

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 December 2018

#	Recommendation	Management response	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	implemented 2016	Communication focal points, in addition to project focal points, were identified at the inception workshop for the 10th Tranche UNDA project "Accountability systems for sustainable forest management in the Caucasus and Central Asia", 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 supports and encourages active involvement of non-governmental organizations and other civic groups throughout the complete implementation process of activities organized by the Section, on a continuous basis.
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	N/A	The secretariat has approached project countries for result-oriented documents. However, no additional documentation, relevant to the project, was available at that time. As national work on green economy has been continuously monitored, any project result-oriented documents (if available) will be disseminated through a programme's website (http://www.unece.org/forests/greeneconomy.html).

4	A) Develop information packages in local languages	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	implemented 2016	The Section liaised, with national governments related to the translation of information documents in national languages during the inception workshop of the new UNECE/FAO UNDA project. Feedback received was published at the UNECE website: http://www.unece.org/forests/capacitybuilding.html
	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 B) To develop a printed publication (in English and Russian) of the project training material and results.	UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section	partly implemented 2017	The Section prepared the draft of the publication, which was not printed due to lack of available printing quota; facilitator's guide and the project description documents were published on the UNECE website. http://www.unece.org/forests/capacitybuilding.html
		Ad C) To identify examples of successful communication or awareness- raising campaigns in 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	implemented in 2018	Information about education in the forest sector, age, gender and development of green jobs in the forest sector has been included in the background paper, which was presented at the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry in 2016 and used for the following publications related to this topic.
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	implemented 2016	The Section included the proposed targets and indicators in the new capacity building project proposal and agreed on them with the member States. and. They have been used for the monitoring implementation of the project during its lifespan. All information about the new project is published on the UNECE website: http://www.unece.org/forests/areas-of-work/capacity-building/unda2016-2019.html . 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	Implemented 2018	The Section encouraged member States to elaborate and share existing case studies. The overview was included in the “Guidelines for the Development of a Criteria and Indicator Set for Sustainable Forest Management”, published on the UNECE website: http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=49533&L=0
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	continuous	The Section developed evaluation forms specifically measuring training success 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 ongoing UNECE-FAO Forestry and Timber Section UNDA project the importance of inclusion of women, not only in workshops but also related recruitments was set a priority when working with national partners. UNECE/FAO added gender information option (male/female) to the meeting evaluation forms).
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 has been accessed and relevant experts has been approached during the ongoing 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.