

## ECO PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT (FORM)

1. Project Category/Code:	TI/Trade/SSP-3/2020
<b>2. Project Title:</b>	Impediments in ECO Trade Agreement and Measures to Resolve”
<b>3. Inclusion in ECO Project List: date of approval of ECO Work Program by RPC</b>	Paragraph-52, A. Sector: Trade and Investments, Work Programme 2020 ( <i>ECO Secretariat - Tehran, January 14-16, 2020</i> )
<b>4. Project Objective(s):</b>	To Conduct Analysis and Review of the Impediments and Barriers preventing Implementation of ECO Trade Agreement (ECOTA) based on regulatory environment to achieve the targets and the actual progress made in implementation of ECOTA.
<b>5. Project Budget (US\$):</b>	Total US\$10,000/- (US Dollars Ten Thousand) Phase-1= 8,000/- (US Dollars Eight Thousand) Phase-II= 2,000/- (US Dollars Two Thousand) Study on Phase-II will be initiated after completion of Phase-I.
<b>6. Project Funding Source:</b>	ECO Secretariat, ECO Reserve Fund (ERF)
<b>7. Coordinating Country/Organization:</b>	Economic Affairs Research Institute, Tehran, Iran
<b>8. International/Regional Partner:</b>	-
<b>9. Duration of Project- In Proposal (Months):</b>	Three Months from the date of signing of the Contract (Contract Signing Date: 26.10.2020)
<b>10. Project Starting Time (M/Y):</b>	26.10.2020
<b>11. Project Completion Time (M/Y):</b>	25.01.2021
<b>12. Duration of Project- Actual (Months)::</b>	5 Months (15.3.2021)
<b>13. Results of the Project:</b>	
<p><b>Completion of implementation of Project’s outputs:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Specialist has provided with Scenarios for Implementation of ECOTA and its way forward.</li> <li>2. Detailed analysis of the Tariffs profile/structure of the Member States has been provided.</li> <li>3. Detailed analyses of the Non-Tariffs Barriers employed by the Member States has been provided.</li> <li>4. Draft of Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) has been provided.</li> </ol>	

5. A draft of MoU for immediate trading has been provided for consideration of the Member States.

**14. Date of completion:** 15.03.2021

**15. Lessons learnt from Project:**

1. In the ToRs the project duration should be made flexible for renewal to accommodate delays.
2. The Projects should be awarded in a manner to ensure Transparency by calling Expression of Interests (EOI) through the ECO's website short listing the applicants and interviewing them on the basis of merit.
3. The TORs should be prepared and shared with the Member States for their inputs before commissioning the study so that the Member States should have adequate information of the study.
4. The concerned Directorate should concentrate on the Technical aspects of the Project while all other matters like follow-up for obtaining reports, improvement in the reports, submission of final reports on time, extension in time, payment to the Specialist etc should be dealt by Project Management Section which has the exclusive domain of Project related activities and their Management.
5. The concerned Directorate should be given ample time to evaluate the reports in a befitting manner.
6. On completion of the Projects any additional work recommended by the Member States in their views/comments should also been completed by the Specialist and included in the ToRs.

**CHAIRMAN'S (SECRETARY GENERAL) RECOMMENDATION ON PROJECT:**

Date of Project Monitoring Group Meeting: June 14, 2021; the 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting of ECO Project Monitoring Group (PMG), ECO Secretariat

Acceptance of completion: **14 June 2021**

Recommended steps forward:

Paragraph-8, Report of the 15<sup>th</sup> PMG and Recommendations of the Project Final Report.