

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ninety-third Meeting
Geneva, 26 September 2017

Item 8

Informal Document No. **2017/47**

Extrabudgetary projects

**Strengthening capacity of Caucasus and Central Asia to restore deforested
and degraded lands in support of the international Bonn Challenge
and the achievement of SDGs 13 and 15**

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT FORM

PART I. Planning

(to be filled in before submission to EXCOM) maximum 1 page

Project title and project number: Strengthening capacity of Caucasus and Central Asia to restore deforested and degraded lands in support of the international Bonn Challenge and the achievement of SDGs 13 and 15		
Expected timing/ duration: October 2017 - December 2018		
Objective and brief summary of the project: The objective of the project is to strengthen the capacity of UNECE countries in the Caucasus and Central Asia to restore deforested and degraded lands in support of the international Bonn Challenge and the achievement of SDGs 13 and 15. The Bonn Challenge is a global effort, launched in 2011, to restore 150 million hectares of the world's degraded and deforested lands by 2020 and 350 million hectares by 2030. The ECE region accommodates about 40% of the world's forests that provide numerous economic, environmental and social benefits. Thus, the ECE region bears a great potential to contribute to climate mitigation through restoration of deforested and degraded land. Countries in the Caucasus and Central Asia, in particular, face challenges with degradation and overutilization of forest area. Forest policy and decision makers are not always aware of international initiatives and the opportunities they provide for their own countries. Therefore, forestry officers require training and capacity building in order to identify the potential areas for restoration and gain knowledge on funding opportunities for forest restoration projects. The objective of the project will be achieved by implementing the following activities: A1.1. Preparation of a study on degradation and restoration of forest land in the Caucasus and Central Asia A1.2. Organization of a high-level meeting on degradation and restoration of forest land in the Caucasus and Central Asia (including a capacity-building component)		
Expected results of the project: EA1. Increased knowledge of the Caucasus and Central Asia countries on forest degradation and opportunities for restoration in support of the international Bonn Challenge and achievement of SDGs 13 and 15; EA2. Enhanced awareness of the Caucasus and Central Asia countries on sustainable forests management towards the restoration of deforested and degraded lands in support of the international Bonn Challenge and achievement of SDGs 13 and 15.		
Target group and beneficiaries of the project: The key recipients are forest related ministries, national forest agencies, research institutes, and NGOs. The project will be carried out with key partners including other international organizations or initiatives already operating in the countries, including the Nature Conservation Union (IUCN) and the World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF). Beneficiaries to the project are ECE countries of the Caucasus and Central Asia (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan 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 2016-2017 and 2018-2019. The project is a part of the implementation of the ECE/FAO Integrated programme of Work 2014-2017, Work Area 4: Capacity Building. WA4 of the ECE/FAO indicates that special attention is provided to countries in Eastern Europe, South East Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.		
Estimated UN regular budget resources (work months of RB staff/level of Staff): 1.5 months of P4/ RB		
Estimated extra budgetary resources: Please ensure that the below amount matches the total estimated costs in the annex		
Donor Germany	Amount (Euros) 100,000	
Project Manager: Roman Michalak 14.08.2017	Section/Division: Forestry and Timber Section/Forests, Land and Housing	
11. Cleared by Programme Management Unit: Catherine Haswell Acting Director 14.08.2017	12. Approved by EXCOM¹	26.09.2017

¹ See paragraph 31 (a) of Commission decision A(65).

Annex
Results-based budget for the extra-budgetary project

	Part I. Planning (to be filled in before submission to EXCOM)		Part II. Implementation (to be used for reporting on progress in the implementation of the project in real time) ^{1,2}	
Expected accomplishments	Planned activities	Estimated costs (Euros)	Implemented activities³	Actual expenditures⁴ (Euros)
EA.1. Increased knowledge of the Caucasus and Central Asia on forest degradation and opportunities for restoration in support of the international Bonn Challenge and achievement of SDGs 13 and 15	A1.1. Preparation of a study on degradation and restoration of forest land in the Caucasus and Central Asia 1 contractor to collect relevant data x €4,000x 3 months 1 international consultant to draft the study x €5,000 x 3 months 1 contractor to translate the study into Russian x €3,000 x 1 month	30,000 12,000 15,000 3,000		
EA.2. Enhanced awareness of ECE countries in the Caucasus and Central Asia for sustainable forests management towards the restoration of deforested and degraded lands in support of the international Bonn Challenge and achievement of SDGs 13 and 15	A1.2. Organization of a high level meeting on degradation and restoration of forest land in the Caucasus and Central Asia €2,000 x 16 participants x 1 meeting 2 Travel of staff x €2,000 1 contractor to support organization of the meeting x €5,000 x 3 month Contractual services to organise a meeting (interpretation, venue etc)	57,000 32,000 4,000 15,000 6,000		
Budget summary		87,000		
13% of Programme Support Costs		13,000		
Total		100,000		

¹ The secretariat shall inform EXCOM in case of unexpected developments or serious problems of any kind in the project implementation.

² Questions from member States on project implementation will be forwarded to the secretariat.

³ 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.

⁴ 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.