

Agenda

TRATOLOW – Transition towards the low emissions and climate-resilient economy
in the Western Balkans and Turkey

Experience of national approaches to adaptation //
Webinar on Adaptation policy planning and implementation //
Concept note and participant agenda

Date:
April 14 -15, 2021

Where:
Virtual Platform / MS Team

Tratolow Project in general

The overall objective of TRATOLOW is to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation and the development towards a resource-efficient, low emissions and climate-resilient economy.

The project addresses the following beneficiary countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*¹, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey. All countries have already benefitted from projects and initiatives supporting them in implementing the environment and climate acquis in the past. A focus of this project is to further increase the regional cooperation and to support the countries in the transposition and implementation of the climate policy.

Adaptation policy planning and implementation – Workshop Rationale

The Western Balkans and Turkey are severely affected by climate change and there is a need to increase the resilience to these impacts. Increasing global temperatures lead to droughts, but also unstable weather conditions and thereby extreme weather events causing economic damage but also losses. National and regional adaptation strategies need to be developed and implemented, and their effectiveness continuous monitored.

The Paris Agreement aims for “enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change”. Countries are requested to submit and periodically update information about their adaptation

¹ *This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

priorities, implementation, and support needs. Thus, countries are expected to report their continuous, iterative adaptation planning and actions undertaken to the international community.

The main objective of the adaptation component within TRATOLOW is to increase domestic and regional climate change resilience through adaptation planning and actions. The activities in this Component will support all Beneficiaries to increase their climate change resilience through regional trainings, domestic trainings and ad-hoc support depending on the specific needs and foster dialogue with other countries.

Adaptation policy planning and implementation – Workshop objective

The regional event on adaptation to climate change will set the scene and broker available knowledge and approaches on adaptation policy planning and implementation (national and EU level experience in line with the (new) EU Adaptation Strategy) and will provide input on the following key points:

- Latest activities and status quo of adaptation policy development and implementation in all beneficiary countries;
- Recent developments in adaptation on international as well as EU level (New EU Adaptation Strategy, New Health and Climate Change Observatory, new reporting requirements under the EU Governance Regulation, etc.); and
- Lessons learned from European countries that already gained experience in traversing the whole Adaptation Policy Cycle also in terms of dynamic solutions, cost/benefits of adaptation actions and the application of foresight methods.

Webinar Agenda

Chair: Markus Leitner, Lead Tratolow Working Group on Adaptation (Environment Agency Austria, EAA)

Day 1: 14. April 2021

Overview of NAS/NAP and recent EU developments		
Time (Brussels)	Sessions	
12.30 – 13.00	Arrival of participants	
13.00-13.30	Opening Remarks	DG CLIMA and EAA Stine Rasmussen and Violeta Philippitsch
13.30-13.45	Webinar set-up and objectives	Markus Leitner, EAA
13.45-15.00	The NAP process: State of play and workshop expectations - each beneficiary country has 10-15 minutes to share information on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Their NAP status • Priority sector(s) • Investment priorities for adaptation • Challenges in formulating and/or implementing adaptation plans • Assistance required to support formulation and/or implementation of adaptation plans 	Representatives from beneficiary countries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Albania - Bosnia and Hercegovina - Kosovo*² - Montenegro - North Macedonia - Serbia - Turkey
15.00-15.30	Break	
15.30-16.00	The importance of adaptation and the NEW EU Adaptation Strategy	Liviu Stirbat, DG CLIMA
16.00-16.30	EU Health and Climate Observatory	Peter Löffler, DG CLIMA
16.30-16.45	Summary and outlook day 2	Markus Leitner, EAA

² * This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

Day 2: 15. April 2021

Overview of NAS/NAP and recent EU developments		
Time (Brussels)	Sessions	
09.00 – 09.30	Arrival of participants	
09.30-11.00	National Adaptation Strategies and Plans: Experiences, challenges and opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU experience, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andreas Vetter, German Environment Agency (UBA) • Tonka Žaper, Ministry of Environment and Energy, Croatia • Wolfgang Lexer, Environment Agency Austria • Discussion of 30 Minutes 	German Environment Agency Ministry of Environment and Energy Croatia Environment Agency Austria
11.00-11.30	Overview of new reporting under EU Governance Regulation (Implementing Regulation)	Markus Leitner, EAA
11.30-11.45	Break	
11.45-12.45	Interactive Exchange on adaptation planning and implementation (Discussion 45 Minutes, based on the following guiding questions): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the most relevant climate-driven hazards and risks in your country and which are likely to further increase due to climate change in the future? • What is already happening or in place to reduce those risks? (provide examples) • What are the current gaps, and what is needed to respond to increasing of risks in the future? 	Representatives from beneficiary countries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Albania - Bosnia and Hercegovina - Kosovo*³ - Montenegro - North Macedonia - Serbia - Turkey
12.45-13.00	Outlook on the next steps Feedback from Participants and Closing Remarks	Markus Leitner, EAA

³ * This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

