

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

108th meeting
Geneva, 16 December 2019

Item 11

Informal Document No. **2019/50**

Extrabudgetary project

Enhancing circumboreal cooperation in support of SDG 15

**UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT FORM**

Project title: Enhancing circumboreal cooperation in support of SDG 15		
Expected timing/ duration: January 2020 - December 2021		
Objective and brief summary of the project: <p>The objective of this project is to enhance circumboreal cooperation in the UNECE region. The boreal forest contains a third of all the trees on earth and in combination with its soil forms the largest storage of CO₂ and boreal forest-based products offer an alternative to more carbon-intensive materials such as plastics, concrete or steel. The joint 77th session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI) and the 40th session of the FAO European Forestry Commission (EFC) (Geneva, 4–7 November 2019), established the Team of Specialists (ToS) on Boreal Forests. The ToS will (i) contribute to the exchange of information, experiences and best practices on boreal forests; (ii) facilitate a science policy dialogue on boreal forest issues; (iii) contribute to identifying knowledge gaps that, when addressed, can provide policy responses to international challenges; (iv) work with other international bodies, including the International Boreal Forest Research Association (IBFRA), with a view to achieving coordination of initiatives; and (v) collaborate with other ECE/ FAO Teams of Specialists on cross-cutting issues.</p> <p>The objective of the project will be achieved by implementing the following activities: A1.1. Organisation of meetings of the ToS on Boreal Forests; A1.2. Preparation and translation (English-Russian) of policy briefs, substantive and informational materials on boreal forests (as requested by the ToS).</p>		
Expected results of the project: EA1. Improve awareness and understanding of the role boreal forests play in global issues such as climate change and the bioeconomy, as well as in addressing the challenges reflected in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.		
Target group and beneficiaries of the project: Target audience will include government officials from relevant ministries, national experts, representatives of the private sector, civil society, and academia. Beneficiary countries are UNECE member States.		
Justification of project and its relationship to the programme of work: The project contributes directly to the objective of the of the Subprogramme 7 “Forestry and timber” of the UNECE proposed programme budget for 2020 “to strengthen sustainable management of forests and enhance the contribution of forests and forest products to sustainable development in the ECE region”. The joint 77th session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI) and the 40th session of the FAO European Forestry Commission (EFC) (4 – 7 November 2019) established the Team of Specialists (ToS) on Boreal Forests (ECE/TIM/2019/2-FO:EFC/2019/2).		
Estimated UN regular budget resources (work months of RB staff/level of Staff): 1 month of RB/P5		
Estimated extra budgetary resources:		
Donor Russian Federation	Amount (US\$) 132,000	
Project Manager: Paola Deda 21.11.2019	Section/Division: UNECE-FAO Forestry and Timber Section/ Forests, Land and Housing Division	
Cleared by Programme Management Unit: Catherine Haswell Chief 21.11.2019	Approved by EXCOM¹	16.12.2019

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 (US\$)
EA1. Improved cooperation and collaboration between countries with boreal forests and science and policy institutions	A1.1. Organisation of meetings of the ToS on Boreal Forests;	72,800
	Temporary P2 staff x 4 months x \$11,000	44,000
	Travel of experts to the ToS meetings x 3 missions x \$2,500	7,500
	Travel of staff x 3 missions x \$2,500	7,500
	Contractual services (interpretation services for the ToS meetings, English-Russian)	13,800
	A1.2. Preparation and translation (English-Russian) of policy briefs, substantive and informational materials on boreal forests (as requested by the ToS).	44,000
	Temporary P2 staff x 4 months x \$11,000	44,000
Budget summary		116,800
13% of Programme Support Costs		15,184
Total (rounded)		132,000