

**PROGRAMME AREA 4: FACILITATING ACHIEVEMENT OF EECCA  
ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY OBJECTIVES OVERALL**

**PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2006**

**Objective:** To facilitate and support the efforts of EECCA countries and their partners to achieve the EECCA Environment Strategy objectives.

**Background:** At the 2003 Kiev “Environment for Europe” Conference, Ministers adopted the EECCA Environment Strategy. Its main goal is “to contribute to improving environmental conditions and to implement the WSSD Plan of Implementation in EECCA countries”. The Strategy focuses on seven objectives covering a wide range of areas dealing with common environmental problems in the EECCA region. Achieving the objectives will require strengthened co-operation between EECCA countries and their partners. EECCA governments themselves have the responsibility to identify areas, within and among the seven Strategy objectives, in which environmental actions are needed.

In Kiev, the Ministers invited the EAP Task Force to “lead efforts to facilitate and support the achievement of the objectives of the EECCA Strategy” overall and other international organizations to provide assistance and support EECCA countries, in accordance to their mandates. In October 2004 the EECCA Environment Ministers and their Partners met in Tbilisi, Georgia and discussed how to provide further support and impetus to this process.

**Activities:** **PROJECT 4.1 MONITORING AND FACILITATING PARTNERSHIPS**

**TASK 4.1.1 MONITORING PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

The objective of this activity is to facilitate the development of successful partnerships by identifying gaps and sharing lessons learnt in developing and implementing partnerships. In 2006 work will focus on:

- *Monitoring Partnership Development.* The Secretariat will continue to collect and update information on concluded, ongoing and proposed partnerships using the recently launched Partnership Database. A Progress Report on Partnerships will be prepared for the 4<sup>th</sup> Joint Meeting of the PPC/EAP Task Force, highlighting gaps.
- *Sharing Best Practices and Lessons Learnt for Partnership Development in EECCA.* Work to assess the environmental effectiveness and economic efficiency of partnerships carried out as part of the OECD work programme will be used when reviewing partnerships and preparing documentation on this issue for the Belgrade Ministerial meeting.

## **TASK 4.1.2 FACILITATING COUNTRY-DRIVEN PARTNERSHIPS FOR INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING**

This project aims to enhance the engagement of EECCA Environment Ministers in efforts to achieve the objectives of the EECCA Environment Strategy and, more generally to address obstacles to environmental policy reform.

- *Organising informal consultations with environment ministers.* The Secretariat will invite environment ministers from selected (2-4) EECCA countries for informal consultations to discuss future plans and the main challenges they face in implementing the EECCA Environment Strategy, and how the EAP Task Force could assist them in those efforts.
- *Facilitating a Policy Dialogue.* Based on experience with Georgia in 2005, a second policy dialogue will be organised involving an EECCA country and interested partners. These policy dialogue focus on “strategic and over-all management functions” of Environment Ministries and, amongst other things, aim to identify how partnerships could help to better implement such functions.

## **PROJECT 4.2 ASSESSING PROGRESS IN ACHIEVING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE EECCA ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY**

### **TASK 4.2.1 DESIGN, EXECUTION AND DISSEMINATION OF 2007 EECCA STRATEGY PROGRESS ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Building on the “Stocktaking Report” prepared for the 2004 Tbilisi meeting of EECCA environment ministers and their partners, a second report will be prepared assessing progress in achieving the objectives of the EECCA Environment Strategy. This report will aim to provide a solid review of actions taken by EECCA countries to achieve the objectives of the EECCA environment strategy and environmental policy objectives more generally. Close cooperation with other international organisations, particularly the European Environment Agency, and EECCA countries will be essential to achieve this objective.

## **PROJECT 4.3 PROMOTING EFFECTIVE CO-OPERATION AND COMMUNICATION AMONG PARTNERS**

### **TASK 4.3.1 FACILITATING CO-OPERATION AMONG PARTNERS THROUGH BETTER COMMUNICATION**

The objective of this activity is to clarify the roles of different organisations in supporting the Strategy and to facilitate more efficient and transparent communication and co-operation among partners supporting the Strategy and avoid duplication of work. In 2006 the work will include:

- *Facilitating inter-agency co-operation.* The Secretariat will (i) maintain an updated list of the organisations/contact points of Facilitating organisations for

each objective; (ii) facilitate exchange of information on activities planned and implemented under each objective, (iii) strengthen contacts with the UNDP Country Offices and Conventions Secretariats as specified in the Kiev Declaration; and (iv) coordinate the preparation of joint documents for the Joint PPC and EAP TF meeting, in particular the “snapshot” overview of activities on each Strategy objective. If needed, the Secretariat will also organise meetings with the Facilitating Organisations.

- *Establishing a web-based communications framework.* The Secretariat will (i) keep the web-pages updated (ii) develop further the EECCA Database of Environmental Partnerships to be used as a main tool for reporting progress on implementing partnerships and activities carried out by the Facilitating Organisations in EECCA; and (iii) publish an electronic newsletter.
- *Facilitating Co-operation with Regional Environmental Centres:* The EAP Task Force Secretariat has cooperated with the RECs on specific projects and also provided direct support for institutional development. The objective of this activity is to continue (i) to co-operate in implementation of selected EAP Task Force activities as well as in facilitating achievement of the specific EECCA Environment Strategy objectives and (ii) to co-operate in disseminating Task Force results in the EECCA region.