ADAPTATION FUND

REQUEST FOR PROJECT/PROGRAMME FUNDING FROM THE ADAPTATION FUND

The annexed form should be completed and transmitted to the Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat by email or fax.

Please type in the responses using the template provided. The instructions attached to the form provide guidance to filling out the template.

Please note that a project/programme must be fully prepared (i.e., fully appraised for feasibility) when the request is submitted. The final project/programme document resulting from the appraisal process should be attached to this request for funding.

Complete documentation should be sent to:

The Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
1818 H Street NW
MSN N7-700
Washington, D.C., 20433
U.S.A
Fax: +1 (202) 522-3240/5
Email: afbsec@adaptation-fund.org

ADAPTATION FUND

Amended in October 2016

PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Project/Programme Category: Artik city closed stone pit wastes and flood management pilot project

Country/ies: Armenia

Title of Project/Programme: Regular project
Type of Implementing Entity: NIE

Implementing Entity: "Environmental project implementation unit" SA

Executing Entity/ies: Ministry of Nature Protection of RA

Amount of Financing Requested: 1,500.000 USD

(in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

Project / Programme Background and Context:

Shirak province (marz) administrative district where the project is envisaged to be implemented is located in the north-west of the Republic of Armenia bordering Turkey in the west and Georgia in the north. "Arpi lake" national park is located in the marz. The climate of the marz is temperate mountainous with cool summers and severe and long winters. Annual precipitation is 500-600mm. Here, the absolute minimum temperature in Armenia was recorded -46˚C:
Shirak marz in known for its tufa, pumice, limestone mines, especially Artik region which is located in the southern part of the marz. The region is located on the volcanic plateau and foothills and is known for its favorable conditions for grain crop and livestock development. For years exploited stone pits have had negative impact on the environment. Previously, more than 60% of the total volume of construction stone products of the Republic were produced in Artik and its adjacent communities. Many mines were closed due to reduction of construction stone consumption volumes, conservation and reclamation works of the mines have not been carried out thus causing many environmental problems. Hundreds of hectares of agricultural and natural landscapes were degraded and lost natural way of restoration due to such exploitation of mines. Dust through strong winds and solid remnants through snowmelt and rainfall spread over great distances polluting natural agro landscapes. As a result, there is a decrease in the yield of agricultural crops, crop quality and adaptation level of natural landscapes to climate change.
Another problem is the increasing frequency of severe floods in the last 20 years, which is due to the spring temperatures not typical for the region. If until 1980s the air temperature reached to 20-25^{0}C within one and a half months now it is rising quickly and unevenly. As a result this accelerates snowmelt causing the emergence of strong floods. The negative impact of such climate change is also lies in the fact that industrial waste of the mines are dumped into two storm canals passing through Artik territory significantly reducing their capacity. During intense spring snow melt and heavy rains flood waters overflow residential and public buildings, lands, gardens, streets and yards. This phenomenon is repeated every year. Flood that occurred in June 2016 caused more than 210 000 USD damage to Artik city infrastructures and population the elimination of the consequences of which can not be done only by means of the city budget.
The budget of the city and adjacent communities does not allow to eliminate negative impact of repeated floods and stone pits to the environment.

Project / Programme Objectives:

The project objective is to prevent natural and agro landscape degradation through the elimination of anthropogenic adverse effects and to decrease the frequency and intensity of natural disasters conditioned by climate change, as well as to increase the level of adaptation of landscapes.

Project / Programme Components and Financing:

Component1. Reclamation and management of 40 ha of closed mine site

The objective of this component is to develop a series of complex events which will will eliminate human-induced adverse effects on natural and agro landscapes and will contribute to raising the level of public health, as well as to create waste management mechanisms, reduce waste impact on the environment, improve territories. Implement recultivation, tree planting and sowing of soil layer strengthening herbs, irrigation system construction; create a recreational area in the territory and to allocate it to Artik municipality for further protection. A single system of actions will be merged into methods for enhancing natural and agro landscape climate change adaptation which will demonstrate more efficient opportunities for the recovery of degraded areas. It is planned to create stakeholders associations in communities that are responsible for the use, maintenance and continuity of the project results. Site management plan will be developed on participatory management basis which will reflect the envisaged actions and implementation schedule.

The component will focus on disseminating the best practices in the adjacent communities where there are abandoned and disused mines.

Component2. Flood prevention and management

The task of the component is to create flexible system of flood management which will contribute to reducing the vulnerability to flooding in adjacent communities of Artik. In collaboration with local communities direct measures will be developed for long-term flood prevention and mitigation of risks. Runoff canals will be cleaned of waste and household waste, garbage bins will be replaced for the collection of solid household waste, tree planting and soil layer strengthening sowing will be carried out along runoff canals. Lessons learned and best practices will be shared with the communities of the Republic that are exposed to flood risks associated with climate change.

This component task is to carry out measures that would reduce and manage the risk of flooding in Artik city and its adjacent communities

The activities will include:.

- Cleaning of 7,5 km long storm canals from waste and household waste picked up from stone pits through floods
- Replacement of bins along storm canals
- Tree planting along storm canals
- Signing of the contract on the collection of waste and care of planted trees with Artik city community municipality

Component 3. Raising awareness and knowledge level of population for the management of stone pit wastes and floods

Activities are aimed at forming a base knowledge on the opportunities of the recovery of degraded areas and benefits. In order to increase the effectiveness of the activities specialists both from higher educational institutions and both the Agricultural Support Marz (Regional) Centers will be involved. This approach will enable to combine environmental protection, agriculture and the urban economy efforts to develop a joint training program on the restoration of natural and agrolandscapes under climate change conditions and on raising the level of adaptation.

The training program will be based on the idea of the importance of interconnectedness of agricultural, natural landscapes, urban economy and human health and landscape adaptation under climate change. The provision of knowledge on measures aimed at the preservation and continuity of the outcomes of the current program will be highlighted.

Training program will provide a differentiated approach to the needs of different age groups and will develop knowledge enhancement programs for them.

Particular attention will be paid to the creation of groups possessing the necessary reserve of knowledge to be able to ensure the continuity of dissemination of knowledge during and after the project closure.

To increase work efficiency thematic guidelines and public information leaflets will be developed, published and provided to all interested parties.

Lecturer-listener based model will be used during awareness raising trainings which will make provided material perceptible through using different actions.

The component will contribute to strengthening the capacity of local media and environmental NGOs, through their involvement in project dissemination, propagation and implementation activities.
The whole process of project implementation will be available for all strata of society. Modern information dissemination tools will be used for this. Regular information on the progress and outcomes of activities will be provided through the websites of the Ministry of Nature Protection, regional administrations and EPIU. Whistleblower hotlines of Ministry of Nature Protection, regional administrations and EPIU will make it possible to rapidly respond to all complaints with the participatory problem solving approach.

Component 4. Project management
This component will support project management and efficient implementation. Monitoring, environmental and social risk management plans of the project will be developed and carried out. Midterm and final monitoring and independent audit of the project will be carried out. EPIU will sign agreements with community leaders for the protection of results with the definition of communities' obligations and responsibilities. If necessary, EPIU will sign contracts for provision of services, procurement of equipments and goods, construction of works etc. EPIU will implement supervision of the progress of the activities, project performance and quality.

Project/Programme Components	Expected Concrete Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Amount (US$)
1. **Reclamation and management of closed mine site**	1.1. Natural and agro landscape adaptation and sustainability to climate change increased	1.1.1. Restored soil cover of mine 1.1.2. The restored soil layer will be protected against the winds and intense rains adverse effects 1.1.3. The area will be provided with irrigation water 1.1.4. Sustainability of the adjacent natural landscapes to climate change impacts increased 1.1.5. crop yield and crop quality of the adjacent agro landscapes increased 1.1.6 Adverse effects on the health of the population of adjacent communities decreased 1.1.7. Reduced flood risk 1.1.8. Favorable conditions created for the recreation of the	**745 000**

		residents	
2. **Prevention and management of floods**	2.1 Flood risk threat to Artik city is minimized	2.1.1 Restored storm canals conveying heavy snowmelt and rainwater 2.1.2 The storm canals protected from household garbage jams 2.1.3 Improved sanitary condition of Artik city 2.1.4. Reduced risk of epidemics	350 000
3. **Raising awareness and knowledge level of population for the management of stone pit wastes and floods**	3.1Raising awareness and knowledge level of population on the recovery of agro landscapes and flood risk reduction	3.1.1. The level of knowledge on effective recovery methods of degraded natural and agro landscapes increased 3.1.2 The knowledge level of the population on natural and agro landscape adaptation to climate change increased 3.1.3 Increased knowledge level of the population on the occurrence and prevention possibilities of floods 3.1.4. Sustainable thinking formed on the	100 000

		importance of landscape adaptation to climate change in communities 3.1.5 The involvement of local media and environmental NGOs in the process of mitigating the negative effects of climate change increased 3.1.6. Project results available to all interested parties	
4. **Project management**	4.1 Management and efficient implementation of the project 4.2 Monitoring, environmental and social risk management plans of the project will be developed and carried out	4.1.1 Management and efficient implementation of the project 4.2.2 Monitoring, environmental and social risk management plans of the project developed and carried out	150000
5. Project/Programme Execution cost			155.000
6. Total Project/Programme Cost			1,345.000

7. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (if applicable)	150.000
8 Community contribution	63.000
Amount of Financing Requested	1,500.000

Project preparation grant (PPG) – 30000 USD

Projected Calendar:

Indicate the dates of the following milestones for the proposed project/programme

Milestones	Expected Dates
Start of Project/Programme Implementation	2017 September
Mid-term Review (if planned)	2018 December
Project/Programme Closing	2019 December
Terminal Evaluation	2020 April

PART II: PROJECT / PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION

Global environmental benefits

The expected environmental benefits and impacts within the program are of great importance and will contribute to solving a number of environmental issues. Promoting the greater coordination, cooperation and expanding capacities, the project gives an opportunity to create exemplary political atmosphere which will give a chance to increase the adaptability of landscapes and settlements to the negative effects of anthropogenic and natural climate change. It will be implemented through the natural and agrolandscape recovery, sustainable management capacity building development and by increasing the efficiency of institutional structures. The program will create a model for the preservation and restoration of biodiversity conservation which will unite agricultural and natural landscapes into one conservation planning process. In this regard, this will enable to identify and test "the best practice" which reinforces the use, stability and flexibility of natural resources. Promoting the creation of temporary and permanent workplaces in the region of Armenia with comparatively poor population the project will contribute to reducing poverty and welfare improvement, thus reducing the anthropogenic further pressure on vulnerable landscapes. In addition to the direct benefits of Armenia's agricultural and natural biodiversity protection and guidance, the program will provide global advantages by developing and creating tools, experience and methodology within the program that will be globally available to all stakeholders ensuring the continuity of the program. The program will create age groups with necessary knowledge who will be able to share their knowledge with other interested communities after the end of the program. The program will promote to strengthen the capacities of local mass media and environmental NGOs. The inclusion of the best practice achieved by the five-year community development plans will contribute to the stability of the project outcomes.It is expected that adaptability and sustainability of natural and agricultural landscapes will be ensured through the recognition of the importance of biodiversity role and by displaying capabilities of possible natural disaster prevention under climate change by all stakeholders.

The aims and objectives of the program are fully consistent with the National Strategy and Action Plan of RA's Biodiversity Conservation, Protection, Reproduction and Use, National Strategy and Action Plan to Combat Desertification in Armenia. The proportionate increase will be available through the formation of a network of trained and authorized communities for sustainable management of natural and agricultural landscapes. The interagency cooperation, as well as the relation with other programs and projects will be improved at the country level.

This program will provide data and methodology, which will enable Armenia's partners to use the best practices in the planned and ongoing work programs. Cooperation with non-governmental organizations, mass media, educational institutions and other interested parties will contribute to innovations, stability, as well as the proportional increase in these areas.

Project area

As it was mentioned above, the project will be implemented Artik region of Shirak Marz. Artik city and 3 rural communities are located in the project impact zone with more than 24000 population. It is planned to carry out over 40 hectares of disused mine reclamation, improvement and cleaning, mending of 2 storm canals. This mine is located about 500 meters from the town of Artik and under the influence of strong winds pollutes the air in the city and adjacent communities, while the floods are causing great damage to the city.

Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment required for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
Compliance with the Law	In compliance with the requirements of RA laws on environment and urban development	Environmental and urban development law requirements are ensured
Access and Equity	Project access will be ensured through mass media, websites of the Ministry of Nature Protection of the RA and EPIU	Flood risk eliminated in Artik town, the area of disused stone pit is restored, the adjacent natural and agricultural ecosystems are improved, improved health status of the population of Artik town and surrounding communities
Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups	Artik town and surrounding community dwellers	The residents of the area of influence of the program are protected from floods, air and soil pollution

Human Rights	In the field of use of natural resources and human health, human rights are protected by the appropriate laws	Human rights are protected in accordance with the legislation in the field of natural resources, there are no complaints about the violation of human rights
Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	The principle of equal gender rights are maintained in the field of use of natural resources and health care	Women are involved in ongoing activities, their living and social conditions are improved,diseases are reduced
Core Labour Rights	Labor rights are protected by the Constitution of the RA and Civil Code of the RA are	Labor rights are protected and there are no complaints on the violations of the Constitution and the Civil Code
Indigenous Peoples	The project area of influence is mainly inhabited by Armenians	National discrimination is excluded, everybody enjoys equal rights
Involuntary Resettlement	Project implementation does not provide for resettlement of	Project implementation contributed to the prevention of population

	residents	resettlement
Protection of Natural Habitats	Conservation of biodiversity habitats is in compliance with the requirements of environmental legislation	Repetitive flooding prevention and cessation of stone pit emissions contribute to the enhancement of the adaptability of ecosystems and habitats stability
Conservation of Biological Diversity	Area restoration and flood prevention are in line with the principles of biodiversity conservation	Flood prevention and restoration of area contributed to the increase in the number and species composition of biodiversity
Climate Change	Implementation of the project contributes to the enhancement of ecosystem adaptation to climate change, natural disaster prevention and population health improvement	Ecosystem ecological balance is ensured, adaptation level increased
Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	Effective cooperation with the communities for the prevention of	Environmental pollution is prevented, and the use of natural resources

	pollution of the environment and efficient use of natural resources	regulated
Public Health	Activities foreseen by the project impact positively on the health of the population	Prevention of environmental pollution and floods contribute to land restoration and improvement of public health
Physical and Cultural Heritage	Implementation of the program contributes to the preservation of natural and cultural heritage	Natural heritage (species registered in the Red Book of Armenia,endemic and rare plant and animal species, natural monuments) and cultural heritage(historical and cultural monuments, traditions) are efficiently protected
Lands and Soil Conservation	Lands are not subjected to water or physical degradation as a result of project implementation	Land degradation prevented

PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

7 main strategic documents have been developed in Armenia, which are directly related to waste management, health protection, biodiversity and agro-biodiversity conservation, as well as to the proposed project proposal. These are:

- "Second National Environment Action Programme of the Republic of Armenia"
- "The National Strategy and Action Plan of Conservation, Protection, Reproduction and Use of Biological Diversity of the Republic of Armenia"
- "Strategy and National Action Plan to Combat Desertification in the Republic of Armenia"
- "Community Agro Resource Management and Competitiveness Project"
- "The Strategic Plan for Long-term Development for 2014-2025 of the Republic of Armenia"
- "Sustainable Development Strategy of Rural Community and Agriculture for the Period of 2010-2020 of the Republic of Armenia"
- "National Strategy on Human Rights Protection".

The stakeholders:
The main stakeholders are the Ministry of Nature Protection, The Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Territorial Administration and Development, local communities, community organizations, women's groups, farmers organizations and groups, youth groups, family business entities, environmental NGOs.

Gender issues
The project directly addresses to the solution of gender issues in the region. Most of the agricultural and cattle breeding works are carried out by women. It is envisaged to involve women in the activities which will increase their income, awareness and acquisition of new specialties.
Women will be involved in knowledge and awareness raising events. This approach will significantly improve the level of awareness and knowledge among women in relation to the increase of productivity and adaptation measures of natural and agrolandscapes to climate change. This will enable them to be widely involved in other similar projects after the end of the project.
The program will also directly affect the level of raising women's health by reducing environmental pollution caused by stone pit dust and other waste.

The establishment of the forest and park in the stone pit site will create favourable conditions for women to organize their leisure time.

Flood prevention will largely improve women's living conditions. The money that is spend on the repair of apartments and the acquisition of new property will be spent on other urgent issues.

As a result of the project the communities will have females possessing sufficient knowledge on the opportunities of restoration of degraded environment, who can apply their knowledge in their future endeavours.

After the end of the program the created new opportunities will require women's labor force for the implementation of forest and park maintenance work.

Project Objective(s)[1]	Project Objec Indicator(s)	Fund Outcome	Fund Outcome Indicator	Grant Amount (USD)
Reclamation and management of closed mine site	Restored mine area	Reduced exposure at national level to climate related hazards and threats	1. Relevant threat and hazard information generated and disseminated to stakeholders on a timely basis	745 000
Prevention and management of floods	Cleaned storm canals	**Outcome 4:** Increased adaptive capacity within relevant development and natural resource sectors	4.1. Development sectors' services responsive to evolving needs from changing and variable climate 4.2. Physical infrastructure improved to withstand climate change and variability-induced stress	350 000
Raising awareness and knowledge level of population for the management of stone pit wastes and floods	Number of communities and population	**Outcome 3:** Strengthened awareness and ownership of adaptation and climate risk reduction processes at local level	3.1. Percentage of targeted population aware of predicted adverse impacts of climate change, and of appropriate responses 3.2. Modification in targeted population behaviour	100 000
Project Outcome(s)	**Project Outcome**	**Fund Output**	**Fund Output Indicator**	**Grant Amount (USD)**

	Indicator(s)			
Natural and agrolandscape adaptation and sustainability to climate change increased	1. Restored soil cover of mines 2. The area will be provided with irrigation water 3. crop yield and crop quality of the adjacent agrolandscapes increased 4 Adverse effects on the health of the population of adjacent communities decreased	***Output 4:*** Vulnerable physical, natural and social assets strengthened in response to climate change impacts, including variability	4.1.1. No. and type of health or social infrastructure developed or modified to respond to new conditions resulting from climate variability and change (by type)	
Flood risk threat to Artik city is minimized	1. Restored storm canals conveying heavy snowmelt and rainwater 2. Improved sanitary condition of Artik city 3. Reduced risk of epidemics	***Output 6:*** Targeted individual and community livelihood strategies strengthened in relation to climate change impacts, including variability	6.1.1.No. and type of adaptation assets (physical as well as in terms of knowledge) created in support of individual or community livelihood strategies 6.1.2. Type of income sources for households generated under climate change scenario	

Raising awareness and knowledge level of population on the recovery of agrolandscapes and flood risk reduction	1. The level of knowledge on effective recovery methods of degraded natural and agrolandscapes increased 2 The knowledge level of the population on natural and agrolandscape adaptation to climate change increased 3 Increased knowledge level of the popu ation on the */occurrence and prevention possibilities of floods 4. Sustainable thinking formed on the importance of	***Output 2.2:*** Targeted population groups covered by adequate risk reduction systems	2.2.1. Percentage of population covered by adequate risk reduction systems 2.2.2. No. of people affected by climate variability	

	landscape adaptation to climate change in communities 5 The involvement of local media and environmental NGOs in the process of mitigating the negative effects of climate change increased 6. Project results available to all interested parties			

PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENT AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY

A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government[2] *Provide the name and position of the government official and indicate date of endorsement. If this is a regional project/programme, list the endorsing officials all the participating countries. The endorsement letter(s) should be attached as an annex to the project/programme proposal. Please attach the endorsement letter(s) with this template; add as many participating governments if a regional project/programme:*

Mr. Artsvik Minasyan, Minister of Nature Protection of the Republic of Armenia	Date: *(11.01.2017)*

B. Implementing Entity certification *Provide the name and signature of the Implementing Entity Coordinator and the date of signature. Provide also the project/programme contact person's name, telephone number and email address*

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[2] 6. Each Party shall designate and communicate to the secretariat the authority that will endorse on behalf of the national government the projects and programmes proposed by the implementing entities.

• I certify that this proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation Plans ("Second National Environment Action Programme of the Republic of Armenia", "The National Strategy and Action Plan of Conservation, Protection, Reproduction and Use of Biological Diversity of the Republic of Armenia", "Strategy and National Action Plan to Combat Desertification in the Republic of Armenia", "Community Agro Resource Management and Competitiveness Project", "The Strategic Plan for Long-term Development for 2014-2025 of the Republic of Armenia", "Sustainable Development Strategy of Rural Community and Agriculture for the Period of 2010-2020 of the Republic of Armenia", "National Strategy on Human Rights Protection") and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender Policy of the Adaptation Fund and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.
Name & Signature Mr. Gevorg Nersisyan Implementing Entity Coordinator
Date: *(11.01.2017)* | Tel. and email: +37410 651631 info@cep.am
Project Contact Person: Samvel Baloyan
Tel. and Email: +37410 651631, sbaloyan09@rambler.ru, info@cep.am