

SERBIA AND SWEDEN FOR CHAPTER 27

CHAPTER 27 – ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE REFORM FOR QUALITY OF LIFE

CHAPTER 27 - Chapter 27 on Environment and Climate Change, comprises over 200 major legal acts covering various sectors. EU environmental requirements are divided into about 75 main legal acts or groups of legal acts into the following subchapters:



When aspiring to join the European Union, a country aligns its national laws, rules and procedures in order to give effect to the entire body of EU law. This is called the approximation process. Further on, the country has to implement and enforce these aligned requirements.

The Chapter 27 approximation is a demanding process for national institutions – both to increase its capacity and to make large scale investments in infrastructure. Support from EU, multilateral and bilateral assistance play an important role to strengthen the environment and climate reform in Serbia.

SWEDISH – SERBIAN ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION

Sweden is the lead donor for coordination for this sector in Serbia. The scope of the Swedish support covers all the main aspects of Chapter 27 from negotiations to legal, institutional and investment support, including support to the implementation of the Green Agenda in Serbia.

SWEDEN

- Lead Donor for coordination of environment and climate supporting Chapter 27 reform of the EU negotiations in Cluster 4
- 17 MEUR grant support for environmental improvements (2016–2022)
- Cooperation agreements with the Ministry for Environmental Protection, municipalities, international organisations, and NGOs
- Links environment reforms with good governance and democracy reforms
- Supports IPA programming, EU projects and Team Europe
- Supports policy planning, legal system development, investment planning, implementation and public participation in decision-making
- Contributes to donor coordination on topics such as green transition, climate change, waste and water management and air pollution
- Mobilises engagement and capital as an active partner for the EU for Green Agenda in Serbia, implementing the EU Economic Investment Plan and Green Agenda in Western Balkans

The Swedish Government adopted in 2021 a reform cooperation Strategy for Western Balkans and Turkey (2021-2027). “Environmentally and climate-resilient sustainable development and sustainable use of natural resources” is a priority area.

Swedish support is being provided in close cooperation with national institutions, first of all, Ministry of Environmental Protection in partnership with EU Delegation, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, the Swedish Chemicals Agency, Belgrade University, Serbian Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities and Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Administration, Young Researchers and other CSOs, National Academy for Public Administration, National Alliance for Local Economic Development, UNDP, the European Investment Bank and other institutions and organisations.

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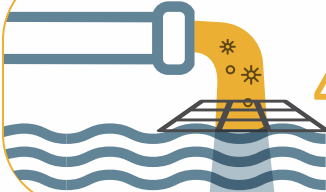
In 2022-2023, Sida supported ongoing activities include:

- CHAPTER 27** Chapter 27 negotiations support (**ENVAP4**)
- NALED** Development of sustainable capacity for green procurement (**NALED**)
- EISP2** Improvement of water, waste and investment planning (**EISP2**)
- ePlan4eSpace** Improved management of land/spatial planning (**ePlan4eSpace**)
- SCTM** Support to municipalities, for example on waste management in line with EU standards (**SCTM**)
- Team Europe** EU for Green Agenda in Serbia coordinated action **Team Europe**, including support to biodiversity
- NAPA** Designing new, innovative and competitive public sector training programs (**NAPA**)
- NGO** Support to environmental NGO network, including Chapter 27 Shadow report (**ECO-SYSTEM**)
- IED project** Improvement of environmental standards in industry and inspection capacity on all levels (**IED project**)
- Regional cooperation** Support to **regional cooperation on nature protection and air pollution**.

Recently finalised projects were concentrating on:

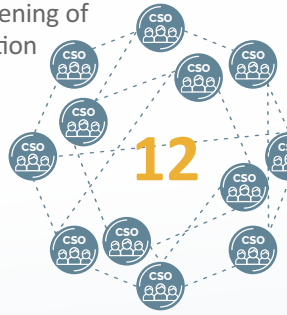
- KEMI** Improved chemical management (**KEMI**)
- PEID** Wastewater investment preparation (**PEID**)
- NGO** **Bio-waste management** and mitigating climate change
- NGO** **Employment opportunities**, new job creation and trainings for informal waste collectors (**Help**)

EXAMPLES OF COOPERATION RESULTS




Constructed waste water treatment plants with the potential of preventing **40.000.000 tons** of untreated sewage entering Serbian waters

Strengthening of cooperation between



12 CSO networks, including 60 civil society organisations, for example in the field of biodiversity and climate change

Established household recycling systems for 17 cities and municipalities with the potential for diverting over **32.000 t/y** of waste from landfill



Support to Chapter 27 consultative preparation for negotiations process with more than

420 meetings and workshops



with about

4200 participants



increase of transparency and information with 11 factsheets and the Negotiating Group 27 web site (~26000 unique users during 2017 - 2022)

Introduction of Industrial Emissions Directive requirements with the potential reduction of up to

- 70%** of particulate matter
- 50%** of sulphur oxides
- 70%** of nitrogen oxides
- 65%** of volatile organic compounds

and saving about **20%** of energy and water for large industrial plants