

**24th OSCE ECONOMIC AND
ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM**
“Strengthening stability and security through
cooperation on good governance”

Prague, 14-16 September 2016

“Review of the Implementation of the Relevant OSCE
Commitments: Good Environmental Governance”



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Overview

- OSCE Commitments
- Frameworks for Environmental Governance
- Implementation of OSCE Commitments
- Policy Gaps and Challenges
- Recommendations of Follow-up in OSCE area



OSCE Commitments in the field of good environmental governance

Among others:

- **2003 Maastricht** Strategy Document for the OSCE Economic and Environmental Dimension
- **2007 Madrid** Declaration on Environment and Security
- **2014 Basel** Ministerial Decision on Enhancing Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)



Framework for Good Environmental Governance: Global

- **Global Conferences** (Stockholm, Rio, Jo'burg, Rio+20, trade/development conferences)
- **2015 SDGs** – Sustainable Development Agenda for 2030
- **Paris Agreement**
- **Sendai Framework** on DRR





Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

TARGETS

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 16.1 significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere | 16.6 develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels | 16.a strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacities at all levels, in particular in developing countries, for preventing violence and combating terrorism and crime |
| 16.2 end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture against children | 16.7 ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels | 16.b promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development |
| 16.3 promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and ensure equal access to justice for all | 16.8 broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance | |
| 16.4 by 2030 significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen recovery and return of stolen assets, and combat all forms of organized crime | 16.9 by 2030 provide legal identity for all including birth registration | |
| 16.5 substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all its forms | 16.10 ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements | |

Framework for Good Environmental Governance: Regional

- **UNECE Multilateral Environmental Agreements:**
 - **Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus, 1998)**
 - Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (Kyiv, 2003)
 - **Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo, 1991)**
 - Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Kyiv, 2003)
 - **Convention on Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents (Helsinki, 1992)**
 - **Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Helsinki, 1992)**

Framework for Good Environmental Governance: National

- **EU *acquis communautaire*** – relevant for a large part of the OSCE area
- High level of performance of OSCE participating States on the **Environmental Democracy Index (EDI)**



Implementation of OSCE Commitments: participating States

- **Adherence** to international legal instruments
- Enhancing environmental governance on the **national level**
 - **Strategic planning**
 - Implementation of **Information and Participation** laws
 - Reporting/compliance mechanisms
 - Influence of **EU *acquis***
 - Public-private partnerships



Implementation of OSCE Commitments: OSCE projects

- Environmental governance related **projects** of **OSCE**
 - **The Environment and Security (ENVSEC) Initiative**
 - **Network of Aarhus Centres**



Policy Gaps and Challenges

- **Problematic sectors (mining, energy, waste)**
- **Corporate accountability**
- **Inspection powers, monitoring capacities**
- **Public awareness**
- **Zero sum versus win-win**



Recommendations for OSCE follow-up

- Good environmental governance
- Public participation and transparency
- Confidence building and conflict prevention
- Support to implementation of multilateral environmental agreements
- Implementation of environment-related SDGs
- Adaptation to climate change
- Environment for Europe
- Engaging Youth
- Gender Mainstreaming
- Coordination and Cooperation with Partners



THANK YOU!

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