



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SCREENING
UNDER THE GCF'S SIMPLIFIED APPROVAL PROCESS FUNDING PROPOSAL**

**FOREST RESILIENCE OF ARMENIA, ENHANCING ADAPTATION AND RURAL GREEN
GROWTH VIA MITIGATION**

March 2020

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF ACRONYMS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- I. PROCESS**
- II. BRIEF PROJECT DESCRIPTION**
 - 2.1 Context**
 - 2.2 Environmental and social screening**
 - 2.2.1 Project components**
 - 2.2.2 FAO environmental and social safeguards**
 - 2.2.3 GCF exclusion criteria**
- III. POTENTIAL IMPACTS**
 - 3.1 Forest rehabilitation activities**
 - 3.2 Energy efficiency activities**
 - 3.3 Property rights and land tenure**
 - 3.4 Indigenous populations**
- IV. LEGAL/REGULATORY FRAMEWORK**
 - 4.1 International**
 - 4.2 National**
 - 4.2.1 Forestry**
 - 4.2.2 Energy efficiency**
 - 4.2.3 Environmental and social impact assessment**
- V. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**
 - 6.1 Consultations held during project formulation**
 - 6.2 Stakeholder Engagement Plan**
- VI. GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM**

ANNEX 1: FAO Environmental and Social Risk Identification – Screening Checklist (Trigger Questions)

ANNEX 2: Environmental and Social Environmental and Social Risks and Mitigation

ANNEX 3: Environmental and Social Action Plan (ESAP) Work Plan

ANNEX 4: Stakeholder consultations held during project formulation

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: FAO Applicable Safeguards

Table 2: GCF Exclusion Criteria

LIST OF ACRONYMS

AWPB	Annual Working Plan and Budget
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
EE	Energy Efficiency
EPIU	Environmental Project Implementation Unit
ESAP	Environmental and Social Action Plan
ESS	Environmental and Social Safeguards
FY	Fiscal Year
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
INDC	Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MoNP	Ministry of Nature Protection
MoE	Ministry of Environment (former Ministry of Nature Protection)
NDA	National Designated Authority
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NFMA	National Forest Monitoring and Assessment System
NWFP	Non-Wood Forest Products
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
TNC	Third National Communication on Climate Change
UNCCD	UN Convention to Combat Desertification
UNFCCC	UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with FAO and consistent with GCF ESS policy, the “Forest resilience of Armenia, enhancing adaptation and rural green growth via mitigation” has been screened against FAO’s Environmental and Social safeguards policies and the GCF’s exclusion criteria as per the GCF Guidelines for the Environmental and Social Screening of Activities Proposed under the Simplified Approval Process. The proposed scope of activities will primarily result in positive environmental and social impacts. Furthermore, should there be employment of temporary workers for reforestation activities, this will be done according to UN/FAO standards. With regards to reforestation, the project will only plant forests with native or locally adapted species and involving local communities. Reforestation activities will be executed according to the responsible management of planted forests and related voluntary guidelines; no negative environmental effects are envisaged (see Annex 2, ESAP). The project is classified as Category C.

In summary the below are likely to be some of the impacts:

Positive

- Forest cover will increase in about 5,700 ha, of which 4,700 ha in State forest land and 1,000 in Municipal land; by 2026, at least 135,800 ha will be under sustainable and climate adaptive management.
- Forests will be rehabilitated with only native tree and shrub species.
- Nursery capacity will be improved for seedling production.
- Opportunities for increasing community livelihoods through the harvesting/collecting of NTWPs is increased.
- Environmental and health conditions of beneficiaries – especially women and children – will be improved by reducing in-home smoke pollution through the use of energy efficient stoves.
- Environmental and health conditions of beneficiaries – especially women and children – will be improved by reducing in-home smoke pollution through the use of solar water heaters.
- Forest degradation due to cutting for local energy purposes will decrease, due to sourcing of energy efficient stoves and solar water heaters.
- Energy efficient stoves will have only positive impacts – the rebound effect has already been calculated; with regards to solar water heaters, there are no batteries, panels, nor grid connections involved.
- Vocational training will build the capacities of women, providing female students with the opportunity to increase their knowledge on forest management/energy efficiency/renewable energy.

Negative

There are no negative environmental or social impacts associated with this project.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SCREENING:

FOREST RESILIENCE OF ARMENIA, ENHANCING ADAPTATION AND RURAL GREEN GROWTH VIA MITIGATION

I. PROCESS

In accordance with FAO and consistent with GCF ESS policy, the “Forest resilience of Armenia, enhancing adaptation and rural green growth via mitigation” underwent screening according to FAO’s Environmental and Social safeguards policies (Annex 1) and the GCF’s exclusion criteria as per the GCF Guidelines for the Environmental and Social Screening of Activities Proposed under the Simplified Approval Process. The proposed scope of activities will primarily result in positive environmental and social impacts; with regards to reforestation, the project will only plant forests with native or locally adapted species and involving local communities. Reforestation activities will be executed according to the responsible management of planted forests and related voluntary guidelines; no negative environmental effects are envisaged (see Annex 2, ESAP). The project is classified as Category C.

II. BRIEF PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 CONTEXT¹

Armenia lost considerable shares of its forest cover between 1990 and 2010 because of uncontrolled fuelwood cutting due to lack of alternatives to satisfy primary energy needs. Changing climatic trends are already impairing forest regeneration capacity (-34%²) enhancing degradation processes, pest outbreaks³, dieback and aggravating exposure of communities and livelihood to natural disasters and increasing occurrence of forest fires. Remaining forests⁴ are located by 62% in the Marzes of Lori and Tavush, 36% in Syunik Marz, and about 2% in the central Marzes. Additionally, the still inadequate forests’ policy framework - still highly centralized - exacerbates these problems. 30% of districts’ territory is affected by mudflows and floods; 17% is affected by hail and 3% is affected by landslides costing the Country about USD 450 million. The Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) identifies forestry as a major sector in both the mitigation and the adaptation commitments, where afforestation, goal oriented multi-purpose forest management, forest protection and increasing carbon storage in soil are identified as measures as well as targets. Consequently, the project will work in Lori and Syunik benefiting about 508,000 beneficiaries (17% of the total population) and will directly involve 9,000 households from communities located in forest areas distributed in 15 municipalities and 207 rural communities⁵.

2.2 ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SCREENING

2.2.1 Project components

The proposed “Forest resilience of Armenia, enhancing adaptation and rural green growth via mitigation” project aims at increasing forest cover of about 5,700 ha (+2% of total forest cover and 24% of NDC target) ensuring sustainable forest management on at least 135,800 ha⁶ of forests and with carbon sinking potential increased by at least 18.8 MtCO₂ eq (20 years) and reduced emission by 200,000 tCO₂ eq (20 years). To ensure the aimed paradigm shift the following set of goal, objectives, outcomes and outputs have been identified:

¹ For the purpose of this document, all references can be found in Annex 11 of the Full Funding Proposal.

² Likely to reduce fuelwood resource to 10% of Armenian households.

³ From 1990s to present day, beetle infestation affected between 19,000 and 30,000 ha of forestland.

⁴ Main forest species are beech, oak, hornbeam, and pine, which make 89.1% of forest cover and 97.2% of forest reserves

⁵ The total number of rural communities derives from the 2011 official census. Final number of target communities will be confirmed during design once data from Hayantar ongoing survey will be available

⁶ Equivalent to Forest Cover in Lori and Syunik.

Goal: By 2030, contribute to achieving ecosystem neutral GHG emission with clear and monitorable adaptation co-benefits.

Specific Objective: By 2027, CO2 removals from the forests subsector are increased by at least 7% via sustainable climate adaptive forestry investments and fuelwood energy efficiency with effective involvement of communities.

The project has three Components. *Components 1 and 2 are of relevance, and therefore considered, for this ESS.*

Component 1: Climate change mitigation through forest investments and capacity development.

Outcome 1: By 2026, at least 2.5% of degraded forestland is restored and sustainably managed following a climate adaptive methodology.

Output 1.1: By 2021 at least 3 nurseries are operational in the production of climate adaptive seedlings and Hyantar staff capacitated.

Output 1.2: By 2025, at least 7,300 ha of forest and agroforestry investments are secured in target areas with sustainable and climate adaptive approaches and practices.

Output 1.3: By 2025 at least 1,700 people from Hyantar, local authorities the private sector and the civil society are empowered in sustainable and climate adaptive silviculture.

Component 2: Promoting forest sustainability reducing forest degradation drivers and adaptation deficit of rural communities.

Outcome 2: By 2025, fuelwood dependency of targeted rural communities is optimized and decreased by at least 25%,

Output 2.1: By 2021, National Standards for energy efficiency of heating related appliances are approved and EE companies are trained on how to incorporate them in their operations.

Output 2.2: By 2024, at least 15 private EE companies are involved on wood-stoves assembling, installation and maintenance and dispose of skilled labor in target areas.

Output 2.3: By 2025, at least 9,000 HH dispose of increased EE wood stoves in target areas and are trained on fuelwood management.

Component 3: Strengthening governance of forest resources and climate change's impact management at community, and local and central government levels.

Outcome 3: By 2026, relevant stakeholders (Hyantar and local municipalities) are enabled to adopt effective governance and adaptive management of forests including wood and non-wood products.

Output 3.1: By 2024, the guidelines to enhance participation and engagement of Community in sustainable and climate adaptive management of forest are approved by the Ministry of Environment (MoE).

Output 3.2: By 2022, a National Forest Monitoring and Assessment System (NFMA) established, the first inventory cycle completed, discussed with stakeholders and results mainstreamed into relevant policies.

Output 3.3: By 2026, at least 300,000 people from 207 rural communities in target areas are exposed, sensitized and empowered on climate adaptive silviculture, energy efficiency and climate change mainstreaming.

2.2.2 FAO environmental and social safeguards

Table 1: FAO Applicable Safeguards

FAO Safeguard	Applies	Justification
ESS1: Natural Resource Management	No	Not applicable.
ESS2: Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Natural Habitats	No	Not applicable.
ESS3: Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	Yes	While the project will establish and/or manage planted forests, it will only plant with native or locally adapted species and involving local communities. Activities will be executed according to the responsible management of planted forests and related voluntary guidelines. Planted forest will be owned by the State Forest Fund and Municipalities according to the Forest Code of the Republic of Armenia of 2005. The purpose of planted forests will be prevalently non-industrial, and for environmental protection. Forest land use activity will mainly be reforestation.
ESS4: Animal - Livestock and Aquatic - Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	No	Not applicable.
ESS5: Pest and Pesticide Management	No	Not applicable.
ESS6: Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement	No	Not applicable.
ESS7: Decent Work	Yes	<p>The project will operate in areas where major gender inequality in the labour market prevails. Therefore, the project will work with local women in order to contribute to gender equality and women' empowerment. To this end the project will partner with key actors such as the Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment and the Armenian Diaspora NGO. Gender issues will be addressed by the project according to FAO's Policy on Gender Equality and GCF gender mainstreaming policy. Gender issues are specifically integrated into project design and implementation through the project's Gender Action Plan.</p> <p>The project might employ workers for the afforestation and reforestation activities. Should this be the case, employment of temporary workers will be undertaken according to UN/FAO standards.</p>
ESS8: Gender Equality	No	Not applicable.
ESS9: Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage	No	Not applicable (according to available literature consulted and information collected from UN agencies, central and local authorities and communities, it has been confirmed that, in both regions/Country, there are no self-identified indigenous peoples in Armenia).

2.2.3 GCF exclusion criteria

Table 2: GCF Exclusion Criteria

Exclusion Criteria	Yes	No
Will the activities involve associated facilities or generate cumulative impacts that would require further detailed due diligence and management planning?		X
Will the activities involve transboundary impacts including those that would require further due diligence and notification to affected states?		X
Will the activities adversely affect working conditions and health and safety of workers or potentially employ vulnerable categories of workers including women and children?		X
Will the activities potentially generate hazardous waste and pollutants including pesticides and contaminate lands that would require further studies on management, minimization and control and compliance to the country and applicable international environmental quality standards?		X
Will the activities involve the construction, maintenance, and rehabilitation of critical infrastructure (like dams, water impoundments, coastal and river bank infrastructure) that would require further technical assessment and safety studies?		X

III. POTENTIAL IMPACTS

3.1 FOREST REHABILITATION ACTIVITIES (Component 1)

The focus of Component 1 is to support forest restoration interventions (reforestation) for increasing both resilience of forests to climate risks and carbon storage. This will be achieved through the following interventions:

1. Selection of a significant number of forest species better adapted to the climate projections in the target areas, and production of high quality plant material to be used in field planting operations.
2. Restoration of degraded State forestland through tree planting of a mix of forest species adapted to the target sites.
3. Restoration of degraded Municipal land through tree planting of a mix of wild fruit tree species and shrubs with multi-purpose environmental and socio-economic benefits.

There are no/negligible envisaged environmental and social risks of forest rehabilitation activities. The project will only rehabilitate forest with native, adapted species. In addition, through training and provision of technical assistance, high-quality plant material will be ensured, from sourcing to production. Planning and implementing seedling establishment will also be ensured through Hayantar staff community participation, using best practices, and effective monitoring. Training will be provided to Hayantar staff, local administration, communities and forest management communities on forest rehabilitation, and climate adaptive forest rehabilitation and management.

Risks related to undermining the project forest rehabilitation impacts/outcomes can include, for example, continuation of uncontrolled forest use and Illegal logging, overexploitation of forests, or non-regulated grazing. These risks are monitored through the georeferencing of all project activities, which will therefore allow constant follow up via FAO's newly developed Remote Sensing application "Earth Map". The combination of georeferencing, ground-truthing with partners and communities, and the remote sensing analysis via FAO/Earth Map will allow the M&E unit, the NDA, FAO and the GCF to have a clear understanding of the project's effectiveness and efficiency. The described approach will allow the M&E unit to advise and support the EPIU management and the MOE with evidence, as well as stakeholders and beneficiaries in their decision-making processes to halt illegal activities. In addition, through the National Forest Monitoring and Assessment System (NFMA) by Y5 of the project (output 3.2) overexploitation of forests will be documented.

3.2 ENERGY EFFICIENCY ACTIVITIES (Component 2)

The focus of Component 2 is on decreasing forest degradation drivers (i.e. unsustainable and inefficient use of wood for energy purposes) and hence on a sustainable use of woody biomass for energy purposes in Armenia. This will be achieved through the following activities:

1. Increase fuelwood quality, and hence energy content per kg wood.
2. Utilize the best conversion technology and increase efficiency of combustion.
3. Optimize consumer behavior.
4. Renewable energy alternative options (solar water heaters)

There are no/negligible envisaged environmental and social risks of energy efficiency (EE) activities. The introduction of identified appliances will not generate additional waste and their use will only have positive impacts on the environment both reducing CO2 emissions and decreasing the need of fuelwood. Furthermore, proposed appliances will increase job opportunities in target areas, reduce health risks for households (lower emission of smoke) and increase safety as appliances will comply with international standards (ISO). Finally, proposed appliances will improve the overall condition of households with no additional CO2/environmental cost.

3.3 PROPERTY RIGHTS AND LAND TENURE

Issues of property rights and land tenure within the project sites are relevant within the context of Component 1. The project will work only in areas owned by the State Forest Fund and in areas owned by the Municipalities according to the laws of the Republic of Armenia. In order to ensure avoidance of land tenure issues, forestry investments will be executed in areas that adhere to the following minimal requirements:

1. Identified sites will not overlap with other forestry projects.
2. Identified sites will not correspond to areas assigned to offset environmental damages caused by the private sectors or others.
3. Identified sites will have the necessary biophysical requirements to secure survival of seedlings;
4. Identified sites will be cleared by central and local institutions and will be clearly defined from a legal point of view (potentially disputed plots excluded).
5. Identified sites will not require changes in land tenure or that might cause conflicts with adjacent communities.
6. Identified sites will not include areas under legal/illegal pasture uses and other areas other temporary land use by the communities (e.g. either for shelter or source of livelihood other than pasture) as far as these other uses are agreed with local and central authorities.

All forestry investments will be in State Forest lands (where the State is the only actor in these lands) and in Municipal lands where informed consent from communities has already been obtained by local partners (i.e WWF – Armenia) following consultations and engagement activities during the project design phase.

3.4 INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS

According to available literature consulted and information collected from UN agencies, central and local authorities and communities, it has been confirmed that, in both regions/Country, there are no self-identified indigenous peoples in Armenia.

IV. LEGAL/REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

4.1 INTERNATIONAL

The Republic of Armenia has ratified numerous international conventions. The most pertinent for this project are the UN conventions on climate change, biodiversity and desertification.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Armenia ratified the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in May 1993 as a developing country not included in Annex I to the Convention; in 2003, Armenia ratified the UNFCCC Kyoto Protocol and in 2017, ratified the Paris Accord.

In September 2015, Armenia submitted its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) to the UNFCCC. Armenia's First Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) was submitted to the UNFCCC in 2017⁷. Energy (including renewable energy and energy efficiency) and land use and forestry (afforestation, forest protection, carbon storage in soil) are included in the INDC mitigation contribution, whereas adaptation activities will be prioritized based on the most vulnerable sectors to climate change. These include natural ecosystems (aquatic and terrestrial, including forest ecosystems, biodiversity and land cover) and energy. Armenia submitted its Third National Communication (TNC) on Climate Change in 2015.

Convention on Biological Diversity.

A Party to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) since December 1993, Armenia prepared its Fifth National Report to the CBD in September 2014. It then adopted its revised National Strategy and Action Plan on the Conservation, Protection, Reproduction and Use of Biological Diversity, and associated Action Plan for 2016-2020, in December 2015; it was received by the CBD in February 2016. The following directions of the Strategy of the Republic of Armenia on Biodiversity Conservation and Use include:

1. Improvement of legislative and institutional frameworks related to biodiversity.
2. Enhancement of biodiversity and ecosystem conservation and restoration of degraded habitats.
3. Reduction of the direct pressures on biodiversity and promotion of sustainable use.
4. Elimination of the main causes of biodiversity loss through regulation of intersectoral relations and public awareness raising.
5. Enhancement of scientific research, knowledge management and capacity building in the field of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

UN Convention to Combat Desertification.

Armenia ratified the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in 1997. Armenia's "National Action Programme to Combat Desertification in Armenia" was approved by the Government of the Republic of Armenia in 2002. It states that desertification issues are relevant for Armenia, and their causes and factors were identified – measures to address these, aimed at the improvement of the socio-economic situation in view of contributing to the prevention/elimination or mitigation of desertification, include:

1. Improvement of legislation and management system.
2. Improvement of natural resources use mechanisms.
3. Expansion of research activities and improvement of monitoring system.
4. Improvement of educational system.
5. Ensuring public awareness.
6. Implementation of joint activities within the scope of Rio conventions.
7. Ensuring international cooperation.

Specifically to forestry, in the section (8) entitled: "The correlation between desertification and natural resources management", the Action Programme states that: "where the deforestation in the result of different socio-economic problems and high demand of wood still exceeds the capacity of natural regeneration of the forest. This is facilitated by the availability of wood, rise of energy prices and low solvency of socially vulnerable classes of the population. Wood continues to be the main source of fuel for population of the communities living near the forests".

4.2 NATIONAL

4.2.1 Forestry

⁷ <http://www4.unfccc.int/ndcregistry/Pages/All.aspx>. Accessed on 20 October 2018.

Key documents of Armenia's forest sector include the National Forest Policy and Strategy (2004), National Forest Program (2005), Illegal Logging Action Plan (2005), and the State Forest Monitoring Program (2006). Having said that, Armenia's forest sector is regulated by the Forest Code, Land Code and other legal acts.

Forest Code of the Republic of Armenia (October 2005).

The Forest Code is of specific relevance to Component 1.

The Forest Code of the Republic of Armenia "regulates relations connected with sustainable forest management – guarding, protection, rehabilitation, afforestation and rational use of forests and forest lands of the Republic of Armenia as well as with forest stock-taking, monitoring, control and forest lands". It regulates forests irrespective of the form of forest ownership; forests are considered state property and managed by state entities, although the Code sets forth the possibility of community and private ownership of forests. Chapter 2 (ownership of forests and forest lands), Article 4 (the right of property towards forests and forest lands)⁸ states that:

1. Forests and forest lands can be under state, community and private ownership.
2. State forests and forest lands shall not be subject to alienation to communities, legal persons and citizens.
3. The forest established on the lands owned by communities, legal persons and citizens by their owners shall be regarded as their property.
4. The right of property towards forests and other property rights shall be subject to state registration by the order determined by the legislation of the Republic of Armenia.

The Forest Code further clarifies the competencies of the Government, state authorized bodies, territorial bodies of state management and local self-governing bodies in the field of sustainable forest management. The Forest Code is a key piece of national legislation in that it recognizes importance of communities (local self-governing bodies) in sustainable forest management.

Specifically, Article 9: Competences of local self-governing bodies in the sphere of sustainable forest management states that: "The competences of local self-governing bodies in the sphere of sustainable forest management are as follows:

- a) possession, use, disposal of community forests and running of forest economy according to this Code;
- b) participation in the development of state programs and safeguarding of their implementation within their administrative territories according to the order determined by the law;
- c) involvement of specialized services, forest users and population in the works to fight forest fires;
- d) management of state forests given for community management;
- e) giving consent to change special-purpose significance of lands and carry out engineer-geological studies for the activities on construction, blasting, extraction of useful minerals, installation of cables, pipe-lines and other communications, drilling and others having no connection with the running of forest economy and forest use on community forest lands."

4.2.2 Energy Efficiency

Activities related to rural energy efficiency (Component 2) are coherent with Armenia's Energy Law (2001) and the Law on Energy Saving and Renewable Energy (2004).

Energy Law (2001).

The Energy Law of the Republic of Armenia regulates interrelations between legal entities involved in the energy sector and electricity, heating and natural gas consumers pursuant to the law and state bodies.

The basic principles of the policy are⁹:

1. Efficient use of domestic energy resources and alternative sources of energy and implementation of economic and legal mechanisms for that purpose.

⁸ Forest Code of the Republic of Armenia. 2005. <http://www.nature-ic.am/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Forest-Code-of-RA.pdf>. Accessed on 17 October, 2018.

⁹ International Energy Agency. <https://www.iea.org/policiesandmeasures/pams/armenia/name-31806-en.php>. Accessed on 18 October, 2018.

2. Enhancement of the energy independence of the Republic, including the differentiation of domestic and imported energy resources and ensuring the maximum utilization of generating capacities.
3. Enhancement of competition and efficient operation in the energy sector.
4. Encouragement of investments in the energy sector.
5. Ensuring transparency of the licensed operations in the energy sector.
6. Ensuring safety in the energy sector and protection of the environment.

Law on Energy Saving and Renewable Energy (2004).

The Law on Energy Saving and Renewable Energy seeks to identify mechanisms to improve energy efficiency and develop additional sources of renewable energy. More specifically, it defines the principles of the state policy on energy efficiency and renewable energy with the following objectives¹⁰:

1. To strengthen the economic and energy independence and improve energy security.
2. To increase the reliability of the energy systems.
3. To establish and develop industrial infrastructure and service organizations for the promotion of energy saving and renewable energy.
4. To reduce adverse impacts on the environment and human health as a result of technological developments.

The Law further stipulates that state policy in the area of energy saving and renewable energy shall be based on the principle of voluntary participation of the involved parties, and the following principles¹¹:

1. Increasing the level of supply of indigenous renewable energy carriers to satisfy the energy demand of the economy.
2. Implementation of energy-saving strategies, as well as the development and enforcement of legal and economic mechanisms for the promotion of renewable energy.
3. Ensuring high priority of efficient use of energy given the increasing volumes of imported and extracted energy resources.
4. Ensuring increasing usage of renewable energy resources as well as the application and development of new renewable energy technologies.
5. Ensuring competitiveness of renewable energy resources and protection/enforcement of the rights of businesses engaged in the area of renewable energy.
6. Ensuring high priority of issues of environmental protection and efficient (economic) usage of natural resources while implementing measures/activities aimed at the development of energy saving and renewable energy.
7. Promotion of energy-efficient production of electric and/or heat energy, including for autonomous energy producers.
8. Promotion of integrated activities between autonomous energy producers, using renewable energy resources, and the energy system aimed at the exchange of electric energy.
9. Promotion of consumer choices and use of different energy carriers and energy efficiency technologies.
10. Implementation of energy-saving and renewable energy state (national)-targeted programmes.

4.2.3 Environmental and Social Impact Assessment

Following independence, Armenia adopted its first Environmental Impact Assessment Law (No. AL-21) in 1995, and in 2014, became Party to the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention).

Law on Environmental Impact Assessment and Expertise.

In 2014, the Republic of Armenia adopted its new Law on Environmental Impact Assessment and Expertise (Law No. HO-110-N). This Law provides the legal basis for the implementation and introduction of state expertise of planned activities and concept frameworks as well as presents the standard steps of the

¹⁰ Energy Charter Secretariat. International Energy Charter, 2017. In-Depth Review of the Energy Efficiency Policy of Armenia. 2017. https://energycharter.org/fileadmin/DocumentsMedia/EERR/ARMENIA_IDR_2017_Final_EN.pdf. Accessed on 18 October, 2018.

¹¹ *Ibid.*

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for various projects and activities. It establishes the general legal, economic, and organizational principles for conducting mandatory state EIA of various types of projects and concepts of sectoral development (energy, mining, chemical industry, construction, metallurgy, pulp and paper, agriculture, food and fishery, water, electronics, infrastructure, services, tourism and recreation, etc.). Consisting of 12 Chapters, Chapter 3, Article 14 states that planned activities are classified into three Categories (A, B and C) reflecting different levels of environmental impact assessment according to severity of possible environmental impacts¹². For forestry, reforestation activities fall under Category C. Small-scale energy efficiency activities (such as the technologies implemented in this project) do not fall under any Category.

MoE is responsible for the assessment and monitoring of the impacts of developing projects. The EIA process is conducted by the Center of Expertise for Environmental Impact Assessment, which is a subsidiary body of Armenia's Ministry of Nature Protection.

Given that this project is classified as Category C, further environmental and social assessment is not envisaged. Should, however, activities be undertaken that would require further environmental assessment by FAO or nationally, the more stringent will apply.

V. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The "Forest resilience of Armenia, enhancing adaptation and rural green growth via mitigation" project was developed and prepared by request of the Government of the Republic of Armenia. A No-Objection Letter from the Armenia National Designated Authority (NDA) was submitted to FAO in March 2018 and the Concept Note, which was submitted to the GCF, was given consensus to proceed with developing a full project proposal in April 2018.

Stakeholder engagement was undertaken during the Funding Proposal development stage and will continue during project implementation. The main stakeholder of the Project is the MoE, which is the legal right-holder concerning forests, their management and their protection. The project will be under national execution. Stakeholders will participate in both the preparation of the Annual Working Plan and Budget and in monitoring of activities. Consultations will be formally secured every year of the project and will include local institutions, representative of the civil society and the private sectors. Monitoring of funded activities will be also open to stakeholders as described in Chapter 13 of the full funding proposal.

5.1 CONSULTATIONS HELD DURING PROJECT FORMULATION

Three national consultations and two Marz consultations (one each in target Marz, i.e. Lori and Syunik) were held during project formulation. More detailed information is available in Annex 4.

First national consultation.

The first national stakeholder consultation took place on 23 June 2017 in Yerevan, Armenia. This was a workshop entitled "GCF Proposal Formulation Workshop". Among others, participants included FAO, and representatives from both Ministerial level and technical departments of the Republic of Armenia's Ministries of Agriculture, the Ministry of Nature Protection, Ministry of Territorial Administration and Development, the Ministry of Emergency Situations (Hidromet), the Forestry State Monitoring Center, Hayantar (heads of department and forestry officers from different Hayantar branches), the Water State Committee, representatives from Marzes (including Lori Department of Agriculture and Nature Protection), Institute of Botany; UN agencies (UNFPA, UNDP); NGOs (including WWF-Armenia, Environmental Protection Advocacy Center, National Water Cooperation, Armenian Tree Project); and bilateral development agencies (GIZ, Austrian Development Agency). The main purpose of the proposal formulation workshop was to elaborate and refine the GCF concept note – and identify country needs. An overview of the GCF was presented, as well as of Armenia's expected climatic vulnerabilities and relevant priorities and other contextual pressures. An overview of the draft proposed approach was then presented, structured

¹² FAO LEX Database. <http://www.fao.org/faolex/results/details/en/c/LEX-FAOC179251>. Accessed on October 19, 2018.

discussion groups were formed, and feedback (e.g. country needs) then received to guide Concept Note development.

Second national consultation.

The second national stakeholder consultation, GCF Stakeholder Workshop “Strengthening Climate Resilience in Armenia’s Productive Landscapes”: A Proposal to the Green Climate Fund (GCF-Armenia)” took place on 6 October 2017 in Yerevan, Armenia. Key participants were invited to learn about GCF key investment criteria and its relevance for the formulation of the GCF proposal in Armenia as well as work on the fine tuning of the GCF Concept Note road map. More specifically, the project proposal CN road map, timeframe, objectives and outcomes were presented, after which followed discussions on the Concept Note and roadmap. The project’s Theory of Change was fine tuned. Discussions and feedback received focused on the need to increase the hectareage of community forestry activity (municipal forest hectares increased from 300 to 1,000), ensure women’s participation, and ensure the participation of the private sector, especially in energy efficiency activities (co-financing was secured to ensure their involvement). All feedback was subsequently included and integrated in project design. Among others, participants included FAO and representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Nature Protection, Hayantar (heads of department and forestry officers from different Hayantar branches), UN agencies, WWF-Armenia, NGOs (including women’s groups) and bilateral development agencies.

Third national consultation.

The third national stakeholder consultation, GCF Stakeholder Workshop “Strengthening Climate Resilience in Armenia’s Productive Landscapes”: A Proposal to the Green Climate Fund (GCF-Armenia)”, took place on 7 September 2018 in Yerevan, Armenia. The aim was to fine tune the GCF Full Funding Proposal. Presentation were given on: the GCF Reaction to the Concept Note, an update on GCF, the project proposal, objectives and outcomes, and target areas and project monitoring strategy. Consensus was obtained on the project proposal. Among others, participants included FAO, and representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Nature Protection, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Finance, Hayantar (heads of department and forestry officers from different Hayantar branches), the Forest Committee, Syunik Marzpetan, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Armenia, UN agencies and IFI’s (World Bank, EBRD, ABD); WWF-Armenia, NGOs (including women’s group AWHHE, and Habitat For Humanity, Energy Saving Foundation, ATREE, Environmental Protection Advocacy Center) and bilateral development agencies (SDC, Austrian Development Agency). For the consultation, FAO placed specific importance on ensuring representation and participation of women’s and environmental groups.

First Marz consultation - Lori.

The first Marz consultation took place on 4 September 2018 in Lori, Armenia. The aim of the consultation was to the present the project proposal, objectives and outcomes, target areas and project monitoring strategy. More specifically, this stakeholder dialogue workshop was held with the municipality, community representatives, NGOs, and State forest staff. Participants included the Heads of eight communities, representatives of Gugark, Yeghegnut and Tashir Forest Enterprises, representatives of Lori Marzpetaran, Department of Agriculture and Nature Protection, women’s groups, and FAO. Stakeholders were presented with a progress update, followed by hearings and clarifications, and confirmation of cooperation.

Second Marz consultation - Syunik.

The second Marz consultation took place on 5 September 2018 in Syunik, Armenia. The aim of the consultation was to the present the project proposal, objectives and outcomes, target areas and project monitoring strategy. More specifically, this stakeholder dialogue workshop was held with the municipality, community representatives, NGOs, and State forest staff. Participants included representatives from the Ministries of Nature Protection, Agriculture, Economy and Finance, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Hayantar, Syunik Marzpetaran, WWF, NGOs (e.g. Armenian Tree Project, Environmental Protection Advocacy Center, AWHHE), Energy Saving Foundation, donor agencies (e.g. ADB, SDC), WB, and FAO. Stakeholders were presented with a progress update, followed by hearings and clarifications, and confirmation of cooperation.

5.2 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Stakeholders will be engaged in project implementation throughout the duration of the entire project implementation. Specifically, this will be guaranteed through the National Execution modality and by the fact that the project will ensure Community Monitoring Participation and Annual Working Plan and Budget (AWPB) meetings, which will take place once a year, at the beginning of each of the eight project Fiscal Years (FY). Furthermore, there will be a total of 16 marz-level meetings (two Marzes (total of 15 Municipalities) per year). In essence, stakeholder engagement will be ensured *under the aegis of AWPB review and preparation, supported by the outcomes of marz-level Community Monitoring Participation consultations*. Through this process, all activities will be discussed, reviewed and validated before becoming the final AWPB.

It should be noted that as a Category C project, there is no Environmental and Social Management Framework to be followed-up on – rather, the EPIU M&E specialist will be responsible for keeping all stakeholders informed of, and receiving feedback from all stakeholders, on any issues that may arise, in particular regarding the Grievance Redress Mechanism. Together with the Gender Specialist, the EPIU M&E specialist will also be responsible for ensuring that the Gender Action Plan is carried out.

National-level consultations.

Formal stakeholder consultation will take place at the beginning of each Fiscal Year (FY), under the aegis of the reviews of the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB). These will be held in Yerevan; participants will include government, governorates, municipalities and communities. Details of the AWPB consultations for the Fiscal Years are below:

FY1: At the beginning of the first FY, the AWPB will be produced by the EPIU in consultation with MoE, the Governorates, the Municipalities, and other concerned stakeholders. At this time, the AWPB mechanism will be explained; the Grievance Redress Mechanism will also be presented and explained.

FY2-8: As reported in the M&E section of Annex 2, from year two of the project the AWPB will be composed of the previous year's complete report and the plan from the next coming year. At the beginning of FY2, the AWPB will be presented by the EPIU and reviewed by all stakeholders, including the Governorates, Municipalities, and communities (Mayors, and open to all other stakeholders). The purpose of these AWPB consultations is to review the work undertaken in the previous FY, assess if activities are on track, validate results, and identify, if necessary, any modifications that need to be made. Stakeholder feedback for this is essential – the Marz-level Community Monitoring Participation feeds into this. The new AWPB will then be prepared.

The Grievance Redress Mechanism will again be presented and explained (FY2), and validated at each consultation during FY 2-8.

FY4 and FY8: At the beginning of FY4 and FY8, in addition to the regular annual report and AWPB preparation/feedback/review, FY4 and FY8 will be of particular importance for the project and for communities that will be called in to participate in the Mid-Term and Terminal Review reviews.

Marz-level community consultations: Community Monitoring Participation

The project will apply a new approach to monitoring ensuring participation of target beneficiaries and stakeholders into the process. Given the importance and relevance attributed by the theory of change to community's participation in ecosystem-based forest management, the M&E unit will ensure annual consultations in target areas to support planning and monitor execution of activities. In addition, these consultations will also provide a space to discuss all project activities. Importantly, the Grievance Redress Mechanism will be presented and explained (FY1), and validated at each consultation during FY 2-8. Therefore, Marz-level community consultations will be held under the aegis of "Community Monitoring Participation", and these consultations will feed into the review and preparation of the AWPBs. For each FY, there will be two marz-level consultations ("community monitoring participation") - one each for Lori and Syunik.

FY1: At the beginning of the first FY, the AWPB will be produced by the EPIU together with MoE, the Governorates, the Municipalities, and other concerned stakeholders. At this time, the Grievance Redress Mechanism will also be presented and explained to communities. Communities will also be informed of the process through with the Community Monitoring Participation consultations will feed into the preparation of AWPBs.

FY2-8: From year two of the project the AWPB will be composed of the previous year's complete report and the plan from the next coming year. At the beginning of FY2, the AWPB will be presented by the EPIU and reviewed by all stakeholders, including communities. The purpose of these AWPB consultations is to review the work undertaken in the previous FY, assess if activities are on track, validate results, and identify, if necessary, any modifications that need to be made. Stakeholder feedback for this is essential – the Marz-level Community Monitoring Participation feeds into this. The new AWPB will then be prepared.

The Grievance Redress Mechanism will again be presented and explained (FY2), and validated at each consultation during FY 2-8.

FY4 and FY8: At the beginning of FY4 and FY8, in addition to the regular annual report and AWPB preparation/feedback/review, FY4 and FY8 will be of particular importance for the project and for communities that will be called in to participate in the Mid-Term and Terminal Review reviews.

VI. GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM

FAO is committed to ensuring that its programs are implemented in accordance with its environmental and social obligations. In order to better achieve these goals, and to ensure that beneficiaries of FAO programs have access to an effective and timely mechanism to address their concerns about non-compliance with these obligations, the Organization, in order to supplement measures for receiving, reviewing and acting as appropriate on these concerns at the program management level, has entrusted the Office of the Inspector-General with the mandate to independently review the complaints that cannot be resolved at that level.

FAO will facilitate the resolution of concerns of beneficiaries of FAO programs regarding alleged or potential violations of FAO's social and environmental commitments. For this purpose, concerns may be communicated in accordance with the eligibility criteria of the Guidelines for Compliance Reviews Following Complaints Related to the Organization's Environmental and Social Standards¹³, which applies to all FAO programs and projects (Guidelines for Compliance Reviews Following Complaints Related to the Organization's Environmental and Social Standards).

Concerns must be addressed at the closest appropriate level, i.e. at the programme management/technical level, and if necessary at the Regional Office level. If a concern or grievance cannot be resolved through consultations and measures at the project management level, a complaint requesting a Compliance Review may be filed with the Office of the Inspector-General (OIG) in accordance with the Guidelines. Program and project managers will have the responsibility to address concerns brought to the attention of the focal point.

Project-level grievance mechanism

The project will establish a grievance mechanism at field level to file complaints. Contact information and information on the process to file a complaint will be disclosed in all meetings, workshops and other related events throughout the life of the project. In addition, it is expected that awareness raising material be distributed to include the necessary information regarding the contacts and the process for filing grievances. The Environmental Project Implementation Unit (EPIU) will be responsible for addressing incoming grievances regarding environmental and social standards; as part of the safeguards performance

¹³ Available online at: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4439e.pdf>

monitoring, the Project Coordinator of the EPIU will be responsible for documenting and reporting on any grievances received and how they were addressed.

Grievance Redress Mechanism Structure:

1. The complainant files a complaint through one of the channels of the grievance mechanism, which will be set up (email address, telephone number(s), contact person or physical address) before project implementation.
2. This will be sent to the EPIU, where the Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, who also acts as the GRM Focal Person, will assess whether or not the complaint is eligible. *The confidentiality of the complaint must be ensured throughout the process.*
3. Eligible complaints will be addressed by the EPIU Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Officer together with the Project Coordinator of the EPIU. The Project Coordinator will be responsible for recording the grievance and how it has been addressed if a resolution was agreed upon.
4. If the situation is exceptionally complex, or the complainer does not accept the resolution, the complaint must be escalated to a higher level (FAO Armenia Representation), until a solution or acceptance is reached.
5. If the situation is still not resolved, the grievance will be escalated to the FAO Regional Office Europe and Central Asia.
6. If the situation is still not resolved, the grievance will be escalated to the FAO Office of the Inspector-General.
7. For every complaint received, written proof of receipt will be sent within seven (7) working days; afterwards, a resolution proposal will be made within ten (10) working days.
8. In compliance with the resolution, the person in charge of dealing with the complaint may interact with the complainant, or may call for interviews and meetings, to better understand the situation.
9. All complaints received, their response and resolutions, must be duly registered.

Internal process

1. Project Implementation Unit. The complaint can directly contact the EPIU either in writing, or orally. At this level, received complaints will be registered, investigated and solved by the EPIU.
2. FAO Representative. The assistance of the FAO Representative is requested if a resolution was not reached and agreed upon in level 1.
3. FAO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia. If necessary, the FAO Representative will request the advice of the Regional Office to resolve a grievance, or will transfer the resolution of the grievance entirely to the regional office, if the problem is highly complex.
4. Only on very specific situations or complex problems, the FAO Regional Representative will request the assistance on the FAO Inspector General who pursues its own procedures to resolve the problem.

Resolution

Upon acceptance a solution by the complainer, a document with the agreement should be signed.

Level of Redress Mechanism	Details
EPIU	Must respond within 7 working days. Contact details to be established before project implementation. In consultation with EPIU, must respond within 5 working days.
FAO representation	Mr Raimund Jehle Governmental building No 3, First floor, Room 124. Yerevan Mailing Address: UN House, 14 P. Adamyan Street. FAO Box 0010 Yerevan, Armenia FAO-AM@fao.org Tel: +374-10-525453

Must respond within 5 working days in consultation with FAO's Representation.

Regional FAO Office for
Europe and Central Asia

Mr Vladimir Rakhmanin
REU-ADG@fao.org
FAO-RO-Europe@fao.org

Tel: +36 1 4612000

Fax: +36 1 3517029

Office of the Inspector General
(OIG)

To report possible fraud and bad behavior by fax, confidential:
(+39) 06 570 55550

By e-mail: Investigations-hotline@fao.org

By confidential hotline: (+ 39) 06 570 52333

ANNEX 1: FAO Environmental and Social Risk Identification – Screening Checklist (Trigger Questions)

	Question	YES	NO
1	Would this project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • result in the degradation (biological or physical) of soils or undermine sustainable land management practices; or • include the development of a large irrigation scheme, dam construction, use of waste water or affect the quality of water; or • reduce the adaptive capacity to climate change or increase GHG emissions significantly; or • result in any changes to existing tenure rights¹⁴ (formal and informal¹⁵) of individuals, communities or others to land, fishery and forest resources? 		X
2	Would this project be executed in or around protected areas or natural habitats, decrease the biodiversity or alter the ecosystem functionality, use alien species, or use genetic resources?		X
3	Would this project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce crops and varieties previously not grown, and/or; • Provide seeds/planting material for cultivation, and/or; • Involve the importing or transfer of seeds and or planting material for cultivation <u>or</u> research and development; • Supply or use modern biotechnologies or their products in crop production, and/or • Establish or manage planted forests? 	X	
4	Would this project introduce non-native or non-locally adapted species, breeds, genotypes or other genetic material to an area or production system, or modify in any way the surrounding habitat or production system used by existing genetic resources?		X
5	Would this project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • result in the direct or indirect procurement, supply or use of pesticides¹⁶: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ on crops, livestock, aquaculture, forestry, household; or ▪ as seed/crop treatment in field or storage; or ▪ through input supply programmes including voucher schemes; or ▪ for small demonstration and research purposes; or ▪ for strategic stocks (locust) and emergencies; or ▪ causing adverse effects to health and/or environment; or • result in an increased use of pesticides in the project area as a result of production intensification; or • result in the management or disposal of pesticide waste and pesticide contaminated materials; or • result in violations of the Code of Conduct? 		X
6	Would this project permanently or temporarily remove people from their homes or means of production/livelihood or restrict their access to their means of livelihood?		X
7	Would this project affect the current or future employment situation of the rural poor, and in particular the labour productivity, employability, labour	X	

¹⁴Tenure rights are rights to own, use or benefit from natural resources such as land, water bodies or forests

¹⁵ Socially or traditionally recognized tenure rights that are not defined in law may still be considered to be 'legitimate tenure rights'.

¹⁶ Pesticide means any substance, or mixture of substances of chemical or biological ingredients intended for repelling, destroying or controlling any pest, or regulating plant growth.

	conditions and rights at work of self-employed rural producers and other rural workers?		
8	Could this project risk overlooking existing gender inequalities in access to productive resources, goods, services, markets, decent employment and decision-making? For example, by not addressing existing discrimination against women and girls, or by not taking into account the different needs of men and women.		X
9	<p>Would this project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have indigenous peoples* living outside the project area¹ where activities will take place; or • have indigenous peoples living in the project area where activities will take place; or • adversely or seriously affect on indigenous peoples' rights, lands, natural resources, territories, livelihoods, knowledge, social fabric, traditions, governance systems, and culture or heritage (physical² and non-physical or intangible³) inside and/or outside the project area; or • be located in an area where cultural resources exist? <p>* FAO considers the following criteria to identify indigenous peoples: priority in time with respect to occupation and use of a specific territory; the voluntary perpetuation of cultural distinctiveness (e.g. languages, laws and institutions); self-identification; an experience of subjugation, marginalization, dispossession, exclusion or discrimination (whether or not these conditions persist).</p> <p>¹The phrase "Outside the project area" should be read taking into consideration the likelihood of project activities to influence the livelihoods, land access and/or rights of Indigenous Peoples' irrespective of physical distance. In example: If an indigenous community is living 100 km away from a project area where fishing activities will affect the river yield which is also accessed by this community, then the user should answer "YES" to the question.</p> <p>²Physical defined as movable or immovable objects, sites, structures, group of structures, natural features and landscapes that have archaeological, paleontological, historical, architectural, religious, aesthetic or other cultural significance located in urban or rural settings, ground, underground or underwater.</p> <p>³Non-physical or intangible defined as "the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge and skills as well as the instruments, objects, artifacts and cultural spaces associated therewith that communities, groups, and in some cases individuals, recognize as part of their spiritual and/or cultural heritage"</p>		X

Annex 2: Environmental and Social Risks and Mitigation

There are no envisaged negative environmental or social impacts. Indeed, the activities proposed by the project will contribute to tangible improvements of the overall state of the environment in Armenia. In addition to the presented positive impacts in terms of climate change mitigation and adaptation, the project will have positive impacts on Armenian biodiversity, on air quality (with particular emphasis on indoor air quality and household health), on soil quality (reducing erosion, through forest conservation) and water availability (through improved management of forests). Addressing energy efficiency at the rural household level, involving rural women as actors and promoters of change, will have major impacts on women's conditions (reducing their direct vulnerability to climate change) as well as on household health. At least 9,000 women will be involved, with a leading role in communities, via already established agriculture and forest women's committees and will be empowered to lead the new green growth opportunity of rural communities stimulated by the project. Energy efficiency, combined with investment in forests and forestry, will also generate long term economic benefits for communities and in particular for rural women. Energy efficiency will allow savings of at least 26% of the total cost of heating with fuelwood corresponding to about 12% of annual income. Additionally, the project, through its investments, will increase the number of job opportunities in rural areas transforming forests and other ecosystems from exploitable resource to investments of national relevance.

Therefore, deliberate consideration of potential environmental and social impacts of project investments was a critical aspect of project design. All aspects of potential environmental and social impacts were considered, and the project took action (i.e. developed project components/activities) to specifically either mitigate these at the onset (e.g. use of native, locally adapted species for reforestation), or to actively improve them (e.g. household health, creating opportunities for women). The stakeholder engagement process and Gender Action Plan were also specifically designed to address participation and engagement issues. The table (below) therefore is not a "mitigation of negative environmental/social impacts" *per se*, as these have been already embedded in project design. Rather, it describes what could have potentially been negative impacts and how the project has dealt with them – or, in the case of stakeholder engagement and gender, how the project is/will ensure continued accountability. Project monitoring by the EPIU will ensure that mitigation measures in the table below are adhered to.

For more details on technical matters, activities and implementation modalities, refer to the Working Papers and Gender Analysis and Plan.

Summary of risks	Mitigation measures	Risk significance	Responsible person/party	Schedule
Forest rehabilitation	Only native species used	Using non-native or non-locally adapted species would negatively impact local biodiversity and not be best suited for climate resilience	EPIU/Hayantar/EPIU M&E specialist	FY1-8
	The combination of georeferencing, ground-truthing with partners and communities plus the remote sensing analysis via FAO/Earth Map will allow the M&E unit, the NDA, FAO and the GCF to have a clear understanding of project's effectiveness and efficiency	Forest rehabilitation project outcomes underachieved because of, for example, continuation of uncontrolled forest use, Illegal logging, overexploitation of forests, non-regulated grazing, etc,		
	Establishing buffer zones to sensitive habitat areas	Reforestation activities resulting in disturbance to		

	and surface water bodies may be considered to minimize the risk and avoid impacts to neighboring areas	neighboring areas, including the potential to disturb sensitive fauna		
	Ensure proper waste management	Organic or inorganic waste generated from nursery and/or reforestation activities		
	With regards to occupational safety and health, and working conditions: For all the activities where directly involved or indirectly via its service providers - will ensure that the The Labour Code of the Republic of Armenia of 14 December 2004 is fully applied and endorsed. In particular, the project will stimulate the attention of contractors and service provider to Chapter 23 of the Labour Code	Local labor could be exposed to occupational health and safety risks		
Energy efficiency Issues with environmentally inappropriate appliances identification and use	Appliances will comply with international standards (ISO); only appliances that will not generate additional waste will be identified; engagement of the local private sector in securing low emission development; support to the development of national standards to secure the quality and safety of heating appliances mainstreaming <i>de facto</i> energy efficiency standards at the national level and securing lower emissions/consumption of wood in the long term	Identified energy efficiency appliances do not improve the overall condition of households, would have additional CO2/environmental costs, and generate additional waste	MoE/EPIU/EPIU M&E specialist/service providers	FY1-8
Temporary employment	Employment of temporary workers will be undertaken according to UN/FAO standards.	Temporary employment does not adhere to UN/FAO standards	FAO/EPIU/EPIU M&E Specialist	FY1-8
	With regards to occupational safety and health, and working conditions: For all the activities where directly involved or indirectly via its service providers - will ensure that the The Labour Code of the Republic of Armenia of 14	Local labor could be exposed to occupational health and safety risks during handling, lifting and carrying of raw materials and/or products and during assembling, installation and maintenance that could result to potential injuries,		

December 2004 is fully applied and endorsed. In particular, the project will stimulate the attention of contractors and service provider to Chapter 23 of the Labour Code

Annex 3: Environmental and Social Action Plan (ESAP) Work Plan

ACTIVITY	INDICATOR	YEAR 1				YEAR 2				YEAR 3				YEAR 4				YEAR 5				YEAR 6				YEAR 7				YEAR 8				COST	COMMENTS	RESPONSI BILITY
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	(US\$)						
MONITORING AND REPORTING																																				
External Review (MTR/TR)	Mid-Term and Terminal Reports																													308,750	Within FAO Techncial Support Services cost	EPIU/ M&E Specialist/ External Evaluator				
1. Monitoring on mitigation actions and stakeholder engagement, including Grievance Redress Mechanism	Project Progress reports																													157,800	Total project M&E Specialist budget (121,800) + National Safeguards Specialist 36,000)	EPIU M&E Specialist/ Safeguards Specialist				
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT- IMPLEMENTATI ON	Meetings reports, List of participants																																			
1. Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWPB)	Approved AWPBs																													138,000	Within budget for "Monitoring and results assessment" (Activity 3.1.2)	FAO/MoNP/ EPIU				
2. Community Participation Monitoring	Consultation reports																													660,700	Wthin budget for Activity 3.3.1 (Community awareness and sensitization)	EPIU				
GENDER ACTION PLAN																																				
1. Mainstreaming gender in project interventions	Project Progress reports																													121,800	Total project Gender Specialist budget. Involvement of the M&E Specialist captured under budget for M&E Specialist (Row 5 above)	National Gender Specialist/ EPIU M&E Specialist				
TOTAL																														1,387,050						

Annex 4: Stakeholder consultations held during project formulation

NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS

First national stakeholder consultation (23 June 2017 in Yerevan, Armenia): “GCF Proposal Formulation Workshop”.

The main purpose of the proposal formulation workshop was to elaborate and refine the GCF concept note – and identify country needs. An overview of the GCF was presented, as well as of Armenia’s expected climatic vulnerabilities and relevant priorities and other contextual pressures. An overview of the draft proposed approach was then presented, structured discussion groups were formed, and feedback (e.g. country needs) then received to guide Concept Note development.

Agenda

Time	Event	Organization	Speaker/ Facilitator
09:00 – 09:30	Arrival and registration		All
09:30 – 10:05	Opening remarks	Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) Ministry of Nature Protection (MoNP) FAO	Asst. FAO Representative (AFAOR)
10:05 – 10:45	Brief overview of Green Climate Fund	FAO	Mr. Reuben Sessa
10:45 – 11:10	TEA AND COFFEE BREAK		
11:10 – 12:00	Overview of Armenia’s expected climatic vulnerabilities and relevant priorities	FAO	Mr. Trevor Self
12:00 – 12:30	Overview of additional contextual pressures	FAO	Mr. Trevor Self
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH		
13:30 – 14:15	Overview of draft proposed approach	FAO	Mr. Trevor Self
14:15 – 16:15	Structured group discussions (Tea and coffee available)		All
16:15 – 17:15	Feedback from group discussions		All
17:15 – 17:30	Closing remarks	Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) Ministry of Nature Protection (MoNP) FAO	

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Proposal Formulation Workshop

“Strengthening Climate Resilience in Armenia’s Productive Landscapes”

A Proposal to the Green Climate Fund
(TCP/ARM/3602 C1)

Best Western Congress Hotel, Yerevan

23 June 2017, 09:30-17:30

#	Անուն/Ազգանուն/Name	Կազմակերպություն/Organization
1.	Վարդան Կարամյան	ՀՀ ԱԶԽՍ
2.	Վարդան Կարամյան	ՀՀ ԱԶԽՍ
3.	Վահագն Կարամյան	ՀՀ ԱԶԽՍ
4.	Վահագն Կարամյան	ՀՀ ԱԶԽՍ
5.	Վահագն Կարամյան	ՀՀ ԱԶԽՍ
6.	Վահագն Կարամյան	ՀՀ ԱԶԽՍ
7.	Վահագն Կարամյան	ՀՀ ԱԶԽՍ
8.	Վահագն Կարամյան	ՀՀ ԱԶԽՍ
9.	Վահագն Կարամյան	ՀՀ ԱԶԽՍ
10.	Վահագն Կարամյան	ՀՀ ԱԶԽՍ
11.	Վահագն Կարամյան	ՀՀ ԱԶԽՍ
12.	Վահագն Կարամյան	ՀՀ ԱԶԽՍ
13.	Վահագն Կարամյան	ՀՀ ԱԶԽՍ
14.	Վահագն Կարամյան	ՀՀ ԱԶԽՍ
15.	Վահագն Կարամյան	ՀՀ ԱԶԽՍ
16.	Վահագն Կարամյան	ՀՀ ԱԶԽՍ

Attendance

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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(TCP/ARM/3602 C1)

Best Western Congress Hotel, Yerevan

23 June 2017, 09:30-17:30

#	Անուն/Ազգանուն/ Ենթադրյալ անուն/Name	Կազմակերպություն/Organization
1.	Արմինե Մանուկյան	Ենթադրյալ անուն/Name
2.	Արթուր Օհանյան	Ենթադրյալ անուն/Name
3.	Լևոն Գևորգյան	Ենթադրյալ անուն/Name
4.	Համետ Մեղակյան	Ենթադրյալ անուն/Name
5.	Մարգարիտ Տաթևյան	Ենթադրյալ անուն/Name
6.	Արմեն Գևորգյան	Ենթադրյալ անուն/Name
7.	Արմեն Գևորգյան	Ենթադրյալ անուն/Name
8.	Արմեն Գևորգյան	Ենթադրյալ անուն/Name
9.	Հասմիկ Գրիգորյան	Ենթադրյալ անուն/Name
10.	Լուսինա Մանուկյան	Ենթադրյալ անուն/Name
11.	Վահե Մանուկյան	Ենթադրյալ անուն/Name
12.	Կարոլինա Վոյնյակ	Ենթադրյալ անուն/Name
13.	Արմեն Գևորգյան	Ենթադրյալ անուն/Name
14.	Արմեն Գևորգյան	Ենթադրյալ անուն/Name
15.	Մանուկյան Գևորգյան	Ենթադրյալ անուն/Name
16.		

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Proposal Formulation Workshop

“Strengthening Climate Resilience in Armenia’s Productive Landscapes”

A Proposal to the Green Climate Fund

(TCP/ARM/3602 C1)

Best Western Congress Hotel, Yerevan

23 June 2017, 09:30-17:30

#	Միություն/Name	Կազմակերպություն/Organization
1.	Կոյու Մարզպետ	Մարզպետի օգնական
2.	Մարզի մարզպետ	Մարզպետի օգնական
3.	Հայկական Հանրապետություն	“Հայկական Հանրապետություն”
4.	Հայկական Հանրապետություն	“Հայկական Հանրապետություն”
5.	Հայկական Հանրապետություն	“Հայկական Հանրապետություն”
6.	Հայկական Հանրապետություն	“Հայկական Հանրապետություն”
7.	Հայկական Հանրապետություն	“Հայկական Հանրապետություն”
8.	Հայկական Հանրապետություն	“Հայկական Հանրապետություն”
9.	Հայկական Հանրապետություն	“Հայկական Հանրապետություն”
10.	Հայկական Հանրապետություն	“Հայկական Հանրապետություն”
11.	Հայկական Հանրապետություն	“Հայկական Հանրապետություն”
12.	Հայկական Հանրապետություն	“Հայկական Հանրապետություն”
13.	Հայկական Հանրապետություն	“Հայկական Հանրապետություն”
14.	Հայկական Հանրապետություն	“Հայկական Հանրապետություն”
15.	Հայկական Հանրապետություն	“Հայկական Հանրապետություն”
16.		

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Proposal Formulation Workshop

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A Proposal to the Green Climate Fund

(TCP/ARM/3602 C1)

Best Western Congress Hotel, Yerevan

23 June 2017, 09:30-17:30

#	Անուն/Ազգանուն/ Ինքնանուն/ Name	Կազմակերպություն/ Organization
1.	Արմեն Բեկ-Սեդրակ	ՀՀ ՄԻ ՏՕ
2.	Նուրի Գրիգորյան	Հայաստանի ԳՆԱԿ
3.	Վահագն Բաբայան	Հայաստանի ԳՆԱԿ
4.	Վահագն Բեկ-Սեդրակ	Հայաստանի ԳՆԱԿ
5.	Վահագն Բեկ-Սեդրակ	Հայաստանի ԳՆԱԿ
6.	Վահագն Բեկ-Սեդրակ	Հայաստանի ԳՆԱԿ
7.	Վահագն Բեկ-Սեդրակ	Հայաստանի ԳՆԱԿ
8.	Վահագն Բեկ-Սեդրակ	Հայաստանի ԳՆԱԿ
9.	Վահագն Բեկ-Սեդրակ	Հայաստանի ԳՆԱԿ
10.	Վահագն Բեկ-Սեդրակ	Հայաստանի ԳՆԱԿ
11.	Վահագն Բեկ-Սեդրակ	Հայաստանի ԳՆԱԿ
12.	Վահագն Բեկ-Սեդրակ	Հայաստանի ԳՆԱԿ
13.	Վահագն Բեկ-Սեդրակ	Հայաստանի ԳՆԱԿ
14.		
15.		
16.		

Second national stakeholder consultation (6 October 2017 in Yerevan, Armenia):
 “Strengthening Climate Resilience in Armenia’s Productive Landscapes: A Proposal to the
 Green Climate Fund (GCF-Armenia)” GCF Stakeholder Workshop.

At this second workshop, the project proposal CN road map, timeframe, objectives and outcomes were presented, after which followed discussions on the Concept Note and roadmap. The project's Theory of Change was fine tuned. Discussions and feedback received focused on the need to increase the hectareage of community forestry activity (municipal forest hectares increased from 300 to 1,000), ensure women's participation, and ensure the participation of the private sector, especially in energy efficiency activities (co-financing was secured to ensure their involvement). All feedback was subsequently included and integrated in project design.



Agenda

Time	Event	Organization	Speaker/ Facilitator
09:00 – 09:30	Arrival and registration		All
09:30 – 10:00	Opening remarks	Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) Ministry of Nature Protection (MoNP) FAO	Asst. FAO Representative (AFAOR)
10:00 – 10:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations of GCF investment criteria and relevance for project development. • Q&A 	FAO	Reuben Sessa and Jacopo Monzini
10:45 – 11:10	TEA AND COFFEE BREAK		
11:10 – 12: 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of project proposal CN road map, timeframe, Objectives and outcomes 	FAO	Jacopo Monzini
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH		
13:30 – 15:00	Discussion on concept note (CN) and road map.	FAO	
15:00 – 15:30	Wrap-up and Closing remarks	Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) Ministry of Nature Protection (MoNP) FAO	

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

GCF Stakeholder Workshop

“Strengthening Climate Resilience in Armenia’s Productive Landscapes” A Proposal to the Green Climate Fund

(GCF-Armenia)

Hyatt Place Hotel, Yerevan

6 October 2017, 09:30-15:30

#	Անուն/Ազգանուն/ Name	Կազմակերպություն/ Organization
1.	Պեթե Մարտիրոսյան	ATP
2.	Լևոն Մանուկյան	WWE
3.	Էսելյա Կանել	Արթին (Կաթն) ԱՄԿ
4.	ԴՏԿՕՅԱՆ Ալիդա	FLRP
5.	Ռ. Դեթյան	Դեթյան
6.	Տրապան Եսայան	ՕԴԶ 113.5
7.	Իվոն Մատթևոսյան	«Հայաստան» ՏՊԿԸ
8.	Էդուարդ Հովհաննիսյան	FAO
9.	ԶԱԴԻՆ ԿՈՇԿՆԻՍԻ	FAO
10.	Րուբեն Եղորտաբեկյան	Հայանտաշ
11.	Արմեն Եղորտաբեկյան	SCOPE
12.	Ժուլիա Գևորգյան	ՀՀ ԿԶ
13.	Գրիգոր Եսայան	ԿԶԳ/ԿԶԸ
14.	Արթուր Եսայան	ՀՀ ԿԶ
15.	Լևոն Եսայան	ԻԿԱԸ-ՆԿԸ
16.		

Attendance

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

GCF Stakeholder Workshop

“Strengthening Climate Resilience in Armenia’s Productive Landscapes”

A Proposal to the Green Climate Fund

(GCF-Armenia)

Hyatt Place Hotel, Yerevan

6 October 2017, 09:30-15:30

#	Անուն/Ազգանուն/ Name	Կազմակերպություն/ Organization
1.	Արցա Ռաչևսի	FAO
2.	Արման Պետկոյան	UNDP
3.	Բելեն Տեսս	FAO
4.	Նիրա Հանի	FAO
5.	Նոկետ ԿՆԱՆՔԱՆԿՈՒՄԻ	FAO RBU
6.	ԼՄԵՐ Տեղակ	FAO/ՀԵՄԿՆԻԿ
7.	Շարա Ջգիկյան	ATHAPS
8.	Մանուկյան Ջենա	AMHHE
9.	Կարեն Աղաբոբյան	TSE NGO
10.	Արց Շահաբյան	MNP
11.	Արման Մանուկյան	UNDP
12.		
13.		
14.		
15.	Օրինոս Ջրիյան	interfiter.
16.	Արաիկ Կոչարյան	interpreter

Third national stakeholder consultation (7 September 2018 in Yerevan, Armenia):
“Strengthening Climate Resilience in Armenia’s Productive Landscapes: A Proposal to the Green Climate Fund (GCF-Armenia)” GCF Stakeholder Workshop. (National Engagement Workshop for Full Funding Proposal)

The aim was to fine tune the GCF Full Funding Proposal. Presentations were given on: the GCF Reaction to the Concept Note, an update on GCF, the project proposal, objectives and outcomes, and target areas and project monitoring strategy. Consensus was obtained on the project proposal.

This workshop was mentioned in the following articles:

<http://haynews.am/hy/1536338255>
<https://armenpress.am/arm/news/946466.html>
<https://timenews.am/article/d42ffc46f157bf95a682a8d8983bf901f3d3244b859dbe3e3e7d236212f73cb>
<http://www.armday.am/post/62228/hajastano-m-kirakanatsvi-kanach-klimaji-himnadram-tsragiry>
<http://shamshyan.com/hy/article/2018/09/07/1104758/>
https://twitter.com/SHAMSHYAN_com/status/1038123070131765248
<http://haydzayn.am/p/71951>
<https://irakanum.am/2018/09/07/%D5%B0%D5%A1%D5%B5%D5%A1%D5%BD%D5%BF%D5%A1%D5%B6%D5%B8%D6%82%D5%B4-%D5%AF%D5%AB%D6%80%D5%A1%D5%AF%D5%A1%D5%B6%D5%A1%D6%81%D5%BE%D5%AB-%D5%AF%D5%A1%D5%B6%D5%A1%D5%B9-%D5%AF%D5%AC%D5%AB%D5%B4%D5%A1/>

Agenda

Time	Event	Organization	Speaker/ Facilitator
09:00 – 09:30	Arrival and registration		
09:30 – 10:00	Opening remarks	Ministry of Nature Protection (MoNP) FAO	MoNP Representative Asst. FAO Representative (AFAOR)
10:00 – 10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentations of GCF Reaction to the Concept Note<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GCF Update	FAO	Jacopo Monzini
10:30 – 10:45	TEA AND COFFEE BREAK		
10:45 — 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation of project proposal, Objectives and outcomes	FAO	Jacopo Monzini Norbert Winkler
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation of Target Areas and project Monitoring Strategy	FAO	
12:00 – 12:45	Discussion		
12:45 – 13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wrap-up and Closing remarks	Ministry of Nature Protection (MoNP) FAO	MoNP Representative Asst. FAO Representative (AFAOR)



List of participants

	Name	Organization/Position
1.	Ayser Ghazaryan	Deputy Minister of Nature Protection
2.	AregGharabegian	Ministry of Economy, adviser to the Minister
3.	Ruben Petrosyan	Chief Forester, Deputy Director of Hayantar SNCO, MoA
4.	Ruben Karapetyan	Deputy Director of Hayantar SNCO, MoA
5.	Arusyak Siradeghyan	Deputy chairman of Forest Committee
6.	Artur Petrosyan	Biodiversity and Forest Policy Department of MNP
7.	Mikael Manukyan	Head of the State forest Committee Hayantar SNCO
8.	Aram Gyulkhasyan	Forestry State Monitoring Center SNCO, MoA
9.	Vladimir Amiryan	Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Armenia
10.	Hayk Yervandyan	
11.	Gagik Khachatryan	Syunik Marzpetaran, head of Agricult. department
12.	Karen Manvelyan	WWF, Director
13.	Artur Harutjunyan	Armenian Tree Project
14.	Vahe Martirosyan	Armenian Tree Project
15.	NavasardDadyan	Armenian Tree Project

16.	Atom Grigoryan	
17.	Aida Iskoyan	Environmental Protection Advocacy Center NGO
18.	Maria Muradyan	RAED PIU
19.	Armine Yedigaryan	ADB
20.	Zara Allahverdyan	SDC
21.	Arusyak Alaverdyan	WB
22.	Covenant of Mayors	Artem Kharazyan
23.	GayaneNasoyan	FAO, Assistant FAOR in Armenia
24.	Norbert Winkler	FAO Forestry Officer
25.	Jacopo Monzini	FAO / TCIC
26.	Kentaro Aoiki	Climate Finance officer/Natural Resources Officer
27.	Jina Sargizova	FAO national consultant
28.	Pedro Regado	FAO, Climate Adaptive Silviculture Specialist
29.	Nune Vardanyan	
30.	Zara Yeghikyan	AWHHE
31.	Elena Manvelyan	AWHHE
32.	Meri Sahakyan	FAO, Project Assistant
33.	Luisa Vardanyan	Habitat For Humanity
34.	AstghinePasoyan	Energy Saving Foundation
35.	Karine Taslakyanyan	ESF
36.	Vahe Asryan	Deputy Head of Department for Financial Planning of Current Budget Expenditures in Agriculture, Food Safety, Environmental Protection and Water Economy
37.	Arpenik Sahradyan	Head of international tax and Custom relations division
38.	ArgamAremyan	Head of international cooperation department
39.	Vladimir Amiryan	Head of international collaboration department
40.	Koryun Gevorgyan Gohar Grigoryan	Head of SME Support Department Ministry of Economic Development and Investments
41.		Ministry of Finance
42.	Tatevik Baghranyan	Ministry of Finance
43.	Zara Allahverdyan	SDA
44.	Alen Amirkhanian	American University Armenia
45.	Interpreter 1 (Artashes confirmed)	
46.	Interpreter 2 (Gevork)	

CONSULTATIONS IN MARZES

Lori, Armenia: 4 September 2018.

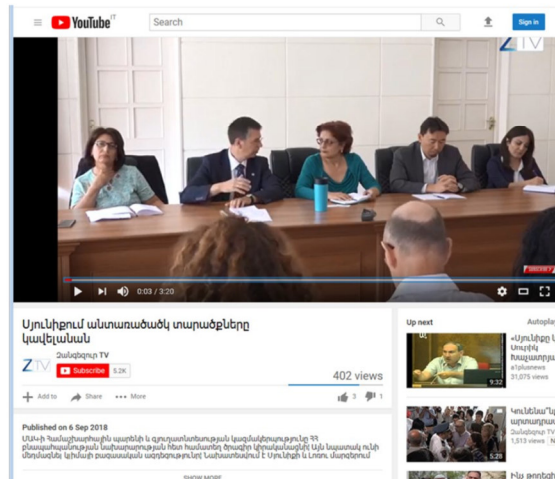
The aim of the consultation was to the present the project proposal, objectives and outcomes, target areas and project monitoring strategy. More specifically, this stakeholder dialogue workshop was held with the municipality, community representatives, NGOs, and State forest staff. Stakeholders were presented with a progress update, followed by hearings and clarifications, and confirmation of cooperation.

List of participants

	Name	Organization/Position
1.	Vanik Urusyan	Head of Jrashen communitiy
2.	Hayk Hovhannisyan	Head of Saramech community
3.	Ashot Yeranosyan	Head of Shirakamut community
4.	Srbuhi Harutjunyan	Head of Bazym community
5.	Armen Aloyan	Head of Darpas community
6.	Vachagan Vardanyan	Head of Lernavan community
7.	Samvel Ananyan	Head of Margahovit community
8.	Edik Manukyan	Head of Shahymyan community
9.	Levon Mkhitarian	Gugark Forest Enterprise
10.	Suren Gharabekyan	Gugark Forest Enterprise
11.	Artashes Mkhitarian	Gugark Forest Enterprise
12.	Aleksandr Avetisyan	Gugark Forest Enterprise
13.	Gagik Andreasyan	Gugark Forest Enterprise / Vanadzor
14.	Gagik Mkhitarian	Gugark Forest Enterprise / Spitak
15.	Jora Gasparyan	Gugark Forest Enterprise / Margahovit
16.	Samvel Mkhitarian	Yeghegnut Forest Enterprise
17.	Vahe Dokhoyan	Yeghegnut Forest Enterprise
18.	Gagik Ghazakhetsyan	Yeghegnut Forest Enterprise
19.	Armen Hakobyan	Yeghegnut Forest Enterprise
20.	Martun Nersisyan	Yeghegnut Forest Enterprise
21.	Ruben Velitsyan	Head of Tashir Forest Enterprise
22.	Artak Demirchyan	Lori Marzpetaran, department of agriculture and Nature protection
23.	Samvel Kharatyan	Lori Marzpetaran, department of agriculture and Nature protection
24.	Askanaz Ghymashyan	Lori Marzpetaran, Coordinator on Nature protection projects
25.	Gayane Nasoyan	FAO, Assistant Representation in Armenia
26.	Jacopo Monzini	FAO, Team Leader
27.	Norbert Winkler	FAO, REU forestry officer
28.	Kentaro Aoki	FAO, HQ Natural Recourses Officer
29.	Dietmar Uberbacher	FAO, Inter. Consultant
30.	Ruzanna Martirosyan	Interpreter

Syunik, Armenia: 5 September 2018.

The aim of the consultation was to the present the project proposal, objectives and outcomes, target areas and project monitoring strategy. More specifically, this stakeholder dialogue workshop was held with the municipality, community representatives, NGOs, and State forest staff. Stakeholders were presented with a progress update, followed by hearings and clarifications, and confirmation of cooperation.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IH6QH7RbgSA>

List of participants

	Name	Organization/Position
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3.	Ruben Petrosyan	Chief Forester, Deputy Director of Hayantar SNCO, MoA
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6.	Artur Petrosyan	Biodiversity and Forest Policy Department of MNP
7.	Mikael Manukyan	Head of the State forest Committee Hayantar SNCO
8.	Aram Gyulkhasyan	Forestry State Monitoring Center SNCO, MoA
9.	Vladimir Amiryan	Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Armenia
10.	Hayk Yervandyan	
11.	Gagik Khachatryan	Syunik Marzpetaran, head of Agricult. department
12.	Karen Manvelyan	WWF, Director
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14.	Vahe Martirosyan	Armenian Tree Project

15.	NavasardDadyan	Armenian Tree Project
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38.	Vladimir Amiryan	Head of international collaboration department
39.	Koryun Gevorgyan Gohar Grigoryan	Head of SME Support Department Ministry of Economic Development and Investments
40.	Tatevik Baghramanyan	Ministry of Finance
41.	Zara Allahverdyan	SDA
42.	Alen Amirkhanian	American University Armenia
43.	Interpreter 1 (Artashes confirmed)	
44.	Interpreter 2 (Gevork)	