



ENVSEC:
**An Environment Agenda for Security and Cooperation
in South East Europe and Central Asia**

**First regional meeting on Environment and Security in SEE
3-4 December 2002 – Belgrade (FRY)**

The ENVSEC initiative launched by OSCE, UNDP and UNEP is a process whereby three leading political, development and environment institutions identify and mobilize cooperation around shared environmental concerns as a means for strengthening good governance and reducing tensions between and within countries. In its first phase (December 2002- May 2003) it aims through participatory regional consultations in South East Europe (SEE) and Central Asia (CA) to identify and prioritize the links between environment and security of greatest concern to countries in these regions, and to present these in the form of maps and report to Ministers and donor government representatives at the Environment for Europe meeting in Kiev in May 2003, as a means for mobilizing and linking action to priorities.

Fifty-six participants representing the governments and civil society of the countries of the region attended the first regional consultation on December 3-4 in Belgrade (FRY). The attendance list is attached as Annex I to this document.

The meeting was opened by Miroslav Nikcevic - FRY Federal Secretariat for Labour, Health and Social policy, Assistant to the Secretary followed by speakers from UNDP, OSCE and UNEP. Participants heard presentations on the theoretical linkages between environment and security, as well as on the advantages and disadvantages, opportunities and constraints posed by mapping such linkages. During working group sessions, (see Agenda in Annex II) participants sought to delimit the ‘scope’ of the project and identify and prioritize those linkages between Environment and Security that are of greatest relevance in the region. They also enumerated a list of relevant regional and bilateral policy processes that addressed these linkages, and concluded by identifying, and outlining means for overcoming, the challenges facing the mapping exercise.

Regional Overview of Issues of Concern

- In SEE, there are a wide range of environmental pressures with significant impacts on human health (e.g. loss of forest cover in watersheds, contamination of drinking water, etc.) and on economic development. These may result in economic losses as well as undermine social and political stability
- These environmental pressures range from biodiversity loss, contamination of water and soil, illegal or inappropriate disposal or treatment of waste (hazardous and conventional wastes with major health impacts, waste disposal facility siting in border regions creating transboundary risks), legal or illegal dumping of depleted uranium, unsustainable agricultural practices, etc.
- However, certain environmental problems alone cannot be considered as security risks
- Conflicts below the threshold of violence occur either on the domestic level, affecting local communities or bear a transboundary dimension, since ecosystems cross national borders. In most cases, both levels, domestic and trans-border cannot be separated, when analyzing this kind of conflict.
- Environmental stresses are most often the consequence of:
 - Destruction of infrastructure and ecosystems
 - Weak governance structures
 - Regulatory failures
 - Unsustainable management practices
 - Insufficient technological capacities
 - Rapid transition towards market economy (privatization and governance reforms changing state role)
 - Illegal or unregulated trade
 - Criminality and Corruptionand, most importantly,
 - Legacies of past conflict
 - Legacies and patterns of the former political and economic system (weak governance system, centralized economies)

Because of the broad range of environmental issues and drivers, it is important to limit the scope of this project to fall within a well-defined set of boundaries.

Scope of Project

The field of Environment and Security is bedevilled by different understandings of both terms. At the same time, it is essential that the participants in this project work on the basis of a shared understanding of its scope and approach.

Without attempting a rigorous definition, we offer the following clarifications. The project shall focus principally on two sets of issues:

- Environmental sources of stress between communities, regions or countries, in particular where these have the potential to undermine social and economic stability and lead to conflict.
- Tools and approaches that can be used to bring about or strengthen cooperation and good governance between communities, regions and countries such that environmental problems are adequately addressed, social and economic stability is reinforced and conflict is avoided.

While the principal focus will be on environmental issues that negatively affect relations between States or have the potential to do so, we will not exclude local environmental stresses which, because of their potential broader and even transboundary impact, may trigger conflict.

Priority will be given to environmental stresses that are common throughout the region covered by the project, and to environmental and other cooperation mechanisms that apply to all or most of the countries.

In terms of coverage of environmental issues, the project will not unnaturally limit the scope of issues covered. Any issue stemming from the management and use of natural resources and life-support systems, and any major stress on the natural environment is potentially included. What counts is the potential of the issue either to cause social and political tension or conflict, or to serve as a vehicle for remediating the stress and generating cooperation.

In terms of security, the project is not confined to the traditional concept of security – that is the security of frontiers, essential national institutions and strategic supply of resources. The focus is on the security of communities, and of civil society in the target countries, from acute social tension and from outright conflict caused by environmental factors, or to which environmental factors are a significant contributor.

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What will be Mapped in SEE ?

A map can be useful as an analytical tool, identifying priority areas and hot spots through overlays. A map can also be a helpful illustrative tool, showing priorities in an easily understandable manner. And it can be a valuable database, collecting an inventory of background information as 'scientific evidence' supporting a process. Given the tight timeline in the first

phase, it would make sense to develop messages upfront, and illustrate these through maps. Some messages proposed were:

- Nuclear Reactors and urban centers (with 250km limit between plants)
- Future Road Construction
- Depleted Uranium sites
- Geographical distribution of REReP and EBRD projects, identifying 'hotspots' and 'blackholes' where additional efforts should be mobilized
- Identifying shared watercourses (surface, ground) and biodiversity corridors which lack international cooperative management mechanisms

Presentation will be in the form of maps with multiple overlapping 'layers'. Will seek to show:

- Geographic scale of issues
- Repetitiveness of issues
- Co-occurrences/ multiple problems in a single location (hot spots)
- Relationship of issue to communities and economic centers
- Changes over time

Layer 1: Key Issues

- Transboundary Water (surface, ground) – scarcity, competition, opportunities for cooperation
- Biodiversity – illegal deforestation, opportunities for cooperation
- Industrial activities and accidents (e.g. mining) with transboundary implications
- Legacy of conflict where these are internationally significant e.g. depleted uranium

Layer 2: International Regulatory Efforts to Mitigate these Issues

- Transboundary (bilateral or multilateral) agreements or mechanisms in place?
- Identify *Absences* (where no mechanisms existing) or *Gaps* (e.g. of compliance and enforcement mechanisms, dispute settlement mechanisms)
- Degree of implementation (e.g. promulgation in national laws, level of enforcement)
- Distribution of projects by donors (e.g. REReP, EBRD) corresponds to areas where risks are concentrated ?

Layer 3: Socioeconomic Conditions (OSCE)

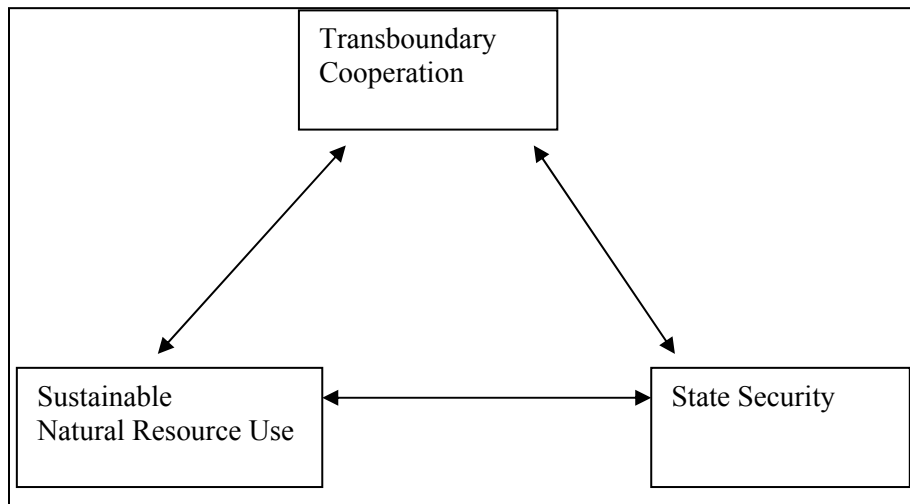
- population density, poverty (GNP & others), 'stability', 'governance', 'corruption', health, HDI etc.
- Urban centers
- Transport Infrastructure: river, road, railroad, future road construction, pipelines, oil and gas terminals,

Layer 4: Political Landscape

- boundaries
- legacies of former political and economic system, industrial policies,
- Security data: (post)conflict areas, military presence, NATO enlargement

Concerns:

- Need for Country-level ‘quality control’ focal point, in particular to have assurance when locating important biodiversity and industrial sites, otherwise risk legitimacy of maps themselves
- More first hand information needed, to contact convention secretariats directly, IPCC objects, ESPOO convention annex and national Ministry of Environments (referencing their websites). Resource: Bryn Mawr MEAs database.
- More Qualified Information e.g. intensity of industrial production or level of protection actually accorded to the protected areas data (rates of deforestation)



Relevant Policy Processes

What processes (environmental, economic and political) are relevant to particular issues identified as priorities ?

- Stability Pact/REReP and EuroRegions Initiatives
- Danube, and Black Sea Conventions
- Environmental Harmonisation/EU Accession
- UNDP Governance activities
- UNECE Conventions – Aarhus, Helsinki I+II, Espoo (& relevant Dispute Settlement processes)
- Dablas task force
- Adriatic Union
- EBRD and European Investment Bank
- National Environmental Action Plans
- Integrated Management of Waste on Adriatic Coast
- NGO (informal) Initiatives:
 - Cooperative international monitoring of mining wastewater
 - Environmental crisis center (for early warning)
 - Balkan Network of NGOs for protection of biodiversity

Overall Challenges

- Ensuring data quality while meeting timeline
- Communicating a few clear messages in Kiev: what options would a policymaker choose based on the results of these maps ?
- Stressing this is the beginning of a process to elaborate an environmental agenda for security and cooperation, and to mobilize resources for action on these priorities.

Annex I: Attendance List

No		First Name	Last name	Title	Government/ Organization
1	Mr.	Frits	Schligemann	Director, Regional Representative	UNEP/ ROE
2	Mr.	Pasi	Rinne	Senior Advisor	UNEP PCAU
3	Mr.	Andrej	Steiner	Chief Technical Adviser	UNDP
4	Mr.	Gianlucca	Rampolla	Environmental Advisor	OSCE
5	Mr.	Marc	Baltes	Deputy Co-ordinator	OSCE
6	Mr	Hossein	Fadaei	Inter-agency officer	UNEP
7	Mr.	Ron	Witt	Regional Coordinator in Europe	UNEP/DEWA
8	Mr.	Otto	Simonett	Head	GRID Arendal Liaison office in Geneva
9	Mr.	Stephane	Kluser	Graphics / Web Designer	UNEP/DEWA/ GRID-Geneva
10	Mr.	Radoje	Lausevic	Director	Regional Environmental Center Country Office Yugoslavia
11	Mr.	Mark	Halle	European Director	International Institute for Sustainable Development
12	Mr.	Wouter	Veening	Chairman and Policy Coordinator	Institute for Environmental Security, Netherlands Committee for the IUCN
13	Mr.	Dusan	Vasiljevic	Head of Economic Environmental Department	OSCE - OMIFRY
14	Mr.	Branko	Bosnjakovic	Proffessor Dr,	EST Consultancy Environmentally Sustainable Transition

No		First Name	Last name	Title	Government/ Organization
15	Mr.	Alexander	Carius	Director	Adelphi Research
16	Mr.	Harald	Egerer	Consultant	ROE UNEP
17	Ms.	Susanne	Michaelis	Dr. Associate Programme Director	NATO
18	Ms.	Daniela	Stojanova	Secretariat Manager	SEE Environmental NGO Network
19	Ms.	Saule	Ospanova		Centre for Russian and Eastern European Studies University of Michigan
20	Mr.	Jason	Switzer	Expert	IISD
21	Mr.	Francis M.	O Donnell	Resident Representative	UNDP, FRY
22	Mr.	Radomir	Buric	Coordinator	UNDP, FRY
23	Ms.	Saba	Nordstrom	Programme Officer, Environment Specialist	UNDP, FRY
24	Ms.	Garret	Tankosic-Kelly	Head of Liaison Office	UNDP, Montenegro, FRY
25	Mr.	Wout	Soer		European Agency for Reconstruction
26	Ms.	Danka	Bogetic		European Agency for Reconstruction
27	Mr.	Petraq	Llambushi	Minister Advisor	Ministry of Environment, Albania
28	Mr.	Arben	Mani	Minister Advisor	Ministry of Environment, Albania
29	Mr.	Michel	Spinellis	Ambassador	<u>Embassy of Greece in Belgrade</u>
30	Ms.	Christina	Karagiorgas	Third Secretary	<u>Embassy of Greece in Belgrade</u>
31	Mr.	Ferenc	Fomotor		<u>Ministry of Environment and Water,</u> Hungary
32	Mr.	Borislav	Jaksic	Assistant to the Minister	<u>Ministry for Urbanism and Ecology,</u> Republica Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina

No		First Name	Last name	Title	Government/ Organization
33	Ms.	Radmila	Kostic	Independent expert	<u>Ministry for Urbanism and Ecology,</u> Republica Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina
34	Ms.	Dijana	Spasojevic	Technical Environmental Advisor	<u>Office of the High Representative OHR,</u> Republica Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina
35	Ms.	Emiliya	Kraeva	Head of International Cooperation Department	<u>Ministry of Environment and Water,</u> Bulgaria
36	Ms.	Gabriela	Isac	Counselor	<u>Ministry of Waters & Environmental Protection</u>
37	Mr.	Miroslav	NIKCEVIC	Assistant Secretary	<u>Environmental Department</u> <u>Federal Secretariat for Labour, Health and Social Care</u>
38	Mr.	Milan	Dacic		<u>Federal HidroMeterological Institut, FRY</u>
39	Ms.	Srna	Sudar Vilotic	Senior advisor for international relations	<u>Ministry of environmental protection and urban planning</u>
40	Ms.	Ana	Misurovic	Senior advisor for international relations	<u>Ministry of environmental protection and urban planning</u>
41	Mr.	Aleksandar	Vesic	Adviser to the Minister	Ministry for the Protection of Natural Resources and Env. Republic of Serbia, FRY
42	Mr.	Zeljko	Pantelic	Adviser to the Minister	Ministry for the Protection of Natural Resources and Env. Republic of Serbia, FRY
43	Ms.	Tijana	Konstantinovic	Chief of Staff	Office of the National Coordinator of the Stability Pact, Federal Government, FRY
44	Mr.	Robert	Bisset	European Press Spokesperson	Unep

No		First Name	Last name	Title	Government/ Organization
45	Mr.	Branko	Vucijak		Bosnia and Herzegovina, Federation: Center for Environmentally Sustainable Development
46	Mr,	Miodrag	Dakic		Young Researchers Banjaluka Bosnia and Herzegovina /Republika Srpska
47	Ms.	Milena	Tanusheva		Ecoprojects Foundation TIME Bulgaria
48	Ms.	Vaska	Atanasova		Environmental Press Center Macedonia
49	Ms.	Tanja	Nikolic	Secretary General	Young Researchers of Serbia, Yugoslavia/ Serbia
50	Ms.	Jelena	Beronja	Coordinator for International Cooperation	Young Researchers of Serbia, Yugoslavia/ Serbia
51	Mr.	Marko	Karaman	Lynx	Yugoslavia/ Montenegro
52	Mr.	Jasmin	Sadikovic	Green Osijek	Croatia
53	Mr.	Alexandru Radu	Savulescu		Association of Romanian Environmental Journalists
54	Mr.	Constantinos	Godes		Arcturos Greece
55	Mr.	Doychin	Delichev	Junior Expert	Executive Environmental Agency, Bulgaria
56	Mr.	Jovan	Angelus	Executive Director	Ecolibri-BIONET, FRY

Annex II Agenda

First regional meeting on Environment and Security in SEE 3-4 December 2002 – Belgrade (FRY)

Tuesday 3rd December

9:00 - 10:00 Opening Plenary

Chairman: Frits Schlingemann, UNEP

Welcoming remarks by:

Andjelka Mihajlov - Republic of Serbia/FRY, Minister for Protection of Natural Resources and Environment

Filip Vujanovic - Republic of Montenegro/FRY, President of the Parliament

Mark Davison - OSCE Mission to the FRY, Acting Head of Mission

Francis O'Donnell – Resident Representative, UNDP

Introductory remarks by:

Andrej Steiner - UNDP

Marc Baltès – OSCE Vienna

Harald Eggerer – UNEP Regional Office for Europe

Rapporteurs: Hossein Fadaei UNEP and Jason Switzer, IISD

10:00 – 10:30 Coffee Break

Press Briefing

10:30 – 11:45 Plenary (continued)

Chairman: introduction, objectives, agenda and working groups

IISD: Presentation of Background paper definition, rationale (Mark Halle)

GRID: Presentation of GRID, GEO experience, opportunities and limitations of mapping

Open Discussion on definitions, relevance of issues to region

(Tour-de-table: Short interventions by all countries: how is Environment and Security considered or not considered in national policy-making)

11:45 – 1:00 Plenary (continued)

Adelphi: Environment and Security concerns and relevant policy processes in Southeastern Europe (Alexander Carius, 30-40 min)

Comments and Questions

Chair: Instructs participants that following lunch, participants will be asked to join one of two working groups:

- WG A: Defining Environment & Security Concerns in Southeast Europe
- WG B: Identifying Relevant Environment and Security Policy Processes

Rapporteurs: Hossein Fadaei UNEP and Jason Switzer, IISD

13:00-14:00 Lunch Break

Participants are divided into 2 Working Groups running in parallel

14:00-17:00 WG A and B - session 1:

Coffee break at 15:30-15:45

➤ A: Defining Environment and Security Concerns in Southeast Europe:

Facilitator: Alexander Carius

Rapporteurs: Jason Switzer and Gianluca Rampolla

What should be mapped ? What are the priorities ?

- Air, water resource management, industrial pollution problems, natural resource management, biodiversity etc

➤ B: Identifying Relevant Environment and Security Policy Processes:

Facilitator: Mark Halle

Rapporteurs: Hossein Fadaei UNEP and Branko Bosnjakovic

What processes are relevant, and what issues are undervalued ? What are the priorities ?

- Bilateral agreements and action plans, MEAs, Environmental monitoring and information, EU processes etc.

Wednesday Tuesday 4th December

9:00 - 10:30 Plenary:

Chairman: Frits Schlingemann, UNEP

Presentation by WG facilitators of results from yesterday's deliberations

Open discussion on results, E&S issues not addressed by existing policy processes

GRID: Presentation of sample maps, options

Q&A

Chair: Instructs that following coffee, participants will be asked to join one of two working groups

Rapporteurs: Hossein Fadaei UNEP and Jason Switzer, IISD

10:45 - 11:15 Coffee Break

11:15 – 13:00 WG A and B – session 2:

What Kinds of Information Should be Collected and How Presented

WG A:

Facilitator: Otto Simonett (GRID)

Rapporteurs: Jason Switzer and Gianluca Rampolla

WG B:

Facilitator: Alexander Carius

Rapporteurs: Hossein Fadaei UNEP and Branko Bosnjakovic

- How to present the information?
- How should the maps ‘look’?

13:00-14:00 Lunch Break

14:00-15:00 WG A and B – session 3:

How to Sensitise Policy Makers and the Public to Take Appropriate Action

Facilitator: Mark Halle

Rapporteurs: Hossein Fadaei UNEP and Jason Switzer

How to mobilize action through this initiative (what venues, what mechanisms) ?
Towards conclusions and recommendations ?

15:00-15:15 Coffee Break

15:15-17:00 Closing Plenary

Chairman: Frits Schlingemann, UNEP

Report from the rapporteurs of the groups

Chair: Conclusions and Recommendations, Follow-up Processes

Closing remarks by:

- Mr. Vuk Zagic - FRY Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Chief of the Multilateral Section
- Miroslav Nikcevic - FRY Federal Secretariat for Labour, Health and Social policy, Assistant to the Secretary

Chair’s wrap up

Other Business

Rapporteurs: Hossein Fadaei UNEP and Jason Switzer, IISD