

# Western Balkans and Europe 2020 – Supporting Convergence and Growth

Regional Coordination Conference

# SURVEY OF REGIONAL INITIATIVES AND TASK FORCES IN SOUTH EAST EUROPE — SUMMARY FINDINGS

Brussels, March 2011



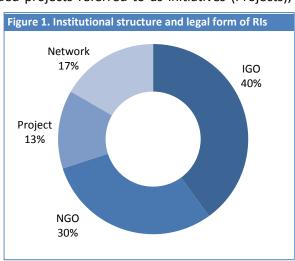
# Survey of Regional Initiatives and Task Forces in South East Europe – Summary Findings

During the first quarter of 2011, Regional Cooperation Council Secretariat (RCC or Secretariat) conducted a survey of regional initiatives<sup>1</sup> (RIs) operating within, and directed towards, the countries of South East Europea. The survey was carried out in cooperation with the Chairmanship-in-Office of the Southeast European Cooperation Process (SEECP), the SEECP Troika and the European Union in order to provide an overview of the regional cooperation landscape in SEE and assess possible actions to support institutional strengthening, fundraising, networking and streamlining of regional initiatives. In total, 36 questionnaires were sent to regional initiatives during late 2010 and beginning of 2011, with 30 filled-out questionnaires (over 83 per cent) being returned by mid March 2011. The RIs were surveyed on general and institutional aspects, funding, projects and actions, and regional coordination activities and needs. This paper attempts to summarize the initial analysis of questionnaires received for the purposes of informing the discussion at the Regional Coordination Conference organized by the RCC on March 30-31 in Brussels.

# 1. Institutional Outline of Cooperation in SEE

All of the RIs operating in SEE can be categorized in four broad groups according to their legal status and institutional characteristics: (i) international inter-governmental organizations (IGOs); (ii) non-governmental organizations (NGOs); (iii) donor-funded projects referred to as initiatives (Projects);

and (iv) networks whose structures and operations are hosted by other, mostly governmental institutions (Networks). The first two types of organizations typically have a legal status, headquarters and governance structures defined by statutory documents and acts of incorporation. The latter two types usually have no legal status and only rudimentary structures enabling execution of their day-to-day operations. While projects are of temporary nature, the networks tend to have a more long-term, usually sectoral focus. The structure of he 30 RIs that chose to participate in the survey is outlined in figure 1.



The 30 organizations surveyed have a total staff of 438, with 339 permanent and 99 temporary employees. There are significant differences though in terms of both the number and type of employment between the different types of organizations as illustrated in figure 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this paper a regional initiative is any type of incorporated or informal structure, network, or task force active in the region of Southeast Europe, working in the areas defined as a priority by the RCC Secretariat's statute, and undertaking activities in supranational context.



IGOs and Projects have a highest number of staff on average (22 and 21 respectively), although Projects have a much higher share of temporary employees. Only one IGO reported having one part-time member on their staff.

Participating Networks reported on average 3 members of staff, although it is worth noting here that these staff members are allocated to the Networks by other institutions that employ them.

Most respondents did not indicate the structure of staff (expert/project/officials vs. support/ administrative etc.) thus making overall conclusions regarding capacity difficult. However, the size of resources per institution (particularly IGOs) indicates that human resource (HR) capacities have been considerably augmented and strengthened over the past period making these institutions more capable of absorbing considerable support and implementing actions in the regional arena.

# 2. Funding

Out of the 30 RIs that have responded to the survey, 3 chose not to disclose information on budgets, while most of the other initiatives provided budgetary figures for both 2010 and 2011. During 2010, the 27 RIs that responded to the funding section of the questionnaire have mobilized more than EUR 15.9 million in funding. The sources of this

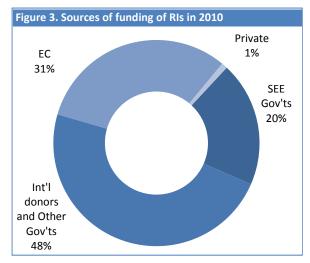
Figure 2. Total and average number of employees per type of RI Total staff per type of RI IGO, Networ 261 k, 15 NGO. Project, 85 Average number of staff per type of RI Networ IGO, 22 k, 3 Project, NGO, 9

funding can be grouped in four broad categories: (i) SEE governments; (ii) funding by bi-lateral and multilateral donor agencies and grants by governments outside of the SEE region; (iii) European Commission; and, (iv) private sector. Two of the initiatives presented in-kind contributions and attributed monetary values to these contributions, but these were not taken into consideration given that different methodologies in calculating in-kind contributions would distort the results. Two of the questionnaires did not contain disaggregated information on funding contributions, so these amounts have not been allocated to funding sources.

According to this distribution, the sources of funding for RIs are presented in Figure 3.



Confirming the prevalent belief, the European Commission remains the single largest contributor to regional efforts in Southeast Europe, sourcing over 30% of all funds dedicated to RIs either directly through regional programmes, or through national IPA contributions. Other individual donors and governments outside of the region aggregately contribute almost half of the RI funding, with the private sector directly financing less than 1% of the overall budgets.

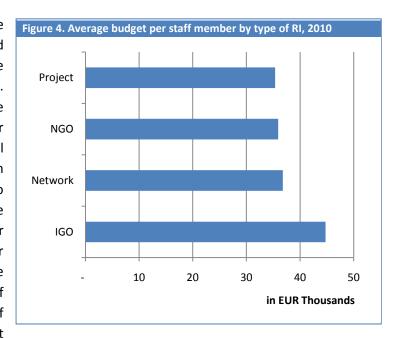


The contribution of the governments in the region, which stood at 20% in 2010, signals an

ever greater commitment to regional cooperation and indicates an increase of regional ownership in RIs.

The projections for 2011 reveal that most RIs expect an increase in their budgets, which is also consistent with the expected level of activities in the year. The aggregate funding of surveyed RIs during 2011 should stand at EUR 17.8, which is an 11.6% increase compared to 2010. Two RIs reported decreased budgets for 2011. This however pertains to operational budgets, while both RIs note that project activities and funding are expected to increase.

Based on the information made available through the survey, it would be very difficult to reach definitive conclusions on cost efficiency of RIs. The only indicator that could be applied here is average budget per staff member in typical organizational form (as presented in adjacent figure). It is important to note, however, that this should not be taken as a measure of productivity or cost efficiency given that many other factors shape these, such as the type and volume of activities, structure of staff and the expected impact of action, to name a few. Rather, it



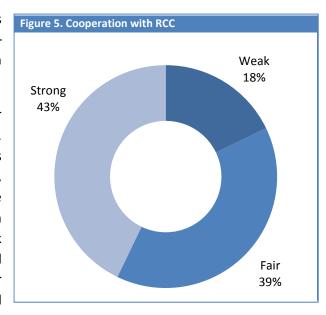
reveals a need to use existing structures when contemplating new actions and project wherever possible, given the potential for harvesting cost-efficiencies.



# 3. Regional Coordination

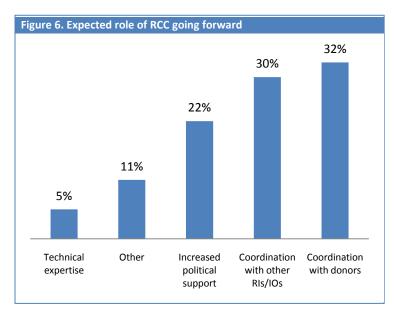
The section on regional coordination was dedicated mostly to two main areas – cooperation with RCC and coordination between the RIs themselves.

A large majority of RIs have indicated that their cooperation with RCC is either strong or fair. However, 18 per cent of respondents characterized cooperation with RCC as weak, signalling the need for both the RCC and these RIs to identify areas of potential common action. Number of RI's indicating weak cooperation with RCC comes from the civil society sector, illustrating a need for better coordination and information sharing with civil society organizations on RCC activities.



In terms of the expected role of the RCC in the regional cooperation, most respondents indicated that RCC should have a stronger role in assisting interaction and coordination with donors (32%), as well as coordination with other regional and international organizations (30%). A smaller percentage (11%) would like RCC to provide increased political support, while a minority would need technical expertise from the RCC Secretariat.

A number of RIs had additional suggestions, both for improving regional coordination as well as working together with RCC. These proposals could be summarized as follows:



- a) Networking and information exchange a number of RIs indicated that there is a need for regular periodic meetings, both between the RIs and with donors in order to exchange information and network with others;
- b) Increasing awareness on regional cooperation initiatives and structures awareness raising activities to target not just a narrow circle of practitioners, but also the general public in the countries of the region;
- c) Better streamlining of



**existing RIs** — avoiding and eliminating duplication, while further strengthening successful structures and cooperation programmes;

d) **Involvement of regional civil society initiatives and networks** in the work of RCC and other sectoral organizations.

#### 4. Overview of activities

Regional initiatives that have took part in the survey come from an array of different sectors. Aggregating information on their activities and projects demands additional effort due to the diversity of their focuses, and differing modus operandi. A more comprehensive analysis of on-going and planned actions of RIs will be undertaken at a later stage, in line with the conclusions of the Regional Coordination Conference. However, to best illustrate the span of planned activities and projects of RIs, a full list detailing proposed actions is enclosed in Table 1 on the following pages.

As evident from the information supplied, most of the RIs already work along the priorities of the Europe 2020 Strategy, as the main European framework for growth. For the purposes of this report, they have been categorized according to the three main priority areas of Europe 2020: smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. Another category was added as well – governance for growth – in an effort to address some specificities of the Western Balkans. Europe 2020, although largely relevant to the Western Balkans development horizon, does not entail all priority areas that are of major concern for the region's future. Good governance (or "governance for growth" in addition to three other main growth themes) is especially important for all Western Balkans territories, given the immense challenges present there and this should be also reflected in the Western Balkans' take on the Europe 2020.

Although the work of RI's is mostly aligned with the priorities of Europe 2020, in several cases they could probably benefit from a strengthened governance mechanism where systematic benchmarking, peer reviews, monitoring, and reporting (similar to the Europe 2020 principles) would be executed on regular basis. Associating the regional initiatives further with Europe 2020 (in both policy objectives and governance principles) could help increase effectiveness of the groups, provide better insight at the level of development of polices in countries and in the region, secure enhanced translation of regionally-agreed reforms to the national level, and, finally, prepare countries for obligations of membership.

The bellow list includes only those RIs that have taken part in the survey. RCC's Strategy and Work Programme includes a more comprehensive overview of all regional initiatives.



# Table 1: Overview of Regional Initiatives with Suggested Actions Going Forward

No. Activity Brief description

# SMART GROWTH - Developing an economy based on knowledge and innovation

#### CEFTA - Central European Free Trade Agreement

CEFTA's main objectives are, inter alia, to expand trade in goods and services and foster investment by means of fair, stable and predictable rules, eliminate barriers to trade between the parties, provide appropriate protection of intellectual property rights in accordance with international standards and harmonize provisions on modern trade policy issues such as competition rules and state aid. It also includes procedures for dispute settlement and facilitates the gradual establishment of the EU-Western Balkan countries zone of diagonal cumulation of origin, as envisaged in the European Commission's Communication of 27 January 2006. The Agreement fully conforms to the WTO rules and procedures and EU regulations. Effectively implemented, the Agreement provides a framework for the parties to prepare for EU accession, thus continuing the tradition of the original CEFTA, whose founding members are now in the EU. Parties to the agreement are all Western Balkans economies and Moldova. (http://www.cefta2006.com)

No.	Activity	Brief description
1	Liberalisation of trade in services for the period 2011 -2013	Project to support activities of the CEFTA Working Group on Services in the preparation and execution of negotiations on the liberalisation of services for the period 2011 -2013
2	Increasing competitiveness of respective economies and the Region as a whole	Project to promote the importance of trade liberalisation for international competitiveness of respective economies and the Region as a whole (strengthening of existing value chains; identification of potential value chains; their upgrading and inclusion into the global value chains; elimination of existing trade barriers, prevention of future potential trade barriers, etc.)

# eSEE – Electronic South Eastern Europe Initiative

Electronic Southeast Europe (eSEE) Initiative was launched in Istanbul in October 2000 and is supported by the eSEE Secretariat hosted in Sarajevo by UNDP Bosnia and Herzegovina Country Office since 2002. The aim of eSEE Initiative is to better integrate SEE countries into the global, knowledge-based economy by regionally supporting the development of Information Society. The eSEE Initiative provides a balanced policy and cooperation mechanism as well as a vehicle for benchmarking Information Society development between its members (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, and UNMIK/Kosovo). Actions undertaken by eSEE are complementary to the effort of drawing SEE closer to EU action plans for Information Society development expressed in the current i2010. (http://www.eseeinitiative.org/)

3	eGovernance and eGovernment Curricula	Development of regional curriculum and provision of training for e-Governance and e-Government (cooperation with RESPA).
4	Regional Interoperability Framework aligned with the EU Interoperability Strategy	Regional Interoperability Framework aligned with the EU Interoperability Strategy.

# AREC - Adriatic Region Employer's Centre

Founded in 2008 in Zagreb and initiated by leading employers' organizations from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Croatia, Macedonia and Serbia, the Centre exists under the patronage of International Organization of Employers (IOE). AREC promotes development of projects, cooperation, exchange of experiences and knowledge between partners in the region, and supports development of an environment suitable for business, local and foreign investment. AREC also represents regional business interest groups in the relation with international partners such as European Commission, International Labor Organization and World Bank.

5 Panel for Trade and Investments in Western Balkans

Development of Regional Business Development Portal in national languages of Western Balkans as well as in major foreign languages – to



No.	Activity	Brief description
6	Developing a Green Business Support Strategy for Western Balkans	provide SMEs from the region of Western Balkans with free information and tools to fight corruption.  To develop a business strategy that will help private sector associations and enterprises from the region of the Western Balkans to respond to multiple challenges and opportunities of climate change in an effective and proactive manner.
7	Flexicurity in Western Balkans	With the assistance of the member organization of AREC conduct a research on labour and social legislation in the countries of the region.
8	EO's and Policy Responses to the Demographic Challenges in Western Balkans	EOs members of AREC would conduct a survey to assess the current situation and would develop policy recommendations that aim to deal with demographic challenges by increasing productivity, increasing employability, maintaining birth rates, promoting active labour market participation by young and old workers, addressing business adaptation to ageing population, addressing the impact of older population and adapting of production processes to ageing workforce.
9	Development of OHS risk assessment tools for private sector	Develop specific OHS risk assessment tools and packages (printed and online tools), especially aiming SMEs in the region.

# BAC – Business Advisory Council

BAC serves as the private sector arm of RCC. BAC aims to articulate and reflect the concerns and proposals of the private sector regarding the reconstruction and development process of the Balkans. BAC membership includes international investors and business representatives from more than 20 countries. The declaration on establishment of BAC for SEE was adopted in Skopje on 11th December 2002. Members include businessmen from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Turkey, UNMIK/Kosovo etc. By acting as the private sector arm of RCC, BAC provides advice and information to the RCC on private sector-related issues. (http://www.bacsee.net/)

10	Innovation  Human capital	All governments to sign MoUs with the European Institute for Innovation and Technology, so that they can benefit from EU policies and expertise on innovation; development of financing tools for innovation (work with partners like the EBRD, EFSE and private banks to provide for this missing element); work with the EU and OECD on the RCI project.  Build links between RESPA and the business community, providing input from the BAC project "Excellence in Public Administration" (2006)
		project); improve regional accreditation system.
12	Improve regional touristic brand	Create a network of national tourism committees, comprising by both national authorities and professionals in the sector, who will work together to resolve bilateral, trilateral or regional issues, and at the same time develop a regional touristic brand in global markets.
13	Regional Airline Network	Support the on-going work on the extension of the European Single Sky to SEE, so as to improve the regional air transport network with the participation of commercial carriers.
14	Danube	Create a network of national or regional committees, comprising both public and private sector representatives, which will focus on Danube-related projects.



#### ERI SEE - Education Reform Initiative of South East Europe

ERI SEE is based on a MoU signed by the Ministers of Education, Science and Research of South Eastern Europe. Its institutional structure consists of a Governing Board, Consultative Body and Secretariat (Agency). Currently, members of the ERI SEE Governing Board are signatory Ministries of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, UNMIK/Kosovo, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and Romania, as well as the Task Force Fostering and Building Human Capital of the RCC. Other institutional partners (such as RCC, Council of Europe, ETF, European University Association, OECD, as well as donor countries Austria, the Netherlands, Norway and Switzerland) are represented in the ERI SEE Consultative Body. Thematic areas of ERI SEE's work currently focus on areas of relevance for the increased role of education and training in the development of SEE countries, objectives of the Work Programme 'Education and Training 2010' and education objectives of the Millennium Development Goals, such as: Lifelong learning; European Qualification Framework and national qualification frameworks in SEE; Quality Education and Equity in Education; 'Knowledge triangle' education, research and innovation. (http://www.erisee.org/)

15 Back to back working and training meeting of National Bureaus of Statistics and Bologna Follow Up representatives

The meeting will provide an opportunity for institutional cooperation in monitoring statistics in the field of education in order to meet EU standards and stocktaking commitments within the European Higher Education Area.

Regional Conference on Quality end Equity 16 in Education in South East Europe The conference will provide an opportunity for regional exchange of polices and practices, as well as international trends, in the area of equity and access to education, as suggested by EU 2020 education benchmarks.

3 countries initiated clusters in the area of Vocational Education and Training (Romania), National Qualification Frameworks (Croatia)and Evidence Based Policy making (Serbia) Support to country's initiatives in the domain of mutual policy learning and cooperation is provided through support to countries to initiate cooperation and activities in themes deemed as relevant to countries themselves.

# TFBHC – Task Force Fostering and Building Human Capital of the Regional Cooperation Council

To meet the challenge of coordinating the cross-sectoral set of agendas, RCC agreed to launch a new TF FBHC, established in June 2008, which was put in charge of facilitating dialogue and cooperation in this priority area and of promoting coherency and coordination between the relevant areas and stakeholders. In accordance with its mandate, the TF FBHC regularly formulates recommendations to the RCC Board. The TF FBHC closely cooperates with the RCC Secretariat, in particular through Building Human Capital Unit and in the framework of regular Task Force meetings. The RCC assists TF FBHC and facilitates its work in accordance with the Joint Declaration on establishment of the RCC and RCC Statute. The mandate of the Task Force includes in particular the following: Raising awareness on the importance of education, higher education and research; Agenda setting in these policy areas and respective lobbying activities; Promotion of regular dialogue, information exchange and coordination of activities among the areas of education, higher education, research and science in the SEECP region; Coordination with other priority areas of the RCC as contribution to a coherent and sustainable approach to regional cooperation in South East Europe by all actors involved. (http://www.taskforcehumancapital.info/)

- 18 Conference on "Which forces are driving SEE? Ideas and action for European Integration and smart, sustainable and inclusive growth through human capital development".
- The aim of the conference is to take stock of developments since Bucharest and its follow ups on the one hand and to approach and further reflect common challenges in human capital development, especially in times of fragile economic situation and the advancing EU integration process.
- 19 Mobility programme for capacity building in regional cooperation phase 2012
- Expected outcomes are: Capacity building within SEE Ministries responsible for education, science and research; strengthened sustainable partnership in the region and continuity of regional cooperation networks.
- 20 Regional Cluster Knowledge: Modernizing the Vocational Education and Training (VET) System-improving performance, quality and attractiveness of VET
- The aim is to deepen cooperation in specific topics (quality assurance, social partnership and EU instruments for VET) and develop handbooks as outcomes of the cooperation.



No.	Activity	Brief description
21	Regional Cluster of Knowledge: Development of National Qualification Frameworks	The aim of this cluster is to heighten understanding, enhance expertise and identify partnership in specific segments.
22	Regional Cluster of Knowledge: Evidence- based policy making in education	It is envisaged to discuss possibilities and the format of a cluster of knowledge on evidence based policy making, which could potentially lead to the development of a concrete project proposal.

#### WBC INCO-NET - Western Balkans/Information Office of the Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkans

The wbc-inco.net is a project co-funded by the European Community's Programme for International Cooperation under the 7th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development (2007-2013). The Steering Platform on Research facilitates the interaction between the Western Balkan Countries, the EU member states, the candidate and potential candidate countries and other states associated to the Framework Programmes for RTD and the European Commission. Its main objective is to support the enhanced integration of the WBCs in the European Research Area. It is a strategic body to deal with European, multilateral and regional issues of Science and Technology policies in and with the WBCs. It acts as an information exchange centre, clearing house for joint ideas and activities, and coordination forum for needs, suggestions and proposals of the WBCs to the European Commission, the EU27, candidate and potential candidate countries and the countries associated to FP7 (AC) and vice versa. In this spirit, the Platform continues and intensifies the progress achieved under the EU-Balkan Countries Action Plan on Science and Technology. (http://www.wbc-inco.net)

23 Regular activities as envisioned by the project

Support European and Regional Dialogue (WP1); Priority Setting (WP2); Monitoring and Analysis (WP3); Building Capacities (WP4); Facilitating Networking and Increasing Participation in FP (WP5); Project Management (WP6); Dissemination (WP7); Innovation Support (WP8)

# SEECEL - South East European Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning

SEECEL is a non-governmental organization based in Croatia with membership from all Western Balkans countries and Turkey. Founded as a follow-up to the European Charter on Small Enterprises implementation in South Eastern Europe, the organization promotes policy-based integration of entrepreneurial learning into national system of enlargement countries. SEECEL's activities centre on a number of common areas identified through the 2008 assessment of each countries performance on the human capital areas of the European Charter for Small Enterprise. More specifically, SEECEL's work focuses on four pillars: (1) Development of the entrepreneurship key competence (ISCED 2 level); (2) Promotion of entrepreneurship at the third level education (ISCED 5/6 level) within non-business disciplines; (3) Enterprise-driven training needs analysis; (4) Dissemination and promotion of good policy and good practice. (http://www.seecel.hr)

24	ISCED 2	Support participating countries in their efforts to accommodate EU recommendations for promotion of entrepreneurship as a key competence by specifically addressing entrepreneurship in early education.
25	ISCED 5/6	Enhance the contribution of third-level education to the competitiveness drive by way of increased awareness and understanding of entrepreneurial learning particularly in non-business disciplines.
26	Training Needs Analysis (TNA)	Reinforce more sustainable development of enterprise-driven TNA frameworks in participating countries.



# SUSTAINABLE GROWTH - Promoting a more resource efficient, greener and more competitive economy

# SEETO - South East European Transport Observatory

SEETO is a registered international organization established by the MoU for Development of the Core Transport Network as well as the Agreement on Establishment and Operation of SEETO signed by the governments of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, UNMIK Kosovo. SEETO's objectives are to: (1) Promote development (building, reconstruction and rehabilitation) of the multimodal Core Network; (2) Monitor development of the Core Network and its performance; (3) Harmonization of regional transport policies and technical standards for Core Network development; (4) Maintain effective coordination and communication network for Core Network development; (5) Integrate Core Network development in wider Trans European Network Framework. (http://www.seetoint.org)

- 27 Preparation of short traineeship programme/workshops for public servants in transport projects involving alternative financing sources, such are public private partnerships
- The idea is to develop a comprehensive programme for elected participants coming from the Regional Participants, which will undergo study visits in the region and/or across Europe where such projects have been implemented or are in phase of implementation in order to get on-the-spot feedback on the legal, financial and technical framework of the different PPPs.
- 28 Creation and publishing of quarterly newsletter/magazine on transport issue and latest developments in transport sector in the Western Balkans
- The main purpose is to promote the current developments on the Core Network, to gather in one place relevant information for the Ministries, IFI's, European Commission etc. for upcoming events and projects, as well as to strengthen the visibility of the achievements in the transport sector across the region.
- 29 Study on development of inter-modality transport and infrastructure

The aim is to create a unique strategy and policy of intermodal transport in the region, which might include the liberalization of intermodal transport, fiscal incentives in favour of the intermodal transport, etc.

# ISIS – Implementation of Single European Sky in South East Europe

ISIS Programme, managed by the ISIS Programme Secretariat, is an initiative of the European Commission and Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe developed in the framework of extension of the Trans-European networks to SEE and in support to the European Common Aviation Area (ECAA) Agreement. The ISIS Programme was signed on the 22nd of April 2008 in Stockholm by Directors-General of Civil Aviation of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia and The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, representative of the United Nations Mission in Kosovo under UNSCR 1244/99, as well as European Commission, Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe and Regional Cooperation Council.

30 Transposition Project

Continue monitoring the progress made and assessing the quality of transposed legal measures as well providing support in developing national legal measures transposing the relevant EU legislation.

31 Safety Culture Project

Assess the quality of the transposed legal acts and assess the implementation of the safety Culture in each ISIS Beneficiary and provide recommendations on the implementation of relevant EU legislation.

32 Training Standard Project

This project is closely linked to the NSA Capacity Building Project (first part) and will be dealt with under that project. The remaining part (referring to the ANSP implementation) will use the same model as for eth NSA Capacity Building project, identifying the needs for trainings and development of documentation and support in developing the necessary documentation.



No.	Activity	Brief description
33	Certification of Service Providers project	The beginning of the project should be approved by the ISIS Governing Body meeting. Same model as for the NSA Capacity Building Project will be used, identifying the status of the procedures in place and providing support in development of documentation and in trainings.
34	ATM Systems Interoperability Project	Same model as for the NSA Capacity Building Project will be used, identifying the status of the procedures in place and providing support in development of documentation and in trainings.
35	Facilitation of the Development of the study of Air Traffic Flow in the ISIS Region	Identify possible donors for the study and possible organisations to develop the study on the air traffic flow in the ISIS Region in order to enable the states in the region for future activities with regards to the FABs.

#### REC - Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe

REC was established in 1990 by the United States, European Commission and Hungary. Today, REC is legally based on a charter signed by the governments of 29 countries and European Commission. The REC has its head office in Szentendre, Hungary, and country and field offices in 17 beneficiary countries. REC is an organization active in the field of environmental protection, promoting cooperation among governments, non-governmental organizations, businesses and other environmental stakeholders, and supporting the free exchange of information and public participation in environmental decision-making. It is a project-oriented organization receiving significant support from the donor community. (http://www.rec.org)

36 Implementation of the Multi-Annual work Programme 9MAP) for 2011-2013 of the Natural resource Management and Environmental crime Network: THEMIS Activities include the assessment of the forestry sector and the magnitude of illegal logging and the screening of the institutional and legislative/policy context, awareness raising and formulating recommendations, the establishment of a regional Roadmap and enhancing regional cooperation.

37 Framework Programme for Education for Sustainable Development in Western Balkan Partially supported by Rockefeller Brothers Fund (RBF, first component). Activities address main groups of identified problems in partner countries: Supporting educational reforms, Design and implementation of strategies for sustainable development and Introducing energy efficiency and environmental protection approaches.

38 Bilateral arrangements for the transboundary management of water resources: the Timok River Basin project The project aims to support the development of bilateral arrangements for the management of the Timok River, through the facilitation of a process of dialogue and cooperation between Serbia and Bulgaria.

# SEE PPP Network – South East Europe Public Private Partnership Network

The South East European Public-Private Partnership (SEEPN) Network was launched in Sarajevo in November 2009, under the auspices of the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) Secretariat. The network is intended to coordinate the regional exchange of knowledge and expertise on PPPs, support the assessment of South East Europe's PPP enabling environment and propose measures for its further development and harmonisation. The member states are Croatia, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Greece, FYROM, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Turkey and UNMIK/Kosovo

(http://www.ajpp.hr/seepn/about-seepn.aspx)

39 Promoting PPP method in other policies

Promoting a sound PPP policy environment that will foster development of PPPs

40 Strengthening of administrative PPP capacities of public bodies by education and training

The project includes preparation of learning and training tools and materials, and development of training multilingual software (languages of SEEPN members).



No.	Activity	Brief description
41	PPP harmonization	Support harmonization of legal and institutional PPP frames within SEEPN with EU principals and best practices through bilateral technical assistance
42	Cross-border projects	Identification of possible cross border PPP projects and support by SEEPN and international experts in their preparation, until becoming fully mature and ready to be financed

#### ISRBC - International Sava River Basin Commission

ISRBC is an international organization founded by the governments of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia and Slovenia to implement the Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin. More specifically, ISRBC deals directly with establishment of an international regime of navigation on the Sava river and its navigable tributaries, establishment of a sustainable water management in the basin, and undertaking of measures to prevent/limit hazards in the basin and eliminate/reduce related adverse consequences. (http://www.savacommission.org)

43	Rehabilitation and development of navigation	Preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment studies and detailed design
44	Preparation of the first Sava River Basin Management Plan	Finalization of the first plan during 2011

#### SWG – Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group of South Eastern Europe

SWG stands for Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group and it is an International Intergovernmental organization, which consists of governmental institutions responsible for rural development in respective countries and territories of South Eastern Europe. The SWG is working to empower and promote sustainable principles on rural development through networking and permanent cooperation between all stakeholders of rural development in SEE region. It aims to increase horizontal collaboration among respective institutions - Ministries of Agriculture and international organizations in order to implement comprehensive policies and develop result-based initiatives. (http://www.seerural.org/)

		ng respective institutions - Ministries of Agriculture and international e policies and develop result-based initiatives. (http://www.seerural.org/)
45	Branding of Balkan Rural Products- Food and Handicrafts	The project goal is to support regional industries and producers in identifying and strengthen existing opportunities and facilitate the development of new branding initiatives for increasing the marketing and output of Balkan agro and food products in the EU market.
46	Study on the impact of visa liberalization for SEE countries on employment and labour market in the SEE agriculture and rural sector	The overall objective of the project is to provide policy generation support aimed towards increased sustainability of the agricultural production and the rural sector as a whole in the Western Balkan countries.
47	Capacity building for piloting alternative (on- and off-farm )income opportunities for farm and rural households in SEE countries	The overall project goal is: to create and employment opportunities for rural population in Western Balkan countries, through increase of knowledge and acquisition of skills in the handicrafts production.
48	Project on Rural Web Tourism	The overall goal of the project is to create a regional managed rural tourism web portal in order to support the sustainable development of the rural areas in the South Eastern European region, meanwhile strengthening livelihoods of the local communities and the preservation and development of local heritage of the villages.
49	Export Promotion of agriculture and food products of Western Balkan Countries	The project goal is to support regional export oriented industries in identifying existing opportunities and establishing export development

international market.

13

skills to build an approach to meet the newly identified demands in the



No.	Activity	Brief description
50	Support for establishment and capacity building of rural development networks in SEE countries	The RDN is a support system for local beneficiaries to optimize rural development support measures, and is used by the Government to promote these measures.
51	Protection and Preservation of Cultural Heritage in SEE countries	The aim of this project is to facilitate protection and preservation of the Balkan rural cultural heritage making it a tool to share experiences, exchange know-how and to integrate local communities into international networks
52	Agricultural Policy Forum 2011, October 2011 in Croatia	The overall objective is to foster the implementation of EU-like agricultural and rural development policies in SEE with respect to a further integration of the region's agricultural and rural sector into the EU.
53	Agricultural Policy Forum 2011, October 2011 in Croatia	The overall objective is to foster the implementation of EU-like agricultural and rural development policies in SEE with respect to a further integration of the region's agricultural and rural sector into the EU.
54	5th Annual Meeting of the Ministers from South Eastern Europe, November 2011 in Macedonia	The priority objective of the Meeting of Ministers of Agriculture from SEE was to discuss and decide upon the next steps for strengthening regional co-operation in the field of agriculture and rural development.

# RENA – Regional Environmental Network for Accession

RENA is an EU funded, three-year project being implemented with the objective of enhancing regional cooperation in the Western Balkans and Turkey in the field of environment in the prospect of accession to the European Union. RENA is a follow-up project to the work implemented by the Task Force of the Regional Environmental Reconstruction Programme for SEE (REReP) supported by EU CARDS programme. RENA builds on the experience gained from the REReP network, in particular on environmental investments, environmental law, compliance and enforcement, local initiatives, climate change, water management, Environmental Impact Assessment/Strategic Environmental Assessment, Civil Society Support and public participation. (http://www.renanetwork.org/)

55 Project activities for the period 2010-2013

Activities are structured in four working groups: (1) Strategic planning and investments, including progress monitoring activities; (2) Climate Change; (3) Cross-border cooperation and multilateral agreements in nature protection, water management and EIA/SEA sectors; and (4) Environmental compliance and enforcement network for accession.

#### SECI - South East European Cooperative Initiative

Established in 1996, SECI has focused its activities on contributing to the economic development of South East Europe and to its integration in the EU enlargement processes. This has been done through facilitating cooperation and communication among the countries from this region and supporting them in the realization of joint projects and activities in the area of energy, transport, private sector development and environment. As a result of activities initiated under the framework of SECI, a number of specialized organizations and entities emerged in the region ( such as the SECI Centre for Combating Trans-Border Crime, the Business Advisory Council for SEE, etc.). SECI continues its activities in the region from a broader perspective of the Danube Region.

56	Danube action Plan Working Group	Identify and support specific projects that shall contribute to the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region and support the relevant stakeholders in the implementation of these projects.
57	Update and extension of the SECI Danube Projects Inventory	The Inventory of Danube Projects shall be updated and shall be extended to cover not only infrastructure and inland waterways related projects, but also Danube projects from the areas of road, rail multimodality, ports and private sector development projects.



# **INCLUSIVE GROWTH - Fostering social cohesion**

#### SEEHN - South Eastern Europe Health Network

Founded in 2001 based on the Dubrovnik Pledge, the SEE Health Network is a political forum set up to coordinate, implement and evaluate the commitments of Dubrovnik Pledge and its regional projects for developing health policy and services. The main purpose of the Network is to provide leadership and sustain project ownership by the countries in the region. SEE Health Network is supported by a Secretariat located in Skopje, and the members include Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania and Serbia.

58	Regular activities	Annual SEEHN Secretariat activities, including the semi-annual meetings and Annual RHDCs activities, including regional meetings, publications and capacity building
59	Public Health Service (PHS)	Public Health Services project was active in 2010-the meeting on PH indicators in ISR, the publication of the PHS Evaluation report and in 2011 there will be two events: Policy Dialogue on Financing of PHS and Training of Trainers on Social Determinants on Health and Inequalities.
60	The SEE Communicable Disease and Surveillance project	Regional Project meeting of the project country project managers and experts.
61	The SEE Long-term Care Project for Children with Disabilities	Second component of the event scheduled for 2011.

#### GTF - Gender Task Force - Regional Centre for Gender

Gender Task Force (GTF) is a South East European regional initiative taken over by the RCC from the Stability Pact for SEE. In all countries in transition women's political participation is noticeably low. Equal and active role of women in political, social and public life is of significant importance for the region's stabilization and democratization processes. Years of systematic work of GTF on the political empowerment of women in SEE countries have brought important new experiences such as: women cooperating across party lines, and across ethnic and state borders; cooperation among NGO's, parliaments and governments; women monitoring elections from a gender perspective; grass-roots and mass media campaigning, consensus-building, advocacy & social dialogue. (http://www.gtf.hr/)

62	Women's Entrepreneurship: a Job Creation	Possible implementation agency for one of the components of a
	Engine for South-East Europe in the times	comprehensive women entrepreneurship project currently being
	of economic crisis	structured by the RCC

63 Political Party Gender Mainstreaming The program's added value is in the democratization of political parties as one of the key stakeholders in SEE development.

The GTF has used parliamentary cooperation for advancing gender equality and democracy since its beginnings in 1999; numerous benefits have been obtained from the GTF parliamentary cooperation methodologies.

Contribute to accountable parliamentary governance and increased women's political participation through capacity building of Gender Committees and SEE Women MP's.

Women making a difference (SEE This project combines two approaches to political empowerment and participation. First there is work with NGO's specialized in women's empowerment and local development; and second, work with elected

through cooperation on key issues of importance to women.

/appointed women to ensure they are maximizing their potential



# **BCSDN - Balkan Civil Society Development Network**

Balkan Civil Society Development Network is a network of 12 civil society organizations from 9 countries and territories in South East Europe, established to: (1) Increase the role of civil society by strengthening its voice in policy- and decision-making on national, regional and EU level; (2) Strengthen communication, coordination and cooperation between civil society actors in the Balkan region; (3) Promote civil dialogue between civil society actors, state institutions and the European Union in order to influence public choices; (4) Develop civil society by increasing knowledge and skills of civil society actors as a base for higher quality of their work; and (5) Promote intercultural dialogue and a culture of resource-sharing as a base for efficient exchange and networking. (http://www.balkancsd.net/)

- Organization of Regional Advisory Group (RAG) for strategic guidance to activities (Board meetings)
- The aim of the RAG will be to identify the main common and specific issues and challenges to donor strategies and coordination on the regional level
- 67 Development and publication of a policy paper (with recommendations to stakeholders) on the situation of donor strategies and funding in civil society development (CSD)
- The aim is to expand BCSDN's past main focus on the EU assistance to present a complete picture and recommendations on donor strategies and coordination in the Balkan countries.
- Organization of a regional workshop with local CSOs to present and discuss the preliminary findings, recommendations and advocacy on national, regional and EU level (on the margins of the ACM)
- The aim of the annual meeting of the Council to discuss the strategy of the network beyond 2011. The annual meeting will also include an internal exchange workshop for sharing of experience and know-how between members.
- Organization of a regional stakeholder workshop to present and discuss the policy paper and recommendation with donor agencies and other stakeholders in the beneficiary countries
- The aim of the workshop is to bring together representatives of Governments with CSOs in Western Balkan countries and three selected neighbouring EU countries to discuss best practices and models of coordination on national level
- 70 Development of on-line platform for information-sharing on donor strategies and coordination in CSD (incl. donor database, resources and coordination forums)

In an effort to ensure better oversight of donor activities an online platform for information sharing will be created to serve as an informal platform for information exchange among donor agencies and local CSOs.

#### Igman Initiative

Igman Initiative's mission is to promote and facilitate local and regional dialogue in the fields of politics, economy and culture; to promote confidence building and advocacy of democratic values; to monitor and apply positive pressure on the Dayton Triangle governments to bring about a faster normalization of their relations; to confront and question governmental policies when human rights are violated; to create a space in which people can openly express opinions, feel comfortable responding to one another and act on behalf of their communities; and, finally to foster initiatives in South-eastern Europe to help this region become a zone of peace, cooperation and tolerance with open borders. (http://www.igman-initiative.org/)

71 Border monitoring on the tri-junction of Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro. Survey of the situation and recommendations for the provision of a more efficient propulsiveness of borders which would result in faster and safer cross-border movement of persons, shorter waiting on border crossings, better insight into a cross-border turnover, increase of border control quality, improvement of conditions for the work of services involved in border controls, more efficient protection of state borders.



No.	Activity	Brief description
72	Expert elaboration of unresolved issues (War Crimes Trials, Return of Refugees, Border Issues, Succession, Issues of citizens' property and status) among the countries signatories of the Dayton Agreement	Addressing issues related to cooperation in these five areas of unresolved questions to government officials in countries signatories to the Dayton Agreement. Influence on this region's governments to adopt and implement recommendations offered in these studies.
73	The Role of the International Community in the Process of Setting up a Functional Bosnia and Herzegovina	Raise awareness among citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the necessity of adopting European structures and reforms, as well as about the consequences of postponement or suspension of such processes.
74	22nd Session of the Igman Initiative	The process of institutionalization of cooperation of the countries of the Dayton Agreement will commence through setting up standing interparliamentary bodies and coordination on the governmental level in the four countries; It will be a contribution to resolving the remaining open issues through the promotion of Igman Initiative expert project.
75	Transfer of experience of the Nordic model of reconciliation to the countries signatories of the Dayton Agreement	Assistance in the passage of harmonized laws for certain areas and conclusion of certain bilateral and multilateral agreements and conduction of monitoring of their enforcement, Improvement in a majority of regional policy areas: cultural, social, economic and judicial.

# **GOVERNANCE FOR GROWTH**

# ReSPA - Regional School for Public Administration

ReSPA is an international organisation which has been entrusted with the mission of boosting regional cooperation in the field of public administration in the Western Balkans. The initial concept of ReSPA was developed with the objective to boost regional cooperation in the field of public administration, strengthening administrative capacity and developing human resources in line with the principles of the European Administrative Space. Within the SAP perspective, ReSPA is one of the mechanisms through which countries and entities have agreed to develop regional cooperation in the perspective of eventually, joining the European Union (EU). This initiative is supported by the European Commission (EC). The ultimate goal is to help the participating countries and entities meet the relevant Copenhagen and Madrid criteria for EU membership. By helping to improve public administration, the School will have an indirect influence on enhancing the rule of law and transparency. (http://www.respaweb.eu)

76	Capacity development activities	Legislative Drafting; Managements concepts and skills for senior civil servants (module 1 &2); International Relations and Protocol or managing Working Processes; Change Management; Managing IPA funds; Quality in Administration; Policy Cycle
77	Cooperation with other providers	Programme by Transparency International
78	Regular activities	Annual ReSPA Conference

#### CeGD – Centre for eGovernance Development for South East Europe

CeGD was established in January 2008 as a PPP effort in order to address training, educational, consulting and research issues related to eGovernance throughout the region. CeGD is a decentralized regional network of programmes and training support, with an administrative focal point situated in Ljubljana, Slovenia, providing an overall coordination to regional activities. (http://www.cegd.eu)

79	eCentres Project	The overall objective is to use ICT enabled solutions as a tool for promotion of good governance and regional cooperation.
80	9th Eastern European eGov Days: eGovernment in Times of Economic Challenges	The annual Eastern European eGov Days has become a recognized platform for dialog and knowledge transfer between Western and Eastern European countries.
81	Moldova e-Government Summit	The conference there will present the best practices of technology usage in order to perfect and transform various states government.



No.	Activity	Brief description
82	eDemocracy Working Group Joint Workshop: Re-thinking eDemocracy, Challenges for Development and eDemocracy Scenario Building for Southeast Europe	This event corresponds to the eDemocracy pillar of the Centre's operational framework, and will be carried out as a follow up to very successful Conference on eDemocracy in September 2010 in Ohrid, Macedonia.
83	Renaissance for eGovernance & SEE	CeGD perceives a successful employment of eGovernment solutions in SEE as a firm step towards achieving "the successful development of Information Society in South East Europe (SEE)" set down in the vision of CeGD.
84	Futures urban cities in Europe 2027 (Ljubljana Forum)	Intention of the conference is to combine knowledge and experiences of managing cities, needs of the economy and views to future, and to define the key role of Metropolitan areas of growth (MEGA) in programme periods and/or financial perspectives of EU (2007-2013; 2014 – 2020; 2021 – 2027).

# NALAS - Network of Associations of Local Authorities in South-East Europe

NALAS brings together 15 associations from the Western Balkans, Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey, Slovenia and Moldova which represent roughly 4000 local authorities. NALAS Secretariat is responsible for the overall coordination and implementation of activities. NALAS was established in 2001 under the auspices of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe (Working Table 1) and the Council of Europe. NALAS promotes the process of decentralization in cooperation with central governments and international organizations, considering local self-government as a key issue in the current process of transition. NALAS builds partnerships in order to contribute to reconciliation, stabilization and European integration of the entire region. It focuses primarily on local finances, urban planning, waste management, institutional development and energy efficiency. Task forces on each of these topics develop different projects and concrete activities. (http://www.nalas.eu/)

85	Local Government Borrowing	Continue implementation of the Project Local Government Borrowing.
86	Legal frameworks for urban planning	Accomplish implementation of Project: The Comparative analysis of the legal frameworks for urban planning in the different member states of NALAS-phase 2.
87	Urban integration of informal settlements	Implementation follow up activities for completed Urban Integration of Informal Settlements project.
88	Municipal Finance Database	Develop a Municipal Finance Database
89	Training on budget negotiations	Raise funds and organize training on budget negotiations, in line with the produced guidelines and the policy declaration.

# RAI – Regional Anti-corruption Initiative

RAI is an intergovernmental organisation established in 2000 by Ministers of Justice and it currently counts nine members. Its activities are financed by its members and the US State Department through RCC Secretariat. RAI serves as a regional platform through which governments, civil society organisations, aid agencies and international organisations combine their efforts to curb corruption in SEE. RCC provides political support to RAI, as well as acting as facilitator of project implementation, advisor and regional coordinator. A MoU between the two parties was signed in 2009 and a Survey on Justice System Integrity, financed by US State Department, is conducted by RCC, RAI and TI Romania. Through the RCC Secretariat, RAI entered in a strategic partnership with UNODC. In particular, RAI plays an advisory role as an associate in the framework of two EU-funded projects implemented by UNODC: Development of monitoring instruments for judicial and law enforcement institutions in the Western Balkans and Assessment of corruption and crime in the Western Balkans. (http://www.rai-see.org/)

90	Integrity Expert Network Workshops	Workshops will ensure the sustainability of the Network having as planned transformation of Chairmanship in Office from Albania High Inspectorate of Declaration and Audit of Assets to the Macedonian State Commission for Prevention of Corruption.
91	Regional Conference on Anti-corruption bodies acting SEE	Conference will tackle the current status and challenges of Anti- corruption bodies for their effectiveness (tools to increase their efficiency).



**Crossing Points** 

# MARRI – Migration Asylum Refugees Regional Initiative-Regional Centre

MARRI is an intergovernmental organisation established in 2004 by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs from six Western Balkans countries. It is financed by members' contributions and donors. The focus of the organisation is migration management, integrated approach to illegal and legal migration, asylum, border management, visa policies and consular cooperation as well as refugee return. Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia have their representatives in MARRI Centre, which acts as a hub for consultations, dialogue, training, capacity building, information exchange and other regional activities. (http://www.marri-rc.org/)

building, injormation exchange and other regional activities. (http://www.marri-rc.org/)		
92	Developing permanent Regional Working groups/Networks for Cooperation	WGs will be formed in all areas of work of MARRI and will provide MARRI Regional Centre with relevant national strategies and programmes of actions, identify national gaps and needs, etc.
93	MARRI Interactive Migration Map	The objective is to develop a comprehensive overview of the state of affairs in the specific areas of national migration management, which will lead to a harmonized regional approach in dealing with challenges of population movements in Western Balkans.
94	Assessment of Types of Identification Documents in MARRI Member States	The objective is to enhance capacities of MARRI MS national institutions responsible for migration management in the field of document security (police, border police, civil servant, etc.) to successfully prevent and combat misuse of Identification Documents.
95	Building a Regionally Integrated Approach for Successful Preventing and Combating of Trafficking in Human Beings (THB)	To develop and strengthen MARRI Regional network for successful preventing and combating THB
96	MARRI Migration Paper 2009-2010	The objective is to provide an overview on current state of affairs in migration management in MMS with particular focus on expert analysis of identified strategic priority areas.
97	MARRI Compilation of Migration Strategic Documents	The objective is to create a clear picture of the region as a whole in development of strategies of work that remains to be done in order to adopt EU Acquis and EU Standards.
98	Regional Cooperation for Circulars Migration in the Western Balkans	The project aims at establishing regional cooperation among MARRI member States concerning circular migration, specifically the successful management of temporary workers migration in the region and their subsequent return to countries of origin.
99	Joint Comprehensive approach in building cooperation between MARRI Member States and SEPCA Member States' Border Police on International Airports Border	Overall objective is to assist MARRI and SEPCA member States' national authorities responsible for border management, in particular border police, on IA BCP's in their efforts to address issues of irregular migration and crime/terrorism on sustainable and permanent basis and

cooperation.

to support joint comprehensive interregional approach in building



# SEESAC - The South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons

SEESAC is a joint project between the Regional Cooperation Council and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), assisting SEE governments with implementation of the 2001 Regional Plan for Combating the Proliferation and Impact of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW). SEESAC's mandate provides for the implementation of holistic SALW control programmes with an emphasis on Cross Border Control, Legislative and Regulatory Issues, Management Information, SALW Survey, SALW Awareness and Communications Strategy, SALW Collection Programmes, SALW Destruction Programmes, SALW Stockpile Management Issues. (http://www.seesac.org/)

100	Gender mainstreaming in security sector
	reform in the Western Balkans'

The objective of the project is to mainstream gender issues in the security sector reform thus contributing to increased efficiency in the security sector in the Western Balkans.

101 Support for stockpile management in the Western Balkan's

The objective of the project is to enhance national capacities for weapons control and for safe management of weapons and ammunition stockpiles in the Western Balkan countries

102 Trans-regional forum on SALW nonproliferation The objective of the project is to facilitate exchange of information between the main arms exporting nations in the Western Balkans with the countries from the Middle East, which are the main recipients of weapons and munitions.

103 Regional Parliamentary Oversight of the Security Sector SEESAC will provide support to the parliaments in the WB to exchange information at regional and sub-regional levels on the main challenges and best-practices of security policy oversight; SEESAC will provide capacity building for parliamentary staff and parliamentary research units in order to enable them to support o MPs in their work on security policy oversight; SEESAC will provide assistance to the Committees on Defence and Security so that they become technically equipped to perform their oversight duties.



# RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation

Centre for Security Cooperation (RACVIAC) is the legal successor of the Regional Arms Control Verification and Assistance Centre and is an international, independent, non-profit, regionally- owned, academic organisation, accountable to its political decision making body, the Multinational Advisory Group (MAG). RACVIAC is financially supported by SEECP participating states represented in MAG, as well as Associate countries. The mission of RACVIAC is to foster dialogue and cooperation on security matters in South East Europe through partnership between the countries of the region and their international partners by "transforming thinking on national, regional and international security cooperation issues; exposing participants to the benefit of cooperative approaches to security issues, primarily through conferences, courses, seminars and meetings at RACVIAC, as well as through language training and other applicable supportive programmes". RACVIAC's goal is to become the premier platform for dialogue on security cooperation in South East Europe. (http://www.racviac.org/)

104 Regular activities planned in the following period

Oslo Convention; Chemical Weapons Convention Seminar; Dayton Article IV-Orientation Course; Open Skies Treaty (OST) Aerial Observation Course; Vienna Document '99 - Compliance and Verification Course; SALW /Conventional Armament Seminar; Regional Arms Control Conference; Physical Security and Stockpile Management (PSSM) Courses (Course I); CFE/ACFE Course - Part I; The Changing face of Organized Crime in SEE: Trends and Developments; Future Trend in Terrorism and Media; Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP): A new Security Architecture for SEE region; Regional Approach to Integrated Boarder Management and its Impact on Countering Smuggling and Illicit Trafficking; NATO in SEE: Reconstruction and Security in the Balkans; Climate Change and Security; European Integration in South-Eastern Europe: Past, present and Its Future; Aeronautical Search and Rescue; Towards Achieving a Substantial Reduction in Disaster Losses: Southeast European Perspective; Security Sector Reform Course; Annual Workshop on MBC and TMP; Conference on Parliamentary Oversight over the Security Sector: "Deployment of armed Forces Abroad"; Annual Defence Conversion Workshop on Military Base Conversion (merged with SSR Course); Security Sector Reform and Peace Support Operations Course; NATO-RACVIAC Conference on Better Defence Resources Management; Conference on Integration and Sustainment of existing; National Career Transition Systems:

Security Sector Reform Trainers Course: "Training of the Trainers"; Human Resources Management Course; Defence Conversion Modalities in SEE; Joint Public Relations Project: "Public Image on Former Military Personnel as Supreme Workforce".

#### SEPCA -Southeast Europe Police Chiefs Association

SEPCA is an organisation of police directors, functioning on the Statute signed in 2007 by 10 police services from 9 states. Its budget is composed of members' contributions and donations from SDC, DCAF and Liechtenstein. SEPCA's main objective is to build public security through cooperation of police services, together with citizens and its partner organisations. The Association promotes police transformation into an effective and democratic police service for the benefit of the entire population. (http://www.sepca-see.eu/)

105	Project BESA	Exchange of information and best practice between law enforcement officers conducted through regional meetings.
106	I-24/7 Project	Connecting border crossing points with the I-24/7 INTERPOL IT system through which documents and persons are checked and authenticated.
107	Intelligence-led policing	Conducting trainings for intelligence analysts on crucial intelligence policing concepts and skills.
108	Women Police Officers Network	The project provides women police officers in SEE with a platform where they can discuss problems, exchange experience and good practices, and outline future strategies.



# PCC SEE - Police Cooperation Convention for Southeast Europe

PCC-SEE Secretariat is organizing and monitoring implementation of the treaty-based procedural mechanism on police cooperation in South East Europe adopted by eight countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania and Serbia). The Secretariat is operational since September 2008, hosted by DCAF Ljubljana, and financed by Austria, Slovenia, Liechtenstein, Switzerland and DCAF. It prepares draft agreements and quidelines as well as lobbying for political decisions. (http://www.pccseesecretariat.si/)

109 Regular activities as envisaged in the Work Programme for 2011 (1) Organization of the decision-making process, (2) Representation of the Convention; (3) Informing the contracting parties, the professional audience and the general public, (4) Data protection – mutual evaluation, (5) Activities for fostering implementation of the Convention and increasing operation capacities within CPs

# **CROSS-CUTTING**

#### RSPC - Regional Secretariat for Parliamentary Cooperation in South East Europe

The RSPC SEE Secretariat has been functioning since 2008 following the decision to reach a more effective, co-ordinated and much more institutionalised sustainable co-operation structure between the parliaments of the region. Regional Secretariat for Parliamentary Cooperation in SEE has been established after the endorsement of the meeting of SEECP Speakers of the Parliament in 2008, signing of the MoU, and the decision to locate it in the premises of the National Assembly of Bulgaria. The role of the Regional Secretariat was intended to be a focal point which would coordinate all regional parliamentary cooperation activities among SEECP participating countries. (http://www.rspcsee.org/)

- Youth essay competition on the occasion of 9 May – Europe Day "See the SEE in 2020"
- 111 Regional Conference of SEECP parliamentary Committees on Equal Opportunities/Gender Equality in Skopje 19-21 October 2011
- Sector-specific meetings and meetings on topical issues of respective Parliamentary committees: Infrastructure, Regional policy, Security, Judiciary, Agricultural policy, Institutional reform and other areas outlined by the national parliaments of SEE.