

Ninth Session of the Assembly
25-26 October 2023, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Agenda Item 8.1

DECISION 53-IX-23R Approval of New Projects

The Assembly of the Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO),

Having considered the appraisal and recommendations of the respective Project Appraisal Panel (PAP) and the endorsement of the final appraisal by the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC); and

Taking note of the summary of project proposals as contained in document A-23-9-7, hereby:

1. Approves the project proposals as below, subject to the compliance of any remaining concerns as per comments and recommendations during project appraisal; and

Proponent (Registration No.)	Project Title	Project Duration (year)	Budget (USD)		
			AFoCO	National	Others
PP-2023-KZ-001	Technology and Capacity Enhancement for Massive Production of Quality Planting Materials to Support National Forestation Goals in Kazakhstan	2024-2025	USD 978,146 (KRW1,272,568,362)	USD250,000	
PP-2023-KG-001	Conservation of useful and rare tree species in Kyrgyzstan through establishment of a seed storage in order to retain significant resource	2024-2025	USD 978,146 (KRW1,272,568,362)	USD250,000	
PP-2023-LA-001	Establishment of the ASEAN-Korea Garden in Lao PDR	2024-2025	USD 1,152,959 (KRW1,500,000,000)	USD 70,800	
PP-2023-VN-001	Establishment of the ASEAN-Korea Garden in Viet Nam	2024-2025	USD 1,152,959 (KRW1,500,000,000)	USD 100,800	

*AFoCO Fund was committed in KRW by the Korean Government (Exchange Rate: USD 1 = KRW 1,301).

2. Task the Secretariat to facilitate the necessary follow-up actions for project inception in due course.

Summary of Project Proposals

I. Project Proposal 1

Project Title	Technology and Capacity Enhancement for Massive Production of Quality Planting Materials to Support National Forestation Goals in Kazakhstan		
Proponent	Kazakhstan	Registration No.	PP-2023-KZ-001

1. Project Profile

- a. Primary Target Area: AFoCO Strategic Priority 1
 Secondary Target Area: “Initiating customized restoration & reforestation models”
 “Supporting research & development in climate change adaptation approaches”
 *Please note that following the approval of the Strategic Plan (2024-2030), the Strategic Priority Areas will be updated.
- b. Total budget: USD 1,228,146 (AFoCO: USD 978,146/ National: 250,000)
- c. Project Duration: January 2024 – December 2025 (2 years)
- d. Implementing Agency: Republican state-owned enterprise “Republican breeding and seed center” FWC MENR RK

2. Objectives

- a. To prepare technical documents as basis, in the establishment of improved mechanized nursery
- b. To establish and operationalize the nursery including trial planting (breeding arboretum and demonstration trial)
- c. To establish protective windbreaks around the city of Kazaly
- d. To conduct national and regional capacity building and research activities on the establishment and operationalization of mechanized nursery and forestation activities
- e. To develop a short-term breeding program, including the development of seed sources, as well as the selection of trees, the creation of an area of plus trees and genetic testing
- f. To facilitate national and regional knowledge sharing and dissemination on project outcomes and innovations

3. Expected Outputs and Deliverables

- a. Technical documents for establishment of the nursery complex prepared
- b. Mechanized nursery complex is established
- c. Knowledge and skills of local forestry officers, local communities and international stakeholders are enhanced on afforestation and operationalization of mechanized nursery
- d. Protective windbreaks are established in an area of 25 hectares

II. Project Proposal 2

Project Title	Conservation of useful and rare tree species in Kyrgyzstan through establishment of a seed storage in order to retain significant resource		
Proponent	Kyrgyz Republic	Registration No.	PP-2023-KG-001

1. Project Profile

- a. Primary Target Area: AFoCO Strategic Priority 5
“Strengthening institutional capabilities, diversifying resources and promoting regional activities”
Secondary Target Area: “Supporting research & development in climate change adaptation approaches”
*Please note that following the approval of the Strategic Plan (2024-2030), the Strategic Priority Areas will be updated.
- b. Total budget: USD 1,228,146
(AFoCO: USD 978,146/ National: USD 250,000)
- c. Project Duration: January 2024 – December 2025 (2 years)
- d. Implementing Agency: Forestry Service under the Ministry of Agriculture of Kyrgyz Republic

2. Objectives

- a. To prepare technical documents as basis in the establishment of improved seed storage
- b. To establish and prepare to operationalize the seed storage (seed processing)
- c. To conduct national and regional capacity building and research activities on the establishment and operationalization of seed storage
- d. To develop a short-term breeding program, including the development of seed sources, as well as the selection of trees, the creation of an area of plus trees and genetic testing

3. Expected Outputs and Deliverables

- a. Technical documents for the establishment of the nursery complex prepared
- b. Seed storage is established with necessary equipment
- c. Knowledge and skills of local forestry officers, local communities and international stakeholders are enhanced on seed collection and seed storage

III. Project Proposal 3

Project Title	Establishment of ASEAN-KOREA Garden in Lao PDR		
Proponent	Lao PDR	Registration No.	PP-2023-LA-001

1. Project Profile

- a. Primary Target Area: AFoCO Strategic Priority 4
“Local livelihood improvement & community-based small enterprise development”
*Please note that following the approval of the Strategic Plan (2024-2030), the Strategic Priority Areas will be updated.
- b. Total budget: USD 1,223,759
(AFoCO: USD 1,152,959 / National: USD 70,800)
- c. Project Duration: January 2024 – December 2025 (2 years)
- d. Implementing Agency: Department of Forestry (DoF), Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF)

2. Objectives

- a. To promote human well-being and rescue tree and plant species threatened/displayed through the establishment of ASEAN-Korea Garden
- b. To promote educational and awareness programs on restoration and biodiversity conservation and promote knowledge sharing in the region
- c. To develop tourist market linkage and prepare sustainable financial planning for sustaining the ASEAN-KOREA Garden management in the long-term

3. Expected Outputs and Deliverables

- a. The ASEAN-KOREA Garden, including its supporting of ICT facilities are constructed and strictly maintained that provides long-term benefit to the public
- b. The forest and biodiversity education program and ICT materials developed and put in place for implementation and monitoring
- c. Sustainable market linkage promoted, forest education enhanced, and establishment of a sustainable forest finance for ASEAN-KOREA Garden

IV. Project Proposal 4

Project Title	Establishment of ASEAN-Korea Garden in Viet Nam		
Proponent	Viet Nam	Registration No.	PP-2023-VN-001

1. Project Profile

- a. Primary Target Area: AFoCO Strategic Priority 2
“Supporting research & development in climate change adaptation approaches”
Secondary Target Area: “Strengthening institutional capabilities, diversifying resources & promoting regional actions”
*Please note that following the approval of the Strategic Plan (2024-2030), the Strategic Priority Areas will be updated.
- b. Total budget: USD 1,253,759
(AFoCO: USD 1,152,959 / National: USD 100,800)
- c. Project Duration: 1 January 2024 – 31 December 2025 (2 years)
- d. Implementing Agency: Vietnam National University of Forestry (supervised by the Department of Forestry (DoF), Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD))

2. Objectives

- a. To establish, improve and increase the quality of green spaces in Ha Noi capital
- b. To promote conservation, research, and development of high-value plant species in the context of climate change
- c. To promote educational awareness programs on biodiversity conservation and environmental management; promote ecotourism and forestry knowledge sharing in the region
- d. To strengthen cooperation among Vietnam, Korea, and ASEAN countries

3. Expected Outputs and Deliverables

- a. The ASEAN-KOREA Garden is established and maintained in the campus of VNUF for public and educational benefits
- b. High value plant species is effectively conserved and developed in the context of climate change
- c. Educational and awareness programs on restoration, biodiversity conservation and forest based eco-tourism activities are designed, implemented, and promoted
- d. Operation of cultural exchange activities among Viet Nam, Korea, and ASEAN countries