



FAO forestry-related activities in the Europe and Central Asia region

Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry, seventy-ninth session
and European Forestry Commission, forty-first session

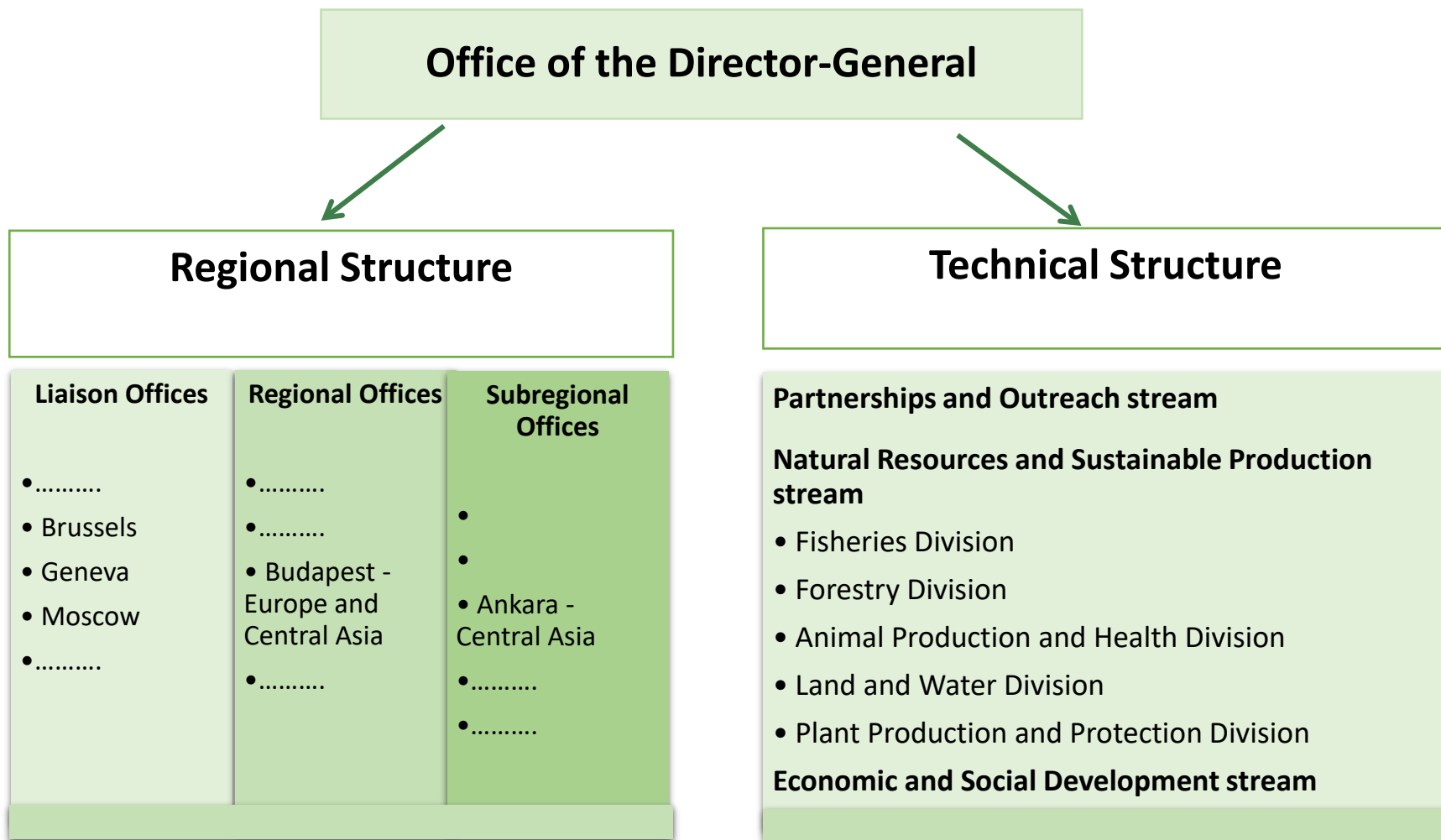
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Organizational structure of FAO



Strategic framework / SDGs



Cross-cutting themes: *Gender, Youth, Inclusion*

Accelerators: *Technology, Innovation, Data, Complements (governance, human capital, institutions)*

Sustainable Development Goals



SDG indicators for which FAO is the custodian agency:

- 15.1.1: Forest area as a proportion of total land area
- 15.2.1: Progress towards sustainable forest management
- 15.4.2: Mountain Green Cover Index

Decentralized FAO Offices in the Region

- **Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia (REU)**
Budapest, Hungary
- **Subregional Office for Central Asia (SEC)**
Ankara, Turkey
- **Country offices**
[Albania](#), Armenia, [Azerbaijan](#), Georgia, Kyrgyzstan,
[Moldova](#), [Tajikistan](#), Uzbekistan
- **Partnership and Liaison offices**
Brussels, Belgium / Geneva, Switzerland /
[Moscow, Russian Federation](#)

Regional Conference for Europe (ERC), 32nd Session, 2-4 Nov 2020

Priorities

1. Nutrition and healthy diets and transforming food systems;
2. One Health approach;
3. Consumer perspectives and shorter supply chains;
4. Equality and digital inclusion, social protection, school food and nutrition programmes, special attention to gender equality;
5. UN Decade of Family Farming and UN Decade of Action on Nutrition;
6. Forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, and soil and water resources;
7. Restoring biodiversity, nature-based solutions, focusing on agroecology and other innovative approaches.

FAO Country Programming

- **United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF)**
 - Instrument for planning and implementation of UN development activities;
 - Identifies specific SDG targets in each country;
 - Core reference for accountability between UN Country Team (UNCT), the host government and among UNCT members for collectively owned development results.
- **Country Programming Frameworks (CPFs)**
 - Fully derived from the UNSDCF;
 - Basis of FAO's country-level strategic prioritization and overall medium-term country-level programming;
 - Required for all countries receiving FAO support.

Europe and Central Asia Region (REU)

	Forest cover (in 2020)	Annual change (2000-2020)	Other wooded land (in 2020)	Growing stock (in 2020)
FAO REU	39.2 %	+0.09 %	4.2 %	112.8 m3/ha
REU Europe	46.0 %	+0.07 %	4.5 %	114.4 m3/ha
REU Central Asia	7.6 %	+0.47 %	2.5 %	67.3 m3/ha

Challenges for Forestry in the region

REU

- **Climate change impacts** on forests and land resources
 - Pest and diseases, invasive species
 - Forest fires
 - Biodiversity loss
 - Forest and Landscape restoration

SEC

- 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

FAO technical assistance to countries

- **Regular programme**
 - Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP)
- **Extra-budgetary programme**
 - Government Cooperative Programme (GCP)
 - Unilateral Trust Fund (UTF)
 - Special Fund for Emergency and Rehabilitation (SFERA)
- **Entry point: Decentralized FAO offices**

FAO REU normative work

- **REUFIS – Forest Invasive Species Network for Europe and Central Asia**
 - Regional assessment on the status of forest invasive species in Europe and Central Asia <http://www.reufis.org/download/regional-assessment/>
 - Protecting oak trees for future generations in Europe and Central Asia (Webinar - 26 Nov 2020) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D8bRyzGSI-s>
 - Regional training programme on contingency plans for forest pest outbreak emergencies in the region (REUFIS webinar, 24 Nov 2021)
- **Forest health**
 - Survey on the chestnut blight fungus (*Cryphonectria parasitica*) and identification of hypovirus strains (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and selected Balkan countries; LoA with the Swiss Federal Research Institute WSL (2020))
 - Regional study on Early Warning Early Action (EWEA) systems for invasive species outbreak prevention and mitigation
 - Regional study on contingency planning/pest specific response plans

FAO REU normative work

- **NWFPs – Non-Wood Forest Products**
 - Technical guidelines on sustainable management of NWFPs and status reports on specific selected products (Turkey, LoA with Turkish Chamber of Forest Engineers (2020))
 - Regional study on the status of non-wood forest products (NWFPs) in selected Western Balkan countries (2021)

FAO REU project assistance – Regular programme

- **TCPF - Technical Support for Revision of the National Forest Policy and Strategic framework (TCP/ARM/3801/C1)**
 - Timeframe: Mar 2020 – Sep 2021
 - Budget: USD 44,000
 - Objective: to revise National Forest Policy and Strategy (2004) and National Forest Program (2005).
- **TCPF - Potentials of fast-growing plantation forests (TCP/BIH/3802/C2)**
 - Timeframe: Jan 2021 – Aug 2022
 - Budget: USD 63,000
 - Objective: to identify and map potential locations for plantation forests with focus on fast-growing wooden species along rivers.
- **TCPF - Developing the institutional capacity of the National Forestry Agency in the preparation of NFI (TCP/MOL/3702/C1)**
 - Timeframe: May 2019 – Dec 2021
 - Budget: USD 60,000
 - Objective: to strengthen national capacities to design, plan and conduct a forest inventory at national level.

FAO REU project assistance – Regular programme

- **TCPF - Promoting sustainable and climate resilient management of natural resources (TCP/MOL/3705/C3)**
 - Timeframe: Nov 2020 – Dec 2021
 - Budget: USD 52,000
 - Objective: to undertake pre-feasibility studies in relation to the climate change adaptation and mitigation potential of the forestry sector.
- **TCPF - Forest Resilience to climate change and biodiversity loss via mitigation and adaptation investments (TCP/SRB/3801/C1)**
 - Timeframe: Apr 2021 – Apr 2022
 - Budget: USD 53,000
 - Objective: to undertake pre-feasibility studies in relation to the climate change adaptation and mitigation potential of the forestry sector, based on which a GCF Concept Note (CN) will be prepared.
 - GCF Secretariat confirmed the CN and fully-fledged GCF project is currently under preparation.

FAO REU project assistance – Regular programme

- **TCP - Strengthening the resilience of pine forest to bark beetle outbreaks and associated dieback (TCP/RER/3801)**
 - Timeframe: Jul 2020 – Jul 2022
 - Budget: USD 405,000
 - Outcome: National forest health systems and procedures in Belarus and Ukraine to respond to pest outbreaks and associated dieback.
 - Components/outputs:
 1. National surveillance/monitoring and Early Warning systems
 2. National contingency plans for forest pest outbreaks
 3. Guidelines for improving resilience of forest stands in relation to forest health
 4. National capacities on communication and regional coordination in relation to forest health issues strengthened

FAO REU project assistance – Extra-budgetary

- **Inclusive, competitive and sustainable value chain development in agriculture, fisheries and forestry (GCP/UKR/012/EC)**
 - Timeframe: Feb 2021 – Jan 2025
 - Budget: USD 15,531,660
 - Outcome 2: Enabling environment for the forestry sector strengthened for securing the long-term sustainability of forest management and improving evidence-based policy-making in the sector
 - Components/outputs:
 1. Local authorities supported through intersectoral and participatory processes for developing/adopting a Forestry Strategy/Programme (2021–2030), and Action Plan, as well as supporting the sector's institutional reform
 2. Existing transparent e-tracking system for wood products further developed and scaled up to national level
 3. Multipurpose Forest Management Plan (MPFMP) for local forestry authorities and promotion of forestry-based value chains

FAO REU project assistance – Extra-budgetary

- **Support to strengthening sustainable and multipurpose forest management to improve rural livelihoods and address climate change in Kosovo (GCP/KOS/007/SWE)**
 - Timeframe: Sep 2019 - Aug 2023
 - Budget: USD 2,448,731
 - Outcome: Forests are managed more efficiently with multi-purpose approach, regulated in accordance with the Law on Forests and supported with gender-sensitive value-chains for poverty alleviation
 - Components/outputs:
 1. Improve timber legality, trade and law enforcement in forest sector
 2. Enhance transparency and strengthen the institutional capacity in good governance and implementation of forest policies, strategies and programmes
 3. Introduce multi-purpose forest management and inclusive forest value chains for poverty alleviation of rural women and men

FAO REU project assistance – Extra-budgetary (GEF)

- **Contribution of Sustainable Forest Management to a Low Emission and Resilient Development in Serbia (GCP/SRB/002/GFF)**
 - Timeframe: Jan 2018 - Dec 2021
 - Budget: USD 3,274,659 (GEF6 contribution)
 - Outcome: Contribute to the conservation of biodiversity and climate change mitigation through the promotion of multifunctional sustainable forest management in productive forest landscapes.
 - Components/outputs:
 1. Enabling environment for multifunctional sustainable forest management (FIS, NFI, carbon monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) system)
 2. Multifunctional forest management (Regional forest development plans; best management practices in different forest types)
 3. Monitoring, Evaluation and dissemination of lessons learned

FAO REU project assistance – Extra-budgetary (GEF)

- **Forest and landscape restoration (FLR) to achieve Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) in Serbia (GCP/SRB/007/GFF)**
 - Tentative timeframe: Dec 2021 - Oct 2024
 - Budget: USD 825,891 (GEF7 contribution)
 - Outcome: Sustain environmental services and food security through the promotion of FLR and LDN practices for the recovery and restoration of prioritized landscapes and establish support mechanisms for achieving and monitoring LDN at the national level.
 - Components/outputs:
 1. Enabling environment for FLR in support of LDN
 2. Demonstrating LDN through testing of FLR approaches in pilot landscapes
 3. Knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation and public awareness raising

FAO REU project assistance – Extra-budgetary (GEF)

- **Integrated Natural Resources Management in Degraded Landscapes in the Forest-Steppe and Steppe Zones of Ukraine (GCP/UKR/004/GFF)**
 - Timeframe: Oct 2017 – Dec 2022
 - Budget: USD 1,776,484 (GEF6 contribution)
 - Outcome: Promote restoration of degraded landscapes in the forest-steppe and steppe zones of Ukraine through upscaling of integrated natural resources management practices.
 - Components/outputs:
 1. Enabling environment for Integrated Natural Resource Management (INRM)
 2. Restoration of productivity and resilience of production landscapes
 3. Monitoring, evaluation and adaptive management

FAO REU project assistance – Extra-budgetary (GCF)

- **Forest resilience of Armenia, enhancing adaptation and rural green growth via mitigation (GCP/ARM/008/GCF)**
 - Timeframe: Nov 2021 - Nov 2029
 - Budget: USD 18,704,703 (GCF+co-finance)
 - Outcome: By 2028 carbon sinking potential of the Country is increased by at least 10% and forest cover is increased and rehabilitated by 9% of the total national forest cover.
 - Components/outputs:
 1. Climate resilience (re/afforestation and agroforestry investments)
 2. Main driver of forest degradation (fuel wood cutting) / Energy efficient appliances
 3. Local governance of forest ecosystems (management, control, protection) and associated value chains

FAO SEC normative work

- **Technical guidelines, workshops, etc.**
 - Preparation of distribution map of the native tree species stands suitable for the seed harvesting (including Guidelines on how to use the map for conservation of genetic biodiversity in Central Asia, and Training workshop on the Guidelines (planned for 2021))
 - Preparation of Guidelines on climate change impact on sustainable forest management in Central Asia, and related Conference (planned for 2021)
 - Training on fire management (planned for 2021)

FAO SEC project assistance – Regular programme

- **TCPF - Integrating pollinators into Sustainable Forest Management Plans (TCP/AZE/3802/C1)**
 - Timeframe: Jul 2021 – Jun 2022
 - Budget: USD 50,000
 - Objective: to assist in developing the country's capacity and knowledge to integrate biodiversity (especially pollinators) into sustainable forest management plans in Azerbaijan.

FAO SEC project assistance – Extra-budgetary

- **Central Asian Desert Initiative (CADI) - Conservation and adaptive use of cold winter deserts in Central Asia (MTF/SEC/012/UOG)**
 - Timeframe: Aug 2017 – Dec 2021
 - Budget: USD 1,362,075 from Internationale Klimainitiative (IKI)
 - Participating countries: Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
 - Outcome: Strengthen conservation and management of biodiversity and ecosystem services of cold winter deserts (cwd) across borders
 - Components/outputs:
 1. Evidence on ecosystem services and biodiversity for application in land use management
 2. Multi-stakeholder-based sustainable land management
 3. Conditions for management and establishment of protected areas
 4. CADI secretariat

FAO SEC project assistance – Extra-budgetary

- **Integrated natural resources management in drought-prone and salt-affected agricultural production landscapes in Central Asia and Turkey - CACILM2 (GCP/SEC/293/GFF)**
 - Timeframe: Oct 2017 – Oct 2022
 - Budget: USD 10,874,659 (GEF6 contribution)
 - Participating countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
 - Outcome: Scale up integrated natural resources management in drought-prone and salt-affected agriculture production landscapes in Central Asia and Turkey
 - Components/outputs:
 1. Multi-country collaboration and partnership
 2. Integration of resilience into policy, legal and institutional frameworks for integrated natural resources management (INRM)
 3. Upscaling of climate-smart agricultural practices in drought-prone and/or salt-affected production landscapes
 4. Monitoring and evaluation and adaptive learning

FAO SEC project assistance – Extra-budgetary

- **Forest resources assessment and monitoring to strengthen forest policy and knowledge framework (GCP/AZE/007/GFF)**
 - Timeframe: Oct 2017 – Dec 2021
 - Budget: USD 1,484,247 (GEF6 contribution)
 - Outcome: Introduce SFM into Azerbaijan in order to increase social and economic benefits from forests, to improve quality of existing forest and increase carbon sequestration.
 - Components/outputs:
 1. Forest resource information management system
 2. Multifunctional forest management leading to carbon sequestration, improvement in forest and tree resources and contribution to local livelihoods
 3. Monitoring, evaluation and knowledge-sharing

FAO SEC project assistance – Extra-budgetary

- **Strengthening network of protected areas through advanced governance and management (GCP/AZE/004/GFF)**
 - Timeframe: Jul 2021 – Jun 2026
 - Budget: USD 2,639,726 (GEF7 contribution)
 - Outcome: Strengthen the effectiveness of Azerbaijan's protected area system to deliver Global Environmental Benefits, using a landscape approach to governance and management.
 - Components/outputs:
 1. Strengthening the national and local enabling environment to support a landscape approach to conserving biodiversity
 2. Deploying innovative strategies and tools to improve management and viability of Protected Area System
 3. Restoring, maintaining and enhancing biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services in target landscapes
 4. Building capacity, managing knowledge, monitoring and evaluation

FAO SEC project assistance – Extra-budgetary

- **Sustainable management of mountainous forest and land resources under climate change conditions (GCP/KYR/010/GFF)**
 - Timeframe: Aug 2014 – May 2021
 - Budget: USD 5,454,545 (GEF5 contribution)
 - Outcome: Contribute to the sustainable management and enhanced productivity of mountainous silvo-agro-pastoral ecosystems and improved mountain livelihoods in the Kyrgyz Republic.
 - Components/outputs:
 1. Enabling environment for sustainable forest & land management
 2. Enhanced carbon stock by innovative management & rehabilitation
 3. Climate-friendly agriculture for sustainable land & water management

FAO SEC project assistance – Extra-budgetary

- **Sustainable Land Management and Climate Friendly Agriculture (GCP/TUR/055/GFF)**
 - Timeframe: Sep 2015 – Dec 2021
 - Budget: USD 5,750,000 (GEF5 contribution)
 - Outcome: Improve agriculture and forest land use management through the diffusion and adoption of low-carbon technologies with win-win benefits in land degradation, climate change, and biodiversity conservation and increased farm profitability and forest productivity.
 - Components/outputs:
 1. Rehabilitation of degraded forests and pastures
 2. Adoption of climate-friendly agricultural practices
 3. Formation of legal, political & institutional environment

FAO SEC project assistance – Extra-budgetary

- **Conservation and Sustainable Management of Turkey's Steppe Ecosystems (GCP/TUR/061/GFF)**
 - Timeframe: Jan 2017 – Sep 2022
 - Budget: USD 2,328,768 (GEF5 contribution)
 - Outcome: Improve the conservation of Turkey's steppe ecosystems through effective protected area management and mainstreaming steppe biodiversity conservation into production landscapes.
 - Components/outputs:
 1. Effectiveness of protected areas system to conserve steppe biodiversity
 2. Steppe biodiversity conservation mainstreamed into production landscapes
 3. Model steppe conservation training program for pastoralists
 4. Enabling environment for conservation of steppe biodiversity across large landscapes

FAO SEC project assistance – Extra-budgetary

- **Contributing to Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) Target Setting by Demonstrating the LDN Approach (GCP/TUR/065/GFF)**
 - Timeframe: Aug 2019 – Aug 2023
 - Budget: USD 2,388,584 (GEF6 contribution)
 - Outcome: Develop a model for LDN target setting planning and decision making at national level and for demonstration in the upper Sakarya Basin.
 - Components/outputs:
 1. Strengthening the enabling environment for Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN)
 2. Decision-Support System (DSS) for LDN
 3. Demonstration of the LDN approach in the Upper Sakarya Basin
 4. Upscaling of LDN experiences, monitoring and evaluation

FAO SEC project assistance – Extra-budgetary

- **Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Forest Management in Kaz Daglari (GCP/TUR/904/GFF)**
 - Tentative timeframe: 2021 – 2026
 - Budget: USD 5,113,014 (GEF7 contribution)
 - Outcome: Enhanced biodiversity conservation and sustainable forest management in the Kaz Daglari region for environmental and socio-economic benefits.
 - Components/outputs:
 1. Strengthening Turkey's Pas system within a sustainable landscape management context.
 2. Integrating biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of productive forests and agricultural areas across Kazdağlari's landscapes.
 3. Awareness raising, monitoring and evaluation, knowledge management

FAO SEC project assistance – Extra-budgetary

- **Development of Feasibility Study and Environmental and Social Instruments for the Bolaman Basin Rehabilitation Project (UTF/TUR/067/TUR) and Çekerek Basin Rehabilitation Project (UTF/TUR/068/TUR)**
 - Timeframe: July 2020 – Dec 2021
 - Budget: USD 370,238 and USD 370,073
 - Outcome: Developed Bolaman and Çekerek Project to be approved by the related national authorities and the World Bank (WB) for the inclusion into the Government Annual Investment Programme and for the funding by WB Loan
 - Components/outputs:
 1. Bolaman/Çekerek Project Feasibility Report (FR) in compliance with the 2021 Investment Programme Preparation Guide of the President`s Office of Strategy and Budget prepared and delivered to OGM
 2. A package of Environmental and Social Instruments (E&S Instruments) in compliance with the World Bank`s Requirements prepared and delivered to OGM
 3. Two-Year Procurement Plan (PP) including the Project Procurement Strategy for Development (PPSD) for the Project implementation in compliance with the World Bank`s requirements delivered to OGM
 4. Bolaman/Çekerek Project Operational Manual (POM) in accordance with the World Bank`s requirements prepared and delivered to OGM

FAO SEC project assistance – Extra-budgetary

- **Sustainable management of forests in Mountain and Valley areas in Uzbekistan (GCP/UZB/004/GFF)**
 - Timeframe: Mar 2018 – Feb 2023
 - Budget: USD 3,187,023 (GEF6 contribution)
 - Outcome: Introduce sustainable forest management in Uzbekistan, thereby sequestering carbon and improving the quality of forest and tree resources.
 - Components/outputs:
 1. Information system for sustainable forests management
 2. Multifunctional forest management at four pilots
 3. Upscaling sustainable forest management
 4. Monitoring, evaluation and knowledge-sharing



THANK YOU

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