

Training of EECCA Experts in Strategic Investment and Financial Planning of Large Scale Infrastructure Development (Using Feasible Model)

Objective

To build a critical mass of local experts and consultants who are capable of conducting FEASIBLE financing strategies for water, wastewater and municipal solid waste infrastructure programs

Background

A number of country and region-specific financing strategies for water, wastewater and solid waste infrastructure have been conducted so far, most of them in the framework of the EAP Task Force. They have proven to be the practical approach to realistic matching the costs of meeting environmental goals with available resources. The leading roles in the teams who conducted most studies so far were played by Western consultants, although some recent studies were led by Russian consultants with the support of the OECD EAP TF Secretariat experts. There are almost 50 local experts who have been somehow involved in financing strategies. They are familiar with overall methodology and FEASIBLE1 model, but they usually played more passive roles in project implementation. They are not familiar with FEASIBLE2 model, which has been released only recently. Additional intensive and technical training would be needed to upgrade their capacity to independently work with national and regional authorities and regularly update and maintain already conducted financing strategies. They should be able also to develop new feasible financing strategies in EECCA. Local experts are more accessible and more affordable to EECCA authorities and to donor agencies. This would be a low cost way of scaling up and of ensuring sustainability of financing strategies projects. Trainees will need to have some basic computer literacy as well as analytical skills and experience in writing analytical reports.

There is also considerable interest in FEASIBLE2 model among CEE and Western consultants. They could participate in training on full cost-recovery basis.

Activities

- Two – three (depending on resources) training sessions organized in various EECCA countries or in Europe (3 days each).

Outputs

- 15 local experts and up to 5 Western/CEE experts trained per each session and capable of using FEASIBLE-2 model to independently conduct financing strategies for selected water and environmental infrastructure sectors.

Benefits/Outcomes

- Low cost scaling up of already provided technical assistance.
- A critical mass of local experts skilled in FEASIBLE investment and financial planning for water and environmental infrastructure, more accessible and affordable to local authorities and to donor agencies