Introducing the work of FAO-Sub-regional office (SEC) for Turkey, Azerbaijan and Central Asia
## Natural setting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Forest cover</th>
<th>Other wooded land</th>
<th>Annual change (20 years)</th>
<th>Growing stock</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REU (Europe)</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>+ 0.08%</td>
<td>111 m3/ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEC (Central Asia)</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>+ 0.34%</td>
<td>95 m3/ha</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data source: GFRA, 2010
Challenges & opportunities

• Forest governance (policy, legal and institutional structures)
• Forest/tree resources assessment and monitoring system
• Land-tenure security and forest ownership
• Deforestation and degradation of forests (fuelwood, grazing)
• Restoration and sustainable management of mountain watersheds and riparian forests (tugai)
• Climate change impact on forests and land resources
Assistance to the countries

• Normative work (technical workshops, guidelines, etc.)
  • International workshop on forest health in Dushanbe 2017
  • Opportunities arising from sustainable management of dry-land forests: Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification in Ankara (in preparation for 2017)

• Projects
  • Extent
    • Single country → 8 projects
    • Multi-country → 1 project
  • Various stages: Concept, preparation, implementation
• Forest resources assessment and monitoring to strengthen forest policy and knowledge framework
  • > USD 1,400,000 from GEF 6
  • Implementation 2017 - 2019
• Issue
  Degradation and small scale deforestations due to
  • Over-grazing, livestock raising and illegal cuttings
  • Gaps in current management practices (no thinning)
Azerbaijan

LAS 2017

• Objective
  Introduce sustainable forest management for
  • Social and economic benefits
  • Quality of existing forests
  • Carbon sequestration

• Components
  • Forest resource information management system
  • Multifunctional forest management leading to carbon sequestration, improvement in forest and tree resources and contribution to local livelihoods
  • Monitoring, evaluation and knowledge-sharing
• Sustainable management of mountainous forest and land resources under climate change conditions
  • > USD 5,400,000 from GEF 5
  • Implementation 2014 – 2018

• Issues
  • Overharvesting of forests & pastures
  • Degradation (soil erosion, floods, landslides, deterioration of irrigation systems)
  • Inadequate legal framework & outdated land management
Kyrgyzstan cont’d

• Objectives
  • Enabling environment for forestry & agriculture
  • Productivity of sylvo-agro-pastoral ecosystems including enhancement of carbon stock

• Components
  • Enabling environment for sustainable forest & land management
  • Enhanced carbon stock by innovative management & rehabilitation
  • Climate-friendly agriculture for sustainable land & water management
Turkey

- **Sustainable Land Management and Climate-Friendly Agriculture in Konya Basin**
  - > USD 5,700,000 from GEF 5
  - Implementation 2015 – 2018

- **Issues**
  - Human pressure on the limited surface water and groundwater resources
  - Degradation (soil erosion, floods and landslides, declining groundwater tables and drying out of wetlands)
• Objectives
  • Sustainability of farm and land management
  • Adaptation and dissemination of low carbon technologies

• Components
  • Rehabilitation of degraded forests and pastures
  • Adoption of climate-friendly agricultural practices
  • Formation of legal, political & institutional environment
• Conservation and Sustainable Management of Turkey’s Steppe Ecosystems
  • > USD 2,300,000
  • Implementation 2016 – 2020

• Issues
  • Integrity of steppe threatened (expanding cultivation & infrastructure, overuse → livestock, medicinal plants collection, gazelle & bustard poaching)
  • Loss of connectivity (species endangered, ecosystem services of uplands affected)
• Objectives
  • Steppe conservation through protected area management
  • Mainstreaming steppe conservation into production landscapes

• Components
  • Effectiveness of protected areas system to conserve steppe biodiversity
  • Steppe biodiversity conservation mainstreamed into production landscapes
  • Model steppe conservation training program for pastoralists
  • Enabling environment for conservation of steppe biodiversity across large landscapes
• Applying the Land Degradation Neutrality Concept in the Upper Sakarya Basin for Scaling up at National Level
  • > USD 2,800,000 from GEF 6
  • Implementation presumably 2018 - 2021

• Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Forest Management in Kaz Daglari
  • > USD 4,600,000; GEF 6 or GEF 7
  • Not yet included in the GEF work program for project preparation
Uzbekistan

• Sustainable Management of Forests in Mountain and Valley Areas
  • > USD 3,100,000 from GEF 6
  • Implementation 2017 - 2022

• Issues
  • Inadequate data on forests for management planning
  • Carbon sequestration limited
    • Lacking forest cover
    • Degradation (livestock grazing, unsustainable harvesting of timber, fuel wood and non-forest products)
Uzbekistan cont’d

• Objectives
  • Introduction of sustainable forest management
  • Improved status of forest and tree resources

• Components
  • Information system for sustainable forests management
  • Multifunctional forest management at four pilots
  • Upscaling sustainable forest management
  • Monitoring, evaluation and knowledge-sharing
• Integrated forest land and tree resources assessment
  • > USD 400,000 from Technical Cooperation Program of FAO
  • Implementation 2016 - 2017

• Issue
  Forest figures in Uzbekistan have been not updated over the last thirty years due to
  • Limited coordination among involved institutions
  • Lack of
    • Qualified personnel
    • Funds
• Objective
  Introduce a sound data-collection system

• Output → Strengthening of national capacities for
  • Implementing an integrated forest and tree resources assessment
  • Applying Geographical Information System and Remote Sensing analysis for mapping and monitoring
  • Collecting and analyzing field data
Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan

- Central Asian Desert Initiative (CADI): Conservation and sustainable use of cold winter deserts in Central Asia
  - > USD 1,200,000 from Internationale Klimainitiative (IKI)
  - Implementation 2017 - 2019 by FAO and Michael von Succow Foundation

- Issues
  - Overuse and degradation of temperate deserts by overgrazing, firewood collection and infrastructure development
  - Losses of ecosystem services (ES) and biodiversity
  - Lacking integration of ES and biodiversity into land management practices
Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan

• Objective
  • Conservation & management of ES and biodiversity across borders
  • Strengthening stakeholder capacities on participatory approaches

• Outputs
  • Evidence on ecosystem services and biodiversity for application in land use management
  • Multi-stakeholder-based sustainable land management
  • Conditions for management and establishment of protected areas
  • CADI secretariat
Thank you!

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Day October 2017, Warsaw