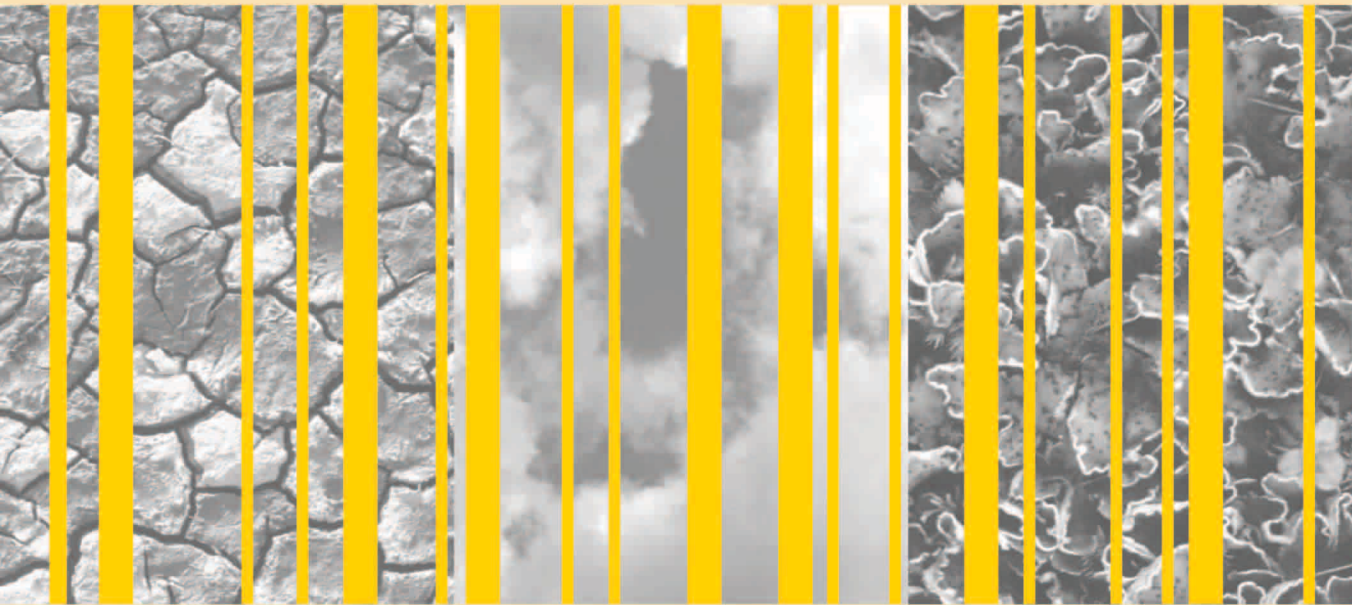


CAPACITY BUILDING FOR GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT IN SLOVENIA NCSA Project Synthesis Report



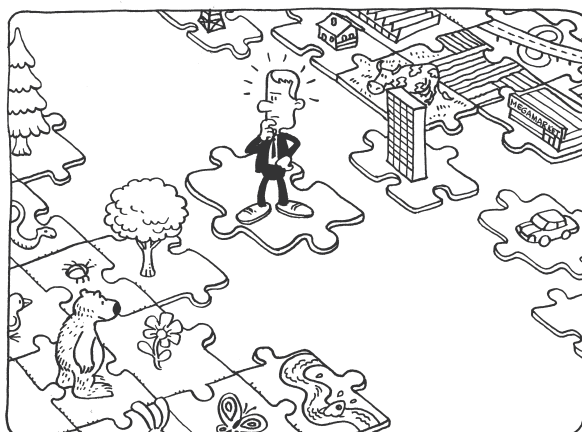
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CAPACITY BUILDING FOR GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT IN SLOVENIA



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NCSA Project Synthesis Report

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CONTENT

Foreword	5
Purpose and structure of the NCSA Synthesis Report	7
1. Introduction	8
1.1 NCSA project background	8
1.2 NCSA project in Slovenia	8
1.3 Capacity building within the NCSA project	8
1.4 Process description and methods employed during the preparation of a self-assessment and a capacity-building action plan	10
2. Summary of findings from the assessments of conventions' implementation as a starting point for the preparation of the capacity-building action plan	12
2.1 Starting points for action plan in the area of biodiversity	12
2.2 Starting points for action plan in the area of climate change	12
2.3 Starting points for action plan in the area of desertification/land degradation	13
2.4 Starting points for action plan in cross-cutting areas of three global conventions	14
3. Capacity-building Action plan for the implementation of three global conventions ...	16
3.1 Strategic and operational goals	16
3.2 Joint capacity-building action plan for the implementation of three global conventions ...	19
3.3 Capacity-building priority tasks for the implementation of three global conventions	59
3.3.1 Priority tasks for the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity	59
3.3.2 Priority tasks for the implementation of the Convention on Climate Change	60
3.3.3 Priority tasks for the implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification/Land Degradation	62
3.3.4 Priority tasks in cross-cutting areas of three global conventions	63
4. Integration of capacity building activities for the implementation of the conventions in relevant programmes and policies	65
5. Appendix	67
List of stakeholders involved in the process	67
List of Tables	
Table of strategic and operational goals	16
Capacity building Action plan	19
List of Figures	
NCSA project flow scheme and activities within individual project phases	10

FOREWORD

Slovenia is faced with development changes which are further accelerated by access to EU Structural and Cohesion funds. In designing numerous development projects, a lot of wisdom and skills is required to equitably take into account not only economic but also environmental and social aspects of the development. Integration and consideration of sustainable development principles is required by numerous international agreements, among them also three global conventions: the Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention to Combat Desertification/Land Degradation and the Convention on Biological diversity. Fulfilling the requirements of these conventions importantly contributes to sustainable global environmental management.

Implementation of the Conventions is lagging behind in practice; therefore available capacities on systemic, institutional and individual level have to be improved. The objective of the NCSA (national capacity self-assessment for sustainable global environmental management) project which is being carried out in numerous countries throughout the world is to assess the deficiencies and obstacles and to prepare an action plan to build capacities for the implementation of the three global conventions.

In the first year of NCSA project implementation, members of the project group – in cooperation with more than a hundred participants at 12 workshops – prepared thematic profiles. Implementation of the conventions was assessed, priority measures that are planned in Slovenia were analysed, needs were also identified to build capacities for

meeting the requirements of the conventions. Four thematic profiles were prepared: (i) Assessment of implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity, (ii) Assessment of implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification/Land Degradation, (iii) Assessment of implementation of the Framework Convention on Climate Change, and (iv) Assessment of implementation of measures in cross-cutting areas of the three conventions.

The above mentioned assessments of implementation of the conventions, and above all, the identified deficiencies and needs for capacity building, served us as a starting point to identify strategic goals and to prepare a capacity building action plan. The plan presents a range of concrete activities to build capacity to implement each of the three conventions, as well as measures in cross-cutting areas. The action plan should serve as a basis to outline future projects which will be implemented by various stakeholders, while it is also targeting the representatives of other sectors to integrate the environmental dimension more thoroughly into the preparation of policies and programmes.

Final result of the two-year NCSA project is the Synthesis Report: Capacity Building for Global Environmental Management. We believe that presented starting points and recommended activities for capacity building in Slovenia will contribute to the achievement of our initial goal – to enable proper integration of environmental goals into development policies and programmes in Slovenia, thus enhancing the contribution of our country to global environmental management.

Milena Škrl-Marega, REC Slovenija

Leader of the NCSA project

PURPOSE AND STRUCTURE OF THE NCSA SYNTHESIS REPORT

The NCSA Synthesis Report is to be treated as a final document in a common framework of five interrelated documents:

- Assessment of implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity,
- Assessment of implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification/Land Degradation,
- Assessment of implementation of the Framework Convention on Climate Change,
- Assessment of implementation of measures in cross-cutting areas of the three conventions, and
- NCSA Synthesis Report: Capacity Building for Global Environmental Management.

Assessments of implementation of three global conventions in Slovenia – thematic profiles, completed in the first project year – served as starting points for defining strategic and operational guidelines for the preparation of a capacity-building action plan. They conclude with a list of capacity-building needs and five capacity-building strategic goals. The continuation of thematic profiles is the capacity building action plan presented in the NCSA synthesis report.

The synthesis report is a final result of the NCSA project: It summarizes key findings regarding deficiencies in the implementation of the conventions. Based on these findings, further activities are proposed in order to substantially improve the capacities to implement the provisions of three global conventions in Slovenia.

Chapter one of the Synthesis Report presents a background of the NCSA project, the preparation process and the methods used.

In Chapter two, thematic assessments are briefly presented – the most important findings from the assessments of implementation of the conventions and capacity needs for the implementation of three global conventions (capacity needs are presented and described in more detail in four NCSA documents – assessments of implementation of the conventions).

Chapter three presents strategic goals, based on the identified needs, and the capacity-building action plan. Five strategic goals are divided into 23

operational thematic goals. Based on this structure of goals, the action plan was prepared – it is a list of proposed capacity-building activities which will have to be carried out in the future in order to enable more efficient implementation of three global conventions at systemic, institutional and individual levels.

Action plan is presented as an integrated list of required activities where responsible entities, implementing entities, cost estimates, implementation time frame, and the level of priority, indicators and references to concrete articles in conventions are also listed. Activities falling within the scope of all three conventions and cross-cutting areas are aggregated and presented within individual strategic and operational goals. E.g., the general action plan table jointly presents all regulations that have to be prepared in the areas covered by all three conventions. Since the activities related to individual conventions are not clearly evident in this way, the activities needed for individual conventions and cross-cutting areas are presented in four additional smaller – thematic tables. These »thematic action plans« are available on <http://www.rec-lj.si/>.

The Action plan includes as much as 145 proposed activities which will have to be carried out in near future in order to ensure more efficient implementation of the conventions. Some of them have been given high priority because they are urgent or their implementation is not demanding and can be started immediately. Selection and short descriptions of these activities for each of the four thematic areas are presented in the final part of Chapter 3. According to project participants, implementation of these activities should and could start immediately.

Financial and other required sources have to be provided primarily, but not exclusively, for the selected priority activities, since they are a pre-condition for their actual implementation. Therefore, goals and activities for the implementation of concessions in Slovenia have to be integrated into national and local policies and programmes. How it should be achieved is presented in the final Chapter 4 of the Synthesis Report. Successful integration of the results of NCSA project can contribute to more sustainable development programmes in Slovenia. In this way, our society will successfully contribute its share to sustainable global environmental management as required by three global conventions. If the integration proves successful, and if other stakeholders – apart from the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning and the Nature Protection Authority – are engaged in the implementation of the proposed tasks, then we can call the NCSA project successful.

1. Introduction

1.1 NCSA project background

In the 1990's, international community made an agreement to protect global environment which was largely operationalised by the preparation and ratification of three global conventions: the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification/Land Degradation (UNCCD). During the last decade, the main obstacle to implementation of the conventions in many countries was the lack of capacity on different levels: the functioning of the state, institutions, and individuals within institutions. The difficulties were even more distinctive in developing and transition countries where general awareness of and support to sustainable development were on a considerably lower level. Therefore, within the discussion on the implementation of the conventions in practice, a special attention was given to the issue of capacities and the possibilities for their improvement in all parties to the conventions.

Problems related to the lack of capacities were also pointed out by the Secretariats of the conventions who started to carry out capacity building activities. The Global Environmental Facility – GEF realized the need for integrated approach to building capacities for the implementation of the conventions. An opportunity was seen in joint treatment of thematically related conventions which would increase the possibilities for common action in all three areas. The idea of NCSA for global environmental management was gradually developing and in 2001 the GEF supported the implementation of NCSA projects. The projects are carried out in more than 20 countries while in some countries they were already successfully completed.

In the context of the NCSA project, capacity building can be taken as the actions needed to enhance the ability of individuals, institutions and the state system to define and achieve the objectives and to carry out the planned activities in a sustainable way. Therefore, capacity building is a process of changing or accepting the values, responsibility, actions, skills and policies. Managing changes and consequently changing capacities in an efficient manner is a strategic imperative for sustainable development of organisations and communities.

1.2 NCSA project in Slovenia

In Slovenia, the project was organised by the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning and

it was carried out by REC – Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe, Country Office in Ljubljana. The project team was composed of national coordinators for individual conventions and GEF, experts that prepared thematic profiles, and REC staff. The entire implementation of the national capacity self-assessment was based on the wide consultation principle – involvement and participation of all key stakeholders: representatives of government institutions, local communities, non-government organisations, professional institutions and the business sector.

The NCSA project objective is to identify capacity building needs for global environmental management and to prepare an action plan proposing activities to improve the capacities required for the implementation of three global conventions in Slovenia. The project covers three environmental areas addressed by the above mentioned conventions. These conventions were launched to address environmental problems and have a lot in common; therefore cross-cutting issues (where the areas covered by two or three conventions can be improved by individual measures) are given a special attention within the NCSA project. Thus, one of the project goals was to propose individual activities improving implementation of all the three conventions.

Specific objectives of the two-year project were:

- To prepare an assessment of the implementation of three global conventions in Slovenia and to identify the areas where capacity building is required.
- To prepare a national capacity building action plan for the implementation of the three conventions.
- To integrate the contents of the action plan into sectoral policies and programmes and to help stakeholders in laying out the projects to implement the action plan activities.

1.3 Capacity building within the NCSA project

Capacity building includes activities that are required to improve the capacities of individuals, institutions and the system to prepare and make decisions and to efficiently and sustainably carry out their tasks. Capacity building is therefore a process of changing

or accepting new values, responsibility, action, skills and policies. The capacity building process runs on three levels:

- On the systemic level, the emphasis is on establishing a favourable environment, i.e. the policies, economic and legal frameworks for the functioning of institutions and individuals. The systemic level also includes fostering relations and cooperation between institutions.
- On the institutional level, we are talking about general organisational effectiveness and management, as well as capability of adapting to changes, financial and human resources capacities, equipment, etc. On this level, a clear division of responsibilities and tasks between different institutions and definition of their reporting obligations is required.
- Capacity building on the individual level includes processes of changing relations and actions of individuals, learning and training of employees and increasing their efficiency, motivation and responsibility, access to information, training, interconnecting, etc.

The first step in the capacity building process is identifying which capacities are actually required and for which tasks. Since the parties to the conventions are independent (apart from secretariat guidelines) in their implementation, the ways of achieving goals are different. Nevertheless, certain principles, on which self-assessment is based, have to be followed during project implementation. The project has to be carried out within a country, in national institutions, with local experts and with paying regard to all achieved results that affect the implementation of the conventions. The project has to be supported on the national level, especially by national institutions, and key stakeholders have to be involved by following the consultation principle. For the comprehensive capacity building analysis, capacity building needs have to be assessed on systemic, institutional and individual levels. In order to ensure a permanent impact of the project, a long-term approach to capacity building in the wider framework of sustainable development has to be used.

Through organisation of regional workshops, UNDP enables coordination of projects in all participating countries, networking of institutions responsible for carrying out national projects. It also encourages debate on methodological approaches, ways of solving problematic aspects of the process and exchange of experience. In this way, institutions responsible for NCSA project implementation in individual countries can build on experience from other participating countries. Although UNDP recommends project implementation methods,

countries are autonomous in their selection and it is even desirable to adapt them to specific national features and characteristics. In Slovenia, the following factors were taken into account when selecting methods:

- In Slovenia, the differences between the three conventions in the extent of their implementation are considerable which is also due to other environmental conventions and the requirements of EU environmental policy. Climate change issues are climbing up on the priority agenda and Slovenia also follows this trend. Nowadays, the Convention to Combat Desertification/Land Degradation is given the lowest priority – it is implemented only to a limited extent and is given no support in terms of finance or human resources. Due to these differences, the availability of information also varied considerably, which is reflected in different approaches to capturing information and the quantity of information in individual thematic profiles.
- Many activities in the area of environmental management are carried out due to domestic priorities or are a result of fulfilling obligations to EU. Nevertheless, the conventions are also being implemented indirectly by these activities; therefore they were included in the assessment.
- Difficulties in acquiring political support for the project were already felt in early stages of the project. Consequently, participation of public administration representatives at the workshops was relatively low. As a result, the approach had to be adapted to the situation and a significant share of information and opinions was acquired through individual interviews with stakeholders.
- To avoid uncomfortable feelings among interviewed individuals, the existing capacity weaknesses related to the functioning of institutions were discussed in a form of interviews led as a constructive debate about possible improvements in the future.
- Taking into account the situation in Slovenia, involvement and participation of non-government organisations was good and constructive.
- National representatives for individual conventions as well as the national GEF coordinator at the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning substantially contributed to successful implementation of the project with their constructive cooperation and overall support.

1.4 Process description and methods employed during the preparation of a self-assessment and a capacity-building action plan

The NCSA project in Slovenia was carried out in four phases

Phase 1: Project initiation;

Phase 2: Assessment of capacities for the implementation of three global conventions and capacities in cross-cutting areas;

Phase 3: Preparation of the capacity building action plan for the implementation of the conventions;

Phase 4: Integration of action plan contents into sectoral policies and programmes and preparation of project outlines for the implementation of capacity building activities.

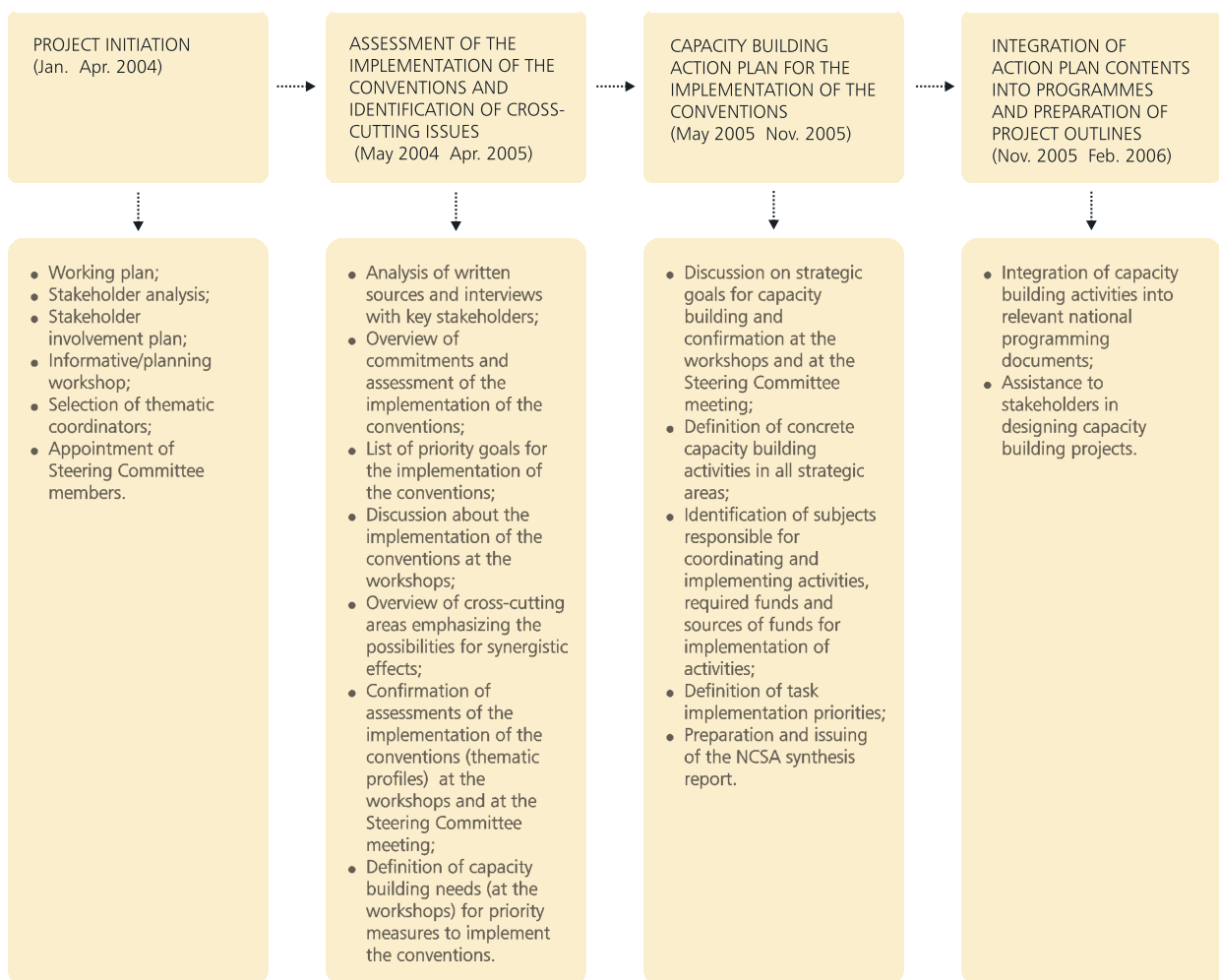


Figure 1: NCSA project flow scheme and activities within individual project phases

Assessments of capacities for the implementation of the three global conventions and capacities in the cross-cutting areas are presented in four **thematic profiles for individual thematic areas** (results of work until the 2nd project phase), while summarized capacity building needs and the action plan – a list of activities required for capacity building (joint result of work in all four project phases) – are presented in the **synthesis report on the implementation of the three conventions**.

During the preparation of thematic profiles and the action plan, the following key activities were carried out:

Stakeholder analysis

At the beginning of the project we prepared an overview and a brief analysis of institutions and individuals as well as other stakeholders who are relevant in the area of environmental management

and are also at least indirectly active in the areas of the conventions.

Assessment of the implementation of the conventions

Based on public tender, thematic coordinators were selected for individual areas covered by the conventions. With the help of national representatives of the conventions and stakeholders they prepared the assessment. The work included collection of written sources (convention implementation reports, reports of national institutions, important works from the areas covered by the conventions, legal regulations and programming documents) and interviews with key stakeholders. An overview of obligations under the conventions and an assessment of their implementation were prepared and capacities were assessed in more detail on systemic, institutional and individual level. Within the assessment phase, two workshops were carried out for each thematic area. In the first round of workshops draft assessments of the implementation of the conventions were presented. Afterwards, participants shared their views on the progress in and obstacles to the implementation of the conventions. In this way, participants contributed to shaping draft thematic profiles. In the second round of workshops the discussion covered national priorities for the implementation of the conventions while participants also prepared an in-depth analysis of capacity building needs for some priority measures.

Cross-cutting analysis

The analysis of thematic areas was followed by the analysis of cross-cutting issues. Here, the process was carried out in the same way as in other three thematic areas.

A list of capacity building needs

After the assessment and before the final project phase which included the preparation of the action plan, a list of capacity building needs was prepared. This list served as a basis for the preparation of a list of concrete activities making up the capacity building

action plan. The project team defined five strategic goals to be achieved by the implementation of the action plan. The final round of workshops with stakeholders was dedicated to further discussion of the proposed goals and their amendment, and above all to the preparation of a list of required capacity building activities. The results of all workshops were taken into consideration during the preparation of the final version of thematic profiles, especially in the phase of defining strategic goals for capacity building.

Preparation of the action plan and the synthesis report

The goal of the third round of workshops with stakeholders was to review and amend proposed strategic and operational goals, and above all to elaborate a list of required capacity-building tasks or draft action plans for all four thematic areas. These drafts were additionally presented through interviews to selected key stakeholders that were unable to attend the workshops. In this way, their opinions and proposals to amend action plans were obtained. Taking into consideration the obtained proposals, four thematic action plans were prepared (for biodiversity, climate change, land degradation and cross-cutting issues) which are presented in the appendix to the NCSA report jointly and also in separate thematic versions.

The entire content of thematic profiles (their abbreviated versions are presented in printed publications) and the action plan are presented on the REC web page: www.rec-lj.si

Draft thematic profiles/analyses and the action plan were prepared by thematic coordinators in cooperation with national representatives for individual conventions, while representatives of key institutions and non-governmental organizations were also involved in the preparation. In this way appropriate legitimacy can be given to these documents, while in terms of the content, the national level of self-assessment is guaranteed. The process of the preparation of thematic profiles was an opportunity for strategic dialogue and above all an opportunity to define future activities which will involve cooperation of all key stakeholders.

2. Summary of findings from the assessments of conventions' implementation as a starting point for the preparation of the capacity-building action plan

2.1 Starting points for action plan in the area of biodiversity

Since ratification of the Convention on biological diversity in 1996, Slovenia made a significant progress in the areas of nature conservation and biosafety. During the accession period 1999-2004, Slovenia modernized and extensively amended its nature conservation and biosafety legislation. Since the European Community is also a Party to the CBD, the requirements, recommendations and guiding principles of the Convention were incorporated into Slovenian legislation during the harmonization with the *Acquis Communautaire*. Many novelties in the legislation, however, are frequently hindering successful implementation of the convention in practice. In many cases, implementation is incomplete because adequate by-laws do not exist. Regulations, on the other hand, bring along also many new tasks which frequently exceed current capacities of the institutions. In order to achieve efficient implementation, missing by-laws and programming documents will have to be adopted and relevant institutions will have to be strengthened in terms of organization, human resources and financially.

Many difficulties related to the implementation of the convention arise from **weak inter-sectoral cooperation**. This is especially distinctive in the area of biodiversity conservation since many sectors use and exploit biodiversity components. Above all, a permanent inter-sectoral group is required which would monitor the developments in nature conservation and at the same time indirectly the implementation of the convention.

In Slovenia, **the need for capacity building in the field of nature conservation education** has been present for some time. For instance, the new NEAP includes numerous activities in the field of education which, however, are directed mostly towards awareness-raising among the general public. In our opinion, awareness-raising should also target employees in sectors that affect biodiversity with their activities.

Capacity building is – especially in the field of nature conservation – required also in the area of **providing financial means** and for introducing new tax and income tax incentive measures.

In nature conservation, Slovenia is putting a great emphasis on in-situ biodiversity conservation, carrying out numerous relevant measures. **It has not been so successful, however, in monitoring of biodiversity components, taxonomy and alien species.** Measures of the new National Environmental Action Programme for the period 2005-2008 indicate that in the forthcoming years a lot of activities will be directed to the preparation of programming documents (operational plans and strategies), especially in various areas of in-situ biodiversity conservation.

2.2 Starting points for action plan in the area of climate change

The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change which was ratified by Slovenia already in 1995, has been considered and implemented well in some sectors while in others only partly or not at all. Most activities for reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are carried out in the area of energy which is currently the most important source of GHG emissions. Limitation of traffic, currently the second most important and according to estimates the most important source of emissions in the future, has been largely unsuccessful. Promotion of public transport remains at the declaratory level – there is no concrete link between investments in fast city (railway) connections and spatial planning which would provide sufficient population density to enable profitable operation of public transport providers. More measures are required in agriculture where GHG emissions could be considerably reduced through the use of biogas while energy needs of farms could be covered from these sources at the same time. Methane emissions from landfills will be reduced through obligatory capturing of landfill gas in 2005 and even further through anticipated waste incineration in the future.

Slovenian Committee for the Issues Related to Climate Change has been operating in Slovenia. It was established by the government of RS to direct cooperation of Slovenian representatives in working groups of UNFCCC and in fulfilling obligations under the convention. At its regular meetings, the Committee, composed of representatives of various ministries and organizations, studies the documents

related to climate change and its members exchange opinions. **Climate change issues, however, should be more actively taken into consideration in other sectors.** Namely, representatives of the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning specialized in climate change are usually not actively involved in early phases of the preparation of programmes of individual sectors. Working groups within the Climate committee, involved in implementation of inter-sectoral measures for the reduction of emissions and adapting to climate change could serve as an opportunity for closer cooperation.

The Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning should also get much more actively involved in **promoting basic and applied research in the field of climate change**, especially in reducing emissions in the key sectors. These measures are not defined in the Operational Programme to Reduce GHG Emissions, therefore a list of research should be prepared to be proposed to research institutions and financing of these tasks should be provided in cooperation with the ministry responsible for science.

Slovenia needs capacities in the area of climate change especially **for the integration of this issue into sectoral (energy, transport, agriculture) strategic and operational documents and for the implementation of planned measures.** In the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning itself, it is important that climate change issues are integrated in the process of strategic environmental impact assessment. It is important to ensure widest-possible overview of possibilities for financing investments in the reduction of GHG emissions (efficient use of energy and renewable energy sources), as well as to ensure the development of non-government organizations involved in the area of climate change.

Slovenia is becoming a developed country; therefore it has to **provide a systemic and institutional framework for providing international assistance to other countries** where climate change projects (joint investments) could be a priority.

One of the most important tasks is to **take into consideration climate change** in transport policy, since transport is the key sector, becoming even the most important source of GHG emissions. Limiting greenhouse gases originating from traffic is very inefficient – according to estimates, they are to become even the largest contributor of GHG emissions among all sectors, surpassing the emissions originating from electricity and heat production.

Education and awareness-raising among the decision makers in individual sectors and at the local level is very important, since they can – especially when larger investments are involved

– strongly influence long-term impacts of these investments on climate change. General knowledge of decision-makers about possibilities for reducing GHG emissions and the need to adapt to climate change is low. Awareness-raising has to be carried out at the level of decision-makers in sectoral ministries, regional institutions and at the local level. Awareness-raising in professional institutions within individual sectors (agriculture, spatial planning, and energy) is also important in order to integrate climate change issues adequately in planning and implementation of the activities which affect the climate or can be affected by climate changes.

2.3 Starting points for action plan in the area of desertification/land degradation

Slovenia ratified the Convention to Combat Desertification/Land Degradation (CCD) in June 2001, while it entered into force on Sept. 28, 2001. Slovenia declared itself as an affected country of the Northern Mediterranean as well as an affected country of Central and Eastern Europe. The provisions of the convention oblige the governments of the parties to promote long-term strategies directed towards increased soil production potential, remediation of degraded areas and preservation and sustainable management of soil and water resources. So far, activities related to CCD have not been initiated in Slovenia. Therefore, national self-assessment of the implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification/Land Degradation was focused on the analysis of soil management and water management from the aspect of the requirements of the convention.

Slovenia is affected by droughts as well as land degradation processes (soil pollution, erosion, hydrogeological risks, loss of soil due to land sealing). At the level of drought alleviation measures, **Slovenia has no strategy to prevent or to minimize agricultural drought. It also has no drought early warning system.** Addressing the drought issue is dispersed among various institutions according to its aspects (meteorological, hydrological and agricultural). Interdisciplinary approaches as well as harmonized policy and research in this area are urgent.

At the level of measures in the area of land degradation, Slovenia is in the process of analysing the situation. **Monitoring that would provide important information on soil quality (soil fertility, soil pollution, inventory of best-quality agricultural land) is mostly not carried out** due to missing by-laws and insufficient funds.

At the general level or at the level of strategies, all activities of the Republic of Slovenia are in accordance with the goals of the convention, since sustainable development is the main guiding principle in Slovenia in all sectors. However, in reality, even understanding of the term land degradation varies between the sectors. This is combined with different political, economic, administrative and professional views. The fact is that the pressure on agricultural land by various sectors is enormous in Slovenia. A big obstacle in preserving »best-quality agricultural land« is the fact that on the national level no inventory of this land exists which would enable clear overview of the situation. Moreover, the methodology of classifying agricultural land into »best« and »other agricultural land« is old and does not involve recent knowledge and techniques. Lack of capacities for the implementation of the convention is also evident from **institutional dispersion of the issue, lack of trained personnel and weak inter-sectoral cooperation**. At both relevant ministries (Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning and Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food) there is no personnel covering soil-related issues. Furthermore, **none of the institutions is authorised** to carry out any expert task related to agricultural land which additionally weakens the already weak profession (dependence on rare public tenders for expert tasks related to soil). Measures related to drought and land degradation are implemented separately at different ministries or even separately within individual ministries according to thematic areas. It is similar with **soil data sets** (pedologic map, soil fertility, soil pollution); their managing is not regulated, and no method of their inter-linking or linking with other environmental databases has been defined.

Slovenia should put efforts into achieving integrated soil management from the perspective of various functions of soil in the environment (soil as a natural resource is not important only for food production). Many of starting points for such a strategy are already presented in the European soil protection strategy »Towards a Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection« (COM 179, 2002). Since the state has not been active in this area so far, immediate action is urgent.

2.4 Starting points for action plan in cross-cutting areas of three global conventions

Three global conventions (on biodiversity, on climate change and on desertification/land degradation) are the key sustainability-oriented international documents binding the signatory parties to implement measures for achieving sustainable development. The sustainable development

concept has a clear goal – »to meet our present needs without compromising the possibilities of future generations to meet their needs«. This can be achieved only through sustainable, balanced and nature-friendly economic, social and environmental development which takes into account limited natural resources, interdependence and the principle of social justice. In order to fulfil the requirements and obligations of three global conventions it is extremely important to ensure harmonised functioning of all stakeholders in the country in order to reach agreement on the activities and measures for synergetic implementation of the conventions. It is especially important to emphasize the responsibility of developed parties, including the Republic of Slovenia, to provide expert and other forms of assistance to developing countries and to exchange experience, knowledge and technologies for prevention and minimization of negative trends in the global environment.

Action plan for the cross-cutting areas is based on the overview and assessment of the state of implementation of three global conventions in Slovenia. It is focused on systemic, institutional and individual capacities of the existing model. Insufficient horizontal and vertical cooperation in public administration is supplemented by weak cooperation between various stakeholders outside public administration. Incomplete data strings gathered through environmental monitoring are identified in all areas. Decision-making processes, tools and practices do not provide sufficient public involvement. There is no systemic interconnection of planning, implementation and monitoring of policies, programmes and projects as well as reporting on their efficiency and effectiveness at various administrative levels – from the governmental to local level. Furthermore, there are insufficient human and financial resources for the implementation of three global conventions. Currently, Slovenia also does not provide sufficient development assistance to developing countries.

The assessment of capacity needs, prepared in cooperation with numerous stakeholders, revealed that capacities of stakeholders at systemic, institutional and individual levels will especially have to be improved to enable **synergistic effects of implemented measures**. **High-quality development planning with integration of environmental issues in national programming and implementing documents** will have to be ensured and **systemic basis for institutional monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of these documents** will have to be provided. There is also a need to enhance **institutional possibilities for timely and efficient involvement of stakeholders** in the procedures of preparation and implementation of agreed measures. In order to overcome sectoral approach, special attention has to be given to **building individual capacities of participants** (education and training for preparation of strategic documents, monitoring and evaluation of implementation,

consultative processes and communication with stakeholders). In the area of expert work, **current models of financial incentives and tenders have to be adapted and additional models have to be introduced** through introduction of synergistic criteria linking different sectors and professions. For more efficient implementation of measures in the area of soil protection, biodiversity conservation and climate change, **existing modes of cooperation have to be reinforced or new ones have to be introduced** (local and public-private partnerships). Apart from strengthening of inspection bodies, **the transparency of assessing programmes and regulations has to be improved** through the introduction of regulation impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment.

Current developments related to the fulfilment of the requirements of three conventions as well as the requirements of national programmes and

regulations reveal that in Slovenia there are still a lot of possibilities and opportunities **to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the current leadership and management model**. Since Slovenia has limited human and financial resources, its capacities to cover the entire spectrum of issues in three selected areas are exceeded.

Therefore, the action plan in cross-cutting areas of three global conventions is mostly focused on seeking consensus about priority issues, improvement of the system of monitoring and evaluation of the results of implemented measures (horizontal, vertical), cooperation and integration of (financial and human) resources and active involvement of stakeholders. This integration has to overcome a traditional and also systemically conditioned sectoral approach currently used to shape and implement measures.

3. Capacity-building Action plan for the implementation of three global conventions

3.1 Strategic and operational goals

Based on the assessments of the implementation of three global conventions and the list of capacity needs, five capacity-building strategic goals were defined for more efficient implementation of the conventions. These goals are as follows:

Strategic goal 1: Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation

Strategic goal 2: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions

Strategic goal 3: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders

Strategic goal 4: Adequate knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders

Strategic goal 5: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions

Strategic goals are divided into 23 operational goals as presented in the table below:

I. Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation

1	Preparation of programming documents and regulations through efficient consultation processes	Although larger number of stakeholders is usually included in the preparation of the most important programming documents, certain documents in the areas covered by the conventions are sometimes still prepared within narrow groups of experts. In order to ensure the efficient process of preparation of documents and regulations, their producers have to be trained for such work methods, while at the same time preparation of programming documents through consultative processes has to become a common practice in public institutions. Stakeholders' participation skills will also need to be improved.
2	Adoption of programming documents for the areas covered by the conventions and adequate integration of conventions' goals into other national documents	All the conventions stipulate that all parties have to adopt relevant programmes and integrate issues addressed by the conventions into relevant strategic documents. At the time being, the existing programming documents do not cover entire contents of the conventions.
3	Regular monitoring, assessment and evaluation of implementation of programming documents and regulations	To ensure adequate implementation of activities defined in programming documents and regulations, regular monitoring of the implementation of measures has to be provided. This is especially important in cases when measures have to be implemented by institutions (ministries) which were not directly responsible for the preparation of individual documents.
4	Relevant revision of parts of existing regulations covered by conventions	Some regulations already address issues covered by the conventions – certain deficiencies related to meeting the requirements of the conventions could simply be eliminated through amending the existing regulations.
5	Adoption of all missing regulations in the areas covered by the conventions	Some regulations that would ensure meeting the requirements of the conventions are still missing in Slovenia. This is especially true in case of specific areas of the conventions while generally, the areas of the conventions are adequately covered by the legislation.

6	Improvement in the implementation of existing legislation	In some areas, the obligations under the conventions are included in regulations which, however are not implemented or are not implemented in individual areas covered by the conventions. Therefore, appropriate implementation of determined activities has to be ensured.
7	Support to developing nations by Slovenia	Slovenia is becoming a developed country in global terms; therefore it has to gradually assume the responsibility for providing support to developing countries. For individual conventions, Slovenia has to prepare basic programming documents as a basis for adequately directing development assistance.

II. Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions

8	Establishment of working and consultation bodies for the areas covered by the conventions	Institutional framework for the implementation of the conventions is only partially established. A precondition for successful fulfilment of the obligations under the conventions is the appointment of working and consultative bodies which will enable efficient preparation and implementation of programming documents and regulations to national coordinators of the conventions.
9	Human resources strengthening in existing institutions and adequate implementation of all tasks	Activities within the conventions can be carried out efficiently by the existing institutions if they have sufficient human resources and knowledge capacities and if they are motivated. Incorporation of issues covered by the conventions into the activities of existing institutions is usually more efficient than establishing new institutions.
10	Appointment of existing institutions to fulfil obligations or activities or establishment of relevant new institutions	There are some obligations under the conventions that are not fulfilled by any institution. These tasks have to be appointed to existing institutions, while in cases where no adequate institutions exist, new ones shall be established.
11	Engagement of NGOs in the institutional framework of the implementation of the conventions	Public institutions can transfer the implementation of certain tasks to NGOs. This approach can prove to be cost-efficient and professionally more appropriate since certain NGOs can carry out the activities more effectively than public institutions because they are familiar with local situations or because they are highly specialized in certain issues.

III. Efficient cooperation among stakeholders

12	Ensuring open, transparent decision-making processes and adequate public involvement	Public involvement in decision-making processes is not satisfactory. Appropriate public involvement plans have to be integrated into policy/programme preparation plans and decision-making processes. Both sides – public institutions as well as members of civil society have to be appropriately trained for participation.
13	Improved inter-sectoral cooperation in the areas covered by the conventions	In case of all conventions, most of the activities are carried out by the ministries in charge of implementation of the conventions, mostly within individual sectors. However, activities have to be carried out also in the areas of other ministries, therefore cooperation between the sectors is important in order to fulfil the obligations successfully.
14	Improved cooperation between the state and NGOs	NGOs are very efficient in the areas of public awareness raising, participation in implementation and monitoring of the fulfilment of the obligations under the conventions. They can carry out these tasks only if they are sufficiently strong in terms of human and financial resources, therefore, regular cooperation and financing of their activities is important.

15	Active participation of the business sector in environmental management	Participation of the business sector in environmental management is an opportunity for promotion, while management approach can be more efficient and can involve more financial resources than in cases when only public institutions manage the environment.
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IV. Adequate knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders

16	Ensuring access to and usefulness of environmental information	Within certain areas, environmental data – a basis for planning and implementation of the activities under the conventions – is unsorted or inaccessible or missing. Missing data has to be provided for adequate operation, data collections have to be sorted, interconnected and made accessible.
17	Establishment of interdisciplinary scientific-research programmes	It is urgent to increase the number of research programmes in the areas covered by the conventions. Specific research as well as wider interdisciplinary research is required.
18	Ensuring education of public administration and other stakeholders for the areas covered by the conventions	Within the public administration, only narrow groups of individuals dealing with the conventions are familiar with the issues covered by the conventions. Since broader cooperation is required for the fulfilment of obligations, education of key stakeholders is needed, covering the requirements of the conventions and possibilities for action.
19	Providing information to and awareness raising among target groups on issues covered by the conventions	For the efficient implementation of the activities under the conventions, all stakeholders, not only individuals at the ministries in charge, have to be familiar with the issues covered by the conventions. It is especially important that decision-makers and producers of programming documents are familiar with the requirements of the conventions.

V. Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions

20	Funding of tasks arising from the requirements of the conventions	Even in cases when legal basis exists for the implementation of tasks related to the fulfilment of the obligations under the conventions, these tasks cannot be carried out without adequate funding. Actual needs have to be identified and funds have to be provided for the implementation of all conventions.
21	Establishment of a system of incentive measures in the areas of biodiversity conservation, soil protection and climate change	Financial incentives in the areas covered by the conventions can significantly contribute to increased implementation of certain activities or they can direct stakeholders towards the activities that are more in line with the goals of the conventions.
22	Funding of research in the areas covered by the conventions	In the areas of all conventions, funding has to be provided for research programmes addressing certain issues related to these areas. Funding can partially be provided from the research sector and partially from the environmental sector.
23	Funding of NGOs active in the areas covered by the conventions	If they have sufficient human resources and are adequately trained, NGOs can carry out the tasks related to public awareness raising and can participate in monitoring of the fulfilment of obligations under the conventions. Therefore, regular public procurement has to be provided for NGOs to maintain their activities and improve the skills of their members.

3.2 Joint capacity-building action plan for the implementation of three global conventions

Table legend

Area	References to convention articles (§) are given
Activity	Specific activities for achieving of strategic and operative goals are listed
Responsible entity	Responsible entities for specific activities
Implementing entity	Implementing entities or way of their selection
Estimated cost (in 000 SIT)	Estimated costs in thousands of Slovene Tolars for implementation of specific activities (financial sources are not specified unless indicated otherwise)
Implementation period	Estimated time required for implementation of specific activities
Priority	Activities are sorted according to implementation priority (+ + + = high priority, + = low priority)
Indicator	Indicators of successful implementation of the specific activities
*	Activity included in National Environmental Protection Plan

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	1. Operational goal
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	3. Operational goal
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	7. Operational goal
Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions	8. Operational goal
	9. Operational goal
	10. Operational goal
	11. Operational goal
Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders	12. Operational goal
	13. Operational goal
	14. Operational goal
	15. Operational goal
Strategic goal IV: Adequate knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders	16. Operational goal
	17. Operational goal
	18. Operational goal
	19. Operational goal
Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions	20. Operational goal
	21. Operational goal
	22. Operational goal
	23. Operational goal

Area	Activity	Responsible entity	Implementing entity	Estimated cost (in 000 SIT)	Implementation period	Priority	Indicator
Strategic goal I: Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation							
Operational goal 1: Preparation of programming documents and regulations through efficient consultation processes							
XC	1. Preparation of an analysis of the quality of strategic planning and programming in Slovenia and definition of measures to improve the situation.	Government of RS	Selected through a tender	12.000	2006/II - 2006/IV	+	Analysis completed by deadline, prepared list of measures.
XC	2. Preparation of an inter-sectoral education programme to carry out consultation processes for individuals involved in preparation and implementation of programmes and regulations.	MPA, AA	AA in cooperation with external partners (public tender)	5.000	2006/III - 2007/II	++	Prepared education programme which is carried out regularly. Higher quality of consultation processes.
CBD §6	3. Elaboration of a task programme for the preparation of programming documents in the area of nature protection (time schedule, needs to involve experts).	MESP	MESP	/	2006/I	++	Prepared working programme which is being implemented.
Operational goal 2: Adoption of programming documents for the areas covered by the conventions and adequate integration of conventions' goals into other national documents							
XC	4. Incorporation of the goals of the conventions into national programming documents.	Government of RS, GOLSRP	Government of RS and relevant ministries	/	During the preparation of national strategic documents	+++	Adopted national programming documents which adequately integrate goals of the conventions.
CBD §8	5. *Operational programme - strategy for the management of alien species						

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	
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Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions	
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders	
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Strategic goal IV: AdeqAAite knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders	
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Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions	
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	a. Preparation of a study on the issue of alien species in Slovenia.	MESP	Selected through a tender	4.000	Tender by 2006/I, study by 2006/III	++	Study completed by the deadline.
	b. Preparation of an operational plan - strategy for the management of alien species based on the European strategy.	MESP	MESP, IRSNC, in cooperation with experts	1.600	2007/I	++	Prepared document, adopted by the Government of RS.
CBD §8	6. * Preparation of an operational programme for the protection of natural values.	MESP	MESP, IRSNC	2.000	2006/IV	++	Prepared document, adopted by the Government of RS.
CBD §19	7. * Preparation of a national strategy for the co-existence of conventional, genetically modified and ecological products, based on EU guidelines.	MESP, MAFF	MESP, MAFF	3.000	2006/IV	++	Prepared document, adopted by the Government of RS.
CCD §10	8. Preparation of a programme for protection of soil in Slovenia in accordance with the EU strategy.						
	a. Preparation of background studies.	MESP in coop. with MAFF	Selected through a tender	10.000	2008/I	++	Background documents prepared by the deadline.
	b. Shaping of a soil protection programme through a consultation process.	MESP in coop. with MAFF	Experts, NGOs, individuals	2.000	2008/IV	++	Appointed programme implementation tutors at relevant ministries. Document adopted by the Government of RS.
CCD §10	9. Preparation of a programme for sustainable management of degraded areas (due to pollution, excavation, floods, landslides, etc.).						

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	
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	a. Preparation of basic background studies and guidelines for action.	MESP	Selected through a tender	9.000	2007/IV	++	Background documents prepared by the deadline.
	b. Preparation of a remediation programme for selected degraded areas.	MESP	Selected through a tender	9.000	2008/IV	++	Prepared document adopted by the Government of RS.
CCD §10	10. Preparation of a short-term and a long-term drought alleviation programme.						
	a. *Preparation of a hydrologic draught alleviation programme.	MESP	Selected through a tender	3.000	2006/IV	++	Prepared document adopted by the Government of RS.
	b. Preparation of background documents for the integration of agricultural aspect of droughts.	MAFF	Selected through a tender	8.000	2006/IV	+++	Background documents prepared by the deadline.
	c. Preparation of background documents for the identification of hydrologic and agricultural drought indicators.	MESP, MAFF	Selected through a tender	5.000	2007/II	+++	Known indicators of hydrological and agricultural drought.
	d. Preparation of a comprehensive programme and coordination with the Convention on Climate Change.	MESP in coop. with MAFF and water resources managers	Selected through a tender	15.000	2008/II	++	Programme shaped during a consultation process. Appointed programme implementation supervisors at relevant ministries. Programme adopted by the Government of RS.
CCD §26	11. Preparation of an action plan to implement the Convention to combat desertification/land degradation.	MESP	Selected through a tender or national coordinator	1.000 or within working assignments of national coordinator	2008/I	+++	Prepared Action Plan, published on the Internet, submitted to the Secretariat of the Convention.

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	1. Operational goal
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Strategic goal IV: AdeqAAte knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders	16. Operational goal
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CCC \$4b	12. Preparation of a strategy to reduce greenhouse gases by 30 % until 2020 and by 80 % until 2050.	MESP	MESP	20.000 MESP	2008/I - 2008/IV	++ +	Prepared document adopted by the Government of RS.
CCC \$4b	13. Preparation of a national sustainable mobility programme.						
	a. Preparation of background documents for a national sustainable mobility programme.	MT in cooperation with MESP	Selected through a tender	30.000 1/2 MESP, 1/2 MT	2007/I - 2008/II	++ +	Background documents prepared by the deadline.
	b. Shaping and adoption of a national sustainable mobility programme.	MT	MT	5.000 1/2 MESP, 1/2 MT	2008/II - 2008/IV	++ +	The programme shaped during the consultation process, adopted by the Government of RS.
CCC \$4b	14. Preparation of an operational programme for adapting to climate change.						
	a. Preparation of background documents for a programme for adapting to climate change (vulnerability and adapting).	MESP in cooperation with EARS, MAFF/ME, MHES	Selected through a tender	40.000	2006/I - 2007/IV	++ +	Background documents prepared by the deadline.
	b. Shaping and adoption of an operational programme for adapting to climate change.	MESP in cooperation with EARS	MESP		2007/III - 2008/I	++ +	Adopted operational programme of adapting to climate change.
Operational goal 3: Regular monitoring, assessment and evaluation of implementation of programming documents and regulations							
XC	15. Preparation of a methodology for monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of strategies and programmes.	Government of RS, GOLSRP	Selected through a tender	8.000	2006/IV - 2007/II	++	methodology adopted by the Government of RS.

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XC	16. Define obligations related to regular reporting on effectiveness and efficiency of the implementation of strategies, programmes and regulations.	Government of RS	Government of RS	5.000	2007/II	++	Adopted regulation or Government instruction.
XC	17. Working groups for climate change, soil degradation and biodiversity within the Slovenian Council for Sustainable Development - regular monitoring and evaluation and reporting on the implementation of strategies and operational programmes.	GOLSRP	Sustainable Development Council	10.000	2006/II	++	Regular reporting by working groups on the implementation of strategies and operational programmes.
CCC §4b	18. Preparation and adoption of instructions for the monitoring of implementation of the operational programme for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.	MESP	MESP	/	2005/I - 2005/IV	++	Adopted instructions.
Operational goal 4: Relevant revision of parts of existing regulations covered by conventions							
CBD §8	19. Amendment of definitions of alien species and invasive alien species in the Nature Conservation Act.	MESP	MESP	/	At next amendments to the Nature Conservation Act	+	Definition amended in accordance with CBD guidelines.
CBD §5	20. Modifications of the Nature Conservation Act to enable other types of NGOs, not only societies, to acquire status of NGOs acting in public interest of nature conservation.	MESP	MESP, Parliament of RS	/	At next amendments to the Nature Conservation Act	+	Modifications included in legislation.

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CCD §10	21. Revision of agricultural and spatial legislation from the viewpoint of appropriate soil management or prevention of inappropriate land use.	MAFF, MESP	MAFF, MESP, experts	2.000	At next amendments to the Agricultural Land Act and the Spatial Planning Act	+++	Appointment of a group of auditors. Prepared proposal of legislation modifications, submitted to the Government of RS.
CCD §10	22. Preparation of guidelines for the classification of land on the basis of its production potential.						
	a. Preparation of background documents for a regulation that would regulate elaboration of a methodology of classifying land with high and good production potential.	MAFF	Selected through a tender	8.000	2006/I - 2006/III	+++	Developed methodology submitted to entities/ individuals preparing the regulation.
	b. Finalisation and adoption of rules.	MAFF	MAFF, Government of RS	/	2006/III - 2006/IV	+++	Prepared regulation, adopted by relevant body.
CCD §10	23. Definition of a concept of the protection of agricultural land.						
	a. Preparation of background documents for evaluation of land in order to define areas for minimal self-supply of the Republic of Slovenia.	MAFF	Selected through a tender	12.000	2007/I - 2008/II	+++	Defined interdisciplinary criteria for classification of land as the areas to be preserved for minimal self-supply of Slovenia, submitted for discussion to MAFF and MESP.
	b. Defining protection measures to preserve land for minimal self-supply of the Republic of Slovenia.	MAFF, MESP	MAFF, MESP	500	2008/IV	+++	Defined protection measures.

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	c. Legislation amendments/modifications.	MAFF, MESP	MAFF, MESP of RS	/	At next amendments to the Agricultural Land Act and the Spatial Planning Act	++ +	Amendments incorporated in legislation.
CCD §10	24. Preparation of a proposal to amend the Act on Removal of Consequences of Natural Disasters (a) including a methodology for estimating damage (b).	EARS, CAF, MAFF, MD	a) holders and Drought Committee b) Selected through a tender	7.000 of which 5,000 for methodology	2006/II - 2006/III	++	Prepared proposal of amendments, submitted to the Government of RS.
CCC §4f	25. Reconciliation of the Act on Removal of Consequences of Natural Disasters with measures of operational programme for adapting to climate change (drought forecasting system).	MAFF	MAFF	/	2008/II - 2008/IV	++	Amendments incorporated in legislation.
Operational goal 5: Adoption of all missing regulations in the areas covered by the conventions							
XC	26. Preparation of a by-law on conditions for acquiring status of organisation in public interest according to the Environmental Protection Act.	MESP	MESP (Legal Service)	/	2006/II See Environmental Protection Act, Article 153	++	Prepared regulation proposal, adopted by relevant body.
XC	27. Preparation and adoption of a Consultations act during the preparation of programmes and regulations (including a methodology, guidelines on consultations and a training programme for providers).	Government of RS, MPA	MPA, public tender for background documents	10.000	2006/IV	++ +	Prepared background documents and organized (and carried out) public discussion. Proposed act adopted by the Government of RS and submitted for parliamentary discussion.

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XC	28. Preparation of a methodology or a regulation on regulatory impact assessment.	MPA	MPA, public procurement for background documents	8.000	2006/I	++	Prepared background documents and organized (and carried out) public discussion. Prepared regulation, adopted by relevant body.
CBD \$8	29. Preparation and adoption of the missing by-laws in the area of nature conservation and biosafety.	MESP	MESP, Government of RS	2.500	2007/I	++	Regulations adopted on appropriate level.
CBD \$8	30. Ensuring management of protected areas and Natura 2000 areas.	MOP	MESP, IRSNC, NGO	9.700.000	do 2013/IV	+++	All protected areas have adequate management plans, managing/ stewardship tasks are assigned.
CCD \$10	31. *Regulation of soil monitoring by the adoption of a by-law.						
	a. Survey on the state of soil pollution	MESP, EARS	Selected through a tender	60.000	2006/II	++	Soil pollution survey is carried out regularly and is concluded by April 2008.
	b. Preparation and adoption of a soil monitoring by-law.	MESP, EARS	MESP, Government of RS	/	2006/IV	++	Prepared regulation, adopted by relevant body.
	c. Implementation of soil monitoring.	MESP, EARS	Selected through a tender	15.000 annually	2007/I After 2007	++	Soil fertility control regularly carried out, funds ensured from MAFF and MESP budget and from EU sources.
CCD \$10	32. Preparation and adoption of rules on soil fertility and fertilization control.						

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	
1. Operational goal	
2. Operational goal	
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Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions	
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders	
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Strategic goal IV: AdeqAAte knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders	
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Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions	
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	a. Preparation of background documents to set up soil fertility and fertilization control.	MAFF in coop. with MESP	Selected through a tender	5.000	2006/II - 2007/II	++	Background documents prepared by the deadline.
	b. Preparation and adoption of rules.	MAFF in coop. with MESP	MAFF, Government of RS	/	2007/IV	++	Prepared regulation, adopted by relevant body.
	c. Implementation of soil fertility and fertilization control.	MESP, EARS	Selected through a tender	5.000 annually	2008/I After 2008	++	Soil fertility control regularly carried out, funds ensured from MAFF and MESP budget and from EU sources.
CCD §10	33. Preparation and adoption of a missing regulation to set up operational monitoring of environmental impact of agriculture.						
	a. Preparation and adoption of a regulation.	MAFF in coop. with MESP	MAFF, Government of RS	/	2006/III - 2006/IV	++	Prepared regulation, adopted by relevant body.
	b. Setting up and implementation of operational monitoring of environmental impact of agriculture.	MAFF in coop. with MESP	Selected through a tender	20.000 annually	2007/I Implementation after 2008	++	Monitoring of agricultural impact on the environment (known impact). Ensured funding from MAFF and MESP budget and from EU sources.
CCD §10	34. *Preparation and adoption of a regulation on the methodology for monitoring water supplies.						
	a. Preparation of background documents for the implementation of monitoring of water supplies in Slovenia.	MESP	Selected through a tender	1.000	2006/II	++	Background documents prepared by the deadline.

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation						
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Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions						
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	b. Preparation and adoption of a regulation.	MESP	MESP, Government of RS	/	2006/IV	++	Prepared regulation, adopted by relevant body.
CCC §4b	35. Adoption of a regulation on the mode of implementation of JI (joint implementation) projects.	MESP	MESP	500 MESP	2007/I - 2007/II	++	Adopted instructions on joint implementation.
Operational goal 6: Improvement in the implementation of existing legislation							
CBD §6	36. Preparation of forms and instructions for the application to acquire permit to work with protected animal and plant species, presentation of forms and instructions to key institutions and NGOs and their publication on the web site of the Environmental Agency of the Republic of Slovenia.	MESP	EARS, in cooperation with IRSNC	/	2006/I	+	Prepared form with instructions, available on EARS web pages.
CBD §8	37. Ensuring the implementation of assessments of risk to nature (for alien species) according to legislation in force.	MESP	MESP	6.000 annually for employment and 300 for expenses	2007/I with 1 additional employment	++	Increased number of assessment experts and increased number of risk assessments that were carried out.
CBD §6	38. Preparation of a plan to control transportation of protected species after the opening of the borders.	MESP	MESP, EARS, Customs Office, MNZ (police)	/	2006/IV	+	Increased number of inspection interventions in the area of protected species.
CBD §8	39. * Ensuring contractual protection or stewardship of the Natura 2000 areas.	MESP	MESP, managers of protected areas, NGOs, land owners, Agriculture Extension Services	/ a special study is required for estimate	2007/IV	++	Ensured appropriate protection in at least 75 % of Natura 2000 areas.

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	
1. Operational goal	
2. Operational goal	
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Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions	
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders	
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Strategic goal IV: Adequate knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders	
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Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions	
20. Operational goal	
21. Operational goal	
22. Operational goal	
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CBD §8	40. *Preparation of a plan for the establishment of nature conservation control, preparation of examination material, publication of examination dates.	MESP	MESP	Managers of protected areas and Natura 2000 areas, IRSNC	25.000	2.000 afterwards 1.000 annually	2006/III Establishment by the deadline, afterwards permanent task	++	Every year 2 examination dates, the number of auditors increases by at least 15 every year.
CBD §8	41. Preparation of management plans for wider protected areas.	Managers of protected areas and Natura 2000 areas, IRSNC	Managers of protected areas and Natura 2000 areas, IRSNC	Managers of protected areas and Natura 2000 areas, IRSNC	25.000	2.000 afterwards 1.000 annually	2012/IV	++	Adopted management plans for all wider protected areas in Slovenia.
CBD §6	42. Checking adequacy of operation of professional and public institutions from the viewpoint of nature conservation regulations.	Inspectorate for Environment and Spatial Planning	Inspectorate for Environment and Spatial Planning	Inspectorate of Environment and Spatial Planning	/	/	2006/IV Establishment by the deadline, afterwards permanent task	++	Operation of public and professional institutions harmonized with nature conservation regulations.
CBD §14	43. Preparation of guidelines to carry out appropriate assessments in the Natura 2000 and protected areas.	MESP	MESP	MESP	1.000	1.000	2006/I	++	Prepared guidelines available to assessors.
CCD §10	44. Preparation of guidelines for assessing plans from the viewpoint of their impacts on soil, as stipulated in a by-law regulating the contents of environmental report for strategic environmental impact assessment.	MESP, MAFF	MESP, MAFF	Selected through a tender	2.000	2.000	2007/I	++	Prepared guidelines available to assessors.
CCC §4f	45. Adoption of minimal criteria for the covering of climate change issues in environmental reports.	MESP	MESP	MESP	/	/	2006/I - 2006/II	+	Adopted instructions, presented to environmental experts.

Strategic goal I: Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	
1. Operational goal	
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Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions	
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders	
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Strategic goal IV: Adequate knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders	
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19. Operational goal	
Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions	
20. Operational goal	
21. Operational goal	
22. Operational goal	
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Operational goal 7: Support to developing nations by Slovenia								
XC	46. Defining priority areas for Slovenian support to fulfilling the requirements of the conventions in developing countries.	Government of RS, MFA	MFA	/	2006/III	+++	Identified priority areas.	
XC	47. Preparation of a national programme (policy) for providing professional assistance to developing countries.	Government of RS, MFA	MFA	/	2007/II	++	Adopted national programme.	
CCC §4c	48. Encouraging implementation of projects within the CDM (Clean Development Mechanism).							
	a. Promotion of CDM through presentations and workshops.	MESP	MESP	2.000 MESP	2006/I - 2007/IV	+	Number of CDM projects, decrease of emissions within these projects.	
	b. Financial stimulation of CDM projects (assistance in project initiation or direct subsidies).	MESP	MESP	5.000 (annual estimate for assistance in designing projects)	2008/I - 2010/IV	+	Number of CDM projects, decrease of emissions within these projects.	
Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions								
Operational goal 8: Establishment of working and consultation bodies for the areas covered by the conventions								
XC	49. Operationalization of the Slovenian Council for Sustainable Development with an emphasis on the requirements of the three conventions (consultation and negotiation on strategic level).	Government of RS, GOLSRP	GOLSRP	20.000 annually	2006/II	++	Renewed role of SCSD in a decision making system on the strategic level.	

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	
1. Operational goal	
2. Operational goal	
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Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions	
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders	
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Strategic goal IV: Adequate knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders	
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Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions	
20. Operational goal	
21. Operational goal	
22. Operational goal	
23. Operational goal	

XC	50. Establishment of working groups for climate change, soil change and biodiversity conservation (in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment, Environmental Agency of RS, research institutes, NGOs and other stakeholders) (operational level).	Government of RS	Sustainable Development Council	9.000 annually	2006/II	++	Established functioning of groups that meet regularly and present their positions.
CBD §5	51. Functioning of expert groups for thematic and cross-cutting CBD issues (forming of groups, assignment of tasks and work plan of groups, defining mode of financing).	MESP	MESP in cooperation with IRSNC	6.400	2007/I	++	Functioning groups that meet regularly and contribute to more efficient implementation of CBD in Slovenia.
CBD §7	52. Preparation of an overview of tasks within the Global Taxonomy Initiative (CBD) and ensuring the implementation of obligatory tasks, appointment of national representative.	MESP	MESP	2.050	2006/II Establishment by the deadline, afterwards permanent task	++	Appointed GTI representative, tasks are clearly defined and are carried out regularly.
CCD §19	53. Establishment of inter-sectoral working body for the area of land use and land protection.	MESP, MAFF	MESP, MAFF, professional institutions, NGOs	2.000 annually	2007/IV	+	Established working body that meets regularly and presents its positions.
CCD §19	54. Establishment of inter sectoral drought committee to direct, coordinate and control activities related to drought issues, and interconnect involved institutions as appropriate.	MESP-EARS, MD, MAFF	MESP-EARS, MD, MAFF, experts, NGOs	3.000 annually	2006/II	+++	Established working body that meets regularly and presents its positions.

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation
1. Operational goal
2. Operational goal
3. Operational goal
4. Operational goal
5. Operational goal
6. Operational goal
7. Operational goal
Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders
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Strategic goal IV: Adequate knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders
16. Operational goal
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Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions
20. Operational goal
21. Operational goal
22. Operational goal
23. Operational goal

Operational goal 9: Human resources strengthening in existing institutions and adequate implementation of all tasks							
XC	55. Capacity building in public administration in the areas of environmental law and environmental economics.	MESP	Tender through Target Oriented Research Programme	14.000	2006/III - 2007/II	+	
CBD §6	56. Preparation of professional training of inspection authorities and personnel strengthening in nature conservation and biosafety departments.	MESP, MAFF	MESP, MAFF, EARS (for CITES)	1.000 annually for training and 20,000 for employment of new inspectors	2006/IV Establishment by the deadline, afterwards permanent task	++	At least 2 new employments for nature conservation and 2 for biosafety; increased number of inspection interventions in the area of nature and biosafety.
CBD §12	57. Ensuring the possibility for IRSNC employees to devote part of their working time to additional education and to follow developments and trends in the areas they cover.	IRSNC	IRSNC	20.000	2006/IV	+	At least 5 % of working hours of the staff assigned to education.
CBD §12	58. Ensuring personnel strengthening in IRSNC, especially for species conservation, monitoring of species, database and operation of the CITES professional body.	IRSNC	IRSNC	72.000	2007/IV Gradually with new employments	+++	At least 4 new employments by the end of 2006 (protection of species - 1, CITES - 1, databases - 2, by the end of 2007 8 additional employments for the needs of monitoring).
CBD §17	59. *Ensuring administrative strengthening of MESP for operations in the area of biosafety.	MESP	MESP	An estimate on human resources requirements is needed	2007/I	++	Increased number of employees in the administrative section of biosafety

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	
1. Operational goal	
2. Operational goal	
3. Operational goal	
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Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions	
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders	
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Strategic goal IV: AdeqAAte knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders	
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Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions	
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21. Operational goal	
22. Operational goal	
23. Operational goal	

CBD §6	60. Ensuring personnel with obligations to work on the CBD within the ministries covering agriculture, forestry, hunting, fishing, water protection, economy, education and science.	relevant ministries	relevant ministries	4.800	2007/I	++	Ensured employees (in all areas) assigning at least part of their working hours to CBD.
CBD §8	61. Education of agriculture extension service experts to stimulate farmers in their deciding for nature-friendly measures, and providing information to land owners in the Natura 2000 areas.	MESP, MAFF, IRSNC	IRSNC, Agriculture Extension Services, NGOs	17.500 annually	2007/IV Establishment by the deadline, afterwards permanent task	+++	Improved awareness of the owners of land included in Natura 2000.
CCD §19	62. Ensuring the soil issue to be covered by the MESP staff - assignment of duties or employment of new staff.	MESP	MESP	/ redistribution within MESP or 1 new employment	2006/IV	+++	Some employees of MESP that assign at least part of their working hours to soil protection issues.
CCD §10	63. Supplementing education programme for agriculture extension service: I. practical knowledge on soil and soil protection measures for various types of degradation (pollution, floods, erosion, landslides) II. agro meteorological knowledge and drought alleviation measures	MAFF, CAF	Education and research institutions	4.000	2007/I - 2009/IV Gradually	+	Supplemented education programme of agriculture extension service.
CCC §4f	64. Education of agriculture extension service experts on the effect of climate change on agriculture and possibilities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture.						

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	
1. Operational goal	
2. Operational goal	
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4. Operational goal	
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Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions	
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders	
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Strategic goal IV: AdeqAAite knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders	
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19. Operational goal	
Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions	
20. Operational goal	
21. Operational goal	
22. Operational goal	
23. Operational goal	

	a. Preparation of material for education of extension service experts	MAFF	tender	1.000 MAFF budget	2007/I - 2007/I	++	Produced material.
	b. Implementation of seminars	MAFF	holder of previous assignment	2.000 MAFF budget	2007/II - 2007/IV	++	Number of seminar participants.
CCC §4c	65. Simplification of investing in energy efficiency.						
	a. Preparation of an overview of various financial sources for investments in efficient energy use (EEU) and renewable energy sources (RES) (energy, agriculture, Funds, EU sources).	MESP - Sector for EEU and RES activities	tender	500	2007/III - 2008/I Annual updating	++	Completed brochure with an overview of financial sources; published information on MESP web pages.
	b. Invitation of potential providers of consulting engineering in the areas of EEU and RES to present themselves to potential investors.	MESP	MESP	/		++	Completed and regularly updated list of consulting engineering providers; ensured collection of feedback on the satisfaction of investors with providers.
	c. Ensured coordination with institutions that provide financial resources for EEU and RES (MAFF, ME, MESP, etc.).	MESP	MESP	/		++	Coordinated tenders (in terms of content and time) for subsidizing the investments in EEU and RES.
CCC §4c	66. Capacity building in municipalities bordering larger urban centres for the introduction, management and promotion of efficient public passenger transport.	MT	MT in cooperation with MESP	100.000	2008/III - 2010/IV	+++	Number of passenger kilometers travelled by public passenger transport.

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	
1. Operational goal	
2. Operational goal	
3. Operational goal	
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Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions	
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders	
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Strategic goal IV: AdeqAAte knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders	
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19. Operational goal	
Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions	
20. Operational goal	
21. Operational goal	
22. Operational goal	
23. Operational goal	

Operational goal 10: Appointment of existing institutions to fulfil obligations or activities or establishment of relevant new institutions							
CBD §8	67. Assignment of tasks related to alien species to appropriate institution (monitoring, education, early warning, and eradication).	MESP	coordination of IRSNC with additional employment, professional partners	12.000 annually for two new employments (not included in 58)	2007/IV	+++	Employment of at least one alien species expert at IRSNC, performance of tasks in accordance with adopted strategy.
CBD §8	68. Ensuring further efficient functioning of a system of indemnity for damage caused by protected species.	MESP	MESP, CCRS	6.000 for staff, funds for indemnities from the existing budget line	Permanent task	++	Quick and efficient indemnity procedures.
CBD §17	69. * Establishment and functioning of controlling and reference laboratory for checking and analysing genetically modified organisms (GMOs).	MESP	MESP	7.000	2007/IV		
CCD §19	70. Establishment of national institution for the area of soil with tasks (granting of public authority status): a) maintenance and keeping of public information system for soil, connecting with other environmental bases, b) interpretation and processing of soil data for the needs of the state on national and EU level.	MESP in coop. with MAFF, MH, MD	MESP in coop. with MAFF, MH, MD	4.000 annually (3 workplaces with material cost for basic operation).	2006/I - 2006/IV Goal activity 90	+++	Institutionally covered area of soil. Improved accessibility of soil data followed by activities to improve use of soil data in various sectors.

Strategic goal I: Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation
1. Operational goal
2. Operational goal
3. Operational goal
4. Operational goal
5. Operational goal
6. Operational goal
7. Operational goal
Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions
8. Operational goal
9. Operational goal
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11. Operational goal
Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders
12. Operational goal
13. Operational goal
14. Operational goal
15. Operational goal
Strategic goal IV: Adequate knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders
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17. Operational goal
18. Operational goal
19. Operational goal
Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions
20. Operational goal
21. Operational goal
22. Operational goal
23. Operational goal

CCC §4c	71. Establishment of central information point for clean development mechanism (CDM) and joint implementation and projects (establishment and maintaining of web page and information support).	MESP	Selected through a tender, maintenance MESP	6.000 500 annually for establishment and maintenance	2006/III - 2007/I Establishment, afterwards permanent maintenance	++	Created web page; number of projects.
CCC §4c	72. Establishment of an institution to carry out integrated management of public road and railway transport (Public Passenger Transport Agency)	MT	MT	/ Agency established with redistribution of existing employees	2007/I - 2007/I Establishment deadline	+++	Established institution, number of transferred passengers and number of passenger kilometers covered.
Operational goal 11: Engagement of NGOs in the institutional framework of the implementation of the conventions							
CBD §5	73. Strengthening cooperation of MESP with non-government and professional organizations and assignment of nature conservation tasks (MESP prepares a programme of activities where NGOs can be involved, transfer of unassigned tasks from public institutions to NGOs).	MESP	MESP	500 annually	2007/II Establishment by the deadline, afterwards permanent task	++	Prepared programme of cooperation with NGOs, tasks assigned to individual NGOs.
CCD §10	74. Strengthening of NGOs' activities in public awareness raising on drought alleviation and soil protection measures.	MESP, MAFF	NGOs	/ partial redistribution of existing funds to drought- and soil protection related issues	At the time of first tenders for NGOs	+	Awarding of projects, related to public awareness raising in the area of drought and soil protection measures, to NGOs.

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	
1. Operational goal	
2. Operational goal	
3. Operational goal	
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Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions	
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders	
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Strategic goal IV: AdeqAAte knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders	
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19. Operational goal	
Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions	
20. Operational goal	
21. Operational goal	
22. Operational goal	
23. Operational goal	

Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders							
Operational goal 12: Ensuring open, transparent decision-making processes and adequate public involvement							
XC	75. Preparation and implementation of self-assessment programme according to the CAF (Common Assessment Framework) method for organizations in public sector in public and administrative institutions responsible for implementation of programmes and regulations.	MPA	MPA and ministries	18.000	2006/II - 2007/II	+++	Completed self-assessments in the Government and the ministries.
XC	76. Analysing the situation in the area of cooperation and participation of stakeholders in document preparation procedures, definition of measures to improve the situation and preparation of guidelines to carry out consultation processes.	MPA	Selected through a tender	12.000	2006/II - 2006/IV	++	Prepared overview, identified measures for the improvement of the situation.
CBD §5	77. Adoption of all necessary legal bases to carry out procedures of acquiring status of NGO acting in the interest of environmental protection.	MESP	MESP	/	2006/I	+++	Adopted regulations, increased number of NGOs acting in public interest of environmental protection.
Operational goal 13: Improved inter-sectoral cooperation in the areas covered by the conventions							
XC	78. Preparation of a programme of cooperation between public relations departments at MESP, MAFF, MP and MED in order to identify cross-cutting contents in the area of education of the public.	MESP, MAFF, MED, MP	Ministries	/	2006/II	+	Prepared cooperation programme.

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation							
1. Operational goal							
2. Operational goal							
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Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions							
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders							
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Strategic goal IV: Adequate knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders							
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19. Operational goal							
Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions							
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22. Operational goal							
23. Operational goal							

CBD §6	79. Organization of an annual professional meeting (presentation of sectors, exchange of opinions).	MESP	MESP	1.500 annually	2006/II Establishment by the deadline, afterwards permanent task	+	Organized annual meetings and number of participants from other sectors.
CCD §19	80. Assignment of tasks or new employments at the MAFF in order to ensure active involvement of the MAFF in harmonization of spatial documents.	MAFF	MAFF	7.000 annually or re-distribution	2006/IV	+++	Active participation of MAFF in harmonization of spatial documents.
CCC §4f	81. Preparation of Government decision on compulsory inclusion of an NGO representative in the preparation of sectoral strategies and programmes, especially in the area of energy, transport and agriculture.	MESP	MESP	/	2007/I - 2007/II	++	Adopted Government Decision on the involvement of MESP in the preparation of sectoral strategies and programmes.
CCC §4f	82. Strengthening of cooperation between ministries in the area of climate change.						
	a. Appointment of an operational working group within the Climate Committee (5-10 people) for the coordination between ministries during the preparation of strategic and operational programming documents.	MESP	MESP	/	2006/I - 2006/II	+++	Appointed working group.

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	
1. Operational goal	
2. Operational goal	
3. Operational goal	
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Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions	
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders	
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Strategic goal IV: AdeqAAte knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders	
16. Operational goal	
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19. Operational goal	
Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions	
20. Operational goal	
21. Operational goal	
22. Operational goal	
23. Operational goal	

	b. Preparation of programme of activities for the group (defined key programming documents of the ministries and agreement on cooperation in preparation of these documents from the perspective of climate change).	MESP		MESP	/	2006/I - 2006/II	+++	Adopted working plan of the working group.
	c. Establishment of the Climate Committee Secretariat.	MESP		MESP	20.000 annually	2008/I - 2008/II Establishment, otherwise permanent task	++	Operational competence of the Secretariat.
CCC §4f	83. Presentation of tasks from operational programme for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to individual ministries (MT, MAFF, ME) and appointment of personnel responsible for programme implementation.	MESP		MESP	/	2006/I - 2006/II	+++	Appointed supervisors for the implementation of OP tasks in all relevant ministries.
Operational goal 14: Improved cooperation between the state and NGOs								
XC	84. Preparation of analysis of functioning of NGOs and proposals to improve conditions for their functioning.	Government of RS	Selected through a tender	8.000		2006/II - 2006/III	+++	Organized tender, completed analysis, proposals for improvements.
CBD §5	85. Annual presentation of nature conservation activities of MESP, EARS, and IRSNC in a previous year to the concerned public.	MESP, EARS, IRSNC	MESP, EARS, IRSNC	750 annually		Every year in March	++	Presentations carried out every year.

Strategic goal I: Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation
1. Operational goal
2. Operational goal
3. Operational goal
4. Operational goal
5. Operational goal
6. Operational goal
7. Operational goal
Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions
8. Operational goal
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders
12. Operational goal
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14. Operational goal
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Strategic goal IV: Adequate knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders
16. Operational goal
17. Operational goal
18. Operational goal
19. Operational goal
Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions
20. Operational goal
21. Operational goal
22. Operational goal
23. Operational goal

Operational goal 15: Active participation of the business sector in environmental management							
XC	86. Strengthening partnerships between the business sector and nature conservation/ sustainable development organizations.	CCRS, NGOs	CCRS, NGOs and other stakeholders	/	Permanent task	+	Number of partnerships.
CBD §13	87. Partnerships with large Slovenian companies which are willing to include nature conservation in their marketing activities.	NGOs	NGOs, companies, advertising agencies	according to possibilities	Permanent task	+	Increased marketing of Slovenian nature and nature conservation.
Strategic goal IV: Adequate knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders							
Operational goal 16: Ensuring access to and usefulness of environmental information							
CBD §7	88. Establishment of biodiversity monitoring in Slovenia.						
	a. Preparation of a study on possible modes of carrying out biodiversity monitoring. Further in consultation process preparation of monitoring implementation programme (methods and indicators, data processing, time schedule, financial evaluation).	IRSNC	IRSNC	4.000	2006/II	+++	Prepared monitoring proposal.
	b. Preparation of conferences and workshops on monitoring methodology for NGOs and professional organizations that will carry out monitoring.	IRSNC	IRSNC and experts for individual groups	2.500	2007/I	+++	Organized series of workshops.

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation
1. Operational goal
2. Operational goal
3. Operational goal
4. Operational goal
5. Operational goal
6. Operational goal
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Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders
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Strategic goal IV: Adequate knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders
16. Operational goal
17. Operational goal
18. Operational goal
19. Operational goal
Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions
20. Operational goal
21. Operational goal
22. Operational goal
23. Operational goal

	c. *Initiation of biodiversity monitoring according to plan.	IRSNC	IRSNC and external contractors	300.000 annually	2007/II Establishment by the deadline, afterwards permanent task	++ +	Established monitoring, regularly carried out according to plan.
	d. Ensuring adequate processing of data collected with monitoring and their integration into databases.	IRSNC	IRSNC and external contractors	2.000 for material cost	2007/II Establishment by the deadline, afterwards permanent task	++ +	Established database and ensured database operator. Provided funds for a new employment.
CBD §8	89. Ensuring of biodiversity data processing and sending layers to relevant sectoral institutions.	IRSNC	IRSNC	/ with additional employments from activity no. 58	2006/IV Establishment by the deadline, afterwards permanent task	++ +	Established database containing all biodiversity data gathered with public funds.
CCD §10	90. Establishment of a complete soil information system, open to the public.						
	a. Ensuring public access to pedologic map with a scale of 1:25.000.	MESP, MAFF	Holders of public authority	/ Pre-condition activity no. 70 or additional sources	2007/I After 2007	++ +	Accessibility of soil data on the Internet and through an appropriate service.
	b. Ensuring access to generalized pedologic map with a scale of 1: 250.000 with the expert estimate of production potential, on demand also in a printed form with a comment.	MESP, MAFF	Holders of public authority	/ Pre-condition activity no. 70 or additional sources	2007/I After 2007	++ +	Accessibility of soil data on the Internet and through an appropriate service.

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation
1. Operational goal
2. Operational goal
3. Operational goal
4. Operational goal
5. Operational goal
6. Operational goal
7. Operational goal
Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions
8. Operational goal
9. Operational goal
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders
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Strategic goal IV: Adequate knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders
16. Operational goal
17. Operational goal
18. Operational goal
19. Operational goal
Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions
20. Operational goal
21. Operational goal
22. Operational goal
23. Operational goal

	c. Ensuring access to data on soil pollution in Slovenia via a web page, on demand also in a printed form with a comment.	MESP, MAFF	Holders of public authority	/ Pre-condition activity no. 70 or additional sources	2007/I After 2007	++	Accessibility of soil data on the Internet and through an appropriate service.
	d. Maintaining and updating of national soil database with new data gathered through other project financed from national budget.	MESP, MAFF	Holders of public authority	/ Pre-condition activity no. 70 or additional sources	2007/I After 2007	++	Accessibility of soil data on the Internet and through an appropriate service.
CCD §10	91. Elaboration of land inventory based on production potential on the level of parcels or GUUAL.	MAFF	Selected through a tender	80.000 Pre-condition activity no. 22	2007/I Gradually until 2013	++	Known production potential of land in RS.
CCD §10	92. Definition and inventorisation of land needed for minimal self-supply of Slovenia on the national level, precision down to the level of parcels or GUUAL.	MAFF	Selected through a tender	40.000 Pre-condition activity no. 23a	2008/I Gradually after 2008	++	Determined and inventorized land needed for minimal self-supply of Slovenia.
CCD §10	93. Ensuring a system for monitoring land use changes (general and agricultural) and the extent of agricultural land. I. by categories II. according to their production potential III. classification under land for minimal self-supply of Slovenia.						

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	
1. Operational goal	
2. Operational goal	
3. Operational goal	
4. Operational goal	
5. Operational goal	
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Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions	
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders	
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Strategic goal IV: AdeqAAte knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders	
16. Operational goal	
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18. Operational goal	
19. Operational goal	
Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions	
20. Operational goal	
21. Operational goal	
22. Operational goal	
23. Operational goal	

	a. Preparation of a plan for keeping an inventory on the level of parcels or GUUAL, including tracking changes.	MAFF in coop. with MESP - Directorate for Spatial Development	MAFF in coop. with MESP - Directorate for Spatial Planning	500	2006/II - 2006/IV	++ +	Defined mode of establishing the inventory. Appointed administrator at MAFF and MESP for further activities.
	b. Establishment of an inventory including tracking changes.	MAFF in coop. with MESP - Directorate for Spatial Development	MAFF in coop. with MESP - Directorate for Spatial Planning	1.000	2007/I Gradually after 2007 according to data availability	++ +	Monitoring of changes in use and extent of agricultural land, sending data to SORS.
CCD §10	94. Inventorisation of special soil types according to natural heritage conservation criteria.	MESP	Selected through a tender	15.000	2009/IV	+	Inventorized special soil types, data sent to relevant institutions.
CCD §10	95. Inventorisation of the most drought-sensitive agricultural land on the level of parcels or GUUAL.	MAFF	Selected through a tender	24.000	2006/III - 2008/I	+	Known and inventorized land the most sensitive to drought.
CCD §10	96. Establishing information system for early drought forecasting and informing: I. Drought monitoring II. Forecasting III. Providing information	MESP, EARS	EARS - Meteorology Department	30.000	2006/I - 2008/I	++ +	Established information system for early drought warning and informing.
CCD §10	97. Establishment of integrated drought management and definition of priorities of sectors in cases of increased pressure on water resources.	MESP, EARS	Drought Committee and/or all relevant institutions	2.000	2006/I - 2008/I	++ +	Ensured integrated drought management. Known priorities of sectors in cases of increased pressure on water resources.

Strategic goal I: Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation
1. Operational goal
2. Operational goal
3. Operational goal
4. Operational goal
5. Operational goal
6. Operational goal
7. Operational goal
Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions
8. Operational goal
9. Operational goal
10. Operational goal
11. Operational goal
Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders
12. Operational goal
13. Operational goal
14. Operational goal
15. Operational goal
Strategic goal IV: Adequate knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders
16. Operational goal
17. Operational goal
18. Operational goal
19. Operational goal
Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions
20. Operational goal
21. Operational goal
22. Operational goal
23. Operational goal

Operational goal 17: Establishment of interdisciplinary scientific-research programmes							
XC	98. Analysis of the possibilities to stimulate and carry out interdisciplinary research within the system of funding of research activities.	GOLSRP	GOLSRP and external contractors (public tender)	5.000	2006/II - 2006/III	++	Completed analysis and submitted proposals for improvement.
XC	99. Preparation of vulnerability analysis and strategy of adapting of agriculture and forestry to climate change; definition of activities sensitive to drought.	MESP, MAFF	Selected through a tender	8.000	2006/II - 2007/II	+++	Organized tender, completed analysis, proposals for improvements.
CBD §12	100. Preparation of analysis of nature conservation information needs by MESP and - in cooperation with MHVT - adequate inclusion in tender specifications for research projects.	MESP	MESP, MHEST	/	2006/II	+	Organized tenders for projects that could be used by MESP.
CBD §12	101. Proposal of inter-sectoral nature conservation research projects by MESP.	MESP	MESP, MAFF	/	2006/III	+	
CCD §V/ 2d	102. *Proposal (by MESP) of inter-sectoral research projects in the area of controlling or preventing groundwater pollution.	MESP	MESP, MAFF, MH	/	2006/I	++	Organized tenders for projects that could be used by MESP.
CCD §V/ 2d	103. Development of functional tools for assessing the risk of surface- and groundwater pollution from pesticides, based on pedology, hydrology and climatology data, on farm-, regional and national levels.	MESP, MAFF, MHEST	tender	80.000	2007/I - 2010/IV	+++	Organized tender. Developed risk assessment tools, provided to relevant ministries.

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	
1. Operational goal	
2. Operational goal	
3. Operational goal	
4. Operational goal	
5. Operational goal	
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Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions	
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders	
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Strategic goal IV: AdeqAAte knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders	
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19. Operational goal	
Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions	
20. Operational goal	
21. Operational goal	
22. Operational goal	
23. Operational goal	

CCC §4gh	104. Climate change research programme.	MESP	tender	1.500	2006/I - 2006/III	++	Completed list of needs for research projects with estimated financial needs and time frames as well as prepared terms of reference with clearly defined goals.
	a. Overview of research needs in the area of climate change (reduction of emissions and adapting to climate change), collection of proposals by research organisations and analysis of needs according to UNFCCC requirements; preparation of a programme and draft terms of reference for the projects.						
	b. Agreement on financing the projects according to the programme.	MESP, MHEST	MESP, MHEST	/	2006/III - 2006/IV	++	Number of research projects in the area of climate change; amount of funding for implementation of programmes.
	c. Annual public presentation of climate change research projects at the Slovenian Committee for Climate Change Issues.	MHEST	MHEST	/	2007/I - 2007/II Annually	++	Number of presented projects.
Operational goal 18: Ensuring education of public administration and other stakeholders for the areas covered by the conventions							
XC	105. Carry out training of personnel responsible for preparation, implementation and evaluation of consultation processes.	MPA	Academy of Administration in cooperation with external partners (public tender)	10.000	2006/II - 2006/IV Permanent task	++	Prepared training programme and its implementation.
CCD §10	106. Strengthening of skills for increased use of soil information.						

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	
1. Operational goal	
2. Operational goal	
3. Operational goal	
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Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions	
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders	
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Strategic goal IV: Adequate knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders	
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19. Operational goal	
Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions	
20. Operational goal	
21. Operational goal	
22. Operational goal	
23. Operational goal	

	a. Preparation of materials.	MESP, MAFF	Selected through a tender	1.000	2007/II - 2007/III	++	Prepared materials.
	b. Organization of seminars for public administration (MESP, MAFF, MH), agriculture extension service experts, local communities personnel, etc.	MESP, MAFF	holder of previous assignment	/ participation fee	2007/III - 2008/I	++	Number of seminars and participants.
CCC §4f	107. Education on the impact of plans on climate change.						
	a. Preparation of materials on the impact of plans on climate change (spatial planning, energy efficiency, sustainable mobility, renewable energy use, etc.) and organization of seminar for the MESP - Sector for strategic environmental assessments.	MESP	tender	1.000	2006/I - 2006/II	++	Prepared materials.
	b. Organization of seminars for municipality planners and regional development agencies.	MESP	holder of previous assignment	/ participation fee	2006/II - 2006/IV	++	Number of seminar participants.
CCC §4c	108. Organization of education seminars for investors (industry, agriculture) on the possibilities for the co-financing of projects in the areas of efficient energy use, renewable energy resources and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.	MESP/ME/MAFF, in cooperation with CCRS, CC, CAF	tender	10.000 (1/3 MESP – preparation of materials, 1/3 ME – seminars for companies, 1/3 MAFF – seminars for agriculture)	2007/I - 2007/IV	++	Prepared seminar materials; number of seminar participants; number of projects carried out by participants (follow up after seminars).

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	
1. Operational goal	
2. Operational goal	
3. Operational goal	
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Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions	
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders	
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Strategic goal IV: AdeqAAte knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders	
16. Operational goal	
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18. Operational goal	
19. Operational goal	
Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions	
20. Operational goal	
21. Operational goal	
22. Operational goal	
23. Operational goal	

Operational goal 19: Providing information to and awareness raising among target groups on issues covered by the conventions									
XC	109. Ensuring regular updating, integrity and inter-connection of existing Clearing House Mechanisms.	MESP, MAFF	Ministries and relevant agencies with external partners	/	Permanent task	+	Number of accesses and transfers.		
XC	110. Integration of climate change, biodiversity and soil degradation contents in the education programme of agriculture extension services.	MESP, MAFF, CAF	Ministries and contracted organisations	/	Permanent task	++	Amended education programmes for experts.		
CBD §13	111. Preparation of a summarized overview of nature conservation legislation and its presentation on web pages (legislation should be classified according to users).	MESP	MESP or NGOs	2.000	2006/II	++	Completed overview of legislation, published on web pages.		
CBD §17	112. Modernization of CBD Clearing House Mechanism to become more attractive, inclusion of popular as well as professional information.	MESP	MESP, external partners	1.000	2006/II	+	Modernized Clearing House Mechanism, increased number of visitors.		
CBD §13	113. Preparation of a manual of activities in nature for teachers to be used on natural history days, paying regard to the contents of CBD and other nature conservation conventions.	National Education Institute	Selected through a tender	3.900	2008/I	+	Published manual, presented to natural history teachers.		
CBD §13	114. Promotion of nature conservation with posters in public places (libraries, mountain huts, issuing of stamps portraying Habitat Directive species).	NGOs, IRSNC, MESP, tourist societies	NGOs, IRSNC, MESP, tourist societies	2.000 annually (at least)	Permanent task	++	Published posters, posted in public places.		

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	
1. Operational goal	
2. Operational goal	
3. Operational goal	
4. Operational goal	
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6. Operational goal	
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Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions	
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders	
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Strategic goal IV: AdeqAAite knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders	
16. Operational goal	
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19. Operational goal	
Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions	
20. Operational goal	
21. Operational goal	
22. Operational goal	
23. Operational goal	

CBD §13	115. Establishment of institutions for informal education on sustainable development.	MESP	MESP	MESP	1.700.000	2013/IV	+++	Established centers for informal education, including appropriate infrastructure and staff.
CCD §10	116. Permanent education of local communities on the use of knowledge about soils: thematic workshops, courses.		MESP, local communities	Professional institutions, NGOs	1.000 annually	2007/I After 2007	+	Number of workshop participants.
CCD §10	117. Amendment of education programmes to adequately include contents related to soil and agro meteorology (drought) on all education levels.		MESP, MAFF, MES	Education and research institutions	2.500	2008/III Gradually until the school year 2008/2009	+	Adequately represented pedology (soil protection) and agro meteorology (drought) in curriculum plans
CCC §4i	118. Establishment of a climate change web page including information for stakeholders and news.							
	a. Creating a web page containing official documents and information of the MESP and a climate change forum.	MESP	MESP	MESP	/	2006/I - 2006/I	+	Established web pages.
	b. Connection with existing and newly created NGO web pages on climate change.	MESP	MESP	MESP/NGOs	500	2006/I - 2006/I	+	Established web page with adequate links.
CCC §4i	119. Creation and financing of awareness raising shows on national and local levels: preparation of shows, broadcasting on TV stations, DVD distribution in schools, school quiz on climate change.		MESP/MES	Selected through a tender, TV stations, MES	40.000 Co-financing of national TV's proper production	2007/I - 2007/IV Tender and production in 2007, broadcast in a year after production.	++	Prepared shows of adequate quality for public broadcast, rating of shows, number of sold copies of shows, number of viewers.

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	
1. Operational goal	
2. Operational goal	
3. Operational goal	
4. Operational goal	
5. Operational goal	
6. Operational goal	
7. Operational goal	
Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions	
8. Operational goal	
9. Operational goal	
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders	
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Strategic goal IV: AdeqAAte knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders	
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19. Operational goal	
Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions	
20. Operational goal	
21. Operational goal	
22. Operational goal	
23. Operational goal	

CCC §4i	120. Introduction of climate change contents into natural and social sciences university programmes.	MHEST	MHEST in cooperation with experts	2.000	2007/I - 2008/II Implemen- tation of the programme starting in 2008/09	++	Prepared subject, included in study programmes.
CCC §4i	121. Integration of climate change contents and activities into education programmes of primary and secondary schools.						
	a. Preparation of a programme of extra-curricular activities for primary schools.	MES	tender	2.000	2008/I - 2008/II	+	Prepared programme.
	b. Implementation of a programme of extra-curricular activities in primary schools.	MES	tender	5.000	2008/III - 2009/II	+	Number of pupils included.
	c. Preparation of a programme of extra-curricular activities for secondary schools.	MES	tender	2.000	2009/I - 2009/II	+	Prepared programme.
	d. Implementation of a programme of extra-curricular activities in secondary schools.	MES	tender	5.000	2009/III - 2010/II	+	Number of pupils included.
CCC §4c	122. Preparation of a handbook for the implementation of CDM (Clean Development Mechanism) and JI (Joint Implementation) projects.	MESP	MESP	2.500 MESP	2005/III - 2006/I	++	Completed manual, distributed to potential implementing entities.

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation						
1. Operational goal						
2. Operational goal						
3. Operational goal						
4. Operational goal						
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Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions						
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders						
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Strategic goal IV: Adequate knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders						
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Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions						
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23. Operational goal						

Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions							
Operational goal 20: Funding of tasks arising from the requirements of the conventions							
XC	123. Establishment of legal framework for financing awareness raising and education programmes with funds gathered through environmental taxes.	MESP, MF	/	2006/IV	++ +	Amendment of environmental tax regulations.	
CBD §20	124. Preparation of rough cost estimate for carrying out obligatory and planned nature conservation tasks.	MESP	/	2006/II	++	Prepared cost estimate.	
CBD §20	125. Providing adequate budgetary funds for nature conservation at MESP and other ministries (e.g. MAFF, MP).	relevant ministries	/	2008/IV	++ +	Increased budgetary funds for nature conservation.	
CBD §	126. Directing concession funds into the use of natural values and funds collected from hunting and fisheries societies into sustainable development.	MESP, MAFF, MF	/	2007/III	++	Directing concession funds into sustainable development.	
CCD §10, 21	127. Preparation of rough cost estimate for carrying out of obligatory tasks related to soil.	MESP, MAFF and other relevant ministries	500	2006/III	+	Prepared rough cost estimate.	
CCD §10, 21	128. Comparative financial analysis of short-term and long-term effects of individual activities.	MESP, MAFF and other relevant ministries	3.000	2007/I	++	Completed comparative financial analysis.	
CCD §10, 21	129. Providing budgetary funds that enable implementation of tasks defined by legislation and fulfilment of obligations towards EU and CCD convention.	MESP, MAFF and other relevant ministries	/	gradually until 2013	++ +	Provided national budgetary funds for implementation of at least some tasks.	

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	
1. Operational goal	
2. Operational goal	
3. Operational goal	
4. Operational goal	
5. Operational goal	
6. Operational goal	
7. Operational goal	
Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions	
8. Operational goal	
9. Operational goal	
10. Operational goal	
11. Operational goal	
Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders	
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Strategic goal IV: AdeqAAte knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders	
16. Operational goal	
17. Operational goal	
18. Operational goal	
19. Operational goal	
Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions	
20. Operational goal	
21. Operational goal	
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CCC §4c	130. Preparation of an overview of domestic and foreign financial sources (amount, application deadlines, possibilities of drawing) for projects in the area of climate change.	MESP	tender	2.000	2007/I - 2007/II	++	Completed clear overview of sources of project funding, published on a web page.
	a. Preparation of an overview of sources of funds.	MESP	tender	500 annually	2007/II - 2007/IV	++	Date of last table update.
CCC §4c	b. Updating of an overview of sources of funds.	MESP	tender				
	131. Analysis of possibilities for financing sustainable modes of transport.						
	a. Feasibility study for financing sustainable modes of mobility from covering external costs of personal transport: parking fees in town centers, environmental taxes.	MT, MESP	tender	5.000	2008/I - 2008/II	++	Completed study.
	b. Preparation of regulations on national and local levels for financing sustainable mobility based on the findings of the study.	MF, MT, MESP	MF, MT, MESP	/	2008/II - 2008/IV	++	Adopted regulations on national level; number of municipalities with adopted regulations on the local level.
Operational goal 21: Establishment of a system of incentive measures in the areas of biodiversity conservation, soil protection and climate change							
XC	132. Expansion of operation of Environmental Fund of the Republic of Slovenia (wider scope of crediting, education programmes, etc.).	Government of RS, EFS	Government of RS and MESP	/	2006/III	++	Change of EFS charter.

Strategic goal I: T Adoption of all required programme documents and regulations and ensuring their implementation	
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Strategic goal II: Complete institutional framework to ensure implementation of the three conventions	
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Strategic goal III: Efficient cooperation among stakeholders	
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Strategic goal IV: Adequate knowledge, skills and informing of stakeholders	
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Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions	
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CBD §11	133. Preparation of an analysis of allocation of funds through agri-environmental programme (share of funds for nature-friendly measures and areas where they were implemented).	MESP, MAFF	MAFF	/	Every year until the end of 2nd quarter for the previous year	+	Completed analysis.
CBD §11	134. *Inclusion of largest possible areas, important for biodiversity conservation, into implementation of relevant agri-environmental programmes.	MESP, MAFF	MESP, MAFF, Agriculture Extension Services	Special cost-estimate study needed	2007/IV	+++	At least 30% of agricultural land important for biodiversity conservation included in nature-friendly agri-environmental measures.
CBD §11	135. Preparation of proposals of tax/income tax incentive measures and their submitting to the Ministry of Finance.	MESP	MESP, Ministry of Finance	1.000	2007/IV	+	Prepared proposal, submitted to MF.
CBD §11	136. Encouraging private sector donations for nature conservation through tax relief.	MF on the initiative of MESP	MF	/	2007/IV	++	Tax relief included in legislation.
CBD §10	137. Increasing benefits for local population arising from biodiversity.						
	a. Better incorporation of nature conservation contents in tourist guide examinations at the Chamber of Commerce of RS.	STO	STO, Chamber of Commerce, expert partners	2.000	2006/IV	++	Additional questions related to nature conservation included in examination materials.
	b. Preparation of a special exam for eco-tourism (natural history) guides.	STO	STO, Chamber of Commerce, expert partners	700	2007/IV	+	Exam established and promoted among interested population.

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Strategic goal V: Provided funds for the implementation of the three conventions
20. Operational goal
21. Operational goal
22. Operational goal
23. Operational goal

	c. Stimulation of tourism-oriented companies to include eco-tourism in their offer.	STO	Tourism companies in cooperation with managers of protected areas	/	2007/IV	+	Increase offer of eco-tourism.
CBD \$10	d. Establishment and maintenance of the infrastructure for visiting protected areas and other public infrastructure (information centers, visitor paths, view points, parking lots, toilets).	MESP	MESP	5.900.000	until 2013/IV	+++	Improved infrastructure and increased number of visitors, interested in natural history, to protected areas.
CBD \$10	e. Development of capacities for marketing of sustainable tourism in protected areas (promotion of local entrepreneurship and ancillary activities such as eco farming, tourist farms, natural history and rural tourism activities).	MESP in cooperation with ME	MESP in cooperation with ME	2.400.000	until 2013/IV	+++	Increased share of destinations offering nature-based tourism. Increased share of self-employed population within protected areas.
	f. Preparation of a presentation of all larger protected areas and Natura 2000 areas for the needs of eco-tourism (brochures including presentation of nature, animal- and plant life, postcards with characteristic species living in protected areas).	STO, managers of protected areas	Managers of protected areas	3.000	2007/IV	+	Published brochures.
CBD \$10	g. Promotion of measures to increase the income of local population from marketing of natural products, eco products, cottage industry products, etc.	MESP in cooperation with ME	MESP in cooperation with ME	900.000	until 2013/IV	+++	Increased share of population locally active in the area of tourism.

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20. Operational goal	
21. Operational goal	
22. Operational goal	
23. Operational goal	

CCD §10	138. Preparation of proposals in the area of land policy - tax incentive measures for reuse of degraded urban areas (e.g. measures in the area of real estate and property taxes).	MESP - Directorate for Spatial Development and MIF	MESP - Directorate for Spatial Planning, local communities, MF	1.000	2006/IV	+++	Measures included in tax and spatial legislation.
CCD §10	139. Preparation of proposals of incentive measures aiming at restoration and remediation of degraded land.	MESP - Directorate for Environment, Directorate for Spatial Development	MESP - Directorate for Environment, Directorate for Spatial Planning	5.000	2006/IV	++	Prepared tenders for the promotion of restoration and remediation of degraded land.
CCD §10	140. At least partial re-direction of funds currently disbursed for indemnities (drought) into expert solutions that would reduce drought damage in a long run.	MD, MAFF, MESP	MF	/	Related to the activity 24	+++	Funds are at least partially redirected to preventive action.
CCC §4f	141. Initiation of activities for green public finance reform.						
	a. Preparation of a feasibility study for green public finance reform.	MF/MESP	Tender	5.000 1/2 MESP, 1/2 MF	2008/I - 2008/II	+++	Completed study.
	b. The beginning of a social debate process on green public finance reform.	MESP/MF	Tender	/	2008/II - 2009/II	+++	Number of participants in discussion; degree of consensus regarding the reform mode.
	c. Amendments of legislation in the area of public finance.	MF	MF	/	2009/II - 2009/IV	+++	Adopted laws and by-laws.

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2. Operational goal	
3. Operational goal	
4. Operational goal	
5. Operational goal	
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19. Operational goal	
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20. Operational goal	
21. Operational goal	
22. Operational goal	
23. Operational goal	

CCC §4c	142. Promoting the development of technologies for the use of renewable energy sources	ME	ME in cooperation with MESP	10.000.000	2007/III - 2013/IV	++ +	Share of GNP generated in industry producing equipment to generate energy from RES. Share of RES in Slovenia's energy budget
Operational goal 22: Funding of research in the areas covered by the conventions							
CBD §13	143. Adapting tender criteria for MHEST funds in a way to enable successful tendering of applicative projects in the area of nature conservation.	MESP	MESP, MHEST	/	2007/IV	++	Increased number of approved nature conservation projects.
CCD §10	144. Adapting tender criteria for existing national research programmes (MHEST) in a way to enable successful tendering of applicative projects in the area of soil protection and drought alleviation measures.	MESP, MAFF, MH	MESP, MAFF, MH, MHEST	/	2006/IV	++	Increased number of approved applicative projects in the area of soil protection/drought alleviation. Known ratio between funds intended for indemnities and funds invested in research.
Operational goal 23: Funding of NGOs active in the areas covered by the conventions							
XC	145. Strengthening of programme financing of NGOs in the field of sustainable development and environmental protection.	MESP	MESP in cooperation with ministries	30.000	Permanent task	++	Increase of funds for operation of NGOs.
CBD §13	146. Preparation of training, especially of NGOs, for preparation of nature conservation projects (methodology, writing, preparation of financial plans).	MESP	Selected through a tender	1.210	2007/IV	++	Increased success of Slovenian applicants to international tenders.

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20. Operational goal
21. Operational goal
22. Operational goal
23. Operational goal

CCD §10	147. Encouraging of NGOs to be active in the area of soil protection - through tenders; inclusion of soil protection contents in the programme of financing NGOs.	MESP		/	At the time of first tenders for NGOs	++ +	Amount of annual funding provided for soil protection.
CCC §4i	148. Ensuring regular public procurement for NGOs.						
	a. Preparation of a long-term plan of activities in the area of climate change that could be carried out by NGOs (marketing, awareness raising, education, monitoring of implementation of programmes and measures).	MESP	tender for NGOs	1.000	2006/II - 2006/II	+	Prepared plan.
	b. Providing annual funds for planned activities.	MESP	MESP	5.000	2007/I - 2007/IV Each year	++ +	Amount of annually provided funding.

For better overview of the activities in the areas of individual conventions within the action plan, thematic action plans for the areas of biodiversity, climate change, land degradation and cross-cutting issues are available at <http://www.rec-lj.si/>.

Abbreviations

AA	Academy of Administration
CAF	Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry
CC	Chamber of Craft
CCRS	Chamber of Commerce of the Republic of Slovenia
EARS	Environmental Agency of RS
EEU	Efficient Energy Use
EFS	Environmental Fund of RS
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GOLSRP	Government Office for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy
GUUAL	Graphical Unit of the Use of Agricultural Land
IRSNC	Institute of RS for Nature Conservation
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food
MD	Ministry of Defence
ME	Ministry of Economy
MES	Ministry of Education and Sport
MESP	Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning
MF	Ministry of Finance
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MH	Ministry of Health
MHEST	Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology
MIA	Ministry of Internal Affairs
MPA	Ministry of Public Administration
MT	Ministry of Transport
NGOs	Non-governmental organisations
PA	Protected Areas
RES	Renewable Energy Sources
SCSD	Slovenian Council for Sustainable Development
SORS	Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia
STO	Slovenian Tourist Organization
NCA	Nature Conservation Act
SPA	Spatial Planning Act

3.3 Capacity-building priority tasks for the implementation of three global conventions

3.3.1 Priority tasks for the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity

Slovenia adopted the Biodiversity Conservation Strategy in 2001, but so far it has remained the only programming document covering this area. The need to prepare more detailed programming documents (action plans, operational programmes, strategies) has already been identified in the country and many of these tasks are proposed in the new National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP). The fundamental programming document Operational Programme and Action Plan for the Preservation of Biodiversity with the Programme of Management of Natura 2000 Areas is already being prepared during the time of conclusion of the NCSA project. Preparation of other documents is planned in the upcoming years, while they are also put forward in the NCSA action plan. **Apart from the preparation of the Operational programme – the Strategy of Management of Invasive Alien Species, institutional assignment of tasks in the area of alien species to relevant institution is also pointed out as a necessary task.** The area is satisfactorily regulated at the legislative level; however, the tasks have not been assigned to either institution which is probably one of the main reasons for such a weak implementation of tasks and fulfilment of obligations in this area. Following the discussion with stakeholders, we recommend this task to be assumed by the Nature protection authority of the RS since this is also the practice in other European countries. Of course, at least one adequately trained expert will have to be employed for the implementation of this task.

The adoption of missing regulations in the area of nature conservation and biosafety is already under way. We can expect that until the beginning of 2007 all regulations will be adopted, enabling full operationalization of the legislation. Larger problems were identified in the area of regulation enforcement, since the new system of legislation brings along numerous new tasks which exceed the current human resource capacities of relevant institutions. Thus, new personnel will have to be employed for the implementation of certain tasks. In the action plan we recommend **preparation of more detailed instructions for the implementation of certain regulations.** Only parts of legislation are pointed out where implementation is particularly weak and where we estimate that irreversible (at least indirectly) damage to nature is caused due to this fact.

Nature conservation involves numerous sectors which use biodiversity components. For successful

implementation of tasks it will be necessary to improve cooperation between sectors and to appropriately integrate them in nature conservation activities. Inter-sectoral cooperation could also be improved through the establishment of a working group for biodiversity within the Sustainable development council, which would primarily have a consultative function and would be responsible for monitoring of the implementation of national programmes.

In the field of nature conservation and biosafety, Slovenia established a new institutional system. However, with the adoption of new legislation, the number of administrative, professional and inspection tasks increased which was not followed adequately by the strengthening of human resources in the institutions. Apart from limited financial resources, lack of personnel was among the most frequently stated obstacles for successful fulfilment of obligations under the convention. Therefore, additional financial resources have to be located which would enable human-resource strengthening of responsible entities as well as training of the personnel to be able to carry out the tasks properly. Since a wide array of activities is related to nature conservation in one way or the other, it is necessary for other sectors to be included in CBD-related activities. We recommend that in each sector, **especially in the areas of forestry, hunting, fishing, water protection, economy, education, and science, personnel is provided with work on CBD included in their working tasks.** Only in this way appropriate treatment of CBD contents and adequate integration in all sectoral plans will be enabled.

Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning should make arrangements for **enhanced cooperation with NGOs.** We suggest a programme of activities to be prepared where NGOs can be included and some of **unassigned tasks from public institutions can be transferred to NGOs.** In the field of cooperation, NGOs should be enabled to be involved in environmental procedures. The state should immediately adopt all legal bases to carry out the procedure of acquiring the status of NGO operating in public interest of environmental protection (according to the Environmental Protection Act) in the shortest possible time.

One of the key areas that need to be regulated in Slovenia is monitoring of biodiversity. Apart from monitoring which is an obligation under Habitat and Bird directives, nationally adapted monitoring of selected indicator species and in sampling areas also has to be initiated. Monitoring cannot be carried out without involvement of NGOs, however, a professional team has to be assembled to prepare and manage it. **Database** also has to be established which has to be adjusted to be compatible with existing databases of other sectors and available to relevant sectoral institutions in the shortest possible

time in order to enable integration of data into their plans and decisions.

In the field of education, numerous activities are already included in the NEAP. Apart from these, we suggest that a **simple language overview of legislation is prepared, adapted according to the interests of different target groups**. With broader knowledge about and understanding of legislation by the general public we can also expect improvement of its implementation.

A set of several activities is suggested to **provide funds for the convention, or wider, for nature conservation**. We found out that parts of the convention that are the least implemented are also not supported by budgetary funds. Lack of financial resources is certainly one of the key obstacles for greater activity in these areas. During the preparation of regulations, the tasks brought about by these regulations were not financially evaluated. We suggest that such an estimate is made as soon as possible, and afterwards measures are to be taken to gradually provide budgetary funds until 2008.

In the area of incentive measures we propose a set of **activities to enhance opportunities for the development of eco-tourism in protected areas**. Slovenia with its large areas of preserved nature has a great potential for the development of eco-tourism. Areas of preserved nature are usually further away from larger urban centers, frequently lacking job opportunities which results in emigration to urban areas. Draining population is an undesired phenomenon also from the aspect of nature conservation because many protected areas represent cultural landscape which is maintained by the sustainable use. We suggest several activities to increase opportunities for the development of eco-tourism in protected areas. These are establishment and maintenance of infrastructure for visiting protected areas and activities to stimulate local entrepreneurship and the development of various types of sustainable tourism. We think that with implementation of these measures, tourism - along with consideration of nature conservation goals - will provide adequate economic and social motivation for the local population.

3.3.2 Priority tasks for the implementation of the Convention on Climate Change

At the systemic level, Slovenia has to prepare three key programming documents in the area of climate change:

- Operational programme for adapting to climate change which will lead to the

fulfilment of the convention's requirement to alleviate climate change impacts.

- National programme of sustainable mobility where transport as a sector where GHG emissions are increasing at the fastest rate will be addressed.
- Long term strategy for reduction of GHG emissions where goals will be set to reduce GHG emissions at a considerably higher rate than in Kyoto protocol.

Apart from these extensive tasks which are the most important, activities are recommended to improve monitoring of the implementation of measures to reduce GHG emissions and the implementation of flexible Kyoto mechanisms such as clean development mechanism (CDM) and joint implementation (JI).

Since in the transport sector where GG emissions are growing at the fastest rate, there is no institution which would actively pursue transition to more sustainable modes of transport, establishment of an **institution responsible for the management of public passenger transport** was proposed (proposal for the establishment of an Agency for Public Passenger Transport is already included in the Resolution of Transport Policy of the RS – Predictably Into the Common Future). This will increase efficiency of the activities to improve the quality of public passenger transport. Increased road transport is directly related to a rapid decrease in the use of public passenger transport, resulting in deteriorating quality of public passenger transport (service frequency).

For the implementation of flexible Kyoto mechanisms – clean development mechanism and joint implementation – which are intended to achieve higher efficiency through the introduction of market mechanisms in the system of reduction of GHG emissions, a **information focal point** has to be established in Slovenia where potential investors investing in CDM or JI projects could obtain professional assistance and support in the implementation of the projects. No additional subsidizing of these projects by the state is proposed since at the moment the interest for implementation of these projects seems to be sufficient without additional incentives.

It is important to strengthen **implementation of tasks related to climate change within existing institutions, especially in agriculture**. Through education of agricultural extension service staff, a reduction of emissions from family farms can be expected.

After the Agency of the RS for efficient use of energy (AURE) has been cancelled, it is necessary to **maintain a high-quality energy consulting network** supervised by the Ministry of Environment

and Spatial Planning – Sector for Efficient Energy Use and Renewable Energy Sources. In this area, it is necessary to provide an overview of possibilities to finance projects from various sources and to achieve harmonized financing from different sectors (e.g. harmonized funding of biogas devices by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food and the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, together with favourable loans from the Environmental Development Fund).

Current insufficient cooperation between stakeholders is the largest obstacle for efficient limitation of emissions from sectors which are not a direct responsibility of the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning. The most obvious example is a transport sector where for the last 15 years the emissions have been increasing at the fastest rate without an adequate approach by the state. For the implementation of measures foreseen in the programming documents of the Ministry of Environment to be implemented by the Ministry of Transport (MT), no responsibilities have been appointed – consequently, measures are not being implemented and are integrated in the programming documents of the Ministry of Transport only at the level of principle.

Therefore, it was suggested that the **tasks from the Operational Programme for the Reduction of GHG emissions are presented to relevant ministries and responsibilities for the implementation of tasks are clearly appointed**. Formally, the Government of RS should adopt a decision on obligatory engagement of a representative from the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning in the preparation of sectoral strategies and programmes, especially in the areas of energy, transport and agriculture.

The **role of the Slovenian Committee for Climate Change Issues should be strengthened** since at present, the committee operates only as a consultative body at the level of principle. For operational work it would be useful to establish a working group within the committee which would deal in more detail with strategic and programming documents prepared by the ministries. In the future it would be useful for the committee to establish a secretariat which would actually be an operational focal point for climate change issues in all ministries.

In Slovenia, the widest gap between the current situation and the requirements of the convention is in the area of research. Although climate change research is carried out at a very high level in some areas, there is a lack of directing the research from the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning. For example, in some important fields, basic scientific studies for Slovenia are missing to support programming documents. E.g. such studies could include a model of the relation between the use of public transport and its accessibility and the price

of service, impact of climate change on people's health, technologies for exploitation of locally accessible energy resources, etc. Through a clear overview of the needs of decision-makers at the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning and other relevant ministries, **a list of needs could be prepared and this kind of research programmes could be promoted in scientific institutions**. Such a list could serve as a basis for the development of new goal-oriented research programmes financed by relevant ministries.

An important task is also **education of decision-makers about the impacts of plans on climate change**. In 2006, it is urgent to carry out education of spatial planners since all local communities are preparing spatial development strategies where the impact of settlement pattern on traffic generation, possibilities for the use of renewable energy sources, vulnerability of agriculture due to expected increased occurrence of extreme climate events, etc. has to be taken into consideration.

Several measures are foreseen for **informing individual target groups on climate change and the possibilities for taking action to reduce GHG emissions and to adapt**. These are primarily:

- preparation of expert documents and tools (climate change web page, a handbook for CDM and JI),
- awareness raising among primary and secondary school youth (preparation of education shows, preparation and implementation of extra-curricular activities in primary and secondary schools), and
- Introduction of climate change contents in natural history and social sciences programmes at the level of university studies.

Generally, an overview of **available funds from domestic and foreign financial sources has to be prepared for financing the implementation of activities**: there are many sources, while potential investors and implementing entities typically know only a few of them. A specific task important for the transport sector is an overview of possibilities for financing sustainable modes of mobility from the coverage of external costs of transportation (e.g. parking fees, environmental taxes). In order to strengthen NGOs it is important to provide regular public procurement intended for non-governmental organizations.

In a long run, the most important for the reduction of GHG emissions is a **green public finance reform** (transition from taxing labour to taxing the use of resources). Since it is an extensive process with concrete consequences for all citizens, a feasibility study has to be conducted and a process of social

debate on this issue has to be initiated, concluding within several years with amended public finance legislation.

3.3.3 Priority tasks for the implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification/Land Degradation

So far, Slovenia hasn't been giving much attention to the implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification/Land Degradation. No single action plan exists for the implementation of the convention – the content of the convention is covered by the NEAP. The comparison between the NEAP and the proposed action plan prepared within the NCSA project reveals that the NEAP covers very few activities included in the action plan. The areas of drought and soil protection are not covered satisfactory on any level in terms of human resources. Non-inclusion of soil protection in relevant institutions (MESP, ARSE, MAFF) is concerning. Soil protection is not even covered by the public authorization. Therefore, the **establishment of a national institution for soil** is pointed out in the action plan as a priority capacity-building activity for the implementation of the convention. Additional reason for institutional coverage of soil-related issues is the fact that adoption of the Soil Framework Directive is expected. Under the directive, the state will have an obligation towards the European Commission to carry out monitoring and prepare background documents.

Soil is frequently a factor not taken into consideration also because soil data is not easily accessible and the area is poorly known (the use of soil data requires certain knowledge), therefore **establishment of integrated and publicly available information system for soil** is among the priority activities, including the following tasks: (i) providing access to pedologic map 1:25.000, (ii) providing access to a generalized pedologic map 1:25.000 with an assessment of production potential, at the request also in printed form with a comment, (iii) providing access to data on soil pollution in Slovenia, at the request also in a printed form with comment, (iv) maintenance and updating of national soil database. In the action plan, activities for capacity building in using soil data are also foreseen (promotion materials, thematic workshops, education). The complete set of activities would provide simple access to data through Internet; data flow would improve as well usefulness of data. The support of Slovenia to the European Environmental Agency (EEA) which at the moment is very weak in the area of soil (few presented and interpreted data) would improve as well.

Because soil quality and the level of land degradation is poorly known in Slovenia, the following activities to establish and monitor the state of soil are proposed in the action plan: **establishment of monitoring** (fertility, soil contamination, environmental impact of agriculture) and **preparation of inventories** (inventories of land with high- and good production potential, defining and inventorying areas required for minimal self-supply at the national level, inventories of the most drought-prone agricultural land, etc.) Remediation of known degraded areas is urgent. Apart from the preparation of a remediation programme, the action plan also foresees the preparation of proposed **incentive measures to regenerate and remediate degraded areas**.

In the action plan, special attention is given to **protection of agricultural land**. Namely, data reveal that agricultural sector is not successful in protecting agricultural land. All agricultural land in Slovenia, but especially best-quality agricultural land, should be protected due to the fact that its area per capita is insufficient. According to a very rough estimate, approximately 3000 m² of arable land (arable fields, meadows, orchards) per capita would be required in our ecological region to ensure required quantities of food per capita. Slovenia is already below this value.¹ Despite current abundance (in terms of quantity but not quality) of food on the food market, we must not allow to lose the possibilities for the production of strategic quantities of food in the country because increasingly frequent extreme weather phenomena indicate that food self-supply may become more important already in the near future. Among the activities, **preparation of background documents for classifying the land on the basis of its production potential and determination of criteria for classifying the land as suitable for minimal self-supply of the RS** are pointed out. These are followed by the preparation of missing regulations and the revision of agricultural and spatial legislation, preparation of inventories (see above), establishment of a (general and agricultural) land use monitoring system and providing data to the Statistical Office of RS. Namely, only a clear and complete overview of agricultural land being converted to building plots enables professional discussion about the effectiveness of the agricultural land protection policy, thus contributing to reduced abuse of the legislation. The action plan also foresees preparation of proposals in the area of land use policy in a form of **tax incentive measures for reuse of degraded urban areas**.

Equally important as land degradation in the action plan is the issue of drought alleviation and related activities. Slovenia has no early drought-warning

¹ Source: Hrústel Majcen M., 2004. Trajnostni razvoj in kmetijstvo. In: Lah, A. (Ed.), Sonaravno uravnoteženi razvoj Slovenije, »Usklajeno in sonaravno« Series, No. 11/2004, p. 99-102.

system and no strategy for prevention/alleviation of agricultural drought. Slovenia also has no systematic monitoring of agricultural drought and consulting assistance in this matter, background documents for such activities are also insufficient. In Slovenia, addressing the issue of drought is dispersed among various institutions (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, Environmental Agency of RS, Ministry of Defence – Administration of RS for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief) regarding the aspect of the issue (meteorological, hydrologic, agricultural aspect). Operational Programme for Hydrologic Drought Alleviation is foreseen in the NEAP for the period 2005-2008; however this programme does not include agricultural aspect of droughts.

Therefore, the following activities have been pointed as the most important for drought alleviation: (i) **preparation of an integrated short-term and long-term drought alleviation programme**, (ii) **establishment of a permanent inter-sectoral Drought Committee** which would direct, harmonize and supervise the activities related to drought and which would connect the involved institutions, and (iii) **establishment of the early drought warning system (monitoring, forecasting, informing)**. Due to the impact of climate change on the frequency and duration of droughts in Slovenia, a complete **overview of drought in Slovenia** is necessary. Indicators of hydrologic and agricultural drought have to be defined. Apart from meteorological land-based monitoring, purchase and use of more modern techniques in meteorology for the needs of agriculture should be considered. Interdisciplinary approaches, research and development are urgent in this area. **Establishment of agrometeorology information system and monitoring for specific needs**, such as water balance monitoring including groundwater supplies, is also urgent. Apart from measurements, the programme also has to include the results of models of water balance calculations, reporting based on these data and last, but not least, taking action by the profession, the state and the general public.

3.3.4 Priority tasks in cross-cutting areas of three global conventions

In cross-cutting areas of three global conventions, measures for the **improvement of the quality of strategic and programming planning** are required. These include the analysis of the current situation, preparation of methodologies for monitoring and evaluation of strategies, programmes and regulations and obligatory reporting on the implementation. For better functioning of environmental non-governmental organizations, it is necessary to prepare a **regulation for acquiring a status of an organization in public interest** according to the

Environmental Protection Act. For the improvement of cooperation and involvement of the public, a **clear regulation is needed at the level of an Act, defining public consultation in the procedures of preparation of programmes and regulations**. **A methodology also needs to be prepared and a programme for training implementing entities**. It is very important to harmonise regulations in the areas covered by three global conventions which can be achieved through the introduction of obligatory regulation impact assessment for the regulation. These measures are also in line with the Development Strategy of Slovenia which puts more efficient state among the strategic goals. It also foresees improved cooperation between various development stakeholders with a goal improve designing, implementing and monitoring of national programming documents. In the field of sustainable development, quality of institutional framework and trained stakeholders are of key importance in Slovenia for the achievement of development goals.

Special attention in the action plan is given to identification of priority areas for **Slovenia's support and professional assistance to developing countries in fulfilling the requirements of three global conventions** – Slovenia also has to prepare such a national policy or a programme due to its obligations arising from the EU membership.

Among the priority tasks are also **strengthening and operationalization of the Slovenian Sustainable Development Council** which will provide consultation, harmonization and monitoring at the highest strategic level. Action plan also foresees establishment of various inter-sectoral working groups for the preparation and harmonization of activities and measures which could help to overcome sectoral approaches and to achieve successful and efficient use of limited human and financial resources.

The need for **capacity building of the public administration in the areas of environmental law and environmental economics** in order to improve the quality of planning of measures has especially to be pointed out.

To ensure efficient cooperation between stakeholders, the action plan foresees activities for the implementation of a self-assessment programme in public and administration institutions responsible for the implementation of programmes and regulations in the areas of three global conventions, by using the method Common Assessment Framework for Organizations in Public Sector.

In order to achieve goals in the areas covered by three global conventions (and sustainable development), cooperation of various stakeholders, among them certainly civil society organizations and NGOs, is of key importance. The development

of civil society in recent years shows that systemic and institutional possibilities for its functioning have to be additionally strengthened. The following is needed for the successful functioning of NGOs:

- stimulative political environment enabling the development of civil dialogue and partnership between NGOs and national and local authorities;
- appropriate systemic legal framework;
- established and functioning system of public financing and provided funds; and
- adequate conditions and stimulative mechanisms for creating jobs in NGOs.

Cooperation and involvement of stakeholders in the procedures of preparation of documents have to be analysed, measures have to be defined to improve the situation and guidelines and trainings have to be prepared to carry out the consultative processes. Since the functioning of NGOs is highly important, an analysis of their functioning is foreseen as well as proposals for the improvement of conditions for their functioning.

The action plan also foresees **strengthening of partnerships between the business sector and organisations dealing with environmental protection and sustainable development.**

A very important component of the capacity-building action plan is **achieving relevant knowledge and skills and informing of stakeholders.** It is especially important to point out the need for the elaboration

of an analysis to assess possibilities for stimulation and implementation of interdisciplinary research within the system of financing of research activities in cross-cutting areas of three global conventions. The action plan proposes:

- vulnerability analysis and a strategy of adapting agriculture and forestry to climate change – identification of drought-sensitive activities,
- training of personnel responsible for preparation, implementation and evaluation of consultative processes,
- regular updating, integrity and inter-linking of existing clearing house mechanisms, and
- integration of the contents of climate change, biodiversity and land degradation in education program of agriculture extension services.

For ensuring sufficient financial resources, the action plan foresees the following activities in the cross-cutting areas: (i) **legal framework has to be established for the financing of awareness raising and education programmes with funds raised through environmental taxes** which would strengthen the basis for the functioning of numerous non-governmental stakeholders; (ii) as an additional measure, **expansion of the activities of the Environmental Development Fund of RS** is foreseen (expansion is to include the area of crediting, education programmes, etc.) with the intent to strengthen financing of non-governmental organizations active in the areas of sustainable development and environment protection.

4. Integration of capacity building activities for the implementation of the conventions in relevant programmes and policies

One of the goals of the NCSA project was also incorporation of the results into relevant national and local programmes and policies, as well as identification of potential entities to implement individual activities from the NCSA action plan.

When the assessments of the implementation of three global conventions in Slovenia were still in the phase of preparation, the NCSA team prepared a series of comments and proposals related to the most important national development programme, the Development Strategy of Slovenia (DSS). This strategy defines the vision and goals of the development of Slovenia and five development priorities with action plans. Some of the proposals were included in the final version of the document which was adopted by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia in 2005.

The conclusion of the NCSA project in the first months of 2006 coincided with the process of the preparation of the National Development Plan for the period 2007-2013 (NDP) and the National Strategic Reference Framework which are two implementing documents aimed at achieving strategic goals defined in the Development Strategy of Slovenia. This was a good opportunity for the attempt to integrate the results of the NCSA project in these two national documents. In cooperation with national coordinators for three global conventions and with the director of the Directorate of the Environment, the project team prepared two proposals for the integration:

1. Amendment of the draft NDP at the level of specific goals for individual NDP priorities was sent to the Government Office for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy which was responsible for the preparation of the NDP.
2. Six proposals of priority capacity-building projects in the areas of biodiversity, climate change, and land degradation and in cross-cutting areas were submitted to the Directorate of Environment in order to be integrated in the reference list of large projects of the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning. With these projects, project proposals to build capacity for potential financing from the Structural Funds were added to predominantly »Cohesion projects«:
 - Capacity building for the development of eco-tourism in protected areas.

- Promotion of the development of technologies for the use of renewable energy sources.
- Capacity building insuburban municipalities for the introduction, management and promotion of efficient public passenger city transport.
- Establishment and maintenance of an integrated and publicly accessible information system for soil as an information support to sectoral policies.
- Strengthening of institutions for designing, implementation and monitoring of national programming documents in the area of sustainable development.
- Strengthening of civil society/NGO activities in the area of sustainable development and environment protection.

The above stated proposals for the integration of goals, measures and projects from the capacity-building action plan for the implementation of three global conventions are the first, but not last such proposals. Through proposing integration, members of the project team will also try to influence the preparation of other sectoral programmes and policies:

- Operational programmes originating from the NDP, especially the Operational Programme for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Energy Use, the Amended Operational Programme for the Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions, etc.
- Rural Development Programme,
- Resolution on Transport Policy,
- Transport Development Strategy,
- Action plan for Nature, and others.

In order to ensure the use of the NCSA project results in other sectors, the project team will present the results and integration proposals to the representatives of the relevant bodies, such as:

- Slovenian Council for Sustainable Development,
- Council for the Environmental Protection of RS,

- National Committee for the Issues related to Climate Change,
- Directorates: environment, spatial planning, agriculture, transport policy, entrepreneurship and competitiveness, energy, forestry, hunting and fishing, planning of policies and political multilateral, European affairs and investments,
- and other bodies.

Apart from the integration of goals and activities from the action plan in sectoral policies and programmes, the efforts of the NCSA project team will also be directed towards the assistance to various stakeholders in the preparation of conceptual capacity-building project outlines in the areas of three global conventions. The action plan is an extensive list of needed activities, providing various stakeholders with the ideas for the preparation of project proposals.

5. Appendix

List of stakeholders involved in the process

Biodiversity

Albin Keuc; Aleksander Golob, ARSO; Alenka Lapanja, UPR – MOP; Alja Pirnat, Biološki inštitut ZRC SAZU; Anamarija Slabe, Inštitut za trajnostni razvoj; Andrej Bibič, MOP; Andrej Kranjc, MOP; Andrej Medved, DOPPS; Andreja Škvarč, ZRSVN; Barbara Skaberne, Umanotera; Ciril Krušnik, Zveza ribiških družin Slovenije; Damjan Vrčec, ZRSVN; Darko Ferčej, REC; doc. dr. Ivan Kos, Biotehniška Fakulteta, Biologija; doc. dr. Nejc Jogan, Univerza v Ljubljani, Oddelek za biologijo; dr. Ciril Krušnik, Zavod za ribištvo; dr. Darij Krajčič, Zavod RS za varstvo narave; dr. Franc Potočnik, MKGP, Sektor za lovstvo, ribištvo in male živali; dr. Gordana Beltram, MOP, Sektor za varstvo narave; dr. Martin Batič, MOP, Sektor za biotehnologijo; dr. Olga Urbanc Berčič, Nacionalni inštitut za biologijo; dr. Peter Skoberne, MOP, Sektor za varstvo narave; Emil Ferjančič, MOP; Erika Oblak, Umanotera; Franc Batič, Biotehniška fakulteta, Agronomija; Franc Janžekovič, UM, Oddelek za biologijo; Franc Rebeušek, CKFF; Ignac Sivec, Prirodoslovni muzej Slovenije; Igor Deržek, ZRSVN; Igor Zelnik, Biološki inštitut ZRC SAZU; Inga Turk, MOP; Ivana Leskovic, ARSO; Jana Kus Veenvliet, Zavod Symbiosis; Julijana Lebez Lozej, MOP; Katarina Groznik Zeiler, Služba vlade RS za regionalno politiko; Katja Pobjoljšaj, CKFF; Klemen Eler, Biotehniška Fakulteta, Agronomija; mag. Hubert Potočnik, Biotehniška Fakulteta, Biologija; Maksimiljan Mohorič, MKGP; Marjan Vezjak, Ministrstvo za promet; Marjana Dermelj, Umanotera; Marko Loose, Uprava RS za zaščito in reševanje; Marko Slapnik, KP Logarska dolina; Mateja Kogelnik, ZRSVN; Mateja Šepc Jeršič, REC; Metka Suhadolc, Biotehniška fakulteta, Agronomija; Milena Marega, REC; Minka Vičar, Zavod RS za šolstvo; Mira Ivanovič, ZRSVN, OE Novo Mesto; Mladen Kotarac, CKFF; Mojca Lenardič, MOP Urad za prostorski razvoj; Natalija Skok, Občina Ig; Primož Presetnik, CKFF; Rada Rikanovič, Geološki zavod Slovenije; Tanja Grgič, Biotehniška Fakulteta, Biologija; Tomaž Ogrin, Društvo za okolje, družbo, naravo in zdravje; Valerija Babij, Biološki inštitut ZRC SAZU; Vanja Svetina, Jadranski projekt; Vesna Juran, ZRSVN; Vladimir Merglič, Kmetijski inštitut Slovenije; Živan Veselič, Zavod za gozdove Slovenije.

Combat Desertification/Land Degradation

Mišo Andjelov, Agencija RS za okolje; Olga Andrejek, MORS, Uprava za zaščito in reševanje; Blanka Bartol, MOP, Direktorat za prostor; Nataša Bratina Jurkovič, MOP, Direktorat za prostor; Primož Bukovec, Inštitut za hmeljarstvo in pivovarstvo Slovenije; Andrej Cankar, MKGP; Metka Cerjak, ARSKTRP; Emil Ferjančič, MOP; Darko Ferčej, REC; Gabrijela Grčar, MOP, Sektor za vode; Marta Hrustel, MKGP; Alenka Ivačič, AKTRP; Albin Keuc; Matej Knapič, Inštitut za hmeljarstvo in pivovarstvo Slovenije; Mladen Kotarac, CKFF; Petra Krsnik, Agencija RS za okolje; Nives Kugonič, ERICO Velenje; Blaž Kurnik, Agencija RS za okolje; Jana Kus Veenvliet, Zavod Symbiosis; Alenka Lapanja, MOP, Direktorat za prostor; Franc Lobnik, Biotehniška fakulteta (BF-CPVO); Maja Malus, ZEG; Milena Marega, REC; Brane Matičič, SDNO; Rok Mihelič, Biotehniška fakulteta (BF-CPVO); Jolanda Peršolja, Biotehniška fakulteta, Agronomija; Marina Pintar, Biotehniška fakulteta, Agronomija; Primož Pipan, ZRC SAZU, Geografski inštitut Antona Melika; Tomaž Prus, Biotehniška fakulteta (BF-CPVO); Viktorija Rehar, DPVZS Žalec; Blaž Repe, FF, Geografija; Janez Ruprecht, Biotehniška fakulteta (BF-CPVO); Zala Strojnik Božič, MOL, ZVO; Metka Suhadolc, Biotehniška fakulteta (BF-CPVO); Andreja Sušnik, Agencija RS za okolje; Mateja Šepc Jeršič, REC; Marjan Šporar, Biotehniška fakulteta (BF-CPVO); Inga Turk, MOP; Jože Uhan, ARSO; Nataša Vidic, Biotehniška fakulteta (BF-CPVO); Marko Zupan, Biotehniška fakulteta (BF-CPVO); Vesna Zupanc, Biotehniška fakulteta, Agronomija.

Climate Change

Albin Keuc; Aleksander Brezigar; Andrej Klemenc, Slovenski E-forum; Andrej Kranjc, MOPE; Andrej Šušteršič, EIMV; Andreja Sušnik, Agencija RS za okolje; Andrej Vuga, MOP; Darko Ferčej, REC; Emil Ferjančič, MOPE; Franc Hegler, RDEG; Franci Dovč, Gospodarski vestnik; Franja Turk Stojanovič, URSZR; Gregor Gregorič, ARSO; Inga Turk, MOP; Jana Kus Veenvliet, Zavod Symbiosis; Janez Šilc, Energetika Ljubljana; Janko Remec, SDHK/FS; Josip Tavčar, CIMRS, Univerza v Mariboru; Jože Jurša, Ministrstvo za obrambo; Jože Verbič, Kmetijski inštitut Slovenije; Lidija Živčič, Fokus; Lijana Kononenko, Ministrstvo za zdravje, URSK; Lučka Kajfež Bogataj, BF; Maja Malus, SEG; Maksimilijan Mohorič, MKGP; Marjan Vezjak, Ministrstvo za promet; Marko Uršič, PS-Cimos TAM AI; Mateja Šepc Jeršič, REC; Metka Suhadolc, BF, Agronomija; Milena Marega, REC; Mladen Kotarac, CKFF;

Primož Simončič, Gozdarski inštitut Slovenije; Robert Špendl, Chronos; Tanja Cegnar, ARSO; Tomaž Ogrin, Društvo za okolje, družbo, naravo in zdravje; Viktorija Rehar, DPVZS Žalec; Irena Malešič, SDHK; dr. Boštjan Cerkenik, SDHK; Janez Dolinar, SDHK; mag. Bogomil Kandus, SDHK; Janez Razpotnik, SDHK; Alen Šarlah, SDHK.

Cross-Cutting Issues

Slavica Andoljšek, DZ RS, Odbor za okolje in prostor; Gordana Beltram, MOP; Emil Ferjančič, MOP; Tanja Grgič, Biotehniška fakulteta, Biologija; Branka Hlad, ARSO; Andrej Klemenc, Slovenski E-Forum; Alenka Lapanja, MOP Urad za prostorski razvoj; Alenka Loose, MOL – ZVO; Maja Malus, Združenje ekoloških gibanj; Milena Marega, REC; Vanda Mezgec, MO Nova Gorica; Maksimilijan Mohorič, MKGP; Tomaž Ogrin, Društvo za okolje, družbo, naravo in zdravje; Barbara Skaberne, Umanotera; Mateja Šepec Jeršič, REC; Robert Špendl, Chronos; Vesna Zupanc, BF; Lidija Živčič, Fokus.

