

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Ninety-ninth meeting  
Geneva, 4 July 2018

Item 8

Informal Document No. **2018/21**

**Extrabudgetary projects**

**Strengthening the capacity of the SPECA to support countries in achieving  
the Sustainable Development Goals through subregional cooperation**

**UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT FORM**

**PART I. Planning**

<b>Project title:</b> Strengthening the capacity of the SPECA to support countries in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals through subregional cooperation		
<b>Expected timing/ duration:</b> July 2018 – July 2020		
<b>Objective and brief summary of the project:</b> The objective of this project is to strengthen the capacity of SPECA to support countries to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through sub-regional cooperation. The United Nations launched the SPECA programme in 1998 to strengthen subregional cooperation in Central Asia and its integration into the world economy. UNECE and UNESCAP jointly support the Programme. The SPECA participating countries (Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan) attach high importance to the Programme as a unique instrument bringing them together in the search of joint solutions. The Programme operates through six thematic working groups on water, energy and environment, transport, trade, knowledge-based development, gender and economy, and statistics. In 2015, after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the SPECA Governing Council decided that the Programme would become a platform for sub-regional cooperation for the implementation of SDGs. In 2018, SPECA is chaired by Kazakhstan aiming to review and strengthen the Programme as a platform for subregional cooperation to achieve the SDGs. The objective of the project will be achieved by implementing the following activities: A1.1. Provide support to the organization of the annual SPECA Economic Forum and the SPECA Governing Council (Almaty, Kazakhstan, September 2018). A2.1. Organize up to 2 meetings of SPECA thematic working groups and related meetings in conjunction with the annual SPECA events in Almaty with a specific focus on subregional cooperation for the achievement of the SDGs;  This project is linked to the Russian-funded project E262 providing support to SPECA. The proposed project supports specifically SPECA events in Almaty in September 2018.		
<b>Expected results of the project:</b> EA1. Improved cooperation of SPECA countries; EA2. Improved capacities of SPECA countries to adopt policy recommendations and guidelines for subregional cooperation in support of achieving the SDGs in the specific area of the thematic working group.		
<b>Target group and beneficiaries of the project:</b> This project targets policymakers dealing with policy issues on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Beneficiary countries are Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.		
<b>Justification of project and its relationship to the programme of work:</b> The project is directly linked to the Strategic framework for 2018-2019 of Programme 17 “Economic development in Europe”, paragraphs 17.6 “The United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia, jointly implemented by ECE and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, will continue to serve as the major framework for ECE cooperation with other relevant stakeholders in Central Asia” and 17.7 “Within its mandate, the programme will contribute to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including within the framework of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.”		
<b>Estimated UN regular budget resources (work months of RB staff/level of Staff):</b> 0.5 months/ P4 (Regional Advisor); 0.5 months G7.		
<b>Estimated extra budgetary resources:</b>		
<b>Donor</b>	<b>Amount (US\$)</b>	
Kazakhstan	40,000	
<b>Project Manager:</b> Mario Apostolov	11.06.2018	<b>Section/Division:</b> Economic Cooperation and Trade
<b>Cleared by Programme Management Unit:</b> Catherine Haswell	<b>Approved by EXCOM<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>04.07.2018</b>
<b>Chief of PMU</b>	11.06.2018	

<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>	
<b>Expected Accomplishments</b>	<b>Planned activities</b>	<b>Estimated costs (US\$)</b>	<b>Implemented activities<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Actual expenditures<sup>4</sup> (US\$)</b>
EA1. Improved cooperation of SPECA countries	A1.1. Provide support to the organization of the annual SPECA Economic Forum and the SPECA Governing Council (Almaty, Kazakhstan, September 2018). Travel of 3 staff x \$2,500 Travel of 3 experts x 3 x \$2,500	15,000  7,500 7,500		
EA2. Improved capacities of SPECA countries to adopt policy recommendations and guidelines for subregional cooperation in support of achieving the SDGs in the specific area of the thematic working group	A.2.1 Organize up to 2 meetings of SPECA thematic working groups and related meetings in conjunction with the annual SPECA events in Almaty with a specific focus on regional cooperation for the achievement of the SDGs. Travel of 5 experts x \$2,500 Travel of 1 staff x \$3,000 Contractual services to support organisation of meetings x \$5,000	20,500  12,500 3,000 5,000		
Budget summary		35,500		
13% of Programme Support Costs		4,615		
<b>Total (rounded)</b>		<b>40,000</b>	<b>Total:</b>	

<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.