

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Fifty-seventh Meeting
Geneva, 24 January 2013

Item 7

INFORMAL DOCUMENT No. **2013/4**

Extrabudgetary projects

- **Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood (EaP-Green)**
- **Capacity Building and Dissemination Activities of Common Statistical Standards**
- **Strengthening the implementation of the UNECE Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution**

**UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT**

<p>1. Project title: Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood (EaP-Green)</p>				
<p>2. Expected timing/ duration: January 2013 – December 2017</p>				
<p>3. Objective(s) and brief summary of the project:</p> <p>The overall objective of the project is to assist countries participating in the EU's Eastern Neighbourhood Policy Initiative (NDPI) to move towards a green economy by promoting the use of strategic environmental assessment (SEA) and environmental impact assessment (EIA) as essential planning tools for an environmentally sustainable economic development.</p> <p>EaP-Green is a regional project, which will be jointly implemented by UNECE, OECD, UNEP and UNIDO.</p> <p>The UNECE's project component will include the following activities in selected countries with economies in transition:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review of existing national regulatory and legislative frameworks on and practical implementation of SEA and EIA; 2. Capacity building on SEA/EIA procedures; 3. Strengthening the administrative capacities of the authorities in charge of the environmental assessments. <p>The focus of the activities will be on SEA because it is a primary tool for integrating environmental considerations into development plans and programmes (as well as policies and legislation) by ensuring that their likely adverse environmental impacts are effectively assessed at an early stage. In addition, present legislation and capacities for SEA in the beneficiary countries are significantly less developed than those for EIA.</p> <p>The project will enable the secretariat of the Espoo Convention to effectively implement activities for promoting the ratification and application of the Convention and its Protocol, in line with the workplan adopted by the Meetings of the Parties to the two instruments in June 2011 (Decisions I/9 and V/9, ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2) and as requested by the beneficiary countries.</p>				
<p>4. Expected results/impact of the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved understanding and strengthened national capacity for the development and implementation of the legal, regulatory, administrative and other measures that are necessary for implementation of SEA and EIA in compliance with the ECE Espoo Convention and its Protocol on SEA; - SEA and EIA are integrated into the national regulatory framework and implemented; - Opportunities for public participation in decision-making and strengthened governance in this area provided; - Recommendations for further improving the effectiveness of SEA and EIA systems implemented; - Progress made towards ratification of the Protocol on SEA by the beneficiary countries. 				
<p>5. Target group and beneficiaries of the project:</p> <p>Beneficiary countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine which have requested assistance in the implementation and ratification of the UNECE Espoo Convention on EIA in a Transboundary Context, and in particular its Protocol on SEA.</p> <p>Target Group: national and local authorities from the environment, health and economic sectors, as well as land-use planning authorities, practitioners in SEA and EIA, and NGOs and the general public.</p>				
<p>6. Justification of project and its relationship to the programme of work:</p> <p>The proposed project is related to expected accomplishment (b) "Strengthened implementation of UNECE regional environmental commitments" of subprogramme 1. Environment of the UNECE Strategic Framework for the biennium 2014-2015.</p>				
<p>7. Estimated UN regular budget resources (work months of RB staff): 4.8 work months of a P-4 staff and 4.8 work months of G staff in 48 months</p>				
<p>8. Estimated extra budgetary resources:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;"><i>Donors</i></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><i>Amount</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">European Union (DG DEVCO/"EuropeAid")</td> <td style="text-align: center;">US\$ 2.5 million (2 million Euros)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Donors</i>	<i>Amount</i>	European Union (DG DEVCO/"EuropeAid")	US\$ 2.5 million (2 million Euros)
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**UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT**

1. <i>Project title:</i> Capacity Building and Dissemination Activities of Common Statistical Standards				
2. <i>Expected timing/ duration:</i> From February 2013 for 5+ years				
3. <i>Objective(s) and brief summary of the project:</i> <p>The objective of this project is to promote the development, implementation and use of common standards by national statistical organizations.</p> <p>The project will include the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Promotion of the implementation of the set of statistical standards to modernize and improve the efficiency of the statistical production process. This will be overseen by the High-Level Group for the Modernization of Statistical Production under the auspices of the Conference of European Statisticians. Specific tasks will be delegated to informal task teams consisting of volunteers from national and international statistical organizations. Experts in statistical standards will be hired for this work as necessary. A Project Manager will be hired to oversee and coordinate their work. (2) Organization of expert meetings, workshops and other capacity-building activities to promote the application of common standards and models for the production of official statistics, and facilitate their implementation. (3) Production of materials to disseminate information and good practices about the use of common standards. 				
4. <i>Expected results/impact of the project:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Increased use of common standards and models for the production of official statistics; (2) Increased efficiency and effectiveness of statistical producers to respond to new demands for different types of statistical data on the socioeconomic issues. 				
5. <i>Target group and beneficiaries of the project:</i> <p>The main beneficiaries are the member countries of the UNECE and others (for example Australia, Mexico, New Zealand, Republic of Korea). The target group is national statistical organizations in those countries.</p>				
6. <i>Justification of project and its relationship to the programme of work:</i> <p>The project has direct relevance to the objectives of the UNECE Strategic Framework for the period 2012-2013 (A/65/6) and 2014-2015 (A/67/6), Subprogramme 3 Statistics.</p> <p>The Conference of European Statisticians endorsed a strategic vision for modernizing statistical production and services in June 2011. This project has developed in the context of growing financial constraints faced by governments worldwide and the need for a common approach to modernization of statistical products. It responds to strong and growing demands from the member States to facilitate the use of common standards and models for a more cost-efficient way of producing the statistics needed to support effective policy making.</p>				
7. <i>Estimated UN regular budget resources (work months of RB staff):</i> Per annum: P4 - 2 months; G6 - 2 months				
8. <i>Estimated extra budgetary resources:</i> <table style="width: 100%; margin-top: 10px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center; width: 70%;"><i>Donors</i></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><i>Amount (US\$)</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Statistical Office of the European Free Trade Association</td> <td style="text-align: center;">20,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Donors</i>	<i>Amount (US\$)</i>	Statistical Office of the European Free Trade Association	20,000
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**UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT**

<p>1. Project title: Strengthening the implementation of the UNECE Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution</p>				
<p>2. Expected timing/ duration: 2013–2015</p>				
<p>3. Objective(s) and brief summary of the project: The objective of the project is to assist countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) in improving the ratification and strengthening the implementation of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP) and its protocols (mainly the Protocol on Long-term Financing of the Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP), the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Protocol on Heavy Metals, and the Gothenburg Protocol) by providing technical cooperation assistance.</p> <p>In particular, the following activities will be implemented within the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparation of concept notes and conducting workshops, trainings and seminars for national experts aimed at building national emission inventories for air pollutants and estimation of their adverse effects on environment and health; - Development of substantive information materials for these events; - Assistance to beneficiary countries in elaborating action plans, prioritizing actions towards ratification and implementation of the CLRTAP and its protocols; - Development and maintenance of a dedicated website aimed at improving member States' access to information and tools on air pollution abatement. <p>The funding will be used for hiring a project manager to implement the above-mentioned technical cooperation activities while capacity building activities within this project will be funded from the on-going project E112 on the promotion and implementation of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution.</p>				
<p>4. Expected results/impact of the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased awareness of the beneficiary countries about the Convention and their strengthened capacity to address complex air pollution issues; ▪ Improved access of the EECCA countries to information and tools on air pollution abatement; ▪ Increased ratification of the CLRTAP and its protocols and improved implementation by project beneficiary counties. 				
<p>5. Target group and beneficiaries of the project: Beneficiary countries: ECE member States in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. Target group: National authorities, experts/focal points for CLRTAP, general public.</p>				
<p>6. Justification of project and its relationship to the programme of work: The proposed project has a direct relevance to the expected accomplishments (a), (b) and (c) of the UNECE Strategic Framework for the period 2012-13 (A/65/6), Sub-programme 1. Environment. The project is also related to the strategic priorities of the Convention outlined in its Long-term strategy (ECE/EB.AIR/106/Add.1), as well as the Action Plan for Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia under this Convention (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2007/17), both referring to active involvement and increased ratification and implementation of the protocols to the Convention by countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.</p>				
<p>7. Estimated UN regular budget resources (work months of RB staff): P4 - 0.5 month annually, P3 - 0.5 month annually.</p>				
<p>8. Estimated extra budgetary resources:</p> <table style="width: 100%; margin-left: 100px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><i>Donors</i></th> <th style="text-align: right;"><i>Amount</i></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: left;">European Commission</td> <td style="text-align: right;">300,000 euros</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<i>Donors</i>	<i>Amount</i>	European Commission	300,000 euros
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