

External evaluation of the UNECE-FAO United Nations Development Account (UNDA) Project: 12/13AW Sustainable Forest Management for Greener Economies in the Caucasus and Central Asia
Progress report as at 31 August 2016

#	Recommendation	Action agreed	Responsibility	Target date/deadline	Date of implementation/comments
1	Closer cooperation with the state agencies, focusing on creating ownership mechanisms from the side of such institutions, including (but not limited to) developing of cooperation memorandums.	To identify communication focal points in the responsible ministry and the forest agency for a new project or capacity building activities to ensure better information flow and ownership of achieved results at country level.	UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section	by the end of 2016	Communication focal points will be identified by (or shortly after) the inception workshop for the 10th Tranche UNDA project "Accountability systems for sustainable forest management in the Caucasus and Central Asia", which will be organized in November 2016 in Yerevan, Armenia.
2	Provide knowledge and skills for civic groups for advocating their vision from bottom up (not only capacity building on strategy and action plan methodologies).	To encourage active involvement of non-governmental organizations and other civic groups into activities (workshops, seminars, intergovernmental meetings) organized by UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section during 2016 and the following years, targeting to regular engagement of non-governmental partners to enhance the skills and knowledge development of civic groups.	UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section	continuous	The UNECE-FAO Forestry and Timber Section will continue its efforts in encouraging active involvement of non-governmental organizations and other civic groups into activities organized by the Section.
3	Maintain and expand the project website by uploading more results oriented documents (action plans, programmes or strategies).	To request the latest versions of the relevant documents from project countries and will upload them to the project website.	UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section	by the end of June 2016	The Section requests an extension of the deadline for the implementation of this recommendation until the end of 2016 as we continue to communicate with the project countries.
4	A) Develop information packages in local languages B) Develop printed information packages and disseminate at the local level C) Develop national awareness-raising campaigns with involvement of local youth, female groups and active local leadership groups.	Ad A) To request the material translated to local languages during the project, coordinated or undertaken by national government focal points, and once received make it available through the project website.	UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section	by the end of August 2016	The Section will liaise, as appropriate, with national governments related to the translation of information documents in national languages during the inception workshop of the new UNECE/FAO UNDA project, which is planned to take place in November 2016.
		Ad B) To develop a printed publication (in English and Russian) of the project training material and results.	UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section	by the mid 2017	The Section will carry out the printing in accordance to the target date specified.
		Ad C) To identify examples of successful communication or awareness-raising campaigns in the a study on forest sector workforce, including the review of forestry education in the region, green economy or bio-economy strategies and action plans. Gender and youth aspects will also be considered in the study.	UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section	by the end 2016	The Section requests an extension of the deadline until the fall of 2017 as the publication will be presented to the next joint session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission.
5	Set separate, country specific targets and success indicators.	To review the status of the individual countries at the beginning of the new capacity building project and will agree on targets and indicators together with the relevant ministries and forest agencies. To monitor the implementation of the project by progress towards achievement of the targets during the project.	UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section	by the end of 2016 and beginning of 2017	The Section will communicate the agreed targets and indicators by the end of 2016/beginning of 2017. The Section will also use these agreed targets and indicators to monitor implementation of the project during its lifespan.
6	Introduction of case studies similar to individual CCA countries in training materials.	To include case studies in the future training materials, if such case studies are available on new topics.	UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section	by the end of 2018	First materials to be finished by the end of 2016. The Section will also encourage member States to elaborate and share existing case studies.
7	Apply instruments for evaluation of training success (e.g. pre-post testing).	To plan possible instruments for measuring training success along with the recommendation 5 on country specific indicators for monitoring the success within the future capacity building activities.	UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section	by the end of 2016 and beginning of 2017	The Section will explore possible instruments for specifically measuring training success to be included to those chosen in 5 and for monitoring during the project's lifespan as above.

8	Female involvement in decision-making process, inclusion in the forestry sector management and empowerment of female groups should be encouraged to promote sustainable forest management principles in practice.	To encourage female participation in workshops, seminars and intergovernmental meetings as much as possible, e.g. by inclusion of female speakers in workshop programmes and panels.	UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section	continuous	In the next UNECE-FAO Forestry and Timber Section UNDA project the importance of inclusion of women in workshop invitations will be separately stressed when working with national partners. UNECE/FAO will add gender information option (male/female) to the meeting evaluation forms (starting from the new project inception workshop in November 2016)
9	Further cooperation among project participants should be encouraged and enhanced.	To continue working with the project participants by inviting them to future workshops and activities organized by UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section.	UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section	continuous	Expertise and networks developed during the project will be accessed when relevant as well as maintained during the new UNDA project. Regarding the Section's activities, the Section organized a side event together with the project countries during the Environment for Europe ministerial conference in June 2016 in Batumi, Georgia, for example.