

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Item 9

Informal Document No. **2018/37**

Extrabudgetary projects

**Strengthening national capacity of the UN member States
for environmentally responsible methane management through coordination of activities
of the International Centre of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane in Poland**

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT FORM

Project title and project number: Strengthening national capacity of the UN member States for environmentally responsible methane management through coordination of activities of the International Centre of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane in Poland

Expected timing/ duration: 1 January 2019 – 30 June 2020

Objective and brief summary of the project:

The objective of the project is to strengthen national capacity of the UNECE and other selected Member States for environmentally responsible methane management, through the dissemination of best practices in the abatement, recovery, and use of methane through coordination of activities of the International Centre of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane in Poland (ICE-CMM Poland) with activities of other ICE-CMMs operating under the auspices of the UNECE Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane. ICE-CMMs are designed as non-profit entities subject to the national laws of the respective host Member States. The centres support capacity-building activities in UN Member States and serve as a platform for discussion of safety, environmental and economic aspects of coal mine methane (CMM). In particular, the centres focus on issues such as effective drainage and use of methane in coal mines and cost-effective and socially responsible use or destruction of captured methane. In addition to facilitating exchange of knowledge and experience, hosting visits of experts, and organizing professional trainings, the Centres also contribute to improvement and dissemination of the UNECE Best Practices Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines. The Best Practices Guidance is a publication issued by the UNECE Group of Experts on CMM and endorsed by ECOSOC (Decision 2011/222), which invited the UN Member States, international organizations and the regional commissions to take appropriate measures to ensure its worldwide application. As of today, two centres have been established, the International Centre of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane in Poland and the International Centre of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane in China, and three others, in the Russian Federation, in Ukraine, and in Colombia are expected to be established in the coming years. The objective of the project will be achieved through the following activities:

- A1.1. Supporting ICE-CMM in Poland in development and implementation of the work plans by assuring through coordination with the Group of Experts their compliance with the requirements, mandate and current work of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane.
- A1.2. Identifying and engaging with entities interested in cooperation with ICE-CMM in Poland, as well as in establishing new ICE-CMMs in other UN Member States (conceptualization, strategy development and operations/management of ICE-CMMs);
- A1.3. Quality assurance of reports issued by the ICE-CMM in Poland and of their efficient implementation;
- A2.1. Overseeing translation of the *Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines* into Polish, and assuring the accuracy and quality of the issued documents, as well as their compliance with the UN rules and standards applicable to publications;
- A.2.2. Providing guidance to ICE-CMM in Poland on subjects, content, and methods of development of case studies on implementation of best practices and measures for efficient methane drainage and use in coal mines around the world;
- A2.3. Providing guidance to the ICE-CMM in Poland on effective national strategies for effective dissemination of the *Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines*;
- A3.1. Providing substantive inputs to the capacity-building workshops promoting methane drainage and use (advising on their content, assuring that their quality and scope match the expectations of the Group of Experts, and coordinating their programmes with other events organized by the Group of Experts and other ICE-CMMs).
- A.3.2. Providing substantive inputs to the seminars on practical application of best practices (advising on their content, assuring that their quality and scope match the expectations of the Group of Experts, and coordinating their programmes with other events organized by the Group of Experts and other ICE-CMMs).

The project will be delivered in collaboration with the regional commissions and other partners according to ECOSOC Decision 222/2011 “to invite States Members of the United Nations, international organizations and the regional commissions to consider the possibility of taking appropriate measures to ensure the application of the Best Practice Guidance [for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines (ECE Energy Series No. 47)] in countries worldwide.”

Expected results of the project:

- EA1. Robust network of Centres of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane established and maintained, and the resulting improvements of the efficiency of activities of ICE-CMM in Poland and other ICE-CMMs.
- EA2. Dissemination and popularization of the *Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines* in Polish mines in accordance with international standards developed and coordinated by UNECE Group of Experts on CMM.
- EA3. Increased capacity of the UN member States to apply internationally recognized best practices in the abatement, recovery, and use of CMM.

Target group and beneficiaries of the project:

The target group are the Ministries responsible for the environment, energy, and mining as well as policymakers from other relevant agencies; and coal mining professionals dealing with sustainable use of coal mine and coalbed methane. The beneficiary countries are UNECE and selected UN Member States (tentative list of countries: Georgia, Poland, Russian Federation, Turkey, Ukraine, China, India, Colombia, Mongolia and Vietnam).

Justification of project and its relationship to the programme of work:

The project is linked to the expected accomplishment (a) “Improved policy dialogue and cooperation among all stakeholders on sustainable energy issues, in particular energy efficiency, cleaner electricity production from fossil fuels, renewable energy, coal mine methane, mineral resources classification, natural gas and energy security” of Subprogramme 5 “Sustainable Energy” of the UNECE Strategic Framework for 2018-2019. The Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane is mandated by the Committee on Sustainable Energy to carry out concrete, result-oriented activities that promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from coal mines through recovery and use of methane, in order to reduce the risks of explosions in coal mines (ECE/EX/7). The

principal area of work of the Group of Experts is best practice guidance for effective drainage, recovery and usage of CMM, which is achieved including through collaboration with key stakeholders such as existing and prospective ICE-CMMs as well as GMI.	
Estimated UN regular budget resources (work months of RB staff/level of Staff): 1 month/ P5 staff annually	
Estimated extra budgetary resources:	
Donor	Amount (US\$)
Izba Gospodarcza Gazownictwa (Polish Chamber of Natural Gas Industry) (the legal entity hosting ICE-CMM Poland)	75,000
Project Manager: Charlotte Griffiths	20.11. 2018
Section/Division: Energy Industry Section/Sustainable Energy Division	
Cleared by Programme Management Unit: Catherine Haswell	Approved by EXCOM¹: Date: 14.12.2018
Chief	20.11.2018

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

Annex
Results-based budget for the extra-budgetary project

Expected accomplishments	Planned activities	Estimated costs (US\$)
EA1. Robust network of Centres of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane established and maintained, and the resulting improvements of the efficiency of activities of ICE-CMM in Poland and other ICE-CMMs	A1.1. Supporting ICE-CMM in Poland in development and implementation of the work plans by assuring through coordination with the Group of Experts their compliance with the requirements, mandate and current work of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane Staff support (P3 level) x 6 months x \$10,500 per month (10% time)	6,300
	A1.2. Identifying and engaging with entities interested in cooperation with ICE-CMM in Poland, as well as in establishing new ICE-CMMs in other UN Member States (conceptualization, strategy development and operations/management of ICE-CMMs) Identifying and engaging with entities interested in cooperation with ICE-CMM in Poland, as well as in establishing new ICE-CMMs. Staff support (P3 level) x 6 months x \$10,500 per month (10% time)	6,300
	A1.3. Quality assurance of reports issued by the ICE-CMM in Poland and of their efficient implementation Staff support (P3 level) x 6 months x \$10,500 per month (10% time)	6,300
EA2. Dissemination and popularization of the Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines in Polish mines in accordance with international standards developed and coordinated by the Group of Experts on CMM	A2.1. Overseeing translation of the Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines into Polish, and assuring the accuracy and quality of the issued documents, as well as their compliance with the UN rules and standards applicable to publications Oversight of delivering translations of the Best Practice Guidance into Polish and assuring the accuracy and quality of the document, as well as advise on the UN rules and procedures related to publishing and printing. Staff support (P3 level) x 6 months x \$10,500 per month (10% time)	6,300
	A2.2. Providing guidance to ICE-CMM in Poland on subjects, content, and methods of development of case studies on implementation of best practices and measures for efficient methane drainage and use in coal mines around the world Staff support (P3 level) x 6 months x \$10,500 per month (10% time)	6,300
	A2.3. Providing guidance to the ICE-CMM in Poland on effective national strategies for effective dissemination of the Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines Advice on dissemination and promotion of the Best Practice Guidance and case studies, and support with organizing relevant dissemination activities among the stakeholder in Poland and in the region Staff support (P3 level) x 6 months x \$10,500 per month (10% time)	6,300
EA3. Increased capacity of the UN member States to apply internationally recognized best practices in the abatement, recovery, and use of CMM	A3.1. Providing substantive inputs to the capacity-building workshops promoting methane drainage and use (advising on their content, assuring that their quality and scope match the expectations of the Group of Experts, and coordinating their programmes with other events organized by the Group of Experts and other ICE-CMMs). Staff support (P3 level) x 6 months x \$10,500 per month (20% time) Travel of staff to support delivery of workshops	14,285 12,600 1,685
	A3.2. Providing substantive inputs to the seminars on practical application of best practices (advising on their content, assuring that their quality and scope match the expectations of the Group of Experts, and coordinating their programmes with other events organized by the Group of Experts and other ICE-CMMs). Staff support (P3 level) x 6 months x \$10,500 per month (20% time) Travel of staff to support delivery of seminars	14,285 12,600 1,685
Budget summary		\$66,370
13% of Programme Support Costs		\$8,630
Total		\$75,000