



# Introducing the Work of the Forestry Unit at FAO-SEC for Turkey, Azerbaijan and Central Asia



**Forêt2019 – Joint Session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission**  
**4-7 November 2019, Geneva, Switzerland**

# Natural setting

FORÊT 2019



Countries	Forest Cover	Other Wooded Lands	Annual Change (20 years)	Growing Stock
REU (Europe)	45%	5%	0.08%	111 m <sup>3</sup> /ha
SEC (Central Asia)	6%	6%	0.34%	95 m <sup>3</sup> /ha

# Challenges & opportunities

FORÊT 2019



- 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



UNECE



Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations

# Assistance to the countries

FORÊT 2019



## Normative work

- 15% of total work load
- FAO-Turkey Forestry Partnership Programme (FTFP)
- Input for working groups of the Turkish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) on establishment of Sustainable Forest Management Indicators & Criteria (SFM C&I)

# Assistance to the countries

FORÊT 2019



## Project works

- Ongoing
  - Single country → 5 projects
  - Multi-country → 1 project
- Future
  - Single country → 5 projects
  - Multi-country → 1 project

# Ongoing project subjects

FORÊT 2019



- Forest resource assessment & monitoring  
Azerbaijan
- Sustainable management of forest and land resources  
Turkey; Uzbekistan; Kyrgyzstan; Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan
- Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity  
Turkey

# Future project subjects

FORÊT 2019



- Sustainable management of forest and land resources  
Kyrgyzstan 2x
- Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity  
Turkey; Azerbaijan
- Restoration of degraded forests and other lands  
Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan
- Biosafety  
Kyrgyzstan



UNECE



Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations

# Project funding

FORÊT 2019



- Donors
  - Global Environmental Facility (GEF) 5, 6 & 7
  - Internationale Klima Initiative (IKI) - through Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-University Greifswald
  - FAO-Turkey Forestry Partnership Programme (FTFP) through Turkey
  - Green Climate Fund (GCF)
- Total volume for projects
  - Ongoing USD 22,000,000
  - Future USD 42,000,000



# Azerbaijan - future

FORÊT 2019



## **Conservation and sustainable Use of Biodiversity: Strengthening network of Protected Areas through advanced Governance and Management**

- Project information forms (PIF) developed
- > USD 2,640,000 endorsed by the donor (GEF 7)
- Stage of full project preparation ongoing in 2019



- **Sustainable Land Management and Climate-Friendly Agriculture in Konya Basin**
  - > USD 5,700,000 from GEF 5
  - Implementation 2015 – 2018, extended to 2020
- **Issues**
  - Human pressure on the limited surface water and groundwater resources
  - Degradation (soil erosion, floods and landslides, declining groundwater tables → drying out of wetlands)

# Turkey - ongoing cont'd

FORÊT 2019



- 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

# Uzbekistan - ongoing

FORÊT 2019



- **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 and fuel wood as well as non-wood forest products)

# Uzbekistan - ongoing cont'd

FORÊT 2019



- 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

# Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan - ongoing

FORÊT 2019



- **Central Asian Desert Initiative (CADI): Conservation and sustainable use of cold winter deserts in Central Asia**
  - > USD 1,200,000 from Internationale Klima Initiative (IKI)
  - Implementation 2017 - 2019 by FAO and Michael Succow Foundation, extension requested to 2021
- **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, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan - ongoing cont'd



- 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



# Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan - future

FORÊT 2019



## Restoration of Degraded Forests and Other Lands

- > USD 2,000,000; FTFP
- Concept note endorsed by donor (Turkey), stage of full project preparation (PPG) ongoing





## **Pamir–Alai Mountain Landscape for Food System, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR) Impact Program in Kyrgyzstan**

- > USD 4,000,000; GEF
- The project proposal is within GEF Secretariat

# Reference

FORÊT 2019



- Forestry Activities of the FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia ECE/TIM/2019/15-FO:ECE/2019/15  
[https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/timber/meetings/2019/20191104/ECE TIM 2019 15 FO EFC 2019 15-E.pdf](https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/timber/meetings/2019/20191104/ECE_TIM_2019_15_FO_EFC_2019_15-E.pdf)



# Thank you!



**Peter Pechacek**  
**Forestry Officer**  
**FAO-SEC**

# Points for consideration

FORÊT 2019



The Commission encouraged countries in the region to:

- (a) More effectively incorporate integrated landscape approaches amongst various land management agencies responsible for agriculture, forestry, fisheries and livestock management into relevant national planning processes and enhance intersectoral collaboration at the landscape level;
- (b) Provide financial and/or in-kind contributions to support the FAO regional forestry programs, in particular on phytosanitary standards in forestry in the region, and FAO project work, in particular with view to providing complementary funding for GEF and GCF projects.

The Commission recommended FAO to:

- (a) Strengthen the integration of incorporate integrated landscape approaches in operational forestry work in the region, as well as into existing and future REU Regional Initiatives, considering the multi-functional roles of forests;
- (b) Continue to support natural resource management including forests through the harmonization and strengthening of national policy, financing, incentives, taxation and governance frameworks and measures, including regulations, standards and monitoring for forest management interventions and practices, and support capacity development in this regard;
- (c) Continue to support the Forest Invasive Species Network for Europe and Central Asia (REUFIS) and its activities, in particular in organising topical trainings on emerging invasive species.