Peer Review 3rd EPR
Macedonia

Achievements and Challenges in Advancing the Environmental Agenda for Sustainable Development
Achievements

• Advancing the transposition of EU Directives: four major national laws to be finalized in 2019.
• Building up Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTP) to reduce the pollution load in rivers and lakes (7 in towns and 44 in rural areas); starting soon the construction of the WWTP for Skopje (end of 2020)
• Establishing regional systems for integrated management of municipal waste in East and North East Regions in 2019
• Public Reform initiated; water tariffs regulated
• A trust fund for remediation of lindane dumps initiated
• A new “greener” Energy Strategy under development
Challenges

• Ambient air pollution in Skopje and other bigger towns
• Contaminated lands not subject to remediation yet
• Unsustainable mining and small hydropower development
• Electricity production from coal
• Declining ecological status of natural lakes
• Uncoordinated action towards sustainable management of forests and biodiversity conservation
Institutional Issues

- Data gaps: (poor) self reporting of permit holders and other stakeholders (healthcare institutions, municipalities etc.); MoEPP and SSO data collection streams not coordinated.
- Insufficient monitoring over the implementation of policy documents
- Inter-sectoral and inter-governmental coordination
- Enforcement capacity of environmental inspectors (national and local)
- Capacities of LSGs
- Environmental standards, green growth and green procurement at an early stage
Prioritizing EPR
Recommendations

• Improving environmental data collection and processing (statistics)
• Integrating the system of permitting (IPPC, water and waste)
• Enhancing monitoring
• Transparency of decision making, public participation and awareness raising; education for sustainable development
• Training of LSGUs;
• Strengthening river basin management councils and regional waste management councils
• Advancing environmental investments