"Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts in Mountain Forest Ecosystems of Armenia" UNDP/GEF/00051202 Project

UNV Assignment Adaptive Forest Management Specialist UNDP CO Armenia

Interim Report of the Assignment from 1 April to 31 December 2011

Essi Ulander United Nations Volunteer



Content

1.	Background	3
	UNV Assignment under the UNDP/GEF/00051202 Project	3
	The Outcomes of the UNDP/GEF/00051202 Project "Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts in Mountain Forest Ecosystems of Armenia"	4
2.	Objectives and Description of the UNV Assignment	5
	Description of Duties	5
	Results and Expected Outputs	6
	Shared Assignment	6
3.	Activities and Outputs of the UNV Assignment between April and December 2011	7
A	NNEXES	14
	Annex 1. UNV Volunteer Description of Assignment	14
	Annex 2. "Forecast, Prevention and Suppression of Forest and Grassland Fires" Conference Article "Global Climate Change: Growing Risks of Forest Fires and Mitigation Measures"	
	Annex 3. Report "Application of Bioclimatic Envelope Models to Analyse Potential Impacts of Climate Change on Mountain Forest Ecosystems of Armenia – Requirements and Recommendations"	16
	Annex 4. "Forest and Grassland Fires in Armenia -Causes, Prevention and Fire Fighting" Brochure	16
	Annex 5. Mission Report on the Visit to Syunik Pilot Project Sites from 14 to 16 April 2011	16
	Annex 6. International Scientific Conference "Problems of Adaptation to Climate Change" Abstract "Adaptation Measures to Enhance the Resilience of Mountain Forests to Climate Change Impacts in Armen	
	Annex 7. International Scientific Conference "Problems of Adaptation to Climate Change" Poster "Adaptate Measures to Enhance the Resilience of Mountain Forests to Climate Change Impacts in Armenia"	
	Annex 8. VII Annual International Conference of REC Caucasus "Climate Change Adaptation – Challenge and Opportunity for the Caucasus" Proceedings Article "Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts in Forests a Forestry of Armenia – Piloting Selected Adaptation Measures in Forest Regeneration and Forest Rehabilitation to Enhance the Resilience of Mountain Forests to Climate Change"	and
	Annex 9. Success Story "Partnership is Creating Change – Joining Forces to Develop Forest and Grassland Fire Management in Armenia"	
	Annex 10. Case study "Adaptation Measures in Forest and Protected Area Management to Enhance the Resilience of Mountain Forests to Climate Change Impacts in Armenia" Submitted for the Mountain	
	Partnership	17

1. Background

UNV Assignment under the UNDP/GEF/00051202 Project

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme is the UN organization that promotes volunteerism to support peace and development worldwide. Volunteerism can transform the pace and nature of development and it benefits both society at large and the individual volunteer. UNV contributes to peace and development by advocating for volunteerism globally, encouraging partners to integrate volunteerism into development programming, and mobilizing volunteers.

In most cultures volunteerism is deeply embedded in long-established, ancient traditions of sharing and support within the communities. In this context, UNV volunteers take part in various forms of volunteerism and play a role in development and peace together with co-workers, host agencies and local communities. In all assignments, UNV volunteers promote volunteerism through their action and conduct. Engaging in volunteer activity can effectively and positively enrich their understanding of local and social realities, as well as create a bridge between themselves and the people in their host community.

The UNDP/GEF/00051202 Project "Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts in Mountain Forest Ecosystems of Armenia" (2009-2012) implemented by UNDP Country Office Armenia announced in 2010 an international United Nations Volunteer assignment titled "Adaptive Forest Management Specialist" funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland. Two UNV Volunteers were employed for a shared assignment as of 1 February 2011 for a total of 12 months. For the first three months of the UNV assignment (February-April 2011), the UNDP/GEF Project employed Mr. Sipi Jaakkola. Ms. Essi Ulander was employed for the remaining duration of the assignment. The latter began her duties on 1 April 2011 allowing for an overlap of one month between the two volunteers.

The office of the UNDP/GEF/00051202 Project "Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts in Mountain Forest Ecosystems of Armenia" is located in the Climate Change Information Center (UNDP Climate Change Programme) under the Ministry of Nature Protection of the Republic of Armenia and UNDP Armenia CO. Also the two UNV Volunteers were placed into the Climate Change Information Center. The UNDP/GEF/00051202 Project provided logistical support for the UNV Volunteers, including e.g. office space, work stations as well as transportation and DSA during in-country missions.

The contract of Ms. Essi Ulander was later on extended for additional 12 months from 1 January to 31 December 2012. This interim report describes activities undertaken by UNV Volunteer Essi Ulander during the initial period of her UNV Assignment between April-December 2011. A final report of the assignment will be submitted at the end of the extended contract period.

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The Outcomes of the UNDP/GEF/00051202 Project "Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts in Mountain Forest Ecosystems of Armenia"

Armenia's mountain forest ecosystems having global conservation priority are identified as critically vulnerable to global climate change. Integration of climate change adaptation measures into forest management is crucial for ensuring sustainability of the mountain ecosystems.

The main expected outcomes and outputs of the UNDP/GEF Project "Adaptation to climate change impacts in mountain forest ecosystems of Armenia" are:

- **Outcome 1:** The enabling environment for integrating climate change risks into management of forest ecosystems is in place
 - **Output 1.1:** Planning documents that govern forest management are modified to take account of climate change risks
 - **Output 1.2:** An early warning and response system to climate change risks based on clearly defined institutional roles and responsibilities
- **Outcome 2:** Forest and protected area management in the Syunik region integrates pilot adaptation measures to enhance adaptive capacity of mountain forest ecosystems
 - **Output 2.1:** Comprehensive system for data collection and interpretation to feed into scenario development and identification of adaptation measures
 - **Output 2.2:** Measures to mitigate elevated pest outbreak risks due to climate change, including variability
 - **Output 2.3:** Measures to mitigate elevated forest fire risk due to climate change, including variability
 - Output 2.4: Measures to reduce forest fragmentation and improve ecological restoration
- **Outcome 3:** Capacities for adaptive management, monitoring and evaluation, learning, and replication of project lessons are developed.
 - **Output 3.1:** Training and sharing of experiences with foresters and community members from other regions/sub-regions in Armenia to develop their capacities to integrate adaptive measures in forest management
 - **Output 3.2:** A user-friendly manual on how to integrate climate change risks in forest management is developed and widely disseminated
 - Output 3.3: A results-based monitoring, evaluation and learning system is in place

Lessons from the project are expected to be replicated in other mountain forest ecosystems of central and northern Armenia. The experience will also be beneficial to other countries in the region and beyond, through UNDP/GEF's Adaptation Learning Mechanism.

2. Objectives and Description of the UNV Assignment

Description of Duties

As described in the Terms of Reference of the UNV Assignment "Adaptive Forest Management Specialist" (Annex 1), the UNV Volunteer will undertake the following tasks under the direct supervision of the Project Manager:

- Provide consultancy to the project team and subcontracting organizations regarding implementation of the pilot projects to improve ecological restoration in mountain forest ecosystems;
- Conduct studies and, in line with the project objective and goal, develop recommendations to improve forest management (including in protected areas) based on best available experience with involvement of local communities and civil society;
- Assist the project team in introducing adaptive forest management modalities in forestries and protected areas to enhance resilience and adaptation of forest ecosystems to climate change impacts;
- Review reports of subcontracting organizations, provide comments and suggestions in order to improve the final outputs;
- Assist in developing training packages and conducting trainings for target groups (communities, foresters, NGOs, etc.) on adaptive forest management with focus to adaptation to climate change impacts;
- Assist the project team in developing and conducting public awareness campaigns;
- Participate in field visits to pilot project areas.

In addition to the aforementioned tasks, UNV Volunteers are also encouraged to, as an inherent part of their assignment, contribute to volunteerism through:

- Strengthening their knowledge and understanding of the concept of volunteerism by reading relevant UNV and external publications and taking active part in UNV activities (for instance in events that mark IVD);
- Getting acquainted with and building on traditional and/or local forms of volunteerism in the host country;
- Reflecting on the type and quality of voluntary action that they are undertaking, including participation in ongoing reflection activities;
- Contributing articles/write-ups on field experiences and submitting them for UNV publications/websites, newsletters, press releases, etc.;
- Assisting with the UNV Buddy Programme for newly-arrived UNV volunteers;
- Promoting or advising local groups in the use of online volunteering, or encouraging relevant local individuals and organizations to use the UNV Online Volunteering service whenever technically possible.

Results and Expected Outputs

The results and expected outputs of the UNV assignment include:

- Recommendations to improve forest management (including in protected areas) in line with the project objective and goal based on best available experience;
- Consultancy to the project team and subcontracting organizations regarding implementation of the pilot projects and other activities under the project;
- Assistance in development/organization of training packages, trainings, campaigns, workshops and seminars;
- A final statement of achievements towards volunteerism for development during your assignment such as specific quantification of mobilized volunteers, activities, capacities.

Shared Assignment

The aforementioned tasks and expected outputs were shared with the two UNV Volunteers. Some of the tasks were undertaken jointly and others individually. Activities carried out individually by UNV Mr. Sipi Jaakkola are described in detail elsewhere, but some outputs presented in this report are a joint effort of the two UNV's.

Furthermore, the Description of the Assignment and the Duties as well as the expected results remain the same for the extended 12 month period of the UNV Assignment between January-December 2012.

3. Activities and Outputs of the UNV Assignment between April and December 2011

The main outputs and activities of UNV Essi Ulander during the period April-December 2011 are listed below in a table. The activities are grouped under the UNDP/GEF/00051202 Project Outcomes and Outputs according to contributions made towards specific Project Outputs.

Output	Description of Activities of the UNV Volunteer	Other Comments/Information				
Outcome 1: The enabling environment for integrating climate change risks into management of forest ecosystems is in place						
Output 1.2: An early warning and response system to climate change risks based on clearly defined institutional roles and responsibilities						
Conference proceedings article and presentation	Participation in the preparation of the conference presentation	Authors: Harutyunyan, D., Ter-				
"Global climate change: Growing risks of forest	and related proceedings article for the forest and grassland fire	Zakaryan, A., Ulander, E.				
fires and mitigation measures" prepared for the	conference organised jointly by UNDP, OSCE, Global Fire					
Conference on Forecast, Prevention and	Monitoring Centre, ENVSEC and the MoES (Annex 2)					
Suppression of Forest and Grassland Fires, 14						
September, 2011Yerevan, Armenia						
Outcome 2: Forest and protected area management	t in the Syunik region integrates pilot adaptation measures to enha	ance adaptive capacity of mountain				
forest ecosystems						
Output 2.1: Comprehensive system for data collection	on and interpretation to feed into scenario development and identific	ation of adaptation measures				
Report "Application of bioclimatic envelope	Preparation of the report on the application of bioclimatic					
models to envelope models to analyse potential impacts of climate change						
analyse potential impacts of climate change on On Armenia's forest species (Annex 3). The report provides						
mountain forest ecosystems of Armenia	background information of different bioclimatic modelling					
 Requirements and recommendations" 	approaches and discusses data requirements and the usefulness					
	of the approaches in analysing the impacts of climate change on					
	forest ecosystems and further identification of adaptation options					
	under changing climate conditions					
Output 2.2: Measures to mitigate elevated pest outbr	reak risks due to climate change, including variability					
Development of pest monitoring and control	Preparation of materials for pest monitoring and control training	Work to be completed in 2012				
training and related materials	based on methods developed by the American University of					
	Armenia under the Project and international experience					
Output 2.3: Measures to mitigate elevated forest fire risk due to climate change, including variability						
Public awareness raising on forest and grassland	Preparation of public awareness raising materials and delivering					
fire issues organised for schoolchildren and	lessons together with National Public Outreach Expert Maro					
teachers	Kochinyan at schools in the villages of Geghanush, Shikahogh,					
	and Tsav of Syunik Marz					
Public outreach materials: "Forest	Preparation of the forest and grassland fire brochure for public					

and grassland fires in Armenia -causes, prevention and fire fighting"	outreach purposes (Annex 4)	
Output 2.4: Measures to reduce forest fragmentation	l a and improve ecological restoration	
Mission report on the visit to Syunik pilot project sites from 14 to 16 April 2011	Preparation of a report jointly with UNV Sipi Jaakkola following the field visit to the reforestation pilot sites. The report (Annex 5) contains recommendations in regards to the implementation of the pilot projects as well as the monitoring of the results of reforestation	
Revision of pilot project survival rate monitoring design and quarterly reporting templates	Based on recommendations made following the field visit to the pilot reforestation sites, the survival rate monitoring design and reporting templates were revised to enable a more rigorous analysis of the pilot project results and applied adaptation measures. The survival rates after the growing season of 2011 were calculated based on the data collected according to the revised monitoring design	
	onitoring and evaluation, learning, and replication of project lessons	are developed
Output 3.3: A results-based monitoring, evaluation of		
Conference proceedings abstract and poster presentation "Adaptation measures to enhance the resilience of mountain forests to climate change impacts in Armenia" prepared for the International Scientific Conference "Problems of Adaptation to Climate Change", 7-9 November, 2011, Moscow, Russia	Participation in the preparation of the abstract (Annex 6) and poster presentation (Annex 7) on the adaptation approaches applied by and expected results of the Project for the conference organised jointly by the Russian Federal Service for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Monitoring, Russian Academy of Science, WMO, UNESCO, IOC of UNESCO, UNDP, UNEP, UNFCCC	Authors: Ter-Zakaryan, A., Harutyunyan, D., Ulander, E., Gabrielyan, A.
Conference proceedings article and presentation: "Adaptation to climate change impacts in forests and forestry of Armenia – Piloting selected adaptation measures in forest regeneration and forest rehabilitation to enhance the resilience of mountain forests to climate change" prepared for the VII Annual International Conference on REC Caucasus "Climate Change Adaptation – Challenge and Opportunity for the Caucasus", 10-11 November, 2011, Tbilisi, Georgia	Participation in the preparation of the conference proceedings article (Annex 8) on the adaptation approaches applied by the Project and expected results as well as delivering the related presentation at the REC Caucasus conference	Authors: Ulander, E., Harutyunyan, D., Gabrielyan, A., Ter-Zakaryan, A.
Sharing the applied adaptation approaches and lessons learned of the Project on the UNDP/GEF	Participation in the preparation of materials for the Adaptation Learning Mechanism –platform:	

"Adaptation Learning Mechanism" global knowledge sharing platform	 Forest Adaptation in Armenia –film [Available at: http://www.adaptationlearning.net/gallery/undp-gef-spaarmeniaforest-adaptation] Lessons learned: Success story "Partnership is creating change – Joining forces to develop forest and grassland fire management in Armenia" prepared based on jointly organised forest and grassland fire management events (Annex 9) 	
Case study "Adaptation measures in forest and protected area management to enhance the resilience of mountain forests to climate change impacts in Armenia" submitted for the Mountain Partnership for the preparation of International Mountain Day 2011 communications materials	Participation in the preparation of a case study on the adaptation approaches and expected results of the Project (Annex 10) submitted for the Mountain Partnership	No further information has been received from Mountain Partnership on the publication of the materials Authors: D. Harutyunyan, A. Ter-Zakaryan, E. Ulander

Additionally UNV Essi Ulander has carried out and participated, amongst others, in the following activities related to Project implementation and management:

1. Project Implementation

- Preparation of website and press materials
 - o Preparation of stories of news and events on Climate Change Information Centre website [http://www.nature-ic.am/]
 - o Participation in the preparation of news and press releases for the UNDP CO Armenia website [http://www.undp.am/]
 - o Participation in the preparation of other press materials (e.g. UN Magazine)
- Participation in the revision of Project Brochure, Project Overview and Pilot Project Factsheets
- Participation in the revision of the Project Strategic Results Framework (logframe) (to be completed in 2012)
- Preparation of background information about forest and grassland fire statistics in Armenia and globally
- Participation in the preparation of a report on Project results published in the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, Bern Convention Group of Experts on Biodiversity and Climate Change report titled "National reports and contributions"

[Available at:

https://wcd.coe.int/com.instranet.InstraServlet?command=com.instranet.CmdBlobGet&InstranetImage=1961170&SecMode=1&DocId=1808762&Usage=2]

- Contribution to project administration issues (e.g. PIR, UNDP Environmental Governance Portfolio Bulletin)
- Providing consultation to UNDP/GEF Small Grants Programme in the development of a prospective project "Introduction of sustainable forest management practices in tourist zones of Tatev and Halidzor communities of Syunik region and "Syunik" Forest Enterprise"
- Analyses of decisions made in Durban COP17/CMP7 in regards to LULUCF and REDD+

2. Meetings and Other Events

Below listed in the tables are meetings and events attended by UNV Essi Ulander between the period April-December 2011.

Stakeholder	Organisation	Date	Agenda
Viktor	Centre of	6.4.2011	Discussion about the possibility to utilise
Martirosyan	Environmental		training materials produced under a WB
·	Projects		project
Areg Maghakian,	Armenia Tree	19.4.2011	Introduction of the activities of the respective
Vardan Melikyan	Project		parties and discussion about sensitivities and
			critical issues of reforestation projects in
			Armenia
Zachary Parisa		1.5.2011	As above

Jeff Masarjian		5.5.2011	Visit to ATP nurseries and reforestation site in	
			Lori	
Karen Manvelian,	WWF	28.4.2011	Presentation of activities of the Project and	
Siranush Galstyan			WWF especially in regards to Arevik National	
			Park. The development of the management	
			plan for Arevik NP was discussed	
Armen	Hayantar	1.12.2011	Discussion about targets and costs of	
Nalbandyan			reforestation in Armenia	
Masis Sargsyan		9.12.2011	Discussion about the development of pest	
			monitoring and control training and related	
			materials under the Project	
Hovhannes	UNDP	9.12.2011	Consultation in regards to a proposed forest	
Ghazaryan			management project under the Small Grants	
			Programme	

Event	Date	Description
Seminar on issues of climate change	20.4.2011	The students of the Faculty of Biology,
and forests held for the students at the		Chemistry and Geography at the ASPU after
Armenian State Pedagogical		Kh. Abovyan were introduced to the concepts
University after Kh. Abovyan		of sustainable forest management and issues of
		forest adaptation to climate change impacts
		and elevated forest fire risks in Armenia
Event dedicated to the International	29.4.2011	An event dedicated to the issues of forest
Year of Forests 2011 at the State		adaptation to climate change impacts and
Museum of Nature of Armenia		celebration of the International Year of Forests
		2011 jointly organized by the school # 156 and
		State Museum of Nature of Armenia
ENPI FLEG work shop event	10.6.2011	Presentation and discussion about the results of
"Assessment of the economic and		the assessment of the economic and social
social impact of unsustainable forest		impact of unsustainable forest practices and
practices and illegal loggings on rural		illegal loggings on rural population of Armenia
population of Armenia"		conducted by ENPI FLEG
GIZ work shop on land cover mapping	21.6.2011	Methods and preliminary results of the project
in Armenia with remote sensing		carried out by GIZ were presented
technology		
WWF national stakeholders workshop	24.6.2011	Presentation and discussion about the WWF
on forest transformation		project on increasing the resilience of forest
		ecosystems against climate change in the
		Southern Caucasus through forest
		transformation
Forest fire early response equipment	22.7.2011	Donation and field demonstration of the forest
donation ceremony		fire early response equipment provided by the
		Project to Syunik and Kapan FEs and Arevik
		NP
Conference on forecast, prevention and	14.9.2011	Forest and grassland fire management events
suppression of forest and grassland		organised jointly by UNDP, OSCE, Global
fires		Fire Monitoring Centre, ENVSEC and the
		MoES
VII Annual International Conference	10	Participation in the conference and delivering
of REC Caucasus "Climate Change	11.11.2011	the presentation "Adaptation to climate change

Adaptation – Challenge and		impacts in forests and forestry of Armenia –
Opportunity for the Caucasus, Tbilisi,		Piloting selected adaptation measures in forest
Georgia		regeneration and forest rehabilitation to
		enhance the resilience of mountain forests to
		climate change" at the conference
UN International Volunteer Day event	5.12.2011	Event celebrating International Volunteer Day
GIZ event on Armenian-German	6.12.2011	Initiatives for green economy in the business
forum on green cconomy		and biodiversity sector were presented
GIZ event on calculation of forest	13.12.2011	The results of the calculation of the forest
cover by remote sensing tool		cover in Armenia using remote sensing tools
		were presented

3. Participation in Trainings

Training	Date	Organiser
Training course on community based	14	GIZ Programme "Regional Environmental
climate change adaptation	16.6.2011,	Policy in the South Caucasus" on behalf of the
	Yerevan,	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and
	Armenia	Development

4. Field Visits

Destination	Date	Description
Field visit to the pilot project sites,	14	Field visit to the three reforestation pilot
Syunik Marz	16.4.2011	project sites in Goris, Kapan and Meghri,
		report on the visits provided (Annex 5)
Field visit to Goris and Kapan pilot	19	Visit to the two pilot sites in Goris and Kapan,
project sites	21.5.2011	comments of pilot project implementation
		provided in a combined document together
		with comments of the first field visit
Field visit to Byurakan Forest Sector	24.10.2011	Monitoring of pest populations and pest
of the Aragatsotn Forest Enterprise		outbreaks in the Byurakan Forest Sector to
		identify suitable sites for a pest control pilot to
		be undertaken by the Project, a separate memo
		of the field visit was prepared

5. Volunteerism

In addition to carrying out tasks under and reporting to respective projects in host organisations, UNV Volunteers also report to the UNV programme about their assignments. The Volunteer Reporting System is a reporting and monitoring instrument, which allows the UNV Volunteer and the UNV Programme to reflect how assignments are carried out, how the UNV is doing in the assignment and what are the contributions of the UNV to the assignment.

The reporting schedule of a volunteer depends on the length of the UNV assignment. Initially, the reporting schedule for UNV Essi Ulander during the period April-December 2011 included an initial and a final report, but due to problems in the reporting system, only the final report was to be

completed by the end of January 2011. However, the reporting schedule was altered following the extension of the contract and the new reporting schedule is presented below.

Report Type	Valid As Of	Expiry Date	Comments
Initial	1.5.2011	1.7.2011	N/A due to problems in the reporting system
Interim	1.3.2012	1.5.2012	
Final	1.12.2012	31.1.2013	

ANNEXES

Annex 1. UNV Volunteer Description of Assignment

Preamble:

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme is the UN organization that promotes volunteerism to support peace and development worldwide. Volunteerism can transform the pace and nature of development, and it benefits both society at large and the individual volunteer. UNV contributes to peace and development by advocating for volunteerism globally, encouraging partners to integrate volunteerism into development programming, and mobilizing volunteers.

In most cultures volunteerism is deeply embedded in long-established, ancient traditions of sharing and support within the communities. In this context, UNV volunteers take part in various forms of volunteerism and play a role in development and peace together with co-workers, host agencies and local communities.

In all assignments, UNV volunteers promote volunteerism through their action and conduct. Engaging in volunteer activity can effectively and positively enrich their understanding of local and social realities, as well as create a bridge between themselves and the people in their host community. This will make the time they spend as UNV volunteers even more rewarding and productive.

1. UNV Assignment Title: Adaptive Forest Management Specialist

2. Type of assignment: International

3. Project Title: "Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts in Mountain Forest

Ecosystems of Armenia" UNDP/GEF/00051202

4. Duration: 9 months

5. Location, Country: Yerevan, Armenia6. Expected starting date: As early as possible

7. Brief Project Description: The objective of the project is to enhance adaptive capacities of the

vulnerable mountain forest ecosystems to climate change in the

south-eastern Syunik region of Armenia.

8. Host Agency/Host Institute: UNDP Armenia CO

9. Organizational Context:

Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts in Mountain Forest Ecosystems of Armenia

Armenia's mountain forest ecosystems having global conservation priority are identified as critically vulnerable to the global climate change. Integration of climate change adaptation measures into the forest management is crucial for ensuring sustainability of mountain ecosystems. The main planned outcomes of the project are: (1) The enabling environment for integrating climate change risks into management of forest ecosystems is in place; (2) Forest and protected area management in the Syunik region integrates pilot adaptation measures to enhance adaptive capacity of mountain forest ecosystems; (3) Capacities for adaptive management, monitoring and evaluation, learning, and replication of project lessons are developed. Lessons from the project are expected to be replicated in other mountain forest ecosystems of central and northern Armenia.

10. Type of assignment place: Assignment without family

11. Description of Duties:

Under the direct supervision of the Project Manager the UNV volunteer will undertake the following tasks:

- Provide consultancy to the project team and subcontracting organizations regarding implementation of the pilot projects to improve ecological restoration in mountain forest ecosystems;
- Conduct studies and in line with the project objective and goal develop recommendations to improve forest management (including in protected areas) based on best available experience with involvement of local communities and civil society;
- Assist the project team in introducing adaptive forest management modalities in forestries and protected areas to enhance resilience and adaptation of forest ecosystems to climate change impacts;
- Review reports of subcontracting organizations, provide comments and suggestions in order to improve the final outputs;
- Assist in developing training packages and conducting trainings for target groups (communities, foresters, NGOs, etc.) on adaptive forest management with focus to adaptation to climate change impacts;
- Assist the project team in developing and conducting public awareness campaigns;
- Participate in field visits to pilot project areas.

Furthermore, UNV volunteers are encouraged to:

- Strengthening their knowledge and understanding of the concept of volunteerism by reading relevant UNV and external publications and taking active part in UNV activities (for instance in events that mark IVD);
- Getting acquainted with and building on traditional and/or local forms of volunteerism in the host country;
- Reflecting on the type and quality of voluntary action that they are undertaking, including participation in ongoing reflection activities;
- Contributing articles/write-ups on field experiences and submitting them for UNV publications/websites, newsletters, press releases, etc.;
- Assisting with the UNV Buddy Programme for newly-arrived UNV volunteers;
- Promoting or advising local groups in the use of online volunteering, or encouraging relevant local individuals and organizations to use the UNV Online Volunteering service whenever technically possible.

12. Results/Expected Output:

- Recommendations to improve forest management (including in protected areas) in line with the project objective and goal based on best available experience;
- Consultancy to the project team and subcontracting organizations regarding implementation of the pilot projects and other activities under the project;
- Assistance in development/organization of training packages, trainings, campaigns, workshops and seminars;
- A final statement of achievements towards volunteerism for development during your assignment such as specific quantification of mobilized volunteers, activities, capacities.

13. Qualifications/Requirements:

- Advanced University Degree in Forest/Environmental Management or other relevant field.
- Minimum of 3 years of related experience; experience in project consultation is desirable
- Strong interpersonal skills.
- Fluency in English.

14. Living conditions:

Yerevan is a very safe and quiet city and the crime rate is low. The climate is continental, with hot and dry summers, and cold and snowy winters. Water and electricity are usually available throughout the city, and shops offer a variety of goods (mostly locally produced). Health and hygiene conditions are good, with no need for numerous vaccinations. The most common illnesses are gastroenteritis, colds and flues. Medical

support is available in English at UN standards for all internationals. The city has a large variety of restaurants, cafes, clubs, and other such leisure activities, and there are many cultural activities, like theatre (including international), classic and modern music, ballet, and concerts. Art expositions are organized quite often, and spring and autumn programs of international cinema are shown at the National Gallery.

Annex 2. "Forecast, Prevention and Suppression of Forest and Grassland Fires" Conference Article "Global Climate Change: Growing Risks of Forest Fires and Mitigation Measures" (http://www.nature-ic.am/en/PR_F_Publications)

Annex 3. Report "Application of Bioclimatic Envelope Models to Analyse Potential Impacts of Climate Change on Mountain Forest Ecosystems of Armenia – Requirements and Recommendations" (draft)

Annex 4. "Forest and Grassland Fires in Armenia -Causes, Prevention and Fire Fighting" Brochure (draft)

Annex 5. Mission Report on the Visit to Syunik Pilot Project Sites from 14 to 16 April 2011 (http://www.nature-ic.am/en/PR_FA_Reports)

Annex 6. International Scientific Conference "Problems of Adaptation to Climate Change" Abstract "Adaptation Measures to Enhance the Resilience of Mountain Forests to Climate Change Impacts in Armenia"

(http://www.nature-ic.am/en/PR_F_International_News/423 & http://www.pacc2011.ru/en/abstracts-of-poster-session.htm)

Annex 7. International Scientific Conference "Problems of Adaptation to Climate Change"
Poster "Adaptation Measures to Enhance the Resilience of Mountain Forests to Climate Change
Impacts in Armenia"

(http://www.nature-ic.am/en/PR_F_International_News/423)

Annex 8. VII Annual International Conference of REC Caucasus "Climate Change Adaptation – Challenge and Opportunity for the Caucasus" Proceedings Article "Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts in Forests and Forestry of Armenia – Piloting Selected Adaptation Measures in Forest Regeneration and Forest Rehabilitation to Enhance the Resilience of Mountain Forests to Climate Change"

(http://www.nature-ic.am/en/PR_F_International_News/414)

Annex 9. Success Story "Partnership is Creating Change – Joining Forces to Develop Forest and Grassland Fire Management in Armenia"

(http://www.nature-ic.am/en/Forest_Fire_Events_12_14.09.11 & http://www.adaptationlearning.net/gefspa_armenia)

Annex 10. Case study "Adaptation Measures in Forest and Protected Area Management to Enhance the Resilience of Mountain Forests to Climate Change Impacts in Armenia" Submitted for the Mountain Partnership (draft)