



Economic and Social Council

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Economic Commission for Europe

Executive Committee

131st meeting

Geneva, 4 December 2023

Decision relating to the implementing the United Nations Resource Management System for Circular Materials and Sustainable Resource Management in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Region

Submitted by the Secretariat

Draft decision

The Executive Committee hereby approves the extrabudgetary project entitled “Implementing the United Nations Resource Management System for Circular Materials and Sustainable Resource Management in the UNECE Region”, as contained in the present document (ECE/EX/2023/L.16).



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

Project title: Implementing the United Nations Resource Management System for Circular Materials and Sustainable Resource Management in the UNECE Region	
Expected timing/ duration: January 2024 - June 2026	
Objective and brief summary of the project: The objective of the project is to enhance the capacity of UNECE member States to implement the United Nations Resource Management System (UNRMS) to manage their resources circularly and sustainably, using innovative technologies, policies and business models. UNRMS is a comprehensive and integrated framework for managing resources in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement and recommended by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) for global application. The project will develop and disseminate new technologies, innovative material flows, policy interventions and business models that can enable circularity and sustainability of resources. It will support the International Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Resource Management (ICE-SRM) in the UK, as well as other ICE-SRMs and countries, to develop sustainable approaches to resource utilization, carbon emissions, and natural capital use. This project aims to measure sustainable resource use through internationally recognized material flows and impact measurements. It will assess policy interventions and future business models while incentivizing the manufacture of durable goods through servitization principles. Carbon emissions can be significantly reduced by producing less and preventing waste, leading to a more sustainable society. Key areas include reducing resource use and carbon emissions in construction materials, responsibly sourcing metals and technology minerals, promoting high-quality metal scrap, and improving data delivery for sustainable resource use. The project aims to provide UNRMS tools, case studies, policy recommendations, and best practices to assist UNECE member states. The objective of the project will be achieved by implementing the following activities: A1.1. Develop and apply UNRMS-based tools to quantify the resource, natural capital and carbon savings from using circular materials in construction industries; A1.2. Conduct a study to implement innovative technologies to enhance the durability and sustainability of metal products, including alloy materials, and provide services that promote their longevity and facilitate the repair and reuse of electric vehicles based on UNRMS principles and requirements; A2.1. Conduct an assessment of metal scrap management in industries with UNRMS standards and develop a case study; A2.2. Conduct a study to evaluate circular, low-carbon raw material flows for technology metals and critical minerals and develop a case study; A3.1. Conduct a study to assess the key infrastructure and challenges associated with the circular and low-impact use of critical raw materials and develop a case study on a specific value chain; A3.2. Devise policy models to transition to a circular economy focusing on green finance based on integrated data delivery.	
Link to the SDG targets: 3.9, 4.7, 5.5, 8.2, 8.4, 9.1, 9.4, 9.5, 9.B, 10.2, 11.6, 12.2, 12.4, 12.5, 12.6, 12.8, 12.A, 17.14	
Expected results of the project: EA1. Improved capacities or knowledge of UNECE member States to develop and apply a new methodology for measuring and reporting the material flows and impacts of resources in a circular economy using UNRMS; EA2. Enhanced knowledge of new business models based on servitization for reducing the demand for virgin materials and the associated carbon emissions in different sectors and contexts; EA3. Strengthened collaboration through a new platform for knowledge exchange and dissemination among the project partners, stakeholders and the wider public on sustainable and integrated resource management using UNRMS.	
Target group and beneficiaries of the project: Beneficiary countries: UNECE member States. The target groups are national and international government policymakers and analysts; industries including small and medium sized enterprises in mining and metals, construction sector, and recycling sectors; academic community and non-governmental organisations and other organisations specialising in sustainable resource management.	
Justification of project and its relationship to the programme of work: The project directly contributes to the objective of Subprogramme 5 “Sustainable Energy” “to ensure access to affordable and clean energy for all and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector in the region” of the UNECE programme budget for 2023.	
Estimated UN regular budget resources (work months of RB staff/level of Staff): P5/ 2.5 months	
Estimated extrabudgetary resources:	
Donor	Amount (US\$)
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	480,000

Project Manager: Charlotte Griffiths 06.09.2023	Section/Division: Resources Management Section/Sustainable Energy Division	
Cleared by Programme Management Unit: Nicolas Dath-Baron 06.09.2023	Approved by EXCOM¹	09.10.2023

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. Improved capacities or knowledge of UNECE member States to develop and apply a new methodology for measuring and reporting the material flows and impacts of resources in a circular economy using UNRMS.	A1.1. Develop and apply UNRMS-based tools to quantify the resource, natural capital and carbon savings from using circular materials in construction industries. P3 staff for technical expertise and coordination support x 8 months x 15,000\$ Travel of staff 2 x 1,300\$ Operating costs x 3,000\$	125,600 120,000 2,600 3,000
	A1.2. Conduct a study to implement innovative technologies to enhance the durability and sustainability of metal products, including alloy materials, and provide services that promote their longevity and facilitate the repair and reuse of electric vehicles based on UNRMS principles and requirements. P3 staff for technical expertise and coordination support (50%) x 3 months x 7,500\$ International consultant to provide technical inputs for the development of technologies 2 months x 2,500\$ Operating costs x 3,000\$	30,500 22,500 5,000 3,000
EA2. Enhanced knowledge of new business models based on servitization for reducing the demand for virgin materials and the associated carbon emissions in different sectors and contexts.	A2.1. Conduct an assessment of metal scrap management in industries with UNRMS standards and develop a case study. P3 staff for technical expertise and coordination support 6 months x 15,000\$ Travel of staff 1 x 1,300\$ Operating costs x 3,000\$	94,300 90,000 1,300 3,000
	A2.2. Implement a study to evaluate circular, low-carbon raw material flows for technology metals and critical minerals and develop a case study. P3 staff for technical expertise and coordination support (50%) 4 months x 7,500\$ International consultant to provide technical inputs for the evaluation criteria 2 months x 2,500\$ Operating costs x 3,000\$	38,000 30,000 5,000 3,000
EA3. Strengthened collaboration through a new platform for knowledge exchange and dissemination among the project partners, stakeholders and the wider public on sustainable and integrated resource management using UNRMS.	A3.1. Conduct a study to assess the key infrastructure and challenges associated with the circular and low-impact use of critical raw materials and develop a case study on a specific value chain. P3 staff for technical expertise and coordination support 6 months x 15,000\$ Travel of staff 1 x 1,300\$ Operating costs x 3,000\$	94,300 90,000 1,300 3,000
	A3.2. Devise policy models to transition to a circular economy focusing on green finance based on integrated data delivery. P3 staff for technical expertise and coordination support (50%) 3 months x 7,500\$ International consultant to support the development of green finance models 2 months x 2,500\$ Operating costs x 3,017\$	30,517 22,500 5,000 3,017
Budget summary		413,217
Project evaluation		8,264
13% of Programme Support Costs		53,718
1% coordination levy		4,800

Total (rounded)

480,000