

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

117th meeting  
Geneva, 8 July 2021

Item 8

Informal Document No. **2021/21**

**Extrabudgetary project**

**Fostering Resilient, Diversified and Sustainable Value Chains  
in the Eurasian Region after COVID-19**

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

<b>Project title:</b> Fostering Resilient, Diversified and Sustainable Value Chains in the Eurasian Region after COVID-19		
<b>Expected timing/ duration:</b> September 2021 – September 2023		
<b>Objective and brief summary of the project:</b> <p>The project will strengthen the capacity of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) countries, to build resilient, diversified and sustainable value chains at the regional level and to integrate into international/global value chains post-COVID-19. The project will identify data and knowledge gaps, sketch out avenues to fill them, and raise awareness about them. It will also develop targeted policy options and will equip policy makers at the national and sub-regional levels to deal with this transition, with a view to promoting cooperative ties and export of industrial products with higher value added. By building better international and regional trade links in the beneficiary countries and by strengthening their integration in the rules based trading system, the project will respond to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the General Assembly’s resolution on Global Solidarity to fight the coronavirus disease (A/RES/74/270) and the UN General Assembly’s resolution “Comprehensive and coordinated response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic” (A/74/L.92). Among others, the latter notes that the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the normal functioning of open markets, global supply chain connectivity and the flow of essential goods, and that these disruptions hinder the fight against poverty, hunger and inequality, ultimately undermining efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The project will also respond to the call of the Secretary General's report on “Shared responsibility, global solidarity: Responding to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 regarding, inter alia, the importance of re-establishing supply chains. The project will assist beneficiary countries to fully harness the value added of respective UNECE norms, standard and tools for resilient, diversified and sustainable value chains. Respective UNECE tools include, among others (i) UN/CEFACT tools for trade facilitation, including the dematerialization of trade and logistics chains; (ii) UN/CEFACT tools for the traceability of value chains (e.g. in garment and footwear); (iii) UNECE agricultural quality standards (which are particularly relevant for agricultural value chains in the region); and (iv) UNECE’s Principles for People First Public Private Partnerships for the SDGs (which help build sustainable infrastructure, a key requirement for effective value chain engagement). The project will also draw upon the wealth of knowledge and information created through the analytical work streams hosted in UNECE, including Studies on Regulatory and Procedural Barriers to Trade and Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews and sub-regional Innovation Policy Outlook (noting the potential of exploring innovative solutions for global and regional value chain operations in the era of the digital economy). The objective of the project will be achieved by implementing the following activities:</p> <p>A1.1. Conduct five legal and economic studies (four country specific and one regional) on the existing features of the beneficiary countries’ and the Eurasian region’s integration into regional and global value chains, including in the field of industry, and the impact of COVID-19.</p> <p>A1.2. Organize at least five face-to-face and online stakeholder consultations at the national and regional levels to analyse and discuss key features of the beneficiary countries’ integration into regional and global value chains and the impact of COVID-19.</p> <p>A2.1. Develop three evidence-based policy options for the way forward for more resilient, diversified and sustainable value chains for the beneficiary countries and the Eurasian region as a whole, and, with a view to promoting cooperative ties and export of industrial products with higher value added, set out in a policy brief (e.g. for national and regional stakeholders to discuss potential pros and cons of the developed policy recommendations).</p> <p>A3.1. Prepare, edit, design and translate into Russian language the five policy papers (four country specific and one regional) and one policy brief with a view to sharing lessons learned with the maximum number of stakeholders.</p> <p>A3.2. Organize at least three launch events, e.g. in the beneficiary countries, in Geneva or other relevant locations.</p>		
<b>Expected results of the project:</b> <p>EA1. Enhanced knowledge of public and private stakeholders about beneficiary countries’ current integration into regional and global value chains and related COVID-19 implications for the region and for individual beneficiary countries.</p> <p>EA2. Enhanced understanding of policy options for fostering resilient, diversified and sustainable value chains, and their pros and cons.</p> <p>EA3. Enhanced national capacities of the beneficiary countries to formulate, coordinate and implement policies that govern resilient, diversified and sustainable value chains post-COVID-19.</p>		
<b>Target group and beneficiaries of the project:</b> <p>The project targets government officials and policy makers in beneficiary countries and at the regional level; the private sector, national and regional experts and academia will also benefit from the project. Beneficiary countries are Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan.</p>		
<b>Justification of project and its relationship to the programme of work:</b> <p>The project contributes directly to the objectives of the Subprogramme 4 “Economic Cooperation and Integration aiming to “strengthen policies on innovation, competitiveness and public-private partnerships in the UNECE region” and Subprogramme 6 “Trade” aiming to “enhance trade facilitation, agricultural quality standards and regulatory and trade-related economic cooperation for the transition to sustainable economic growth and sustainable production and consumption in the UNECE region” of the UNECE programme budget for 2021.</p>		
<b>Estimated UN regular budget resources (work months of RB staff/level of Staff):</b> 1 month of RB/D1		
<b>Estimated extra budgetary resources:</b>		
<b>Donor</b>	<b>Amount (US\$)</b>	
Russian Federation	249,000	
<b>Project Manager:</b> Elisabeth Tuerk	17.06.2021	<b>Section/Division:</b> Economic Cooperation and Trade
<b>Cleared by Programme Management Unit:</b> Nicolas Dath-Baron		<b>Approved by EXCOM<sup>1</sup></b>
<b>Officer-in-charge</b>	17.06.2021	<b>08.07.2021</b>

<sup>1</sup> See paragraph 31 (a) of Commission decision A(65).

**Annex**  
**Results-based budget for the extra-budgetary project**

Expected Accomplishments	Planned activities	Estimated costs (US\$)
E.A.1. Enhanced knowledge of public and private stakeholders about beneficiary countries' current integration into regional and global value chains and related COVID-19 implications for the region and for individual beneficiary countries.	A.1.1. Conduct five legal and economic studies (four country specific and one regional) on the existing features of the beneficiary countries' and the Eurasian region's integration into regional and global value chains, including in the field of industry, and the impact of COVID-19. P3 x 1-month x \$11,500 per month 1 international consultant x 1-month x \$9,000 per month 5 national consultants x 1-month x \$2,000 per month	30,500  11,500 9,000 10,000
	A.1.2. Organize at least five face-to-face and online stakeholder consultations at the national and regional levels to analyze and discuss key features of the beneficiary countries' integration into regional and global value chains and the impact of COVID-19. P3 x 2-months x \$11,500 per month 1 international consultant x 1-month x \$9,000 per month G5 x 1-month x \$5,500 per month Contractual services (for the tasks of providing interpretation and meeting equipment for virtual meetings at national and sub-regional level) 6 events x \$1,500	46,500  23,000 9,000 5,500 9,000
E.A.2. Enhanced understanding of policy options for fostering resilient, diversified and sustainable value chains, and their pros and cons.	A.2.1. Develop three evidence-based policy options for the way forward for more resilient, diversified and sustainable value chains for the beneficiary countries and the Eurasian region as a whole, and, with a view to promoting cooperative ties and export of industrial products with higher value added, set out in a policy brief (e.g. for national and regional stakeholders to discuss potential pros and cons of the developed policy recommendations). P3 x 2-month x \$11,500 per month	23,000  23,000
	A.2.2. Organize policy briefings for national and regional stakeholders P3 x 1-month x \$11,500 per month Contractual services (for the tasks of providing interpretation and meeting equipment for virtual meetings at national and sub-regional level) 6 events x \$1,500	20,500 11,500 9,000
E.A.3. Enhanced national capacities of the beneficiary countries to formulate, coordinate and implement policies that governing resilient, diversified and sustainable value chains post-COVID-19.	A.3.1. Prepare, edit, design and translate into Russian language the five policy papers (four country specific and one regional) and one policy brief with a view to sharing lessons learned with the maximum number of stakeholders. P3 x 1-month x \$11,500 per month Operating and other direct costs (for the tasks of communication outreach, editing, layout of policy papers)	23,200  11,500 11,700
	A.3.2. Organize at least three launch events, e.g. in the beneficiary countries, in Geneva or other relevant locations. P3 x 1-month x \$11,500 per month G5 x 1-month x \$5,500 per month Contractual services (for the tasks of providing interpretation and meeting equipment at face-to-face national launch events) 5 events x \$1,200 Operating and other direct costs (for the tasks of communication outreach) Travel of Staff (for the task of presenting project results at national launch events and managing the events) 5 missions x \$2,000 Travel of meeting participants (for the task of contributing to launch events) 10 missions x \$2,000 Travel of consultants (for the task of presenting project results at launch events) 5 missions x 1 consultant x \$2,000	74,700 11,500 5,500  6,000 11,700 10,000 20,000 10,000
Budget summary		218,400
13% of Programme Support Costs		28,392
1% Coordination levy		2,468
<b>Total</b>		<b>249,000</b>