

## **Economic Commission for Europe**

### **Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters**

#### **Fifth session**

Maastricht, the Netherlands, 30 June–1 July 2014

Item 5 (c) of the provisional agenda

#### **Procedures and mechanisms facilitating the implementation of the Convention: capacity-building**

### **Accompanying document to the Report on capacity-building activities (ECE/MP.PP/2014/7)<sup>1</sup>**

#### **Prepared by partner organizations and the secretariat of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision- making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters**

#### *Summary*

The report on capacity-building activities (ECE/MP.PP/2014/7) and its present accompanying document were prepared by partner organizations and the secretariat pursuant to the work programme for 2012–2014 for the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, adopted by the Meeting of the Parties to Convention at its fourth session (Geneva, 29 June –1 July 2011) (see ECE/MP.PP/2011/2/Add.1).

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<sup>1</sup> This document was not formally edited.

## Capacity-building projects related to the Aarhus Convention and the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers

<i>Implementing organization</i>	<i>Project title</i>	<i>Objectives and target group(s)</i>	<i>Geographical scope</i>	<i>Duration</i>	<i>Provisional outcomes</i>	<i>Source of funds</i>	<i>Major subject and relation to the Strategic Plan objectives</i>
OSCE	Aarhus Centres in South Caucasus	To empower civil society in the South Caucasus countries as essential partners in reduction of environment and security risks. The project aims to achieve this goal through promoting good environmental governance principles, which are embodied in the Aarhus Convention.	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia	March 2013–December 2014	<p>The project builds on achievements of the previous phase of the project that supported establishment and operation of several Aarhus Centres in the region. Aarhus Centres in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia serve as resource centres for environmental information; promote public participation in local environmental decision-making and in the development and revision of environmental legislation; provide a link between local and central governmental agencies on environmental issues; and facilitate the development of local environmental strategies and action plans. As of December 2013, 15 Aarhus Centres operate in Armenia, 1 in Georgia and 3 in Azerbaijan.</p> <p>In Georgia Aarhus Centre is also actively involved in monitoring the EIA process and providing recommendations on how to improve public participation in decision making process. In 2013, in an effort to institutionalize the Aarhus Centre and to ensure its long-term sustainability, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia transformed the Aarhus Centre into an independent state entity that deals with the access to information, public participation and capacity building of civil servants on environmental issues and environmental education. The project supports some of the activities of the centre dedicated to the implementation of all three pillars of the Convention.</p> <p>The project is expected to further improve access to environmental information and</p>	ENVSEC (Governments of Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, as well as Finland)	General, Aarhus Centres Objectives I.1, I.4, I.12, I.13, I.15, III.3 and III.6

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					<p>enhance awareness of civil society about environmental challenges in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia.</p> <p>The project will strengthen the participatory decision-making on environmental issues in Armenia and Georgia through capacity building activities, as well as through the active involvement of Aarhus Centres in monitoring public participation processes and alerting governments to the deficiencies. The project will support the elaboration of the recommendations on the improvement of the public participation process in the EIA process.</p> <p>Efforts will be made at the national and regional level to enhance access to justice in environmental matters through capacity building workshops for judiciary on the Aarhus Convention requirements.</p>		

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OSCE	Support for Aarhus Centres in Central Asia	To further intensify the work of Aarhus Centres on priority environmental issues with security implications in the respective countries.	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan	April 2010–December 2014	<p>Building on the previous OSCE support, this project supported the establishment and/or operation of Aarhus Centres in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan. Aarhus Centres network in Central Asia currently includes 13 Centres in Kazakhstan, 1 Centre in Kyrgyzstan, 7 Centres in Tajikistan and 1 Centre in Turkmenistan.</p> <p>Aarhus Centres have been actively involved in providing information on environmental issues, increasing awareness of the public rights under the Aarhus Convention; in assisting the governments to disseminate environmental information. Aarhus Centres in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan are actively engaged in organizing public hearings on development plans and programmes relating to the environment; The project has been promoting implementation of the Protocol on PRTRs as well.</p> <p>Aarhus Centres in the region organized several seminars at national and local level for lawyers and representatives of the judiciary on the Aarhus Convention and its requirement.</p>	ENVSEC (Government of Norway and Finland) Government of the United States	General, Aarhus Centres Objectives I.8, II.2, II.5, III.3 and III.6
OSCE	Promoting the implementation of the Aarhus Convention in the South-Eastern European Region	To strengthen regional, national and local capacities for participatory and informed planning, decision-making, implementation and monitoring processes in relation to environment and security challenges	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia	July 2010–December 2014	<p>As of 2013, there are 13 Aarhus Centres established in the South East Europe, including through the support of this project. 3 Centres operate in Albania, 3 in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 3 in Montenegro and 4 in Serbia.</p> <p>This network of Aarhus Centres has created an infrastructure for citizen-State-private sector interaction and dialogue on environmental issues. This project focuses on encouraging greater transparency in decision-making processes in local planning with implications for the environment. Aarhus</p>	ENVSEC (Government of Finland) ECE	General, Aarhus Centres I.1, I.4, I.5, I.6, I.7, I.9, I.10, I.11, I.12, I.13, I.15, I.16, III.2, III.3, III.4 and III.7

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					<p>Centres facilitate the Convention's implementation through capacity-building, awareness-raising and providing a participatory platform for decision-making among relevant governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. In Bosnia and Herzegovina the project also supported the preparation of the 2014 Aarhus Convention National Implementation Report.</p> <p>Through the Regional Component the project facilitates the exchange of experiences, best practices and lessons learned among the countries in implementation of the Convention.</p>		

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OSCE	Civic Action for Security and Environment (CASE) NGO Small Grants Programme	To create an enabling environment for civil society organizations to be a strong partner, primarily to Governments but also to other stakeholders, in collaboratively addressing environment and security challenges.	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan	2008–2014	<p>CASE small grants programme aims at building the capacity of the civil society organisations in addressing environment and security challenges. The programme is implemented in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Tajikistan. Aarhus Centres in these countries, particularly in Armenia and Tajikistan, provide the platform for dissemination of information on CASE project activities to national and local stakeholders and CASE activities. It allows Aarhus Centres to expand their outreach, increase their visibility and strengthen their role and value in addressing implementation challenges facing the Convention.</p> <p>In its pilot phase, CASE received in total 350 project applications from NGOs and supported 63 NGO projects in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Tajikistan. In the South Caucasus region 47 projects were granted CASE funding support, 19 in Azerbaijan and 28 in Armenia. In Tajikistan 16 NGO projects were selected by the National Screening Board and received grants under the CASE Initiative.</p> <p>All CASE projects have strong elements of public awareness and participation with a special focus on youth and women. Most of these projects benefit from the Aarhus Centre platforms and also contribute to the implementation of the Convention at the local level. In Armenia, CASE is an integral component of the Aarhus Centres Initiative. In Tajikistan, two regional Aarhus Centres have been instrumental in disseminating CASE information to NGOs.</p>	Government of Austria ENVSEC (Government of Canada and Finland) Government of Luxembourg, Liechtenstein and Norway, United States of America Statoil Azerbaijan	General I.3, I.6, I.9, III.5 and III.7

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ECE, OSCE	Subregional meeting "Implementing the Aarhus Convention today: Paving the way to a better environment and governance tomorrow"  <a href="http://www.unece.org/centralasianmeeting2012.html">http://www.unece.org/centralasianmeeting2012.html</a>	To enhance the capacity of judiciary and other stakeholders on issues related to access to justice in environmental matters and Aarhus Convention requirements.	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan as well as Uzbekistan and Mongolia	May 2012	Over 50 representatives of the judiciary, civil society and Aarhus Centers attended the event aimed at discussing access to justice in environmental matters and the role of the judiciary in implementation and enforcing of the Aarhus Convention. While ensuring access to justice was acknowledged to be the most challenging issue facing by the states, a lack of expertise related to the procedural requirements for the Convention's proper implementation was also highlighted in this context. Sub-regional meeting was followed by the Aarhus Centres meeting to exchange best practices and lessons learned in Central Asian countries.	ECE, OSCE	Access to Justice Objectives I.5, I.6, I.10, I.11, I.12, I.13 and I.14
OSCE, REC	Environmental Mediation and Conflict Resolution	To strengthen the capacities of the Aarhus Centre Managers and their constituencies on consensus building and mediation techniques in the area of environment.	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia	April 2013	35 participants, including representatives from public authorities and Aarhus Centres in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia, civil society as well as international experts attended the meeting. During the training, case studies and practical exercises were conducted with the aim to strengthen the capacity of the representatives on consensus building and mediation techniques in the area of environment	OSCE, REC	Public participation in Decision-making (PPDM), Access to Justice Objectives III. 1, III.2, III.5 and III.7  Decision II/5
OSCE, ECE	Subregional workshop on PRTRs in South-Eastern Europe "Get your right to a healthy community"  <a href="http://www.unece.org/prtr_see2013.html">http://www.unece.org/prtr_see2013.html</a>	To improve knowledge on legal, institutional and technical requirements for introducing PRTRs; to identify technical and capacity building needs to facilitate the provision of targeted support and to promote effective networking.	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia	May 2013	More than 50 participants, including representatives from the governments, Aarhus Centres, civil society and industry community as well as international experts attended the meeting. Key problems, needs and solutions were identified and comprehensively detailed by workshop participants. These outcomes provide a basis for identifying priority needs for future PRTR development work, capacity-building activities and bilateral programmes	OSCE, ECE	Access to Information, PRTRs, Objectives I.8, II.2 and III.2

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OSCE	Strengthening the capacities of Aarhus Centres in disaster risk reduction (DRR) in order to enhance awareness of local communities	To strengthen the capacities and roles of civilian population and communities in Disaster Risk Reduction through the Aarhus Centres.	Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Tajikistan	2014–2016	The project will be launched in spring of 2014. The project activities will focus on strengthening the capacities and roles of civilian population and communities in DRR through the Aarhus Centres. Based on the existing institutional structure and the partnership arrangements of the Aarhus Centres, this project will enhance the capacities of Aarhus Centres in the field of DRR and empower them to be active players in promoting community based disaster risk reduction efforts, which have security implications within and across borders.	Swiss Development Co-operation, Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Finland, Austrian Development Agency (ADA)	Access to Information, PPDM Objectives I.4, I.7, I.6, I.13, III. 2 and III.4
OSCE	Gender mainstreaming in Aarhus Centres	To strengthen gender mainstreaming in Aarhus Centres' activities by developing the Aarhus Centres' respective capacities and by implementing pilot projects	Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Tajikistan	2014–2015	The project will be launched in 2014. Through the project, the Aarhus Centre staff and Aarhus stakeholders will develop capacity to effectively integrate a gender perspective into their work. The project will facilitate dialogue and strengthen cooperation among the Aarhus Centres at the regional level by bringing them together for joint discussion of issues related to gender mainstreaming.	At the fundraising stage	General Objectives I.12 and I.13
UNITAR	POPs monitoring, reporting and information dissemination using Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTRs)  <a href="http://www.un">http://www.un</a>		Cambodia, Kazakhstan, Thailand, Ukraine, Chile, Ecuador, Peru	December 2009–September 2012	Outcomes included the following:  (a) PRTR used as a tool for POPs, and other chemicals, monitoring and reporting;  (b) Identification of POPs and other chemicals priority areas nationally and regionally through annual information provided by PRTRs;  (c) Capacity enhanced nationally for an effective transfer and processing of data and	GEF, UNEP	Access to Information, PRTRs Objectives I.8, II.2, II.5 and III.2

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	itar.org/cwm/projects-database				<p>further provision of information;</p> <p>(d) Information available for all sectors regardless of their access to modern and technological tools</p> <p>(e) Exchanging of information to the Stockholm Convention Secretariat and Parties facilitated;</p> <p>(f) Capacity enhanced facilitating PRTR development;</p> <p>(g) Best practices and lessons learned in the development and implementation of POPs reporting and monitoring systems identified and disseminated.</p>		
UNITAR	Global project on the implementation of PRTRs as a tool for reporting and dissemination of information on POPs		Belarus, Cambodia, Ecuador, Kazakhstan, Republic of Moldova, and Peru	2014-2017	<p>This project is a continuation of the project implemented in 2009-2012 which designed PRTRs in 6 countries to report on POPs. The new project is aimed at implementing the national PRTR systems that were designed and piloted during Phase I.</p> <p>The project will include activities on developing PRTR specific national legislation, identify adequate emission estimation techniques in all countries, ensure standardization and comparability of PRTR data and identify lessons learned on using PRTRs as POPs reporting tools. The project also includes development of various training material on PRTRs.</p>	GEF, UNEP	Access to Information, PRTRs Objectives I.8, II.2, II.5 and III.2
UNITAR	Strengthening capacities for developing a national PRTR and supporting SAICM imple		Panama	2010-2014	<p>Expected outcomes include the following:</p> <p>(a) PRTR Infrastructure Assessment;</p> <p>(b) PRTR Key Features Document;</p> <p>(c) PRTR Pilot trial;</p>	SAICM QSPTF	Access to Information, PRTRs Objectives I.8, II.2, II.5 and III.2

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	mentation in Panama <a href="http://www.unitar.org/cwm/projects-database">http://www.unitar.org/cwm/projects-database</a>				(d) Final proposal on a national PRTR.		
UNITAR	Strengthening capacities for designing a national PRTR and supporting SAICM implementation in Azerbaijan <a href="http://www.unitar.org/cwm/projects-database">http://www.unitar.org/cwm/projects-database</a>		Azerbaijan	2010-2014	Expected outcomes include the following: (a) PRTR Infrastructure Assessment; (b) PRTR Key Features Document; (c) PRTR Pilot trial; (d) Final proposal on a national PRTR.	SAICM QSPTF	Access to Information, PRTRs Objectives I.8, II.2 and III.2
OECD Task Force on PRTRs	Harmonised list of pollutants Harmonised list of reporting sectors <a href="http://www.oecd.org/env/prtr">http://www.oecd.org/env/prtr</a>	To enhance data comparability across PRTR systems and streamline reporting practices with the objective to cover, as common or minimum sets of pollutants and reporting sectors.	All PRTR systems and PRTR-like systems	2010–2013	Harmonised List of PRTR pollutants and reporting sectors to be covered in the scope of PRTR registers worldwide. This exercise also aims at providing among different PRTRs.	OECD	Access to Information, PRTRs Objectives I.8, II.2 and III.2
OECD Task Force on PRTRs	Revision of Resource Compendium of PRTR Release Estimation Techniques <a href="http://www.oecd.org/env/prtr">http://www.oecd.org/env/prtr</a> <a href="http://www.oecd.org/env/prtr">http://www.oecd.org/env/prtr</a>	To revise the four-part Compendium comprising general information, principles and a collection of existing Release Estimation Techniques to make PRTR data.	All PRTR systems and PRTR-like systems	In 2011, the revision of parts 2 and 4 (diffuse source and releases from products)  In 2012-2013, the revision of	Updated information on estimation techniques of: 1) Point Sources; 2) Non-Point Sources (Diffuse sources and releases from products); and 3) Off-site transfer.  A database, PRTR Resource Centre for Release Estimation Technique, has been updated annually to provide existing release	OECD	Access to Information, PRTRs Objectives I.8, II.2 and III.2

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	d.org/env/prtr/r c			part 1 (point sources)	estimation techniques.		
OECD Task Force on PRTRs	Application, use and presentation of PRTR Data  <a href="http://www.oecd.org/env/prtr">http://www.oecd.org/env/prtr</a>	To identify what guidance or tools exist globally on the use of PRTR data; and to identify gaps in the use of PRTR data.	All PRTR systems and PRTR-like systems	2011- 2013	A report summering the results of the survey to identify existing guidance and current gaps of the use of PRTR data, <i>Application, Use and Presentation of PRTR Data</i> .	OECD	Access to Information, PRTRs Objectives I.8, II.2 and III.2
EC, EEA	European PRTR as priority data flow aims at including data from candidate and potential candidate countries to E-PRTR  <a href="http://prtr.ec.europa.eu/">http://prtr.ec.europa.eu/</a>  <a href="http://www.eionet.europa.eu/dataflows/">http://www.eionet.europa.eu/dataflows/</a>	Include PRTR data into the so-called "Priority data flow" with the objective to provide support for countries when they are putting procedures in place for regular reporting of environmental data.	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey	2010–	2011: PRTR data of Serbia, validated and published on the European PRTR website.  2012–2013: the main focus will be on Croatia, Albania, Turkey and Israel.	EC, EEA	Access to Information, PRTRs Objectives I.8, II.2, II.5 and III.2
EC	TAIEX and Twinning projects  <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taix/index_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taix/index_en.htm</a>	TAIEX is an instrument for capacity-building that supports countries with regard to the approximation, application and enforcement of EU legislation.  The Twinning programme pairs administrations and semi-public organizations in beneficiary countries with their	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro,	2007–	The EU Enlargement Directorate General, jointly with the Ministry of Environment of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, organized a seminar on European PRTR (Skopje, 15 April 2008).  It also jointly organized workshops on European PRTR with the Croatian Environmental Agency (Zagreb, 7 July 2007)	E	Access to Information, PRTRs Objectives I.8, II.2, and III.2

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		counterparts in EU member States in order to facilitate the transposition, enforcement and implementation of EU legislation.	Serbia, Turkey, Kosovo <sup>2</sup> , Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia		and 15 September 2010). The Directorate General also jointly organized with the Ministry of Environmental of Israel a workshop on European PRTR (Tel Aviv, 22 November 2010).		
EEA	Towards a Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) in the European Neighbourhood (ENPI-SEIS) <a href="http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu">http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu</a>	Promote the protection of the environment in the European Neighbourhood region through the European Neighbourhood Partnership Instrument National environmental and statistical organisations leading in the field of environmental information	ENP Eastern partners: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine  Strategic partnership with the Russian Federation (it withdrew from the project in September 2013)	December 2009–September 2014	Expected outcomes are: (a) To identify and develop data and information flows and environmental indicators suitable for the design and review of environmental policies, supporting the monitoring and compliance with various national, regional and international obligations and targets; (b) To improve national capacities in the field of monitoring, collection, storage, assessment, and reporting of environmental data in the relevant environmental authorities including the national statistical systems, in compliance with reporting obligations to international agreements and in coordination with relevant regional initiatives; (c) To set up national and regional environmental information systems in the countries of the ENP area that are in line with the principles of the EU Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS); (d) To track progress of the regional environmental initiatives (such as the Eastern	European Commission DG EuropeAid	Access to Information, Objectives I.8 and III.2

<sup>2</sup> All references to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text should be read in line with United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

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REC	Implementing Public Participation Approaches in Radioactive Waste Disposal		Czech Republic, Romania, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia	2011–2013	<p>Partnership, EU-Russia Strategic Partnership).</p> <p>Recommendations on improving public participation in the nuclear waste disposal issues, including complying with the requirements of international agreements, such as the Aarhus and Espoo Conventions, EU directives and related national legislation and best practice approaches.</p> <p>Explanation of the importance of cross-border issues in nuclear sector public participation procedures: the case study/studies.</p> <p>Cross-border issues in nuclear waste management sector: how novel approaches in risk communication can improve public participation in transboundary SEA and transboundary EIA procedures.</p> <p>Reports of the national and European meetings. Publication “Decision Making for the Future: Applying the Aarhus Convention in radioactive waste management” is available from <a href="http://www.rec.org/publication.php?id=428">http://www.rec.org/publication.php?id=428</a></p>	EU, Framework Programme 7 (FP7)	PPDM Objectives I.5, I.6, I.7 and I.9
REC	Improve public participation know-how at the regional and local level in EIA, SEA or Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC) decision-	Pilot projects combined with capacity building for authorities, including municipalities, and NGOs.	<p>Ongoing in Albania and Serbia</p> <p>Planned in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia</p>	2010–2012	<p>Improved practical knowledge of officials and NGOs.</p> <p>Practical toolkit in local language to assist officials at different levels to carry out public participation procedures in EIA, SEA or urban planning processes.</p> <p>Means and mechanisms are in place for effective public participation as well as for consultation and cooperation between Governments, civil society organizations and</p>	ENVSEC Project “Strengthening regional cooperation on environmental governance through participatory and	PPDM Objectives I.5, I.6, I.9, I.12 and I.13

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	making		and Montenegro		<p>the private sector on environment and security issues at the national and local levels.</p> <p>Public participation is promoted as an integral component of the preparatory processes for policies, plans, programmes and projects which may have a significant effect on the environment.</p>	informed decision making and implementation processes”	
REC	Trainings for legal professionals on national and international environmental legislation and facilitation of access by the public to justice in environmental matters	<p>Building capacity of judges and prosecutors, in cooperation with Judicial Training Centres.</p> <p>Dialogue on identification of barriers to access to justice and their reduction or removal for legal professionals and NGOs.</p>	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Kosovo	2010–2013	<p>The multi-stakeholder round-tables on access to justice took place in Albania on 1-2 July 2012 and Bosnia and Herzegovina on 25-26 June 2012 as well as the interactive trainings in local languages for judges and prosecutors in Montenegro on 11-12 December 2012 and in Kosovo on 28-29 January 2013.</p> <p>The events promoted a better understanding by the public authorities, judiciary, legal professionals and NGOs about implementation of the third pillar of the Convention on access to justice, in particular the obligations, rights and opportunities the Convention provides, related EU directives and national and international environmental legislation.</p> <p>The round tables with the judiciary, legal professionals and NGOs in Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina have also raised awareness, provided a better understanding of existing barriers to implementation of the Convention’s third pillar, and recommendations have been formulated for their removal.</p> <p>NGO strategy meetings/trainings on access to justice rights and opportunities in Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina have resulted in</p>	ENVSEC Project “Strengthening regional cooperation on environmental governance through participatory and informed decision making and implementation processes”	Access to Justice Objectives I.5, I.6, I.10, I.11, I.12, I.13 and I.14

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					<p>more awareness of the rights and opportunities for access to justice and possible strategies to bring cases by NGOs.</p> <p>As a result, national and local capacities have been strengthened for effective access to justice in environmental matters.</p>		
REC	Awareness and training activities on the use of PRTRs and PRTR reporting	<p>Evaluate the current reporting system and its difficulties, discuss improvements and planned changes with authorities.</p> <p>Build capacity of authorities, operators and NGOs via on-site training at one selected facility (Albania).</p> <p>Assess the current status of the legal, institutional and technical requirements on PRTRs.</p>	Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Albania,	2010–2012	<p>Assessment of the current status of the legal, institutional and technical requirements on PRTRs and/or the necessary developments, identifying the potential difficulties for operators for reporting.</p> <p>Progress in PRTR development through supporting a mission of technical assistance on the adaptation and installation of the free PRTR reporting software of Germany in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.</p> <p>Multi-stakeholder meetings to discuss findings and recommendations for future steps took place in Albania. Improved understanding of the role, actions, responsibilities and benefits of operators and NGOs, built through a workshop at a pilot cement factory “Antea” in Fushe Kruje on 13December 2012 and at a seminar for NGOs in Tirana on 14 December 2012 on the use of PRTR in Albania, and a local language guidance prepared for operators on reporting requirements on air emissions.</p> <p>Improved capacities for PRTR implementation and better understanding of reporting requirements by authorities, and operators through a series of three meetings between operators and the competent</p>	ENVSEC Project “Strengthening regional cooperation on environmental governance through participatory and informed decision making and implementation processes”	Access to Information, PRTRs Objectives I.8, II.2 and III.2

<i>Implementing organization</i>	<i>Project title</i>	<i>Objectives and target group(s)</i>	<i>Geographical scope</i>	<i>Duration</i>	<i>Provisional outcomes</i>	<i>Source of funds</i>	<i>Major subject and relation to the Strategic Plan objectives</i>
REC	Capacity building to put the Aarhus Convention into action and support development of PRTR systems in selected South and Eastern European countries <a href="http://aarhus.rec.org/">http://aarhus.rec.org/</a>	<p>To support the target countries in addressing the major gaps regarding the second and third pillars in the implementation of the Aarhus Convention;</p> <p>To strengthen the capacities of officials responsible for public participation in environmental decision-making, and capacities of NGOs to use participatory skills, influence decision-making process and improve the quality of environmental decisions,</p> <p>To increase the awareness and knowledge of the judiciary, authorities and NGOs of access to justice in environmental matters and contribute to removing barriers to access to justice;</p> <p>To provide knowledge for authorities, operators and NGOs to understand their role and responsibilities in developing and operating functioning PRTRs and to prepare for use of reporting procedures;</p> <p>Thereby, to improve the application of the Convention and to support the preparations for ratification /implementation of the Protocol on PRTRs.</p>	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	2011–2013	<p>authorities in Serbia in Arandjelovac, Belgrade and Subotica in December 2012.</p> <p>Model participation process designed together with local decision-makers, and capacity building trainings in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia enabling officials responsible for the participation activities and other important stakeholders (operators and local NGOs), to design and implement participatory processes and thus increase the quality and transparency of the decision-making.</p> <p>Practical Public Participation Toolkits published in 4 local languages, focusing on the public participation requirements and offering practical advices and experiences to the officials, operators and developers who manage development and have responsibility for decision-making and promote open and inclusive decision-making. (<a href="http://www.rec.org/publication.php?id=411">www.rec.org/publication.php?id=411</a>)</p> <p>Improved awareness, knowledge and better comprehension by the judiciary, authorities and NGOs of the current situation and barriers to access to justice, and of the opportunities to remove or reduce them. This was achieved through the roundtable discussions held in Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in 2012 for representatives of judiciary, ministries of environment and justice and NGOs.</p> <p>Increased NGOs knowledge and skills of their rights and opportunities under the Aarhus Convention and national legislation gained in trainings for them in Kosovo,</p>	German Federal Ministry's Advisory Assistance Programme for Environmental Protection in the Countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia	General Objectives 1.5, 1.6, 1.8 1.9, 1.10, 1.11, 1.12, 1.13, and 1.14

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					<p>Montenegro, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in 2012. The outcomes of these events may be used in their future work, including strategies and methods for administrative and court procedures and for removing major barriers or obstacles;</p> <p>Increased knowledge and awareness of judges and prosecutors to improve the practices gained through the interactive trainings held in 2012 and 2013, in cooperation with judicial training centers. The trainings aimed at providing information on the access to justice pillar of the Convention, EU and national legislation and court practices as well as at using case studies and discussing problems and solutions for removal of barriers.</p> <p>The following progress was made in implementing the Protocol PRTR and developing functional PRTRs:</p> <p>(a) the installation and adaptation of the free German reporting software in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, user manuals for authorities and operators assisting with the use of the software, tested with pilot facility and create the conditions for reporting as of 2014;</p> <p>(b) the development of the web portals in Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia for the better public access and dissemination of PRTR data, linked with the reporting software and the databases;</p> <p>(c) capacity building meetings and stakeholder workshops and local language</p>		

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					guidance materials for operators, authorities and other stakeholders in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in 2012 and 2013.		
REC	Supporting Environmental Civil Society in Belarus and the Republic of Moldova” (SECTOR)  <a href="http://sector.rec.org">http://sector.rec.org</a>	To support the organisational development of civil society organizations (CSOs), building their capacity to achieve long-term environmental impacts and sustainability  To enable CSOs to be more actively involved in a dialogue with the society and decision making on environmental and sustainable development issues.  To help CSOs to promote sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles at and to strengthen CSO capacities and networking, as well as CSO interaction with governments and businesses at different levels.	Belarus and Republic of Moldova	2011–2014	Through 5-days master class trainings held in the Republic of Moldova from 8 to 12 April 2103 and in Belarus from 3 to 7 July 2013, 25 and 26 CSOs participants respectively were enabled to play their role in the community and cooperate as partners with the authorities and different actors.  The project outcomes aims to achieve environmental improvements, promote sustainable development, to allow CSOs to be more actively involved in a dialogue, participate in decision making on environmental and sustainable development issues and contribute to the solution of environmental problems.  CSOs will apply practical and participatory approaches and instruments related to all three pillars of the Convention on access to information, public participation and access to justice.	Government of Sweden	General Objectives 1.6, 1.12, 1.13
REC	Water Scarcity and Drought (WATER CoRe): Effects of Climate Change on Water	To exchange experience and transfer know-how and good practices on water scarcity and drought issues on political and technical level between 7 European partner regions;  To strengthen the interregional	14 partners from 7 EU Member States including France, Germany,	2010–2013	Digital exchange platform, a good practice handbook and a guide, an E-learning module including chapters on access to information and public participation, and a survey specifying the opportunities to exchange good practices within the partnership,	EU Interreg IV.C	Access to Information, PPDM  Objectives 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8, and 1.9

<i>Implementing organization</i>	<i>Project title</i>	<i>Objectives and target group(s)</i>	<i>Geographical scope</i>	<i>Duration</i>	<i>Provisional outcomes</i>	<i>Source of funds</i>	<i>Major subject and relation to the Strategic Plan objectives</i>
	Management	cooperation between politicians, policy-makers and technical experts;  To provide a digital platform in order to disseminate information, measures and strategies and policy recommendations	Italy, Hungary, the Netherlands, Romania and Spain		Regional action plans to transfer experiences between regions, an e-learning programme with thematic modules as well as policy recommendations with special attention to regions in Central and Eastern Europe by establishing a focal point on water scarcity and droughts in REC, in Hungary.		
REC, ECE, OSCE	Strengthening access to justice in environmental matters in South-Eastern Europe	The objective of the project is to analyse the implementation of article 9 of the Convention in South-Eastern Europe and to identify any impediments encountered in meeting the requirements related to access to justice with focus on standing, costs and remedies. It also aims to provide recommendations on how such impediments may be overcome. The project contributes to improving governance and environmental protection in the selected countries.	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	2013–2015	<p>This project is implemented through the national studies and a regional study on the key issues of access to justice as well as broad discussion on findings.</p> <p>National studies were prepared by national experts on the basis of the distributed questionnaire in English and then translated into national languages.</p> <p>The national focal points of the Convention in the respective countries of South-Eastern Europe in cooperation with the experts and with the support of REC and OSCE organized consultations on the national studies involving the ministry responsible for justice affairs, the highest courts, bar associations, environmental non-governmental organizations and other interested stakeholders.</p> <p>The studies were amended to reflect the comments of the stakeholders.</p> <p>A draft analytical summary with the preliminary findings and conclusions was prepared, discussed at the expert meeting and presented at the seventh meeting of the Task Force on Access to Justice serviced by ECE</p>	ENVSEC (Government of Austria)	Access to Justice Objectives 1, 5, 1.6, 1.10, 1.11, 1.12, 1.13, 1.14 and III.6

Implementing organization	Project title	Objectives and target group(s)	Geographical scope	Duration	Provisional outcomes	Source of funds	Major subject and relation to the Strategic Plan objectives
					(Geneva, 24-25 February 2014). The study will serve as a background material and training material for multi-stakeholder dialogue at national level and subregional levels and will facilitate future capacity-building activities in the subregion.		
REC, EEB	Building bridges between regions by improving public access to environmental information, public participation and access to justice	To increase the capacity of governmental and civil society stakeholders at different levels as well as the capacity of the judiciary and other actors on Principle 10 implementation by: (a) offering a forum for exchange of experience between the ECE region and other regions, and (b) developing and providing capacity building programs and targeted trainings.	Latin American and Caribbean region, Middle East and North Africa region and ECE region	December 2013–December 2014	The main deliverables of the project will be: (a) Overview of lessons learned and the experience and benefit of strengthened public access to information, public participation in decision making and access to justice in environmental matters in ECE region; (b) Active forums for exchange of experience and good practices which are serving the needs of an informal network of stakeholders; (c) Established operational web-based and knowledge-based information platform offering possibilities for webinars on priority topics; (d) Targeted capacity building programmes.  The main outcome of the projects include the following: (a) Strengthened inter-regional cooperation to foster the implementation of Principle 10 of Rio Declaration, with enhanced understanding of its benefits; (b) Progress in defining of the modalities of this cooperation at the regional level in the ECLAC region with ECE actors' support; (c) Developed work programme which includes priority topics for a capacity building programme.	Environmental Agency Abu Dhabi	General Objective II.5

<i>Implementing organization</i>	<i>Project title</i>	<i>Objectives and target group(s)</i>	<i>Geographical scope</i>	<i>Duration</i>	<i>Provisional outcomes</i>	<i>Source of funds</i>	<i>Major subject and relation to the Strategic Plan objectives</i>
CAREC	Bilateral support the Central Asian countries to promote SEIS	To improve accessibility of environmental information in Central Asia, in a form of a coherent and integrated Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS).  The project promotes Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) as a tool to improve environmental governance in countries, information exchange and regional cooperation.  Target group: policy-makers, statistics and hydrometeorological service, experts and scientists in environment, water and other areas.	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan	November 2012–June 2013	The project outcomes included the following:  (a) Identified gaps and needs for development of environmental and sectoral greening indicators and improvement the environmental statistics;  (b) Improved understanding of relevant authorities that the quality, timeliness and availability of environmental information to be a critical factor for making progress in any environment strategy;  (c) SEIS was promoted at the national level in a wide range of a tools providing information for environmental management and decision making;  (d) Increased awareness of relevant authorities in the areas of cooperation, networking, monitoring, data management, assessment and indicator based reporting on the environment at the regional level.	Federal Office for the Environment of Switzerland (FOEN)	Access to Information, Objectives I.8 and III.2
CAREC	Forest and Biodiversity Governance and Environmental Monitoring (MONECA part of FLERMONEC A)	To promote the stability and security of the countries of Central Asia, to assist them in their pursuit of sustainable economic development and poverty reduction and to facilitate closer regional cooperation both within the Central Asia and between the Central Asia and the EU.  Environmental monitoring part of the programme (MONECA) aims at strengthening partnership between the EU and Central Asian environmental data centres and	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan	June 2013–December 2015	Support the development of the system for the State of Environment Reports (SoER) by:  (a) Developing the annotated outlines of SoER according to the ECE Guideline on Environmental Indicators;  (b) Developing the indicators on air and biodiversity, ensuring the online availability of the indicators and regular updates of the SoERs;  (c) Support for the development of the system for the regular collection, storage, sharing and processing of data and information.	European Aid via Hessian State Forest Administration Germany, Umweltbundesamt GmbH Austria, UBA-GmbH	Access to Information, Objectives I.8 and III.2

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		institutions and at improving environmental monitoring and national reporting.  Target group: policy-makers, statistics and hydrometeorological service, experts and scientists in environment, water and other areas.					
CAREC	Assessment of Assessments (AoA) with focus on air, wastes, biodiversity and climate change for Central Asia  <a href="http://aoa.ew.eea.europa.eu/virtual-library-viewer">http://aoa.ew.eea.europa.eu/virtual-library-viewer</a>	To prepare the Assessment of Assessments report with focus on air, waste, biodiversity and climate change topics.  Target group: policy-makers, national experts on air, waste, biodiversity and climate change.	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan	December 2012– January 2014	Expected results include the following:  (a) Established AoA working groups (WGs) in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan;  (b) All relevant and available assessments to be analyzed and uploaded on the EE-AoA portal;  (c) Country fiches (one fiche for each subject for each country) prepared, agreed and uploaded on the EEA portal;  (d) Assessment reviews for Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan on air, wastes, biodiversity and climate change;  (d) Assessment reports, their findings and conclusions were presented at the fourteenth session of the ECE Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment in Geneva, November 2013.	FOEN (Switzerland)	Access to Information, Objectives I.8 and III.2
CAREC	Assessment of Assessments (AoA) with focus on water resources and green economy for the Central Asian region	The project aimed at:  (a) Preparing Central Asian subregional component (CA AoA) of the European AoA;  (b) Exploring opportunities for the region to be gradually integrated into the Shared environmental information	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan	December 2012– December 2013	The project outcomes included the following:  (a) Established regional Working Group of national experts involved in environmental reporting and conducted series of working meetings;  (b) 76 assessments related to Central Asian region were collected and uploaded on the	FOEN (Switzerland), ECE, Italy	Access to Information, Objectives I.8 and III.2

<i>Implementing organization</i>	<i>Project title</i>	<i>Objectives and target group(s)</i>	<i>Geographical scope</i>	<i>Duration</i>	<i>Provisional outcomes</i>	<i>Source of funds</i>	<i>Major subject and relation to the Strategic Plan objectives</i>
	http://aoa.ew.eea.europa.eu/virtual-library-viewer	system (SEIS).  Target group: policy-makers, national experts in environmental reporting, water and green economy			Virtual library of the EE-AoA portal;  (c) 10 country fiches for all participating countries (one fiche for each subject) were developed, approved by the EEA and uploaded on the EE-AoA portal;  (d) 50 review templates were filled on the most relevant and wider assessments registered in the Virtual library;  (e) CA-AoA was developed, confirmed by the national focal points and published in the paper and electronic formats;  (d) Main recommendations of the CA-AoA were presented at the side event at the Seventh “Environment for Europe” Ministerial Conference.		
CAREC	Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan	To foster and support the implementation of EIA and the Espoo Convention throughout the region by building capacities on EIA.  Target groups: practitioners working in the governments, science field, private sector, NGOs and sector specific experts	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan	2008–2014	The outcomes of the project includes the following:  (a) National policy dialogues on EIA and strategic environmental assessment (SEA);  (b) Capacity development of the target groups;  (c) Establishment of national and regional networks of EIA practitioners in Central Asia;  (d) Development of case studies;  (e) Development and improvement of EIA procedures;  (f) Development of the commonly accessible database: EIA/SEA information and material, pool of experts, glossary, and etc.	FOEN (Switzerland)	PPDM Objectives I.9, I.13, and III.4

<i>Implementing organization</i>	<i>Project title</i>	<i>Objectives and target group(s)</i>	<i>Geographical scope</i>	<i>Duration</i>	<i>Provisional outcomes</i>	<i>Source of funds</i>	<i>Major subject and relation to the Strategic Plan objectives</i>
CAREC	Promoting Payment of Ecosystem Services (PES) in Central Asia	Set of activities aimed to demonstrate the feasibility of applying the Recommendations on Payments for Ecosystem Services in Integrated Water Resources Management in a Central Asian context.	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan	2008-2015	The outcomes of the project includes the following:  (a) Analysis of the existing legal framework and regulatory barriers on PES introduction in the targeted countries;  (b) Development of the guidelines on PES application;  (c) Mobilization of stakeholders, raising their interest and trust to PES;  (d) Review of the socio-economic situation, environmental services assessment on project territories;  (e) Development of possible PES schemes;  (f) Additional fund-raising for PES promotion;  (g) Production of information material: leaflets, posters and case studies;  (h) Side Events at the Ministerial Conferences MCED6, Rio+20;  (i) Training-seminars;  (j) Networking PES experts and stakeholders	FOEN (Switzerland)	PPDM Objectives I.6, I.9, I.12, I.13 and III.7
CAREC	EURECA. AWARE: Targeted Awareness Raising for Enhanced EU-CA Partnership	To increase awareness on the most problematic environmental issues in water management, environmental governance and climate change as well as to enhance regional and EU-CA cooperation and partnership  The targeted objectives of the project include:  (a) Increasing awareness on	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan	December 2011 – June 2014	The project is the fourth component of the EU Regional Environmental Programme for Central Asia 2009 (EURECA).  The following results to be achieved:  (a) Raised awareness of the target groups on the above mentioned subjects;  (b) Established Green business club and conducted two competitions on sustainability awards;  (c) Established network of media workers	European Union	General Objectives I.12 and I.13

<i>Implementing organization</i>	<i>Project title</i>	<i>Objectives and target group(s)</i>	<i>Geographical scope</i>	<i>Duration</i>	<i>Provisional outcomes</i>	<i>Source of funds</i>	<i>Major subject and relation to the Strategic Plan objectives</i>
		<p>return - and reused waters, addressing gaps in water resources management;</p> <p>(b) Enhancing opportunities for EU-CA cooperation on environmental governance through increased awareness on the most compatible and applicable practices;</p> <p>(c) Ensuring private sector involvement by raising awareness on sustainable production and consumption and energy efficiency as a gateway for Public-Private Partnership.</p> <p>The target groups: relevant public officials, non-governmental organizations and local communities, private sector, media.</p>			familiar with green growth subject		