

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Item 9

Informal Document No. **2019/5**

Extrabudgetary projects

**Strengthening the capacity of the Caucasus, Central Asia, Eastern
and South-East Europe to restore forest landscapes under the Bonn Challenge**

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT FORM

Project title and project number: Strengthening the capacity of the Caucasus, Central Asia, Eastern and South-East Europe to restore forest landscapes under the Bonn Challenge		
Expected timing/ duration: March 2019 - March 2020		
Objective and brief summary of the project: The objective of the project is to strengthen the capacity of countries of the Caucasus, Central Asia, Eastern Europe and South-East Europe to restore forest landscapes under the Bonn Challenge - a global effort to restore 350 million hectares of the world's degraded and deforested lands by 2030. The UNECE region accommodates about 40% of the world's forests, that provide numerous economic, environmental and social benefits. Thus, the region bears a great potential to contribute to climate mitigation through restoration of deforested and degraded land in support of SDG 13 and 15. This project builds on the successful outcome of the project "Strengthening capacity of Caucasus and Central Asia to restore deforested and degraded lands in support of the international Bonn Challenge and the achievement of SDG 13 & 15" (January – December 2018). In particular, the first Ministerial Roundtable on Forest Landscape Restoration and the Bonn Challenge in the Caucasus and Central Asia (21-22 June 2018) led to pledges to restore over 2.5 million hectares of forest landscape under the Bonn Challenge by 2030 by Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan and to the adoption of the Astana Resolution, committing the Caucasus and Central Asia region to go beyond 2.5 million hectares, and strengthen partnerships and regional cooperation to this end. Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan showed interest to join the Bonn Challenge in the future. The proposed project will deliver the following activities: A1.1. Preparation of a background study on degradation and restoration of forest landscapes in Eastern and South-East Europe; A1.2. Organization of a high-level meeting on forest landscape restoration and the Bonn Challenge for Eastern and South-East Europe; A2.1. Development of a greening strategy to restore landscapes while contributing to mitigation and adaptation to climate change (regional and/ or country specific); A2.2. Conducting awareness raising missions on the greening strategy including meeting with the potential donors; A2.3. Organization of a follow-up meeting of the Astana Ministerial Roundtable to enhance the implementation of forest landscape restoration in the Caucasus and Central Asia and to present and discuss the greening strategy. Germany will support activities A1.1., A1.2., A2.3. Other donors (including Switzerland) are expected to support activities A2.1, A2.2., A2.3. The project will be implemented with partners including other international organizations including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (GFFFN).		
Expected results of the project: EA1. Increased commitment of Eastern and South-East Europe to restore degraded forest landscapes in support of the Bonn Challenge and the achievement of SDGs 13 and 15; EA2. Increased capacity of Caucasus and Central Asia countries to implement landscape restoration in the framework of the Bonn Challenge commitments.		
Target group and beneficiaries of the project: The target group are staff of forest related ministries, national forest agencies, research institutes, and NGOs. Beneficiaries to the project are UNECE countries of the Caucasus, Central Asia, Eastern and South-East Europe (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan).		
Justification of project and its relationship to the programme of work: The project is directly linked to the Expected Accomplishment (b) "Increased national capacity of countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, Central Asia and South-East Europe in sustainable forest management" of the UNECE strategic framework for 2018-2019. The project is a part of the implementation of the ECE/FAO Integrated programme of Work 2018-2021, Work Area 1: Policy Dialogue and Advise and Work Area 4: Capacity Building.		
Estimated UN regular budget resources (work months of RB staff/level of Staff): 1.5 months of P4/ RB		
Estimated extra budgetary resources:		
	Donors	Amount (USD)
	Germany	100,000
	Estimated contributions from other donors (including Switzerland)	149,000
	Total expected contribution	249,000
Project Manager: Roman Michalak 11.01.2019	Section/Division: Forestry and Timber Section Forests, Land and Housing Division	
Cleared by Programme Management Unit: Catherine Haswell Chief 11.01.2019	Approved by EXCOM¹	01.02.2019

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 (USD)
EA1. Increased commitment of Eastern and South-East Europe to restore degraded forest landscapes in support of the Bonn Challenge and the achievement of SDGs 13 and 15	A1.1. Preparation of a background study on degradation and restoration of forest land in Eastern and South-East Europe; 1 international consultant to draft the study x 4 months x \$5,000 Contractual services to edit and translate the study into Russian x 2 months x \$4,000	28,000 20,000 8,000
	A1.2. Organization of a high-level meeting on forest landscape restoration and the Bonn Challenge for Eastern and South-East Europe; Travel of 15 participants x \$2,300 Travel of 2 staff x \$2,300 1 individual contractor to support organization x 4 months x \$5,000 Operational costs (venue, interpretation, hospitality)	74,100 34,500 4,600 20,000 15,000
EA2. Increased capacity of Caucasus and Central Asia countries to implement landscape restoration in the framework of the Bonn Challenge commitments	A2.1. Development of a greening strategy to restore landscapes while contributing to mitigation and adaptation to climate change (regional and/ or country specific); 1 international consultant to draft the strategy x 4 months x \$5,000 Contractual services to edit and translate the study into Russian x 2 months x \$4,000 1 individual contractor to support research and communication x 1.5 months x \$5,000	35,500 20,000 8,000 7,500
	A2.2. Conducting awareness raising missions on the greening strategy including meeting with the potential donors; Travel of 3 staff x \$2,000 Travel of 1 consultant to present the strategies at meetings x 3 missions x \$2,000 1 individual contractor to support organisation of the missions x 1.5 months x \$5,000	19,500 6,000 6,000 7,500
	A2.3. Organization of a follow-up meeting of the Astana Ministerial Roundtable to enhance the implementation of forest landscape restoration in the Caucasus and Central Asia and to present and discuss the greening strategy. Travel of 8 participants x \$2,500 Travel of 2 staff x \$2,500 Travel of 2 consultant x \$2,500 1 individual contractor to support organization of the meeting x 4 months x \$5,000 Operational costs (venue, interpretation, hospitality)	63,254 20,000 5,000 5,000 20,000 13,254
Budget summary		220,354
13% of Programme Support Costs		28,646
Total		249,000