Subannex 2: Concept Note

1. Project Concept Note: Restoration of Degraded Forests and Other Lands

2.

Key-information		*Comments/Remarks by Programme Management Unit*
Title of the Programme FTFP and cluster	Broad areas: Sustainable forest management, plantations, restoration and forest fire (Area 1); Wood and noon-wood forest products and ecosystem services; (Area 2); People and forests (Area 4); Governance including policy and institutional development (Area 5); Assessment and monitoring (Area 6); Interdisciplinary issues including sustainable land use management and climate change (Area 7); Drought impact mitigation (Area 8); Land degradation, combatting desertification, dust transportation and soil fixation (Area 9) Thematic areas: Sustainable management of forests and trees (70%); Institutional reform, training and national capacity enhancement (30%)	
Beneficiary country(ies), area(s) and target group(s)	**Countries:** Beneficiaries of this regional project are Turkey and all other countries in the SEC region through provision of capacity building activities and awareness raising. Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan are considered the focal countries.	

	Area(s): Sustainable Development Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss **Target Group(s):** All citizens of beneficiary countries who are by national laws entitled to use tangible and non- tangible benefits provided by forests administrated by the respective national ministries	
Title of the Proposal	**Restoration of Degraded Forests and Other Lands**	
Originator (name, title, institution, division, email, tel.)	FAO SEC: Çağlar Başsüllü, Consultant, FAO SEC, caglar.bassullu@fao.org, +90 3123079532; Peter Pechacek, Forestry Officer, FAO SEC, peter.pechacek@fao.org, +90 3123079533; Yasemen Aslı Karataş, JTO for Forestry, FAO SEC, yasemen.karatas@fao.org, +90 3123079536 Turkish Government: Ahmet Yalvaç, Deputy Head of Department/Branch Manager, General Directorate of Forestry, Afforestation Department, ahmetyalvac@ogm.gov.tr, +90 5052168511 Murat Masun, Director of the Denizli Forest Nursery Directorate, General Directorate of Forestry, + 90 258 361 08 05	

	Beytullah Fidan, Head of Survey and Design Department, General Directorate of Combating Desertification and Erosion, bfidan99@gmail.com, +90 312 2075684 Others: **Azerbaijan**: Gulnare Mammadova, FTFP focal point, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Forest Development Department, gmgulnare@gmail.com, 0099455455344 **Kazakhstan**: NN, Kazakh Research Institute for Forestry and Agroforestry (Almaty Branch), los-almaty@mail.ru, 87272393931, 87771164037; NN, Badam State Agency for forest protection of Turkestan Oblast **Kyrgyzstan**: NN, Government of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, State Agency of Environmental Protection and Forestry, Department of Forest Ecosystems, E-mail : departmentlesa@mail.ru, Tel: +996312537452, +99631254991 Tajikistan: Davlatali Sharipov, Forestry Agency, Head of Forestry Department, E-mail: davlatali_sharipov@mail.ru; Hısaynov Nurali Saidahmadoviç - Director of Institute for Forestry Studies. Tel : 992 231 08 74 Mobile : 992 918 27 9824; Karomat Kurbanov, Forestry Agency, Head	

	of Forestry Department, kurbanov.karomat@mail.ru; Makhmudov Suhrob, President of Organization for Preserving Specially Protected Areas operating under the Public Forestry Agency, suhrob.makhmudov 1973 @mail.ru, ubaid_ubaid@mail.ru, +992 37 222-07-97, Fax: +992 37 222-08-50, Mobile: 918332938 **Uzbekistan**: Abduvokhid Zakhadullaev, Head of Department, State Committee on Forestry of the Republic of Uzbekistan, miyon2001uz@mail.ru, +998977732991;	
Background /Problems to be addressed(is it a pending issue? Previous consultations with FAO/other donors?)	Related policy documents including national strategies, action plans and programmes identify the territories of above countries as a region with increasing problems regarding forest ecosystems and other lands. Forest ecosystems and other lands are facing major challenges through inappropriate resource use, in particular because of • Lack of institutional, human and technical capacities, • Insufficient funding mechanisms, • Unsustainable use of forests products which is leading to forest degradation and deforestation (mainly through illegal logging, overgrazing and firewood-collection), land degradation, land conversion and erosion.	

	FAO-Turkey Forestry Partnership Programme will address these environmental problems with the help of Turkish technical experience and financial support. **This regional project will focus on restoration of degraded forests and other lands which will support increase of technical and institutional capacities in this field. The project will also contribute to counteract climate change impact, spread of desertification water scarcity.**	
Alignment of FAO's Strategic Framework, Regional Initiatives and Country Programming Framework	**Strategic Framework:** Make agriculture, forestry and fisheries more productive and sustainable **Strategic Objective:** 2 - Increase and improve provision of goods and services from agriculture, forestry and fisheries in a sustainable manner **Organizational Outcome:** **Outcome 2.1:** Countries adopted practices to increase productivity sustainably while addressing climate change and environmental degradation in agriculture, forestry and fisheries **Outcome 2.2:** Countries developed or improved policies and governance mechanisms to address sustainable production, climate change and environmental degradation in agriculture, fisheries and forestry **Outcome 2.3:** Countries improved implementation of policies and international instruments for sustainable agriculture, fisheries and forestry **Outcome 2.4:** Countries made decisions based on evidence for sustainable agriculture, fisheries and	

	forestry while addressing climate change and environmental degradation • **Organizational Output 20102:** Integrated and multisectoral approaches for ecosystem valuation, management and restoration are identified, assessed, disseminated and their adoption by stakeholders is facilitated **Regional Initiatives:** Managing natural resources sustainably, under a changing climate **Azerbaijan CPF Outcome:** Priority 6: Sustainable, equitable and efficient forestry, land and water resources management (Institutional capacities strengthened for sustainable management: Sustainable management of forest and tree resources and rehabilitation and restoration of degraded forest lands **supported in line with the NFP action plan**) **Kazakhstan CPF Outcome:** Priority Area 3. Sustainable natural resources management (water, land and forestry), Outcome 1. Capacity of the national institutions, natural resources managers and agricultural producers for sustainable natural resources management strengthened **Kyrgyzstan CPF Outcome:** Priority 3: Sustainable natural resource management, and resilience to climate change disasters **Tajikistan CPF Outcome:** Priority area B: Sustainable management of natural resources and improved resilience to climate change	

	Uzbekistan CPF Outcome: Priority 3. Strengthening national capacity for sustainable management of natural resources, climate change and biodiversity	
Outcome / Goals	Enhanced capacity and improved knowledge for sustainable forest/land management including specifically plantation and restoration techniques, assessment and monitoring of forest lands, drought impact mitigation, combating desertification and counteract impact of climate change through forest management	
Major outputs	• Identification of degraded forest and other lands in need of restoration • Restoration of degraded forests and other lands • Provision of technical capacity building and contribution to awareness raising on sustainable use of forests and other lands through trainings, workshops, study tours, etc.	
Main activities foreseen	• Identification of degraded forests and other lands in need of restoration • Assessment of land degradation in pilot sites via Collect Earth • Assessment of degradation drivers and suitability of degraded lands for rehabilitation through reforestation to achieve land degradation neutrality (LDN) • Spatially and temporary explicit prioritization of rehabilitation activities (prioritization list)	

	• Identification of native species which are well adapted to local conditions and have potential for income generation for rehabilitation activities including fast growing species, medicinal/aromatic plants and IUCN Red List species • Restoration of degraded forests and other lands • Selection of demo sites for rehabilitation • Establishment/modernization of nurseries/storage banks/NWFP and ornamental trees gardens/poplar plantations/seed gardens including mechanization and equipment to supply high quality seeds/seedlings for rehabilitation activities (i.e. Black Saxual seeds) through for example procurement of equipment such as walnut processing machine, cold storage depot, etc. and other investments • Performing actual rehabilitation of degraded forests by showcasing primary means for erosion/desertification control and water conservation through reforestation according to the prioritization list	

	• Performing demo activities for showcasing supplementary erosion/ desertification control through barrier constructions in drylands • Support local communities with incentives that prevent relapse into behaviors that originally lead to degradation; and taking precautions for improved living conditions (e.g. providing solar power equipment, demonstrating grafting techniques for pistachio, etc.) • Provision of technical capacity building and contribution to awareness raising on sustainable use of forests and other lands through trainings, workshops, study tours, etc. • Introduction to Collect Earth, assessment and monitoring of degradation and its drivers, and prioritization of restoration activities • Seed collection, seed storage, germination and nursery infrastructure/techniques • Technologies for combatting erosion and desertification and cultivation of restored lands • Enabling environment to prevent illegal activities and overgrazing • Fundaments and techniques for	

	conservation and reproduction of IUCN Red List species (i.e. *Populus pruinosa*) • Technical study tours to share experience and witness best practices on rehabilitation • Grassroots level (gender sensitive) awareness raising activities, meetings with villagers, income generation, harvesting, processing and storing of NWFP etc. • PR strategy and visibility materials	
Key inputs	• Financial support (if possible also co-financing by respective governments) • Human Resources (experts from Turkey, FAO and the countries) • Infrastructure of countries including office and work facilities, equipment, etc.	
Timeframe/Duration of project (max. 24 m. x Nat. initiatives)	36 months	
Budgetary requirements (max. UD$ Nat. init.)	USD 2,000,000	
Feasibility/Potential risk	• Unreasonable expectation on project results (for example income generating tree species) • Insufficient technical knowledge and	

	experience for implementation of activities • Unabated pressure on forest resources and lack of law enforcement to ensure sustainable use of forests • Machinery ,equipment and facilities not suitable and out dated • Adverse natural conditions (e.g. severe drought).	
Links to other programmes and projects, both in-country and in the sub-region (Gov., FAO and non-FAO)	UNFCCC, UNCCD, UNDAF, FAO-NFP, FAO-CPF, Government Strategies, Legislation, Programmes, Action Plans, Other Projects such as `Capacity building for sustainable management of mountain watersheds in Central Asia and Caucasus- GCP/SEC/002/TUR`; `Home Based Nursery Development for Improved Food Security and Environmental Protection in Tajikistan- GCP/TAJ/006/TUR`; `GEF/FAO Sustainable management of forests and land resources under the climate change conditions`; `JICA Development of Rural Works on the basis of Forest Products`; and `Word Bank Project for `Integrated Forest Management`	
Beneficiary and other stakeholders	Citizens of the below countries and specifically women who are permitted to use tangible and non- tangible benefits provided by forests administrated by the respective national ministries **Azerbaijan:** Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources **Kazakhstan:** Ministry of Agriculture (Forestry and Wildlife Committee)	

	Kyrgyzstan: The State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry **Tajikistan:** Ministry of Agriculture **Turkey:** Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry **Turkmenistan:** Ministry of Agriculture **Uzbekistan:** Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources (State Committee for Forestry)	
Other relevant points/issues		

2. Simplified Logical Framework

Project Elements/Components	**Success Indicators** (=Objectively verifiable indicators)	**Ways of Verifying** (=Means of Verification)	**Assumptions** (=Conditions needed to contribute to the Impact/Goal) **and Risks** (= Potential of the unwanted jeopardizing the achievement of goal, impact, targets, etc.)
Impact/Goal Restore degraded forest areas	Area of degraded forest land and other lands	National forest inventory	Commitment of the respective sector to maintain and sustainable manage restored forest lands is necessary Unwanted jeopardizing can result from slow changes of the respective enabling environment and/or law enforcement.
Outcome(s) (the immediate beneficial change(s) promoted by the project) Enhanced capacity and improved knowledge for sustainable forest/land management including mainly plantation and restoration techniques, assessment and monitoring of forest lands, drought impact mitigation, combatting desertification and	Number of staff trained in the respective main areas (i.e. plantation and restoration techniques, assessment and monitoring of forest lands and other lands, drought impact mitigation, combatting desertification and counteract impact of climate change through forest management)	Respective training attendance records	Appropriate staff nominated to attend the envisioned capacity building activities. This can be compromised if staff nominated for these activities is politically chosen regardless of provided selection criteria

counteract impact of climate change through forest management			
Outputs (the deliverables of the project) • Identification of degraded forests and other lands in need of restoration • Restoration of degraded forests and other lands • Provision of technical capacity building and contribution to awareness raising on sustainable use of forests through trainings, workshops, study tours, etc.	• Respective report content • Share of area identified for restoration actually restored • Number of capacity building and awareness raising activities	• Report • Area statistic / government records • Participant list records	Project ownership by the respective governments, used techniques suitable for the purpose and participants motivated to learn. This all can be jeopardized by frequent fluctuation of staff/institutional reforms in responsible partner organizations.
Activities (the main activities to be undertaken in order to accomplish the expected outputs) • Assessment of degradation drivers and suitability of degraded lands for rehabilitation through reforestation • Establishment of nurseries to supply seeds/seedlings	• Respective report chapters • Nursery/storage bank operational/modernized • Training records	• Respective report • Government records • Attendance	Objective analysis of the restoration needs, suitable area for nursery establishment available and equipment ready to be used, staff committed to take up on new paradigms. Risks are related to undue political pressure for restoration of lands

for the rehabilitation activities • Introduction to Collect Earth, assessment of degradation and its drivers, and prioritization of restoration activities		records	with limited needs, lack of suitable properties for nursery establishment in addition to availability of equipment on the market and lack of willingness by trained staff to implement newly obtained knowledge in daily work