

ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT (APR) – 2016

Basic project information

Project number and title:

00080737 “Macedonian Second Biennial Update Report on Climate Change”

Designated institution: **Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning**

Project starting date: *June 2016*

Project completion date

Originally planned: *31st December 2017*

Actual: *31st December 2017*

Total budget (US \$): *352,000 USD*

Latest signed revision: */*

Period covered by the report: *June 21st –December 31st 2016*



TEXTUAL ASSESSMENT

1. What are the major achievements of the programme or project vis-à-vis the expected results during the year under review? To the extent possible, include an assessment of the potential impact, sustainability and contribution to capacity development.

OUTPUT 1: NATIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- The Government public outreach efforts have been conducted by the public relations office of MOEPP and City of Skopje to raise awareness on climate change in the country.
- In December 2016, UNDP and MOEPP conducted an online survey in order to provide a current snapshot of public knowledge about climate change and their perceptions of the issue. [The results](#) from this survey update the results of the public survey conducted in November 2014 under the preparation of the Third National Communication on Climate Change about key incentives for and challenges to environmental and climate-conscious behaviour. The current survey also provides updated information on respondents' main sources of information about climate change and the perceived visibility of this topic in the media, as well as the visibility of various climate change campaigns and projects. A total of 583 completed surveys were collected in a two-week period, with 71% of respondents from the ten municipalities of the city of Skopje and the rest from an additional 45 municipalities outside of the capital. Compared to the previous on-line survey, respondents felt more knowledgeable about climate change. Half of the participants considered that they were informed about a variety of climate change impacts and consequences, and they identified the most visible climate change impacts as extreme temperatures and irregularities in seasonal shifts and precipitation patterns. In the same line, participants reported an increase in climate change topics in the media, and half of the respondents related this increase to more frequent occurrences of extreme weather events.

OUTPUT 2: GHG INVENTORY

Within the Second Biennial Update Report on Climate Change, considerable progress has been achieved, particularly in the inventory process itself. Notable results include:

- The national GHG database has been updated up to 2014 and data accuracy has been significantly improved.
- National Inventory report has been developed, summarising emissions and removals over time, including net emissions (in CO₂-eq), from 1990 to 2014 by sectors and by gasses.
- Disaggregation of dataset has been improved: similar fuels, which were grouped together in the older energy balances, are now given separately
- 6 country-specific emission factors have been calculated
- Emissions from refrigeration and air-conditioning have been added
- Data on changes in land use have been calculated on the basis of the available graphical data sets (CORINE land cover).
- Country specific training materials (developed within the FBUR) were updated for each sector, including a explanations of good practices and sources of data and emission factors.
- Two different mathematical approaches have been used for calculating the uncertainty of the estimates that is presents for GHG emissions in different sectors. The GHG inventory for Macedonia has very low uncertainty in areas where data are available and relatively easy to



obtain: the energy sector and certain types of industrial emissions, such as the use of ozone-depleting substances for refrigeration and air conditioning. In the waste sector, however, uncertainty is very high, because it is difficult to obtain accurate data on waste generation and disposal.

Active coordination was established with other donors/projects working in the areas of mutual interest in order to enable consistency of results and recommendations related to creating sustainability of the process for preparation of GHG inventories.

Activities planned under Outcomes 3-7 have been initiated, but major achievements shall be reported in the 2017 APR.

OUTPUT 8: Project Management

- Regular cooperation with the members of the National Climate Change Committee has been established to ensure their active participation in the formulation of mitigation and adaptation policies and measures.
- Capacities of project staff are constantly upgraded by participating on various trainings and workshops, in order to successfully cope with the technical and operational management of project activities. Promotion of the results of project outcomes on various workshops/conferences added value in identification of new areas of work and raising awareness of key stakeholders and target groups on the national and local level and on issues pertaining climate change.
- Close cooperation and exchange of information was established with other donors working in the areas related to climate change. Close cooperation was also established with City of Skopje for the activities related to emissions of greenhouse gasses and the potential of their reduction, especially in transport sector.

2. What major issues and problems are affecting the achievement of programme or project results?

- a) Potential political destabilization since the last quarter of 2016, causing slight delays in project implementation.
- b) Insufficient technical and human capacities within the line ministries to fulfil the obligations deriving from the UN and EU Climate Change related conventions and directives.

3. How should these issues or problems be resolved? Please explain in detail the action(s) recommended. Specify who should be responsible for such actions. Also indicate a tentative time-frame and the resources required.

- a) The Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning and the project management team actively communicate with relevant national institution to ensure timely project implementation.
- b) Due to the prolonged problems on political level in the country, this risk could not be resolved/improved in 2016 when it comes to strengthening human capacities. This should be resolved in



2017 and also through the CBIT initiative. The project shall provide technical tools (relevant software applications) for data collection and management to the Ministry of Environment and other relevant institutions to the extent possible within the available budget. In meantime, particular emphasis has been put on strengthening of technical capacities and knowledge of the participating entities through various trainings and other means for knowledge increase.

4. What new developments (if any) are likely to affect the achievement of project results? What do you recommend to respond to these developments?

Expected changes in the existing governmental structure due to the parliamentary elections. Additional efforts will be made to inform new governmental officials on the latest climate change issues and developments elaborated in the SBUR.

5. What are the views of the target groups with regard to the project? Please note any significant gender-based differences in those views.

Extensive efforts were made to establish intensive working relations with all relevant target groups. They are satisfied with the project which is confirmed by their active participation and evaluation of all of workshops and meetings organized.

There are not any gender-based differences expressed. Opportunities and the challenges aimed at integrating gender considerations into the SBUR by applying the "Gender Responsive National Communications Toolkit" (developed by the UNDP/UNEP Global Support Programme for National Communications and Biennial Update Reports) are planned for 2017.

6. To date, what lessons (both positive and negative) can be drawn from the experience of the project?

Positive:

- Technical support from the UNDP/UNEP Global Support Programme in the process of preparation of the SBUR and other follow up projects.
- Establishment of a multi-disciplinary national teams for all areas covered, which improved the transfer of knowledge and exchange of experience.
- Using innovative solutions to raise awareness related to climate change and promote mitigation practices.
- Including climate change in the Open Governmental Partnership action plan for the country, putting Macedonia as one of the 7 countries in the world to have done so. The country commits in its Action Plan to develop national climate policies in a transparent, participatory manner also enable open access to national databases that show the amounts and sources of greenhouse gas emissions, including: information and data on climate change effects, relevant climate scenarios and climate change mitigation.

Negative:

- Difficulty to implement proposed mitigation measures, mainly due to lack of finances.



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7. If the project has been evaluated, what is the implementation status of the recommendations made by the evaluators?

N/A

8. Do you propose any substantive revision to the project document? If yes, what are they? State justification.

N/A

9. Provide any other information that may further support or clarify your assessment of the programme or project. You may include annexes as you deem necessary.

N/A

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