

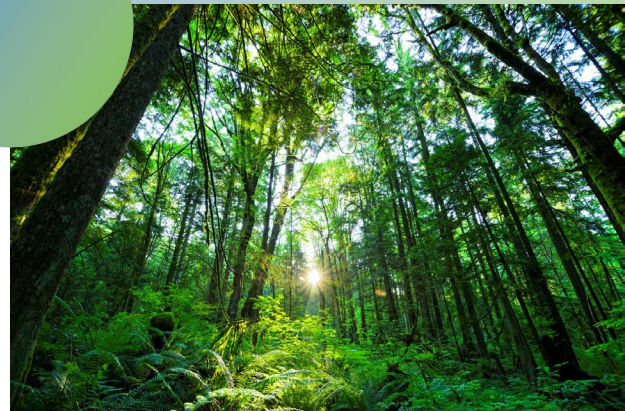


# FAO forestry-related activities in the Europe and Central Asia region

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# 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](#)

# 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)
<b>FAO REU</b>	39.2 %	+0.09 %	4.2 %	112.8 m3/ha
<b>REU Europe</b>	46.0 %	+0.07 %	4.5 %	114.4 m3/ha
<b>REU Central Asia</b>	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)
- Biodiversity loss and decline
- 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 and riparian forests
- Climate change impact on forests and land resources

# FAO REU normative work

- **REUFIS – Forest Invasive Species Network for Europe and Central Asia**
  - Regional training programme on contingency plans for forest pest outbreak emergencies in the region (REUFIS webinar, 24 Nov 2021)
  - 2022 annual REUFIS network meeting and training on monitoring methods (hybrid event, 27–30 June 2022, Sopron, Hungary)
  - 2023 annual REUFIS network meeting on digital solutions for better forest health monitoring (26–27 June, Sopron, Hungary)
- **Forest health**
  - Regional study on contingency planning/pest specific response plans, 2021
  - Regional study on Early Warning Early Action (EWEA) systems for invasive species outbreak prevention and mitigation, 2021/22
  - Development of Virtual learning course on “Application of biological control for management of chestnut blight”, 2023/24

# FAO REU normative work

- **NWFPs – Non-Wood Forest Products**
  - Regional study on the status of non-wood forest products (NWFPs) in selected Western Balkan countries (2021)
  - Analysis report on available information on NWFPs to support decision making on natural resources management (2022)
  - Non-wood forest product survey developed and tested in pilot communities of the region to support information collection and sharing and to assess income generation opportunities for rural people (2022/23)
- **Preparation of MRV model scheme for the forest sector (2023)**

# FAO REU project assistance – Regular programme

- TCP - Assistance for establishing the National Forest Monitoring and Assessment System (TCP/ARM/3807)
- TCP - Assistance to adopt effective governance and management of forests (TCP/ARM/744237 pipeline)
- TCPf - Potentials of fast-growing plantation forests (TCP/BIH/3802/C2)
- TCP - Formulation of a GCF project proposal on climate change adaptation and mitigation in forestry (TCP/MOL/3806)
- TCPf - Forest Resilience to climate change and biodiversity loss via mitigation and adaptation investments (TCP/SRB/3801/C1)
- TCPf - Enhancing the resilience of Serbian forests and the carbon storage potential (TCP/SRB/3902/C2)
- TCP - Strengthening the resilience of pine forest to bark beetle outbreaks and associated dieback (TCP/RER/3801)
- TCPf - Technical Assistance for strengthening the national capacity of the forest service (TCP/MCD/745025 pipeline)
- TCPf - Support the design of national forest monitoring system and related forest information system (MNE pipeline)



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# FAO REU project assistance – Regular programme

- **TCPf - Potentials of fast-growing plantation forests (TCP/BIH/3802/C2)**
  - Timeframe: Sep 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
- **TCP - Formulation of a GCF project proposal on climate change adaptation and mitigation in forestry (TCP/MOL/3806)**
  - 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

# FAO REU project assistance – Regular programme

- **TCPf - Forest Resilience to climate change and biodiversity loss via mitigation and adaptation investments (TCP/SRB/3801/C1)**
  - Timeframe: Apr 2021 – Oct 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.
- **TCPf - Enhancing the resilience of Serbian forests and the carbon storage potential (in pipeline)**
  - Tentative timeframe: June 2022 – Apr 2023
  - Budget: USD 97,000
  - Objective: Increased adaptive and mitigation capacities in forestry through upgraded institutional capacities and incentivised private sector

# 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

- Forest resilience of Armenia, enhancing adaptation and rural green growth via mitigation (GCP/ARM/012/AUS)
- Support to strengthening sustainable and multipurpose forest management to improve rural livelihoods and address climate change in Kosovo (GCP/KOS/007/SWE) and (GCP/KOS/008/EC)
- Contribution of Sustainable Forest Management to a Low Emission and Resilient Development in Serbia (GCP/SRB/002/GFF)
- Enabling environment at policy, field and market levels for Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) to achieve Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) in Serbia (MSP) (GCP/SRB/007/GFF)
- Forest resilience of Armenia, enhancing adaptation and rural green growth via mitigation (GCP/ARM/008/GCF)

# FAO REU project assistance – Extra-budgetary

- **Forest resilience of Armenia, enhancing adaptation and rural green growth via mitigation (GCP/ARM/012/AUS)**
  - Timeframe: Nov 2021 - Nov 2029
  - Budget: USD 1,631,542
  - Outcome: By the end of the forests at least 2.5% of degraded forestland is restored and sustainably managed, and fuelwood dependency of targeted rural communities is optimized and decreased
  - Components/outputs:
    1. Forest and agroforestry investments are secured in project areas with sustainable and climate adaptive approaches and practices
    2. Staff of local authorities, private sector and civil society are trained in sustainable and climate adaptive silviculture
    3. National Standards for energy efficiency of heating related appliances are approved
    4. Relevant stakeholders are enabled to adopt effective governance and adaptive management of forests and related ecosystem

# 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) and (GCP/KOS/008/EC)**
  - Timeframe: Sep 2019 - Aug 2023 and Feb 2022 - Jan 2024
  - Budget: USD 4,140,131
  - 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

- **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 (GEF)

- **Contribution of Sustainable Forest Management to a Low Emission and Resilient Development in Serbia (GCP/SRB/002/GFF)**
  - Timeframe: Feb 2018 - June 2023
  - 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)

- **Enabling environment at policy, field and market levels for Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) to achieve Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) in Serbia (MSP) (GCP/SRB/007/GFF)**
  - Tentative timeframe: Nov 2021 - Oct 2024
  - Budget: USD 746,121 (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

- Biodiversity conservation
  - Guidelines on Safeguarding Native Tree Species for Conservation of Genetic Biodiversity in Central Asia and organization of the related Training workshop on the Guideline (2021)
  - Guidelines on forest biodiversity monitoring methodologies in the sub-region and training for different target groups of stakeholders (ongoing 2022/2023)
- Climate change impact
  - Training on fire management (2021)
  - Guidelines on climate change impact on sustainable forest management in Central Asia and related Conference (2021)
  - Guidelines on implementation of Nature-based solutions to combat impact of climate change on forestry in the sub-region and associated training for different target groups of stakeholders ( ongoing 2023)

# FAO SEC project assistance – Regular programme

- **TCPf - Integrating pollinators into Sustainable Forest Management Plans (TCP/AZE/3802/C1)**
- **TCPf - Post-Fire Restoration Activities of Forest and Maquis Ecosystems in Mugla Province (TCP/TUR/3902/C2)**

# FAO SEC project assistance – Extra-budgetary

- Forest Restoration Improvement for Environmental Development and Sustainability (FRIENDS) (GCP /SEC/021/TUR)
- Improving Biodiversity and Sustainable Forestry (GCP /SEC/025/TUR) – to be operational soon
- Enhancing of the Capacity of the International Forestry Training Centre (GCP /SEC/024/TUR) – to be operational soon
- Strengthening network of protected areas through advanced governance and management (GCP/AZE/004/GFF)
- Sustainable management of forests in Mountain and Valley areas in Uzbekistan (GCP/UZB/004/GFF)
- Sustainable Land Management and Climate Friendly Agriculture (GCP/TUR/055/GFF) – closure stage
- Conservation and Sustainable Management of Turkey's Steppe Ecosystems (GCP/TUR/061/GFF) – closure stage

# 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)
- Integrated natural resources management in drought-prone and salt-affected agricultural production landscapes in Central Asia and Turkey - CACILM2 (GCP/SEC/293/GFF)
- Contributing to Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) Target Setting by Demonstrating the LDN Approach (GCP/TUR/065/GFF)
- Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Forest Management in Kaz Daglari (GCP/TUR/904/GFF)

# FAO SEC project assistance – Extra-budgetary

- **Forest Restoration Improvement for Environmental Development and Sustainability (FRIENDS) (GCP /SEC/021/TUR)**
  - Timeframe: Apr 2022 – Mar 2025
  - Budget: USD 2,000,000 (FTFP)
  - Participating countries: Azerbaijan (Direct), Kazakhstan (Direct), Kyrgyzstan (Direct), Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan (Direct)
  - Outcome: Participating countries are equipped with the necessary gender-responsive knowledge and skills for large-scale forest and other wooded lands restoration, improved frameworks/strategies to address prevention of degradation, and a network for regional cooperation/information exchange is functional



# FAO SEC project assistance – Extra-budgetary

- **Improving Biodiversity and Sustainable Forestry (GCP /SEC/025/TUR)**
  - Timeframe: Jan 2023 – Dec 2025
  - Budget: USD 3,299,962 (FTFP)
  - Participating countries: Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan (Direct), Kyrgyzstan (Direct), Montenegro, Tajikistan (Direct), Turkiye, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan (Direct)
  - Outcome: Participating countries are equipped with the necessary capacity and knowledge on sustainable biodiversity conservation and sustainable forest management
- **Enhancing of the Capacity of the International Forestry Training Centre (GCP /SEC/024/TUR)**
  - Timeframe: May 2022 – May 2025
  - Budget: USD 1,000,000 (FTFP)
  - Participating countries: Turkiye (Direct), Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
  - Outcome: Capacity of the Training Centre is strengthened to provide high quality forestry training at national, regional and international levels

# 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 2024
  - 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

# 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
- **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: Developed model for LDN target setting planning and decision making at national level and for demonstration in the upper Sakarya Basin



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# FAO SEC project assistance – Extra-budgetary

- **Sustainable Land Management and Climate Friendly Agriculture (GCP/TUR/055/GFF) – closure stage**
  - Timeframe: Sep 2015 – Dec 2022
  - Budget: USD 5,750,000 (GEF5 contribution)
  - Outcome: Improved 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
- **Conservation and Sustainable Management of Turkey's Steppe Ecosystems (GCP/TUR/061/GFF) - closure stage**
  - Timeframe: Jan 2017 – Sep 2022
  - Budget: USD 2,328,768 (GEF5 contribution)
  - Outcome: Improved conservation of Turkey's steppe ecosystems through effective protected area management and mainstreaming steppe biodiversity conservation into production landscapes

# FAO SEC project assistance – Extra-budgetary

- **Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Forest Management in Kaz Daglari (GCP/TUR/904/GFF)**
  - Tentative timeframe: Oct 2022 – Oct 2027
  - Budget: USD 4,657,534 (GEF7 contribution)
  - Outcome: Enhanced biodiversity conservation and sustainable forest management in the Kaz Daglari region for environmental and socio-economic benefits
- **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: Jul 2020 – Jun 2022
  - 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

# 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: Introduced sustainable forest management in Uzbekistan, thereby sequestering carbon and improving the quality of forest and tree resources

# FAO SEC project assistance – Extra-budgetary

- **Carbon sequestration through climate investments in forests and rangelands in the Kyrgyz Republic (CS-FOR), GCP/KYR/020/GCF**
  - **Timeframe: 2022-2030**
  - **Budget: USD 50,000,000, including 30 million GCF grand**
  - **Outcome: to increase carbon sequestration through supporting climate investments in forests and rangelands and through reducing drivers of degradation and emissions via institutional support, participatory ecosystem-based sustainable management of natural resources and green growth investments**
  - **Components:**
    1. **Component 1: Evidence-based Strengthening of Natural Resources Management (NRM)**
    2. **Component 2: Green Investments for Forest and Rangeland Rehabilitation**
    3. **Component 3: Climate-sensitive Value Chains Development**



# THANK YOU

FAO Regional  
Forestry Team  
2 June 2023

Joint Working Party on Forest Statistics,  
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2023

