

FINAL REPORT

STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNECE CONVENTION ON LONG-RANGE TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION

Contribution agreement No 21.0401/2012/636181/SUB/ENV.C3

Implementation period: 10 December 2012 – 9 April 2016

The specific objective of the action funded by the contribution is to improve the capacity of the secretariat to the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution: a) to provide guidance and tools to countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia with regard to accession and implementation of the Convention and its key protocols, and b) to facilitate the exchange of relevant information between the mentioned countries and other Parties to the Convention, including the EU.

The expected results of the action are linked to specific objectives of the action funded through agreement No. 21.0401/2013/666118/SUB/ENV.C3, which covers the costs of activities, and correspond to the components of the Action Plan for Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (ECE/EB.AIR/WG.5/2007/17), as follows:

- a) Increased political profile of the Convention in the mentioned sub-region;
- b) Increased ratification of the protocols, in particular the EMEP¹ Protocol, the Protocol on Heavy Metals, the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), and the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (Gothenburg Protocol) by these countries;
- c) Increased opportunities for national capacity-building within the EECCA region;
- d) Improved access to information and tools for air pollution abatement;
- e) Increased participation of EECCA countries in the activities of the Convention.

The activities and outputs listed in this report is a joint product of two actions funded through agreements No. 21.0401/2012/636181/SUB/ENV.C3 and No. 21.0401/2013/666118/SUB/ENV.C3.

Improved capacity of the secretariat to provide guidance and tools to countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia with regard to accession and implementation of the Convention and its key protocols

- a) **Increased political profile of the Convention in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia**

There were five missions organized by the secretariat in 2012-2013 to the countries in Central Asia to discuss with policy-makers the current state of ratification of the UNECE Conventions, in particular the Air Convention, and the way forward. Within the project, there was a follow-up provided to the missions of the secretariat to Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan (November – December 2012), namely the finalization of the outcome documents of the meetings held with the national authorities and the preparation of the overall report for five missions. The outcome documents were signed by the Ministers of Environment and outlined the key points of discussions, needs and challenges in relation to the ratification and implementation of the Convention and its protocols and the agreed steps forward.

¹ Cooperative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe

In September 2013 the secretariat participated in the high-level UNECE mission to Turkmenistan. During the meetings with the President, with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and with other high-level decision-makers, such as the Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers for Agriculture, Water Resources and Nature Protection, it encouraged Turkmenistan to join the Convention in view of the health effects of air pollution. Turkmenistan is one of the three countries in the EECCA region that are not yet Parties to the Convention. The feasibility of the ratification of the Convention is currently considered by the country.

On 20-21 November 2013 the workshop “Particulate matter: the impact on health and development of national emission inventories” was organized² in Tashkent, Uzbekistan (the web-link to the workshop agenda and the list of participants is indicated in the annex to this report). It brought together over 40 representatives of national environment and public health authorities, technical experts and representatives of industrial sector of Uzbekistan to discuss the impact of particulate matter on health and the situation in Uzbekistan. In this context the secretariat stressed the importance of implementing the revised Gothenburg Protocol as a multilateral agreement including emission ceilings for fine particulate matter. The workshop raised awareness of health effects of particulate matter and the necessity for a policy response to the problem of air pollution, improved their understanding of the Convention’s reporting requirements and approaches for compiling a national emissions inventory. The recommendations on further steps to harmonize national inventory system with the Convention’s standards were developed; this harmonization would enable Uzbekistan to ratify the Convention and its key protocols, including the Gothenburg Protocol. The participants expressed their interest in continuing cooperation with the ECE on that matter.

In November 2014 the secretariat participated in the meeting of the Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development composed by Environment Ministers of countries in Central Asia to inform the participants (civil society and international organizations were also present) about the effects of air pollution, the relevance of the problem for countries in Central Asia and the benefits of joining the Convention and its protocols and of using the tools they offer. The agenda of the meeting is annexed to this report for reference.

In November 2014 the secretariat participated in the final conference of the project Air Quality Governance in ENPI-East countries funded by the European Commission to inform its participants about the recent developments under the Convention and the capacity-building activities managed by UNECE.

In 2015 the secretariat started the preparation of a brochure for decision-makers in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in English and Russian to raise their awareness of the effects of air pollution on health, environment and economic development and to explain the benefits of implementing the Convention and its protocols and their key requirements. The content of the brochure in English has been developed, its translation into Russian, as well as the design and layout are currently being made.

b) Increased ratification of the protocols, in particular the EMEP Protocol, the Protocol on Heavy Metals, the Protocol on POPs, and the Gothenburg Protocol by the EECCA countries

In 2013 the secretariat continued providing support to the tripartite project in Belarus, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation aimed at building capacity of the national experts in developing air pollutant emission inventories to encourage ratification of the key protocols. The secretariat ensured timely

² The organizational costs of the workshop were covered from the UNECE regular budget, whereas the staff support was provided within the current project.

reporting to the donor and coordinated the closure of the project in August 2013. The secretariat also participated in the workshop organized within this project (St-Petersburg, March 2013) and delivered a presentation explaining the recent revision of the protocols and their new flexibility provisions.

UNECE encouraged the ratification and provided timely response to Parties seeking advice on the provisions of the Protocol on EMEP and on the calculation of the amount of the mandatory contribution in case of ratification (Armenia, Republic of Moldova). Subsequently, Armenia acceded to the Protocol on EMEP in January 2014. The Parliament of Moldova approved the ratification of the EMEP protocol at the end of 2015.

In accordance with the expressed need, the secretariat organized the analysis of the national air quality assessment and management policies and legislation in Uzbekistan identifying gaps with respect to the Convention's requirements and providing recommendations on further steps towards ratification. The results of the analysis were presented at the roundtable organized by UNECE in Tashkent on 22 May 2015, where representatives of the Parliament, the State Committee for Nature Protection, the Ministry of Healthcare, Ministry of Agriculture, other authorities and representatives of industrial sector discussed its outcomes. It was decided to take the recommendations into consideration in connection with the on-going revision of the national law on air protection, in particular to reflect there the key definitions and concepts adopted under the Convention. As a result, later in the course of the year the State Committee for Nature Protection triggered the process of consideration of the ratification of the Convention and the Protocol on EMEP; the process can take up to two years before the actual ratification.

The technical workshops aimed to improve the skills of national experts in emission reporting in Uzbekistan (November 2013 and May 2015), Republic of Moldova (June 2014), Azerbaijan (November 2014), Georgia (October 2014), Armenia (June 2015) and Kazakhstan (June 2015) mentioned in this report were used as opportunities to promote the Convention and its key protocols and to encourage their ratification.

c) Increased opportunities for national capacity-building within the EECCA region

On 5-6 June 2014 a training on calculating gridded data and emission projections was held in the Republic of Moldova upon request by its Ministry of Environment. The training raised awareness of the participants of the reporting standards related to gridded data, the types and sources of information, tools and expertise necessary for gridding. In addition, the trainees became aware of the types of scenarios, data sources, and the use of GAINS model. A detailed report by the consultant, who prepared and facilitated the training, is included in the annex.

There were two workshops on emission inventories organized in Uzbekistan: the first one in November 2013 provided a general overview of the inventory system, the key approaches and requirements, and compared the current system in Uzbekistan with international practice, whereas the second one (19-21 May 2015) was focusing on the practical work with national data within the sectors of energy and agriculture. The workshop participants developed recommendations on further steps to harmonize the national inventory system with the Convention's requirements. Working with national data sets, experts calculated ammonia emissions from agriculture for the first time. It was concluded that available national data is sufficient for developing good-quality and accurate emission inventories. A detailed report of the workshop is annexed to this document. The links to the workshops' webpages containing the programme and presentations are indicated below.

On 21-23 October 2014 a workshop on emission inventories development was held in Georgia. It raised awareness of national experts on general issues (reporting obligations, elements and legal

framework for the national inventory system, etc.) and improved their skills in drafting the Informative Inventory Report (IIR), analysing the key categories, gridding data with particular focus on 'Industrial Processes' sector. As a result, Georgia submitted the inventory tables in the 2015 reporting round with data recalculated in accordance with the guidance, as well as the IIR and information on large point sources. A detailed report of the workshop is annexed to this document.

On 11-13 November 2014 a similar workshop was held in Azerbaijan. Both workshops, as well as the second workshop in Uzbekistan were facilitated by experts from the EMEP Centre on Emission Inventories and Projections hosted by Environment Agency Austria. In Azerbaijan, in accordance with the need expressed by the Government, the practical sessions were focused on the energy sector. As a result of the workshop, Azerbaijan submitted for the first time its IIR and NFR tables in the 2015 reporting round, including the information on large-point sources, and thus became eligible for the inventory in-depth review in 2015. A detailed report of the workshop is annexed to this document.

On 2-4 June 2015 a workshop on national emission inventories was held in Armenia; among general issues, it covered the reporting requirements, an overview of the national inventory system, introduction to IIR, and key category analysis. The specific sessions included the emissions from stationary fuel combustion, industrial processes (mining, non-ferrous metals and cement) and from product use (NMVOC). As a result of the workshop, there was a draft action plan for the air quality (AQ) inventory for Armenia elaborated. An important conclusion the participants came to by the end of the workshop was that the coordination between the air quality and the greenhouse gases (GHG) emission inventory teams was crucial (ideally, it should be the same team). As a follow-up, UNECE informed the Minister of Nature Protection about the result of the workshop and, upon request by its participants, brought his attention to the necessity of coordination between the AQ and GHG inventory teams and of support/resources needed for the AQ inventory team with reference to the draft action plan developed during the workshop. A detailed report of the workshop is annexed to this document.

On 16-18 June 2015 a workshop on AQ emission inventories was held in Kazakhstan. The team of national experts participating in the workshop was also responsible for the national GHG inventory. The participants discussed the strengths and weaknesses of the national inventory system and potential way for improvement. Among the issues covered by the workshop there were: reporting requirements under the Convention, synergies between AQ and GHG inventories, IIR, emissions from energy, industrial processes and product use. As a follow-up to the workshop, the secretariat sent a letter to the Minister of Energy of Kazakhstan stressing the importance of sustainability of the work of an inventory team, the necessity for a respective legal framework and the use of synergies between the GHG and AQ inventories. A report of the workshop is annexed to this document.

In November-December 2015 the secretariat organized the provision of expert support to Ukraine in the preparation of its IIR. As a result, a chapter for Energy sector (the major one for the country) has been drafted. The Government of Ukraine can further finalize it, include it in its final report and use it as an example for other sectors/chapters of the report.

Improved capacity of the secretariat to facilitate the exchange of relevant information between the mentioned countries and other Parties to the Convention, including the EU

d) Improved access to information and tools for air pollution abatement

Besides providing administrative support to the nominated delegates from the EECCA region to participate in the regular sessions of the Executive Body and its subsidiary bodies (the Working Group on Strategies and Review, the Working Group on Effects and the EMEP Steering Body), the secretariat organized a session on the challenges faced by these countries in implementing and ratifying the Convention and its protocols during the meeting of the Working Group on Strategies and Review (WGSR) in 2013 and a session on progress made and remaining problems in the EECCA region during the meeting of the Working Group in 2014. As a result of these sessions, the list of obstacles hindering the countries from further progress has been identified together with the list of needs requiring expert, financial or in-kind support and further steps to be undertaken. The secretariat also liaised with WGSR participants from EECCA countries and encouraged them to deliver presentations at its session “Transport and Air Pollution” in July 2014 focusing in particular on the challenges they face in the transport sector and providing information on some steps they are already taking to address these. Within the WGSR session in 2014 the following countries shared information either by making a presentation and/or by submitting a completed template with examples and good practices of air pollution-related policies, strategies and measures: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

In order to improve the access to information in Russian language, the secretariat was updating the Russian version of the Convention’s website throughout the reporting period. Besides that, some documents have been translated to Russian by the secretariat in order to facilitate submission of information by Parties in the EECCA region (e.g. the template for reporting on good practices to WGSR, the preliminary call for data by CCE on critical loads and biodiversity indicators, some in-session documents of the Executive Body, etc.).

The secretariat also provided an input to the assessment report of the Convention concerning capacity-building activities in the EECCA region.

e) Increased participation of EECCA countries in the activities of the Convention

The secretariat provided support to the participation of emission experts from the target countries in the annual joint meeting of the Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections/EIONET in May 2015 and arranged for a discussion on needs and challenges between them and the Co-Chairs of the Task Force on the margins of the meeting.

Throughout the project implementation period the participation of representatives of EECCA countries in the regular meetings under the Convention was encouraged and supported by the secretariat. In general, the participation of delegates from EECCA countries, in particular from Central Asia, in the regular meetings under the Convention has increased during 2013-2015. The travel support to one participant was provided within tight deadlines to attend the Workshop to promote the ratification of the protocols organized by the Task Force on Heavy Metals in Oslo (4-5 March 2014). In addition, the secretariat provided administrative support to organize the meeting of the Coordinating Group for EECCA countries in Geneva in December 2014 and December 2015.

To conclude, the action funded within agreement No 21.0401/2012/636181/SUB/ENV.C3 raised the capacity of the secretariat to implement the project activities funded within agreement No 21.0401/2013/666118/SUB/ENV.C3. Overall, the project has already brought significant impact in terms of:

- 1) Progress towards ratification: the accession to the Protocol on EMEP by Armenia in 2014, the official notification is pending for Moldova (the Parliament has recently approved the accession). The feasibility to accede to the Convention is currently considered by

Turkmenistan, the feasibility to accede to the Protocol on EMEP is being considered by Kazakhstan. Uzbekistan has triggered in 2015 a process of internal consultation with a view to accede to the Convention and the Protocol on EMEP, the whole process might take up to two years. The results of the national legislation analysis conducted within this project and its key recommendations were taken into account by Uzbekistan during the revision of the national Law on air protection. At the fifty-second session of the WGSR the Republic of Moldova and Georgia indicated their intention to ratify the key substantive protocols by the end of 2019.

- 2) Improved emission data reporting under the Convention by countries in the EECCA region. In the 2016 reporting round by 21 March 2016 emission data in the NFR format was submitted by following Parties in the EECCA region: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation and Ukraine. Taking into account the delays in reporting by Belarus, **all Parties in EECCA** will presumably report their data in the 2016 reporting round.
- 3) Improved exchange of information and participation of delegates and experts from EECCA countries in the meetings and activities under the Convention, including exchange of information on challenges and progress in implementation, good practices of air pollution-related policies, strategies and measures at the WGSR sessions and participation in the meetings of task forces.
- 4) Increased awareness of decision-makers in Central Asia of the effects of air pollution and benefits of joining the Convention and its protocols.

2. State of play in the implementation of the agreement, highlights, identification of critical issues and obstacles at the current stage

There were no obstacles in implementing agreement No 21.0401/2012/636181/SUB/ENV.C3. An amendment was adopted to agreement No. 21.0401/2012/636181/SUB/ENV.C3 in 2015, this allowed covering travel expenses of delegates from Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in September-December 2015 as a compensation for the equal amount used to cover 5 months of secretariat staff support in 2014 due to a late disbursement of the second instalment. At the same time, an amendment was also adopted to agreement No. 21.0401/2013/666118/SUB/ENV.C3 in 2015 to allow for filling the gap of 8 months of secretariat's work during 2016-2017 to support the implementation of activities. Thus, the work of the secretariat to implement capacity-building and awareness-raising activities in 2016-2017 is co-funded through agreement 21.0401/2013/666118/SUB/ENV.C3 and a respective contribution agreement with the Government of Norway.

3. Prospects for further work

The activities implemented by UNECE to assist countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia in 2016-2017 in improving their ratification and implementation of the Air Convention and its protocols will continue to be fully in line with the objectives and expected outputs outlined in the contribution agreement No. 21.0401/2013/666118/SUB/ENV.C3 and the needs of the recipient countries, as expressed in bilateral correspondence with UNECE or at the sessions under the Convention. These will include:

- Further expert and hands on support with emissions reporting (informative report, gridded data, etc.);

- Support for estimating base year emission levels and reduction targets for 2020 and beyond, making respective projections;
- Advice on the ways the legislation on national air quality management can be aligned with the Convention's requirements or steps can be undertaken towards ratification;
- Support to improved participation of delegates and experts from EECCA countries in the meetings and activities under the Convention;
- Raising awareness of decision-makers on the effects of air pollution and benefits of implementing the Convention and its protocols (in particular, during the Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference in Batumi);
- Improving the access to information on the Convention and its implementation in Russian.

The success in the implementation of the assistance programme and the growing recognition of the harmful effects of air pollution attracted other donor Parties, such as the Russian Federation, to complement the existing efforts.

The improved reporting by EECCA countries in the 2015-2016 reporting rounds was highlighted by the Co-Chair of the Task Force on Emission Inventories and the EMEP CEIP Project Manager at the joint meeting of the Extended Bureaux of the Convention's EMEP Steering Body and the Working Group on Effects in March 2016. They underscored the necessity to continue supporting EECCA countries and enhancing their capacity to further improve the quality of the reported data.

The contribution agreement No. 21.0401/2013/666118/SUB/ENV.C3 expires in December 2017. It is essential to use the momentum created to date by the programme activities and to ensure their continuity at least until 2020. Therefore, further support to fund capacity-building and awareness-raising activities in the region, as well as a dedicated secretariat post to manage these activities, would be essential for continued promotion and improvement of the implementation of the Convention and its protocols by UNECE member States in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.

Annex

Priority needs confirmed by the Ministers in February 2014 in their letters to UNECE (with additional remarks on needs expressed by experts at the workshop³ in Oslo in March 2014)

Armenia	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Development of emission inventories with particular focus on main pollutants, including PM;2. Estimating base year emission levels and reduction targets for 2020 and beyond, making respective projections;3. development of activity database in accordance with the Guidebook and the Guidelines;4. preparation of Informative Inventory Review.
Azerbaijan	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Development of emission inventories with particular focus on main pollutants, including PM;2. Estimating base year emission levels and reduction targets for 2020 and beyond, making respective projections;3. development of activity database in accordance with the Guidebook and the Guidelines;4. preparation of Informative Inventory Review.
Belarus	<p>No needs for support mentioned in the official response by the Minister. <i>NB needs for assistance mentioned at the workshop in Oslo:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Emission reduction of VOCs (monitoring, calculation, reduction plans);- Implementation of BAT;- Ammonia emission abatement
Georgia	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Improvement of the current inventory system. The lack of capacities and reliable data for HM and POPs inventories mentioned;2. Special interest in estimating base year emission levels and reduction targets for the revised Gothenburg Protocol;3. development of activity database in accordance with the Guidebook and the Guidelines;4. preparation of Informative Inventory Review. <p><i>NB additional challenges mentioned in Oslo: - BAT application has recommendatory character; - Plant register of emissions exists but is not divided by the different substances</i></p>

³ Workshop to promote ratification of the protocols across the entire UNECE region (4-5 March 2014, Oslo, Norway)

<p>Kazakhstan</p>	<p>1. emission inventories with particular focus on the main air pollutants including particulate matter; 2. Estimating base year emission levels and reduction targets for 2020 and beyond, making respective projections; 3. cost and benefit analysis of emission reduction scenario; 4. Analysis of legislative framework in the area of AQ management. <i>NB needs for assistance mentioned at the workshop in Oslo:</i> - emission inventories; - brochure for decision-makers in Russian on success stories of the Convention; - analysis of the 2008 Gov't resolution on BATs for its possible update.</p>
<p>Kyrgyzstan</p>	<p>1. emission inventories with particular focus on the main air pollutants including particulate matter; 2. estimating base year emission levels and emission reduction targets, making emission projections; 3. analysis of the legislative framework <i>NB: additional need expressed in Oslo:</i> - Monitoring of PM</p>
<p>Republic of Moldova</p>	<p>1. Calculating gridded data in accordance with the requirements; 2. Analysis of the legislative and institutional framework in the area of AQ management</p>
<p>Russian Federation</p>	<p>No request for support mentioned by the Minister. <i>NB: needs expressed in Oslo:</i> - BC inventory; - cost-efficiency of activities as an argument for decision-makers.</p>
<p>Tajikistan</p>	<p>No response/request for support received to date</p>
<p>Turkmenistan</p>	<p>No response/request for support received to date</p>
<p>Ukraine</p>	<p>1. Further development of emission inventories with particular focus on main pollutants, including PM; 2. Estimating base year emission levels and reduction targets for 2020 and beyond, making respective projections; 3. development of activity database in accordance with the Guidebook and the Guidelines; 4. preparation of Informative Inventory Review.5. Implementation of GAINS model to evaluate the regional and cross-border transport of air pollutants and GHG and to predict the environmental impact <i>NB needs for assistance mentioned at the workshop in Oslo:</i> - Methodological documents for different sectors of industry with regard to PM 2.5; - Guidance on application of BAT, desire to learn from EU approach; - Clarification of definitions (soot vs black carbon)</p>

Uzbekistan

1. Action plan for ratification and implementation of the key Convention's protocols;
2. emission inventories with particular focus on the main air pollutants including particulate matter;
3. estimating base year emission levels and emission reduction targets under amended Gothenburg Protocol, and respective emission projections;
4. cost and benefits analysis of emission reduction scenarios

The progress achieved by country to date

EECCA country	Remarks on the progress made
Azerbaijan	<p>A workshop on emission inventories was held in Baku in 2014. Azerbaijan submitted for the first time its IIR and NFR tables in the 2015 reporting round becoming eligible for an in-depth review of its inventories, which was conducted the same year. Azerbaijan continued submitting its data in the 2016 reporting round.</p> <p>The travel of an emission expert from Azerbaijan was supported to attend the meeting of the Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections in 2015.</p> <p>Support is provided to Azerbaijan on regular basis to participate in the meetings of the Convention's Executive Body and its subsidiary bodies.</p>
Armenia	<p>Armenia ratified the EMEP Protocol in 2014. A workshop on emission inventories held in Yerevan in 2015. Armenia submitted its NFR table in the 2016 reporting round. Support is provided to Armenia to attend the regular meetings under the Convention.</p>
Belarus	<p>Has not requested substantive support within the project. Travel support is provided to Belarus to attend regular meetings under the Convention.</p>
Georgia	<p>Georgia ratified the EMEP Protocol in 2013. It indicated its intention to ratify the key substantive protocols by the end of 2019. A workshop on emission inventories held in Tbilisi in 2014, then Georgia submitted its NFR and IIR in the 2015 reporting round. The travel of an emission expert from Georgia was supported to attend the meeting of the Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections in 2015. An in-depth review of inventories is planned for 2016. Support is provided to Georgia on regular basis to participate in the meetings of the Convention's Executive Body and its subsidiary bodies.</p>
Kazakhstan	<p>The feasibility of accession to the EMEP Protocol is currently being considered by Kazakhstan. A workshop on emission inventories was held in Almaty in 2015. As a result of the workshop, Kazakhstan submitted for the first time its NFR tables in the 2016 reporting round. The travel of an emission expert from Kazakhstan was supported to attend the meeting of the Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections in 2015.</p> <p>Support is provided to Kazakhstan on regular basis to participate in the meetings of the Convention's Executive Body and its subsidiary bodies.</p>
Kyrgyzstan	<p>The travel of an emission expert from Kyrgyzstan was supported to attend the meeting of the Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections in 2015. Kyrgyzstan submitted its NFR emission tables in the 2016 reporting round. Support is provided to Kyrgyzstan on regular basis to participate in the meetings of the Convention's Executive Body and its</p>

	subsidiary bodies.
Republic of Moldova	The Parliament of the Republic of Moldova approved the accession to the EMEP Protocol at the end of 2015. Moldova indicated its intention to ratify the key substantive protocols by the end of 2019. A training on data gridding and projections was held in Chisinau in 2014 upon request by the Ministry of Environment. Support is provided to the Republic of Moldova on regular basis to participate in the meetings of the Convention's Executive Body and its subsidiary bodies.
Russian Federation	Has not requested support within the project.
Tajikistan	Support is provided to Tajikistan on regular basis to participate in the meetings of the Convention's Executive Body and its subsidiary bodies.
Turkmenistan	The feasibility of accession to the Convention is currently considered by Turkmenistan.
Ukraine	The travel of an emission expert from Ukraine was supported to attend the meeting of the Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections in 2015. Support provided to Ukraine in November-December 2015 in the preparation of its Informative Inventory Report. Regular support to participate in the meetings of the Convention's Executive Body and its subsidiary bodies.
Uzbekistan	Uzbekistan is revising its national law on air protection. The revised law, expected to be adopted in 2016, will satisfy the preconditions for ratification of the Convention and its EMEP Protocol. A workshop on particulate matter, its impact on health, and introduction to emission inventories was held in Tashkent in 2013. The second workshop on emission inventories with particular focus on the energy and agriculture sectors was held in 2015. Analysis of the national air quality assessment and management policies and legislation in Uzbekistan, identifying gaps and providing recommendations on further steps towards ratification, made in 2015. The results of the analysis were presented at a roundtable and discussed by representatives of the Parliament, stakeholder ministries, and private sector. It was decided to take the recommendations into consideration during the on-going revision of the national law.

Webpages of the workshops:

1. **Workshop on emission inventories, June 2015, Kazakhstan:**
<http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=40531#/>
2. **Workshop on emission inventories, June 2015, Armenia:**
<http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=40529#/>
3. **Workshop on emission inventories, May 2015, Uzbekistan:**
<http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=40527#/>
4. **Workshop on emission inventories, November 2014, Azerbaijan:**
<http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=37160#/>
5. **Workshop on emission inventories, October 2014, Georgia:**
<http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=36996#/>
6. **Workshop on particulate matter, its impact on health, and introduction to emission inventories, November 2013, Uzbekistan:**
<http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=33736#/>

Weblinks to UNECE Weekly:

- Uzbekistan improves its air quality management with help from UNECE, UNECE Weekly #626, 25 May – 5 June 2015, http://www.unece.org/info/media/unece-weekly/news-detail.html?extern=1&inter_lang=en&news=664&profil=default
- Armenia joins the EMEP Protocol, UNECE Weekly #564, 10-14 February 2014, http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/highlights/unece_weekly/weekly_2014/Weekly564.pdf
- UNECE helps Uzbekistan tackle particulate matter #558, 16-31 December 2014, <http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/highlights/Weekly558.pdf>
- Visit of the Executive Secretary to Turkmenistan #543, 8-12 September 2014, http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/highlights/unece_weekly/weekly_2013/Weekly543.pdf

Indicators of achievement as per the logical framework for the agreement No 21.0401/2012/636181/SUB/ENV.C3

Number of new Parties to the Convention and/or its protocols – 2 accessions to the EMEP Protocol (Georgia and Armenia), 1 official notification of accession is pending (Republic of Moldova)

Number of actions undertaken towards ratification of the Convention and/or its protocols – 7 (high-level mission to Turkmenistan, official correspondence with the Ministers in Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan, legislation analysis with the roundtable and 2 workshops in Uzbekistan, participation in the Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development in Central Asia).

Number of capacity-building activities in the EECCA region – 9 (workshops/trainings/advisory services)

Additional indicators: Number of EECCA Parties providing their emission data in NFR in the 2016 reporting round (as of 21.03.2016) – 8 out of 9, number of EECCA Parties providing their IIRs in the 2016 reporting round (as of 21.03.2016) – 4 out of 9. Late submissions of NFR and IIRs are foreseen during next 2 months.

Number of meetings organized with a focus on EECCA countries – 2 (EECCA-focused sessions within WGSR regular sessions in 2013 and 2014), this number does not include individual capacity-building activities in the countries, nor support to the organization of the EECCA Coordinating Group's meetings.

Number of website pages translated to Russian – 14 out of 33

Number of participants from the EECCA region participating in the meetings of the Convention's Executive Body and subsidiary bodies – 121 delegates participating in 11 regular meetings in 2013-2015