



# **TOWARDS A SHARED ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (SEIS) IN THE EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD**

## **THIRD INTERIM PROGRESS REPORT**

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**REPORT COVER PAGE**

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**Disclaimer**

The authors take full responsibility for the contents of this report. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

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<sup>1</sup> As in the contract addendum No 1 ENPI/2009/210629 of 3 July 2012

<sup>2</sup> Syria was a partner country at the start of the project, collaboration has been suspended until further notice in line with the EC guidance

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## 1. LIST OF ACRONYMS

BSC PS	Black Sea Commission, Permanent Secretariat
BSIMAP	Black Sea Integrated Monitoring System
BSIS	Black Sea Information System
CAREC	Central Asia Regional Environmental Center
CAs	Contract Agents
CAS	Central Administration of Statistics
CB-MEP	ENPI Horizon 2020 Capacity Building – Mediterranean Environment Programme
CEDARE	Center for Environment and Development for the Arab Region and Europe
CLRTAP	Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution
CSI	Core Set of Indicators
DG DEVCO	European Commission - Directorate General Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid
DG ENV	European Commission - Directorate General Environment
DG RTD	Directorate General for Research and Innovation
DPSIR	Driver, Pressure, State, Impact, Response analytical framework
EaP	Eastern Partnership
EEA	European Environment Agency
EECCA	Countries from Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan)
EIB	European Investment Bank
EIONET	European Environment Information and Observation Network
EIS	Environmental Information Systems
EMWIS	Euro-Mediterranean Water Information System
ENP	European Neighbourhood Policy
ENPI	European Neighbourhood Partnership Instrument
EPR	Environment Performance Review
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
ETC	European Topic Centre

ETC/ICM	European Topic Center on Inland, Coastal and Marine water
ETC/SCP	European Topic Center on Sustainable Consumption and Production
EU	European Union
EUROSTAT	Statistical office of the European Union
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GMES	Global Monitoring for Environment and Security
H2020	Horizon 2020 Initiative (aiming to de-pollute the Mediterranean by the year 2020)
ICM	Inland, Coastal and Marine Water
IWRM	Integrated Water Resource Management
INSPIRE	Infrastructure for Spatial Information in Europe
JRC	European Joint Research Centre
JTF	Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators under UNECE
MAP	Mediterranean Action Plan
MDIAK	Monitoring-Data-Indicator-Assessment-Knowledge chain
MEAs	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
MEDSTAT	Statistical cooperation programme with ENP-South countries
MEHSIP-PPIF	The Mediterranean Hot Spots Investment Programme – Project Preparation and Implementation Facility (under Horizon 2020 Initiative)
MENR	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources
MG	Management Group
MISIS	MSFD guiding improvements in the Black Sea integrated monitoring system
MNRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and Ecology
MSFD	Marine Strategy Framework Directive
NAPs	National Action Plans
NFPs	National Focal Points
NRCs	National Reference Centres
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PERSEUS	Policy-oriented marine Environmental Research in the Southern European Seas project
PRTR	Pollutant Release and Transfer Register
QA/QC	Quality Assurance/Quality Control

REC	Regional Environmental Centre
Reportnet	Eionet's infrastructure for supporting and improving data and information flows
RMR	Review, Monitoring and Research sub-group of H2020 Initiative
ROM	Results Oriented Monitoring
SEE	South East Europe
SEIS	Shared Environmental Information System
SOER	State and Outlook of the Environment Report
SOs	Specific Objectives
SC	Steering Committee
SWEEP-Net	Regional Solid Waste Exchange of Information and Expertise Network in Mashreq and Maghreb countries
SWIM-SM Project	Sustainable Water Integrated Management - Support Mechanism
TAs	Temporary Agents
TAIEX	Technical Assistance and Information Exchange
ToR	Terms of Reference
UBA	Umweltbundesamt, Austria, Vienna
UfM	Union for the Mediterranean
UfMS	Union for the Mediterranean Secretariat
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UN-ESCWA	United Nations regional economic and social development commission in Western Asia
UNSD	United Nations Statistics Division
UNICA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
WGEMA	Working Group for Environment Monitoring and Assessment under UNECE

## 2. PROJECT SYNOPSIS

<b>Project Title:</b>	TOWARDS A SHARED ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (SEIS) IN THE EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD
<b>Project Number:</b>	C-210629
<b>Date Financing Agreement:</b>	27/11/2009
<b>Country:</b>	REGION NEIGHBOURHOOD
<b>Typology of Regional Programme:</b>	HYBRID REGIONAL
<b>Configuration of Regional Programme:</b>	9+7 COUNTRIES
<b>Start Date – actual:</b>	09/12/2009
<b>End Date - planned:</b>	09/06/2014
<b>End Date - likely:</b>	30/09/2014
<b>Primary Commitment:</b>	€5.746.500

### Project Background

The Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) is an EU initiative to modernise and simplify the collection, exchange and use of the data and information required for the design and implementation of environmental policy.

The ENPI-SEIS project was launched to help protect the environment in the European Neighbourhood region by improving capacities of the relevant authorities in the ENP East countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine) and Russian Federation and in the ENP South countries (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya<sup>3</sup>, Morocco, Palestinian Authority, Syria<sup>4</sup> and Tunisia) in the domain of monitoring, data collection and management, assessment and indicator-based reporting on the environment.

Good and timely information is needed to support policy development and implementation, guide allocation of financial resources, support environmental democracy and implementation of international agreements dealing with transboundary environmental issues. These issues are on the agendas of both the Union for the Mediterranean and the Eastern Partnership.

### Project Intervention Logic

#### Overall Objective (OO):

Promote the protection of the environment in the countries of the ENPI area.

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<sup>3</sup> As in the contract addendum No 1 ENPI/2009/210629 of 3 July 2012

<sup>4</sup> Collaboration is temporarily suspended

**Specific Objectives (SOs):**

1. Identify or further develop environmental indicators and scorecards – suitable for the design and review of environmental policies, supporting the monitoring and compliance with various national, regional and international obligations and targets.
2. Improve capacities in the field of monitoring and collection, storage, assessment, and reporting of environmental data in the relevant environmental authorities including the national statistical systems, in compliance with reporting obligations to international agreements and in coordination with relevant regional initiatives.
3. Promote the basis for the future setting up of National and Regional Environmental Information Systems in line with the EU SEIS principles.
4. Track progress of the regional environmental initiatives (ENP, Eastern Partnership, Horizon 2020).

**Main Activity Areas:**

1. INDICATORS
2. DATA FLOWS
3. SEIS INFRASTRUCTURE
4. ASSESSMENT
5. COMMUNICATION
6. MANAGEMENT, NETWORKING AND COORDINATION

**Outputs for ENP East and Russian Federation:**

1. Core Set of updated and refined regional Indicators (CSI).
2. Regular data flows established for a selected number of topics.
3. Building SEIS through gradual integration of existing data and information systems.
- 4.1. Trained experts in the field of environmental reporting and indicators in line with EU/EEA methods and tools.
- 4.2. Reporting contribution covering the identified priority areas as part of EEA reporting cycle.
- 5.1. Newsletters.
- 5.2. Indicators and reports produced available on line.
- 6.1. Environment and statistics networks engaged.
- 6.2. Improved partnerships with regional and international institutions and bodies.

**Outputs for ENP South:**

1. Core Set of updated and refined regional Indicators (CSI).
2. Regionally agreed lists of indicators for the priority areas of Horizon 2020 (CSI for H2020).
3. Regular data flows in place for the three priority areas of H2020.
4. Building SEIS through gradual integration of existing data and information systems.
- 4.1. Trained experts in the field of environmental reporting and indicators in line with EU/EEA methods and tools.
- 4.2. Biennial synthesis progress report.
- 4.3. 5-year progress report under H2020.
5. 1. Newsletters.
- 5.2. Indicators and reports produced available on line.
- 6.1. Environment and statistics networks engaged.
- 6.2. Improved partnerships with regional and international institutions and bodies.

**Target groups:** The ministries, government agencies and statistical offices responsible for the production, storage, dissemination and assessment of environmental data.

**Project duration:** 54 months



### 3. INTRODUCTION

The ENPI-SEIS project aims to support the countries in the region to keep the state of their environment under review, to strengthen their capacity to meet environmental reporting obligations within the framework of national legislation and Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), to facilitate the sharing of environmental information both at national and at regional levels on a set of selected regional set of environmental indicators, to support regular production of data flows in the identified priority areas through the agree set of indicators, as well as to support decision-making processes through improved access to environmental information.

In particular, the ENPI-SEIS initiative aims to strengthen the institutional infrastructure for environmental information management and sharing in the region by facilitating and encouraging the establishment of national environment information networks. The sustainability of such networks and the continuation of information sharing activities will rely on the identification and establishment of sustainable coordinating entities.

The present, third interim progress report covers the ENPI-SEIS project activities undertaken in the period from 16 September 2012 to 15 September 2013. Its structure follows the one used for the previous progress report, structured per activity area for areas 1-4 (listing activities implemented, deliverables and the expected activities/outcome in the next phase) as laid down in the project Terms of Reference for each region. The activities under Area 5 “Communication and dissemination” and Area 6 “Management and coordination” have been presented in one joint section covering both regions. The work and activities performed during the reported period are presented in section 4 for ENPI South and section 5 for ENPI East, activities performed under activity areas 5 and 6 are presented under the sections 6, 7 and 8 of the present report.

Furthermore, the current progress report builds on the activities undertaken in the previous periods of work and already reported in the first (up to 15 September 2011) and the second progress report (16 September 2011-15 September 2012) submitted and approved by the Contracting Authority in the EC. These reports are currently available on the project website.

Taking into account the political situation in Syria and following directions of the Contracting Authority, similarly to the previous reporting period, the cooperation with Syria has been suspended. The cooperation with Libya, formally approved by the Contracting Authority in July 2012, has seen some limited progress.

The objectives of the third implementation period of the ENPI-SEIS project, covered by the present progress report, were focused on:

- capacity building activities in the ENPI area, responding to countries’ identified needs in streamlining and sharing data and information,
- development and approval of a regional core set of indicators for both regions in the identified priority areas and moving towards regular data production and data sharing;
- continuous dialogue and support to the countries in the three priority areas, jointly with other regional activities and on-going projects.

This work builds on the EEA experience in developing indicators for the West Balkan region and the gradual integration of the latter into SEIS implementation. The work in preparation for the first regional thematic assessment report for the Mediterranean under Horizon 2020 Initiative has been very much in focus, while for the East region the mid-term review on progress of SEIS implementation following the Astana Ministerial Conference under the “Environment for Europe” process was the major milestone in the pan-European context.

It is to be noted that based on the EEA cooperation with the ENPI region within the project, the SEIS implementation in the European Neighbourhood has been included in the next Multi-annual Work Programme (MAWP) 2014-2018 (subject to external funding) that was developed over the the reported period.

## 4. IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES FOR ENPI SOUTH

The activities implemented in the ENPI South region are reported under the activity areas as outlined in the agreed Terms of Reference (ToR) with the exception of activity areas 5 and 6 communication and management, which are elaborated in sections 6 and 7 of the report for both East and South regions.

### 4.1 AREA 1: SUITABLE ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS AND SCORECARDS

During the reported period, the activities under this area were aimed at producing the regional set of indicators for the ENPI South region agreed in April 2012 and start of data flow deliveries necessary to underpin the production of the first H2020 reporting exercise, undertaken by the EEA in the framework of the ENPI-SEIS project. As indicated in previous progress reports, this work was closely linked to the other projects, initiatives and on-going efforts to depollute the Mediterranean Sea by year 2020 in the three priority areas of municipal waste, waste water (covering fresh and marine waters) and industrial emissions, and in particular it was in line with the work of the H2020 sub-group on Review, Monitoring and Research (RMR) chaired by the EEA. The activities under this area were interconnected with the ones under areas 4.2 and 4.3 in terms of support to the ENPI South countries to prepare and deliver datasets for the selected key indicators in the process of producing the first regional thematic assessment, while ensuring proper linkages with the development and implementation of the country pilots identified in 2011-2012.

In 2012 the geographical scope of the project was extended to cover Libya as a new partner<sup>5</sup>. As initial engagement to the project, in March 2013 the Libyan General Environment Authority officially appointed a National Focal Point and nominated representatives to the Working Groups on IT and Environmental Indicators. Since then, Libyan representatives participated in only one meeting - Working Group on Environmental Indicators. In order to engage the country further in the SEIS development process and other ENPI-SEIS activities, more country-specific support to Libya will be provided in the next phase of the project, proposing actions needed towards SEIS-based functioning of the national environmental information system and network.

#### Progress to date:

Significant progress has been achieved during the reported period, more specifically: common methodology developed to support the indicator production (factsheets), capacity developed in partner countries for the production and use of the indicators (through national workshops), strong contribution of statistical offices and thematic expert networks in the process. However, due to the slower (than envisaged) implementation of the cooperation agreement with UNEP/MAP and difficulties faced by the countries in mobilising their national partners, some of the planned activities (e.g. organisation of the national workshops) have been delayed compared to the agreed work plan, which hampered the smooth preparation of the data and the underpinning data flows for the H2020 reporting. In agreement with the NFPs, the work plan has been revised (extending the deadlines for the reporting process) to take into account countries capacities to contribute to the activity and an increased support has been provided (with joint support of FWC, UNEP/MAP and ETC/ICM).

An overview of the situation per country in the ENP South regions with respect to the actual development of the six H2020 indicators is presented in a table in section 12.

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<sup>5</sup> European Council decision of 23rd October 2011 giving eligibility to Libya to participate in ENPI activities

### **Activities in the reported period:**

- Implementation of the indicator development steps as agreed by the RMR sub-group in June 2012: dissemination of a meta-data questionnaire to support the development of indicator factsheets and compilation of an inventory of available national data and methodologies; development of the methodology for the production of the agreed indicators (definition, geographical units, temporal references, data sources, calculation methods, management of uncertainties).
- 2nd Meeting of the Working Group on Environmental Indicators, 10-11 October 2012, Copenhagen, discussed the progress in the indicators development and more specifically the first draft of the indicator methodological specifications, the progress in the pilots development, linking the regional production of key indicators with the national implementation of country specific pilots actions, and the reporting process (1st outline of the regional report and country profile). The meeting allowed clarifying some methodological aspects and support needed from the IT WG (development of data specification for Reportnet, identification of data reporters); it also proposed some adjustment to the draft outline of the report and corresponding calendar.
- 3rd Meeting of the Working Group on Environmental Indicators enlarged to the WG on Information Technology (IT WG) that was held in parallel to the First 'Eye on Earth' User Conference, 4-6 March 2013, Dublin, Ireland. The aim was to strengthen the coordination between the indicator and IT developments and take stock of progress at regional and national level in preparing the data for populating the H2020 indicators and establishing the related data flows. Specific focus was given to the country support and the organisation of the national workshops on indicators. The meeting acknowledged the delay in implementing the activity (e.g. preparation of the data, finalisation of the indicator specification, organisation of the national workshops) and proposed adjustment to the work plan in order to meet the project obligations (delivery of the H2020 report by the end of 2013).
- 4th meeting of the Horizon 2020 RMR sub-group, 11-12 June 2013, Copenhagen, addressed the current H2020 context, recent development and steps towards setting-up of a regular reporting mechanism to feed into the regional report. The meeting took note of relevant developments on the reporting process itself, covering reporting tools, templates and specifications, as well as status of data delivery from the countries. Despite the difficulties encountered by countries in preparing the requested data sets and developing the country level assessment, all ENPI partner countries confirmed their engagement to fulfil their obligation and deliver the required data.
- Production of factsheets based on the EEA and UNEP/MAP templates for each indicator from the selected regional set and developing of a common methodology for indicators production. The factsheets have been regularly adjusted and further developed according to the countries inputs (data references, gap filling, uncertainties – web consultation on 1st draft indicators specification organised after the 2nd meeting of Indicators WG), taking into account the difficulties and outcome of the populating exercise at national level. The work on the factsheets provided the opportunity to clarify at national level the priorities in terms of data flows and precise what should be the budgetary and human resources needs to support sustained data flows. This activity is a joint effort of the members of the WG on Environmental Indicators in cooperation with UNEP/MAP, experts from the European Topic Centre on Inland, Coastal and Marine (ETC-ICM) and the framework contractors UBA-Vienna.
- The development of the methodological guide/factsheets was intended to be completed by mid-January 2013, with a review of progress during the meeting in Dublin. The schedule had to be revised however, as the progress on this activity was slower than expected, in particular linked to the countries' difficulties to apply the agreed

specifications and to the delayed organisation of the country support and national workshops.

- Organisation of eight National workshops for the ENP South region (held in the period March-June 2013) to support the production of the required data and indicators and to look into the practical implementation of the country pilots and production of the country level assessments. This activity has been implemented with the support of UNEP/MAP.
- Specific attention has been given to streamline the H2020 indicators development with other existing initiatives, such as the Sustainable Development Indicators for the Arab region, the UfM project on Creating Shared National Water Data Management System towards a Mediterranean Water Knowledge Hub, development of indicators for Integrated Water Resources Management, Mediterranean initiative of the Global Footprint Network in Exploring the Ecological Footprint and bio-capacity trends and their implications for Mediterranean Economies, as well as ensuring links with the Mediterranean Marine Strategy Coordination Group & UNEP/MAP Ecosystem approach (EcAP) coordination group.

#### **Deliverables in the reported period:**

- Description of the development and status of indicators implementation at national level before the national workshops (developed with the support from ETC/ICM): [http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/project-activities/data-and-indicators/deliverable2b\\_v3-0-final.pdf/download](http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/project-activities/data-and-indicators/deliverable2b_v3-0-final.pdf/download)
- Development of the common set of indicators, fact sheets and institutional arrangements put in place to elaborate the country contributions to the H2020 report (Presentations and summary records of the national workshops and WG meetings are available at the following links: <http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/project-activities/data-and-indicators/working-group-environmental-indicators-south> and <http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/project-activities/data-and-indicators/enp-south-national-workshop-indicators>).
- Detailed indicator specifications (fact sheets) developed for each indicator providing a common methodology for indicators production: <http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/project-activities/data-and-indicators/factsheet-consultation>).

#### **Upcoming activities and outcomes in the remainder of the project:**

- Based on the lessons learned from the first reporting exercise, the WG on Environmental Indicators will conduct a review of the indicators produced and propose adjustment to the existing specifications. This review will take into account the implementation of the UNEP/MAP Ecosystem approach (EcAP) and particularly the development of Good Environmental Status (GES) indicators and associated targets and the preparation of the EcAP Monitoring and Assessment Methodological Guidance.
- As part of the regular indicator development, an updated detailed assessment of each indicator will be prepared by country.
- 4th meeting of the WG on Environmental Indicators is planned to be organised in early 2014 (possibly February) to further develop the methodological guidelines and specifications for the indicators. This meeting will be linked to the Working Group on Information Technology to ensure appropriate development of the underpinning data flow requirements (metadata catalogue, data flows diagrams, data dictionary).

## **4.2 AREA 2: TIMELY, RELEVANT, RELIABLE AND COHERENT ENVIRONMENTAL DATA**

Regular data flows for the identified indicators under the three priority areas were in focus in this area of work for the reported period. The National Workshops held in the ENPI South partner countries over the period March-June 2013 were focused on sharing experiences on the preparation and collection of the requested data, calculation and use of the H2020 indicators, setting-up of the relevant data flows as well as possibilities to strengthen the cooperation at national level between the Ministry of Environment and the Statistics offices, local authorities, institutions and companies involved in wastewater, waste and businesses related to industrial emissions. The workshops also addressed support to Pollutant Release and Transfer Register development, common structure for reporting, as well as the expected country-level assessments feeding into the H2020 Regional Report (see under 4.4).

All activities under this area of work are closely linked to the activities and deliverables described under area 4.1, and are also directly associated with the efforts reported under sections 4.3 and 4.4 further below.

### *Progress to date:*

Initial data flow for the key H2020 indicators are in place. The main challenges with setting up a regular data flow process are linked to divided responsibilities of national authorities managing environmental data, need of further institutional arrangements to be put in place to elaborate the country contributions/pilots as agreed, lack of human and sometimes financial resources to support the process. In addition, the fact that the H2020 geographical coverage does not universally fit with the existing data collection it requires further data processing to populate the requested indicators. Regional capacity building events have been organised in support of this. Overview with the state-of-play per country on the progress in reporting data to EEA is presented in the Table 1 below (status as of end of November 2013).

Six pilot exercises (Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Palestine, Tunisia and Morocco) are under implementation with the support of UNEP/MAP-MEDPOL. The project is progressing successfully in Egypt (first national workshop organised in March), Tunisia (national workshop in August), workshops are under preparation in Palestine and Lebanon. The PRTR pilot in Israel aims at the development of the necessary interaction between PRTR and other reporting system in place (e.g. LBS Protocol of the Barcelona Convention from the content and infrastructure point of view). The PRTR pilot in Morocco is expected to start soon.

Cooperation with relevant regional partners and bodies has continued, in particular with UNEP/MAP-MEDPOL, Plan Bleu, EMWIS, CEDARE, in addition to linking the on-going activities with the work of the H2020 Review, Monitoring and Research (RMR) Sub-Group and in close coordination with the two other H2020 components (Capacity Building and Pollution Reduction) as well as the Union for Mediterranean (UfM) Secretariat in order to ensure a proper streamlining of efforts in setting up a sustainable process around information flows.

### **Activities in the reported period:**

- The meetings reported under area 4.1 above have discussed the indicators production and ways to establish the related data flows, in the process of a regular reporting on the depolluting the Mediterranean and the preparation of the first H2020 regional report. During each meeting of the WG on Indicators particular attentions was given to review, share experiences, know-how, achievements, and difficulties in the pilot development in each country and assess how those national developments are adequately supporting the regional requirements in terms of data flows and data sharing.
- In particular, the National workshops for the ENPI South region (held in the period March-June 2013) aimed to support the production and use of indicators had a specific look into the practical implementation of the country pilots.

- Continuous follow-up of the implementation of the country pilots. A systematic review of progress is done during each meeting of the WG on Indicators.
- Introduction of Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR) as key activity to support data collection and sharing for industrial point sources.
- Continuous support was provided to countries on water and waste data (methodology, calculation, harmonisation with international standards) especially on data needed to populate the H2020 indicators. Following the delivery of the requested data (in the period June-September 2013), intense communication with countries took place to review and assess quality of the submitted data. Particular attention has been given to ensure participation of representatives from SEIS national teams to other relevant capacity building events (CB/MEP PRTR workshop, UNSD workshop on Environmental accounting, World Bank seminar on Natural Capital Accounts, UfM/Plan Bleu IWRM technical workshop). The other planned regional thematic activities (on water accounts and waste statistics) were postponed into early 2014.
- 2nd meeting of the WG on Information Technology (see also under area 4.3) identified possible problems in data accessibility and data availability in technical and institutional terms for the selected indicators developed by the WG on Indicators.
- Preparing Reportnet, EEA tool for reporting, to initiate the process of data deliveries on the agreed indicators was also in focus. This included several tasks and joint efforts from the countries and EEA to build the national network with clear distribution of tasks as well as setting up the system to be ready to receive relevant data in agreed format.
- Production of detailed data description for each data requested for H2020 indicators and creation of common templates in different formats (excel, XML, Access etc.).
- 3rd meeting of the ENPI-SEIS South IT Working Group, 2-3 September 2013 in Copenhagen, Denmark (see also under area 4.3). The meeting discussed experience gained over the first data delivery and difficulties faced, sharing of activities between EEA and the countries, as well as looking into MDIAK (Monitoring, Data, Indicator, Assessment, Knowledge) chain activities/elements in support of SEIS development in the countries.

#### **Deliverables in the reported period:**

- Quality assessment of the data reported by countries. Data used for the industrial emissions indicators, being part of the regular MEDPOL reporting process, have been processed and assessed by MEDPOL.
- Review of progress in implementing country pilots done during the meetings of the WG on Environmental Indicators.
- Agreement with 6 ENP partner countries to initiate a pilot exercise on PRTR. This activity has been being supported by UNEP/MAP-MEDPOL, for which specific small grant agreements between MEDPOL and the countries have been prepared (with Egypt and Tunisia these were signed, others are expected to come).
- Agreement to use the EEA tool for reporting – Reportnet, to initiate the process of data deliveries on the agreed indicators in order to set-up a mechanism ensuring deliveries of reliable and coherent environmental data flows.
- Reporting Obligation Database updated to include H2020 reporting (<http://rod.eionet.europa.eu/obligations/691>). Transparent list of relevant international reporting obligation is provided to the countries.
- Commonly agreed, harmonised data descriptions (to feed into common regional indicators) are introduced in Reportnet's Data Dictionary. Templates in different formats (excel, XML, Access etc.), technical specifications and basic metadata on datasets are made available to all for the areas of Sanitation (<http://dd.eionet.europa.eu/datasets/3058>), Waste

(<http://dd.eionet.europa.eu/datasets/3057>) and wastewater (<http://dd.eionet.europa.eu/datasets/3073>).

- Mediterranean Data Repository (<http://mdr.eionet.europa.eu>) was prepared to accept national deliveries. National folders created linked to relevant obligations.
- Identification of data reporters from Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Libya, Palestine, Morocco, Tunisia of the ENP South partner countries; data deliveries received from seven countries (Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Morocco, Tunisia), only three reported under Reportnet (Egypt, Israel, Palestine), five are in the requested format (Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Palestine, Tunisia).
- First draft of a working regional database compiled based on countries deliveries (see also under area 4.3).

<b>Table 1. Final deadline to report data to EEA: 10. 07. 2013</b>					
<b>(status of data deliveries as of end of November 2013)</b>					
<b>Country</b>	<b>Data reporter nomination</b>	<b>Date of report</b>	<b>Method of report</b>	<b>Content of report</b>	<b>Quality of report</b>
<b>Algeria</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Egypt</b>	Ahmed Watany	25. 11. 2013	Reportnet	•Waste	Template used Waste: ~55 % filled in
<b>Israel</b>	Orna Matzner Moshe Yanai	04. 07. 2013	Reportnet	•Waste •Wastewater •Industrial emissions	Template used Waste: ~68 % filled in Wastewater:~41 % filled in Sanitation: ~34 % filled in
<b>Jordan</b>	Khaled Alshatarat Mahmoud Radaideh Dareen Abu Rabee Faraj Altalib	04. 2013	e-mail	•Waste •Wastewater •Industrial emissions	Template not used
<b>Lebanon</b>	No data reporter nominated, data submitted by the NFPs	08. 2013	e-mail	•Waste •Wastewater •Industrial emissions	Template used Waste: ~100 % filled in Wastewater:~34 % filled in Sanitation: ~50 % filled in
<b>Libya</b>	Dr. Mohamed Salem Hamouda	-	-	-	-
<b>Morocco</b>	Hamid Rhiouani	07. 2013	e-mail	•Waste •Wastewater •Industrial emissions	Template not used
<b>Palestine</b>	Zahrn Khaleef	29. 04. 2013	Reportnet	•Waste •Wastewater •Industrial emissions	Template used Waste: ~83 % filled in Wastewater:~23 % filled in Sanitation: ~50 % filled in
<b>Tunisia</b>	Kamel Abdellaoui Sana Ghanouchi	07. 2013	e-mail	•Waste •Wastewater •Industrial emissions	Template used Waste: ~20 % filled in Wastewater:~27 % filled in Sanitation: ~50 % filled in

Legend: green – timely response following the guidance and templates provided;  
yellow – response after the deadline and/or not in the right format/template;  
red – no response/ indication on delivery.

### **Upcoming activities and outcomes in the remainder of the project:**

- Capacity-building activities and country specific support jointly with UNEP/MAP, H2020 Capacity Building component, Union for Mediterranean, UNSD, SweepNet. Follow-up of the water accounts road-maps elaborated in 2012, enhancing appropriate linkages between the setting-up and development of the accounting framework with the production of relevant data and indicators, their underpinning data flows and contribution to integrated information system. Regional workshops are foreseen in the first quarter of 2014. Coordinated activity foreseen with CB/MEP-SweepNet with the support of ETC/SCP and possibly Eurostat on waste in the organisation of complementary trainings and workshops in the period of February - May 2014.
- Further implementation and refining of the data flows, populating data for the indicators currently missing, revising templates for harmonised data deliveries (see also in 4.3).
- Specific support to NFPs will be provided to facilitate the elaboration of detailed work plan for the implementation of the key national actions and pilots ensuring an integrated process with the regional activities and national efforts towards SEIS implementation within the project duration and beyond. A regular monitoring of the national processes (outside the regular review during WG meetings) will be ensured to track and document the key driving elements impacting the implementation of data flows at country level. This monitoring will also analyse the institutional structures supporting H2020 data flows and reporting.
- Compilation of quality-controlled regional database based on national deliveries (see also under area 4.3) as a basis for data services on H2020.
- Specific development of a Mediterranean PRTR, with the further implementation of the six PRTR pilots (set-up national team, national workshop, develop PRTR infrastructure, training on online PRTR software and tools, missions to countries). A regional workshop to exchange and disseminate lesson learnt and promote replication is foreseen to be held in the first quarter of 2014 with the support of UNEP/MAP.

### **4.3 AREA 3: SEIS-COMPLIANT NATIONAL AND REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SYSTEM**

During the reported period main focus was given to support the first data delivery for the first H2020 assessment report, as well as to set up structures ensuring the possibility for regular data deliveries in the future. A two-step approach was followed for the implementation: the first step was to ensure data deliveries for the H2020 progress report based on existing tools are in place, and the second step – to strengthen and improve the established national infrastructures through specific country-level support. The activities directly supporting data deliveries included capacity building, national network development and update of existing tools.

All activities under this area of work are closely linked to the activities and deliverables described under areas 4.1 and 4.2, and are also directly associated with the efforts reported under sections 4.4 further below.

#### **Progress to date:**

Significant progress has been achieved in the reported period, where 7 out of 9 partner countries nominated data reporters and Reportnet was used for data deliveries (see the overview of data deliveries under section 4.2 above). However, little progress was made on specific country level support to build national infrastructures due to the slow implementation of UNEP/MAP agreement. In the coming period most of the efforts will be concentrated on supporting the national infrastructure development.



#### **Activities in the reported period:**

- EEA compiled and disseminate to countries in both ENP regions a document on introduction to Reportnet and guidance on how to use the system for data deliveries.
- 2nd meeting of the WG on Information Technology (IT Working Group), held on 19-21 September 2012 in Skopje, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (mentioned under area 4.2) focusing on making data available for the selected indicators developed by the WG on Environmental Indicators to support the first H2020 progress report and also focusing on the planning and implementation of national pilot actions.
- 3rd Meeting of the Working Group on Environmental Indicators back-to-back with IT WG was held in parallel to the First 'Eye on Earth' User Conference, 4-6 March 2013, Dublin (mentioned under area 4.1). It was aimed to take stock of progress in producing the H2020 indicators and establishing the related data flows in preparation of the regional report, as well as to ensure coordination and information exchange between the two WGs and to provide a possibility to the WG members to participate at the technical sessions organised at the 'Eye On Earth' User Conference.
- 3rd meeting of the ENPI-SEIS South IT Working Group, held on 2-3 September 2013 in Copenhagen, Denmark (already mentioned under area 4.2).

#### **Deliverables in the reported period:**

- Identification of data reporters from six ENP South countries (Israel, Jordan, Libya, Palestine, Morocco, Tunisia).
- Elaboration of a revised Reportnet user guide (EN, FR, RU available at the following link <http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/communication/introduction-Reportnet/>) to strengthen ENP capacities towards the use of the Reportnet tools.
- Use of Reportnet for the H2020 reporting: six out of the eight countries delivered the requested data and four of these delivered in the requested format (Palestine, Israel, Tunisia, Lebanon, Morocco, Jordan delivered data on municipal waste, wastewater and on share of population to improved sanitation).
- First draft of a regional database compiled based on deliveries (see also under area 4.2)
- Guidance documents on SEIS: the English version of the restructured draft 'SEIS cookbook' in downloadable in pdf. format (<http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/project-activities/seis-infrastructure/seis-cookbook/seiscookbook.pdf>) and Information paper on SEIS developments (<http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/communication/seis-communication-paper>).

#### **Upcoming activities and outcomes in the remainder of the project:**

- Capacity-building activities and country specific support jointly with UNEP/MAP to support to the development of SEIS compliant national systems in the ENP South (e.g. National Environment Information Systems in Israel and Palestine, use of XML schema for data exchange in Israel and Tunisia, data exchange protocol between local and central level in Morocco).
- In the framework of the 6 pilot exercises on PRTR, specific support will be provided jointly with UNEP/MAP to the countries to design the PRTR infrastructure and facilitate the online reporting of industrial pollutants.
- IT Working Group meeting back-to-back with the WG on Environmental Indicators in the first quarter of 2014.
- Revising templates for harmonised data deliveries (see also under area 4.2)
- Compilation of QC regional database based on national deliveries (see also under area 4.3) as a basis for data services on H2020.

- Consolidation of the reporting mechanism (National data flow diagrams, meta data catalogue).
- French language version of the 'SEIS cookbook' published on the project website.
- Updating 'SEIS cookbook' with new examples/case studies on sharing of environmental information in the ENPI region.

#### **4.4 AREA 4: ASSESSMENT OF THE PROGRESS OF REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES**

The major activity to report under this area is on the progress made in the preparation of the 1<sup>st</sup> regional thematic assessment for the Mediterranean region expected to be published later in 2013. The activities and deliverables reported under areas 4.1-4.3 were aimed to ensure necessary support to the ENP South countries to prepare and deliver datasets for the selected indicators to feed into the assessment report, as part of a longer-term process towards the development of a reporting mechanism for measuring progress under Horizon 2020 Initiative.

Over the reported period, the good interaction and involvement of the countries in this activity should be mentioned. The success of the 1<sup>st</sup> regional assessment production is conditional on the countries' commitment to engage in this process, to make the relevant monitoring data flows available and to support the regular production of a common set of indicators.

##### *Progress to date:*

Significant progress was achieved during the period with effective delivery of the requested data from 7 out of the 9 ENP South countries and their country level assessments (4 countries already provided a first draft). The delays reported in area 4.1 and 4.2 have impacted the schedule for the production of the regional thematic assessment, which however should be delivered by the end of 2013.

This 1<sup>st</sup> H2020 assessment is composed of a regional thematic assessment based on key indicators covering the three H2020 priority areas (municipal waste, urban waste water and industrial emissions) and country level assessment (similar to the part C of the European State and Outlook Environment Report 2010) for the 9 ENP South countries. Complementing this thematic assessment, a technical report on the process towards the setting-up of a regular reporting mechanism of Horizon 2020 in line with the SEIS principles is also under preparation. This activity and the production of the assessment report is closely linked to the mid-term review of the H2020 initiative to be discussed by the H2020 Steering Group in mid-November 2013 and endorsed later by the UfM Ministerial Conference on Environment and Climate Change scheduled to take place in spring 2014. In this process, important attention is given to closer coordination with the other H2020 components, UNEP/MAP and UfM Secretariat in order to adequately capture the all efforts in building the H2020 reporting mechanism.

Despite the important efforts of the countries to produce and prepare the required data, the availability and different quality level of the data among countries (not full coverage, few time series, and low level of harmonisation) make the production of the regional thematic assessment part of the H2020 report difficult. Important exchanges with the countries took place to improve the data quality and the interpretation of the delivered data sets and allow developing some key messages on progress achieved on the three priority areas.

The country level assessment was a new exercise for the countries and revealed to be very challenging, both in terms of method (DPSIR framework, limited length) than in term of the production (sharing of writing responsibility), but provided a very concrete capacity building activities for the preparation of thematic assessment. Status of the preparation and delivery of country level assessment as input to the H2020 report is presented in table 2 below.

This activity is supported by a service contract with ETC on Inland, Coastal and Marine Water (ICM) and the contribution agreement with UNEP/MAP (MEDPOL, Plan Bleu) providing specific support to the countries through regular exchanges, training sessions and national workshops.

**Activities in the reported period:**

- Meetings mentioned in areas 4.1-4.3 above.
- The national workshops (held in the period March-June 2013) and related bilateral meetings provided opportunity to build capacities on environmental assessment methods and provide support on the elaboration of the H2020 country-level assessments. This first H2020 exercise allowed identifying the key institutions and thematic experts of relevance to ensure the elaboration of the corresponding national thematic assessments. The setting-up of this national network remains an important task for all partner countries, particularly when the institutional structures are not well defined. At national level, the linkages with the industrial emissions network are still very weak and rely mainly on the capacities and support of MEDPOL Coordinating Unit.
- EEA prepared a guidance document to support countries with the elaboration of their country-level assessment contributions to the H2020 report. This guidance document has been developed on the basis of the Eionet work and experience in elaboration of the European State and Outlook Environment report (SOER) 2010. A specific platform restricted to the project NFPs and/or report coordinators for the H2020 country-level assessment has been set-up on the ENPI-SEIS website to facilitate exchanges on the draft country contributions and to give access to background documentation.
- Regular review of country contributions (comments, guidance, editing) has been provided in the reported period.
- First detailed outline of the regional thematic assessments for each H2020 priority areas has been prepared for discussion by the RMR sub-group in June 2013. The report used the DPSIR (Driver, Pressure, State, Impact, Response) analytical framework to build-up the analysis. Important coordination with the other H2020 components, UNEP/MAP, UfM secretariat took place during the period to ensure cross-contribution to the report and sharing of information related to the investment portfolio studies and update of depollution in the National Action Plans (NAPs).
- Elaboration of the technical report on the process towards setting-up of a regular reporting mechanism under Horizon 2020 Initiative, while implementing SEIS principles, providing key recommendations for the next phase.
- The initiatives and fora mentioned under area 4.1 were also of relevance for the assessment activity, ensuring promotion of the on-going effort and making the necessary linkages with other assessment/reporting processes (Global Foot Print Network, MSFD/EcAP, SWIM).

**Deliverables in the reported period:**

- Country Level Assessment guidance document (in EN & FR).
- Country Level Assessment platform on the ENPI-SEIS website.
- First draft of regional thematic assessment disseminated for comments by countries on 12 September 2013.
- First draft contribution received from Egypt, Israel, Palestine, Morocco and Tunisia (it is to be noted that all guidance documents and country contributions are accessible only to registered users on the project website).
- Close coordination with the other H2020 components and the UfM secretariat, as well as input to the H2020 Steering Group scheduled for 19-20 November 2013 in Brussels.

**Upcoming activities and outcomes in the remainder of the project:**

- Finalisation of regional thematic assessment, including late data delivery and country contributions. Review and editing of the regional report, to be followed by formal consultation period in November. Publication of the final edited report in January 2014.
- Review, editing and translation of the country level assessment contributions.
- Finalisation of the technical report on the process – to be presented at the next H2020 Steering Group to take place on 19-20 November 2013 in Brussels.
- Communication of key messages and report's recommendations at the next meeting of the Parties to the Barcelona Convention to take place in Istanbul, Turkey on 2-6 December 2013.
- Preparation of a synthesis report with a coherent messages and set of common recommendations, together with the other H2020 components, UNEP/MAP, UfMS that will be presented the UfM Ministerial Conference on Environment and Climate Change tentatively planned for spring 2014.

**Table 2. Status of preparation and delivery of country level assessment**

	Algeria	Egypt	Israel	Jordan	Lebanon	Libya	Morocco	Palestine	Tunisia	
<b>Template</b>	Not delivered	Partially followed	Used	Not used	Not delivered. NFPs Informed on 12/11 that due to lack of resources they will not be able to prepare this assessment	Not delivered. NFP indicated that some work are on-going on waste water and sanitation	Partially followed	Used	Partially followed	
<b>Length</b>		Too long	Adequate	No narrative			Too long	Adequate	Too long (industrial emissions)	
<b>Country profile</b>		Not delivered	1 <sup>st</sup> draft 20/08  Outlook missing	Country analysis of the data sets for each indicators 17/08 No specific narrative part.			1 <sup>st</sup> draft 26/07 Version 2 11/10 Outlook missing	1 <sup>st</sup> draft 19/05 Vers.1 30/08 Outlook missing	1 <sup>st</sup> draft 15/09 Vers.1 25/11 Outlook missing, but provide some recommendations on the way forward.	
<b>Waste</b>		1 <sup>st</sup> draft 25/11	1 <sup>st</sup> draft 11/09				1 <sup>st</sup> draft 26/07 Vers. 2 11/10	1 <sup>st</sup> draft 19/05 Vers.1 30/08	1 <sup>st</sup> draft 15/09 Vers.1 25/11	
<b>Waste water &amp; sanitation</b>		1 <sup>st</sup> draft 25/11	Revised draft 20/10				1 <sup>st</sup> draft 26/07 Vers.3 26/11	1 <sup>st</sup> draft 19/05 Vers.1 30/08	1 <sup>st</sup> draft 15/09 Vers.1 25/11	
<b>Industrial emission</b>		1 <sup>st</sup> draft 25/11 – partially out of focus	1 <sup>st</sup> draft 08/12				1 <sup>st</sup> draft 26/07 Vers.2 11/10	1 <sup>st</sup> draft 19/05 Vers.1 30/08	1 <sup>st</sup> draft 25/11	
<b>Other issue of interest</b>		No specific issue identified	Integrated water Resources Management 20/10	No specific issue identified				No specific issue identified	Environmental situation of Area C in the West Bank	1 <sup>st</sup> draft 15/09 Vers.1 25/11

## 5. IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES FOR ENPI EAST

Similar to the description of activities for ENPI South under section 4, the actions undertaken with respect to the ENPI East region are reported under the activity areas as outlined in the project ToR with the exception of areas 5 and 6, communication and management, which are elaborated in sections 6 and 7 for both East and South regions.

The activities in the ENPI East linked to other on-going initiatives and processes in the region and built on the efforts made by EEA and partners to date in promoting SEIS principles as basis for strengthening the environmental policies, improving data management and monitoring activities, as well as contributing to the activities under the Eastern Partnership, the preparation for the regular Pan-European reporting process and the commitment taken to develop SEIS across the region.

### 5.1 AREA 1: SUITABLE ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS AND SCORECARDS

During the reported period, the activities under this area of work were aimed at agreeing on the selected regional set of indicators following the feasibility study conducted in the period July-September 2012 for the organisation of a regular, sustained data flow on an initial set of selected regional indicators, as well as review of the Guidelines for the application of environmental indicators following the revision of the 36 core indicators through the UNECE Joint Task Force (JTF) on Environmental Indicators in parallel to the EEA work on its core set of indicators.

As already emphasised in previous progress reports, the process of indicator development for the ENPI East region was closely linked to the work undertaken within the UNECE Joint Task Force (JTF) on Environmental Indicators since 2009. Under the agreement made with the UNECE Secretariat earlier in 2012, the Agency supported the 6<sup>th</sup> JTF session held on 30 October – 01 November 2012 in Geneva, where the outcome of the feasibility study was endorsed and the way forward towards pilot data flow exercise was agreed. Background materials and conclusions of the 6<sup>th</sup> JTF session are available at <http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2012.10.enviro.html>

#### *Progress to date:*

The ENPI-SEIS project was instrumental to help identify an initial core set of environmental indicators, endorsed by the UNECE JTF, to guide efforts to develop and ensure regular and sustained data flows (data accessibility, reporting). Eight indicators (for which 11 data sets are needed) were selected and agreed at the 6th JTF Session in November 2012, to form the basis for pilot data flow collection.

EEA has been in regular discussions with the JTF Secretariat about the actual production of indicators and the fact that the countries from the East region have been very appreciative of the joint cooperation and close work between EEA and UNECE in this process. In the period 2011-2012 through ENPI-SEIS funding, EEA supported the organisation of 4 meetings of the UNECE JTF.

Table 3 below lists the selected indicators and datasets from the UNECE Indicator Guidelines analysed in the 2012 feasibility study to help develop regular/sustained data flows in the ENP East region.

**Table 3.**

Indicator from the UNECE Guidelines	Sub-indicator	Dataset
1. Emissions of pollutants into the atmospheric air	1.1. Emissions of sulphur dioxide per capita	(1) Emissions of SO <sub>2</sub>
	1.2. Emissions of sulphur dioxide per square kilometer	
	1.3. Emissions of nitrogen oxides per capita	(2) Emissions of NO <sub>x</sub>
	1.4. Emissions of nitrogen oxides per square kilometer	
2. Ambient air quality in urban areas	2.1. Annual mean concentration of nitrogen dioxide in the capital city	(3) Mean concentration of NO <sub>2</sub>
3. Consumption of ozone-depleting substances (ODS)	3.1. Aggregated consumption of ODS	(4) Consumption of ODS
4. Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions	4.1. Emissions of carbon dioxide per capita	(5) GHG emissions
	4.2. Emissions of carbon dioxide per unit of GDP	
5. Waste generation	5.1. Annual generation of municipal waste per capita	(6) Annual municipal waste generation
6. BOD 5 and concentration of ammonium in rivers	6.1. BOD 5 concentration in the major rivers (3 sampling points – upstream, downstream, intermediate)	(7) BOD 5 concentration in the rivers
	6.2. Ammonium concentration in the major rivers (3 sampling points – upstream, downstream, intermediate)	(8) Ammonium concentration in the rivers
7. Nutrients in freshwater	7.1. Nitrates concentration in major water bodies (lakes, reservoirs)	(9) Nitrates concentration in the major water bodies
	7.2. Total phosphorus concentration in major water bodies (lakes, reservoirs)	(10) Total phosphorus concentration in the major water bodies
8. Protected areas	8.1. Share of total protected areas in the country area	(11) Areas under protection in total and broken down by regimes of protection

Progress was further made in continuing the dialogue with the UNECE and other partners supporting the development of national and regional systems for regular data reporting on the core set of environmental indicators.

A meeting that took place outside the reported period but need to be mentioned of relevance to the work process is the 7<sup>th</sup> session of JTF held on 5-7 November 2013, where the East partner countries reported on their production and sharing on the set of selected indicators. Table 4 summarises the countries responses on the production and sharing of selected indicators, their availability on the website and in what languages they are provided. The outcome of the meeting showed a clear way forward to pursue the regular production of the identified indicators.

It is planned that the next 8<sup>th</sup> JTF session will be organised in May 2014 with the main goal to review the production and sharing of the selected indicators. The review will focus on finding out if the production and sharing of indicators is done in accordance with the criteria agreed (use of common data structure and formats) and in line with SEIS principles.

**Table 4. Overview of the ENP East countries reports on the production and sharing of selected indicators at the 7<sup>th</sup> JTF (Geneva, 5-7 November 2013)**

Country	Indicators produced at national level								Web	Languages		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		NAT	RUS	ENG
Armenia	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Azerbaijan	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+
Belarus	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Georgia	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		+	+		+
Republic of Moldova	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Ukraine	+			+				+	+	+	+	+

**Activities in the reported period:**

- Supporting the contribution and participation of the ENPI East countries representatives to the 6th session of the UNECE Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators held on 30 October–01 November 2012 in Geneva. The last part of the JTF meeting was dedicated to the ENPI-SEIS project activities, where the outcome of the feasibility study (<http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/project-activities/seis-infrastructure/09-2012-workshop-database-streamlining-and-data-exchange-formats-east-and-south>) to help develop regular and sustained data flows for a selected set of eight environmental indicators was presented.
- A meeting with all East NFPs took place on 9-10 April 2013 in Copenhagen, in which dedicated sessions were on how data in the areas of water quality, air emissions and pollutants and municipal solid waste are used, processed and analysed, as well as and types of products produced, for decision-makers and indicator-based assessments.
- The first meeting of a new network of national experts responsible for State of the Environment (SoE) reporting from Eastern Europe, Caucasus, Central Asia and Balkan region took place on 16-17 April 2013 in Geneva (link to meeting's agenda and materials: <http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=32326>). The EEA was actively involved in the preparation of the event and suggested SoE experts from EEA member and cooperating countries which could attend and share their experience with this new group. The meeting included specific agenda items in the use of environmental indicators in the state-of-the environment reports, data assurance and control systems, and use of modern technologies for data presentation (i.e. national indicator management systems).

**Deliverables in the reported period:**

- The outcome of the feasibility study was presented and agreed at the 6th JTF Session in November 2012, to form the basis for pilot data flow collection to evaluate in more detail possible procedures for establishing regular data flows (reporting of data) needed for the production of selected indicators from the UNECE guidelines. For this exercise, eight indicators, for which 11 data sets are needed, have been identified.



- The revision of the 2007 UNECE Indicator Guidelines, approved by the Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators, including 6 additional indicators on water, was completed in May 2013. The revised texts are available on UNECE's website in English (<http://www.unece.org/environmental-policy/areas-of-work/environmental-monitoring/areas-of-work/enveuropemonitoringiandr-en/revise-d-guidelines-on-the-application-of-environmental-indicators.html>) and Russian language (<http://www.unece.org/ru/environmental-policy/areas-of-work/environmental-monitoring/napravlenija-raboty/enveuropemonitoringiandr-ru/peresmotrennoe-rukovodstvo-po-primeneniju-ehkologicheskikh-pokazatelei.html>).

#### **Upcoming activities/outcomes in the remainder of the project:**

- Production of the selected indicators from the pilot, building on the UNECE Environmental Indicator Guidelines and EEA indicator specifications, based on data made available and shared through the data exercise (linked to activities reported under 5.2), in line with SEIS principles. It is important to point out that a pre-condition for additional capacity building actions targeting the production of indicators is that the underpinning data should be made accessible and available by the partner countries.  
  
The efforts are directed at using data that are actually openly available to address comparability across the region (the ability to produce each indicator across the region). As a first step in the making this happen, by end of February 2014 the countries will be asked to provide the link/-s to the webpages (i.e. national server/site) where data for the indicators are published and described. Countries should also provide additional information on how the indicators are produced, validated and used in case this information is not already provided on the website. For those countries that do not produce or share openly particular selected indicators, they will be asked to provide a brief explanation with the main reasons for not doing so. The results from this exercise will guide the scope of the next JTF Session (May 2014) that will focus on the availability and accessibility to data, rather than on indicator definitions/guidelines. The EEA and the UNECE JTF are therefore aligning their efforts to jointly address data sharing.
- Progress towards the production of a regional core set of indicators (ENPI-SEIS selected indicators), underpinned by data flows, will be captured in the ENPI-SEIS East synthesis report to be produced by the end of May 2014 – following the national workshops and the materials prepared in relation to these workshops.

## **5.2 AREA 2: TIMELY, RELEVANT, RELIABLE AND COHERENT ENVIRONMENTAL DATA**

The work under this activity area is strongly linked to the one on indicators, aiming to identify, establish and/or streamline existing data and information flow to serve various reporting needs, both at national and regional levels.

Over the reported period the work plan for the ENPI East region focused on identifying the specific country needs in order to allow open access and sharing of common national datasets underpinning the selected set of environmental indicators.

### **Progress to date**

Conducting the feasibility study on data flows for a core set of indicators has helped the countries focus their attention on a set of specific data requirements, which led to the identification of data gaps and inconsistencies in data definitions and structures across the region. Actions under the reported period were directed towards engaging project NFPs in coordinating and enabling open access and sharing of targeted data sets. Main challenge encountered in this process was linked to the division of responsibilities of national authorities managing environmental data, need of further institutional arrangements and requests for more

formalised exchanges with the EEA. Overview of the state-of-play in terms of activities per project area is presented in the table under section 14 at the end of the progress report. Consequently, efforts were needed to deal with these challenges and re-evaluate approaches to address national priorities. All these issues will be in focus of the planned national workshops in the ENPI East partner countries, planned for the next phase of project execution.

#### **Activities in the reported period:**

- Workshop on Air Emission Inventories for the ENPI East region organised jointly with the Air Quality Governance Project took place the 24-26 September 2012 in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova. It aimed to present guidebook structure, default procedures for all the sources and pollutants countries are obliged to report under the protocols to the CLRTAP as well as help countries in improving their reporting to these. This workshop contributed to EEA cooperation with ENPI East countries in assessing where the gaps on air emission reporting are, and complementing the efforts of setting-up sustained data flow process on air-related datasets.
- During the November 2012 ENPI-SEIS Steering Committee meeting, the proposal to use the EEA reporting mechanism “Reportnet” (the system currently used by the Eionet member and cooperating countries) as a tool to initiate the sharing of environmental data was formally agreed. Initial set-up of the system was done, customised training material developed and hands-on training provided during the period January-April 2013.
- Coordination meeting dedicated to discussing data flows with the National Focal Points from the ENPI East took place on 9-10 April 2013 in Copenhagen, which concluded that organisational and administrative constraints to allow open access and sharing of common national datasets remains the main hinder for most countries. As a consequence, high-level letters were sent to Ministers responsible for environment in the Republic of Belarus, Ukraine and the Russian Federation in order to facilitate further work on the project by ensuring smooth process of sharing environmental data flows with EEA on the agreed environmental indicators. Points raised during the meeting led to identify as a key activity in the further project implementation a round of national workshop with the aim to strengthen the coordination and institutional cooperation around environmental data and information reporting and sharing.

#### **Deliverables in the reported period (closely linked to deliverables in area 5.3):**

- Short communication paper with reflections on the importance of sharing data as we aim to improve the environment, with special focus on the European Neighbourhood region was produced, translated and disseminated (EN, FR and RU language versions available under the following link: <http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/communication/seis-communication-paper>).
- Initial set-up of EEA mechanism, Reportnet, (<http://www.eionet.europa.eu/reportnet>), documentation on Reportnet specific to ENPI beneficiary countries, customised training material, and hands-on training (during the April meeting with the ENPI East NFPs) was also provided.

#### **Upcoming activities/outcomes in the remainder of the project:**

- Production of the selected indicators from the pilot – to the extent possible – across the region, building on the UNECE Environmental Indicator Guidelines and EEA indicator specifications, based on shared data from the ENPI East countries.

### 5.3 AREA 3: SEIS-COMPLIANT NATIONAL AND REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

The activities under this area built on the work and recommendations of the IT Working Group through concentrating efforts on the identification of the datasets underpinning the production of the selected indicators, subject of the 2012 online questionnaire and the feasibility study. There are two clusters of data: datasets produced to meet existing international/regional reporting obligations, and those produced for national purposes. One of SEIS main objectives is to help national authorities reduce the administrative burden related to fulfilling reporting obligations and develop more efficient and open ways of compiling data and information that can then be used for many purposes. As a first step, the process of sharing and making available data (or links to data) already reported to meet international obligations would help trigger dialogue and focus actions on the coordination needs and mechanisms and cooperation (putting emphasis on the re-use of data). A second step is to develop and agree on the infrastructure, methodologies and routines to enable the sharing of other common national datasets needed for the production of the pilot set of indicators that are not being reported to meet regional or international reporting obligations. The third step (beyond the scope of this project) would be to establish regular data flows for a larger/complete set of indicators (e.g. complete UNECE environmental indicator set).

#### *Progress to date*

Progress was made in establishing an initial set of tools and guidance (through documents and training) to support the reporting cycle by promoting and facilitating the use of the infrastructure used by Eionet – Reportnet. Challenges faced during this process, which still remain, are the reluctance of some countries to actually use this existing infrastructure, and understand its benefits. As a consequence, no actual data reporting by the countries was carried out to EEA tools and systems under the reported period. Upcoming actions should be guided by a strong engagement of the NFPs, to deal with the practical, organisational and administrative constraints to allow open access and sharing of common national data sets in a step-wise manner. The planned national workshops (in the period November 2013 – March 2014) will provide opportunities to address more specifically the national needs, understand the setting of priorities and coordination activities, also in support of infrastructure developments at national level.

#### **Activities in the reported period:**

- EEA compiled and disseminated to the partner countries a document on introduction to Reportnet and guidance on how to use the system for data deliveries.
- The Central Data Repository (<http://cdr.eionet.europa.eu>) in Reportnet was prepared to accept national deliveries (national folders created linked to relevant obligation).
- 2nd meeting of the Working Group on Information Technology (IT Working Group), 19-21 September 2012 in Skopje, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (see also under area 5.2) focusing on data flows and standardised structures based on results of the metadata survey.
- A guidance document for implementing data flows for emissions of greenhouse gases and air pollutants was produced by the EEA, which includes links to reporting guidelines and templates: <http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/project-activities/data-and-indicators/enpi-east-nfp-meeting-establishing-dataflows/background-documents>
- Proposals were made for harmonising data structures and reporting of data not subject to regional/international reporting obligation, particularly for the indicators on water quality.
- The update of the EMEP/EEA Air Pollutant Emission Inventory Guidebook 2013, designed to facilitate reporting of emission inventories by countries to the LRTAP Convention and the EU National Emission Ceilings Directive, was completed and published by the EEA in August 2013 (<http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/air/emep-eea-air-pollutant-emission->

[inventory-guidebook/emep](#)). Work on the translation to Russian language was initiated with ENPI-SEIS funding (to be ready end of 2013 or early 2014).

- Meeting of ENPI-SEIS East National Focal Points on 9-10 April 2013 in Copenhagen, Denmark, aimed to discuss bilaterally with the countries the country-level activities, to work towards a regional approach of data sharing and to provide further information on the implementation of data flows.

#### **Deliverables in the reported period:**

- Feasibility study, to review existing national data production processes and possible problems of making data available in line with SEIS principles. This study was conducted with the support of EEA's framework contractor, Zoi Environment Network, and adopted by UNECE Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators in November 2012. The study provided the setting and proposed mechanisms to share national datasets underpinning the production of a selected set of indicators, also evaluating the compatibility of national datasets in terms of definitions and units (English and Russian version of the study available at: <http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/project-activities/seis-infrastructure/09-2012-workshop-database-streamlining-and-data-exchange-formats-east-and-south>).
- Elaboration of a revised Reportnet user guide (translated and available in Russian at the following link: <http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/communication/introduction-Reportnet>), aimed to strengthen ENP capacities towards the use of the Reportnet tools.
- List of relevant international reporting obligation is provided to the countries through EEA's Reporting Obligation Database (<http://rod.eionet.europa.eu>).
- Data structure definitions from the guidelines and templates used for the Water Information System for Europe (WISE) "State of the Environment" (SoE) data flow are being promoted and their application encouraged. Relevant sections of the data definitions to establish data flows with the ENPI-SEIS East countries was translated to Russian on water quality in rivers ([http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/project-activities/data-and-indicators/enpi-east-nfp-meeting-establishing-dataflows/background-documents/rivers-wise\\_so-e-enpi-east-rus-aug2013.pdf/download](http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/project-activities/data-and-indicators/enpi-east-nfp-meeting-establishing-dataflows/background-documents/rivers-wise_so-e-enpi-east-rus-aug2013.pdf/download)) and lakes ([http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/project-activities/data-and-indicators/enpi-east-nfp-meeting-establishing-dataflows/background-documents/lakes-wise\\_so-e-enpi-east-rus-aug2013.pdf/download](http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/project-activities/data-and-indicators/enpi-east-nfp-meeting-establishing-dataflows/background-documents/lakes-wise_so-e-enpi-east-rus-aug2013.pdf/download)).
- During the April meeting, NFPs received an overview and training on Eye on Earth and the use of Reportnet to enable the use of these systems for data sharing.
- Guidance document on SEIS, restructured 'SEIS cookbook' in downloadable pdf format available on project website: <http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/project-activities/seis-infrastructure/seis-cookbook>. Translation to Russian language would be ready by end of October 2013.
- ENPI-SEIS presentation and discussions on SEIS was on the agenda of a national workshop in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, on 5 September on technical and regulatory aspects required for the harmonisation of the Moldova waste classification system to the EU waste classification and standards.

#### **Upcoming activities and outcomes in the remainder of the project:**

- National workshops are being planned to be held in Ukraine (13-14 November 2013), Georgia (2-3 December 2013), Armenia (second half of January 2014), Belarus (February 2014) and Republic of Moldova (early March 2014), Azerbaijan (still to be confirmed), for which the expected outcome is a more formalised institutional framework to help setting-up national Eionet-like structuring that also supports defining the roles and concepts

around environmental data management and sharing and reflecting the implementation of SEIS principles at national level. The National Workshops will contribute to activities falling under areas 5.2 and 5.4.

- Existing reporting under UNFCCC, CLRTAP and Montreal Protocol should be assessed by the NFPs, and data reported or links to the reported data made available in Reportnet. A first regional overview of data accessibility and availability for these datasets will be done in early December 2013.
- Publication of the Russian language version of the EMEP/EEA Air Pollutant Emission Inventory Guidebook 2013, possibly in early 2014. The EEA will consider appropriate options and actions to increase awareness on the proposed changes in reporting, also through joint efforts with the ENPI Air Quality Governance project (<http://www.airgovernance.eu>).
- The EEA will organise with the help of the European Topic Centre on Inland, Coastal and Marine waters (ETC/ICM) a regional technical workshop on WISE/SoE reporting, with focus on water quality on rivers and lakes. A follow-up activity on water reporting in spring 2014 is also being considered, possibly jointly with ENPI-EPIRB project (Environmental Protection of International River Basins Project: <http://blacksea-riverbasins.net/en>).
- Joint UNECE/Eurostat/EEA workshop is being organised on 4 November 2013, as a follow-up to the April 2012 workshop on waste statistics. The workshop will further discuss issues related to waste statistics as requested by the countries, as well as issues of harmonisation of classifications and definitions, and producing of high-quality, harmonised and timely statistics on waste generation and management.
- The EEA, together with the European Topic Centre on Sustainable Consumption and Production (ETC/SCP), and in-house waste experts, will evaluate how existing data, available and being reported by ENPI East countries, particularly on municipal solid waste, can be used for regional indicators.

#### **5.4 AREA 4: ASSESSMENT OF THE PROGRESS OF REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES**

The assessment component of the project builds on the work and deliverables in the areas of indicators, data flows and infrastructure outlined in section 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3 above.

For the ENPI East region it was envisioned towards the end of the project to produce a reporting contribution on the state of environment in the ENPI East partner countries feeding to the EEA reporting cycle and in line with the EU and international policy demand. Considering this, the project team has planned the production of ENPI-SEIS synthesis report on progress made towards establishing data flows related to the selected set of regional environmental indicators and sharing of environmental data in general, which will built on the outcome of the National Workshops planned in the ENPI East countries in late 2013-early 2014 and summarise progress and further needs.

Falling outside the reporting period, the EEA had to consider the fact that at its meeting on 22-25 October 2013, the Committee on Environmental Policy under the UNECE was conducting a mid-term review of the post-Astana process in implementing SEIS and regular assessment across the pan-European region in order to decide on the further steps in the 'Environment for Europe' process. The outcome under the ENPI-SEIS project, building on the regional set of indicators, information collected through the data flow exercise feeding into synthesis report on progress made under ENPI-SEIS project could also contribute to the next regional assessment, the content, focus and form of which would be agreed with the UNECE Committee for Environmental Policy (CEP) in October 2013.

### Progress to date

During the reported period, a challenge regarding the production of a regional assessment report, including the ENPI-East region, has been primarily due to timing, as the 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy, that will decide on the work related to environmental monitoring, assessment and reporting, and carry out the "Environment for Europe" mid-term review of the Astana Conference main outcomes, is taking place on 22-25 October 2013. The 2013-14 East work plan includes the production of a synthesis report on progress made towards establishing data flows related to the selected set of regional environmental indicators, as contributions to future pan-European indicator-based assessment reports, based on SEIS principles. Depending on this outcome, a possible regional assessment could be included in the EEA SOER 2015 report, which will be prepared in 2014.

### Activities in the reported period:

- During the April meeting with the ENPI-SEIS NFPs from the East region a session was dedicated to exemplify how data is used, processed and analysed in thematic assessments, this was illustrated by the process of preparation of EEA SOER 2015.
- Some ENP countries (e.g. Moldova) have shown interest in closer cooperation with EEA on the Shared European and National State of the Environment (SENSE) developed in the context of state of environment reporting (SENSE Phase 3 running in 2013-2014), and in particular the next EEA State of the Environment Report 2015 (SOER 2015). This phase will aim to facilitate better access to state of the environment indicators at different scales and allow European level information to be supplemented by national level information, and vice versa. This is aimed to streamline the delivery of environmental assessments for selected indicators allowing greater comparability between environmental indicators at European and national level. Information about these activities has been shared with the NFPs in perspective of potentially implementing SENSE pilot projects in the ENP region in future.
- EEA summer school with focus on integrated environmental assessments was conducted on 27-29 August in Vienna. The participants targeted were experts from the West Balkan countries, although the participation of two Georgian representatives was also made possible through the ENPI-SEIS project. The Georgian NFPs had earlier indicated to the EEA their need and interest for capacity building on this field in view of the upcoming preparation of the national assessment, and this was a good opportunity to strengthen linkages between Eionet and the ENP countries. The course addressed key questions reflecting on the need to support decision-making with integrated environmental assessments, how to understand complex environmental systems from an integrative perspective, how to assess state of environment and trends (i.e. monitoring, data, indicators, uncertainties, etc.), as well as touched upon forward-looking approaches and scenario analysis.

### Deliverables in the reported period:

- Contribution to the first meeting of a network of national experts responsible for State of the Environment (SoE) reporting from Eastern Europe, Caucasus, Central Asia and Balkan region held on 16-17 April 2013 in Geneva (<http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=32326>). The meeting was organised by UNECE following EEA request for moving the discussions from indicator development to indicator use by strengthening the national reporting and assessment competences of the countries. The outcomes of the meeting and the next steps was taken note of at the WGEMA meeting 7-8 November 2013 in Geneva.

**Upcoming activities in the next period:**

- Regular dialogue and interaction with relevant partners and bodies (UNECE WGEMA, JTF, etc.) in the process of preparation for the next pan-European assessment.
- The 19th Session of the UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy (CEP) to be held on 22-25 October 2013 will focus on the mid-term review of the "Environment for Europe" process after the Astana Conference in 2011 and the main steps undertaken towards establishing a regular process for developing environmental assessment and implementing Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) across the region.
- During the CEP meeting, on 23 October, EEA is organising a dedicated side-event on SEIS, where partner countries from the region (Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova) have been invited to present practical experiences and challenges in implementing SEIS and regular reporting at national level, and to discuss ways to support the further development of SEIS as basis for informed decision-making process.
- Following the decisions at the UNECE CEP meeting in October 2013 on the future assessment process in the pan-European area, EEA shall consider contributing through the ENPI-SEIS project to the next pan-European assessment.
- By May 2014, EEA is planning preparation of ENPI-SEIS regional synthesis report on progress made towards establishing data flows related to the selected set of regional environmental indicators, and lessons learned in this process. The synthesis report would be published by the end of the project.

## 6. COMMUNICATION AND DISSEMINATION

### ENPI-SEIS Project web portal

The ENPI-SEIS project web portal (<http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu>) has been further developed and populated during the reported period with relevant documents, events and outcomes of activities undertaken. Following a recommendation from the monitoring on the project undertaken in second half of 2012 to improve the architecture of the ENPI-SEIS website to make it more user-friendly, efforts have been made to revamp the project website to ensure a more user-friendly use and easier access to the project outputs. The revamped portal provides overview of the meetings held within the project (including agendas, lists of participants and presentations from the events and trainings organised), outputs delivered and expected, work plan and project activities, calendar of upcoming events, as well as communication and information materials produced. Progress reports submitted to the Contracting Authority, DG DEVCO, have also been made available online.

It was not possible to publish the revamped version earlier due to some technical difficulties related to the Envirowindows platform that is hosting the project website, as well as due to an unexpected turnover in the project staff involved in this activity.

From the ENPI-SEIS project website, links to the websites of other regional initiatives/projects, including Horizon 2020 portal, are maintained. A sitemap of the project portal can be viewed online at <http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/sitemap.html>.

During the reported period (between 16.09.2012-15.09.2013) the ENPI-SEIS portal had 6619 visits with 2739 unique visitors and average duration at the portal 5.39 minutes, which means that the project website had 61,6% returning and 38,4% new visitors. The top 10 most active countries (not counting Denmark from where the portal is administered), are:

No	Country	Number of visits
1.	Tunisia	447
2.	Ukraine	415
3.	Palestine	348
4.	France	286
5.	Egypt	285
6.	Belgium	284
7.	Algeria	268
8.	Georgia	248
9.	Jordan	204
10.	Morocco	198

### ENPI-SEIS Newsletter and communication in other publications

The ENPI-SEIS project newsletter is a key communication tool in the project, showcasing the activities and progress made, as well as keeping the relevant partner countries and other stakeholders informed and involved in the project implementation. The practice is that the newsletter is disseminated to the main stakeholders and partners in the countries, other on-going projects, as well as relevant international organisations. In line with the contract requirements, the project newsletter is being produced biannually, translated, disseminated and published on the project website in English, French, Russian and Arabic languages.



During the reported period, the fourth ([Winter 2012/2013](#)) and fifth ([Summer 2013](#)) issues of the project newsletter were produced and made available online in the above-mentioned languages.

In addition to the ENPI-SEIS Newsletter, the project team provides information and regular updates to publications of international organisations and other on-going projects. Contributions to the latest issues of the Horizon 2020 News Flashes in December 2012 and April 2013 were made and translated into French and Arabic (<http://www.h2020.net/en/news-and-events/h2020-news-flashes.html>), reflecting the development in the South component of the project.

As part of the regular communication with the EU Delegations, the project contributed to the annual bilateral cooperation report /newsletter of the Delegation of Algeria and Tunisia.

Contributions to the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) Environment Statistics Newsletter, issues 32 and 33 published in December 2012 and July 2013, were made with respect to project developments in the ENPI East and South regions (link to newsletters online: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/ENVIRONMENT/newsletters.htm>).

In order to ensure linkages with the on-going work plan of EEA and Eionet, regular updates are provided to relevant colleagues in the Agency and to the Eionet network. The possibility of inviting experts from the ENPI countries to the thematic workshops targeting experts of the Eionet National Reference Centres (NRCs) and European Topic Centres (ETCs) is a possibility that has been offered and discussed with the project NFPs. Even if some interest was shown and ENP experts participated in such activities, they have been on ad-hoc basis and would have to be followed-up bilaterally with the partner countries linking to thematic discussions. EEA is planning to engage the Eionet network more actively in the ENP cooperation further.

Regular communication and information exchange is maintained with the project NFPs as the key partners and coordinators of the SEIS implementation in the ENPI countries (updated ENPI-SEIS NFPs list in Annex 3 to the report). They have also been included in the EEA address database and receive all the Agency's publications and reports as part of the EEA network of stakeholders.

## **7. NETWORKING AND COORDINATION**

### **Activities of the Horizon2020 Initiative and its sub-groups**

Regular exchange of information on activities and progress is held among the chairs of the three Horizon2020 sub-groups (Investments for Pollution Reduction – MEHSIP-PPIF, Capacity Building – CB and Review, Monitoring and Research – RMR).

During the teleconference on 31 January 2013 the leaders of the three sub-groups discussed in particular the different reports and studies under preparation aimed to feed into the H2020 mid-term review, such as EEA/ENPI-SEIS H2020 regional report, CB/MEP mid-term review, EIB results of the validation mechanism missions and a desk study, UfM-UNEP/MAP studies on depollution investment portfolio. The need to better address of coordination between the different focal points and networking structures (H2020 NFPs, SEIS NFPs, MAP NFPs, etc.) and streamline communication between the on-going initiatives was also discussed. During the same teleconference it was proposed to hold the 4<sup>th</sup> RMR sub-group meeting in June rather than March in order to give enough time to the countries to progress on the preparation and delivery of the H2020 data and indicators. Representatives of the CB sub-group attended the 4<sup>th</sup> RMR that was held on 11-12 June 2013 in EEA premises in Copenhagen.

The next trilateral discussion was scheduled for early October 2013 with the main objective to take stock of the status of the expected reports/studies and to prepare contributions to the upcoming H2020 Steering Group meeting in November 2013. In view of the latter meeting, it was agreed to enlarge the coordination of efforts to the UfM and UNEP/MAP Secretariat.

## **H2020 Review, Monitoring and Research (RMR) sub-group**

H2020 RMR sub-group serves as the platform for regular dialogue and review of progress of the Horizon 2020 Initiative with the countries and as a rule it meets once a year. The last few meetings, held in 2011 to 2013, were organised in close cooperation with the ENPI Capacity Building –Mediterranean Environment Programme (CB/MEP) that had covered the costs for the organisation of the RMR sub-groups.

Given the mid-term review of the H2020 Initiative, the 4<sup>th</sup> RMR meeting took stock of relevant recent developments and steps towards setting-up of a regular reporting mechanism in preparation of the regional report. The RMR meeting participants discussed various aspects of the reporting process itself, covering reporting tools, templates and specifications, as well as data delivery from the countries. In doing so, they have taken into consideration the indicator development process and the outcomes of the last ENP South Working Group on Environmental Indicators, as well as experiences from the national workshops on indicators held in advance of the RMR meeting. Activities and deliverables relevant to this process were described in more details in areas 4.2 and 4.4.

With respect to the research component of the RMR, the proposal made in April 2012 by the H2020 Steering Group to establish a separate core group on research has not been followed up within the reported period. New contact point has been nominated in DG RTD in charge of the EU-funded research in the field of environment in the Mediterranean. Recommendations on the way forward on the research component linking to the outcome of the MIRA project can be expected at the upcoming H2020 Steering Group meeting.

Record of the 4<sup>th</sup> RMR sub-group meeting, presentations and other documentation can be viewed under [http://coordination.h2020.net/rmr/meetings/copy\\_of\\_2012-06-04-rmr-meeting](http://coordination.h2020.net/rmr/meetings/copy_of_2012-06-04-rmr-meeting).

## **Cooperation with UNEP/MAP within the ENPI-SEIS project**

Following the signature of the contribution agreement between EEA and UNEP/MAP in September 2012, regular dialogue was maintained with the UNEP/MAP Deputy Coordinator to ensure smooth implementation of the activities to be delivered under this agreement. The formalisation of the work distribution among the different MAP Regional Activity Centres appeared to be difficult and caused some delay in the execution of activities. This is particularly the case for the activities linked to the infrastructure development (national and regional information systems operating for all MAP components – InfoMAP), originally designed to be implemented by InfoRAC, which however proved not to be possible within the reported period. The delay in this process was regularly conveyed to the Project Manager in DG DEVCO. A formal exchange of letters took place with UNEP/MAP Coordinating Unit over the summer 2013 resulting in a proposal of redistribution of the infrastructure development task among the other RACs. This proposal still needs to be formally confirmed by the Coordinating Unit. Apart from this, the other activities on the indicators development, preparation of the H2020 report and PRTR development, despite some delay in the initial phase, have been implemented as planned.

## **Cooperation with Eurostat**

During the reported period, considerable efforts were made to continue and strengthen the collaboration with Eurostat. The three areas where strong Eurostat support was requested by the countries and was envisaged within the ENPI-SEIS project were related to developing/organising joint capacity building activities, support to waste data reporting in ENPI partner countries, and training/capacity building on standardised data sharing methodologies and protocols (in particular, Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange – SDMX).

Following the good example of the joint Eurostat-EEA seminar on Water Statistics, held in September 2012 in Almaty, Kazakhstan, bringing together water experts and statisticians dealing with water reporting from ENPI region, Central Asia and Israel, no Eurostat funding was available to follow-up on this and/or similar activity in the ENPI region. Regarding waste data reporting, Eurostat support was envisaged to help organise and structure data specifications for the selected waste indicators, in line with the data specifications in EU Member States. However, due to lack of financial and human resources organising waste data flows through Eurostat did not prove possible. The same applied to the SDMX training requests of the ENPI countries.

In the reported period it has become clear that the involvement of Eurostat colleagues in ENPI activities would be minimal, which resulted in a need to reconsider the approach and look for alternative options addressing the planned activities.

### **Synergies with other regional and national projects, initiatives and activities**

Seeking synergies with other regional and national EU-funded projects and other initiatives is also a key part of the project activities. In the ENPI South, the ENPI-SEIS team participated in and contributed to the following activities:

- UfM initiative to support (labelling) the regional project of Creating shared national water data management systems towards a Mediterranean water knowledge hub. This regional project, promoted by the Centre of Water Studies and Arab Water Security of the League of Arab States, Lebanese Ministry of Energy and Water, Euro-Mediterranean Information System on Know-How in the Water Sector EMWIS aim at strengthening National Water Information System (NWIS) in the Mediterranean. Attention has been given to ensure proper linkages and synergies with the on-going ENPI-SEIS activities.
- Sustainable Water Integrated Management – Support Mechanism (SWIM-SM: <http://www.swim-sm.eu>), contribution to the annual SWIM SM Steering Committee Meeting, and exchange of information on complementary activities (cost of environmental degradation, law enforcement, network of Environmental Agencies).
- PERSEUS (Policy-oriented marine Environmental Research in the Southern EUropean Seas, <http://www.perseus-net.eu/site/content.php>) project under FP7: member of the Advisory Board, contribution & participation to the project annual review and General Assembly.
- Involvement in the Mid-term Review of the Horizon 2020 Capacity Building/Mediterranean Environment Programme (member of the Reference Group together with DG DEVCO, DG ENV, UfMS, UNEP/MAP).
- Participation in the UfM, UNEP/MAP, EIB-MeHSIP Steering Committee for the studies on updating priority investment portfolio for protection of the Mediterranean Sea from pollution.
- Member of the UNSD Editorial Board for the Guidelines for the Compilation of Water Accounts and Statistics. The Guidelines are intended to support the compilation of water accounts and statistics according to the SEEA (and SEEA-Water) and the International Recommendations for Water Statistics (IRWS), providing practical advice and examples on the compilation of data and their integration in water accounts and statistics. Work on the guidelines was done via e-mail exchanges and regular teleconferences (5 since July 2012). The draft guidelines will be discussed during UNSD Expert Group meeting, 20-22 Nov 2013.
- Tour du Valat/ Mediterranean Water Observatory (<http://www.medwetlands-obs.org>), support to the selection of water indicators for the regular monitoring of the Observatory.
- Arab Environmental Information Network, particularly for the development of Sustainable Development Indicators for the Arab region (with the support of CEDARE <http://www3.cedare.int>), and the League of the Arab States - <http://www.arableagueonline.org>).

With respect to the ENPI East region, the project team has been liaising with the following initiatives and projects during the reported period:

- Air Quality Governance in ENPI East Countries (<http://airgovernance.eu>): Technical workshop on air emission inventories was jointly organised on 24-26 September 2012 in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, and the Team Leader and experts from the Air Quality Governance project regularly took part in the ENPI-SEIS project meetings in order to ensure synergies in capacity building and messaging around SEIS.
- Waste Governance in ENPI East Countries (<http://www.wastegovernance.org>) project provided advice on the national and regional situations regarding waste classification and information systems, and legal setting, in the context of establishing data flows with the countries. The Team Leader participated at the April 2013 meeting of the ENPI East NFPs, and discussions on SEIS were put on agenda of a national workshop in Republic of Moldova on 5 September 2013 on technical and regulatory aspects required for the harmonisation of the Moldova waste classification system to the EU waste classification and standards.
- Environmental Protection of International River Basins Project (<http://blacksea-riverbasins.net/en>): Regular communication between the project coordination units to ensure awareness of activities planned, and synergies between the expert networks interacting with the projects. No joint events were conducted during the reported period, but one is potentially envisaged for the spring of 2014.
- UNECE Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (WGEMA) (<http://www.unece.org/env/europe/monitoring/index.html>): According to its revised terms of reference (ECE/CEP/2012/6, annex), the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment is open to all member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and includes the EEA. The Working Group, at its thirteenth session (Nov 2012), decided to establish a network of managers responsible in countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia for preparing national state of the environment (SoE) reports, taking into account, in particular, the experience gained within the similar networks under the EEA. As reported under section 5.4, EEA was actively involved in the preparation of the event (16-17 April 2013, Geneva), and involved SoE experts from EEA member and cooperating countries to share experience on the subject. Outcome and further steps will be discussed at the next WGEMA meeting (7-8 November 2013, Geneva).
- UNECE Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators (JTF) ([http://www.unece.org/env/europe/monitoring/iandr\\_en.html](http://www.unece.org/env/europe/monitoring/iandr_en.html)): The core of the ENPI-SEIS work on indicators for the ENPI East countries relates to collaboration with the JTF, in particular in terms of the definition and accessibility of data for a common set of environmental indicators. As reported under section 5.1, the feasibility study to establish a pilot data flows for a selected set of indicators was completed under the reported period, as well as the revisions of the indicator guidelines (see on page 20).
- The Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (<http://www.blacksea-commission.org>): Following earlier communication and EC request for closer interaction with the Black Sea Commission, during the reported period a discussion has been initiated with the BS Secretariat on the possibilities of EEA support in the preparation of the ENP component in the Black Sea State of the Environment report (due in second half of 2014).
- United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD) – Environment Statistics (<http://unstats.un.org>): There was an exchange with the UNSD Environmental division on their plans regarding 2013 data collection, covering two of the priority areas of ENPI-SEIS project: waste and water. The UNSD/UNEP questionnaire 2013 would be sent out towards the end of 2013. Further dialogue with UNSD representative on possible next steps will take place at the upcoming UNECE/Eurostat/EEA workshop on waste statistics, 4 November 2013, Geneva.
- UNEP Regional Office for Europe (<http://www.unep.org/roe>) and DEWA/GRID-Geneva ([www.grid.unep.ch](http://www.grid.unep.ch)): Bilateral discussions between the UNEP Regional Office for Europe and

EEA took place in March 2013, in which one important joint activity identified was the mapping of various counterparts and networks with which activities and interventions are coordinated for the East region (NFPs or similar) – to ensure good coordination and awareness. No practical activities towards the establishment of this joint contacts database were developed during the reported period.

- Aarhus Centres ([www.unece.org/env/pp/acintro.html](http://www.unece.org/env/pp/acintro.html)): Within the context of the ENPI-SEIS project, for the Eastern countries, discussions around Aarhus Centres and their roles for the dissemination of information and public awareness on environmental information have taken place during several meetings. Aarhus Centres are seen as the most appropriate nodes in promoting SEIS across the East region. The planning of a national workshop in Ukraine to be hosted by the Aarhus Centre in Kiev was initiated during the reported period.
- Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood (EaP GREEN: <http://www.oecd.org/env/outreach/eapgreen.htm>) project implemented by OECD in cooperation with UNECE, UNEP, and UNIDO, aiming to promote environmental indicators as proxy for green economy.

### **Bilateral activities of relevance to the ENPI-SEIS cooperation**

Linked to the ENPI-SEIS cooperation, during the reported period EEA has engaged in some activities with the partner countries that have contributed to strengthening the cooperation and increase the value added of the efforts made. Among these activities can be mentioned:

- Continuous support to the USA/UNEP Cooperation project with Morocco (provision of guidance for the reporting process for the elaboration of the national Integrated State of Environment report, support to the identification and selection of indicators, support to the organisation of the data flows between local and central level). A visit to the EEA of a Moroccan delegation was foreseen within the project, but has been postponed several times due to busy agenda from the Moroccan side. During the reported period, support has also been provided to the development of environmental accounting in Morocco (TOR of a feasibility study, guidance for national workshop, coordination with UNSD and the World Bank on the implementation of SEEA core framework and WAVES pilot in Morocco).
- Fund participation of representatives from Jordan and Morocco to UNSD seminar on environmental accounting (International Seminar "Towards Linking Ecosystems and Ecosystem Services to Economic and Human Activity", on 27-29 November 2012, New York) and participation of Jordan representatives to the UNSD International Conference "Global Implementation Programme for the SEEA", on 17-19 June 2013, New York.
- EEA participation in the preparation of the Environmental Performance Review (EPR) for Moldova and Morocco. EEA experts were part of the team drafting the EPR chapter 3 on monitoring, information and education for the Republic of Moldova (Adriana Gheorghe) and participated in the Expert Group meeting on EPR Morocco (David Stanners on 11-12 September, Rabat). While this EEA participation in the EPR missions was not funded by the ENPI-SEIS project, EEA role and contribution into this process was focused on enhancing the SEIS related recommendations and promoting sound information and assessments, linked to the activities under the ENPI-SEIS project and the Horizon 2020 Initiative.
- EEA has been included in the FLERMONECA<sup>6</sup> project Steering Group (<http://www.wecoop-project.org/FLERMONECA>), which is a SEIS extension component for Central Asian countries to be implemented in 2013-2015. In order to ensure a consistent approach and implementation of the SEIS principles across the whole pan-European region, the project was designed to mirror ENPI-SEIS related activities in the East region to the five Central Asian countries with the aim to improve environmental monitoring, indicators development, reporting and data sharing in these countries.

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<sup>6</sup> Forest and Biodiversity Governance, including Environmental Monitoring

## 8. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

As outlined in the ToR for the ENPI-SEIS project, the overall project coordination is ensured by the Management Group and the Steering Committee:

### Management Group (MG)

During the reported period EEA had the following discussions with members of the ENPI-SEIS Management Group:

- ENPI-SEIS Management Group teleconference, 8 November 2012.
- Lunch-time meeting during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Steering Committee, 21 November 2012, EEA premises.
- Management Group teleconference, 24 May 2013.
- Strategic discussion on future SEIS activities, 28 June 2013, DG DEVCO, Brussels – meeting attended by representatives of DG DEVCO, DG ENV and EEA.
- Teleconference with DG DEVCO, 28 August 2013 (hand-over from Jesús Laviña to Mathieu Bousquet, New Head of Sector – Environment/Energy/Transport/Civil Protection, Regional Programmes Neighbourhood East).

The minutes of the Management Group teleconferences are available on the project website under <http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/project-governance/management-group-meetings>.

### Steering Committee (SC)

As foreseen in the ToR, the Steering Committee meetings are aimed to facilitate dialogue and communication with the ENPI countries on issues of common interests for the execution of the project and, at the same time, bring the countries' perspective into the implementation process.

During the reported period, the 3<sup>rd</sup> ENPI-SEIS Steering Committee meeting has taken place on 21-22 November 2012 at the EEA premises in Copenhagen. Agenda, presentations, minutes and background materials are available under the following link: <http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/project-governance/steering-committee-meetings/2012-11-21-2011-11-24-enpi-seis-steering-committee-meeting>. During the meeting there was an agreement reached to move ahead with the establishment of data flows for a pilot set of datasets, aiming to produce the associated indicators and to use EEA reporting tools in this process. It was also agreed to establish bilateral dialogue with the countries to follow-up on the country reports, and in particular evaluate how country priorities and needs can be best addressed in the next period of implementation of the ENPI-SEIS project. The developed work plan 2013-2014 should be viewed as a management tool, adaptable to changes and adjustments in the process.

Just after the reported period under this progress report, the 4<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting of the project was planned on 17-18 September 2013 in Copenhagen (<http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/project-governance/steering-committee-meetings/2013>). The outcome was reflected in the revised version of the work plan 2013-14 available on the website: <http://enpi-seis.ew.eea.europa.eu/project-activities/work-plan-2013-14-revised-sept.-2013/>

At the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting it had been decided to hold a concluding event/final Steering Committee towards the end of the project, possibly in September 2014. Exact time and place will be confirmed with the Management Group and communicated in due time.

It has to be noted that the activities table, agreed with the Contracting Authority in the inception phase and annexed to the 1st and 2nd progress reports, has been revisited and adjusted to the agreed activities in the further project implementation (Annex 1 to the progress report).

The project logframe is attached in Annex 2.

## **Dialogue with the Contracting Authority and EU Delegations**

Throughout the implementation of the ENPI-SEIS project regular dialogue has been maintained with the Project Manager in the Contracting Authority – DG DEVCO on the project execution and various contractual and management issues. As agreed with the Contracting Authority, prior approval was sought from the Project Manager on each sub-contracting agreement before its signature.

With regard to the period of the ENPI-SEIS implementation, EEA has asked the Contracting Authority for a non-cost extension of the project until end September 2014 due to some delay in the project's inception phase. This was also aimed to align the project end date to the current reporting cycle, running until September. A formal contract amendment should be put in place.

It is to be noted that – as a rule of thumb – during meetings and visits to the ENPI-SEIS partner countries, the project team is arranging meetings with the EU Delegation in the country and keeping the Delegation informed of the outcome and progress made.

In March 2013 the EEA Project Manager took part in a meeting in Brussels of all Team Leaders working on programmes under the Eastern Partnership in the field of Environment, Civil Protection, Agriculture, Forest, Climate Change and Environmental Information, aimed to take stock of progress and ensure good coordination and awareness between the different projects and initiatives. One important follow-up to increase interactions and effectiveness of efforts would be to map out the various counterparts and networks in the East region.

## **Risk management**

The successful project outcome relies on a number of political, economic and administrative developments in the ENPI partner countries in support of the planned activities. The extension of the EEA cooperation and SEIS implementation to the ENPI area relates to a number risks and assumptions that have already been included in previous progress reports and should be mentioned.

The project coordination team cannot ensure the following aspects of the project implementation, which would be necessary for the successful outcome of the activity:

- Complex, sensitive and unstable political situation in the ENPI regions, which easily can shift the focus away from the environmental cooperation. The project team is regularly monitoring the situation in the countries and taking note of latest developments.
- Willingness of the national environmental and statistical authorities to cooperate and provide access to the available data and information at national level which is prerequisite for developing regional set of indicators and establishing data flows. Appointment of appropriate experts as project contact points is of high importance in this process. This issue has been regularly addressed through the national workshops organised in the partner countries.
- Continuity and availability of human and financial resources to support the process of SEIS implementation at national level in the ENP countries. This also links to the stability in the administrations of the relevant organisations to ensure continuity of work and dialogue. This issue has also been regularly communicated during the national workshops in the partner countries.
- Developing closer cooperation/networking relations between the environmental and statistical offices at national level, as well as capitalising on other capacity building activities (completed and/or on-going initiatives/projects) in ENPI regions. Here should be mentioned the adequate implementation of the concluded cooperation agreements between different institutions/partners. This point was raised in the discussions with the stakeholders in the key organisations involved in the project implementation and addressed in the work undertaken.

In terms of project coverage, there has been no change in the cooperation with Syria and the activities remain to be temporarily suspended until further notice from the Contracting Authority. As reported under section 5.1 (see on page 10), the ENPI-SEIS cooperation has been extended to cover Libya as well, which will be taken forward to the extent possible given the current situation. Various relevant issues that have impact on the smooth project implementation have also been referred to under the respective activity areas in the report. On operational side a risk that should be mentioned is ensuring the continuity in staffing on the EEA project team and the turnover of key staff, involved in the project management and implementation. Another important matter is associated with procedures and timing for issuing visas to participants to the project's events due to different requirements of Embassies/Consulates in this process.

All these issues are regularly reviewed and discussed with DG DEVCO and the Management Group as needed in order to ensure the further proper implementation of the project.

### **Event organisation and management**

The event management and coordination has been a key activity for the project coordination team during the reported period. List of meetings organised during this period can be found in section 11 below.

In order to adjust the content and delivery of the planned trainings and workshops, similarly structured feedback forms continued to be used enabling the project managers to receive direct feedback from participants about the activities held (feedback form – example from the last SC in Annex 4). After each event, follow-up has been done systematically via emails, direct phone calls and the web portal; materials and presentations have been made available on the project website.

With respect to the regional workshops for the ENPI East and South, approximately 200 participants have taken part in the meetings organised during the reported period, with 4 events targeting the ENPI East region and 6 events – the ENPI South. Statistics of participation in the project regional events is attached in Annex 5.

In terms of countries' participation, it has to be noted that there was good attendance of the project meetings organised, with the exception of Libya that has not participated in 4 out of the 6 ENPI South events held.

### **Staffing of the project coordination team at EEA**

As of 15 September 2013, the project coordination team at EEA covers three Contract Agent (CAs) Project Managers recruited under and covered by the ENPI-SEIS project budget, two Temporary Agents (TAs - Team Leader and Project Manager) covered by the EEA core budget and an interimaire secretary.

Complete list of the ENPI-SEIS Project Coordination team at EEA with contacts is provided under section 10 below.

### **Sub-contracting within the project in the reported period**

Within the provisions of the Framework contract for support on implementation of the Shared Environmental Information System in the two ENPI regions (EEA/SES/10/001), supported by ZOI Environment network (Switzerland) – for the ENPI East and Russia (Lot 1), and Umweltbundesamt (UBA-Austria) – for the ENPI South and Western Balkans (Lot 2), during the reported period the EEA has concluded the specific contracts as listed below. The specific activities and outputs from these sub-contracts are presented in section 4 and 5 of the report.



- Contract under FAFA No EEA.55085 with UNEP/MAP: Providing technical support of UNEP/MAP to ENPI-SEIS project in the development of H2020 indicators, PRTR pilot exercise, SEIS development, production of EEA-UNEP/MAP Mediterranean assessment report, including country assessment, networking and communication.
- Specific contract No EEA.55016 with UBA-Vienna under Framework Contract EEA/SES/12/001 Lot 2: Organising and facilitating ENPI-SEIS (East and South region) training, workshop and follow-up activities in support to the gradual implementation of the principles of SEIS (IT Working Group meetings in Skopje, September 2012).
- Specific contract No EEA.55272 with ZOI International Networks under Framework Contract EEA/SES/12/001 Lot 1: To organize and facilitate ENPI-SEIS workshop in Dublin on 05 March 2013, back-to-back with the First 'Eye on Earth' User Conference (the meeting covered only representatives of the ENPI South partner countries; due to visa problems the meeting with the ENPI East countries was rescheduled for April in Copenhagen).
- Specific contract No EEA.55435 with ZOI International Networks under Framework Contract EEA/SES/12/001 Lot 1: Support the implementation of the ENPI-SEIS East 2013-2014 work plan, organising National Workshops in the East and advancing the data flows.
- Specific contract No EEA. 55471 with ZOI International Networks under Framework Contract EEA/SES/12/001 Lot 1: Support to the Steering Committee meeting facilitation and translation services for the ENPI-SEIS project (translation of the 'SEIS Cookbook' in Russian and French).

In addition to these specific sub-contracts, several contracts have been concluded to logistically support the organisation of meetings in EEA premises in Copenhagen in terms of interpretation, technical equipment needed for the interpretation and related logistical arrangements.

### **Project monitoring in 2012-2013**

The main objective of the monitoring system is to gather results-oriented information on a project and to report on progress in order to maintain, and where possible, to improve the quality of external cooperation activities through timely, independent and well-targeted information on the project implementation. Based on the outcome of the Results Oriented Monitoring (ROM) undertaken on the ENPI-SEIS project in 2012, a number of recommendations have been taken on board in the project implementation, linked to the sending of invitations and materials in good time before the event, revision of the project website to make it more user-friendly (to be published in October 2013) and higher contribution/visibility from the countries in the project development.

In 2013 the Consortium led by IBM Belgium has been charged by the European Commission Services with ROM on projects implementation under the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI). In the framework of the EC ROM, the assessment of the project "Towards a Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) in the European Neighbourhood" has been scheduled to be conducted in the ENPI East and ENPI South partner countries in the period between 14 October to 12 November 2013. The main criteria to be addressed are relevance and quality of design, efficiency of implementation to date, effectiveness to date, impact to date, potential sustainability, with particular attention on horizontal and cross-cutting issues.

First discussions with the partner countries' NFPs on the ROM 2013 visits have been scheduled to take place during the 4<sup>th</sup> ENPI-SEIS Steering Committee meeting, held on 17-18 September in EEA premises, Copenhagen. Feedback and recommendations following the ROM visits to the countries will be communicated to the EEA through the Contracting Authority.

## 9. BUDGET COMMITMENTS AND EXPENDITURE

Table 1.1 below indicates the initial budget estimate, which was annexed to the Service Contract signed between the EC and EEA.

Table 1.2 shows the financial commitments until 15.09.2013 split across the two regions, which come up to 80.7% of the total project budget. Table 1.3 shows that in terms of funds paid as of 15 September 2013 62.9% of the total project budget have been executed in payments.

**Table 1.1. Initial budget estimate (referring to Annex III in the Service Contract)**

<b>ESTIMATE PROJECT BUDGET BREAKDOWN</b>	<b>BUDGET SOUTH</b>	<b>BUDGET EAST</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Objective 1. Indicators	240,000	220,000	460,000
Objective 2. Data flows	350,000	400,000	750,000
Objective 3. SEIS infrastructure	815,000	820,000	1,635,000
Objective 4. Assessment	480,500	430,000	910,500
Objective 5. Communication	80,000	85,000	165,000
Objective 6. Networking and management	906,000	920,000	1,826,000
	<b>2,871,500</b>	<b>2,875,000</b>	<b>5,746,500</b>

**Table 1.2. Commitments, distributed per Objective and Region (in EUR)**

<b>CONSUMPTION 15.09.2013</b>	<b>ENP SOUTH</b>	<b>ENP EAST</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Objective 1. Indicators	289,309.00	279,989.00	569,298.00
Objective 2. Data flows	297,768.00	156,370.00	454,138.00
Objective 3. SEIS infrastructure	613,805.00	446,349.00	1,060,154.00
Objective 4. Assessment	165,000.00	78,500.00	243,500.00
Objective 5. Communication	102,017.50	62,017.50	164,035.00
Objective 6. Networking and management	1,098,873.50	1,046,813.50	2,145,687.00
	<b>2,566,774.00</b>	<b>2,070,039.00</b>	<b>4,636,813.00</b>

**Table 1.3. Executed payments, distributed per Objective and Region (in EUR)**

<b>PAYMENTS</b>	<b>ENP SOUTH</b>	<b>ENP EAST</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Objective 1. Indicators	154,702.80	271,469.51	426,172.31
Objective 2. Data flows	264,583.58	145,146.22	409,729.79
Objective 3. SEIS infrastructure	578,917.01	391,861.99	970,778.99
Objective 4. Assessment	89,567.57	63,450.97	153,018.54
Objective 5. Communication	76,161.76	45,456.80	121,618.56
Objective 6. Networking and management	782,672.36	755,063.65	1,537,736.01
	<b>1,946,605.07</b>	<b>1,672,449.13</b>	<b>3,619,054.20</b>

The above overview shows that under some objectives (in particular, 1 & 6) there is overspending documented from the initial budget estimate. This in particular might be due to the following reasons:

- The work on indicators (Objective 1) and data flows (Objective 2) in most cases is interconnected and contributing to both areas of work. In the process of indicators development a lot of data flows aspects are already addressed and vice versa.
- Missions and meetings for the project staff & EEA experts are committed under Objective 6 only, but once paid they are distributed per Objective according to the activity. This is not possible to change due to some restrictions in the EEA budget system (ABAC).
- Ticketing appeared to be more expensive than expected, including also visa costs that need to be applied for participants from most of the beneficiary countries.
- Salaries for the Contract Agents recruited proved to be higher than estimated.

In order to achieve best results from the project implementation and ensure beneficial outcome of the executed project activities, the EEA is planning to submit an official request to the Contracting Authority for an updated budget estimate.

## 10. LIST OF EEA PROJECT COORDINATION TEAM

(Status September 2013)

### ENPI-SEIS Project Manager

<i>Name</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Contact details</i>
Peder Jensen Head of Programme – Governance and Networks	European Environment Agency Kongens Nytorv 6 DK 1050 Copenhagen	<a href="mailto:Peder.Jensen@eea.europa.eu">Peder.Jensen@eea.europa.eu</a> Tel: +45 3336 7135 Fax: +45 3336 7128

### Key Staff

Barbara Clark - Acting Head of group GAN3 - Neighbourhood country coordination (from 1 August 2012 to 5 April 2013)	European Environment Agency Kongens Nytorv 6 DK 1050 Copenhagen	<a href="mailto:Barbara.Clark@eea.europa.eu">Barbara.Clark@eea.europa.eu</a> Tel: +45 3336 7248 Fax: +45 3336 7197
Galina Georgieva Hristova – Team Leader	European Environment Agency Kongens Nytorv 6 DK 1050 Copenhagen	<a href="mailto:Galina.Georgieva@eea.europa.eu">Galina.Georgieva@eea.europa.eu</a> Tel: +45 3336 7278 Fax: +45 3336 7197
Dezső Mikus – Project Manager, Extension of SEIS to ENPI countries	European Environment Agency Kongens Nytorv 6 DK 1050 Copenhagen	<a href="mailto:Dezso.mikus@eea.europa.eu">Dezso.mikus@eea.europa.eu</a> Tel: +45 3343 5964 Fax: +45 3336 7197
Cécile Roddier-Quefelec – Project Manager, Mediterranean area cooperation	European Environment Agency Kongens Nytorv 6 DK 1050 Copenhagen	<a href="mailto:Cecile.Roddier-Quefelec@eea.europa.eu">Cecile.Roddier-Quefelec@eea.europa.eu</a> Tel: +45 3343 5940 Fax: +45 3336 7197
Erol Çavuş – Project Manager ( <i>National Expert, secondment ended on 31 December 2012</i> )	European Environment Agency Kongens Nytorv 6 DK 1050 Copenhagen	<i>E-mail address not valid after January 2013</i>
Jean-Nicolas Poussart – Project Manager, Cooperation ENPI East	European Environment Agency Kongens Nytorv 6 DK 1050 Copenhagen	<a href="mailto:Jean-Nicolas.Poussart@eea.europa.eu">Jean-Nicolas.Poussart@eea.europa.eu</a> Tel: +45 3343 5907 Fax: +45 3336 7197
Saila Kumputie – <i>Project Officer until 30 September 2012</i>	European Environment Agency Kongens Nytorv 6 DK 1050 Copenhagen	<i>E-mail address not valid after October 2012</i>

### Interim secretarial and communication support

(under temporary contract – not possible to be prolonged after September 2013)

Nataliya Jørgensen – <i>replacement for Saila Kumputie in the period 1 October 2012-28 June 2013</i>	European Environment Agency Kongens Nytorv 6 DK 1050 Copenhagen	<i>E-mail address</i> ( <a href="mailto:Nataliya.Jorgensen@eea.europa.eu">Nataliya.Jorgensen@eea.europa.eu</a> ) <i>not valid after July 2013</i>
Bokul Roy Chowdhury – <i>Secretarial support</i>	European Environment Agency Kongens Nytorv 6 DK 1050 Copenhagen	<i>E-mail address</i> ( <a href="mailto:Bokul.chowdhury@eea.europa.eu">Bokul.chowdhury@eea.europa.eu</a> ) <i>not valid after October 2013</i>

## 11. LIST OF ENPI-SEIS MISSIONS AND MEETINGS

Below is a list of the conducted missions and meetings in the reported period by the ENPI-SEIS Project Coordination team and relevant EEA colleagues. Upcoming meetings and missions until the end of 2013 are also listed for completion.

### List of missions completed in the period 16 September 2012 – 15 September 2013

Date	Destination	Objective of the Mission	Name of the Attendee
19-21 September 2012	Skopje, Macedonia	ENPI-SEIS Workshop on database streamlining / data exchange format	Jean-Nicolas Poussart
2 October 2012	Venice, Italy	International Conference securing competitiveness for the Mediterranean, UNESCO, Global Footprint Network	Cécile Roddier-Quefelec
17-18 October, 2012	Brussels, Belgium	Steering Committee Sustainable Water Integrated Management Programme Support Mechanism (SWIM/SM)	Cécile Roddier-Quefelec
29 October – 2 November 2012	Geneva, Switzerland	6 <sup>th</sup> session of the Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators; 13 <sup>th</sup> session of the Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment	Peder Jensen, Erol Çavuş, Jean-Nicolas Poussart
27 November 2012	Brussels, Belgium	Launch of TERM report and bilateral meeting with DG MOVE and EC staff follow-up from SG management ENPI/SEIS	Peder Jensen
28 November 2012	Brussels, Belgium	Information meeting on the participation on ENP partner countries in the work of EU agencies	Peder Jensen
24-25 January 2013	Barcelona, Spain	PERSEUS 2nd Advisory Board Meeting - Advisory Board Meeting and General Assembly	Constança De Carvalho Belchior
7 February 2013	Brussels, Belgium	Coordination meeting on H2020 Capacity Building / Mediterranean Environment Programme	Cécile Roddier-Quefelec
22 February 2013	Barcelona, Spain	UNEP/MAP, EIB-MeHSIP and UfM Secretariat, Barcelona: Update priority investment portfolio for protecting the Mediterranean sea from pollution	Cécile Roddier-Quefelec
4-6 March 2013	Dublin, Ireland	ENPI-SEIS 3 <sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Working Group on Environmental Indicators (South) and the 1 <sup>st</sup> 'Eye on Earth' User Conference	Ronan Uhel, Cécile Roddier-Quefelec, Dezső Gábor Mikus
13 March 2013	Brussels, Belgium	Meeting with team leaders - Environment Civil Protection Agriculture, Forest, Climate Change and Environmental Information - Eastern Partnership	Peder Jensen, Jean-Nicolas Poussart
18-19 March 2013	Rabat, Morocco	ONEM and UNEP, Rabat: Strategic planning meeting DPCC-ONEM-UNEP/EEA & Official launch of the Morocco Environment Outlook (meeting cancelled with a very short notice)	Cécile Roddier-Quefelec

27-28 March 2013	Cairo, Egypt	Bilateral discussion with NFPs (EEAA, CAPMAS) and National Workshop on Environmental Indicators	Cécile Roddier-Quefelec
7-9 April 2013	Ramallah, Palestine	Bilateral discussion with NFPs and National Workshop on Environmental Indicators	Cécile Roddier-Quefelec
16-17 April 2013	Geneva, Switzerland	ENPI East Meeting on Environmental Assessments	Jean-Nicolas Poussart
15-16 April 2013	Beirut, Lebanon	Bilateral discussion with NFPs and National Workshop on Environmental Indicators	Ronan Uhel
17-18 April 2013	Amman, Jordan	Bilateral discussion with NFPs and National Workshop on Environmental Indicators	Ronan Uhel, Dezzo Gabor Mikus
22-24 April 2013	Trieste, Italy	Horizon2020 CB sub-regional training on Improving capacity to prepare PRTR for the monitoring of industrial emissions	Eva Goossens
29 April – 1 May 2013	Israel, Jerusalem	ENPI-SEIS National Development of H2020 Indicators	Cécile Roddier-Quefelec
14 May 2013	Luxembourg	Forum of Euro-Mediterranean Statisticians	Cécile Roddier-Quefelec
21-23 May 2013	Tunis, Tunisia	ENPI-SEIS National development of H2020 Indicators and National Workshop on Environmental Indicators	Cécile Roddier-Quefelec
28-30 May 2013	Rabat, Morocco	ENPI-SEIS National development of H2020 indicators and National Workshop on Environmental Indicators	Cécile Roddier-Quefelec
4-5 June 2013	Alger, Algeria	ENPI-SEIS National development of H2020 indicators and National Workshop on Environmental Indicators	Cécile Roddier-Quefelec
17-19 June 2013	New York, United States of America	International Conference 'Global Implementation Programme for the SEEA'	Cécile Roddier-Quefelec
21 June 2013	Sofia, Bulgaria	Roadmap towards Black Sea component of MSFD CIS	Peder Jensen, Trine Christiansen
28 June 2013	Brussels, Belgium	Coordination meeting with DG ENV and DG DEVCO	Galina Georgieva Hristova, Peder Jensen, Ronan Uhel
2-4 July 2013	Warsaw, Poland	ENP regional project: Preparing staff for EU-ENP related jobs (module: Environment)	Adriana Gheorghe
9 July 2013	Madrid, Spain	Marine Strategy Coordination Group - Mediterranean component of MSFD CIS	Cécile Roddier-Quefelec
10-11 July 2013	Stockholm, Sweden	Meeting of Informal network of EU agencies, working with Pre-Accession (IPA) and European Neighbourhood (ENPI) programmes	Galina Georgieva Hristova
27-29 August 2013	Vienna, Austria	EEA WB Summer School on Integrated Environmental Assessment (IEA)	Caitriona Maire Maguire

5 September 2013	Chisinau, Moldova	ENPI Waste Governance Project - Harmonisation of the Moldova waste classification system to the EU	Jean-Nicolas Poussart
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### List of ENPI-SEIS meetings held from 16 September 2012 – 15 September 2013

19-21 September 2012	Skopje, Macedonia	ENPI-SEIS Workshop on database streamlining / data exchange format
24-26 September 2012	Chisinau, Moldova	Emissions Inventory Workshop – jointly with the ENPI Air Quality Governance Project
10-11 October 2012	Copenhagen, Denmark	2 <sup>nd</sup> ENP South Working Group on Indicators
20-22 November 2012	Antalya, Turkey	Workshop on Ecosystem Services Assessment and Capital Accounting for Turkey, West Balkans and Caucasus Countries
27-29 November 2012	New York, USA	International Seminar "Towards Linking Ecosystems and Ecosystem Services to Economic and Human Activity"
5 March 2013	Dublin, Ireland	ENPI-SEIS 3 <sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Working Group on Indicators back-to-back with the First User Eye on Earth Conference
28 March 2013	Cairo, Egypt	ENP South National Workshop on Environmental Indicators
8 April 2013	Ramallah, Palestine	ENP South National Workshop on Environmental Indicators
9-10 April 2013	Copenhagen, Denmark	Meeting of ENPI-SEIS East National Focal Points on the implementation of data flows and country-level work plans
16 April 2013	Beirut, Lebanon	ENP South National Workshop on Environmental Indicators
18 April 2013	Jordan, Amman	ENP South National Workshop on Environmental Indicators
22 May 2013	Tunis, Tunisia	ENP South National Workshop on Environmental Indicators
29 May 2013	Rabat, Morocco	ENP South National Workshop on Environmental Indicators
5 June 2013	Alger, Algeria	ENP South National Workshop on Environmental Indicators
11-12 June 2013	Copenhagen, Denmark	Fourth Horizon 2020 Review, Monitoring and Research (RMR) Subgroup Meeting
27-29 August, 2013	Austria, Vienna	EEA WB Summer School on Integrated Environmental Assessments (with ENP participants from Georgia)

2-3 September 2013	Copenhagen, Denmark	3rd meeting of the ENPI-SEIS South Working Group on information Technologies
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### Upcoming meetings in the period 16 September 2013 – December 2013

17-18 September 2013	Copenhagen, Denmark	Fourth ENPI-SEIS Steering Committee Meeting
2 October 2013	Brussels (EIB Brussels office)	Horizon 2020 Components Coordination meeting
30 October – 3 November 2013	Marmaris, Turkey	Global Congress on Integrated Coastal Management – MEDCOAST 2013 Conference
4 November 2013	Geneva, Switzerland	UNECE/EUROSTAT/EEA Workshop on Waste Statistics
5-7 November 2013	Geneva, Switzerland	7 <sup>th</sup> session of the UNECE Joint Task Force on Environmental Indicators
7-8 November 2013	Geneva, Switzerland	Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (WGEMA) under UNECE
12-13 November 2013	Athens	SWIM Annual Steering Committee
19-20 November 2013	Brussels	6 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Horizon2020 Steering Group
19 November 2013	Brussels	4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Horizon2020 Capacity Building Sub-Group
2-6 December 2013	Istanbul	18 <sup>th</sup> COP of the Barcelona Convention

### Trainings 16 September 2012 – 15 September 2013

Date	Destination	Objective of the Mission	Name of the Attendee
17-19 June 2013	New York, United States of America	International Conference 'Global Implementation Programme for the SEEA'	Cécile Roddier-Quefelec
19-21 June 2013	EIPA - Barcelona, Spain	Successful Preparation and Implementation of Projects under EU External Financial Assistance	Galina Georgieva Hristova



## 12. OVERVIEW OF COUNTRY SITUATION (ENP SOUTH) AS REGARDS THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SIX H2020 INDICATORS

The target for each indicator is:

- To apply the commonly agreed methodology, including:
  - To populate the data sets at the appropriate geographical scale,
  - When available, to gathered time series (from 2003 onwards),
- To calculate the indicators
- To provide corresponding metadata (definition, source, data gaps, uncertainties)

	Algeria	Egypt	Israel	Jordan	Lebanon	Libya	Morocco	Palestine	Tunisia
	Methodology for gap filling to be further developed								
	Classification (code list) for coastal zones and coastal cities to be fully harmonised and implemented								
	Categories of waste to be further developed								
	Detailed meta data by countries to be produced								
<b>Municipal waste generation</b>	Not delivered	Not fully harmonised (estimate)	Available (Estimate from collection)	Available (Estimate from collection),	Available (Estimate), trend not available	Not delivered	Available (Estimate from collection)	Available (Estimate from collection)	Available (Estimate from collection)
	Not fully harmonised			harmonisation required	(ad hoc collection)				
<b>Waste composition</b>	Estimation from a ratio	Not available at the coastal level	Surveys (gaps in series)						
	Ad hoc survey, estimate from a ratio, not available at the coastal level								

<b>Volume of municipal waste collected, treated</b>	Methodology for gap filling to be further developed								
	GIS layer for landfill to be developed with countries								
<b>Number, type and location of landfill</b>	Detailed meta data by countries to be produced								
	Not delivered	Pb with definition, estimation	Method to be adjusted	Available	Estimate, trend not available  (ad hoc collection)	Not delivered	Available (costal region)	Available	Available, gaps in series and coverage
	Estimation in %								
	NA	NA	Map available – but sharing is an issue						
<b>Share of population with access to improved sanitation system (total, rural, urban)</b>	Harmonisation of definitions (MDG – national definition) to be further implemented								
	Definition of rural area and streamline of classification and data sets to be further implemented								
	Detailed meta data by countries to be produced								
	Not delivered, but draft indicators available at national, harmonisation needed	Not fully developed	Available, distribution rural/urban not available	Available  Harmonisation between data sources required	Not fully developed (gaps in raw data)	Not delivered	Available (coastal region)	Available, some methodological points to be further developed	Available (gaps in series/ methodology)  Harmonisation between data sources required
<b>Volume of waste water collected, of which volume treated</b>	Harmonisation of definition to be further improved (geographical coverage, sources of data)								
	Detailed meta data by countries to be produced								
<b>Type of treatment</b>	Not delivered	Not fully developed (data sources, harmonisation)	Available	Available  Harmonisation between data sources required	Not fully developed (gaps in raw data)	Not delivered	Available (coastal region), Harmonisation between data sources required	Available, some methodological points to be further developed	Available
	Exists but harmonisation needed								

<b>Nutrient concentration on transitional, coastal and marine waters</b>	Use raw data reported to MEDPOL, processing of the data made by MEDPOL List of parameters and calculation methods to be further developed to better reflect measurements done in the countries Detailed meta data by countries to be produced								
	MEDPOL data	MEDPOL data	MEDPOL data	Available for some parameters	MEDPOL data	MEDPOL data	MEDPOL data	Not available	MEDPOL data
<b>Release of toxic substances and nutrients by industrial sectors</b>	Use raw data reported to MEDPOL, processing of the data made by MEDPOL List of parameters and calculation methods to be further developed to better reflect measurements done in the countries (in particular as regard the industries – to be linked to the PRTR development) Detailed meta data by countries to be produced								
	MEDPOL data	MEDPOL data	MEDPOL data	Available for some parameters and some industrial areas	MEDPOL data	MEDPOL data	MEDPOL data	Not available	MEDPOL data

### 13. OVERVIEW OF COUNTRY SITUATION IN ENP SOUTH REGARDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

	Algeria	Egypt	Israel	Jordan	Lebanon	Libya	Morocco	Palestine	Tunisia	
Area 3: SEIS-compliant national and regional environmental information system	<p>The targets/expected outcomes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Institutional capacities built in the management and sharing of available data and information (environment and statistics);</li> <li>- Reporting capabilities streamlined and timeliness improved to national, regional and international commitments;</li> <li>- Partnerships between various data and information holders at national level improved;</li> <li>- Data policy in place for the selected data flows;</li> <li>- Responsibilities and tasks allocation improved in the field of management of regional environmental information;</li> <li>- Information service available for H2020 priority data flows (available online).</li> </ul> <p>Regional progress/results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promotion of SEIS has led some countries to set up national coordination teams identify the need to put more focus on the developments of a national environment information system, and improvements of their national reporting system;</li> <li>- Responsibilities and task allocations improved through several regional events;</li> <li>- Data policy in place for the selected data flows is to be developed</li> </ul>									
	- 2 IT WG members nominated and trained on SEIS (3 IT WG meetings)	- 2 IT WG members nominated and trained on SEIS (3 IT WG meetings)	- 2 IT WG members nominated and trained on SEIS (3 IT WG meetings)	- 1 IT WG member nominated and trained on SEIS (3 IT WG meetings)	- 2 IT WG members nominated and trained on SEIS (3 IT WG meetings)	- 1 IT WG member nominated and trained on SEIS (3 IT WG meetings)	- 2 IT WG members nominated and trained on SEIS (3 IT WG meetings)	- 2 IT WG members nominated and trained on SEIS (3 IT WG meetings)	- 2 IT WG members nominated and trained on SEIS (3 IT WG meetings)	- 2 IT WG members nominated and trained on SEIS (3 IT WG meetings)
	- 1 Indicator WG member nominated (capacities built on data handling)	- 2 Indicator WG members nominated (capacities built on data handling)	- 2 Indicator WG members nominated (capacities built on data handling)	- 2 Indicator WG members nominated (capacities built on data handling)	- 1 Indicator WG member nominated (capacities built on data handling)	- 1 Indicator WG member nominated (capacities built on data handling)	- 1 Indicator WG member nominated (capacities built on data handling)	- 1 Indicator WG member nominated (capacities built on data handling)	- 2 Indicator WG members nominated (capacities built on data handling)	- 2 Indicator WG members nominated (capacities built on data handling)
- National workshops organised to improve partnership	- National workshops organised to improve	- National workshops organised	- National workshops	- National workshops organised to improve partnership	- National workshops organised to improve partnership	- National workshops organised to improve partnership	- National workshops organised to improve partnership	- National workshops organised	- National workshops organised	

	- No data available yet	partnership - Data available online (Reportnet) for one out of six indicators	to improve partnership - Data available online (Reportnet) for four out of six indicators	organised to improve partnership - Data available, but not available online because it was delivered by e-mail and not followed template	- Data available for four out of six indicators, but not available online because it was delivered by e-mail		but not available online because it was delivered by e-mail and not followed template	to improve partnership - Data available online (Reportnet) for four out of six indicators	to improve partnership - Data available for four out of six indicators, but not available online because it was delivered by e-mail
	Algeria	Egypt	Israel	Jordan	Lebanon	Libya	Morocco	Palestine	Tunisia
Country requests in terms of infrastructure development	In addition to regional infrastructure development initiatives, country specific support will also be provided in order to achieve a Shared Environmental Information System in the Mediterranean. For this reason country specific needs were collected.								
	- Capacity building on GIS to ONEDD staff - Training on methodologies to determine Sustainable Development Indicators - Training on quality control of data. - Training on metadata	- Support to an environmental indicators system based on the international standards and methodologies - Improve capacities in the fields of monitoring, collection, storage, assessment,	- Support on developing PRTR - Workshop on waste and wastewater statistics in the manufacturing industry - Workshop on waste information for data producers and users	- Training on Reportnet - GIS training	Assistance in developing a national network of the different stakeholders		To provide support in designing national environmental information system for reporting and for SoE assessment	- Assistance on harmonising available information systems (local, regional, international) - Support on developing Water accounts	- Training and assistance on geoportal and view services (specifically to implement air quality information system) - Training on data exchange and web

	and convergence of databases.	and reporting of environmental data - Assistance in information flow management among stakeholder organizations - Assistance in data exchange mechanisms through various governmental ministries and agencies							technologies: RDF, web services, web mapping, SDMX - Receiving good practice examples on how to implement a national data flow using data exchange technologies.
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## 14. OVERVIEW OF COUNTRY SITUATION IN ENP EAST PER PROJECT ACTIVITY AREA

	Armenia	Azerbaijan	Belarus	Georgia	Moldova	Ukraine
<b>Area 1: Suitable environmental indicators and scorecards</b>	<p>The targets/expected outcomes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To agree on, and refine a core set of indicators (CSI) for the East region;</li> <li>- To apply common methodologies to produce the indicators with national datasets and provide clear metadata (definitions, sources, data gaps, uncertainties);</li> <li>- Further develop the use of indicators for assessments;</li> <li>- Improve cooperation and partnerships between various networks at national level dealing with environmental data and information.</li> </ul> <p>Regional progress/results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continuity of focusing efforts and discussions around a selected “core” set of indicators;</li> <li>- Agreement to consider selected “core” set of indicators for the organisation of regular, sustained data sharing;</li> <li>- Revised environmental indicator guidelines as the outcome of 2009-2012 revisions;</li> <li>- Data on waste remains the most challenging across region, with key issues on data sources (problems with data collection from enterprises and need to introduce respective legislation to be able to collect data); data availability (in particular no coverage for rural areas, gaps in time series), and differences in methodologies/definitions (making comparisons across the countries difficult).</li> </ul>					
	<p>Has provided to the UNECE JTF some data for all selected indicators (CSI), using JTF formats for data presentation.</p>	<p>Has provided to the UNECE JTF some data for all selected indicators (CSI), using JTF formats for data presentation.</p>	<p>Has provided to the UNECE JTF some data for all selected indicators (CSI), using JTF formats for data presentation.</p>	<p>No data provided to the UNECE JTF for the indicator on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- waste generation</li> <li>- (some data missing for nutrients in freshwater)</li> </ul> <p>JTF formats partly used.</p>	<p>Has provided to the UNECE JTF some data for all selected indicators (CSI), partly using JTF formats for data presentation.</p>	<p>No data provided to the UNECE JTF for the indicator on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- air quality in urban areas;</li> <li>- consumption of ozone-depleting substances;</li> <li>- BOD and concentration of ammonium in rivers;</li> <li>- nutrients in freshwater;</li> <li>- protected areas</li> </ul> <p>JTF formats partly used.</p>

<b>Area 2: Timely, relevant, reliable and coherent environmental data</b>	<p>The targets/expected outcomes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regular data flows established to feed into the regular production of the CSI;</li> <li>- Capacity building and trained local experts staff in data reporting techniques, if possible using EEA/Eionet tools, infrastructures and methods;</li> <li>- Trained experts in QA/QC and data reporting in fulfilling legal reporting commitments at bilateral, regional and global level.</li> </ul> <p>Regional progress/results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Synergies between partners (EEA-UNECE) aligning efforts of ensuring the availability and accessibility of the same datasets;</li> <li>- Feasibility study describes in detail data gaps, and provided the grounds for advancing discussions at national level (to fill gaps, improve quality);</li> <li>- Reluctance in all countries to use EEA/Eionet tools (i.e. Reportnet) for data sharing (highest probability in Georgia);</li> </ul>				
	<p>Indicate to have problems with various/different formats used for data storage making inter-institutional sharing difficult;</p> <p>High turnover of staff.</p>	<p>Particular importance of additional capacity building on waste statistics;</p>	<p>Institutional collaboration between the Ministry of Environment and Statistical Bureau for the collection, exchange, dissemination of data, functions well (some legal acts have been developed to regulate data transfer/exchange).</p>	<p>MoU between Ministry of Environment and statistics office for data exchange;</p> <p>Data gaps on water and waste being addressed (new water indicators being developed, draft legislation on waste management).</p>	<p>E-governance platform in place for access to environmental information;</p> <p>High turnover of staff, lack of dedicated staff seen as a major obstacle to ensure regular data sharing.</p>



<b>Area 3: SEIS-compliant national and regional environmental information system</b>	<p>The targets/expected outcomes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Institutional capacities built in the management and sharing of available data and information (environment and statistics);</li> <li>- Reporting capabilities streamlined and timeliness improved to national, regional and international commitments;</li> <li>- Partnerships between various data and information holders at national level improved;</li> <li>- Data policy in place for the selected data flows;</li> <li>- Responsibilities and tasks allocation improved in the field of management of transboundary environmental information;</li> </ul> <p>Regional progress/results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promotion of SEIS has led some countries to identify the need to put more focus on the developments of a national environment information system, and improvements of their national reporting system;</li> <li>- Development of environmental information and education centres and/or re-evaluation of the role of the Aarhus centres.</li> </ul>				
	<p>Development of national system identified as priority area to address during 2014 country visit/dedicated event. Request for capacity building;</p> <p>A national unified information register and database is under development.</p>		<p>Most environmental data collected is compliant with international standards, Belarus is able to make environmental assessments of good quality. A newly developed and approved procedure for avoiding duplication in data collection and management is among the most important improvements since the beginning of the ENPI-SEIS project.</p>	<p>Identified need to place additional efforts on the development of national system;</p> <p>National environmental information and education centre under development since May 2013.</p> <p>The environment and accessibility to data in the context of “e-governance”, being developed.</p>	<p>The environment and accessibility to data in the context of “e-governance”, being developed;</p> <p>Development of the Open Data Governmental Portal  <a href="http://data.gov.md">http://data.gov.md</a></p>

<b>Area 4: Assessment of the progress of regional environmental initiatives</b>	<p>The targets/expected outcomes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Trained network of experts in the field of data, indicators and assessments at national level (environment and statistics) working together and sharing knowledge and information</li> <li>- Reporting contribution covering the priority areas identified for the East region</li> </ul> <p>Regional progress/results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regional exchange of experiences on indicator-based assessments (input by all countries in regional event).</li> </ul>					
	<p>No specific legislation as legal and regulatory basis for publication of state-of-the-environment reports;</p> <p>In national state of the Environment (SoE) reports, no cross-country comparisons</p>	<p>No specific legislation as legal and regulatory basis for publication of state-of-the-environment reports;</p> <p>In national state of the Environment (SoE) reports, no cross-country comparisons</p>	<p>In national state of the Environment (SoE) reports, no cross-country comparisons</p>	<p>In national state of the Environment (SoE) reports, no cross-country comparisons, however some comparison with existing regulations in EU (e.g.max.allowed concentrations on “Ambient air quality” and in the chapter on “Water Protection”).</p>	<p>In national state of the Environment (SoE) reports, no cross-country comparisons</p>	<p>In national state of the Environment (SoE) reports, no cross-country comparisons</p>

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