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|  |  | ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2022/INF.53 November 2022English only |

**Economic Commission for Europe**

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention
on Environmental Impact Assessment
in a Transboundary Context

Meeting of the Parties to the Convention
on Environmental Impact Assessment in
a Transboundary Context serving as the
Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on
Strategic Environmental Assessment

 **Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment**

**and Strategic Environmental Assessment**

 **Eleventh meeting**

Geneva, 19–21 December 2022
**Item 3 of the provisional agenda
Financial arrangements**

 Consideration of in-kind contributions

 Note by the Bureau

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|  *Summary* |
| This note replicates and slightly revises document ECE/MP.EIA/WG.2/2021/INF.11 prepared earlier by the Bureau with support from the secretariat further to the request by the Meetings of the Parties at their last sessions (Vilnius, online, 8–10 December 2020) that the Bureau develop a system “to recognize in-kind contributions in a proper manner within a financial scheme”. It lists issues on which the Bureau sought a clarification from the Working Group on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment at its tenth meeting (Geneva, 1–3 December 2021). At its last meeting (Geneva, 9 and 10 June 2022), the Bureau reviewed and slightly adjusted the document for added clarity, including to emphasize that, in its view, a systematic monetarization of all in-kind contributions would not be advisable as it would be overly complex and would not add value. At its meeting last year, the Working Group noted the Bureau’s questions but did not provide the requested clarifications. Instead, it agreed to consider the document again at its present meeting. As part of its general observations/conclusions, the Working Group: (a) Reiterated that in-kind contributions were useful additional means to support the implementation of the workplans, but that they would not replace financial contributions to the trust fund, in particular when secretariat support or any other trust fund expenditure was required to supplement in-kind contributions; (b) Took note of the Bureau’s view that only Parties or stakeholders themselves could indicate the monetary values of their own in-kind contributions, and that they should be invited do so in United States dollars, well in advance of the adoption of the workplans, with the understanding that said information would remain unverified and be reported separately in the financial reports. The Working Group is invited to consider the present document and provide the necessary clarifications and guidance for the finalization of the document by the Bureau.  |
|  |

 I. Background

1. Further to the proposal by the European Union and its Member States, the Meetings of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment at their last sessions (Vilnius, online, 8–10 December 2020) requested the Bureau, with the assistance of the secretariat, to develop a system “to recognize in-kind contributions in a proper manner within the financial scheme”.[[1]](#footnote-2) The “proper manner” was not specified. The requested work was to be delivered for consideration of the Meetings of the Parties at their next sessions, scheduled for December 2023. The present document outlines the outcomes of the Bureau’s initial deliberations on the matter at its meeting held online on 16 and 17 June 2021.[[2]](#footnote-3)

2. Over the years, through decisions on budget and financial arrangements by the Meetings of the Parties, Parties to the Convention and the Protocol and stakeholders have consistently been encouraged to provide in-kind contributions as a valuable additional means to implement the workplan activities, in addition to contributing extrabudgetary funds to the trust fund under the two treaties.[[3]](#footnote-4)

3. The financial strategy adopted by the Meetings of the Parties in 2014[[4]](#footnote-5) provided the following examples of what in-kind contributions may consist of:

(a) Covering the cost of services linked to workplan activities (provision of expertise, organization of a meeting, publication of results, etc.);

(b) Funding directly the participation of representatives of countries with economies in transition and the secretariat, rather than through contributions to the trust fund;

(c) Providing financial support for representatives of States outside the ECE region that they wished to participate in activities or meetings;

(d) Provision of leadership and expertise within the subsidiary bodies under the Convention and the Protocol, (e.g. as Chairs or members of official treaty bodies (elected officials) or of ad hoc bodies (ad hoc working groups, task forces, editorial groups etc.)).

4. The past workplans and budgets have referred to a variety of in-kind contributions over the years, which have typically constituted “services in-kind,” [[5]](#footnote-6) for example for the provision of technical assistance, exchange of good practice, informal translations, preparation of guidance materials. Such contributions have involved consultancy costs, costs associated with logistical arrangements for workshops and conferences and costs related to translation of documents or interpretation at meetings listed in the workplan. Another particularly significant example of a past in-kind contribution has been the sponsoring by Finland of a junior professional officer to UNECE to support the work of the secretariat for 3 years (2011–2014).

 **The practice this far**

5. The longstanding established practice under the Convention and its Protocol has been to prominently acknowledge the in-kind contributions provided, as follows:

(a) Through the annual financial reports (where in-kind contributions are described both in the body of the text and in corresponding tables);[[6]](#footnote-7)

(b) Referring to them at every meeting of the Bureau, the Working Group and the Meetings of the Parties;

(c) Recording them in the meeting reports of the Bureau, the Working Group and the Meetings of the Parties.

6. Since 2013, the funding that the secretariat channelled through large projects (such as the European Union funded programmes EaP GREEN (2013–2018) and EU4Environment (2019–2022)), administered through separate trust funds, has required a separate detailed financial and narrative reporting to the donor. Consequently, to avoid double reporting, the financial reports under the Convention and the Protocol no longer indicate all the details of the related transactions but describe the activities in question, the total amounts of the project funding, and provide links to available further information.[[7]](#footnote-8)

7. As a rule, the in-kind and project funded contributions that are not transferred to the trust fund under the Convention and the Protocol to finance the budget adopted by the Parties, have always been presented in the financial reports separately, after the trust fund balance in the reporting period, in tables summarizing the corresponding income and expenditure. In-kind contributions have been mostly valued according to the budget/workplan resource requirements indicated by the Meeting of the Parties or based on estimated amounts provided by the contributing Parties/organizations.[[8]](#footnote-9)

8. Previously, the workplans contained an extensive list of activities that countries had expressed a wish for, indicating also estimated resource requirements for such activities, independently whether any resources had yet been identified for their implementation. In contrast, in 2017, the Meetings of the Parties decided that workplans should consist only of activities for which funding has been identified in advance (or else the activities should be listed in a waiting list)[[9]](#footnote-10).

9. The intersessional period 2017–2020 was characterized by substantial in-kind contributions made by numerous Parties, in particular for the preparation of the Guidance on the applicability of the Convention to the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants: During three years, several Parties, in particular Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as Co-Chairs of the ad hoc group, but also many other Parties, as members of that group, spent time, effort and funds in travelling to meetings and in contributing to the elaboration of the draft guidance. Several Parties also hosted and organized meetings, which, in 2017–2020, were held in Luxembourg; Brussels; Berlin; London; Lisbon; Rotterdam; and Vienna, covering the organizational costs of the meetings. In addition, Germany hired a consultant to support the drafting of the guidance and translated the draft guidance into Russian in advance of a meeting of the Working Group in 2020.

10. The budget and the workplan for 2017–2020 as agreed by the Meetings of the Parties did not indicate estimated monetary values for the foreseen or possible in-kind contributions, including as regards the development of draft guidance documents by volunteering Parties, nor did any of the contributing Parties subsequently inform the secretariat of the related costs/budgetary figures. In absence of information on costs, the financial report for 2017–2020 acknowledged and recorded all the in-kind contributions while indicating that their monetary value was not known. The same would hold true for the present workplan for 2021–2023.

 II. Issues for consideration of the Working Group

11. The Bureau deliberated on several issues in relation to the requested “proper” recognition of in-kind contributions “within a financial scheme”. It observed that the request as it was formulated lacked clarity and that further explanations and guidance from the Working Group would be useful to allow the Bureau to address the matter. The Bureau considered that in-kind contributions under the Convention and the Protocol were already prominently recognized (see para. 5 above). It therefore invited the Working Group to clarify whether the request perhaps advocated for a better and more systematic quantification/determination of the monetary values of in-kind contributions. Based on that assumption, the Bureau considered the issue of “monetarization” of in-kind contributions more in depth and raised several questions in that regard.

12. The Bureau emphasized, in general, that the cost of living (prices for goods and services) and salaries differed considerably amongst countries across the UNECE region, which made it difficult to quantify and compare Parties’ in-kind contributions in monetary terms.

13. The Bureau invited the Working Group to provide feedback and clarifications as regards the following issues and questions:

(a) **The determination of specific monetary values for in-kind contributions**. The Meetings of the Parties have decided that, prior to their adoption, Parties should ensure that corresponding resources were available for the implementation of the periodic workplans (see e.g. decisions VIII/1-IV/1 and VIII/2–IV/2). Consequently, a Party that commits to providing an in-kind service for the implementation of a workplan activity should indicate this sufficiently in advance for that service to be recorded in the draft workplan. If Parties wish that the workplans indicate monetary values for their in-kind services, they should provide such estimated values. Once the activity has been completed, that Party should also report on the actual value of the service provided, for that expenditure to be more accurately recorded in the financial reports, and not only reflecting an initial estimate[[10]](#footnote-11). For the purposes of the financial report, any expenditure figures should be provided to the secretariat in United States’ Dollars. The secretariat would fully rely only on the information provided by the contributing Parties or stakeholders without a possibility to verify the expenditures regarding funds not administered by it. Moreover, it would not be feasible to compare the monetary values between them;

(b) **Identifying the types of in-kind contributions to be quantified in monetary terms.** The Bureau considered that systematically “monetarizing” all in-kind contributions would not be advisable as too complex and not adding value. While the calculation of costs of a meeting or a workshop organized by a Party would be fairly easy, other in-kind contributions would be more difficult to determine in monetary terms. In particular, individual Parties’ officials’ in-kind inputs to the work of the formal or ad hoc treaty bodies, would be too challenging to quantify - e.g. through multiplying the number of days or hours spent for preparing for a meeting by the corresponding daily/hourly fees of the officers (in US dollars) and the comparison of the figures would be difficult, taking into account the differences in national salary levels and currencies of Parties and stakeholders across the UNECE region. The secretariat’s staff resources would not be sufficient to take on the substantial additional work that would represent liaising with the concerned Parties and stakeholders to collect and to assemble the data, and to convert costs into USD.

(c) **Factoring in funds for the secretariat resources needed to supplement in-kind contributions.** The Bureau underscored that no matter how useful the in-kind contributions were, the budget deficit in the trust fund and the resource constraints of the secretariat remained acute problems. All the workplan activities that were thus far delivered through in-kind contributions had nevertheless also required a varying extent of secretariat support and sometimes also travel funds for the secretariat to attend meetings outside Geneva. However, mostly, no additional funding or staffing was provided for that purpose to supplement the in-kind contribution. For example, the preparation of the guidance on the lifetime-extension of nuclear power plants in 2017–2020, referred to above, demanded also non-negligeable secretariat resources for servicing and contributing to the work, travelling to meetings and organizing multiple meetings online or in Geneva. That additional effort overlapped with the secretariat’s peak-workload period for the organization and servicing of the sessions of the Meetings of the Parties in 2019 and 2020, and the preceding meetings of the Bureau, Working Group and the Implementation Committee in 2017–2020. In the light of the above, the Bureau invites the Working Group to acknowledge that any system for reflecting in-kind contributions would also need to factor in and to ensure the availability of sufficient funds in the trust fund for any required secretariat support or any other expenditure needed from the trust fund (e.g. travel of participants or the secretariat funded from the trust fund);

(d) **The determination of a possible minimum value for in-kind contributions to be reflected in the financial reports**. In the past, in-kind contributions, including those of estimated value of below USD 5,000 have been summarized in the financial reports. From the financial and accounting perspective, the “United Nations Corporate Guidance for International Public Sector Accounting Standards” specify that [t]he United Nations does not recognize services in kind. However, the disclosure to the financial statements should include information about services in kind with a value above USD 20,000.**[[11]](#footnote-12)** The Bureau considered it useful to establish possible thresholds/ minimum values for the acknowledgement of in-kind contributions, e.g. organizing a meeting as opposed to delivering a presentation at a meeting;

14. Lastly, the Bureau again strongly recommended that its members and other Parties to consider the possibilities of their countries to sponsor a **junior professional officer (JPO)** to assist the secretariat in servicing the two treaties, following the example of Finland that had financed a staff member for the secretariat in 2011–2014. JPOs are recruited under bilateral agreements between the UN and donor countries participating in the JPO programme. Some donor countries also fund nationals from developing countries. Candidates are young professionals, usually with an advanced university degree and minimum two years of professional experience. JPO positions are generally on the P1 or P2 level. Initially JPOs are granted a one-year appointment which may be extended, on the basis of good performance, to 2 or 3 years, depending on the donor country. The main objective of the JPO Programme is to provide young professionals with the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in the field of multilateral international cooperation through a learning experience under the supervision of more senior UN staff.[[12]](#footnote-13) (While JPOs are welcome opportunity to strengthen the secretariat, the JPO programme is not intended to address resources gaps in the secretariat. The missing resources to support the core functions of the secretariat cannot be filled through a succession of JPOs).

Annex I

 Extracts from the financial reports under the Convention and the Protocol

 A. Source: ECE/MP.EIA/2020/2–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2020/2

22. **Parties and partner organizations also undertook or financed the following activities by providing in-kind contributions** (table A.7):

(a) Subregional cooperation meetings: A session on implementation of the Convention, the Protocol and the Bucharest Agreement in the South-Eastern Europe subregion, co-organized by Romania and the secretariat during a regional conference on environmental impact assessment hosted by Croatia (Vodice, Croatia, 14 and 15 September 2017);

(b) Preparation of draft guidance on the applicability of the Convention to the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants by an ad hoc working group co-chaired by Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and including nominated experts from: Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the European Union (represented by Directorate Generals for Energy and for the Environment of the European Commission). The work was supported by the secretariat. The ad hoc group held eight meetings (Luxembourg, 27–28 November 2017, Brussels, 20–21 February and Berlin, 20–21 June 2018; London, 2–3 October 2018; Geneva, 25–26 March 2019; Lisbon, 3–4 June 2019; Rotterdam, 8–9 October 2020; and Vienna, 3–4 December 2019). In 2020, due to COVID-19, three further meetings were cancelled, and work continued via written procedure, one-to-one discussions with the experts and on-line meetings (seven meetings were held in May and June and further seven meetings in September and October 2020). In addition, the co-chairs held regular consultation meetings with NGOs in Brussels, Bonn and on-line. Germany also translated into Russian the draft guidance for consideration of the Working Group in August 2020;

(c) Stakeholder workshops on the application of the Convention to the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants co-organized by Germany and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, with support from the secretariat (Geneva, 28 May 2018) during the seventh meeting of the Working Group, with additional Russian interpretation financed by the Netherlands; and hosted by Austria, in Vienna on 2 December 2019;

(d) Workshop on the environmental and health impacts of the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants organized by International Association of Impact Assessment in Lisbon, on 5 June 2019, with support from the secretariat;

(e) Preparation of guidance on assessing health impacts in strategic environmental assessment developed by consultants funded by the European Investment Bank, in collaboration with ECE, the World Health Organization (WHO) based on terms of reference agreed by the Working Group in May 2018, with inputs from a task force composed of representatives of Austria, Finland, Ireland and Slovenia and in consultation with the Bureau and the Working Group in 2019;

(f) Preparation of a strategy and an action plan for the Convention and the Protocol through three informal meetings of Parties and support from the secretariat: the first two informal meetings were co-chaired by Austria and the Netherlands (London, 1 October 2018 and Rotterdam, 7 October, 2019); and the last one by the Netherlands and Poland (Warsaw, 23 and 24 January 2020);

(g) Informal translation by WWF Russia of FasTips;

(h) Informal translation by Canada of Parties’ responses to the questionnaire on the implementation of the Convention and the Protocol during the period 2016–2018 from original French into English.

23. Information on outcomes of the activities implemented by the secretariat and partner organizations with project funding is provided in the summary report on the implementation of technical assistance and capacity building in the period from June 2017–September 2020 (ECE/MP.EIA/2020/6–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2020/6). The paragraph 13 above indicates the total amounts of the available project funding by European Union targeting East Europe and the Caucasus and Kazakhstan; and by Germany with co-funding from ECE and OSCE targeting Central Asia. Details on the use of the project funds are reported on separately to the donors and not covered in the present financial report.

 13. In addition, in the reporting period, a substantial amount of **project funding**, raised by the secretariat, was available to finance the implementation by the secretariat of technical assistance and capacity building activities included in or related to the workplan. The project funds were managed separately from the Parties’ contributions to the trust fund and details on their use reported on separately to the donor. Therefore, the project funding is not covered in the present financial report. The available project funding included the following:

 (a) Funding from the European Union under the Greening Economies in the European Union’s Eastern Partnership (EaP GREEN) programme totalling €163,000 or $195,913;[[13]](#footnote-14)

(b) Funding from the European Union for technical assistance on strategic environmental assessment to Kazakhstan for the period 2016–2018 (“Supporting Kazakhstan’s Transition to a Green Economy Model”) totalling $164,000;

(c) Funding from the European Union under the EU4 Environment programme[[14]](#footnote-15) totalling $1,451,153 (the first tranche received in April 2019 amounted to $569,720 and the second from July 2020 to $881,433);[[15]](#footnote-16)

(d) Funding from Germany of €164,375 or some $189,250 for reviewing the national legislation of Tajikistan and Uzbekistan vis-à-vis the Protocol and for drafting primary and secondary legislation on environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment;

(e) The project of ECE and Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe “Strengthening national and regional capacities and cooperation on strategic environmental assessment in Central Asia, including as a response to climate change” was put together to strengthen capacities of the five Central Asian Republics in the application of strategic environmental assessment and to enhance regional cooperation addressing transboundary environmental challenges with funding mainly from Germany with co-funding from OSCE and ECE (in total €214,888 or some $258,000). (The implementation will continue in 2021).

# Table 1**Income and expenditure in the reporting period 2017–2020**(in United States dollars)

|  |  |  | *Amount by priority* |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | *1* | *2* | *3* | *Earmarked* | ***Total*** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| (a) | Contributions made to the trust fund, with non-earmarked contributions being allocated first to priority 1 activities (from tables A.1 and A.2) | 835 617 | 168 769 | — | 98 916 | **1 103 302** |
| (b) | Funds for carried-over activities (see para. 8) | — | — | — | 26 739 | **26 739** |
| (c) | Total income to the trust fund in the period ((a)+(b)) | 835 617 | 168 769 | — | 125 655 | **1 130 041** |
| (d) | Expenditure from the Espoo Trust Fund for budgeted priority 1, 2 and 3 workplan activities (from table A.3) and unbudgeted/earmarked activities (from table A.4 + carried over activities from A.3) | 607 617 | 237 183 | 665 | 134 055 | **979 520** |
| (e) | 13% United Nations programme support costs | 78 990 | 30 834 | 86 | 17 427 | **127 338** |
| (f) | Trust fund balance: income less expenditure in the period ((c)-(d)-(e)) | 149 040 | -99 248 | -751 | - 25 827 | **23 183** |
| (g) | In-kind contributions made, valued according to the budgeted activity cost (from table A.7) | — | — | — |  | — |

Table A.7 **In-kind contributions made
(in United States dollars)**

| *Activity* | *Priority* | *Sub-activity* | *Date* | *Source* | *Valuea* | *Notes* |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sub-regional cooperation | 3 | Session on implementation of the Convention, the Protocol and the Bucharest Agreement in the South-Eastern Europe subregion  | 14–15 September 2017, Vodice, Croatia | Croatia | Unknown | Co-organized by Romania and the secretariat during a regional conference on EIA |
|  | 3 | Preparation of guidance on the applicability of the Convention to the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants by an ad hoc working group led by Germany and the UK, including preparatory meetings hosted by the Co-Chairs and the members of the groupand Co-Chairs’ consultations with NGOs  | 8 meetings in 2017–2020 (in Luxem-bourg; Brussels; Geneva; Berlin; London; Lisbon; Rotterdam; Vienna.  | Germany and United Kingdom, European Commission (DG Energy and Environment), Portugal,Netherlands, Austria | Unknown | Ad hoc working group led + co-chaired by Germany and United Kingdom with nominated experts from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czechia, France, Finland, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Spain, Ukraine, and the European Commission (Energy and Environment DGs) |
|  | 3 | Workshop on the application of the Convention to the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants (+ additional hour of Russian interpretation paid by the Netherlands) | 28-29 May 2018, Geneva | Germany, the UK, (interpretation costs: Netherlands) | Unknown | Workshop co-organized by Germany and the United Kingdom, with support from the secretariat |
|  | 3 | International Workshop on the application of the Convention to the lifetime extension of nuclear power plants | 5 June 2019, Lisbon | IAIA | Unknown | Workshop organized by IAIA with secretariat support  |
|  | 3 | Informal Translation of IAIA FastTips |  | WWF Russia | Unknown |  |
| **Total** |   |   |   |   |  **-**  |   |

***a*** Values for activities not indicated in the current budget (decision VII/4-III/4) and are unknown.

 B. Source: ECE/MP.EIA/2011/1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2011/1

 Table 1
Income and expenditure
(in United States dollars)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  | *1* | *2* | ***Total*** |
| (a) | Contributions made to the trust fund, with non-earmarked contributions being allocated first to priority 1 activities (from tables A.1 and A.2) | 962 551 | 9 000 | **971 551** |
| (b) | Funds for carried-over activities (see para. 7) | 0 | 53 869 | **53 869** |
| **(c)** | **Total income to the trust fund in the period ((a)+(b))** | **962 551** | **62 869** | **1 025 420** |
| (d) | Expenditure from the trust fund for budgeted workplan activities (from tables A.3, A.4 and A.5) | 686 856 | 88 681 | **775 537** |
| (e) | 13% United Nations programme support costs | 89 291 | 11 529 | **100 820** |
| **(f)** | **Trust fund balance: income less expenditure in the period ((c)-(d)-(e))** | **186 404** | **-37 340** | **149 063** |
| (g) | In-kind contributions made, valued according to the budgeted activity cost (from table A.6) | 30 000 | 321 255 | **351 255** |

 Table A.6
In-kind contributions made
(in United States dollars)

| *Index* | *Activity* | *Priority* | *Sub-activity* | *Date* | *Source* | *Value a* | *Notes* |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9 | Informal translations of informal papers for meetings listed above | 2 | Translation into Russian of informal papers for MOP-5 | Spring 2011 | Switzerland | 5 000 |  |
| 12.3.3 | Compliance with and implementation of the Convention | 1 | Azerbaijan technical assistance for country-specific performance review |  | Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC), with funding from Finland | 30 000 | Expected to begin in May 2011 |
| 13.1.1 | Subregional cooperation and capacity-building | 2 | Subregional meetings | 3 Dec. 2010 | Belarus, ENVSEC (Canada) | 20 000 | Final conference on pilot project in Belarus (see below) |
| 13.1.2 |  |  |  | 25–27 Mar. 2009 | Switzerland | 20 000 | Subregional workshop (Central Asia), presenting results of Kazakhstan-Kyrgyzstan pilot project(s), Bishkek |
| 13.1.3 |  |  |  | 22–23 Jul. 2010 | Tajikistan and the German International Cooperation Agency, GIZ | 20 000 | 2-day national seminar on legal implementation of the Convention, Dushanbe |
| 13.1.4 |  |  |  | May 2011 | ENVSEC, with funding from Finland | 20 000 | Workshop for the Caucasus subregion expected to be held in Tbilisi in May 2011 |
| 13.1.5 |  |  |  | 1 Nov. 2010 | Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe, with support of Netherlands | 20 000 | Seminar on EIA of a very large energy project in the Black Sea area |
| 13.1.6 |  |  |  | 17–19 Nov. 2008 | Bulgaria, and workshop participants | 20 000 | South-Eastern Europe subregion — Meeting, on the relationship between EIA and SEA, Koprivshtitsa (Bulgaria) |
| 13.1.7 |  |  |  | 22–23 Oct. 2009 | Sweden, and workshop participants | 20 000 | Baltic Sea subregion — workshop, Vilnius |
| 13.1.8 |  |  |  | 31 Mar.–1 Apr. 2011 | Lead countries, workshop participants | 20 000 | Baltic Sea subregion — workshop, Espoo (Finland) |
| 13.2.1 |  |  | Pilot projects | 2009–2010 | Belarus, ENVSEC, with funding from Canada | 50 000 | Pilot project on Neman River hydropower plant. Start-up workshop in June 2009, mid-term workshop in November 2010, and final conference in December 2010 (actual cost substantially higher) |
| 13.2.2 |  |  |  | 2006–2009 | Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and OSCE, under ENVSEC, with funding from Norway | 50 000 | Pilot project for Andash gold-copper mine in Kyrgyzstan. |
| 14.2.1 | Exchange of good practices | 2 | One-day seminars | 17 May 2010 | Armenia | 0 | Legislation and procedures. Organized by secretariat within a half-day. |
| 14.3.1 |  |  | Half-day seminars | 12 May 2009 | European Commission | 5 000 | Large-scale projects |
| 14.3.2 |  |  |  | 24 Nov. 2010 | Austria | 2 845 | Climate change, EIA and SEA, with two speakers supported by trust fund |
| 15.1.1 | Promoting ratification and application of the Protocol | 2 | National awareness-raising workshops | 9 Jun. 2010 | Slovenia | 3 000 | Neighbouring States invited but did not participate |
|  |  |  |  | 28 Mar.–1 Apr. 2011 | GIZ (Germany) | 3 000 | Held in Almaty (Kazakhstan), organized by the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia, for all five Central Asian States. Nominal value according to budget is shown, but actual cost exceeded $50,000. |
| 15.2 |  |  | Subregional training workshop for countries of South-Eastern Europe | 22–26 Sept. 2008 | United Nations Development Programme | 30 000 | Held in Prague by United Nations Development Programme, with support from the Czech Trust Fund |
| 16 | Subregional cooperation | 2 | Workshop in Tunis | 20–21 Apr. 2010 | Tunisia | 12 410 | Subregional workshop, Tunis, financing of eligible participants via trust fund (Italy), with other arrangements by host Government |
|  | **Total** |  |  |  |  | **351 255** |  |

*a* Value is that indicated in the current budget (decision IV/8).

 Annex II

 An illustrative example for reflecting on the quantification of Parties’ in-kind contributions to the work of the Implementation Committee

| *Activity* | *Priority* | *Sub-activity* | *Date* | *Source* | *Value in USD* | *Notes on working time/session – times only indicative\**  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Meetings of the Implementation Committee(3 sessions of 4 days per year for 3 years, plus up to 4 days of possible online meetings in between the scheduled sessions per year Total for 2021-2023 intersessional period9 session of 4 days + up to 12 days for possible online meeting) | 2 | Preparation the Committee sessions by the Committee MembersParticipation of the Committee Members in the Committee sessions (includes travel costs + working time)Follow-up to the Committee’s sessionsParticipation in on-line meeting in between the official sessions of the Committee | Dates of the sessions to be included | AustriaAzerbaijanFinlandGermanyHungaryLuxembourgPortugalSlovakiaSweden  | UnknownOr to be requested from the Parties. | *Up to 5 days per session per member* *4 days per session per member + 1 day for travel**Up to 1 day per session per member and up to 3 days for the Chair of the Committee**Up to 4 days per year per member. Up to 6 days per year for the Chair****Total per year****Up to 45 days per year per member**Up to 57 days per year for the Chair* |

\*/ The possible number of working days/year of the IC members/Chair are purely indicative – and will also depend on the number and the difficulty of cases that the member is a curator for, the number of online meetings to be organized in between the sessions.

1. Decision VIII/2–IV/2, para. 12, ECE/MP.EIA/30/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/13/Add.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. See also informal notes of the meeting of the Bureau, paras. 19–23, available at: <https://unece.org/environmental-policy/events/bureau-espoo-convention>. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Decision VII/4-III/4, para. 14, ECE/MP.EIA/23/Add.1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/7/Add.1; Decision VIII/1-IV/1, para. 14, ECE/MP.EIA/30/Add.1-ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/13/Add.1. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Decision VI/4–II/4, para. 8., ECE/MP.EIA/20.Add.3–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/4.Add.3, annex  [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. “Services in kind” are services provided to the United Nations in a non-exchange transaction. See “United Nations Corporate Guidance for International Public Sector Accounting Standards”, Funding Arrangements, p. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. See the extract from the draft financial report for 2017 – 2020 ECE/MP.EIA/2020/2–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2020/2, para. 23 in annex to the present document. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. See in annex of the present document, an extract from the draft financial report for 2017 – 2020, para. 13- [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. See extracts from the financial reports: ECE/MP.EIA/2011/1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2011/1 ECE/MP.EIA/2014/1–ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2014/1, table A.7; available from: <http://staging2.unece.org.net4all.ch/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2014/EIA/MOP/ECE.MP.EIA.2014.1%E2%88%92ECE.MP.EIA.SEA.2014.1_E.pdf>

 ECE/MP.EIA/2017/3 ECE/MP.EIA/SEA/2017/3, table A.7. Available from <http://staging2.unece.org.net4all.ch/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2017/EIA/MOP7/28_04_17__ece_mp.eia_2017_3_ece_mp.eia_sea_2017_3_eng.pdf>; [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. In 2020, some Parties (the delegation of the EU) had initial reservations towards the inclusion of wishlisted activities. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. See for example decision VI/3–II/3 on the adoption of 2011-2014 workplan annex where in may instances the costs of the in-kind contributions are estimated in some instances, and Report on the budget and financial arrangements in the 2011-2014 inter-sessional period, paras.13, 17, 20, tables 2, and A.7.). [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. The “United Nations Corporate Guidance for International Public Sector Accounting Standards” specify that [t]he United Nations does not recognize services in kind. However, the disclosure of the nature and type of services in kind received during the reporting period is required if they are material. The disclosure to the financial statements should include information about services in kind with a value above USD 20,000 for Volumes I and II (USD 5,000 for other United Nations reporting entities), per discrete contribution, measured at fair value. The recommended classes of ‘services in kind’ for note disclosures are: a) Technical assistance/expert services; b) Administrative support; c) Participation in training; d) Other services in kind.” [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
12. More information on the JPO programme is available at: <https://www.un.org/development/desa/jpo/about/> [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
13. The EaP GREEN programme extended from January 2013 until the end of April 2018. The total funding for the activities implemented by ECE during that period was €2,108,544 or some $2,608,378. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
14. The European Union funded large regional programme “EU4Environment” is implemented in 2019–2022 by ECE and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the World Bank, with a total European Union funding of $19.5 million. It builds on the previous European Union programmes, such as EaP GREEN. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
15. The total budget of the component implemented by ECE for the four-year period is $2,579,670. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)