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| **Project Title** | Strengthening regional ownership for disaster preparedness through aid for supply aid products |
| **Outcome** | Road map for developing regional capacity to supply to aid market designed and adopted by stakeholders at the high level regional eventEnhanced capacity of national AfTs to help producersMost ready producers start (or preparing to) supply to some humanitarian organizations |
| **Indicative Funding Requirements** | Total estimated budget:  | $790000 per country, $4 mln for 5 countries  |
| **Potential Sources of Funding** | [Donor(s)]: [Development Bank(s)]: Other Resources: | $690000$100000, KAZNEX INVEST subject for approval  |
| **Expected start date** | 2011 |
| **Expected Duration** | 1-year (with possible extension subject to post project analysis) |
| **Implementing Organisation(s)** | KAZNEX INVEST, ITC |
| **Country/Countries** | Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan), possibly: Caucasus, Russia |
| **Submitted by** | KAZNEX INVEST (Kazakhstan) |

# Background

Region is in a large high risk hazard zone: almost all types of natural disasters (earthquakes, floods, droughts, etc.) and man-made calamities have place in the region. It implies a need to be better prepared for both immediate response and further recover. The use of funding for humanitarian aid (which has always been insufficient) is and has been on top agenda of humanitarian community. As was cited at AIDF-2010 (2010), transportation of humanitarian goods accounts for 70-80% of costs. To contribute efficiency and effectiveness, it is proposed to bring supplies closer to affected locations and maximize procurement from producers in the region by creating a store (consolidation hub or depot) of humanitarian supplies in the region and launching a regular (annual or biannual) event involving all stakeholders: humanitarian organizations, governments and private sector institutions (suppliers, national NAs, TPOs, etc.).

There is an international initiative led by UNISDR to increase regional disaster preparedness by addressing policy issues like information, housing quality, insurance, and others. The proposed project would complement the initiative by involving regional businesses and at the same time assisting to develop regional trade capacity. Through developing supply capacity project allows strengthening regional ownership for disaster preparedness in the region. One to two paragraphs

# Justification

The products produced in the region are more familiar and sometimes more suitable (e.g. cotton oil rather than olive oil) for local consumption, have lower price and transportation would be more cost-efficient. However, in majority, local producers need help in developing their ability to meet requirements of humanitarian organizations. Such help would mostly include developing knowledge (product specifications, procedures) and skills. Governments need help in building legal framework and soft infrastructure, which do not exist currently. National AfT agencies have to have capacity to implement road map and therefore need help to assist companies (assess the aid supply potential based on recognizes by aid agencies methodologies, design and provide support, maintain regional network, organize training and publications, arrange designing and promote concept of regional store acceptable for the UN, prepare materials for high level event, specifically, bringing senior aid procurement decision-makers to the event.

One to two paragraphs. State the problem to be addressed, including needs for capacity development. As part of the rationale, clearly link to national AfT NAs.

# Expected Output(s)

* List of products procured by aid agencies for regional aid identified
* Methodology to assess readiness for aid supply trusted by selected UN buyers elaborated
* National AfTs pilot on some sectors/products/aid agencies from the list and companies with highest aid supply potential identified
* Issues to be addressed to develop aid supply capacity are defined
* AfTs design support programme to address obstacles found at the companies with highest aid supply potential
* Support programmes reviewed by UN experts and commented including funding sources for each country
* Knowledge on aid supplies increased through series of training and publications
* Types of needed information defined and methods of information disseminating are in place
* Increased number of companies pre-qualified and registered in the suppliers registries of aid organizations (like ungm) with the help of AfTs
* Concept of regional store of aid supplies is designed (functioning modes, required budget, contributors) and discussed in the consultations with key buyers of aid for region
* Recommendations for the governments on easing cross-border movement of aid goods prepared
* Concept of regular high-level event on developing regional aid supply capacity is designed and funding sources defined
* First high-level event organized, road map (including store concept) discussed and commitment of stakeholders obtained
* Sustainability is ensured by including co-funding of support programmes in government budget (Kazakhstan)
* Outline the planned output(s) to be achieved by the project, using results-oriented statement. Please comment on the sustainability of the outputs and the likelihood of mainstreaming.

# Proposed Approach & Strategy, including Capacity Development Response

One to two paragraphs. This section should indicate how the project output(s) will contribute to the achievement of the outcome. In addition, for projects co-financed with other partners, the rationale for donor assistance and how they support the outcome should be described.

The principle of project approaches will be that first activities will be focused on few selected products and aid agencies and also limited number of companies (up to 20-30 per country) in order to make project manageable. To ensure tangible results the companies with the highest aid supply potential will be selected for project. Support programmes will have few but well thought and concentrated activities. These approaches would enable to get some results (made or being prepared) aid supplies by the end of project, and hence, allow demonstrating these results at the high-level event to convince stakeholders.

Support programmes piloted by AfTs the project would allow working out an algorithm of helping companies to start supplying aid market, which can be applied further by AfTs for other products or aid agencies. Currently KAZNEX INVEST began testing similar algorithm in Kazakhstan.

Preliminary findings show that lack of knowledge and information is an essential constraint for local aid procurement. Producers do not know what and when is bought and what are requirements, whereas aid agencies do not know what can be offered locally. Assessment of companies’ readiness as well as commitment on aid supplies would allow revealing companies with the highest potential. Elaboration of assessment methodology, which is recognized and trusted by aid agencies, requires external expertise due to a low availability of needed knowledge and experience in the region. Based on assessment AfTs design and start to implement support programmes to address the revealed issues. Support programmes can include, but not limited: information supply, registration, training in various formats and educating publications and guides (e.g. “To help exporters”). Match-making events, arranging consolidation of aid sets (e.g. family, school, first medical aid), and other. Implementation of support programmes by AfTs to address the issues revealed by assessment may need involvement of foreign experts to deliver training and prepare publications.

Along with support programmes project helps AfTs to create a database and dissemination/exchange platform for information covering countries participating in project.

To design a concept for depot and high-level regular event consultations need to be held with the governments of region, HQ of key aid agencies and agencies operating in the region. It would be useful that AfTs together with project consultants would visit selected one or two existing aid supplies depot.

Donor assistance is needed to: (1) Make proposal of depot and regular high-level event visible among aid agencies and communities. Preliminary consultations showed high interest to an idea of regional depot from local representations of aid agencies, government and private sector (e.g. transport and logistics centres could serve as potential base). Reasonable concept of both depot and high-level event could be worked out only in cooperation with aid agencies. (2) Help with funding external expertise because of high insufficiency of experts with required knowledge and experience in the region; (3) Facilitate reaching consensus among governments. (4) To help with funding for poor countries in the region; (5) By supporting project and initiative, to help bringing decision-making aid officials to the event.

Rationale for donor assistance: increasing region preparedness for disaster; better coordination of aid activities in the region; efficient use of aid funding; improved trade regional capacity.

# Annual Work Plan

**Year:**

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| **PLANNED ACTIVITIES***List activity results and associated actions*  | **TIMEFRAME** | **PLANNED BUDGET (per country)** |
| Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Amount |
| 1. Activity Identification of list of products procured for regional aid, selection of few products and aid agencies ($20000)
2. Developing methodology of aid suppliers assessment jointly with national AfTs ($60000: 1 w/month ocnsultant ($30000), travel ($10000), national Atfs ($20000)
3. AfTs pilot methodology on selected products and aid agencies ($30000, travel Atfs, consultant)
 | √ | √ |  |  | $110000 |
| 2. Activity 1.AfTs design support programmes and start implementing ($500000, consultant, ATfs)2.Training delivered, brochures prepared, other support activities are carried out (3 3-day trainings- $50000, brochures $50000, other - $50000)3.Information databases and dissemination channels established and launched ($50000)  |  | √ | √ | √ | $250000 |
| 3. Activity 1.Consultations with governments and HQs of key aid agencies ($50000)2.Visits to one or two depo of aid supplies ($30000)3.Drafting concept of depo and event ($50000) | √ | √ |  |  | $130000 |
| 4. Activity Preparation and holding the regular event ($200000) |  | √ | √ | √ | $200000 |
| 1. Activity Post project analysis and adjusting of support programmes to be continued next year ($50000) |  |  |  | √ | $50000 |
| 2. Activity 2 regional working meetings of AfTs: launching and interim (end Q2 or early Q3) ($50000) | √ | √(end) |  |  | $50000 |
| TOTAL |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | $$79000 |