

## **Agenda Item 4.b.**

Update on the progress of work on the project on forest information systems

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# Aims of the project

- Forest Information Systems (FIS) are processes and tools that help gather information on forests, synthesize it and make it accessible, which leads to informed decisions, better monitoring of results and enables improvement of existing policies.
- This project aims to support countries of the Caucasus, Central Asia and Eastern Europe by providing them with the knowledge and tools to analyse their needs, and development their national FIS.
- It builds upon results of the UNECE/FAO, UNDA project “Accountability Systems for Sustainable Forest Management in the Caucasus and Central Asia”.
- The project aims at further strengthening the countries’ capacities in forest management and governance.

# Aims of the project

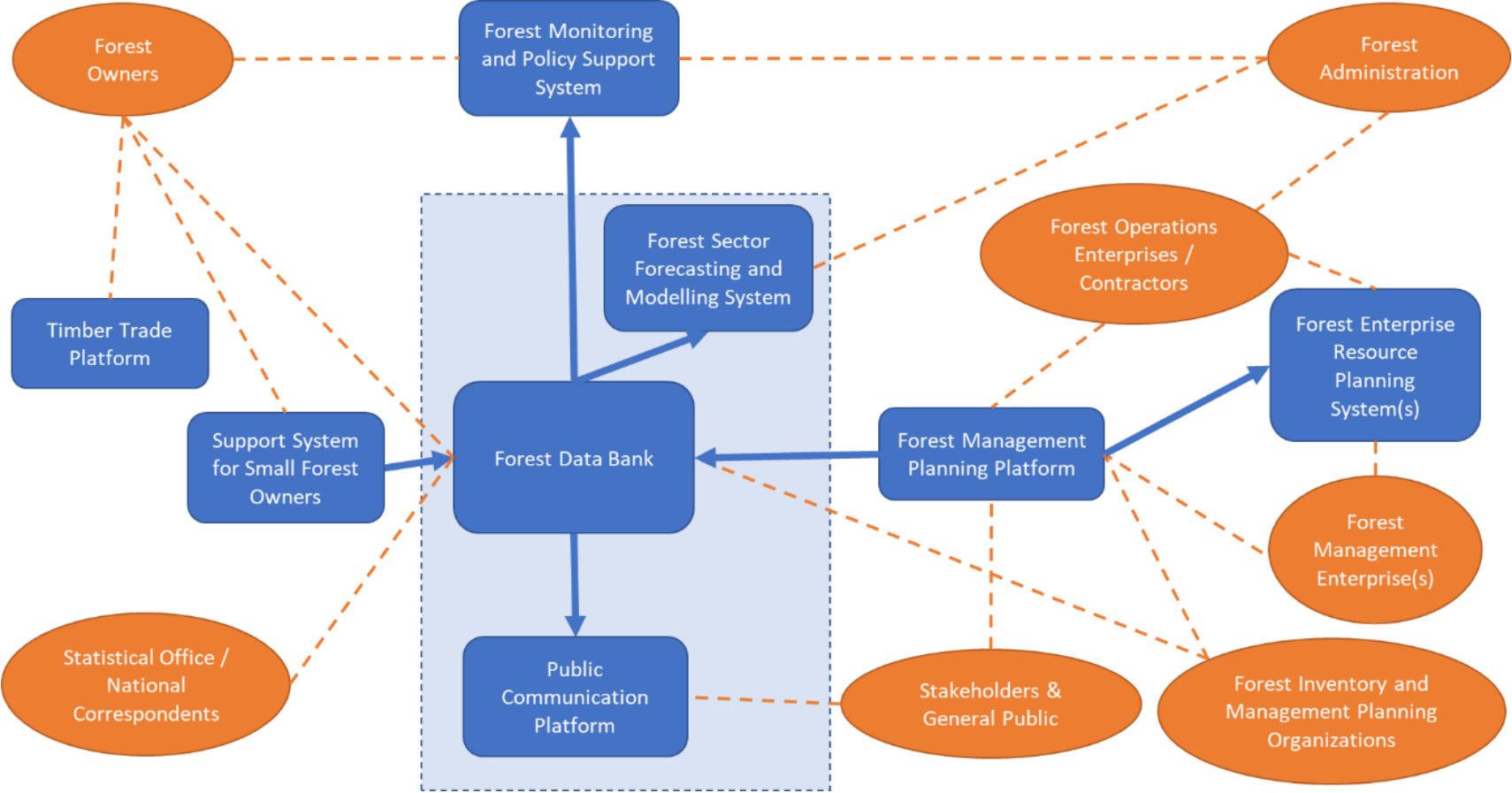
- Countries of the region have been advancing their forest policy and forest management systems, however there are visible differences in terms of the advancement of their implementation.
- This provides basis for, but also poses challenges to implementing forest policies and related tools. FIS would be a suitable tool to advance the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of forests policy in the region.
- The project aims to support countries of the Caucasus, Central Asia and Eastern Europe (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) by providing hands-on knowledge and tools to analyse their needs to develop their own national FIS.
- The project is primarily linked to the SDG 15. “Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss” and related targets

# Main activities

- Preparation of the guide document for developing Forest Information Systems, (in the English and Russian languages).
- Conducting analysis of the current situation, needs, requirements and opportunities for building Forest Information Systems in two countries of the region (Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan).
- Organisation of training sessions for national experts from the beneficiary countries on the development and pilot implementation of the guiding document (in the English and Russian languages).

# Main activities

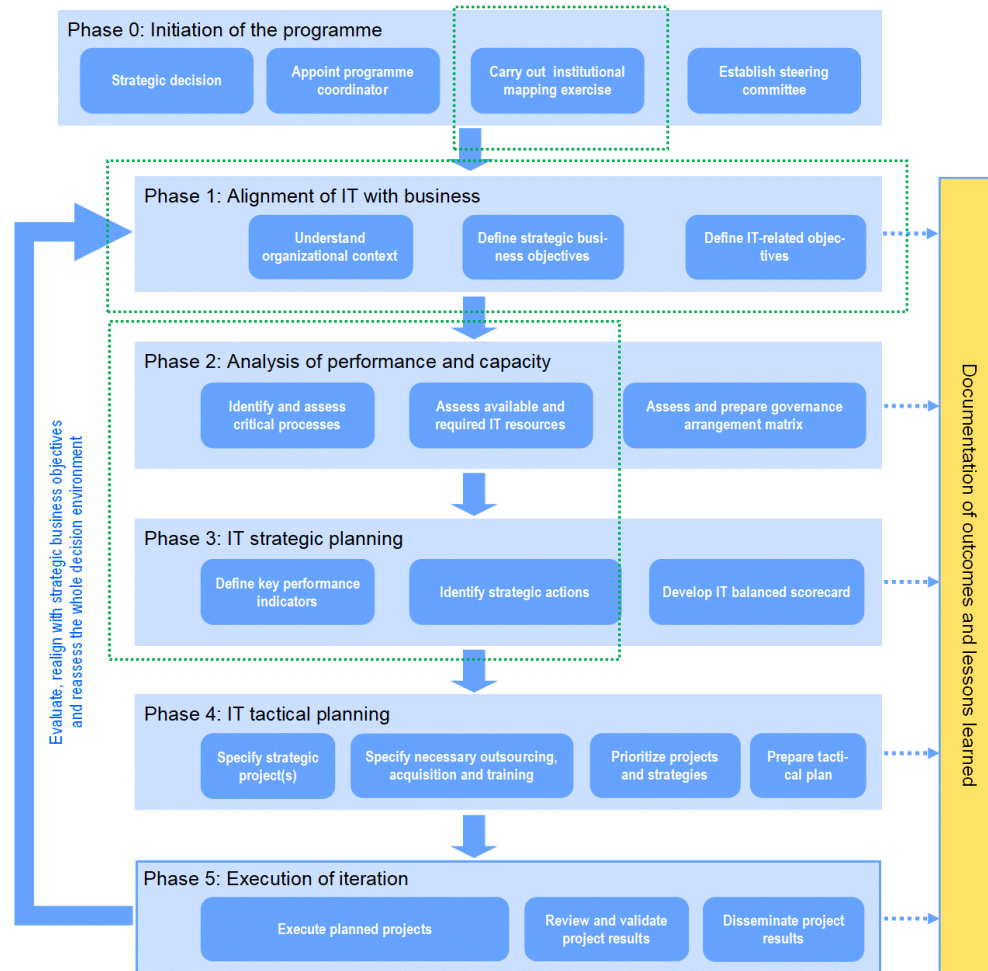
## Typical components of forest information systems



# Main activities

- Contrary to other strategies that may be under preparation or in force, digital transformation strategies are built from a different perspective and pursue different goals.
- Starting from the objectives formulated at a general level, these strategies focus on the transformation of products, services, processes, and organizational aspects using new technologies.
- It is thus critical to obtain a close fit between digital transformation strategies, IT strategies, and all other organizational and functional strategies.

# Strategic framework

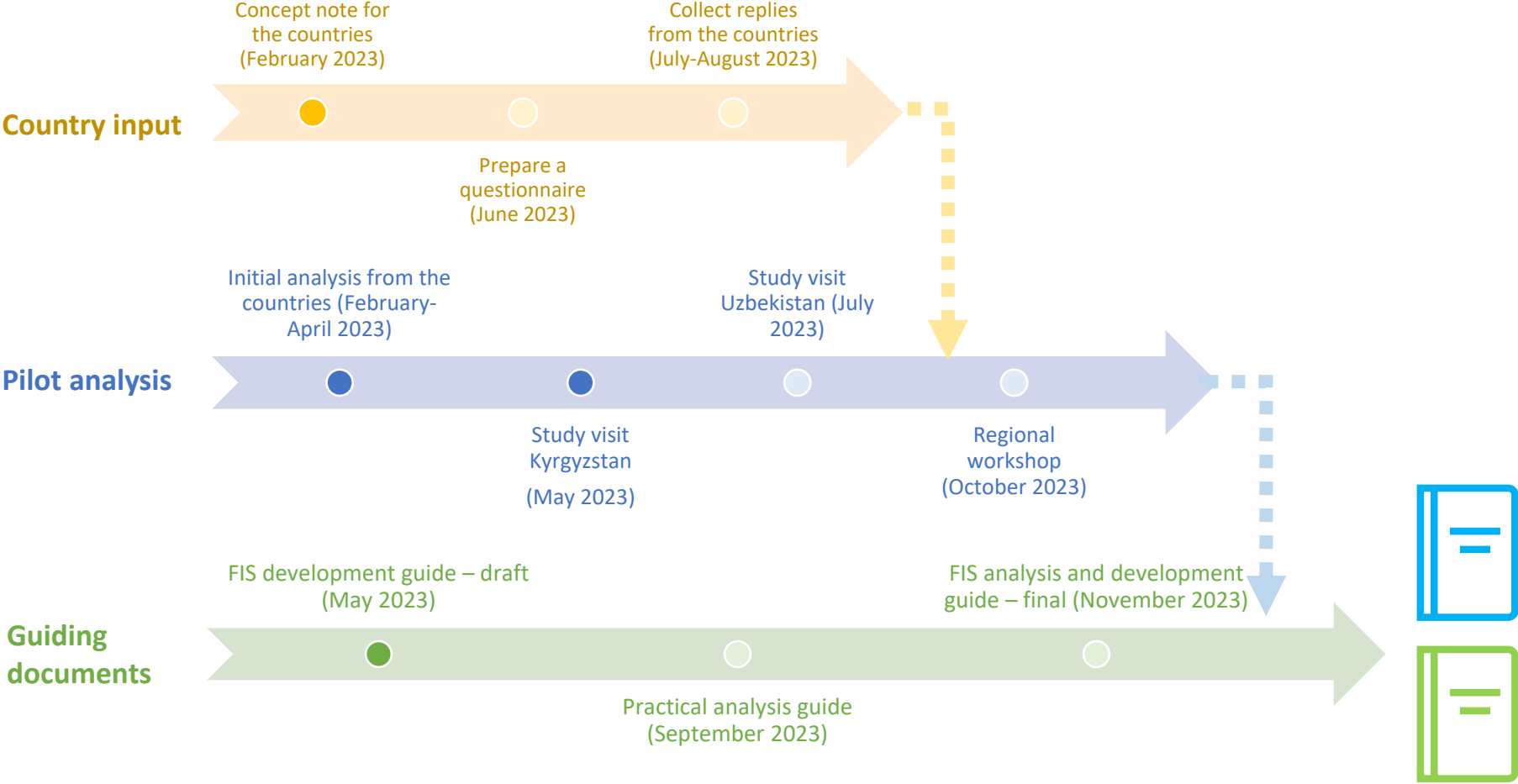


# Scope and expectations from the pilot projects

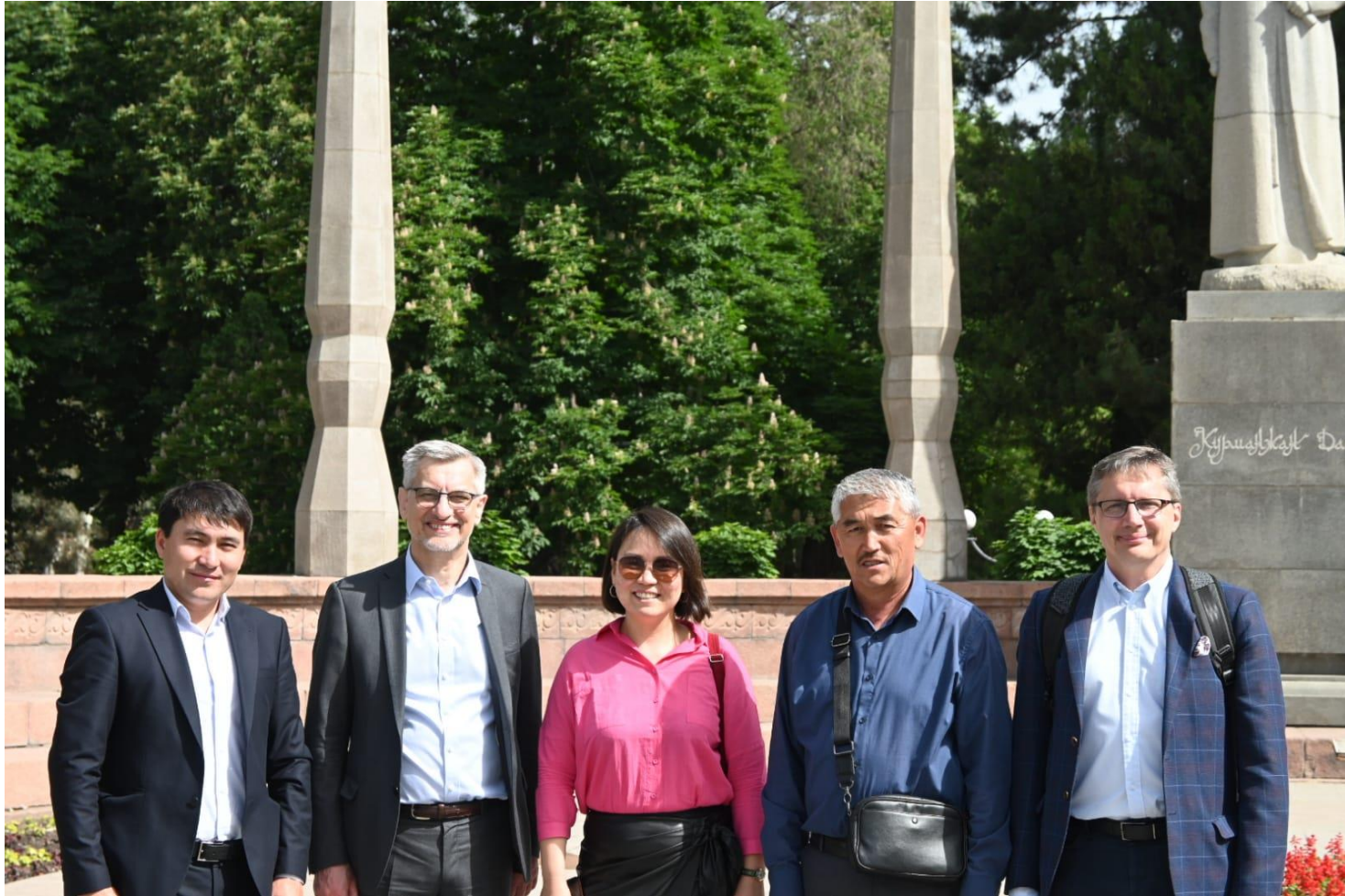
- **Institutional mapping exercise**
  - Relevant stakeholders are identified. They should also include those agencies that are not directly governing the forest sector but that are making decisions that affect land use.
- **Analysis how the forest sector is organized**
- **Determination of needs and opportunities for improvement in information processing**
- **Defining possible business goals for IT transformation**
- **Defining possible IT objectives for IT transformation**
- **Assessment of the current IT capacity**
  - (1) identification and assessment of the maturity of critical IT processes, with reference to business objectives of IT to be pursued,
  - (2) SWOT Analysis of IT resources, identified as information, people, applications and infrastructure.
- **IT strategic planning**
  - (1) definition of indicators for measuring the goals reached and the efficiency of critical processes,
  - (2) define strategic actions that should cover eliminate or reduce the identified gaps, being ultimately aimed at achieving the identified business objectives



# Project plan and progress



# Study visit to Kyrgyzstan



Third (32<sup>nd</sup>) meeting of the “UNECE/FAO Team of Specialists on monitoring sustainable forest management” – 30 May 2023, Geneva

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# Thank you

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