

Organizers/initiators of partnerships and initiatives are invited to fill in the table below and submit it to the WSSD Secretariat at:

Ms. Monika Linn, Senior Adviser on Sustainable Development

Address: Two UN Plaza, Room DC2-2234, New York, N.Y. 10017

Phone: 1 (917) 367 20 89; Fax: 1 (212) 963 42 60

E-mail: linnm@un.org

Name of the Partnership/Initiative

Pan-European East-West Environmental Partnership for Sustainable Development

Expected date of initiation:	17 April 2002
Expected date of adoption:	21 May 2003
Expected date of completion:	5 years (or next Environment for Europe Ministerial meeting)

Partners Involved:

Governments: 12 States of Eastern Europe, Caucasus, and Central Asia: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan as well as Governments of The Netherlands, Denmark and Czech Republic.

Intergovernmental organizations: European Union, OECD, UN ECE, UNDP, UNEP/ROE

Major groups: NGOs: European ECO-Forum

Special partners: Regional Environmental Centers (Central Asia, Caucasus)

Other: under negotiations

Leading Partners:

Name of the contact persons/focal points:

Mrs. Nino CHKHOBADZE, Minister of Environment of Georgia

In coordination with:

Mr. Serhii Kurykin, Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine

Address:

68a, Kostava St., Tbilisi, Georgia, 380071 - *Leading partner*

5 Khreschatyk Street, Kyiv, Ukraine, 01601 - *Coordinator*

Phone:

+995 32 230 664 - *Leading partner*

+380 44 228 0644, +380 44 228 2522 - *Coordinator*

Fax:

+995 32 333 952 - *Leading partner*

+380 44 229 8383 - *Coordinator*

E-mail:

gmep@caucasus.net

kyiv-2003@ukr.net

Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative

Please provide a brief description:

Development of "New Europe" (EU enlargement, Central and Eastern Europe accession, South-East Europe development, necessity to involve Newly Independent States' (NIS) region in these processes) and recognition of new links between environment and security, calls for new types of partnership in order to ensure sustainable development in the European region. It is widely recognized that just environmental dimension of sustainability needs here most attention due to its direct impact on the economic growth, trade, and poverty eradication.

Development of common European Environment Strategy, called by Ministers of Environment from 12 non-accession States of Eastern Europe, Caucasus, and Central Asia, is actually the call for new type of partnership that, on the one hand, would aim to find solutions to common (first of all transboundary) environmental problems of these 12 states on the basis of close co-operation. A common approach is also needed because many environmental problems identified as a priority in national policies of individual countries have common roots in the legacy of the Soviet Union and in the specific features of economies in transition.

On the other hand, Environment Strategy would provide political framework for new type of East-West (EU-NIS) environmental-economic partnership in Europe - the process leading to a Regional Deal encompassing the Doha Development Agenda (trade and environment, access to markets, transfer of technologies etc) and the Monterrey Consensus (debt relief including debt-for-environment schemes, environmentally-responsible foreign direct investments, increase the efficiency of existing ODA by better co-ordination mechanisms, etc) in accordance with the EU policy regarding external dimensions of the Sustainable Development Strategy.

This call for new type of partnership is supported already by EU in general as well as in the form of concrete initiatives developed jointly by the partners in order to ensure the balance between three pillars of SD in European region. EU-NIS Water Initiative is the first example of implementation of such partnership.

Please also provide a brief description of the relationship of the Partnership/Initiative with the objectives of Agenda 21 as well as relevant goals and objectives of the United Nation Millennium Declaration:

European Environment Strategy of 12 states as well as concrete initiatives should become an instrument for meeting the objectives

formulated in Agenda 21, and for strengthening the environmental pillar of sustainable development in the region. The Strategy should also become an instrument for providing clear information about the most effective forms of co-operation to partners in the "Environment for Europe" process.

Water is a key for all pillars of sustainable development- for poverty eradication, health, economic development and peace. Thus the water EU-NIS partnership will address directly the Goal N7 of Millennium Development Goals and also contribute to the reaching of the rest of DGs.

Expected results:

Please provide a brief description:

The Environmental Strategy of 12 countries should be a **concise document** that would focus on a few principal **objectives**. The Strategy would build on the successes and failures of environmental reforms. A time frame would be adopted for the Strategy, with actions divided into short-, medium- and long-term. In particular, the objectives may include the following: Harmonization of Environmental Policies and Legislation; Pollution Prevention and Control; Natural Resources Management in Economies in Transition; Integration of Environmental Considerations into Sector Policies; Financing Mechanisms, including Debt-for-Environment Swaps and other mechanisms mentioned in *the Doha Development Agenda and the Monterrey Consensus*; Democracy of Environmental Decision-Making and Providing Information to the Public; Identification of Transboundary Problems of the Participant Countries.

The Strategy will be supported by detailed analytical documents and **Background Papers** outlining the essence of the Regional Deal in European context, key challenges, goals and proposed actions for achieving the objectives. Under each objective, the Strategy should specify an **action programme** that will be implemented at national and international levels, as well as **performance indicators**, which will help to monitor progress toward achieving the Strategy's objectives, and provide a means for the governments, potential donors and investors to measure the effectiveness of their financial and technical assistance. For each subject area, the Strategy should identify one or more **international programme and institution** that could facilitate the co-operation within and beyond the countries to support the achievement of respective objectives.

The component of the Strategy development process dealing with water will be established as an element of the EU Global Water Initiative. The NIS component of the Global EU water initiative will respond to the NIS demands in the objectives of the Strategy dealing with water. The elements of the water component will be Urban water management including financing of water infrastructure, river basin management including transboundary issues, regional seas, and integrated water resources management.

Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement:

European Environmental Strategy of 12 states is developed and adopted by 5th European Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" (21-23 May 2003, Kyiv, Ukraine)

Water component of the Environmental Strategy is adopted at the Regional Day on Europe and Asia at the third World Water Forum in Kyoto, Japan, March 2003.

Coordination and Implementation mechanism

Please provide a brief description of expected coordination/implementation mechanism of the Partnership/Initiative.

Steering Group consisted of Senior Officials from 12 Ministries of Environment of participating countries, their partners and NGOs is established to coordinate the process. International organizations and programmes working in the areas targeted by the Environment Strategy and Water initiative provide support.

Arrangements for funding

Please describe available and/or expected sources of funding for the implementation of the Partnership/Initiative (e.g. donor government(s); international organization(s)/financial institution(s); foundation(s); private sector; other major groups, etc.)

Governments of participating states, partner governments (Denmark, The Netherlands, Germany, European Commission, OECD, UN ECE, UNDP, UNEP/ROE have made initial commitments for future implementation and they are providing on-going support for the process.

Arrangements for capacity building and technology transfer

Please include information if the Partnership/Initiative provides for training, informational support, institutional strengthening and/or other capacity building measures:

In the process of collaboration the institutional and human capacity of stakeholders will be permanently improving. Special training programs on integration of environmental concerns into sectoral policy will also be planned.

Please also provide here a brief description of expected arrangements for technology transfer (if applicable).

Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level (if any)

Please provide a brief description:

This partnership is directly linked with the "Environment for Europe" process and development of Sustainable Development Strategies in the region of 12 states of the former Soviet Union

The initiative is also linked to Global Water Partnership with its milestone at third World Water Forum in Kyoto, Japan, March 2003.

Monitoring Arrangements

Please describe expected arrangements for monitoring of progress in the implementation of Partnerships/Initiative after it will be launched at the WSSD:

(e.g. frequency/modalities of preparation of progress reports; electronic updates, news-letters, etc)

Steering Group routinely meets, progress reports prepared and disseminated in electronic form, news-letters are published within the framework of the preparatory process to 5th European Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" (21-23 May 2003, Kyiv, Ukraine) and third World Water Forum in Kyoto, Japan, March 2003.

Reports will be sent also to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development.

Other relevant information:

Web-site (if available): www.kyiv-2003.org (under construction)

Name and contact information of the person filling in this table:

Name: Ms. Anna Golubovska-Onisimova

Position: Deputy Director of the Department of Environmental Policy, Ministry for Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine

Address: 5 Khreschatyk Street, 01601 Kyiv, Ukraine

Phone: +380 44 228 2522

Fax: +380 44 229 8383

E-mail: annago@ukr.net

Name: Palle LINDGAARD-JORGENSEN

Position: Head of Department, DEPA Ministry of Environment and Energy

Address: Strandgade 29 DK-1401 Copenhagen Denmark

Tel: +45 32 66 0100

Fax: +45 32 66 0479

e-mail: plj@mst.dk

Teresa C. Fogelberg

Special Advisor on International Affairs

Netherlands Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment

P.O.Box 30945 The Hague

telephone: + 31 70 339 4386

fax: + 31 70 339 1306

email: teresa.fogelberg@minvrom.nl