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# Environment and Climate Regional Accession Network (ECRAN)

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Report on the First  
Regional ECRAN  
Conference on Climate  
Change Adaptation

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2-3 July 2014, Skopje

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**ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE REGIONAL NETWORK FOR ACCESSION - ECRAN**

**WORKSHOP REPORT**

**Activity 4.1**

**REPORT ON THE FIRST REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE  
ADAPTATION**

**2-3 July 2014, Skopje**



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## I. Background/Rationale

Climate change mitigation measures alone are not sufficient to stop all the adverse effects of climate change. The delayed impacts of past and current greenhouse gas emissions mean that additional action is required.

The Western Balkan countries and Turkey are considered highly vulnerable to climate change. They are expected to experience the effects of rising temperatures and disruption to their precipitation regimes, along with more extreme events, including droughts, floods, heat waves, windstorms and forest fires. Water availability will be affected, energy supply disturbed, food production will come under pressure and food prices will rise while biodiversity will decline.

This makes it a must to manoeuvre economic, environmental and social interests and costs to safe havens through adaptation measures. Adaptation means anticipating the adverse effects of climate change and taking the appropriate action in order to prevent or minimise the damage they can cause, or taking advantage of opportunities that may arise. It has been shown that well planned, early adaptation action saves money and lives later.

Since the introduction of climate adaptation in 2001<sup>1</sup>, the global community has worked on its development, with the 2006 Nairobi Work Programme<sup>2</sup> and the 2010 Cancun Adaptation Framework<sup>3</sup> as the important landmarks. The EU, involved in these developments, not only contributed to global level progress but also developed the EU perspective in its 2013 'EU Strategy on adaptation to climate change'<sup>4</sup>.

A first round of climate adaptation initiatives, both donor and non-donor driven, has taken place in the Western Balkans and Turkey. The initiatives developed a first wave of interest in the topic establishing professional contacts between a modest number of professionals, mainly in the public administrations of the countries involved. A foundation for greater coordination and information-sharing is now in place, and the moment to develop a more critical mass for adaptation action has arrived.

### Adaptation actions in ECRAN beneficiary countries

Activities under the ECRAN project focus on the ECRAN beneficiaries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo\*<sup>5</sup>, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey). Several initiatives and projects related to climate change adaptation in Turkey and the West Balkans have already been taken and implemented over the past years. Regional political interest in adaptation to climate change was, for instance, demonstrated by regional initiatives such as the 2007 Belgrade Initiative, resulting in the Regional Forum for Climate Change and the Southeast European Virtual Climate Change Centre, as well as by the 2012 Ministerial meeting<sup>6</sup> that agreed on regional cooperation in the area of climate change.

In November 2008, the Environment Ministers of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia supported the Southeast European Climate Change Framework Action Plan for Adaptation. This Plan aims to ensure that the Southeast European population build their resilience capacity to the risks and impacts of climate change through the implementation of adaptation actions; the improvement of understanding of climate change and its

<sup>1</sup> COP7 (Marrakesh), Least Developed Countries Work Programme

<sup>2</sup> COP12 (Nairobi)

<sup>3</sup> COP16 (Cancun)

<sup>4</sup> COM(2013)216 final, 16 April 2013

<sup>5</sup> \*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

<sup>6</sup> Ministerial meeting in Tirana on 21 September 2012 with attendance of Albania, Turkey, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Kosovo



effects; education and awareness raising; the improvement of decision making and good governance; and the development and strengthening of partnership and cooperation.

Two other important initiatives have contributed to shaping progress in adaptation in the West Balkans. The EU funded UNISDR project 'Building resilience to disasters in the Western Balkans and Turkey' implemented from April 2012 to April 2014 focuses on capacity building in disaster risk reduction, knowledge management, risk assessment, early-warning systems and other. Simultaneously, the EEA funded project on 'Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation (CCIVA) in West Balkan countries' has organised two workshops in Belgrade in 2013, bringing together experts from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo\*, Montenegro and Serbia to enhance the knowledge base in these countries on both the assessment of climate change impacts and the development of national strategies and policies. This opportunity was also used to share information and knowledge through the Climate-ADAPT platform, to also be used in the future to provide and maintain information on the countries' national profiles.



The ECRAN structure offers a logical place for the stocktaking of the past adaptation initiatives, in developing the future regional work towards adaptation strategy development, and in promoting involvement of and cooperation with the EU Member States in this area while simultaneously enhancing the coordination of the on-going and regional adaptation initiatives in the region.

#### **Focus of ECRAN adaptation work**

The ECRAN activities follow up to the work of the preceding Regional Environmental Network for Accession (RENA). Within its Climate Component, ECRAN will:

- Promote action by ECRAN beneficiaries - the ECRAN Adaptation Working Group will support the Western Balkan countries and Turkey in developing and adopting comprehensive adaptation strategies, and will provide assistance in building up their adaptation capacities and take the appropriate action;
- Promote 'climate-proofing' action by further encouraging adaptation in key vulnerable sectors ensuring that the infrastructure is made more resilient;
- Support better informed decision-making by addressing gaps in knowledge about adaptation. ECRAN will address adaptation action by coordinating adaptation activities with the European Climate Adaptation Platform (Climate-ADAPT) as the 'one-stop shop' for adaptation information in Europe.

Attention will be paid to best practice on adaptation (through training) and to supporting the identification and prioritisation of adaptation options and to the required policy changes, structures and processes for adaptation. This work will build on the results of previous activities undertaken, mostly those of the UNISDR and EEA projects, as a starting point. Close coordination and cooperation will be sought with other adaptation initiatives such as the one from the World Bank.

In practical terms this means that emphasis will be placed on the adaptation aspects in the sectors such as civil protection and disaster risk management. Disasters caused by climate change – droughts, floods, storms, and others - not only capture people's imagination, but also form a serious point of interest and concern from a political point of view and therefore are, sadly enough, probably the best ambassadors for adaptation awareness and action, with effects that may even reach far beyond these disasters.

#### **REGIONAL Conference and Seminar**

The first Regional Conference and Seminar on Climate Change Adaptation was held in Skopje on 2- 3 July 2014 in the Aleksandar Palace Hotel. Public administration representatives with current



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responsibilities for climate change adaptation, who are already or should be involved in decision making on governance structures, strategy and policy development and action planning in this field from each ECRAN beneficiary took part in the conference.

As indicated in the attached agenda (Annex I) a variety of political and expert speakers addressed the conference and seminar, a press conference was organised and an opportunity for networking was available.

The Conference and Seminar was organised in collaboration with the Technical Assistance and Information Exchange (TAIEX) instrument managed by the Directorate-General for Enlargement of the European Commission. Logistical arrangements for the nominated beneficiary representatives and the TAIEX experts have been provided in line with the standard Manual of Procedures for TAIEX Operations.

Chapter 2 describes the objectives of the workshop and the topics addressed. Chapter 3 provides an outline of the relevant EU Climate policy and legislation. Chapter 4 presents the workshop highlights and Chapter 5 presents the evaluation. Furthermore the following Annexes are attached:

- Annex I: The agenda;
- Annex II: List of participants;
- Annex III: Power point presentations (downloadable under separate cover)
- Annex IV: Clinics materials (downloadable under separate cover)



## II. Objectives of the Conference and Seminar

### Objectives

The **immediate objective** of the conference was to bring together key players of the ECRAN beneficiaries, in order to share the available experience and lessons learned - including on the role that the framework offered by the EU's 2013 Climate Adaptation Strategy may play - to present and discuss the actions that climate adaptation incites in their countries, the regional approaches and cooperation, and to prepare for creating the governance systems that ensure participation of stakeholders and a balance between the top-down and bottom-up processes.

The emphasis during this Conference and the Seminar was on future ECRAN actions in the field of adaptation needs, adaptation options and the required policy changes, structures and processes that are at the same time cost effective and tangible.

Furthermore the Conference and the Seminar targeted the enhancement of the coordination and cooperation between the on-going adaptation activities in the region, such as the Covenant of Mayors and Mayors Adapt Initiatives, including the EU Cities Adapt project, the GIZ initiative on '*Climate Change Adaptation in the Western Balkans*', the UNISDR and WMO's joint programme '*Building resilience to disasters in the Western Balkans and Turkey*', the World Bank's work '*Turn Down the Heat III*', and others.

Participation of international, national, as well as regional/local political and public administration representatives, provided an excellent window of cooperation, coordination and networking.

The **wider objective** is to strengthen regional cooperation between the EU candidate countries and potential candidates in the fields of climate action and to assist them on their way towards the transposition and implementation of the EU climate policies and legislation which is a key precondition for EU accession. The Conference is expected to help initiate development of the national institutional structures and to start a process of increased interest for adaptation among the local and regional authorities in the ECRAN countries, eventually resulting in adaptation planning and action.

### Results

The Conference and Seminar targeted the following results:

- To achieve better understanding of ECRAN and other regional follow-up actions in the field of climate change adaptation;
- To trigger a process of increased interest for climate change adaptation among the local and regional authorities in the ECRAN beneficiary countries, eventually resulting in adaptation planning and action;
- To use the Adaptation Clinics on Day 2 as an appropriate tool to start preparations in climate change adaptation planning in the selected sectors;
- To provide information on EU climate policies and strategies on adaptation;
- To set the ground for future climate change adaptation action by ECRAN beneficiaries.

The evaluation (see chapter V) specifically tested the perception of the above results by the participants.





### III. EU policy and legislation covered by the Conference

In April 2013, the European Commission adopted an EU Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change. The strategy aims to make Europe more climate-resilient. By taking a coherent approach and providing for improved coordination, it will enhance the preparedness and capacity of all governance levels to respond to the impacts of climate change.

The EU Adaptation Strategy focuses on three key objectives:

- Promoting action by Member States: The Commission will encourage all Member States to adopt comprehensive adaptation strategies (currently 16 have strategies) and will provide funding to help them build up their adaptation capacities and take action. It will also support adaptation in cities through the Mayors Adapt initiative, a voluntary commitment within the framework of the Covenant of Mayors.
- 'Climate-proofing' action at EU level by further promoting adaptation in key vulnerable sectors such as agriculture, fisheries and cohesion policy, ensuring that Europe's infrastructure is made more resilient, and promoting the use of insurance against natural and man-made disasters.
- Better informed decision-making by addressing gaps in knowledge about adaptation and further developing the European climate adaptation platform (Climate-ADAPT) as the 'one-stop shop' for adaptation information in Europe.

EU adaptation actions include mainstreaming of climate change (mitigation and adaptation) into EU sector policies and funds, including marine and inland water issues, forestry, agriculture, biodiversity, infrastructure and buildings, but also migration and social issues.

The EU also addresses knowledge gaps through research and the European climate adaptation platform (Climate-ADAPT). This platform, launched in March 2012, provides several useful resources to support adaptation policy and decision making, such as: a toolset for adaptation planning; a projects and case studies' database; and information on adaptation action at all levels, from the EU through regional and national to the local level.

Moreover, stakeholders from the local, regional and national level are encouraged to participate in the development of the EU Adaptation Strategy. In order to further this, the EU is providing guidelines on integrating climate into policies and investments and on how to use the instruments and funds provided by the Commission for climate change adaptation.



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#### IV. Highlights from the First Regional Climate Change Adaptation Conference

The Conference and Seminar was moderated by Ms Teodora Grncarovska, State Councillor for Climate Change, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning of the host country.

##### *Introduction*

The world will have to face the global challenge of climate change very urgently, as already confirmed by the 2007 IPCC Report, and further reinforced by the 2014 IPCC reports. The Conference also presented the results of the two subsequent World Bank's Turn Down the Heat Reports from November 2012 and June 2013. The reports confirm climate change as a fundamental threat to development.

All countries recognise this reality today, as demonstrated by the latest COP outcomes, and many are affected by climate change already. This is definitely the case in the EU Member States but there is evidence that this is even more so in the Western Balkans and Turkey.

Climate change could critically undermine efforts for sustainable development throughout the world and especially in the Western Balkans and Mediterranean Basin, where countries are in the highest risk group: water stress is already apparent in many parts, and is exacerbated by sharply rising demand in many sectors, particularly agriculture. Severe droughts following the extreme hot summers have been observed already in the last decade. Particularly in the Western Balkans and Turkey, weather-related disasters like droughts, fires, storms and floods are going to get harsher and costlier.

Due to the slow global response we are now at a stage that it is no longer sufficient to work on mitigation alone - but action is increasingly needed to adapt to the effects of climate change.

The countries of the Western Balkans and Turkey are the EU MS's neighbour and Candidates or potential candidates for accession to the EU, and an important player on the international scene, in the climate context and more broadly.

The ECRAN beneficiaries and the EU are cooperating already in many areas, but climate change is definitely an area where not only a common challenge can be seen, but a common interest to further co-operate - so as to support each other in the face of the challenge, both domestically and internationally.

##### *Conference Day 1*

Reference is made to Annex I for the agenda and Annex III for all the presentations and Annex IV to the Clinics Programme. Below only the highlights are covered. The details can be found in Annex I, III and IV. The key speakers were:

- **Nurhan Izairi**, Minister, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- **Aivo Orav**, Ambassador, Head of the EU Delegation to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- **Koce Trajanovski**, Mayor of Skopje, signatory of the Covenant of Mayors
- **Rosário Bento Pais**, Head of Adaptation Unit, European Commission, DG Climate Action

During day 1 of the Conference presentations and speeches were made by the representatives of the planned and ongoing international projects and activities in the field of adaptation in the ECRAN region, as follows::

- **Gazmend Turdiu**, Deputy Secretary General of the Regional Cooperation Council
- **André Jol**, European Environment Agency
- **Imre Csikós**, ECRAN Climate



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- **Philippe Ambrosi**, World Bank
- **Demetrio Innocenti**, UNISDR
- **Sari Lappi**, WMO
- **Carlo Giupponi**, University of Venice
- **Jakob Doetsch**, GIZ

A number of the key messages from the opening speeches and presentations delivered during day 1 of the Conference are provided in the text below.

### **Need for more Climate Action**

- The world has agreed to limit climate change to 2°C. It is clear what is needed to do so and we know that current efforts are not sufficient. The mitigation gap is well substantiated and needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency: the more we wait, the higher the risks and the costs for all.
- The devastating May 2014 floods that have hit Bosnia & Herzegovina, Serbia and Croatia are a sad reminder of that fact.
- The National Communications of the ECRAN beneficiaries have identified the most vulnerable sectors, these being water resources, biological diversity, agriculture, forestry, tourism, cultural heritage and human health, and measures have been proposed for their vulnerability mitigation. However, the key to adaptation to climate change is the integration of the issue of climate change in the relevant sectoral strategic, planning and programme documents both on national and regional levels.
- Climate action is a key priority for the EU. To respond to challenges and investment needs related to climate change, the EU has agreed that at least 20% of its budget for 2014-2020 – as much as €180 billion – should be spent on climate change-related action. To achieve this increase, mitigation and adaptation actions will be integrated into all major EU spending programmes, including the Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA).
- Adaptation strategies are needed at all levels of administration: at the local, regional, national, EU and also the international level. Due to the varying severity and nature of climate impacts between regions in Europe, most adaptation initiatives will be taken at the regional or local levels. The ability to cope and adapt also differs across populations, economic sectors and regions within Europe.
- The EU's role can be particularly appropriate when climate change impacts transcend borders of individual states - such as with river basins - and when impacts vary considerably across regions. The role of the EU can be especially useful to enhance solidarity among Member States and ensure that disadvantaged regions and those most affected by climate change are capable of taking the necessary measures to adapt.



### **EU Adaptation Strategy**

- In April 2013, the Commission adopted an EU adaptation strategy, which has been welcomed by the Member States. Complementing the activities of Member States, the strategy supports action by promoting greater coordination and information-sharing between Member States, and by ensuring that adaptation considerations are addressed in all relevant EU policies.



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- The overall aim of the EU Adaptation Strategy is to contribute to a more climate-resilient Europe. This means enhancing the preparedness and capacity to respond to the impacts of climate change at local, regional, national and EU levels, developing a coherent approach and improving coordination. The EU Adaptation Strategy consists of three priorities<sup>7</sup>:

#### **Priority 1: Promoting Action**

- Action 1: Encourage to adopt adaptation strategies
- Action 2: Provide LIFE funding to adaptation action in Europe
- Action 3: Introduce adaptation in the Covenant of Mayors framework

#### **Priority 2: Informed Decision making**

- Action 4: Bridging knowledge gap / vulnerability assessments
- Action 5: Climate – adapt tool

#### **Priority 3: Climate-proofing action**

- Action 6: Climate-proofing of the key Common Agricultural Policy, Cohesion policy and Common Fisheries Policy
- Action 6: More resilient infrastructure
- Action 7: Promote insurance and other financial products for investment

- The EU finances adaptation to climate change in Europe through a wide range of instruments, aligned with the Europe 2020 Strategy towards smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. The Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020 will ensure that at least 20% of the European budget is climate related expenditure (to be approved by the European Parliament).<sup>8</sup>
- With the LIFE instrument, the Commission will promote adaptation particularly in the following vulnerable areas: (1) cross-border management of floods, (2) trans-boundary coastal management, (3) mainstreaming adaptation into urban land use planning, building layouts and natural resources management; (4) mountain and island areas, with emphasis on sustainable and resilient agricultural, forestry and tourism sectors; and (5) sustainable management of water; combating desertification and forest fires in drought-prone areas. Project proposals focusing on **urban adaptation** are actively encouraged. This focus will allow responding to several of the themes identified in the EU Adaptation Strategy, such as green infrastructure and ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation; innovative adaptation technologies; floods; water; elaboration and implementation of adaptation strategies and plans.
- The Commission, on the basis of the model of the Covenant of Mayors initiative, will support adaptation in cities, notably by launching a voluntary commitment to adopt local adaptation strategies and awareness-raising activities. The LIFE instrument will encourage the development and implementation of local adaptation strategies and action plans, such as those linked to the urban 'Mayors Adapt' initiative.

<sup>7</sup> <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52013DC0216&from=EN>

<sup>8</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/adaptation/financing/funds/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/adaptation/financing/funds/index_en.htm)



### **ECRAN Actions in the field of Adaptation**

ECRAN will promote the implementation of key elements of the EU Adaptation Strategy in the ECRAN beneficiary countries. The particular focus will be on:

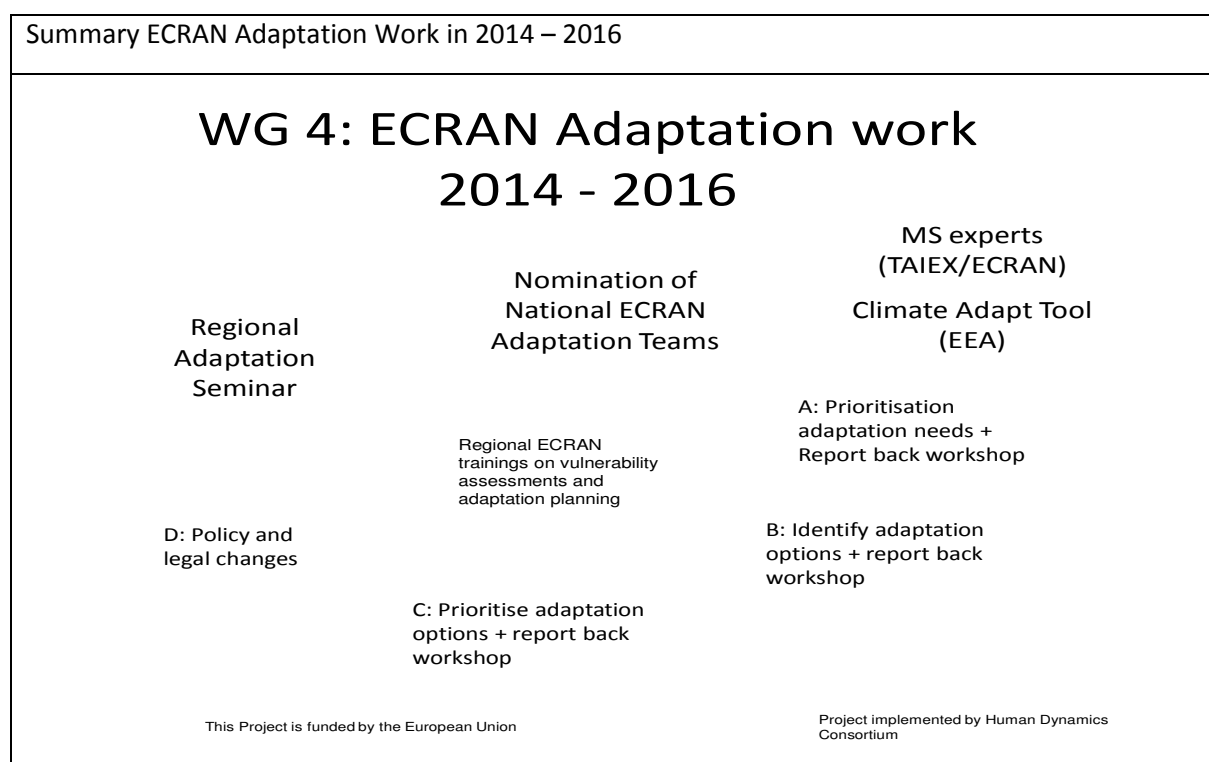
- Action 1: Encourage to adopt adaptation strategies
- Action 3: Introduce adaptation in the Covenant of Mayors framework
- Action 4: Bridging knowledge gap / vulnerability assessments
- Action 5: Climate – Adapt tool

In September 2014, the ECRAN Climate Coordinators will be requested to nominate national ECRAN Adaptation teams which with the assistance of EU Member States experts will together go through the following four subsequent steps:

- Step A: Prioritisation adaptation needs + Report back workshop
- Step B: Identify adaptation options + Report back workshop
- Step C: Prioritise adaptation options + Report back workshop
- Step D: Policy and legal changes

In addition the national teams will be supported through the targeted trainings on vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning.

These subsequent steps are outlined in the diagram below.



### **Adaptation Actions in the Western Balkans**

- The European Environmental Agency aims to support significant and measurable improvements in Europe's environment through the provision of timely, targeted, relevant and reliable information to policy makers and the public. The EEA aims to be the lead organisation on European level facilitating knowledge-sharing and capacity building in the field of environment and climate change. On the basis of topic reports on adaptation and vulnerability the European Climate



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Adaptation Platform has been developed that supports the Governmental policy and decision makers on climate change adaptation policies, strategies and actions. The tool is aligned with the EU Adaptation Strategy Guidelines on developing adaptation strategies. The results from two workshops held in Belgrade in 2013 were targeted at building capacity on the development of strategies and systematically identify and assess adaptation options to be fed into the ECRAN Adaptation Programme.

- The South East Europe 2020 strategy is the basic document upon which the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) structures its activities and it was approved by the Western Balkan Governments in November 2013. Adaptation action will be promoted in the context of the Sustainable Growth Pillar of the SEE 2020 strategy. The RCC (in cooperation with Regional Environmental Centre (REC)) developed the SEE Climate Change Framework Action plan for Adaptation which has been approved in 2011. However, since then there has been no progress in implementing this document. For the next years, community-based approaches to climate change adaptation will be aimed at speeding up and facilitating raising of the adaptive capacity in the region, intensify education, awareness raising and practical actions leading to reduction of the climate change impacts, with special focus on the least developed communities and most vulnerable target groups. The Coordinator for the proposed actions will be the REC.
- The World Bank has promoted climate action in the region through numerous projects. Specific studies/reports included the reduction of vulnerability of the Agricultural systems in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Albania. In addition, studies were prepared on adaptation assessment of Albania's Energy Sector. As indicated in its "Turn Down the Heat" Reports the Western Balkans vulnerability will lie in the water-energy-agriculture nexus and the World Bank is stepping up efforts on promoting adaptation action in the region.
- Between May 2012 and October 2014, the UNISDR and WMO are implementing the IPA supported Disaster Risk Reduction Regional project "Building Resilience to Disasters in Western Balkans and Turkey. The project promoted trans-boundary cooperation and coordination on Disaster Risk Management and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). In the framework of the IPA project, WMO supported capacity building on climate change risk management and climate change adaptation into a national and regional DRR agenda. In addition, a regional multi-hazard Early Warning System has been designed. However, capacity in DRR investment planning, risk recognition and political awareness of the economic benefits of investing in prevention and risk reduction can still be significantly improved. As the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS) are in constant competition for public funding with other crucial sectors, there is a further need to build capacity in the preparation of acceptable project proposals and finding the appropriate external funding mechanisms. In addition the requirement to sustain and modernise the infrastructure, IT, and human resources needs to be continuously demonstrated and advocated.
- The GIZ is implementing the Climate Change Adaptation in the Western Balkans (2012 – 2018) project. The project targets all Western Balkan countries and aims at improving adaptation in the field of flood and drought risk management. The project prepares flood hazard and flood risk maps as tools for the identification of a standard catalogue of measures and action plan. Furthermore it supports drought management planning and urban adaptation planning, and concentrates on 'no regret measures' to be identified for adaptation planning and promoting public awareness. It has already been flagged that data availability and data reliability should considerably improve in order to allow concerted and targeted action in the region.
- The University of Venice participates in the development of projects in the field of adaptation planning and vulnerability assessments. The processes in adaptation planning and strategy development were addressed. As a case study the integrated water resources management of Dojran Lake was presented as an ecosystem based climate change adaptation action planning



process (promoting the recognition and use of ecosystem services through well managed watershed resources).

## Conference Day 2

Day 2 of the Seminar was focused on presentation of the NGO views and experiences in Adaptation Action projects in the Western Balkans and presentation of EU Member States experiences on adaptation planning (Italy, Lithuania, Belgium, Finland and Austria). Speakers and facilitators on Day 2 were:

- **Vladan Šćekić**, South East European Forum for Climate Change Adaptation
- **Sergio Castellari**, IPCC focal point, Centro Euro-Mediterraneo sui Cambiamenti Climatici (CMCC), Italy
- **Jurga Rabazauskaitė-Survilė**, Ministry of Environment, Lithuania
- **Johan Bogaert**, Coordinator Climate Adaptation, Belgium
- **Jaana Kaipainen**, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Finland
- **Markus Leitner**, Umweltbundesamt, Austria
- **Rob Bakx**, ECRAN Climate

### Climate Adaptation Action in the ECRAN beneficiaries – an NGO view

- The results of an international survey from 2013 on perceptions of the general public on climate change were presented by the South East European Forum for Climate Change Adaptation. The survey indicated that the public in general is aware of climate change, but there is a lack of knowledge and awareness on the links between climate change impacts and everyday life or the need for climate mitigation and climate adaptation actions. The majority of the surveyed public feels moderately safe despite the potential consequences of Climate Change. The presentation advocated further improvement of informing and educating the general public and to promote increased networking and participation of CSOs in decision making processes.

### EU Member State experiences with adaptation strategy development

- The development of the Italian National Adaptation Strategy (NAS) followed the recommended steps from the EU guidelines and the Climate-Adapt Support tool, using a top-down (scientists and competent authorities) and bottom-up process (participatory approach with a mix of public and on-line consultations). The adoption of the NAS is expected in the next months.<sup>9</sup>
- The structure of the Lithuanian Climate Strategy was outlined, which includes a mitigation pillar and an adaptation pillar. In November 2012 the Parliament adopted a 'Strategy for National Climate Management Policy 2013-2050'. This is an integrated strategy including implementation considerations and it covers both adaptation and mitigation issues. The Inter-institutional Action Plan was approved in April 2013 and ensures implementation of the Strategy. Actions include targets, objectives, measures, allocations and implementing institutions.<sup>10</sup>
- Regarding policy documents, the Belgian National Climate Commission (NCC) adopted the first National Climate Action Plan in 2008. This contains a section on adaptation. In December 2010, the NCC also adopted the NAS, which describes the main climate change impacts, the existing adaptation responses, a roadmap to a future National Adaptation Plan and some policy guidelines for an adapted future. The NAS has been developed at the national level by a working group composed of representatives of the four Belgian entities. Conversely, the NAP is based on a

<sup>9</sup> More information on <http://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/countries/italy>

<sup>10</sup> More information on <http://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/countries/lithuania>





bottom-up approach: the 3 Regions and the Federal government have developed their own plans and these plans will form the basis for the national plan.<sup>11</sup>

- Finland's National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change was adopted in 2005 as an independent element of the wider National Energy and Climate Strategy. Finland is now in the process of reviewing/updating its national adaptation strategy (2013-2014). The starting point for the implementation of the NAS is to integrate adaptation into routine planning, implementation and development processes. The Strategy is being implemented within the sectors of the ministries in cooperation with different actors. Practical implementation is primarily carried out through various kinds of strategies and programmes. Some ministries, such as the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, have prepared adaptation action plans for their administrative sectors.<sup>12</sup>
- The Austrian Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management began to develop a NAS in 2007 and took responsibility for its coordination. The aim of the Austrian NAS is to reduce negative impacts and build resilience to climate change. The strategy intends to create a national framework to ensure coordination and harmonisation of the various climate change adaptation activities in all areas. The involvement of all affected stakeholders (carried out by the Environment Agency Austria, EAA) and the broad public in the development of the NAS has been an important component and was requested in the Austrian governmental programme 2008-2013. It ensured that no relevant stakeholders were left out and many institutions had an active part in shaping the strategy. In October 2012, the Council of Ministers has adopted the Austrian Adaptation Strategy. The Austrian NAS consists of two parts: a general adaptation framework and an Action Plan presenting a catalogue of adaptation options for 14 sectors/themes based on a qualitative vulnerability assessment.<sup>13</sup>



<sup>11</sup> More information on <http://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/countries/belgium>

<sup>12</sup> More information on <http://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/countries/finland>

<sup>13</sup> <http://climate-adapt.eea.europa.eu/countries/austria>





### ECRAN Climate Change Clinics Programme

The Seminar was concluded with the so-called Adaptation Clinics. The purpose of the Clinics Programme was to make an initial assessment of the needs for future ECRAN training programme on conducting risk and vulnerability assessments for relevant sectors such as agriculture, forestry, biodiversity, energy, transport, water, health, civil protection, and disaster risk reduction. On the basis of the results of the Clinics Programme, a training proposal will be prepared to be presented in the ECRAN Climate Annual Meeting in December 2014.

The Clinics programme consisted of five (5) clinics, each of which dealt with a specific policy area in the context of climate change adaptation:

- Agriculture;
- Disaster Risk Management;
- Urban Areas;
- Water Management;
- Energy.

Many other policy areas - including spatial planning, health, transport, infrastructure, tourism, landscape, natural habitats - would have allowed for a clinic to be organised, but due to time and capacity restraints (a maximum of 20 participants was allowed per clinic) will be dealt with at another occasion. Each of the above listed clinics was held twice; each was repeated to allow every conference participant to join two different clinics, learning from and discussing with peers topics considered to be most relevant for him/her. The clinics were kept to 20 participants to enable everyone to contribute and engage fully. The clinics resulted in the following conclusions and recommendations which concerns gaps in institutional, legal and policy frameworks, training and equipment needs and other.

- **Results Agriculture Clinic**

Five countries (Kosovo\*, Serbia, Croatia, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Albania) participated in the agriculture clinic. In all the countries climate change impacts have been observed in recent years. Although there are country specific differences, drought, low precipitation and also flooding were mentioned as the recognized impacts of climate change. Also other hazards/extreme weather events were mentioned as well as changes in weather patterns.

The main vulnerability is drought, which is closely linked with water resources management. Climate change impact on soil (salinity, moisture, erosion) is a recognised vulnerability as well as reduced biodiversity and damage to the ecosystem services. Weak governance (for instance in water management) is causing vulnerability, but the complexity of agriculture is related to vulnerability. Small farms are especially vulnerable because the economic impact of extreme weather events is high for them.

Conclusions and recommendations: Adaptation should be integrated into agriculture policies and regulations (policy coherence). There is a need for improved collaboration between relevant organisations. Also as relevant actors (for instance the sector and meteorological specialists) speak “different languages”, some confidence building is needed to improve the impact and risks assessments.

In some countries there are already good agricultural practices but their implementation should be enhanced. There is a need to change agricultural practices to increase climate resilience but also to promote sustainable agriculture in general. Water-efficient agriculture is a key issue (for instance crops which need less water) as well as water management and consumption patterns have to be optimized in the future. Although there is water available it cannot be used for some



reason or another, for instance due to the conflicts with other sectors. Irrigation is needed in the future. One important adaptation tool is diversifying, for instance change in the cropping patterns.

There is a need to develop monitoring and early warning systems, including monitoring of soil conditions. Agricultural research projects are needed, but there should be mechanisms to link the national research efforts in the EU-projects.

There should be more efforts to promote awareness and capacity building of agricultural services. One way is to establish a clearing house mechanism for the agriculture sector (extension, information regarding new innovations). It seems that people are aware of climate change but don't know how to respond to the threats. Relevant actors and decision makers should be provided updates on impacts and adaptation.

The private sector could play a role in agriculture. Insurance services or mutual/trust funds could be provided for the farmers. Such mutual funds, however, might not work in all countries. Some incentives to small business to develop adaptation tools for agriculture could be provided for.

Farmers are the key actors in the sector. The knowledge transfer to farmers should be facilitated, for instance on new soil preparation technologies (erosion prevention). The farmers' mentality is also an issue. Older farmers might not be willing to change their agricultural practices so the right ways to approach older farmers should be considered carefully. Additionally, an increase in size of the farms to prevent further fragmentation and climate vulnerability should also be taken into consideration.

- **Results Disaster Risk Management Clinic**

All of the countries (BiH, MKD, MNE, SRB, TUR) mentioned the same hazards as the main risks including floods, hailstorms, droughts, forest fires, cold and heat waves, and heavy precipitation including landslides and erosion. Flooding is the hazard causing most of the damages in most of the countries. Severe hailstorms have caused damages to agriculture, forestry and properties in all of the countries. Heat waves are a serious concern causing health problems. Droughts have increased in last years, causing severe damages to agriculture. Forest fires are also important hazards, which damage forestry, properties and increase risks to human lives. Domino effects can be significant – different hazards can interact.

Some of the strategies and policies needed are in place (for example strategies for emergency situations) but some need to be developed (e.g. climate change adaptation strategies). Connections with other policies need to be strengthened (for example spatial planning, air quality etc.).

Data exchange procedures are partially in place (for example exchange of warning information) but significant strengthening is needed nationally between the institutions and regionally between the countries. A lot of the data exchange is based on individual expert's voluntary contributions. Emergency Warning Systems (EWS) are only partially developed (perhaps not available).

Cooperation between different authorities needs to be strengthened as the responsibilities of the different authorities are not clearly defined.

In addition it was commented that (1) insurance mechanisms are to large extend are not utilised; (2) Strengthened water resource management is needed; (3) Education and awareness raising is needed for the people; (4) More human resources is needed in most of the institutions; and (5) National coordination teams are needed.

Conclusions and recommendations: All the countries are facing identical hazards and disasters. The problems in addressing the issues are the same in all the countries. National resources are not enough to adequately address the issue and therefore support is needed.



In terms of capacity building, the needs related to infrastructure are clear (weather forecasting, station networks, and radar networks). However specialised training is needed for different authorities (hydro-meteorological services, DRR authorities etc.). Improved involvement of universities and scientific community is required.

In terms of budgetary solutions it is recommended that the data production costs are shared between different authorities (users). However, for the short term EU and other external funding (infrastructure development) will be required.

- **Results Urban Areas Clinic**

The participating countries mentioned the following specific vulnerabilities and impacts:

- Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: heavy rainfall - drainage system overloads – impact on transport;
- Montenegro: heat wave in 2013; wildfires also causing air quality impact;
- Albania: heavy rains /floods. In Tirana – urban heat island effect – health impacts;
- Serbia: urban planning mistakes – loss of biodiversity; no proper architecture to address climate change – no concrete regulations; badly insulated buildings – problems in heat waves and during winters;
- Kosovo\*: increasingly severe weather extremes – floods; low level of precipitation and droughts;
- Turkey: extreme precipitation.

General vulnerabilities include increased stress on ecosystems; health impacts include vector-borne diseases, heat impacts; water scarcity; less tourists results in a loss of revenues; waste as possible source of diseases in case of heat wave; urban heat island effect increase due to lack of green areas in and around the cities

In terms of the legal, regulatory and policy framework there are adaptation challenges as there is a lack of approved strategies and plans, and legal measures that clearly address climate change responsibilities are missing. For instance, as evidenced by the recent floods, the current regulations as regards EWS seem to be deficient.

There is insufficient institutional capacity to implement transposed legislation. In addition, there is a lack of human resources and a lack of specialised units in the institutions.

Conclusions and recommendations: In terms of policies, mainstreaming of climate change in spatial planning should be promoted. In terms of institutional strengthening, human resources allocated to design, implement and update local strategies (local action plans) are required. Therefore, more institutional cooperation is needed – horizontally and diagonally. In terms of legal requirements the urgent need to improve regulations for EWS are needed. This will also require relevant supply of the impact monitoring equipment (e.g. weather) and software for the improved data collection and analysis.

- **Results Water Management Clinic**

Conclusions related to water use include: inefficient use (loss due to leakages); lack of waste water treatment; partly missing water harvesting; lack of irrigation-channel maintenance.

In terms of water-management there is mostly a sufficient legal basis, but countries are facing with the insufficient implementation of the adopted legislation. There is a lack of cooperation between levels/players in charge, as well as a lack of evidence-based policy making (especially relating to the interaction between science and administrations), and a lack of real stakeholder involvement and public participation. Monitoring networks (hydrology, meteorology, underground water) are



inadequate due to the lack of hydrological and meteorological stations and data, as well as insufficient operational budgets.

Recommendations include a clearer differentiation between drinking water and technical water; improved water treatment and treatment plants; increased potential for water harvesting/collection and improved maintenance of irrigation channels.

In terms of water management, it is recommended to review current implementation structures and to improve vertical and horizontal coordination and better exchange between practice, administration and science. More emphasis is required for applied and practice-oriented research, including the inclusion of science and the public in decision-making processes.

There is a need to improve data collection and to support efficient use of available funds; more sustainable long-term funding is needed.

- **Results Energy Clinic**

Discussions focused mostly on power supply, without exploring the demand side or other dimensions of the energy sector. In terms of country experience (MKD, ALB, KOS, MNE, TUK) there is a very different primary energy mix across countries (e.g., thermal base in Kosovo\*, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; hydropower in Albania, diverse in Turkey), creating opportunities for complementarity (e.g., seasonal imports by Albania from Kosovo\* in case of hydropower deficit and vice versa when hydropower surplus in Albania; or more permanent imports, as for Montenegro). A gas pipeline is being built that will allow diversification in supply, with less carbon intensive sources. There is good engagement of the private sector in Albania (for small HPPs). Older systems have numerous inefficiencies on the supply and demand side.

Vulnerability: Climate change is perceived as a new challenge, with lack of personal experience and knowledge in how to handle it and a lack of information. There is a general sense of the upcoming extreme weather conditions and events; at the same time, there is low confidence in the ability to forecast such extremes. Water resources allocation between sectors is already an issue that causes lot of tensions.

Challenges/Gaps/Needs/Priorities for action: There is a knowledge and skill gap, a lack of data (e.g. scenarios), information (e.g. on climate-smart solutions), and skills (e.g. how to deal with uncertainty, how to conduct vulnerability assessment).

Conclusions and Recommendations:

A lack of capacity is causing difficulties to implement action plans/strategies given low staffing and funding. More trainings on how to access EU and other funds and prepare quality proposals should be organised.

Awareness is low and consideration of climate-related issues with policy-makers is absent. An ECRAN adaptation workshop for high level policy makers should be organised.

Recommendations provided to organise awareness raising/campaigns on Energy Efficiency/Renewable Energy during Earth Day, etc.

There is a need to mainstream climate considerations in planning, especially at local level (e.g. on urban planning: on sources of energy, on vulnerability, etc). Climate proofing of infrastructure, incl. transmission lines across countries is required. Regional approach, with particular focus on knowledge and learning activities, would improve cost effectiveness since energy systems of the region are connected and must be assessed holistically.

- **Overall Conclusions from the Clinics Programme**



- From a climate change perspective the interrelation between all policy areas is clear; almost all areas are interlinked, climate change affects human life in its entirety. In essence the beneficiary countries' problems are the same;
- Overall, understanding seems to be in place in the region; witness to that is the huge amount of information and the level of conclusions and recommendations drawn from the clinics;
- Budget and funding may be less of a problem than tentatively assumed; once all policy areas are sufficiently aware of climate effects on their specific sector, this will open up sector budgets to adjust climate effects on these specific sectors. Additional budgets/funding may be needed, but in principle basic funding options are in place;
- Most obvious is the need for enhanced cooperation and coordination. Climate change does not stop at the artificial dividing lines between policy areas but is a cross-sector phenomenon with sector measures potentially causing cross-sector effects;
- Confidence building, establishing trust and awareness about climate change are the highest priorities at this point;
- Knowledge and skills of involved public administrations should be enhanced, building on the already existing knowledge and skills;
- In the beneficiary countries public awareness is not sufficiently developed and needs major attention;
- Climate change is global, but its effects are highly local, providing one more reason to strengthen local involvement in the actions to be taken.



## V. Evaluation

Forty participants filled in the evaluation form, out of the originally confirmed participants' attendance list of 102 participants (both excluding the presenters). The results of the evaluation shows that the workshop was very well received, where 96% of the participants indicated that attending the workshop was time well spent and only 4 % consider this aspect to be average or acceptable. Also, 85% rated the workshop as high level (rated between excellent and good) and 87 % of the participants rated the facilitators between excellent and good.

Furthermore 83% of the participants mention that the Seminar has set the ground for future adaptation action by ECRAN beneficiaries.

### Statistics

1.1	Seminar	First Regional Conference and Seminar on Climate Change Adaptation
1.2	Facilitators name	As per agenda
1.3	Name and Surname of Participants (evaluators)	As per participants' list.

### Your Expectations

Please indicate to what extent specific expectations were met, or not met:

My Expectations	My expectations were met		
	Fully	Partially	Not at all
Better understanding of ERAN follow-up actions in the field of Adaptation	(73%)	I (27%)	
Seminar was an appropriate start to trigger a process of increased interest for adaptation among the local and regional authorities in the ECRAN countries, eventually resulting in adaptation planning and action.	I (53%)	(47%)	
The Adaptation Clinics on Day 2 have been an appropriate tool to start preparations in adaptation planning in selected sectors	(51%)	(49%)	
The Seminar has provided information on EU Climate policies and strategies on Adaptation	(70%)	II (30%)	
The Seminar has set the ground for future adaptation action by ECRAN beneficiaries	(83%)	(17%)	



## Seminar and Presentations

Please rate the following statements in respect of this training module:

Aspect of Workshop	Excellent	Good	Average	Acceptable	Poor	Unacceptable
1 The seminar achieved the objectives set	IIII IIII IIII (35%)	IIII IIII IIII IIII IIII (60%)	II (5%)			
2 The quality of the Seminar was of a high standard	IIII IIII IIII IIII (48%)	IIII IIII IIII (37%)	IIII I (15%)			
3 The content of the seminar was well suited to my level of understanding and experience	IIII IIII IIII IIII (50%)	IIII IIII IIII I (40%)	IIII (10%)			
4 The practical work in the Clinics was relevant and informative	IIII IIII IIII II (44%)	IIII IIII IIII IIII (49%)	II (5%)	I (2%)		
5 The Seminar was interactive and networking could be achieved	IIII IIII IIII II (43%)	IIII IIII (23%)	IIII II (17%)	IIII I (15%)	I (2%)	
6 Speakers and facilitators were well prepared and knowledgeable on the subject matter	IIII IIII IIII IIII III (59%)	IIII IIII I (28%)	III (8%)	II (5%)		
7 The duration of this Seminar was neither too long nor too short	IIII IIII IIII III (45%)	IIII IIII (25%)	IIII (13%)	IIII I (15%)	I (2%)	
8 The logistical arrangements (venue, refreshments, equipment) were satisfactory	IIII IIII IIII IIII (49%)	IIII IIII IIII (37%)	IIII (10%)	I (2%)	I (2%)	
9 Attending this Seminar was time well spent	IIII IIII IIII IIII IIII II (70%)	IIII IIII (26%)	I (2%)	I (2%)		





## Comments and suggestions

Comment and/or suggestions in addition to questions already answered:

### Seminar Sessions:

- First Day – Too many presentations and no discussion
- I suggest to continue these types of seminars, workshop and study visits
- This seminar was useful for better understanding of ECRAN actions in the field of adaptation and EU Climate policies and strategies on adaptation
- This seminar was excellent for understanding ECRAN actions, but there should be more interaction between the participants and the facilitators. In the sessions, more know-how examples
- Very well organised
- I suggest to organise a special session on climate adapt with training and facilitate the WB countries to use climate adapt and to fill out their case studies. Also, an EU adaptation strategy session – going deeper in EU guidelines and the different sectoral papers
- Provide more examples and good practices from the region
- There is a need for Q/A sessions after group of presentations
- Well designed and presented in understandable and structured manner

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### Facilitators:

- They were successful and have knowledge very much about climate change and its effects and disasters. Well facilitated clinics programmes
- Well done!
- They should have been more experienced in concrete adaptation projects
- High level seminar
- Very good
- Could have been more lively
- Very nicely prepared and conducted clinics

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### Seminar level and content:

- Maybe more participants from local governments would be more useful
  - To be more focused to the mitigation and adaptation activities to the circumstances of Balkan countries
  - High level with useful content
  - Majority was well targeted. However, some were maybe a bit too general
- 



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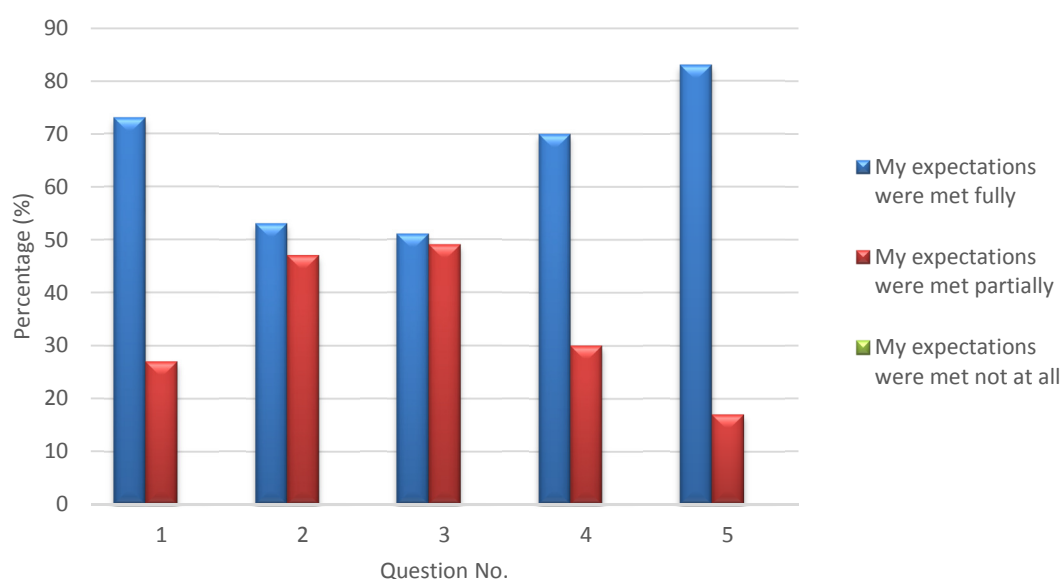


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## Expectations

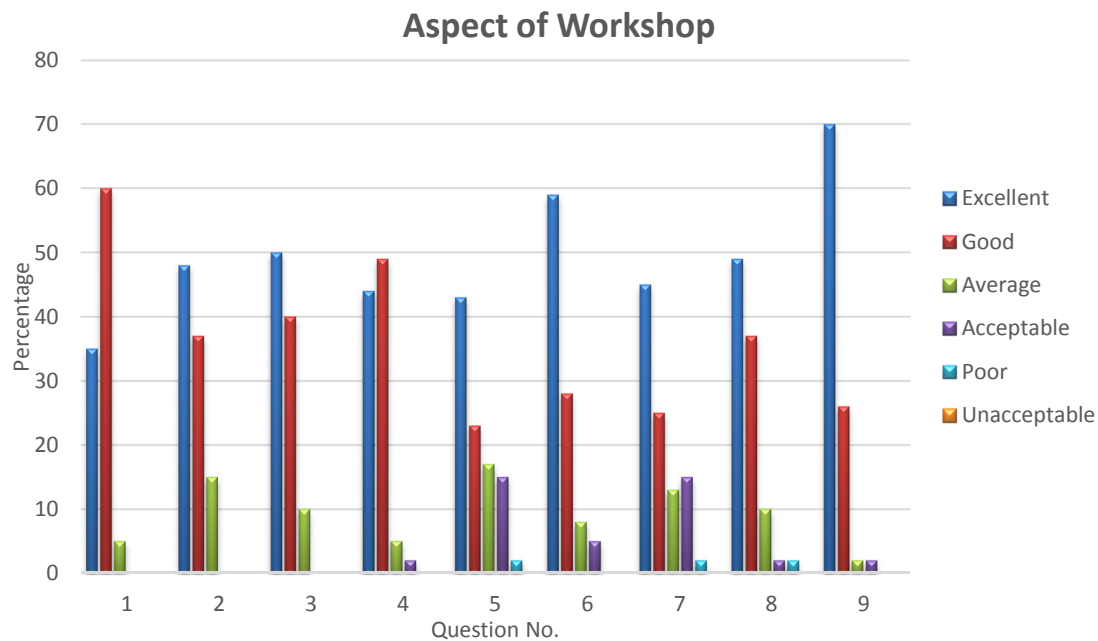
1. Better understanding of ECRAN follow-up actions in the field of Adaptation
2. Seminar was an appropriate start to trigger a process of increased interest for adaptation among the local and regional authorities in the ECRAN countries, eventually resulting in adaptation planning and action.
3. The Adaptation Clinics on Day 2 have been an appropriate tool to start preparations in adaptation planning in selected sectors
4. The Seminar has provided information on EU Climate policies and strategies on Adaptation
5. The Seminar has set the ground for future adaptation action by ECRAN beneficiaries

### Participant's expectations



## Results

- 1 The seminar achieved the objectives set
- 2 The quality of the Seminar was of a high standard
- 3 The content of the seminar was well suited to my level of understanding and experience
- 4 The practical work in the Clinics was relevant and informative
- 5 The Seminar was interactive and networking could be achieved
- 6 Speakers and facilitators were well prepared and knowledgeable on the subject matter
- 7 The duration of this Seminar was neither too long nor too short
- 8 The logistical arrangements (venue, refreshments, equipment) were satisfactory
- 9 Attending this Seminar was time well spent



## ANNEX I – Agenda

WEDNESDAY 2 JULY 2014				
Start	Finish	Topic	Speaker	Sub topic/Content
09:00	09:30	<b>Registration</b>		
09:30	09:45	Welcome and Introduction	<b>Nurhan Izairi</b> , Minister, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning (Host country)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Word of welcome</li> <li>• General introduction to the occurring and expected effects of climate change</li> <li>• How to adapt until mitigation measures bear fruit?</li> </ul>
09:45	10:00	Climate adaptation cannot be delayed	<b>Aivo Orav</b> , Ambassador, Head of the EU Delegation (Host country)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate effects have become visible</li> <li>• Adaptation as a political assignment</li> <li>• Enhanced intensity and integration of actions needed</li> </ul>
10:00	10:15	The local context of climate adaptation action	<b>Koce Trajanovski</b> , Mayor of Skopje, member of the Covenant of Mayors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local adaptation planning</li> <li>• Perceived challenges and obtained achievements</li> <li>• Inter-municipal and international cooperation</li> <li>• Possible role of the Covenant of Mayors</li> </ul>
10:15	11:00	EU Strategy on Adaptation and ECRAN beneficiaries ; Mayors Adapt Initiative	<b>Rosário Bento Pais</b> , European Commission, DG Climate Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outline of the EU Adaptation Strategy 2013</li> <li>• The 2017 review of the Strategy</li> <li>• Promoting urban leadership to climate change adaptation</li> <li>• Building on the “EU Cities Adapt” project</li> </ul>
11:00	11:30	<b>Coffee break and Press conference (parallel location)</b>		



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11:30	12:00	Major developments in climate areas in the enlargement countries – Challenges and opportunities ahead in the field of adaptation	<b>Open time slot for short adaptation statements of Beneficiary countries' conference participants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National, regional and local risks at stake</li> <li>Consequences from a social, economic and environmental perspective</li> <li>Cost-benefit aspects</li> <li>Political options for action</li> </ul>
			Facultative opportunity for spontaneous input by conference participants of Beneficiary countries. At the start of the conference the chair will invite participants to present themselves to make a short statement; if nobody presents him/herself the conference will continue with the next speaker	
12:00	12:20	Climate change adaptation action in a regional perspective	<b>Gazmend Turdiu</b> , Deputy Secretary General of the Regional Cooperation Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The SEE 2020 strategy and climate change</li> <li>Role of local authorities in the context of climate change adaptation</li> <li>Cooperation mechanisms among authorities</li> </ul>
12:20	12:40	Cooperation with the Climate Adaptation Platform and using adaptation tools	<b>André Jol</b> , European Environment Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impacts and vulnerabilities</li> <li>Adaptation strategies and policies</li> <li>Climate-ADAPT and its relevance for the region</li> </ul>
<b>12:40</b>	<b>14:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>		
14:00	14:20	Working with ECRAN Climate	<b>Imre Csikós</b> , ECRAN Climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key achievements</li> <li>Lessons learned</li> <li>Opportunities and benefits ahead</li> </ul>
14:20	14:40	Climate resilience – 'Turn down the Heat III'	<b>Philippe Ambrosi</b> , World Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate vulnerability and development impacts in water, energy, agriculture in the Western Balkans</li> <li>World Bank climate support</li> </ul>
14:40	15:00	Disaster Risk Reduction in South Eastern Europe	<b>Demetrio Innocenti</b> , UNISDR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Building institutional capacities</li> <li>Regional data and knowledge sharing</li> </ul>



				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awareness raising</li> </ul>
15:00	15:20	The Role of Early Warning Systems as an Adaptation measure to Climate Change	<b>Sari Lappi</b> , WMO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meteorological and hydrological hazards in the region</li> <li>Concept of Early Warning System</li> <li>Role of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services related to Early Warning Systems</li> <li>Possibilities and needs in the region</li> </ul>
15:20	15:40	Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation	<b>Carlo Giupponi</b> , University of Venice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The path from vulnerability to adaptation</li> <li>Pitfalls in the adaptation process</li> <li>Methods and tools supporting decision making</li> </ul>
15:40	16:00	Climate Change Adaptation in the Western Balkans	<b>Jakob Doetsch</b> , GIZ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate change adaptation strategies</li> <li>Local flood and drought management plans</li> <li>Climate change adaptation in urban areas</li> </ul>
<b>16:00</b>	<b>16:20</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>		
16:20	16:50	Forum Discussion: <i>'Where to go, what to do...?'</i>	<p>Moderated by <b>Rob Bakx</b>, ECRAN Climate</p> <p><u>Forum members:</u></p> <p>André Jol, Jakob Doetsch, Demetrio Innocenti, Philippe Ambrosi, Sari Lappi, Carlo Giupponi</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expectation of benefits of climate adaptation action, from the perspective of the EU accession process, domestic and international policy developments</li> <li>Steps to increase the cooperation between the EU and the ECRAN beneficiaries on CCAs</li> <li>Inter-Institutional cooperation and challenges</li> <li>Needs for institutional strengthening and awareness raising</li> <li>Cooperation between the regional adaptation initiatives</li> </ul>
16:50	17:00	Conclusions and wrap-up		
<b>17:00</b>		<b>END OF DAY 1</b>		



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THURSDAY 3 JULY 2014				
Start	Finish	Topic	Speaker	Sub topic/Content
08:45	09:00	<b>Registration</b>		
09:00	09:20	Adaptation Action in the Western Balkans and Turkey	<b>Vladan Šćekić</b> , South East European Forum for Climate Change Adaptation (SEEFCCA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate consequences and public opinion</li> <li>Education and awareness raising among the public</li> <li>CSO partnership and participation in climate change adaptation planning</li> </ul>
09:20	09:40	Adaptation Strategic Planning process in Italy	<b>Sergio Castellari</b> , IPCC focal point, CMCC, Italy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of a national adaptation strategy</li> <li>Pitfalls and bottle-necks</li> <li>Cooperation among authorities: national, regional, local</li> </ul>
09:40	10:00	Adaptation Strategic Planning process in Lithuania	<b>Jurga Rabzauskaitė-Survilė</b> , Ministry of Environment, Lithuania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of a national adaptation strategy</li> <li>Pitfalls and bottle-necks</li> <li>Cooperation among authorities: national, regional, local</li> </ul>
10:00	10:20	Adaptation Strategic Planning process in Belgium	<b>Johan Bogaert</b> , Coordinator Climate Adaptation, Belgium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of a national adaptation strategy</li> <li>Pitfalls and bottle-necks</li> <li>Cooperation among authorities: national, regional, local</li> </ul>
10:20	10:50	<b>Coffee break</b>		
10:50	11:10	Adaptation Strategic Planning process in Finland	<b>Jaana Kaipainen</b> , Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Finland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of a national adaptation strategy</li> <li>Pitfalls and bottle-necks; 2014 update</li> <li>Cooperation among authorities: national, regional, local</li> </ul>



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11:10	11:35	Adaptation Strategic Planning process in Austria	<b>Markus Leitner</b> , Umweltbundesamt, Austria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of a national adaptation strategy</li> <li>Pitfalls and bottle-necks</li> <li>Cooperation among authorities: national, regional, local</li> </ul>
11:35	12:00	Introduction to 'Adaptation Clinics'	<b>Rob Bakx</b> , ECRAN Climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explanation of Clinics programme</li> <li>Division of conference participants in 6 Clinic Groups (Spatial Planning, Agriculture, Disaster Risk Management, Urban Adaptation, Water, Energy)</li> <li>Start of the Clinics</li> </ul>
<b>12:00</b>	<b>13:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>		
13:00	14:00	CLIMATE ADAPTATION CLINICS (Round 1)	Facilitators Rapporteurs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 Clinic Specific Programmes</li> <li>Facilitator and rapporteur per Clinic Group</li> </ul>
14:00	14:10	Change rooms		
14:10	15:10	CLIMATE ADAPTATION CLINICS (Round 2)	Facilitators Rapporteurs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 Clinic Specific Programmes</li> <li>Facilitator and rapporteur per Clinic Group</li> </ul>
15:10	15:30	<b>Change rooms and coffee break</b>		
15:30	16:45	Plenary feedback by Clinic rapporteurs	<b>Rob Bakx</b> , ECRAN Climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rapporteurs of each Clinic Group provide conclusions and recommendations to plenary</li> </ul>
16:45	17:00	Conclusions and wrap-up		
<b>17:00</b>		<b>END OF CONFERENCE</b>		



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## ANNEX II – Participants

	First Name	Family Name	Institution Name	Country	Email
1	Jonila	Haxhillari	Ministry of Environment	Albania	<a href="mailto:Jonila.Haxhillari@moe.gov.al">Jonila.Haxhillari@moe.gov.al</a>
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3	Eneida	Rabdishta	Ministry of Environment	Albania	<a href="mailto:Eneida.Rabdishta@moe.gov.al">Eneida.Rabdishta@moe.gov.al</a>
4	Erisa	Caka	National Environmental Agency	Albania	<a href="mailto:ernisa.caka@akm.gov.al">ernisa.caka@akm.gov.al</a> ; <a href="mailto:ernisa_c@hotmail.com">ernisa_c@hotmail.com</a> ;
5	Edvin	Bica	Ministry of Environment	Albania	<a href="mailto:Edvin.Bica@moe.gov.al">Edvin.Bica@moe.gov.al</a>
6	Devi	Becolli	Ministry of Environment	Albania	<a href="mailto:Devi.Becolli@moe.gov.al">Devi.Becolli@moe.gov.al</a>
7	Blerina	Xhixha	Ministry of Environment	Albania	<a href="mailto:Blerina.Xhixha@moe.gov.al">Blerina.Xhixha@moe.gov.al</a>
8	Ilirjan	Xhezo	Ministry of European Integration	Albania	<a href="mailto:ilirjan.xhezo@integrimi.gov.al">ilirjan.xhezo@integrimi.gov.al</a>
9	Valmira	Bozgo	Ministry of Urban Development and Tourism	Albania	<a href="mailto:ybozgo@gmail.com">ybozgo@gmail.com</a>
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### **ANNEX III – Presentations (under separate cover)**

Presentations are available for download from the link below

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#### **ANNEX IV – Clinic Materials**

Clinic materials are available for download from the link below:

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