

Support Establishment and Advancement of Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTRs) in West Balkan countries and in Moldova

**Get your right to a healthy community
Minsk, Sept.19-21, 2016
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Project Context



Federal Ministry for the
Environment, Nature Conservation,
Building and Nuclear Safety

Umwelt
Bundesamt

Support Establishment and Advancement of Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTRs) in Western Balkan Countries and in Moldova

- Funded by the German Federal Environment Ministry's Advisory Assistance Programme (AAP) for environmental protection in the Countries of Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and other countries neighbouring the EU. Supervised by German Federal Environment Agency and implemented by REC.

Period: March 1, 2015 -February 28, 2017

Total project funding: 289,425 EUR (incl.REC contribution)

Project countries:

- Four Parties to PRTR Protocol: Albania, Serbia, FYR of Macedonia, and Moldova;
- Two Signatories: Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Montenegro; and Kosovo*.

Cooperation with other projects

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.



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Project objectives

- **To strengthen transparency of PRTR decision-making** (Albania, Serbia, the FYRM, Moldova);
- **To further support development of functioning PRTRs** in line with PRTR Protocol and E-PRTR in countries on the way towards PRTR (Moldova);
- **To improve the efficiency of PRTR reporting where registers already exist** (Albania, Serbia, FYRM);
- **To build capacities of authorities responsible for regular reporting and operators** (Albania, Serbia, FYRM, Moldova);
- **To share experience and practical knowledge in sub-regional workshop** and assist project countries and Parties to the Protocol to improve their practices in operating PRTRs (all project countries).



Project activities by countries

Support launching regular PRTR reporting in Albania

- Update, test and activate formerly developed online reporting tool and start regular reporting;
- Develop publicly accessible PRTR website linked with reporting tool and database;
- Involvement of pilot testing facilities

Create conditions for setting up PRTR and launching reporting procedure in Moldova

- Assist in preparing assessment and proposals on legislative and institutional framework, and setting up the reporting procedure in dialogue with authorities and all stakeholders;
- Develop publicly accessible PRTR website linked with online reporting tool and database, to ensure public access to PRTR data;



Project activities

Further improve efficiency of already operating PRTRs

Serbia

- Assist developing and establishing methodology and system of data validation (QA and QC);
- Adding additional module to PRTR and integrate GIS into website;

The FYR of Macedonia

- Customize and improve modules of BUBE reporting software (adapted from Germany);
- Improve PRTR website design and content to be more user-friendly;
- Establish and install data interchange module for E-PRTR reporting;



Project activities

Improve implementation capacities of authorities and operators

- Trainings on using reporting tool, reporting methodologies and on QA and QC issues (Albania, FYRM, Moldova);
- Guidance materials for reporting in different sectors (Albania, Serbia, Moldova, FYRM);

Improve transparency of PRTR decision-making

- Multi-stakeholder dialogue discussing planned developments
- Assessment of legal, institutional and technical conditions
- Training for NGOs (Moldova, Serbia, FYRM);

New initiatives for putting PRTRs in practice and make progress in ratification (BiH, MN, Kosovo*);



Sub-regional experience sharing workshop – 8-9 November 2016.

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Expected results

- **More transparent decision-making** on development and operation of PRTRs, and more effective involvement of NGOs and stakeholders
- **Progress made on PRTR development**
 - Conditions created for setting up PRTRs and reporting procedure launched, in synergies with ongoing projects, based on technical assistance and other countries' experiences;
- **Increased awareness, capacities and better understanding of PRTR reporting** obligations, procedures and practices by authorities, operators and NGOs leading to improved PRTR reporting;
- **Mutual learning, possible adaption and use of experiences and best practices** – via knowledge gained in sub-regional experience sharing workshop, PRTR Protocol WG meetings and project network.



Lessons learned

- **Policy decision, political will, commitment and consistent work** by partners and project team is key to achieve project goals;
- **Building on efforts in countries beyond projects** by involving them in project design, planning and implementation over years, results in country ownership, motivation, increased capacities of experts and more effective working relationship;
- **Targeted technical assistance, sharing of experiences** of countries with more advanced and neighboring countries advances country PRTR implementation;
- **Transparent decision-making and regular dialogue** with stakeholders brings more expertise on board, increased interest and support for national implementation of obligations.



Further information and contacts

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Project webpage:

<http://aarhus.rec.org/prtr>

PRTR Protocol and other related websites:

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www.unece.org/env/pp;

www.prtr.net;

<http://prtr.ec.europa.eu>

