

ECRAN

Environment and Climate
Regional Accession Network

**Working together towards alignment
with the European Union environmental and climate policies and legislation
in EU Candidate Countries and Potential Candidates**



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FOREWORD

The European Union continuously supports the enlargement countries to address the challenging task of implementing the EU environment and climate policies and legislation.

The Environment and Climate Regional Network for Accession - ECRAN - has offered the enlargement countries a framework to establish, strengthen and improve their capacity to engage in the environmental alignment process. ECRAN provided assistance for transposition, implementation and enforcement of the environmental and climate action legislation.

ECRAN also helped strengthen the cooperation among the administrations of the enlargement countries and those of the EU Member States.

ASTRID SCHOMAKER

Director

Global Sustainable Development

European Commission Directorate General for Environment

The Environment and Climate Regional Accession Network (ECRAN) has successfully strengthened regional cooperation between the EU and the EU Candidate Countries and Potential Candidates on climate action and has furthered their progress in the transposition and implementation of EU climate acquis. ECRAN provided support to further align key elements of climate acquis with national legislation and assisted in capacity building, particularly in the framework of the international climate agenda. Such assistance included promoting and providing technical support for the development of the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs). Better alignment with EU climate policies and legislation was achieved in particular, through cooperation with a number of EU Member States in line with the best implementation modalities and practices.

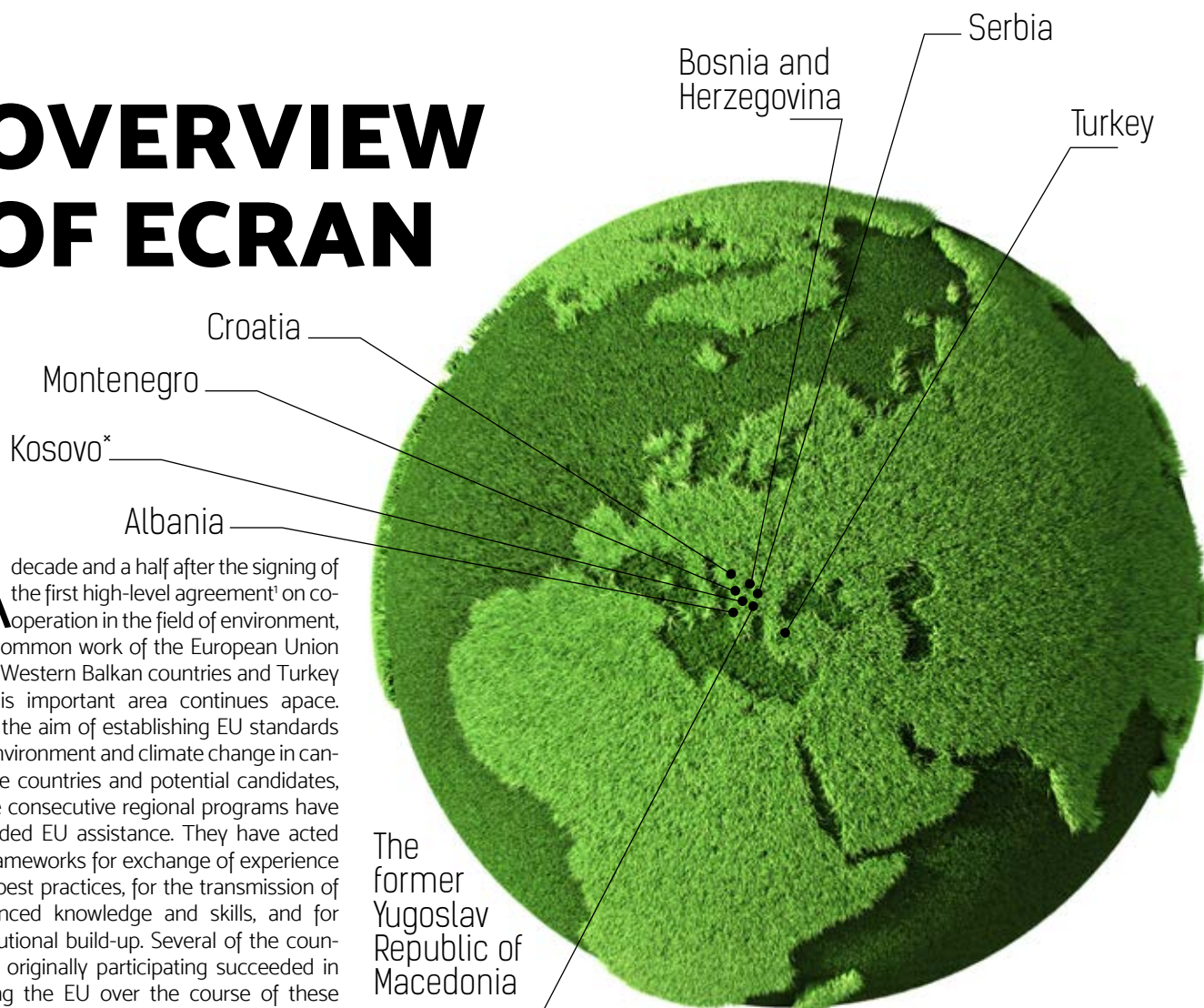
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Acting Director

International and Mainstreaming

European Commission Directorate General for Climate Action

OVERVIEW OF ECRAN



A decade and a half after the signing of the first high-level agreement¹ on co-operation in the field of environment, the common work of the European Union (EU), Western Balkan countries and Turkey in this important area continues apace. With the aim of establishing EU standards on environment and climate change in candidate countries and potential candidates, three consecutive regional programs have provided EU assistance. They have acted as frameworks for exchange of experience and best practices, for the transmission of advanced knowledge and skills, and for institutional build-up. Several of the countries² originally participating succeeded in joining the EU over the course of these programs.

2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Regional Environmental Reconstruction Program for Southeast Europe (REReP)										Regional Environmental Network for Accession (RENA)				Environment and Climate Regional Accession Network (ECRAN)		
www.rerep.rec.org										www.renanetwork.org				www.ecranetwork.org		

The Western Balkan countries³ and Turkey continue to engage in regional cooperation on their way to full EU membership under the Environment and Climate Regional Accession Network. ECRAN, the most recent program, has built on previous achievements, but it has also initiated cooperation in new areas, such as Air Quality, and introduced new tools, such as peer-reviews.



million Euro

funding from the European Union

¹Joint Ministerial Statement by the South Eastern European Ministers of Environment, Skopje, March 2000

²Bulgaria, Romania, Croatia

³Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo*, Montenegro, Serbia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

*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

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. The focus of the regional exercise has been on:

- ▶ Boosting knowledge, skills and capacities of practitioners in the relevant institutions and civil society organizations,
- ▶ Improving the alignment with EU environment and climate legislation,
- ▶ Stimulating public participation in the EU accession process by strengthening the capacities of and regional cooperation within the civil society,
- ▶ Enhancing the preparedness of the beneficiaries for accession negotiations under Chapter 27 on Environment and climate change of the EU acquis.

The activities under ECRAN have been designed for senior officials, practitioners, legislators, planners, permit writers, environmental advisers, and inspectors working in the Ministries in charge of environment and climate change, and, increasingly, working in Ministries of energy, environmental protection agencies, inspectorates, and in civil society organizations. A number of experts from various EU Member State administrations, including those of neighboring EU countries, contributed to the work of ECRAN.

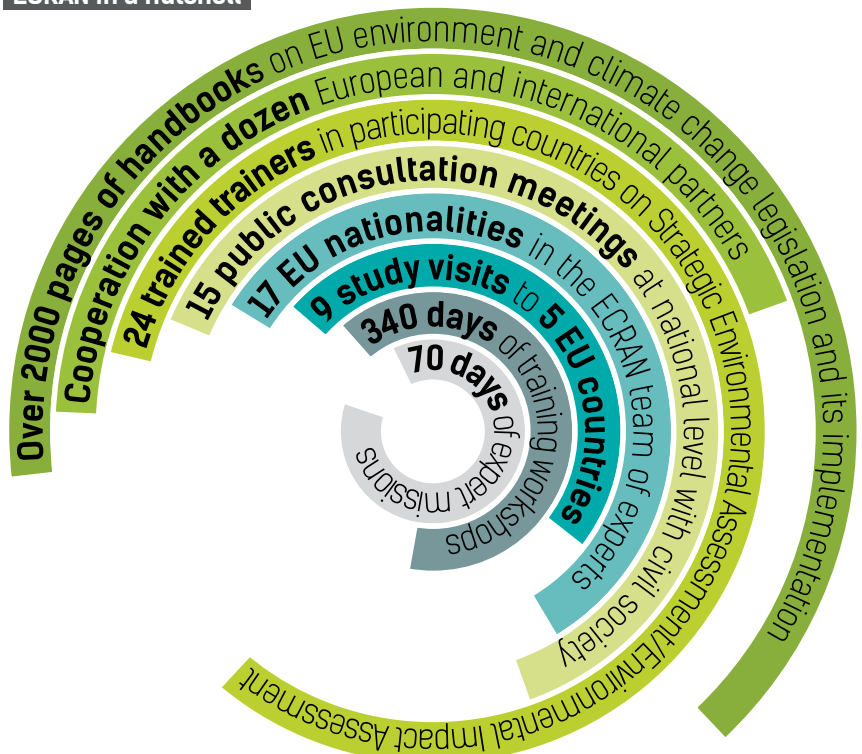
Chapter 27

Environment and climate change: The EU promotes strong climate action, sustainable development and protection of the environment. EU law contains provisions addressing climate change, water and air quality, waste management, nature protection, industrial pollution, chemicals, noise and civil protection.

Summary results of ECRAN

- ▶ A dozen regional, thematic networks of environmental and climate change professionals, civil servants and representatives of civil society work together on a peer to peer basis
- ▶ The public administrations of the beneficiary countries are better equipped with specialized skills and knowledge for continuous transposition, implementation and enforcement of the EU environmental and climate legislation
- ▶ Intense cooperation is ongoing with relevant EU institutions and EU Member States at both operational and political levels for a more efficient accession process and for high-level political dialogue
- ▶ Specialized civil society organizations step up their participation in the decision-making and policy formulation processes, including in accession negotiations

ECRAN in a nutshell



COOPERATION BEYOND BORDERS FOR LEARNING, KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND NETWORKING

Improved regional cooperation on environment and climate change topics in the Western Balkans and Turkey has been the continuous goal of the assistance provided through ECRAN. In particular:

- ▶ ECRAN has been an efficient platform for the beneficiaries to share knowledge, acquire common understanding of issues and challenges in all ECRAN thematic areas, set up networks of peers at the level of individual experts and institutions, and to work together to resolve shared challenges related to transposition of EU environmental and climate legislation;
- ▶ Regional meetings, hands-on assistance and practical work delivered at selected pilot sites in the beneficiary countries helped to build up awareness and applicable know-how for the introduction of EU standards in the environment and climate change areas;
- ▶ Through study visits in selected EU countries, expert missions and participation in the work of fellow European networks,

ECRAN has served as a channel for gaining state-of-the-art knowledge and skills, as well as for informal cooperation with various European partners;

- ▶ ECRAN has successfully combined the support from three European Commission Directorates General⁴ and the use of TAIEX⁵ to achieve its goals; its activities often complemented ongoing bilateral IPA⁶ projects as well as bilateral dialogues between the European Commission and the beneficiaries at both political and technical levels;
- ▶ ECRAN's results in capacity building and transposition of environmental and climate acquis - as well as the support to the beneficiaries in liaising with the EC, International Financial Institutions, bi-lateral donors and the Western Balkan Investment Framework - contribute to a more conducive environment for environmental investments;
- ▶ ECRAN has helped to increase the visibility of environmental and climate change topics in the beneficiary countries.

// At last we had an opportunity to discuss among EC officials, Governments and NGOs at regional and national level about real-life problems and situations in the implementation of some of the most challenging parts of the EU acquis, such as water management or climate issues. The ECRAN ECF created bridges among the most prominent and experienced NGOs from the Western Balkans and Turkey and enabled us an active role in the approximation process, while supporting and monitoring the progress of the countries in the transposition and implementation of the EU environmental and climate legislation. //

NATASA KOVAČEVIĆ
Executive Director,
NGO Green Home, Podgorica
Montenegro

// The elaboration of the management Plan for the proposed Alps National Park with a participatory approach is one of the successes of ECRAN. This is a new and great experience for Albania, which ensured the involvement of all the stakeholders, especially of local communities and local government in the process. In our case, the drafting of the participatory management plan was done in parallel with the process of internal zoning and the study for the designation of the area. The Alps National Park, currently under designation, will be the largest protected Area in the north of Albania, covering around 80 thousand hectares and is part of a trans-boundary protected area with Kosovo and Montenegro. //

ELVANA RAMAJ
Head of the Biodiversity Unit, Directorate of Biodiversity and Protected Areas, Ministry of Environment of Albania

⁴European Commission Directorates General for: Neighborhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, Environment and Climate Action

⁵Technical Assistance and Information Exchange

⁶Instrument for Pre-Accession

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

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.

Highlights of achievements in the various ECRAN Working Groups

Strategic Planning and Investment

Representatives from **different national authorities** (e.g. IPA planning unit, Waste and Water Management Sectors) of relevance worked together on the establishment of a comprehensive **strategic planning framework for investment**, which contributed to the **improvement of inter-institutional cooperation** within countries, and identification of best practice models.

Strategic planning and environmental investment and financing planning require coordinated activities of several national institutions, such as the Ministries of Environment and Finance. **Improved skills for strategic planning of environmental goals, supported with an assessment for approximate costs and financing sources**, help the Ministries of Environment to clearly communicate their needs vis-à-vis other institutions; **the Guidelines for preparation of cost benefit analysis for waste management projects** are directly applicable in Project Management Units of beneficiaries for development of investment projects.

Capacity building for IPA helped **the preparation of IPA sector fiches**, provided information on the content and procedures of the new IPA Regulation and Rules of Implementation and assisted programming and development of national planning document, determining aspects of cross-border nature that could require financial assistance.

Water

Through the various training events, case studies, and a learning-by-doing approach, a **common understanding shared by all beneficiaries on the main terms, definitions and principles** of WFD, MSDF and ICZM was reached. The cooperation among experts, especially on cross-border matters, was enhanced.

The 4th phase of the **methodology of the Drina Programme of measures for the Drina River Basin Management Plan** was completed. The continued joint work on the development of the Programme of Measures has led to the establishment of **informal regional network for the exchange of information on the issues related to Drina River Basin Management Plan**.

Beneficiaries broadened their **knowledge of establishing mechanisms for proper water pricing policy** and the relevance of such policies for investments and infrastructure development. The approach taken had the added value of bringing together representatives of national authorities in charge of water management units and of investment planning. This, in turn, contributed to **better understanding of the importance of integral planning and joint implementation of EU Directives** to avoid duplication and maximize synergies.

Environmental Assessments

Core national training teams in all beneficiary countries, trained through ECRAN, can deliver training on SEA and EIA implementation in their home countries.

By combining the work of several ECRAN Working Groups, the beneficiaries **gained insight into cross-border implementation of EIA/SEA** on pilot projects: shared river basin management in Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina; Montenegro and Albania and the Kosovo – Albania motorway.

ECRAN provided assistance for two SEAs, in Albania and Montenegro, by supplying methodological support, quality assurance, and support in stakeholder consultations. As a result, one of **the first SEAs in Albania was applied to the General National Territorial Plan of Albania**.



Air Quality

The capacity building programs in improvement of emission inventories, development of projections for emissions, and developing and implementing programmes to reduce emissions of pollutants and achieve certain targets enable the beneficiary countries to **timely start adjustments of national systems and to adopt a unified approach**. This is particularly important, as regional cooperation is one of the main features of air protection systems.

The beneficiaries **improved their understanding of the requirements of the Ambient Air Quality Directive, the 4th Daughter Directive and NEC Directive and their effective implementation**, through a specially designed training programme, which was developed on the basis of a detailed training needs assessment.

This working group facilitated **exchange of information** on assessment and management methods, as well as on a systematic and streamlined approach to approximation in this area **between the beneficiaries and EU Member States**: Slovenia, Czech Republic, Germany, Croatia, Latvia and Slovakia.

Waste

Through the ECRAN activities in the waste sector, the beneficiaries were able to **initiate the preparation of relevant strategic documents** related to waste management practice, in line with EU principles.

By combining the work of the Waste and Strategic Planning Working Groups, the beneficiaries **improved their skills** in strategic waste management planning. They gained better understanding of the interrelation between delivery of targets and selection of technological and infrastructure solutions, and of how this impacts on financing needs.

The beneficiaries had the opportunity to **learn about best practices and tools** in implementing waste legislation in EU Member States by participating in a **study visit to Belgium**.

Nature

Representatives of relevant authorities of all beneficiaries **learnt in detail** about Habitats Directive Art. 6 Appropriate Assessment (AA). Both nature protection and EIA/SEA authorities were involved, a fact crucial for the implementation of AA, which mostly occurs within EIA/SEA processes.

In **direct exchange with colleagues from the Czech Republic, Slovenia and Croatia**, the beneficiaries **learnt about bottlenecks in the implementation** of environmental assessments and the linkages between Appropriate Assessments and SEA/EIA. Additionally, ECRAN assisted in the **preparation of a management plan involving all concerned stakeholders for the National Park Alps, Albania**.

All beneficiaries were subject to assessment of readiness to establishment of Natura 2000 network. A “**step-by-step-manual**” was prepared for use by technical departments when presenting the complexity of establishing Natura 2000 networks to management structures in relevant public authorities.

IED/ Chemicals

Through four training modules, the beneficiaries have **improved their understanding** of REACH and CLP Regulations, in relation to the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED).

The beneficiaries shared experiences about, and were trained in, the various new **tools and guidance** products provided by experts from the EU Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law (IMPEL), the Network of environmental inspectors in EU Member States and of the European Chemicals Agency.

Climate Policy and Climate Awareness

During the ECRAN High level Regional conference in June 2016, in the presence of the EC Director on Climate Action, **senior climate officials took stock of the Paris Agreement and agreed the next steps forward in a Joint Statement** on further EU – ECRAN beneficiary cooperation on the matter.

During several **high-level EU – ECRAN beneficiary dialogues** participants **gained insight** into the developments around the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the expectations for the 2015 Paris Global Climate Agreement. Prospects for climate cooperation with the EU in the implementation of their INDCs towards the low emissions and climate resilient economy were discussed.

ECRAN provided assistance for the development of the INDCs under the new climate agreement. All **ECRAN beneficiaries tabled their INDCs in timely fashion** to the UNFCCC Secretariat.

Modeling capacity in administrations was enhanced through a multi-module modeling training under the Long Range Energy Alternatives Planning (LEAP) Platform. The LEAP model is now used by administrations for Policies and Measures reporting in the National Communications for Serbia, Montenegro, Turkey and Albania.

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory and Monitoring Mechanism Regulation (MMR)

Through a regional ECRAN MMR exercise all ECRAN beneficiaries have **prepared national projects through IPA Action Documents on developing their National Systems** to allow annually recurring GHG inventory work.

With the support of ECRAN, the beneficiaries **started to develop robust national inventory systems** that are capable of preparing complete, accurate and transparent annual greenhouse gas inventories and inventory related chapters of biennial reports and national communications under UNFCCC.

An online knowledge-sharing platform on GHG estimation and National Inventory System development has been set up to help the ECRAN beneficiaries in building their national systems through information sharing and exchange of experience. This website also provides an overview of the status of the countries GHG estimates and national systems (waste, energy and agriculture, among others). Country experts and climate co-ordinators of all beneficiaries actively use it.

Emissions Trading

Through a combination of practical trainings, study visits to the Netherlands, Lithuania and Croatia as well as hands-on support, the beneficiaries gained **insights into the approaches and experience** in the implementation of relevant regulations in EU Member States. They also learned about **the risks involved and the bottlenecks** of ETS implementation.

The technical national trainings in Serbia on MRV legislation and a series of consultative meetings with various stakeholders, including the industry and the ETS-like installation operators, **improved the capacity of the Serbian administration** to implement the **ETS/MRV draft legislation**.

Adaptation

A regional ECRAN Platform on Adaptation started to work on national adaptation planning using the steps advocated in the EC Adaptation Strategy (White Paper) and using the EEA-managed Adaptation Support Tool. Through a series of thematic sessions, held with Member State experts and national experts of the national Adaptation Strategies, the beneficiary representatives **strengthened their knowledge** of best practices in assessing climate change adaptation options, **enhanced their understanding** about their own country's climate change adaptation priorities and **developed an initial vision** about the implementation of prioritised climate change adaptation options.

ECRAN promoted climate-proofing action by further **encouraging adaptation in key vulnerable sectors**, such as agriculture, water management, physical planning and the energy sector. This enables planning for a more resilient infrastructure, and supports better informed decision-making by addressing gaps in knowledge about adaptation.

Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network for Accession (ECENA)

ECENA HAS BEEN WORKING ON BOTH IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE EU ACQUIS FOR WELL OVER TEN YEARS. UNDER ECRAN, ITS ACTIVITIES BUILD ON THE RESULTS ACHIEVED IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE COMPONENTS. ECENA IS THEREFORE DESIGNED TO BE OF CROSSCUTTING NATURE AND OF VALUE FOR A VARIETY OF STAKEHOLDERS: ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTORS, POLICY MAKERS, LAW DRAFTERS, PERMIT WRITERS, CUSTOMS, POLICE AND CIVIL SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES.

ECENA facilitated the introduction of **inspection tools, checklists and guidance materials of IMPEL**, especially regarding inspection management (environmental planning within the environmental inspection cycle) and inspectors' participation in networking activities.

Regional training on IED and on common inspection **enhanced inspectors and permit writers' capacity** related to implementing the obligations stemming from the EU environmental and climate legislation. The training programs have been designed as a cross cutting activity, allowing participation of policy makers and legal drafters from other relevant Working Group members (Waste, Air, Water, etc.).

Regional training programs, combined with site visits, helped to **consolidate and increase the know-how and improve the required institutional structures** for enforcement of legislation on trans-frontier shipment of waste.

With the help of ECENA, representatives of the beneficiaries could **participate in events and deepen their integration in other fellow networks**, such as IMPEL, EUFJE, EUROPOL and INECE.

IMPROVED TRANSPPOSITION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF EU LEGISLATION

Using the expertise, experience and practical examples provided through the platforms of ECRAN, the beneficiaries have been able to transpose certain pieces of EU environment and

climate change legislation into their own systems. They have also strengthened and, in some cases built, new institutional bases so that the new legislation can be put into practice and enforced.



ALBANIA

Adoption of Fluorinated gases and Ozone Depleting Substance (F-gas and ODS) legislation; preparation of a new Climate Law; compiling of the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs); the Law on chemicals management prepared with the combined help of TAIEX and ECRAN and a new Chemicals Office, dealing with Chemicals and Industrial Accidents established in the Ministry of Environment



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Law on Nature amended and adopted at the level of both entities, F-Gas and ODS legislation at state level amended and adopted; improved coordination of the entity level energy statistics



CROATIA

Improved National Inventory Report compared to previous periods; the vulnerability assessment and methods for assessing adaptation options introduced under the ECRAN platform used for the National Adaptation Strategy



KOSOVO*

Revision of Waste Management Strategy for the period 2013-2022 and the Waste Management Plan for the period 2013-2017; a follow-up implementation programme of IRAM carried out; legislation adopted to allow the compilation of Kosovo's greenhouse gas inventory



MONTENEGRO

Compiling of the INDCs; new nature protection legislation including Appropriate Assessment procedure correctly transposed into national law of Montenegro; revision of Montenegro's Draft National Waste Management Strategy Policy Paper and Draft Waste Management Plan for the period 2014 – 2020



SERBIA

Early submission of the INDCs promoted; new nature protection legislation including Appropriate Assessment procedure transposed into national law; contribution to the Serbian ETS/MRV legislation through technical national trainings in Serbia on MRV legislation and consultative meetings



THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

Meta-plan for negotiations of Chapter 27 prepared; energy experts trained on energy modelling and GHG estimates from different economic sectors using the 2006 IPCC Guidelines, including uncertainty analyses



TURKEY

Preparation and delivery of first joint IMPEL Review Initiative for Turkey; enhanced ECRAN training programme on monitoring, reporting, accreditation and verification for administrative staff and operators; multi-module training programme to enhance the technical capacity for applying energy modelling for scenario development for staff from the relevant Ministries.

ENHANCED PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE PLANNING AND DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES

ECRAN Environment and Climate Forum (ECRAN ECF) unites under one umbrella 21 NGOs and public administrations from all beneficiary countries. It facilitates continuous dialogue and partnership among all stakeholders, and ensures checks and balances in decision making, policy formulation and in the EU accession process.

The ECRAN ECF has expanded the role of the Forums that operated under the previous regional environment programs by adding new contents and new members. It has ensured regular interaction and exchange between its members and civil servants within the various ECRAN Working Groups. It is through such interaction and exchange that **the competence of the various NGOs has been consistently developed** on topics such as water, waste, nature protection, climate change, and on the intricacies of the accession negotiations.

The ECRAN ECF maintains continual dialogue with the EU through annual meetings. They are prepared and preceded by yearly public

consultations of civil society and administrations at national level, on matters of EU approximation in the environmental and climate fields, organized by the ECRAN ECF. As a result, **more space has been created for inclusive discussions**. Progress in the accession negotiations has been assessed through contributions to the Progress Monitoring Reports for 2014 and 2015; key challenges were identified and more possibilities explored for enhanced national dialogue on the state of play, perspective and future of the enlargement process.

Legislative change needed to implement the EU acquis may lead to additional and significant expenditure in all beneficiaries at central, regional and local government level; for the regulatory authorities, for industries and commercial operations, and for the public. ECF contributed to raising the awareness of the requirements of the EU legislation, as well as of the related costs and benefits stemming from its implementation and enforcement. This, in turn, results in **better public acceptance of the forthcoming changes**.

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Civil Society Organizations Forum					Environment Forum				Environment and Climate Forum			

HORIZONTAL ACTIVITIES

In order to support the EU approximation process in the beneficiary countries and, more specifically, to strengthen their competence for transposition and implementation of environmental and climate acquis, the ECRAN team of experts monitored the

annual progress in transposition of each candidate and potential candidate, helped perform legislative compliance checks upon request, updated the two Handbooks on EU Environmental and Climate Change acquis, and conducted peer-reviews upon request.

Progress monitoring	Handbooks	Compliance checks	Peer-reviews
2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 annual progress reports have been issued for each of the beneficiary countries. The capacity of the beneficiaries' institutions for performance of self-assessment within the process of progress monitoring has been increased through close guidance and support from the project team and active participation in the progress monitoring process.	Two Handbooks , updated within the frame of ECRAN, are one-of-a-kind resource material on EU environment and climate legislation and its implementation, used by the ECRAN beneficiaries as well as EU Member States.	The ECRAN team checks compliance with a particular EC Directive on a paragraph-by-paragraph basis. A compliance check for Serbia was performed within the frame of ECRAN for several EU Directives.	At the request of the EC, the ECRAN team conducted a peer-review for Serbia . The peer-review on Air Quality, Chemicals, IPC, Nature and Water Management sectors provided real-time information on the administrative capacity to implement relevant EU Directives as well as detailed assessment across these key sectors. The exercise involved a variety of stakeholders, such as local authorities, NGOs and industry.

THE LEGACY OF ECRAN

After three years of providing coordination, knowledge, experience, practical advice and examples, assessments, reviews, guidelines and open space for dialogue to various environmental and climate change practitioners via ECRAN, several key results stand out and invite further development:

- ▶ Solid knowledge and skills-bases to continue transposing, implementing and enforcing the EU environment and climate change acquis
- ▶ Regional networking among experts and institutions on a peer to peer basis
- ▶ Capacity for planning and prioritizing environmental projects and for environmentally-friendly investments, especially in the investment-heavy sectors
- ▶ Inter-institutional and cross-sector cooperation among various public authorities at national level
- ▶ Leveraged access, through ECRAN and TAIEX, to EU Member States' knowledge and experience
- ▶ Continued cooperation with the EU at working level in the areas of environment and climate change
- ▶ A range of opportunities for representatives of civil society to take part in decision-making and policy formulation

KNOCK-ON EFFECTS OF ECRAN

Through a **regional ECRAN Monitoring Mechanism Regulation** exercise, all ECRAN beneficiaries have prepared national project proposals using IPA Action Documents templates on developing their National Systems to allow annual, continued and sustainable greenhouse gas inventory work. Montenegro and

Albania submitted the proposal for IPA financing in May 2016. The Action documents form the basis for further IPA or donor assistance. Austria and Germany have already agreed to provide additional funding for follow-up action.

A Regional multi-module technical training programme on energy modelling has enhanced the capacity of the public administrations to submit, imple-

ment and update their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs)

Although **ECRAN ECF** does not have resources for direct activities in the beneficiary countries, the information it provides and the collaboration it facilitates, enhances the capacity of its members to work on other EU enlargement related activities. For instance, "Co-Plan" from Albania has conducted targeted activities for social sustainability and citizen engagement; the "Centre for Environment" from Bosnia and Herzegovina organised protests for the protection of the Sana river, and tributes to Earth Day and the Cher-

nobl anniversary. The "Centre for Ecology and Energy" from Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina, organized a series of events for protection of natural resources in the Tuzla region, including events on waste management to water protection. "LIR Evolucija", also from Bosnia and Herzegovina runs the SMART INNO Platform for developing a smart networking system for monitoring and fostering research and innovation capacity in SMEs across the Adriatic Region.

Natura 2000 readiness assessments performed in all the beneficiaries provided realistic planning of future activities needed for implementation of EU obligations. Some beneficiaries, like Kosovo*, have started to work with the report as a background doc-

ument for drafting Terms of Reference (ToR) for future international projects; the readiness assessment reports are utilizable both for official negotiations with the EU as well as background documents for drafting ToRs of future projects on Natura 2000.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

WFD – Water Framework Directive

MSDF – Marine Strategy Framework Directive

ICZM – Integrated Coastal Zone Management

SEA – Strategic Environmental Assessment

EIA – Environmental Impact Assessment

REACH – Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals

CLP – Classification, Labeling and Packaging of Substances and Mixtures

ETS – Emission Trading Scheme

MRV – Monitoring, Reporting and Verification

IED – Industrial Emissions Directive

IMPEL – EU Network Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law

IRAM – Integrated Risk Assessment Method

PARTNERS OF ECRAN



ECRAN

Environment and Climate
Regional Accession Network

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ECRAN HORIZONTAL ACTIVITIES

- Enforcement and compliance, ECENA
- Public participation –Environment and Climate Forum
- Progress Monitoring
- Legislative Compliance Checks
- Handbook for the implementation of the EU environmental acquis
- Handbook for the implementation of the EU climate acquis

ECRAN ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUPS

- Strategic Planning and Investments
- Water Management
- Environmental Assessments
- Air Quality
- Waste Management
- Nature Protection
- IED/Chemicals

ECRAN CLIMATE WORKING GROUPS

- Climate Policy Development and Building Climate Awareness
- GHG Inventory Systems and the EU Monitoring Mechanism Regulation
- Emissions Trading
- Adaptation to Climate Change