



Project Document

FAO/GOVERNMENT COOPERATION PROGRAMME

Countries: Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Uzbekistan

Project title: Capacity Building for Sustainable Management of Mountain Watersheds in Central Asia and the Caucasus

Project Symbol: GCP/SEC/002/TUR
Donor: Government of Turkey

Government Implementing Agencies:

Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Azerbaijan
State Agency for Environment Protection and Forestry, Kyrgyzstan
State Committee for Environmental Protection, Tajikistan
Main Forestry Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources, Uzbekistan
General Directorate of Afforestation and Erosion Control of MoEF, Turkey

Project Duration: 24 months
Starting date: April 2011
Completion date: March 2013

Budget: (In kind)
FAO/FTPP: USD 300 000
GDAEC/MoEF: USD 130 000
TIKA: USD 200 000
Countries: (USD 79 775)
Total : USD 709 775

Signed:

Signed:

(on behalf of the Governments)

Mustapha Sinaceur
Subregional Coordinator
(on behalf of the Food and Agriculture
Organization of the United Nations-
FAO)

Date of signature:

Date of signature:

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The project “Capacity Building for Sustainable Management of Mountain Watersheds in Central Asia and the Caucasus” is funded by the FAO/Turkey Partnership Programme (FTPP) established over an initial period of five years (2007–2011) at the benefit of the countries assisted by the FAO Subregional Office for Central Asia (FAO/SEC).

The expected long-term impact of the project is the decreased degradation and losses of soil, water and biodiversity resources, increased environmental, social and economic benefits from rehabilitated and sustainably managed mountain watersheds in both upstream and downstream areas in the project countries.

At the end of the project, it is expected that public awareness and interest of policy and decision makers will be increased; and knowledge and experiences of forestry and other related agencies will be enhanced about integrated (multi-disciplinary) and collaborative approaches to the implementation, rehabilitation and sustainable management of mountain watersheds.

The initial outline of this project was submitted by FAO for consideration by the Steering Committee of the FTPP and was approved with an estimated budget of USD 300 000. Total budget of the project, cash and in kind, is estimated to USD 659 695 including USD 130 000 contribution from MoEF, USD 200 000 from TİKA and USD 79 775 from the countries.

As a result, the present project document has been prepared in light of the above mentioned outline and, after signature of the relevant parties and FAO, it will be implemented by FAO in collaboration with MoEF and TİKA.

ABBREVIATIONS

CPF	Country Priority Framework
EFC	European Forestry Commission
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FAO/SEC	FAO Subregional Office for Central Asia
FOM	Forest Management Division at FAO Head Quarter
FTPP	FAO/Turkey Partnership Programme
GDAEC	General Directorate of Afforestation and Erosion Control
LTO	Lead Technical Officer
LTU	Lead Technical Unit
MARA	The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of Turkey
MDGs	United Nations Millennium Development Goals
MoEF	The Ministry of Environment and Forestry of Turkey
NC	National Consultant
NMTPF	National Medium-Term Priority Frameworks
NPC	National Project Coordinator
RPC	Regional Project Coordinator
TCDC	Technical Cooperation Among Developing Countries
TİKA	Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
WB	World Bank
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development

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1. BACKGROUND

1.1. General Context

Project countries in Central Asia (Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan) and West Asia (Azerbaijan and Turkey) have similar geographic, climatic and socio economic conditions. In general, they are mainly mountainous countries which are shaped by the arid and semi-arid climatic conditions and low forest covers. In the regional countries, the percentage of local people living in mountainous areas is very high and their livelihood is mainly based on utilization of natural resources. Deforestation is evident over much of the region and combating the problem is a priority for sustainable land use in the mountainous areas. Therefore, land management, including biodiversity, preventing land degradation and desertification is a central problem in the region.

Tajikistan is a landlocked country with a land area of 143 100 km², of which about 93 percent is mountainous which is largely lying within the Pamir mountain range, with peaks reaching 7 495 m. Population of the country is about seven millions. With an average annual rainfall ranging between 200 mm and 400 mm, Tajikistan suffers from chronic drought, particularly in the sensitive areas along the Afghan and Uzbek borders. Climatic conditions and soil quality make the country suitable for the production of a variety of crops, such as cereals, cotton, potatoes, vegetables, grapes and forage, and for a large variety of fruit trees. However, the exploitation of natural resources during the past 50 years has done severe damage to the ecosystems of Tajikistan. With continued anthropogenic pressures, forests and other woodlands, pastures and arable lands have been degraded. The remaining mountain forests are sparse and overgrazed, giving rise to an increased area of mountain deserts. Water and watershed management has been neglected and landslides and floods are becoming more frequent and severe, as is the case also in other project countries.

Kyrgyzstan is also a small, landlocked and mountainous country in the very centre of Central Asia, with a population of roughly 5.5 million people, out of which 65 percent is living in rural areas. Nearly 90 percent of the total territory of Kyrgyzstan lies in altitudes of 1 500 m and more than 40 percent of the whole territory lies above 3 000 metres. Forests are mainly located in the mountainous areas at altitudes from 700 to 3 600 metres. Kyrgyzstan has a continental climate with considerable variations between the regions. In the valley areas of Kyrgyzstan a total amount of precipitation makes up 230 mm-500 mm. In the mountainous areas it can reach 1500 mm. Thanks to its mountains, Kyrgyzstan is rich in water resources which are crucial for agricultural irrigation and which are also used to produce hydroelectric power.

Uzbekistan is the most populated country in the Central Asia with a population of about 27 million. The physical environment of Uzbekistan is diverse, ranging from the flat, desert topography that comprises almost 80 percent of the country's territory to mountain peaks in the east. Most of the country is quite arid, with average annual rainfall amounting to between 100 and 200 mm. Accordingly, water is the basis for intensive irrigated agriculture, which is the mainstay of the economy in Uzbekistan, as in the other Central Asian Republics. The most serious environmental problems threatening the country's natural resources are incremental soil salinization and water contamination, wind and water erosion, overgrazing, deforestation and loss of

biodiversity, and the reduction of productivity of arable lands. Recognized proximate causes of land degradation include inappropriate land use, mainly unsustainable agricultural practices, insufficient maintenance of irrigation and drainage infrastructure, and excessive use of surface and marginal water. Land degradation has been a crucial factor in the decline in rural living standards due to loss of soil fertility and falling crop yields.

Azerbaijan, with a population of over 8.6 million in 2008, out of which 51.4 percent are urban and 48.6 percent are rural, is the most densely populated among the Southern Caucasian republics. The geography of Azerbaijan has a broad range of climatic zones from subtropical to temperate and even alpine climate. The precipitation is mostly low - there is less than 400 mm of rainfall each year over 65 percent of the country. About 60 percent of Azerbaijan is mountainous and the rest lowland, mainly steppe and semi-desert. Some 80 percent of the population is concentrated in valleys and low lands, where farming is more convenient and irrigation more developed, while around 20 percent live in mountainous areas. Main land degradation challenges of the country are soil erosion, pasture degradation, degradation and loss of forest resources and salinisation of soils. About 43 percent of Azerbaijan's territory is subjected to natural and human-induced erosion. Timber and fuel wood extraction has resulted in the reduction of forest areas. Unregulated grazing of pastures and ailing irrigation/drainage infrastructure contribute to ongoing erosion, resulting in increased flooding and landslides. Eroded surface covers about 49 percent of agricultural land and 20 percent of forests affecting people's livelihood, vulnerability to natural disasters and putting at risk species and ecosystems.

Turkey exhibits great diversity in geographical structure, topography, climate and plant cover. Turkey is also mountainous country, approximately half of the land area being higher than 1 000 meters and two thirds higher than 800 meters. In Turkey, more than seven million people lives in forest villages located on mountainous areas and their livelihood are mainly based on utilization of natural resources, especially forest resources which are mainly located in mountainous areas. The average rainfall nationwide is about 650 mm, this average shows large variations, from about 250 mm in the central and southeastern plateaus to as high as 2 500 mm in the northeastern costs and mountains areas. As a result of the combined effects of the harsh topographical conditions and inappropriate land use practices, over 80 percent of the country soils suffer from moderate to severe sheet and gully erosion, and most rivers carry heavy loads of sediment.

To summarize, the following key issues and concerns related to natural resources management and livelihoods are common in all the countries which will participate in the project: soil erosion, pasture degradation, loss and degradation of forest resources and salinisation.

1.2. Sectoral Context

Watershed management is a cross sectoral issue, which covers sustainable utilization and conservation of land (forest, agriculture and range areas) and water resources in a given watershed, and takes into consideration not only physical interrelationships between different land uses but economic, social and institutional factors as well.

Land use patterns together with topographical, climatic and socio-economic conditions are the main factors contributing to the current watershed degradation in the Central Asia and Caucasus Region. As explained earlier, project countries are generally characterized by mountainous, arid and semi arid climatic conditions, low forest cover and low productivity, water stress and scarcity, limited arable land, greater pastures, very high rural population and unstable socio- economic conditions. Land uses in the project countries are given in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Land uses in the project countries (FAO, Forestry Paper No. 152)

Country	Land area (000 ha)	Arable land		Forest and other wooded land		Permanent pasture	
		Area (000 ha)	% of total land area	Area (000 ha)	% of total land area	Area (000 ha)	% of total land area
Azerbaijan	8 260	1 783	21.6	990	12.0	2 683	32.5
Kyrgyzstan	19 180	1 345	7.0	1 182	6.2	9 365	48.8
Tajikistan	14 060	930	6.6	552	3.9	3 198	22.8
Uzbekistan	41 424	4 484	10.8	4 199	10.1	22 219	53.6
Turkey	76 963	25 938	33.7	20 684	27.1	13 167	17.1

As shown in the table, project countries have low forest covers. Furthermore, prevailing environmental conditions, in particular extreme aridity and water scarcity are unfavorable to tree growth. Accordingly, wood production is very low and demand for wood products is mainly met by imports. Although there has been a rapid substitution of fuelwood for fossil fuels, high level rural population still continue to depend on scarce forest resources for fuelwood as the main source of domestic energy, especially for cooking and heating and wood for construction. Uncontrolled grazing and illicit cutting in forest areas are resulting in severe degradation of the forest condition. Unsustainable exploitation of forest resources by rural population leads to deforestation, decline of wildlife resources, soil degradation and increasing problems of erosion. However, forest resources still have a very important protective role in combating land degradation, desertification and water scarcity, protecting watersheds, improving the urban environment, and conserving biodiversity, which are the most serious environmental problems of the project countries.

Non-wood forest products are an important source of livelihood in all project countries and they have important potential in land rehabilitation, erosion control, income generation and poverty reduction in rural areas. Important non-wood forest products in the project countries include nuts (walnut, pistachios), berries, medical and aromatic plants and wildlife products. Because of limited inventory, lack of regulations relating to harvesting and marketing of NWFPs, overexploitation of resources are widespread, which result in land degradation.

Since almost all watersheds in the project countries are mainly grassland and cropland with limited forest areas, sustainable management of the watersheds depends primarily on the management of these lands and the integration of these land uses with the forestry activities. The large extent of arid and semi arid land in the region put intensive pressure on the limited arable land as well as forests and pastures. Under the region's low and unstable rainfall, traditional nomadic animal husbandry has been an important source of livelihood as it takes into account the seasonal changes in

water and fodder availability. Rangelands have become free access resources with no one taking responsibility to manage them after the collapse of community based and sustainable nomadic management systems.

After the collapse of Soviet Union and the end of post war farm privatization policy, marginal farmers are being pushed to upland and degraded areas to make their living. Extensive exploitation of forests, overgrazing and cropping of marginal areas have caused topsoil erosion, sedimentation and problems related to irrigation and irrigation infrastructures.

Besides these human based factors, steep slopes, erodible soils, semi-arid/arid climates, strong winds, geological instability, climate change, and other factors, which are closely related to the region's ecological environment, are contributing to land degradation in the region.

Policy framework, legal and institutional structures have also profound effect on watershed management in the region. Project countries have taken various initiatives for developing their policies and legal frameworks for forests after their independence. However, existing policies and legislation are mainly sector oriented and poor implementation of them remains the fundamental problem which largely stems from weak institutional capacities. As most forests, other wooded lands and pastures in the project countries are publicly owned, governments are the key factors influencing watershed management and involvement of local communities and other stakeholders is weak. Watershed management responsibilities between different state agencies is fragmented and sometimes overlapped. There is a need to policy integration and capacity development at central and local levels including non-governmental stakeholders.

1.2.1. Development Priorities and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

The UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) established within the Millennium Declaration of 191 countries in September 2000, during the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg, South Africa, provide main development targets for the governments in the SEC region. MDG 1 (Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger) and MDG 7 (Ensure environmental sustainability) are areas in which FAO is actively assisting the SEC Governments.

FAO focuses on poverty and hunger reduction through a "twin-track" approach: improving agricultural productivity and promoting better nutritional practices at all levels; and promoting programmes that enhance direct and immediate access to food by the neediest. FAO assists the SEC governments also with programmes that contribute to all dimensions of food security: availability, access, stability and utilization of safe and nutritious food. Moreover, in close collaboration with some of the SEC governments FAO works on the integrated management of land, fisheries, forest and genetic resources, including through conservation agriculture, integrated pest management, water conservation and responsible water-use practices, and the protection of biodiversity. Sustainable development of environments at risk and assistance to those living in marginal areas with livelihood support programmes based on ecosystem management principles, are core to the FAO work in the region.

In national development plans of the project countries, there are several references made to the rural development, natural resources management, sustainable mountain development, forestry and water resources management.

In Azerbaijan, the “State Programme on Social-Economic Development of Regions - 2009-13” is focused on the support to the economic development of the country, making reference to rural development and natural resources management, including (i) improvement in the management of farming lands and soil protection; (ii) improvement in natural hazard risk management, preservation and efficient use of natural resources; (iii) strengthen information and consultation services for agriculture and rural development; (iv) improve the irrigation systems for a more rationale use of water resources;

In Kyrgyzstan, Agenda for XXI Century (Action Programme to 2010) made direct reference to rational use of land resources, reproduction of soil fertility, regulation of land relationships and in connection with them ensuring food independence and food security under the conditions of serious scarceness of land resources. The Agenda also recognizes the significance of forests in the country which forms the fresh water flow for the whole Central Asia, and their contribution to sustainable formation and preservation of fresh water resources, the basis for reduction of landslide and mudflow risks, the source of development and preservation of biodiversity of mountain territories. The State Programme on Forest envisages an increase in afforestation of the country from 4.25 percent (2000) to six percent to 2025 year.

In Tajikistan, the National Development Strategy for the period of 2006-2015 sets development goals including capacity building to government for the management of natural resources with an emphasis on prevention of disasters. The Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper for 2010-2012 has acknowledged the poverty as the main reason and consequence of environmental degradation and emphasized the need to tackle the environment degradation together with the poverty reduction strategies. The strategy draws attention, among others, to soil degradation, desertification, deforestation, deterioration of mountain ecosystems and loss of agricultural land fertility both due to climate change and man-made factors. Accordingly, the strategy foresees actions including (i) establishment of mechanisms for implementing regulatory, legal and economic tools and instruments for natural resources use and mountain areas conservation, (ii) rehabilitation and improvement of the system of monitoring the degradation of the ecosystem of mountainous uplifts/ridges, and (iii) identification of the environmental and economic effectiveness of developing the potential of natural resources in mountainous areas.

In Uzbekistan, the Government has developed and adopted a number of strategic documents to address environmental challenges, including, inter alia, (i) National Environmental Action Plan, (ii) State Programme for Environmental Protection and the Rational Use of Natural Resources, and (iii) National Action Programme to Combat Desertification. Main actions foreseen by these national documents are (i) development of integrated land, water and salinity management, (ii) promoting watershed management approach on a pilot basis, (iii) combating desertification, (iv) development and implementation of a regional water resource management strategy for the Aral Sea basin, (v) increasing land productivity, and (vi) improving the economic mechanism of environmental protection and use of natural resources.

In Turkey, Ninth Development Plan for 2007-2013 takes into consideration desertification and public health and gives priority to (i) soil conservation and industrial plantations at basins level, (ii) conducting rehabilitation work, (iii) better use of lands through urban and agro forestry, (iv) development of private plantations and (v) creation of public awareness in this field. The Rural Development Plan (2010-2013) aims to (i) conserve and rehabilitate soil and water resources, (ii) expand afforestation, rehabilitation and erosion control activities, (iii) increase seeds and seedling production, (iv) sustainable use of natural resources, and (v) expand the integrated watershed rehabilitation works.

The proposed project will contribute to the achievement of FAO Organizational Result E04 *“sustainable management of forests and trees is more broadly adopted, leading to reductions in deforestation and forest degradation and increased contributions of forests and trees to improve livelihoods and to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation”* under the Strategic Objective E – Sustainable Management of Forests and Tress.

1.2.2. CPF (NMTPF) and UNDAF

The process of the FAO’s Country Priority Framework (National Medium-Term Priority Frameworks) (CPFs), as of October 2010, is completed in Azerbaijan is going on in Kyrgyzstan, and is planned in Uzbekistan and.

In Azerbaijan, NMTPF (2010-12) is the general orientation and planning tool for FAO to take the lead in assisting the Government of Azerbaijan to achieve its development priorities in the areas of agriculture, food security and rural development, including livestock, forestry and fisheries. Within this scope, it gives priority, among others, to (i) environmental protection of agriculture, pasture and forest areas at risk of erosion and degradation; (ii) promotion of techniques for integrated pasture/forest land management as well as for intensive fodder production; (iii) design of an integrated approach to forests, rangeland and protected areas management together with capacity development programmes for institutions and local communities; (iv) integrated water resources management; and (v) development of national forest programme.

The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) is the strategic programme framework for the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in a country. For each of the countries covered under this project an UNDAF is available. Generally the UNDAF describes the collective response of the UNCT to the priorities in the national development framework. FAO is contributing to the UNDAF process in some of the countries, but as the agency does not use the harmonized programme cycle of the UNDG Executive Committee agencies, and does not have representations in each of the countries, the subjects within FAOs mandate (rural development, agriculture, fisheries, etc) are generally not given high priority within the UNDAF documents.

However, several references made regarding integrated watershed management including improvement of the management of protected areas and ecosystems in particular marine and mountain ecosystems, halting land degradation and the erosion of pastures, and prevention of further deforestation by involving local populations (Azerbaijan UNDAF 2010-2015), promoting integrated and participatory

watershed management in upland areas (Tajikistan UNDAF 2010-2015), and conservation of soil, water and biodiversity resources complemented with training component (Uzbekistan UNDAF 2010- 2015).

United Nations Development Cooperation Strategy for Turkey (2011-2015) has developed three strategic areas of cooperation and seven concrete results in line with Ninth Development Plan of Turkey for 2007-2013, which includes strengthening policy formulation and implementation capacity for the protection of the environment in line with sustainable development principles and taking into consideration climate change and disaster management.

2. RATIONALE

2.1 Problems/Issues to be addressed

Watershed areas in Central Asia and the Caucasus are facing severe degradation through the impacts of climate change and overuse of the natural resources. This leads to loss of soil, water and biodiversity resources and deterioration of the food security and livelihoods of the local communities as well as of the people living in downstream areas who are heavily dependent on the main rivers and streams fed by the mountain areas.

The major problems and challenges in relation to rehabilitation and sustainable management of mountain watersheds are as follows:

- **Misuse and overuse of the natural resources**, especially those located in the upper parts of watersheds. As explained earlier, all project countries are mainly mountainous, a great part of the population is living in these areas and their livelihoods are substantially based on utilization of natural resources. As a result, loss of forest and vegetation cover, especially in upper catchment areas due to overuse and land use changes, increases upstream erosion and sedimentation in nearby downstream areas. Subsequently, watersheds are increasingly losing their water runoff and filtration regulatory roles, uplands are becoming more arid and bare, nearby low lands are becoming more and more vulnerable to seasonal floods and landslides. If uplands are not managed properly, such processes will further aggravate the decrease of agricultural production, and the negative impacts on the living conditions of the rural communities mostly depending on agriculture and the availability of natural resources in the future. As a result of these problems, adjacent downstream areas are severely affected due to severe floods and decrease in agricultural production and productivity.

-Other issue which requires high attention for sustainable management of the land resources in general and upland resources in particular are the **inconsistent policy framework and institutional structures**. Existing policies and strategies are fragmented and do not include integrated and participatory approach to land and water management and rural poverty reduction. At present, several state organizations are responsible for rural development and natural resource management in the project countries. However, because of insufficient coordination and integration among these organizations, isolated and small scale intervention works, and the poor involvement of local people, several national level watershed management efforts by the project countries for last decade have not brought about satisfactory results. Because of limited areas of forests and woodlands, water scarcity, arid and semi arid conditions, and low productivity, addressing watershed degradation requires a integrated approach. In order to address rural poverty and natural resource degradation, especially in mountainous uplands and forest areas, an integrated planning approach with active participation of local people is necessary.

- In many cases, the **economic situation** of the people living in the upper parts of the watersheds is much more difficult than in lowland areas. Due to the rough terrain and harsh climatic conditions in upper watersheds, agricultural production is difficult and the yields are much less than in lowland areas. The lack of good roads in many upper watershed areas and of market access further contribute to reduced potential for

income generation. Opportunities to improve the economic situation of the population in upper watersheds, such as for example the promotion of mountain specific products or the development of compensation for environmental services schemes, need to be developed.

-Another important issue is the **lack of adequate capacity of both governmental and non-governmental stakeholders** for sustainable resource management. Traditional sector based approaches remains incapable in developing integrated land use approaches which requires multidisciplinary interventions and attendant skills. The integrated approach is also requiring development of an effective partnership with non-governmental stakeholders, especially at local levels. Capacity building in the forestry, land and water management, agriculture and rural development sectors is therefore a key requirement for integrated and participatory watershed management in the project countries. The empowerment of local communities to have a better access to the natural resources and their effective involvement in watershed planning and management would moderate and eventually reverse watershed degradation.

-Last problem to be addressed by the project is the **lack of public awareness** about the causes and possible impacts of watershed degradation in the project countries. There is a need to better inform stakeholders and public in general at national and regional levels about site specific and national consequences of watershed degradation and benefits of watershed management. Audio-visual materials, mass media, localized educational activities and other measures should be used to induce the general public, politicians, and decision makers to take appropriate measures to promote and to finance integrated watershed management.

2.2. Stakeholders and Target Beneficiaries

The proposed project will assist building up the national capacities to improve the management of natural resources, to reverse the degradation, and to contribute to livelihood development in an integrated and participatory way. Accordingly, stakeholders and beneficiaries of the project will be senior and technical level staff of the forestry, agriculture, land and water administrations in the countries of Central Asia (Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan), Azerbaijan and Turkey. The immediate beneficiaries will thus be government staff involved in watershed planning and management and local people involved in demonstration activities. The administrative staff will benefit from the project by participating in capacity building activities, receiving policy and technical advice, and attending relevant training sessions and meetings. Local people living upper catchment areas of the demonstrations sites will benefit from income generating activities and relevant practical trainings.

Taking into account the fact that upper catchment mountain resources, especially forests, provide security to the lowlands resources and people, the ultimate beneficiaries of the project will be local people living downstream sites of the catchments areas, and benefiting from the protective services of upper catchment areas. People living around the catchment areas and in somehow receiving services from the catchment area such as clean water, recreational facilities will benefit from the project results as well.

The strategy of the project is based on active participation of local stakeholders, giving priority to local poor and acknowledging the role of women in rural income generating activities and environmental protection, which in practice will mean that participation of women in demonstrations and training activities will be encouraged.

2.3. Project Justification

In general, the watershed management approach can create the synergies required both for sustainable land and water conservation on the one hand and for the rational resource use that will improve the livelihoods of stakeholders on the other hand. The scope of watershed projects depends on problems, priorities, scale of interventions, and available resources and can include capacity development, rehabilitation, and income generating activities together with possible investment programmes. With its limited budget and regional mandate, the proposed project will focus on the building up the national capacities to improve the management of natural resources and to reverse the land degradation. The project aims to provide practical training based on the recommendations resulting from the recently completed FAO-led global review of watershed management experiences as well as on exchange of knowledge and experiences gained in the countries of the region under different national and international projects and programmes.

Ecological contiguity of the regional countries, especially through shared watersheds, and common problems such as land degradation underscore the importance and potential for regional cooperation. These common threads suggest opportunities to learn from each other's experience and to pursue joint actions to address some of the key problems. The sharing of information and technology and undertaking joint activities will reduce costs and enhance the effectiveness of watershed management initiatives. Within this concept, main interventions of the project are (i) the capacity building in the project countries through practical training and exchange of knowledge and experiences gained in the countries of the region under different national and international projects and programmes; (ii) introduction of integrated and participatory watershed management planning and management through small scale demonstration at least in one microcatchment; and (iii) the creating of public awareness about the causes and possible impacts of watershed degradation in the project countries.

Because of the critical role that rural populations play in watershed balance, livelihoods and participation of local people to watershed management is central to sustainable resource management. In order to reduce the pressure on land resources, alternative income generating activities including agroforestry practices and agrosilvo-pastoral systems should be promoted. These socio-economic interventions require awareness raising and capacity development at different levels, from individual local people to senior administrators. Active participation of stakeholders including forest dwellers, farmers, local governments and line ministries are also required for defining the roles, sharing the social and economic costs and developing better insights into the watershed problems. For this purpose, it is crucial that local partners understand the connections between their economic and social conditions and the environmental conditions around them, and realize that they have a vital stake in improving their natural resources. The keys for realizing such situations lie in demonstrating, together with local partners, the linkages between

improved livelihood activities and improved management of the watershed resources, and also in using these linkages as their incentives.

Development of participatory and integrated approaches to watershed management at national and local levels needs to be supported by the government authorities, policy makers and key actors in upland resources management. However, the concepts are relatively new and challenging issue for most of the concerned countries. Therefore, creation of public awareness and institutional capacity building, at national and local levels, is needed to facilitate an integrated approach to resource management.

2.4. Past and Related Work

Among various programmes and projects implemented in the project countries the following projects deserve attention for sharing and benefiting from their experiences under the current project which is the first project at subregional level in this field.

- 1- Anatolia Watershed Development Project, Turkey (WB).
- 2- Eastern Anatolia Watershed Development Project, Turkey (WB).
- 3- TCP/TUR/3102 Development of Public Participation and Improvement of Socio-economic Prosperity in Mountain Communities: Yunt Dagi Model (FAO).
- 4- Participatory Integrated Watershed Management in Upland Areas TCP/TAJ/2903, Tajikistan (FAO).
- 5- Participatory Community Development Programme for Toirsu Valley Watershed, OSRO/TAJ/603, Tajikistan (WB).
- 6- Formulation of Integrated Management Plans for Southern Kyrgyzstan Juniper Forests, (European Union).
- 7- Sustainable Forest Management Project in Turkmenistan, (GTZ).
8. PALM project in Central Asia.
9. Process towards a Caucasus Convention facilitated by the Mountain Partnership Secretariat.

2.5. The Partnership's Comparative Advantage

The Regional project is a partnership between FAO, MoEF, TİKA and the participating countries which are partnering in the project through their line ministries responsible for forestry, land and water management including watershed management.

FAO technical assistance is a key to the success of the project, as the organization can play its natural role as neutral agency with technical capacity in both technical aspects of integrated and participatory watershed management as well as in policy and capacity development and donor coordination. FAO has sufficient knowledge, of more than 50 years of experience, global leadership, and institutional networks to provide support to countries to strengthen their capacity and improve rehabilitation and sustainable management of mountain watersheds. Since the late 1980s, FAO has promoted integrated watershed management by supporting and implementing

several capacity development and field projects and documenting best practices and lessons learned in several publications.

FAO has been very active in broadening integrated and participatory watershed management and mainstreaming watershed management and sustainable mountain development issues into policy fora since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in 1992. On request by the UN General Assembly, FAO acted as the Task Manager of Chapter 13 (sustainable mountain development), Agenda 21 and served as the Lead Agency of the International Year of Mountains in 2002, FAO hosts the global secretariat of the Mountain Partnership and is the coordinator and animator of the International Mountain Day, which is celebrated every year on 11 December. Building on the momentum of the International Years of Mountains (2002) and Freshwater (2003), FAO launched a comprehensive inter-regional review of integrated and participatory watershed management with a view to collect and disseminate the information needed to assess watershed management implemented in 1990s and to support and guide development of a new generation of more effective watershed management projects. This process helped FAO to create a group of professionals within the organization, who are aware of the pros and cons of the new approach and capable of carrying out the necessary work. At regional basis, FAO is one of the major international actors which is currently collaborating in the management of forests, lands and waters with all countries of the Central Asian region; making it relatively easy to tap into resources and expertise from neighboring countries. FAO technical assistance in integrated and participatory watershed management and relevant disciplines, resources assessment and relevant statistics, and participatory planning will contribute to filling critical gaps in knowledge, skills and advice of the participating countries.

The capacity of MoEF and MARA institutions in watershed rehabilitation techniques, afforestation, erosion control, rehabilitation of degraded forests and rangelands, income generating activities, rural development, and irrigation techniques, and Turkish universities that work closely with MoEF and MARA, are other important assets of this partnership project. On the other hand, Turkey's socio-economic, environmental and cultural characteristics are similar to those of project countries. Turkey has been implementing small and large scale several watershed management projects especially for last three decades and gathered significant experiences. However, Turkey is still trying to improve integrated and participatory national watershed management strategy and expand the watershed rehabilitation and management works throughout the country. Therefore, Turkey will not be only contributor of the project but also will benefit from the regional experiences.

TİKA's role as partner in the project, builds on the important comparative advantage of the Agency to have national representative offices in each of the Central Asian countries and in Azerbaijan. These offices will assist in communication with partner institutions at national level and operationally support the work of the regional project at national levels where such is needed. TİKA will also have very important role in delivering of demonstration activities in the field. Activities that are defined as priority for the region and cannot be covered under the FTTP due to limitation of funds might tap into the resources of TİKA for activities such as capacity building, training, and demonstration works including procurement of equipment and contractual works.

National partner institutions in project partner countries (mainly the ministries responsible for forests, land and water) know the situation in their respective countries, know the needs and opportunities for development and possess some key personnel/experts to assist the implementation of the regional programme at national level. Each country will appoint a national coordinator for the overall coordination the project at national levels. Partnerships will further be sought with national level institutions (research centers, universities and vocational schools) in the participating countries, operating in the same and related sectors, and with existing associations, NGOs, universities and the private sector.

3. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

3.1. Impact:

Decreased degradation and losses of soil, water and biodiversity resources, increased environmental, social and economic benefits from rehabilitated and sustainably managed mountain watersheds in both upstream and downstream areas in the project countries.

3.2. Project Outcome and Outputs

Outcome:

Public awareness and interest of policy and decision makers increased; knowledge and experiences of forestry and other related agencies enhanced about integrated (multidisciplinary) and collaborative approaches to the implementation, rehabilitation and sustainable management of mountain watersheds.

Project Outputs and Activities:

Output 1: Review of existing watershed management experiences, technical guidelines and institutional setup as well as of the needs in the project countries.

-Activity 1.1. Review of existing watershed management experiences in each project country.

-Activity 1.2. Review of the institutional setup and mechanisms related to watershed management in the project countries.

-Activity 1.3. Assessment of the current technical guidelines and standards in the project countries related to rehabilitation and management of mountain watershed areas.

-Activity 1.4. Visit of project countries by a team of high level specialists of the key agencies of Turkey (GDAEC/MoEF, MARA, State Water Works, etc.) in order to better understand the needs and conditions of the countries and to design the training programmes accordingly in Turkey (a team of three persons for 14 days mission).

Output 2: Increased awareness, knowledge, experience, capacity and commitment of decision makers and selected specialists (more than 100) of the Forestry Departments and related agencies in the project countries about the approaches and methodologies for planning and implementation of integrated (multi-disciplinary) and participatory rehabilitation and sustainable management of mountain watersheds.

-Activity 2.1. Organization of a regional workshop (in Turkey) **for high level decision makers and senior level specialists** from forestry departments and related agencies of the project countries on participatory-integrated watershed rehabilitation and management, combined with a field trip, in order to exchange views and experiences . (One week training workshop with 2 days of participatory workshop and 4 days of field excursion; total 20 participants, 4 participants per country).

-Activity 2.2. Organizing of practical/on the-job training courses (3) in Turkey **for selected technical staff** of the countries (4 participant from related key sectors of each country in addition to Turkish participants to each training ,with the duration of 14 days) on different aspects of watershed management/rehabilitation. These practical training courses will on the following topics.

- (i) *Training on integrated-participatory watershed rehabilitation planning and implementations (20 participants 14 days).*
- (ii) *Training on income generation and livelihood improvement in watershed development (e.g. bee-keeping, small irrigation, more efficient use of scarce water resources and water harvesting techniques, horticulture, pasture improvement, fodder production, greenhouse production, etc.) (20 participants 14 days).*
- (iii) *Training on seed, nursery, arid zone afforestation techniques (20 participants 14 days)*

- Activity 2.3. Participation of 1 expert from each project country in the 28th session of the EFC Working Party on the Management of Mountain Watersheds (12-16 September 2011 in Kastamonu, Turkey)
- Activity 2.4. Organization of watershed training courses in the project countries, supported by TCDC consultants and FAO (SEC and headquarters) watershed specialists (one watershed training course in each project country with the duration of three days, 25 participants for each).
- Activity 2.5. Follow up through TCDC consultants with the national experts and counterpart staff to guide them on how to implement the newly acquired knowledge and on how to apply the modern approaches to watershed management in the particular conditions of each country.

Output 3. Integrated-participatory watershed rehabilitation plan prepared and its implementation started on pilot/demonstration basis in a representative micro-catchment area in one of the project countries.

- Activity 3.1. Selection of a representative microcatchment for pilot/demonstration implementations.
- Activity 3.2. Field surveys, preparation of microcatchment plan by a Multidisciplinary Team of Specialists and with participation of local people and stakeholder .
- Activity 3.3. Implementations in the microcatchment areas (e.g. natural resources rehabilitation and livelihood improvement activities .
- Activity 3.4. Participatory assessment of the project approaches and progress.

Output 4. Development of awareness raising, capacity building and training material

- Activity 4.1 Preparation/elaboration of awareness creation materials (CDs, brochures, etc.) and programmes/campaigns in the project countries.
- Activity 4.2. Designing and preparation of improved technical guidelines and standards for integrated-participatory watershed management in each of the project countries.

3.3. Sustainability

The following conditions will be created to ensure sustainability and expansion of the project results after the termination of the project.

At the end of the project, there will be significant number of specialist staff in the project countries who gained, through regional on-the job training and practical training courses and workshops, enough knowledge and experiences in rehabilitation and sustainable management of mountain watersheds with integrated and participatory planning and implementations.

Political commitment and public support for allocation of adequate budget, personnel and other resources in the coming periods will be prerequisite for the sustainability. In this regard, specific regional workshops and awareness creation campaigns are included in the project document.

Starting planning and implementations of participatory integrated watershed development on pilot basis in one of the project countries will provide demonstration helping to increase interest for expanding and sustaining such approaches and implementations in the other sites, after the project's termination and possible extension of the project.

Technical co-operation relations and dialogue to be established between Turkey and other countries will help to support solving some problems during follow up periods in the project countries after the project's termination.

3.4. Assumptions and Risks

Major assumptions and risks of the project are summarized below and in Annex 2 (Project Logical Framework).

Risk	Impact	Probability
1.Changing or aggravation of political stability in the region	May affect project start up and timing of activities	Low
2.Inconsistence of and delays in inputs provided by project partners (FTPP, GDAEC and TIKA)	Disruption/delays in the execution of project activities	Low-Medium, but can be minimized
3.Nomination of non-qualified staff to trainings and workshops	Trainings cannot produce expected results	Possible, but can be minimized
4. Limited time for the preparation of watershed management guidelines at national levels	It will have impact on sustainability of the project	Low-Medium, but can be minimized

4. IMPLEMENTATION AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

4.1. Institutional Framework and Coordination

The following government agencies will carry the primary responsibility for the project's management and implementations.

Turkey: General Directorate of Afforestation and Erosion Control (GDAEC) of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry.

Azerbaijan: Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources.

Kyrgyzstan: The State Agency for Environment Protection and Forestry.

Tajikistan: The State Committee for Environmental Protection.

Uzbekistan: Main Forestry Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources.

GDAEC of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry will assign a Regional Project Coordinator (RPC) for the overall coordination of the project and other partner countries will assign national project coordinators for coordination of the project at national levels.

These national focal agencies will ensure adequate informing, involvement and contributions of the other key governmental and non-governmental agencies and stakeholders in the project.

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) is also expected to provide significant contributions particularly in the practical regional training courses to be conducted in Turkey.

4.2. Strategy/Methodology

It is suggested that workshops should not be dominated by too long class room lectures but also permit countries' representatives adequate participation, contributions and sharing of experiences. Organization of field excursion and training, in well selected watershed project areas, should be given special importance. Opportunities should be provided for learning from the field implementation staff and local people during field excursions and discussions. Similarly, practical technical trainings related to different aspects of watershed rehabilitation (e.g. seed, nursery, erosion control, afforestation, small irrigation, bee-keeping, fodder production, etc.) should be implemented on the site (on-the job training) to the extent possible.

Regional watershed training is suggested to be organized in Turkey in order to share the knowledge and experiences gained under Eastern Anatolia Watershed Project (WB), Anatolia Watershed Project (WB) and Improvement of Prosperity in Yunt Dagı Mountain Communities (FAO). It is proposed that TCDC consultants as well as resource persons from each participating country be the trainers in the different sessions.

The results and recommendations from the FAO led comprehensive inter-regional review of integrated and participatory watershed management (see Section 2.5) will obviously form the core parts of the training programmes. The most important aspects recommended in the resource book "the new generation of watershed management projects and programmes" are:

- a move from participatory to collaborative approaches to managing watersheds;
- a moved from integrated approach to embedded integration of environmental and socio-economic issues;
- more attention to institutional aspects;
- flexible programme design;
- a long-term approach to planning and financing for watershed management.

Trainings should cover besides natural resources rehabilitation issues also capacity building in collaborative approaches, livelihood improvement and women participation.

Raising of public awareness and political commitment should get special attention. Accordingly, the involvement of decision makers and media representatives in some of the workshops should be foreseen.

A delegation of technical experts will visit the participating countries in order to get acquainted with the current needs and conditions in order to ensure designing of the workshops and training courses in Turkey appropriately. TCDC consultants will follow up with the national experts and counterpart staff to guide them on how to implement

the newly acquired knowledge and on how to apply the modern approaches to watershed management in the particular conditions of each country.

Starting a pilot/demonstration implementation in a selected micro-catchments in one of the project countries is expected to be supported by TİKA and the GDAEC of Turkey.

4.3. Government Inputs (in-kind contributions)

4.3.1. Contributions of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (General Directorate of Afforestation and Erosion Control) of Turkey

- assignment of a RPC on a supplementary salary covered under the project and other decision maker and specialist staff for the project's management and implementations, including organization of the regional workshops and training programmes in Turkey as well as contributing in the project's implementations in the other project countries;
- boarding and lodging (guest house/hotel) arrangements/expenditures of the decision makers and selected staff of the project countries participating at the workshops and training courses in Turkey;
- travel arrangements/expenses of the participants within Turkey, including field excursions;
- miscellaneous (stationary, etc.) expenses for the workshops and training courses in Turkey.

Contribution (in-kind) of the GDAEC/MoEF of Turkey in the project budget is estimated USD 130 000.

4.3.2. Contributions of the Governments (related government agencies) of the Other Project Countries (e.g. Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan).

- assignment of a National Project Coordinator (NPC) to coordinate and follow up the project's implementations in liaison with the NPCs of the other project countries and FAO-SEC;
- assignment of suitable staff to participate at the regional workshops and training programmes;
- providing part of the expenses for preparation of the awareness creation materials and programmes (in addition to the FTPP budget);

- providing part of the expenses for the training courses to be organized in its own country (in addition to the FPHP budget);
- providing part of the expenses for the field pilot/demonstration implementations to be carried in a micro-catchment to be selected within its own country.

Governments' budget contributions (in-kind) in the project is estimated USD 79 775.

4.3.3. TİKA Contribution

- part of the international travel expenses of the regional workshop and training participants;
- part of the translation (simultaneous and written) services expenses of the regional workshop and training participants;
- providing part of the expenses for the field pilot/demonstration implementations to be carried in a micro-catchment to be selected within one of the project countries.

TİKA budget contribution in the project is estimated USD 200 000.

4.4. Donor/FAO Inputs

4.4.1. Personnel/Consultants (BL.5013) (22 months)

National Consultants (BL. 5543)

- National Consultants (NCs) for Watershed Management: 12 months (USD 2 000) *(3 months NC in Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan)*
- NCs (1) for Watershed Management Planning: three months (USD 3 000) *(one NC for 3 months in one project country)*
- Supplementary for RPC (24 months) (USD 9 600)

TCDC/TCCT Consultants (BL. 5544)

- TCDC Consultant for Awareness Creation: 1 month (USD 6 750)
- TCDC Consultant for Watershed Management Training: 2 month (USD 13 500)
- TCDC Consultant for Watershed Guidelines and Standards: 2 month (USD 13 500)
- TCDC Consultant for Watershed Management Planning: 1,5 month (USD 10 125)
- TCDC Consultant for Income Generation: 1,5 month (USD 10 125)

4.4.2. Contracts (BL. 5650)

- preparing/production of awareness creation material/programme (USD 13 000)
(e.g. posters, booklets, CDs, etc. in the four project countries).
- printing/multiplication of technical guidelines and standards (USD 4 000)
(in the four project countries).

4.4.3. Locally Hired Non-professionals (BL. 5652)

Expenses under this item (basically for field demonstration works) are foreseen to be provided under the budget contributions of TİKA and project countries.

4.4.4. Travel (BL. 5021)

- duty travel (FAO staff only) (BL 5661) (USD 3 000)
- travel -TCDC Consultants (BL. 5686): (USD 38 100)
- travel - TSS (BL. 5692): (USD 17 200)
- travel - Study Tour/training (BL. 5694): (USD 40 000)
- travel - Non-staff (counterparts) (BL.5698) (USD 27 630)

(visit of three Turkish specialists in the project countries in order to prepare the workshops and training courses according to the countries' needs and travel and DSAs expenses of three Turkish decision makers from MOEF, MARA and TİKA) for tripartite review of the project's progress and achievements, with the duration of one week).

4.4.5. Training (BL.5902)

- In-service training (USD 13 300)
(three days watershed training course in each country (Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan), participated by 25 participants, half of the training expenses will be met by the country).

Other workshop and training expenses will be met by GDAEC/MoEF and the countries.

4.4.6. Expendable Equipment

Expenses for procurement of various expendable equipment and materials for the field implementations in the pilot/demonstration micro-catchment areas will be met by TİKA and implementing country budget. Such expenses for the office works in Turkey will be met by GDAEC/MoEF).

4.4.7. Non-expendable Equipment

Expenses for procurement of various expendable equipment and materials for the field implementations in the pilot/demonstration micro-catchment areas will be met by TİKA and implementing country budget.

4.4.8. Technical Support Services (BL. 5027)

- Report Costs (BL. 6111): (USD 6 500)
- TSS Honorarium (BL. 6120) (USD 14 445)
(26 days backstopping missions by FOM and SEC) to participate and support workshop, training courses and pilot implementations in Turkey and other project countries).

4.4.9. General Operating Expenses (BL. 6300)

This will cover operational expenditures for office and field works.

Expenses under this item (basically for field demonstration works) are foreseen to be provided under the budget contributions of TİKA and project countries.

4.4.10. Support Costs (BL. 6118)

13 percent of the total expenditures.

Project Total Budget:(FAO-FTPP Contribution) is USD 299 196. Detailed Donor/FTPP budget is given under Annex 1.1.

4.5. Technical Support / Linkages

The project is related to the national development policies and strategies, particularly to those related to conservation and sustainable use of the natural, land and water resources, food security and rural development in the project countries, which meant to tackle the constraints manifesting poverty e.g. governance, productivity and increasing revenues for local villagers through ecologically sound utilization of natural resources. Strengthening involvement of stakeholders in the problem analysis, identification of solutions and assessment of the progress and achievements are also among the common development principles in the project's countries.

The project is related immediately to the FAO normative activities: "Sustainable Management of soil and water resources, within an integrated land use perspective" and to "Technical Support Services to Members and the Field Programme" namely providing advice to member countries on mountain watershed policy and institutional issues.

As the project will yield large amount of harmonized information, the results will be immediately usable by the countries to report to the related international conventions and forums. It will also help initiate national dialogue on policy and strategy development issues.

4.6. Management and Operational Support Arrangements

This project will be executed under the overall supervision of the subregional coordinator of FAO SEC. The Lead Technical Officer (LTO) will be the forestry officer of SEC who will report to the FOMC which will serve as Lead Technical Unit (LTU). The operating organization (SEC) will draw the assistance and support of other relevant technical services of FO as appropriate.

The FAO Sub Regional Coordinator for Central Asia (FAOSEC) will be the budget holder (BH) of this project, facilitating operational, administrative and technical linkages and ensuring smooth implementation of the project.

A National Project Coordinator (NPC) in each country will be assigned by these agencies who will be in charge on behalf of the implementing agencies namely, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Azerbaijan, State Agency for Environment Protection and Forestry of Kyrgyzstan, State Committee for Environmental Protection of Tajikistan, Main Forestry Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of Uzbekistan, and General Directorate of Afforestation and Erosion Control of MoEF of Turkey of the planning, implementation, monitoring and assessment of the project in his/her country. RPCat GDAEC will, in close collaboration and support of LTO (SEC-Forestry Office/Consultant), also be in charge of establishment of communication and collaboration with the national coordinators in the other project countries.

In the country where the micro-catchment planning and development activities will be undertaken on pilot/demonstration basis, TİKA Office will be actively involving and supporting these implementations.

A Project Steering/Advisory Committee (SC), composed of the decision maker level representatives of MOEF, MARA, TİKA, SEC and project countries will be supporting the project's smooth progress and elimination of major constraints. SC will be meeting twice during the project duration. RPC/GDAEC will be acting as the Secretariat of the committee. First meeting will be organized simultaneously with 1st regional workshop and the second towards the end of the project.

Implementation of the field activities, assignment of duties and reporting on related activities will be under the direct supervision of the Budget Holder designated by FAO (Subregional Coordinator of SEC).

The administrative and financial work will be carried out according the FAO official procedures.

5. OVERSIGHT, MONITORING, MANAGEMENT INFORMATION, PEPORTING

5.1. Oversight and Reviews

A tripartite review mission in the end of first year, composed of the representatives of MoEF, MARA and TİKA, will be undertaken in the project countries in order to assess,

together with the national implementing agencies and key staff assess, the project's progress, financial status, shortcomings and development needs. SEC forestry Office/Consultant will also participate at this review mission.

Backstopping missions of SEC and FAO headquarters (FOM) will represent occasions to review, discuss, and adjust as appropriate with the Recipient Organizations' representatives the status and performance of project implementation. Constraints and obstacles which might be encountered could be identified and solved.

Regular collection of relevant data and information related to Objectively Verifiable Indicators, through their means of verification, will be paid special attention for project evaluation purposes.

5.2. Monitoring and Knowledge Sharing

The Budget Holder will be responsible for the monitoring and reporting to the Donor. General monitoring will be carried out by the RPC, FAOSEC Forestry Officer and LTU officers where and when appropriate based on the logical framework. Financial and reporting monitoring will be undertaken by the Budget Holder in compliance with the requirements of Section 5.4. below.

The project implementation strategy will include a component for process and impact monitoring to be carried out by the project teams, in the project countries, in close collaboration with FAO-SEC. General data gathering and assessments (e.g. about the level of degradation in the vegetation, soil and water conditions, socio-economic conditions of local people, rights and benefits obtained by them from the watershed resources, etc.) during the inception phase of the project will provide the baseline against which an evaluation of the impact of the treatments can be determined.

Relevant information collected, experiences and results gained will periodically be presented and shared with the related agencies and the stakeholders as well as at the Steering Committee meetings. They will also be distributed and shared through progress reports, consultant and mission reports.

Involvement of stakeholders in monitoring and assessment of the project' progress and achievements will be given due attention.

5.3. Communication and Visibility

NPCs, heads of main agencies responsible for project's implementations in the countries forestry departments, project specialists and FAOSEC will cooperate for communication of the results and project achievements.

Project visibility will be an important element to highlight the effectiveness of donor assistance in supporting the national development strategies and plans in the countries through the project. Mass media and available information system will be involved in project activities especially those related to awareness raising programmes/campaigns to be accomplished under the project.

5.4. Reporting schedule

Inception Report: An inception report will be prepared by the Lead Technical Officer (SEC) in collaboration with the Regional Project Coordinator (RPC) and National Project Coordinators (NPC) assigned by the project countries. This report will include a detailed work plan and refined progress indicators as described in the Project. The methods and process used to collect information for the indicators and the programme for regular monitoring will be described.

Consultant Reports: TCDC consultants and national consultants will prepare and submit a report at the end of their assignments. They will also provide progress reports at the end of their field missions, as appropriate.

Six-monthly Progress Reports: RPC from GDAEC/MOEF from Turkey will prepare and submit a progress reports every six months, to inform the FTTP Programme Steering Committee and the main agencies responsible for the project implementations in the project partner countries. The NPCs in the other project countries will contribute to these reports regarding progress of the activities in their country.

Terminal Statement: No later than three months after the scheduled end of project, RPC from GDAEC/MOEF from Turkey will prepare and submit a report to SRC-SEC. This report will also be provided to the FTTP Steering Committee and related agencies in the project countries.

Financial Reports: Financial reporting will be submitted in accordance with FAO reporting formats and in line with the FAO Turkey Partnership Programme framework. The final financial report will be issued to the donor six months after termination of the programme.

All financial accounts and statements will be expressed in United States dollars and shall be subject only to normal internal and external auditing procedures laid down in the Financial Regulations and Rules of FAO.

**ANNEX 1 : PROJECT BUDGET – DONOR CONTRIBUTION
(FAO/FTPP BUDGET)**

Accts	Input Description	Sub/Child Account	Main/Parent Account
5013	Consultants		78.600
5543	Consultants – National	24.600	
5544	Consultants - TCDC/TCCT	54.000	
5014	Contracts		17.000
5650	Contracts Budget	17.000	
5021	Travel		125.930
5661	Duty travel (FAO staff only)	3.000	
5686	Consultants – TCDC/TCCT	38.100	
5694	Travel Study Tour	40.000	
5692	Travel TSS	17.200	
5698	Travel non-staff (counterparts)	27.630	
5023	Training		13.300
5902	In-service training	13.300	
5027	Technical Support Services		20.995
6111	Report Costs	6.550	
6120	TSS (Honorarium)	14.445	
5028	General Operating Expenses		9.662
6300	General Operating Expenses Budget	9.662	
5029	Support Cost		34.513
6118	Direct Operating Costs	34.513	
Grand Total		300 000	

Annex 2:

PROJECT LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

<p>Project Elements/Components</p>	<p>Success Indicators (=Objectively verifiable indicators)</p>	<p>Ways of Verifying (=Means of Verification)</p>	<p>Assumptions (=Conditions needed to contribute to the Impact/Goal) and Risks (= Potential of the unwanted jeopardizing the achievement of goal, impact, targets, etc.) Possibility</p>
<p>Impact/Goal <i>(the higher order impact to which the project contributes)</i> Decreased degradation and losses of soil, water and biodiversity resources, increased environmental, social and economic benefits from rehabilitated and sustainably managed mountain watersheds in the project countries.</p>			
<p>Outcome(s) <i>(the immediate beneficial change(s) promoted by the project)</i> Public awareness and interest of policy and decision makers increased; knowledge and experiences of forestry and other related agencies enhanced about integrated (multidisciplinary) and collaborative approaches to the implementation, rehabilitation and sustainable management of mountain watersheds.</p>	<p>In at least 3 project countries not less than 10 percent increase in the budget resources allocated for integrated watershed rehabilitation and development works in the year following the project's completion.</p>	<p>- Government budget records.</p>	<p><u>Assumption:</u> Regional workshops and awareness creation campaigns will be effective for raising awareness in the society and adequate political commitment among the decision makers for supporting watershed development programmes in the project countries. <u>Risks:</u> Medium</p>
<p>Outputs <i>(the deliverables of the project)</i></p>	<p>-Development of good insights into institutional set-up and mechanisms related to watershed rehabilitation and management in the project countries. -Appropriate assessment of existing watershed rehabilitation and management standards and norms in the project countries, -Training programmes meet country needs</p>	<p>-Mission Reports -Mission Reports - Training assessment results.</p>	

<p>1. Review of existing watershed management experiences, technical guidelines and institutional setup as well as of the needs in the project countries.</p>	<p>- 4 selected high level decision makers from key institutions participated at the regional workshop held in Turkey and got acquainted with importance of participatory-integrated watershed rehabilitation and management.</p> <p>-More than 100 selected staff and specialists from the project countries participated at the practical training courses and gained adequate knowledge and experiences.</p>	<p>- Project records.</p> <p>- Project records, training assessment results.</p> <p>- Evaluation mission reports</p>	<p><u>Assumption:</u> Counterparts in each project country will assist the technical team in identifying country needs and conditions.</p> <p><u>Risks:</u> Low</p>
<p>2. Increased awareness, knowledge, experience, capacity and commitment of decision makers and selected specialists (more than 100) of the Forestry Departments and related agencies in the project countries about the approaches and methodologies for planning and implementation of integrated (multidisciplinary) and participatory rehabilitation and sustainable management of mountain watersheds.</p>	<p>Integrated rehabilitation-management plan prepared in a participatory way in at least one project country.</p>	<p>- Project records</p> <p>- Micro-catchment plan prepared under the project.</p> <p>- Evaluation mission and consultant reports.</p>	<p><u>Assumptions:</u> - High level decision makers will show interest for participating at the regional workshops and for supporting national awareness creation campaign and training.</p> <p>-Properly selected, qualified and interested staff will be selected by the governments and sent to the training programmes.</p> <p>-Training programmes will be designed by taking the countries' needs and conditions adequately into account.</p> <p><u>Risks:</u> Low-Medium</p>

<p>3. Integrated-participatory watershed rehabilitation plan prepared and its implementation started on pilot/demonstration basis in a representative micro-catchment area in one of the project countries.</p>	<p>-Technical guidelines for integrated-participatory watershed rehabilitation-management prepared and approved in at least in 3 project countries.</p> <p>-Successful awareness raising programme/ campaign prepared in the project countries.</p>	<p>- Project records</p> <p>- Technical guidelines</p> <p>- Material for awareness raising</p>	<p><u>Assumption:</u></p> <p>-Government/s will genuinely support the pilot/demonstration planning and allocate adequate resources for implementations in a selected micro-catchment.</p> <p>-TiKA will support pilot micro-catchment planning and field implementations in at least one country.</p> <p><u>Risks:</u> Low-Medium</p>
<p>4. Development of awareness raising, capacity building and training material</p>			<p><u>Assumption:</u></p> <p>-Guidelines can be prepared during limited time of the project, as well as of the short contract periods of the NCs and TCDC consultants.</p> <p><u>Risks:</u> Low-Medium</p>

Annex 3

PROJECT WORK PLAN

Activities		2011												2012												2013			Primary Responsibility for the Activity		
		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3						
1.	Review of existing watershed management experiences, technical guidelines and institutional setup as well as of the needs in the project countries.																														
1.1	Review of existing watershed management experiences in each project country			X	X																										GDAEC RPC NPCs TCDC
1.2	Review of the institutional setup and mechanisms related to watershed management in the project countries			X	X																										NPCs RPC GDAEC TCDC
1.3	Assessment of the current technical guidelines and standards in the project countries related to rehabilitation and management of mountain watershed areas			X	X																										NPCs RPC GDAEC TCDC
1.4	Visit of project countries by a team of high level specialists of the key agencies of Turkey (GDAEC/MoEF, MARA, State Water Works, etc.) in order to better understand the needs and conditions of the countries and to design the training programmes accordingly in Turkey (a team of 3 persons for 14 days mission)				X																										NPCs GDAEC MARA, DSI, SEC
2	Increased awareness, knowledge, experience, capacity and commitment of decision makers and selected specialists (more than 100) of the Forestry Departments and related agencies in the project countries about the approaches and methodologies for planning and implementation of integrated (multidisciplinary) and participatory rehabilitation and sustainable management of																														

Annex 4.1

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Regional Project Coordinator (RPC)

Under the overall supervision of the FAO Subregional Coordinator for Central Asia (SEC), the technical supervision of the Chief FAO FOMC, and the direct technical supervision of the SEC Forestry Officer, and in collaboration with the national project coordinators, consultants, the Assistant FAO Representatives, TİKA and GDAEC, the Regional Project Coordinator will carry out the following tasks:

- overall coordination of the project activities in collaboration with FAO, TİKA, National Project Coordinators (NPCs) and GDAEC;
- prepare, in collaboration with the National Project Coordinators and the FAO/SEC technical officers, the detailed yearly work plan of the project;
- monitor the implementation of project activities in accordance with work plan requirements, ensuring timely delivery of GDAEC's inputs to the project;
- prepare and organize training workshops (venue, facilities, prepare invitations, support travel and boarding of participants as appropriate), as well as contribute to the project's implementations in the other project countries capacity building activities;
- supervise the work of the TCDC consultants and national consultants;
- advise the concerned parties of the project on possible modifications to be included in the yearly work plans for the subsequent season;
- carry out any other tasks required for a smooth implementation of the project in particular regional workshops and training programmes;
- prepare a mid-term and a final reports.

Qualifications

The Regional Project Coordinator (RPC) should

- have a professional background in the area of watershed management, soil science, forestry or related subjects;
- be fluent in English and be able to report in English;
- have good management skills.

Duration: Project Duration (24 months)

Reporting: Prepare and submit to budget holder six monthly progress report. At the end of the project submit terminal report.

Annex 4.2

TERMS OF REFERENCE

TCDC Consultant for Awareness Creation

Under the overall supervision of the FAO Subregional Coordinator for Central Asia (SEC), the technical supervision of the Chief FAO FOMC, and the direct technical supervision of the SEC Forestry Officer, and in collaboration with the Regional Project Coordinator, the national project coordinators, consultants, and the Assistant FAO Representatives and other FAO technical officers, the TCDC Consultant for Awareness Creation will carry out the following tasks:

- assist the review of the institutional setup and mechanisms related to watershed management in the project countries, in particular public awareness on watershed management in each project country;
- participate trainings in Turkey and provide in-service/on-job-training to concerned technicians on awareness creation on participatory integrated watershed management;
- assist the preparation/elaboration of awareness creation materials (CDs, brochures etc.) and programmes/campaigns in each project country;
- work closely with the other TCDC experts and national consultants for the planning and contacting of the participatory integrated watershed management trainings;
- assist participatory assessment of the project approaches and progress;
- conduct other tasks as required that are within sphere of competence;
- prepare and submit a final report including main comments and recommendations.

Qualifications: At least five years experience in public awareness/rural extension and participatory watershed management practices.

Duty Station: Ankara, Turkey (with one mission to project countries up to 20 days/five days to each project country).

Languages: Spoken/written English.

Duration: one month.

Annex 4.3

TERMS OF REFERENCE

TCDC Consultant for Watershed Training

Under the overall supervision of the FAO Subregional Coordinator for Central Asia (SEC), the technical supervision of the Chief FAO FOMC, and the direct technical supervision of the SEC Forestry Officer, and in collaboration with the Regional Project Coordinator, the national project coordinators, consultants, and the Assistant FAO Representatives and other FAO technical officers, the TCDC Consultant for Watershed Training will carry out the following tasks:

- assist the review of the watershed management experiences, institutional setup and mechanisms related to watershed management in the project countries, in particular training needs on watershed management in each project country;
- participate trainings in Turkey and provide in-service/on-job-training to concerned technicians on participatory integrated watershed management;
- assist the organization of watershed training courses in the project countries;
- work closely with the other TCDC experts and national consultants for the planning and contacting of the participatory integrated watershed management trainings;
- assist participatory assessment of the project approaches and progress;
- conduct other tasks as required that are within sphere of competence;
- prepare and submit a final report including main comments and recommendations.

Qualifications: At least ten years experience in integrated and participatory watershed management/training practices.

Duty Station: Ankara, Turkey (with one mission to project countries up to 20 days/five days to each project country).

Languages: Spoken/written English.

Duration: two months.

Annex 4.4

TERMS OF REFERENCE

TCDC Consultant for Watershed Technical Guidelines and Standards

Under the overall supervision of the FAO Subregional Coordinator for Central Asia (SEC), the technical supervision of the Chief FAO FOMC, and the direct technical supervision of the SEC Forestry Officer, and in collaboration with the Regional Project Coordinator, the national project coordinators, consultants, and the Assistant FAO Representatives and other FAO technical officers,, the TCDC Consultant for Watershed Technical Guidelines and Standards will carry out the following tasks:

- assist the review of the watershed management experiences, current technical guidelines and standards, and institutional setup and mechanisms related to watershed management in the project countries, in particular existing technical guidelines and standards in each project country;
- advice and assist the designing and preparation of improved technical guidelines and standards for integrated-participatory watershed management in each of the project countries;
- provide advice on the organization of watershed training courses in the project countries;
- follow up and guide to national experts and counterpart staff on how to implement the newly acquired knowledge and on how to apply the modern approaches to watershed management in the particular conditions of each country;
- work closely with the other TCDC experts and national consultants for the planning and contacting of the participatory integrated watershed management trainings;
- assist participatory assessment of the project approaches and progress;
- conduct other tasks as required that are within sphere of competence;
- prepare and submit a final report including main comments and recommendations.

Qualifications: At least five years experience in watershed planning and management with specific experience in the rehabilitation and sustainable management of degraded lands.

Duty Station: Ankara, Turkey (with one mission to project countries up to 20 days/5 days to each project country).

Languages: Spoken/written English.

Duration: two months.

Annex 4.5

TERMS OF REFERENCE

TCDC Consultant for Watershed Rehabilitation-Management Planning

Under the overall supervision of the FAO Subregional Coordinator for Central Asia (SEC), the technical supervision of the Chief FAO FOMC, and the direct technical supervision of the SEC Forestry Officer, and in collaboration with the Regional Project Coordinator, the national project coordinators, consultants, and the Assistant FAO Representatives and other FAO technical officers, the TCDC Consultant for Watershed Rehabilitation-Management Planning will carry out the following tasks:

- assist the review of the watershed management experiences, current technical guidelines and standards, and institutional setup and mechanisms related to watershed management in the project countries, in particular existing watershed rehabilitation and planning systems;
- participate trainings in Turkey and provide training on integrated-participatory watershed rehabilitation planning and implementations;
- provide advice on the organization of watershed training courses in the project countries;
- advice and assist the selection of a representative micro-catchment for pilot/demonstration implementations in one of the project country;
- assist the field surveys and preparation of microcatchment plan by a multidisciplinary team of specialists and with participation of local people and stakeholders;
- provide technical support and guidance to implementations in the micro-catchment areas (e.g. natural resources rehabilitation and livelihood improvement activities);
- work closely with the other TCDC experts and national consultants for the planning and contacting of the participatory integrated watershed management trainings;
- assist participatory assessment of the project approaches and progress;
- conduct other tasks as required that are within sphere of competence;
- prepare and submit a final report including main comments and recommendations

Qualifications: At least five years experience in watershed planning and management with specific experience in the rehabilitation and sustainable management of degraded lands.

Duty Station: Ankara, Turkey (with one mission to project countries up to 20 days/five days to each project country).

Languages: Spoken/written English.

Duration: 1.5 month.

Annex 4.6

TERMS OF REFERENCE

TCDC Consultant for Watershed Income Generation Activities

Under the overall supervision of the FAO Subregional Coordinator for Central Asia (SEC), the technical supervision of the Chief FAO FOMC, and the direct technical supervision of the SEC Forestry Officer, and in collaboration with the Regional Project Coordinator, the national project coordinators, consultants, and the Assistant FAO Representatives and other FAO technical officers, the TCDC Consultant for Watershed Income Generation Activities will carry out the following tasks:

- participate training in Turkey on income generation and livelihood improvement in watershed development (e.g. bee-keeping, small irrigation, more efficient use of scarce water resources and water harvesting techniques, horticulture, pasture improvement, fodder production, greenhouse production, etc.);
- provide advice on the organization of watershed training courses in the project countries;
- provide technical support and guidance to implementations in the micro-catchment areas (income generating activities);
- work closely with the other TCDC experts and national consultants for the planning and contacting of the participatory integrated watershed management trainings;
- assist participatory assessment of the project approaches and progress;
- conduct other tasks as required that are within sphere of competence;
- prepare and submit a final report including main comments and recommendations.

Qualifications: At least five years experience in watershed planning and management with specific experience in income generation and livelihood improvement in watershed development (e.g. bee-keeping, small irrigation, horticulture, pasture improvement, fodder production, greenhouse production, etc.).

Duty Station: Ankara, Turkey (with one mission to project countries up to 20 days/five days to each project country).

Languages: Spoken/written English.

Duration: 1.5 month.

Annex 4.7

TERMS OF REFERENCE

National Consultant for Watershed Management Planning

(Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan)

Under the overall supervision of the FAO Subregional Coordinator for Central Asia (SEC), the technical supervision of the FAO FOMC and SEC Forestry Officers, direct supervision of the Budget Holder and the Regional Project Coordinator and in close collaboration with the national project coordinators, national coordinators/contact persons, consultants, cooperating institutions and the other FAO technical officers, National Consultant for Watershed Management Planning will carry out the following tasks:

- assist the preparation/elaboration of awareness creation materials (CDs, brochures, etc.) and programmes/campaigns in each project country;
- contribute to the organization of national workshops;
- contribute and provide inputs to the mid-term and final project reports;
- conduct the specific works to be defined through case specific TORs.

Duration: up to three months in each project country.

Annex 4.8

TERMS OF REFERENCE

FAO-SEC Technical Support Service – Forestry Officer

Under the general supervision of the Subregional Representative FAOSEC, the technical supervision of the Director of the Forest Conservation Service (FOMC) and in close cooperation with the overall project coordinator, national counterparts and project staff, the FAOSEC Forestry Officer will carry out the following tasks:

- provide overall guidance, technical support and supervision related to watershed management to all project activities;
- provide technical support to the preparation of the capacity building, training and awareness-raising materials;
- assist the Overall National Project Coordinators in the preparation and implementation of the training programme and coordination with TİKA and MARA.
- participate in and contribute to the regional workshop and training courses in Turkey;
- analyse adopted procedures and progress of project implementation at the regional and national levels;
- advice on problems faced during the project implementation;
- contribute to and participate in the watershed management training workshops in the project countries as appropriate;
- assist the selection of TCDC experts and provide technical advice to the selection of the national consultants;
- review the reports of TCDC consultants and other project experts;
- provide technical support to the establishment of the field pilot site in one of the project countries;
- review the overall progress of the project and evaluate the results of the training and demonstration programme;
- assess the potential and provide guidance for future development of integrated watershed management in the region;
- carry out any other tasks required for a smooth implementation of the project;
- finalize the Terminal Report to be submitted to budget holder;
- duration: 24 days in five missions (three in Turkey, two in other countries).

Annex 4.9

TERMS OF REFERENCE

FOM Technical Support Service

Technical Support Services – FOMC technical officer specialized in watershed management

Under the general supervision of the Subregional Representative FAOSEC, the technical supervision of the Director of the Forest Conservation Service (FOMC) and in close cooperation with the overall project coordinator, national counterparts and project staff, the FOMC officer will carry out the following tasks:

- provide overall guidance, technical support and supervision related to watershed management to all project activities;
- provide technical support to the preparation of the capacity building, training and awareness-raising materials;
- provide on-the-job training to project counterparts on watershed management;
- participate in and contribute to the regional workshop and training courses in Turkey;
- contribute to and participate in the watershed management training workshops in the project countries as appropriate;
- analyze adopted procedures and progress of project implementation at the regional and national levels;
- provide technical advice to the selection of the TCDC experts as required;
- review the reports of TCDC consultants and other project experts;
- provide technical support to the establishment of the field pilot site in one of the project countries;
- carry out any other tasks required for a smooth implementation of the project;
- contribute to and participate in the watershed management training workshops in the project countries as appropriate;
- contribute to the Final Report.

Duration: 15 days in three missions (five days each).

Annex 4.10

Memorandum of Understanding

Elements on the Memorandum of Understanding with TİKA for the Provision of Project Inputs for Project Implementation (Draft)

TİKA, which has a long-term commitment to the sustainable development practices and aids programme in the region, will be a key-partner in the implementation of the project.

TİKA's role in the project builds on the important comparative advantage of the Agency to have national representative offices in each of the Central Asian countries and in Azerbaijan. These offices will assist in communication with partner institutions at national level and operationally support the work of the regional project at national levels where such is needed. TİKA will also have very important role in delivering of demonstration activities in the field.

In cooperation with the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (General Directorate of Afforestation and Erosion Control) of Turkey and the FAO Subregional Office for Central Asia (FAO/SEC), TİKA will provide the following services:

- timely provision of international travel expenses (economy class return tickets) of the regional workshop and training participants in accordance with project workplan and budget;
- timely provision of expenses of translation (simultaneous and written if required) services of the regional workshop and training participants;
- provision and execution of part of the expenses for the field pilot/demonstration implementations to be carried in a microcatchment to be selected within one of the project countries. The country in which demonstration activities will take place to be decided through tripartite consultation process and demonstration activities including procurement of equipment and contractual works will be carried out through TİKA country office therein;
- ensuring good communication with project parties and timely provision of project inputs in their part in accordance with the project work plan and budget.

Annex 4.11

Memorandum of Understanding

Elements on the Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (General Directorate of Afforestation and Erosion Control - GDAEC) of Turkey for the Provision of Project Inputs for Project Implementation (Draft)

The MoEF (GDAEC) with the support of MARA and Turkish universities, will be a key project partner for conducting in-country trainings on watershed rehabilitation techniques, afforestation, erosion control, rehabilitation of degraded forests and rangelands, income generating activities, rural development, and irrigation techniques. GDAEC will facilitate overall coordination of the project among the project partners and provide the technical inputs that are further described below.

Under the overall supervision of the FAO Subregional Office for Central Asia (FAO/SEC) and the technical supervision of officers at FAO/SEC and FAO headquarters HQ and in cooperation with TİKA, MARA and Turkish universities, GDAEC will provide the following inputs and services:

- overall technical in-country implementation of the project under the supervision of FAO/SEC and in cooperation with TİKA, competent local institutes and agencies and project countries. GDAEC will contribute to the correct and timely execution of project activities including coordination of the missions of project experts and national project staff, so as to ensure timely provision of expertise for training, demonstration and evaluation;
- timely assignment of an Regional Project Coordinator (RPC) and other decision maker and specialist staff for the project's management and implementations, including organization of the regional workshops and training programmes in Turkey as well as contributing in the project's implementations in the other project countries;
- timely provision of boarding and lodging (guest house/hotel) arrangements/expenditures of the decision makers and selected staff of the project countries participating at the workshops and training courses in Turkey;
- conducting/provision of travel arrangements/expenses of the participants within Turkey, including field excursions;
- provision of miscellaneous (stationary, etc.) expenses for the workshops and training courses in Turkey;
- contribution to the identification and selection of TCDC experts and national consultants;
- timely report project results and sustain a routine communication with FAO and TİKA.