

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

116th meeting
Geneva, 17 May 2021

Item 8

Informal Document No. **2021/12**

Extrabudgetary project

**Strengthening cooperation and national capacities
in selected UNECE countries for sustainable forest management**

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

Project title: Strengthening cooperation and national capacities in selected UNECE countries for sustainable forest management		
Expected timing/ duration: May 2021 – December 2023		
Objective and brief summary of the project: The objective of the project is to strengthen the capacity of and cooperation among selected UNECE countries in implementing sustainable forest management. The project has two sub-components, one is related to sustainable forest management in the Caucasus, Central Asia and Eastern Europe, and another one is related to the UNECE countries with boreal forests. Specifically, subcomponent 1 is aimed at supporting countries of the Caucasus, Central Asia and Eastern Europe by providing them with the knowledge and tools to analyse their needs and develop their own national Forest Policy and Management Support Information Systems (FPMSIS). Subcomponent 2 is aimed at raising awareness on the importance of boreal forests among UNECE member States by improving data collection and strengthening the science-policy cooperation on boreal forests. The project will build on, complement and expand UNECE existing work in this area. It also builds on results of the recently concluded UNDA 10 th Tranche project “Accountability Systems for Sustainable Forest Management in the Caucasus and Central Asia” (2016-2020), which strengthened national forest monitoring systems and facilitated the creation of a strong forestry expert network in the region. Further, it builds on policy and technical advice activities, including the support to the development of National Forest Strategies, action plans for its implementation and forest reporting systems. Finally, the project will complement activities of the recently established ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Boreal Forests, which brings together experts from 8 boreal countries to promote science-policy dialogue and exchange of best practices. This includes efforts to communicate about the importance of boreal forests for the achievement of the SDGs at relevant conferences. The objective of the project will be achieved through the following activities:		
<u>Subcomponent 1:</u> A1.1. Preparation of the guidance for developing Forest Policy and Management Support Information Systems (in English and Russian language); A1.2. Organisation of a minimum of 4 training sessions for national experts from the beneficiary countries on the development and pilot implementation of the guidance (in English and Russian language); A1.3. Conducting analysis of current situations, needs, requirements and opportunities for building Forest Policy and Management Support Information Systems in the target countries.		
<u>Subcomponent 2:</u> A2.1. Conducting data collection, through a dedicated survey, and analysis of common challenges, gaps, and best practices and presenting findings in a report (in English and Russian language); A2.2. Organizing three meetings and 2 events of the Team of Specialist on Boreal Forests including preparation of relevant documentation (in English and Russian language).		
Expected results of the project: EA1. Strengthened capacity of policy and decisions makers, and forest service specialists to develop national forest policy and management support information systems in the Eastern European, Caucasus and Central Asian countries; EA2. Improved understanding of policy makers on the role of boreal forests in global climate change and economic development.		
Target group and beneficiaries of the project: The key target group of the project is forest related ministries, national forest agencies, research institutes, and NGOs. The project will be carried out with key partners including other international organizations or initiatives already operating in the countries. Beneficiary countries include countries of the Caucasus, Central Asia and Eastern Europe (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan), as well as UNECE countries with boreal forests (including Canada, Finland, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden, the Russian Federation and the United States of America).		
Justification of project and its relationship to the programme of work: The project directly contributes to the objective of the Subprogramme 7 “Forests and the forest industry” “to strengthen sustainable management of forests and enhancing the contribution of forests and forest products to sustainable development in the ECE region” of the UNECE programme budget for 2021.		
Estimated UN regular budget resources (work months of RB staff/level of Staff): 2 months of RB/P4, 0.5 month of RB/P5		
Estimated extra budgetary resources:		
Donors	Amount (US\$)	
Russian Federation	300,000	
Project Manager: Roman Michalak	Section/Division: UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section / Forests, Land and Housing Division	
29.04.2021		
Cleared by Programme Management Unit: Nicolas Dath-Baron Officer-in-Charge	Approved by EXCOM¹	17.05.2021
30.04.2021		

¹ See paragraph 31 (a) of Commission decision A(65).

Annex
Results-based budget for the extra-budgetary project

Expected accomplishments	Planned activities	Estimated costs (USD)
EA1. Strengthened capacity of policy and decisions makers, and forest service specialists to develop national forest policy and management support information systems in the Eastern European, Caucasus and Central Asian countries	A1.1. Preparation of the guidance for developing Forest Policy and Management Support Information Systems, (in English and Russian language) 1 International consultant to support development of guidance for FPMSIS x 9 months x \$5,000 3 national experts x 1 months x \$2,500	52,500 45,000 7,500
	A1.2. Organisation of a minimum of 4 training sessions (in English and Russian language) for national experts from beneficiary countries on development and pilot implementation of the guidance Temporary P2 staff x 2 months x \$11,000 Travel of staff x 4 missions x \$1,800 Travel of participants (up to 8 participants per workshop) x 4 workshops x \$11,700 Contractual services (translation and interpretation services in English-Russian) Operating and other direct costs (printing of educational material in English-Russian)	85,800 22,000 7,200 46,800 6,800 3,000
	A1.3. Conducting analysis of current situation, needs, requirements and opportunities for building Forest Policy and Management Support Information Systems in the beneficiary countries Temporary P2 staff x 3 months x \$11,000 2 national experts x 1 month x \$2,500	38,000 33,000 5,000
EA2. Improved understanding of policy makers on the role of boreal forests in global climate change and economic development.	A2.1. Conducting data collection, through a dedicated survey, and analysis of common challenges, gaps, and best practices and presenting findings in a report Temporary P2 staff x 2 months x \$11,000 Operating and other direct costs (printing of educational material in English-Russian) 1 International consultant to support with data collection and analysis x 3 months x \$4,500	38,500 22,000 3,000 13,500
	A2.2. Organizing five meetings/events meetings of the ToS on Boreal Forests including preparation of relevant documentation (in English and Russian language) Temporary P2 staff x 1 month x \$11,000 Travel of staff x 5 missions x \$1,800 Travel of participants (up to 2 participants per meeting) x 5 meetings x \$3,400 Contractual services (translation and interpretation services in English-Russian)	43,000 11,000 9,000 17,000 6,000
Budget summary		257,800
2% for evaluation (for projects above 250,000\$)		5,156
13% of Programme Support Costs		33,514
Subtotal		296,470
1% levy		2,578
Total (rounded)		300,000