

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND
SPATIAL PLANNING

KOSOVO
ENVIRONMENTAL
ACTION PLAN
2006 – 2010

Executive Summary

PRISHTINË, APRIL 2006

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Field Office Kosovo

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Minister's word

Kosovo has inherited a large number of environmental problems, which accumulated for decades as a consequence of uncontrolled use of natural and mineral resources, industrial production coupled with high level of pollution, as well as lack of appropriate policies, laws and relevant institutions to actually treat and solve these problems. This has resulted in a clearly visible degraded environment, in some cases even un-repairable, which can have a direct negative impact in the health of the population.

The historic moment through which Kosovo is currently undergoing and its orientation towards European integration processes, demands responsible action from all relevant institutions, especially in the form of efficient sectoral policies. We will gradually complete the legal infrastructure, establish competent authorities, be it at the central or local level, and support the development of major policy documents, such as the State of the Environment Report 2003 and the Kosovo Environmental Strategy. These are main achievements of the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning from its establishment, which were supplemented by small but evident steps for improvement of the urban environments. For instance, the “Kosovo - my home” campaign was an identifiable sign of the Ministry acting for its citizens.

The Kosovo Environmental Action Plan, as a part of the Governmental Programme, is the first such a document developed in Kosovo, which aims at gradual improvement of the environmental situation and with that the improvement of public health in general. The Kosovo Action Plan, for the next 5 years, will be the main framework of all activities to be undertaken for the purpose of gradual environmental improvement and protection in Kosovo, where all environment related priority activities of respective institutions at local and central level should be based. It must be mentioned that the demand for involvement of the scientific community, civil society, businesses, and other important stakeholders is present in all these developments.

The Action Plan specifies concrete tasks for decision makers and indicates clear responsibility for all role-players. With a clear timeline

of 2006-2010 for the development and approval of policies and primary as well as secondary legislation, we will enable Kosovo to harmonise its policies with the demands of environmental *Aquis Communautaire*. This will occur in parallel to the solution of Kosovo's political status and steps towards European integration, where the environment is considered as one of the most important issues. Consideration of the requirements arising from the Fifth EU Environmental Action Plan in all subsequent documents will be a great challenge to be faced in Kosovo's economic development in the near future. The Kosovo Environmental Action Plan represents clear guidelines for international funding mechanisms and for the donor community in Kosovo, which up to now have assisted us in environmental developments, and we hope will continue assisting our Ministry. The realising of these guidelines are priority actions listed in the document for Kosovo in the next five years.

Lastly, I express my sincere gratitude to the Swedish Government, which through its development agency, SIDA, financed the development of the Action Plan, as well as the Regional Environmental Centre, Field Office Kosovo, for its successful and timely project implementation. I also thank all local and international experts engaged for 18 months who with their expertise gave a contribution to the development of this document.

Prishtina, April 2006

Ardian Gjini,



Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning

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ACRONYMS	
APPELL	Awareness and Preparedness for Emergencies at

	Local Level
CEE	Central Eastern Europe
CoE	Council of Europe
EAP	Environmental Action Plan
EAR	European Agency for Reconstruction
EC	European Commission
EE	Energy Efficiency
EEA	European Environmental Agency
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMEP	European Monitoring and Evaluation Program
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
GMO	Genetically Modified Organisms
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
HDI	Human Development Index
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICMM	Independent Commission for Mines and Minerals
INEP	Institute for Nature Protection
INKOS	Environmental Institute in KEK
IPPC	Integrated Prevention and Pollution Control
ISO	International Standardization Organization
KCB	Kosovo Consolidated Budget
KEAP	Kosovo Environmental Action Plan
KEK	Kosovo Energy Corporation
KEPA	Kosovo Environmental Protection Agency
KES	Kosovo Environmental Strategy
KFOR	Kosovo Force
KFOS	Kosovo Foundation for Open Society
KHMI	Kosovo Hydro-meteorological Institute
KNIPH	National Institute for Public Health
KTA	Kosovo Trust Agency
LCA	Life Cycle Assessment
LSG	Local Self-Government
MA	Municipal Authority
MAFRD	Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Rural

	Development
MEF	Ministry of Economy and Finance
MEM	Ministry of Energy and Mining
MESP	Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning
MEST	Ministry of Education Science and Technology
MH	Ministry of Health
MLSW	Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare
MPS	Ministry of Public Services
MTI	Ministry of Trade and Industry
MTT	Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications
MW	Mega Watt
MYCRA	Ministry of Youth Culture and Non-residential Affairs
NFP	National Focal Point
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
KNIPH	Kosovo National Institute for Public Health
ODS	Ozone Depleting Substances
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
PISG	Provisional Institutions of Self-Government
P/PE	Public/Private Enterprises
PMT	Project Management Team
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PURC	The Public Utilities Regulatory Commission
RBDA	River Basin District Authorities
REACH	Registration Evaluation on Authorising Chemicals
REC	Regional Environmental Centre
RES	Renewable Energy Sources
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SRSR	Special Representative of Secretary General
SWOT Analysis	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats
TDM	Total Deposited Matters

UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNMIK	United Nations Mission in Kosovo
WFD	Water Framework Directive
WG	Working Group
WHO	World Health Organisation

Chapter 1

1.1 KEAP PROCESS AND METHODOLOGY

Introduction

The Government of Kosovo adopted the Kosovo Environmental Strategy (KES) in July, 2004.¹ The Kosovo Environmental Action Plan (KEAP) is a logical outcome of KES operational part, which was an obligation derived from the existing Law on Environment Protection.

Giving importance to strategic obligations, KEAP is based on principles of partnership and shared responsibility. A very important fact is that KEAP should assist in strengthening the future process of Kosovo's accession into the EU. In the best possible way, obligations² deriving from EU laws and international agreements have been taken into account in the development of this document.

Similarly to the strategy, KEAP is drafted not only as a sectoral document, but also as an instrument to be used in developing a process of improving the current state of environment. It is an open document which will be subject to continuous updating and revision during the implementation process.

¹ Due to the lack of procedures in the Assembly for approval of sectoral strategies, this strategy was not submitted for adoption in the past parliamentary period, although it has been approved by the relevant government committee.

² KEAP has to a large extent incorporated principles of the Environmental Action Plan and, wherever possible, also included orientations from the Fifth and Sixth Environmental Action Plan. International conventions have been analyzed as well as the obligations and requirements for new member accession states to the EU.

KEAP will enable the fulfilment of individual strategically important obligations based on the principle of ‘small steps’ and through involvement of as many stakeholders as possible. Whenever possible, individual strategic orientations will be translated into concrete tasks with confirmed partners, cost estimations, sources of financing, and timelines.

In the process of prioritization of activities, attention has been given to the fact that poverty is a major problem and that efforts should be made in all possible ways to ensure sustainable development of Kosovo society.

The Regional Environmental Center (REC) was chosen as the implementing agency for the development of KEAP that was concluded in close cooperation with the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning (MESP)³. Financially, KEAP was supported by the Swedish Government through the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida).

1.2 KOSOVO ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY

The process of drafting the Environmental Strategy was initiated in the first months of 2003 by MESP. Afterwards, the process was financially supported by the Kosovo Foundation for Open Society (KFOS) and the outline for this document was created during the 4-day work meeting held in Durrës, Albania.

From April 2003 to April 2004, the working groups participated in the development process of this Strategy. In the later stages, the Swedish Government, through Sida provided funds for additional input by international consultants.

The Environmental Strategy of Kosovo was prepared on broad participatory principle and it was approved by the Government on 14th July, 2004.

³ These two entities signed a memorandum of understanding on 16. 04. 2004 for the purpose of project implementation.

The Strategy identifies key environmental problems and defines the strategic orientations, based on the State of Environment Report 2003.

Priorities of Strategy

i. Completion of environmental protection legislation in harmony with existing conditions in Kosovo, gradual fulfilment of EU standards, and efficient implementation of existing legislation.
ii. Establishment of competent and capable institutions equipped with appropriate human capacities and equipment for implementation of environmental policies. Immediate establishment of the following institutions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision making institutions • Monitoring institutions • Supervision and inspection institutions
iii. Provision of necessary financial and economic instruments for environmental protection in conformity with economic development. Urgent establishment of an eco-fund.
iv. Gradual increase of the population’s access to clean potable water, sewage systems, waste treatment systems, and support to programs for recycling of sewage water and waste
v. Establishment and functioning of an environmental monitoring network in all of Kosovo, with priority to major industrial polluter “hot spots”.
vi. Rational use of natural resources, such as soil, water, minerals, and forests. Special attention to be paid to the protection of endangered species and orientation towards renewable resources.
vii. Expansion of natural heritage areas, improvement of their protection, and enhanced capacities for their efficient management in accordance with the Rio Declaration.
viii. Development of long term education programs, public awareness campaigns, and the support for environmentally focused scientific projects.
ix. Support of importing clean technologies in Kosovo when starting the operation of new industries and when resuming the operation of existing industries.
x. Application of the concept of energy efficiency in all sectors of energy consumption.

1.3 CONCEPT AND METHODOLOGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE KOSOVO ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN (KEAP)

In parallel to the Strategy, work on the Kosovo Environmental Action Plan commenced. KEAP is a document that provides practical steps for the implementation of the Strategy. The basic principle underlying the development of KEAP was integration and respect of all existing relevant policy documents. Thus KEAP reflects the overall high priority given to the process of EU approximation.

The KEAP document takes into consideration the following issues:

- The directives of Chapter 22 of the Environmental *Acquis Communautaire*;
- The structure and the idea of the EU's 5th Environmental Action Program (EAP)
- The elements of the 6th EAP are included in the document whenever this was considered to be relevant and realistic under the national circumstances at the time of writing
- The elements from main international conventions and protocols.

Except the Kosovo Environmental Strategy, other sectoral strategies, such as the Energy Strategy of Kosovo, the Green Book of Kosovo and other published or pre-publishing phase documents have been consulted. It must be emphasised that Kosovo still does not have a Strategy for Economical Development. This posed a major obstacle, not only when selecting priority projects, but also during the general drafting of the KEAP document.

Together with solving of the political status of Kosovo, accession to EU is one of the main priorities of the government. This is why an Office for European Integrations has been established to initiate and oversee the association and stabilisation process. Relevant environmental issues were discussed during the 5th meeting of the Association and Stabilisation Mechanism, held in Brussels in September 2005. More specifically, discussions focused

on the harmonisation of local environmental legislation in accordance with EU legislation.

In addition to the above, the Strategy and the Action Plan was based on the principles of the Fifth EC Environmental Action Plan, which focuses on the following five main objectives:

- 1. Formulation of strategies for seven priority problems (climate changes, acidification, biological diversity, water, urban environment, coastal areas and waste);*
- 2. Activities in priority sectors where environment protection must be integrated;*
- 3. Expanding the number of all instruments which reduce environmental impact;*
- 4. Complete information, transparency in access to information and development of the shared responsibility concept;*
- 5. Emphasise the international dimension of environmental protection.*

KEAP is not a document limited to treating environmental issues only, but it also considers many aspects of socio-economic development. During preparation of this document, REC attempted to ensure an integrated process by involving human capacities of local and central institutions, non-governmental organisations, university experts, independent experts, environmental officials, and industry representatives.

The whole process of developing KEAP lasted 18 months, with an additional 3 months for conducting public participation and awareness activities. This complementary part of the project was also financed by Sida and consisted of public debates, TV debates, the development of a special webpage for KEAP, and the publishing of four editions of the Environmental Bulletin in Albanian, English, and Serbian.

Having in mind that this was the first time that such a comprehensive and detailed environmental document had been developed by MESP, it was seen necessary that the initial phase of the project focused on capacity building and knowledge gaining.

It was evident that MESP possessed the human resources with necessary technical knowledge and background; however, it was essential to ensure that all parties involved were aware and sufficiently familiar with complexity of a variety of environmental issues that needed to be considered when developing an integrated Action Plan such as what KEAP was.

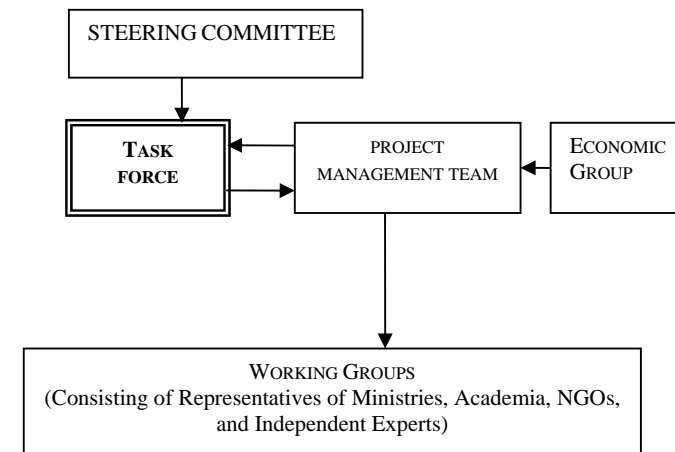
With respect to this, specific training events were organised and conducted, with topics including Environmental Impact Assessment, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Public Participation, Environmental Economics, and other related issues. In order to achieve the best possible coordination of activities, it was also found necessary to have presentations and practical exercises regarding general management and its specific components, for example teamwork, SWOT, and cost-benefit analysis.

During the whole process, efforts were made to follow a work methodology based on international experience gathered in the process of implementing the Environmental Action Programme for Central and Eastern Europe and guidance generated through the development and implementation of the National Environmental Action Programmes in many CEE countries. The Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning (MESP) had the leading role during the project implementation and are considered the owner of the document, whereas REC FO Kosovo/a was positioned more as a project implementation unit, and ensuring services of Mr. Viktor Simoncic, the international consultant.

In addition, local and foreign consultation services have been provided in order to assist the local experts and MESP experts on elaboration of each thematic issue. Most of the working group (WG) members represented relevant institutions of the countries that will work closely together in implementing project activities in the future.

However, during the inception phase it became apparent that the proposed four WG-s would not suffice for covering all issues that needed to be treated and covered in this document, so the number of WG-s increased according to the number of thematic issues included in this document.

The following diagram gives an indication of the structure established for KEAP development:



It is very important not to perceive KEAP development as a process with the sole aim of having a document completed at the end of the process. During this process, it was important to facilitate the exchange of experiences from one sector to another and most certainly to gather knowledge and experience that could be utilised in the daily tasks of the MESP.

Similarly, this information exchange exercise was important in assisting future developments of similar documents without external assistance. With this purpose in mind, regular capacity building activities were held for MESP experts, other involved Ministries, institutions, and bodies committed to environmental protection and involved in the KEAP process.

Coordination meetings of the Project Management Team were held weekly where each issue and step was agreed between the MESP and REC representatives.

1.4 CHRONOLOGY OF THE KEAP PROCESS

Official promotion of the KEAP project was held on 2nd November, 2004 and was marked with the presence of the Kosovo Prime Minister, Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning, the Sida Director, as well as all other stakeholders, donor agencies, and liaison offices in Kosovo.

The development process was divided into three major phases:

- a) The first phase started in December 2004 and lasted until March 2005 and concentrated mainly on identifying the problems, establishing the project structure, establishing working groups, and carrying out essential training activities. At this stage, a general first draft of the KEAP was developed out of comments and suggestions gathered at the First Forum.
- b) The second phase focused on the preparation of the document and identification of priority problems.
- c) The third and the last phase was the development of priority project concepts, included as a special part of this document. Various consultative and participatory events complemented the work of the WGs on pure drafting of the document. These activities are described in more detail below.

1.4.1. Forums

Forum meetings played a key role in the KEAP development, as they provided a platform for reviewing the document, listing of actions, and finally preparing the project concepts of the WGs.

The forums also helped in the prioritisation criteria, approving the draft version, and raising national awareness of the KEAP by channelling information about the project with their constituencies.

The forums were divided into the following three sessions:

The First Forum was held on 29th March, 2005, marking this way the end of the first drafting period. More than 150 individuals representing a wide spectrum of stakeholders participated. The forum resulted in an open and constructive discussion of the Work Plan as well as many positive suggestion regarding new environmental issues to be considered and included. The presence and involvement of all minority communities in Kosovo was greatly appreciated.

The Second Forum was held on 14th October, 2005 and concluded the second phase of the working groups. This time, the main focus was put on discussing the proposed activities and measures. With this in mind, a prioritisation form was designed and sent to the participants prior to the forum. By completing this form, feedback from a wide range of backgrounds, experiences, and interests regarding the proposed activities and measures could be ensured.

11.4.2. Workshops and Meetings

With the purpose of following the progress and coordinating work, regular meetings have been held by Project Management Team (PMT) as well as with WG moderators. For ensuring regular and efficient communication, an electronic mailing group was established where PMTs, moderators and the international consultant communicated regularly throughout the project.

1st Phase - a two week seminar was organised and held from 29th November to 9th December, 2004. The first week (29th November - 3rd December) was held in Prishtina whereas the second week

(5th - 9th December 2004) in the FYR of Macedonia (Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning in FYR of Macedonia has finished the process of drafting the Second National Environmental Action Plan). Experts from Ramboll Natura (Sweden) held presentations concerning social economic assessment, environment impact assessment, project management, and planning tools. As part of the same capacity building training, a special one day course, with focus on Logical Framework Analysis was organised and carried out by the local Consulting and Service Group Company. This has given the PMT and WG moderators and members an insight in the various management tools and procedures and would enable them to handle their tasks in an efficient, cost effective, and timely manner. Regular Working Group Meetings were held during all the process. The most intensive phase was the commencement period of the second, drafting, phase.

2nd Phase - a workshop was held in Prishtina on the 1st April 2005. The main aim of this workshop was to present and discuss problems encountered during the work of the WGs, to agree and decide subsequent activities, and how to address and elaborate specific problems of the WGs.

3rd Phase - started with two days consultation workshop which was held by the international expert. At this workshop, members of the WGs elaborated the process of preparing Project Concepts which would be included in the List of Priority Projects.

An additional training was held in April 2006 by the International Chamber of the Economic Group for selected staff of the MESP. This training focused on fundraising activities, development of project proposals, and detailed project budgets, so that the MESP could in future be able to approach the government and the donor community with their own projects.

1.4.3. Task Force Meetings

The Task Force of the KEAP project was set up, consisting of the Permanent Secretaries of the Ministries of the Kosovo Government. After a report was made by the PMT to the Task Force in one of regular meetings of the Permanent Secretaries, a separate information meeting was held in July 2005, where all the Permanent Secretaries present supported the work done in the process.

Chapter 2

2.1. STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT IN KOSOVO 2006

Basic specifics that are characteristic for Kosovo society at the time of writing of the KEAP are as follows:

- Relatively high birth rate of the population, the majority of the population is young, high rate of unemployment (about 50%)
- International administration and undefined political status of Kosovo expected to be solved by the end of 2006
- Low level of economic development, very slow development of privatisation process of socially owned enterprises, lack of vision for economic development;
- Drop of industrial production in former socially owned sector and a slow increase of privately owned production enterprises
- High level of poverty (about 50% in general poverty and 12-16 % in extreme poverty
- Dualism in legislation, governmental and legal between UNMIK and PISG;
- Deficit of good qualified professional cadres both in central and local institutions;
- Reformation needed in all levels of education;
- Insufficient supply of electricity for economy development and the general population
- Poor transportation infrastructure

- Crises in the agricultural sector with most foodstuffs being imported

Air - Nowadays, the major contributors to air pollution in Kosovo are both stationary and mobile sources in the urban areas and in the area of major energy production and industrial sites. These are energy production facilities (thermo power plants), the transport sector, industrial facilities (metallurgy factories, quarrying sites, and cement factories), activities in agriculture, and illegal waste disposal sites. Energy production facilities use fossil fuels such as coal and oil derivatives with relatively high sulphur contents and the transport sector is characterized by a large number of old vehicles and low-grade fuel quality being used. In addition, the industrial sector has mainly outdated equipment. In bigger cities, central heating systems are not frequent. Therefore, air pollution is largely caused by individual heating facilities using coal or oil as the main energy source for heating homes. The agricultural sector contributes to air pollution by burning biomass, such as excess grasslands. Illegal waste disposal sites with frequent uncontrolled burning of waste represent a serious source of air pollution, too.

Water - Kosovo has limited water reserves which in the future will be a limiting factor for the economic and social development of the country. Kosovo is divided in 4 water basins (catchments areas): the White Drini, Ibar, Morava e Bincës, and Lepenec water basin. The average annual rainfall in the Kosovo territory is from 658 mm (basin of Sitnica river) to 1515 mm (basin of Erenik river) and the flow coefficient is from 4.92 l/sec/km² (basin of Morava e Binçit) to 42.46 l/sec/km² (in basin of Lumbardhit in Deçanit). On Kosovo's territory, the average rainfall a year is about 3.8 x 10⁹ water, respectively 121.2 m³ /sec.

Soil - Kosovo has a variety of soils that vary according to their composition, pedologic, physical, and chemical characteristics. The pedologic map of Kosovo represents a real mosaic. No accurate data on physical and chemical characteristics are available. Nevertheless, it is accepted that Kosovo lands are suitable for agricultural production. The types of soil mainly found in Kosovo

are humus, silicate humus, grey acidic, red soil, alluvial, diluvia, and blocky soil.

Biodiversity and natural heritage - Protection of nature through protected areas is a very important instrument for preserving biodiversity. Until now, a surface of approx. 46,000 ha, or 4.27% of the whole territory, has been put under legal protection. Out of these protected areas, 1 is a national park, 11 are natural reserves, 37 are natural monuments, and 2 are protected landscapes.

Based on the research made in Kosovo, about 1,800 types of flora have been inventoried, but it is assumed that the number might be as high as 2,500 species. What makes Kosovo flora and fauna important and attractive is the huge number of endemic, relict, and sub-endemic varieties. The richest areas with fauna in Kosovo are found on the Sharr Mountain and in the Bjeshkët e Nemuna area. However, the variety of fauna remains unknown as Kosovo has not yet conducted a comprehensive inventory of its biodiversity.

Waste - The present waste management system does not record data on waste generation, collection, treatment, recovery, and disposal in a comprehensive and structured way.

Although about 90% of the urban population have garbage collection, it is generally of poor standard because of the lack of equipment and disposal facilities. In contrast, less than 10% of rural areas are covered by garbage collection. The fee for waste collection is about 3 €/per household, but payment collection is very low (30-40 %).

From July 1999, there were no solid waste disposal systems in operation.

Generation of domestic waste, based on recent data, is approximately 2kg/per capita/day. Out of a total of 29 municipal landfills, 26 are rehabilitated and the European Agency for Reconstruction (EAR) and other donors have supported the reconstruction or construction of 9 additional regional landfills.

Energy - Electricity production remains a major problem in Kosovo. Vast resources of lignite exist for the KEK coal power

plants, yet the impact on the environment is damaging. About 97% of annual electricity needs are provided through the use of coal power plants, whereas hydroelectric power stations produce only about 3-5%. There is a small hydro power station in Kozhnjer, at Deçan's lake that provides 6.4 MW of electricity and Gazivode on the Ibar River that produces 2x17 MW of electricity. Solar, thermal, wind, and biomass energy are not utilized.

Industry and Mining - Previous industrial development was influenced by the economic interests of the former Yugoslavia. According to this, the exploitation of natural resources was widely spread, so much so that in 1988, energy, colour metals and their processing made up to 63% of Kosovo's industrial production. These activities, considering that environmental protection measures have not been applied, have caused great damage to the environment and their negative impacts have yet to be rehabilitated. More recently, private sector production activities have started to develop during the last decade, but without a sound environmental concept and vision. Thus Kosovo falls into the group of some of the most polluted areas in Europe from many aspects.

Transport - Kosovo has a 1700 km network of two-lane main and secondary (regional) roads. A 330 km single track rail system runs North/South and North-East/West from Prishtina, and an international airport. After the recent conflict, an enormous increase in the number of vehicles being used occurred. Approximately 215,000 registered vehicles and a considerable number of KFOR and UNMIK vehicles appeared on the roads. The influence of Participation of public transport is negligible. Fuel and oils are all imported. According to Custom data, during the year of 2002, about 30,000tonnesof diesel and 25,000tonnesof petrol were imported without regular quality check control.

Agriculture - In 1991, the population was 63% rural and the estimations for the year 2000 are that the rural population is at about 60%. Future trends are not easy to predict, but it seems that rapid urbanization will continue. This will decrease the number of

people living in rural areas and generating their income from agricultural activities.

Kosovo's total surface is 1.1 million ha, 53% of which is arable. About 88% of the arable land is privately owned and the average size of arable land per rural household is 3 ha. Out of 585,000 ha of arable land, 51% is cultivated with grains, 45% are pastures and meadows, 2% orchards, and less than 1% are vineyards.

Around 88% of the arable land is privately owned. Agriculture sector is in a very difficult position. Many farms are abandoned and rural infrastructure is in disrepair.

Forestry - Kosovo forests, forest land, and fallow land make up to around 47% of total surface area. Of this figure, forests make up 460,800 ha, or 89.93%; forest land 28,200 ha, or 5.50%; and fallow land 23,400 ha, or 4.57%.

Forests represent a resource of special importance. However, as a consequence of inappropriate management of forest in the past, the result is heavy degradation of forests. Around 61.63% of forests are publicly owned, whereas the remaining 38.37% is in private ownership. According to statistics from the Kosovo Forest Agency, approximately 222,000 m³/year of wood is felled for construction and heating purposes. The whole volume of wood covers around 54 million m³. The average volume of wood per hectare is approximately 90 m³, and average annual growth is about 3 m³ per ha.

The high demand for wood in the aftermath of the conflict is putting increasing pressure on the long term sustainability of forest ecosystems.

Chapter 3

3.1. STRUCTURE AND CONTENT OF THE KEAP DOCUMENT

The KEAP document was prepared with the purpose of defining environmental priorities in the period, from 2006–2010. Naturally, these priorities can change in a dynamic manner without altering the essential meaning of the plan.

All activities dealt within the plan are designed to have the same content, starting from the identification and prioritisation of the problems and all the way to definition of key role players, as well as the technical and financial means for solving these problems.

Chapter 4 represents the core of the KEAP. Here, priority measures and activities for the 16 sectors⁴ have been elaborated from the WG-s in consultation with relevant ministries, scientific institutions, and independent experts from various fields of operation. At the end of this process, the WG moderators have agreed on the number of activities to be included in each separate sector of the KEAP.

Each of the 16 sectors of this chapter includes relevant action plans with a narrative part and a table of planned activities.

The action plan covers following aspects:

- Current Status
- Legislative framework
- Problem identification and prioritisation

⁴ These sixteen sectors are: Air Protection, Water Management, Soil Protection, Biodiversity and Natural Heritage, Waste Management, Health and Environment, Chemical and Biological Safety, Civil Protection, Radiation, Energy, Industry and Mining, Transport, Agriculture, Forest Management, Education and Awareness, and Spatial Planning

- Objectives
- Measures

The table of planned activities covers these aspects:

- Objective
- Measures and activities
- Level and actor
- Potential sources of financing and expected costs
- Reference to other sections and measures
- Level of priorities and link to EU directives, agreements, strategies, documents
- Monitoring parameter/success indicator

The activities of the plan have been prioritised based on criteria such as: impact in human health, nature and biodiversity, and cultural heritage coupled with economical and social implications.

The additional criteria for prioritisation were:

- Principles of sustainable development,
- Reasonability of potential projects,
- Fulfilling international commitments, obligations (EU legislation and international conventions) and future EU association of Kosovo ;
- Socio-economic and environmental benefits – poverty,
- Project preparation stage,
- Cost effectiveness,
- State and local interest groups,
- Interest of donors/governments.

Apart from the criteria considered by the WG-s, inputs from a wider range of experts have been collected in this regard. Two Forums provided a podium for collecting comments from experts which were not directly involved in the drafting process. The first Forum provided a basis or a framework for prioritisation of the environmental problems which need to be tackled. The second Forum provided an opportunity for giving opinions on prioritisation of actual actions for solving of identified problems. Based on aforementioned criteria, each WG has determined a group of priority projects for each sector and thematic issues.

3.2. LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS

Finally, a List of Priority Projects for 2006-2010 was compiled in Chapter 5, consisting of 53 projects prepared in the form of short project fiches, which provide information on: name of the project, timeline, project initiator and implementer, main purpose and objectives, aim and expected results, an estimated cost for each activity and for the overall project.

Based on this data, the Economy Group has given recommendations for the WG for revising proposed costs so that a final overall estimated cost of the Action Plan for the 5 coming years.

Chapter 4

4.1 AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT

A clean air supply is essential to human health. However, since the industrial revolution, the quality of the air we breathe has deteriorated considerably mainly as a result of human activities. Rising industrial and energy production, the burning of fossil fuels, and the dramatic rise of traffic contributed to the air pollution in towns and cities which, in turn, can lead to serious health problems. Parallel with these health problems, in the last few decades, acidification, eutrophication, ozone layer depletion, and climate changes have become issues of great social concern.

Objectives	To improve the air quality by reducing major pollutant emissions from relevant sources.
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Adoption of necessary by-laws and harmonization with EU legislation – Preparation of a national emission abatement strategy with action plan (and to develop local strategies based on a national strategy) – Establishing comprehensive air quality assessment and monitoring system – Introduction of applicable financial instruments
Activities	Preparation, adoption, and implementation of regulations and procedures for: Emissions from stationary and mobile sources Air quality monitoring Fuel quality Vehicle eco-test
	Inventory of pollutants Development of cadastre of polluters Assessment of trans-boundary air pollution
	Capacity building for implementation of the Strategy on emission abatement and Local Strategies
	Programme for reducing the lead content in fuels

	Including the air protection component in the energy sector and other sectoral strategies, such as: transport, industry, agriculture
	Establishment and accreditation of laboratories
	Development of a national monitoring system
	Development and application of economic instruments.
	Establishment of a Fund for Environmental Protection
	Application of linear (horizontal) legislation (EIA, SEA, and LCA)

4.1.1 Climate changes

Objectives	Setting up legal, institutional and technical basis for preparation of a strategy for the reduction of GHG emissions
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Adoption of a necessary legislation in conformity with the Kyoto protocol and EU standards and development of a Strategy for GHG emissions reduction – Setting up a National Focal Point (NFP) for climate change – Preparation of the first National Inventory on GHG and estimation of referent national quote of GHG
Activities	Communication Plan for access to Framework Directive for Climate Changes
	Drafting of the inventory and balance according to the Kyoto Protocol
	Development of Strategy and Action Plan for issues relating to climate change

4.1.2 Acidification and eutrophication

Objectives	Definition of the status of existing conventions and protocols, setting up legal, institutional and technical basis for preparation of a strategy for gradual elimination of acid gases and ground level ozone
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Adoption of a necessary legislation in all relevant sectors (transport, industry, agriculture) – Establishing a monitoring network for acid gases and ground level ozone
Activities	Action Plan for signing and ratifying of the conventions
	Development of a Cadastre of Acid Gas Emission in certain sectors

	Assessment and mapping of the network with critical loads for Kosovo
	Preparation for reporting to the European Reporting Centre (EMEP System)
	Installation of a pilot ground level ozone monitoring station in Pristina
	Use of good agricultural practices for gradual elimination of ammonia and methane emissions at livestock breeding farms

4.1.3 Ozone layer protection

Objectives	Gradual elimination of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS)
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Permanent control and monitoring of use, import, and export ozone depleting substances (ODS) listed in the annexes of the Montreal, Stockholm, and Rotterdam protocols – Development of a cadastre of equipment and chemicals that cause ozone depletion
Activities	Setting up a responsible institution for control and monitoring of ODS
	Monitoring system and capacity building for human resources
	Setting up pilot collecting and recycling points for equipment which cause ozone depletion

LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS:

No:	Project	Budget (EUR)
1.	Kosovo Strategy on Climate Changes Issues (KSCC)	107,400
2.	Green House Gas abatement Action Program – Phase II of KSCC	Pa definar
3.	Development of a Cadastre of Air Pollutants – Phase I of Air Quality Monitoring Network	190,250
4.	Set up of an Air Quality Monitoring Network for Kosovo – Phase II	775,650
5.	Filling Legal and Procedural Gaps of Air Pollution Control from Mobile Sources	1,081,300
TOTAL		2,154,600

4.2 WATER MANAGEMENT

Water is the base of life, culture, production, renewable energy, but also a threat to life and living space. Water knows no frontiers and in its natural circulation, it is at our disposal perpetually renewed. But water is no infinite resource and therefore it requires special protection.

Objectives	To ensure legal, technical and financial conditions, and human capacities for establishing of fundamentals for Kosovo integrated water management policy based on a sustainable development principles
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Rehabilitation and construction of infrastructure (water supply and sewage network, and wastewater treatment facilities) in order to protect the environment and to satisfy the needs of the population and economy – Adoption of necessary sub legal acts in accordance with the EU standards – Institutional strengthening
Activities	Establishing the National Water Council
	Development of National Strategy on Waters with Action Plan
	Capacity building in the MESP and other relevant governmental and non-governmental institutions
	Developing a water monitoring Strategy and setting up the monitoring network
	Compile new water Cadastre and Cadastre of water polluters
	Harmonisation of regulations with EU norms and standards
	Action Plan for construction of priority wastewater treatment plants for urban areas with over 10,000 inhabitants
	Establishment of economical instruments for reduction of water pollution
	Capacity building for human resources in inspection services

LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS:

No:	Project	Budget (EUR)
6.	Compiling a new Cadastre of water polluters	131,110
7.	Developing and institutionalizing a water quality monitoring network	675,600
8.	Improved water resource management by regulating water consumption, pricing and collecting	99,480
TOTAL		906,190

4.3 SOIL MANAGEMENT

Soil is increasingly being affected by continuous human activity leading to land degradation and causing serious socio-economic consequences. The challenge is to prevent soil degradation through specific measures and policies for soil protection.

Objectives	To develop policies for soil protection
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Prevention of further soil degradation and remediation of hot spots – Introduction of procedures for sustainable land management
Activities	Preparation of a plan for remediation of environmental hot spots
	Soil inventory and mapping
	Soil monitoring and development of information system
	Control the use of dangerous chemicals to avoid soil contamination
	Strengthening of the environmental inspection activities
	Compile new soil cadastre

LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS:

No:	Project	Budget (EUR)
9.	Mapping of the Soil Pollution Level with Heavy Metals around the Kishnica mine	43,656
10.	Mapping of PCB Concentration in Soils around the Power Plants Kosovo A & B, Trepca, and Feronikeli	93,990
11.	Constructing a Botanical Garden with Educational Functions in Ulpiana (Prishtina)	72,400
TOTAL		210,046

4.4 BIODIVERSITY AND NATURAL HERITAGE

Nature protection and conservation of variety of species have become a basis for each environmental policy in the last 20 years. Almost all democratic societies have started to recognize nature protection as a development category essential for humankind.

Objectives	To establish legal and institutional system for protecting biodiversity, natural and cultural heritage and putting under protection 10% of the Kosovo territory
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Adoption of necessary sub-legal acts, Strategy and Action Plan for nature protection and preparation activities for signing the key international agreements – Intersectoral cooperation to ensure integration of biodiversity, natural and cultural heritage concerns in all relevant sectors – Capacity building of institutions involved in nature and biodiversity, natural and cultural heritage conservation
Aktivities	Preparation of sub-legal acts deriving from Law on Nature Protection
	Establishing a Coordination Office for international relations
	Preparation of Strategy and Action Plan for nature and biodiversity
	Inventory of protected areas in accordance with NATURA 2000 requirements
	Expanding and making more effective monitoring and inspection activities
	Establishment of a system for controlling trade with species
	Designating the Bjeshkët e Nemuna National Park
	Development of a Red List for plants and animals
	Preparation of management plans for protected areas
	Trans-boundary projects on nature protection (Peace Parks)
	To develop local programmes in accordance with the National Strategy
	Programs for awareness raising among population
	Capacity building for staff working on protection of biodiversity, nature and cultural heritage
	Preparation of sub-legal acts deriving from Law on Nature Protection

LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS:

No:	Project	Budget (EUR)
12.	Digitalize and Update Inventory of Existing and New Protected Areas and Sites in Kosovo	53,800
13.	Publishing of Red List and Red Data Book on Endangered Species in Kosovo	60,810
14.	Preparation and Public Awareness Raising on the National Strategy for Biodiversity Protection	106,000
15.	Inventorying of Flora and Fauna in Bjeshkët e Nemuna	126,750
16.	Inventory of Flora and Fauna in the Sharri Mountains	126,750
TOTAL		474,110

4.5 WASTE MANAGEMENT

The waste generation poses one of the biggest environmental concerns, as well as being an economic burden to society. That waste is generated at all means that resources (i.e. materials and energy) are being lost. Once waste has been generated it must be collected, treated and disposed of. This process involves the further use of resources and poses a potential pollution hazard. Dealing with waste, therefore, incorporates the mitigation of a whole range of environmental problems including natural resources use, energy consumption, and contamination of water, soil and air. Our society must consider waste management as one of its priorities by supporting it financially.

Objectives	To develop a financially and environmentally sustainable system for environment and waste management that will respond to present and future needs of the citizens and the economy
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Approving policy documents for waste management – Adoption of necessary by-laws and full harmonization with EU legislation – Introduction of sound economic instruments – Institutional strengthening for waste management in central and local level
Activities	Development of Strategic Plan for waste management
	Development of local plans for waste management
	Approval of 18 regulations for different waste streams, deriving from the law and enforcement of existing legislation
	Optimizing the collection system for municipal waste
	Pilot projects on: waste collection – oil collection – separation of special types of waste (paper/cardboard. Plastic/PET - composting) (municipal waste) – recuperation
	Improvement and expansion of waste management infrastructure
	Construction of infrastructure for hazardous waste Collection points storage facilities;
	Further remediation of existing „hot spots“
	Capacity building for human resources especially in the field of inspection
	Development of waste information system
	Rehabilitation of old landfills

LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS:

No:	Project	Budget (EUR)
17.	Rehabilitation of the Ash Landfill in Kosovo A Power Plant	3,700,000
18.	Building of a Temporary Storage Facility for Hazardous Waste	760,000
19.	Pilot Project on Rehabilitation of Old Municipal Landfills	133,950
20.	Expansion of the Infrastructure for Rural Household Waste Collection (A pilot project for one rural municipality of Kosovo)	139,305
21.	Re-use of Organic Waste – Support to Local Initiatives for Composting and the setting-up of a Composting Plant	1,254,910
22.	Central sterilisation plant for all infectious waste	Pa definuar
TOTAL		5,988,165

4.6 HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

There are a growing number of health problems which have been associated with environmental pollution, especially among children. Previously, it has been possible to establish links between the health effect and some individual environmental factors. However, a clear overall picture of health impacts resulting from complex, real life exposure, is missing. The interaction between state of the environment and health is far more complex than is commonly thought.

Objectives	To identify and to reduce by 20%, and to prevent the disease burden and new health threats caused by environmental factors within next 5 years.
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Development and implementation of Kosovo Environmental Action Plan (KEAP) in the field of public health; – Development of health risk prevention, control and evaluation system, in line with recommendations of the World Health Organization (WHO) and EU regulations.
Aktivities	Establishing of a system for safe management of medical waste
	Introducing new procedures for food safety control and limit values
	Introducing new procedures for drinking water safety
	Functionality of procedures on Occupational Health
	Capacity building for young professionals in public health
	Establishing health information system
	Modernisation of the NIPH monitoring equipment
	To strengthen the role of inspectorate
	Raise awareness among population through media campaigns and through health system
	Preventive fight of infectious and non-infectious diseases

LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS:

No:	Project	Budget (EUR)
23.	Modernisation of the Monitoring Equipment in the KNPHI	233,510
24.	Revision of Regulations for Drinking Water Quality Standards	78,743
TOTAL		312,253

4.7 CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL SAFETY

Modern society depends on a wide range of chemical and biological products used in everyday life. It is assumed that more than 100,000 different substances are on the market in Europe. Up to now, only a negligible number of the total volume of substances found on the market has really been tested to assess how safe they are, and what risks they pose for human health and the environment.

4.7.1 Chemicals

Objectives	To ensure legal and technical conditions and trained human resources for establishing and implementing a system for safe management of chemicals
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Preparation and adoption of a Law on Chemicals taking into consideration the current trends in regard to EU REACH (Registration Evaluation on Authorising Chemicals) – Institutional strengthening for the management of chemicals
Aktivities	Draft and adopt Law on Chemicals and secondary legislation
	Study for checking aspirators for hazardous gases
	Providing guidance for practical requirements for companies managing the risks
	To conduct an inventory of chemicals
	Establishing a institution for registration, evaluation and authorization of chemicals

4.7.2 Biological safety

Objectives	To establish legal, technical and human resources for safe management of potentially dangerous biological products
Measures	– Preparation and adoption of Law on GMO with relevant by-laws
Aktivities	Drafting the law on GMO
	To establish appropriate responsible institution for GMO control
	To inform the public on GMO

LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS:

No:	Project	Budget (EUR)
25.	Developing a System for Registration and Authorization of Chemicals	86,300
26.	Drafting the Law on Chemicals	33,540
27.	Developing Handbook of Chemical Risks Management	114,200
28.	Drafting the Law on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO)	43,200
TOTAL		277,240

4.8 CIVIL PROTECTION

Civil protection is an organisation, preparation and participation of individuals and institutions, whether private or public, that seeks to protect and save human lives, property and the environment from risks. These risks can be natural disasters (eg: floods) or man-made disasters (e.g.: chemical spillages).

Objectives	To develop an efficient and long term civil protection strategy
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Drafting regulations including harmonisation with SEVESO Directive – Ensuring appropriate institutional organisation and training of staff
Aktivities	Development of the legal basis and enforcement of EIA process
	Adoption and enforcement of APELL Principles
	Creating systems for communication and information for safety and rescue
	Capacity building for staff involved in civil protection activities
	Inventory of ecological accidents, spillages, and damages
	Development of the legal basis and enforcement of EIA process

LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS:

No:	Project	Budget (EUR)
29.	Establishment of a Public Environmental Protection System, which organizes Prevention, Preparedness, and Proper Reaction in case of Eco-accidents at the Local Level using the APELL System (Awareness and Preparedness for at Local Level)	332,600
TOTAL		332,600

4.9 RADIATION PROTECTION

Objectives	To establish the legal and technical preconditions for effective ionizing radiation protection To establish the legal and technical preconditions for effective radiation protection from non-ionizing sources
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Identification and full analysis of sources ionising radiation – Development of laws and all necessary bylaws – Development of a Law on non-ionizing radiation protection
Activities	Approval of legislation for protection from ionising and non-ionising radiation
	Capacity building for staff in industry and health sector
	Establishing of a monitoring and information system
	Control and of transport of radioactive material and radioactive waste
	Development of guidelines for sources of ionising and non-ionising radiation
	Inventory of ionising and non-ionising radiation sources and their supervision

LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS:

No:	Project	Budget (EUR)
30.	Establishing Legal and Technical Preconditions for Effective Ionizing and Non-ionizing Radiation Protection	179,400
TOTAL		179,400

4.10 ENERGY

Sustainable development is about improving the quality of life, while reducing the use of natural resources and pressures on the environment. Our quality of life is greatly enhanced by energy and the services it provides. The main source of energy production in Kosovo is lignite. The main question is how to make use of available energy resources sustainable and how to replace it with renewable ones.

Objectives	Reducing the environmental pressure of the energy sector by implementing energy efficiency projects and gradually introducing renewable energy sources (RES) and newer technologies
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Finalization and implementation of the Energy Strategy with Action Plan and adoption of necessary sub-legal acts – Institutional strengthening – Introduction of economic instruments – GHG inventory and National ceilings
Activities	Ensuring legal and technical conditions for implementation of pilot programs on EE and RES
	Implementation of pilot projects on energy potential of waste
	Developing a plan for management of waste from energy sector
	Ensuring legal and technical conditions for transfer of knowledge and new technologies
	Law enforcement for fuel quality control
	Establishing of a monitoring and information system
	Setting emission limits for emissions from power plants and central heating systems
	Development of Regulation for energy performance of buildings
	Encouraging of use of combined heating systems
	Capacity building for personnel in the energy sector
	Support voluntary agreements between the government and the industry
	Assessment of possibilities to introduce CO2 taxes
	Development of use of RES

LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS:

No:	Project	Budget (EUR)
31.	Establishing Capacities for the Use of Cleaner Technology and Energy Efficiency in the Energy-Intensive Industrial Sector	787,515
32.	Introduction and Capacity Building Concerning Energy Efficiency for Small and Medium Enterprises and Energy-Intensive Large Scale Industry	227,618
33.	Developing Capacities for Implementation of ISO 14001 in Kosovo	203,833
TOTAL		1,218,966

4.11 INDUSTRY AND MINING

<i>Objectives</i>	To rehabilitate the industry and mining sector in Kosovo followed with actions of remediation of existing 'hot spots' and prevention of further environmental degradation in future development phases of Kosovo
<i>Measures</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Development of legislation and improving institutional organisation for enforcement of the IPPC Directive – Reduction of emission in air, water and soil from the industrial sector and mineral activities, including rehabilitation of old landfill sites
<i>Aktivities</i>	Completing of sub-legal acts for environmental protection
	Institutional support to initiatives for use of clean technologies and renewable resources
	Action Plan for Kosovo quarries
	Study on applying EMS (ISO 9000 and 14 000)
	Plan for stimulation of scientific environmental research in industry and mining
	Pilot projects for increase of eco efficiency in industry
	Advancing methods and techniques of extraction and production
	Involvement of the industry as a partner for solving of environmental problems
	Gradual replacement of existing old technologies
	Closure or revitalisation of mines after exploitation process
	Application of tax on exploration
	Planning industrial areas as part of the spatial planning
	Reduction of the quantity of industrial and hazardous waste

LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS:

No:	Project	Budget (EUR)
34.	Advancing Extraction and Production Techniques into an Environmentally Sound Direction	158,150
35.	Awareness Raising and Capacity Building of Environmental Management Systems, such as EMAS and ISO 14000, and introduction of Clean Technologies in Pilot Industries	165,390
36.	Assessment and Formulation of Strategy for an environmentally sound Closure and/or Revitalising of Mines	137,300
37.	Introduction of a subject on environment and sustainable development into the mining & engineering Faculty	11,300
TOTAL		472,140

4.12 TRANSPORT

An efficient and flexible transport system is essential for a sound economy and improved quality of life. The current transport system poses significant and growing threats to the environment and human health due to the drastic growth in the number vehicles on the road.

Objectives	To mainstream sustainable development principles in the transport sector
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Development and adoption of necessary by-laws in compliance with requirement of EU legislation – Reduction of emissions of polluting gases from the sector – Improvement and increase of public transport services
Activities	Adoption of Kosovo Transport Policy with Plan
	To establish a laboratory for fuel quality control
	To adopt a regulation on fuel quality and quality control
	Monitoring of the impact of the transport sector in environment
	Study on number and category of motor vehicles in Kosovo
	Enforcement of laws regulating transport of hazardous substances and adopting of a regulation on classification of roads permitted for transport of hazardous materials
	Stimulate the rail transport for passengers and goods

LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS:

No:	Project	Budget (EUR)
38.	Mainstreaming the Sustainable Development Principles in the Transport Sector and establish Relations with Physical Planning	197,700
TOTAL		197,700

4.13 AGRICULTURE

Agriculture was traditionally one of the most important economic sectors of Kosovo. Today, agriculture is neglected and most of the agriculture products are being imported. Even if many open questions exist, there are many factors that are in favour of agriculture development based on principles of organic production.

Objectives	To ensure development of legal, technical, financial and human capacities for sustainable development of the agriculture sector
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Mainstreaming environmental concerns in the sector – Promotion and support to organic production – Optimizing the use of fertilizers and pesticides
Activities	Completing of legislation and its harmonization with EU legislation
	Drafting of Agriculture Action Plan
	Rehabilitation of irrigation networks
	Setting grounds for development of ecotourism
	Introduction of incentive instruments for applying of alternative methods of agricultural products and compost
	Ensuring suitable conditions when importing input for agriculture and placement of food products
	Maintaining traditional farming methods
	Development and implementation of training programmes for farmers tackling the issues of good agricultural practices
	Developing of agro-environmental indicators
	Establishment of a modern certification system for organic products

LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS:

No:	Project	Budget (EUR)
39.	Promotion and Support of Organic Agriculture in Kosovo	451,050
40.	Eco Agricultural Extension Service	227,780
TOTAL		678,830

4.14 FOREST MANAGEMENT

One effective solution to the squandering of the world's forest resources is a move to sustainable forest management. Sustainable use of forests balances economic and ecological needs by providing an alternative to destructive forms of forest exploitation such as uncontrolled logging, cattle-grazing and other kinds of agriculture. Sustainable forest management aims to provide a continuous yield of quality forest products while preserving the essential biological and ecological integrity of a healthy self-perpetuating forest.

Objectives	Sustainable management of forests
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Preparation and adoption of necessary sub legal acts and the Forest Management Strategy with Action Plan – Strengthening the financial, institutional, technical, and organisational forest management capacities
Activities	Prevention of illegal exploitation and damaging of forests
	Completion and implementation of legislation
	Complete inventory of forest ecosystems
	Drafting of long term forest management plans
	Announcing natural protected areas
	Improvement of personnel structure in the sector
	Development of Strategy for forest fire prevention
	Resolving existing legal issues of property conflicts
	Identification and monitoring of damaging factors and forest illnesses
	Development of activities for producing forest seeds and seedlings
	Preventive remediation of erosive areas
	Development of a strategy for protection from forest fire
	Introduction of immediate afforestation measures (foresting defrosted areas 1000 ha/year)
	Establishing of Reporting, Diagnosis and Prognosis Service and bio-indication points

LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS:

No:	Project	Budget (EUR)
41.	Prevention of illegal forest exploitation	493,150
42.	Improving the legislation on forest management	88,400
43.	Awareness raising regarding 'Bjeshkët e Nemuna' national park	16,350
44.	Introduction of forestry management into the agricultural faculty – 1 year pilot & summer course	11,000
45.	Plan for prevention and remediation of soil erosion in most heavily affected areas	2,140,600
TOTAL		2,749,500

4.15 EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

Education, training and awareness process is a complex task for achieving a friendly approach and attitude towards environmental problems and issues. This process implies the creation of positive attitude and critical thinking of each individual towards the environment where he lives. Moreover, this process requires active public involvement in all decision making processes relating to the future of environment, the current situation as well as taking responsibility.

Objectives	<p>To include environmental issues as an curricular subject with 0.5% of the overall educative programmes in all levels</p> <p>To provide institutional and financial support for increasing the level of public information and education regarding environmental issues and impacts</p> <p>To include environmental activities outside the curricula through, which environmental NGOs and institutions could apply the school programmes</p>
Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Application of environmental education and training in schools and universities as well as civil society with the aim of increasing public participation in decision making processes – Capacity building for civil servants – Encourage and support environmental projects
Aktivities	Analysis of quality and quantity of environmental themes in educative programmes
	Proposing environmental themes in school subjects in all levels
	Strengthening capacities of educational staff for environmental subjects
	Prepare “Green Pack” for Kosovo
	Establishment of an environmental information centre within KEPA
	Issuing an informative environmental magazine in MESP
	Constant update of MESP webpage
	Support for NGOs, stimulation for new NGOs, implementing environmental projects

LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS:

No:	Project	Budget (EUR)
46.	Capacity Building of Environmental Officials in Public Involvement for Environmental Assessment and Decision Making	22,420
47.	Issuing a Bi-monthly Environmental Information Magazine	26,360
48.	Introduction of Environmental Education Practices in Primary Schools based upon a Curriculum Assessment and Existing Environmental Education Tools	71,814
49.	Establishing and Operating a Public Environmental Information Centre within KEPA MESP	70,000
TOTAL		190,594

4.16 INTEGRATED SPATIAL PLANNING

Professional integrated treatment of spatial planning in Kosovo should be one of the very important factors in environmental protection, especially considering the alarming situation with uncontrolled construction activities which cover a surface of 10,887 km². According to the existing legislation for spatial planning, the environmental problems are integrated in all fields of activities – now it remains for the law to be properly implemented, which is a sensitive issue in our current situation. Kosovo's spatial plans and the subsequent municipal plans must take into consideration environmental issues, naturally in cooperation with the Environment Protection Department and other relevant stakeholders. In principle, all realistic environmental demands that can be applied in the current situation must be supported.

Objectives	To ensure implementation of Spatial Planning Law, improvement of technical (GIS) and financial capacities of the national and local government, as well as provision of human capacity for integrated spatial management whilst taking into account principles of sustainable development
Measures	– Establishment of a legal basis as well as institutional and human capacity building for integrated spatial planning
Activities	Development of legislation for spatial planning and construction
	Approval of documents for spatial planning at both levels
	Capacity building for professionals in the field of spatial planning and strengthening of governmental institutions
	Approval of legislation for stopping of uncontrolled constructions
	Pilot projects in the field of urban and rural development
	Preparing guidelines for using ecological materials during construction works, especially for the purposes of insulation

LIST OF PRIORITY PROJECTS:

No:	Project	Budget (EUR)
50.	Introduction, Capacity Building and Application of GIS Technology in establishing an integrated Spatial Planning System at Municipal Level	202,924
51.	Preparation of Local Spatial Plans and Capacity Building of National and Municipal Spatial Planning Staff	134,982
52.	Pilot Project on raising the Understanding and Capacity for Citizen Initiatives to manage Green Surfaces in Public Residential Areas	54,240
53.	Urban – Rural Partnership for Prevention of Migration	168,290
TOTAL		560,436

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65. **Hatixhe Jakupi**, Pedagogue

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