



United Nations Convention
to Combat Desertification



THE GLOBAL
MECHANISM

Funding opportunities in the field of SLM for the Annex V countries of the UNCCD



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January 2013

This report was prepared by Anette Ruud Hennum of the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD with the support of Siv Oystese and Jamal Annagylyjova.

We would like to acknowledge and thank the UNCCD National Focal Points of the Annex V countries for their valuable comments and suggestions, which substantially contributed to the preparation of this report, and Mia Rowan and Maurizio Navarra (from the Global Mechanism) for their inputs on layout and editing.

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Acronyms

AF	Adaptation Fund
CAP	Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CEB	Council of Europe Development Bank
CEE	Central and Eastern Europe
CF	European Cohesion Fund
CIP	The Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DCI	The Development Co-operation Instrument
DG	Directorate-General
DLDD	Desertification, land degradation and drought
EAFRD	European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
EBRD	The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EC	European Commission
ECF	European Climate Foundation
EDF	European Development Fund
EIB	European Investment Bank
ELD	Economics of Land Degradation
ENI	European Neighbourhood Instrument
ENP	European Neighbourhood Policy
ENPI	European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument
ENRTP	Environment and Sustainable management of Natural Resources including energy
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
ESF	European Social Fund
EU	European Union
EUSF	European Union Solidarity Fund
EVL	Economic valuation of land
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FFEM	French Global Environment Facility
FP7	The Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GM	Global Mechanism
ICI	International Climate Initiative of Germany
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFS	Integrated Financing Strategy
IPA	Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
MCFEA	Mitsubishi Corporation Fund for Europe and Africa
NAP	National Action Programmes
NCP	National Contact Points
NEFCO	The Nordic Environment Finance Corporation
NFP	National Focal Points
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
NIS	New Independent States
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OFP	Operational Focal Point
OJ	Official Journal of the European Union

OSLO	Offering Sustainable Land-use Options
PPIAF	Public-Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility
RAP	Regional Action Programme
REC	Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe
REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Land Degradation
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
UN	United Nations
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Preface

Challenges related to deforestation, land degradation and drought are highly present in many parts of Central and Eastern Europe (CEE). This fact is recognized by the countries in the sub-region that have signed the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)¹. These countries constitute Annex V of the UNCCD, which is the youngest annex of the Convention.

The purpose of Annex V is to provide guidelines and arrangements for the effective implementation of the Convention in affected country Parties of the Central and Eastern European region, in the light of its particular conditions.

The Ten-Year Strategic Plan and Framework to Enhance Implementation of the UNCCD (2008-2018) was adopted in 2007 by the Conference of the Parties of the Convention and outlines the need to diversify resources for implementation. In this context the Annex V countries have initiated a process to produce and complete their National Action Programmes (NAPs) and prepare a Regional Action Programme (RAP), which will provide a framework for the targeted regional cooperation and for partnerships involving a broad range of national and regional stakeholders. However, the low political priority given to the negative effects of land degradation at national level, as well as the small number of donors active in the region in the field of sustainable land management (SLM), have often made it difficult to mobilize the investments needed.

In 2008, a workshop on financial resource mobilization for the Annex V countries was held in Brno, Czech Republic to address some of the challenges related to resource mobilization for the implementation of the Convention. This workshop was followed by another workshop in Prague, in 2010, where practical aspects of successfully designing and financing a NAP were discussed. As a contribution to the 2008 workshop, a paper on donor funds available for CEE countries in the field of desertification, land degradation and drought (DLDD) was prepared. The paper presented an overview of existing and unused bilateral and multilateral financing instruments and mechanisms, and financial resources available for the mitigation and prevention of DLDD.

However, as a result of the continuous changes in the donor landscape, the availability of funds and complexity of the funding systems, the information provided in the 2008 paper required regularly updating. The CEE regional work plan 2012-2013 calls, therefore, for the identification of funding opportunities for the region from the European Commission (EC) and the identification of relevant international institutions based in the region.

In that regard, the Global Mechanism (GM) has produced this reference document for the Annex V countries in search for financial support to mainstream SLM and implement the UNCCD. This paper provides the reader with recommendations for effective resource mobilization followed by a comprehensive overview of relevant financial instruments and programmes under the EC. It also provides an overview of some of the multilateral donors, regional banks, international organisations and innovative funding opportunities that exist outside the EC framework.

The target groups for this paper are the UNCCD National Focal points (NFP) institutions and other stakeholders relevant for the implementation of the Convention, including ministries, local and regional governments, research institutions and civil society organizations (CSOs). During the preparation of this document, we requested inputs and suggestions from the NFPs in the Annex V. The feedback given by the NFPs was utilized to draft this text.

¹ UNCCD: www.unccd.int/

1 Introduction

Europe's soil resources are being lost and degraded as a result of the negative effects of development of economic sectors, including agriculture, households, industry, transport and tourism, as well as climate change and land-use change. The degree of soil degradation varies considerably from country to country, but the vulnerability of the region is evident and estimated to be increasing. In some parts of Southern and Central-Eastern Europe, the degradation is so severe that it has led to desertification and the reduction of the soil's capability to support human communities².

The Annex V countries of the UNCCD are classified as having dry sub-humid to semi-arid climate³ with many of the areas in the region highly affected by soil degradation and desertification. The region is also facing several challenges related to inappropriate irrigation practices, deforestation, excessive use and exploitation of water resources, salinization and the exhaustion of aquifers.

Land is the space where all these unsustainable practices and challenges take place. As land resources are used for different purposes, improper land management may produce trade-offs, conflicts and competitions. On the contrary, sustainable land management (SLM) helps to gain all the benefits that the green economy promises by providing positive impacts on the environment, economy and society. **SLM-smart investments have the potential to achieve higher returns on investments than business as usual.** SLM can be defined differently within each country depending on the country-specific context. One general definition defined by TerrAfrica partnership is that "SLM is the adaptation of land use systems that, through appropriate management practices, enable land users to maximize the economic and social benefits from the land while maintaining or enhancing the ecological support functions of the land resources"⁴.

To reverse, control and prevent land degradation and desertification and promote SLM, a number of countries in the region have prepared and submitted their NAPs, whilst others are being prepared (see table 1). The preparation of Regional Action Programme (RAP) is also in process.



Figure 1 Map. Source : <http://europe--maps.blogspot.no/>

² UNCCD (2000)

³ The climates of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation and Ukraine are classified as dry sub-humid, whilst in areas along the northwest coasts of the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea the climate is classified as semi-arid.

⁴ TerrAfrica (2005)

However, for the countries to be able to produce the NAP, mainstream SLM and implement projects, funding is needed. This is a challenge, especially since SLM has low political priority in many of the countries and because the region is not a main priority amongst donors. Additionally, funding availability varies among the countries. European Union (EU) member states have, for example, a higher priority under the European Commission (EC) than the other countries. Although the need for it is strong, funding for urban areas remains limited.

Table 1: Annex V Parties of the UNCCD⁵

	Country	NAP, year	Member of EU
1	Armenia	Eng-2002, Rus-2003	-
2	Azerbaijan	Under validation* ⁶	-
3	Belarus	Draft of aligned NAP, Under validation*	-
4	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Under validation*	-
5	Bulgaria	Under validation*	2007
6	Estonia, acceded UNCCD 16 th May 2012		2004
7	Georgia	Eng-2003	-
8	Latvia	Under validation*	2004
9	Montenegro		Candidate
10	Republic of Moldova	Eng-2000	-
11	Romania	Eng, French-2000	2007
12	Russian Federation		-
13	Serbia		Candidate
14	Slovakia	Under validation*	2004
15	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYRM)	Under validation*	Candidate
16	Ukraine	Under validation*	-

Table 2: Annex V divided into regions

Regions	Countries
EU member states⁷	Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Romania, Slovakia
EU Candidate Countries	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYRM), Montenegro, Serbia
New Independent States (NIS)⁸	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Russia, Ukraine
Mediterranean countries	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro
Western Balkan countries	Bosnia and Herzegovina ⁹
Eastern Neighbourhood countries	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Russia, Ukraine

⁵ European Union, Countries: http://europa.eu/about-eu/countries/index_en.htm

⁶ * = UNCCD (2007)

⁷ These countries are also part of the European Economic Area, which comprises the countries of the European Union (EU), plus Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway.

⁸ European Union, New Independent States: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/nis/en/eu-nis.html>

⁹ Bosnia and Herzegovina is a potential candidate for EU membership.

1.1 The purpose of this report

Sufficient information is available on different sources of funding both within the EU and in general, but a challenge is to determine which fund is the most appropriate for the given country and project activity and how to access those funds. The aim of this document is therefore to provide the countries of Annex V with information on the most relevant funds and financial instruments that exist for activities related to SLM under the EC, how to access these funds and to direct the reader to relevant sources of information.

Additionally this report includes information on other sources for relevant multilateral funds outside of the EC, including some innovative approaches to resource mobilization. As funding is relatively limited for the Annex V countries, it is important to think outside of the box. Resource mobilization may therefore involve:

- Tapping funds earmarked for areas other than land, that have previously not been used for SLM/UNCCD, by establishing how SLM can help solve related problems, e.g. climate change, water supply, forestry, etc.
- Assessing the total economic value of ecosystem goods and services, the direct and indirect costs of natural capital depreciation and the net benefits of alternative land use approaches, and prioritize land degradation and desertification when setting up development policies and strategies.
- Tapping new sources of funding, including emerging donors, philanthropic foundations, decentralized cooperation, etc.
- Utilizing financial mechanisms and instruments that can help channel investments and funding to SLM, e.g. by providing incentive mechanisms that can encourage private sector (land users, businesses) to invest and adopt SLM practices, or capital investment instruments that can enable land users/businesses to adopt more sustainable practices (e.g. environmental impact bonds and microfinance for small scale land users).

1.2 How to use this report

This report is divided into five chapters. **Chapter one** provides an **introduction** to the challenges related to land degradation and desertification in the Annex V region as well as an explanation of the structure of this report, its purpose and suggestions on how to use it.

Chapter two highlights some of the important steps and tools to consider when undertaking resource mobilization such as how to establish linkages between SLM and other sectors, and features a section about the writing of a project proposal.

Chapter three contains information about the EC and funding opportunities available under the different Directorate-Generals (DGs) of the EC. The DGs are listed alphabetically in this report. Each section starts with a short introduction of the DG, followed by information about the available funds.

In **chapter four** some of the additional funding opportunities outside the EC are presented. This chapter present information on multilateral donors, regional development banks and a section on international organizations, other institutions and networks, philanthropic foundations and thematic funds.

Given that there is limited donor funding available, the Annex V countries may benefit from complementing traditional funding with innovative funding. In **Chapter five** we give an introduction

to innovative sources of finance and an overview of other sources of funding that can be available for the Annex V countries.

The report is structured so that the reader can easily find the funds relevant for the specific country (see table 3 below) and easily screen the fund for relevant information. The presentation of each fund or financial instrument starts with a short presentation of the fund followed by information presented under **highlighted subtitles**, of which is given a specific colour. Underlining is used in the text to mark that there is a hyperlink connected to the phrase.

The subtitles are structured in the same order for all funds and are in the following order:

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION – name of countries and regions that can apply for funding. This determines which fund is relevant for the specific country of Annex V.

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS – examples of institutions that can apply for funding. These institutions must, for most of the funds, be situated or operate in the eligible country.

SPECIFIC CRITERIA – this section is only included if there are any specific criteria that are not mentioned under the other subtitles.

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES – the thematic priorities listed are those most relevant to SLM or have a linkage to SLM.

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES – explains some criteria for the amount of funds provided, e.g. if additional funding is required, what percentage is given as a grant, the reimbursement rate and other important financial information.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE – this section gives an indicator on the overall amount of money available within a certain time frame or for a certain topic or region.

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES – the main objective of the fund is presented in this section. When formulating the project proposal it is important to keep the programme objectives in mind and relate them to the proposed activity.

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION – a short presentation of the way the fund is implemented and any specific programming steps that need to be followed if given a grant.

EXAMPLE OF RECENT PROJECTS – example(s) from Annex V the last 3-5 years, will be included if available.

HOW TO APPLY – information about the application process, calls for proposals, specific criteria for how to apply and where to get more information.

CONTACT INFORMATION - contact details for offices, employees or sites where more information can be found about the fund in general. For some funds country specific information is provided. Note that personal contact information might be out of date.

1.2.1 Overview of Annex V countries and available funds

Table 3 (below) is a list of all the Annex V countries with the available funding opportunities in the EU and outside EU. The acronyms can be found in the table of contents, which will direct the reader to the page where you can find information about the fund available for your country and additional information that you may find useful. For the contact information of the National Focal points in each country see Appendix A. A list of helpful webpages can be found in Appendix C.

Table 3: Countries and specific funds available

Annex V countries	Region/group	EC Funds	Other funding opportunities
Armenia	NIS, Neighbourhood countries	ENRTP, FP7, ENPI	GEF, FFEM, EIB, EBRD, IUCN, OAK, MCFEA, AF, PPIAF, ICI, NearEast
Azerbaijan	NIS, Neighbourhood countries	ENRTP, FP7, ENPI	GEF, FFEM, EIB, EBRD, IUCN, OAK, MCFEA, AF, PPIAF, ICI
Belarus	NIS, Neighbourhood countries	ENRTP, FP7, ENPI	NEFCO, GEF, FFEM, EIB, EBRD, IUCN, OAK, MCFEA, PPIAF, ICI
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Western Balkan Countries, Mediterranean countries	ENRTP, FP7	GEF, FFEM, EIB, CEB, EBRD, IUCN, MAVA, OAK, MCFEA, AF, PPIAF, ICI
Bulgaria	EU	EAFRD, ERDF, ENRTP, CF, LIFE+(incl. NGO support), FP7	GEF, EIB, CEB, EBRD, REC, IUCN, EEA, OAK, ClimateWorks, MCFEA, PPIAF, ICI
Estonia	EU	EAFRD, ERDF, ENRTP, CF, LIFE+(incl. NGO support), FP7	NEFCO, GEF, EIB, CEB, EBRD, REC, IUCN, EEA, OAK, ClimateWorks, MCFEA, PPIAF, ICI
Georgia	NIS, Neighbourhood countries	ENRTP, FP7, ENPI	GEF, FFEM, EIB, CEB, EBRD, IUCN, OAK, MCFEA, AF, PPIAF, ICI
Latvia	EU	EAFRD, ERDF, ENRTP, CF, LIFE+(incl. NGO support), FP7	NEFCO, GEF, EIB, CEB, EBRD, REC, IUCN, EEA, OAK, ClimateWorks, MCFEA, PPIAF, ICI
Montenegro	Candidate countries, Mediterranean countries	ENRTP, LIFE+, FP7	GEF, FFEM, EIB, CEB, EBRD, IUCN, MAVA, OAK, MCFEA, AF, PPIAF, ICI
Republic of Moldova	NIS, Neighbourhood countries	ENRTP, FP7, ENPI	GEF, FFEM, EIB, CEB, EBRD, IUCN, OAK, MCFEA, AF, PPIAF, ICI
Romania	EU	EAFRD, ERDF, ENRTP, CF, LIFE+(incl. NGO support), FP7	GEF, EIB, CEB, EBRD, REC, IUCN, EEA, OAK, ClimateWorks, MCFEA, PPIAF, ICI
Russian Federation	NIS	ENRTP, FP7	NEFCO, GEF, EIB, EBRD, IUCN, OAK, MCFEA, PPIAF, ICI, MacArthurFoundation
Serbia	Candidate countries	ENRTP, LIFE+, FP7	GEF, FFEM, EIB, CEB, EBRD, IUCN, OAK, MCFEA, AF, PPIAF, ICI
Slovakia	EU	EAFRD, ERDF, ENRTP, CF, LIFE+(incl. NGO support), FP7	GEF, EIB, CEB, EBRD, REC, IUCN, EEA, OAK, ClimateWorks, MCFEA, PPIAF, ICI
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Candidate countries	ENRTP, LIFE+, FP7	GEF, FFEM, EIB, CEB, EBRD, REC, IUCN, MAVA, OAK, MCFEA, AF, PPIAF, ICI
Ukraine	NIS, Neighbourhood countries	ENRTP, FP7, ENPI	NEFCO, GEF, FFEM, EIB, EBRD, IUCN, OAK, MCFEA, PPIAF, ICI

2 Resource mobilization

Resource mobilization is often associated with fund-raising. But in addition to raising funds or money, resource mobilization also includes building a network of contacts and, mainstreaming SLM and attaining the interest, support and/or in-kind contributions.

When conducting resource mobilization, it is essential to be aware of the landscape of potential funders and donors that exist on all levels. Different financing opportunities exist to provide support to different entities, according to their financial outreach and agenda of priorities. It is therefore necessary to have a comprehensive overview of all available funds and their facilities: internal or external, public or private and innovative sources when searching for funding opportunities. One must then select one or more possible sources of funding according to their financing mechanisms; geographic coverage; focus area(s) of work; and relevance to issues related to SLM.

Multilateral donors, bilateral donors, development banks, philanthropic foundations and the private sector (e.g. core business, corporate social responsibility projects, commercial loans, etc.) are examples of institutions where financial support can be available. Some donors use non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to channel their funds, while others have country offices and are able to finance projects directly.

Even though it is important to lay the foundation of the project and organization to have a compelling reason for donors to give, it will help in the process if the applicant manages to track down the main hot topics in the donor community and find out how to use these resources more efficiently. It is therefore recommended to do some research on the donors and learn about them through websites, internet searches, newspapers, annual reports, etc. Analyse donor policies and priorities, including donor thematic areas that could be linked to SLM (water, food security, climate change, etc.). Being aware of the donor landscape might make it easier to find the relevant links to your project and vice versa.

2.1 Effective resource mobilization for UNCCD implementation

The UNCCD is designed to “forge a global partnership to reverse and prevent desertification/land degradation and to mitigate the effects of drought in affected areas in order to support poverty reduction and environmental sustainability”¹⁰. It promotes SLM as a tool for combating desertification. SLM can be defined differently within each country depending on the country-specific context. One general definition defined by TerrAfrica partnership is that “SLM is the adaptation of land use systems that, through appropriate management practices, enable land users to maximize the economic and social benefits from the land while maintaining or enhancing the ecological support functions of the land resources”¹¹.

2.1.1 Integrated Financing Strategy (IFS)

An integrated financing strategy (IFS) is a process for mobilizing a mix of financial resources to fund SLM-related projects and programmes and to implement the UNCCD. The overall objective of the IFS is to support the Government’s efforts to explore financing opportunities from national, bilateral, multilateral and innovative sources and to develop an action plan to mobilize these for UNCCD/SLM implementation¹².

The specific objectives of the strategy are to:

- promote consistency, better coordination, alignment and harmonisation of financing;
- ensure efficient use of existing financial resources; and
- tap new and innovative resources to fill the financing gaps

The development of the strategy aims at integrating and mainstreaming SLM into existing national development agendas and processes (see chapter 2.2.3), and creating inter-linkages (see chapter 2.2.2) between various sectors (environment, agriculture, trade, forestry, mining, water, infrastructure, etc.) in order to ensure efficient use of already available financial resources.

The strategy uncovers potential barriers to resource identification, allocation and disbursement, and recommends actions to overcome these potential barriers. Evidence-based advocacy to support decision-making on financing and investments is an important element of the IFS. Another key element of the IFS development and implementation process is to build partnerships and engage stakeholders and partners to support the process (see chapter 2.2.4). The IFS aim to increase effectiveness of existing financial mechanisms and sources (including public funds and donor modalities) and to identify new and innovative financing opportunities (see chapter 5).

Five guiding principles of the IFS:

1. Country owned
2. Country specific
3. Ecosystem approach
4. Consistent with Paris declaration
5. Leveraging synergies between the Rio conventions

The IFS follows a process-oriented approach and should not be viewed as a linear process with separate design, implementation and monitoring steps. The IFS operates through an iterative process, functioning as a knowledge system that coordinates information collection, analysis and

¹⁰ UNCCD (2007)

¹¹ TerrAfrica (2005)

¹² Global Mechanism (2008)

monitoring and communication. IFS is country-specific, flexible and responsive and should be closely linked to relevant policy and budget allocation processes. In order to ensure broad institutional support and facilitate trade-offs during budget allocation, the UNCCD National Focal Point and sector and on-sector ministries should be involved in the development and implementation of IFS.

For more information about the IFS visit www.global-mechanism.org. On this site information on the IFS process can be found together with the paper [Integrated Financing Strategies for SLM](#) and the [Practical guide to designing IFS](#).

2.1.2 Making the case - economic valuation of land and ecosystem services

Land degradation has long been considered a peripheral environmental concern and the contribution of land resources to national development and their potential to assist in economic growth and sustainable development are often unrecognized. These are often not recognized due to difficulties in specifying the benefits, that these benefits often have a public goods character and are not traded in a market, or because there are often mismatch between the stakeholders that pay the costs of maintaining an environmental benefit and the beneficiaries. It is therefore a need to demonstrate land resources' existing and potential contribution to profit, national development and poverty reduction and the economic cost of land degradation¹³.

Economic valuation of the ecosystem services coming from land can provide effective arguments for responsible land use policies and maximise the use of land in a sustainable way. Economic valuation can contribute in making the case for the investment in SLM by revealing the real economic costs and benefits of such practices, and lead to an increased public and private financing into sustainable ecosystem management practices and initiatives.

By assessing the value of ecosystem services and the direct and indirect cost of land degradation it is possible to generate economic evidence on the total value and economic benefits of land and nature resources. It can also provide a basis for conflict resolution and integrated, participatory planning of resource management through showing the interests of different groups of stakeholders in land and ecosystem management.

The Global Mechanism of the UNCCD is actively engaged in the integrated economic valuation of land (EVL) as a vehicle to unlock the investment potential for SLM. Through a consortium called OSLO (Offering Sustainable Land-use Options), the GM aims at promoting responsible land use by demonstrating the total economic value of terrestrial ecosystems and generating socio-economically viable and environmentally sustainable land use change options. For more information visit www.theOSLO.net.

Economics of Land Degradation, ELD is another global initiative that highlights the value of SLM and provides a global approach for analysis of the economics of land degradation. For more information on value of land visit: www.eld-initiative.org.

¹³ Global Mechanism: www.global-mechanism.org

2.1.3 Making the linkages between sustainable land management and thematic areas

Resource mobilization for the implementation of the convention needs a comprehensive, integrated and strategic approach. The sustainable use of the natural resources and ecosystem service that land provides is important for a number of economic sectors and development goals. Articulating these linkages and providing arguments for how SLM can contribute to poverty and environmental degradation, for example food security or climate mitigation, can help ensure a more efficient use of available resources and broaden the resource base by enabling to tap into funds earmarked other sectors than land¹⁴.

Funds often have broad thematic areas of what they are sponsoring, so the applicants have to make sure not to limit the search for funding to the most obvious programmes or areas, but look broader on issues that can be linked to land degradation.

Creating strong linkages between the proposed activity and the funder's priorities is also advisable when writing the project proposal. For example for SLM activities it can be necessary to make linkages between desertification and land degradation and the impact that these have on livelihoods. In this way, SLM can be seen as a priority in a set of different areas such as food security, energy, and others.

Some thematic entry points for SLM are:

- **Climate change mitigation and adaptation** – Climate change threatens marginal lands by increasing the risk of extreme weather events, degradation and desertification. Moreover, land degradation, particularly from unsustainable agricultural and land management practices and deforestation is a major contributor to increased atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations that are responsible for human-induced climate change. As the synergies between the issues of the UNCCD and the UNFCCC are highly interlinked, there are great opportunities for building joint activities targeting climate change mitigation and adaptation and SLM.
- **Biodiversity conservation** – The degradation of land and natural resources, especially in its interconnections with climate change, represents a major threat to the health of plant and animal species. This contributes in making the challenge of conserving biodiversity more and more interlinked to that of safeguarding land as a provider of natural habitats and resources. This illustrates the synergies between the issues of the UNCCD and CBD and the fact that land degradation, particularly in its form of desertification, biodiversity loss and global climate change are strongly interlinked.
- **Food security and nutrition** - Food production is achieved through the use of natural resources, such as land and water. An appropriate use of these resources is essential to achieve food security in a consistent and sustainable way over time and taking into consideration the global demographic trends.
- **Land tenure and conflict prevention** – Land is important for food security, shelter, community development and economic prosperity, which can be a source of conflict due to limited availability of natural resources, wrong land use approaches and changes in land ownership.
- **Rural development and poverty reduction** - Land degradation is potentially the most threatening ecosystem change directly affecting the livelihoods of people living in arid areas.

¹⁴ Ibid.

Scenarios show that degradation of ecosystem services in dry-lands could threaten future improvements in human wellbeing, poverty reduction and even reverse gains in some regions. Traditionally, dry-lands have been viewed as having little potential for economic activity because they are prone to drought and land degradation. However, emerging markets for products based on natural resources are providing ways of enhancing the sustainable use and management of land and advancing rural development.

- **Agriculture and water management** - Rapid urbanization, population pressures, competition for water among different uses, environmental concerns, and degradation of soil and water resources are a threat to water resources and agricultural production. Sustainable agriculture and water management can contribute to solutions to stress on water and land resources.
- **Forestry** – Land degradation poses an important threat for the management of ecosystem services, including forests. Forests are major providers of services such as climate preservation through the generation of carbon sinks, biodiversity conservation, food security, sustainable water and energy provision, and a vast array of income-generating activities. Deforestation and unsustainable forest management are main issues connected to land degradation; as such, joint activities between these dimensions are increasingly being regarded as desirable approaches in this sector.
- **Education** – A good level of knowledge on the causes and effects of land degradation, as well as on SLM techniques is strategically important in order to ensure sustainable land use and plan effective activities. Education on land degradation and SLM at all levels can help raise valuable awareness among all stakeholders involved, from land-users to policy-makers.
- **Health** - Land that is managed sustainably is a reliable source of safe food and drinking water. The impact of land degradation on agricultural produce has been extensively explored in terms of quantity of output; however, there is increasing evidence that in degraded land the quality of the produce is also affected in a way that is potentially harmful for human health. The conservation of land and ecosystem services in general also plays a fundamental role at the global health level, preventing the outburst of infectious diseases – the potential for joint activities with the health sector appears to be highly promising.
- **South to south cooperation** – can be used in capacity building and knowledge sharing and to forge partnership among like-minded stakeholders to mobilize resources and support the NAP implementation process.
- **Trade** - The profitability of trade is closely linked to the maintenance of the long-term productive potential of inputs, i.e. natural resources. In other words, profit relies on the maintenance of natural resources' environmental functions. The strong links between countries' natural resources and their productive and supply-side capacity, especially in the agricultural sector, provide evidence for making SLM a far more prominent issue in initiatives that use trade as a development tool.

2.1.4 Mainstreaming sustainable land management

Mainstreaming SLM is an important tool in resource mobilization. The objective of mainstreaming is to embed SLM into the national plans while also effecting changes in the way of doing business, e.g. policy reforms, changes in planning, institutional structures, and coordination arrangements. It leads to increased recognition of the importance of land management in development and could increase investments by the public budget and international financial contributions¹⁵.

¹⁵ Global Mechanism: www.global-mechanism.org

Successful resource mobilization depends on the political will of governments to identify land rehabilitation and SLM practices. It is therefore important to make a stronger case for SLM to national governments in particular, but also other stakeholders and investors that can play an important role in mainstreaming or financing SLM.

Mainstreaming is about getting commitment from private and public decision makers to take action and do something about the degradation of land resources. This can be done by demonstrating that SLM contribute to a number of national development goals and objectives (public sector) and that SLM makes business sense (private sector) by creating understanding of the cost of land degradation and the economic benefits of SLM in national development. Mainstreaming SLM should be done at three levels; policy level, institutional level and project/programme level. When mainstreaming SLM there are three broad categories of tools that can be applied:

1. **Analytical tools:** Identify stakeholders and develop the arguments for example an economic cost benefit analysis, environment-economic development linkages, gap analysis, financial diagnostics, and stakeholder analysis.
2. **Consultative/participatory tools:** Strengthen participation and partnerships and raise awareness through working groups, think tanks, expert group consultations and data banks.
3. **Educational tools:** Raise awareness and strengthen knowledge through for example guidelines, manuals, handbooks, awareness raising courses, and media.

2.1.5 Partnership – cooperation with relevant partners and stakeholders

Regional coordination and an enhanced cooperation and knowledge sharing between the actors in the region regarding the implementation of the UNCCD can be crucial for successful mobilization of financing¹⁶.

The implementation of the UNCCD and SLM are of interest of many sectors, actors and partners due to its linkages to different sectors such as agricultural production, water management and climate change adaptation. Working in partnership is perceived as positive in the donor community who often requires co-financing from other involved actors in order to give out grants. When searching for available financial resources it is therefore important to look for possible partners that can strengthen the project and contribute with finance. A partnership can be very effective if it takes advantage of the different stakeholder's roles and comparative advantages.

Potential stakeholders and partners can be:

Ministries in National Government	Local and international CSOs
Neighboring countries	Private sector (businesses and land users)
Affected and non-affected country parties	Capital investors
Multilateral and bilateral donors	Philanthropic foundation
Research and academic institutions	Individuals
Local authorities	

¹⁶ Global Mechanism: www.global-mechanism.org

2.2 Proposal formulation suggestions

This section contains basic information on the process of proposal formulation and present ideas on how to structure a proposal. Writing a proposal is not just about describing a good project idea, but to persuade the funding source to allocate money to the project. It is advisable to follow up when calls for proposals are published and be familiarised with the legislation that lies behind the various funding programmes and the deadline. Before writing the application look at the website of the fund or the specific guidelines, and follow the form, the guideline, the checklist and the funder's assessment grid as tightly as possible. Information provided by the different donors is only indicative, not exhaustive, so look for the linkages to the intended project or programme and check the eligibility criteria for applying.

There are primarily two types of proposals; a call for proposal with a given structure or forms to fill in, and an open proposal where the applicant is more free to create the structure of the proposal. For both types it is recommended that the proposal is well packed, persuasive and technically detailed and correct.

A winning proposal is a piece of creative marketing that is technically correct but innovative enough to be interesting. Below is an example of an outline for a proposal, with detailed information that is advisable to include in the application. Another example can be found in Appendix E. The order of the outline below is not exhaustive neither is the content, but most of the elements and methodology described are general components that recur in resource mobilization internationally. The information in this section is based on the Logical Framework Approach (LFA).

Example of components that can be included in a project proposal:

Title page with the title of proposal, date, location of programme name of agency the proposal is submitted, name and address of applying organization, name of contact person.

A complete **summary** that entails information about the identified problem, the objectives of the project and the proposed solutions and results is recommended to be included in the beginning of the proposal. This is the first important section where the applicant can make a strong case for the project and attract the full attention of the funder.

Information about the organization: Name of the organization, contact information and contact person. If relevant describe the structure of the organization and the role of the organization in the local community, number of members and regular members. This can indicate that the organization has a democratic system of good governance. General financial information with annual budget and maybe an overview of all support received for the organization activities should also be included if not specified elsewhere in the proposal.

Under the section about the organization it is possible to include a description of the **background** of the proponent, working group or organization working with the project. This will demonstrate solid operational skills and networking capacities, which are of relevance for the donor. Successful track records should also be included here. Qualifications and assignments of the staff working on the project and partner information can be included here or under the project description (see below).

Description of the project area and project:

When presenting the project in the proposal it is important to first start with the title of the project followed by a brief description of background for the application, the **baseline**. What problem will the

project contribute in solving? It is important that the present situation in the area where the project is to be carried out is thoroughly described and documented in the application. The baseline will be compared with the situation after the project has been completed in order to see to what extent the project has reached its goals. A good baseline is essential for documenting the results of the project. In this section you can also demonstrate good knowledge of the targeted geographic area from a social, political and economic perspective.

After explaining the baseline the applicant can start with the **project description**, how the project will contribute to solve the current problems and why this project is necessary.

The project description should include

- Objectives → measurable, specific outcomes of the project
- Methods → How, when, why
- Evaluation plan → quantitative or qualitative
- Sustainability → Long term financial viability
- Staffing/administration → qualifications and assignments

Objectives: In this section the goals and results of the project will be accounted for. It is an important section in the proposal that should respond to the criteria, interest and objectives of the funding source. Introduce the project and the project plan in a tidy manner with clear goals, and define the target group of the project and the expected number of beneficiaries in this section. The target group can be mentioned again when describing the outcome/planned results.

Example of a structure for presenting the objectives in a proposal:

Start with a short description of the project **impact**. The impact is the long-term/overall objective or development goal that describes what the project will contribute in the long term.

Then explain the **outcome** of the project, which is the project goal, the purpose or the immediate outcome. Here the applicant can explain the expected or planned results at the user level and describe which positive effects the project intend to have on the target group. It is advisable that the expected outcome of the project harmonise with the criteria and objectives of the fund. Together with the outcome the applicant should identify and prepare some **indicators** that can be used for the evaluation process in order to check whether the project is on the right track towards the expected results at user level.

Indicators are realistic measurable success criteria that allow participants and relevant stakeholders to monitor and evaluate objectively whether a project or programme is progressing according to the plan. Indicators can be both qualitative and quantitative and should also be included in the next step when describing the **output** of the project. The output is the concrete and planned results the project will achieve. In this section the positive deliverables that can be guaranteed by the project as a consequence of its **activities** are explained. Activities can be presented after the output and are a presentation of the concrete actions that will be done in order to achieve the output and gain results of the project.

The next section of the proposal should include the selected **methodology or means of verification (MoV)**. This section will contain all the relevant information describing the project implementation (what will happen; how; and when) and the intended plan for **monitoring and evaluating** the project. Explain the monitoring and evaluation system that will be used with a description of the selection of tools, routines, and activities to ensure that the project will be efficient monitored and evaluated. The already identified indicators and methodology establishes the criteria for the monitoring and evaluation and makes it possible to demonstrate objective results.

Project sustainability and risk management are two other important elements that should be accounted for in the proposal. Provide an assessment of the projects sustainability and identify and analyse the risk factors of the project. Risk management refers to problems/factors/occurrence, which may affect the achievement of results. Briefly describe how the project plans to relate to important risk factors or problems. The planned **exit-strategy** and follow-up after completion of the project can also be described in this section.

In the proposal it is also relevant to describe the **staff** involved (if not included in the section about the organization this can be included here). If external partners are involved in the project, detailed activities for each partner will need to be specified in this section. This section should include human resources information, clearly outlined roles and responsibilities and clear deadlines.

An essential section to include in the proposal or as an Annex is the **logical framework or log frame**. The log frame is a matrix with a summary of the key information in the proposal; the objectives, indicators, MoV and risk management (risks and assumptions). An example of a logical framework is included in Appendix F.

A **budget and financial plan** should also be included with a financial description of the project and explanatory notes. The budget can reflect the project activities described in the application with a list of all the items needed, detail of their utilisation and costs. Try to be as accurate as possible with the budget, but avoid being too detailed.

A short and concise **summary** of the proposals main points can be included at the end of the proposal. An example of a summary is provided in Appendix G. This example is taken from a successful proposal submitted to the EC's delegation in Eritrea.

3 Funding opportunities – the European Commission (EC)

The European Union (EU) is one of the main donors worldwide, with millions of Euro committed to fund projects. Within different thematic areas related to the EU policies, the EU provides numerous (co-)funding opportunities through a number of funds, grants and financial instruments.

The EU funding system however, is highly complex and it can be difficult to access information on existing EU funds and their procedures. It is important to notice that each program and fund has its own procedures and rules for participation that need to be followed in order for the applicant to be eligible.

The EU has seven institutions whereby the **European Commission (EC) is the executive body** responsible for proposing legislation, upholding the Union's treaties and the general day-to-day running of the Union. This includes the responsibility of managing the budget and implementing EU policies. The EC operates as a cabinet government with 27 Commissioners for the different policy areas, one from each member state¹⁷.

The Commission is divided into departments know as Directorate-Generals (DGs) divided after the EU policy it deals with. These DGs can be divided in 4 main groups: Policy DGs; External relations DGs; General Service DGs; and Internal Service DGs.

The main task of the Commission is to monitor and supervise the actions being taken by the member states. It is responsible for the administration of finances as well as the implementation of EC policies; however, the Commission is not responsible for making sure that the countless number of decrees and guidelines are implemented in individual member states. This is carried out by the administrations within the member states or their regional sections.

The EC's financial role

The Commission makes direct financial contributions in support of projects or organizations that promote the interests of the EU or contribute to the implementation of an EU programme or policy. The financial contributions from the EU budget are allocated to agencies, companies and organizations through calls for tender, grants or funds and other financing programmes, such as microfinance programmes or public contracts¹⁸.

The EC budget is divided into a framework programme for three to seven years. A total of EUR 975 billion is available for the 2007-2013 programme period. Funds and rules for this new sets of programmes are presented in the published guide called New funds better Rules¹⁹.

¹⁷ European Commission, About the Commission: http://ec.europa.eu/about/index_en.htm

¹⁸ European Commission, Introduction to EU funding: http://ec.europa.eu/grants/introduction_en.htm

¹⁹ European Commission (2008)

There are three policies of the EU that constitutes the main recipients under the financial framework 2007-2013. These are²⁰:

1. Agriculture through the common agricultural policy (CAP)
2. Research and Development (R&D) through the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7)
3. Regional support through the Structural Funds (e.g. European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, EAFRD)

With the 2007-2013 budget, new opportunities are open to national governments, local and regional authorities, local and national organizations as well as partners across Europe to financing environmental projects. Preservation and management of natural resources is one of the five Budgetary Headings in the 2007-2013-framework programme²¹. The EU funding instruments and programmes contains several possibilities for financing environmental and nature conservation²².

EC have established several initiatives in order to make information about previous recipients of the EC funding available for the public²³. In the EU's Financial Transparency System it is possible to search for whom the Commission have awarded grants to, and who has won Commission contracts through public procurement procedures. For the beneficiaries in the field of external aid, managed by EuropeAid, and humanitarian aid specific search engines and separate databases are available.

Around 20% of the EU budget is provided directly to recipients or contractors such as the community programmes. The community programmes are created in the interest of the European community and are run by the EC in a wide range of fields, such as research, education, transport, environment and health (e.g. LIFE+ and FP7). The additional 80% of the budget is grants provided to recipients and contractors via national and regional authorities, such as the Agricultural Support (e.g. EAFRD).

The main community programme for environment is the LIFE+ programme, but environmental funding can be obtained from many other sources within the EC and many of EC's policies can be relevant for Annex V funding for SLM. It is therefore important not to limit your search for funding in the most obvious programme or area.

Five of the relevant Directorate-Generals for the Annex V countries would be:

1. DG Agriculture and Rural Development
2. DG Europe Aid Development and Cooperation
3. DG Environment
4. DG Regional Policy
5. DG Research and Innovation

The DGs are listed alphabetically in the next sections followed by information on the relevant funds available for funding SLM under each DG.

²⁰ European Information Association (2012)

²¹ A new multiannual framework has been launched for the period 2014-2020. More information on this will be published on the EC webpage: www.ec.europa.eu/budget/reform/index_en.htm.

²² IUCN (2008)

²³ European Commission, Grant recipients and contractors: www.ec.europa.eu/contracts_grants/beneficiaries_en.htm

3.1.1 General information about calls for proposals under the EC

The EC awards money in the form of grants in order to implement projects or activities in relation to EU policies. Grants from the EC are awarded subject to annual programming and not to a case-by-case basis. The DG that manages the grant programmes publishes their annual work programme on their Internet sites before 31st of March every year. By consulting the different work programmes the field of interest can be identified. Interested parties can then apply by responding to the calls for proposals²⁴.

For the EU funding most of the call for proposals and Calls for Expressions of Interest are published in the *Official Journal* (OJ)²⁵. Here you can also find other publications from the EU. Some grants are exceptionally awarded directly to certain beneficiaries without a call for proposals. This may be due to their specific competences or characteristics, which mean they are the sole beneficiaries for certain actions (situations of monopoly), or to the emergency nature of the action (humanitarian aid in particular).

Most of the funds require co-funding, which means that the beneficiary either have to cover part of the financial cost or must ensure to have other partners that contribute financially to the programme. Common for the EC funds is to support between 50-80% of the project cost. Note that each fund has its specific rules on the required level of co-financing. This information is clarified in the call for proposal or on the funds web page²⁶.

In some cases it is possible to mix different EU funding sources or combine them in a complementary way; e.g. the Structural funds and FP7. For instance, the preparatory phase (planning and design) of a research infrastructure project may be financed by FP7 and the construction by ERDF or EAFRD.

Grants are normally allocated through the publication of "calls for proposals", meaning that project ideas have to be submitted by a certain deadline, comply with clearly defined themes and have the required partnership structure, usually trans-national.

Since the grants given by EC covers a diverse range of topics within different DG's, the specific conditions that need to be fulfilled will vary from one topic to another. However, some basic principles are the same and need to be fulfilled, in order to be awarded any grants²⁷:

- Projects or activities must be partly covered with own financial means. (Note: Projects outside the EU may be entitled for full financial support through some of the EU funding programmes.)
- Grants must not be used for personal profits.
- Projects that were already carried out cannot receive financial support through the EU funding programmes.
- Only one grant may be awarded for the same action.

²⁴ European Commission, Introduction to EU funding: http://ec.europa.eu/grants/introduction_en.htm

²⁵ European Union Law: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/>

²⁶ CORDIS, How to combine the different instruments: http://cordis.europa.eu/eu-funding-guide/combine-options_en.html

²⁷ European Commission, Introduction to EU funding: http://ec.europa.eu/grants/introduction_en.htm

Applications submitted for calls for proposals under the EU can be written in any official EU language²⁸. However, they often demand an English translation of the abstract and in some cases an English translation of the full proposal.

Procedures for grants and contracts under the relevant EU external aid programmes are consolidated in the Practical Guide²⁹, which is the first sole working tool that explains the contracting procedures applying to all EU external aid contracts financed from the EU general budget (Budget) and the 10th European Development Fund (EDF).

²⁸ The European Union has 23 official and working languages. They are: Bulgarian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Irish, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovak, Slovene, Spanish and Swedish.

²⁹ European Commission, Practical Guide: <http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/document.do>

3.2 Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development

The Directorate-General (DG) for Agriculture and Rural Development³⁰ is responsible for the implementation of the agriculture and rural development policy. It is made up of 13 Directorates, which deals with all the aspects of EU's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), including farm support, market measures, rural development policy, quality policy, financial and legal matters, analysis and evaluation as well as international relations relating to agriculture.

The CAP is divided into two pillars³¹. The first is the Direct Market Support that gives direct support to farmers and the production and sales of European products, and the second pillar is the rural development policy, which is the one most relevant for this report. The rural development policy has undergone several reforms over time that were intended to make agriculture and forestry more competitive, to strengthen the links between primary activity and the environment, to improve the quality of life in rural areas and to promote a diversification of the economy in rural communities. The rural development policy is being managed in conjunction with the other DG's that deals with structural policies.

For the 2007-2013 budgetary period the rural development policy is financed by two funds³²:

The European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) that finances direct payments to farmers and measures to regulate agricultural markets such as intervention and export refunds, and **the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)** that finances the rural development programmes of the member states. The latter may be of most interest for those Annex V countries that are EU members or candidate countries and is included in the next section.

In addition, CAP has a permanent funding scheme called "**Information measures relating to the Common Agriculture Policy**"³³, which is centrally managed and co-financed by the EC. This scheme aims at:

- explaining, contributing to, implementing and developing the policy;
- promoting the European model of agriculture and helping people understand it;
- informing farmers and other parties active in rural areas; and
- raising public awareness of the issues and objectives of that policy.

Calls for proposals is published once a year (before 31 October) and the Commission only accepts applications from legal entities that have been established for at least two years in a EU member country. On this webpage, or in the link in footnote³³, you can find information about "Information measures relating to the Common Agriculture Policy" and see the call for proposal for 2013. Application forms are also available on this site.

³⁰ European Commission, Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development:
http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/agriculture/index_en.htm

³¹ Martí, Albert M. (2008)

³² These two funds replace the former European Agriculture Guarantee and Guidance Fund.

³³ DG Agriculture and Development, Information measures relating to the Common Agriculture Policy:
http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/grants-for-information-measures/index_en.htm

3.2.1 European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)

European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) supports the implementation of the EU's rural development policy and give grants for the sustainable development of the agricultural and forestry sector as well as rural territories. This structural fund finances actions in the field of rural development in the member states that is in line with the National Strategy Plans submitted by each country and support the implementation of Rural Development Programmes³⁴.

The EC is responsible for managing this fund, but do not make direct payments to the beneficiaries. This task is delegated to the member states, which works through 85 national or regional paying agencies accredited on the basis of a set of criteria laid down by the Commission³⁵.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

All EU member states and candidate countries are eligible.

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Administrations States	Local and Regional authorities	Research centres
Associations	Federations Unions	Training centres
Corporations	Small and Medium Enterprises	Universities
The Commission accepts applications only from legal entities that have been established for at least two years in an EU member country ³⁶ .		

SPECIFIC CRITERIA

Eligible countries must:

- produce a National Strategy Plan³⁷ translating the EU priorities to the member state situation and take full account of the specific circumstances and needs in the country. The National Strategy Plan will be submitted to the Commission and be implemented through Rural Development Programmes. Examples: draft of Romania's National Strategy Plan and Romania's National Rural Development Programme for 2007-2013, 5th version June 2010;
- appoint a managing authority, a paying agency and a certification body for each rural development programme;
- provide information and publicity on co-financed schemes;
- set up a monitoring committee to ensure the programme is implemented effectively; and
- send an annual report to the Commission on the implementation of the programme.

³⁴ EuropaMedia EAFRD: http://www.eutrainingsite.com/policy_area.php?id=1&sid=66 - euf; Summaries of EU legislation EAFRD:

http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/agriculture/general_framework/l60032_en.htm

³⁵ European Communities (2007a)

³⁶ DG Agriculture and Rural Development (2012)

³⁷ ENRD (2012)

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Agriculture	Forestry	Food security
Climate change	Land management	Health and quality of life
Biodiversity	Water quality and water management	Environmental capacity building and environmental awareness-raising

For the call for proposal for 2012 priorities were given to measures that are: "likely to have a major impact, ground-breaking and creative, and that aim to target not just the rural population but the whole society"³⁸.

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

50-80% of the proposed project budget is given as grant. Additional co-financing is required. The grants are distributed through programmes run by national governments.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

EUR 96 billion is budgeted for the programme period 2007-2013.

EUR 101.2 billion is the budget for the next programme period 2014-2020.

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

EAFRD aims at strengthening the EU's Rural Development Policy 2007-2013 through 3 core objectives:

1. Improving the competitiveness of agriculture and forestry by supporting reconstruction, development and innovation (axis 1);
2. Improving and protecting the environment and the countryside through support for land management (axis 2); and
3. Improving the quality of life in rural areas and encouraging the diversification of economic activities (axis 3).

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of the National Strategic Plans and the EAFRD objectives are carried out through national rural development programmes divided in 4 axes, 3 of which correspond to each core objective and one methodological axis; Leader+³⁹, which is integrated in all rural development programmes.

Axis 1: Improving competitiveness; accounts for 36% of the EAFRD budget. Measures aimed at:

- promoting **knowledge** and improving **human potential** through: vocational training, establishment of young farmers, early retirement, provision for advisory services, farm relief, and farm management support services;
- restructuring and developing **physical potential** and promoting **innovation** through: farm modernisation, improving the economic value of forests, processing and marketing of agricultural and forestry products, improving and developing of infrastructure, natural disasters and prevention actions; and

³⁸ DG Agriculture and Rural Development (2012)

³⁹ European Commission (2011)

- improving the **quality** of agricultural production and products adaptation to new EU standards, participation in food quality schemes, and promotion for quality products.

Axis 2: Land Management/Environment, accounts for 46% of the total EAFRD budget. Measures aimed at:

- contribute to **sustainable development** by encouraging farmers and forest holders to employ **methods of land use** compatible with the need to **preserve** the natural environment and landscape and **protect** and **improve** natural resources; and
- possible support includes **payments** to farmers in disadvantages areas, environmental payments, animal welfare payments and payments for forestry.

Axis 3: Diversification/quality of life, accounts for 18% of the total EAFRD budget. Measures aimed at:

- provide for measures such as diversification towards non-agricultural activities, micro-enterprises and tourism activities that contributes to **sustainable economic development**;
- improving the quality of life in the rural areas, with particular focus on **renovating** and **developing** villages and **preserving** and making the best use of the rural heritage; and
- **training and capacity building**. Acquiring skills and running activities in order to prepare and implement the local development strategy.

Axis 4: Leader+⁴⁰ is an innovative approach within EU rural development policy and stands for 'Links between actions of rural development'. It accounts for 6% of the total EAFRD. Leader+ is a method of mobilizing and delivering rural development in local rural communities, rather than a fixed set of measures to be implemented. For the 2007–13 programming period, Leader+ is integrated in all national/regional rural development programmes and is designed to

- help rural actors to consider the **long-term potential** of their region;
- encourage the implementation of integrated, high-quality and **original strategies** for sustainable development; and
- have a strong focus on **partnership** and **networks** of exchange of experience. Inter-territorial and trans-national co-operation between Local Action groups (LAGs).

EXAMPLE OF RECENT PROJECTS

Example from Latvia⁴¹:

Under the Leader Axis 40 Local Action Groups (LAG) in Latvia have received support from EAFRD to implement the local development strategy under the programming period 2007-2013.

To find examples on projects in your countries, visit the Ministry of Agriculture in your country or contact the managing authority for rural development programmes in your country.

HOW TO APPLY

Grants are awarded following calls of proposals published by the managing authority in the country or by the EC. Each region and the managing authority define its way of operating and the procedures and frequency of the proposals⁴².

⁴⁰ European Communities (2006a)

⁴¹ Ministry of Agriculture, Latvia: www.zm.gov.lv/index.php?sadala=1268&id=3882

⁴² European Commission, Funding opportunities under the Common Agricultural Policy: www.ec.europa.eu/agriculture/grants/index_en.htm

The applicants are advised to contact the Ministry of Agriculture in the country in order to apply, since the fund is distributed through programmes run by national governments. Each member state has a managing authority for the programme that is designated to inform potential beneficiaries of how to get support, which rules apply and what EU contribution is available. The webpage relevant for each country is listed below under section contact information.

CONTACT INFORMATION		
European Commission DG Agriculture and Rural Development 130, Rue de la Loi B – 1049 Brussels Belgium Fax: +32 (0) 2-299.17.61	Online information contact scheme: www.ec.europa.eu/agriculture/contact/index_en.htm .	
EU member states	Links to the websites of the Ministries for Agriculture	Link to the rural development programme for 2007-2013. Note that the programmes will be updated during the 2007-2013 framework.
Bulgaria	www.mzh.government.bg/mzh/bg/Home.aspx	Rural Development Programme
Estonia	www.agri.ee/?lang=en	Rural Development Programme
Latvia	www.zm.gov.lv/	Rural Development Programme
Romania	www.maap.ro/	Rural Development Programme
Slovakia	www.mpsr.sk/en/	Rural Development Programme
Candidate Countries		
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	www.vlada.mk/?q=node/267&language=en-gb	National Programme for Rural Development
Montenegro	www.gov.me/en/homepage?alp_habet=lat	n/a
Serbia	www.srbija.gov.rs/?change_language=en	n/a

3.3 Directorate-General EuropeAid - Development and Cooperation

EuropeAid Development and Cooperation⁴³ is a new DG under the EC that brings together the former Development and EuropeAid DGs. This new DG is responsible for designing EU- development policies, and distributes EU development assistance and aid through programmes and projects all over the world. The Directorate's work is carried out with the ultimate aim of reducing poverty; ensuring sustainable development and the promotion of democracy, peace and security.

Topics relevant for SLM under the DG EuropeAid - Development and Cooperation are agriculture and rural development, sustainable development, environment and climate change, food security, water, energy, fisheries, health, education, research and innovation, trade and transport and civil societies and local authorities.

EU development assistance is distributed through multiannual strategies and programmes which are managed and formulated through consultations between the EU and the authorities in partner countries and regions. This results in an agreed country and regional strategy paper, which includes a multi-annual national/regional indicative programme highlighting a limited number of focal areas for funding. Based on these strategy papers and annual action programmes, EU funding is delivered through budget support, grants and contracts.

The difference between a grant and a public contract is that:

- grants are awarded as donations to third parties that are engaged in external aid activities that are in line with EU policies; and
- a public contract is a result of a procurement procedure whereby the Contracting Authority receives a product or service in return for payment.

Calls for proposals and procurement notices will be published on the EuropeAid website [Calls for proposals & Procurement notices](#). For the beneficiaries in the field of [external aid](#) managed by EuropeAid and [humanitarian aid](#), specific search engine and separate databases are available.

EuropeAid delivers aid through a set of financial instruments in order to implement the external assistance and ensuring the quality of EU aid and its effectiveness. The financial instruments are divided into geographical instruments; providing regional and country-based development support, and thematic instruments; seeking to help countries meet the relevant Millennium Development Goals by focusing on specific topics. The thematic instruments and programmes supplement the geographical instruments and address issues that are not falling under the priorities of the geographical instruments, and cover issues common to groups of countries not belonging to a single region.

The most relevant funds by EuropeAid for the Annex V countries, included in this report, are the geographical funding instrument **European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI)** and the thematic programme **Environment and sustainable management of natural resources including energy (ENRTP)**.

⁴³ EuropeAid Development and cooperation: www.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/

3.3.1 European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI)

European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI)⁴⁴ is one of the geographical financial instruments under DG EuropeAid-Development and Cooperation and supports the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)⁴⁵. ENP is a broad political strategy that has the ambitious objective of strengthening the prosperity, stability and security of Europe's neighbourhood, to avoid any dividing lines between the enlarged EU and its direct neighbours. ENPI has been operational since 2007 and is designed to target sustainable development and approximation to EU policies and standards by supporting the agreed priorities in the ENP Action Plans, as well as the Strategic Partnership with Russia.

From 2014 the ENPI will be replaced by the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI)⁴⁶. The ENI will provide support to the same 17 partner countries, which is divided in two regions; Region East (former called TACIS) and Region South (former called MEDA). ENI will continue contributing on strengthening bilateral relations with partner countries and bring tangible benefits to both the EU and its partners in areas such as democracy and human rights, the rule of law, good governance and sustainable development. The proposed ENI budget for the period 2014-2020 is EUR 18.2 billion, 40% up from the amount available under the ENPI from 2007-2013.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

Beneficiary countries of the ENPI are the 16 of EU's closest neighbouring countries that constitute the ENP, plus Russia. Eligible Annex V countries are categorized under "ENPI Region East" and includes the following countries:

Armenia	Azerbaijan
Belarus	Georgia
Republic of Moldova	Russia
Ukraine	

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Decentralized bodies in the partner countries, such as regions, departments, provinces and municipalities	International organizations including regional organizations, UN bodies, departments and missions, international financial institutions and development banks
Joint bodies set up by the partner countries and regions and the Community	Partner countries and regions and their institutions
Community institutions and non-governmental players	EU agencies

Notice: each call for proposals and tenders will specify, in related documents the eligibility criteria for that specific call or tender.

⁴⁴ EU Neighbourhood Info Centre, About ENPI: www.enpi-info.eu/main.php?id_type=2&id=402; EuropeAid, ENPI: www.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/neighbourhood/overview/index_en.htm

⁴⁵ European Commission, ENP: www.ec.europa.eu/world/enp/funding_en.htm

⁴⁶ European Union (2011)

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Environmental sustainability	Liberalisation of certain sectors
Research and innovation	Energy
Information society	Justice and home affairs
Transport	Regulatory trade and reforms
More equitable development	
Cooperation with the Eastern partners will focus on: transport; energy; sustainable management of natural resources; border/migration control; socio-cultural relations; people to people activities and dealing with abandoned munitions and landmines.	

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

ENPI gives mainly out grants and provide a maximum support of 75% of the total costs. In addition to grant agreements the assistance may also take place in the form of financing agreements, procurement contracts and employment contract.

90-95% of ENPI funds is allocated to bilateral actions i.e. country-specific initiatives and for regional actions involving two or more partner countries; e.g. multi-country programmes. The remaining 5-10% will be allocated for cross-border cooperation programmes and mechanisms such as the Neighbourhood Investment Facility (NIF).

Proposals must be submitted in (one of) the language(s) in which the call for proposals was published. The guidelines for applicants and application form may be translated into the local language(s) for information purposes, but the only authentic version(s) of the guidelines must be the EN/FR/ES/PT published one(s).

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

For the programme period 2007-2013 a total of EUR 11.181 billion is available. The average annual funding is EUR 1.6 billion.

Funding available for ENPI Region East is EUR 348.57 million for the period 2011-2013. This complements the national assistance programmes and specific country initiatives. Funds allocated to individual country programmes depend on the country needs and implementation of agreed reforms.

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The overarching aim of the ENPI is to create shared values, stability and prosperity, enhanced cooperation and deeper economic and regional integration with EU's neighbouring countries by covering a wide range of cooperation areas.

The ENPI has the following strategic objectives:

- supporting democratic transition and promoting human rights;
- transition towards the market economy;
- promoting sustainable development; and
- policies of common interests (antiterrorism, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, conflict resolution, the rule of international law, etc.).

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

The project/programme shall be implemented under the responsibility of the beneficiary, and with the approval of the Commission. Priority actions vary from one country to another and are implemented by multi-annual strategy papers or annual action programmes. [Here](#)⁴⁷ you can find the annual action programmes for 2012, both regional and country specific.

The implementation takes place via three different types of programmes:

1. **Country or multi-country programmes** involving assistance to one partner country or addressing regional and sub-regional cooperation between two or more partner countries, in which member states may participate. This programme is based on the National Action Plans, approved by the EC, covering a set of national priorities.
2. **Interregional or thematic programmes** addressing one or more challenges common to several partner countries and relevant for one or more member states.
3. **Cross-border cooperation programmes** between adjacent regions, involving cooperation between one or more member states and one or more partner countries, taking place on the external borders of the EU.

In addition to its regional and bilateral cooperation, a number of innovative components and tools have been established under the ENPI in recent years:

- Cross Border Cooperation (CBC) which bring together regions of EU member states and partner countries sharing a common border. CBC is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). Two types of programmes are established: bilateral programmes covering a common land border (or short sea crossing), and multilateral programmes covering a sea basin.
- The Governance Facility which provides additional resources to those partners that have proved their will to carry forward essential reforms to improve good governance and have included this in action plans.
- The Twinning initiative bringing together public sector expertise from EU member states and beneficiary countries with the aim of enhancing co-operative activities, and the TAIEX (Technical Assistance and Information Exchange) jointly managed by EuropeAid and the EC's Enlargement Directorate-General, aiming to help foster political and economic co-operation in a number of areas, primarily regarding the approximation, application and enforcement of EU legislation.
- The Neighbourhood Investment Facility (NIF) has been designed to finance capital-intensive infrastructure projects in ENP partner countries focusing primarily on energy, environment and transport, as well as to support the private sector.
- The Inter-Regional Programme (IRP) has been established to support partners in the ENPI Southern and Eastern regions, as it considers some aid activities can be managed more efficiently and flexibly at inter-regional level.

EXAMPLE OF RECENT PROJECTS

The ENPI FLEG Programme⁴⁸ ("Improving Forest Law Enforcement and Governance in the European Neighbourhood Policy East Countries and Russia") is a project that supports governments of participating countries, civil society and the private sector in the development of sound and sustainable forest management practices, including the prevention of illegal forestry activities. Participating countries include Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Russia and

⁴⁷ EuropeAid, Annual Action Programmes: www.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/ap/aap/2012_en.htm

⁴⁸ ENPI FLEG: www.enpi-fleg.org/index.php?id=3

Ukraine. The project's implementing partners are the World Bank, the IUCN (World Conservation Union) and the WWF (World Wildlife Fund). The total project budget is EUR 6 million. It is funded by the ENPI and with co-funding from the Austrian Development Cooperation.

Contacts ENPI FLEG Programme:

European Commission

Program Manager: Martin Kaspar

Directorate-General DEVCO

Martin.Kaspar@ec.europa.eu

Contact details to the country communication coordinators in the participating countries:

Armenia Arshaluys Muradyan: arshaluys.muradyan@enpi-fleg.org	Azerbaijan Nigar Kirimova: nigar.kirimova@enpi-fleg.org	Belarus Sergey Rodionov: sergey.rodionov@enpi-fleg.org	Georgia Marika Kavtarishvili: marika.kavtarishvili@enpi-fleg.org
Republic of Moldova Aurel Lozan: aurel.lozan@enpi-fleg.org	Russia Andrey Zaytsev: andrey.zaytsev@enpi-fleg.org	Ukraine Evgeni Drobkov: evgeni.drobkov@enpi-fleg.org	

HOW TO APPLY

You can apply for ENPI through call for proposals and it is possible to apply several times a year. The calls for proposals are advertised frequently on the site: [Calls for proposals and procurement notices](#)⁴⁹.

National or regional programme managing authorities or the EC in Brussels selects the projects eligible for funding.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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B-1049 BRUXELLES
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⁴⁹ EuropeAid, Funding: www.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/funding/index_en.htm

3.3.2 Environment and Sustainable management of Natural Resources including energy (ENRTP)

Environment and Sustainable management of Natural Resources including energy (ENRTP)⁵⁰ is a thematic programme under EU's Development Co-operation Instrument (DCI). DCI support development cooperation worldwide and is currently the second largest financial instrument by the EU with EUR 16.9 billion for the period 2007-2013.

The funds are divided in three components:

1. EUR 10.06 billion for the geographic programmes⁵¹ (60% of the total);
2. EUR 5.6 billion for the thematic programmes⁵² (33% of the total); and
3. EUR 1.24 billion for the ACP Sugar Protocol countries⁵³ (7% of the total).

The most relevant component under the DCI for the Annex V countries is the thematic programme for environment and sustainable management of natural resources including energy (ENRTP). ENRTP is dedicated to support developing countries and partner organizations to address environmental and natural resource management issues and meet their obligations under multilateral environmental agreements. Moreover, it will encourage the countries and organizations to take international policy leadership in areas such as fighting climate change, tackling land degradation and desertification, biodiversity protection and proper management of chemicals and wastes.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

All countries in the Annex V.

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Agencies chambers	NGOs and International organizations	EU agencies
Associations	Research centres	Universities
Local and regional authorities	Decentralized bodies in the partner countries (municipalities, provinces, departments and regions)	

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Agriculture	Climate change	Land degradation
Environment	Desertification	Water and energy
Biodiversity	Local development	Industry
The ENRTP is based on the following priorities:		

⁵⁰ EuropeAid, ENRTP: www.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/finance/dci/environment_en.htm; European Commission (2010)

⁵¹ Geographic programmes supports cooperation in 47 developing countries in Latin America, Asia and Central Asia, the Gulf region and South Africa.

⁵² Thematic programmes benefits all developing countries (including those covered by the European Development Fund, EDF and ENPI).

⁵³ Programme of accompanying measures for the 18 African, Caribbean and Pacific Sugar Protocol countries, in order to help them follow the reform of the EU sugar regime.

Priority 1: assist developing countries in integrating environmental sustainability in decision making by means of support to civil society stakeholders
Priority 2: promote implementation of initiatives and commitments made at both European and international level
Priority 3: increase the prominence of environmental issues in EU external policy
Priority 4: strengthen international governance on environment and make EU actions a key part of the process
Priority 5: broaden the options as regards sustainable energy, in particular by developing a legislative and administrative framework, which favours investments and businesses, and by stimulating international cooperation

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

ENRTP is a financial instrument that gives out grants through calls for proposals, direct agreements for targeted actions and tenders for services. The call for proposals and tenders will specify the eligibility criteria for that specific call or tender.

Priority actions, co-financing rates and publications of calls for proposals are defined in the annual work programme every year between March and September on the programme website.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

The ENRTP has an indicative budget of EUR 470 million for 2007-2010 divided on the 5 priorities. For the period 2011-2013 the indicative amount available is approximately EUR 517 million. The average annual funding from this fund is EUR 120 million.

Below is the budget for 2007-2010 divided between the 5 priorities to give an indication of the allocation of the fund:

Priority 1: EUR 14.2 million (3% of the total)

Priority 2: EUR 273.8 million (58% of the total)

Priority 3: EUR 8.2 million (2% of the total)

Priority 4: EUR 38.5 million (8% of the total)

Priority 5: EUR 115.4 million (25% of the total)

The remaining funds are allocated for support expenses.

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The ENRTP's objectives are:

- integrating environmental protection requirements into the Community's development and other external policies;
- helping promote the Community's environmental and energy policies abroad in the common interest of the Community and partner countries and regions.

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

The ENRTP is implemented through Annual Action Programmes (AAPs), which are based on the general indications provided by the Environment and Natural Resources Thematic Programme 2011-2013 Strategy Paper and Multi-Annual Indicative Programme⁵⁴.

EXAMPLE OF RECENT PROJECTS

This fund has provided funds to many of the larger UN agencies and international institutions the past years, e.g. United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Bank.

One example from the Annex V countries is the Georgian Carnivore Conservation project⁵⁵ aimed at conserving Georgia's unique biodiversity by delivering capacity to protected areas and engaging traditional pastoral communities. The project is primarily funded by the EU through ENRTP and is implemented by Fauna & Flora International (FFI) in partnership with a national NGO called NACRES. EUR 890 488 was given by EU in 2007 to support the implementation of this project.

HOW TO APPLY

The procedures are determined in the annual work programmes once a year and the submission of a proposal is in two stages. The calls for proposals are published on EuropeAid's webpage: www.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/funding/index_en.htm.

Example of a call for proposal:

Thematic Programme for Environment and sustainable management of natural resources, including energy (ENRTP)

- Deadline: 16th of October 2012.
- Type: Action grants.
- Geographical zone: All countries.
- Reference: EuropeAid/132763/C/ACT/Multi. A guideline for grant applicants is available with the proposal where all the information on how to apply is stated.
- Aim of the call: To address some challenges associated with the role of forests in climate change mitigation, the rapidly degrading key ecosystems and the efforts to improve forest governance and combat illegal logging and associated trade.
- Eligible institutions: Local and regional authorities, development NGOs, associations, and international organizations.
- Total budget available: EUR 27.4 million divided on three project focus areas:
 1. Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and land Degradation, REDD+. Funds available between EUR1-3million; covers up to 80% of total eligible costs.
 2. Biodiversity. Funds between EUR500 000 and EUR2 million; up to 80% of total eligible costs.
 3. Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT). Funds between EUR500 000 and EUR3 million; up to 80% of total eligible costs.

⁵⁴ European Commission (2010)

⁵⁵ FFI, Georgia: www.fauna-flora.org/explore/georgia/

CONTACT INFORMATION

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3.4 Directorate-General for the Environment

The Directorate-General for the Environment⁵⁶ makes funding available through three different channels; the LIFE+ fund, the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme and through grants to environmental NGOs.

The Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP) aims to encourage the competitiveness of European enterprises with small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) as its main target, and is therefore not included in this report. For more information visit the website or go to this link: http://ec.europa.eu/cip/files/docs/factsheets_en.pdf.

3.4.1 LIFE+

LIFE+⁵⁷ is the European financial instrument for sustainable development and nature conservation and is one of the main instruments for addressing environmental issues, including soil protection. LIFE+ is also connected with the [DG Climate Action](#).

LIFE+ 2013 call for proposals is scheduled to be published in the OJ on the 14th of February 2013. The deadline for applicants to send proposals to member state authorities is set to 25th of June 2013, and the deadline for the member states to forward proposals to the EC is set to 5th of July 2013. The earliest project start date is scheduled to 1st of June 2014.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

EU member states.

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

LIFE+ is open to public or private bodies, actors or institutions registered in the EU. Beneficiaries can enter partnerships with different entities within and outside the EU, but the actions must exclusively take place within the territory of the 27 member states of the EU. Eligible institutions⁵⁸:

Agencies, Chambers	Local and Regional authorities
Administrations, States	Research centres, Universities
Associations, Federations, Unions	Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)

SPECIFIC CRITERIA

Projects financed by LIFE+ must satisfy the following criteria:

- be of EU interest and making a significant contribution to the achievement of the general objective of LIFE+;
- be technically and financially coherent and feasible and provide value for money; and

⁵⁶ DG Environment: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/index_en.htm

⁵⁷ DG Environment, LIFE Programme: <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/>; EuropaMedia LIFE+: http://www.eutrainingsite.com/direct_grants.php?id=39#euf

⁵⁸ IUCN (2008)

- where possible, promote synergies between different priorities under the 6th Environmental Action Programme, and integration.

In addition, to ensure European added value and avoid financing recurring activities, projects should fall under at least one of the four following categories:

1. Best-practice or demonstration projects, for the implementation of Birds and Habitats Directives;
2. Innovative or demonstration projects, relating to EU environmental objectives, including the development or dissemination of best practice techniques, know-how or technologies;
3. Awareness-raising campaigns and special training for agents involved in forest fire prevention;
4. Projects for the development and implementation of EU objectives relating to the broad-based, harmonised, comprehensive and long-term monitoring of forests and environmental interactions.

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

3 main priorities:

Nature and biodiversity	Environment Policy	Governance Information and Communication
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Under Environment policy and governance the following topics are covered:

Soil	Natural resources	Forests
Water	Environment and health	Innovation and strategic approaches
Climate change	Urban environment	Waste
Air	Chemicals	

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

The maximum support is 50% of the total project cost. Exceptionally, a maximum support of 75% is given to projects that target priority habitats/species of the Birds and Habitats Directives.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

EUR 2.143 billion is the budget for the programme period 2007-2013. For 2012 the overall budget for project action grants under LIFE+ was EUR 276.7 million. At least 50% of the LIFE+ budget for project co-financing is dedicated to LIFE+ nature and biodiversity projects.

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The general objective of LIFE+ is to contribute to the implementation, update and development of EU environmental policy and legislation by co-financing pilots or demonstration projects with European added value.

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

The programme consists of three implementing components:

1. **Nature and Biodiversity:** supports the further development and implementation of the Natura 2000 network including marine habitats and species.

2. **Environment Policy and Governance:** supports projects that contribute to the implementation of the community environmental policy, the development of innovative policy approaches, technologies, methods and instruments, the knowledge base as regards environment policy and legislation, and the monitoring of environmental pressures.
3. **Information and Communication:** supports projects that implement communication and awareness raising campaigns on environmental, nature protection and/or biodiversity conservation issues, as well as projects related to forest fire prevention.

EXAMPLE OF RECENT PROJECTS

Bulgaria: 13 projects have been financed in Bulgaria with a total investment of EUR 19 million, of which the EU has provided EUR 12 million. The first project funded by LIFE+ started during the 2007-2013 period.

Estonia: 29 projects have been financed in Estonia with a total investment of EUR 30 million, of which the EU has provided EUR 15 million.

Latvia: 34 projects have been financed with a total investment of EUR 34 million, of which the EU contributed with EUR 21 million.

Romania: 57 projects have been financed with a total investment of EUR 38 million, of which the EU has provided EUR 21 million.

Slovakia: 17 projects have been financed with a total investment of EUR 29.3 million, of which the EU contributed with EUR 14.5 million.

HOW TO APPLY

The EC will launch one call for proposals for LIFE+ project per year. Guidelines for the application process are published annually with the call for proposals. The EC also organizes information workshops for potential LIFE+ applicants in each EU member state, providing valuable advice and guidance on what national authorities and the Commission expect from project proposals in national languages. Potential beneficiaries are advised, if possible, to attend one of these workshops, which generally take place in May, June and July.

The applicant applies through the online tool "[eProposal](#)". Project proposals shall be forwarded via eProposal to the national authority of the member state in which the beneficiary is registered, and will then be submitted via eProposal by the national authorities to the Commission.

In order to apply, the applicants have to use the LIFE+ application package for the preparation of their proposals. There is one application package per theme, which can be downloaded from [LIFE+ webpage](#).

Applicants to the programme must submit their proposals to the competent national authority of the member state in which the coordinating beneficiary is registered. Proposals sent directly by applicants to the Commission will not be accepted. The Commission registers the project proposals received from the national LIFE+ authorities, and an acknowledgement of receipt is transmitted to the coordinating beneficiary. The LIFE+ Unit of the DG Environment is responsible for the evaluation procedure.

CONTACT INFORMATION

There are, as from 2009, two LIFE+ units responsible for the LIFE+ programme in DG Environment.

1. LIFE+ Nature (DG ENV E3)

Mr Angelo SALSI

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DG Environment

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Postal address:

Environment Directorate-General

European Commission

DG ENV.E.3

B-1049 Brussels

Fax: +32 2 292 17 87

2. LIFE+ Environment and Eco-Innovation (DG ENV E4)

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Postal address:

Environment Directorate-General

European Commission

DG ENV.E.4

B-1049 Brussels

Fax: +32 2 297 96 93

LIFE+ has also identified national/regional contact points⁵⁹ for each participating country.

3.4.2 Operating grants to European Environmental NGOs

Under the LIFE+ there is also a programme for operating grants to European environmental NGOs⁶⁰. The legal base for the programme is the LIFE+ Regulation.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

Organizations legally established in an EU member state.

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

NGOs

SPECIFIC CRITERIA

The NGO:

- must be non-profit making and independent environmental NGOs;
- must also be active at a European level (have activities and members in at least three EU member states); and
- cannot be national NGOs.

The application has to fulfil the criteria which relates to how the organizations can contribute to EU policy development and the implementation of the priority areas of the 6th Environmental Action Plan.

⁵⁹ National focal points LIFE+:

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/contact/nationalcontact/index.htm>

⁶⁰ DG Environment (2011); DG Environment, Operating grants to European environmental NGOs:

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ngos/index_en.htm

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Climate change	Environment and health
Natural resources and waste	Nature and biodiversity
Horizontal issues	

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

Grant.

SIZE OF FUND

For the 2012 period a total of EUR 9 million was available. The maximum amount that may be requested and awarded for each applicant is fixed at EUR 900 000.

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The objective of LIFE+'s Operating grants to European environmental NGO's is to provide funding to operational activities of NGOs that are primarily active in protecting and enhancing the environment at European level and involved in the development and implementation of Community policy and legislation.

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

n/a

EXAMPLE OF RECENT PROJECTS

Around 30 organizations are selected for funding each year. Go to [this site](#) for information on NGOs sponsored between 1997-2012.

HOW TO APPLY

The operating grants are awarded on a yearly basis, and calls for proposals are published once a year on the DG Environment web page. Calls for proposals for 2013 were published in October 2012 with a deadline 31st October. The applications are evaluated and ranked according to a number of award criteria. Information about the application process is included in the calls for proposals and are published on the fund's web page.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The NGO funding is managed by unit E4, LIFE Environment and eco-innovation (DG ENV E4), in the DG Environment.

Postal address:

European Commission, DG Environment, Unit E.4, NGO team, B-1049 BRUSSELS.

• Fax (+32-2) 297 96 93

• E-mail address: env-ngo@ec.europa.eu

3.5 Directorate-General for Regional Policy

EU's Regional Policy⁶¹, also referred to as Cohesion Policy, is an investment policy that aims at improving the economic well-being in the region and reduce the significant economic, social and territorial disparities in the region. One third of the EU budget is devoted to the regional policy which supports job creation, competitiveness, economic growth, improved quality of life and sustainable development through the three objectives: convergence; regional competitiveness and employment; and European territorial cooperation.

During the period 2007-2013, the EU will invest a total of EUR 347 billion in Europe's regions, which amount to about 35.7% of the total EU budget for that period. EU regional policy provides grants through three funds, which can intervene in some or all of the regional policy objectives:

- **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)** that aims to strengthen economic and social cohesion in the EU by correcting imbalances between its regions (amount EUR 201 billion);
- **European Social Fund (ESF)** that aims to improve employment and job opportunities in the EU (amount EUR 76 billion); and
- **Cohesion Fund** that serves to reduce their economic and social shortfall, as well as to stabilise their economy in member states whose Gross National Income (GNI) per inhabitant is less than 90% of the Community average (amount EUR 70 billion).

Objectives	Structural Funds and instruments		
Convergence	ERDF	ESF	Cohesion Fund
Regional Competitiveness and Employment	ERDF	ESF	
European Territorial Cooperation	ERDF		

Source: DG Regional Policy.

Another fund under the DG Regional Policy is the **Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)**. IPA offers assistance to countries engaged in the accession process to the EU (EU) for the period 2007-2013. The aim of the IPA is to enhance the efficiency and coherence of aid by means of a single framework in order to strengthen institutional capacity, cross-border cooperation, economic and social development and rural development. Eligible countries for this fund are the candidate and potential candidate countries. This fund will not be included in this report but you can find more information on the [IPA website](#).

DG Regional Policy has also set up **EU Solidarity Fund (EUSF)** to respond to natural disasters and express European solidarity to disaster-stricken regions within Europe. This fund will not be included in this paper but you can go to [EUSF website](#) or contact EUSF on:

European Commission, DG Regional Policy, Unit D1, B-1049 Brussels, Belgium.

Johannes Wachter: Johannes.Wachter@ec.europa.eu, tel. +32 2 296 65 15

Andrea Lamprecht: Andrea.Lamprecht@ec.europa.eu, tel. +32 2 298 10 68

⁶¹ DG Regional Policy: http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/index_en.cfm

In addition to these funds and instruments, four financial instruments were set up in 2007 to provide technical assistance (Jaspers & Jasmine), improve access of SMEs to microfinance (Jeremie) and support urban development (Jessica).

ERDF and the **Cohesion fund** are the most relevant funds for this report and is included in the next section.

For questions regarding the other financial instruments and funds under the EU Regional Policy you can visit the webpage or contact the EC's Europe Direct service using the web form on the DG Regional Policy website. Further guidance concerning publications about EU regional policy can be required by sending an email to regio-publication@ec.europa.eu.

European Commission - DG Regional Policy
Unit D3 - Financial Engineering, major projects
CSM 1 2nd floor
23 Rue Père de Deken / Pater De Deken Straat
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3.5.1 European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)⁶² is one of the structural funds. It aims to strengthen economic, social and territorial cohesion in the EU by reducing inequalities and supporting territorial co-operation between its regions.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

Only EU member states.

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Government departments	Private sector organizations (especially small businesses)	Local authorities
NGOs and voluntary organizations	Public bodies	Universities
Foreign firms with a base in the region covered by the relevant operational programme	Associations	
ERDF supports projects promoted primarily by the public sector that aim to generate economic cohesion in the EU. The most eligible institutions are therefore public. However this does not exclude		

⁶² DG Regional Policy, ERDF: http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/thefunds/regional/index_en.cfm;
EuropaMedia, ERDF: http://www.eutrainingsite.com/indirect_grants.php?id=78#euf

the private sector. ERDF can provide funds to help to develop small and medium-sized enterprises and also encourage private sector companies to partner and present an application together with a public sector body.

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

The ERDF focuses its assistance on a number of thematic priorities reflecting the nature of ECs regional policy objectives: the Convergence; Regional competitiveness and employment; and European territorial cooperation objectives.

Some of the thematic priorities under ERDF relevant for the Annex V countries are:

Environment and climate change	Culture	Restoring contaminated land
Risk prevention	Encouraging energy efficiency	Tourism
Sustainable urban development	Promoting the use of clean technology in public transport	Protection and management of natural and cultural resources

ERDF also gives support to additional projects, which promote regional development and reduce the gap between the wealthiest and the poorest regions in the EU.

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

The ERDF provide support in the form of grants, but rarely gives out grant to cover the full project costs so co-funding is needed. The projects that are awarded grants receive in most cases up to 50% of the project's value. However; in some cases the EU regional funds provide as much as 75% of the financial resources needed to complete the project.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

Approximately EUR 201 billion is available for the programme period 2007-2013. The table below shows the approximate amounts that have been allocated to each member state, which is a part of the Annex V, during this period:

Bulgaria	EUR 6.7 million
Estonia	EUR 3.4 million
Latvia	EUR 4.5 million
Romania	EUR 19.2 million
Slovakia	EUR 11.5 million

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The ERDF supports projects and activities that help redress regional imbalances and the economic disparity between member states of the EU. This is achieved by supporting the development and structural adjustment of regional economies, including the conversion of declining industrial regions.

ERDF contributes to all three objectives of the DG Regional Policy with different priorities for each:

1. European territorial cooperation:
 - preservation of the nature and environment in order to improve the quality of life as well as make the regions more attractive to tourists and investors; and
 - support for the establishment and development of transnational cooperation joint strategies for sustainable territorial development of cross border activities.
2. The Convergence:
 - economic development by modernising and diversifying economic structures; and
 - increase employment and create sustainable job opportunities in the poorest regions of the EU.
3. Regional competitiveness and employment:
 - strengthening regional capacities for research and technological development, fostering innovation and entrepreneurship;
 - improve transport and basic infrastructure, cleaning up polluted areas, increasing energy efficiency, promoting clean public transport within towns; and
 - increase the quality of education.

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

ERDF is implemented at national level by a the managing authority (see section on contact information)

EXAMPLE OF RECENT PROJECTS

Romania: Operational Programme 'Environment' (SOP ENV).

This Programme is under the Convergence objective and is co-funded by the ERDF and the Cohesion Fund (CF). The total budget of the programme for the period 2007-2013 is around EUR 5.6 billion and the community assistance amounts to EUR 4.5 billion (approximately 23% of the total EU funds invested in Romania under the Cohesion policy 2007-2013).

The programme's is to improve people's living standards and the environment, focusing in particular on meeting the European legislation on the environment. In order to achieve the objectives of the operational programme on Environment, the funds are implemented through the following six priority axes:

1. extension and modernisation of water and wastewater systems;
2. development of integrated waste management systems and rehabilitation of historically contaminated sites;
3. reduction of pollution and mitigation of climate change by restructuring and renovating urban heating systems towards energy efficiency targets in the identified local environmental hotspots;
4. implementation of adequate management systems for nature protection;
5. implementation of adequate infrastructure of natural risk prevention in most vulnerable areas; and
6. technical assistance.

For other examples of programmes visit:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/country/prordn/index_en.cfm.

HOW TO APPLY

Each country eligible to the ERDF has a managing authority that can provide information on the application process and calls for proposals and tenders, which are published in the national language. Before applying for a grant it is advisable to check the European operational programmes in your region and develop a project idea.

The managing authority set the application procedures and the criteria of the regional programme, which means that the application procedures can vary from country to country. Some can have an on-going procedure, whilst others accept applications at certain times only.

See the website of [managing authorities](#)⁶³ for details.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For information about the fund contact the [DG Regional Policy](#) or [the managing authority](#) in your country.
List of the Managing Authorities:

BULGARIA Council of Ministers 8, Serdika Str. BG-1000 Sofia Director of the Managing Authority Irena, Parvanova Tel.: +359 2 940 2516 Email: i.paranova@government.bg	LATVIA Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Latvia 1 Smilsu Street LV-1919 Riga Deputy State Secretary Aleksandrs, Antonovs Tel.: +371 670 95675 Email: esfondi@fm.gov.lv	ROMANIA Ministerul Transporturilor si Infrastructurii Directia Generala Relatii Financiare Externe - Autoritatea de Management pentru Programul Operational Sectorial de Transport Bld Dinicu Golescu nr.38 Sectorul 1 RO-010873 Bucharest Director General DGRFE - AM POST Serban Alexandru, Cucu Tel.: 0040 21 3196147 Email: dgrfe5@mt.ro
ESTONIA Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Estonia Suur-Ameerika 1 EE-15006 Tallinn Tel.: +372 611 3558 Email: info@fin.ee	SLOVAKIA Ministerstvo hospodarstva Mierová 19 SK-827 15 Bratislava Iveta, Pabisova Tel.: +421 2 4854 7121 Fax: +421 2 4854 5010 E-mail: iveta.pabisova@mhsr.sk	

⁶³ Regional Policy managing authorities:
http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/manage/authority/authority_en.cfm

3.5.2 European Cohesion Fund (CF)

The European Cohesion Fund (CF) part-finances action in the fields of environment and transport infrastructure, and aims at strengthen the economic and social cohesion and solidarity between member states⁶⁴.

This fund serves to reduce the member states economic and social shortfall, as well as to stabilise their economy and supports actions in the framework of the Convergence objective. It is subject to the same rules of programming, management and monitoring as the ERDF.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

Eligibility is restricted to member states whose per capita gross national product (GNP) is less than 90% of the Community average. For the 2007-2013 period the Cohesion Fund concerns the Annex V countries: Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Romania and Slovakia.

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Local and regional authorities and administration states are eligible.

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Environment and climate change	Transport	Sustainable development
Education	Local development	Renewable energy

FUNDING SPECIFIES

The managing authorities in each country are responsible of selection, appraisal, grant award, monitoring, management and ensuring speedy implementation to avoid loss of assistance. The Commission approval will be required only in the case of major projects (exceeding EUR 50 million). The size of individual allocations for each country is determined on the basis of population, total area of the country, GDP per capita and socio-economic factors related to the transport infrastructure system. Maximum rate of co-financing is 85%.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

EUR 70 billion.

⁶⁴ DG Regional Policy, Cohesion Fund:
http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/thefunds/cohesion/index_en.cfm; EuropaMedia, Cohesion Fund:
http://www.eutrainingsite.com/indirect_grants.php?id=87#euf; Summaries of EU legislation,
Cohesion Fund:
http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/regional_policy/provisions_and_instruments/l60018_en.htm

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

Strengthening the economic and social cohesion of the community in the interests of promoting sustainable development.

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

The European CF is implemented at national level by a managing authority and is implemented through two types of projects:

1. **Transport infrastructure projects:** Support is provided to the development of transport infrastructure as outlined in the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) guidelines (railways, road traffic, inland waterways, civil air transport, etc.).
2. **Environment projects:** Support is available to implement projects in line with the Community Environmental Policy, covering areas of sustainable development such as energy efficiency, renewable energy and transport projects (outside the priority fields of TEN-T) in order to help achieve the objectives of the EC treaty and in particular projects in line with the priorities of the relevant Environment and Sustainable Development action plans.

EXAMPLE OF RECENT PROJECTS

Latvia:

Title: Reducing the waste line; solid household waste management in the Ventspils region.

The aim of the project was to establish an environmentally and economically sustainable solid waste management system in Ventspils city and district that would meet relevant national and EU standards.

Draft date: 01/01/2005

Total Cost: EUR 6.2 million

EU contribution: EUR 3million

Programme contact:

Bezpeļņas pašvaldības uzņēmums

'Ventspils Labiekārtošanas kombināts'

Pils iela 12

LV-3601, Ventspils

Latvija

Direktors

Gaitis, Celms

Tel.: +371 36 227 47

Email: gaitis.celms@ventspils.gov.lv

Slovakia:

Operational Programme "Environment" was approved by the EC in 2007 under the Convergence objective for the period 2007-13.

The aim of the programme is to improve the rational use of resources, increase the quality of the environmental infrastructure in Slovakia in line with EU and Slovak legislation, and strengthen the environmental aspects relating to sustainable development.

The total budget of the Programme is around EUR 2.1 billion. Community funding through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the Cohesion Fund amounts to around EUR1.82 billion, which is approximately 15.5% of the total EU money invested in Slovakia under the Cohesion Policy 2007-13.

Contact:

Managing Authority in Slovakia:

Ministry of the Environment

Námestie . Štúra 1

SK-812 35 Bratislava

Vladimír, Kováčik

Tel.: +421-2-5956 2350

Email: vladimir.kovacik@enviro.gov.sk

Web: Ministry of the Environment

HOW TO APPLY

Calls for proposals and tenders are published in the national language and potential applicants can contact the managing authority in their country for more information. You can apply for regional funding to the authority managing the relevant regional programme. That body will evaluate your project and decide whether to grant funding.

CONTACT INFORMATION

On [this webpage](#) you will find the links to the managing authorities in the different countries. Also see contact details above under ERDF.

3.6 Directorate-General for Research and Innovation

The Directorate-General for Research and Innovation's⁶⁵ mission is to develop and implement the European research and innovation policy with a view to achieving the goals of Europe 2020⁶⁶ and the Innovation Union.

DG Research and Innovation supports research and innovation through European Framework Programmes, coordinates and supports national and regional research and innovation programmes, contributes to the creation of the European Research Area by developing the conditions for researchers and knowledge to circulate freely, and supports European organizations and researchers in their cooperation at international level.

3.6.1 FP7–The Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development

The Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (FP7) is EU's main instrument for funding research in Europe and provides support through selected priority areas. The FP7⁶⁷ runs from 2007-2013 and combines all research-related EU initiatives under a common scheme aimed at increasing growth, competitiveness and employment. The research is carried out on more than 10 key themes – one of them being environment, including climate change.

The main objective for the environment theme is "to promote sustainable management of both man-made and natural environments and their resources, by developing new technologies, tools and services for an integrated approach on global environmental issues"⁶⁸.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

All the Annex V countries are eligible.

Eligible countries in the Annex V divided after groups:

- EU member states: Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Romania, Slovakia.
- Associated countries: Bosnia & Herzegovina (MoU 2008), The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (MoU 2007), Montenegro (MoU 2008), Republic of Moldova (MoU 2011), Serbia (MoU 2007).
- International Cooperation Partner Countries (ICPC): Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Ukraine and Russia.

This fund is available for participants from all over the world, but the procedures and funding

⁶⁵ DG Research and Innovation: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?lg=en>

⁶⁶ The 5 goals for the 2020 are: Employment, Research and Development/ Innovation, Climate change/Energy, Education and Poverty/ Social exclusion: http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/targets/eu-targets/index_en.htm.

⁶⁷ CORDIS, FP7: http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html; EuropaMedia, FP7: <http://www.eutrainingsite.com/fp7.php?id=1&sid=3#euf>; European Communities (2006b); European Communities (2007b)

⁶⁸ IUCN (2008)

possibilities for accessing the fund varies. As for the Annex V the EU member states and countries associated⁶⁹ to FP7 have the broadest rights and access to the funds. The International Cooperation Partner Countries (ICPC) are also entitled to funding under the same conditions as EU member states, but are required to have a minimum number of participants from member states or associated countries in the consortia/partnership.

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Agencies chambers	International organizations	Research centres and institutions
CSOs	Public or governmental administration	Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)
Corporations	Researchers	Universities

SPECIFIC CRITERIA

Activities funded from FP7 must reflect the aspects of the EU research policy and have a European added value. This may include trans-national actions, establish fellowships over national borders, or create competing environment between scientists in frontier research at different levels.

For a proposal to be selected it must:

- follow the fundamental ethical principles;
- comply with relevant security procedures; and
- fulfil the conditions set out in the specific programme, the work programme or in the call for proposals.

Other eligibility criteria may be given in the call text, also see CORDIS' [checklist for funding](#).

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Agriculture	Environment	Socio-economic sciences and the humanities
Biodiversity	Fisheries	Training
Climate change	Food	Knowledge sharing
Energy	Health	

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

The grants are determined on the basis of call for proposals. The FP7 contributes with co-financing through grants.

The percentage of the co-financing depends on the projects funding scheme, the legal status of the participants and the type of activity. For research and technological activities the rate is 50%, whilst certain legal entities can receive up to 75%. The coverage of a project can also reach 100% if the project applies to frontier research actions under the European Research Council, or for some specific activities such as networking, training, coordination, consortium management, etc.

⁶⁹ Associated countries are countries that are paying a share to the overall budget of FP7.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

For the EU programme period 2007-2013 the framework has a total budget of EUR 50 billion. This is divided on the different thematic areas, countries and years. EUR 8.1 billion is announced to be allocated for calls for proposals under the FP7 in the budget for 2013.

Example of budgets for relevant SLM thematic areas(2007-2013):

Health: EUR 6 billion

Food, Agriculture and biotechnology: EUR 1.9 billion

Environment (including climate change): EUR 1.8 billion

Energy: EUR 2.3 billion

Socio-economic sciences and the humanities: EUR 610 million

Regions of knowledge: EUR 126 million

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The FP7 has two main strategic objectives:

1. to strengthen the scientific and technological base of European industry; and
2. to encourage European industry's international competitiveness, while promoting research that supports EU policies.

The objectives have been grouped into five specific programmes that each provides supports to specific thematic areas:

Thematic area	Objective	Budget	Note
Cooperation	Foster collaborative research	EUR 32.36 billion	The support will be provided to international cooperation projects through ten key thematic areas ⁷⁰ .
Ideas	Support "frontier research" and will enhance the dynamic character, creativity and excellence of European research at frontier knowledge	EUR 7.46 billion	This programme is implemented via the European Research Council (ERC)
People	Training and career development of researchers	EUR 4,728 billion	Provide support for individuals to build their skills and competences and follow a career in research.
Capacities	Develop research capacities throughout Europe and optimise the use and development of research infrastructures.	EUR 4.217 billion	Support regional research-driven clusters and at the same time unlock the research potential in the EU's convergence and outermost regions.
The European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom)	To secure tomorrow's energy needs.	EUR 2.7 billion	A framework programme for nuclear research and training

⁷⁰ Health, Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology, Information and Communication Technologies, Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies, Energy, Environment (including climate change), Transport (including Aeronautics), Socio-economic sciences and Humanities, Security, Space.

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

The programmes are implemented according to different types of projects or contracts, called *funding schemes*. The funding scheme defines which activities that are supported within a project and determines the specific rules for implementation such as: the type of action, the requirement for partnership and the funding rate.

When identifying the proper call, it is important to choose the right funding scheme for the intended activities or actions. There are different types of funding schemes in the FP7:

1. **Collaborative projects** are carried out by a consortia made up of participants from different countries, industry and academia. These research projects have a clear defined scientific and technological objectives and expected results.
 - Minimum requirement: 3 participants established in 3 different member states or associated countries.
 - Duration: typically 2-5 years (no formal limits).
 - Funding rates: 75% for Research Activities, 50% for Demonstration Activities, and 100% for Management Activities.
2. **Coordination and support actions** do not cover the research itself but the coordination and networking of projects. This funding scheme is divided in two with different aims: *coordinating research activities* (e.g. networking coordination and dissemination activities, studies and analysis), and *supporting research activities* (e.g. workshops, seminars, smaller studies, online platforms, educational and awareness rising activities). Both schemes can be found in all five specific programmes.
 - Minimum requirement: 1 participant established in an EU member state or Associated country.
 - Duration: from a few months up to four years (no formal limit).
 - Funding rates: 100% for all activities.
3. **Networks of excellence** are a type of project designed for research institutions based on integrated and complementary work between research units, departments, laboratories or large teams to strengthen or establish worldwide European leadership in each field. The work plan for NoE is updated every year and it is relatively easy to integrate new partners within the initial budget.
 - Minimum requirement: 3 participants established in 3 different member states or associated countries.
 - Duration: Average 48-60 months.
 - Funding: Flat rate - EUR 23 500 per year/researcher.
4. **Support for training and career development of researchers.** Individual projects are carried out by individual, national or multinational research teams.

EXAMPLE OF RECENT PROJECTS

Bulgaria: INTEGRAL, Future-oriented integrated management of European forest landscapes.

The vital environmental and socio-economic role of European forests is well documented and acknowledged in policy documents of both the EU and its member states. However, there are critical incoherencies within and between trans-national, national and local forest-related land use policies, the central issue being mismatches between the policies and their implementation at the landscape level.

This project aims at improving existing policy and management approaches and create a better balance between multiple and conflicting demands for forest goods and services. The main objective is to diminish mismatches and providing a new policy and management approach that is sensitive to ecological, socioeconomic and political issues. The project is coordinated by Sweden and Bulgaria is one of the participants.

Timeframe: 2011 to 2015

Total cost: EUR 8 844 026

EU contribution: EUR 6 998 601

For more examples on projects visit:

http://cordis.europa.eu/projects/latest-projects_en.html

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/projects_en.html

HOW TO APPLY

The EC announces the calls for FP7 funding on the EU's Official Journal and on the participant portal FP7 calls section. On this site you can register and get access to the full text of all the calls that are published as well as the annual work programmes. More than 50 calls are published every year.

A FP7 proposal consists of two main parts; the administrative (Part A) and the technical part (Part B). You can apply for support under FP7 by submitting a proposal or tender application when a call is opened by submitting a proposal that describes planned research activities, information on who will carry them out, and how much they will cost.

Submission of proposals under FP7 is done electronically through the Electronic Proposal Submission Service (EPSS) accessible on the Cordis website. The applicants gain access to the EPSS by registering under the appropriate call.

A Guide for Applicants (also published on Cordis) contains the essential information to guide the applicants through the mechanics of preparing and submitting a proposal. There may be different Guides for different calls, and also different Guides for other funding schemes within the same call.

The specific programs, work programs and calls for proposals will describe:

- Type(s) of scheme(s) used to fund different actions;
- Participants that can benefit from it (such as research organizations, universities, industry, public authorities); and
- Types of activities that can be funded through each of them (such as research, development, demonstration, training, dissemination, transfer of knowledge and other related activities).

CONTACT INFORMATION

National Contact Points (NCPs) are national structures that have been established in all the member states and countries associated with FP7 as well as several other countries outside the EU. The NCPs are there to give personalised help and advice to researchers and participants on all the aspects of participating in the FP7 including the funding available and the process of applying.

In the CEE region there are FP7 NCPs in:

Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Estonia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Latvia, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia and Slovakia.

Information about the NCP can be found on [this site](http://www.cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ncp_en.html): http://www.cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ncp_en.html

Contact DG Research and Innovation:

Mr Brendan HAWDON

Head of Unit, Framework Programme

DG Research and Innovation

B-1049 BRUXELLES

Tel: Brussels: +(32) 2 2963750

Tel: Switchboard Brussels: +(32) 2 2991111

4 Additional sources of funding

Besides the EU there are other organizations, funds and institutions that provide grants and co-finance that may be of relevance for the Annex V countries. This chapter gives an introduction to some relevant financial opportunities available outside the EU and is divided in multilateral donors, regional development banks and international organizations, institutions, thematic funds and philanthropic foundations. In addition to the information provided in this section it is recommended to look at the opportunities for bilateral assistance. Many countries provide funds to the Annex V region for topics that are of relevance to UNCCD implementation.

4.1 Multilateral donors

Multilateral aid is channelled from international or regional bodies such as the World Bank, regional development banks (see section 4.2), the EU and UN bodies for use in or on behalf of aid recipient countries. This chapter includes information on some of the multilateral institutions besides EU and UN bodies, that provide funding for projects related to SLM. To find more information about a selection of UN bodies that provide funds and support to environment-related topics see Appendix D.

4.1.1 The Nordic Environment Finance Corporation (NEFCO)

The Nordic Environment Finance Corporation (NEFCO)⁷¹ is an international financing institution established by the Nordic countries (Denmark; Finland; Iceland; Norway; and Sweden) to provide support to pro-climate and environment initiatives in Central and Eastern Europe.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION		
Belarus	Latvia	Ukraine
Estonia	Russia	

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS	
Municipalities	Other authorities
Companies	Private and public investors

SPECIFIC CRITERIA

The main criteria for NEFCO's participation is that the project:

- is located in one of NEFCO's countries of operation;
- has a relevant environmental effect;
- is based on long-term cooperation through investments in enterprises, primarily through the formations of joint venture companies or corporate acquisitions;
- has a Nordic company or institution as business partner; and
- is economically, financially, institutionally and technically viable.

⁷¹ NEFCO: www.nefco.org/en

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Agriculture	Climate change mitigation	Water treatment
Carbon financing	Environmental management and environmental equipment manufacturing	Waste management
Energy saving	Power utilities	
Cleaner production	Minerals and metals	

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

NEFCO complements financing from other interested parties and/or financial institutions and provides risk financing in various forms, such as loans. In addition, NEFCO provides assistance through co-financing and grants.

NEFCO is the managing entity of the following funds relevant for the region:

- NEFCO Investment Fund for loans and equity financing to small and medium-sized projects with a positive environmental impact;
- Nordic Environmental Development Fund for grants to small and medium-sized projects with a positive environmental impact; and
- NEFCO Carbon Fund which is a global carbon fund for purchasing greenhouse gas emission reductions under the joint implementation (JI) and clean development mechanism (CDM). (For this initiative the geographic focus is mainly on China, India, and South East Asia; however, other countries in Europe and Latin America can also be considered on a case-by-case basis).

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

n/a

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

NEFCO's aim is to promote cost-effective ways to reduce the environmental pollution in the region.

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

NEFCO facilitate the implementation of environmental projects through three key competencies:

1. local knowledge and presence;
2. environmental, financial and legal expertise; and
3. a range of financial instruments specifically relevant to environmental projects.

HOW TO APPLY

The applicant can send in a project description or a concept note. NEFCO does not use application forms. The applicant can contact NEFCO direct to enquire if a project is eligible for NEFCO funding. A presentation of the general application procedure, contact form and guidelines can be found on NEFCO's web page [how to apply](#).

CONTACT INFORMATION

NEFCO can be contacted by telephone or through [this form on the webpage](#).

NEFCO Nordic Environment Finance Corporation
Fabianinkatu 34 - P.O. Box 249, FI-00171 - Helsinki, Finland
Tel. +358 (0) 10 618 003 | Fax +358 9 630 976
info@nefco.fi

For more contact details visit [NEFCO webpage](#).

4.1.2 Global Environment Facility (GEF)

The Global Environment Facility (GEF)⁷² is a financial mechanism for the four international conventions: Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). GEF unites 182 countries in partnership with international institutions, CSOs and the private sector, and addresses national and global environmental issues by providing grants and leveraging co-financing through various financing instruments within different focal areas.

Land degradation is one focal area whereby GEF provide direct funding for activities related to alignment of National Action Programs (NAPs) with the UNCCD 10-Year Strategy (i.e. NAP Alignment) and reporting process as per obligations to the UNCCD. This section of GEF will mostly include information related to this focal area.

Others funds under GEF:

- [Least Developed Countries Trust Fund \(LDCF\)](#) that assist the LDCF with the implementation of their National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs);
- [Special Climate Change Trust Fund \(SCCF\)](#) that focus on adaptation measures and technology transfer in all developing countries members of the UNFCCC. Priority is given to activities related to agriculture, health, infrastructure development, fragile ecosystems; and sustainable land, water and integrated coastal zone management; and
- [Strategic Priority for Adaptation Fund](#) established in cooperation with the UNFCCC to support pilot adaptation projects.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

All Annex V countries.

Countries are eligible for GEF funding within a focal area if they:

- are members of the Conventions⁷³ and are countries eligible to borrow from the World Bank (IBRD and/or IDA);
- meet eligibility criteria established by the relevant Conference of the Parties (COP) of that Convention; and
- are eligible recipients of UNDP technical assistance through country programming.

⁷² GEF: www.thegef.org/

⁷³ The Conventions referred to in paragraph 6 of [the GEF Instrument](#): UNFCCC, UNCCD, CBD, POP and UNCCD.

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

n/a

SPECIFIC CRITERIA

Any eligible individual or group may propose a project. However, to be taken into consideration, a project proposal has to fulfil the following criteria:

- it is undertaken in an eligible country;
- it is consistent with national priorities and programs;
- it addresses one or more of the GEF Focal Areas, improving the global environment or advance the prospect of reducing risks to it;
- it is consistent with the GEF operational strategy;
- it seeks GEF financing only for the agreed-on incremental costs on measures to achieve global environmental benefits;
- it involves the public in project design and implementation; and
- it is endorsed by the government(s) of the country(ies) in which it will be implemented.

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Biodiversity	Sustainable Forest management/REDD+	Ozone Layer depletion
Climate change	Land degradation	
International waters	Persistent organic pollutants	

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

The GEF administers several trust funds. Direct Access for Land Degradation Enabling Activities under the focal area Land Degradation is one of the trust funds that are of relevance for the Annex V.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

Direct Access for Land Degradation Enabling Activities: In GEF-5, all eligible parties will have access to GEF resources, up to USD 150,000.

GEF provide co-financing and do not cover 100% of the costs needed. A country can choose how to utilize the GEF financing within the stated priorities, depending on the other existing funding opportunities.

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The GEF aims to assist in the protection of the global environment and promoting environmental sustainable development.

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

Different resource allocation systems, such as the Resource Allocation Framework (RAF)⁷⁴ have been established under GEF with the purpose of allocating funds to recipient countries. In 2009/10, GEF updated its resource allocation system for its fifth replenishment period (GEF-5)⁷⁵ by introducing the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR). STAR allocates indicative envelopes of resources to eligible countries based on transparent indicators reflecting country performance and potential to achieve global environmental benefits.

HOW TO APPLY

Three modalities have been set up by the GEF for eligible parties:

1. **Direct Access through the GEF Secretariat:** the GEF Operational Focal Point (OFP) (see appendix B) is responsible for preparing and channelling the proposal to GEF Secretariat. Countries have to use a template provided on GEF website and submit a proposal that includes a detailed description of the activities that will be carried out as well as their expected cost. Note: The GEF Operational Focal point has to submit the applications via email to the GEF Secretariat (GEF-DA-LD@thegef.org).
2. **Access through a GEF Agency:** the GEF OFP will work directly with the agency of choice, which will then prepare and submit the proposal through the normal procedure for all GEF projects. The GEF Agency template should be completed by a GEF Agency, and will include a 10% fee added to the total request.
3. **Access through an umbrella project:** the GEF OFP only needs to prepare and sign a letter of endorsement to UNEP for the country to be included in the project. UNEP is the Lead Agency for developing the umbrella project, and will be responsible for delivering the reports for the participating countries to fulfil their obligations under the UNCCD.

These three modalities are mutually exclusive. It is up to each country to choose which modality is best suited for its needs, based on the two established priorities: NAP alignment and reporting process.

Before drafting a project proposal or deciding the modality the applicant should contact the country GEF Operational Focal Point and verify that the proposal complies with the GEF criteria.

CONTACT INFORMATION

See appendix B for contact information to GEF operational focal points (OFP).

For questions about GEF financing under the Land Degradation Focal Area contact:

Mr. Mohamed Bakarr

Senior Environmental Specialist, GEF Secretariat

e-mail: mbakarr@thegef.org, Tel: +1 202 458 8890

⁷⁴ Adopted in 2005; implementation and allocation of resources between 2006-2010.

⁷⁵ Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund takes place every four years based on donor pledges that are funded over a four-year period.

4.1.3 French Global Environment Facility (FFEM)

The French Global Environment Facility / Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial (FFEM)⁷⁶ is a financial instrument established by the French government in 1994 to support French cooperation and development policy for global environment protection. FFEM is a bilateral fund that provides grants to sustainable development projects whose activities are in line with the strategic priorities of French development assistance.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

All developing countries eligible for official development assistance as defined by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is eligible for this fund. As for the Annex V this include:

Armenia	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Serbia
Azerbaijan	Georgia	Ukraine
Belarus	Montenegro	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Republic of Moldova	
However; a priority is given to countries in Africa and the Mediterranean.		

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Researchers	Public bodies,	NGOs
Private enterprise	Local authorities	Foundations

SPECIFIC CRITERIA

To be eligible for funding the projects must:

- produce a positive and significant impact on the global environment;
- contribute to social and economic development in the beneficiary country and among beneficiary populations;
- be innovative with demonstrative and reproductive effects;
- hold prospects for social, institutional, economic and environmental viability after completion;
- be implemented by an efficient and competent organization;
- have a majority financing from other institutions (including locally), with minority financing from the FFEM; and
- be consistent with French cooperation and development policy.

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Biodiversity	Climate change	International waters
Land degradation	Persistent organic pollutants (POPs)	The stratospheric ozone layer (Montreal Protocol)

⁷⁶ FFEM: www.ffem.fr/lang/en/accueil; Thomas, Sylvie (2010)

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

The FFEM contributes with about 30% of the total project cost. Additional co-financing is required.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

The FFEM receives around EUR 20 million per year from the French state, which enables it to co-finance around 20 projects each year. A grant can range from EUR 100 000 to over EUR 2 million.

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The FFEM encourages developing countries to implement strategies, programmes and projects for sustainable development in areas relevant to global environmental protection.

The FFEM goals are to:

- promote the protection of global environment;
- encourage innovation; and
- mobilize multi-actor partnerships

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

n/a

HOW TO APPLY

The FFEM works through three interacting bodies:

1. An inter-ministerial decision-making body: the steering committee.
2. A consultative body: the scientific and technical committee.
3. An operational body: the secretariat.

After submitting a pre-identification note (concept note), the applicant can contact one of the French institutional members of the FFEM steering committee to discuss project ideas. The process then continues through subsequent stages of project proposal and review. FFEM's secretariat reviews the project's eligibility, and if eligible, the process is followed by a scientific and technical committee that studies the project's potential. The most promising project ideas proceed to a detailed appraisal.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For information visit the FFEM webpage: www.ffem.fr/lang/en/accueil/ffem, or consult one of the Ministries in the Steering Committee.

The Committee is chaired by the representative from the Ministry for the Economy (Directorate-General for the Treasury) and represents:

- The Ministry for Economy and Finance
- The Ministry for Foreign Affairs
- The Ministry for Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy
- The Ministry for Higher Education and Research
- The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forests
- The Agence Française de Développement, which also is in charge of the financial and administrative management of the FFEM

4.2 Regional development banks

4.2.1 European Investment Bank (EIB)

The European Investment Bank⁷⁷ (EIB) is the financing institution of the EU and was created in 1958 by the Treaty of Rome. It contributes to the balanced development and economic and social cohesion of the member states, and provides finance and expertise for sustainable investment projects that contributes to furthering EU policy objectives. More than 90% of the activity is focused on Europe.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

All Annex V countries

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Mainly private sector entities and the public sector.

SPECIFIC CRITERIA

Projects must be bankable and comply with strict economic, technical, environmental and social standards. EIB corps of 300 engineers and economists screens every project before, during and after they finance.

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Climate change	Environment	Rural and urban environmental schemes
Research	Industrial projects	
Energy Production	Infrastructure	

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

The vast majority of EIB financing is through loans, but they also offer guarantees, microfinance, equity investment, etc. EIB does not provide grants.

EIB generally finance one-third of each project, but it can reach up to 50% in some cases.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

n/a

⁷⁷ EIB: www.eib.org/index.htm

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

EIB support projects that make a significant contribution to growth, employment, regional cohesion and environmental sustainability within six priorities:

1. Cohesion and Convergence
2. Support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)
3. Environmental sustainability
4. Implementation of the Innovation 2010 Initiative (i2i)
5. Development of Trans-European Networks of transport and energy (TENs)
6. Sustainable, competitive and secure energy

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

The Bank will review the promoter's own comprehensive feasibility studies, and make a preliminary assessment of certain aspects of the project including: technical, environmental, economic, financial and legal aspects.

This is then followed up with a detailed appraisal by an EIB project team, consisting of an economist, an engineer and a loan or contact officer within the Bank. The project team will make use of all existing available reports, analyses and documents, and include a visit to the project's operating company and the investment's location. The EIB then forms its own opinion on the basis of available data and documents.

HOW TO APPLY

No special formalities are attached to the submission of applications to the EIB for individual loans. Project promoters are required simply to provide the Bank operations directorate with a detailed description of their capital investment together with the prospective financing arrangements.

Initial contacts to discuss a proposed project can be in any form; by telephone, fax, e-mail or letter. However; the project promoter should provide the bank sufficient information to show that the project aligns with the eligibility criteria of the EIB and that the project promoter has a well-developed business plan before contacting the bank.

CONTACT INFORMATION

EIB's infodesk through the contact scheme for general information on the loan application procedure or EIB Switchboard: +352 43791

4.2.2 The Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB)

The Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB)⁷⁸ acts as a multilateral development bank that provides grants to help its 40 member states to achieve sustainable and equitable growth. It also participates in financing social projects, responds to emergency situations and contributes to improving the living conditions of the most disadvantaged population groups. Managing the environment is one of the CEB's three sectorial lines of action, in addition to strengthening social integration and supporting public infrastructure with a social vocation.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

Bosnia and Herzegovina	Bulgaria	Estonia
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	Georgia	Latvia
Montenegro	Republic of Moldova	Romania
Serbia	Slovakia	

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Governments	Local or regional authorities
Public or private financial institutions	

SPECIFIC CRITERIA

Projects eligible for CEB funding must meet four general criteria:

1. compliance with the Council of Europe conventions;
2. respect for the environment on the basis of international conventions and compliance with standards of quality;
3. CEB's share in the project may not exceed 50% of the total eligible cost; and
4. compliance with bidding procedures in accordance with national and international directives

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Under the sector "protection of the environment" the CEB can finance projects concerned with:

Reduction and treatment of solid and liquid waste	Cleaner transport means and networks	Clean-up and protection of surface and underground water
Energy saving measures (excluding energy production/distribution)	Decontamination of soils and aquifers	Reduction of air pollution
Protection against noise pollution	Protection and development of biodiversity	Production of renewable energy on a non-industrial scale

⁷⁸ CEB: www.coebank.org; CEB (2011)

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

The CEB can grant loans (but not subsidies) to its 40 member states, to finance projects corresponding to a certain number of sectorial, geographic, social and financial criteria defined in the Bank's Articles of Agreement and Policy for loan and project financing. The CEB's share of the financing may not exceed 50%. The CEB does not finance individual persons.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

EUR 1.855 million was disbursed at the end of 2011. Out of this EUR 528 189 was distributed to the protection of the environments sector. The loans disbursed to the member states during 2011 financial year and the amount disbursed to the different sectors can be found on this CEB website.

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The CEB contributes to the implementation of social investment projects in favour of social cohesion in Europe along three sectorial lines of action namely: strengthening social integration; managing the environment; and supporting public infrastructure.

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

The project corresponds to the loan application submitted by the borrower and the Administrative Council type approves the type, duration and amount of loan. More information about the project cycle can be found on the CEB website.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for project financing from borrowers or requests for guarantees can be sent to the secretary general of the Council of Europe. The requesting member state must submit a letter of transmittal about the project (and about the borrower if the borrower is not the requesting member state) together with the application. Once the administrative council has approved the project, a framework loan agreement is signed with the borrower. More information about the application process can be found in the document policy for loan and project financing.

CONTACT INFORMATION

CEB
55, avenue Kléber
F-75116 PARIS, France

Switchboard: +33(0)1 47 55 55 00
Fax: +33(0)1 47 55 03 38
Communication Service : info@coebank.org

You can also contact CEB through the information request scheme.

4.2.3 European Bank of Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)⁷⁹ was established in 1991 with the objective of assisting countries in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia in the transition towards market economy. The Bank is a provider of concessional finance and offers a wide range of financial instruments and takes a flexible approach in structuring its financial products.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

All Annex V countries.

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Private enterprises	Governments
Commercial institutions	Financial sector and banks
Publicly-owned companies	

SPECIFIC CRITERIA

A eligible project for EBRD funding must:

- be located in an EBRD country of operations;
- have strong commercial prospects;
- involve significant equity contributions in-cash or in-kind from the project sponsor;
- benefit the local economy and help develop the private sector; and
- satisfy banking and environmental standards.

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Agribusiness	Climate change	Property and tourism
Natural resources	Legal reform	Financial institutions
Nuclear safety Infrastructure	Power and energy	

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

The Bank uses a broad range of financing instruments that are tailored to specific projects. The main instruments are: loans; equity investments; guarantees; leasing facilities; and assistance through financial intermediaries (for small and medium enterprises).

35% is the maximum contribution per single project. Additional funding from other financial sources is required. EBRD do not fund projects related to subsidies, sponsorship or donation.

⁷⁹ EBRD: www.ebrd.com/; EBRD (2011); EBRD (2012)

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

EUR 25 million is the average EBRD investment. EBRD financing in the form of loans or equity for private sector projects generally ranges from EUR 5 million to EUR 250 million. Smaller projects may be financed through financial intermediaries or through special programmes for smaller direct investments in less advanced countries.

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

EBRD mandate stipulates that it must work in countries that are committed to democratic principles. Respect for the environment is part of the strong corporate governance attached to all EBRD investments.

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

The EBRD project cycle, from initiation to repayment, can range from one year; for working capital or trade financing projects, to 15 years; for long-term sovereign infrastructure projects. Information about the [funding process](#) and [project cycle](#) can be found on EBRD [webpage](#).

HOW TO APPLY

The EBRD [interactive funding adviser](#) can indicate whether your business or project meets key criteria for receiving assistance.

The applicant can contact EBRD directly by filling in the [financing enquiry form](#) if the enquiry or project meets the key criteria. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis and the applicant will receive a response from an EBRD representative within 7 working days of submitting the form. The process will then proceed according to the stages of EBRD's standard project timeline if the application is successful.

CONTACT INFORMATION

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
Headquarters
One Exchange Square
London EC2A 2JN
United Kingdom
Switchboard/central contact: Tel: +44 20 7338 6000

Project enquiries/proposals
Tel: +44 20 7338 7168
Fax: +44 20 7338 7848
Email: newbusiness@ebrd.com

For general requests use the [information request form](#).

4.3 International organizations, institutions, thematic funds and philanthropic foundations

A variety of sources of funding are available for SLM. Different types of institutions, networks, organizations, thematic funds and private and semi-private sources such as foundations and private corporations are emerging as additional sources of financing for SLM. A selection of available sources is included in this section. For more information visit Global Mechanism's [Financial Info Kit](#) on www.global-mechanism.org.

4.3.1 Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)

The Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)⁸⁰ is an international organization with a mission to assist in addressing environmental issues.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

Beneficiary countries are:

Bulgaria	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Estonia	Romania
Latvia	Slovakia

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

NGOs	Governments
Businesses	Other environmental stakeholders

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

The REC Strategy defines two main directions of work in the 2011-2015 period:

Governance for sustainability:

- [Educational Tools](#)
- [Health and Environment](#)
- [Law Development, Enforcement and Compliance](#)
- [Local Governance](#)
- [Participatory Governance](#)
- [Sustainable Development Academy](#)

Green economy:

- [Biodiversity](#)
- [Climate Change and Clean Energy](#)
- [Environmental Financing](#)
- [Environmental Management](#)
- [Green Transport](#)
- [Water Management](#)

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

n/a

⁸⁰ REC: www.rec.org

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

n/a

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

REC mission is to assist in addressing environmental issues by promoting cooperation among governments, NGOs, businesses and other environmental stakeholders, and supporting the free exchange of information and public participation in environmental decision making.

HOW TO APPLY

For information visit the office network pages or contact the country office.

CONTACT INFORMATION

REC Head Office
2000 Szentendre
Ady Endre ut 9-11
Hungary
Tel: (36-26) 504-000
Fax: (36-26) 311-294

The REC also has an office network in 17 countries in Central and Eastern Europe. Below is the webpage for the country office of the eligible countries in Annex V. More information and contact addresses can be found on the [REC's office network pages](#).

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Website: www.rec.org.ba

Bulgaria

Website: www.rec.bg

Estonia

Website: www.recestonia.ee

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Website: www.rec.org.mk

Latvia

Website: www.reclatvija.lv

Montenegro

Website: www.rec.org.me

Romania

Website:
<http://www.romania.rec.org>

Serbia

Website: www.rec.rs

Slovakia

Website: www.rec.sk

The REC has developed a wide variety of policies and manuals to ensure transparent and accountable operations throughout the region. In order to get information about this contact the Deputy Executive Director Zoltan Erdelyi (zerdelyi at www.rec.org).

4.3.2 The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)⁸¹ is a member-based NGO for the conservation of biodiversity and has offices in more than 45. IUCN supports scientific research, manages field projects all over the world and brings governments, NGOs, United Nations agencies, companies and local communities together to develop and implement policy, laws and best practice.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

All Annex V countries.

IUCN's European region is the largest programmatic region and covers the European continent, Russia, Central Asia, including the overseas entities of EU countries.

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

States	Government agencies
Political/economic integration organizations	National and international NGOs

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

The IUCN is divided in sub programmes divided by themes and topics. Relevant theme-based programmes are:

<u>Biodiversity</u>	<u>Green Economy</u>	<u>Water Programme</u>
<u>Forestry</u>	<u>Gender and the environment</u>	<u>Protected areas</u>
<u>Climate change</u>	<u>Sustainable energy</u>	

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

n/a

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

For IUCN Europe the mission is to "Influence, encourage and assist societies in Europe to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable".

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

The work is framed by a Global Programme which is developed with and approved by IUCN member organizations every four years. The global programme is coordinated by IUCN's Secretariat and is implemented by individual ecosystem or theme-based programmes.

⁸¹ IUCN: www.iucn.org/

EXAMPLE OF RECENT PROJECTS

By following the links you can find information about:

Current projects:

http://www.iucn.org/about/union/secretariat/offices/europe/activities/current_projects/

Completed projects:

http://www.iucn.org/about/union/secretariat/offices/europe/activities/completed_projects/

HOW TO APPLY

The Membership Application Form can be downloaded from the website⁸². The form contains step-by-step instructions as well as detailed information about the membership admission criteria and process. For any questions about the application form contact the membership focal point.

1st March 2013 is the deadline for the submission of membership applications to be considered at the 82nd Meeting of Council in 2013 (date still t.b.c).

CONTACT INFORMATION

Headquarters:

Rue Mauverney 28
1196 Gland
Switzerland

+41 22 9990000 (Work)
+41 22 9990002 (Fax)
Email : mail@iucn.org
Webpage : www.iucn.org

Regional office for Europe:

Rue Mauverney 28
1196 Gland
Switzerland

+41 22 999 00 00
Email: europe@iucn.org
Webpage: www.iucn.org/europe

The European programme also have offices in Belgium, Georgia and Serbia.

Membership Focal Point, Europe
Mr. Constantine MAKRIS
Membership Relations Officer
Regional Office for Europe
IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature)
Dr Ivana Ribara 91, 11070 Belgrade, Serbia
Tel. +381 11 2272 411
Fax +381 11 2272 531
Email : constantine.makris@iucn.org

⁸² Membership application form IUCN:

http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/iucn_application_form_en.doc

4.3.3 The EEA Grants and Norway Grants

The EEA Grants and Norway Grants is a financial instrument supported by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway that support projects through 146 programmes. The aim with the grant is to contribute to reducing disparities in Europe and to strengthening bilateral relations with 15 countries in central and southern Europe⁸³.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

Bulgaria	Estonia
Latvia	Romania
Slovakia	

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

NGOs	Research and academic institutions
Public and private sectors.	Scholarships and grants for cultural exchanges are open for individuals.

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Environmental protection and management	Climate change and renewable energy	Strengthening civil society
Human and social development	Cultural heritage	Research and scholarships
Carbon capture and storage	Green industry innovation	

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

The EEA Grants are available to 15 European countries, while the Norway Grants are earmarked for 12 of the most recent EU member states.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

The EEA Grants: EUR 988.5 million.

Norway Grants: EUR 800 million.

Allocations per beneficiary state in the period 2009-2014:

Country	Total contribution
Romania	EUR 305.95 million
Bulgaria	EUR 126.6 million
Slovakia	EUR 80.75 million
Latvia	EUR 72.95 million
Estonia	EUR 48.6 million

⁸³ EEA Grants and Norway Grants: www.eeagrants.org

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The aim is to reach countries where there are demonstrable needs and in areas that are in line with national priorities and wider European goals. One objective of the grant is to strengthening bilateral relations between the beneficiary countries and the donor states.

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

A national focal point (NFP) represents the beneficiary state in its relations with the Financial Mechanism Committee (FMC), which is the decision-making authority of the grant. The NFP has the overall responsibility for reaching the objectives of the grants as well as management and control of programmes. Public institutions in the donor and beneficiary countries share responsibility for managing the grants and are the programme operators. The programme operators are responsible for monitoring the implementation and awarding the funds to projects according to the agreed criteria.

EXAMPLE OF RECENT PROJECTS

Information on projects and programmes under the EEA and Norway Grants 2004-09 can be found in the [project portal](#) on the website.

HOW TO APPLY

Grants will be awarded to projects following calls for proposals which are published on [this website](#). Information about open calls can also be found on this website and will be added to the calendar as soon as it becomes available. Information can also be found when searching the websites that are set up by the programme operators. Information in national languages are available on the websites of the different focal points.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Financial Mechanism Office
Postal address: 12-16 Rue Joseph II, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

Tel: +32 (0) 2 286 1701
Fax : +32 (0) 2 286 1789
Email : info-fmo@efta.int

Contact details for EEA Grants and Norway Grants NFPs in the eligible Annex V countries:

Bulgaria Mrs. Grozdanova, Aneliya Tel: +359 2 940 24 95 Email: a.grozdanova@government.bg Website: www.eeagrants.bg	Estonia Lobjakas, Ülle Tel: +372 611 3496 Email: eeagrants@fin.ee Website: www.eeagrants.ee/	Latvia Ms. Rancane, Diana Tel: +371 6709 5485/422 Email: eeaprojects@fm.gov.lv Website: www.eeagrants.lv
Romania Melița, Cătălina Tel: +40 21 30 25 331 Email: catalina.melita@maeur.ro Website: www.asistentasee.fonduri-ue.ro/	Slovakia Ms. Szabóová, Martina Tel: +421 2 5729 5516 Email: eeagrants@vlada.gov.sk Website: www.eeagrants.sk	

4.3.4 MAVA Foundation

The MAVA Foundation⁸⁴ is a family-led philanthropic foundation that focuses on biodiversity conservation and aim to meet the challenges of growing pressure on the world's natural resources.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

The Majority of MAVA's work are focussed in three priority regions: Mediterranean; Coastal West Africa; and Alpine Arc and Switzerland, but they also invest in projects outside the focal regions. Under the Mediterranean region these countries in Annex V are eligible:

Bosnia and Herzegovina
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Montenegro

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

International NGOs	Research institutes and universities
Local NGOs	Governments

SPECIFIC CRITERIA

The foundation has clear criteria that determines how and what they choose to fund. These criteria can be found on this page: [What we look for in Project Submissions](#) available on the website.

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

The foundation has three strategic priorities, each with associated goals and regional objectives. These priorities determine how they select and fund individual projects and programmes for the regional grants.

1. **Conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems:** creation and management of protected areas; conservation and restoration of threatened ecosystems and species;
2. **Sustainable management of land and water:** sustainable use of land, water, and marine resources; and
3. **Capacity building at community level:** establishment of a conservation community; support of CSOs; promotion of environmental education.

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

MAVA does not specify a maximum grant size, but budgets must be appropriate to actions and outcomes. The Foundation discourages projects under Swiss Francs (CHF) 50 000 (about EUR 43 000).

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

CHF 159 million (about EUR 135 million).

In recent years the annual grant funding has been about CHF 50 million (about EUR 40 million).

⁸⁴ MAVA: <http://en.mava-foundation.org/>

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The overall aim is to engage in strong partnerships to conserve biodiversity for future generations.

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

The foundation does not implement projects but work through partnerships.

EXAMPLE OF RECENT PROJECTS

Information about a selection of projects can be found on this website: http://en.mava-foundation.org/?page_id=337.

HOW TO APPLY

Eligible applicants can complete and submit a project concept form and a financial budgeting template, which are reviewed and assessed on a rolling basis. Templates and guidelines⁸⁵ are available on the MAVA website.

The two completed electronic forms should be sent to the foundations Programme Assistant, Carol Wuersch (+41 21 544 1600), carol.wuersch@fondationmava.org. Within two-to-three months of submission the foundation will try to give a first response to project concepts. The applicant will be invited to complete a full project proposal if the foundation found the project interesting. MAVA will respond around six weeks after submitting the full proposal.

CONTACT INFORMATION

MAVA
Fondation pour la Nature
Rue Mauverney, 28
1196 Gland
Suisse
Tel : +41 (0)21 544 16 00
Fax : +41 (0)21 544 16 16
Email : info@fondationmava.org

⁸⁵ Note that there are new forms from December 2012. Old forms or other formats will no longer be accepted in January 2013.

4.3.5 OAK foundation

The OAK Foundation⁸⁶ is a philanthropic grant-making organization that funds CSOs that addresses issues of global, social and environmental concern.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

All Annex V

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

CSOs and non-profit organizations

SPECIFIC CRITERIA

The foundation have six general funding principles. The project should:

1. target root causes of problems;
2. be replicable either within a sector or across geographical locations;
3. include plans for long-term sustainability;
4. have secured co-funding;
5. strive to collaborate with like-minded organizations; and
6. value the participation of people (including children) and communities.

Note that each programme under the OAK foundation has its own funding criteria, geographic scope and requirements (see the [programme pages](#) for more information.)

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

The foundation addresses various development-related issues.

One of the thematic programmes are the **environment programme** which focuses on two priorities: **climate change and marine conservation**.

Other thematic programmes are:

Child abuse	International Human Rights	Learning Differences
Housing and Homelessness	Issues Affecting Women	Special Interest Grants

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

Oak foundation funds a variety of time-bound projects, core costs, technical assistance and collaborative activities. The minimum grant size is USD 25.000. Exceptions can be made in special circumstances.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

n/a

⁸⁶ OAK Foundation: www.oakfnd.org/

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

Oak Foundation's mission is to "commit its resources to address issues of global social and environmental concern, particularly those that have a major impact on the lives of the disadvantaged".

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

The Oak foundation does not implement projects or programmes directly but respond to requests for support from organizations working within areas of interest.

HOW TO APPLY

Organizations are invited by the foundation to submit a letter of enquiry. However; unsolicited proposals are also accepted in the form of a short (two pages) concept note. The letter of enquiry is sent to the appropriate Oak Foundation programme.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: info@oakfnd.ch

Main Office:
Oak Philanthropy Ltd
Case Postale 115
58, Avenue Louis Casai
1216 Cointrin
Geneva
Switzerland

Environment Programme (Climate Change Europe and Marine Europe) : eep@oakfnd.ch

4.3.6 ClimateWorks Foundation

The ClimateWorks Foundation⁸⁷ supports public policies that prevent dangerous climate change and promote global prosperity. It is committed to providing financing and promoting a good policy environment for climate-related activities.

ClimateWorks partners with the ClimateWorks Network, an international network of affiliated organizations, to promote these policies in the geographic regions and economic sectors that have the greatest potential to reduce their emission of greenhouse gases.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

EU-member states

⁸⁷ ClimateWorks Foundation: www.climateworks.org/

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Eligible institutions vary for the different sectors and regions. For more information about the sectors and regions visit: www.climateworks.org/network/

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Forest and land use	Industry
Climate policy	Transport
Buildings and appliances	Power

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

ClimateWorks supports and coordinates a network of regional foundations, each focusing on country and region-specific priorities.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

The Regional Climate Foundations are the largest recipients of ClimateWorks' support, and manages the majority of the Network's grants. A total of USD 128 million was available in 2011.

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The objective of the ClimateWorks foundation is to reduce emissions of greenhouse gas in the industrialized world and to promote low-carbon economy, sustainable land-use and global prosperity by supporting public policies that reduce the adverse impact of climate change.

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

ClimateWorks Foundation is working in specific geographic regions and economic sectors through an international network of affiliated organizations.

In the **forest and land use sector**, ClimateWorks foundation work through the Climate and Land Use Alliance to address the pressures associated with deforestation and land use changes.

For more information about Climate and Land Use Alliance visit the website: www.climateandlandusealliance.org/.

In the **geographical region EU**, ClimateWorks foundation work through its partner the European Climate Foundation (ECF). ECF was established in early 2008 as a philanthropic initiative to promote climate and energy policies that contribute to the reduction of Europe's greenhouse gas emissions and to help Europe play an even stronger international leadership role to mitigate climate change.

For more information about ECF visit the website: www.europeanclimate.org/.

EXAMPLE OF RECENT PROJECTS

n/a

HOW TO APPLY

The ClimateWorks Foundation does not accept unsolicited grant proposals. Grant seekers can visit one of ClimateWorks [Network organizations](#) for more information on how to apply for a grant.

CONTACT INFORMATION

ClimateWorks Foundation
235 Montgomery Street, San Francisco, CA 94104, USA
Tel : (415) 433-0500
Email : info@climateworks.org

4.3.7 Mitsubishi Corporation Fund for Europe and Africa (MCFEA)

The Mitsubishi Corporation Fund for Europe and Africa⁸⁸ is a charitable foundation established by Mitsubishi Corporation and Mitsubishi Corporation (UK) Plc, committed to protect the environment in Europe and Africa.

The aim of the MCFEA is to promote environmental conservation, education and research into the environment and poverty alleviation. In particular, it aims to encourage the appreciation and conservation of flora and fauna with an emphasis on endangered species.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

All Annex V

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Charitable or non-profit organizations
Global partnerships and networks
Academic institutions

SPECIFIC CRITERIA

Funded activities must fall into the category of environmental conservation, which includes the protection of endangered flora and fauna and SLM. Projects that build linkages between the environment and poverty alleviation are preferred. Activities for the promotion of education in ecology and conservation are also eligible to receive funding.

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Environmental conservation	Education and research
----------------------------	------------------------

⁸⁸ Mitsubishi Corporation Fund for Europe and Africa :
<http://www.mitsubishicorp.com/gb/en/csr/mcfea.html>

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

MCFEA provide grants to a range of partner organizations, but does not make grants to individuals or provide grants for religious, political or lobbying purposes.

The MCFEA's target grant-making level is between GBP 200 000 and GBP 300 000 per annum (around EUR 233 000 and EUR 349 000).

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

In March 2012 MCFEA announced a programme of GBP 362 128 in new grants (around EUR 422 000).

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The three principal objectives of the Mitsubishi Fund for Europe and Africa are to:

1. Conserve and protect the environment and its animal, forest and plant life, and to educate the public in natural history and ecology and the importance of conservation of the environment.
2. Advance the education of the public by
 - promoting education and research in the field of ecology and conservation of natural resources and the environment anywhere in the world;
 - promoting the study and appreciation of flora and fauna anywhere in the world with particular emphasis on endangered species;
 - promoting the study and appreciation of agriculture, horticulture, and land and estate management; and
 - to carry out research into the sustainable development of forest lands.
3. Relieve poverty in any part of the world.

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

MCFEA have annual funding programmes and work through partner organizations.

EXAMPLE OF RECENT PROJECTS

In the 2012 funding programme MCFEA will continue to support the Fauna and Flora International's project to promote environmental capacity building in Romania:

www.fauna-flora.org/explore/romania/.

For more information see the funding programme for 2012 and visit the partner organizations pages. Links can be found on this site: www.mitsubishicorp.com/gb/en/csr/mcfea.html.

HOW TO APPLY

A synopsis or concept note (no more than 2 sides of A4) of the specific project(s) can be submitted to the foundation if a project or organization is eligible and corresponds with one or more of the objectives. The synopsis or concept note should include information about any other organizations that have been approached for funding; the level of financial assistance required; any publicity or advertising opportunities for the fund from the project; and all other relevant details.

The synopsis or concept note can be sent to:
 James Gomme, Programme Officer
 The Mitsubishi Corporation Fund for Europe and Africa
 Mid City Place
 71 High Holborn
 London WC1V 6BA
 United Kingdom

The main time for consideration of projects is the two-to-three months leading up to the Annual Meeting of the Trustees of the MCFEA, usually held in January or February of each year.

CONTACT INFORMATION

MCFEA
 Mid City Place
 71 High Holborn
 London WC1V 6BA
 United Kingdom

Website: www.mitsubishicorp.com/gb/en/csr/mcfea.html

4.3.8 Adaptation Fund (AF)

The Adaptation Fund⁸⁹ is a fund established by parties to the [UNFCCC](#) to finance concrete adaptation projects and programmes in developing countries that are parties to the Kyoto Protocol.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

Armenia	Georgia	Serbia
Azerbaijan	Montenegro	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Republic of Moldova	

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Public and private sector, through [implementing entities](#).

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Sustainable agriculture	Land management	Water resources management
Health	Fragile ecosystems	
Integrated coastal zone management	Infrastructure development	

⁸⁹ Adaptation Fund: www.adaptation-fund.org/

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

There is no minimum project size established. However; the procedures are different for small-size and regular projects and programmes (below and above USD 1 million).

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

Approximately USD 250-350 million was available in 2012.

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

To finance adaptation projects and programmes in developing countries under the Kyoto Protocol mechanisms.

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

n/a

EXAMPLES OF RECENT PROJECTS

The Adaptation Fund provided financial assistance to Georgia through UNDP, for the project “Developing climate resilient flood and flash flood management practices to protect vulnerable communities of Georgia”. The project seeks to increase the adaptive capacities of the flooding-prone communities of the Rioni river basin through the introduction of a floodplain development policy, which includes flooding maps, land-use regulations and government-level intervention. The total grant amount was USD 5.3 million.

HOW TO APPLY

Template material for the project proposals are provided on the website. The application must be submitted through one of the implementing entities listed on the website (national, sub-regional, regional or multilateral) and are reviewed throughout the year on a rolling basis and. The project proposals are divided in two groups:

1. Small-size projects and programmes undergo a one-step application process. Applicants must submit a full proposal (complete with budget and timeframe) at least nine weeks before a scheduled Board meeting. The Board then contacts successful candidates. Unsuccessful applications cannot be resubmitted.
2. Regular projects and programmes can either submit a one-step application or undergo a two-step process wherein a short concept note is presented as a preliminary step followed by a full proposal, if the first phase is successful.

The Fund’s Secretariat provides a first technical review and then forwards the application to the Projects and Programmes Review Committee (PPRC). Reviews from the PPRC are then sent back to the Board with recommendations to be considered during the next Board Meeting. On this meeting the Board decides which projects are approved, not approved or rejected. The Adaptation Fund Board normally holds quarterly meetings. The date of the next meeting will be provided on the website.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: secretariat@adaptation-fund.org

Main Office:

Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat

c/o Global Environment Facility

Mail stop: MSN P-4-400 1818 H Street NW

Washington DC

20433 USA

4.3.9 Public-Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility (PPIAF)

The Public-Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility (PPIAF)⁹⁰ is a multi-donor provider of technical assistance to governments of low and middle-income countries. PPIAF is committed to providing support for the implementation of infrastructure services in various sectors.

Climate change is one of PPIAF's strategic themes: the facility is seeking to integrate climate-related information into the advisory services it provides, and to promote climate-friendly infrastructure in the sectors of power; sanitation; solid waste management; transport; and water.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

All countries in Annex V

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Regional, national and local entities, including governments.

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Climate change	Telecommunications
Irrigation	Water and sanitation
Transport	Energy

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

PPIAF provides technical assistance through the following activities:

- creation of enabling environments including policy and legal frameworks to facilitate private investment in infrastructure;
- project cycle related assistance;
- Awareness raising and capacity building for the dissemination of knowledge and best practices; and

⁹⁰ PPIAF: www.ppiaf.org/

- Sub-national technical assistance to help the sub-national entities access market-based financing without sovereign guarantees.

Co-financing is required. An estimate of these contributions should be attached to the application form.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

n/a

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

PPIAF's objectives are to develop public-private partnerships and create an enabling environment for private investment in infrastructure. The overall objective is to promote sustainable growth in line with the Millennium Development Goals.

EXAMPLES OF RECENT PROJECTS

PPIAF has funded activities in most Annex V countries, namely: Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Georgia, Latvia, Montenegro, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Ukraine.

Country fact sheets are available online, with a detailed description of activities implemented in each country.

HOW TO APPLY

As a first step, applicants must contact one of the PPIAF team members. Potentially eligible candidates are then invited to submit a one-page concept note outlining their proposed objectives, scope, budget and timeframe.

If the concept note is approved, candidates are sent a full application package containing guidelines and templates to be compiled and returned via email. Proposals are evaluated on a rolling basis.

CONTACT INFORMATION

A list of PPIAF team members is available on this website: <http://www.ppiaf.org/page/about-us/team>.

Email address for Eastern Europe: eperard@worldbank.org

Main Offices:
Kenya Re Towers
P2, Ragati Road-Upperhill
P.O. Box 30577
Nairobi, Kenya

Mail Stop Number MC4-412
1818 H Street, NW
Washington, DC 20433
USA

4.3.10 International Climate Initiative of Germany (ICI)

The ICI⁹¹ is an initiative of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) that supports climate protection and biodiversity conservation projects.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

All Annex V countries

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Federal implementing agencies	Governmental and non-governmental organizations	Private sector companies
Research institutes	International and multinational organizations	Universities

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Energy efficiency	REDD+	Adaptation to climate change
Biodiversity conservation	Sustainable land use	Renewable energy

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

Various activities are eligible under each of the objectives set by the initiative:

- **climate-friendly economies:** technical and policy advice for emissions reduction, renewable energy and energy efficiency;
- **climate change adaptation:** assistance to countries that is particularly vulnerable. The focus of this sector is ecosystem-based adaptation. National adaptation strategies and risk management instruments can also receive support;
- **sustainable management of carbon reservoirs:** this section includes REDD+ activities, but also extends to ecosystems that are currently not included in REDD+ - such as boreal forests, marshes and savannahs - and to sustainable land use; and
- **conservation of biodiversity:** all activities related to the implementation of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

Priority is given to innovative and transferable projects.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

Launched in 2008, the fund has a budget of USD 157 million per year. Approximately 16% of total resources are currently being utilized for Central and Eastern Europe, Turkey and Central Asia.

⁹¹ ICI: www.bmu-klimaschutzinitiative.de/en/news

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

The initiative has four main objectives:

1. promote climate-friendly economies;
2. support climate change adaptation activities;
3. sustainable management of carbon reservoirs; and
4. conservation of biodiversity.

EXAMPLES OF RECENT PROJECTS

In recent years, the International Climate Initiative has funded 45 national and 9 regional projects in Central Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. A complete project database is available online with information on projects description, size of the grants and implementation partners.

HOW TO APPLY

The application process follows a two-stage process. As a preliminary step, applicants must submit a draft note (in writing and electronically). Successful applicants are then contacted and provided with the forms required to finalise their final application.

The call for projects and selection procedure is usually conducted once a year. All relevant information is published on the website, including templates.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Email: programmbuero@programmbuero-klima.de

Main Office:
Programmbüro Internationale Klimaschutzinitiative
Potsdamer Platz 10
D-10785 Berlin

4.3.11 Near East Foundation

The Near East Foundation⁹² is an American charitable foundation for the empowerment of communities in a group of Northern African and Middle-Eastern countries. The foundation provides training, technical assistance and financial support within the thematic areas.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

Armenia

⁹² Near East Foundation: www.neareast.org/

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

For information contact the foundation.

RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

Sustainable agriculture	Natural resource management	Climate Change Adaptation
Microenterprise development	Civic engagement and education	Peace building through Economic Cooperation

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

n/a

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

Annual budget of approximately USD 5.5 million. This is divided on projects in 7 countries.

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

To help vulnerable communities combat poverty, conflict, migration and environmental degradation.

EXAMPLES OF RECENT PROJECTS

Title: The Rural Armenia Local Economic Development program

Aim: to stimulate the creation of businesses and jobs in Armenia and break the cycle of unemployment and poverty in rural Armenian communities by supporting entrepreneurs and new business creation.

Project activities: develop businesses where rural areas have a competitive advantage or strong market niche, such as information technology (IT) centres, dried fruit production, and fish farming.

Partners: Armenia Fund USA and Business Pareta the German aid organization GTZ

Period: 2008-Present

Primary Donor(s): NEF core funds, Armenia Fund of the US, GTZ

Project website: www.ruralarmenia.org

HOW TO APPLY

n/a

CONTACT INFORMATION

Near East Foundation
430-432 Crouse Hinds Hall
900 S. Crouse Avenue
Syracuse, NY 13244-2130, USA
Tel: 315-428-8670
Email: info@neareast.org
Webpage: <http://www.neareast.org/>

4.3.12 MacArthur Foundation

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation⁹³ is a private philanthropic foundation based in the United States. It is a private and independent foundation for human rights and international justice that supports people and institutions by means of grants and loans. Specific geographic and thematic guidelines are provided under each focus area.

ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES IN THE REGION

Russia

MacArthur foundation has a global reach and support organizations operating in more than 60 countries.

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS

Non-profit organizations (On rare occasions, the foundation can make grants to for-profit groups but the project must have a charitable purpose)	Individuals (only under the MacArthur Fellows Program)
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RELEVANT THEMATIC PRIORITIES

The foundation's programmes in Russia focuses on human rights, global engagement and research and training.

Other focus areas for international development activities include: conservation and sustainable development; international justice; peace and security; migration; and reproductive health.

FUNDING SPECIFICITIES

A project has to fit within MacArthur's grant making strategy. On the website the foundation publishes program guidelines that can help applicants determine whether their idea for a grant is eligible or not.

AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE

In 2011, the Foundation paid out USD 239.9 million in grants and program-related investments to organizations and individuals in the United States and around the world. Numbers for 2012 are not available.

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

To support human rights and promote development and justice.

⁹³ John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation: <http://www.macfound.org>

EXAMPLES OF RECENT PROJECTS

Center for Energy and Security Studies, Moscow, Russia

Project website: www.cenness-russia.org

Period: 2012-2015

Grant: USD 400 000

This grant supports the Foundation's Nuclear Security Strategy, which aims to incorporate approaches into the global nuclear fuel cycle that prevents access to fissile materials and limits their production.

HOW TO APPLY

MacArthur foundation does not accept unsolicited proposals. The foundation encourages grant seekers to read the grant guidelines to assess whether they may be eligible for MacArthur support before they apply. The guidelines for the various programmes can be found on: www.macfound.org/info-grantseekers/guidelines-funding-cycles/.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Chicago Headquarters

John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
Office of Grants Management
140 S. Dearborn Street
Chicago, IL 60603-5285
Phone (312) 726-8000
Fax (312) 920-6258
TDD (312) 920-6285
E-mail: 4answers@macfound.org
Website www.macfound.org

MacArthur in Russia

MacArthur Foundation Russia
Khlebnyi Pereulok 8
Suite 2
Moscow 121069
Russia
Phone (7-495) 737-0015
Fax (7-495) 956-6358
E-mail moscow@macfound.org
Website www.macfound.ru

5 Innovative finance

The operational objective of the 5.4 the Ten-Year Strategic Plan and Framework to Enhance Implementation of the UNCCD (2008-2018) specifically calls for the identification and exploration of “innovative sources of finance and financing mechanisms to combat desertification/land degradation and mitigate the effects of drought”⁹⁴.

Innovative finance refers to sources that have not traditionally been tapped for UNCCD implementation and features different mechanisms that can be used to channel investments into SLM practices. Innovative finance is about thinking new about finance and engaging sectors to invest in land values. However, what is considered innovative depends on the country-specific context, as does the feasibility and appropriateness of each mechanism or opportunity.

Using innovative finance can:

- increase resource availability;
- diversify the resource base;
- complement traditional funding; and
- maximise the impact of ODA

The Ten-Year Strategy specifies that finance from new and untapped flows and sources in the UNCCD context include resources from a range of development actors and institutions, such as private and public land users and organizations. In addition, tapping financing for issues that are closely linked to land use is also considered an innovative approach. Thematic funds, like climate change funds, and philanthropic foundations are included in chapter 4 under additional funding.

This chapter will give an introduction to innovative financing mechanisms that can engage private sector and land users themselves to invest into SLM and enable or encourage them adopt sustainable land-use practices. More information about innovative finance can be found on www.global-mechanism.org.

⁹⁴ Global Mechanism (2010)

5.1 The business sector and capital investors

In line with the growing 'green economy', environmentally sustainable business models are gaining priority on the agenda of companies and capital investors worldwide. They incorporate social and environmental concerns in their core business because it makes good business sense and enhances their public images as socially responsible enterprises. The UN Environment Programme defines a green economy as an economy resulting in "improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities". This concept is in line with the increasing recognition that economic growth and long-term profit can, and should, be accompanied by environmental and social considerations.

Financial resources from the private sector are often left untapped in the fight against desertification, land degradation and drought. Land use is to a large degree a private sector activity with private actors managing and investing in the land, and the decisions on land management are often made at the private sector level. Private sector involvement is therefore necessary for the implementation of effective, integrated SLM practices. In this context, the private sector comprises small, medium and large-scale land users, as well as entrepreneurs, businesses and investors engaged in land-based products and investments.

Demonstrating the real value of the natural resources and ecosystem services land provides arguments and incentives for the private actors to invest in sustainable activities. The tools for the economic valuation of land (see section 2.1.1) can help the private sector and investors measure and incorporate in their budgets the costs and benefits their activities have on both people and the environment. Demonstrating the real value of the assets stored in a forest, or land, can also entice capital investors, in particular those looking for investments that have positive impact and allow the investor to pursue monetary objectives while also generating social and environmental returns.

In essence, the green economy is generating countless business and investment opportunities. Spanning the sectors and the globe, these opportunities appeal to private actors and investors that want to see a triple bottom line -- benefitting people and the planet while yielding a profit.

Promoting investments that are private and sustainable and engaging the private sector and investors can be challenging. Below are some approaches that can be considered in order to overcome current constraints and barriers for public and private investment in SLM:

- policy-level interventions, such as regulatory frameworks, including a legal framework and supportive policies, are all important to reduce the perceived risks and create a good environment for the private sector to invest in;
- improved access to capital finance, including loans, insurance and microfinance opportunities;
- public-private partnership in which private companies provide a public service;
- recognition and knowledge of the costs of land degradation and the benefits of SLM in economic terms; valuation studies should be conducted to express the value of land and ecosystem services in monetary figures (see section 2.1.1); and
- Incentives and market-based mechanisms; in some cases, the private sector needs to be incentivized to take up sustainable investments in non-traditional markets. Different types of incentives are available, according to specific contexts (see section 5.2).

5.2 Incentives and market-based mechanisms (IMBMs)

Incentive and market-based mechanisms (IMBMs)⁹⁵ are defined as mechanisms that address environmental problems by using the same logic that drives traditional markets. Land users make their land-use decisions according to their own needs, opportunities for profit, production possibilities and constraints. Changing to more SLM-friendly practices may initially be costly because the benefits are often realized in the long term. Therefore, it could be helpful to promote mechanisms that enable those who benefit from environmental services to pay for them and also provide economic incentives to encourage farmers and other land users to adopt more SLM practices and invest in environmentally friendly technologies.

The GM has identified 14 incentive and market-based mechanisms for SLM. The applicability of each mechanism depends on the national and international context, as well as on the specific supply and demand of ecosystem services. Below is a table with an introduction to these mechanisms. For more information download the Global Mechanism (2012) [Incentive and Market-based mechanism to promote SLM, Framework and tool to assess applicability](#) from the website.

Table 4: Incentives and market-based mechanisms for SLM

Category	Mechanism
Public payment schemes (PES) to private land and forest owners who implement SLM practices that maintain or enhance ecosystem services	a. Permanent conservation easements b. Contract farmland set-asides c. Co-finance investments d. Payment for proven investments in land conservation e. Subsidies f. Taxes, tax breaks, environmental fees (inputs, practices)
Open trading between buyers and sellers under a regulatory cap or floor on the level of ecosystem services to be provided. The government establishes a regulation that creates demand and allows buyers and sellers to trade	g. Conservation banks h. Tradable development rights i. Trading of emission reductions or removals
Self-organized private deals in which individual beneficiaries of ecosystem services negotiate a contract directly with the providers of those services. These are direct deals between off site beneficiaries and land users responsible for providing the services	j. Purchase of development rights k. Direct payments for environmental services l. Conservation concessions
Eco-labelling of products and services that assures buyers that production processes involved have a neutral or positive effect on ecosystem services. These products are sold to consumers who are willing to pay a higher price	m. Marketing labels n. Certification schemes

⁹⁵ Global Mechanism (2012)

Trading of emission reductions or removals

Name of partnership: Republic of Moldova Soil Conservation Project

Organization: State Forest Agency (Moldsilva), World Bank's BioCarbon Fund and Prototype Carbon Fund, International Bank For Reconstruction and Development

Description:

Within the framework of the Afforestation/ Reforestation CDM Project, Republic of Moldova created its own project for soil conservation, which involved a 20-year crediting period that could be extended by two consecutive 20-year crediting periods, if progress is made during the first term. For this reason the project is constantly monitored and assessed. By using a mixture of indigenous and semi-exotic tree species, Republic of Moldova increases its supply of fuelwood, timber and non- timber products, which can then be sold and the profit can be reinvested into the project. Further revenue for the project is generated by the sale of certified emission reduction credits as the restoration of soil productivity and the afforestation of degraded land result in decreased soil erosion and less greenhouse gas emissions. In addition to the technical help, the project provides trainings and know-how to farmers.

Lessons learned: The project is still in progress, but there are a few conclusions that have already been drawn: the sale of certified emission reduction credits from afforestation / reforestation activities serves as an incentive for the entire project. Sustainability can be approached from several directions including the prevention of soil erosion (which in itself enhances greenhouse gas removals), increased forest cover, the replenishment of carbon stocks of degraded lands and contribution to the mitigation of climate change. Greenhouse gas removals can further be intensified by better soil productivity and creation of carbon pools.

Working groups have usually responded rapidly, which has often been followed by long periods of inactivity, causing reimbursement delays. The project has required new methods, therefore Moldsilva (the implementing body) has had to enhance institutional capacities, which have improved the entire institutional framework.

Main actors Governmental Agency, NGOs

Type of capacity building: Systemic capacity building

Key words Community-based Natural Resource Management, Financing, Information/Knowledge Sharing and Monitoring, Evaluation and Assessments.

⁹⁶ Clean Development Mechanism (2008) Project design document form for afforestation and reforestation project activities (CDM-AR-PDD) Version 04: [http://cdm.unfccc.int/filestorage/V/Z/E/VZEK0N4IQ85G9YUTAR3WCP1OMHJDSL/Revised_PDD - Clean.pdf?t=czF8bWcyam9rfDCQS_-bZ8R12pYIRTaqqI9P](http://cdm.unfccc.int/filestorage/V/Z/E/VZEK0N4IQ85G9YUTAR3WCP1OMHJDSL/Revised_PDD_-_Clean.pdf?t=czF8bWcyam9rfDCQS_-bZ8R12pYIRTaqqI9P).

5.3 Microfinance

Microfinance – the financial services, including credit targeted to low-and-moderate income businesses or households – is used worldwide as a tool to promote inclusive economic growth and to generate employment. Microfinance is often one of the few, if not the only, sources of capital available to farmers at local level. Microfinance services can be used to spur the conversion from unsustainable land practices to more sustainable ones and the need to address the issue is critical as sustainable economic development and social progress cannot be achieved for the long-term if natural resources continue to be depleted.

When used to finance land and resource-based activities, microfinance becomes instrumental in defining which natural resources are conserved, managed and restored in rural areas. Microfinance has the potential to enhance the management of land resources including agricultural, forest and water resources. For example, a small enterprise that uses microfinance to make fabrics from palm-trees may contribute to the conservation and management of the palm-trees themselves, the raw material of the business, which in this case come from land. Conversely, microfinance provided for a company engaged in cattle grazing in forested lands might contribute to desertification if the cattle deplete vegetation from large areas. Hence, microfinance has the power not only to change livelihoods but also to change landscapes.

Microfinance can effectively promote SLM if so directed. Numerous initiatives, micro-enterprises and value chains contributing to combat land degradation provide economic benefits and could be supported by microfinance. Some examples are:

- sustainable farming;
- manufacturing of products that come from sustainable agricultural or forest management, or enhancing the conservation, management or restoration of degraded lands;
- supporting value chains of fruit and fodder shadow tree products generated following the reforestation of degraded pastures (sylvopastoral systems); and
- reinstating traditional techniques that conserve soil, reduce vulnerability to drought and extreme weather events and help adapt to climate change.

GM is promoting the formulation of a collaborative strategy to further integrate combating land degradation in microfinance-related initiatives and portfolio of relevant financial institutions. This might include developing a specific innovative microfinance line, and services and products adapted for SLM value chains and farming activities. The aim of the strategy is to channel resources directly to the local level through special credit lines for activities that will help to tackle land degradation while improving the livelihoods of populations living in degrading or degraded lands. The type of support depends on the regional and national context, as well as the feasibility for Microfinance Institutions (MFIs) to operate and implement strategic products related to SLM. For more information visit: <http://global-mechanism.org/en/our-services/microfinance>.

Box 2: Microfinance strategy - example from Ecuador

Ecuador's national microfinance programme

The GM provided support to the Government of Ecuador in developing an innovative financing mechanism - a national microfinance strategy for UNCCD implementation. The national microfinance programme, created by the Government of Ecuador to implement the Popular and Solidarity-based Economic Policy, serves as an umbrella organization funding more than 192 local financing institutions. The national microfinance programme created a microfinance line specific for SLM to support activities diversifying agricultural plots and integrating sylvopastoral systems in degraded lands. The SLM-focused microfinance line is being implemented with local institutions.

6 References

- Adaptation Fund: <https://www.adaptation-fund.org/>.
- ClimateWorks Foundation: <http://www.climateworks.org/>.
- CORDIS, FP7: http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html.
- Cordis, How to combine the different instruments: http://cordis.europa.eu/eu-funding-guide/combine-options_en.html.
- Council of Europe Development Bank (2011) The CEB and the Environment, Paris, France.
- Council of Europe Development Bank: <http://www.coebank.org/>.
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- Directorate-General Agriculture and Rural Development (2012) Information measures relating to the common agricultural policy (budget heading 05 08 06): http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/grants-for-information-measures/index_en.htm.
- Directorate-General Environment (2011) LIFE Application Guide, NGO operating grants, Call for proposals for funding in 2012.
- Directorate-General Environment, LIFE Programme: <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/>.
- Directorate-General Environment, Operating grants to European environmental NGOs: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ngos/index_en.htm.
- Directorate-General Environment: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/index_en.htm.
- Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development: http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/agriculture/index_en.htm.
- Directorate-General Regional Policy, Cohesion Fund: http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/thefunds/cohesion/index_en.cfm.
- Directorate-General Regional Policy, ERDF: http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/thefunds/regional/index_en.cfm.
- Directorate-General Regional Policy: http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/index_en.cfm.
- Directorate-General Research and Innovation: <http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?lg=en>.
- EBRD (2011) Guide to EBRD Financing, Factsheets, London, United Kingdom.
- EBRD (2012) About the EBRD, Factsheets, London, United Kingdom.
- EEA Grants and Norway Grants: www.eeagrants.org.
- ENRD (2012) Rural Development Policy Overview, National Strategies: http://enrd.ec.europa.eu/policy-in-action/rural-development-policy-overview/national-strategies/en/national-strategies_en.cfm.
- EuropaMedia LIFE+: http://www.eutrainingsite.com/direct_grants.php?id=39#euf.
- EuropaMedia, Cohesion Fund: http://www.eutrainingsite.com/indirect_grants.php?id=87#euf.
- EuropaMedia, EAFRD: http://www.eutrainingsite.com/policy_area.php?id=1&sid=66#euf.
- EuropaMedia, ERDF: http://www.eutrainingsite.com/indirect_grants.php?id=78#euf.
- EuropaMedia, FP7: <http://www.eutrainingsite.com/fp7.php?id=1&sid=3#euf>.
- EuropeAid Development and cooperation: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/index_en.htm.
- EuropeAid, ENRTP: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/finance/dci/environment_en.htm.
- European Bank for Reconstruction and Development: <http://www.ebrd.com/>.
- European Commission (2008) New funds, better rules, Overview of new financial rules and funding opportunities 2007-2013: http://ec.europa.eu/budget/library/biblio/publications/funds_rules/pack_rules_funds_en.pdf.
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- European Commission, Funding opportunities under the Common Agricultural Policy: http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/grants/index_en.htm.
- European Commission, Grant recipients and contractors: http://ec.europa.eu/contracts_grants/beneficiaries_en.htm.

European Commission, Introduction to EU funding: http://ec.europa.eu/grants/introduction_en.htm .
European Commission, Practical Guide: http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/prag/document.do .
European Communities (2006a) FP7 Tomorrow's answers start today.
European Communities (2006a) The leader approach, a basic guide, Luxembourg.
European Communities (2007a) Fact Sheet, Managing the agriculture budget wisely: http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/publi/fact/clear/2007_en.pdf .
European Communities (2007b) FP7 In Brief, Luxembourg.
European Information Association (2012): EU Funding News: http://www.eia.org.uk/funding.php?PHPSESSID=83261b004abe50d8a7866032c06fb099 .
European Investment Bank: http://www.eib.org/index.htm .
European Union (2011) A new and ambitious European Neighbourhood Policy, Press release, Reference: MEMO/11/342.
European Union Law: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/ .
European Union Neighbourhood Info Centre, About ENPI: http://www.enpi-info.eu/main.php?id_type=2&id=402 .
European Union, Countries: http://europa.eu/about-eu/countries/index_en.htm .
European Union, New Independent States: http://ec.europa.eu/research/nis/en/eu-nis.html .
French Global Environment Facility: http://www.ffem.fr/lang/en/accueil .
Global Environment Facility: http://www.thegef.org/ .
Global Mechanism (2008) Integrated Financing Strategies for Sustainable Land Management, http://www.global-mechanism.org/dynamic/documents/document_file/ifs_eweb.pdf .
Global Mechanism (2010) Approach paper on Innovative finance sources and Financing Mechanisms. New Opportunities for Sustainable Land Management and UNCCD: <a _blank"="" href="http://www.global-mechanism.org/images/stories/news/attachments/innovativefinanceapproachpaper.pdf?quot; target=\">http://www.global-mechanism.org/images/stories/news/attachments/innovativefinanceapproachpaper.pdf?quot; target=\"_blank .
Global Mechanism (2012) Incentive and Market-Based Mechanisms to Promote Sustainable Land Management, Framework and Tool to Assess Applicability: http://global-mechanism.org/en/our-services/incentive-and-market-based-mechanisms .
Global Mechanism: www.global-mechanism.org .
International Climate Initiative of Germany: http://www.bmu-klimaschutzinitiative.de/en/news .
IUCN (2008) Accessing European Funding, A reference guide to finance nature conservation projects, Belgium, Brussels.
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John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation: http://www.macfound.org .
Martí, Albert M. (2008) The treaty of Rome and the foundations of the CAP: http://circa.europa.eu/irc/opoce/fact_sheets/info/data/policies/agriculture/article_7208_en.htm .
MAVA: http://en.mava-foundation.org/ .
Mitsubishi Corporation Fund for Europe and Africa : http://www.mitsubishicorp.com/gb/en/csr/mcfea.html .
Near East Foundation: http://www.neareast.org/ .
OAK Foundation: http://www.oakfnd.org/ .
Public-Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility: http://www.ppiaf.org/ .
Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe: http://www.rec.org/ .
Summaries of European Union legislation, Cohesion Fund: http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/regional_policy/provisions_and_instruments/l60018_en.htm .
Summaries of European Union legislation, EAFRD: http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/agriculture/general_framework/l60032_en.htm .
TerrAfrica (2005) Country Engagement Strategy.
The Nordic Environment Finance Corporation: http://www.nefco.org/en .
Thomas, Sylvie (2010) The French Global Environment Facility: an original instrument, Actualité en France n°34.
UNCCD (2000) Land Degradation in Central and Eastern Europe: Proceedings of the Workshop on Land Degradation/Desertification in Central and Eastern Europe in the context of the UNCCD, Brussels Belgium.

Appendixes

Appendix A: List of National Focal Points of the UNCCD in the Annex V

Information is retrieved from the UNCCD's webpage January 2013.

Armenia Mr. Ashot Vardevanyan Deputy Head Bioresources Management Agency Buzandi 1/3 374010 Yerevan Armenia Tel: (37-410) 580 633 Fax: (37-410) 527 952 ashot_v(at)mail.ru	Azerbaijan Mr. Ogtay Jafarov Chief Advisor Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources B. Aghayev Str. 100-A 370073 Baku Azerbaijan Tel: (9-9412) 5115673/ 4388513 Fax: (9-9412) 92.59.07 o_jafarov(at)yahoo.com	Belarus Mrs. Natalia Zharkina Deputy Head of the Department for Biological and Landscape Diversity Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Minsk Belarus Tel: (375 17) 200 51 13 Fax: (375 17) 200 55 83 garkina_nat(at)mail.ru
Bosnia and Herzegovina Prof. Dr. Mihajlo Markovic National Focal Point Knjaza Milosa 17 78000 Banja Luka - Republika Srpska Bosnia and Herzegovina Tel: +38751311313 Fax: +38751312792 mmarkovic(at)blic.net	Bulgaria Ms. Tatyana Dimitrova Chief Expert / UNCCD Focal Point Ministry of Environment and Water 1000 Sofia Bulgaria Tel: (359-2) 940.6532 Fax: (359-2) 980.9641 urbansoil(at)moew.government.bg	Estonia There are no focal point record found for Estonia on UNCCD.
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Mrs. Vesna Indova Head of Unit Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning 1000 Skopje The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Tel: (389-2) 325 1454 Fax: (389-2) 322 0165 V.Indova(at)moepp.gov.mk	Georgia Ms Nino Chikovani Chief Specialist Ministry of Environment Protection 6 Gulua Str. Tbilisi Georgia Tel: (995) 32 727243 Fax: (995) 32 727223 n.chikovani(at)moe.gov.ge	Latvia Ms. Sanda Rubene Senior Official Ministry of Environmental Protection Peldu Str. 25 1494 Riga Latvia Tel: (371) 67026513 Fax: (371) 67820442 sanda.rubene(at)vidm.gov.lv
Montenegro Ms Milena Kapa Senior Advisor Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism IV Proleterska Brigada 19 Podgorica Montenegro Tel: (382) 20 446 239 Fax: (382) 81 446 227 milena.kapa(at)mrt.gov.me	Republic of Moldova Mr. Mikhail Roibu National Focal Point State Hydrometeorological Service 193 Grenoble Street MD-2043 Chisinau Republic of Moldova Tel: +37322773529 Fax: +37322773636 mihail.roibu(at)meteo.gov.md	Romania Dr. Elena Mateescu National Focal Point Romanian National Meteorological Administration Romania Tel: +40724247128 elena.mateescu(at)meteoromania.ro
Russian Federation Dr. Leonid P. Belov Consultant of the Division of International Conventions Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation	Serbia Ms. Snežana Kuzmanovic, B.Sc., Senior Advisor Ministry of Energy, Development and Environment Protection 22-26, Nemanjina Str. 11000 Belgrade	Slovakia Ms. Jaroslava Sobocka National Focal Point Soil Science and Conservation Research Institute Gagarinova 10

4/6, B. Gruzinskaya Str. Moscow Russian Federation Tel: 7 (499) 254 86 01 Fax: 7 (499) 254 82 83 belov(at)mnr.gov.ru	11070 New Belgrade Serbia Tel: +381112160956 Fax: +381112158793 snezana.kuzmanovic(at)merz.gov.rs	82713 Bratislava Slovakia Tel: +421243420866 Fax: +421243295487 j.sobocka(at)vupop.sk
Ukraine Dr. Yuriy Kolmaz Head of Land Resources Division Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine 35, Uritskogo Str. Kiev 03035 Ukraine Tel: (380-44) 206.3148 Fax: (380-44) 206 3148 saveland(at)menr.gov.ua		

Appendix B: List of Operational Focal Points of the GEF in Annex V

Information is retrieved from the [GEF webpage](#) October 2012

Armenia – H.E. Aram HARUTYUNYAN (Political/Operational Focal Point) Minister, Ministry of Nature Protection. Tel: + 37 410 521 099 Email: min_ecology@mdp.am	Azerbaijan – His Excellency Goussein BAGIRO (Political/Operational Focal Point) Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources. Tel: + 994-12-4414205 Email: aliyev@iglim.baku.az, emin.garabaghli@gmail.com	Belarus – Mr. Vitaly KULIK (Political/Operational Focal Point) First Deputy Minister, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection. Tel: + 375 17 200 6762 Email: climate.belarus@tut.by, icd@minpriroda.by, minproos@tut.by	Bosnia and Herzegovina - Mr. Senad OPRASIC (Operational Focal Point), Head, Department for Environment Protection Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economical Relations. Tel: + 387 33 552 365 Email: senadoprasic@yahoo.com, senad.oprasic@mvteo.gov.ba
Bulgaria – Ms. Emiliya KRAEVA, (Operational Focal Point), Director for Strategies, Ministry of Environment and Water. Tel: 011 359 2 940 6132 // 988 2577 Email: ek@moew.government.bg, ekraeva@gmail.com	Estonia Mr. Allan GROMOV (Operational Focal Point) Director General Ministry of Environment. Tel: + 372-2-6262840 Email: allan.gromov@envir.ee	Georgia Ms. Nino TKHILAVA (Operational Focal Point) Head, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources. Tel: + 995 32 75 2128/ 27 27 250 Email: ntkhilava@moe.gov.ge, ntkhilava@yahoo.com	Latvia Ms. Anita DRONDINA (Political/Operational Focal Point) Deputy Director, Policy Coordination, Department Ministry of the Environmental Protection and Regional Development Tel: + 371 6702 6577 Email: anita.drondina@varam.gov.lv
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Ms. Daniela RENDEVSKA (Operational Focal Point) Head of Unit for Bilateral and Multilateral Cooperation, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning Tel: + 389 2 3251 438 Email: d.stefkova@moepp.gov.mk, danielastefkova@yahoo.com, d.rendevska@moepp.gov.mk	Montenegro Mr. Andro DRECUN (Operational Focal Point) Deputy Minister, Department for International Cooperation and Climate Change, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism Tel: + 382 20 446 221 Email: andro.drecun@mrt.gov.me	Romania Dr. Maria-Elena TEODORESCU (Operational Focal Point) Head of Office, Ministry of Environment and Forests Tel: + 40 21 300 62 91 Email: maria.teodorescu@posmediu.ro	Russia Mr. Rinat GIZATULIN (Operational Focal Point) Deputy Minister, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Tel: + 7 495 254-82-83 Fax: 011 7 499 252-67-47
Serbia Mr. Aleksandar VESIC (Operational Focal Point) Assistant Minister, Ministry of Environmental Protection Tel: 011 381 11 3132 572 Email: aleksandar.vesic@merz.gov.rs	Slovak Republic Mrs. Miroslava HRUSKOVA (Operational Focal Point) Ministry of Environment Tel: +421-2-5956 2517 Email: hruskova.mirka@enviro.gov.sk	Ukraine Mr. Vadym POZHARSKYI (Operational Focal Point) Head of Department, International Cooperation and European Integration, Ministry of Environmental Protection Tel: +380 67 446 1210 (cell), + 380 44 206 311 Email: pozhar@menr.gov.ua	

Appendix C: Helpful webpages

Adaptation Fund (AF)	https://www.adaptation-fund.org/
ClimateWorks Foundation	http://www.climateworks.org/
Community Research and Development Information Service (CORDIS), DG Research and Innovation	http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/home_en.html
Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB)	http://www.coebank.org/index.asp?ChangeLanguage=EN
DG Agriculture and Rural Development	http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/index_en.htm
DG Development and Cooperation, EuropeAid	http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/who/about/index_en.htm
DG Environment	http://ec.europa.eu/environment/funding/intro_en.htm
DG Regional Policy	http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/index_en.cfm
DG Research and Innovation	http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm
Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources including Energy (ENRTP)	http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/finance/dci/environment_en.htm
EU 2007-2013 – portal on EU funding	http://www.2007-2013.eu/about_us.php
EU Neighbourhood Info Centre, an ENPI project	http://www.enpi-info.eu/index.php
European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)	http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/agriculture/general_framework/l60032_en.htm
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)	http://www.ebrd.com/pages/homepage.shtml#&panel1-5
European Cohesion fund	http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/thefunds/cohesion/index_en.cfm
European Commission	http://ec.europa.eu/index_en.htm
European Commission Grants	http://ec.europa.eu/contracts_grants/grants_en.htm
European Investment Bank	http://www.eib.org/index.htm
European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI)	http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/how/finance/enpi_en.htm
European Regional Development Fund	http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/thefunds/regional/index_en.cfm
Financial Info Kit, Global Mechanism	http://www.global-mechanism.org/en/our-services/finance-info-kit
FP7	http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/index_en.cfm
French Global Environment Facility (FFEM)	http://www.ffem.fr/lang/en/accueil
Funding opportunities under Common Agriculture Policy	http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/grants/index_en.htm
Funds under the DG Regional Policy	http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/thefunds/index_en.cfm
Global Environment Facility (GEF)	http://www.thegef.org/gef/home
Global Environment Facility (GEF), focal area Land Degradation	http://www.thegef.org/gef/land_degradation
International Climate Initiative of Germany (ICI)	http://www.bmu-klimaschutzinitiative.de/en/news

Introduction to EU funding	http://ec.europa.eu/grants/introduction_en.htm
LIFE+	http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/
MacArthur Foundation	http://www.macfound.org/
Mava Foundation	http://en.mava-foundation.org/
Near East Foundation	http://www.neareast.org/
New funds better rules – overview of new financial rules and funding opportunities 2007-2013	http://ec.europa.eu/budget/library/biblio/publications/funds_rules/pack_rules_funds_en.pdf
Nordic Environment Finance Corporation (NEFCO)	http://www.nefco.org/en
Oak Foundation	http://www.oakfnd.org/
Operating grants to European Environmental NGOs	http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ngos/index_en.htm
Public-Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility (PPIAF)	http://www.ppiaf.org/
Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)	http://www.rec.org/
The EEA Grants and Norway Grants	http://www.eeagrants.org/
The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)	http://www.iucn.org/
The Mitsubishi Corporation Fund for Europe and Africa (MCFEA)	http://www.mitsubishicorp.com/gb/en/csr/mcfea.html

Appendix D: UN bodies

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

IFAD is a specialized agency of the United Nations that provides finance for agricultural development and food security projects in remote and rural areas of developing countries.

Current operations in the region:

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Romania, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. For more information visit: www.ifad.org/operations/projects/regions/country.htm

IFAD does not have country offices in the region. For more information contact the country Programme manager at IFAD headquarter or the General Inquiries:

International Fund for Agricultural Development

Via Paolo di Dono, 44

00142 Rome, Italy

Tel: 39-0654591

Fax +39-065043463

E-mail ifad@ifad.org

URL: www.ifad.org/

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

UNDP is a global development network that provides support to over 160 countries worldwide in the areas of crisis prevention and recovery; democratic governance; energy and environment; HIV/AIDS; and poverty reduction.

Current operations:

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States is on the ground in 25 countries and territories in Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.

UNDP has a regional centre in Bratislava that provides advisory services and technical support to country offices and programmes in the region and manages regional projects.

Contact:

UNDP Bratislava Regional Centre

Grosslingova 35

811 09 Bratislava

Slovak Republic

Phone: +421-2-59337-111

Fax: +421-2-59337 450

E-mail: registry.sk@undp.org

URL: www.undp.org/

A list of contact information for country offices in the region is presented in the table on the next page.

Armenia UN House, Petros Adamyan St., h. 14, Yerevan, 0010, Armenia Tel: +37410-566073 Fax: +37410 543811 Email: registry.am@undp.org URL: www.undp.am Staff directory: www.undp.am/?page=UNDPTeam	Azerbaijan 3, UN 50th Anniversary str., Baku AZ 1001, Azerbaijan Tel: (+99412) 4989888 Email: office@un-az.org Email: registry.az@undp.org Fax: (+99412) 4922491 URL: www.az.undp.org/
Belarus 6th floor, 17, Kirov st., Minsk, 220050, Belarus G.P.O. Box 103, Minsk, 220050, Belarus Tel: (+375 17) 327 48 76; 327 81 49; 327 45 27 Fax: (+375 17) 226 03 40 Email: fo.blr@undp.org URL: undp.by/	Bosnia and Herzegovina Maršala Tita 48, 71000 Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina Tel: +387 (33) 563 800, 801 Fax: +387 (33) 552 330 Email: registry@undp.ba URL: www.undp.ba/
Bulgaria UN House in Bulgaria, 2 Ivan Denkoglu Str., P.O. Box 700, 1040 Sofia, Bulgaria Tel: (+ 359 2) 96 96 100 Fax: (+ 359 2) 981 31 84 Email: registry.bg@undp.org URL: www.undp.bg/ Staff Directory: www.undp.bg/about.php?id=23	Georgia UN House, 9 Eristavi St., Tbilisi 0179 Georgia Tel.: +995 32 2251126 Fax: +995 32 225027 Email: registry.ge@undp.org URL: www.undp.org.ge
Republic of Moldova United Nations House, 131, 31 August str., Chisinau, MD-2012, Republic of Moldova Tel.: (+373 22) 22-00-45 (switchboard) Fax: (+373 22) 22-00-41 Email: registry.md@undp.org URL: www.undp.md/ Staff Directory: www.undp.md/about/staff.shtml	Montenegro Bulevar Svetog Petra Cetinjskog 1A, 81000 Podgorica, Montenegro Tel: +382 20 22 55 33 Fax: +382 20 22 55 51 Email: registry.me@undp.org URL: www.undp.org.me/ Staff Directory: www.undp.org.me/about/contact.html
Romania United Nations House, 48A Primaverii Blvd, 011975, Bucharest, Romania Tel: (+4021) 201 78 72-76 Fax: (+4021) 201 78 28 Email: office.ro@undp.org URL: www.undp.ro/ Staff Directory: www.undp.ro/contact/	The Russian Federation 9, Leontyevsky Lane, 125009, Moscow, Russian Federation Tel: +7(495)787-2100 Fax: +7(495)787-2101 Email: registry.ru@undp.org URL: www.undp.ru/
Serbia P.O.Box no.3, Internacionalnih brigada 69, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia Tel: +381 11 20 40 400 Fax: +381 11 3 44 43 00 Email: registry.rs@undp.org URL: www.undp.org.rs/	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia 8-ma Udarina Brigada 2, 1000, Skopje Tel: + 389 2 3249 500 Fax: + 389 2 3249 505 Email: registry.mk@undp.org URL: www.undp.org.mk/
Ukraine 1, Klovsky Uzviz Str., Kyiv, 01021, Ukraine Tel: +380 44 253 93 63 Fax: +380 44 253 26 07 Email: communications@undp.org.ua URL: www.undp.org.ua/	

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

UNEP is the designated authority of the United Nations for environmental issues at the global and regional level. The mandate of UNEP is to coordinate the development of environmental policy consensus by keeping the global environment under review and bringing emerging issues to the attention of governments and the international community for action.

The Regional Office for Europe is the voice of the UN Environment Programme in the European region. Its main goal is to provide guidance to national governments at various levels and actively engage in and facilitate the on-going dialogue between the civil society, the private sector and governmental authorities, on environmental issues.

Contact:

International Environment House
UNEP Regional Office for Europe
11-13, chemin des Anemones
CH-1219 Chatelaine
Switzerland
Email: roe@unep.org
URL: www.unep.org

In addition to regional offices UNEP have various country offices. For more information contact the Regional Office or see the interactive map of UNEP offices around the world on this page: www.unep.org/home/unep-google.asp.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

FAO is a specialized agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger. FAO's mandate is to raise levels of nutrition, improve agricultural productivity, better the lives of rural populations and contribute to the growth of the world economy.

The regional office for Europe and Central Asia is based in Hungary. Its principal function is the overall identification, planning and implementation of FAO's priority activities in the Region.

Contact:

The regional office for Europe and Central Asia
34 Benczur utca
Budapest
Mailing Address:
Benczur utca 34 Budapest 1068
Tel: +36-1-4612000
Fax: +36-1-3517029
Email: REU-Registry@fao.org
URL: www.fao.org/europe/en/

FAO also have Country Offices in the region. The main aim of these offices is to assist governments to develop policies, programmes and projects to address the root causes of hunger and malnutrition; to help them to develop their agricultural, fisheries and forestry sectors, and to use their environmental and natural resources in a sustainable way. A list of country representations in the region is presented in the table on the next page.

FAO Representation in Armenia Governmental building No 3, First floor, Yerevan Mailing Address: UN House, 14 P. Adamyan Street, FAO Box, 0010 Yerevan, Armenia Tel: +374-10-525453 Fax: +374-10-565871 Email: FAO-AM@fao.org Website: www.fao.org/world/armenia	FAO Representation in Azerbaijan Ministry of Agriculture, 40 U. Hajibekov Street, Baku Tel: +994 -12-4980257 Fax: +994 -12-4980257 Email: FAO-AZ@fao.org
National Correspondent in Belarus Iryna Alexandrovna KAZAKEVICH Tel: +375-+375 17-172120411 Email: FAO-BY@fao.org	National Correspondent in Bosnia and Herzegovina Email: FAO-BA@fao.org
FAO Representation in Georgia Ministry of Agriculture 6 Marshall Gelovani Avenue, Tbilisi Tel: +995-32-2453913 Fax: +995-32-2378048 Email: FAO-GE@fao.org Website: www.fao.org/world/georgia	FAO Representation in Republic of Moldova Ministry of Agriculture, Off.610, 162 Bld. Stefan Cel Mare, Kishinev (Chisinau) Mailing Address: 162 Stefan cel Mare Bld., Chisinau MD-2004, Republic of Moldova Chisinau Tel: +373-22-210135 Fax: +373-22-210135 Email: FAO-MD@fao.org
National Correspondent in The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Lidija CHADIKOVSKA Contact details n/a URL: www.mzsv.gov.mk	National Correspondent in Serbia Milos MILOVANOVIC Email: FAO-RS@fao.org

Appendix E: Example of an outline for a project proposal

- 1.1. Title
- 1.2. Location(s)
- 1.3. Cost of the action and amount requested from the Contracting Authority
- 1.4. Summary (max 1 page)
- 1.5. Objectives (max 1 page) This is a key section for making the sales pitch for the proposal!
- 1.6. Relevance of the action (max 3 pages)
 - Challenges the project will tackle
 - Relevance of proposal to target groups
 - Relevant solutions
 - Relevance of proposal to objectives and guidelines of the call for proposal
- 1.7. Description of the action and its effectiveness (max 14 pages)
 - Current farming practices and challenges
 - Conservation agriculture
 - Expected results
 - Previous activities and their effectiveness at national level
 - Proven results from other countries
 - Project activities Make sure to justify how the activities will lead to the promised results of project.
- 1.8. Methodology (max 4 pages)
 - Co-operation Strategy and Major Partnerships
 - Proposed team for the implementation of the project
 - Implementation Arrangements
 - Annual Work Planning
 - Monitoring and evaluation
- 1.9. Duration and indicative action plan for implementing the action
- 1.10. Sustainability (max 3 pages)
 - Main preconditions and assumptions during and after the implementation phase.
 - Provide a detailed risk analysis and possible contingency plans.
 - How sustainability will be secured after completion of the action. Important section! The donor would like to see that the activities carries on after the project end.
- 1.11. Logical framework

Appendix F: Example of a Logical Framework

Narrative Summary	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS <i>(objectively verifiable indicators)</i>	METHODS OF VERIFICATION <i>(means of verification)</i>	RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS
Goal: To contribute to poverty reduction and economic growth in x through increased financing and investments for UNCCD/SLM implementation.	• Programme Document defining programmatic support • Aide Memoires on cooperation • Tools and instruments to support financial resource mobilization	• X Country reports on UNCCD • Implementation • Joint Aide Memoires between X and Y • Z Reports • Y annual reports and progress reports • Progress reports • Newsletters	• Political will is present to comprehensively develop a targeted integrated financing strategy to support UNCCD implementation • Political leadership to address socio-economic drivers to land degradation • Institutional capacity of implementing Ministry/agency to undertake and follow up on major initiatives

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES	PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS	METHODS OF VERIFICATION	RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS
COMPONENT 1: Resource mobilization through an Integrated Financing Strategy⁹⁷				
Objective 1: Increase investments and financing for UNCCD implementation and sustainable land management (SLM) through the development and implementation of an integrated financing strategy (IFS)	Activity 1: Organize an inception workshop on designing integrated financing strategies for SLM	- # of interested sectors participating in capacity building workshop - Task force established and working efficiently - # of reviews and analytical work conducted - # of financing sources and mechanisms for SLM and entry points for access identified - Economic evidence on value of land produced - Cross-sectoral trade priorities with an SLM perspective identified by national partners within the Aft/EIF framework - # of trade project proposals for SLM	• X's Country reports on UNCCD implementation • Joint Aide Memoires between X, Y and partners • Z Reports • Y annual reports and progress reports • Progress reports • Newsletters and media • IFS action plan	• Political will is present to actively engage in mainstreaming of UNCCD/SLM into national planning processes • The *proragmme is rolled out by Government in a coordinated, systematic and strategic manner in order to achieve maximum impact
	Activity 2: Establish a task force to support formulation of IFS			
	Activity 3: Building Linkages with Existing Financing Mechanisms (e.g. Green Technology for the Environment Fund or the Interim Environmental Fund, Aid for Trade financing instruments , develop criteria and indicators on SLM for inclusion in the funds, and identify activities to be supported.			

⁹⁷ The IFS is designed to address key issues. The financing options are based on the contextual reality of the country, practicality and feasibility of mobilizing resources from identified financing sources, instruments and mechanisms.

	Activity 4: Stocktaking and analytical work to develop and support the IFS, including - identification of existing and potential financing sources and mechanisms for SLM and entry points (e.g. private sector, incentive and market based mechanisms and climate change); - macroeconomic valuation of land resources and degradation to generate evidence in support of advocacy for SLM investments& - Identification, development and up-scaling of Incentive and market based mechanisms for SLM - Analysis of Aft Flows to X in SLM relevant sectors	- developed IFS action plan with identified key activities developed - Funding potential for SLM maximized - SLM financing and investments increased		• Identified sources of finance and financing mechanisms can be effectively exploited and/or easily accessed • Innovative financial sources and mechanisms can be accessed for the purpose of land rehabilitation • Country assigns higher priority and investments to UNCCD objectives
	Activity 5: Review of stocktaking and analytical work by stakeholders and organize validation workshop to secure high level buy-in and outreach			
	Activity 6: Strategy development and implementation of IFS action plan, including identified investment priorities and activities to meet the associated financial requirements			
COMPONENT 2: Mainstreaming, Partnership and Coalition Building				
Objective 2: Mainstream SLM into ongoing processes, establishing partnerships and build coalitions to enhance UNCCD implementation	Activity 1: Support the establishment of a SLM Partnership Platform	- Effective SLM Partnership Platform established or existing platform strengthened with constituencies and relevant partners - Arguments and messages to support SLM advocacy and mainstreaming are available - # of substantive inputs	• X's Country reports on UNCCD implementation • Joint Aide Memoires between X and Y	• Partners (i.e. government ministries, bilateral and multilateral development partners, civil society, private sector, research institutions) are willing to co-
	Activity 2: Mainstream SLM into the SNDP and other relevant processes through chapter reviews, written inputs, consultations and advocacy.			
	Activity 3: Develop tools and			

	instruments to support UNCCD/SLM implementation through the *programme			
	Activity 4: Establish strategic partnerships with private sector (PS) and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)	- Inclusion of UNCCD/SLM into key national development processes - Co-operation on financing for SLM is established with existing funds	• Z Reports • Y annual reports and progress reports • Group discussions	operate, actively pursue collaboration, and assign higher priority and investments to SLM issues.
	Activity 5: Partner with and provide support to climate change and carbon finance initiatives (including UNREDD, PPCR etc)	- Criteria and indicators on SLM to be included in existing funds developed	• Progress reports • Newsletters and other media products	
	Activity 6: Mainstreaming SLM in the DTIS and relevant trade planning frameworks guiding the allocation of AFT resources	- # of programmes on SLM that could be supported by the fund identified - of partnerships initiatives for finance on SLM supported - # of partnerships with PS and CSOs brokered and facilitated - # of joint programming on climate change, land and water with partners		
COMPONENT 3: Information, Communication and Knowledge Management				
Objective 3: Generate information and knowledge to support IFS/UNCCD implementation	Activity 1: Establish a monitoring and evaluation system for tracking financial resources for SLM and measuring returns on SLM investments based on Observatory methodology	- Database/Observatory on SLM financing in place and easily accessible - Appropriate finance related knowledge, information and skills enhanced	• X's country reports on UNCCD • Joint Aid memoirs between X, Y and other partners • Z Reports • Y annual reports - Progress reports • Newsletters and other media products	Political will is present to support advocacy for UNCCD/SLM
	Activity 2: Advocacy, awareness raising and communication campaign to support UNCCD/SLM	- # South-to-South cooperation initiatives for the exchange of information and experiences on resource mobilization		
	Activity 3: Capacity building to enhance the use of information and knowledge on UNCCD/SLM financing			

Total duration of the action	36 months	Important message. The project may lead to up-scaling and structural change far beyond project
Objectives of the action	Overall objective / Impact: The overall objective of the project is to strengthen food security in the project areas by establishing good conservation agriculture and agro-forestry practises, which can be up scaled to other areas of Eritrea. It is expected that, this will lead to programmatic and structural change of the Eritrean farming system in those areas that have potential for increased cereals food crop production. Specific Objectives / Outcome: • Study and test the applicability and adaptability of conservation tillage practices with promising cover crops and agro-forestry practises in Eritrea's cereal based cropping systems. • Introduce and raise awareness among small scale farmers of the advantages of conservation agriculture systems and ensure that the new agricultural practice is locally owned and driven. • Train small scale farmers on conservation and evergreen agriculture practices and techniques, (local training activities and south to south knowledge exchange). • Introduce incentives based mechanisms for the land users to change agricultural practises through the demonstration of good results of conservation agriculture, and financing opportunities (including microfinance) and award systems for farmers.	
Partner(s)	Global Mechanism of the UNCCD, IT-2008-BOG-0503986534, International Organization	
Target group(s)	Farmers (including Women headed households), Researchers and Extension agents, and Private Sector Investors,	
Final beneficiaries	4500 small and medium scale farmers and private sector investors	
Estimated results / output	1. Conservation agriculture and agro-forestry practices adopted and widely replicated; 2. Agricultural production increased and food security strengthened especially in rural communities and vulnerable populations; 3. Increased income generation from increased food production and drought resistant crops; 4. Improved technologies for addressing structural food security challenges adopted; 5. Environmental degradation reduced and sustainable land management promoted; 6. Good crop residue management system adopted to increase biomass and for weed and erosion control as well as soil moisture conservation; and 7. Appropriate fertilizer trees across different landscapes for increased soil cover and fertility planted.	
Main activities	Introduce and establish conservation agriculture and agro-forestry practices of zero or reduced tillage, direct planting, crop rotation, cover crops residue and use of different multi-purpose nitrogen fixing trees in the selected sites.	

Must respond to overall objective of the funding source!

Important section! Make sure it is in line with key interests of the donor.

Justify very well in the main text *how* these activities will lead to the estimated results.



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