

ENVIRONMENT AND SECURITY INITIATIVE (ENVSEC)
Transforming risks into cooperation in South Eastern Europe

UNEP, UNDP,
UNECE, OSCE, REC



Final Evaluation Report

May, 2013

South Eastern Europe:

Albania
Bosnia and Herzegovina
F.Y.R Macedonia
Montenegro
Serbia
Kosovo - *UN administered territory under UN Security Council resolution 1244*

ENVSEC partner organizations:

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Regional Office for Europe, Geneva, Switzerland
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Bratislava Regional Centre, Bratislava, Slovak Republic
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Environment, Housing and Land Management Division, Geneva, Switzerland
Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), Vienna, Austria
Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC), Szentendre, Hungary

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1. Executive Summary

1. ENVSEC is a partnership between UNEP, UNDP, OSCE, UNECE and REC. The Initiative provides multi-stakeholder based analyses of environment and security risks, as well as addressing environmental legacies of conflicts through strengthening national and regional capacities, and institutions and cooperation, leading to concrete investments in remediation and cleanup activities.

2. The overall goal of the program is to contribute to the reduction of environment and security risks, and to the increased cooperation both between and within countries in the SEE Region. Activities to achieve that goal include policy integration, capacity building of government institutions, hotspot risk mitigation, and civil society strengthening and promotion of good environmental governance.

3. The priority fields of ENVSEC are:

- A. Management and reduction of transboundary risks from hazardous activities,
- B. Management of shared natural resources,
- C. Strengthening regional cooperation on environmental governance through participatory and informed decision making and implementation processes, and
- D. Adaptation to the impacts of climate change for reducing security risks in SEE.

4. The final evaluation was initiated by UNEP Vienna at the end of project implementation in December 2012. The final evaluation reviews the actual performance and progress towards outcomes and outputs of the project against the planned project activities and outputs, based on the relevant evaluation criteria developed based on the Terms of Reference for the Assignment.

5. The evaluation was carried out in the period December 2012 - April 2013 by an independent consultant, and consisted of the inception phase, the mission phase (Visit to the SEE countries during 14 - 21 December 2012) and final reporting phase. Data and evidence were collected based on a participatory mixed-methods approach which included: (i) desk review of reports and documents collected prior and during the field visit; (ii) interviews with project staff and stakeholders; and (iii) observations from the field.

6. The beneficiaries of this evaluation are the ENVSEC partner agencies, the donor Governments of Finland and Austria, and the ENVSEC project beneficiaries in the regions where ENVSEC operates.

7. The program is rated based on the overall ratings table designed for this evaluation, and based on the examples of good practice from other independent evaluations carried out for similar international development assistance programs.

8. Design and Relevance. The program is designed successfully and in line with the priorities of SEE countries. It builds well on previous accomplishments and experience of the ENVSEC Initiative. The program also tackled some important issues for environment and security that are neglected by most donors and agencies, while unlikely to be dealt with SEE countries e.g., transboundary pollution caused by closed mines and mining facilities.

9. Effectiveness. The activities were in line with the ENVSEC overall goal and purposes of the 4 priority areas, and the link between environment and security in the SEE region is more than well-targeted, with the potential to yield long-term results.

10. Efficiency. The overall activity has been carried out in the cost effective manner, based on the information collected in the field about the outputs created by the project and the information provided in report. No firm data have been obtained to make judgment on cost effectiveness of individual activities. Based on the trust fund management by UNOPS and its financial management procedures, and the results produced thus far, the project efficiency is rated satisfactory. There are no significant risks for cost-effectiveness. The efficiency of the implementation is not hampered by the co-ordination efforts required to maintain wide group of partners aligned.

11. Financial sustainability. Risks to financial sustainability are evaluated as moderate due to: (i) low position of environmental issues on the policy agendas of most SEE countries due to more immediate and pressing societal issues, such as economic development, employment, education, social security etc. and (ii) lower interest of bilateral donors, to support the region due to future availability of assistance through EU pre-accession fund while it is not certain how and when the SEE countries would be ready to absorb these funds and for the purpose of supporting ENVSEC goals.

12. Socio-political sustainability. The level of ownership and involvement of national governments, policy-makers, representatives of CSOs, as well as a broad range of stakeholder groups, demonstrate a level of ownership and it is likely that these stakeholders would sustain the results. Also, based on the improved promotion and consolidated identity of ENVSEC in the last 2 years, contribute to considering this risk as low.

13. Institutional framework and governance sustainability. The governments and other relevant institutions are perceived as committed, especially through its technical/administrative staff, not only political staff, which creates a positive impression on the long-term sustainability, regardless of often changes of governments in most SEE countries. There is no particular reason to expect that future governments will not honor the obligations taken under ENVSEC.

14. Environmental sustainability. Considering the overall geographic scope of the ENVSEC, as well as the goals that are comparable across different geographic regions, the potentials of having catalytic effect and replication is high. For the program in 2009 – 2012 in SEE, the highest potential for replication is identified in the mining sector activities of ENVSEC.

15. Implementation approach. Stated benefits of multi-development institution approach, emphasized by the ENVSEC holds to be true in the observed implementation period 2009 – 2012.

16. Coordination and management. Implementation is not affected by a large number of participating organizations/partners. On the contrary, the network of ENVSEC partners seems to be quite operational and able to mobilize resources quickly in order to yield certain results.

17. M&E. The program would benefit from clearly defined set of smart indicators, baselines and set targets in order to ensure result-oriented management and to be able to carry out monitoring and evaluation of the program based on the smart indicators.

18. Mainstreaming gender issues. Most of the partners did not have any special provisions dealing specifically with ENVSEC to, as required, make sure that the equal benefits from the program are obtained for both genders. On the other hand, all partners have their own policies that deal with gender mainstreaming. The overall topic of the project, reducing risks to environment and security equally benefit both genders.

Summary of Project Evaluation Ratings

| Criterion | Evaluator's Rating |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. Attainment of objectives and results (overall rating) | S |
| Design and Relevance | HS |
| Effectiveness | S |
| Efficiency | S |
| 2. Sustainability of project outcomes (overall rating) | L |
| Financial sustainability | ML |
| Socio-political sustainability | L |
| Institutional framework and governance sustainability | L |
| Environmental sustainability | L |
| Catalytic and replicable role | L |
| 3. Adaptive Management | S |
| Implementation approach | HS |
| Coordination and management | HS |
| M&E | MS |
| 4. Special Considerations | MS |
| Mainstreaming gender issues | MS |

19. The ENVSEC in SEE can be regarded as excellent and highly successful program, which is able to create positive impacts to environmental issues and overall security. The most frequently perceived strengths of the Initiative are: (i) strong and coherent network of local and regional stakeholders, professionals and policy makers; (ii) the foundation on the previous work under the previous ENVSEC programs which allowed the use of lessons learned and the ability to make continuous positive impact, (iv) efficient use of resources and good adaptive management seen in the ability of the network to mobilize people and resources quickly and efficiently.

20. Summary of recommendations of the evaluation are the following:

21. Reporting to donors by UNOPS appeared to lack capacity to deal with reporting in the manner required by individual donor institutions. The structure and manner of reporting on the implementation of EVSEC in 2009-2012 would benefit from a reviewed framework.

22. Given that the funds for the support of SEE from donors is declining. The Initiative should explore alternative sources of funding for the ENVSEC activities. The possibility of utilizing fund for the EU or IPA funds could be a viable option.

23. Results of the evaluation suggest that the overall activity has been carried out in the cost effective manner, based on the information collected in the field about the outputs created by the project and the information provided in re-

ports. However, it would be recommended in the future to report not only on the allocated funds per institutions but the actual spending per activities or group of activities.

24. Protected areas in Macedonia could be further supported in the next implementation phase, especially through awareness raising and presenting alternatives for local development. Existing opportunities to link ENVSEC with on-going efforts for transboundary protected area establishment, and, e.g. in Bosnia-Herzegovina, inter-entity (the Republika Srpska and the Federation of BiH) protected area establishment, could be further explored.

25. Aarhus Centers vary in terms of their organizational setup, legal status, mandate and available recourses. If they are to fulfill their role of service provider for the environmental information and to become sustainable, more focus should be given to establishing their clear mandate, having joint standards and platforms, and having regional representation and the ability to tackle transboundary issues on cooperation and environmental information.

26. The special consideration of gender issues is evaluated as moderately satisfactory, and is recommended to investigate in more detail in the future on how to include special considerations to gender issues by the initiative.

27. The program would benefit from clearly defined set of smart indicators, baselines and set targets in order to ensure result-oriented management and to be able to carry out monitoring and evaluation of the program based on the smart indicators. Reporting of the partners should be clearly stating expected and accomplished results.

28. A slight tendency of the partners to diverge and do the work more independently from other partners has been noticed. Sometimes it makes obvious sense that a single partner would carry out most of the work for certain activities that fall into its core competences. However, it should not become the common practice, given that created synergies of various partners for the same set of activities is the strength of ENVSEC and its unique value proposition, and this can be maintained only through joint involvement.

29. The ENVSEC initiative should ensure to maintain its continued relevance and innovation approach by taking critical appraisal of the continued capability of partner organizations to effectively contribute to ENVSEC.

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2. Evaluation Objectives, Methodology and Process

Purpose of the Evaluation

30. Independent project evaluations are a required element of the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) component of international development, donor-assisted projects. The final evaluation of the Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC) implemented in South East Europe (SEE) region from September 2009 to December 2012, and funded by the governments of Finland and Austria, is foreseen in the project document.

31. The final evaluation was initiated by UNEP Vienna at the end of project implementation in December 2012.

32. This final evaluation reviews the actual performance and progress towards outcomes and outputs of the project against the planned project activities and outputs, based on the relevant evaluation criteria developed based on the Terms of Reference for the Assignment (*ToR the Final Evaluation Consultant*, please see Annex 2). In line with the ToR, the specific objectives of the evaluation are:

- To evaluate the appropriateness of project objectives and their continued relevance with respect to ENVSEC's overall principles, objectives and requirements and the projects' capacity to reach out to target groups and involve key stakeholders;
- To assess the extent to which the ENVSEC program in SEE has met its objectives, has a continued relevance, efficiency, and effectiveness, and has potentials for impact and sustainability;
- To investigate to what extent the program has built upon ENVSEC regional assessments and the continuing monitoring of environment and security risks and priorities to assist environmental institutions, other national and local stakeholders in: 1) improving, establishing and implementing effective environmental policies; 2) creating increased awareness among the governments and civil society of links between the environment and security; and 3) mobilizing technical expertise and financial support for cleanup and remediation;
- To verify the adequacy of monitoring and follow up by ENVSEC partners (implementers) and the capacity of the latter to react to delays or unforeseen circumstances; and
- To suggest corrective follow up and measures, if necessary, in order to consolidate ENVSEC achievements and improve the program's ongoing and future operations.

33. The evaluation assesses project results based on the project objectives, as well as any unanticipated results. The evaluation identifies relevant lessons for the next phase of ENVSEC implementation after 2012. Special consideration, upon the request of the donor, has been given to gender issues.

Evaluation Approach

34. The evaluation was carried out in the period December 2012 - April 2013 by an independent consultant, and consisted of the inception phase, the mission phase (Visit to the SEE countries during 14 - 21 December 2012) and final reporting phase. Data and evidence were collected based on a participatory mixed-methods approach which included: (i) desk review of reports and documents collected prior and during the field visit; (ii) interviews with project staff and stakeholders; and (iii) observations from the field.

- i. Desk review of all related written documents (secondary data): program document, implementation and monitoring reports, outputs (documents, assessments, and other materials), financial reports, notes and memos.

- ii. Interviews (primary data): interviews with program partner staff and personnel, government representatives, ENVSEC focal points, project beneficiaries, civil sector representatives, experts, other stakeholders relevant for the project implementation and sustainability. The interviews have been carried out through semi-structured questionnaires or through guided interviews.
- iii. Field observations (primary data): observations from the field during the implementation of project activities and/or inspection of sites supported by the project.

35. In order to operationalize the evaluation parameters, a set of corresponding evaluation questions has been developed for the evaluation (please see Evaluation Matrix in Annex 5). Evaluation questions are accompanied by relevant indicators, possible sources of information, and suggested collection methods. Their purpose is to facilitate the evaluation process.

36. The evaluation was based on a participatory approach: (i) for the preparation of evaluation methodology, project partners and donors for those who asked for the input; (ii) meetings were scheduled and organized with the input and suggestions of all project partners to the evaluation consultant; and (iii) the program staff was informed and consulted during the evaluation.

37. The program is rated based on the overall ratings table designed for this evaluation, and based on the examples of good practice from other independent evaluations carried out for similar international development assistance programs.

Information Sources

38. Documents and reports that served as a basis for the evaluation were mainly delivered by the project partners in electronic format and in English language prior to the evaluation mission. Some documents were collected during the evaluation mission or delivered to the evaluator after the mission (please see *List of Available Documents* in Annex 4 - List of Documents Reviewed).

39. Interviews with project stakeholders were held in Belgrade, Skopje, Tirana, Podgorica, Pristina and Sarajevo. Some interviews were held by phone (please see the *List of Interviewees* in Annex 3). The site visits were made to the locations of remediation sites in Montenegro and Albania (please see the *Observations* in Annex 7). Also, the evaluator participated/observed one meeting event organized by ENVSEC prior to the mission.

Encountered Limitations

40. All evaluations face challenges of gathering the most reliable data and building a holistic picture of usually complex projects with limited time and resources. The ENVSEC program is a good example of such challenge for the evaluation, given its complexity: the broad set of topics the program deals with, involvement of several development and international institutions, and 6 countries of SEE with different government setup, challenges and priorities, coupled with a very short time foreseen for the evaluation.

41. The evaluation was able to manage these challenges in part because the project partners were very responsive and were able to organize the meetings quickly and responsively, given the time constraints. Although the program deals with a broad set of topics, the program is coherent enough to develop a clear picture of program results. Finally, the evaluation process benefited greatly from having an evaluator who spoke the local language in several countries of evaluation. Lack of knowledge of Albanian language has been a limitation, which was compensated by either carrying out meetings in English or by the having the support from the REC staff in Albania for the translation. Having in

mind the limitations and challenges presented, the credibility and accurateness of the evaluation process was not jeopardized.

Intended Use of the Evaluation Report

42. The beneficiaries of this evaluation are the ENVSEC partner agencies, the donor Governments of Finland (Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and Austria (Austrian Development Agency), and the ENVSEC project beneficiaries in the regions where ENVSEC operates.

3. SEE and Program Context

Brief History of ENVSEC

43. ENVSEC is a partnership between the United Nations Environment and Development Programme (UNEP and UNDP), the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the Regional Environment Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC). It was established in 2003 by the OSCE, UNDP and UNEP. In 2004, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) became an associated member of the Initiative. In 2006, the Initiative was joined the UNECE and REC. The Initiative provides multi-stakeholder based analyses of environment and security risks, as well as addressing environmental legacies of conflicts through strengthening national and regional capacities, and institutions and cooperation, leading to concrete investments in remediation and cleanup activities.

44. ENVSEC assists governments to identify common solutions and to develop joint projects for achieving them. ENVSEC addresses the critical links and impacts of environmental management, human security, conflict prevention and sustainable development in the localities that are prone to conflicts and growing tension. The overall goal of the project is to contribute to the reduction of environment and security risks, and to the increased cooperation both between and within countries in the SEE Region. Activities to achieve that goal include policy integration, capacity building of government institutions (including local government), hotspot risk mitigation, and civil society strengthening and promotion of good environmental governance. The project contributes to improved knowledge, understanding and management of environmental and security risks.

45. ENVSEC partners and national consultants in close consultation with the national counterparts/governments developed the priority fields of action for SEE jointly during the regional consultations. During the meeting in Skopje in 2004, the priority fields were defined as:

Box 1. Priority Fields of ENVSEC in SEE since 2004

- E.** Management and reduction of transboundary risks from hazardous activities,
- F.** Management of shared natural resources,
- G.** Strengthening regional cooperation on environmental governance through participatory and informed decision making and implementation processes, and
- H.** Adaptation to the impacts of climate change for reducing security risks in SEE.

46. From 2006-2009, the implementation of activities related to these priority fields were mainly supported by the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) through the project Environment and Security in South Eastern Europe: Improving regional cooperation for risk management from pollution hotspots as well as the transboundary management of shared natural resources, and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). The activities, implemented by UNEP, provided in-depth regional assessments for mining hotspots and transboundary biodiversity, as well as site-specific feasibility studies and projects to be built upon and followed up in the further work of the initiative.

47. The ENVSEC program in SEE in the period from 2009-2012 (which is also the scope of this evaluation) has been implemented from the joint funding of the governments of Finland and Austria in the amount of EUR 3 million. The program focuses on the results and activities grouped around the same 4 priority fields.

48. The ENVSEC program in SEE after 2012 will continue with the support of mainly the ADA, while the focus of the program is expected to follow the accomplishments of previous ENVSEC work and be fine tuned to accommodate

also the priorities of the donors, as well as current trends and needs of the recipient countries. It is expected that the findings of this final evaluation will assist the partners to further build on the 2013 program by utilizing its recommendations and lessons learned.

Table 1. ENVSEC SEE Program Information Summary

| | |
|--|---|
| The project title | Environment and Security Initiative – Transforming risks into cooperation in South Eastern Europe |
| Period | September 2009 - December 2012 |
| Regions and countries | South Eastern Europe: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, F.Y.R Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Kosovo - <i>UN administered territory under UN Security Council resolution 1244</i> |
| Implementing Agencies | United Nations Environment Programme, Regional Office for Europe, Geneva, Switzerland United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Bratislava Regional Centre, Bratislava, Slovak Republic United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Environment, Housing and Land Management Division, Geneva, Switzerland Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), Vienna, Austria Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC), Szentendre, Hungary |
| Recipient Country Partner Organizations | Ministries of Environment and Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the participating countries. National Academies of sciences, academic institutions, protected area administrations, local municipalities and civil society organizations in above-mentioned countries. |
| Budget | 3 000 000 EUR Contribution from Finland: 2 500 000 EUR Contribution from Austria: 500 000 EUR |

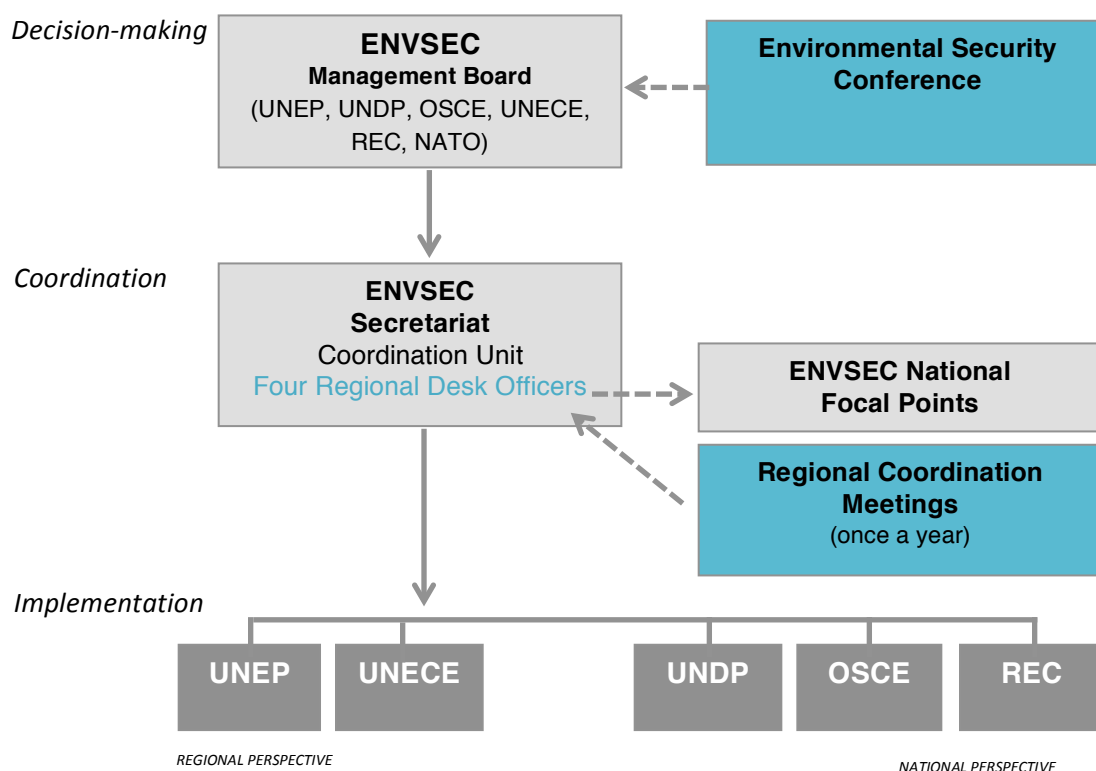
Implementing Arrangements

49. The ENVSEC decision-making and management structure is at the level of the whole initiative, covering 4 geographic regions: (i) Central Asia; (ii) Southeastern Europe; (iii) South Caucasus; and (iv) Eastern Europe. It is important to emphasize that the scope of the final evaluation is only the geographic region of SEE, and for the period of implementation 2009-2012. However, since the decision-making and implementation in the SEE is not independent from the whole ENVSEC framework, it is relevant to elaborate the role of mandate of the main ENVSEC bodies.

50. The ENVSEC Management Board is the key decision-making body of the Initiative, and is composed of representatives from each of the partner organizations, who chair it in turn annually. It provides direction to the Initiative on overall strategy, regional priorities, the ENVSEC work program and budget. The Management Board derives guidance on key strategic, policy, and regional issues and on support, and biannual Donors' Fora with participation of both active and potential donors' organizations.

51. Implementation of the ENVSEC Initiative activities is coordinated by the ENVSEC Secretariat, consisting of the Coordination Unit hosted by UNEP at its Regional Office for Europe in Geneva, and four Regional Desk Officers, one per each region. In the case of SEE, RDO is hosted by REC with support from UNEP Vienna based on a rotation which took place 3 years ago when UNEP was leading the RDO with REC assistance. The Regional Desk Officers are responsible for development, monitoring and reporting on implementation of regional work programs and information sharing among different actors, through Regional Coordination Meetings organized once a year. The participating countries are asked to provide complementary expertise in the form of dedicated staff – National Focal Points, usually representing national Ministries of Environment and Foreign Affairs.

Image 1. ENVSEC ORGANIZATIONAL FRAMEWORK



52. Implementation of each project activity is the responsibility of one or several ENVSEC partner organizations, designated by the ENVSEC Management Board based on their mandates and capacities. At the country level, country and field offices of OSCE, UNDP and REC participate in project planning and monitoring.

53. Beside the overall goals and the implementation arrangements of the ENVSEC initiative, the implementation of the ENVSEC program in SEE from 2009-2012 is guided by the project document/proposal which outlines goals, expected results and activities, as well as the budget allocation per four main priority areas of ENVSEC. Results and activities of ENVSEC in SEE are elaborated further in the Design chapter of this evaluation.

Project Partners and Stakeholders

Donors

54. The main donor of the ENVSEC program in SEE 2009-2012 was the Government of Finland, through the Finnish Ministry of Foreign affairs, who contributed EUR 2.5 million to the ENVSEC budget. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Austrian Development Agency are among the main users of the final evaluation. However, the results of this evaluation will not affect the decision of these two donors to continue their involvement after 2012.

55. The Government of Finland has already decided to focus their attention and resources for development aid into other regions in which the ENVSEC initiative operates, therefore not dedicating any additional resources for the implementation of activities in the SEE region. The ADA, however has decided to increase their presence in the SEE region through increased funding made available for the ENVSEC implementation after 2012.

56. The Government of Austria has been contributing to ENVSEC SEE activities since 2004, at first through contributions of the Ministry of Environment. ADA is traditionally one of the smaller donors since it usually has smaller availability of funds. The funds made available in 2009 from ADA, amounting to EUR 0.5 million, will be increased after 2012 to up to EUR 1.5 million. This increase of available funds for ENVSEC in SEE demonstrates the goal of the Austrian Government to remain present in the region, given that most bilateral development aid funding from ADA in this region has either stopped or will be finalized in the near future. ADA is also keen to continue its involvement after 2012 since one of the major donors of ENVSEC in SEE – the Government of Finland - is leaving, and having in mind a very positive impression of the ENVSEC accomplishments in SEE based on the feedback provided to ADA by their country offices and national stakeholders.

57. The overall trend of decreasing funds for development aid in the SEE region is explained by the tendencies of SEE countries to join the EU, or their already established pre-accession status, which gives them availability for more direct funding from the EU through pre-accession instruments.

58. Some ENVSEC partner institutions have been in a position to leverage a portion of the previous or ongoing donor funding, including the funding in other ENVSEC region, to complete or expand their scope of work under ENVSEC or create synergies with the SEE region. The example for such endeavor is the program of the REC related to illegal logging¹, which is supported by the Federal Belgian Government and CIDA.

Partner and Implementing Agencies

59. **OSCE.** The OSCE as a regional security organization provides its expertise in early warning, conflict prevention, conflict management and post-conflict rehabilitation and offers its network of field missions in several countries. OSCE focuses on three major dimensions: (i) Politico-military dimension; (ii) Economic and environment dimension; and (iii) Human dimension. Hence, the OSCE's involvement in ENVSEC is related to the second dimension of OSCE's priorities. The organization's regional division follows the one of the ENVSEC, and therefore the OSCE has field operations in all 4 regions. Currently, the OSCE has field operations in all SEE countries targeted by ENVSEC. This ENVSEC partner is involved mainly in the implementation of project under the priority C. -Strengthening regional cooperation on environmental governance through participatory and informed decision-making and implementation processes, namely support for implementation of the Aarhus Convention, including through the Aarhus Centers in SEE.

60. **REC.** This organization is represented by its regional office in Hungary and a number of country offices. It carries out field projects addressing a wide range of environmental concerns and promotes sustainable development in the region. The REC has field offices in all the SEE countries and is involved to some extent in the implementation or support to project under all 4 priorities. The most prominent work of the REC for the ENVSEC SEE 2009-2012 is on the issues of illegal logging, and training for access to justice under the third pillar of Aarhus Convention. The Regional Desk Officer for the initiative in SEE is the REC's representative.

¹ Illegal logging: governance implementation and enforcement, under the focus area A. Management and reduction of trans-boundary risks from hazardous activities.

61. **UNDP.** The UNDP in general oversees the UN's global development network, which seeks to reduce poverty, improve environmental governance and promote the Millennium Development Goals. In the implementation of ENVSEC in SEE, the UNDP is involved mainly through the engagement of UNDP Montenegro. The UNDP Montenegro has been involved in Component A. - Management and reduction of transboundary risks from hazardous activities on the works meant to support remediation of mining hotspots, as well as through joint activities with UNEP on technical assistance for the mining component of ENVSEC.

62. **UNECE.** UNECE formulates environmental policy and develops international environmental law, including five regional environmental conventions. In the SEE region, the focus of UNECE has been the transboundary cooperation between the countries for shared responsibility for management of wider Drin Basin, as well as the climate change adaptation issues related to Sava River Basin.

63. **UNEP.** The institution provides leadership and encourages partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations. UNEP is involved in ENVSEC through its Vienna office, while it also provides a headquarters for the ENVSEC Secretariat at the Regional Office for Europe in Geneva. The most notable work of UNEP in 2009 – 2012 period is presented through its work under Priorities A. and B. on mining remediation, providing technical assistance to adaptation of best practices in the mining sector in SEE, promoting private partnerships, as well as an extensive work on the transboundary networks of protected areas. UNEP has been very active in overall promotion of the ENVSEC activities in media and in the conferences of international and regional importance. Together with OSCE and UNDP, the UNEP is one of the founding members of the ENVSEC initiative in 2003.

64. **UNOPS.** Based on the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) explanation provided in the annual reports, the ENVSEC partner organizations have agreed that they should adopt a coordinated mechanism for collaboration with donors who wish to support the implementation of ENVSEC's program approach. Therefore in 2009 the ENVSEC partner organizations made a decision to set up a multi-donor trust fund called the ENVSEC Trust Fund as one of the modalities for the receipt and disbursement of funds as well as for program and financial reporting on ENVSEC activities through one channel. This trust fund is administered by a Trust Fund Manager (TFM) who provides administrative and fiduciary management. The role for TFM was given to the UNOPS in the implementation period 2009 – 2012. In line with the Management Board decision, the OSCE assumed the management of ENVSEC Trust Fund as of 1 January 2013.

National Governments of SEE Countries

65. As stated in the introductory section of the evaluation report, the countries are represented in the ENVSEC implementing arrangements through the role of National Focal Points, given to the representatives of country's national institutions. In most cases, those are the ministries environment and ministries of foreign affairs.

Table 2 ENVSEC SEE Focal Points

| Country | Focal Point |
|------------------------|---|
| ALBANIA | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Albania Chief of Cabinet 2. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Albania Desk Officer |
| BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina Senior Advisor |
| FYR MACEDONIA | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning of the Former Yugoslav Republic Macedonia Unit for Project Preparation Head of Unit 2. Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Department of Foreign Economic Policy Head of Department |
| KOSOVO ² | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning of Kosovo (territory under UN Resolution 1244) Environment Protection Division Head of Division 2. Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning of Kosovo (territory under UN Resolution 1244) Nature Protection Division Head of Division |
| MONTENEGRO | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism of Montenegro Division for Strategic and Integration Processes, Sector for Environmental Protection Head of Division |
| SERBIA | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning of the Republic of Serbia Assistant Minister |

Beneficiaries and Other Stakeholders

66. Given its long historical involvement in the region and coverage of a wide set of topics, ENVSEC has a quite extensive regional network and pool of stakeholders who have been either beneficiaries or involved in consultations, and implementation. These vary from policy makers and public administration officials, to civil society organizations and the private sector. During the preparatory activities for the evaluation and on the basis of information provided by various project partners, the evaluator compiled a list of over 200 entries of potential interviewees for the evaluation. The overall impression is that the ENVSEC initiative in SEE is highly participatory in terms of contributions by partner countries.

² Territory under UN resolution 1244

4. Program Assessment

Program Design

67. This section of the evaluation document assesses the appropriateness of project objectives and their continued relevance with respect to ENVSEC's overall principles, objectives and requirements and the projects' capacity to reach out to target groups and involve key stakeholders.

68. The overall goal of ENVSEC is to contribute to the reduction of environment and security risks, and to the increased cooperation around environment and security issues in the region of SEE. As mentioned in Section 2, the overall goal of ENVSEC has been operationalized along 4 priority fields in the SEE, with identified purpose, expected outcomes and outputs for each field, as well as the beneficiary groups for the focus area. The project design is outlined in the project proposal document, based on which the program for 2009 – 2012 was approved.

69. Even though the program has a results-based logical framework analysis, it cannot be said that the program is being run according to a typical logical framework matrix. This however, is in line with the fact that the program is complex and that project activities are not fully pre-determined. They have indicated expected outputs and outcomes. The activities of ENVSEC in most cases are treated and reported on as separate projects run by partner institutions. The evaluation has not found evidence of use of logical framework approach for management and reporting of ENVSEC projects, even though they could benefit from such approach. This topic will be discussed in more details within the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) section of the document. The overview of ENVSEC priorities with the commentary on design of each focus area is provided in Table 3 below.

70. Interviews with donors, key stakeholders and project partners as well as the evaluation of content of the program proposal all confirm that the program is designed successfully since it corresponds to the priorities of SEE countries, and builds well on previous accomplishments of ENVSEC initiative in the region. It is evident that solid program design originates from previous experience of ENVSEC in the region, which resulted in short but intuitive elaboration of problems to be dealt with, as well as the scope of action and priorities. The program also tackles some important issues for environment and security that are neglected by most donors and agencies, and which would be unlikely resolved by SEE countries alone – specifically, transboundary pollution caused by closed mines and mining facilities.

71. Participatory decision-making approach for determining program focus areas and corresponding activities contribute to demonstration of capacity for involvement of key stakeholders.

Table 3 Overview of ENVSEC priorities, purpose, outcomes and outputs

| OUTCOMES | OUTPUTS | BENEFICIARIES | COMMENT ON DESIGN |
|--|--|--|---|
| PRIORITY A. Management and reduction of trans-boundary risks from hazardous activities | Purpose: Prevention and mitigation of trans-boundary environmental risks arising from hazardous pollution hotspots in particular from abandoned mines (UNEP and UNDP), tailing dams and chemical sites as well as capacity building to support countries to ratify and implement the Industrial Accidents Convention, Espoo Convention and its SEA Protocol and the Water Convention. | | <i>Priority is well defined. It builds on the previous work of ENVSEC through utilizing previous identification and assessment measures to create positive changes and remove immediate threats to environment and security risks arising from pollution. Even though this issue hadn't been well-treated in the national policies and strategies, and it hadn't been</i> |
| A.1 Reduced local environmental and human health risks and minimized tensions among SEE countries through reduction of risk of accidental transboundary pollution arising from hazardous mining sites | A.1.1 Risk reduction measures implemented at up to three mining sites in the South East European region, to be chosen among those already prioritized. Remediation will follow the 'Mining for Closure' methodology developed by UNEP and best available engineering/ technical solutions A.2.1 Regional replication and dissemination | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local population ▪ Governmental agencies and institutions | |

| | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| <p>A.2 Improved transboundary and regional cooperation on identification, management and reduction of trans-boundary risks from hazardous activities</p> | <p>through SEE networks e.g.: cleaner production centers, mining expertise, capacity building and training of experts in cooperation with Western Balkans environmental program, monitoring, public-private partnerships for technology transfer, interregional exchange</p> <p>A.2.2 Improved safety culture at hazardous activities, improved knowledge of authorities and operators personnel on risk and hazard assessment and safety reporting; capacity building 'Mining for closure'</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mining industry | <p><i>treated within the scope of many international development aid efforts, it has proved to be very relevant and a significant potential security risk, especially after a recent disaster with toxic mud spill in Hungary. The stakeholders have recognized this unique value proposition, embodied in the priority A.</i></p> |
| <p>PRIORITY B. Management of shared natural resources</p> | | <p>Purpose: To encourage, enhance and support transboundary and regional cooperation of governments and local stakeholders on management of shared natural resources of the countries within the scope of the ENVSEC – South Eastern Europe program area. This priority will particularly focus on selected transboundary mountain protected areas with an ecosystem services based approach, transboundary rivers and illegal logging.</p> | |
| <p>B.1 Better understanding of inter-related services provided by ecosystems of selected regions, looking in particular at (high) transboundary eco-regions and mountain environments (e.g. Dinaric Arc, Balkans)</p> <p>B.2 Cross-border and regional dialogue for cooperation on the sustainable development of the region and promotion of formal collaborative agreements</p> <p>B.3 Improved management of shared transboundary mountain ecosystems and cooperation for the establishment of transboundary mountain protected areas</p> | <p>B.1.1 Dinaric Arc and Balkan - integrated regional environmental & ecosystem services assessments and related knowledge gained through a participatory process</p> <p>B.2.1 Improved cooperation on Transboundary River basin management</p> <p>B.2.2 Strengthened cross-border dialogue and cooperation on prevention of illegal logging</p> <p>B.2.3 Regional cooperation and collaborative agreements on protection and sustainable development of mountain regions</p> <p>B.3.1 Service of regional network of transboundary mountain areas' stakeholders established in phase I</p> <p>B.3.2 Support to pilot action in priority transboundary mountain areas based on results of phase</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Governmental agencies (Environment, Foreign Affairs, Water, Forestry); ▪ Local authorities and communities ▪ Protected Areas managers ▪ Non-governmental organizations | <p><i>This priority has been evaluated as highly relevant for the environment and security issues of the SEE countries. Beside the benefits arising from sustainable use of natural resources, nature protection is potentially effective platform for dialogue for creating cooperation between the countries with troubled recent past. Taking into consideration conservation priorities of SEE countries, the richness and diversity of natural resources, especially forests and biodiversity, the focus area provides many possibilities for application. It is in line with previous ENVSEC efforts. Also it builds well on the work of several other nature conservation projects implemented in the region. It is in line with national priorities and in the scope of goals and core competences of implementing partner organizations.</i></p> |
| <p>Priority C: Strengthening regional cooperation on environmental governance through participatory and informed decision making and implementation processes</p> | | <p>Purpose: To strengthen national and local capacities for participatory and informed planning, decision-making, implementation, and monitoring processes in relation to environment and security challenges and for environmental conflict prevention and resolution. Particular focus will be given to help countries in implementation of the Aarhus Convention³ and the Espoo Convention⁴ and their respective protocols namely Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTRs)⁵ and Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)⁶.</p> | |
| <p>C.1 Enhanced dialogue and part-</p> | <p>C.1.2 Increased civil society involvement in ad-</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Govern- | <p><i>From the perspective of the opportunities to support democratization of young democracies in the SEE in the environment sector, as well as the potential to build capacities of an insufficiently developed CSO sector in SEE, the priority is evaluated as very relevant. Given that the transposition</i></p> |

³ **The Aarhus Convention**

The UNECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters was adopted on 25th June 1998 in the Danish city of Aarhus.

⁴ **The Espoo Convention**

The Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context was adopted on 25 February 1991 in Espoo, Finland.

⁵ **The PRTR Protocol**

The Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTR) was adopted at an extraordinary meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention on 21 May 2003.

⁶ **The SEA Protocol**

The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Protocol was adopted on 21 May 2003 at an extraordinary meeting of the Parties to the Espoo Convention.

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| <p>nerships among governmental agencies, regional administrations and civil society organizations on environment and security issues</p> <p>C.2 Enabling environment for civil society organizations and strengthened capacities to participate in environmental decision-making and to influence local investments</p> <p>C.3 Environmental conflict prevention and resolution principles promoted at all levels</p> <p>C.4 Experiences on priority issues (e.g., managing transboundary mining risks, managing shared mountain ecosystems) exchanged with Alpine, Carpathian, Caucasus, Central Asia, Eastern Europe regions and the rest of the world</p> | <p>addressing environment and security challenges, in environmental management and decision-making processes</p> <p>C.1.2 Means and mechanisms in place for effective consultation and cooperation between governments, civil society organizations and private sector on environment and security issues at national and local levels</p> <p>C.2.1 Support of effective information policies and mechanisms, through which environmental information, particularly the one related to current state of environment and shared natural resources, is provided and disseminated to the public in a user-friendly manner, making full use of electronic tools, where available</p> <p>C.2.2 Promotion of public participation as an integral component of the preparatory processes for policies, plans, programs and projects which may have a significant effect on the environment</p> <p>C.3.1 Strengthening of national and local capacities for an effective access to justice in environmental matters</p> <p>C.3.2 Technical, institutional and legal support for establishment and functioning of PRTRs</p> <p>C.3.3 Strengthening of environmental conflict prevention and resolution mechanisms at national and regional levels.</p> <p>C.4.1 Regional assessment and interregional exchange and programming and harmonization with other ENVSEC regional programs</p> | <p>mental agencies (Environment, Foreign Affairs, Water, Forestry);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local Authorities; ▪ Non-governmental organizations; ▪ Business community | <p><i>and implementation of international treaties is the obligation of the signatory countries in SEE, the issue can be considered as relevant to national priorities of all SEE countries.</i></p> <p><i>The issue is relevant for the work of all partner institutions given that public participation and CSO involvement is a prerequisite to the success of development aid projects and activities, as well as required by operational policies of most international organizations and donor agencies.</i></p> |
| <p>Priority D. Adaptation to the impacts of climate change for reducing security risks in SEE</p> | <p>To reduce environment and security risks related to climate change through enhanced knowledge base of climate change impacts and their interrelation with security, regionally consolidated approach for adaptation and applied guidance on adaptation in river basins and shared water resources of the region against extreme impacts of climate change.</p> | <p><i>Priority is highly relevant and well-focused if compared to the main climate adaptation challenges in the SEE: mountainous areas, especially rare and sensitive mountain ecosystems and various types of security risks to water management, e.g. droughts and floods.</i></p> | |
| <p>D.1 Enhanced knowledge base of climate change impacts and their interrelation with security in the SEE region</p> <p>D.2 Developed and strengthened regional dialogue and cooperation over shared natural resources, strengthened inter- and transnational cooperation on the reduction of sensitivity, the alteration of the exposure and the increase of resilience of the region to the adverse effects of climate change and improved resilience of transboundary mountain areas and waters</p> | <p>D.1.1 Analysis of priorities and hotspots regarding security impacts of climate change on a regional level (identification of regional 'climate security constellations') and adaptation assessments (eco-regional)</p> <p>D.1.2 Analysis of priorities for improved resilience to climate change in hotspots relevant for security, in different sectors (floods and water security – transboundary waters)</p> <p>D.2.1 Support of regional cooperation and dialogue on climate change scenarios and strategies, stakeholders consultations to detect vulnerabilities to climate change</p> <p>D.2.2 Regional adaptation strategies for mountain areas in SEE developed in dialogue with the Alpine, Caucasus, Central Asia and Carpathian regions</p> <p>D.2.3 Improved resilience to climate change and testing of the 'Guidance' document developed under the Water Convention</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Governmental institutions, agencies, decision-makers; ▪ Non-governmental organizations; ▪ Local population. | <p><i>It is of relevance for formulation of national priorities and strategies, given that the ENVSEC initiative serves as a platform for the regional discussion and priorities setting. In the case of climate change this is very relevant given that the impacts can mainly be dealt with successfully only on regional and global level.</i></p> <p><i>The focus and expected outputs are well in line with the competences and goals for partner organizations responsible for the implementation.</i></p> |

Program Implementation

72. Within this section the evaluation assesses the extent to which ENVSEC program in SEE has met its objectives, maintained continued relevance, achieved efficiency and effectiveness, and created or exploited potentials for creating impact and sustainability.

Efficiency

73. *Project Costs and Financing.* As previously elaborated in the foregoing sections, the administration of the ENVSEC trust fund in the implementation period 2009 – 2012 had been entrusted to UNOPS. Transition to a joint trust fund was completed in June 2010. UNOPS had been either transferring funds to ENVSEC partners based on the agreements made between UNOPS and individual organizations or implementing the activities on behalf of the partners. UNEP has made extensive use of UNOPS services for contracts, meetings, travels, publications and other activities in the region. Transfers to UNEP, OSCE and REC were based on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed in June 2010. Transfers to UNDP were based on the MOU between UNDP and UNOPS dated 5 June 2009, using the Standard Letter of Agreement between the UNDP and UNOPS. UNECE joined the memorandum of understanding between ENVSEC Partners and UNOPS in June 2011. The program funded under this trust fund, including funding for the ENVSEC Secretariat, ran to 31 December 2012.

74. The trust fund management follows UNOPS Financial Regulations and Rules and Audit Procedures. UNOPS financial reporting provided transparent and clear disbursement of funds to the ENVSEC partners. However, the financial reporting is rather based on the whole initiative and/or funds received by individual partners. Information about the allocated funds per region can be aggregated from UNOPS reports, but it is not clearly pointed out in the reports.

Table 4 Summary Budget (source: Program Proposal Document)

| Priority Areas | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | TOTAL |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------|------------------|
| Priority A: Management and reduction of trans-boundary risks from hazardous activities | 96.600 | 400.400 | 352.000 | 248.000 | 1.097.000 |
| Priority B: Management of shared natural resources | 73.000 | 320.000 | 235.000 | 125.000 | 753.000 |
| Priority C: Strengthening regional cooperation on environmental governance through participatory and informed decision-making and implementation processes | 38.000 | 155.000 | 150.000 | 100.000 | 443.000 |
| Priority D: Adaptation to the impacts of climate change for reducing security risks in SEE | 50.000 | 155.000 | 137.000 | 125.000 | 467.000 |
| SUB TOTAL EURO | 257.600 | 1.030.400 | 874.000 | 598.000 | 2.760.000 |
| Project evaluation ⁷ | | | | | 17,778 |
| 8% Management fee | 20.740,74 | 82.962,96 | 70.370,37 | 48.148,15 | 222.222,22 |
| | | | | TOTAL | 3.000.000 |
| Contribution from Finland | 200.000 | 1.000.000 | 800.000 | 500.000 | 2.500.000 |
| Contribution from Austria | 80.000 | 120.000 | 150.000 | 150.000 | 500.000 |

⁷ Sum not subject to management fee

75. ENVSEC SEE budget summary is compiled based on the information available in the Proposal Document, and in general it is in line with the spending reported in the UNOPS reports.

76. *Cost effectiveness.* Evaluation suggests that the overall activity has been carried out in the cost effective manner, based on the information collected in the field linked to the outputs created by the project and the information provided through reporting. However, no firm evidence has been obtained by the evaluator to make judgment on cost effectiveness of individual activities. It would be recommended in the future to report not only on the allocated funds per institutions but the actual spending per activities or group of activities, in order to get a better understanding of cost effectiveness.

77. *Co-financing.* National counterparts and stakeholders provided evidence on co-financing during the evaluation mission, either as in-kind contribution or coverage of material costs. Information about co-financing by national counterparts is not recorded and reported, although it could be a good indicator of the ownership over ENVSEC which, based on the observations and interviews, seems to be high.

78. *Coordination.* Given that the implementation of ENVSEC depends on several implementing agencies operating in different geographical regions, the efficiency of coordination for the implementation poses an important question for the evaluation of efficiency. This issue has been investigated through the overall progress of the Initiative recorded through reporting, and the experience and impressions of the interviewees, partners and national stakeholders. All indicate that efficiency of the implementation is not hampered by the coordination efforts required for such a wide implementing group. One indication of the coordination efficiency was the ability of the Initiative to mobilize their resources in minimum amount of time to organize the mission visits and set-up interviews for the purpose of this evaluation, with only a limited advance notice and the mission occurring in the 6 countries within the duration of two weeks. The ENVSEC network setup of partners and stakeholders in the region is considered a strong asset.

79. *Joint implementation.* Two cases of joint implementation have been identified during the evaluation. These are the examples of cooperation of UNEP and UNDP in mining and on the establishment of GIS unit. Most work on the implementation of ENVSEC activities seems to be divided among the partners, even though sometimes it is evident that better results could have been achieved through joint implementation. The previous two cases may serve as a good example for others to avoid the “my garden approach”.

80. Based on the review of the trust fund management by UNOPS, financial management procedures, and results produced thus far, the project Efficiency is rated Satisfactory. There are no significant risks for cost-effectiveness noted. The efficiency of the implementation is not hampered by the coordination efforts required to maintain the wide group of partners as currently aligned. However, the partners could benefit from more extensive joint implementation. Established coordination and networking is considered as strong asset of the ENVSEC Initiative.

Effectiveness

81. Evaluation of effectiveness for development projects is based on reporting the extent to which a certain project reached its goals and desired outcomes. This is done at the end of the implementation phase or possibly even a few years after the project finalization, in order to observe the maintained changes that are a result of a project. This is measured by a set of verifiable indicators and targets, both designed at the beginning of the project. However, the ENVSEC doesn't have a regular project structure (e.g. it lacks impact indicator and targets), and therefore it is not possible to report the effectiveness according to these criteria. This is why the measure of effectiveness is provided based on the observations of the evaluator of actual impacts, as well as comments and observation of factors and elements that impact effectiveness. That said, the ENVSEC planning and M&E could benefit from clearer target setting and smart indicators initiated for the implementation cycles (e.g., 3 or 4-year basis).

82. The detailed overview of the activities under each priority area, along with reported progress and some field and evaluation observations from the evaluator are provided in Annex 7 – *Implementation and Obtained Results 2009 – 2012*. Official reporting on the implementation in 2012 has not yet been completed.

83. *Activities under the program priorities.* Activities of priority A are mainly focused on the improvement to construction of tailing dams, pollution control and mitigation of acid mine waters, as well as technical support and capacity building for local stakeholders to use good practice in the sector, all in order to deal with the environmental and security threats arising from the mining sector. This set of activities attempted not only to build on and utilize the work carried out under ENVSEC before 2009, but also to bring in a wider regional perspective recognized beyond SEE, which has been accomplished. It can be stated that component A has been the most innovative approach to deal with the environment and security, as it addressed real potential threats to stability in the region which other institutions, government agencies or private entities would be able to accomplish alone. This is very much visible in the example of Kosovo mining facilities in Mitrovica, and Trepca.

84. Beside the remediation and pollution prevention activities⁸, that were implemented and well accepted by the local stakeholders in Albania and Montenegro, important accomplishment of the program is increased motivation and readiness of private and public mining companies to support and invest in remediation and pollution prevention. Appreciation of stakeholders for this component is explained through its ability to create enabling environment for real impacts on sustainable practices and mitigation of immediate adverse impacts to human health within the affected populations. In addition, this component has a tangible visibility through concrete results in the field (although this visibility is limited to Montenegro and Albania). The momentum of this component is expected to decrease in the next implementation period due to limited availability of funds, and lack of readiness of the donors to invest in this type of capital-intensive works.

85. Nature conservation and transboundary park establishment is considered to be a successful path towards establishing dialogue in post conflict societies, and it is therefore recognized by the ENVSEC. The activities of this priority appear to be properly balanced, and the opportunities for cooperation are utilized well. While this topic has been well exploited in the SEE region by various development organizations and conservation initiatives, ENVSEC builds successfully on the accomplishments of previous efforts made by others, and creates new synergies with interested partners. The Initiative contributed to establishment of nature transboundary parks in Albania, Montenegro and Kosovo (please see Annex 7, Activity B.3.1.1) such as, Korab – Koritnik, and 'Prokletije / Bjeshkët e Nemuna Mountains. Activities which supported establishment of protected areas in Macedonia were not as effective, due to expressed opposing interests for development. Nonetheless, protected areas in Macedonia could be further supported within the next implementation phase, especially through awareness raising and seeking alternatives for local development. Activities under this component seem insufficiently exploited at present, given the potentials and existing opportunities to link ENVSEC with ongoing efforts for transboundary protected area establishment, and in inter-entity protected area establishment - that could be beneficial for Bosnia and Herzegovina (between Republika Srpska and the Federation of BiH) and overall stability in the region. This aspect of protected areas cooperation could be more relevant to security than other inter-state parks supported at the moment. For example, an attempt was made 7 years ago to proclaim Igman-Bjelasnica-Treskavica-Visocica National Park, but failed since portion of territory (Treskavica) couldn't be included in the concept due to the objections of Republika Srpska.

⁸ the works in Albania on Reshen were delayed due to contractor's inability to complete the works. The works are scheduled for completion in 2013.

86. Activities in the priority C address capacities for public participation and access to information, or namely the application of the principles of the Aarhus convention. It is considered in general that the activities under the priority are designed well. More progress has been made on establishing the Aarhus Centers in the region. They appear to be accepted by national stakeholders, and considered valuable for further democratization of the environment sector and society as a whole. This is especially visible for the issues of waste management and energy, as well as water management. The Centers, however, vary in their organizational setup, legal status, mandate and available recourses. If the Aarhus Centers are to fulfill their role of service provider of environmental information and achieve sustainability, more focus should be placed on establishing their clear mandate, joint standards and platforms, producing regional representation and building ability to tackle transboundary issues related to cooperation and environmental information. The under-developed CSO sector in the SEE countries could benefit from capacity building as mentioned in the activities of the proposal. Alongside other concrete activities meant to support public participation and CSO capacity building in the region, it would be required to balance out the role, mandate and capacities of the Aarhus Centers in order to transform them into an important Aarhus Convention implementation tool.

87. The obvious strength of approach under the priority C is the support to the implementation of the Aarhus Convention that can be provided by the OSCE. For the 3 pillars of Aarhus Convention, the OSCE is a strong partner since it can, beside technical knowledge, utilize its political influence throughout the region to support participation and access to information. Therefore its even stronger support through promotion and lobbying at the local level for the increase of the 3 pillars under the Aarhus Convention could be utilized to an even greater extent in the next round of implementation. To emphasize, more important than the availability of resources for this component, is the OSCE's leverage on policy making and influence on the national and regional level.

88. The Priority D is focused on climate change issues in relation to security as a main theme of the ENVSEC joint efforts. The activities of UNEP within this priority have been dealing with awareness raising and creating information to facilitate best practices to allow for climate change adaptation in the SEE region, mostly in the mountainous and trans-boundary areas. While focusing on awareness raising and increasing cooperation, the experience of this activity was shared at the European Territorial Cooperation Alpine Space final conference, as well as the Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference held in Kazakhstan in 2011.

89. The REC supported information exchange and awareness raising on climate change issues by organizing an assessment exercise comprised of desk research and interviews with national experts on the matter, and consultation workshops. The activity focused on the 4 countries of SEE - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia.

90. The pilot project on climate change adaptation is incorporated into activities of UNECE's International Sava River Basin Commission. The countries involved in the process are the Sava River Countries: Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia. The previously mentioned Commission operates on the basis of a well-established Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin, ratified in 2004.

91. The work of the Commission and reports on implementation emphasize the integration of activities for flood management and climate change within the Sava River Basin. The two topics which appear the most emphasized in the pilot project are the development of Flood Risk Management Plan for Sava River, and climate change studies. The Flood Risk Management Plan is defined in the Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin, with an objective was to support the capacities in the Sava Basin countries Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia in river basin management planning in compliance with the EU Water Framework Directive requirements. The Commission's report on implementation refers also to the on-going project on Water and Climate Change Adaptation Plan of the Sava River Basin, undertaken and financed by the World Bank (ICSRB, 2011 p.3).

92. Even though project design foresaw great potential for joint action and creation of synergies (UNEP and REC both dealt with awareness raising and information gathering on climate change adaptation in the region), the various activities on climate change adaptation did not manage to demonstrate them clearly. Based on the evaluation evidence, it appears that the three most relevant climate change activities have been implemented independently from each other. This could have influenced the visibility of priority D in the region, which seems to be lower than the other three priorities, in spite of the potential of climate change to capture the attention of policy-makers, as it is the foundation of the 21st century environmental agenda. Also, it is not fully evident how the climate change adaptation in Sava River Basin, supported by ENVSEC, creates links to contributing security in the SEE, especially for those issues not covered by other donors operating in the Sava River Basin area. This could be further elaborated in the next implementation cycle pilot project.

Table 5. Country Highlights

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Serbia | Highlight of ENVSEC: Aarhus Centers |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The most important component of ENVSEC in Serbia is the implementation of Aarhus Convention implemented by OSCE and REC, ▪ Stakeholders were well-prepared and presented activities of ENVSEC as highly effective, efficient and targeted. |
| Macedonia | Highlight of ENVSEC: Water Management and Protected Areas |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stakeholders desire more actual concrete activities in the frame of ENVSEC, ▪ Water management issues seem to be in the center of relevant ENVSEC issues, ▪ Biodiversity protection would benefit from continuous support and lobbying for the establishment and protection of PAs; transboundary component regarded as extremely important. |
| Albania | Highlight of ENVSEC: Remediation/Tailing dams |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remediation activities carried out, but partially due. Repts project site was not completed due to the issues with contractor, ▪ Aarhus Centers considered as very important for the democratization of environmental sector, waste management planning and information dissemination at the local level, they however are totally dependent and could not exist/operate without continuous logistical and financial support. |
| Montenegro | Highlight of ENVSEC: Protected Areas/Mining Acid Water Treatment |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Remediation activities and UNDP are highly regarded by stakeholders, especially beneficiaries, ▪ Support to protected areas is very well targeted, relevant for the security aspect in the region and highly supported by local stakeholders, ▪ 3 Aarhus Centers have been established. |
| Kosovo | Highlight of ENVSEC Partnerships with mining industry - Trepca |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Priority A and B have been highly effective for creating enabling environment for cooperation between Kosovo and neighbors, ▪ Biggest potential environmental risks could come from Kosovo (e.g., water pollution from mining). |
| Bosnia-Herzegovina | Highlight of ENVSEC Illegal logging, Aarhus Centers |

- The Aarhus Center in Sarajevo has been recently established and seen as very important, especially due to specific establishment of BiH its administrative setup.
- Analysis and capacity building on illegal logging was provide by REC

93. **In conclusion, the effectiveness of program implementation is considered Satisfactory:** the activities were in line with the ENVSEC overall goal and purposes of the 4 priority areas, and the link between environment and security in the SEE region is more than well-targeted, with the potential to yield long-term results.

94. In order to continue successful implementation in the period after 2012, the ENVSEC should take into consideration the potential risks that might be in relation to the programs such as ENVSEC:

- "Recycling" old ideas and already performed activities under the activities of ENVSEC,
- Diverging partners in goals and vision after several years of cooperation, decrease in creating synergies,
- Relying more on the existing programs of partner institutions to which ENVSEC activities would be added, rather than implementing them with ENVSEC goals in mind.

Created Impacts and Sustainability

95. While sustainability is taken into consideration within this evaluation, sustainability is a temporal and dynamic state that is influenced by a broad range of shifting factors. It should be kept in mind that the important aspect of sustainability is the sustainability of results, not necessarily the sustainability of activities that produced results. Further, the evaluation of sustainability can be regarded as an evaluation of the risks to different dimensions of sustainability to maintaining results, including financial, socio-economic, institutional, and environmental dimension.

96. *Financial Risks to Sustainability. Risks to this dimension are evaluated as Moderate.* The ownership of the project by local stakeholders is well established at present based on the evaluation on the field, although is difficult to quantify the extent, due to lack of proxies that might indicate the level of ownership (e.g., co-financing, level of involvement in decision making, etc.). The risk rating is based on two principal factors. First, regardless of the relevance of the 4 priority areas to the SEE countries, they are not high on the policy agenda in most of the countries, simply because most of the countries are faced with more immediate and pressing issues of their societies, such as economic development, employment, education, social security, etc. Therefore, if not for support of international aid development funds, the activities covered by the project, and sustaining the results achieved would be only Moderately Likely. Second, there is reduced interest of bilateral donors, especially traditional donors supporting environmental issues, such as Finland, to support the region due to future availability of assistance through EU pre-accession funds. However, it is not certain, how and when the SEE would be ready to absorb such funds and for the purpose of supporting ENVSEC goals. Therefore the financial risks to sustainability have been evaluated as moderate.

97. *Socio-political Risks. Risks to this dimension are evaluated as Low.* The level of ownership and involvement of national governments, policy-makers, representatives of CSOs, as well as a broad range of stakeholder groups who have been involved in the ENVSEC initiative, demonstrate a high level of ownership and it appears likely that they would sustain the results. In addition, the improved promotion and consolidated identity of ENVSEC in the last 2 years should contribute to minimizing the socio-political risks.

98. *Institutional Framework and Governance Risks to Sustainability. Risks to this dimension are evaluated as Low.* Current governments of SEE countries demonstrate interest and support for the project, even though some governments expressed more strongly than the others how they would require more concrete investments, as opposed to

just “soft” interventions. Nevertheless, the governments and other relevant institutions are perceived as committed, especially through their technical/administrative staff (i.e. not only political staff), which creates a positive impression on the long-term sustainability, regardless of how often governments change in most SEE countries. There is no particular reason to expect that future governments will not honor the obligations taken under ENVSEC.

99. *Environmental Risks to Sustainability*. No environmental risk to sustainability was identified. The Initiative aims to mitigate high transboundary environmental risks.

100. *Catalytic and/or Replicable Role of the Program*. Considering the overall geographic scope of the ENVSEC, as well as the goals that are comparable across different geographic regions, the potentials of having catalytic effect and replication is high in the level of Initiative itself. For the program in 2009 – 2012 in SEE, the highest potential for replication is identified in the mining sector activities of ENVSEC. This is especially true for the technical solutions for remediation and decontamination, which can be applied in other ENVSEC regions for which the interest of countries such as Armenia has already been established. On the other hand, the support to establishment of Aarhus Centers in SEE is an example of how ideas from other ENVSEC geographic regions have been utilized.

101. It is relevant to point out how ENVSEC establishment as a program implemented based on the multi-year cycles - rather than being a project with a start and end date - demonstrates high catalytic capability, since it allows for continuation of work and the ability to build on previous accomplishments. In that sense, and in symbolic terms, ENVSEC is well portrayed by the logo of the Initiative – that is ideas and results branching out continuously, rather than completing. **The ENVSEC implementation approach carries a high level of long-term sustainability and impacts, provided that the funding can be maintained from different donors and agencies.**

Stakeholder Outreach

102. As previously mentioned, it was observed that the ENVSEC has a well-established network in the SEE region with a wide range of stakeholders being involved in some aspect of ENVSEC work over the years. Recommendations coming out of this evaluation address the topic of establishing measures to identify and continuously increase stakeholder ownership. Official establishment of ENVSEC stakeholder network can be regarded as a successful step towards increasing ownership.

103. For the next implementation period, it would be beneficial for the ENVSEC Initiative in the SEE to secure greater level of involvement of national focal points in the work and promotion of the Initiative. National focal points are the country representatives and the representatives of the ENVSEC in the country. Therefore their involvement in advocating for the ENVSEC goals can be utilized to a greater extent than in 2009-2012 implementation period.

104. Even though large improvements were observed in the presentation and promotion of ENVSEC Initiative, such efforts should continue also after 2012, as part of ENVSEC stakeholder outreach. The partners appear to be using the ENVSEC logo and other visual aspects of presentation more consistently. Most effort put into the presentation and promotion of ENVSEC on the regional and global level has been carried out by UNEP in 2009 – 2012, and to some extent by REC.

Adaptive Management

105. *This section aims to verify the adequacy of monitoring and follow up by ENVSEC partners (implementers) and the capacity of the latter to react to delays or unforeseen circumstances.*

Implementation Approach

106. The unique value proposition of the ENVSEC implementation approach has been advertised as “inter-organizational and coordinated action of the ENVSEC partner organizations with their combination of skills, experiences and network rarely attributed to international assistance programs”. Further, this implementation approach claims to comprise lower risks for the duplication of efforts by different development institutions, higher cost-effectiveness due to already established presence in the field by some partners, and already established alliances and contacts with various government agencies and other stakeholders. These claims held to be true in the observed implementation period 2009 – 2012. In fact, introduced changes not only to the operational approach but also to the financial management, by establishing a trust fund, should have great potential for attracting various donors, perhaps even leading to a permanent establishment.

107. Regardless of the current accomplishment and perceived success with the implementation approach, the ENVSEC initiative should ensure to maintain its continued relevance and innovation approach by taking critical appraisal of the continued capability of partner organizations to effectively contribute to ENVSEC. This is especially important when scope and focus of the Initiative might change in the next implementation period.

108. Even though it was not considered as an issue for this round of evaluation, a slight tendency of the partners to diverge and do the work more independently from other partners has been noticed. Sometimes it makes obvious sense that a single partner would carry out most of the work for certain activities that fall into its core competences. However, it should not become the common practice, given that created synergies of various partners for the same set of activities is the strength of ENVSEC and its unique value proposition, and this can be maintained only through joint involvement.

Project Coordination and Management

109. It was briefly mentioned in the earlier sections of the evaluation that the program implementation is not affected by a large number of participating organizations/partners. On the contrary, the network of ENVSEC partners seems to be quite operational and able to mobilize resources quickly in order to yield certain results. This aspect of ENVSEC is considered as highly satisfactory.

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

110. Mitigation strategies for the overall assumptions and risk seem to be well defined. The program would benefit from clearly defined set of smart indicators, baselines and set targets in order to ensure result-oriented management and to be able to carry out monitoring and evaluation of the program based on the smart indicators. Reporting of the partners should be clearly stating expected and accomplished results.

Special Considerations

Gender issues. Most of the partners did not have any special provisions dealing specifically with ENVSEC to, as required, make sure that the equal benefits from the program are obtained for both genders. On the other hand, all partners have their own policies that deal with gender mainstreaming. The overall topic of the project, reducing risks to environment and security equally benefit both genders. The special consideration given to gender issues, is evaluated as moderately satisfactory, and is recommended to investigate in more detail in the future on how to include special considerations to gender issues by the initiative.

Project Evaluation Ratings

| Criterion | Evaluator's Summary Comments | Evaluator's Rating |
|---|---|--------------------|
| 1. Attainment of objectives and results (overall rating) | | S |
| Design and Relevance | The program is designed successfully and in line with the priorities of SEE countries. It builds well on previous accomplishments and experience of the ENVSEC Initiative. The program also tackled some important issues for environment and security that are neglected by most donors and agencies, while unlikely to be dealt with SEE countries e.g., transboundary pollution caused by closed mines and mining facilities | HS |
| Effectiveness | The activities were in line with the ENVSEC overall goal and purposes of the 4 priority areas, and the link between environment and security in the SEE region is more than well-targeted, with the potential to yield long-term results. | S |
| Efficiency | The overall activity has been carried out in the cost effective manner, based on the information collected in the field about the outputs created by the project and the information provided in report. No firm data have been obtained to make judgment on cost effectiveness of individual activities. Based on the trust fund management by UNOPS and its financial management procedures, and the results produced thus far, the project efficiency is rated satisfactory. There are no significant risks for cost-effectiveness. The efficiency of the implementation is not hampered by the co-ordination efforts required to maintain wide group of partners aligned. | S |
| 2. Sustainability of project outcomes (overall rating) | | L |
| Financial sustainability | Risks to financial sustainability are evaluated as moderate due to: (i) low position of environmental issues on the policy agendas of most SEE countries due to more immediate and pressing societal issues, such as economic development, employment, education, social security etc. and (ii) lower interest of bilateral donors, to support the region due to future availability of assistance through EU pre-accession fund while it is not certain how and when the SEE countries would be ready to absorb these funds and for the purpose of supporting ENVSEC goals. | ML |
| Socio-political sustainability | The level of ownership and involvement of national governments, policy-makers, representatives of CSOs, as well as a broad range of stakeholder groups, demonstrate a level of ownership and it is likely that these stakeholders would sustain the results. Also, based on the improved promotion and consolidated identity of ENVSEC in the last 2 years, contribute to considering this risk as low. | L |

| Criterion | Evaluator's Summary Comments | Evaluator's Rating |
|---|--|---------------------------|
| Institutional framework and governance sustainability | The governments and other relevant institutions are perceived as committed, especially through its technical/administrative staff, not only political staff, which creates a positive impression on the long-term sustainability, regardless of often changes of governments in most SEE countries. There is no particular reason to expect that future governments will not honor the obligations taken under ENVSEC. | L |
| Environmental sustainability | No environmental risk to sustainability was identified. The Initiative aims to mitigate high transboundary environmental risks. | L |
| Catalytic and replicable role | Considering the overall geographic scope of the ENVSEC, as well as the goals that are comparable across different geographic regions, the potentials of having catalytic effect and replication is high. For the program in 2009 – 2012 in SEE, the highest potential for replication is identified in the mining sector activities of ENVSEC. | L |
| 3. Adaptive Management | | S |
| Implementation approach | Stated benefits of multi-development institution approach, emphasized by the ENVSEC holds to be true in the observed implementation period 2009 – 2012. | HS |
| Coordination and management | Implementation is not affected by a large number of participating organizations/partners. On the contrary, the network of ENVSEC partners seems to be quite operational and able to mobilize resources quickly in order to yield certain results. | HS |
| M&E | The program would benefit from clearly defined set of smart indicators, baselines and set targets in order to ensure result-oriented management and to be able to carry out monitoring and evaluation of the program based on the smart indicators. | MS |
| 4. Special Considerations | | MS |
| Mainstreaming gender issues | Most of the partners did not have any special provisions dealing specifically with ENVSEC to, as required, make sure that the equal benefits from the program are obtained for both genders. On the other hand, all partners have their own policies that deal with gender mainstreaming. The overall topic of the project, reducing risks to environment and security equally benefit both genders. | MS |

RATINGS (1, 3, 4)

| | | |
|----|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| HS | = Highly Satisfactory | Excellent |
| S | = Satisfactory | Well above average |
| MS | = Moderately Satisfactory | Average |
| MU | = Moderately Unsatisfactory | Below Average |
| U | = Unsatisfactory | Poor |
| HU | = Highly Unsatisfactory | Very poor (Appalling) |

111.

RATINGS ON SUSTAINABILITY (2)

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Likely (L): | There are no risks affecting this dimension of sustainability. |
| Moderately Likely (ML): | There are moderate risks that affect this dimension of sustainability. |
| Moderately Unlikely (MU): | There are significant risks that affect this dimension of sustainability. |
| Unlikely (U): | There are severe risks that affect this dimension of sustainability. |

5. Conclusions, Recommendations and Lessons Learned

112. *The aim of this section is to suggest corrective and follow up and measures, if necessary, in order to consolidate ENVSEC achievements and improve program ongoing and future operations.*

113. In the past 3 years, the ENVSEC Initiative in SEE has grown into a more complex and more serious mechanism to deliver international development aid in the area of environmental protection and increasing region's stability. It has the potential of becoming a permanent fund raising program with clear benefits to the donors, such as reputation of good success and support gained from the national counterparts.

114. The ENVSEC in SEE can be regarded as excellent and highly successful program, which is able to create positive impacts to environmental issues and overall security. The most frequently perceived strengths of the Initiative are: (i) strong and coherent network of local and regional stakeholders, professionals and policy makers; (ii) the foundation on the previous work under the previous ENVSEC programs which allowed the use of lessons learned and the ability to make continuous positive impact, (iv) efficient use of resources and good adaptive management seen in the ability of the network to mobilize people and resources quickly and efficiently. However, even the successful programs have the space for continuous improvements, and require critical thinking and action in order to adapt, while remaining relevance and aspects of innovation are incorporated in the work. Therefore it is expected that some of the recommendations and lessons learned which came out from this evaluation would be helpful for further strengthen the program. Many recommendations are provided in the text of previous chapters, but below are presented the highlighted recommendations and lessons:

115. **Recommendation 1.** Reporting to donors by UNOPS appeared to lack capacity to deal with reporting in the manner required by individual donor institutions. There are clear indications that this will not be the case in the next implementing period, as one of the partners will take over the role of managing the trust fund, and therefore being in charge for reporting to the donors. The structure and manner of reporting on the implementation of ENVSEC in 2009-2012 would benefit from a reviewed framework.

116. **Recommendation 2.** Given that the funds for the support of SEE from donors is declining. The Initiative should explore alternative sources of funding for the ENVSEC activities. The possibility of utilizing fund for the EU or IPA funds could be a viable option.

117. **Recommendation 3.** Results of the evaluation suggest that the overall activity has been carried out in the cost effective manner, based on the information collected in the field about the outputs created by the project and the information provided in reports. However, no firm data have been obtained by the evaluator to make judgment on cost effectiveness of individual activities. It would be recommended in the future to report not only on the allocated funds per institutions but the actual spending per activities or group of activities, in order to get a better understanding of cost effectiveness.

118. **Recommendation 4.** Activities that supported establishment of protected areas in Macedonia were not as effective, due to the opposing interests for development. Protected areas in Macedonia could be further supported in the next implementation phase, especially through awareness raising and presenting alternatives for local development. Potential and existing opportunities to link ENVSEC with ongoing efforts for transboundary protected area establishment, and, e.g. in Bosnia and Herzegovina, inter-entity (the Republika Srpska and the Federation of BiH) protected area establishment are not sufficiently explored, but could be considered in the next implementation phase.

119. **Recommendation 5.** The Aarhus Centers appear to be well accepted in the countries and are considered as valuable for further democratization of the environment sector and society as whole. This is especially visible for issues such as waste management and energy, as well as water management. However, they vary in terms of their organizational setup, legal status, mandate and available recourses. If the Aarhus Centers are to fulfill their role of service provider for the environmental information and to become sustainable, more focus should be given to establishing their clear mandate, having joint standards and platforms, and having regional representation and the ability to tackle transboundary issues on cooperation and environmental information.

120. **Recommendation 6.** For the next implementation period, it would be beneficial for the ENVSEC Initiative in the SEE to secure greater level of involvement of national focal points in the work and promotion of the Initiative. National focal points are the country representatives and the representatives of the ENVSEC in the country. Therefore their involvement in advocating for the ENVSEC goals can be utilized to a greater extent than in 2009-2012 implementation period.

121. **Recommendation 7.** The special consideration given to gender issues, is evaluated as moderately satisfactory, and is recommended to investigate in more detail in the future on how to include special considerations to gender issues by the initiative.

122. **Recommendation 8.** The program would benefit from clearly defined set of smart indicators, baselines and set targets in order to ensure result-oriented management and to be able to carry out monitoring and evaluation of the program based on the smart indicators. Reporting of the partners should be clearly stating expected and accomplished results.

123. **Lesson 1.** Even though it was not considered as an issue for this round of evaluation, a slight tendency of the partners to diverge and do the work more independently from other partners has been noticed. Sometimes it makes obvious sense that a single partner would carry out most of the work for certain activities that fall into its core competences. However, it should not become the common practice, given that created synergies of various partners for the same set of activities is the strength of ENVSEC and its unique value proposition, and this can be maintained only through joint involvement.

124. **Lesson 2.** Regardless of the current accomplishment and perceived success with the implementation approach, the ENVSEC initiative should ensure to maintain its continued relevance and innovation approach by taking critical appraisal of the continued capability of partner organizations to effectively contribute to ENVSEC. This is especially important when scope and focus of the Initiative might change in the next implementation period.

Annexes

Annex 1 - List of Abbreviations

| | |
|--------|---|
| ENVSEC | Environment and Security Initiative |
| M&E | Monitoring and Evaluation |
| OSCE | Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe |
| UNDP | United Nations Development Program |
| UNEP | United Nations Environment Program |
| UNECE | United Nations Economic Commission for Europe |
| NATO | North Atlantic Treaty Organization |
| REC | Regional Environmental Center |
| SEE | South Eastern Europe |
| ADA | Austrian Development Agency |
| CIDA | Canadian International Development Agency |
| TFM | Trust Fund Manager |
| UNOPS | United Nations Office for Project Support |
| EU | European Union |
| IPA | Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance |

Annex 2 - The Evaluation ToR

Torso for Final Evaluation Consultant

Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC) Transforming Environmental and Security Risks into Cooperation

1. General Context of the Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC)

The Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC) is a partnership between the United Nations Environment and Development Programmes (UNEP and UNDP), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the Regional Environment Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC). The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has joined the Initiative as an associated partner. The Initiative provides multi-stakeholder based analysis of environment and security risks as well as addresses environmental legacies of conflicts through strengthening national and regional capacities, institutions and cooperation, leading to concrete investments in remediation and cleanup activities.

The ENVSEC Initiative recognizes that the best path to addressing environmental and security concerns is through international dialogue and neighborly cooperation. It therefore assists governments to identify common solutions and to develop joint projects for achieving them. ENVSEC addresses the critical links and impacts of environmental management, human security, conflict prevention and sustainable development in the localities that are prone to conflicts and growing tension.

The ENVSEC programme in SEE, with the joint funding from Finland and Austria, has engaged the ENVSEC partner agencies between September 2009 and December 2012 in the countries of South Eastern Europe across the four thematic priorities which were set through national and regional consultations.

The overall goal of the project is to contribute to the reduction of environment and security risks, and to the increased cooperation both between and within countries in the SEE Region. Activities to achieve that goal include policy integration, capacity building of government institutions (including local government), hotspot risk mitigation, and civil society strengthening and promotion of good environmental governance. The project contributes to improved knowledge, understanding and management of environmental and security risks.

The main beneficiaries of the project included policy and decision makers as well as experts of relevant Ministries for Environment and Natural Resources, Ministries for Foreign Affairs, Economic Development, Emergencies, Transport and Industry, Agriculture, etc., local government representatives, agencies and civil society organizations.

2. Beneficiaries of the evaluation

The beneficiaries of this evaluation will be the ENVSEC partners agencies, the donor Governments of Finland (Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and Austria (Austrian Development Agency), and ultimately the ENVSEC project beneficiaries in the regions where ENVSEC operates

3. Specific Objectives

The Evaluation focus on the ENVSEC work in the SEE and in particular in the Initiative's four main pillar:

- Management and reduction of transboundary risks from hazardous activities
- Management of shared natural resources
- Strengthening regional cooperation on environmental governance through participatory and informed decision making and implementation processes
- Adaptation to the impacts of climate change for reducing security risks in SEE

The evaluation will particularly have the following objectives:

- To evaluate the appropriateness of project objectives and their continued relevance with respect to ENVSEC's overall principles, objectives and requirements and the projects' capacity to reach out to target groups and involve key stakeholders;
- To assess the extent to which ENVSEC programme in SEE has met its objectives, has a continued relevance, efficiency, and effectiveness , and potentials for impact and sustainability;
- To investigate to what extent the programme has built up upon ENVSEC regional assessments and the continuing monitoring of environment and security risks and priorities to assist environmental institutions, other national and local stakeholders in: 1) improving, establishing and implementing effective environmental policies, 2) creating increased awareness among the governments and civil society of links between the environment and security, 3) mobilising technical expertise and financial support for cleanup and remediation;
- To verify the adequacy of monitoring and follow up by ENVSEC partners (implementers) and the capacity of the latter to react to delays or unforeseen circumstances;
- To suggest corrective follow up and measures, if necessary, in order to consolidate ENVSEC achievements and improve programme ongoing and future operations;

4 Methodology

The consultant will review relevant project documents, outputs and reports and travel to countries where ENVSEC programme has developed. The expert will be responsible for the overall planning, implementation and reporting (preparation, finalization, presentation and timely delivery). He/she will use his/ her own computer.

The evaluation of four ENVSEC pillars will be conducted on the basis of interviews, meetings, telephone conferences with ENVSEC project managers, ENVSEC Regional Desk Officer and Secretariat members, representatives of ENVSEC partners agencies, local stakeholders as well as donors and partners.

5 **Expert profile**

- Experience in managing/monitoring/reviewing projects or programme in the region or other countries;
- Good knowledge and understanding of project evaluation methodology;
- Practical work experience with or within the United Nations system or international development organizations in countries with transitional economies is an asset;
- The position requires good communication skills and excellent drafting skills in English and local Balkan languages
- Strong PC and IT communications skills.

6 **Duration**

The provisional starting date of the assignment is 15 November 2012 till 31 December 2012.

The expert is expected to provide the ENVSEC partners and donors with an interim version of the report by 10 December for comments and finalize the work by 31 December.

Annex 3 - List of Interviewees

| No. | Name | Institution | Position | Country |
|-----|-----------------------|--|--|--------------------|
| 1 | Elton Qendro | OSCE Presence in Albania | Project Assistant | Albania |
| 2 | Jonida Mamaj | EDEN | Staff | Albania |
| 3 | Lira Hakani | EDEN | Staff | Albania |
| 4 | Laureta Dibra | Ministry of Environment, Directorate of Pollution prevention | Focal point | Albania |
| 5 | Elvana Ramaj | Ministry of Environment, Forests and Water Administration | Senior Expert | Albania |
| 6 | Enio Haxhimihali | - | Lawyer | Albania |
| 7 | Rezart Kapedani | REC | - | Albania |
| 8 | Valbona Mazreku | Milieukontakt NGO based in Tirana | Project Manager | Albania |
| 9 | Bardhyl Shushku | National Agency of Natural Resources | Specialist | Albania |
| 10 | Esra Buttanri | OSCE | Environmental Affairs Advisor Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities | Austria |
| 11 | Elisabeth Sötz | Austrian Development Agency | Environment and Natural Resources | Austria |
| 12 | Pier Carlo Sandei | UNEP | Associate Programme Officer, ENVSEC Focal Point for South-Eastern Europe | Austria |
| 13 | Alma Mirvic | OSCE | Staff | Bosnia-Herzegovina |
| 14 | Edin Delic | University of Tuzla | Assistant Professor | Bosnia-Herzegovina |
| 15 | Aleksandar Petric | Gross d.o.o. | Director | Bosnia-Herzegovina |
| 16 | Miljan Vegara | Gross d.o.o. | Assistant | Bosnia-Herzegovina |
| 17 | Zvezdan Karadzin | University of Tuzla, Faculty of Mining | Professor | Bosnia-Herzegovina |
| 18 | Filip Cejka | Representative from Vodni Zdroje | Project Manger | Czech Republic |
| 19 | Karl Kast | Kast Germany | Consultant | Germany |
| 20 | Christina Stuhlberger | ZOI network | Consultant | Germany |
| 21 | Katerina Adam | School of Mining and metallurgical Engineering | NTUA | Greece |
| 22 | Nezakete Hakaj | Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning | Head of Division, ENVSEC National Fo- cal Point | Kosovo |
| 23 | Ismail Hetemaj | Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning | Head of Division, ENVSEC National Fo- cal Point | Kosovo |
| 24 | Gani Berisha | Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning | Head of Soil protection sector | Kosovo |
| 25 | Halil Qela | Trepca Enterprise | Acting manager | Kosovo |
| 26 | Ali Ahmeti | Trepca Enterprise | Manager | Kosovo |
| 27 | Argon Bektashi | REC Kosovo | Staff | Kosovo |

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|----|----------------------------|---|--|-------------|
| 28 | Emira Ajeti | REC Kosovo | Staff | Kosovo |
| 29 | Avdullah Nishori | Regional Environmental Center | Staff | Kosovo |
| 30 | KostaTrajkovski | Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning | Head of Project Preparation Division ENVSEC National Focal Point | Macedonia |
| 31 | Margareta Cvetkovska | MoEPP | Advisor | Macedonia |
| 32 | Ljubcho Melovski | University of Cyril and Methodius, Skopje | University - Natural Sciences in Skopje | Macedonia |
| 33 | Katarina Georgievska | Regional Environmental Center Country Office Macedonia | Country Office Director | Macedonia |
| 34 | Ylber Mirta | Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning | Head of Department for Waters | Macedonia |
| 35 | Snezana Dragojevic | UNDP Montenegro | Regional Programme Manager | Montenegro |
| 36 | Srdjan Cetkovic | OSCE Mission to Montenegro | Democratization Programme Senior Assistant | Montenegro |
| 37 | Jelena Knezevic | Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment | Head of Division, ENVSEC National Fo- cal Point | Montenegro |
| 38 | Andrej Lakic | Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environment | - | Montenegro |
| 39 | Nikola Golubovic | Environmental Protection Agency | . | Montenegro |
| 40 | Biljana Medenica | UNDP | GIS Technician | Montenegro |
| 41 | Sandra Arovic | UNDP | GIS Technician | Montenegro |
| 42 | Radosav Rasovic | Directorate for Waters of Montenegro | Senior Advisor | Montenegro |
| 43 | Mira Vasiljevic | REC Country Office Montenegro | Project Officer | Montenegro |
| 44 | Dijana Radulovic | EPA | Aarhus Centre Podgorica Coordinator | Montenegro |
| 45 | Aleksandar Perovic | NGO "Environmental Movement Ozon" | Executive Director | Montenegro |
| 46 | Dejan Medojevic | Mojkovac Municipality | Mayer of Mojkovac | Montenegro |
| 47 | Olivera Zurovac- Kuzman | OSCE Mission to Serbia | Environmental Advisor | Serbia |
| 48 | Tatjana Djurkovic | OSCE Mission in Serbia | Assistant, Environmental Affairs Section Democratization Department | Serbia |
| 49 | Tina Janjatovic | Ministry of Energy, Development and Environ- mental Protection | Senor Advisor and National Aarhus Con- vention Focal Point | Serbia |
| 50 | Zorica Korac | REC Country Office Serbia | Expert Environmental Education and Civil Society Support | Serbia |
| 51 | Srdjan Matovic | Kragujevac Aarhus Centre | Manager | Serbia |
| 52 | Aleksandra Siljic | ZOI Environment Network | Staff | Serbia |
| 53 | Bo Libert | UNECE, Environment Division | Regional Adviser on Environment | Switzerland |

Annex 4 -List of Documents Reviewed

(provided by the project partners and stakeholders in electronic format or hard copy)

| Document title | Author | Type | Date |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| Interim Expenditure Report | UNOPS, ENVSEC | ENVSEC Documents and Reports | 30 Jun 2012 |
| Consolidated Narrative and Financial Progress Report on ENVSEC Trust Fund 2011 | UNOPS, ENVSEC | ENVSEC Documents and Reports | Jun 2012 |
| Consolidated Narrative and Financial Progress Report on the ENVSEC Trust Fund 2010 | UNOPS, ENVSEC | ENVSEC Documents and Reports | Aug 2011 |
| Torso for Final Evaluation Consultant | ENVSEC | ENVSEC Documents and Reports | - |
| Proposal ENVSEC Final Environment and Security Initiative – Transforming risks into cooperation in SEE | ENVSEC | ENVSEC Documents and Reports | - |
| Mid-term Evaluation of the Wider Europe Initiative | Ministry of Foreign Affairs Finland | ENVSEC Documents and Reports | Sep 2012 |
| The Environment and Security Initiative in South Eastern Europe: Transforming Risk into Cooperation | Pier Carlo Sandei | ENVSEC Promotion | - |
| Excerpt from Newspaper: Hungary Toxic Mud Pollution – interview with Christophe Bouvier | Tribune de Genève | ENVSEC Promotion | 12 Oct 2010 |
| UNEP in Europe Newsletter | UNEP | ENVSEC Promotion | Oct 2010 |
| UNEP Statement on Mining, Commission on Sustainable Development | UNEP | ENVSEC Promotion | 2 March 2011 |
| The ENVSEC Initiative: Opportunities for Regional Cooperation | ENVSEC | ENVSEC Promotion | |
| Policy options and actions for expediting progress in Implementation: Mining, Report of the Secretary General | UN | - | 16 Dec 2010 |
| Regional Workshop on trans-boundary environmental risks arising from mining: Presentation of the past 3 years of experience and future planning | UNEP and UNDP | Component A | Nov 2012 |
| Publication: Mining and Environment in the Western Balkans | UNEP | Component A | - |
| Publication: Taking Action Together – Industrial Waste Management for Trepca Enterprise, International Conference Report | UNDP | Component A | 19-20 Sep 2011 |
| Report on: Activity B.3.2.2 Capacity building for GIS zonation, integrated mountain ecosystem management, establishment of protected areas, transboundary cooperation and UNESCO (transboundary) biosphere reserves, partnerships, valorization | UNEP and UNDP | Component B/GIS | Dec 2012 |
| Agenda for GIS trainings | UNEP and UNDP | Component B/GIS | 2011 |
| GIS Training PPT presentations (6) | UNEP and UNDP | Component B/GIS | 2011 |
| GIS Practical Application: training materials | UNEP and UNDP | Component B/GIS | 2011 |
| GIS Manual | UNEP and UNDP | Component B/GIS | 2011 |
| GIS Questionnaire Report | UNEP and UNDP | Component B/GIS | 2011 |
| GIS Questionnaire Structure | UNEP and UNDP | Component B/GIS | 2011 |
| Feasibility study on establishing transboundary protected area. Durmitor-Tara Canyon-Sutjeska | UNEP | Component B/PAs | 2010 |
| Feasibility study on establishing transboundary protected area. Prokletije-Bjeshket e Nemuna mountains | UNEP | Component B/PAs | 2010 |

| | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Feasibility study on establishing transboundary protected area. Sharr-Sar Planina-Korab-Desat-Deshat | UNEP | Component B/PAs | 2010 |
| Towards the network of mountain protected areas in the Balkans and the Dinaric Arc | UNEP | Component B/PAs | 2010 |
| Illegal Logging in South Eastern Europe, Regional Report | REC | Component B/Illegal logging | Sep 2010 |
| Action Plan for the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding for the Management of the Extended Transboundary Drin Basin (June 2012 – December 2015) | Secretariat of the Drin Core Group | Component B/Drin | Sep 2012 |
| Memorandum of Understanding for the Management of Extended Transboundary Drin Basin, Report of Activities: First Meeting of the Parties – Report of Activities December 2011 – November 2012 | Secretariat of the Drin Core Group/UNECE Water Convention | Component B/Drin | 11 Dec 2012 |
| Memorandum of Understanding for the Management of Extended Transboundary Drin Basin/ | Drin Core Group | Component B/Drin | |
| Dinaric Arc and Balkans Environment Outlook DABEO, Proposal on the Geographic Extent of the Balkans/Dinaric Ark Region for the DABEO Reporting Process | UNEP | Component B/DABEO | 2010 |
| DABEO, Proposal for the Thematic Focus of the Balkans/Dinaric Ark Region for the DABEO Reporting Process | UNEP | Component B/DABEO | 2010 |
| Daft Agenda, First Meeting of the DABEO Reporting Process | UNEP | Component B/DABEO | Feb 2010 |
| DABEO List of Participants | UNEP | Component B/DABEO | 2010 |
| Publication: Aarhus Centers, a brief Introduction | OSCE | Component C/Aarhus | 2012 |
| Minutes, SEE Regional Coordination Meeting on Environment | OSCE | Component C/Aarhus | 14 Dec 2010 |
| Project Progress Report, Promoting the implementation of the Aarhus Convention in South Eastern European Region | OSCE | Component C/Aarhus | 2010 |
| Project Progress Report, Promoting the implementation of the Aarhus Convention in South Eastern European Region | OSCE | Component C/Aarhus | 2011 |
| Press release from AIC Shkodra on Puka Workshop, Workshop with local stakeholders on Management and Protection of Forests in Puke | AARHUS CENTRE SHKODER (OSCE) | Component C/Aarhus | 18 Nov 2010 |
| Press release, AIC Vlora on Hospital waste in Gjirokaster Roundtable with local stakeholders for hospital waste treatment in Gjirokaster | AARHUS CENTRE VLORA (OSCE) | Component C/Aarhus | 12 Nov 2010 |
| Press release, Albania Permet Candidate debate, Public Forum: Candidates for Mayor discussing environmental priorities with the community | AARHUS CENTRE VLORE (OSCE) | Component C/Aarhus | 2011 |
| Press release, Albania Corovoda Workshop Report, Local waste management plans a duty and challenge for Local Governance in compliance with Aarhus Convention | Aarhus Information Centre Vlora (OSCE) | Component C/Aarhus | 01 Nov 2011 |
| Press release, Albania Eco-club Permet activity in the frame of Earth Day, Environmental awareness event in Përmet town | AARHUS CENTRE VLORE (OSCE) | Component C/Aarhus | 21 Apr 2011 |
| List of Participants, Access to Justice | REC | Component C/Aarhus | 3 July 2012 |
| Proposal of activities to prepare the first national report on the Implementation of Aarhus Convention in BiH | OSCE | Component C/Aarhus | 2010 |
| Questionnaire on the Implementation of Aarhus Convention in BiH | OSCE | Component C/Aarhus | 2010 |
| Minutes from Public Hearing in Brcko, First Draft National Report to the Aarhus Convention in BiH | OSCE | Component C/Aarhus | 2010 |

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| Excerpt from Newspapers: Promotion of web site on Aarhus Convention in BiH, Oslobodenje | OSCE | Component C/Aarhus | 19 Oct 2010 |
| Aarhus Convention Implementation Report Serbia | OSCE | Component C/Aarhus | 2010 |
| List of members of the working group for development of National Report on the Implementation of the Aarhus Convention, Serbia | OSCE | Component C/Aarhus | 2010 |
| List of institutions invited to participate in drafting of the National Report on the Implementation of the Aarhus Convention, Serbia | OSCE | Component C/Aarhus | 2010 |
| List of institutions which submitted contributions to the report on the Implementation of the Aarhus Convention, Serbia, | OSCE | Component C/Aarhus | 2010 |
| Links to electronic articles related to the draft of the first National Report on implementation of Aarhus Convention, Serbia | OSCE | Component C/Aarhus | 2010 |
| NGO Comments on the First National Report on the Implementation of the Aarhus Convention in Serbia | OSCE | Component C/Aarhus | 2010 |
| Analysis of Statistical Data on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law in Serbia (English and Serbian) | OSCE, Aleksandra Cavoski, Danijela Trajkovic | Component C/Aarhus | 2010 |
| Brochure: You have the right (English and Serbian) | OSCE | Component C/Aarhus | - |
| Guidelines for the estimation of emissions from farming | Ministry of Environment, Mining and Spatial Planning of Serbia | Component C/PRTR | 2012 |
| Adaptation of the Impacts of Climate Change for Reducing Security Risks in SEE, Survey of climate environmental security aspects of climate change in Albania | REC, Albania | Component C/PRTR | Oct 2011 |
| List of participants for UNECE event | REC, Albania | - | 14 Dec 2012 |
| List of participants to the PRTR event | REC, Albania | Component C/PRTR | 11 Oct 2011 |
| Flyer, Astana: Transboundary Cooperation on adaptation to Climate Change in Mountain Regions of South Eastern Europe | UNEP | Component D | - |
| Flyer Astana: Impacts of Climate Change in the South Eastern Europe | UNEP | Component D | - |
| Progress of the pilot projects on adaptation to climate change in transboundary basins | UNECE | Component D | 27 April 2012 |
| Flyer: How to adapt water management to climate change in transboundary basins? | UNECE | Component D | - |
| Meeting report: Adaptation to the Impacts of climate change for Reducing Security Risks in SEE | REC | Component D | 21 Dec 2012 |
| Agenda for the National Meeting in Albania "Climate Change and Integrated Management of Waste" | REC | Component D | 21 Dec 2012 |
| List of participants at the National Meeting in Albania "Climate Change and Integrated Management of Waste" | REC | Component D | 21 Dec 2012 |
| Survey of Climate environmental security aspects of climate change in Albania, "Adaptation to the Impacts of climate change for Reducing Security Risks in SEE" | REC | Component D | Oct 2011 |
| ENVSEC study, Serbia, Questions and Answers | REC | Component D | - |
| ENVSEC study, Montenegro, Questions and Answers | REC | Component D | - |
| Agenda: Regional Stakeholder Consultation and Awareness Raising Event on "Climate Change Induced Environmental Security Risks in SEE" in Sarajevo | REC | Component D | Oct 2011 |

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| List of participants: Regional Stakeholder Consultation and Awareness Raising Event on "Climate Change Induced Environmental Security Risks in SEE" in Sarajevo | REC | Component D | Oct 2011 |
| Minutes: Regional Stakeholder Consultation and Awareness Raising Event on "Climate Change Induced Environmental Security Risks in SEE" in Sarajevo | REC | Component D | Oct 2011 |
| Program for development of flood risk management plan in the Sava River Basin (draft ver.10.0), Pilot Project on Climate Change Adaptation, Building the Link between Flood Risk Management Planning and Climate Change Assessment in the Sava River Basin | UNECE | Component D | Apr 2013 |
| Report on Already Completed or Ongoing Activities and their Findings Regarding Flood Risk Management Planning in the Sava River Basin for Pilot Project on Climate Change Adaptation, Building Link between Flood Risk Management Planning and Climate Change Assessment in the Sava River Basin | UNECE | Component D | July 2011 |
| Report on the Meteorological Part of Development of Climate Projections for the Sava River Basin | UNECE | Component D | - |
| Climate change impact on flood discharge of the Sava River, part two, Hydrology Report | UNECE | Component D | 2 Oct 2012 |

Annex 5 - Evaluation Matrix

| Evaluation Questions | Indicators | Sources | Data Collection Method |
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| EVALUATION CRITERIA: Project relevance | | | |
| 1. Did the program's objective fit within the priorities of the government and project stakeholders? | Level of coherence between program objective and stated priorities of government and project stakeholders | Government representatives and stakeholders | Interviews with government representatives and project stakeholders |
| 2. Did the program's objective fit within national priorities of involved countries? | Level of coherence between program objectives and regional or national policy priorities and strategies, as stated in official documents | National policy documents | Desk review National level interviews |
| 3. Did the program's objective fit the strategic priorities of partner institutions and their mandate? | Level of coherence between program objective and strategic priorities of partner institutions | Strategic documents for of UNEP, UNECE, OSCE, UNDP and REC with priority on the SEE region | Desk review |
| EVALUATION CRITERIA: Project design | | | |
| 4. Is the program adequate to address the problems at hand? | Adequacy of proposed and implemented measures, level of impact to the problem as a whole and/or to individual problem segments | Program and project documents, National policy documents, Government representatives, Program partner staff, stakeholders | Desk review Interviews |
| 5. Was a participatory identification process applied and was it instrumental in selecting problem areas and national counterparts? | Level of involvement of local and national stakeholders in program origination and development | Program partner staff National stakeholders Program documents | Interviews Desk review |
| 6. Does the program have a clear thematically focused development objective, the attainment of which can be determined by a set of verifiable indicators? | Existence of clearly defined project outputs that are attainable and well linked with the project goals | Project documents Program partner staff | Desk review Interviews with program partner staff |
| 7. Was the program formulated based on the logical framework approach? | Existence of clearly defined logical framework with SMART indicators attached to all expected outputs | Documents Program partner staff | Desk review Interviews with Program partner staff |
| 8. Was the program formulated with the participation of national counterpart and/or target beneficiaries? | Level of involvement of national counterparts in project origination and development | Program partner staff National counterparts Documents | Desk review Interviews with national stakeholders |
| EVALUATION CRITERIA: Effectiveness | | | |
| 9. Are the program objectives likely to be met? To what extent are they likely to be met? | Level of progress toward targets relative to expected level at current point of implementation | Documents Program partner staff Stakeholders | Field visit Interviews Desk review |
| 10. Have the planned outputs been produced? Have they contributed to the program outcomes and objectives? | Level of implementation progress relative to expected level at current stage of implementation Existence of logical linkages between outputs and outcomes/impacts | Documents Program partner staff Stakeholders | Field visit Interviews Desk review |
| 11. What were the key factors contributing to program success or underachievement? | Level of documentation of and preparation for risks, assumptions and impact drivers | Documents Program partner staff Stakeholders | Field visit Interviews Desk review |
| 12. What are the key risks and priorities for the remainder of the implementation period? | Presence, assessment of, and preparation for expected risks, assumptions and impact drivers | Documents Program partner staff Stakeholders | Field visit Interviews Desk review |
| 13. How do stakeholders perceive the quality of the outputs and impacts, and overall program success? | Level of satisfaction of stakeholders with the targets and outputs, and with the implementation | Stakeholders | Interviews |
| 14. Were the target beneficiaries reached? | Amount of beneficiaries reached within the implementation in comparison to planned | Documents Program partner staff | Field visit Interviews Desk review |

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| 15. Were the program's long-term impacts assessed or any steps taken to consider long-term impacts and report on them? | Assessment of long term impacts included in program documents or considered by the stakeholders | Documents Program partner staff Stakeholders | Interviews Desk review |
| 16. Does the project have any catalytic or replicable effect or the potential have it? | Existence of perceived or expected positive changes occurred in the sector at hand and related sectors, as a result of program but not directly supported by outputs; identified new technical solutions or innovative approaches derived from the program that can be further utilized nationally or internationally | Documents Program partner staff Stakeholders | Field visit interviews Desk review |
| 17. Did the ENVSEC program ensure equal benefits for man and women from its implemented activities? | Treatment of gender issues in ENVSEC projects and activities, Balance between men and women as project beneficiaries in various sectors covered by the program | Documents Program partner staff Stakeholders | interviews Desk review |
| EVALUATION CRITERIA: Efficiency | | | |
| 18. Was the program cost-effective? | Quality and adequacy of financial management procedures | Program documents Program partner staff | Desk review Interviews with program partner staff |
| 19. Were expenditures in line with international standards and norms? | Cost of program inputs and outputs relative to norms and standards for donor projects in the country or region | Program documents Program partner staff | Desk review Interviews with program partner staff |
| 20. Was the program implementation delayed? If so, did that affect cost-effectiveness? | Program milestones achieved in time; Required adaptive management measures related to delays | Program documents Program partner staff | Desk review Interviews with program partner staff |
| 21. To what extent did the program leverage additional resources? | Amount of resources leveraged relative to program budget | Program documents Program partner staff | Desk review Interviews with program partner staff |
| EVALUATION CRITERIA: Sustainability of project outcomes | | | |
| FINANCIAL RISKS | | | |
| 22. To what extent are results likely to be dependent on continued financial support? What is the likelihood that any required financial resources will be available to sustain the project results once the assistance ends? | Financial requirements for maintenance of benefits Level of expected financial resources available from public and private sector to support maintenance of benefits | Program documents Program partner staff Stakeholders | Field visit Interviews Desk review |
| SOCIOPOLITICAL RISKS | | | |
| 23. Do relevant stakeholders have or are likely to achieve an adequate level of "ownership" of results, to have the interest in ensuring that program benefits are maintained? | Level of initiative and engagement of relevant stakeholders in activities and results | Program documents Program partner staff Stakeholders | Field visit Interviews Desk review |
| ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS | | | |
| 24. Are there any environmental risks that can undermine the future flow of program impacts? | Existence of environmental risks to program benefits | Program documents Program partner staff Stakeholders | Field visit Interviews Desk review |

Annex 6 - Evaluation Documentation

Annex 7 –Implementation and Obtained Results 2009-2012

| RESULTS | RESULTS | OBSERVATIONS | AGENCY |
|---|---|---|------------------------------------|
| Annual Progress Report on ENVSEC 2010 Priority A. Management and Reduction of Trans-boundary Risks from Hazardous Activities | Annual Progress Report on ENVSEC 2011 | | |
| A.1.1.1, A.1.1.2, A.1.1.3, A. 2.1.1, A.2.1.2, A.2.2.1: | | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technical and capacity building support was provided to more than 40 experts from all six Western Balkan countries in environmental risk reduction and the planning of physical risk reduction measures. ▪ The outcomes of the remediation work were presented on 6-8 October 2010 at a Regional Workshop on 'Environmental Risk Reduction at Abandoned Mining Sites in South Eastern Europe', which was organized by UNDP and UNEP in Tirana, Albania | <p>A 1.1.1 Building and improvement of constructions at tailings dams – UNDP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Site 1 - Zuta Prla (Montenegro) detailed technical design completed (VodniZdroja pty ltd) for building a treatment system to control acid mine waters from the mine. ▪ Passive Treatment System for treating acid waters from Zuta prla Mine, Mojkovac, Montenegro, constructed ▪ Site 2 - Rreps (Albania) detailed technical design completed (InFraTrans Corp Pty Ltd) for 'rapid risk reduction' civil works to improve construction at the tailings dam. ▪ Site 3 - Srebrenica (Bosnia and Herzegovina) site investigation and prefeasibility study for controlling the acid mine waters coming from the Sasa Mine completed (Dr Katerina Adam, MSc, PhD, NTUA). ▪ Site 4 - Artana (UNATSCR Kosovo) feasibility study (Dr Katerina Adam, MSc, PhD, NTUA) for controlling the contaminated acid mine waters finalized. | <p>During the evaluation mission the 2 sites, Zuta Prla, and Reps were visited, while also the managers of Srebrenica and Artana mines were interviewed.</p> <p>During the regional workshop on trans-boundary risks, organized in Kolasin, Montenegro in November 2012, the treatment system for acid mine water was demonstrated. Given that a passive mine water treatment is still in an experimental phase, the success of such system still remains to be shown. However, if effective, this model can find a wide application for the treatment of acid water with low water volumes, such as Zuta Prla, throughout the region as well as other regions of ENVSEC initiative.</p> <p>The two sites in Albania, Reps and Reshen were visited in December as part of the evaluation mission. While one site is remediated (See Annex 6. Evaluation Documentation), the other carries semi-complete works, and some delays in the completion of the construction work due to the problems with the subcontractors. However, UNDP reports that after difficulties with the contractor, revoking the contract solves this problem, and the construction works are expected to be finalized in 2013.</p> | UNDP EUR 540,000 |
| | <p>A 1.1.2 Technical guidance and coaching on remediation/risk reduction "mining for closure" at three mining hotspots/tailing dams – UNEP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Activities of Chief Technical Advisor, hired by UNEP and UNDP in 2010 (see annual report 2010) at priority mining sites in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Kosovo11. ▪ Technical guidance and coaching, as per the objectives, provided at 4 sites within the Western Balkans as well as promoted for alternative locations in SEE and ENVSEC footprint. ▪ echnical guidance and coaching, as per the objectives, provided at 4 sites within the Western Balkans as well as promoted for alternative locations in SEE and ENVSEC footprint.11 .ifficulties with thSupport and provision of information on the sites subject to remediation and using the best practice and risk reduction approaches promulgated in this program. | <p>A Chief Technical Advisor has been hired by UNEP and UNDP (40% and 60% respectively in the first year, and 100% by UNDP in the second year) and made available for technical assistance to the issues of mining and minimizing pollution risks throughout the region. CTA was based in Montenegro.</p> <p>Based on the interviews, the Chief Technical Advisor proved to be essential for coordination and technical assistance, as well for the increased willingness for cooperation among the project stakeholders.</p> | UNEP EUR 100,000 |
| | <p>A 1.1.3 Improving institutional arrangements and setting up of monitoring mechanisms – UNDP</p> | <p>The results from Mojkovac treatment plant effectiveness, established by the results of</p> | UNDP |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For Bosnia and Herzegovina institutional strengthening was provided through a technical needs assessment, which was conducted for the Gross D.O.O. mine, and recommendations were provided for technical equipment, personnel training and planning for environmental reporting. ▪ A review of all environmental monitoring conducted to date was undertaken and recommendations for locations, http://files.carnet.kg/uranium.htm analyses and frequencies for sampling provided. ▪ In Albania and Kosovo the initial meetings and proposal for integrating institutional strengthening and monitoring mechanisms with site works or studies have been taken and are ongoing. ▪ Securing post construction performance monitoring mechanisms and funding for the mine water treatment plant – Montenegro (Mojkovac). ▪ jkovac).ost construction performance monitoring mechanisms and funding for BiH (Srebrenica – Sasa Mine) and equipment requirements. ▪ Commencement of environmental monitoring (water) technology exchange in Kosovo (hydrometeorology). ▪ Communication has been established with the University of Montenegro, Metallurgy Faculty and University Donja Gorica (Podgorica) in order to use the passive treatment system in Zuta prla for education purposes, e.g. student’s field visits | <p>monitoring, will be essential for possible replication of the technology.</p> <p>Based on the conversation with main stakeholders in Kosovo, BiH and Montenegro, the support provided in this respect is considered valuable. The Gross D.O.O. mine used the assistance provided to acquire necessary equipment and finance and execute a project of their own dealing with the reduction of pollution from mining water.</p> | <p>EUR 60,000</p> |
| | <p>A 2.1.1 Regional dissemination and contribution of mining expertise to national cleaner production programs – UNEP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation of ENVSEC experiences of mining sites at regional and national occasions and events. ▪ resentation of ENVSEC experiences resentation of ENVSEC experiences of mining siteIdentification and agreement of format for the new publication incorporating new mining for closure policies, rapid risk reduction practices and acid mine drainage treatment system in the program, along with a discussion on comparison with other full cost systems and application throughout the SEE and ENVSEC foot print. | <p>-</p> | <p>UNEP</p> <p>EUR 145,000</p> |
| | <p>A 2.1.2 Catalyzed action at further identified mining hotspots throughout the region – UNEP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentations, publications, and identified hotspots requiring work presented at CSD 18 and CSD 19. ▪ Establishment of partnerships at remediation sites and for ongoing environmental monitoring with mining companies (Trepca Mining Kosovo17; Gross D.O.O. Bosnia and Herzegovina); governments (Albanian Environment Ministry) and trust funds (Czech Trust fund). ▪ Initiation of further partnerships at different levels (local, regional, national) with a special focus on public private partnerships. ▪ The UNEP/UNDP Chief Technical Advisor has also partnered with the Montenegro government and will provide technical assistance to its World Bank funded environmental impact and feasibility study for rehabilitating 3 priority tailings dams in Montenegro. | <p>The work on building the private and public support for remediation activities has been especially fruitful in Srebrenica, BiH, where the company (internationally owned) invested its resources to minimize pollution from mine water. The dialogue established with Trepca company in Kosovo (publicly owned), has been extremely valuable to start finding the solution for a big regional pollution problem coming from the Trepca mine, affecting not only the population in Mitrovica but also all adjacent countries and polluting regional waters. Trepca management is very motivated and ready to seek solutions for pollution prevention and minimization, especially with the technical support provided to them by UNEP and UNDP.</p> | <p>UNEP</p> <p>EUR 120,000</p> |
| | <p>A 2.2.1 Training and capacity development with industrial Accidents Convention’s Assistance Programme – enhancement of risk assessment and safety reporting, development and resting of checklists for evaluation of safety – UNECE</p> <p>The activities for this project will commence in 2012.</p> | <p>-</p> | <p>UNECE</p> <p>USD 94,070</p> |
| <p>A 2.2.2 Training and capacity development for reaching EU standards and</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Enhancement of cooperation and networking for follow up activities which go | <p>-</p> | <p>REC</p> |

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| <p>multilateral Conventions – REC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of current status of the implementation of EU legislation and MEAs relevant to mining sector in selected SEE countries. | <p>beyond the boundaries of the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved knowledge of the opportunities and benefits of efficient implementation of EU legislation and MEAs relevant to mining and to exchanged practices and lessons learned on joint management of transboundary water body affected or potentially affected by mining activities during the workshop. Facilitated process on ratification and implementation of relevant MEAs. A workshop: “Synergies for efficient implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and EU legislation in the mining industry”. Background paper providing an overview of the of current status of the implementation of EU legislation and Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) relevant to mining in SEE countries, based on a previous research on the status of acceptance, ratification and implementation of selected relevant agreements. | | <p>EUR 42,000</p> |
| <p>Priority A. Management and Reduction of Trans-boundary Risks from Hazardous Activities</p> | | | |
| <p>B.1.1.1, B.1.1.2, B.2.1.1, B. 2.3.1, B.3.1.1, B.3.2.1, B.3.2.2, B.3.2.3 and B. 3.2.4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publication of the feasibility studies on Establishing Trans-boundary Protected Areas and the Network of Mountain Protected Areas in the Balkans and the Dinaric Arc. Expert meeting for the preparation of the Ministerial Conference and Dinaric Arc and its Neighboring Regions, Ljubljana, Slovenia on 9 November 2010. The meeting finalized a draft resolution for consideration by the Ministers and High Level Officials at the upcoming First Ministerial Conference for Protection and Sustainable Development of the Dinaric Arc Region. The 1st Dinaric Conference, including representatives of Albania, Bosnia/Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro and Slovenia took place and adopted a resolution aimed at strengthening cooperation in the field of sustainable development of mountain territories. | <p>B 1.1.1 Preparation and publication of Dinaric Arc and Balkan integrated environmental assessment in a participatory process – UNEP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposal on the Geographic Extent of the Balkans/Dinaric Arc Region for the DABEO Reporting Process. Proposal on the Geographic Extent of the Balkans/Dinaric Arc Region for the DABEO Reporting Process. The evaluator had the opportunity to review the outputs and prepared materials for the DABEO process. This topic is relevant and in line with the conservation priorities of the SEE countries. | <p>UNEP</p> <p>USD 53,641</p> | |
| | <p>B 1.1.2 Public information on current state of environment, shared natural resources and climate change at country and regional levels – UNEP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNEP contribution to the Second Environmental Performance Review of Albania carried out by UNECE: gathering and analyzing materials relevant for EPR Albania report and carrying out desk studies, participation in UNECE led mission in Albania, elaboration of the draft Chapter 8 “Forestry, biodiversity and protected areas” and its consultation with the local experts, monitoring of the compliance with the expert recommendations issued at the time of the First Environmental Performance Review of Albania, developing new recommendations for the Government of Albania. UNEP contribution to Environmental Performance Review in FYR Macedonia carried out by UNECE: gathering and analyzing materials relevant for EPR Macedonia report and carrying out desk studies, participation in UNECE led mission in Macedonia, elaboration of the draft Chapter 1 “Institutional and Legal Framework” and its consultation with the local experts, monitoring of the compliance with the expert recommendations issued at the time of the First Environmental Performance Review of Macedonia, developing new recommendations for the Government. UNEP prepared in cooperation with the Government of Montenegro a study on the “Green economy potential for tourism in Durmitor Protected areas” which aims at promoting a sustainable economic growth in an ENVSEC selected trans-boundary area. EPR2 Albania published in cooperation with UNECE. EPR2 in FYR Macedonia in cooperation with UNECE. Study on Green Economy Potentials in Durmitor Area. | <p>Activities implemented seem effective and in line with the ENVSEC priorities, as well as relevant for the national priorities.</p> | <p>UNEP</p> <p>USD 82,280</p> |
| | <p>B 2.1.1 Service to cooperation on the wider Drin basin; Albania, Greece, FYR Macedonia, Montenegro and Kosovo (UN administered territory under UN Security Council Resolution 1244) – UNECE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expected Result 1: Identification and brief analysis of the key issues linked with water resources management included in a Situation Analysis. The expected result was achieved and the planned output, a situation analysis was produced. | <p>The activities and service provided by UNECE for the process of establishing cooperation for management of the wider Drin basin are very well accepted by the water management community and are</p> | <p>UNECE</p> <p>USD 174,691</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Expected Result 2: Sustaining the functioning of the “Drin Core Group” to provide guidance for and be involved as appropriate in the implementation of the Project. ▪ Expected Result 2: Sustaining the functioning of the “Drin Core Group” to provide guidance for and be involved as appropriate was expanded by the competent Ministers to coordinate the implementation of the MoU (see Expected Result 4) constituting this a de facto joint body; four, against three planned, Drin Core Group meetings were held. Expected Result 3: A Drin Dialogue sustained throughout the Project period and its outcomes crystallized in the Strategic Shared Vision document. The expected result was achieved and the planned output, three consultation meetings at the national level and one consultation meeting at the Drin Basin level were held according to plan. Expected Result 4: A long-term Strategic Shared Vision for the management of the Drin Basin developed through the Drin Dialogue and adopted by the stakeholders. The expected results and planned output was achieved, a long-term Strategic Shared Vision for the management of the Drin Basin was developed and signed in the form of a MoU between riparians by Ministers/representatives of responsible authorities. Expected Result 5: Development of a project proposal under GEF. The expected result was achieved with the project facilitating the preparation of a Project Identification Form (PIF) and a Project Preparation Grant (PPG) request that were endorsed by the riparians and submitted to the GEF Secretariat. ▪ With the help of a strong political commitment the project is being successfully implemented with the highlight being the signing of the Drin Shared Strategic Vision MoU by responsible Ministers of all riparians in Tirana, November 2011. | <p>successfully implemented.</p> <p>The type of reporting on the expected results and outputs for this activity could serve as an example for concise and clear reporting for the entire ENVSEC program.</p> | |
| <p>B 2.1.2 Service to cooperation on the Timok River (Serbia and Bulgaria) – REC</p> <p>The first meeting of the Timok River Project Working Group in Zajecar (Serbia) on the 11th of November 2010. It gathered nominated representatives from Serbia and Bulgaria and was facilitated by REC</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased understanding of potential legal, institutional and practical opportunities and barriers to joint management of the Timok River Basin through a peer-review mission that created occasions for experts from different institutions to get to know each other’s practices. ▪ Fostered dialogue between Bulgaria and Serbia on an expert level through meetings, field trips and discussions, that allowed inter-institutional and transboundary contacts, exchange of information, sharing of knowledge, best practices and mutual understanding. ▪ Nominated national experts from Serbia and Bulgaria took part in missions organized in Sofia/Pleven and Belgrade/Bor in October and December 2011 respectively, with a visit to the following institutions: Bulgaria: Ministry of Environment and Waters, the Executive Environment Agency, and the Danube River basin Directorate. In Serbia: Ministry of Environment, Mining and Spatial Planning, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management – Water Directorate, the Public Water Management Company Srbijavode, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Bor Municipality. ▪ The representatives of both countries exchanged information on legal, policy and institutional frameworks applicable to the water sector in each country. The areas of focus also included data collection and monitoring so as to ensure harmonized systems allowing exchanges and comparison of data. ▪ A questionnaire has been developed to help the participating experts in their meetings, interviews and field trips. The results of the mission will be outlined in a Peer Review report, based on reports drafted by the visiting experts following their missions, which will identify possible actions and recommendations for the joint management of the Timok River. Project website http://timok.rec.org/ was updated to include Serbian and Bulgarian versions. New sections were added: News and Community, to increase the information flow and connect stakeholders. Peer Review. Reports have been uploaded under Community for experts’ information/review. | <p>The activity directly contributed to increasing the level of cooperation between Serbia and Bulgaria. While it can be considered that the activity has been successfully implemented, the long-term impacts of such cooperation remain to be seen. It is in line with the ENVSEC goals and the priorities for reduction transboundary pollution in SEE. However, a follow up and revisiting of the effects of this support in some of the future evaluations could be a good source of lessons for the type of support provided.</p> | <p>REC</p> <p>EUR 23,000</p> |
| <p>B 2.2.1 Development of a SEE Regional Action Plan (Forest Law Enforcement and Trade Action Plan), with special attention to the cross-</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased ownership of the project by the countries through the establishment of the THEMIS Network focusing on shared natural resource management and com- | <p>The engagement of REC on illegal logging</p> | <p>REC</p> |

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| <p>border aspects of Illegal logging – REC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diagnostic audits of the policy, institutional and legislative set-ups to evaluate the countries' capacities to address illegal logging. ▪ A regional report provided conclusions and recommendations facilitated development of a regional roadmap. ▪ The Conference on Illegal Logging and Environmental Crime discussed illegal logging studies and diagnostic audits of Ukraine and the Balkans states, the current international forest law initiatives. ▪ A regional informal network on illegal logging and environmental crimes (THEMIS) was established. | <p>bating environmental crimes. Representatives from the relevant national authorities and civil society were consulted on the assessment studies related to the forestry sector and the Regional Roadmap, as well as on the next steps and actions needed, thus ensuring effectiveness of the activities and higher benefits and progress.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Demonstrated joint willingness to find solutions for the forestry problems and combated related environmental crimes in the SEE region through the endorsement of the Regional Roadmap and the THEMIS Network's Multi-Annual Work Programme (2011-2013) which determines a framework for the activities between 2011 and 2013. ▪ A Regional Report on illegal logging in the SEE was prepared, focusing on the situation in the forestry sector, with a view to the magnitude of illegal logging activities and formulating regional recommendations. A final draft version of the Forest Law Enforcement and Trade Action Plan was prepared in 2011 with the help of a local expert who conducted informal consultations in the beneficiary countries with the help of a questionnaire. The findings were illustrated in the Action Plan. ▪ The REC was represented on the 9th International INECE Conference (Vancouver, BC, Canada) on 20-24 June 2011, and hosted two workshops on forestry, in particular on forestry and trade aspects, as well as on the role of networks in combating illegal logging. ▪ The workshops allowed the international conference participants to get acquainted with a number of issues related to illegal logging and forest management practices and exchange views and information of national practices in place. | <p>issues are known to wider audiences not only through ENVSEC, but through other sources as well, and sources such as REC website give a comprehensive overview of the efforts and results accomplished. However, in the reporting through ENVSEC for the activity B.2.2.1 to B2.2.3, it is not fully clear which outputs were created or which activities were implemented under each ENVSEC activity. Also, the reporting could be improved by pointing out the benefits for the SEE region within the wider context of illegal logging initiatives.</p> | <p>EUR 70,000</p> |
| <p>B 2.2.2 Strengthening and building capacities in the competent national authorities trainings and exchange of information/conferences on environmental crimes and on the state of illegal logging and measures for its prevention – REC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The conference on illegal logging and environmental crimes was held on 24-25 November 2010 in Budapest, endorsed the Multi-Annual Work Programme (MAP) of Themis network. The MAP clearly identifies the capacity building activities and trainings scope. ▪ Consultations and meetings with beneficiary countries as well as with Interpol were organized with an objective to develop comprehensive training program on combating illegal logging and environmental crimes. ▪ Capacity building and training activities under Themis network defined and endorsed to be undertaken as an instrument to implement the Regional Roadmap to combat illegal logging and environmental crimes as endorsed by the countries at conference on illegal logging and environmental crimes was held on 24-25 November 2010 in Budapest. ▪ Capacity building and training needs assessment was developed taking into consideration the on-the-ground fact-finding on the scope and effects of illegal logging activities in the subject countries have been prepared by February 2010 regarding Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo under UNSCR 1244. ▪ The capacity building and training needs were further assessed by Diagnostic audits of the policy, institutional and legislative set-up in SEE countries in order to evaluate their capacities to address the issue of illegal logging according to international standards. ▪ The capacity building and training program part of this project was designed to help the countries to implement the recommendations part of the Regional Roadmap adopted at the conference held in Budapest on 24-25 November, 2010. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strengthened capacities through trainings organized under the project, focusing on different aspects of tackling combating environmental crime, including specific sessions on illegal logging. ▪ Increased awareness and involvement of national authorities through possibilities offered to beneficiary countries to participate and exchange experience and best practices with major international organizations and UN agencies at international events. ▪ The REC actively participated in the 9th INECE Conference where specific thematic workshops were organized as contribution from this project, focusing on illegal Logging supply and demand, the role of thematic networks in particular in tackling illegal logging and environmental crimes as well as Implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements. The following trainings were organized in cooperation with International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) and US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA): Conduction of Environmental Compliance Inspection (July 2011, Budapest), Environmental Criminal Investigation (September 2011, Budapest) and Adjudicating Environmental Crimes (October 2011, Budapest). | <p>See comment above</p> | <p>REC</p> <p>EUR 75,000</p> |
| <p>B 2.2.3 Setting-up of coordination mechanisms through an informal net-</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strengthened participation and willingness to cooperate on shared natural re- | <p>See comment above</p> | <p>REC</p> |

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| <p>work and its Secretariat on illegal logging in order to ensure coherence with other instruments for better focus on activities regarding shared natural resource – REC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contribution to the preparation of the Regional Report on illegal logging in the SEE was provided, focusing on the situation in the forestry sector. ▪ Draft Terms of Reference for the new network on combating Illegal Lodging and Environmental Crimes were developed. ▪ Input in the development of the networks Multi- Annual work program was provided in line with the recommendations part of the Regional Report. ▪ Consultations with the Ministries responsible for natural resources management (environment and forestry) were performed with Kosovo, Serbia and FYROM. ▪ Consultations and meetings were organized with International Network on Environmental Compliance and Enforcement – INECE to discuss providing input in setting up the regional network to combat illegal logging. ▪ The ToR of Themis network describing the objectives and secretariat role has been endorsed by the beneficiary countries with Joint Statement from the conference organized on 24-25 November in Budapest. ▪ Interpol and WWF Traffic committed to provide support in the implementation of the MAP in terms of exchange of experience and best practices. ▪ Joint statement from the participants of the regional conference, organized 24-25 November 2010 to provide endorsement of the networks structure, secretariat function and Multi – Annual work Programme. ▪ The Themis Multi Annual Work Programme (MAP) for the period 2010 – 2013 was endorsed by the beneficiary countries at the conference organized on 24-25 November in Budapest. ▪ Consultations and meetings with Environmental Crimes Committee in Interpol as well as with WWF Traffic and the Work Bank FLEGT and European Commission were organized to discuss the potential involvement in the network activities | <p>source management and combating environmental crimes through nomination of focal points in each of the beneficiary countries. Focal Points are senior officials who represent the countries in the network and take decisions on their behalf.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased awareness through the dissemination of a brochure presenting the network and its planned activities, and the development of the network's website (http://themis.rec.org) ▪ Consultations with the Ministries responsible for natural resources management (environment and forestry) took place in each of the beneficiary countries to further discuss planned activities and to ensure the nomination of relevant focal points. Participation was ensured for a number of THEMIS Focal point officials on the 9th INECE conference to share their experiences in the framework of the workshops organized. ▪ Consultations were also conducted with Interpol, TRAFFIC, International Network of Enforcement and Compliance (INECE) and the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) for potential synergies and complementary activities. ▪ The Network and its secretariat have been established and are now operational, with the nomination of national focal points and the organization of the upcoming first Executive Committee meeting and first training under the Multi- Annual Work Programme at the beginning of 2012. | | <p>EUR 30,000</p> |
| <p>B 2.3.1 Service of regional consultations on the protection and sustainable development of mountain regions in South Eastern Europe (Dinaric Arc and Balkans), partnerships with the Alpine and Carpathian regions – UNEP</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Alpine Conference and First Ministerial Conference for the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Dinaric Arc Region (07 – 09 March 2011, Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia). ▪ Slovenia).tation of the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning of the Republic of Slovenia, the Steering Committee Meeting for the Preparation of a 2nd Ministerial Conference of the Dinaric Arc Region took place on 26 – 27 October 2011 in Ljubljana, Slovenia. ▪ The first trilateral stakeholder meeting in the proposed transboundary protected area "Sharr/Šar Planina – Mt. Korab – Dešat/Deshat" (21-22 November 2011, ski resort "Popova Shapka", the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in the Šar Planina mountain range) co-organized by UNEP Vienna Office – ISCC and the Macedonian Ecological Society (MES) in close collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning (FYR of Macedonia), with the presence of HE Mr. Abdulaqim Ademi (Minister of Environment and Physical Planning of Macedonia). ▪ In the framework of the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Alpine Convention, the Alpine Conference gathered in Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia. This Conference marked the end of the Slovenian Presidency, which has focused on cooperation with the Dinaric Arc countries. Thanks to UNEP's contribution in the framework of ENVSEC, the 1st Dinaric Conference including representatives of Albania, Bosnia/Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo21, Macedonia, Montenegro and Slovenia took place and adopted a resolution aimed at strengthening cooperation in the field of | <p>The activity serves the purpose of regional consultations envisioned by the ENVSEC program, while it also seems as a good promotion opportunity for the ENVSEC work in the region, as well as the idea of Dinaric Arc and Balkans.</p> | <p>UNEP USD 83,189</p> |

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| | sustainable development of mountain territories. The resolution marks an important step towards the development of a legal framework for the protection and sustainable development of the Dinaric Arc region. | | |
| B 3.1.1 Transboundary arrangements, management plans for protected areas establishment or extension, support to relevant ongoing transboundary initiatives (e.g. Dinaric Arc Initiative, Green Belt etc.) – UNEP | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ UNEP contribution to the development of management plans for two regional nature parks in Montenegro: “Piva” in the proposed ‘Durmitor - Tara Canyon - Sutjeska’ TBPA and “Komovi” in the proposed ‘Prokletije / Bjeshkët e Nemuna Mountains’ TBPA. ▪ Conducted analysis of the national Montenegrin legislation concerning regional / nature park management planning procedures and legal requirements. Conducted analysis of the contents of the Piva Regional Park proclamation study prepared by the Institute of Nature Protection in Podgorica (125 pages in Montenegrin language). ▪ Conducted analysis of the contents of the Komovi Regional Park proclamation study prepared by the Institute of Nature Protection in Podgorica (107 pages in Montenegrin language). Conducted analysis of gaps and shortcomings of both above documents for further work on the development of management plans. ▪ Advised UNDP-MNE on the management planning process, required contents, expertise, map sources etc., developed recommendations on further actions to be undertaken in Montenegro, delivered guidelines and ideas for public participation. ▪ UNEP contribution to the transboundary (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia) initiative for the nomination of the planned bilateral UNESCO-MAB “Drina Biosphere Reserve” (analysis of UNESCO requirements towards BR nomination, and prerequisites for nomination as a transboundary BR, building-up a project consortium involving research institutes and local stakeholders from both involved countries, development of UNEP project proposal, and inputs to WWF- MedPO project proposal to be submitted to the Cross-border programme Serbia – Bosnia and Herzegovina under the IPA Cross-Border Cooperation component). Designation of Canyon of Drina and Sušica Rivers NP and the territorial extension of Sutjeska NP in Bosnia and Herzegovina (analysis of available documentation and legal environment in BiH, recommendations on actions to be undertaken in BiH). Field mission to Thethi NP (Albania) in the proposed ‘Prokletije / Bjeshkët e Nemuna Mountains’ TBPA (in the framework of the UNECE 2EPR Albania mission). ▪ Lobbying and liaising with relevant central authorities / Ministries and nature conservation authorities responsible for the official designation of planned new protected areas in the SEE region. ▪ Decision of the Council of Ministers of Albania approved on 21 December 2011, designating Korab - Koritnik Managed Nature Reserve in the proposed ‘Sharr/Šar Planina - Mt. Korab - Dešat/Deshat’ TBPA. Meeting with the Head of Department for Natural Heritage Protection of the RS Institute for the Protection of Cultural, Historical and Natural Heritage (7 December 2011, UN Project building, Sarajevo, BiH) focused on potential for supporting the designation of Canyon of Drina and Sušica Rivers NP and the territorial extension of Sutjeska NP in Bosnia and Herzegovina. | <p>The support to the transboundary arrangements for protected areas establishment, has been effective in Albania, Montenegro and Kosovo and, as reported, it has led to proclamation and establishment of new PAs in the region.</p> <p>The initiative, however, has not been that effective in F.Y.R Macedonia, even though the ideas of PAs and transboundary parks were supported by promotion and preparation of the assessments. It would be recommended to continue support to Macedonia to work with the local communities in supporting the idea of PA and grasping the opportunities from alternative livelihood development in protected areas. This recommendation is also supported by local stakeholders.</p> | <p>UNEP</p> <p>USD 100,576</p> |
| B 3.2.1 Development of trans-boundary feasibility studies/gap analysis for the newly proposed Transboundary Protected Areas – UNEP | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Translations of the UNEP “Feasibility Study on establishing a transboundary protected area Sharr/Šar Planina - Korab - Dešat/Deshat” into Albanian (“Studime fizibilitete Mali Sharr-Korabi-Deshat”) and Macedonian (“Физибилити студија Шар Планина-Кораб-Дешат”) languages. | - | <p>UNEP</p> <p>USD 100,576</p> |
| B 3.2.3 Trainings and Capacity building for selected protected areas managers – UNEP B 3.2.2 Capacity building for GIS zonation, integrated mountain ecosystem management, | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Setting-up by UNEP and UNDP-Montenegro a joint GIS Unit in Podgorica – forming of GIS specialized team by appointment of 1 GIS Chief Technical Advisor and 2 GIS technicians. Capacity building for the GIS Unit in Podgorica (staffing, equipment, ArcGIS v.9.1 software, skills development: ESRI desktop training session, Geodatabase Building ArcGIS training). Training/ capacity building needs assessment via survey distributed in beneficiary countries, and in direct communication with nature conservation authorities and protected area administrations. UNEP con- | <p>The information about the capacity building and GIS training for the PA management were provided directly by the trainers located in the UNDP Montenegro, but contracted by UNEP. The materials and feedback from the training seems to be relevant for building</p> | <p>UNEP</p> <p>48, 527</p> |

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| | <p>tribution to the development of the GIS training concept, programme and materials for the 'basic level' trainings, recommending beneficiary institutions / trainees, liaising with the Governments of beneficiary countries, nature conservation authorities and protected area administrations. Comprehensive training program (incl. theoretical part on the flow of data in GIS, concept of GIS layers, GIS hardware and GIS software as well as practical exercises on field data collection and work with QGIS software) and training materials developed through May and June 2011 (incl. Theoretical Manual on GIS).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GIS training sessions for nature protection authorities from the SEE carried out: in Durmitor NP (4 persons trained, basic GIS knowledge level and usage of GIS software – QGIS, 4-8 July, Montenegro), Sutjeska NP (5 persons trained, basic GIS knowledge level and usage of GIS software – QGIS, 17-21 July, BiH) and Tara NP (4 persons trained, usage of GIS software – QGIS, 24-27 July, Serbia). Collection of data for the development of GIS databases by trainees (deliverable: GIS Training Shape files). UNEP contribution to the development of GIS databases (advice to GIS Unit experts on the kind and scope of possible deliverables, available data sources). Training follow-up support and technical assistance provided to training participants, site field visits and systematization of collected data for the development of GIS databases (8-9 Nov. Durmitor NP, 16-17 Nov. Sutjeska NP, 8 Dec. Tara NP). GIS training sessions carried out in three protected areas in the SEE (Durmitor NP in Montenegro, Sutjeska NP in BiH, and Tara NP in Serbia). | <p>the type of capacities required by the existing and newly established PAs. The program design and implementation is interactive and able to provide based on the requirements of individuals who are trained by the program. The training has been completed in 2012.</p> <p>It has been noted that the institutions that participated in the training have different technical capacities and equipment for using the GIS in the future.</p> | |
| <p>B 3.2.4 Implementation of up to three pilot activities in selected priority areas, catalyzing partnership for action (involving public and private Stakeholders) – UNEP</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint submission of a project proposal with Euronatur for activities in the Shar Region in support to the existing Balkan Linx recovery programme. Contacts with local NGOs and partners for the development of project proposals involving local population. | <p>-</p> | <p>UNEP USD 149,785</p> |
| <p>Priority C. Strengthening regional cooperation on environmental governance through participatory and informed decision-making and implementation processes</p> | | | |
| <p>C 2.2.1 Public hearings and use other mechanisms to facilitate public participation in environmental decision-making as well as the EIA/SEA processes – REC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The activities started only in autumn 2010 when the contract was signed and the funding was received. Good progress has been made to plan and start implementing the project activities including planning of the kick-off meetings in 2011 Consultations have been held with the Aarhus Focal Point on the project activities in Albania. The proposed framework for capacity building will serve as a model to carry out similar activities not only in the 2 countries covered by this project but in the other 4 countries and entities of SEE, for which additional funding is being sought from the German Environment Agency. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project kickoff meeting in Belgrade, Serbia on April 18th and in Tirana, Albania on October 10, 2011 where gaps, needs and priorities for public participation were discussed. Capacity building program for public participation in decision-making taking into account different decision-making activities planned in near future was proposed. Framework for capacity building proposed as a model not only in the 2 countries covered by this project but also for the other 4 countries and entities of SEE, for which additional funding is being sought from the German Environment Agency. Two days intensive capacity building for strategic environmental assessment in Golubac, Serbia in April 2011 targeted to the municipal officials responsible of the SEA/EIA and urban planning activities as well as to local NGOs and other relevant organizations. Waste management plan for pilot sites drafted by CSO Eden in cooperation with officials in the municipality of Berat in Albania to be presented to the local citizens in May 2012. Pilot capacity building training conducted in April 2011. The waste management planning process has been chosen due to the fact that similar processes are currently taking place in many municipalities across the country and therefore many other officials, not only the ones from Barat could benefit from training in capacity building and process design. | <p>The evaluator interviewed the representatives of REC in Albania, the representatives of EDEN, as well as the local NGO which was involved in providing the technical support for issue of waste management. The activities are successfully implemented and well-targeted to the penetrating environmental problems in Albania, while public participation aspect was a good exercise at the level of local head of the clans and other representatives. There is a perceived shift in understanding the right and benefits of access to information and participation in planning.</p> | <p>REC EUR 35,000</p> |
| <p>C 3.1.1 Trainings for legal professionals on national and international environmental legislation and facilitation of access for the public to justice in environmental matters – REC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The activities started only in autumn of 2010 after the contract was signed and the funding was received. Good progress has been made, including | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The plans for trainings, roundtable meetings and NGO strategy meetings were presented in kickoff meetings, held in June in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina (June 13, 2011) and in Podgorica, Montenegro (June 14, 2011), in September in Pristina, Kosovo22, and in October in Tirana, Albania (October 10, 2011). Following the kickoff meetings, a detailed program was developed and proposed for all three types of events, including agenda, speakers, international and local experts | <p>Based on the opinions of the project partners and project stakeholders, on access to justice in environmental matters, the trainings have been major a success in promoting the new ideas within the circles of law</p> | <p>REC EUR 30,000</p> |

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| <p>planning for implementing project activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consultations with Aarhus Focal Points in the targeted SEE countries and entities to plan for the project activities for capacity building for the judiciary, legal professionals, officials of Ombudsman offices and NGOs in the target countries. | <p>training materials which can be used for the events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contacts have been established with key international experts including the Chair for the Aarhus Task Force, members of the Aarhus Compliance Committee, academic and NGO lawyers who could attend the roundtable events and trainings. ▪ Good progress has been made during 2011 on presenting the proposed activities in each of the four targeted countries and discussing concrete plans with the key actors and target groups. Also, the program for all three types of activities has been developed and adapted to the respective country needs, involving the local experts and speakers. ▪ All the judicial training centers have expressed interest in cooperation in reference to the organization of the trainings for judges and prosecutors. Ideally, REC is seeking the possibility of incorporating the training module in the yearly curriculum of the training centers so they could continue to deliver regularly in the future. ▪ Further steps need to be identified to follow up and agree on the time schedule to implement the respective events in spring and autumn of 2012. The additional project funded by Germany provides supplementary opportunities to address all target groups' capacity building needs and implement all three types of activities in the project countries. | <p>practitioners who have not been dealing with it in their professional capacity so far.</p> | |
| <p>C .3.2.1 Awareness and training activities on the use of PRTR and PRTR reporting – REC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The activities started only in autumn 2010 after the contract was signed and the funding was received. Good progress has been made including planning for implementing project activities. ▪ Consultation with the PRTR and Aarhus Focal Points to address needs of the target countries and stakeholders. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Several rounds of consultations have been held with the Aarhus and PRTR Focal Points of the countries in Albania, FYR of Macedonia, Kosovo (territory under UN resolution 1244), Montenegro and Serbia. Funds mobilized from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and by the German Federal Environment Agency with means of the Advisory Assistance Programme for Environmental Protection in the Countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, for supplementary capacity building activities in PRTR development in the FYR of Macedonia and Serbia. ▪ The resulting project "Capacity Building to Put the Aarhus Convention into Action and Support Development of PRTR Systems in SEE Countries" was initiated. Project kick off meeting with the involvement of the authorities and key stakeholders took place on June 21, 2011 in Skopje, FYR of Macedonia, and in Tirana, Albania on October 11, 2011. ▪ In the other countries the proposed capacity building activity was presented during the kickoff meeting held on the Aarhus Convention. ▪ Good progress has been made in 2011 to present, plan and start implementation of project activities initially in the key three more advanced countries. However many of the activities will be carried out only from spring of 2012. The one-day capacity building workshops in the other countries will be organized in the second half of 2012. ▪ In Serbia, in addition to the meetings for operators of facilities with the authorities, part of the funds will be used for preparing local language guidance on how to report on quarries. ▪ In Albania, the pilot will start when the currently funded CEMSA project financed by the EU will complete the approval of reporting forms and guidelines or guidance documents. There has been and will be consultation with the PRTR and Aarhus Focal Points, and other activities of this ongoing project will be taken into account in Albania and BiH, to address the needs of the target countries and stakeholders. Subsequent to further refinement and finalization of plans, capacity building will be fully implemented. | <p>-</p> | <p>REC</p> <p>EUR 53,000</p> |
| <p>C 1.1.1, C 1.2.1, C 1.2.2, C 2.1.1 and C 3.3.1 Support for Aarhus Centers in South Eastern Europe – OSCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In December 2010, the OSCE held a Regional Co-ordination Meeting on Environment in Sarajevo that was attended by the representatives of the governments and OSCE field mission representatives from BiH, Montenegro | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Four new Aarhus Centers joined the network in the South Eastern Europe. These are Podgorica and Niksic in Montenegro, and Subotica and Novi Sad in Serbia. Enhanced networking and information and experience exchange among the Aarhus Centers within and across countries in the region. ▪ Aarhus Centers in Albania continued to support citizen-state-private sector interaction and dialogue that forms a sound basis for participatory decision making at the | <p>The activities meant to support Aarhus Centers are well reported and documented. The support the Aarhus Centers was provided in the manner of small and targeted funds, and/on for the preparation of promo-</p> | <p>OSCE</p> <p>EUR 199,869</p> |

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| <p>and Serbia as well as representatives of ENVSEC partners, namely UNECE and REC. At the meeting an exchange of experiences in the implementation of the Aarhus Convention and other Multilateral Environmental Agreements took place and options to further advance the environmental co-operation within the region were discussed.</p> | <p>local level.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Workshop titled “Support for the Albanian Judiciary System: Enforcement of Environmental Legislation and EU & International Obligations in Albania” that was organized in cooperation with REC Albania Office. In collaboration with the Aarhus Information Centre network, state and civic representatives participated in regional workshops which analyzed local environmental problems and highlighted relevant transposed EU legislation and key developments such as the National Waste Strategy. ▪ Young person’s engaged in community cleanup activities via support to 4 Eco Clubs. Debates coinciding with local elections provided citizens the opportunity to quiz mayor candidates on plans for improved environmental governance. ▪ In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the primary focus continued to be on the setting up of mechanisms for implementation of the Convention at the country level, specifically through capacity building activities targeted at different levels of government (State, Entity, Canton) and NGOs. In 2011, a detailed training curriculum was developed on various aspects of Aarhus Convention and four training seminars were organized in Doboj, Maglaj, Visoko, and Teslic. These trainings also enable the sharing of experiences from neighboring Croatia and Serbia as well. ▪ In Montenegro, in 2011 the Aarhus Centers in Podgorica and Niksic started their operations and organized some public awareness activities. ▪ started their operations and Kragujevac, in close co-operation with local administrations, organized an environmental awareness campaign that covered 14 towns in Sumadija district and South-West Serbia. In each town, forums were organized that brought together civil society, academia, business and local administration to discuss environmental democracy, transparency and participatory decision-making. In 2011, the project supported the Serbian Association of Public Prosecutors in developing a study of the application of criminal law in processing environmental crimes. The study provided a comprehensive overview of enforcement of environmental legislation between 2009 until mid-2011. ▪ At the regional level, the OSCE organized a regional co-ordination meeting on Aarhus Convention related issues in Sarajevo, with the participation of government, NGO and Aarhus Centre representatives from Albania, BiH, Montenegro and Serbia. Representatives of REC and UNECE also participated. The a side event on “Aarhus Centers on the Road to Rio+20” during the 4th Meeting of the Parties to the Aarhus Convention (Chisinau, Moldova, 29 June-1 July 2011) and the promotional material demonstrated the best practices of Aarhus Centers and contributed to the exchange of experience and lessons learned among the Aarhus Centers within and across sub-regions. | <p>tion materials.</p> <p>The OSCE office in Serbia has several interesting and innovative ideas on how to approach the issues of public participation, access to information and mainstreaming gender issues in the environmental sector.</p> <p>Two additional Aarhus Centers were established in Serbia. These are: Kragujevac and Nis.</p> <p>The capacities, needs and organizational background of Aarhus Centers vary across the region, and are complex, as well as prone to quick changes. The issue is elaborated in the effectiveness section of the evaluation.</p> | |
| <p>C 4.1.1 Organizing interregional meetings, study tours, website and newsletter – UNEP</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presenting of ENVSEC projects and activities at third party events: ACUNS conference – Connecting academics and UN practitioners; panel on “Natural Resources and Security: Precautionary dimensions”, 28 February 2011, Vienna, Austria. CLISP project final conference, presentation “climate change adaptation in other mountain regions”, 08 September 2011, Vienna, Austria. Study tour of Armenian officials to mining sites in Albania and Montenegro, 12 – 16 June 2011. ▪ Participation of the ENVSEC SEE regional desk officer and ENVSEC SEE focal point at the ENVSEC management board meetings (18 May, Vienna, Austria; 5 September, Brussels, Belgium). Participation in ENVSEC coordination meetings on climate change and in the monthly teleconference. ▪ Uploading of information on ENVSEC and its deliverables to the www.unep.at webpage and creation of an ENVSEC section in the unep.ba website. Contribution to ENVSEC newsletter and dissemination of ENVSEC SEE news at the UNEP ROE newsletter (February, March, April, May, October edition). | <p>-</p> | <p>UNEP</p> <p>USD 107,318</p> |
| <p>Priority D. Adaptation to the impacts of climate change for reducing risks in South Eastern Europe</p> <p>D.1.1.1 Stocktaking of available information that address the impacts of</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Workshop on Adaptation to the Impacts of Climate Change for Reducing Security | <p>Climate change issues covered by ENVSEC</p> | <p>UNEP</p> |

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| <p>climate change on the region – UNEP and D.2.2.1 Organization of workshops, identification of best practices and dissemination of information, comprehensive report, analysis of Alpine and Balkan regional strategies, experience exchange with other ENVSEC regions – UNEP and D.1.2.1 Assessment of climate change impacts in mountain regions in SEE, considering all aspects in different sectors in a trans-boundary perspective – UNEP and D.2.1.1 Scientific symposium on threats to human security due to vulnerability of mountain regions to climate change, in exchange with other regions harboring alpine ecosystems – UNEP And D 2.2.2 Facilitation of information and experience exchange, and management actions for improving adaptation policies and measures over shared mountain ecosystems in the region – UNEP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A scientific symposium on threats to human security due to vulnerability of mountain regions to climate change, in exchange with other regions harboring alpine ecosystems ▪ Various workshops, identification of best practices and dissemination of information, comprehensive report, analysis of the Alpine and Balkan regional strategies, experience exchange with other ENVSEC regions. | <p>Risks in SEE, Venice International University, May 19-20, 2011. A report, in through consultation with the SEE Stakeholders, conducted by the research team, composed of an interdisciplinary group of junior researchers, covering scientific, legislative and economic aspects of the climate change issue in the SEE region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Brochure on climate change in the West Balkans prepared for the Astana Conference. Experience sharing with the Alps at the Final Conference “European Territorial Cooperation Alpine Space - Climate Change Adaptation by Spatial Planning in the Alpine Space”. ▪ Comprehensive library of existing literature and data on climate change in the Balkans. ▪ The project has addressed the adaptation challenge, with a special focus on the South Eastern Europe (SEE) region, both from a physical and a policy perspective and considering the need to tackle climate change in an integrated way, as a part of the greater challenge of sustainable development. ▪ On 8 September 2011, during the Final Conference “European Territorial Cooperation Alpine Space - Climate Change Adaptation by Spatial Planning in the Alpine Space” organized by UNEP Vienna-ISCC, the Environment Agency Austria and the CLISP Partnership, a short presentation of a preliminary version of the ▪ Report was given by Mr. Pier Carlo Sandei, supported by the materials provided by the working team. The main findings of the Report were also presented by UNEP during the Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference that took place in Astana, Kazakhstan (21-23 September 2011). | <p>in the SEE regions are well-targeted.</p> | <p>USD 246,793</p> |
| <p>D 1.1.2 Facilitation of exchange of information and awareness raising, compilation of information related to climate change & security in SEE – REC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preliminary preparatory actions, including information collection partly by desk-research, partly by personal interviews with experts from Albania, BiH, Croatia, FYM, Montenegro and Serbia. The most relevant sectors seem to be water (scarcity not floods) and agriculture (focusing on food production). This result serves to make preparations for Task D. 2.1.2. <p>Serbia was selected as a pilot country and conducted a survey on determination the level of knowledge of local actors. Based on its results it will be estimated the required capacity and adaptation readiness for related issues and relevant policies.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In 2011, information collection was started by desk-research and followed by personal interviews with experts from Albania, BiH, Montenegro and Serbia. The following questions were asked at the interview and in the questionnaire: ▪ 1) Are there concerns for satisfying energy/water/food demand in the country (or your local area of concern), at present and in the near future? ▪ 2) Are there any hotspots (regions) that should be prioritized? ▪ 3) Do any existing activities exist to cope with those security challenges at national and/or regional level? What are the main barriers (institutional, human capacity, financial, other)? ▪ 4) Are there any upcoming plans/strategies/projects in progress at national and/or regional level? ▪ 5) In which areas/issues would it be important to consider cross-boundary cooperation? ▪ 6) Please provide your personal suggestions/comments for the all energy/water/food security issue. | <p>During the evaluation, the evidence was presented by REC on process of development and findings of self-assessment by the individual countries included in the climate change program, and facilitated by REC. These are Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia.</p> | <p>REC EUR 50,000</p> |
| <p>A D 2.1.2 Consultation on coordinated priority actions for adaptation with (local) experts, government representatives and stakeholders – REC</p> <p>Preparatory activity has been started within task D.1.1.2, including consultation on coordinated priority actions for adaptation with local experts, representatives of local governments, associations, NGOs planned for the second half of 2011</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The regional consultation event: “Climate Change Induced Environmental Security Risks in SEE” was held in Sarajevo, in October 2011. ▪ o During the event, climate change induced food, water and energy security risks were discussed and some potential solutions were communicated. Exchange of information took place, and possible regional cooperation options were discussed among different stakeholders from the Region. ▪ The stakeholder groups were the local/regional/national government representatives, researchers, experts, and practitioners from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia. ▪ o Also participants were present from international organizations such as European Climate Forum, Institute for Environmental Security, International Sava River Commission, SEE-VCCC and UNEP, as well as several REC participants. ▪ Detailed information about the event, including the presentations, list of participants, agenda, background information and minutes can be found in the REC events web site. | <p>In Albania and BiH the awareness raising workshops were held in 2011 and 2012.</p> | <p>REC EUR 30,000</p> |

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| <p>D 2.2.3 Drafting guidelines for the main pillars of regional adaptation strategies for mountain areas in SEE – REC</p> <p>A desk-based study to identify up to date results of climate adaptation strategies in Europe and the world relevant to SEE and reputable experts and stakeholders.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A review of current and emerging linkages between climate change related environment and security risks in some of the ENVSEC SEE countries was conducted in Albania, BiH, Montenegro and Serbia, to highlight major challenges, identify hot-spots and analyze priorities in this area. ▪ A special consultation was held on the specific problems of the mountainous areas i.e. the Dinaric Arc (a specific area in the SEE, and the region's important economic sectors) on issues such as hydro energy and agriculture as well as biodiversity and ecosystem services that depend on the area's well being. ▪ First stakeholder consultation under "Climate Change Induced Environmental Security Risks in SEE" in October 2011. Review of current and emerging linkages between climate change related environment and security risks in some of the ENVSEC SEE countries, was conducted, and major challenges were highlighted and hot-spots identified. | <p>-</p> | <p>REC EUR 25,000</p> |
| <p>D 2.3.1 Pilot project on climate change adaptation: Testing the Guidance document developed under the Water Convention - Building the link between the Flood Risk Management planning and climate change assessment in the Sava River Basin – UNECE</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improved cooperation between the EU and non-EU Sava countries in the field of transboundary flood risk management and climate change adaptation. Baseline studies prepared, including an overview of already completed or ongoing activities and their findings regarding flood risk management planning in the Sava river basin, as well as existing legislation, strategies and plans related to FRM planning and climate change adaptation (transboundary and national). ▪ A number of expert meetings and consultations were held with national stakeholders and international partners to coordinate this project with other interventions in the region. Assessment of vulnerability to floods in the Sava River Basin and identification of hot spots is nearly finalized. ▪ Compilation of various climate change scenarios for the region, their expected impacts on water cycle and, more specifically, on frequency and magnitude of extreme flood events was launched. Project representatives participated in and contributed to several meetings within the UNECE programme of pilot projects on climate change adaptation in transboundary basins. This enabled exchange of experience and lessons learnt between the pilot projects. | <p>The pilot project on climate change adaptation is incorporated into activities of UNECE's International Sava River Basin Commission. The countries involved in the process are the Sava River Countries: Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia.</p> <p>During the evaluation, the responsible party submitted implementation report, the report on the meteorological part of development of climate projections for the Sava River basin and Program for development of flood risk management plan in the Sava River basin as the implementation evidence.</p> | <p>UNECE USD 245,000</p> |

Annex 8 -Minutes from the Evaluation Meetings

Delivered as a separate document.