. **2017/59**

Extrabudgetary projects

**Strengthening sustainable forest management monitoring and assessment
in the Caucasus and Central Asia**

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT FORM

PART I. Planning

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

Project title and project number: Strengthening sustainable forest management monitoring and assessment in the Caucasus and Central Asia						
Expected timing/ duration: November 2017- October 2018						
Objective and brief summary of the project: <p>The objective of the project is to strengthen the capacity of ECE countries in the Caucasus and Central Asia to monitor and assess sustainable forest management in this region. Most of the countries in the region are 'low forest cover countries', where forests fulfil recognized and valuable protective functions like freshwater renewal and prevention of wind and mudslide erosion, and desertification, but their economic and social functions are often not fully recognized. The countries do not regularly monitor the status of forests, and lack a holistic approach to a multi-aspect forest inventory. Due to limited monitoring and assessment, the importance of forests is often unknown to the broad public and policy makers. The problems and challenges faced by the forest sector in the region are diverse and often country specific. High fuel wood demand by the local population put high pressure on the scarce wood resources leading to illegal logging, overexploitation or deforestation. Many areas suffer from degradation under pressure from over-grazing. Desertification and pollution are serious threats to settlements and ecosystems. The potential offered by abundance of other forest products and services in developing national economies and generating employment is underutilized, which leads to the underfunding of the forest sector in the region. Because of the specificity of the region's forests and scarce source data, the forests and forest sector in the Caucasus and Central Asia have not received appropriate attention in the global or regional studies published so far.</p> <p>The objective of the project will be achieved by implementing the following activities:</p> <p>A1.1. Preparation of a Manual for the development of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management in the Caucasus and Central Asia (English and Russian languages);</p> <p>A2.1. Preparation of a publication on the State of Forests in the Caucasus and Central Asia (English and Russian languages);</p> <p>A2.2. Preparation of promotional materials and presentation of the publication at relevant events.</p> <p>The project will build on, supplement and extend work done under the UNDA 10th Tranche Project "Accountability systems for sustainable forest management in the Caucasus and Central Asian countries".</p>						
Expected results of the project: <p>EA1. Increased capacity of the UNECE countries in the Caucasus and Central Asia and the to monitor and assess Sustainable Forest Management</p> <p>EA2. Increased knowledge of the UNECE countries in the Caucasus and Central Asia of the state of their forests</p>						
Target group and beneficiaries of the project: <p>The key recipients are forest related ministries, national forest agencies, research institutes, and NGOs, and will be carried out with key partners including other international organizations in the countries. Beneficiary countries are Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.</p>						
Justification of project and its relationship to the programme of work: <p>The project is directly linked to the Expected Accomplishment (a) "Improved monitoring and assessment of the forest sector to support sustainable forest management " and (b) "Increased national capacity of countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia and South-East Europe in sustainable forest management" of the UNECE proposed Strategic Framework for 2016-2017 and 2018-2019. The project provides capacity building support in line the 2016-2017 programme of work of COFFI and the 2018-2019 ECE Strategic Framework (A/71/6) under Subprogramme 7. The project is part of the implementation of the ECE/FAO Integrated programme of Work, Work Area 1: <i>Data, monitoring and assessment</i> and Work Area 4: <i>Capacity Building</i>.</p>						
Estimated UN regular budget resources (work months of RB staff/level of Staff): <p>1.5. months of the P4/RB</p>						
Estimated extra budgetary resources: <p>Please ensure that the below amount matches the total estimated costs in the annex</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th align="center">Donor</th> <th align="center">Amount (US\$)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td align="center">Switzerland</td> <td align="center">100,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Donor	Amount (US\$)	Switzerland	100,000
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Switzerland	100,000					
Project Manager: Roman Michalak	06.10.2017	Section/Division: Forestry and Timber Section/ Forests, Land and Housing				
Cleared by Programme Management Unit Catherine Haswell Acting Director	06.10.2017	Approved by EXCOM ¹ 06.11.2017				

¹ See paragraph 31 (a) of Commission decision A(65).

Annex
Results-based budget for the extra-budgetary project

	Part I. Planning (to be filled in before submission to EXCOM)		Part II. Implementation (to be used for reporting on progress in the implementation of the project in real time) ^{1,2}	
Expected accomplishments	Planned activities	Estimated costs (US\$)	Implemented activities³	Actual expenditures⁴ (US\$)
EA1. Increased capacity of the UNECE countries in Central Asia and Caucasus to monitor and assess Sustainable Forest Management	A1.1.Preparation of a Manual for the development of Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management in the Caucasus and Central Asia	32,000		
	1 contractor to collect relevant data and draft the manual x \$5,000 x 4 months	20,000		
	Contractual services to translate and edit the Manual x \$3,000 x 4 months	12,000		
EA2. Increased knowledge of the UNECE countries in the Caucasus and Central Asia of the state of their forests	A2.1. Preparation of a publication on the State of Forests in the Caucasus and Central Asia	45,000		
	1 contractor to collect relevant data and information x 6,000 x 3 months	18,000		
	1 international consultant to draft the publication x \$5,000 x 3 months	15,000		
	Contractual services to translate and edit the publication x \$3,000 x 4 months	12,000		
	A2.1. Preparation of promotional materials and presentation of the publication at relevant events	10,000		
	1 contractor x \$5,000 x 1 month	5,000		
	1 staff x \$2,500 x 2 missions	5,000		
Budget summary		87,000		
13% of Programme Support Costs		13,000		
Total		100,000		

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

² Questions from member States on project implementation will be forwarded to the secretariat.

³ 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.

⁴ 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.