

**Building up of regular environment reporting system according to the EEA Core Set of Indicators for the West Balkan countries<sup>1</sup>**

Technical Annex

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<sup>1</sup> West Balkan countries include: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Croatia, Montenegro, and Serbia.

## **1. Background information**

The fourth pan-European assessment, the Belgrade 2007 report has been produced by the EEA in collaboration with UNECE, UNEP and other partners for the Sixth Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" which took place in Belgrade, Republic of Serbia in October 2007. The report assessed the progress on the state of the environment in Europe since the last conference in Kiev in 2003. Additionally, it was based on the EEA Core set of indicators (CSIs) in order to enhance the international comparability of the environmental information. At the same time, the Stabilisation and Association Process advanced in the West Balkan countries expecting all of them to be EU candidate and potential candidate countries in 2008.

To extend the indicator-based reporting to the West Balkan (WB) countries, the national reporting networks have to mature and the countries have to be involved regularly in the EEA indicators process. The WB countries have been included into the fourth pan-European Belgrade 2007 report which was indicator-driven. This was possible due to the data received through the regular EEA data exchange with the WB countries, as well as, due to existing data from other international organisations. The Belgrade report has been a testing area for the WB countries participation in regular reporting based on EEA indicators process and regular data deliveries.

There is a need to continue the work on indicators development and reporting aiming at inclusion of the WB countries in the future EEA regular reports.

## **2. Objectives of the project**

The post-Belgrade follow-up support target is building up regular reporting mechanisms in accordance with the EEA core set of indicators and priority data flow. The long-term aim is to gradually include the WB countries into the regular EEA reports. This project will also facilitate the inclusion of the WB countries into the next pan-European report expected in 2011.

The indicator set produced for the WB countries in the Belgrade report 2007 will be updated and analysed in terms of national networks, interconnections, institutions involved, legal basis and national reporting systems. This will support setting up of regular data exchange for EEA indicators production. The state for the non-produced indicators will also be analysed and assistance to extension of the data flows needed to include more indicators (starting with the indicators which can be partially calculated) will be provided.

The activities in the project will support development and strengthening of the national reporting networks aiming at mature regular data flows in line with the EEA member countries.

The beneficiaries of the project are the six WB.

### 3. Project activities

In the period between 2005 and 2007 two projects have been executed as a part of EEA CSI process for the West Balkan countries:

- "Assistance to Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Serbia and Montenegro for implementation of the EEA Core set of indicators and reporting system as input to the fourth pan-European environment assessment Belgrade 2007 report", and
- "Production of 12 fact sheets for regional core set of indicators (CSIs) for West Balkan countries"

The outcomes of both projects, as well as, eight produced regional indicators will be starting point for the project work.

The project will include the following activities:

- Establish first communication with the EEA National Focal Points (NFP) in the six WB countries and organise country visits to update status on the indicators process development.
- Establish regular communication with countries' authorities and experts in Eionet, and enlarge in particular areas as energy, transport and agriculture sectors.
- Revise and update the eight produced EEA CSIs for the WB region. Montenegro will be covered as a separate country.
- Update the two incomplete indicators CSI 020 Nutrients in freshwater (inclusion of information and data for Croatia and Montenegro) and CSI 008 Designated areas.
- Produce fact sheets for extended set of indicators that include minimum three countries from the region. The Indicators for energy, air and water sectors are good candidates. The production of new indicators will be carefully assessed with the WB countries and will considerably depend on the available data and its quality.
- Revise and produce updated reports based on the 2006 and 2007 reports for data flows, legal basis and institutional set up for three selected themes: energy, transport and agriculture.
- Organise a final regional WB workshop to present the results of the project, agree with the countries on the set of updated and produced indicators, and discuss the possible future activities to follow up.
- Deliver the updated and new CSIs to EEA for uploading to the EEA IMS or other storage (based on EEA instructions).

#### 4. Project deliveries

Project deliveries will include:

- Brief report on countries' visits and outcomes.
- Updated revised fact sheets for eight produced EEA CSIs for the WB region.
- Completed fact sheets for two additional regional CSIs: CSI 020 Nutrients in freshwater and CSI 008 Designated areas.
- Finalised fact sheets for new regional indicators that include at least three countries (the final number and themes will be agreed with the countries).
- Regional workshop on EEA CSIs and project activities.
- Updated revised reports from 2006 and 2007 regarding data flows, legal basis and institutional set up for energy, transport and agriculture indicators.
- Updated CSIs extended with the new produced Indicators for the WB countries.
- Final project report (including encountered constrains during the project execution, problems met and overcame, and proposal for follow up activities).

#### 5. Timeframe

The work is expected to be organised to fulfil expected milestones:

<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Contractor delivery</b>
30 September 2008	Brief report on countries visits and outcomes.
15 December 2008	Organisation of a regional workshop on regional CSIs and project activities.
31 December 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Updated revised fact sheets for eight produced EEA CSIs for the WB region.</li><li>○ Completed fact sheets for two additional regional CSIs: CSI 020 Nutrients in freshwater and CSI 008 Designated areas.</li><li>○ Finalised fact sheets for new regional indicators.</li><li>○ Updated revised reports from 2006 and 2007 regarding data flows,</li></ul>

	<p>legal basis and institutional set ups for energy, transport and agriculture indicators.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Updated CSIs extended with new produced CSIs.</li> </ul>
31 January 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Delivery of the final project report (not later than one month after the end of the project).</li> </ul>

The Contractor will organise the regional WB workshop. EEA will cover the participation of the WB experts. It is also foreseen to link this workshop with SEIS WB meeting on SEIS project No.3 (IMS and Indicators) and/or SEIS project No.1 (priority data flows) in order to achieve maximum efficiency.

## **6. Staff**

The team will be coordinated by Jasmina Bogdanovic, (UNEP/GRID-Arendal). The following experts are available for the project: Otto Simonett, Ieva Rucevska, Elena Veligosh and Jasmina Bogdanovic (UNEP/GRID-Arendal).