



Activity Report 2011-2012

Working group 3 “Environment, climate and energy security”

Working group 3 “Environment, climate change and energy security” of the EaP Civil Society Forum had a number of activities and achievements during the year 2011-2012.

Environment

WG3 members continued work on assessment report for the Eastern Partnership Flagship initiative “Towards good environmental governance”. The presentation of the assessment report and recommendations took place on the 15th of March in Kiev (<http://www.eap-csf.eu/ru/news-events/news/the-international-report-on-public-assessment-of-environmental-governance-in-eastern-partnership-cou/>).

WG3 members participated in preparation of the European Integration Index for EaP Countries (http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/moldova/documents/press_corner/eap_index_pilot_edition.pdf).

Climate change

Under the WG3 initiative the Civil Society Forum’11 adopted the “Statement calls for EU to lead in preserving and promotion the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol” (http://www.eap-csf.eu/assets/files/Downloads/english/EAP_CSF_SC_StatementonclimateEN.pdf), which was presented during the 17th Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC (COP17) in Durban, SA, in December, 2011.

Representatives of the WG3 participated in discussion on possible collaboration with the SPARE community and the Norwegian Society for Nature conservation in climate change sphere in the EaP region, Russia and Middle Asia (April 3, 2012, Bishkek, Kirgizstan). According to the agreement WG3 experts will provide an assessment report “Energy efficiency: the biggest power-plant in EaP countries” to show energy efficiency potential in EaP region. At the moment partners develop a common methodology for the assessment. It is planned that on base of the assessment national roadmaps on energy efficiency will be developed for all EaP countries.

A number of the WG3 member-organizations discussed possible cooperation with the Climate Action Network, regional branch for Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. CAN is a network of more than 700 organizations working on climate change all over the world. It’s planned that WG3 members will participate in the CAN EECCA general assembly and strategic planning in February, 2013.

Energy security

The project “EaP Energy Security Index (EaP ESI)” under support of the Polish MFA is under implementation.

The EaP ESI will provide the unique data collected and analyzed by the representatives of the Civil Society Forum gathered in a WG3. The participant of the EaP Civil Society Forum created already a European Integration Index which is much broader than EaP ESI and therefore gives more general picture of where the EaP countries are heading. The EaP ESI focuses only on issues linked with environment, climate change and Energy security issues and involves the issues of civic rights, rule law, level of democracy. The data collected and analysed within the ESI allow to assess not only the level of energy security of each EaP country but also to see what relation is between the rule of law, good governance and energy security.

The EaP index generator will base on the follow up of an idea of prof. Larry Hughes Canadian researcher, specialized in measuring the energy security. The Index will base on a number of questions and officially accessible data. Therefore the index will be a mixed formula of qualitative and quantitative data.

Working group development

During the last year of EaP CSF activities WG3 participants attended the following events:

- the 7th meeting of the EaP Panel 3 - Energy Security (18 June, Brussels). The meeting was devoted to infrastructure projects. The possibility of more active participation including presentations from CSF at the next meetings was requested
- Green Economy seminar of the EaP Panel 3 on «Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood (EaP-GREEN)» (04 October, Brussels).

The annual meeting of the WG3 had place on 8-9 November in Tbilisi (Georgia). Within the meeting a special session on the Open coordination method and Road maps development was provided (by the EuroBelarus experts Vladislav Velichko and Andrey Egorov).

The participants of the meeting decided to continue WG3 activities by the four directions:

- Following monitoring and annual indexation of Good Environmental governance flagship initiative implementation;
- Development of appropriate methodology for indexation of energy security;
- Development of common approach for preparation of road maps on climate policy for EaP countries;
- Development of common approach and methodology for assessment of progress of EaP countries in implementation environmental sustainability in frames of UN Sustainable Development concept and programs.

Participants also discussed the case when the representatives of the Ministry of Interior of Lithuania announced the Belarusian antinuclear movement activists Tatyana Novikova and Nicholas Ulasevich persona non grata and refused them entry to the territory of Lithuania, under the pretext of security threats in the EU. The WG3 condemned the decision of the Ministry of Interior of Lithuania and consider it as unacceptable and contrary to human rights norms of international law, including the Aarhus Convention. Therefore, the members of the group would prepare Statement and offer it for adoption by the participants of 4th CSF in Stockholm.