

IN FOCUS

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the 6th ECRAN Newsletter prepared by ECRAN Secretariat. The objective of this issue is to provide ECRAN stakeholders with the overview of events and topics covered by ECRAN and ECRAN related initiatives in the period April 2016 - September 2016.

6th ECRAN Newsletter brings to you the information about activities related to:

- ECRAN Environment component;
- ECRAN Climate Change component;
- ECRAN Horizontal component;
- ECRAN cooperation with other related initiatives;

In this issue:

- Final Steering Committee Meeting
- Environment Component – Regional capacity building, National Workshops, Expert mission, Annual Meeting;
- Climate Change Component – Regional capacity building; National Missions, Expert Mission, High Level events;
- Horizontal Component – Regional capacity building, Progress Monitoring 2015, Environment and Climate Forum, Handbooks on the Implementation of EU Environmental and Climate Acquis.
- Cooperation with related networks and initiatives.

The ECRAN Team



ECRAN Brochures

The principle aim of ECRAN has been to foster dialogue and cooperation among the public administration officials of candidate countries and potential candidates and civil society representatives in the fields of environment and climate change, in view of future EU membership.

Under the ECRAN environment and climate change components, assistance was provided to the beneficiaries in building administrative capacities for correct alignment with EU legislation in eleven thematic areas. As a result, the beneficiary countries are better prepared for the upcoming negotiation process and related strategic planning.

Achievements of ECRAN were provided in a short brochure available on ECRAN website:

http://www.ecranetwork.org/Files/ECRAN_Results_Brochure.pdf

ECRAN brochure on the project structure and insights of each working groups is available at:

http://www.ecranetwork.org/Files/ECRAN_Brochure_2016.pdf



STEERING COMMITTEE

ECRAN 5th and Final Steering Committee meeting, (28 September 2016, Brussels, Belgium)

5th and Final Steering Committee was attended by ECRAN Focal Points nominated by the beneficiary countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey), the European Commission (DG Environment, DG Climate Action, and DG NEAR) and ECRAN project team.

During the meeting, Steering Committee members:

- Impact of ECRAN as regional capacity building platform vis-à-vis major environment and climate policy developments in the beneficiary countries;
- Achievements and lessons learnt of implemented activities;
- Main priorities for further regional cooperation activities identified by the beneficiary countries.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Steering-Committee>



*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence



ENVIRONMENT COMPONENT

ECRAN 3rd Annual Meeting of IED/Chemicals Working Group (25 May 2016, Izmir, Turkey)

3rd and final Annual Meeting of IED/Chemicals Working Group (WG) was organised on 25 May 2016 in Izmir, back to back with Multi Country Workshop on compliance with the legislation on Trans Frontier Shipment of Waste.

The following issues were addressed in this meeting:

- Appropriateness of planned actions under the ECRAN IED/Chemicals WG and need for further support;
- Maximising benefits and opportunities generated through the IED/Chemicals Component: suggested types of follow up actions and coordination with other initiatives;
- Evaluation of the actions in the IED/Chemicals WG 2015 Work plan;
- Potential post 2016 ECRAN activities.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/165>

ECRAN National Workshop on Practical Application of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in Montenegro (31 March – 02 April 2016, Budva, Montenegro)

National Workshop on Practical Application of SEA was organised on 31 March – 02 April 2016 in Budva, with a study tour case example for Hydrocarbons through Montenegrin coast. General objective of the workshop was to support a good SEA practice in the country by increasing understanding of the regional authorities and environmental experts on the approaches to SEA practical application.

The workshop was up-graded with a real case example based practical work and study tour proved to be a good decision, as bringing a “critical number” of participants from different sectors and levels to one place proved highly beneficial from participants' point of view. Achieved results are as follows:

- Increased understanding of SEA principles and options for its practical application among participants;
- Increased training skills of trainers involved in the Training of Trainers (ToT);
- Comments received on the training materials to be considered in its further updates.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/153>



ENVIRONMENT COMPONENT

ECRAN Multi - beneficiary Workshop “The Economics of Climate Change Adaptation measures under Water Framework Directive (WFD), Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) and Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)” (11-13 April 2016, Istanbul, Turkey)

Multi-beneficiary Workshop “The Economics of Climate Change Adaptation measures under WFD, MSFD and ICZM” was held on 11-13 April 2016 in Istanbul. The overall objectives of the workshop were to develop a knowledge base on the importance and the economic dimension of adaptation measures imposed by anticipated climate changes in the development of the River Basin Management Plans in line with the WFD, and in the Action Plan prepared according to the MSFD requirements.

The participants have agreed on the future topics of discussion in the next workshops planned for 2016, dedicated to all three tasks of the Water Management Working Group:

- 1) Preparation of the Program of measures for Drina river basin;
- 2) Economic Analysis;
- 3) Integration WFD and the MSFD.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/155>



ENVIRONMENT COMPONENT

ECRAN National Roundtable on Cost Recovery and Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) in Waste Sector (12-13 April 2016, Pristina, Kosovo*)

National Roundtable on Cost Recovery and CBA in Waste Sector in Kosovo* was organised on 12-13 April 2016 in Pristina. General objective of the workshop was to provide practical knowledge on experience of the EU Member States and support establishment of cost-recovery mechanism in the country.

Achieved results include:

- Delivery of presentations as foreseen in the agenda;
- Established/ improved knowledge base regarding cost recovery mechanisms;
- Established/ improved knowledge base regarding economic instruments in waste management sector;
- Increased experience in cost benefit analysis;
- Practical knowledge and experience in financial analysis.

At the workshop, most important next steps were proposed and they include organising process for the development of the national waste management tariff methodology and discussion with municipalities regarding need of cost recovery system and how such systems could be implemented.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/156>



ENVIRONMENT COMPONENT

ECRAN 2nd Regional Training on linkages between Appropriate Assessment (AA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)/ Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) (25-26 April 2016, Ankara, Turkey)

2nd Regional Training on linkages between AA and SEA/EIA was organised on 25-26 April 2016 in Ankara, as a joint workshop of Nature WG and EIA WG. Objectives of the workshop were to illustrate practical application of AA and EIA on a case example and to provide recommendations for further development of AA, SEA and EIA schemes in ECRAN beneficiary countries.

It was concluded that Montenegro and Serbia has moved towards establishing AA scheme, while the other countries are still at the very beginning and the discussions on how to arrange Natura 2000 and AA systems need to continue. The model of AA in parallel with SEA/EIA processes providing options for either separate or joint application, which would be a choice of the most beneficiary countries.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/151>



ENVIRONMENT COMPONENT

ECRAN Workshop and Study visit on SEA and EIA in Hydropower Development (11-12 May 2016, Ljubljana, Slovenia)

Workshop and Study Visit on SEA and EIA in Hydropower Development was organised on 11-12 May 2016 in Ljubljana, with a site visit to three hydropower plants on Sava River. The objective of the workshop was to present Croatian and Slovenian practice regarding the application of SEA and EIA in the hydropower development sector and provide hands-on experience.

The site visit was organized with emphasis on SEA/EIA processes and environmental issues that investors encountered in planning, building and operational phases. The first site-visit location was to the HPP Brežice, which is currently under construction. The second site was the HPP Krško which was recently put into the operation, thus re-cultivation works were the main topic, while the third site was the HPP Arto-Blanca which has been in operation since 2011. Special attention was put into designing and building a fish-path that recently became a good-practice example, which is why it was chosen as the last site-visit location, where some real effects of SEA/EIA mitigation measures can be seen.

Results achieved include:

- Increased understanding of the efficient application of SEA/EIA in hydropower sector;
- Contacts established between the study visit participants and the relevant governmental institutions.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/161>



ENVIRONMENT COMPONENT

ECRAN Multi-beneficiary Workshop on “Eutrophication reduction measures under MSFD, WFD, UWWTD and Nitrates Directive (16-18 May 2016, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Multi-beneficiary Workshop on “Eutrophication reduction measures under Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), Water Framework Directive (WFD), Urban Waste Water Treatment (UWWT) and Nitrates Directive was held on 16-18 May 2016 in Sarajevo.

The overall objectives of the workshop were to develop a knowledge base on the importance of the eutrophication process and the reduction measures imposed by the EU Directives and policies in the development of the River Basin Management Plans and the Program of Measures in line with the WFD, and in the Action Plan prepared according to the MSFD requirements.

Achieved results are as follows:

- Improved understanding of the topics, challenges and tasks, and related responsibilities along the eutrophication process, and the selection of the reduction measures in the RBMP in line with the WFD and in the Action Plan according to the MSFD;
- Exchange of experiences and knowledge significantly improved;
- Key obstacles impeding the tasks implementation and related solutions identified;
- Active involvement of the participants through the preparation of case studies on eutrophication reduction measures;
- Guidance documents related to the WG tasks discussed and clarified.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/162>



ENVIRONMENT COMPONENT

ECRAN Workshop on Fighting Illegal Logging and Associated Trade: Cooperation between the EU and EU Candidate Countries and Potential Candidates on Implementation of EU Timber Regulation (EUTR) (02-03 June 2016, Zagreb, Croatia)

Workshop on Fighting Illegal Logging and Associated Trade: Cooperation between the EU and EU Candidate Countries and Potential Candidates on Implementation of EUTR was organised on 02-03 June 2016 in Zagreb. General objective of the workshop was to foster cooperation and information exchange and ensuring transparency and legitimacy in the process of preparation to incorporate and implement EUTR in candidate countries and potential candidates.

The following results were achieved on the regional exercise:

- Enhanced capacities to better implement EU Timber Regulation;
- Enhanced cooperation between EUTR competent authorities of EU Member States and those in EU enlargement countries.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/168>



ENVIRONMENT COMPONENT

ECRAN Regional Training on SEA in Spatial Planning (15-16 June 2016, Tirana, Albania)

Regional Training on SEA in Spatial Planning was organised on 15-16 June 2016 in Tirana, with a site visit to Preaza Castle and Rozafa Castle. From the hill where Preaza Castel stands, it was possible to see routing of the road Thumane – Rogozhine, a part of one of the infrastructure projects of the Spatial Plan. From Rozafa Caste, Buna river basin, Shkodra Lake and the Shkodra City were visible, which is a very important road infrastructure area through which the Blue Corridor which connect Albania with Montenegro will pass. Also the impact of Shkodra bypass in the lake environment could be seen, together with the possibility of any new bridge or expansion of the old one.

The workshop was finalised in the Albanian National Art Gallery, where representatives of the Ministry of Urban Development and the National Territorial Planning Agency presented national spatial planning system in Albania including the Integrated Coastal Management Plan and the Integrated Management Plan for the Economic Area Tirana-Durres.

General objective of the workshop was to present case example of SEA for the General National Territorial Plan of Albania as well as Croatian, Czech, and Slovenian practice of SEA application for spatial plans and thus provide hands-on experience for the workshop participants.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/171>



ENVIRONMENT COMPONENT

ECRAN Multi-beneficiary Workshop on Programme of Measures under the Water Framework Directive (WFD) (20-22 June 2016, Tirana, Albania)

Multi-beneficiary Workshop on Programme of Measures under the WFD was held on 20-22 June 2016 in Tirana. The overall objectives of the workshop were to discuss the draft River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) and its Programmes of Measures (PoM) for the Drina RB, together with all relevant legal and technical topics associated with the enforcement activities and steps to full compliance with the WFD in the beneficiaries.

Based on the discussions at the workshop, the outcomes of the training consist of the following:

- Improved understanding of the topics, challenges and tasks, and related responsibilities along the eutrophication process;
- Agreement on the final draft of the Drina RBM Plan and the Program of Measures;
- Exchange of experiences and knowledge significantly improved;
- Key obstacles impeding the tasks implementation and related solutions identified;
- Active involvement of the participants through the preparation of case studies on eutrophication reduction measures;
- Guidance documents related to the WG tasks discussed and clarified.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/173>

ECRAN Multi-beneficiary Workshop on “Actions toward the WFD good status – results, case studies and challenges” (11-13 July 2016, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Multi-beneficiary Workshop on “Actions toward the WFD good status – results, case studies and challenges” was organised in Sarajevo on 11-13 July 2016, with the aim to discuss the implementation challenges and explore barriers to implementation of the WFD together with all relevant needed actions and steps to full compliance with the WFD and reaching good water status in the beneficiaries' countries. This was the last in line workshops of Water Management Working Group.

The workshop resulted in the following conclusions:

- Improved understanding of the topics, barriers, challenges and tasks, and related responsibilities for WFD implementation;
- Exchange of experience and knowledge significantly improved;
- Active involvement of the participants through the preparation of case studies and the RBM plan.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/178>



ENVIRONMENT COMPONENT

ECRAN Regional Training Workshop on SEA/EIA in industrial sector and the 3rd Training of Trainers (ToT) session (21-23 September 2016, Skopje, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)

Regional Training Workshop on SEA/EIA in industrial sector was organised together with the 3rd ToT in Skopje, on 21-23 September 2016. The training included a site visit to CM Shivec in Kavadarci, a plant for treatment of municipal and industrial non-hazardous waste, for which a SEA procedure has been carried out.

General objective of the joint workshop was to support a good SEA and EIA practice in ECRAN countries by increasing understanding of the role of SEA and EIA in industrial sector, and by increasing training skills of the national trainers.

The ToT scheme was launched in September 2014 followed by the 2nd ToT session in September 2015. Since the 1st ToT, a number of the national trainings were organized in the most of the ECRAN beneficiary trainings. The knowledge of SEA/EIA-related issues is on high level among the ToT participants, however there is a need for improving the training skills including overall coordination and arrangements of the trainings. Therefore, the 3rd and last ToT session will be dedicated to further enhancing the training skills, as well as to discuss lessons learned from the national training workshops.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/178>



CLIMATE COMPONENT

ECRAN Modelling: National Support Mission to Module 3 (11-12 April 2016, Tirana, Albania)

Modelling National Support Mission to Module 3 was held on 11-12 April 2016 in Tirana, for Albanian administrators participating in ECRAN Long-range Energy Alternatives Planning System (LEAP) modelling series of trainings.

The specific objective of the training program is to increase technical capacities in the countries to allow them to carry out modelling of emission scenarios. The modelling aided scenario work will benefit countries by helping them meet their future EU and UNFCCC reporting requirements, and to form a rational position on national efforts contributing to the EU 2050 roadmap and the 2030 Framework. It may also assist them by promoting evidence based planning in energy policy, including development of an energy strategy, energy efficiency action plan and a renewable energy action plan.

The Albanian participants demonstrated the model they had prepared as part of the homework, and it included all demand sectors as well as the electricity supply sector. Other sectors included were buildings sector, industry and transport sectors. The Albanian team presented difficulties they had had in completing the energy model for Albania. These are related in part to the need to further develop modelling skills, and in part to a lack of reliable data.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/154>



CLIMATE COMPONENT

ECRAN Advanced Technical Training Programme on Accreditation in the scope of the EU ETS in Serbia (12-13 April 2016, Belgrade, Serbia)

National Advanced Technical Training Programme on Accreditation in the scope of the EU ETS was organised on 12-13 April 2016 in Belgrade, with the aim to provide in-depth insights in the regulation and practicalities of ETS accreditation.

The training discussed the EU ETS verification and accreditation regulation, the EU framework regulation an accreditation 765/2008, the ISO 14065, ISO 14066 and ISO/IEC 17011 requirements, the accreditation process and all aspects that a national accreditation body will need to deal with under an ETS system. The training provided insights into aspects of the verification of an emission report based on the approved Monitoring Plan that have implications for witnessing of verifiers by the National Accreditation Body (ATS). This technical training aimed to optimally prepare the staff of the Ministry and the ATS for their task to act as the national ETS ATS and overseeing the tasks of the Ministry, the accreditation body.



For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/152>



CLIMATE COMPONENT

ECRAN Workshop on Legislation in relation to cars and vans, renewables and fuel quality (13-14 April 2016, Tirana, Albania)

Regional Workshop on climate legislation in relation to transport, cars and vans, labelling, renewables and fuel quality was held on 13-14 April 2016 in Tirana. The aim of this training seminar was to familiarise the beneficiaries with the EU legislation on cars and vans, fuel quality and renewables, with a particular emphasis on the planning and preparation in the transposition and implementation of the relevant EU legislation.

Cars and Vans Regulation, as well as Car Labelling Directive are EU legislation that share the burden of reducing CO2 emissions from new cars and vans between consumers and manufacturers.

Each ECRAN beneficiary country had an opportunity to present current situation on a national level regarding energy and transport sector. In all countries, a different level of progress has been made, however, they still need additional assistance in order to completely transpose and implement relevant legislations.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/158>



CLIMATE COMPONENT

ECRAN Modelling: Training Module 4 (20-22 April 2016, Tirana, Albania)

Modelling: Training Module 4 was organised on 20-22 April 2016 in Tirana, and it is the last in line of workshops working with one specific modelling platform, the Long-range Energy Alternatives Planning System (LEAP) which has been developed by the Stockholm Environmental Institute.

This fourth and final module of the training wrapped up all previous three workshops and connected the theoretical modelling practices with the recent policy developments where modelling was important, especially connecting Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) and high ambition decarbonisation scenarios. It will also overview the lessons learned in the previous three modules. Modelling of emission scenarios is part of the EU member state reporting obligations under the current Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) legislative framework.

The beneficiaries of the training were the Ministries of Environment of the beneficiary countries who participated in all three previous Modules, including the additional catch up training courses held in Tirana and Belgrade.

At the end of the workshop, participants who attended all four modules received certificated.



For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/159>



CLIMATE COMPONENT

ECRAN Workshop on formulating a Roadmap to implement an Emission Trading System (ETS) (18-19 May 2016, Zagreb, Croatia)

Workshop on formulating a Roadmap to implement an Emission Trading System was organised on 18-19 May 2016 in Zagreb.

This workshop aimed to support the beneficiary states in their implementation of emissions trading by helping to further develop their action plan for implementation. Building on the wealth of experience that EU Member States have gained in their own implementation of the EU ETS, the training helped to identify the steps required towards implementation, the capacity needs, and the required involvement of various stakeholders.

The participants of the workshop acquired:

- Improved understanding of the needs for implementation of ETS in their country and the steps to be taken towards implementation;
- Improved understanding on which stakeholders to involve in various steps of implementation of ETS, their roles and responsibilities;
- Better understanding of the required resources for the implementation of specific elements of an ETS system in conformity with the EU ETS requirements;
- Tips and tools to support efficient implementation and support priority setting in implementation.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/163>

ECRAN Modelling: National Support Mission to Module 3 (01-02 June 2016, Belgrade, Serbia)

National Workshop on Quantitative Models and Scenario Development in Climate and Energy Policy, support mission to module 3, was held on 01-02 June 2016 in Belgrade.

This training in Serbia aimed to provide hands on practice to participants in applying the knowledge gained during modules 1-4 to developing low emission development scenarios applicable to Serbia. In addition, the module also provided training to participants who had not benefitted from the previous trainings to enable them to develop a basic understanding of the use of Long-range Energy Alternatives Planning System (LEAP).

The following results were achieved:

- Enhanced technical capacity within the relevant ministries and institutions (in particular ministries responsible for climate, energy, transport, as well as national statistical offices) to model specific policies and measures to converge with the EU climate change policy and selected EU legislation;
- Strengthened regional network of experts.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/167>



CLIMATE COMPONENT

ECRAN Regional Dialogue of the EU and the Candidate Countries and Potential Candidates on the outcomes of the Paris Agreement and its implications for National actions (03 June 2016, Zagreb, Croatia)

Regional Dialogue of the EU, the Candidate Countries and the Potential Candidates on the outcomes of the Paris Agreement and its implications for National Actions was organised on 03 June 2016 in Zagreb. The aim of the meeting was to provide a platform for the exchange of views on the ratification of the Paris Agreement and implementation of NDC between the EU and the senior climate and energy officials of the EU Candidate Countries and Potential Candidates.

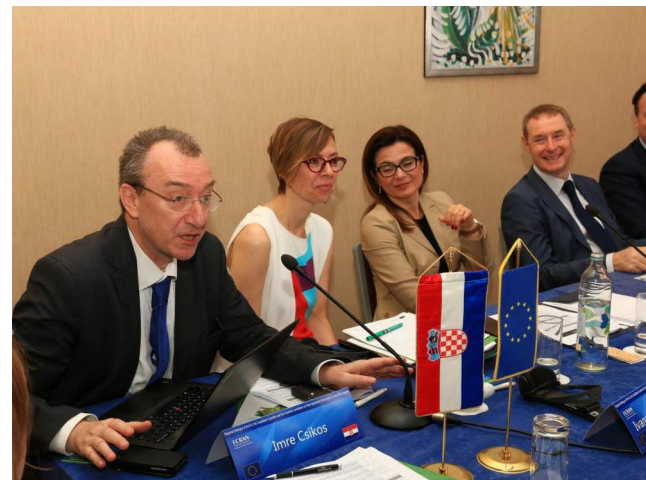
The Delegated Representatives from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey – together with representatives of the EU, donor countries, international organisations and NGOs – met in Zagreb to discuss the implications of the Paris Climate Agreement for the region and their countries.

Achieved results of the conference include:

- to exchange views on the Agreement and next steps and to have a discussion particularly on implementing the national climate plans and what the EU can do to help, as well as maintaining political momentum on climate issues;
- Participants familiarise themselves with the EU's actions to implement the 2015 Climate Agreement.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/172>



CLIMATE COMPONENT

ECRAN Workshop on National Climate Adaptation Policies and Legislation – Step D: Implementation, Monitoring, and Evaluation of Adaptation Options (09-10 June 2016, Podgorica, Montenegro)

The fourth and last in line Workshop on National Climate Adaptation Policies and Legislation Step D: Implementation, Monitoring, and Evaluation of Adaptation Options, was organised on 09-10 June 2016 in Podgorica.

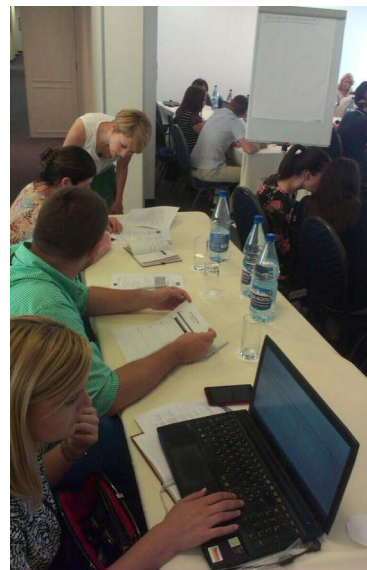
The Steps A to D workshops accommodated up to 10 National Team members per country. The workshops programme was built on the Adaptation Support Tool and draws from the framework of the Adaptation Preparedness Scoreboard in order to establish a common framework among climate adaptation practitioners in the region. General objective of the workshop was to enhance the understanding about climate adaptation action among a core of Beneficiary Countries' representatives, creating climate adaptation policies and planning as a basis for action.

The following results were achieved from the workshop:

- Enhanced understanding of workshop participants about planning the implementation of their own country's climate change adaptation priorities
- Strengthened knowledge of workshop participants regarding practices in implementing climate change adaptation options
- Understanding of the need and possibilities to develop and apply appropriate monitoring and evaluation provisions for policy objectives and adaptation options.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/169>



CLIMATE COMPONENT

ECRAN Regional Training Seminar on Assessment of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventories in Agriculture (21-22 June 2016, Zagreb, Croatia)

Regional Training Seminar on Assessment of GHG Inventories in Agriculture was organised in Zagreb on 21-22 June 2016. The aim of this training seminar was to improve technical knowledge and institutional and procedural capacities of the ECRAN countries to prepare submissions of the National Inventory Reports according to the requirements of the MMR. This seminar was based on the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National GHG Inventories.

Participants were encouraged to bring and present to the workshop their latest estimates for GHG emissions in the agriculture sector prepared in the framework of the UNFCCC reporting exercises. The training addressed best practices, but also went through the national inventory reporting on the agriculture sector in the Agriculture Reporting Clinics.

The workshop achieved the following:

- Simple assessment of methods, assumptions and data sources for source categories were discussed;
- Actual improvements and ideas for improvement were explored;
- Greater understanding and confidence was achieved by the participants;
- Renewed energy and ideas for future development projects were presented.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/174>



CLIMATE COMPONENT

ECRAN Regional Training Seminar part 3 on National Systems for GHG Inventories and Projections (28-29 June 2016, Podgorica, Montenegro)

Regional Training Seminar part 3 on National Systems for GHG Inventories was held on 28-29 June 2016 in Podgorica. The aim of this training seminar was to gradually improve and increase technical knowledge and institutional and procedural capacities of the ECRAN countries to prepare submissions of the National Inventory Reports according to the requirements of the MMR.

The workshop enabled the countries to share progress, best practices and barriers identified during the implementation of their National System. Experiences from other countries were also shared to provide examples of best practice and practical solutions. The workshop also provided time for the countries to reassess and complete their log forms building on the work they did during and since the second training meeting.

The results of this training will feed into assessment report which will include recommendations for short and long-term inventory improvements in relation to applied methodology, activity data and emission factors in the beneficiaries.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/175>

ECRAN Workshop on Verification of Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Serbia (28-29 June 2016, Belgrade, Serbia)

National Workshop on Verification of Greenhouse Gas Emissions was organised on 28-29 June 2016 in Belgrade.

In the scope of the ECRAN various training activities were organised to support Serbia in the implementation of its emissions trading system in line with the EU ETS. In May 2015 a training was held to inform operators of installations, in November 2015 an advanced technical training was organised with an as-if verification at two large industrial sites, and in March 2016 an advanced technical training was organised on accreditation of verifiers. As a logical follow-up to these training events, a two-day training was organised on verification. The main aim of the training was to bring all stakeholders associated with verification together and prepare for implementation of verification activities prior to the actual start of the ETS system in Serbia.

The training discussed the EU ETS Directive, the planned ETS system in Serbia, the regulation and requirements on verification, and the ISO 14065 standard. It will provide insights into the role of verification in the ETS and the key challenges on the road from Monitoring Plan to a validated annual emission report.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/176v>



CLIMATE COMPONENT

ECRAN Modelling: Support Mission to Module 4 (05-06 July 2016, Podgorica, Montenegro)

Regional Workshop on Quantitative Models and Scenario Development in Climate and Energy Policy, support mission to Module 4, was organised on 05-06 July 2016 in Podgorica. This workshop was designated for participants from Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The module aimed to provide hands on practice to participants in applying the knowledge gained during modules 1-4 to developing low emission development scenarios applicable to Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina. In addition, the module also provided training to participants who had not benefitted from the previous trainings to enable them to develop a basic understanding of the use of LEAP.

The following results were achieved from the workshop:

- Enhanced technical capacity within the relevant ministries and institutions (in particular ministries responsible for climate, energy, transport, as well as national statistical offices) to model specific policies and measures to converge with the EU climate change policy and selected EU legislation;
- Strengthened regional network of experts.
- Identification and resolution of potential weak points in the acquired knowledge and expansion of the gained knowledge to practical applications in the context of the given beneficiary.
- Reinforcement of the knowledge of the participants of what they have learnt in the four module training program.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/177>



CLIMATE COMPONENT

ECRAN Regional Climate Change Adaptation Conference – Final Event (06 September 2016, Skopje, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)

Regional Climate Change Adaptation Conference, Final Event, was organised on 06 September 2016 in Skopje. General objective of the conference was to enhance the understanding about climate adaptation action among a core of ECRAN Beneficiary Countries' representatives, creating climate adaptation policies and planning as a basis for action. In total, seven regional training workshops on adaptation were carried out through ECRAN, with the assistance of EU Member States, the European Environment Agency and the European Commission.

Representatives of all ECRAN beneficiary countries, together with representatives of the EU, donor organisations, and NGOs – met in Skopje to take stock of the state of climate change adaptation action in the region, and to discuss progression of these objectives within the region.

A joint statement was prepared in order to acknowledge the urgency of addressing climate change to avoid the damage it causes. ECRAN was acknowledged to have stimulated and strengthened in-country as well as regional cooperation and strengthened public administration staff capacities in the field of climate change adaptation action.

The conference resulted in the following results:

- Risen awareness of the need to pursue follow-up action to ECRAN's climate adaptation activities among relevant public administrations in ECRAN beneficiary countries and donor institutions;

- Provision of insight in further steps that may be taken at the national and international levels to keep momentum for climate adaptation action;
- Agreement on the need to consolidate and broaden the network of climate adaptation professionals that was built up under ECRAN's climate adaptation interventions and to strengthen their focus on implementing action.



For more information, please visit:
<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/181>



CLIMATE COMPONENT

ECRAN Workshop on European Union (EU) climate policy and legislation for industry in Bosnia and Herzegovina (08 September 2016, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina)

National Workshop on EU climate policy and legislation for industry was held on 08 September 2016 in Sarajevo.

This technical mission aimed to support the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina in setting up the legal and organisational framework for implementation of emissions trading. Specifically, it aimed to provide the future ETS competent authorities of the beneficiary countries with the advanced insights on the practical organisation aspects of ETS implementation, building on the wealth of experience that EU Member States have gained in this matter.

The following results were achieved from the workshop:

- Improved understanding of the legal and institutional framework for ETS implementation, with emphasis on identifying a roadmap towards implementation
- Practical insight in the set-up of a Competent Authority for ETS, including the organisational choices to be made and lessons learned in EU Member States;
- Better understanding of the required human and institutional resources for the implementation of the EU ETS Directive and its implementing regulations;
- Insights in the lessons learned, the risks involved and the bottlenecks of ETS implementation.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/180>



HORIZONTAL ACTIVITIES

ECRAN Environment and Climate Forum (ECF) 2nd Annual Meeting (30 March – 02 April 2016, Brussels, Belgium)

ECF Annual Meeting was organised on 30 March – 02 April 2016 in Brussels, along with a visit to the European Commission.

The event represents the key opportunity for the civil society to get engaged into dialogue with representatives of the European Commission, as well as with Brussels based institutions and organisations. Representatives of ECF NGOs had an opportunity to discuss relating issues with the representatives from Health & Environment Alliance (HEAL), European Environmental Bureau, DG Environment, DG Climate Action and DG NEAR. Participants also visited European Parliament and European Economic and Social Committee.

The following results were achieved:

- Strengthening the knowledge base of ECF NGOs on EU institutions, the EU climate change and environment policies and legislation, policy processes and in-depth understanding of upcoming opportunities and challenges;
- In-depth understanding of possibilities and potential challenges for non-state actor's involvement, how to engage civil society and public to participate and monitor progress in the EU enlargement process;
- Feedback of the EC on the process, issues and cases identified as challenging by the NGOs in the accession process.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/150>



HORIZONTAL ACTIVITIES

ECRAN Sub-Regional Workshop on Capacity Building on compliance with Environmental Legislation (12-14 April 2016, Belgrade, Serbia)

Sub-Regional Workshop on Capacity Building on compliance with Environmental Legislation was organised on 12-14 April 2016 in Belgrade, with a site visit to NIS refinery in Pancevo. NIS is one of the largest energy companies in Southeast Europe, and its principal activities are exploration, production and refining, sales and distribution of a broad range of petroleum products, as well as the implementation of energy projects.

The objective of the workshop was providing capacity building regarding compliance with environmental legislation through better understanding of implementation issues and identification of targeted solutions, that is, training of inspectors and permit writers in cooperation with law drafters and policy makers.

The workshop resulted in the following:

- improved functioning of the environmental authorities and related authorities envisaged to be responsible for implementation of the RMCEI, IED, SEVESO and Waste Framework Directive;
- streamlined working methods and implementation of best practice in the region moving towards EU standards.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/157>



HORIZONTAL ACTIVITIES

ECRAN Multi-Country Workshop on compliance with the legislation on Trans Frontier Shipment of Waste (25-26 May 2016, Izmir, Turkey)

Multi-Country Workshop on compliance with the legislation on Trans Frontier Shipment of Waste was organised along with the IED/Chemicals Working Group Annual Meeting, on 25-26 May 2016 in Izmir. The workshop included a site visit to the Customs office and harbor at the Izmir- Aliaga port.

The port is used for ship dismantling and metal scrap import, and the waste materials are recycled and treated in the nearby metal industries. Worldwide there are only three harbours for such large scale operations, one in China, one in India and one in Turkey. Total recycling capacity is 900.000 tons of recycling capacity per year.

General objective of the workshop was to increase capacity in the field implementation of EU waste legislation, and increase insight in related compliance and enforcement mechanisms and knowledge about performing inspections. All ECRAN beneficiary countries were presented by the participants from Environmental Policy makers, Environmental Inspectorate, Environmental permit writers and Customs.

The following results are expected for this activity scheme:

- Improved knowledge based on the Waste Framework Directive, the Waste Shipment Regulation, and legal and institutional requirements with compliance, and enforcement aspects at key staff of the Environment Ministries and institutions on the subject;
- Strengthened regional network of SEE professionals and experts on Waste Legislation with its compliance and enforcement aspects.



For more information, please visit:
<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/165>



HORIZONTAL ACTIVITIES

ECRAN Sub-Regional Workshop on Capacity Building on compliance with Environmental Legislation (14-16 June 2016, Pristina, Kosovo*)

Sub-Regional Workshop on Capacity Building on compliance with Environmental Legislation was organised on 14-16 June 2016, with a site visit to Sharrcem Cement factory in Hani i Elezit.

Sharrcem was founded in 1936 and was acquired by the Titan Group in 2010. Sharrcem significantly upgraded its innovations in technology for the production of raw materials and cement and initiated the application of high standards. The total amount of cement production is 517,689 tons per year and the company serves in principle the market of Kosovo*.

As on the previous workshop in Belgrade, the training was designed as one of a series of eight follow-up modules each to be held in one of the beneficiary countries. General objective of the workshop was to increase the effectiveness of inspection bodies and promoting compliance with environmental requirements by providing capacity building regarding compliance with environmental legislation through better understanding of implementation issues and identification of targeted solutions, that is training of inspectors and permit writers in cooperation with law drafters and policy makers.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.ecranetwork.org/Events/170>

PROGRESS MONITORING 2016 – Reporting Year No.20

The purpose of the Progress Monitoring (PM) in preparation for accession is to provide an updated, comprehensive overview of the current situation in the beneficiary countries concerning the status of transposition and implementation of the environment and climate acquis as well as to identify the progress achieved on yearly basis in each of the beneficiary countries.

The capacity of the beneficiaries' institutions in performing the self-assessment within PM has been increased over the years through close guidance and support from the project team and active participation in the PM process. Extensive efforts have been made to facilitate that the outputs of PM work are utilised in the setting of the countries' approximation strategies, planning resources and defining priorities within the approximation process

The activities in the reporting period were focused on the following:

- Liaising with the beneficiaries on the start-up meetings and trainings for selected countries;
- Coordinating the progress monitoring activity on beneficiary level and assisting the beneficiaries on progress monitoring methodology;
- Preparation and delivery of draft Progress Monitoring Reports based on the ToCs and IQs provided by the beneficiaries;
- Preparation and delivery of final Progress Monitoring Reports for all beneficiary countries.



HORIZONTAL ACTIVITIES

ECRAN Handbook on the Implementation of EU Environmental Acquis

The objective of this activity is to provide update of the Handbook for Implementation of EU Environmental Legislation. Handbook provides framework, and step-by-step guidance, on the approaches and specific activities required to implement EC environmental legislation. In more details, the updated Handbook will provide:

- a series of overview chapters which set out a framework for planning the implementation of the legislation contained within that particular environmental sector;
- a series of fiches containing information and guidance about each legal act presented in the Acquis Guide;
- a Reference Source.

The Handbook provides an overview of European Community environmental legislation and its implementation, but the actual legislative text must always be taken as the definitive reference. The handbook was updated in 2016 and is available on:

http://www.ecranetwork.org/Files/Handbook_on_Implementation_of_Environmental_Legislation.pdf

ECRAN Handbook on the Implementation of EU Climate Acquis

The objective of this activity is to provide Handbook for Implementation of EU Climate Legislation. Handbook will provide framework, and step-by-step guidance, on the approaches and specific activities required to implement EC climate legislation, including:

- a series of overview chapters which set out a framework for planning the implementation of the legislation contained within that particular environmental sector;
- a series of fiches containing information and guidance about each legal act presented in the Acquis Guide;
- a Reference Source.

The Handbook provides an overview of European Community climate legislation and its implementation.

The Handbook is aimed at officials in national, regional and local government agencies in the candidate countries and the potential candidates who have responsibilities for the planning, management, and implementation of environmental laws and programmes. However, the Handbook may also be of interest to other parties in the candidate's countries and the potential candidates such as people working in industrial and commercial sectors affected by the legislation, and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

The handbook is updated in 2016 and is available on:

http://www.ecranetwork.org/Files/Handbook_on_Implementation_of_Climate_Change_Legislation.pdf



ECRAN RELATED NETWORKS AND INITIATIVES

European Union Environment Networks Conference (12-14 May 2016, Utrecht, the Netherlands)

EU Environment Networks Conference was held on 12-14 May 2016 in Utrecht. For the first time, four key European Environment Networks have joined together to host a conference with 194 participants from 35 countries in Europe with the explicit task of working to strengthen enforcement of EU environment and nature law and the compliance chain as a whole.

The network was consisted of the Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of EU Environmental Law (IMPEL), the EU Network of Prosecutors for the Environment (ENPE), the EU Forum of Judges for the Environment (EFJE), and a network of police officers focusing on tackling environmental crime (ENVI CrimeNet).

The conference has provided a forum for highlighting common challenges and practical solutions whilst examining case studies that help the less experienced to learn from more experienced practitioners.

ECRAN team participated at the meeting to discuss enforcement activities and exchange information on best practices and new developments.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.complianceconference.eu/>

Expert Missions

During the reporting period April 2016 – September 2016, several expert missions have been performed in the beneficiary countries targeting different environmental and climate areas, in line with the identified needs. Expert missions were organised as follows:

- Expert Mission on Natura 2000 Network Assessment in Serbia (18-20 May 2016, Belgrade, Novi Sad, Serbia);
- Expert Mission on Natura 2000 Network Assessment in Albania (25-27 May 2016, Tirana, Albania);
- Climate Policy and Climate Awareness Working Group: Review of Albanian draft climate Law (20 July 2016, Tirana, Albania);
- Expert Mission on Natura 2000 Network Assessment in Kosovo* (23-24 August 2016, Pristina, Kosovo*);
- Expert Mission on implementation of the Integrated Risk Assessment Method (IRAM)/easy Tools in Bosnia and Herzegovina (29-30 August 2016, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina);
- Expert Mission on implementation of the Integrated Risk Assessment Method (IRAM)/easy Tools in Bosnia and Herzegovina (01-02 September 2016, Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina).



ECRAN Secretariat

Project Director:

Ms. Joanna Fiedler-Morótz

Email: joana.fiedler-morotz @humandynamics.org

Ms. Milica Tošić, Secretariat

Email: milica.tosic@humandynamics.org

Ms. Maša Stojšavljević, Secretariat

Email: masa.stojšavljevic@humandynamics.org

Human Dynamics
Lothringerstrasse 16
1030 Vienna
Austria

