

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Remote informal
meeting of members
of the Executive Committee
Geneva, 20 May 2020

Item 12

Informal Document No. **2020/36**

Extrabudgetary project

**Strengthening national capacity of the UNECE member States
for environmentally responsible methane management
through coordination of activities of the Research Centre of Excellence
on Coal Mine Methane in Shanxi**

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

Project title: Strengthening national capacity of the UNECE member States for environmentally responsible methane management through coordination of activities of the Research Centre of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane in Shanxi		
Expected timing/ duration: July 2020 – December 2021		
<p>Objective and brief summary of the project: The objective of the project is to strengthen national capacity of the UNECE and other selected Member States for environmentally responsible methane management, through the dissemination of best practices in the abatement, recovery, and use of methane through coordination of activities of the Research Centre of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane in Shanxi (RCE-CMM in Shanxi) with activities of other International Centres of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane (ICE-CMMs) operating under the auspices of the UNECE Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane. ICE-CMMs are non-profit entities subject to the national laws of host Member States. The centres support capacity-building activities in Member States and serve as a platform for discussion of safety, environmental and economic aspects of coal mine methane (CMM). The centres focus on issues such as effective drainage and use of methane in coal mines and cost-effective and socially responsible use or destruction of captured methane. In addition to facilitating exchange of knowledge and experience, hosting visits of experts, and organizing professional trainings, the Centres contribute to improvement and dissemination of the UNECE Best Practices Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines. The Best Practices Guidance is a flagship publication issued by the UNECE Group of Experts on CMM and endorsed by ECOSOC (Decision 2011/222), which invited the Member States, international organizations and the regional commissions to take appropriate measures to ensure its worldwide application. As of today, two centres have been established, the International Centre of Excellence in China (i.e. RCE-CMM in Shanxi) and the International Centre of Excellence in Poland.</p> <p>The objective of the project will be achieved through the following activities:</p> <p>A1.1 Supporting RCE-CMM in Shanxi in development and implementation of work plans by assuring through coordination with the Group of Experts their compliance with the requirements, mandate and current work of the Group of Experts on CMM.</p> <p>A1.2 Identifying and engaging with entities interested in cooperation with RCE-CMM in Shanxi, as well as in establishing new ICE-CMMs in other Member States (conceptualization, strategy development and operations/management of ICE-CMMs);</p> <p>A1.3 Quality assurance of reports issued by the RCE-CMM in Shanxi and of their efficient implementation;</p> <p>A.2.1 Providing guidance to RCE-CMM in Shanxi on subjects, content, and methods of development of case studies on implementation of best practices and measures for efficient methane drainage and use in coal mines around the world;</p> <p>A2.2 Providing guidance to the RCE-CMM in Shanxi on effective national strategies for effective dissemination of the <i>Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines</i>;</p> <p>A3.1 Providing substantive inputs to the capacity-building workshops promoting methane drainage and use (advising on their content, assuring that their quality and scope match the expectations of the Group of Experts, and coordinating their programmes with other events organized by the Group of Experts and other ICE-CMMs).</p> <p>A.3.2 Providing substantive inputs to the seminars on practical application of best practices (advising on their content, assuring that their quality and scope match the expectations of the Group of Experts, and coordinating their programmes with other events organized by the Group of Experts and other ICE-CMMs).</p> <p>The project will be delivered in collaboration with the regional commissions and other partners according to ECOSOC Decision 222/2011 “to invite States Members of the United Nations, international organizations and the regional commissions to consider the possibility of taking appropriate measures to ensure the application of the Best Practice Guidance [for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines (ECE Energy Series No. 47)] in countries worldwide.”</p>		
Expected results of the project:		
EA1. Robust network of Centres of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane maintained, and the resulting improvements of the efficiency of activities of RCE-CMM in Shanxi and other ICE-CMMs.		
EA2. Increased capacity of the UN member States to apply internationally recognized best practices in the abatement, recovery, and use of CMM.		
EA3. Dissemination and popularization of the Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines in Chinese mines in accordance with international standards developed and coordinated by UNECE Group of Experts on CMM.		
Target group and beneficiaries of the project: The target groups are the Ministries responsible for the environment, energy, and mining as well as policymakers from other relevant agencies; and coal mining professionals dealing with sustainable use of coal mine and coalbed methane. The beneficiary countries are UNECE (Georgia, Poland, Russian Federation, Turkey, Ukraine) and selected other Member States (tentatively, China, India, Colombia, Mongolia and Vietnam).		
Justification of project and its relationship to the programme of work:		
The project is linked to the objective of the Subprogramme 5 “Sustainable Energy”: “to ensure access to affordable and clean energy for all and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of the energy sector in the region”, as defined in the UNECE Proposed programme budget for 2020. The Group of Experts on CMM is mandated by the Committee on Sustainable Energy to carry out concrete, result-oriented activities that promote the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from coal mines through recovery and use of methane, in order to reduce the risks of explosions in coal mines (ECE/EX/7). The principal area of work of the Group of Experts is best practice guidance for effective drainage, recovery and usage of CMM, which is achieved including through collaboration with key stakeholders such as existing and prospective ICE-CMMs as well as GMI.		
Estimated UN regular budget resources (work months of RB staff/level of Staff):		
1 month/P5 annually (total of 2 work months)		
Estimated extra budgetary resources:		
Donor	Amount (US\$):	
Beijing Sindicatum Clean Energy Technology and Services Co., Ltd	225,000	
Project Manager: Charlotte Griffiths 06.05.2020	Section/Division: Energy Industry Section/Sustainable Energy Division	
Cleared by Programme Management Unit: Nicolas Dath-Baron Officer-in-Charge 06.05.2020	Approved by EXCOM¹:	21 May 2020

¹ See paragraph 31 (a) of Commission decision A(65).

Annex
Results-based budget for the extra-budgetary project

Expected accomplishments	Planned activities	Estimated costs (US\$)
EA1. Robust network of Centres of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane established and maintained, and the resulting improvements of the efficiency of activities of RCE-CMM in Shanxi and other ICE-CMMs	A1.1 Supporting RCE-CMM in Shanxi in development and implementation of the work plans by assuring through coordination with the Group of Experts their compliance with the requirements, mandate and current work of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane	37,800
	Staff support (P3 level) x 18 months x \$10,500 per month (20% time)	37,800
	A1.2 Identifying and engaging with entities interested in cooperation with RCE-CMM in Shanxi, as well as in establishing new ICE-CMMs in other UN Member States (conceptualization, strategy development and operations/management of ICE-CMMs)	18,900
	Identifying and engaging with entities interested in cooperation with RCE-CMM in Shanxi, as well as in establishing new ICE-CMMs. Staff support (P3 level) x 18 months x \$10,500 per month (10% time)	18,900
EA2. Dissemination and popularization of the Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines in Chinese mines in accordance with international standards developed and coordinated by UNECE Group of Experts on CMM.	A1.3 Quality assurance of reports issued by the RCE-CMM in Shanxi and of their efficient implementation	18,900
	Staff support (P3 level) x 18 months x \$10,500 per month (10% time)	18,900
	A2.1 Providing guidance to RCE-CMM in Shanxi on subjects, content, and methods of development of case studies on implementation of best practices and measures for efficient methane drainage and use in coal mines around the world	18,900
	Staff support (P3 level) x 18 months x \$10,500 per month (10% time)	18,900
EA3. Increased capacity of the UN member States to apply internationally recognized best practices in the abatement, recovery, and use of CMM	A2.2 Providing guidance to the RCE-CMM in Shanxi on effective national strategies for effective dissemination of the Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Use in Coal Mines	18,900
	Advice on dissemination and promotion of the Best Practice Guidance and case studies, and support with organizing relevant dissemination activities among the stakeholder in China and in the region Staff support (P3 level) x 18 months x \$10,500 per month (10% time)	18,900
	A3.1 Providing substantive inputs to the capacity-building workshops promoting methane drainage and use (advising on their content, assuring that their quality and scope match the expectations of the Group of Experts, and coordinating their programmes with other events organized by the Group of Experts and other ICE-CMMs).	40,850
	Staff support (P3 level) x 18 months x \$10,500 per month (20% time) Travel of staff to support delivery of workshops	37,800 3,050
	A3.2 Providing substantive inputs to the seminars on practical application of best practices (advising on their content, assuring that their quality and scope match the expectations of the Group of Experts, and coordinating their programmes with other events organized by the Group of Experts and other ICE-CMMs).	40,850
	Staff support (P3 level) x 18 months x \$10,500 per month (20% time) Travel of staff to support delivery of seminars	37,800 3,050
Due diligence		2,043
Budget summary		197,143
13% of Programme Support Costs		25,629
Subtotal		222,772
1% coordination levy		2,228
Total		225,000