

Environment and Climate Regional Accession Network (ECRAN)

ECRAN Overview of
Start up Activities and
Work Plan 2014 for
Environment
Component

January 2014

Environment and Climate Regional Accession Network (ECRAN)

1st ECRAN Steering Committee meeting

20 January 2014

Brussels, Belgium

Description: This document includes Secretariat Report for the network activities implemented under Environment component in the period October – December 2014 and the work plan for the Environment component for 2014 .

Action Required: ECRAN Steering Committee members are invited to discuss the document for adoption.



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Executive Summary

Regional co-operation on environment and climate action has been supported by the European Commission for almost a decade, starting in 2005 with the Regional Environmental Reconstruction Program for South-East Europe (REReP), continuing with the Regional Environmental Network for Accession (RENA) covering 2010 -2013 and followed now by the ECRAN project, which started on 1st of October 2013.

The ECRAN project building on the previous programs will further strengthen the enlargement countries administrative capacity, while at the same time fostering regional co-operation, the exchange of information and good practices on the transposition and implementation of the acquis in the fields of environment and climate action.

The European Commission is supported by the Secretariat of the Environment and Climate Regional Accession Network (ECRAN Secretariat).

The project includes an environment component, a climate action component as well as the NGOs Environment and Climate Forum. Similar to RENA, the activities under each component will be implemented through a system of Working Groups (WGs) as follows:

Environment Working Groups:

Strategic Planning and Investments

Water Management

Environmental Assessments

Air Quality

Waste Management

Nature Protection

IED/ Chemicals

Climate Action Working Groups:

Climate Policy Development and Building Climate Awareness

GHG Inventory Systems and the EU Monitoring Mechanism Regulation

Emissions Trading

Adaptation

Cross-cutting activity for both environment and climate components:

Enforcement and compliance (ECENA)

Progress Monitoring

Legislative compliance checks

Handbook on the Implementation of EU Environmental Acquis

Handbook on the Implementation of EU Climate Acquis

The document provides the overview of activities implemented by the project team under Environment component in the period October – December 2013 as well as detailed work plan for the activities to be implemented within Environment component in the period January – December 2014.



The document has been prepared for the purpose of 1st Steering Committee meeting that is held on 20 January 2014 in Brussels, Belgium.



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Project start up activities

Mobilisation of the project team, establishment of ECRAN Secretariat, administrative set up

The team of Key Experts has been mobilised on 1 October 2013. The internal project team induction meeting to discuss the planned activities and upcoming Steering and Annual meetings has been organised on 02 October 2014 in Brussels. ECRAN Kick-off meeting with European Commission has been organised on 03 October 2014 and was aimed at discussing the overall work plan, detailed plans for the upcoming SC meeting and Working Group Annual meetings and cooperation with TAIEX. During the Kick-off meeting the existing procedures for the recruitment of the non-key experts and development of job descriptions have been confirmed (Annex 1 Kick off Meeting Minutes).

The ECRAN Secretariat has been established using the existing premises and structures of the RENA Secretariat, i.e. the offices established in Vienna and Belgrade providing for direct and fast international connections to all beneficiary countries. The Secretariat is and will make use of the satellite offices of the ECRAN Consortium in Ankara, Belgrade, Brussels and Sofia to support project activities in order to ensure the steady and responsive progress of the project.

ECRAN Secretariat team is composed of the existing RENA Secretariat team that has proven experience in: environment, administration, financing, communication, IT, logistics, and translation. The Team Leader is supervising the Secretariat's work.

ECRAN Secretariat has updated the existing internal project management system (reporting, monitoring, evaluation) inherited from the RENA and established internal information and documentation system including the templates for external information and documentation system to be used by the project team (Annex 2 ECRAN Internal Manual including Templates).

The project team develop detailed work plans including time schedule with milestones and outputs and estimated resources per task demonstrating the correspondence between proposed methodology and expert inputs. The updated work plans are in detail presented in the sections below.

Based on the work plans prepared by the project team and activities planned, draft breakdown of Incidental Expenditures has been prepared (Annex 3 Draft IE Breakdown). Final version will be prepared upon finalisation and approval of work plans for 2014 and enclosed to the 1st Interim Report due in April 2014.

External project management procedures have been defined mainly through the update of the existing RENA Rules for Assistance Manual including the templates to be used by the beneficiaries and other stakeholders (Annex 4 ECRAN Rules of Assistance Manual).

Confirmation of ECRAN Focal Points (Steering Committee members) and National Coordinators

Following the letters sent by the European Commission to the beneficiary institutions to announce the official start date of the project and to invite them to provide official nominations of Focal Point for the ECRAN project and National Coordinators for the Environment Working Groups as well as Climate National Coordinator, ECRAN Contact List has been prepared (Annex 3).

Croatia has nominated Focal Point and National Coordinators for selected activities. Namely, being the new EU MS, Croatia participates only in the selected activities of ECRAN: Climate Component, Environmental Assessment and Enforcement and Compliance (ECENA).

Despite the efforts, nominations from Bosnia and Herzegovina have not been received due to the political set up in the country and changes in the beneficiary Ministry that occurred during project start-up period.

The project team is in communication with the relevant officials from the Bosnia and Herzegovina state and entity authorities, providing additional information and required additional documents.



Coordination with related initiatives

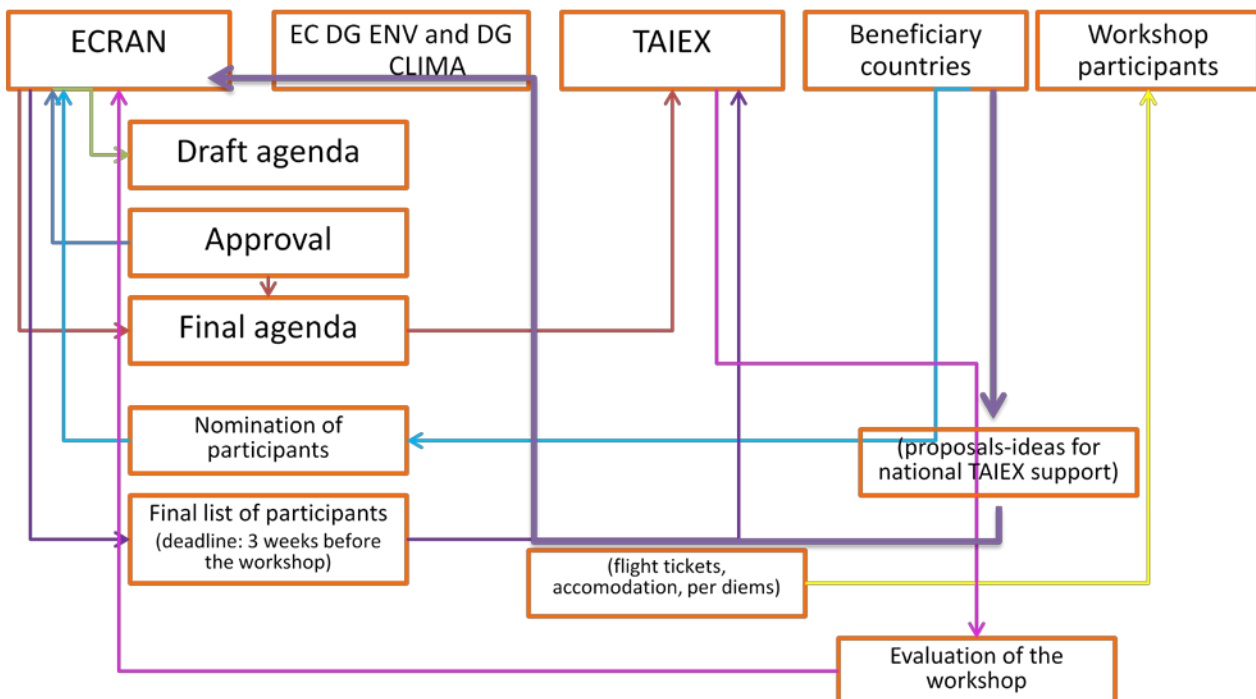
The project team has made initial contacts with the relevant and related networks and organizations, relevant IFIs, bilateral donors and international organisations to discuss their planned activities, possible synergies and overlaps. During 2013 ECRAN team attended the following meetings:

- 2nd Workshop on climate change impacts, vulnerability and adaptation (CCIVA) in West Balkan countries, 8 October 2013, Belgrade, Serbia;
- Twinning project SR 12 IB EN 01 "Creation of a monitoring, reporting and verification system for successful implementation of the EU Emission Trading System", 13 November 2013, Belgrade, Serbia;
- Environmental Enforcement Networks: Concepts, Implementation and Effectiveness, 13 and 14 November 2013, Brussels, Belgium;
- EC and IFI Environment Workshop , 22 November 2013, Brussels, Belgium;
- 11th IMPEL General Assembly, 9-10-11 December 2013, Vilnius, Lithuania.

Definition of working modalities for on-going coordination and cooperation with TAIEX instrument

The modalities for cooperation with TAIEX have been set during the meetings held between TAIEX Unit and ECRAN Secretariat. The cooperation and assistance is provided fully in line with the TAIEX rules and their Guides for participants and public experts. The cooperation along with the procedures and deadlines is also described in details in the ECRAN Rules for Assistance Manual.

The cooperation process is briefly described in the diagram below:



Communication and visibility

During 2013, the ECRAN website has been established and became fully functional at www.ecranetwork.org. The documents and materials prepared are located on the website and available for download. ECRAN visibility materials to be further used and distributed during ECRAN meetings and events have been prepared (roll ups, stationary). The website contains the links to the website of relevant organizations and initiatives.



In January 2014 the section for NGO Environment and Climate Forum has been updated with the on line application form for application of NGOs interested to become member of regional network of selected NGOs representing civil society from their country.

ECRAN brochure, newsletter and communication strategy are in the process of preparation and will be delivered for approval to the EC in March 2013. The documents will be prepared in line with the EU Visibility Guidelines.



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COMPONENT 2 ENVIRONMENT

Activity 2.1 Approximation of environmental legislation and the accession negotiations – Draft work plan 2014

Task 2.1.1 Strengthening of the capacities for accession negotiations on Chapter 27

Capacity building activities on EU Accession Negotiation Process started under Regional Environmental Network for Accession- RENA project. Three regional workshops provided information on the EU institutional structure for negotiations, enabled exchange of experience with EU NMS on national mechanism for preparing the negotiations institutional aspects, and national coordination obstacles in the process as well as provided practical aspects on EU negotiations on Chapter 27. In addition, RENA project assisted Montenegrin administration to better prepare for screening process organized by the European Commission.

“Manual on EU Accession Negotiation” prepared under RENA has provided the beneficiaries with theoretical background and specific case-studies intended to outline the framework of EU accession negotiations while enhancing the efficiency of simulations and exercises.

The task planned under Task 2.1.1” Strengthening of the capacities for accession negotiations on Chapter 27” are building on the results achieved under RENA project. The tasks will be focused on developing and organizing up to four (4) regional trainings aimed to further strengthen the capacities for accession negotiations on Chapter 27. Up to two regional trainings will be delivered in 2014, depending on the availability of beneficiaries to participate, taking into account rising obligations of the candidate countries in the process of accession negotiation.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.1.1**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	April 2014	Regional Training 1 methodology, materials and report
2	November 2014	Regional Training 2 methodology, materials and report

Task 2.1.2 Implementation of the EU environmental legislation not covered by the sectorial Working Groups

The task will be focused on provision of additional support to the beneficiaries on the main aspects of implementation of the EU environmental acquis not covered by the sector specific Working Groups created within ECRAN.

The task will be implemented in the period 2015 – 2016.

Task 2.1.3 Peer Reviews on the level of implementation of the EU environmental legislation not and administrative capacity to carry out of the implementing obligations

In synergy with the Activity 1.3 Progress Monitoring and Activity 1.4 legislative compliance checks the Peer Reviews should provide information on the state of play of the implementation of selected environmental Directives and countries administrative capacity to carry out the implementing obligations form each Directive.

The overall work plan estimates up to 3 Peer review reports to be prepared during the lifetime of the project.



First Peer Review will be conducted for Serbia and will be focused on the assessment of the implementation level of the EU environmental legislation and administrative capacity to carry out the implementing obligations.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.1.3**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	February/March 2014	Development of Peer Review approach and methodology under the guidance of the EC
2	March – August 2014	Independent assessment of the administrative system and administrative capacity (numbers and status of staff, functions, formal and real division of tasks among institutions and between the national and local level, co-operation/non-cooperation among them, their capacity and budgets; Identify key problems/bottlenecks for carrying out the implementing obligations for selected pieces of the EU environmental acquis.



Activity 2.2 Strategic Planning and Investments – Draft work plan 2014

Task 2.2.1 Organisation of the Annual Working Group meeting

Annual meeting of national coordinators will be held in Skopje, 29 January 2014.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.2.1**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1.	December 2013	Development of draft and final agenda, draft work plan
2.	January 29 th , 2014	Annual meeting of NCs (Skopje)

Coordination of the SPIWG activities with IFIs, WBIF and other relevant regional initiatives will be provided as necessary.

Task 2.2.2 Strategic planning

- Subtask 1: Meta-planning and country specific discussions

Meta planning will provide the assessment of the national situation in the region and prepare meta-plan (roadmap) for development of all necessary planning documents for EU accession process.

- Subtask 2: Regional training on the role of planning documents in approximation process and management of the process for chapter 27 using approximation policy documents

Regional training on the role of planning documents in approximation process and management of the process for Chapter 27 using approximation policy documents will be held in March 2014 in Montenegro, building on the recent experience of the countries in the accession process.

- Subtask 3: Combined regional trainings between the Strategic Planning Working Group and sector specific Working Groups

Two combined regional trainings between the Strategic Planning and Investments Working Group and sector specific Working Groups to assess the situation and agree on strategic planning documents to be developed in the selected sectors are planned to be delivered under this task. Year 2014 will be devoted to delivery of the combined training with Waste Management Working Group taking into account that Waste is proposed by the EC as a new topic for IFI CO Working Group on Environment in 2014 (subject to mobilisation of the new IFI CO project).

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.2.2**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	February 2014	Final agenda for the Regional training on the role of planning documents in approximation process and management of the process for chapter 27 using approximation policy documents
2	February 2014	Meeting with MN authorities regarding approximation planning documents
3	March 18, 2014	Regional training on the role of planning documents in approximation process (Budva)
4	April 2014	Development of agenda for bilateral workshop regarding assessment of a national situation and development of the meta-plan (roadmap)
5	May 2014	Express of interest from ECRAN countries regarding bilateral workshops
6	June 2014	Development and coordination of possible timetable for bilateral workshops



No.	Date	Key outputs
7	September – December 2014	Delivery of two bilateral workshops
8	January 29, 2014	Discussion regarding cooperation possibilities with the Waste Management WG
9	June 2014	Draft agenda for the combined regional training with Waste Management WG
10	September 2014	Final agenda for the combined regional training with Waste Management WG
11	November 2014	Combined regional training with Waste Management WG
12	December 2014	Agreed lists of sectoral policy documents for Waste Management sector

Task 2.2.3 Cost recovery and tariff setting (or economic/financial analysis)

Implementation of the heavy cost directives inevitably means new infrastructure and a higher cost to construct and, more importantly, maintain this infrastructure. Currently it is understood that this principle is given an important role, but there is much misunderstanding regarding its value added.

As it has been learned during implementation of Investment Planning activities under RENA, the increase of tariffs which need to cover the investments and operation of infrastructure projects faces big political reluctance. Therefore, round table discussions and/or trainings for various level authorities during the early stage of infrastructure project implementation on the structure of costs, financial flows, cost recovery, polluter pays and other principles have been welcome very much. These roundtables will be organised at national level and implemented under the request of the beneficiaries.

- Subtask 1. Combined regional trainings on economic-financial analysis and cost recovery

Two regional trainings on economic-financial analysis and cost recovery combined with other ECRAN sector specific Working Groups (waste management, water management etc.) are planned to be delivered with the first one being delivered in October 2014 in cooperation with the Waste Management Working Group. The exact dates and location will be determined during 1st Annual meeting of the Working Group. The second training will be delivered in cooperation with Water Management Working Group during 2015. The preparation for the second regional training will be initiated by the Water Management Working Group (see Task 2.3.3).

- Subtask 2. National roundtables on cost recovery

It is aimed to organise the tailor made/national round table discussions and/or trainings on the structure of costs, financial flows, cost recovery, polluter pays and other principles (up to one round table/training per country). The implementation of the round table discussion will be demand driven and will be delivered at the request of the beneficiary countries.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.2.3**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	January 29, 2014	Discussion regarding selecting sectors for training on economic-financial analysis and cost recovery
2	June 2014	Draft agenda for the first regional training on economic-financial analysis and cost recovery combined with other ECRAN sector specific Working Group (selected sector)
3	September 2014	Final agenda for the first regional training on economic-financial analysis and cost recovery combined with other ECRAN sector specific Working Group (selected sector)



No.	Date	Key outputs
4	October 2014	Regional training on economic-financial analysis and cost recovery combined with other ECRAN sector specific Working Group (selected sector)
5	October 2014	Draft text for awareness raising materials
6	October – November 2014	Express of interest for national roundtables
7	December 2014	Draft schedule for national roundtables

Task 2.2.4 Capacity building for IPA project fiche preparation

The task aims at covering all the environment policy areas under the sectoral ECRAN Working Groups. The goal of the task is to raise the knowledge and skills of the civil servants on how to prepare for and write a good IPA sector fiche for environment. This activity will also provide the opportunity to inform the countries on the content and requirements of the IPA II Regulation and its Implementing Rules. Planned regional trainings will be prepared in close collaboration with the EC and if possible will be delivered in Brussels in order to enable participation of larger number of EC officials in the role of lecturers. It is aimed to organise two regional trainings on IPA II Regulation and its Implementing Rules.

The first regional training is planned for May 2014, but the final date will depend on the availability of the relevant EC officers planned to be involved in the delivery of the training.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.2.4**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	March 2014	Draft agenda for the first regional training
2	April 2014	Final agenda for the first regional training
3	May 2014	Regional training on IPA II Regulation



Activity 2.3 Water Management – Draft work plan 2014

Task 2.3.1 Organisation of the Annual Working Group meeting

Annual meeting of national coordinators will be held in Istanbul, 10 February 2014.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.3.1**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1.	January 2014	Development of draft and final agenda, draft work plan
2.	10 February 2014	Annual meeting of NCs (Istanbul)

Task 2.3.2: Assistance in the development of transboundary river basin management plans (RBMPs)

This task is focused on provision of practical assistance to the beneficiary countries in the development of selected specific topic of the RBMP at the selected pilot site.

- Subtask 2.3.2.1: Preparation of the criteria for selection of pilot river basin for development of specific RBMP topic; Selection of RBMP pilot river basin

Three pilot river basins will be proposed and one agreed upon at the 1st Annual meeting of WMNCs.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.3.2**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	end-December 2013	Draft criteria for selection of a pilot river basin
2	January 2014	Refinement of selection criteria; Draft proposal
2	February 2014	Selection of pilot river basin received from the WMNCs;
3	February – March 2014	Search for the STE and her/his recruitment
4	March - April 2014	Participants to the pilot river basin from the Beneficiary countries identified

- Subtask 2.3.2.2: Selection of the specific RBMP development topic/step for assistance

The process of preparation of the specific River Basin Management Plan development topic should last all three years of the project.

In 2014, the transboundary pilot river basin should be agreed upon, methodology of work to be used agreed upon, and the project team will initiate the assessment and analysis related to the selection of a specific RBMP development topic.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.3.2**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	mid-January 2013	Draft Proposal for specific RBMP development topics
2	end-February 2014	Comments on proposed approach received from the WMNCs; Prepare final proposal
3	March – April 2014	Selection of specific RBMP development topic made and approach prepared
4	mid-May 2014	Screening workshop at pilot river basin (in cooperation with TAIEX)
5	June – August 2014	Methodology related to development of specific RBMP topic agreed upon, work starts



- Subtask 2.3.2.3: Development of detailed regional training plan including the study visit programme

For selected of specific RBMP development topic and pilot site, the detailed regional training plan including visit programme will be proposed and developed.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.3.2**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	September 2014	Training need assessment prepared
2	October – November 2014	Detailed regional training plan including study visit programme, agenda and background materials prepared (cooperation with TAIEX agreed)

- Subtask 2.3.2.4: Design and delivery of regional trainings to share the results of the pilot RBMP development and build the capacities of the beneficiary countries in the area of RBMP development and delivery of study visit to the EU MS institution(s) responsible for the WFD implementation

Three regional seminars are envisaged under this task. In 2014, the first (theme to be agreed upon by the NCs) will be held.

No study tour is envisaged in 2014 as the participants to the study tour have to first gather their practical experience through their participation at the development of specific RBMP topic for selected pilot site.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.3.2**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	December 2014	1 st Regional training seminar on RBMP held

Task 2.3.3: Economic analysis (EA) in accordance with the WFD (cost recovery and cost effectiveness considerations), including innovative systems of waste water treatment or water-pricing (water tariff settings)

The knowledge on making assessments of costs and benefits or extrapolating available economic information to perform economic analysis in accordance with WFD is in scope of this task. The task will be linked and coordinated with the Strategic Planning and Investment activities.

- Subtask 2.3.3.1: Selection of EA theme for regional training

In 2014, the EA theme should be agreed upon, approach and methodology for assessment of readiness of ECRAN Beneficiaries for water pricing schemes with respect to recovery of operation and maintenance costs proposed and agreed, work starts.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.3.3**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	January – February 2014	Proposal and approach to the EA theme
2	March 2014	EA theme for regional training selected and approved

- Subtask 2.3.3.2: Assessment of readiness of ECRAN Beneficiaries for use of water pricing schemes with respect to recovery of operation and maintenance costs proposed by WFD and gaps.

Questionnaire for assessment of readiness of ECRAN Beneficiaries for water pricing schemes with respect to recovery of operation and maintenance costs proposed by WFD and gaps, should be prepared and



collection of inputs from the beneficiaries started in April 2014. Results on the assessment will be finalised by the end of August 2014.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.3.3**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	April 2014	Questionnaire for assessment prepared and submitted to the Beneficiaries
2	June – August 2014	Assessment and result reported
3	September 2014	Final decision on EA theme for regional training made, work starts

- Subtask 2.3.3.3: Development of detailed regional training plan on EA

ECRAN project should provide opportunity to experience and learn from real EAs and support building of a common knowledge base on water economics. Planned trainings will be delivered in close coordination with the TAIEX Unit that will be responsible for provision of TAIEX experts and organisation of logistics (training venue, accommodation and transport of registered participants, etc.).

Based on preliminary and final selection of EA theme after workshop, detailed regional training plan on EA will be developed. This subtask will be harmonised and coordinated with Strategic Planning and Investment Group.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.3.3**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	October 2014	Training need assessment prepared
2	November – December 2014	Detailed regional training plan, agenda and background materials prepared and agreed

- Subtask 2.3.3.4: Delivery of regional trainings to build the capacities of the beneficiary countries in the area of EA

One regional seminar to build the capacities in the area of EA IS foreseen under this task. No regional training is envisaged in 2014.

Task 2.3.4: WFD and Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) – where to draw the line?

The scope of the task is to exchange experience through the delivery of a regional training on drawing the line between WFD and Marine Strategy Directive as it would be very valuable to the Western Balkan countries, even though some of them are not marine countries.

The training topics and agenda, as well as the target groups (including local self-governments' representatives) will be determined in close collaboration with the respective national working group coordinators.

- Subtask 2.3.4.1: Development of detailed regional training plan on drawing the line between WFD and MSFD

For selected of specific training theme, a detailed regional training plan will be proposed and developed.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.3.4**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	March 2014	Proposal for topic for the regional training
2	April 2014	Selection the topic for regional training made
3	June – July 2014	Training need assessment prepared (in cooperation with TAIEX)
4	September - October	Detailed regional training plan, agenda and background materials



No.	Date	Key outputs
	2014	prepared and agreed

- Subtask 2.3.4.2: Delivery of regional trainings to build the capacities of the beneficiary countries in the area of synergy and difference between WFD and MSFD

One regional training seminar is envisaged under this task and will be held in November 2014.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.3.4**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	November 2014	Regional training seminar on WFD and MSFD held (in cooperation with TAIEX)

- Subtask 2.3.4.3: Selection of the topic for up to one country specific and tailor made trainings on the key points of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) and Marine Strategy Framework Directive implementation

Following the regional training and building on the results achieved, one country specific and tailor made training for selected topic agreed upon.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.3.4**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	December 2014	Prepare selection criteria for specific and tailored made training topic

- Subtask 2.3.4.4: Development of country specific trainings to build the capacities of the beneficiary countries in the area of ICZM and MSFD implementation

No development of country specific trainings in the area of ICZM and MSFD is envisaged in 2014.

- Subtask 2.3.4.5: Delivery of country specific trainings to build the capacities of the beneficiary countries in the area of ICZM and MSFD implementation

One regional training seminar is envisaged in 2015.



Activity 2.4 Environmental Assessments – Draft work plan 2014

Task 2.4.1 Organisation of the Annual Working Group meeting

Annual meeting of national coordinators has been delivered Istanbul on 07 November 2013, followed by the ECRAN side event at the EIA International Conference organised by the Turkish Ministry of Environment and Urbanization in the period 08-10 November 2013.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.4.1**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1.	07 November 2013	Annual meeting of NCs (Istanbul)
2	08-10 November 2013	ECRAN side event at the EIA International Conference
3	December 2014	2 nd Annual meeting

Task 2.4.2 Implementation and monitoring of SEA Directive

Practical support to SEA implementation will be provided for the selected pilot site. The tasks includes the following:

- definition of criteria for selection of pilot sites, pre selection, meetings with relevant institutions to confirm their willingness to participate in the planned activities, selection of 1 to 3 pilot sites (November 2013 - April 2014);
- provision of expert input to support the relevant institutions with implementation of specific/selected issues (April 2014 – September 2015);
- design and delivery of regional meetings to promote the results achieved and distribute the lessons learned through the practical work (September 2015 – September 2016).

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.4.2**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1.	November 2013	Definition of criteria for selection of pilot sites
2	December – January 2014	Pre selection based on the submitted proposals
3	January – April 2014	Meetings with relevant institutions to confirm their willingness to participate in the planned activities, selection of 1 to 3 pilot sites (November 2013 - April 2014)

Task 2.4.3 Other environmental assessments

Regional workshops planned under this task will be designed in cooperation with Nature and Water WGs. Planned regional trainings will address potential bottlenecks in the implementation of:

- SEA/EIA
- Appropriate Assessment
- Assessment under the Water Framework Directive.

The first regional training will be focused on the linkages between SEA/EIA and Appropriate Assessment and will be held in October 2014. The trainings related to Nature and Water WGs will be organized on the pilot sites selected by Nature and Water WGs in the period 2015 – 2016.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.4.3**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	October 2014	1 st Regional training on the linkages between SEA/EIA and



	Appropriate Assessment
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Task 2.4.4 Train the trainers programme on the EIA and SEA

Train the trainers programme on the EIA and SEA will include the following elements:

- Design of the training programme, selection criteria for trainees, selection of trainees (January – April 2014);
- First ToT (September 2014)
- Local trainings delivered by the train trainers with support of TAIEX using the programme and methodology received during the ToR session (November 2014 – June 2015).
- Second and third ToT (September 2015 – September 2016).

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.4.4**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	January- April 2014	Design of the training programme, selection criteria for trainees, selection of trainees
2	September 2014	First ToT



Activity 2.5 Air Quality – Draft work plan 2014

Task 2.5.1 Organisation of the Annual Working Group meeting

Annual meeting of national coordinators is planned for March/April 2014.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.5.1**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1.	March 2014	Annual meeting of NCs

Task 2.5.2 Preparation of Training Needs Assessment, elaboration of regional training programme and training delivery

The implementation of the task will include the following main steps:

Preparation of training needs assessment

The training (programme) is preceded by a training needs assessment. A TNA Questionnaire will be prepared and distributed among the beneficiary countries in order to identify specific topics that have to be covered by the regional trainings, including downstream elements. Based on the selected training topics, regional training programme will be developed and subsequently delivered.

Based on the current state of play on the beneficiary countries, delivery of up to four regional trainings is envisaged. The training topics will be focused on the four main implementation steps of EU MS obligations based on the provisions of the Air Quality Framework Directive:

1. Planning – Designation of zones and agglomerations, competent authorities, representative measurements, action plans the compliance with the limit values;
2. Measures to ensure compliance with limit values;
3. Monitoring, information and reporting systems;
4. Time extensions for complying with limit values, based on conditions and the assessment by the European Commission and exceedances of limit values for public health.

Compilation and elaboration of a training programme

The prioritised training needs will be elaborated in a training programme. Training targets will be developed for the prioritised training areas. They will function as the starting point for the organisation of the programme (incl. sequencing, determination of content of modules), selecting the target audience, organising logistics, deciding on to be used training methodologies, and on development of training materials.

The training programme will include up to four regional trainings. It is envisaged for each training to have a 3-day programme.

Preparation of training manual

Based on the prepared and approved training programme, the project team will develop the training methodology that will contain of general part covering the main training topics to be used for all trainings planned under this activity and topic specific parts that will be changed depending on the topic selected for specific training.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.5.2**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	March/April 2014	Training Needs Questionnaire and Training Needs Assessment. TNA report



2	May – June 2014	Training Methodology, Training Programme and Training Materials
3	September 2014	Training (1) ; Training report



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Activity 2.6 Waste Management – Draft work plan 2014

Task 2.6.1 Organisation of the Annual Working Group meeting

Annual meeting of national coordinators will be held in Skopje, 29 January 2014 back to back with Strategic Planning and Investments Working Group Annual meeting in order to better address joint activities planned to be delivered during 2014.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.6.1**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1.	29 January 2014	Annual meeting of NCs

Task 2.6.2: Mapping of installations

- Subtask 1. Analyses of current waste management policies in countries and Pilot studies for Serbia and Montenegro

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.6.2**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	February-November 2014	Analyses of current waste management policies in countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, fYR of Macedonia, Kosovo and Turkey (on basis of National Waste Management Plans and other strategic documents) and their impacts on investment process and tariff setting.
2	February-October 2014	Pilot studies for Serbia and Montenegro: -Analyses of possible waste management options complying with EU requirements in Serbia and Montenegro, including description of this information as national network of waste management installations (or including cooperation with neighboring countries if possible and feasible). Such network has to combine networks for waste disposal and recovery and additional installations and policies needed for waste separation and recycling achieving WFD and other targets. - Propose main waste management policy directions for Serbia and Montenegro in order to implement national network of waste management installations - Identify investment actions needed in Serbia and Montenegro for implementation of national network of waste management installations and provide indicative costs. - Indicate possible impacts of introducing national network of waste management installations on waste management tariffs in Serbia and Montenegro.
3	November-December 2014	Analyses of current status of planning and establishment of network for waste disposal and recovery in the Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, fYR of Macedonia, Kosovo and Turkey (WFD, article 16).
3	November-December 2014	Analyses of current status of planning of measures to achieve source separation and recycling targets in the Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, fYR of Macedonia, Kosovo and Turkey (WFD, article 11).



- Regional training; Implementation of Waste Framework Directive (Directive 2008/98/EC), Articles 11 and 16, in ECRAN countries. Experience of implementation WFD (Articles 11 and 16) in Member States. Presentations of results, Pilot studies for Serbia and Montenegro.

The regional training will be used to get an overview of the present level of implementation of Waste Framework Directive (Directive 2008/98/EC), Articles 11 and 16, in ECRAN countries, sharing the experience on the main implementation challenges with the EU MS representatives. The training will be used to present the results achieved under Subtask 1.

No.	Date	Key outputs
2	June 2014	Draft agenda for the regional training; Implementation of Waste Framework Directive (Directive 2008/98/EC), Articles 11 and 16, in ECRAN countries
3	August 2014	Final agenda for the regional training; Implementation of Waste Framework Directive (Directive 2008/98/EC), Articles 11 and 16, in ECRAN countries
4	September 2014	Regional training; Implementation of Waste Framework Directive (Directive 2008/98/EC), Articles 11 and 16, in ECRAN countries

- Subtask 2. Combined regional trainings between the Waste Management Working Group and Strategic Planning Working Group

Regional trainings to assess the situation and agree on strategic planning documents to be developed in the selected sectors will be delivered in close cooperation with the Strategic Planning and Investments Working Group. The specific dates and location will be confirmed during 1st Annual meeting.

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	January 29, 2014	Discussion regarding cooperation possibilities with the Strategic Planning WG
2	June 2014	Draft agenda for the combined regional training with Strategic Planning WG
3	September 2014	Final agenda for the combined regional training with Strategic Planning WG
4	November 2014	Combined regional training with Strategic Planning WG



Activity 2.7 Nature – Draft work plan 2014

Task 2.7.1: Organisation of Annual Working Group meeting

Annual meeting of national coordinators has been held in Podgorica, 10 December 2013.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.7.1**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	December 2014	Annual meeting of NCs

Task 2.7.2: Appropriate Assessments, training programme on nature priority topics

- Subtask 1: 3 pilot AAs within the ECRAN region.

Three pilot projects/sites should be agreed upon and the first AA undertaken in 2014.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.7.2**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	January 2014	Proposals for AA projects/sites received from the NCs; three pilot AAs selected; the 2014 pilot AA No. 1 decided
2	January – February 2014	Identification of participants to the pilot AAs from Beneficiary countries
3	April – May 2014	Screening workshop at pilot AA No. 1
4	May – September 2014	Main assessment workshop at pilot AA No. 1
5	October – December 2014	Evaluation and IROPI workshop at pilot AA No. 1

- Subtask 2: 1 study AA tour to the EU

No activity is envisaged in 2014 as the participants to the study tour have to first gather their practical experience through their participation at the pilot AAs.

- Subtask 3: Regional training on the process of designation of potential Natura 2000 sites

A comprehensive training (preliminarily 3-day long) focused on all the requirements of establishment of the Natura 2000 network will be organised.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.7.2**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	May 2014	Regional training seminar held

- Subtask 4: Assessment of readiness of ECRAN Beneficiaries for N 2000 designation

There are two groups of ECRAN beneficiary countries, one for which preparation for Natura 2000 is already binding and the second one for which this is not yet binding as they do not have candidate status yet. Therefore, the proposal is to investigate how far the countries are from the target being establishment of Natura 2000 instead of how far they are from the beginning. The form is still to be defined, but this research should show how far the countries are from the objectives and what the main challenges are that the country is to or will face in the process of establishment of Natura 2000. The report can further be used by the countries to follow their progress in the process of establishment of Natura 2000.

Based on the decision reached at the NWG meeting on the approach to this subtask, a call for the assessment team and work methods will be launched and the assessment will start.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.7.2**



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No.	Date	Key outputs
1	February 2014	Call for the TAIEX assessment team launched
2	March - April 2014	Work method elaborated and agreed upon
3	May – December 2014	First three country assessments undertaken

Task 2.7.3: Design and delivery of Regional Awareness Raising Programme

Four different regional seminars are envisaged under this task. In 2014, the first regional seminar (theme to be agreed) will be held.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.7.3**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	November 2014	Regional training seminar held

Task 2.7.4: Participatory Management Plan

The process of preparation of Participatory Management Plan should last all three years of the project. In 2014, the pilot site should be agreed upon, the short-term expert in charge of this task recruited, methodology to be used agreed upon, and the work started.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.7.4**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	January 2014	Nominations for pilot sites (protected area) received and selection made
3	April – May 2014	Methodology selected and agreed upon, work starts
4	June – December 2014	MP preparation in progress

Task 2.7.5: Establishment of Regional Cooperation among Nature Protected Areas (NPA)

Based on decision made by the NCs at the 2013 Annual meeting, the relevant form of regional cooperation of protected areas will be chosen.

- subtask 1: establishment of the regional cooperation

Depending on the agreed form of cooperation, the list of protected areas (PAs) from the region interested in networking is to be developed, relevant organisational structure proposed, and the first meeting aimed at establishment of the formal cooperation held.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.7.5**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	January - February 2014	Search for PAs from the region interested in networking
2	March 2014	Organisational structure proposed and agreed upon
3	April 2014	Founding meeting of the regional cooperation held, official representatives selected/elected
4	April - May 2014	Expression of interest to liaison with relevant European networks of PAs

- Subtask 2: participation at EU networks Annual meetings



Depending on the feedback to the expression of interest for networking with European PAs, representative(s) of the newly established regional cooperation should take part at the Annual meeting(s) of the latter.

Annual meeting of the newly established regional cooperation representatives joined with a technical seminar (theme to be specified later) should be organized with participation of the representative(s) of one or more European networks willing to collaborate.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.7.5**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	2014	Participation of representative(s) of the newly established regional cooperation at the Annual meetings of the European networks
2	End of 2014	Annual meeting and technical seminar

- Subtask 3: 3 training missions to the EU PAs

This subtask is not expected to be implemented in 2014 as it first requires establishment of the regional cooperation under the subtasks a) and b) and careful selection of trainees, which will take time.



Activity 2.8 IED/Chemicals – Draft work plan 2014

Task 2.8.1: Organisation of Annual Working Group meeting

Annual meetings of national coordinators will be delivered in Skopje, 30 January 2014.

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	January 2014	Annual meeting of NCs

Task 2.8.2 Capacity building on compliance with chemicals legislation, with emphasis on REACH/CLP linked to IED

In the REACH regulation, various stakeholders will have their specific roles, responsibilities and competences identified. The know-how regarding the hazards and potential risks of chemicals lays with the manufacturers and importers and with the national agencies/authorities. The so called “exposure scenarios” in the REACH system are the Conditions of use for specific chemicals.

It should be noted that REACH and CLP are regulations and therefore directly applicable. As they enter into force, they will automatically form part of Member States’ national laws. In order to enable REACH and CLP to operate effectively in practice, Member States are obliged to establish the necessary arrangements for their implementation. The Regulations have EEA relevance, i.e. they are binding also for Norway, Iceland and Lichtenstein. As the EEA agreement is allowing for free movement of goods, it is important that EEA countries have the same approach in enforcing REACH and CLP as Member States, thus ensuring level playing field for their industry and high level of protection for both man and environment.

Enforcement of REACH and CLP means, generally, a range of actions that national authorities initiate to verify the compliance of the duty holders with REACH and CLP Regulations. For example, this includes checking whether the substance has been registered or pre-registered or verifying the presence and correctness of the Safety Data Sheets.

The IED is the successor of the IPPC Directive and in essence, it is about minimising pollution from various industrial sources throughout the European Union. Operators of industrial installations operating activities covered by Annex I of the IED are required to obtain an integrated permit from the authorities in the EU countries. About 50.000 installations were covered by the IPPC Directive and the IED will cover some new activities which could mean the number of installations rising slightly.

An important synergy between REACH and the Industrial Emissions Directive is that information on the substance under the registration and authorisation procedures may be used to support the development of BAT reference documents. The risk assessment of substances under REACH that are manufactured or placed on the market in quantities of 10 tonnes or more per year comprises the complete life-cycle of the substance and therefore includes the use and manufacture of these substances in industrial installations covered by this Directive and options to avoid and control emissions. In this respect, Recitals (14) and (21) of REACH state that the information yielded on substances may also be used in risk management procedures under other EU legislation.

The implementation of the task will include the following main steps:

Preparation of training needs assessment

The training (programme) is preceded by a training needs assessment. A TNA Questionnaire will be prepared and distributed among the beneficiary countries in order to identify specific topics that have to be covered by the regional trainings, including downstream elements.

Based on earlier experience, possible training topics could be the following:

- General introduction on chemicals legislation (environmental/consumer/workplace including Biocides, POP’s, REACH/CLP);



- Background and basics REACH and CLP (with roles and responsibilities under REACH);
- Specific obligations for authorities, methodologies and tools in risk assessment;
- REACH and CLP implementation details;
- Downstream consequences of REACH and interlinkage with other legislation (IED, SEVESO, Water Framework Directive, Waste);
- General introduction REACH/CLP in relation to IED;
- Selection of BAT (reference to methodology, BREFs and BAT Decision documents).

Compilation and elaboration of a training programme

The prioritised training needs will be elaborated in a training programme. Training targets will be developed for the prioritised training areas. They will function as the starting point for the organisation of the programme (incl. sequencing, determination of content of modules), selecting the target audience, organising logistics, deciding on to be used training methodologies, and on development of training materials.

The training programme will include up to four regional trainings. It is envisaged for each training to have a 3-day programme, including a site visit to a selected IED facility.

The training programme of this Working Group will have to be closely coordinated with the one designed for Activity 1.2 (ECENA WG) in order to avoid duplication and overlaps.

Preparation of training manual

Based on the prepared and approved training programme, the project team will develop the training methodology that will contain of general part covering the main training topics to be used for all trainings planned under this activity and topic specific parts that will be changed depending on the topic selected for specific training.

In summary: **Required outputs under Task 2.8.2**

No.	Date	Key outputs
1	end-January 2014/early February 2014	Training Needs Questionnaire and Training Needs Assessment. Proposals for pilot industries to be visited. TNA report
2	January - February 2014	Training Methodology, Training Programme and Training Materials
3	May, 2014	Training (1) ; General introduction chemicals and procedures REACH/CLP, IED (1) Training report
4	December,2014	Training (2). Procedures REACH/CLP (2).Training Report



Overview ECRAN-Environment component work plan 2014

	2014											
Activity 2.1 Approximation of environmental legislation and the accession negotiations	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Task 2.1.1 Strengthening of the capacities for accession negotiations on Chapter 27				<i>1st Reg. training</i>							<i>2nd reg. training</i>	
Task 2.1.2 Implementation of the EU environmental legislation not covered by the sectorial Working Groups												
Task 2.1.3 Peer Reviews on the level of implementation of the EU environmental legislation not and administrative capacity to carry out of the implementing obligations		<i>Peer Review approach and methodology</i>	<i>Peer Review approach and methodology</i>	<i>Drafting Peer Review RS</i>	<i>Drafting Peer Review RS</i>	<i>Drafting Peer Review RS</i>	<i>Drafting Peer Review RS</i>	<i>Drafting Peer Review RS</i>				
Activity 2.2 Strategic planning and Investments	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Task 2.2.1 Annual Meetings	<i>1st Annual meeting</i>											
Task 2.2.2 Meta planning		<i>Preparation 1st reg training</i>	<i>1st Reg training</i>							<i>Bilateral workshops</i>	<i>Bilateral workshops</i>	<i>Reg training with Waste WG</i>
Task 2.2.3 Cost recovery and tariff setting										<i>Reg training with Waste</i>		<i>Schedule for nat roundtables</i>



										WG		
Activity 2.3 Water Management	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Task 2.3.1 Annual meetings		1 st Annual meeting										
Task 2.3.2 Assistance in the development of transboundary river basin management plans (RBMPs)		Sel. criteria/proposal	Selection of pilot site	RBMP topic selection	RBMP topic selection	Screening Workshop	Pilot site support provision	Pilot site support provision	Pilot site support provision	Training programme		1 st Reg training
Task 2.3.3 Economic analysis		EA theme selection	EA theme selection	Assessment question	Assessment and report				Assessment and report		TNA	Reg training plan
Task 2.3.4 WFD and Marine Strategy Framework Directive – where to draw the line?						TNA	TNA					Reg training
Activity 2.4 Environmental Assessments	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Task 2.4.1 Annual meetings												2 nd Annual meeting
Task 2.4.2 Implementation and monitoring of SEA Directive		Pre - selection	Pre - selection	Meetings with relevant institutions	Meetings with relevant institutions							
Task 2.4.3 Other environmental assessments										1 st reg training		
Task 2.4.4 ToT		Training programme design	Training programme design	Training programme design	Training programme design					1 st ToT		
Activity 2.5 Air Quality	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Task 2.5.1 Annual meetings			1 st Annual									



			meeting									
Task 2.5.2 Preparation of TNA, training programme, training delivery			TNA	TNA	Training programme	Training programme			1 st Reg training			
Activity 2.6 Waste Management	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Task 2.6.1 Annual meetings	1 st Annual Meeting											
Task 2.6.2		Analysis of current waste mng policies/ Pilot Studies	Analysis of current waste mng policies/ Pilot Studies	Analysis of current waste mng policies/ Pilot Studies	Analysis of current waste mng policies/ Pilot Studies	Analysis of current waste mng policies/ Pilot Studies	Analysis of current waste mng policies/ Pilot Studies	Analysis of current waste mng policies/ Pilot Studies	Analysis of current waste mng policies/ Pilot Studies	Analysis of current waste mng policies/ Pilot Studies	Current status of planning /Reg training with Strat. Plann. WG	Current status of planning /
Activity 2.7 Nature	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Task 2.7.1 Annual meetings												
Task 2.7.2 Appropriate Assessments	Selection of AA pilot sites	Identification of participants	Identification of participants	Screening workshop AA pilot 1	Screening workshop AA pilot 1/reg training on Natura 2000 designation/Country assessment for natura 2000 designation	Main assessment workshop AA pilot 1/Country assessment for natura 2000 designation	Main assessment workshop AA pilot 1/Country assessment for natura 2000 designation	Main assessment workshop AA pilot 1/Country assessment for natura 2000 designation	Main assessment workshop AA pilot 1/Country assessment for natura 2000 designation	Evaluation and IROPI workshop at AA pilot 1/Country assessment for natura 2000 designation	Evaluation and IROPI workshop at AA pilot 1/Country assessment for natura 2000 designation	Evaluation and IROPI workshop at AA pilot 1/Country assessment for natura 2000 designation



					<i>natura 2000 designati on</i>							
Task 2.7.3 Regional Awareness Raising Programme												<i>1st Reg seminar</i>
Task 2.7.4 Participatory Management Plan	<i>Pilot site select</i>			<i>Methodo logy</i>	<i>Methodo logy</i>	<i>MP prep</i>	<i>MP prep</i>	<i>MP prep</i>	<i>MP prep</i>	<i>MP prep</i>	<i>MP prep</i>	<i>MP prep</i>
Task 2.7.5 Regional Cooperation among Nature Protected Areas (NPA)	<i>Search for PAs</i>	<i>Search for PAs</i>	<i>Org structure</i>	<i>Founding meeting</i>	<i>Eol to liaison for relevant EU net.</i>	<i>Eol to liaison for relevant EU net.</i>						<i>Annual meeting</i>
Activity 2.8 IED/Chemicals	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Task 2.8.1 Annual meetings	<i>1st Annual meeting</i>											
Task 2.8.2 Capacity building		<i>TNA/Trai ning program me</i>	<i>TNA/Trai ning program me</i>		<i>1st Reg training</i>							<i>2nd Reg training</i>

