

Unpacking the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans

E-workshop 1: Depollution and Sustainable Food Systems
19 September 2024

We are starting soon ...



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***Welcome to the e-workshop hosted by SDC, SECO
and the Networks CDE and RésEAU***



Technical housekeeping



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Parts of this event are being recorded and made available to the online knowledge platform RésEAU.



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Welcome and introduction

Carmen Thönnissen

Regional Advisor Water & Environment
for the SDC Programmes
in the Western Balkans





Agenda

Welcome and introduction to the session	Carmen Thönnissen, SDC
Keynote: “Depollution” in the GAWB Action Plan, regional coordination and monitoring	Dejan Lekic, SEPA/EEA
Keynote: “Sustainable Food Systems” in the GAWB Action Plan, regional coordination and monitoring	Boban Ilic, RRDSWG-SEE
<i>Q&A on keynotes</i>	<i>Plenary interaction</i>
Short break	
Thematic input: “Water depollution and sustainable agriculture”	Harald Loishandl-Weisz, EAA
Thematic input: “EU for Green Agenda in Serbia”	Zorica Korac, UNDP
Thematic input: “Swiss Portfolio in depollution and sustainable food systems”	Karin Gallandat, SECO / Carmen Thönnissen, SDC
<i>Reactions on inputs and reflections on Pillars 3/4</i>	<i>Plenary discussion</i>
Conclusion and closing	Carmen Thönnissen, SDC

Keynote: “Depollution” in the GAWB Action Plan (Pillar III) - Regional coordination and monitoring

Dejan Lekic

Serbian Environmental Protection
Agency (SEPA)

National Focal Point to European
Environment Agency (EEA)



Depollution: air, water and soil

Air

Particulate matter, Air quality monitoring / assessment. Emission inventories, Industrial emissions, Exceedances

Water

Untreated wastewater, Pressures on quantity, Transboundary water cooperation, Hydropower capacity, Implementation of legislation

Soil

Land use degradation, Sustainable food production, Forest management, Ecosystem conservation and land restoration





Depollution: air, water and soil

INITIATIVES

- Assist region in developing and implementing **Air Quality Strategies**,
- Increase uptake of Best Available Techniques in line with the Industrial Emissions Directive
- Accreditation of **air quality monitoring networks**
- Including the region in **pan-European networks** supporting depollution initiatives e.g. Air Quality: Forum on Air Quality Modelling (FAIRMODE) & Network of Air Quality Reference Laboratories (AQUILA); Soil: European Soil Bureau Network (ESBN) etc.
- Support **Modernisation of water monitoring** infrastructure
- **Implementation** of Water Framework, Urban Waste Water and Extractive Waste Directives
- Support regional and/or bilateral agreements and/or protocols on transboundary water pollution and on land-based sources of pollution
- Investment in **waste and manure management** and **wastewater treatment plants for reuse of water in agriculture**
- Investment in **urban wastewater collection and treatment** including advanced treatment of nutrients
- Support the Western Balkans to **use and contribute to the potential of programmes** such as European Earth Observation programme, Copernicus and Destination Earth.

EEA/Eionet Reporting

Country	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Albania	30	45	21	19	31	53	47	36	56	45		21	46	64	72	63	86	82	71
Austria	98	100	100	100	100	95	98	83	96	96		83	100	95	96	100	89	92	100
Belgium	66	69	75	96	92	90	94	92	90	93		98	97	100	96	98	95	85	81
Bosnia and Herzegovina	22	53	46	58	56	50	53	42	31	10		15	25	33	50	56	75	60	46
Bulgaria	89	80	92	96	92	92	94	92	96	96		73	89	84	85	86	89	85	81
Croatia	17	48	71	69	78	92	89	92	95	88		90	100	80	90	95	91	75	71
Cyprus	25	63	81	90	90	73	88	83	71	79		70	67	82	77	89	75	71	92
Czechia	65	68	84	80	85	85	82	84	84	92		65	86	84	90	98	89	77	75
Denmark	69	63	78	73	94	92	96	92	90	71		85	83	91	79	91	77	81	69
Estonia	81	90	86	96	96	98	98	94	98	96		88	89	100	98	98	98	90	98
Finland	75	73	78	92	85	83	83	90	92	89		95	92	98	88	95	89	85	73
France	83	85	89	94	96	96	94	96	88	86		90	83	93	98	91	80	83	81
Germany	75	92	78	88	100	98	94	94	96	96		95	97	89	83	77	61	73	73
Greece	54	50	50	52	58	58	65	69	67	61		60	44	45	60	70	59	83	63
Hungary	80	86	78	66	45	41	65	65	60	75		68	78	75	67	83	77	73	81
Iceland	56	30	64	73	64	75	80	70	70	50		81	67	89	81	81	60	60	64
Ireland	73	73	81	94	92	90	92	94	98	96		90	92	98	100	91	98	90	85
Italy	59	50	64	67	54	60	62	63	77	68		65	61	73	90	95	77	75	88
Kosovo*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	57	66	61	56		46	38	60	67	88	100	100	100
Latvia	98	100	97	98	98	96	85	94	94	86		93	92	93	90	77	91	85	94
Liechtenstein	64	54	60	57	86	82	97	66	34	45		25	33	25	9	19	8	0	0
Lithuania	83	94	94	85	94	94	96	94	90	86		73	97	82	77	89	89	73	83
Luxembourg	39	44	34	58	53	63	84	89	80	96		63	83	91	81	93	98	81	92
Malta	63	68	69	86	52	34	46	77	69	64		45	50	70	69	73	64	58	58
Montenegro	36	56	0	17	6	44	53	50	56	30		46	25	44	44	69	69	60	63
Netherlands	77	79	81	60	77	88	96	88	90	93		85	100	80	90	93	91	92	98
North Macedonia	69	78	75	75	72	69	69	66	81	81		79	70	100	100	100	100	100	100
Norway	65	78	93	80	85	90	89	89	89	92		88	82	75	86	78	75	58	73
Poland	58	77	69	79	81	79	88	92	87	89		98	97	86	79	84	100	90	100
Portugal	27	42	64	83	85	90	85	77	85	82		93	86	100	73	80	86	81	90
Romania	11	75	86	96	92	92	92	90	87	82		70	58	68	52	68	77	85	92
Serbia	36	56	60	78	75	75	72	78	78	90		72	75	93	100	89	100	50	97
Slovakia	85	95	97	91	98	82	92	92	92	96		90	86	100	100	90	91	77	81
Slovenia	75	96	94	96	94	96	94	94	96	89		93	81	86	90	75	84	83	98
Spain	52	56	64	63	83	85	90	92	92	96		85	94	98	100	91	98	81	98
Sweden	94	96	97	100	100	98	100	100	96	96		80	81	100	100	100	100	83	92
Switzerland	75	39	85	100	97	94	100	83	94	95		86	100	100	100	100	100	89	89
Türkiye	19	17	25	47	64	64	72	64	69	35		57	65	43	32	57	50	47	47
United Kingdom	82	83	94	65	81	98	96	96	94	89		98	100	98	92	89	N/A	N/A	N/A
Median EU-27 + UK	74	76	81	87	91	90	92	92	90	89		85	89	91	90	91	89	81	80
Median EEA-32 + UK	69	73	81	85	86	90	92	90	90	89		85	86	89	88	89	89	81	80
Median EEA-38 + UK	66	71	78	80	85	87	89	89	88	88		81	83	86	86	89	89	81	85



MDIAK



What Monitoring is needed to deliver the required data?

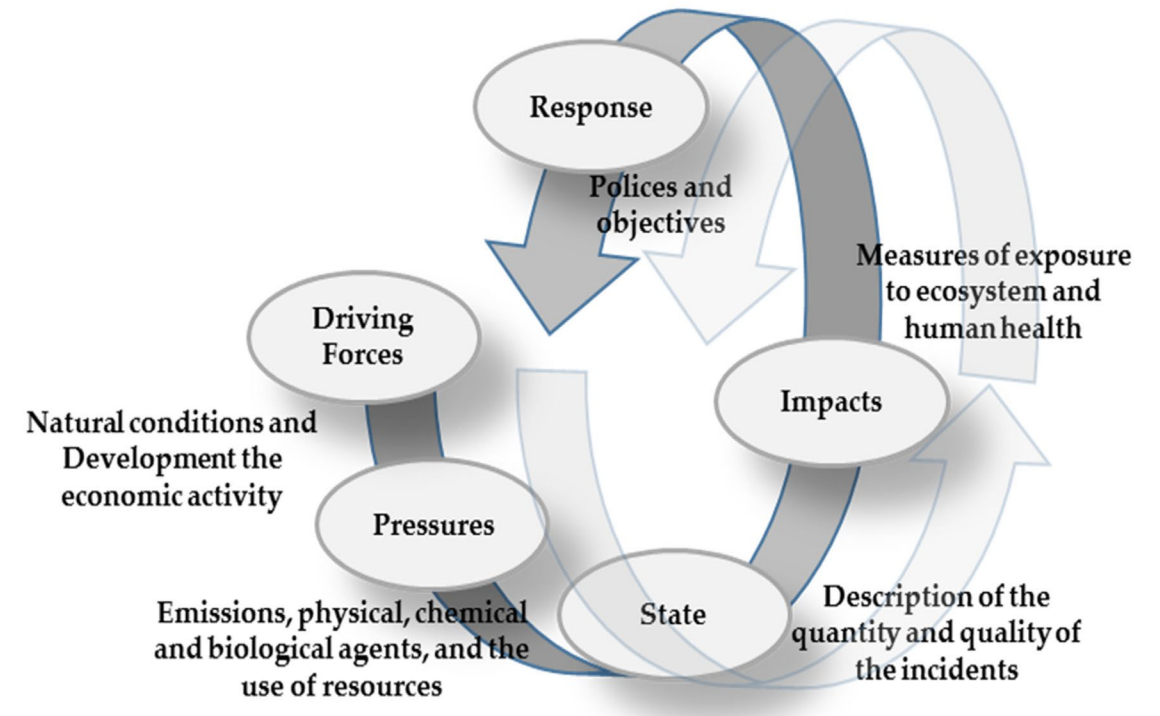
Which Data are needed?

Which Indicators are needed?

Which Assessments are needed?

What do we need to know?

DPSIR



SDC Network RésEAU
K&E



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Eidgenössisches Departement für
Wirtschaft, Bildung und Forschung WBF
Staatssekretariat für Wirtschaft SECO

Thank you

Keynote: Implementation of the GAWB Action plan Pillar IV “Sustainable Food Systems” - Achievements, challenges and ways forward

Boban Ilic

Secretary General of the Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group in Southeastern Europe (RRDSWG-SEE)





What is SWG RRD in SEE?

“SWG RRD in SEE” = Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group in South Eastern Europe.

International Intergovernmental Organization, platform for policy dialogue, networking, capacity building, informational exchange and regional cooperation in the area of agriculture and rural development.

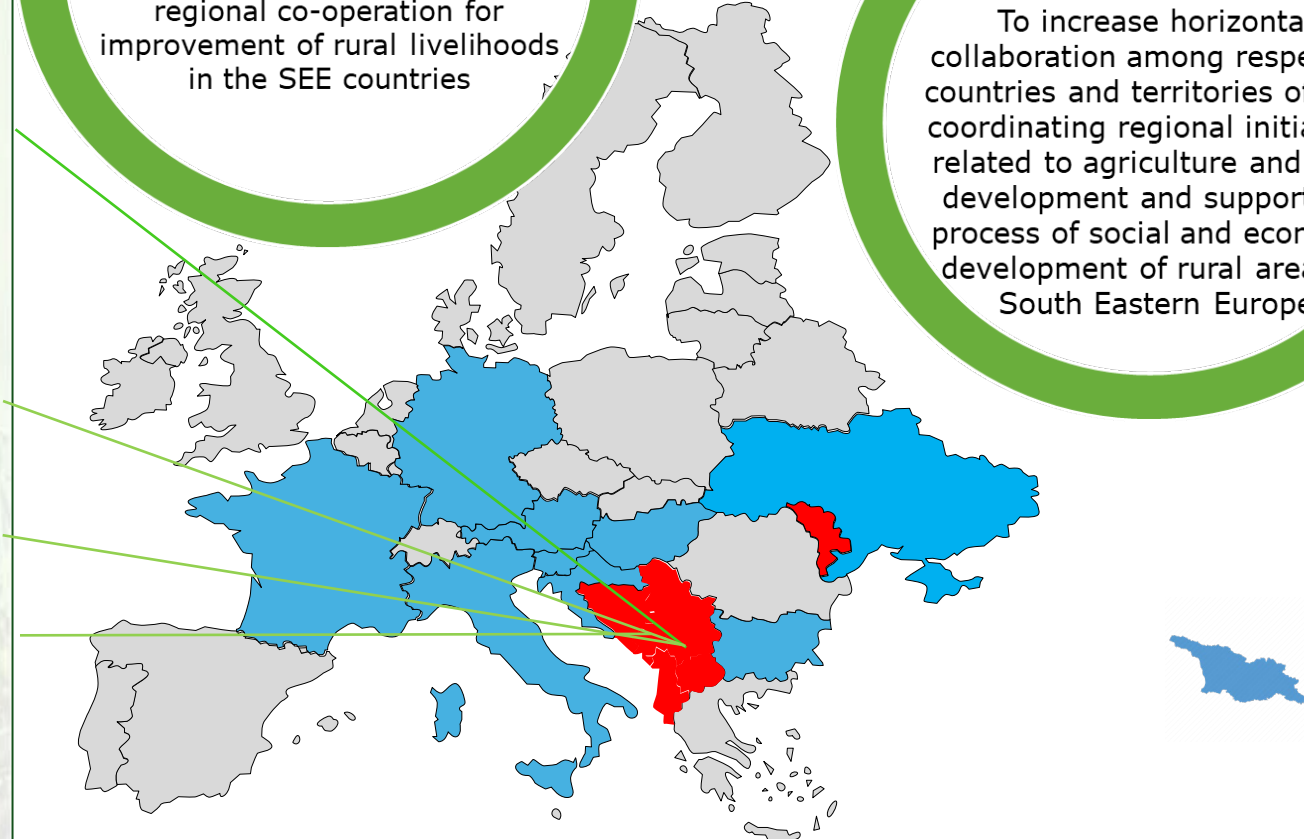
The managing and coordinative body of the organization is the SWG Head Office/Secretariat, in Skopje, North Macedonia.

Vision

Innovative and sustainable agriculture and rural development through cohesive regional co-operation for improvement of rural livelihoods in the SEE countries

Mission

To increase horizontal collaboration among respective countries and territories of SEE, coordinating regional initiatives related to agriculture and rural development and support the process of social and economic development of rural areas in South Eastern Europe





Member Countries/Territories

1. Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, **Albania**
2. Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, **Bosnia and Herzegovina**
 - 2.1 Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of **Republika Srpska**, Bosnia and Herzegovina
 - 2.2 Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of **Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina**, Bosnia and Herzegovina
3. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development, **Kosovo***
4. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy, **North Macedonia**
5. Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, **Moldova**
6. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, **Montenegro**
7. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, **Serbia**

* 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.

*SWG has a membership of 7 countries/territories with “voting right” and 9 institutions (institutions from BiH have 1 “voting right”)



Countries with Observer Status

- Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management, **Austria**
- Ministry of Agriculture and Food, **Bulgaria**
- Ministry of Agriculture and Food Sovereignty, **France**
- Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, **Germany**
- Ministry of Agriculture, **Hungary**
- Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Forestry, **Italy**
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, **Slovenia**
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, **Croatia**
- Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, **Georgia**
- Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food, **Ukraine**



Evidence Based Policy Operating Structures

SWG Regional Expert Advisory Working Groups (REAWGs)

ESTABLISHMENT, MANAGEMENT

- Temporary character - mobilized/disbanded upon a specific need expressed by SWG Member institutions and/or other stakeholders – sectoral approach;
- Included in the SWG and the SWG annual work program;
- Facilitated, managed or sometimes chaired by SWG staff;
- Financing – on a project basis or through funds from the SWG membership fees.



Current REAWG's within the framework of the GAWB

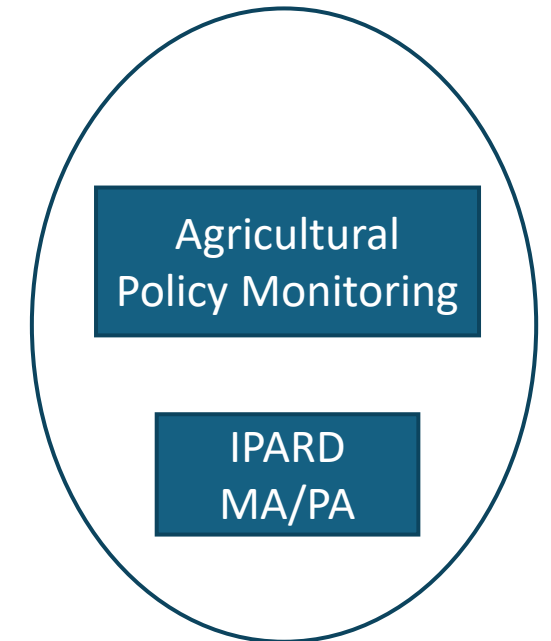


Cross-cutting Issues

**Agriculture
Policy
Monitoring**

**Rural
Women**

**Rural
Youth**



Action 42: <i>Pillar III</i>	Soil partnership and degradation					
Action 44:	Quality standards - Fresh Fruits and Vegetables	Wine	Quality standards – Meat and Dairy	Plant health (phytosanitary)	Animal health and welfare (veterinary)	Manure and plant waste management
Action 45:	Traceability and Labelling for animal food stuff	Traceability and Labelling for non - animal food stuff				
Action 46:	Organic Agriculture	Synthetic Chemical Products (pesticides and fertilizers)				
Action 47:	AKIS					
Action 48:	Solid waste and floating debris management					
Action 49:	LEADER					
Action 50:	Investments in renewable energy production and technologies	Climate change adaptation measures				
Action 53: <i>Pillar V</i>	Sustainable Forest Management					
Action 57: <i>Pillar V</i>	Agrobiodiversity (info hub)					

Legend:



Actions for which resources are partially secured until 2024/2025

Actions for which resources are not secured



Cross topic - AG Policy Monitoring

Continued process of monitoring the agricultural policy development in the Western Balkan and updated the agricultural policy data for the latest available years for the WB (2022 and 2023).

Presented and discussed the policy analysis for the latest available years for WB.

Work on identifying the major recent changes introduced to the national agricultural policies in the WB and their implications for the EU accession process.

Provide information relevant for the implementation of the Green Agenda for the WB.

Provide evidence – based recommendations to steer WB policies towards stimulating sustainable Ag and RD and smoother EU approximation.

Although at different level, there is an increasing budgetary transfers to agriculture in all WB countries



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RES2EURO



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Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Eidgenössisches Departement für
Wirtschaft, Bildung und Forschung WBF
Staatssekretariat für Wirtschaft SECO

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

www.seerural.org

<https://www.facebook.com/swgrrd/>

<https://www.instagram.com/see.rural.balkans/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCK90V687k0Qj1mwiGZ9TIKg/videos>

https://twitter.com/i/flow/login?redirect_after_login=%2FSwgRrd



Q&A

- Insert your questions into the chatbox
- or
- Unmute yourself to directly address your question to the speakers



Take a stretch break! See you in 5 minutes!



- Give your eyes a break from the screen
- Stretch out your arms and hands
- Stand up and stretch your back
- Or get a nice cup of coffee or tea :)

Regional challenges related to water pollution and sustainable agriculture in the Western Balkans

Harald Loishandl-Weisz,
Groundwater expert at
Environment Agency Austria
(EAA)





Water monitoring and risk assessment

Monitoring support:

- Development of human resources (e.g. courses for biological monitoring)
- Sampling courses for groundwater and surface water, including biology
- Expansion of (groundwater) monitoring network

Improving data for risk assessment:

- Point source cadasters (beside cadasters on WWTPs and sewer systems not connected to WWTPs – also minings, landfills, war residues,...) for protection of drinking water resources
- Enhanced nutrient modelling as basis for measures to quantify local and regional N-/P-fluxes
- Preparation of erosion maps for water and wind erosion
 - Planting of hedges as a measure for emissions reduction and soil protection



Improving farm management

Insufficient manure handling and fertilizing leads to pollution of groundwater and rivers

- Closing of nutrient cycles on the farm and reducing nutrient losses
- Collection and reuse of farm manure
- Optimizing production, reducing costs

Project EU4Green:

- Brochure Good Agricultural Practise (2025)
- Tutorial on simplified Livestock Manure Calculator for storage capacity and nitrogen content (Q4 2024)



© H. Loishandl-Weisz



Manure Storage Systems

IWRM Kosovo Programme

- Pilot project „Introducing Environmentally Friendly Manure Management Practices in Livestock Farming in Kosovo“ – supported by Kosovo Association of Milk Producers (KAMP)
- Competitive Grants Scheme with training program and grants for construction of manure storage and farm equipment for spreading

=> Blueprint for Western Balkans region

In the long term, funding mechanisms should be institutionalized



© H. Loishandl-Weisz



Improving farm management

Photovoltaic in Agriculture

- combine agriculture and production of photovoltaic energy
- combine photovoltaic systems with hail and sun protection for vineyards and orchards but also for grasslands (grazing systems)



© Bernhard Groeger



Sustainable water management

Irrigation in agriculture

- Renewal and repair of old irrigation systems to reduce losses
- Restoration of old irrigation channels (e.g. to bring water from the mountains to the plains)

Water storage

- Construction of decentralized water reservoirs to retain rainwater in the landscape (reservoirs, ponds)
- EU4Green: development of a guidance on sustainable water storage in agricultural soil

Flood risk management:

- Construction of flood protection systems (e.g. retention basins)

Industrial water demand (quantity) and discharge (water quality)

- Establish or improve permitting process



Training of wastewater treatment plant operators

- In project EU4Green a concept for developing a sustainable certification program established
- Wastewater treatment plant operators in WB6 face a major challenge in implementing the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (UWWTD 91/271/EC) due to the lack of trained staff.
- A systematic and sustainable certification program would help to improve and optimise the process by reducing pressures to surface water and optimising energy consumption
- Many WWTP shall be built in near future and therefore the need for professional training will increase
- The Environmental requirements and technology are constantly changing and becoming more stringent, so training should be offered on an ongoing basis to refresh knowledge.



© Bogdanka Radetic



APPLICATION OF SEWAGE SLUDGE IN AGRICULTURE

- Current state of the wastewater treatment is poor in all Balkan economies.
- Only 20% to 30% of collected wastewater is subjected to the wastewater treatment.
- Sewage sludge is currently either stored within the WWTP area or deposited in landfills. From the point of environment protection and circular economy, this is the most inefficient way of sludge disposal.

=> Roadmap for sludge usage in agriculture



Thank you for your attention!

Contact & Information

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Groundwater

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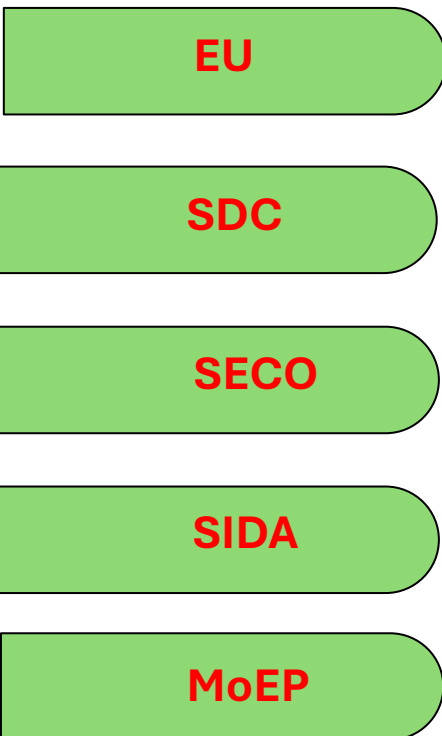
GAWB implementation at national level – EU for Green Agenda in Serbia

Zorica Korac, Environment
Portfolio Manager at UNDP
Serbia



THE PROJECT SETUP

Donors:



Implementing partners:

UNDP
Sweden
EIB

Pillars



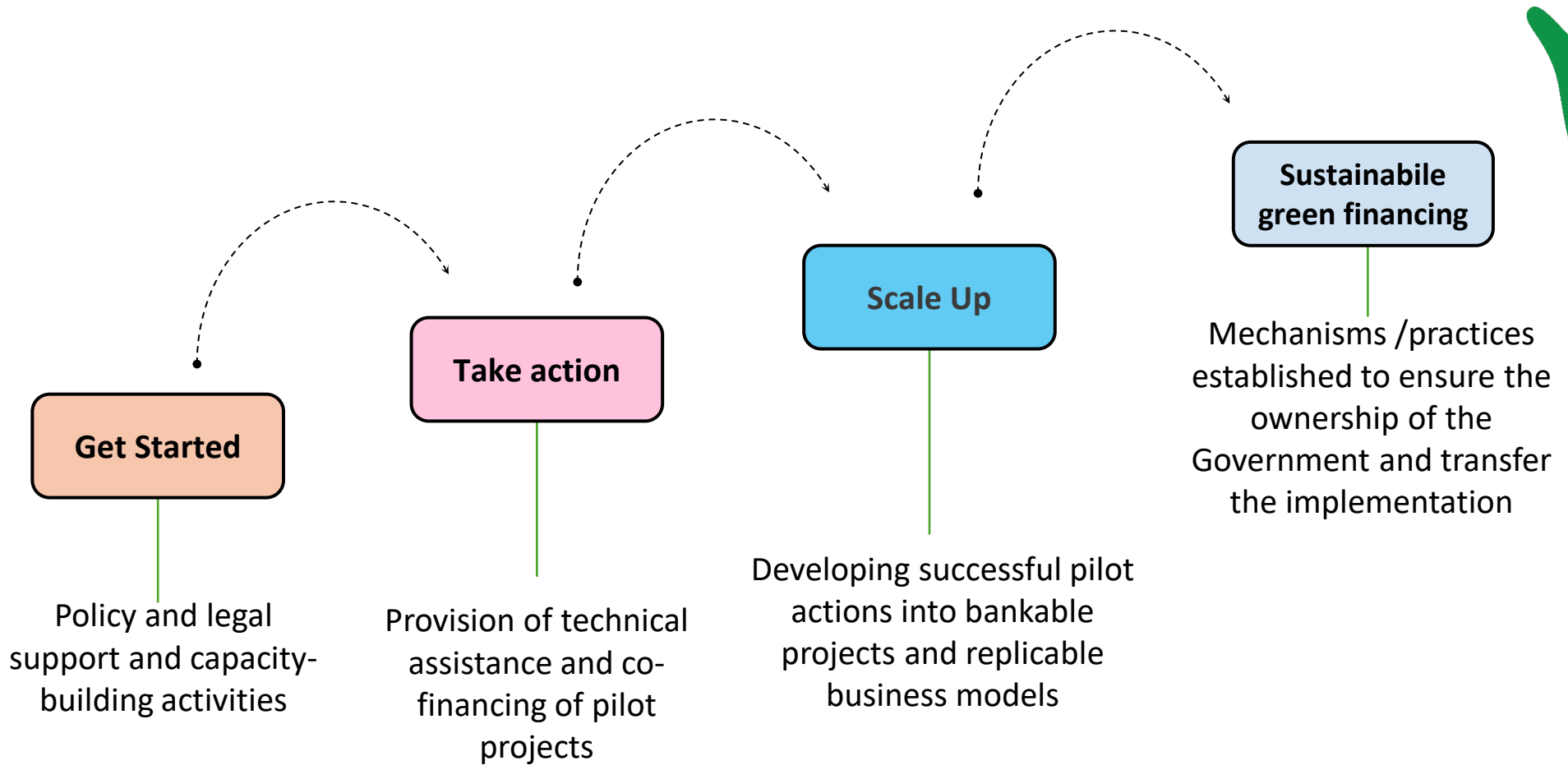
National partners, members of the Steering Committee:



Member



THE PROJECT STRUCTURE





GET STARTED: policy/regulatory support -Air Quality

- **Regulatory Impact Assessments** of the **Law on Air Protection**, and expert support to the **draft Law**; MEP plans adoption of the Law on Air Protection expected by the end of 2024.
- With the mentorship support provided by the project to the cities and municipalities in their air quality planning, 10 local self-governments prepared/updated their local **Air Quality Plans (AQP) and Short-term Action Plans (StAP) on Air Quality**:
 - **Kraljevo** and **Pancevo** upgraded and adopted AQP, **Zaječar** adopted first AQP and StAP, **Bor** upgraded and adopted StAP,
 - **Užice** (draft upgraded AQP with StAP prepared and presented in a public discussion), **Paraćin** (first draft AQP plan prepared and presented in a public discussion), **Beočin** drafted StAP, **Subotica** drafted AQP, **Sombor** drafted AQP,
 - **Novi Pazar** (first AQP in the drafting phase).



Policy/regulatory support – Sustainable food sys.

1. **Rulebook on controls and other measures ensuring traceability and compliance in organic production** and the labelling of organic products (MAFWM).
2. **Rulebook of measures applicable in case of non-compliance with organic production** (MAFWM).
3. **Phytosanitary and veterinary policy recommendations for improvement of traceability of food products along the entire food chain as a support to policies governing official controls in Serbia** (MAFWM).
4. **An online platform for traceability of selected food products based on blockchain developed in 2023.** In the pilot stage the platform will enable tracking of meat products from producers to consumers in real-time, in agreement with MAFWM, but there is a possibility to expand to other groups of food products. Next steps: testing in cooperation with a food retailer, producers and distributors; fine-tuning, deployment in the production environment, training of food chain participants on the use of the platform and promotion.
5. Training of trainers on **Regenerative Agriculture for the Agricultural Extension Services staff**, within their official and compulsory 2024 Training programme.



Policy/regulatory support – under other pillars

- **Environmental Protection Strategy - Green Agenda 2024-2033 with Action Plan, and SEA**
- Revision and preparation for the adoption of the **Low-Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS), Second Biannual Updated Report (BUR)** and **third National Communication (NC)**.
- Planned: **Program for Industrial Safety, new IPPS Law**
- **Rulebook on Monitoring and Reporting on GHG emissions**
- Developing the “**e-GHG platform**” (software) designed and operationalized to facilitate the GHG permitting process and monitoring of all obligations.
- Supporting preparation of 10 applications for **Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC) permits**: (so far, 8 applications prepared: Paper Factory “Umka”, Victoriaoil, District heating plant Niš, RL Pirot, Sunoko, IMPOL, Valjaonica bakra, Papir print)
- Amendments to the **Waste Management Law, Sludge Management Programme and Construction and Demolition Waste Regulation**. Analyzes of the potential of using **sludge** from municipal WWTP in **Raška, Subotica and Leskovac**; support to pilot project of the Subotica Regional Landfill on composting sludge from WWTP in **Subotica**
- Adopted **Rulebook on Use of Waste for R&D purposes**, December 2023; Adopted **Rulebook on End-of-Waste Status Registration**, March 2024; Adopted **Rulebook on By-products**, April 2024.
- 4 Local Circular Economy Roadmaps for: Pančevo, Sombor, Bujanovac and Medveđa;
- **Methodology for Mobile Recycling Facilities for Construction & Demolition Waste**
- 3 **Forest Landscape Restoration Plans** (Studenica, Surčin and Novi Sad), and 6 afforestation projects (for Bačka Palanka, Sombor, Vršac, Pančevo, Smederevo and Zrenjanin).
- Amendments to the **Law on Nature Protection**
- **Decree on Ecological Network, Appropriate Assessment Decree ...**



Innovation Challenge Call - Projects supported so far (2022-2024)

	Decarboni zation	Circular Economy	Air Pollution	Biodiversity/ Afforestatio n	Sustainable food production	Total
Selected so far for co-financing	13	18	14	15	6	66
Total investment value (\$)	14,690,467	7,850,347	1,469,327	1,121,102	249,630	25,380,873
Required co- financing (\$)	1,572,876	1,346,443	635,437	490,541	123,538	4,168,837
Co-financed / total investment ratio	11%	17%	43%	44%	49%	16%



SMART SYSTEM FOR CLEANER AIR

Institute Mihailo Pupin



GREEN "CASSETTE" ROOF

The solution develops an innovative, functional, so-



GREEN INDUSTRY

The solution involves creating a green area - a park or a



REDUCTION OF AMMONIA EMISSIONS IN POULTRY FARMING

OZONW



AN EFFICIENT AND ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY MEANS OF DUST AND AIR POLLUTION SUPPRESSION



SUSTAINABLE AND EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT OF CABLE INSULATION PLASTIC

The solution refers to the



INNOVATIVE PELLETS FOR CLEANER AIR

Household heating using poor quality biomass and devices that do not comply with environmental standards is



IMPROVING AIR QUALITY AND REDUCING ENERGY POVERTY

In order to improve air quality in Učice, the city



IMPROVING AIR QUALITY AND REDUCING ENERGY POVERTY

The City of Užice

Budget: overall \$77,400 (\$30,700 from GA project)

The city administration has:

- Replaced old, inefficient, and polluting **furnaces in 65 socially vulnerable households** with appliances that are more energy efficient and less polluting.
- Set up of the City of Užice **Energy Efficiency Fund** blending funds from the city budget with contributions from private companies in line with CSR principles, to support energy vulnerable households, according to predefined conditions and procedures.





RENOVATION OF "VALJEVCA" PASTURE FOR BIOMASS AND THE FIRST CITY MEDOMAT

This solution involves reinstating the 'Valjevac' pasture, the heart of the Zasavica special nature preserve. Invasive species of...



MILK MACHINE WITH ORGANIC MILK FROM ZLATIBOR

Thanks to this solution milk vending machine was set up in the center of Zlatibor to sell milk from small farms (with up to eight cows per household)...



VINEYARD GROWING SOFTWARE

To protect it from diseases, the grape vine should be treated with pesticides in certain intervals. In order to make this treatment timely...



PRODUCTION OF ORGANIC GREEN FORAGE

The innovation involves advanced production of green feed - so-called hydroponic mass - from cereals. This feed is available for harvesting...



PRODUCTION OF ORGANIC GREEN FORAGE

“Global seed” LLC, Čurug

Budget: overall \$89,299 (\$20,000 from GA project)

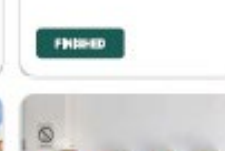
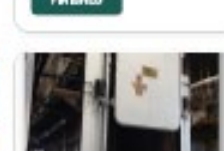
Advanced production of green feed -
hydroponic mass from cereals - available for
harvesting throughout the year, independent of
climate and temperature conditions.

This solution will produce **1.5 tones of green
hydroponic mass on a 50m2 surface area**,
using specially designed modular containers
that have not been used in Serbia until now.
This feed is not grown in soil, but in a water-
based solution. This saves resources and
ensures a stable supply of organic feed for the
livestock.





Pilar 1:

 GREEN FDU The solution involves the construction of a 150 kW solar power plant on the roof of the faculty building, which will contribute to... ONGOING	 FROM HARMFUL FUMES TO GREEN ENERGY This company manufactures packaging for the food, chemical and pharmaceutical industries. This process employs... ONGOING	 PRODUCTION OF ELECTRICITY BY USING EXERCISE EQUIPMENT The solution envisages the conversion of kinetic energy produced by a person during exercise into electrical energy, which... FINISHED	 SOLAR CATAMARAN "E-CAT X" "Kayak House" manufactures and sells catamarans, motorboats, and kayaks. The solution envisages the construction... FINISHED	 MOBILE SOLAR PANELS "Solar Portable Battery" is an energy supply solution that combines the use of renewable energy sources, resulting in higher energy... FINISHED	 PHOTOVOLTAIC POWER PLANT AND CHARGERS FOR ELECTRIC CARS IN RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX MAGDONI As part of this initiative, the first solar power plant was installed in a residential complex in Serbia. A total of 149 photovoltaic panels... FINISHED	 BLOCKCHAIN FOR MORE EFFICIENT DISTRIBUTION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES This initiative supports an innovative software infrastructure based on blockchain technology that enables data travelling... FINISHED	 HYDROGEN POWERED ENGINE TESTING LAB The Faculty of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Belgrade has upgraded and equipped the laboratory in its innovation... FINISHED
 SOLAR POWER PLANT AND REDUCTION OF ENERGY POVERTY "GRP Center" produces climbing walls and exports the entire production. Installing a solar power plant reduces CO2 eq... FINISHED	 PLANT FOR THE ENERGY UTILIZATION OF WASTE AND LANDFILL GAS The company "Bee Zista energija" is building a plant for the energy utilization of waste and polluting flue gas at the closed and... FINISHED	 SOLAR HARVEST The energy cooperative "Elektropionir" in cooperation with the organic farm "Organika", and with the financial... FINISHED	 INNOVATIVE PRODUCTION OF DENIM The company "Join" from Novi Pazar, which produces denim, is gradually replacing solid fuel with solar panels... FINISHED	 SUPPLYING VEHICLE BATTERY CHARGERS WITH SOLAR ENERGY The company "Milipred" aims to reduce its indirect impact on greenhouse gas emissions by using renewable energy source... FINISHED	 SOLAR ENERGY USED FOR PRODUCTION OF TIRES One of the largest solar power plants in Serbia, "Toyo Tire Taiyo" (taiyo meaning "sun" in Japanese), was built near... FINISHED	 USING MODERN TECHNOLOGY TO REDUCE DUST-CREATED AIR POLLUTION With the introduction of the Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) system and the installation of new measuring devices for du... FINISHED	 REDUCING CO₂ EMISSIONS THROUGH ASSESSMENT OF THE PRODUCT'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS, FROM THE BEGINNING OF ITS PRODUCTION TO DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING The company aims to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by applying the technique of Life Cycle Assessment... FINISHED
 SUSTAINABLE TREATMENT OF BIODEGRADABLE WASTE IN THE BOGAS POWER PLANT The "BojEn" plant in Bojnik treats organic waste from the farmers' market in Niš, animal manure from farms and organic waste from... FINISHED	 WASTEWATER TREATMENT FOR REDUCTION OF INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION The AIC "Željezo Bačka Topola" is the only factory in Serbia that processes waste from slaughterhouses... FINISHED	 USE OF ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS FROM FOOD INDUSTRY FOR ENERGY GENERATION With its innovative solution, "Carnex" utilizes the animal origin meat production byproducts (bones, tissue and blood)... ONGOING	 REVITALIZATION OF THE FURNACE FOR ANNEALING ALUMINUM STRIPS TO REDUCE GHG EMISSIONS The innovation involves reducing natural gas consumption by replacing the outdated burner in the calciner furnaces with a... ONGOING	 ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND CO₂ EMISSION REDUCTION IN SOLAR PANELS' PRODUCTION FINISHED	 SUN POWER FOR THE GREEN FUTURE IN EASTERN SERBIA A company that manufactures wooden... FINISHED		

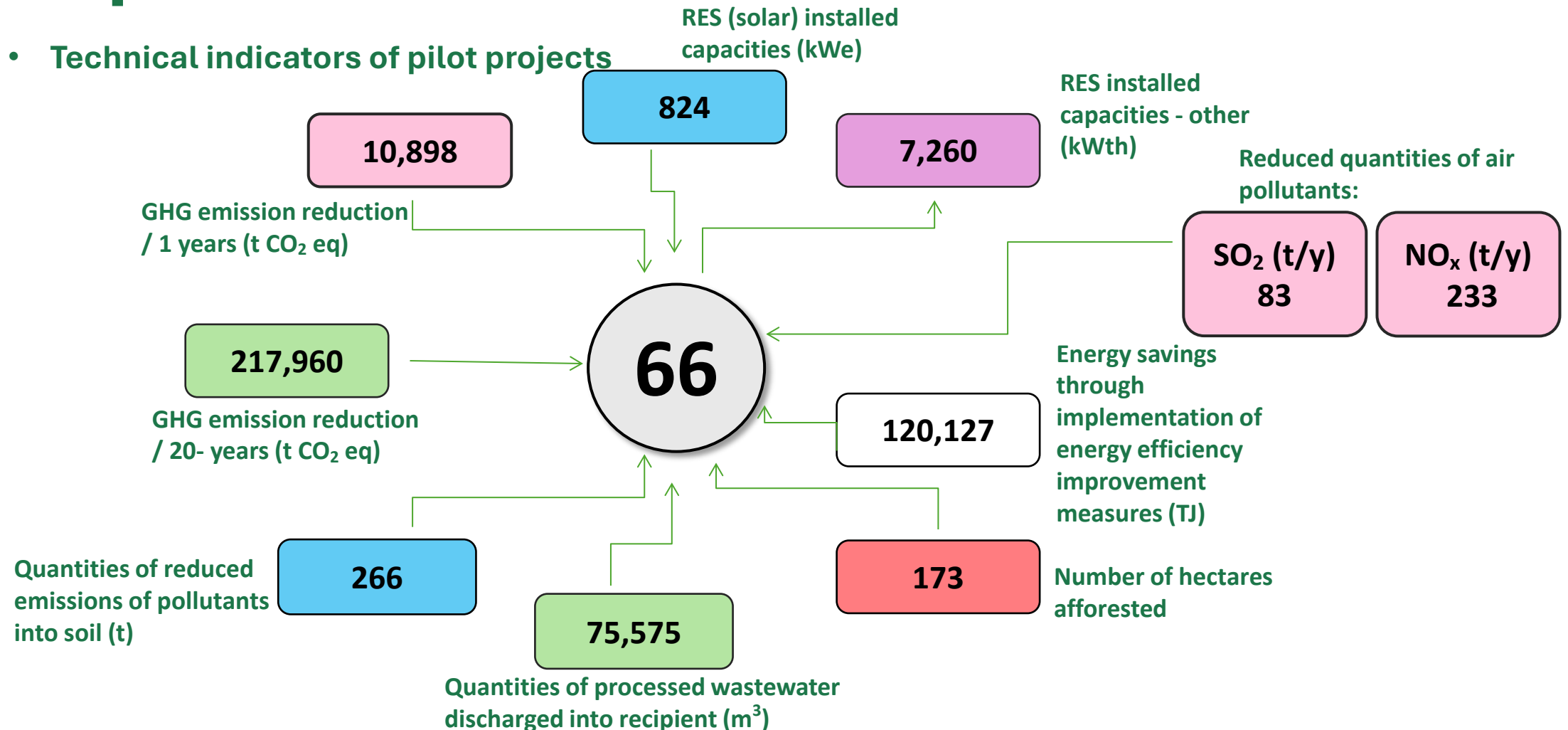
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Impact - indicators

- Technical indicators of pilot projects



Thank you

zelena.agenda.rs@undp.org

<https://zelena-agenda.euzatebe.rs>



Swiss Portfolio

- **Karin Gallandat**, Program Manager in the Infrastructure Financing unit of the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)



- **Carmen Thönnissen**, Regional Advisor Water and Environment for the SDC Programmes in the Western Balkans

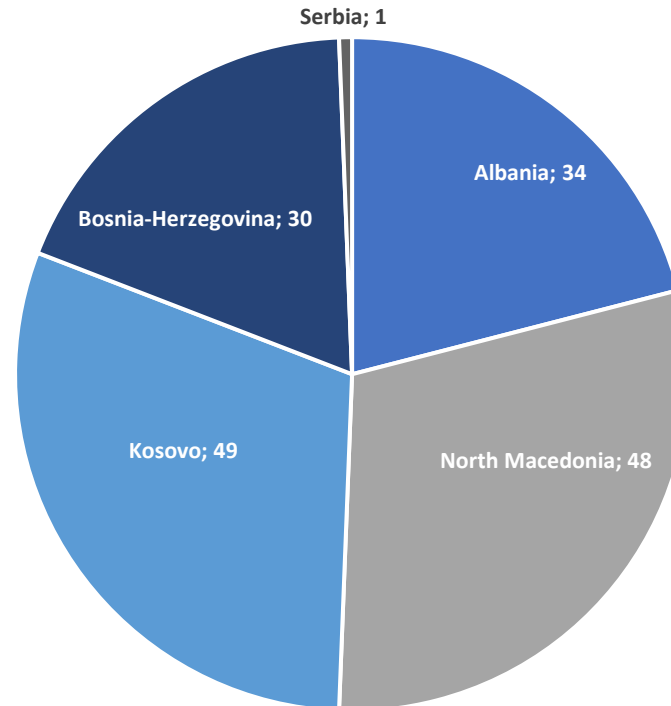
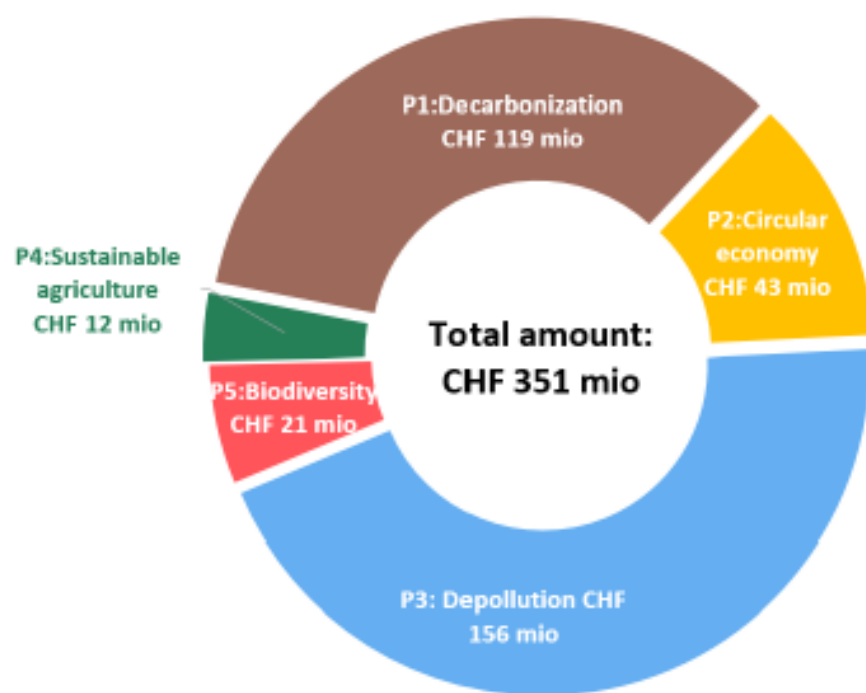


Swiss portfolio relevant to pillar #3 – «depollution»

Green Agenda for the Western Balkans
Learning Journey – E-webinar #1 – 19.09.2024

Karin Gallandat

Overview



Project examples (1/3)

Wastewater treatment plants



Koçani (NMK)



Gjakova (KOS)

Other sites:
Gejgelija (NMK),
Peja (KOS), ...

In preparation:
Zenica (BiH)
Berat, Shkodra (ALB)
...



Project examples (2/3)

RCDN+

Strengthening
associations
of public water
utilities and of local
governments as
training providers
and drivers of policy
dialogue

Knowledge
exchanges with
the Swiss Water
Association
(VSA)

BiH:
Establishing
a Community of
Practice for
wastewater
operators



<https://rcdnsee.net/>



Project examples (3/3)

Other examples

**Reforms
to incentivise good
utility performance,
accessibility, quality
and sustainability
of WSS (BiH, ALB)**

**Integrated water
resources
management**
(e.g. Strumica river
basin restoration,
groundwater mgmt
(NMK))

Support to utilities
(eg. UoF-CoE, EE in
KOS/NMK) and local
governments
(e.g. MEG I/II (BiH))



Swiss portfolio relevant to pillar #4 – «sustainable food systems»

Green Agenda for the Western Balkans
Learning Journey – E-webinar #1 – 19.09.2024

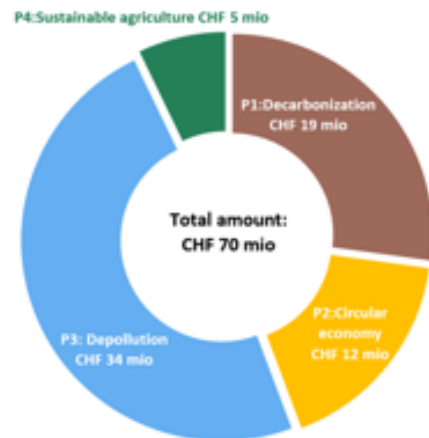
Dr. Carmen Thönnissen



Swiss Portfolio: GAWB P4 Sustainable Agriculture

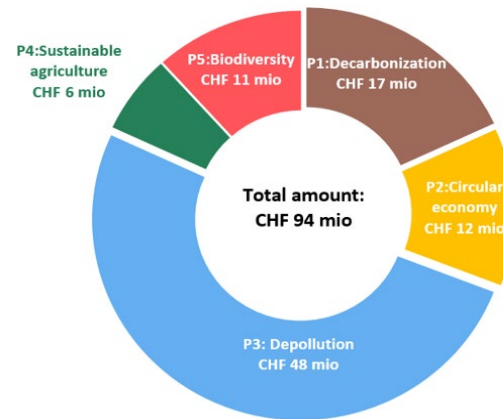
Albania

Cumulative Swiss contribution 2012-2024



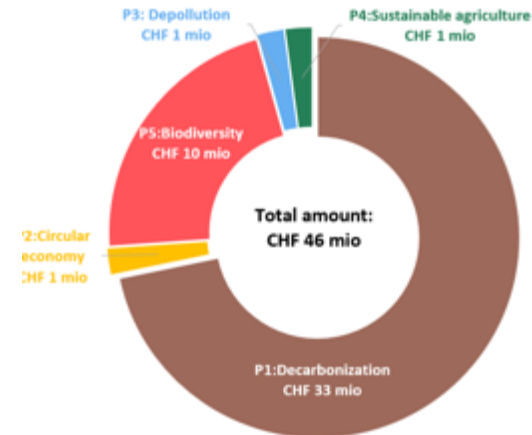
North Macedonia

Cumulative Swiss contribution 2012-2024



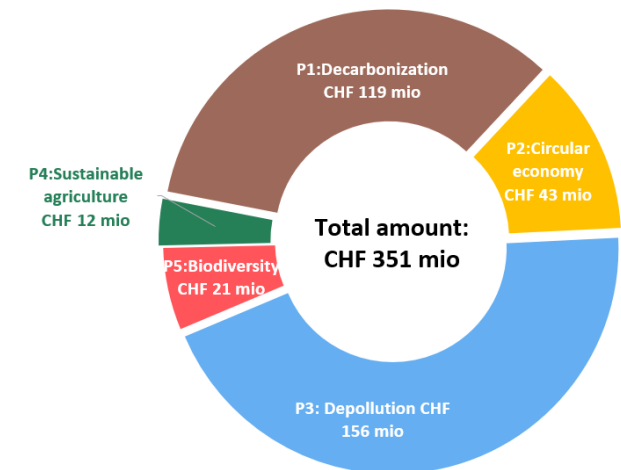
Serbia

Cumulative Swiss contribution 2012-2024



SWISS PORTFOLIO WBC

Cumulative Swiss contribution 2012-2024





Focus of Swiss P4 Portfolio

1. **Green Agenda, Serbia** → C4P innovative approaches for sustainable agricultural production
2. **Sustainable Rural Development, Albania** → Sustainable food systems and rural areas (under E&E), environmentally friendly agricultural innovations (process, production, technologies etc.) facilitation of private sector actors' collaboration along the value chain (i.e. biological control for greenhouse vegetables); promotion of agritourism.
3. **Organic Trade for Development, Albania**, promote private sector growth and generate new employment opportunities in the organic sector, a sustainable and environmentally friendly production system
4. **Towards a circular economy in BiH** → builds on 4 pillars: decarbonization and climate, depollution, biodiversity and nature and circular economy
5. **Increasing Market Employability, North Macedonia** → several interventions: Smart Specialization, development of a model for better linkages to the established biowaste plants; Law on organic agriculture, support to certification bodies, support to organic production consumers cooperative



Development Partners: GAWB P4 Sustainable Agriculture

Donor	Organization	Project	Country coverage	GA pillar contribution
EU	UNDP	EU for Prespa. Restoration of natural resources and enhancing sustainable agriculture and tourism	North Macedonia Duration: 2024 - 2027	Pillar 3 Pillar 4 Pillar 5
EU, SDC/SECO, Government of Sweden and the Republic of Serbia	UNDP	EU for Green Agenda in Serbia	Serbia	All 5 pillars
EU Funding of EUR 10 million, and Austrian contribution of EUR 1 million.	Environment Agency Austria in coop with public authorities and institutions of Western Balkans	EU4GREEN: Support the implementation of the Green Agenda	All Western Balkans Economies Duration: 2022 - 2025	Pillar 2 Pillar 3 Pillar 4
SWG as international and intergovernmental organization and platform for policy dialogue and regional cooperation in agriculture and rural development.		Implementation of projects in: - Rural Development - Trade and Economic Development - Agriculture and Agro-industry - Environmental Protection and Sustainability - Protection and promotion of cultural heritage - Tourism and Rural Tourism - Contributing to Human Health and Education - Exchange of Statistical Data - Promoting Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women in Rural Areas	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Moldova	Pillar 4

UN Food Systems Summit (2021, 2021+2) and GAWB pillar 4?

- **Concept:**

Food systems exist at **different scales**: global, regional, national and local. They are very diverse and location-specific.

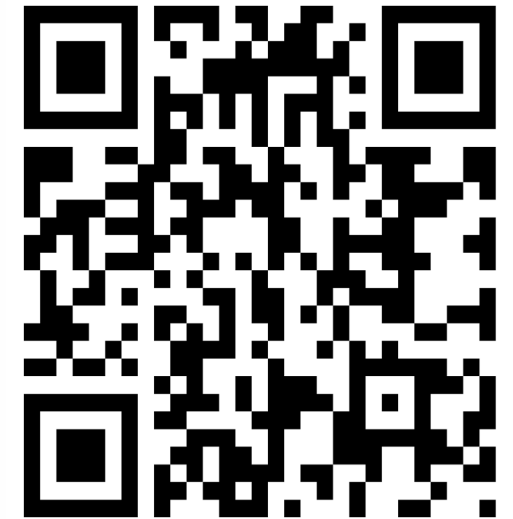
Food systems **embrace the entire range** of actors and their interlinked value-adding activities involved in the **production**, aggregation, processing, distribution, **consumption**, and disposal (loss or waste) of food products that originate from agriculture (incl. livestock), forestry, fisheries, and food industries, and the broader **economic, societal, and natural environments** in which they are embedded.

- Key process launched: **Food systems dialogues** and **nationally agreed pathway**
 - **Serbia and Albania** engaged in 2021, and update in 2023
 - BiH, Kosovo and North Macedonia not engaged so far



Discussion and reflection

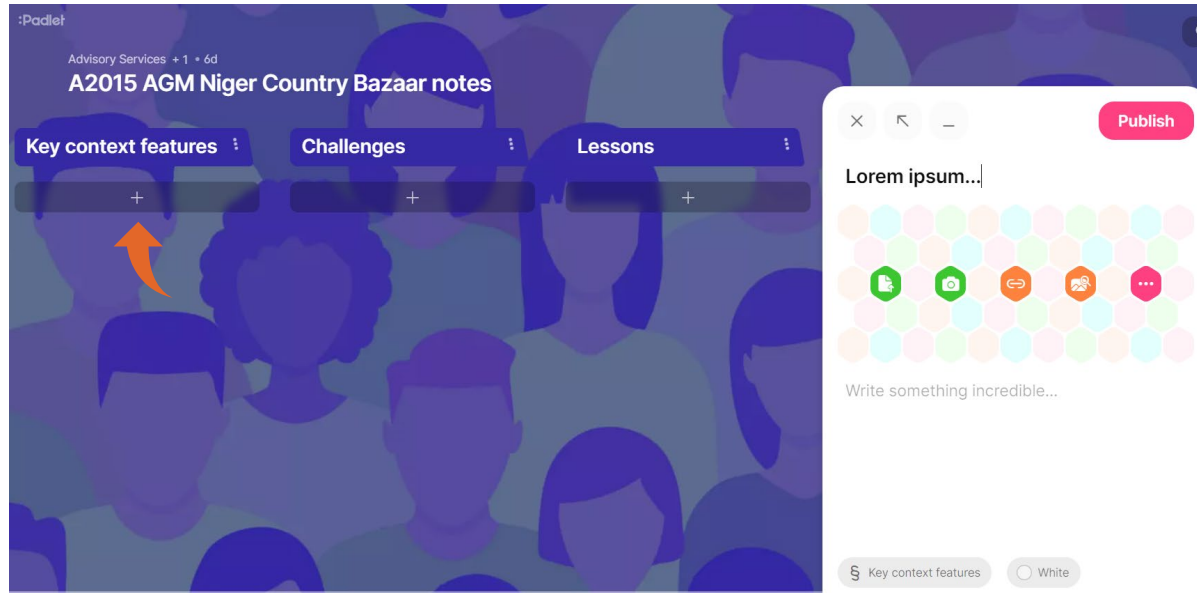
- Please use the Padlet to contribute your thoughts (scan QR or click link in chat box)
- Alternatively, please unmute yourself and provide your comments orally



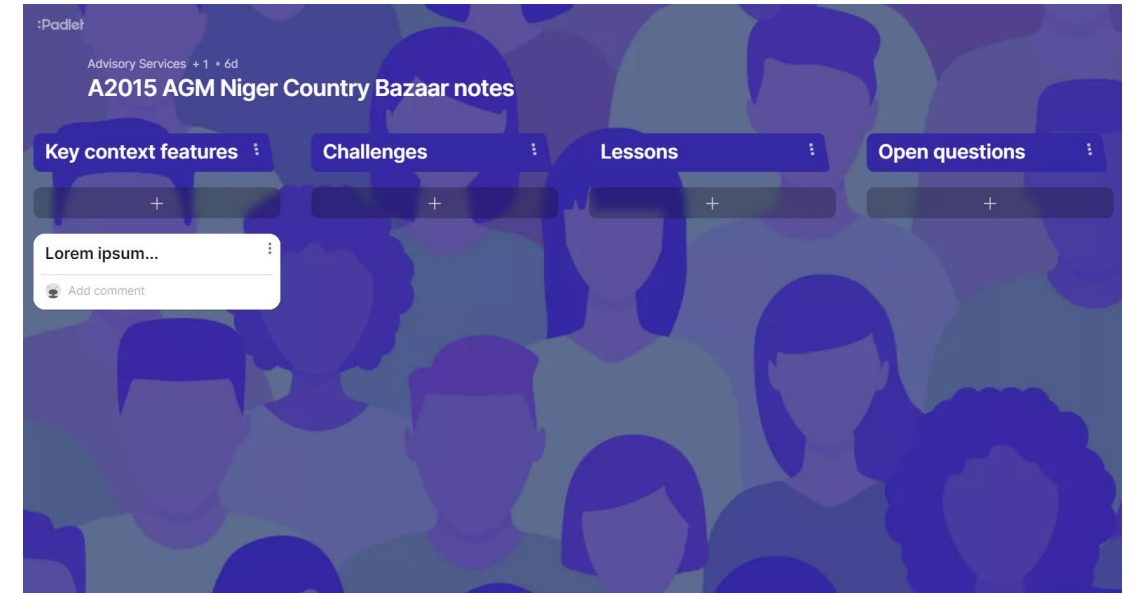
Note: the discussion will not be recorded



How Padlet works



- > Add notes by clicking on «+» under the columns.
- > Click «publish» to post them



- > You can move the notes around
- > You can add as many notes as you need



Conclusion

Dr. Carmen Thönnissen, Regional Advisor Water and Environment for the SDC Programmes in the Wester Balkans

Up next of the series...

Unpacking the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans

E-workshop 2: “Decarbonisation” and “Biodiversity”
03.10.2024, 10.00-12.00 CEST

E-workshop 3: “Circular economy”
31.10.2024, 14.00-16.00 CET

Thank you for your participation!

For **follow-up questions** about this webinar, please contact carmen.thoennissen@eda.admin.ch

Don't forget to join Swiss International Cooperations' knowledge networks:

- **Climate, DRR and Environment network:** <https://www.sdc-cde.ch/>
- **Water Network (RésEAU):** <https://www.sdc-water.ch/en>

