

# WESTERN BALKANS ENVIRONMENTAL HOT SPOTS PROGRAMME

Bosnia and Herzegovina

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# Hot Spots Project contribution to addressing defined national priorities

National Priorities have been defined in the National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP), prepared with World Bank, supported by ministry officials, scientists and NGOs.

Bosnia and Herzegovina NEAP identifies 8 priorities:

1. water resource management and waste water treatment
2. sustainable development in rural areas
3. environmental management (information systems, integral planning and education),
4. protection of biological and landscape diversity
5. waste and waste management
6. economy and sustainable development
7. public health
8. de-mining

# I. How did Hot Spots Project contribute

The Hot Spots project in Bosnia and Herzegovina contributed in achieving 4 priorities identified in NEAP:

- environmental management (information systems, integral planning and education),
- waste and waste management
- economy and sustainable development
- public health

# I. How did Hot Spots Project contribute

The Hot Spots activities that contributed to Bosnia and Herzegovina priorities:

- Physical clean-up activities focused on reduction of air pollution through Energy Efficiency
- Public awareness raising campaign focusing on promoting Energy Efficiency and environmental protection
- Capacity building focusing on Energy Efficiency and environmental protection designed for Local level authorities and Industries across Bosnia and Herzegovina

Activities are designed to support each other and involved engagement of wide range of stakeholders (national and local authorities, private sector, professional community, NGOs and general public)

# I. How did Hot Spots Project contribute

## **Bosnia and Herzegovina Hot Spots project:**

- Established partnership with Local Government of Tuzla municipality
- Identified local sustainable development clean-up projects with focus on reduction of air pollution
- Clean-up projects in line with Local Environmental Action Plan
- On a basis of Cost Sharing and MoU, local partner provided approximately 870,000 USD
- Two study tours organized (cleaner technology and remediation of mine sites)
- Clean-up activity, Public Awareness and Capacity Building integrated in one general activity focusing on reduction of pollution through energy efficiency. The model will be promoted across Bosnia and Herzegovina through Capacity Building activities.

# Current challenges – hot spots

- Complex administration
- Institutional – Organizational
- Finance
- Legislation

# Challenges

## Complex Administration

Three levels of autonomy

1. State,
2. Entity,
3. Canton

Four administrative levels

1. State,
2. Entity,
3. Canton,
4. Municipality

# Challenges

## Institutional - Organizational

- Strengthening of institutions on all levels
- Cooperation among autonomy levels
- Cooperation among administrative levels
- Cooperation between ministries responsible for:
  - Environment
  - Industry, mining and energy
  - Water agencies etc.

# Challenges Financial

- Funds for environmental protection not operational
- Unknown costs necessary for remediation of “brownfields”
- Dependency on donor’s funds
- No funds strictly allocated to match donor’s funds

# Challenges Legislation

- Incomplete legal framework in some priority areas: Environmental Permit , Environmental Impact Assessment, Strategic Environmental Assessment, the Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Directive, etc
- Slow, insufficient and missing implementation of existing laws due to: Undeveloped framework of sub laws, Process of coping of legislation from other countries without appropriate adaptation to B&H system, Lack of inspections, etc

# Current country priorities – incl. Hot Spots / Brownfields

- Pre-assessment and inventory of hotspots and brownfields including abandoned sites
- Identification of priority sites followed by baseline reports for impacts and risks – on site investigations
- Stakeholder consultations
- Feasibility studies
- Specific hazardous waste legislation (by laws)

# Current country priorities – incl. Hot Spots / Brownfields

- Cost recovery schemes need to be applied
- Financing of project preparation facilities
- Hazardous waste management strategy needs to be developed
- Strengthening of existing legislation and regulations
- Capacity Building
- Public awareness
- Regional cooperation

# Next steps

- Capacity Building activities
- Raising of public awareness
- Strengthening of regional cooperation
- Pre-assessment and inventory of hotspots and brownfields including abandoned sites
- Identification of priority sites followed by baseline reports for impacts and risks – on site investigations
- Stakeholder consultations

# Regional cooperation

- Exchange of experiences and knowledge
- Establishment and strengthening of regional cooperation focusing on NEAP priorities relevant for regional cooperation such as: water resource management and waste water treatment, environmental management, protection of biological and landscape diversity and public health.
- Establish and develop partnership of all relevant stakeholders for the purpose of realization of such activities. Main stakeholders should be: Mining companies, Experts/scientific institutions, Relevant municipalities, Relevant ministries, Local communities.