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

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Item 7 (d) 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/2021/7)¹

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 present paper is an accompanying document for the report on capacity-building (ECE/MP.PP/2021/7) that was prepared by partner organizations and the secretariat for the seventh session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention (Geneva, 18-20 October 2021).

The report on capacity-building and the present accompanying document were prepared by partner organizations and the secretariat pursuant to the work programme for 2018–2021 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 the Convention at its sixth session (Budva, Montenegro, 11–13 September 2017).

¹ The present document is being issued without formal editing.

<i>Submitted by / Implementing organization</i>	<i>Project title</i>	<i>Objectives and target group(s)</i>	<i>Geographical scope</i>	<i>Duration (start and end date)</i>	<i>Provisional outcomes</i>	<i>Source of funds</i>	<i>Major subject and relation to the Strategic Plan objectives</i>
OSCE	Aarhus Centres Annual Meetings	To share experiences, lessons learned and best practices on the implementation of the Aarhus Convention as well as to enhance co-operation and networking among Aarhus Centres.	Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan	September 2017 September 2018 October 2019 November 2020 September 2021	<p>Aarhus Centres Annual Meetings bring together the Aarhus Centre representatives, Aarhus Convention National Focal Points and the OSCE field operations, as well as the representatives of several international and regional organizations for sharing experiences, lessons learned and best practices in the implementation of the Aarhus Convention. They also serve towards building Aarhus Centres' capacities in various thematic topics relevant to the Aarhus Convention.</p> <p>The 2017 Annual Aarhus Centres Meeting marked the 15th anniversary of Aarhus Centres and focused on future priorities in light of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other post-2015 global and regional frameworks.</p> <p>In 2018, the objectives of the meeting were the contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Aarhus Centres' engagement in addressing challenges associated with uranium legacy sites in Central Asia</p> <p>The 2019 Aarhus Centres Annual Meeting focused on public participation in Environmental Impact Assessment and Aarhus Centres' engagement in implementing the Espoo Convention and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment</p> <p>In 2020, special attention was given to the role of Aarhus Centres in ensuring environmental</p>	OSCE	General, Objectives I.1, I.6, I.7, I.8, I.9

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					<p>democracy in times of disaster and post-disaster recovery, to gender mainstreaming into Aarhus Centres activities, and on contribution of Aarhus Centres in promoting and achieving sustainable development.</p> <p>In 2021, the Aarhus Centre Annual Meeting was mainly devoted to discussing women's empowerment through the work of the Aarhus Centres, as well as the role of Aarhus Centres in promoting green recovery.</p>		
UNDP, OSCE, UNEP	Stakeholder Engagement for Uranium Remediation in Central Asia	To engage and inform stakeholders concerning remediation of selected uranium tailings in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan with ensuring public consultation and participation, as well as involvement of relevant governmental agencies and local stakeholders. OSCE's engagement aims at strengthening Aarhus Centres and new public environmental information centres, and supporting them in public outreach campaigns to create dialogue, raise awareness and inform the population about the risks posed by uranium legacy sites and benefits of remediation and risk management.	Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan	2015-2018	In Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, Aarhus Centres representatives together with relevant government authorities have been trained on technical aspects of uranium legacy remediation. They received support for the launching of awareness raising campaigns and trainings for local population and pupils. In Kyrgyzstan, three new public information centres under the auspices of the Aarhus Centre Osh have been established in the concerned areas in close collaboration with local authorities.	Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC)	Public participation Objectives I.4, I.5, I.7, I.8, I.9, I.11

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OSCE	Promoting the engagement of Aarhus Centres in green economy and resource efficiency	To strengthen Aarhus Centres' capacity for contributing to the transition to green economy and resource efficiency.	Albania, Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Tajikistan	2017-2021	<p>The project aimed to:</p> <p>(a) Improve the capacity of Aarhus Centres for promoting green economy and resource efficiency;</p> <p>(b) Increase awareness among civil society, businesses and population to generate more benefits from green economy and resource efficiency reforms;</p> <p>(c) Improve knowledge-sharing and mutual learning to help strengthen cross-border networking among Aarhus Centres in the area of green economy and resource efficiency.</p> <p>The project has been extended to end 2021, currently two national workshops have been organized in two of the project countries, namely Serbia and Armenia. The input received during the national workshops will feed into the finalization of the Aarhus Centres' Road Map on Green Economy and Resource Efficiency.</p>	Switzerland, United States of America, Austria	General, Aarhus Centres Objectives I.1, I.4, I.5, I.6, I.7, I.8, I.9
OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Support to the finalization of the 3 rd Aarhus Convention National Implementation Report	To assist the Aarhus Convention National Focal Point in conducting the activities necessary for finalizing the country's overdue 3 rd National Implementation Report.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	2017-2018	Finalized Report submitted to the Aarhus Convention Secretariat following organization of four public consultation events and engagement of an expert to assist with drafting. Mission also supported translation of the Report into English.	OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Objectives I.3 and I.6
OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Strategic Planning Workshop for Aarhus Centres	To strengthen the planning and outreach capacities of the Aarhus Centres in Bosnia and Herzegovina.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	October 2018	Strategic Framework of the Network of Aarhus Centres in Bosnia and Herzegovina for 2018-2021 developed and adopted. Aarhus Centres also revised their Vision/Mission statements	OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Objective I.8

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					and conducted stakeholder and SWOT analysis. Mission-supported brochure on the work of the Aarhus Centres produced as a result of the workshop.		
OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Regional conference on the role of ombudsman institutions in environmental protection	To enhance knowledge of regional ombudsman institutions on the Aarhus Convention as it pertains to the environment and human rights. To foster connections between ombudsman institutions and relevant ministries, Aarhus Centres and other environmental CSOs and experts.	Bosnia and Herzegovina and wider South East Europe region	March 2019	Ombudspersons from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo (United Nations administered region, Security Council resolution 1244 (1999)), Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Slovenia increased their understanding of the Aarhus Convention and the work of the Aarhus Centres. Ombudspersons from the region signed a declaration to continue their cross-border efforts in the area of the environment and human rights.	OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Objectives I.6 and I.8
OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	2019 Environmental Legal Clinics Programme for university law students	To provide future lawyers an essential opportunity to learn about environmental legislation and cases, including those relevant to the implementation of the Aarhus Convention.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	September 2019 - December 2019	Twenty law students from the universities of Sarajevo and Istočno Sarajevo increased their understanding of the Aarhus Convention and its application in Bosnia and Herzegovina through a combination of expert-led lectures, practical workshops and a field trip.	OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Objectives I.5, I.9 and I.13
OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Establishment of Aarhus Centre Zenica	To establish an Aarhus Centre/public environmental information centre in the industrial city of Zenica.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	2019	Aarhus Centre Zenica established by the Mission and local NGO Eko Forum, with the support of the City of Zenica/Mayor's Office. Aarhus Centre staff are trained on strategic planning and office management. Aarhus Centre is also furnished with the support of the Mission.	OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Objective I.8
OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Strengthening use of ICTs by Aarhus Centres	To support the continued functioning of the Aarhus Centres during the COVID-19 pandemic.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	2020	Aarhus Centres continue to host public consultations and other events with the aid of Zoom licences donated by the Mission. Aarhus centres Tuzla and Zenica increase media	OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Objective I.8

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					engagement and awareness-raising activities with the support of ICT equipment donated by the Mission.		
OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Training for judges and prosecutors on access to justice in environmental matters	To strengthening legal expertise on the environment/ Aarhus Convention implementation amongst legal professionals.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	September 2020	More than 70 judges and prosecutors were trained on international agreements in the area of environmental protection, the three pillars of the Aarhus Convention, domestic legislation and its harmonization with the EU acquis and major current and completed court cases in Bosnia and Herzegovina.	OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Objective I.13
OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	2020 Environmental Legal Clinics Programme for university law students	To provide future lawyers an essential opportunity to learn about environmental legislation and cases, including those relevant to the implementation of the Aarhus Convention.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	October-December 2020	Forty four law students from the universities of Sarajevo and Istočno Sarajevo increased their understanding of the Aarhus Convention and its application in Bosnia and Herzegovina through an online training comprising expert-led lectures and practical workshops.	OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Objectives I.5, I.9 and I.13
OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Strengthening co-operation between public authorities and CSOs in implementing the Aarhus Convention in Republika Srpska	To gauge current levels of co-operation and foster partnerships between the authorities and civil society in Republika Srpska toward strengthened implementation of the Aarhus Convention.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	2020	Questionnaire conducted gauging perspectives of public authorities and CSOs on current levels of cooperation relating to public access to environmental information and public participation in environmental decision making. Online conference held to present findings and agree on steps for enhancing co-operation.	OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Objectives I.6 and I.8
OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Support to the finalization of the 4 th Aarhus Convention National Implementation Report	To assist the Aarhus Convention National Focal Point in conducting the activities necessary for finalizing the country's 4th National Implementation Report.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	2020-2021	Final Report currently being translated following the organization of three online public discussion events and the engagement of an expert to assist with the report drafting.	OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina	Objectives I.3 and I.6

OSCE Programme Office in Astana	Practical manual on the Aarhus Convention for judiciary	To update the practical manual on the application of the Aarhus Convention principles by the country's judiciary.	Kazakhstan	2017-2020	Improved capacity of judiciary in the oversight of the Aarhus Convention implementation through the OSCE-supported update and review of the manual on the practical application of the Aarhus Convention principles by host country's judiciary in line with the newly adopted legislation and regulations. Capacity building trainings of judges in resolving disputes arising from the implementation of the Aarhus Convention and awareness of country's commitments and mechanisms to promote compliance with it.	OSCE Programme Office in Astana	Access to justice, GMOs matters, Objectives I.12, I.13 and Objective II.2
	Training for judges on access to justice in environmental matters.	To train judges on access to justice in environmental matters					
	Analysis of the GMO legislation	To conduct expert analysis of GMO legislation					
	Aarhus Centres Strategic Planning	To formulate a strategic development plan for Aarhus Centres					
					Increased knowledge of the decision-makers on the current needs and gaps to ratify the GMO amendment to the Convention and development of recommendations for required changes in the national legislation		
					Adopting Aarhus Centres strategic development plan aimed to assist in proper planning and effective implementation of the Aarhus Convention pillars in Kazakhstan by enhancing and streamlining the work of the Aarhus Centres and providing guidance for the strategic orientation.		
					Increased potential of industrial enterprises on providing complete and reliable data on pollutant release and transfer register (PRTR) and contribute to the implementation of the national legislation in accordance with international standards by providing series of training seminar on the application of PRTR in Almaty, Karaganda and Shymkent regions.		
					Conducting a workshop for judges on the judicial application of environmental legislation in Semey, Eastern Kazakhstan.		

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					Providing an expert assistance to Kazakhstan government to develop and submit annual PRTR and Aarhus reports in line with UNECE's Aarhus Convention secretariat's requirements.		
					Providing an expert assistance in development of regulatory legal acts for Environmental Code. Two draft laws were developed: a. Procedure for maintaining the PRTR and b. Public hearing procedure.		
OSCE Mission to Serbia (OMIS)	Climathon Campaign	To raise awareness on the adverse effects of climate change.	Serbia	2018	The activity was carried out in co-operation with the Belgrade-based CSO "One Degree Serbia" and prominent academics from Belgrade University and the Aarhus Centres Network. More than 200 community members from four cities across Serbia (including Subotica, Novi Sad, Kragujevac and Nis) participated to the "Climathon Campaign". Discussions aimed at identifying mitigation measures at local level with the goal of promoting sustainable urban living and reducing the environmental footprint in local communities. Presentations were delivered by university professors, local authorities and CSOs.	OSCE Mission to Serbia	General, education Objective I.5, I.9
OSCE Mission to Serbia (OMIS)	Support to the draft environmental legislation at an early stage	To collect civil society input on the draft of the environmental legislation at an early stage.	Serbia	2019	In partnership with the Ministry of Environmental Protection and supported by the Network of Aarhus Centers the Mission provided a platform for collecting civil society input on the draft environmental legislation at an early stage thus fostering sustainable development policymaking during 7 public discussions that were organized in Belgrade, Subotica, Novi Sad, Kragujevac, Niš, Krusevac and Novi Pazar. A total of 413 participants (including 140 male and 237 female),	OSCE Mission to Serbia	Implementation, Objectives I.3, I.4

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OSCE Mission to Serbia	Support to the 4th National Implementation Report (NIR) of the Aarhus Convention	To support the five virtual discussions of the draft 4 th National Implementation Report (NIR) of the Aarhus Convention.	Serbia	2020	representing business operators, local administrations, academics and local CSOs, engaged in vibrant discussions aimed at improving the content and implementation of four pieces of environmental legislation including the draft Law on Environmental Liability with Regards to prevention and remedying environmental damage, amendments to the Environmental Impact Assessment Law, the Law on Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment, the draft Decree on Public Participation in the Development of Certain Plans and Programs in the Field of Environmental Protection	OSCE Mission to Serbia	Implementation Objective I.3, I.4

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					adoption by the Government, expected in mid-2021		
OSCE Mission to Serbia	Public e-discussions on local female “sustainable business champions”	To promote circular economy as a tool to empower female entrepreneurs, mitigate risks and address opportunities for the post-pandemic recovery by coupling economic growth with environmental considerations.	Serbia	2020	The five public e-discussions that gathered 147 participants (32 male and 115 female), were organized by the Aarhus Centres Network in cooperation with Regional Economic Chambers of Commerce, the Provincial Secretariat in partnership with associations of female entrepreneurs. The events showcased experiences of local female ‘sustainable business champions’. The events aimed to promote circular economy as a tool to empower female entrepreneurs, mitigate risks and address opportunities for the post-pandemic recovery by coupling economic growth with environmental considerations. AC Novi Sad developed a survey to map obstacles to improved sustainable business development among 58 SMEs managed by women from Vojvodina, Belgrade and Central Serbia.	OSCE Mission to Serbia	General, Access to Information Objectives I.4, 17, III.3
OSCE Centre in Ashgabat	Support for Aarhus Centre/Public Environmental Information Centres in Turkmenistan	To expand the work of the Aarhus Centre on priority environmental issues with security implications.	Turkmenistan	July 2012-December 2020	During the lifespan of the project, the Aarhus Centre of Turkmenistan served as a platform for interaction and accelerating the contacts between government institutions and the public at large, as well as for discussing specific environmental issues, ways and methods of strengthening good governance principles to promote sustainable ecological security in the country. It also provided free access to reliable and up-to-date information on environmental matters and organized meetings and discussions for representatives of government agencies and the general public at local and national levels. Informational materials such as the “Collection of the Nature Conservation and Nature Management Legislative Acts of Turkmenistan”	OSCE Centre in Ashgabat	General, Aarhus Centres Objectives I.8, II.2, II.5, III.3 and III.6

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					and “Environmental Protection Management System in Turkmenistan”, developed by the national expert were published. It also provided assistance in improving the legal and regulative frameworks for nature conservation and nature management as well as in development of the first National Strategy on Climate Change. In addition, the Aarhus Centre helped with data collection and analysis for the required country reporting on Turkmenistan’s implementation of the Aarhus Convention. In addition, in 2015–2016 4 Public Environmental Information Centres were launched and supported to promote environmental awareness raising all over the country. For more details please visit the website, developed and maintained within the project: http://tebigykuwwat.org/aarhus-centre		
EEA	ENI SEIS II EAST project	Support the promotion of environmental protection by strengthening environmental governance. The main objective of the project is to continue to implement the principles and practices of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS). The project builds on previous cooperative activities in the six Eastern Partnership countries, carried out under the ENPI SEIS project (2010-2015).	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine	2016 - 2020	<p>Six country specific open data and e-government maturity reports focussing on environment.</p> <p>A good practice report on environment open data and e-government (https://unece.org/info/events/event/18541)</p> <p>State of environment country briefings for each recipient country</p> <p>Methodological paper on the preparation of the national state of environment report</p> <p>Annual update on the state of play of UNECE core set of environmental indicators</p>	EU/DG NEAR under the Commission’s Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR) under the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI).	Strategic Information Objectives I.1, I.1.1, I.1.10 Strategic Goal III: Objective III.3

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					The project is finalised and all deliverables are freely accessible on the project website: https://eni-seis.eionet.europa.eu/east		
EEA	Regular State and Outlook report	The latest State and Outlook report of EEA covering members and cooperating countries (SOER2020) is available for free access and use t: eea.europa.eu/soer/2020	EU Member States EEA member countries EEA cooperating countries	2019 - 2020	SOER2020 – full report available <u>on-line</u> Summary of SOER2020 available in all languages of the European Union and Russian: https://www.eea.europa.eu/soer/2020/soer-2020-executive-summary-translations	EEA EC/DG NEAR (Instrument for Pre-Accession)	Access to Information Objectives I.1, I.7, I.10 and III.3
EEA	Further integration of the Western Balkans in the EEA/Eionet activities	Further development and extension of e-Reporting systems for environment access and sharing; Support to strengthening the expertise and technical capacities of experts from South-Eastern Europe in identified thematic priorities.	EEA cooperating countries in South-Eastern Europe	2020-2022	Integrating and further extending the EEA tools and systems to partners in South-Eastern Europe, in thematic areas such as air quality reporting (with for environmental protection in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia), water and biodiversity indicators and reporting, as well as keeping in line with a number of Eionet-relevant developments and activities on e-reporting and environment information systems (EIS).	EC/DG NEAR (Instrument for Pre-Accession)	Access to Information Objectives I.1, I.7, I.10 and III.3
UNECE	Strengthening capacities of Uzbekistan in accession to the Aarhus Convention	Raising awareness of public authorities about the Aarhus Convention and the current trends in and benefits of its implementation.	Uzbekistan	2019-2022	International round-table in cooperation with UNDP Uzbekistan and OSCE Project Coordinator in Uzbekistan is being prepared. Review of the national legislation with regard to its compatibility with the Aarhus Convention and the recommendations on how to align it provided a basis to further improve national	UNECE (contribution of Italy) UNDP Uzbekistan	General Objective II.1

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					legislation in this area and facilitate the accession process. Capacity-building material has been provided for the public authorities and the public.	OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan	
UNECE	Support Tajikistan in ratification of the Convention's GMO Amendment and the Protocol on PRTRs	Support of Tajikistan in ratification of the Convention's GMO Amendment and the Protocol on PRTRs through reviewing national legislation in the light of the requirements of these instruments and providing recommendations on aligning national legislative framework to these requirements accordingly the project also assists the Government to strengthen preparedness and resilience in similar critical situations such as the COVID-19 in areas related to: effective provision to the public of information linked to environmental and health-related matters; and effective public participation in decision-making on environmental and health-related matters.	Tajikistan	2020-2021	Report providing a review of the national legislation with regard to its compatibility with the Convention's GMO Amendment and the Protocol on PRTRs and the recommendations on how to align it provided a basis to further improve national legislation in this area and facilitate the ratification process.	UNECE (Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation, Aarhus Trust Fund)	GMOs matters, Access to Information Objectives I.1, I.7, I.10 II.2, III.6
UNCT / UNDP Belarus	Civic engagement in environmental monitoring and improving	The project aims at efficient and inclusive environmental management at the local level, monitoring of environmental risks,	Belarus	2017-2022	More information at: https://www.by.undp.org/content/belarus/en/home/projects/ecomonitoring.html	European Union	Environmental Education,

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	environmental management at the local level (Programme - Strengthening Air Quality Monitoring and Environmental Management)	environmental information exchange, in particular in the field of ambient air quality. The project prioritizes development of environmental monitoring, building the capacity of the civil society in environmental decision-making, development of “green schools”.					Access to Information, Public Participation Objectives I.1, I.5, I.7, I.10, I.11, II.2, III.3, III.6
UNCT / UNDP Albania	Establishing Albania’s Environmental Information Management and Monitoring System Aligned with the Global Reporting	The project focuses on: (i) Development of the EIMMS to enable integration of global environment commitments into planning and monitoring processes. (ii) Development and application of uniform indicators encompassing UNFCCC, CBD and CCD concerns and global environmental threats, (iii) Stakeholder’s capacity for information management (collection processing) of key global environment data and utilization (interpretation and reporting) is enhanced at national and local level.	Albania	2015-2021	Developed Roadmap for establishing an operational environmental information management and monitoring system EIMMS Citizen Science Concept and Approaches Establishment of EIMMS web platform More information at: https://www.al.undp.org/content/albania/en/home/projects/capacity-for-environmental-monitoring.html Advanced governance and trainings in data and information management More information at: https://www.al.undp.org/content/albania/en/home/projects/capacity-for-environmental-monitoring.html	GEF	Access to Information Objectives I.1, I.7, I.10 and III.3

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Regional Environmental Center (REC)	Better Access to Justice in South and Eastern Europe	The project's objective was to facilitate the reduction of impediments for access to justice in the Parties to the Aarhus Convention in the South-Eastern European region. This was accomplished by increasing the knowledge and awareness of judges, legal professionals and NGOs on access to justice in environmental matters. The project aimed at enhanced capacities of judiciary and legal professionals, facilitated cooperation among the stakeholders, and an increased awareness and knowledge of NGOs. This will provide further support for an implementation of the Aarhus Convention.	South and Eastern Europe	September 2016 – August 2018	The project enabled NGOs to gain and use skills to enforce their rights. The project also led to enhanced capacities of judiciary and legal professionals, facilitated cooperation among the stakeholders, and an increased awareness and knowledge of NGOs. The key project outcomes comprised development of guidance material and the organisation of a series of trainings for civil society, judges and legal professionals, the collection of local case studies on access to justice, and the development of a comparative analytical study on access to justice in SEE countries. The project was implemented in cooperation with the ministries of justice, judicial training centers, schools for magistrates, Aarhus Focal Points, Ombudsman offices, key legal professionals, public advocacy groups and NGOs in the countries. All produced materials and workshop information are available at http://aarhus.rec.org/ .	Advisory Assistance Programme (AAP) of the German Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety	Access to Justice Objectives I.12, I.13, III.7
Regional Environmental Center (REC) / Guta Association	Building Bridges between Regions: Interregional Cooperation on the Implementation of Principle 10 of Rio Declaration and Article 6 of UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in	The project facilitated inter-regional cooperation on Principle 10 between the ECE and ECLAC regions, and the Caribbean sub-region in particular. Sharing of lessons learned and practical approaches to ensure that access to information, public participation in decision making and access to justice in environmental matters were based on the experience of the ECE region, in particular in relation to the negotiations for the Aarhus	Latin America and the Caribbean region	July 2016 to June 2018 June 2018 to date	National consultations and activities successfully supported awareness raising and sharing the knowledge and information on Principle 10 implementation and the negotiations in St Kitts and Nevis, Grenada and Dominica, for officials and the civil society. Meetings held in the framework of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States in Saint Lucia, Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF), the Caribbean Challenge Initiative (CCI) secretariats, and a video/animation competition "Our environment, Our voices" promoted the Principle 10 implementation and the	Italian Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea, Participatio Ltd. (Hungary), Guta Association of Environmental Law	

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	the Caribbean Region	Convention and its implementation. The programme aimed to: - support the negotiation process for a regional instrument on Principle 10; - facilitate cooperation and sharing of experience between ECLAC and ECE stakeholders on Principle 10 and the Aarhus Convention; - empower stakeholders to engage in the Principle 10 process; - increase awareness among national governments and civil society of Principle 10 and the benefits of its implementation, including sharing of good practices and experience from other regions or countries; and - promote access rights within Principle 10 and Article 6 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.			negotiations. Expert assistance and advice by the REC expert team helped to prepare and enable the CSO negotiating team before and during the negotiating sessions. Funding provided by the project contributed to broader CSO participation and to holding regional CSO coordination meetings before the P10 negotiation sessions to help the CSO negotiating team to be better prepared. The CSOs and other stakeholders's capacities were increased via trainings and webinars on particular strategic issues related to the negotiations. After the adoption of the Escazú Agreement, a Strategy for the Civil Society Engagement in the Escazú Agreement was prepared to enable the CSO network to continue to support activities regarding the signature and ratification of the Escazú Agreement, as well as its implementation. Results and information at: http://www.building-bridges.rec.org/ and http://www.building-bridges.rec.org/BuildingBridgesIII.html Assistance by the experts of Guta Association of Environmental Law provided from January 2018 assisted the CSO team in the final 9th Negotiating Committee Meeting (Escazú, Costa Rica, 27 February - 4 March 2018) to prepare strategically for the final session and finalize the Escazú Agreement for adoption on 4 March 2018. The Guta Association as in-kind contribution has continued to support the CSOs , helping enabling them in the		

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					promotion of signature and ratification of the Agreement, as well as in preparations for Meeting of Signatories, and more recently, for the first session of the Conference of the Parties.		
European ECO-Forum / Participatio Ltd. (Hungary) in cooperation with Resource Environmental Center Albania, Resource Environmental Center Bosnia and Herzegovina, Resource Environmental Community Montenegro and ECO Contact	Enhancement of Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTRs) in the Western Balkan countries and the Republic of Moldova	The project aims at supporting project countries to develop or upgrade their PRTRs and to enable relevant authorities, operators and NGOs for the prospective implementation of E-PRTR & LCP integrated reporting, the reporting to the European Union Registry on Industrial Sites, the Industrial Emissions Directive and the the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers. The goal is to achieve more informed decision- making for sustainability. Activities will include technical assistance, capacity building and experience sharing, transfer of knowledge and will support the improvement of PRTRs in Albania and the Reoubic of Moldova, and the development of PRTRs in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro, and Kosovo*.	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, and Kosovo*	May 2021 – May 2023	As a result of the technical assistance, capacity building and experience sharing in implementation of the relevant legislation of the European Union and the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers, the responsible competent authorities will have functioning PRTRs in place, with regular online reporting by operators. This offers more information about potential risks, impact of pollutants and off-site transfers of waste to the public and empowers the public to take actions against polluters in their communities, operators to reduce emissions and decision-makers to develop and implement pollution reduction programmes: leading to progress towards European environmental standards and Sustainable Development Goals. Capacity building for operators, authorities and NGOs will be offered in form of trainings, regional workshop and and guidance materials, and via development of publicly more easily accessible and undertandable information via websites.	Advisory Assistance Programme (AAP) of the German Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety	Access to Information Objectives I.1, I.7, I.10 and III.3

* Reference to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).
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European ECO-Forum / European Environmental Bureau	Implement for LIFE	Enhance NGO engagement in the European Union Environmental Implementation Review (EIR) and collect relevant information that would reach policy makers, authorities and regulators.	European Union member States	January 2018 to July 2020	The project resulted in raising awareness among its entire membership of the Environmental Implementation Reviews and incorporated work on improving implementation across its work areas. Experiences of good practice and challenges in implementation, and the opportunities NGOs are given in the European Union member States to be involved, were raised at the level of the European Union.	European Commission, LIFE programme	General, Objectives I.1, I.6, I.7, I.8, I.9
European ECO-Forum / COWI, Justice and Environment	Collecting and updating information on environmental access to justice rules in the European Union member States for the e-Justice portal	To collect all relevant information on access to justice in environmental matters in each European Union member States. The primary beneficiary was the European Commission DG Environment, while the end users of the eJustice fact sheets will be the members of the public.	European Union and its member States	January 2020 – March 2021	The project resulted in producing: 27 eJustice fact sheets in English 27 eJustice fact sheets in the national language of the respective country 27 summaries (for the European Commission only) 27 indicator worksheets (for the European Commission only) See: https://e- justice.europa.eu/300/EN/access_to_justice_in_ environmental_matters	European Commission	Access to Justice Objectives I.12, I.13, III.7
European ECO-Forum / COWI, Justice and Environment	Improving implementation and the evidence base for the Environmental Liability Directive	To collect all relevant information on the implementation of the Environmental Liability Directive in each EU Member State and its access to justice aspects. The primary beneficiary was the European Commission DG Environment.	European Union and its member States	March 2020 – March 2021	The project resulted in preparing the study on the implementation of the Environmental Liability Directive in the 27 member States of the European Union and raising awareness about its key findings. See:	European Commission	Access to Justice Objectives I.12, I.13, III.7 Access to Information Objectives I.1, I.7, I.10

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European ECO-Forum / Justice and Environment and ClientEarth	Education and Awareness Raising of Legal Professionals on Access to Justice	Legal analyses and toolkits on access to justice in environmental matters in 8 European Union member States. Training of legal professionals and NGOs on access to justice. Preparing a handbook on access to justice in the European Union and monthly access to justice newsletters. Holding webinars on access to justice and other relevant environmental legal issues. Holding a conference on access to justice and other relevant environmental legal issues.	Austria Belgium Estonia France Germany Hungary Poland Slovakia Spain	July 2017 – December 2020	The project resulted in preparations of: 8 stakeholder analyses 8 legal analyses 8 toolkits 48 training sessions 12 webinars 1 online conference See: https://www.clientearth.org/projects/access-to-justice-for-a-greener-europe/	European Union LIFE Action Grants	Access to Justice Objectives I.12, I.13, III.7