

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

134th meeting  
Geneva, 1 July 2024

Item 6 of the provisional agenda

Informal Document No. **2024/19**

**Extrabudgetary project**

**Enhancing data collection and analysis for the improved dissemination of information  
on forests in the UNECE region**

(for approval)

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

<b>Project title:</b> Enhancing data collection and analysis for the improved dissemination of information on forests in the UNECE region		
<b>Expected timing/ duration:</b> July 2024 – March 2025		
<b>Objective and brief summary of the project:</b> The objective of the proposed project is to enhance data, knowledge and awareness of forests in the UNECE region among policymakers in the region and global processes. Forests within the UNECE region, which are prevalingly boreal forests and temperate, cover 1.71 billion ha (42% of the global forest area). They play a critical role in preserving biodiversity, sequestering carbon, and sustaining the forest industry, yet their state, role and contributions to climate change adaptation and mitigation, biodiversity and sustainable development at local, national and global level are not well studied, understood or known by policymakers or the general public. There is a need to better understand the state of these forests and the threats they face to inform sustainable forest management in the coming years and decades. The project will assist and promote cooperation with countries, regional entities and other partners for sustainable forest management of forests in the UNECE region, and the related sustainable use of forest products. The project contributes to the UNECE’s aim to collect, validate and disseminate information and results of research and analysis related to sustainable forest management and the sustainable production and consumption of wood products. The objective of the project will be achieved by the following activities: A1.1. Development of an assessment of forests in the UNECE region; A1.2. Development of outreach, engagement and communication materials with key messages on forests in the UNECE region (e.g. brochures, pamphlets, online videos); A1.3. Organization/participation in at least one capacity building event; A1.4. Support the development and maintenance of the UNECE central data platform for forest sector data collection, processing, validation, storage, dissemination and exchange.		
<b>Link to the SDG targets:</b> SDG 13 targets 1, 2, 3, A; SDG 15 targets 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, A and B.		
<b>Expected results of the project:</b> EA1. Enhanced knowledge of UNECE member States on the status and services of UNECE Forests among policymakers in the UNECE region.		
<b>Target group and beneficiaries of the project:</b> Beneficiary countries are UNECE member States. Target groups are policymakers responsible for forest management and related sectors such as climate and biodiversity.		
<b>Justification of project and its relationship to the programme of work:</b> The project contributes directly to the objective of the Subprogramme 7 “Forests and the forest industry” of the UNECE programme budget for 2024, to “to strengthen the sustainable management of forests and enhance the contribution of forests and forest products to sustainable development in the ECE region,” including to “promote cooperation among member States, regional entities and other partners for sustainable forest management, forest landscape restoration ...” Furthermore, in accordance with the integrated programme of work 2022-2025 of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry (COFFI) and the FAO European Forestry Commission (EFC) (ECE/TIM/2021/2, FO:EFC/2021/2), adopted on 25 November 2021, this project supports efforts to promote sustainable forest management so that forests provide goods and services to benefit society.		
<b>Estimated UN regular budget resources (work months of RB staff/level of Staff):</b> 0.25 month/P5; 0.5 month/P4; 0.5 month/P2		
<b>Estimated extra budgetary resources:</b>		
<b>Donor</b>	<b>Amount (US\$)</b>	
Canada	72,320	
<b>Project Manager:</b> Roman Michalak	<b>Section/Division:</b> UNECE-FAO Forestry and Timber Section/Forests, Land and Housing Division	
03.06		
<b>Cleared by Programme Management Unit:</b> Nicolas Dath-Baron	<b>Approved by EXCOM<sup>1</sup></b>	01.07.2024
03.06.2024		

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

<b>Expected Accomplishments</b>	<b>Planned activities</b>	<b>Estimated costs (US\$)</b>	
EA1. Enhanced knowledge and awareness of UNECE Forests among policymakers in the UNECE region.	A1.1. Developing an assessment of forests in the UNECE region. International consultant to prepare draft assessment x \$7,000 per month x 2 months	14,000 14,000	
	A1.2. Develop outreach, engagement and communication materials with key messages on forests in the UNECE region (e.g. brochures, pamphlets, online videos). International consultant to develop outreach materials (e.g. leaflets, brochures etc.) and campaigns x \$5,000 per month x 3.5 months	17,500 17,500	
	A1.3. Organization/participation in at least one capacity building event. Staff travel \$2,500 x 3 missions	7,500 7,500	
	A1.4. Support the development and maintenance of the UNECE central data platform for forest sector data collection, processing, validation, storage, dissemination and exchange. Contractual services for development and maintenance	25,000 25,000	
	Budget summary		64,000
	13% of Programme Support Costs		8,320
<b>Total</b>		<b>72,320</b>	