

# WORKING GROUP ON ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT

**Tenth Session  
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## **Item 6(b) of the provisional agenda**

### *Round Table on Latest Developments in Environmental Monitoring and Assessment at the National, Subnational and Company Levels*

Submitted by Bosnia and Herzegovina<sup>1</sup>

#### **1. LEGAL FRAMEWORK PROVIDE ACCESS INFORMATION ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING**

The state of Bosnia and Herzegovina is regulated by the Dayton Agreement (signed in 1995, Paris) and comprises the three separate administrative units : the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina which is divided into 10 cantons; the Republika Srpska and Brcko District.

According to the Constitution of B&H, institutions responsible for environmental management and environmental protection are at the entity level, as well as the Brcko District. In line with this, the entities have constitutions and legislation to establish institutions and to authorize to maintain the environment. Also, through its legislation, they retain the right to bring part of these responsibilities to lower territorial units, such as cantons (in FBiH) and municipalities (in the Republika Srpska). From the previously said it could be concluded that the activities of environmental management in B&H can be operated at the state level, entities levels, cantons and municipalities levels. At the state level, there is still no legislation related to environmental protection, except the Law on Ministries and other administrative institutions (Official Gazette B&H No.5) where, in Article 9 jurisdiction of the Ministry for Foreign Trade and Economic Relations defined in the following way:

Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina (MoFTER) is competent to perform duties on behalf of Commission relating to the definition of politics, the basic principles, the activities of coordination and harmonization of plans of entity bodies and international institutions in the areas of: agriculture, energy, environmental protection, development and use of natural resources and tourism.

Bearing this in mind, the competencies of issues connected with environmental protection and water management at the state level is very limited. More specifically, except the above-mentioned Ministry at the state level, there are only the Presidency of B&H and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs acting as the authorized institutions / signatories regarding international treaties and agreements.

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Main expected results of the “Development of a National Environmental Monitoring System of B&H” project (RANSMO) are that national system for streamlined environmental monitoring and reporting to achieve specific goal of establishing an operating system for environmental monitoring for air, water, waste, soil and biodiversity. Draft system for monitoring the environment was formally submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations (MoFTER), entity ministries of environment and the EU Delegation. The proposal was submitted in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

## **II. MODERNIZATION AND UPGRADING OF MONITORING NETWORKS**

### **1. Air quality**

Monitoring air quality in Bosnia and Herzegovina is carried out at a primary network of meteorological stations. It collects and analysis through the data related to air pollution - emissions, and state air pollution - imissions, as well as regularly providing information to appropriate institutions.

In accordance with European conventions, the European DM software is used, which performed the statistical processing of the value of the state of pollution and the data directly sent over the internet. Data are available on the website:

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/eionet-priority-data-flows-may-2008-april-2009>

Bosnia and Herzegovina with a view of exchanging data on air quality with EEA fulfilling their obligations in accordance with the laws in this field in our country, as well as the EU Directives for the field monitoring and analysis of air quality.

### **2. Air emission**

National emissions of harmful substances into the air in Bosnia and Herzegovina performed using the software package (Collector, Reporter, Importer, Copert) and access to the data processing is known as the CORINAIR methodology (CooRdination-Information\_AIR) . Complex software packages analysis and study, also realized international cooperation regarding the software through the European center of ETC / AE, which operates in the framework of the European Environment Agency (EEA).

In F B&H, the Strategy of Protection of Air quality (currently in the process of adoption), which gives clear goals and measures for the coming period for the purpose of improving air quality. In the Republika Srpska a draft Strategy for the Protection of Air from the Action Plan has prepared to improve air quality.

### **3. Waste**

Perspective for improvement of the monitoring system regarding waste is a clear: improvement in line with EU legislation and in particular compatible with the Regulation on Waste Statistics ( Regulation No:2150/2002 of EC).

A full-scale survey on waste generation in production activities (10 and more employees), for NACE Rev.1.1 C,D,E is planed to be provided May-September 2009.

All methodological instruments in accordance with the Waste Statistics Regulation 2150/2002/EC and national legislation were developed. Also, translation "Manual for the Implementation of the Regulation of Waste statistics 2150/2002/EC" has done for better understanding WStatR. The Table of equivalence for EWStat code (connections –waste categories Eurostat and type of the waste according the List of Waste types) also has done and it will be use. The data are expected to be produced for the first time by the end of this year, regarding waste into Manufacturing industry, Mining and Quarring and Electricity and Water supply.

Also, in accordance with the national legislation and WStatR 2150/2002/EC, the activities of planning and providing the survey on municipal waste were undertaken. According to "Annual Program of Statistical Surveys for 2009" in statistical offices of B&H, these surveys will be conducted annually. We must find good solutions and solve possible difficulties in processing solid base for producing the indicator on municipal waste generation.

To be mentioned also in this context, the B&H Solid Waste Management Strategy. This Strategy was developed with European Commission support and adopted in 2001 by the governments of both Entities. It does not specifically deals with monitoring issues, but covers the issues that could make monitoring easier and data collected more reliable in the future.

Feasibility for implementation of biohazardous waste management in B&H was made and development program to introduce medical waste management in the framework of the IPA programme. In F B&H passed the Regulation on management of medical waste. Currently, the legal instruments is not regulated recycling system of prioritizing and processing waste such as packaging, motor oil and tires. On the issue of Brcko District, announced the tender for the construction of new sanitary landfill, as well as the tender for selection of the best locations for the construction of sanitary landfills in the area of Brcko District of B&H.

#### **4. Water**

All documents from the water sector made in Bosnia and Herzegovina are to a large extent initiated the adoption of the Framework Directive on Water (Directive 2000/60/EC European Parliament and Council), or the commitment of our countries to be included in the process of approaching the European Union . Therefore can be divided into: projects whose creation was encouraged and financed by the EU, through the Office of B&H (Delegation of European Commission in Sarajevo); projects financed by other international institutions and to those whose production and the adoption was within the framework of the institutions of B&H.

Programming funds IPA 2007 was adopted under the project named "Support to B&H Water Policy." From this project is extracted 1 million Euros, started in the first quarter of 2009, with the aim of further harmonization of B&H legislation with the European Directives in this field.

Water Act F B&H is harmonized with the Framework Directive on Water in the percentage of 90%., while the legislation of the Republic Srpska harmonized with the FDW of 97%. The Republika Srpska formally stoped to work for the Directorate of

Water and these jobs take Agency for Water in accordance with the Law on Water. In Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina exist coordination work between the Agency for Water and the competent Federal Ministry of Physical Planning, Water Management and Forestry.

In statistical offices has done first release on water statistics with reference year 2005, 2006 and 2007. In order to meet the international recommendations and to fulfill the national needs for statistics concerning water, we need further development in statistics water, revised surveys and methodology. For the first time the Agency for Statistics of B&H reported JQ Inland Waters: [http://circa.europa.eu/Members/irc/dsis/envir/library?l=/joint\\_questionnaire\\_4/jointsquestionnaires2004/bosnia/inland\\_water/jq\\_2008\\_iwa\\_bih&vm=detailed&sb=Title](http://circa.europa.eu/Members/irc/dsis/envir/library?l=/joint_questionnaire_4/jointsquestionnaires2004/bosnia/inland_water/jq_2008_iwa_bih&vm=detailed&sb=Title)

## **5. Biodiversity**

Nature protection is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry for Physical Planning, Civil Engineering and Ecology in Republika Srpska, and the Ministry of Environment and Tourism in Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. This subject is treated through several legal acts in both entities (Law on Nature Protection, Law on Environmental Protection, Law on Physical Planning and Law on Forests). Those acts indicate that there should be a Strategy for Nature Protection on entity level. The Strategy should determine tasks and the policy for protection of natural and biological diversity should ensure the establishing of information systems for monitoring and nature protection and should comply with inter –entity programme of nature protection.

For each decision the Federal Ministry of Bosnia and Herzegovina has to cooperate with the Ministry of Physical Planning, Civil Engineering and Ecology in Republika Srpska. Bosnia and Herzegovina till now didn't sign "Convention on protection of wildlife and natural habitats in Europe (Bern, 1979) ", but implementation is in procedure.

Designation of new protected areas in the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina is planned. There have been some incentives for establishment of transboundary protected areas between Bosnia and Herzegovina and its neighboring countries, for instance the Sutjeska -Durmitor- -Tara River Valley, coherent transboundary complex of protected areas between Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro.

The Strategy for Environmental Protection of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina also states that the Law on Nature (obviously the one published in the Official Gazette 33/03) is based on the EU Directives – Habitat Directive (92/43/EEC) and Birds Directive (79/409/EEC). However, it is also acknowledged that transposition of Directives to the legislation of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina is not satisfactory – the degree of non- -harmonization of Habitat Directive is 87%, while the degree of non -harmonization of Birds Directive is 100%. However, it is stated that one of the goals of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina is to strengthen legal framework in the field of nature conservation – which is planned to be achieved through revision of the current Law on Nature Protection, among other measures, in accordance with more efficient protection of geological and biological heritage and international intentions.

### **III. IMPROVEMENT OF DATA MANAGEMENT AND USE OF DATA IN DECISION-MAKING**

At the level of common institutions executive authorities in B&H does not exist a specialized Ministry that deals with issues of environmental protection. Lack of the Ministry for Environmental Protection and the Law on Environmental Protection in B&H creates a confusing picture regarding the problems in this field at the state level.

The lack of systematic control mechanisms, when it comes to environmental management, resulting in a number of issues that directly affect the state of the environment. In B&H there is no systematic environmental monitoring and assessment. Individual efforts there, but it is not enough, the result of local initiatives and cannot give a realistic picture the state of the environment in B&H.

### **IV. PUBLICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS AND INDICATOR-BASED ASSESSMENTS**

Bosnia and Herzegovina participated in the framework of the project “Expert assistance on building up of regular state of environment reporting according to the EEA CSIs for WB countries” aiming at the production of 37 EEA CSIs at national and regional level and at supporting strengthening of the national reporting networks in order to enhance the international comparability of the environmental information and harmonizing the reporting process on European level. It should be noted that the focus of the project was the indicators in agriculture, energy and transport themes. The result of project is production/finalization of 19 regional indicators (Eionet priority data flows, May 2008–April 2009).