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Strengthening Environmental Co-operation and Promoting Circular Economy- the OSCE Perspective


Concluding Meeting of the 25th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum
Prague, 6-8 September, 2017



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OMIS support to strengthening environmental cooperation FO examples

- **Capacity building for Administrative, Criminal Court Judges and Deputy Public Prosecutors to enforce environmental legislation**
 - Organized in cooperation with the Judicial Academy
 - 135 members of the judiciary attended four events across Serbia
 - International and national experts shared good practices with case examples from the ICJ and relevance of the Aarhus Convention



- **Providing assistance to the responsible Ministry in developing the National Climate Change Communication Strategy**
 - Draft Strategy developed, public scrutiny organized in 5 cities through engagement of the network of Aarhus Centers
 - Adoption by the Government expected before the end of 2017

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The role of the Serbian Aarhus Center Network in support of environmental cooperation

- Promoting the role of ACs in DRR among communities at risk through outreach campaigns in Kragujevac, Novi Sad and Bajina Basta



- Promoting improved waste management practices in Subotica
 - Supporting discussions aimed at improving transparency in the EU-funded Regional Landfill, under construction
 - Engagement of authorities from State, Provincial and local levels with interested stakeholders



- Developing and promoting a review study aimed at improving circular economy principles in farming and management of waste in the construction industry in Vojvodina (AC Novi Sad) – ongoing
 - Facilitating the engagement of academics, practitioners, businesses and local authorities in advancing agricultural practices and managing construction waste through desk-top research and on-site visits
 - Promoting dialogue among key stakeholders and interested public



Mission-supported activities promoting green economy



In partnership with the GIZ, Serbian Chamber of Commerce, Ministry for Agriculture and Environmental Protection, OMIS organized outreach campaigns in 6 cities. The events gathered almost 300 representatives of the business community, local authorities and interested public.



Mission-supported activities aimed at promoting green economy

- Together with the “Green” Parliamentary Group from the Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, a seminar was organized to increase the understanding of policy-makers of benefits of transitioning to circular economy.
- More than 100 delegates from the Provincial Assembly of Vojvodina and Mayors from the Province, attended.
- Good media coverage.
- Proposed continuation of capacity-building activities related to sustainable development.



Engagement of the OSCE Mission to Serbia in supporting cross-border cooperation - activities led by OCEEA

ENVSEC Project: **Strengthening capacities of Aarhus Centers in Disaster Risk Reduction to enhance awareness of local communities**

- Workshop in Tirana (authorities and ACs from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, and Serbia)
- National community awareness-raising action plans on DRR
- Implementation of activities to raise disaster risk awareness
- Concluding Meeting in Vienna and field visit



Engagement of the OSCE Mission to Serbia in supporting cross-border cooperation - activities led by OCEEA

ExB Project: **Disaster Risk Reduction and Security in the OSCE Area**

- Supporting cooperation between Bajina Basta (Serbia) and Gorazde (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

- **Regional Disaster Risk Reduction Training Course in Sarajevo**, including a site visit.

- **Regional Exchange Meeting for South-Eastern Europe** including municipal staff, ACs, national ministries, FOs, IOs and donors.

- **Project outcome at regional level:**

- Signing of Joint Recommendations reaffirming commitment to co-operate across borders in addressing common disaster risk challenges ;
- DRR info package placed on municipal websites.

- **Project outcome at national level:**

- Review of local DRR documents with strong public engagement,
- Adoption of the Municipal Decision for the establishment of the Civil Protection System in Bajina Basta



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Thank you for your attention

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