



# Climate Strategy and Action Plan



Republic of Serbia  
Ministry of  
Environmental Protection



Project funded by  
the European Union

Newsletter no. 2 - March 2018

[www.serbiacimatestrategy.eu](http://www.serbiacimatestrategy.eu)

## Developing a Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan for Serbia

### Current policy and institutional framework assessed.

The Result 1 Report on the assessment of current policy and institutional framework was recently presented to the Project Working Group meeting. The purpose of this result was to identify key constraints in policy implementation that could prevent Serbia from achieving its currently declared targets or to set more ambitious targets in the future, with regards to mitigation and, to a lesser extent, adaptation to climate change. Through this assessment, this result will provide input to the modelling exercise, in particular for the development of the baseline scenarios (result 2) and to the Strategy and Action Plan (Result 6), through the formulation of recommendations.

Four sectors have been analysed: energy, agriculture, forestry and waste and wastewater. While the assessment of each sector and of each policy document resulted in very specific findings, some overall findings can be identified.

As a general rule, the policy documents assessed (such as strategies, plans, programmes or rulebooks), do not make specific references to climate change. Nonetheless, the large majority of such policy documents have an direct or indirect impact on climate policy by promoting the increase or decrease of greenhouse gas emissions and/or by increasing or reducing vulnerability to the impacts of climate change.

The integration of Serbia into the European Union, poses important challenges as many EU directives and regulations need to be fully transposed into Serbian legal system. Additionally, it was determined that for most adopted policy documents, the levels of

Implementation are low. This is mostly due to the lack of implementation instruments, including regulatory and financial ones.

The institutional framework in Serbia has also been identified as a key constraint to policy planning and implementation: the general level of resources in Serbian institutions does not seem to be conducive to efficient and effective policy planning and implementation.

In this context, the Result 1 Report includes a set of specific and generic recommendations. Most such recommendations are aimed at addressing lack of institutional capacity, including in relation to human/technical and financial resources to promote policy planning and implementation.

The report will shortly be available in the project website.

### Stakeholder Engagement

#### Project working group meeting

The second project working group meeting took place on the 20<sup>th</sup> of March, at Palace of Serbia. Nearly 30 participants from public and private stakeholders discussed the Results 1 and 5 reports (see this newsletter), as well as the key methodological aspects, parameters and assumptions of the modelling of emissions scenarios under Result 2.



Participants provided general and specific remarks on all items, and expressed general appreciation of the work and proposals presented.

In particular participants considered that, in taking Result 1 recommendations forward in the context of Result 6 (drafting the strategy and action plan), it is important to make a detailed capacity needs assessment in order to ensure that in addition to the number of people required to implement the policies, the skills required for each person are also identified.

Additionally, a recommendation was made that, in determining the costs associated with the policies and measures, it should be clearly identified which costs are to be supported by the public sector and which costs will be supported by the private sector.



Finally, in recognition of the efforts associated with the implementation of climate policies, stakeholders also expressed the importance of a close engagement of the Finance Ministry in the work of the project.

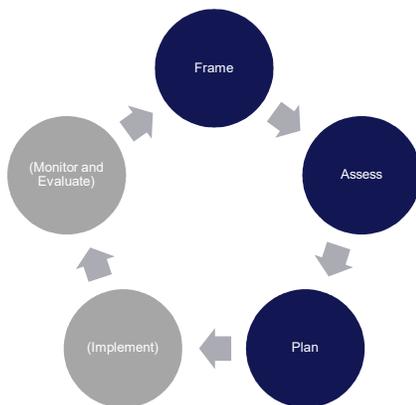
The next Working Group meeting is foreseen for April, where the discussions will be focused on the GHG emissions scenarios, both baseline scenarios (Result 2) and mitigation scenarios (Result 3).

## Adaptation Planning Framework

The Adaptation Planning Framework (APF) has been presented to the Working Group.

The APF is a deliverable prepared in the scope of the project Result 5, that has been designed to be used by anyone promoting an initiative, be it a policy, a program, a plan, a project or an activity, be it public or private. The APF centres around the assessment of risks from climate change and related extreme weather impacts, and identifying and prioritising adaptation options to reduce the severity of key risk. In doing so, the APF can enable more effective targeting of available capacity and resources to support the achievement of climate change adaptation goals. The framework also addresses the development of adaptation plans to support the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of adaptation options.

The APF is a step by step tool, with a set of guiding questions for each step to support the user moving forward to framing, to assessing and finally to planning. The APF is composed of three stages and 11 steps.



The APF includes three stages out of the 5 typical stages of a planning process.

### Stage 1: Frame

- Step 1.1: Define the goals of the application of the APF
- Step 1.2: Define the scope of the application of the APF
- Step 1.2A: Define the thematic Scope
- Step 1.2B: Define the territorial Scope
- Step 1.3: Determine the resources required for the application of the APF
- Step 1.4 Define responsibilities in the application of the APF
- Step 1.5: Identify and engage stakeholders
- Step 1.6: Collect data and information on climate, climate change and extreme weather events

### Stage 2: Assess

- Step 2.1: Identify impacts of climate change
- Step 2.2: Assess the risks associated with the different climate change impacts
- Step 2.3: Compile a list of adaptation measures
- Step 2.4: Analyse the options and prioritize adaptation measures

### Stage 3: Plan

- Step 3: Plan the adaptation measures

## Result 5 on adaptation completed

Three climate change adaptation options defined and assessed each for 2030 and 2050

The identification of three adaptation options for three priority sectors – agriculture, forestry and water resources, has been achieved through the application of the Adaptation Planning Framework.

The information on climate change scenarios and impacts as well as the full list of adaptation measures considered were

those included in the Second National Communication of Serbia (SNC).

A limited number of sectoral stakeholders has been engaged to assess the risks associated with the different climate change impacts in their respective sectors, producing a risk matrix and identifying those impacts which pose the highest risk (greater likelihood of happening and greater severity of consequences).

The measures included in the SNC that addressed these highest risks were then selected and subject to an evaluation using a multicriteria analysis methodology. This evaluation was performed by stakeholders and resulted in the identification of three priority measures for each of the priority sectors:

- Agriculture – food production
  - New irrigation systems construction and efficient use of existing ones
  - Multipurpose small accumulation lakes, ponds and reservoirs for water supply, irrigation, erosion control, ecosystem services
  - Adaptation of cultivation technologies (selection of species and agro technical measures)
- Forestry – bioenergy
  - Afforestation of new land using site mapping and climate change adapted tree species
  - Change of forest management practices toward close to nature forest management approach
  - Introduction of a "climate smart forestry" approach
- Hydrology and Water Resources – hydro-electric production
  - Construction of flooding/torrential barriers and additional measures in the basin
  - Improvement of the system for observation, data collection and early warning systems for extreme climate and hydrological events and development of mathematical models for optimal management of HPPs
  - Increase in water storage capacity

#### CONTACTS

EU Project "Climate Strategy and Action Plan", Ministry of Environmental Protection  
SIV 3, Omladinskih brigada 1 / 319, 11070 New Belgrade, Republic of Serbia, Tel: +381 (0) 11 3131 220

Danijela Božanić, Danijela.Bozanic@ekologija.gov.rs  
Head of Section for Climate Change, Ministry of Environmental Protection

Matej Gasperič, Matej.Gasperc@gfa-group.de  
Project Key Expert

Goncalo Cavalheiro, Goncalo.Cavalheiro@gfa-group.de  
Project Key Expert

The content of this publication are the sole responsibility of the project team and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.