

REPORT

**ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL
COOPERATION COUNCIL SECRETARIAT**

For the period 1 April – 31 August 2016

**BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE REGIONAL
COOPERATION COUNCIL**

**SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD OF THE REGIONAL COOPERATION COUNCIL IN LINE WITH ARTICLE 15
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The Report on the activities of the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) Secretariat is submitted by the RCC Secretary General to the RCC Board in line with Article 15 of the Statute of the RCC. It covers the period from 1 April to 31 August 2016.

1. Summary of activities

The report presents the progress made by the RCC Secretariat in implementing the RCC Strategy and Work Programme (SWP) for 2014 - 2016 during the period 1 April - 31 August 2016.

The statutory and sectorial meetings of the RCC, regional political events and pertinent activities impacting the regional cooperation process in South East Europe (SEE) have continued to underpin the mandate and work of the RCC Secretariat.

The RCC Secretariat has stepped the pace of activities up in the context of the implementation of the final phase of the RCC Strategy and Work Programme (SWP) for 2014 - 2016, and gradually transition to the forthcoming strategy for 2017 - 2019. The RCC and SEECP high-level meetings and the dialogue of the RCC Secretary General with the RCC participants proved instrumental for assessing the progress made thus far by the organization and for breathing life into RCC's activities for the next three years.

Operational guidance and supervision were provided by the RCC Board, which held its 29th meeting on 11 May 2016 in Sarajevo. The RCC Secretary General informed the participants of the Board on the activities of the RCC Secretariat and, together with the Bulgarian SEECP Chairmanship-in-Office (C-i-O), reflected on the outcomes of the Coordination Meeting between the SEECP Troika, the RCC Secretariat and the EU. In its conclusions, the RCC Board accepted the Report on the activities of the RCC Secretariat for the period January – April 2016, the Annual Report of the RCC Secretary General for 2015-2016 and adopted the RCC SWP for 2017-2019. The RCC Board adopted the Decision on the approval of the Financial Report of the RCC Secretariat for the year 2015 and took note of the progress towards meeting the SEE 2020 Strategy headline targets.

Held back-to-back with the meeting of the RCC Board, on 10 May 2016 in Sarajevo, the Coordination meeting between the SEECP Troika¹, the RCC Secretariat and the EU, generated support for the activities of the RCC Secretariat aiming at the implementation of the SWP for 2014 - 2016, as well as for the Annual Report of the RCC Secretary General that includes results and lessons learned attained in the course of the year.

Further, the Bulgarian SEECP C-i-O for 2015 – 2016 concluded its chairmanship with the SEECP high-level events on 30 May – 1 June 2016 in Pravets and Sofia (Bulgaria). The SEECP C-i-O convened the SEECP participants in the meeting of the SEECP Committee of Political Directors, the formal meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs (MFAs) and the Summit of the Heads of State and Government.

The SEECP participants reaffirmed their commitments to regional cooperation and good-neighbourly relations in SEE as essential requirements for the European and Euro-Atlantic integration processes. The events culminated with the adoption of the SEECP Sofia Summit Declaration - *“20th Anniversary of the SEECP - Key to regional Cooperation”*, which acknowledges the contribution of each SEECP Participant to the development of SEECP into a credible and sustainable framework for regional

¹ The SEECP Troika includes the former SEECP C-i-O Albania, the current SEECP C-i-O Bulgaria and the incoming SEECP C-i-O Croatia.

cooperation and constructive dialogue. The declaration confirms European integration as a strategic choice of the region, guaranteeing peace, stability and prosperity, and welcomes the active engagement of the EU in the SEE region.

The SEECP Summit commended the progress made in the implementation of the RCC SWP for 2014-2016 and the SEE 2020 Strategy; endorsed the Annual Report of the RCC Secretary General for 2015-2016 and the RCC SWP for 2017-2019 while pledging political support for its successful implementation, and called on developments partners to continue providing assistance and support to regional cooperation.

The SEECP high-level events also marked the taking over of the SEECP C-i-O by Croatia for 2016 - 2017.

On balance, the Bulgarian SEECP C-i-O further strengthened regional cooperation in SEE, augmented the relevance of SEECP and enhanced regional cooperation on migration challenges, connectivity and economic development.

The RCC Annual meeting took place back-to-back with the SEECP high-level events on 31 May 2016 in Pravets. The RCC participants made further headway in ensuring strategic coordination and development of the regional cooperation process in SEE. A distinctive focus of the annual meeting was on regional cooperation as a catalyst for economic growth and stability in the region. The RCC participants have, in this sense, assayed the progress attained under the umbrella of the RCC in the course of the year, and endorsed the Annual Report of the RCC Secretary General for 2015-2016 and the RCC SWP for 2017-2019.

A better alignment of priorities and actions and continuous support for the RCC are the key outcomes of the dialogue of the RCC Secretary General with RCC participants, particularly with the EC, Romania and Moldova.

The RCC Secretary General continued to represent the RCC at high-level events and international meetings with a regional dimension, thereby increasing the visibility of the organization and of its mission of developing and maintaining a regional climate of dialogue and openness towards regional cooperation, stimulating economic and social development and strengthening stability and rule of law in SEE.

Cooperation between the RCC and EU institutions and bodies, in particular the EC, EEAS and EP has been maintained and further strengthened following comprehensive exchanges of views with EU institutions and EU high-level representatives..

As a follow up to the Western Balkans Summit of August 2015, a conference on the solution of bilateral disputes was organized on 25 - 26 April 2016 in Vienna. The goal of the conference was to develop a toolbox for the resolution of bilateral issues and offer specific instruments, as well as to set up a framework for measuring progress in the field of bilateral disputes, translated thereafter into a report for the Paris Western Balkans Summit.

Equally important for the RCC was its participation at the Enlargement Day on 2 June 2016 in Brussels, which aimed at raising awareness of the local and regional dimension of the EU enlargement process. The RCC Secretary General contributed, as a keynote speaker, on EU local and

regional authorities' experience in using structural and cohesion funds: transposing lessons to Pre-Accession funds.

Above all, the Paris Western Balkans Summit, held on 4 July 2016 in Paris, convened Heads of Government, MFAs and Ministers of Economy in order to build on previous Berlin and Vienna Western Balkans Summits. In this context, the Paris Summit revolved around the themes of connectivity and trade, role of youth in ensuring stability, sustainable development and progress in the region, migration and fight against terrorism and radicalization. The Declaration of the Summit Presidency reaffirms, inter alia, the role of regional cooperation in boosting economic growth and, overall, connectivity of the region. The RCC is recognized as having an important role in addressing common challenges in the Western Balkans. The RCC Secretary General participated at the events within the Paris Summit.

On the **programming** side, the RCC launched the 2016 SEE 2020 programming cycle. The initial concept of the 2017-2019 SEE 2020 Programming Document, the note on programming cycle with the proposal on the roles and responsibilities of the participating institutions, and the timetable were drafted during June-July and internally approved by the beginning of September. These proposals will be consulted with the interested governments from the SEE and are expected to be approved at the upcoming meeting of the SEE 2020 Programming Committee scheduled on 29 September 2016.

With regard to **donor coordination** activities, the RCC held consultations with several donors and implementation agencies, including with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, NORAD, Austrian Development Agency, Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to be followed by meetings at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sweden in late September. The purpose of these meetings is the early exchange of information on the ongoing development and assistance programs to the region, the donor's priorities, their policies and planning cycles, as well as on the activities of different regional cooperation mechanisms, including up-date on the South East Europe Donor Assistance Database (SEEDAD). In respect to the latter, the RCC Secretariat drafted the first version of the SEEDAD User Manual, which is expected to be finalized by October.

With regards to the small grants program, the second call was published on 18 April 2016, seeking project proposals on the implementation of the SEE 2020 Strategy with financial assistance from the RCC Small Grants Instrument for up to 300.000 EUR, to be implemented during the second half of 2016. The Call for Proposals was a restricted, two-tier process. In the first instance (by 16 May 2016) the applicants submitted their Concept Notes accompanied by the relevant documentation proving their eligibility to participate in the RCC small grants program. The pre-selected applicants were invited to submit a Full Application Form by 20 June 2016. The contracts with the finally selected applicants were signed by 8 July 2016. To follow the implementation, the RCC grant team drafted and started to implement the monitoring plan, including also on-site visits per each grant.

On the **monitoring** side, following the decision of the Monitoring Committee, held on 4 February 2016, the data collection process was launched and concluded by early 2016, for both the quantitative and the qualitative indicators. The data were processed and used for the drafting of the SEE 2020 Strategy Annual Report on Implementation. The data collected was checked and will be released online as part of the South East European Development Scoreboard (SEED) hosted on the RCC website by the end of September.

The second meeting of the SEE 2020 Monitoring Committee and the back-to-back SEE 2020 Coordination Board meeting were held in Vienna on 13 May 2016. These meetings served the presentation of the main elements of ARI 2015 by RCC and their consultation with the interested parties.

The ARI 2015 was presented and endorsed by the SEE 2020 Governing Board at its meeting on 20 May 2016 in Pravets.

The work on the 2016 Balkan Barometer was also concluded during the reporting period and the publication was presented at an outreach event in Sarajevo on 21 June 2016. In addition to the printed version of the document, an online tool was released as well on the RCC's website enabling comparisons and analysis. The work on the next cycle of Balkan Barometer was initiated during the reporting period and consultations were carried out with a number of stakeholders, including OECD SIGMA and EC on the possibility of extending the public administration reform indicators/questionnaires so that this section of Balkan Barometer could be used for monitoring PAR strategies in the Western Balkans and Turkey.

In addition to the developments related to programing, monitoring and coordination, **the implementation of the RCC Annual Work Plan 2016 and its pillar – SEE 2020 Strategy continued as planned:**

- Within the **Integrated Growth pillar**, the RCC has worked with UNCTAD to resolve issues regarding the formalization of cooperation between RCC and UNCTAD in the implementation of the Investment Policy Review. An alternative solution was found and agreed upon by the RCC and UNCTAD. As such, an agreement was made to enter into the development of this study with fair division of work between the two sides, and having SEE Investment Committee and its Working Group on Investments (WGI) as the regional platform in charge of reviewing the results and endorsing future recommendations of the study for implementation in each of the individual economies. The initial questionnaire for the development of the first phase of the study was distributed to the participating economies with their feedback and initial findings of the study to be assembled by UNCTAD and presented to the WGI during the 4th quarter of 2016.

The RCC has added two more activities on the investment agenda that contribute to the improvement of the business and investment environment, namely (1) the implementation of the electronic systems for efficient issuing of construction permits, and (2) the establishment of the standards for business friendliness certification in local municipal authorities across the region. The entire process is being implemented in cooperation with GIZ. The two respective working groups have been established and commencement of their work is foreseen for the 4th quarter of 2016.

- In the area of **Smart growth**, in cooperation with DG Research and Innovation, Directorate on International Cooperation, on 7 June 2016 the RCC hosted the meeting of the Steering Platform on Research and Development for the Western Balkans. In line with the EU Competitiveness Council decision of May 2016 on opening access of all publically funded research by 2020, the focus of the meeting was „Open Access and Open Data in the Western

Balkans“. The participants were informed by the Presidency of the Council of the EU on the above-mentioned decision, while the European Commission offered to explore possibilities and modalities for WB representatives to attend as observers the meetings of National Contact Points on Open Science of the EU member states. The meeting took note of the study on Open Access and Data commission by the RCC, evidencing that the Western Balkan economies are at the early stages of addressing Open Access and Data, while most have not started developing Open Science Policies and measures. Based on these conclusions and the interest demonstrated by the participants from the Western Balkans, the RCC will draft an action plan on Open Science to be discussed and adopted by the Ministries of Science of the WB.

- The third meeting of the CEFTA-ERI SEE-RCC Joint Working Group on Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications took place on the 14 April 2016 in Sarajevo. The RCC presented the outcomes of a commissioned study which mapped and assessed the economic relevance of service sectors. This in turn would benefit the most from the removal of obstacles to recognition of professional qualifications in region. The participants presented preliminary joint national positions delivered in advance by the representatives of the Ministries responsible for education; trade/economy and labour and social affairs. Based on the national positions and the recommendations of the study, the working group agreed to prioritise health (doctors of medicine and dentists) and engineering (architects and civil engineers) sectors. As a follow-up, the RCC will commission studies to outline and compare national and EU legislation on recognition in those professions and provide four roadmaps for negotiations on recognition of professional qualifications for the above-mentioned professions. By the next meeting, the joint working group is expected to recommend the start of negotiations in one or all of the prioritized professions.

During the reporting period, the activities on the *digital society dimension*, continued with the analysis of the legal and regulatory frameworks related to the regional roaming agreement, as well as its present market impact. In relation to the regional broadband initiative, the RCC supported a regional TAIEX capacity building event on the infrastructure sharing directive for broadband deployment. Meanwhile, the RCC Secretariat is maintaining close contacts with DG NEAR and the World Bank in light of the potential mid-term regional study on the prospects of using excess infrastructure for broadband development and RCC's future potential support for the operational platform. The RCC supported regional initiatives in the area of digital society, which were presented also at the Business Forum of the Paris Western Balkans Summit.

- In **Sustainable growth, environment** dimension, following the Ministerial Conference, the endorsement of the Podgorica Declaration and the acknowledgment of the Regional Working Group on Environment (RWG Env.), a number of international partners have shown interest to channel, steer and consult their environmental related programs, projects and activities through the RWG Env. To this end, RCC undertook a series of consultations with key stakeholders on the prospective of enriching the scope and tasks of the RWG Env. There was general agreement that the RWG Env. must assume a much more prominent role in steering a number of regional programs. Moreover, as the largely shared geographic context and

closely synergic priorities of the Danube, Adriatic-Ionian and the SEE2020 Strategy provide an untapped potential worth detailed examination, RCC Secretariat co-organized the joint meeting under the EU Strategy for the EUSDR and EUSAIR on promoting the EU macro-regional strategies in WB, with specific focus on environmental issues. Meanwhile, the RCC Secretariat continued its participation in the Balkan Bioenergy Task Force, established as a regional donor platform enabling permanent dialogue on key issues regarding bioenergy policy in WB.

Related to the **regional connectivity agenda**, field surveys and analytical work were undertaken as part of the RCC-supported studies in the **transport** area. The comprehensive inventory and analysis of road ancillary infrastructure along TEN-T Core extension in the SEE (including the interoperability and signalization aspects of the Road Core Network) will enable the establishment of a **Register of ancillary infrastructure** that will be used as a tool for further planning and programming activities regarding soft infrastructure projects under the SEE 2020 Strategy – Transport. The on-going pre-feasibility study on introducing electronic **Border Queuing Management System** on the extended TEN-T Road Core Corridors in WB will seek to assist in facilitating freight and passenger transport, as well as to contribute in enhancing trade facilitation and liberalization through reducing physical queues at the border crossing points. The RCC also awarded a direct grant to SEETO aimed at analysing the existing gaps and **lack of connectivity in the SEE air transport sector**. The aim is to explore the potential of the airline market and airports capacity in the SEETO region and in the wider SEE area, and to define a short, medium and long term action plan for the improvement of air transport connectivity. Further on the air transport sector, the RCC Secretariat co-chaired the final meeting of the Governing Board of the ISIS 2 Program on implementing the Single European Sky in SEE (Tirana June 2nd 2016), as contribution towards legal and operational convergence with EU legislation and standards. Further, RCC Secretariat took part in the annual TEN-T days and attended the Joint Ministerial meeting of Transport ministers of the EU MS, Eastern Partnership, EuroMed countries and WB6 economies, which provided for a detailed overview of progress on the soft connectivity agenda in WB. Furthermore, the Secretariat has actively contributed to the OSCE's Conference on Connectivity for Commerce and Investment. Finally, as part of its small grant scheme, RCC has also supported a project of cross-sectoral significance (transport and environment) on rapid assessment of climate impacts along two international SEE Transport Corridors (to be implemented by REC and SEETO).

The work on developing the economic corridors concept (RCC-commissioned study) has continued with on-site visits for the purpose of plotting the economic, demographic and geospatial potential of the core corridors, identification of potential links and complementarities between different sectors and industries and the preparation of proposals on instruments to bring these closer together. First insights into the findings have been presented by the RCC Secretary General at the RCC Annual Meeting. As part of the study on economic corridors, RCC is also examining regional tourism trends.

On the **competitiveness** side, the SEEIC Working Group on Industrial Policy (WGIP) has been officially established and reviewed the first set of findings of the study on economic

corridors, with a focus on particular strategic sectors of SEE and with the goal to initiate discussions on the selection of the third priority sector of the SEE 2020. In addition to mapping the economic corridors, the study is also focused on in-depth analysis for the prioritization of a third sector, while taking into account national strategic documents (ERPs) priorities. The target is to present the proposals for selection of the third priority sector to the WGIP meeting in the 3rd quarter of 2016. Furthermore, WGIP discussed with the EC-DG NEAR the prospective development of the study on special economic zones in the SEE region and their economic effectiveness, to be financed by the EC and undertaken by the end of the 2016, with final results and recommendations put forward to the WGIP and subsequently SEEIC.

In support to the strategic sectors, the Tourism Expert Group has finalized the concept of the regional program for development and promotion of the joint regional products, as well as policy responses to the main sector barriers, and implementation of minor-scale pilot project. The Programme Concept will be proposed under the scope of the SEE 2020 Programming Process to the EC for prospective financing from the IPA MC.

- In the **Inclusive growth**, the RCC/ILO project “Economic and Social Affairs Platform” started its activities with a series of consultations with the beneficiaries (WB6 governments) and the preparation of the three year work plan, presented at the kick-off Ministerial conference that took place on 29 June in Sarajevo. The project aims to strengthen regional cooperation and institutional capacities of national administrations, employers’ and workers’ organizations enabling them to develop and effectively implement labour market and social policy reforms and thereby advancing their EU pre-accession process.

With regard to the **health** sector, the 37th SEE Health Network Plenary and High-Level Pre-Forum Event was organised on 28-29 June 2016 in Sarajevo. It served as the platform for the first round of consultations on five outcomes and background political documents to be endorsed by the Fourth SEE Health Ministerial Forum scheduled for 3 – 4 November 2016 in Chisinau. The RCC presented its new flagship approach and informed on the re-prioritization of sectors in the period to come, with health being supported mostly through the grant instrument, as a cross-cutting dimension.

- With respect to the **Governance for Growth and the Rule of Law** there were several key developments. Within the justice dimension, the SEE Judicial Training Institutions Network was established in April 2016. All participants to the kick-off conference (representatives of judicial training institutions and ministries of justice) supported the activities presented by RCC in this field in the 2017-19 period. Participants proposed that RCC takes the role of SEE hub on judicial training, becoming the focal point for information about the regional meetings, workshops and seminars on judicial training. RCC presented the final Report on best practices in training needs assessment and evaluation which was endorsed by the participants.

The SEE Network of Associations of Mediators has also seen a successful start, with RCC being the focal point of the activities on promotion of mediation as alternative tool for dispute resolutions and reduction of court backlogs in the region.

Consultations held during the reporting period with DG NEAR and DG JUST generated support for the present and future RCC activities in this area, in particular on the coordination of regional projects and activities on judicial training and mediation.

In parallel with the conference of the SEE Network of Association of Mediators held in June, the RCC organized the 5th meeting of the Working Group on Justice which assessed RCC's activities and provided guidance for future programs.

On the **Public Administration Reform** side, the Regional School of Public Administration (ReSPA) in cooperation with the RCC and other partners organized the Regional Conference on Administrative Legal Framework in Western Balkans. The Conference was held in June 2016 and brought together presidents and representatives of administrative courts from the Western Balkans, and enabled exchange of experiences in the area of administrative justice.

In June 2016, the RCC in cooperation with the Austrian Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs and the City of Vienna organized the conference "Public Governance as the Foundation of European Integration". The event focused on the general administrative procedures in Western Balkans and Danube Region, as one of the activities under EUDSR umbrella.

On the **Anticorruption** side: the Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative (RAI), in cooperation with Central European Initiative (CEI) and the RCC co-organized the annual Summer School for Junior Anti-corruption Practitioners from South East Europe in June 2016 in Chisinau(Moldova). The Summer School gathered junior professionals from the SEE judiciaries, prosecution bodies and anti-corruption law enforcement institutions, who had the opportunity to gather additional knowledge, exchange experiences and learn about best practices from the region. The event served as well for networking purposes.

The RCC, RAI, RACVIAC and ReSPA co-organized in May 2016 a workshop on Corruption Reporting and Whistle-blower Protection. The aim was to increase the capacities of the relevant public institutions on whistle-blowers' protection, as well as to increase awareness about the required legal steps to be taken in SEE. Discussions focused on the implementation of international instruments and standards in whistleblowing. The event was attended by representatives of institutions from SEE in charge of implementation of whistleblowing policies at the respective national levels. The workshop outlined the most demanding challenges in the field of whistle-blower protection, and also identified the future steps in addressing those challenges and needs from a regional perspective.

Under the security component of the Stability and Rule of Law, the RCC Secretariat continued to facilitate and support the development of effective regional mechanisms in the security area. The RCC Secretariat has further advanced in the implementation of the regional CVE-FTF Platform.

The activities of the **specialized security cooperation formats in the region** have continued with the support and guidance of the RCC. The meeting of the SEEMIC Executive Working Group (EWG), held on 19 May 2016 in Chisinau, was dedicated to the drafting of the Open Sources Intelligence Assessment (OSINT) entitled "Migration crisis, roots of radicalization and

violent extremism leading to terrorism in SEE". The OSINT Assessment is expected to be adopted by the main SEEMIC Conference scheduled to be held on 20 October 2016 in Chisinau. Moreover, preparations are well underway for the SEENSA meeting which will be organized on 29 September 2016 in Podgorica.

On the **regional CVE-FTF Platform**, the workshop for law enforcement experts and attorneys/prosecutors on legal and practical challenges in countering violent extremism leading to terrorism and dealing with current and former foreign terrorist fighters was held in Sarajevo in May 2016. Another expert workshop, with a more academic focus, was held in June 2016 in Sarajevo, in cooperation with the OSCE and U.S. State Department, on factors and drivers of radicalization and violent extremism leading to terrorism. The RCC Secretariat commissioned a study, an overview of efforts on prevention and countering violent extremism (P-CVE) in the Western Balkans and Turkey. The study's results, which contribute to identification of gaps and duplications, have been shared with the stakeholders. The consultations with the EC and the U.S. Mission in Brussels provided for a better coordination of various efforts and initiatives related to P/CVE. Finally, the preparations are well advanced for the establishment of a web-based platform for exchange of information on CVE in SEE.

On the **cross-cutting side** and in regard to **gender related issues**, in the closure of the project "Women Entrepreneurship – A Job Creation Engine in South East Europe" that lasted since 2011 until the end of 2015, the RCC has finalized successfully and cleared the final project audit and reporting to the donor.

On the **Roma Integration 2020 programme**, the Action Team based in Belgrade started its work on 1 April 2016. The first activity of the team was conducting high level meetings with the participating economies. The team met with Ministers responsible for Roma integration to introduce the project's objectives and activities and discuss the public policies for Roma. Currently, six beneficiary governments appointed National Roma Contact Points. The project launch event took place in Brussels on 9 June 2016, with the participation of the Commissioner for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations, the RCC SG, as well as relevant Ministers from the region. The event achieved the necessary commitment towards Roma Integration in line with the project objective.

The team is also working on streamlining the Roma integration within the core work of the RCC by contributing to the strategic planning activities and further developing the existing Balkan Barometer survey methodology. It continues to provide policy advice to the participating economies for the institutional arrangements responsible for Roma integration, including developing Roma integration action plans for 2017 with budget and mainstream Roma targeted measures in general public policies.

The RCC Secretariat's **communication** efforts have further raised awareness about the organization and its activities. A distinctive focus was on launching of Balkan Barometer 2016, of ESAP (Employment and Social Affairs Platform) project and of Roma Integration 2020 initiative. All three events gathered targeted media representatives resulting with pertinent media coverage.

2. Update on progress in implementing SWP 2014-16

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main OUTPUTS /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main OUTCOMES of the achieved results	Status of completion
Component 1: Horizontal activities				
Cooperation between RCC and SEECP	<i>SEECP Troika, RCC and EU Coordination Meeting, 10 May 2016, Sarajevo</i>	Briefing for the SEECP Troika, RCC and EU on the implementation of the recent and planned activities of the SEECP C-i-O and RCC.	Coordination between the SEECP Troika, the RCC and EU. Support for the achievements of the RCC attained in the implementation of its SWP for 2014-2016, as well as for the Annual Report of the RCC SG for 2015 - 2016 and the RCC's new SWP for 2017 - 2019.	Finalized
	<i>RCC Board Meeting, 11 May 2016, Sarajevo</i>	Acceptance by the RCC Board of the Report on the activities of the RCC Secretariat for the period January - April 2016. Acceptance of the Annual Report of the RCC SG for 2015-2016. Adoption of the RCC SWP for 2017-2019. Adoption of the Decision on the approval of the Financial Report of the RCC Secretariat for 2015.	Political support for the implementation of the activities under the RCC SWP for 2014 - 2016 and for the progress made in preparing to transition to the RCC SWP for 2017-2019.	Finalized
	<i>SEECP Political Directors Meeting, 30 May 2016, Pravets</i>	Exchange of views on the latest developments in SEE, finalization of the draft "SEECP Sofia Summit Declaration: 20 th Anniversary of the SEECP - Key to Regional Cooperation".	Sound coordination and synergy between the SEECP and the RCC.	Finalized
	<i>RCC Annual meeting, 31 May 2016, Pravets</i>	Assessment of main trends within the regional cooperation process in SEE; endorsement of the Annual Report of the RCC SG for 2015 - 2016 and the RCC SWP for 2017-2019.	Strong commitment for the regional cooperation in SEE and for the European integration process. Ensuring the support of RCC's stakeholders for RCC's mission.	Finalized
	<i>Formal Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the SEECP Participants, 31 May 2016, Sofia</i>	Assessment of regional developments in SEE and European and Euro-Atlantic integration processes. Adoption of the SEECP Sofia Summit	Reconfirmed commitment to regional cooperation in SEE and to the European/Euro-Atlantic integration	Finalized

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main OUTPUTS /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main OUTCOMES of the achieved results	Status of completion
		Declaration. Endorsement of the Annual Report of the RCC SG for 2015-2016 and of the SWP for 2017 - 2019. Assumption by Croatia of the SEEC C-i-O for 2016-2017.	processes. Support for the priorities of the incoming Croatian SEEC C-i-O, and for the renewed focus of RCC on skills and mobility, connectivity and competitiveness under the SWP for 2017-2019.	
	<i>SEEC Summit of Heads of State and Government, 1 June 2016, Sofia</i>	Adoption of the SEEC Sofia Summit Declaration reaffirming strong political commitment to regional cooperation and good-neighbourly relations in SEE, as essential requirements for the region's European and Euro-Atlantic integration.	Political support for the mission of RCC and its SWP for 2017-2019. Reiterated support for common approach to the phenomenon of migration, as well as in addressing terrorism and radicalization. Sound support for RCC's FTF platform and its contribution in this regard.	Finalized
Consultations of the Secretary General with SEEC and RCC participants	<i>Meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Romania, 13 April 2016, Bucharest</i>	Briefing on the final stage of the implementation of RCC SWP for 2014-2016. Information on the meeting of the SEE Network of Judicial Training Institutions hosted by Romania; discussions on the possible contribution of Romania, in terms of expertise on anti-corruption, justice and home affairs, to the RCC SWP for 2017-2019. Exchanges of views on the Berlin process, EU enlargement and regional cooperation in SEE.	Romania's strong support for European and Euro-Atlantic integration processes. Sound backing for the contribution of RCC to regional cooperation in SEE and to the European integration process.	Finalized
	<i>Meeting with officials from the UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub, 16 May 2016, Istanbul</i>	Presentation of RCC's SWP for 2017-2019 and exchange of views on possibility for developing joint projects.	Furthering the partnership between RCC and UNDP in areas of common interest.	Finalized
	<i>Meeting with the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Moldova, 19 May 2016, Chisinau</i>	Information on the participation of Moldova in various sectors of SWP for 2014-2016, such as trade and investment, education, labour mobility, and rule of law, and in the overall regional cooperation process under the umbrella of the RCC. Briefing on the results of surveys conducted in Moldova in the context of the	Commitment to regional cooperation and the RCC, as important contributors to the European integration path of Moldova.	Finalized

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main OUTPUTS /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main OUTCOMES of the achieved results	Status of completion
		Balkan Barometer 2016. Discussions on the SEEMIC Expert Working Group meeting co-organized by RCC and Moldova.		
Regular consultations of SG and senior RCC officials with European Union institutions and services; dialogue with the EU macro strategies	<i>Coordination meeting of Roma Integration 2020 and the Civil Society Fund grant on Roma Integration, 4 April 2016, Brussels</i>	Exchange of views on the Roma shadow reporting, and the coordination between DG NEAR, RCC and OSF related to CSO grants focusing on Roma.	Increased contribution of civil society networks and coalitions in the fulfilment of the governmental commitments within the framework of the Roma Integration 2020.	Finalized
	<i>Conference for Promoting the EU Macro-Regional Strategies in the Western Balkans - With Specific Focus on Environmental Issues, 14 April 2016, Sarajevo</i>	Addressing the possibilities for an improved participatory engagement of the Western Balkans in the EU macro-regional strategies; sharing experiences for implementation of programmes in the field of environmental protection.	Better understanding of the opportunities laying in the EUSDR and EUSAIR for address the existing environmental challenges in Western Balkans.	Finalized
	<i>10th Meeting of the Steering Group of Priority Area 10 "Institutional Capacity and Cooperation" of the EUSDR, 14-15 April 2016, Sarajevo</i>	Briefing on current developments within EUSDR, as well as platforms and events relevant for PA10; discussion on new PA10 targets and adoption of strategic projects which will be subsequently submitted to the Danube Strategy Point (DSP).	Continued cooperation of RCC with PA 10 and in general with the EUSDR.	Finalized
	<i>Meeting of RCC Secretary General with officials from the DG NEAR and the EEAS, 27 April 2016, Brussels</i>	Presentation of the activities planned for the period 2017-2019 and discussion on upcoming Paris Summit.	Continuous exchange and reporting with relevant DG NEAR representatives ensured.	Finalized
	<i>1st Forum of the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region, 12-13 May 2016, Dubrovnik</i>	Taking stock of the progress made within EUSAIR. Discussions on key issues connected to the four pillars of the Strategy: a) blue growth; b) connecting the region; c) environmental quality; d) sustainable tourism.	Confirmed the prospects of the EUSAIR to increase competitiveness and connectivity in the region, as well as support the EU integration path of the candidates and potential candidates.	Finalized
	<i>Meeting of the RCC LO Head with Mr. Kukan, Member of the European Parliament, 25 May and 30 August</i>	Agreement on organizing the presentation of RCC SG for the Western Balkans group members of the European Parliament.	Raising interest of the European Parliament members into Western Balkans.	Finalized

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main OUTPUTS /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main OUTCOMES of the achieved results	Status of completion
	<i>2016, Brussels</i>			
	<i>Meeting of the RCC LO Head with the representatives of the European Parliament, 14 July 2016, Brussels</i>	Agreement between RCC and European Parliament for organizing an event on the Connectivity Agenda for SEE parliamentarians.	Stronger parliamentary backing for the Connectivity Agenda of the Western Balkans.	Finalized
Participation of SG to high-level events	<i>First High-Level Ministerial Panel on Responding to Climate and Environmental Challenges in South East Europe, 1 April 2016, Podgorica</i>	Adoption of a joint ministerial declaration titled "The Podgorica Initiative", which supports a regional approach to environmental and climate change issues.	Greater political commitment to the implementation of the Environment dimension of the SEE 2020 Strategy.	Finalized
	<i>12th Conference of the European Integration Parliamentary Committees of States Participating in the Stabilization and Association Process in South-East Europe (COSAP), 8 April 2016, Sarajevo</i>	Adoption of a Joint Statement calling for intensifying economic development in SEE and its progress toward EU, as well as for regional response to the migration crisis and global problem of terrorism.	Nurturing the support of the Parliaments from the SEE region for the RCC activities.	Finalized
	<i>Kick-off event "Establishing the SEE Judicial Training Institutions (JTI) Network", 13-14 April 2016, Bucharest</i>	Establishing a Network of Judicial Training Institutions in South East Europe.	Regular exchange of good practices and experiences among regional Judicial Training Institutions; contribution to the implementation of Justice dimension of the SEE 2020 Strategy.	Finalized
	<i>3rd Business Conference "Transport & Logistics of South East Europe and Danube Region – TIL 2016", 14 April 2016, Belgrade</i>	Exchange of information on activities aimed to improve transport connectivity in SEE and Danube Region.	Greater involvement of the private sector in SEE connectivity agenda.	Finalized
	<i>Ministerial conference of the Brdo-Brijuni Process, 18-19 April 2016, Brdo</i>	Presentation and mobilization of support for the FIRST Line project conducted by Slovenia and other EU Member States in the SEE region. Presentation and galvanizing regional support for the initiative – Integrative Internal Security Governance (IISG). Presentation by the RCC of the progress made in the implementation of the RCC CVE - FTF Platform, with several activities	Ensured support for the IISG initiative and reiterated importance of the RCC's CVE-FTF Platform.	Finalized

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main OUTPUTS /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main OUTCOMES of the achieved results	Status of completion
		being part of the Western Balkans Counter-Terrorism Initiative (WBCTI).		
	<i>Conference “Energizing the Enlargement process by solving Bilateral Disputes”, 25-26 April 2016, Vienna</i>	Discussions on the development of a toolbox for the resolution of bilateral issues and on the setting up of a framework for measuring progress in the field of bilateral disputes, translated into a report for the Paris Western Balkans Summit.	Pertinent support for the resolution of bilateral issues in SEE. Increased recognition of the role of regional cooperation, together with that of the RCC, in the EU integration process.	Finalized
	<i>Sarajevo Business Forum 20156: One Region, One Economy - 7th International Investment Conference, 4-5 May 2016, Sarajevo</i>	Unveiling the importance of joint efforts in creating a common market, boosting investments and business opportunities. Information on RCC’s efforts together with the SEE governments to contribute to the improvement of the connectivity of the region by focusing on infrastructure, competitiveness, mobility and good governance.	Augmented awareness of the priorities of the SWP for 2017 - 2019 and their purpose to enable an easier flow of capital, human resources, goods and services.	Finalized
	<i>2nd International Conference on “E-Permitting for a Competitive Region”, 5-6 May 2016, Tirana</i>	Discussion on the reforms in area of construction permits, state of issuing electronic permits and digitalisation in SEE.	Introducing the electronic building permits system in SEE; decreasing administrative burdens for businesses and removal of barriers to regional trade and investment.	Finalized
	<i>1st Forum of the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR), 12-13 May 2016, Dubrovnik</i>	Discussion on the progress made so far within the EUSAIR and the way forward; networking among stakeholders from the Adriatic and Ionian Region and beyond.	Contribution to creating synergies between SEE 2020 Strategy and EUSAIR.	Finalized
	<i>EU Committee of Regions - The Enlargement Day, 1-2 June 2016, Brussels</i>	Exchange of experiences and good practices on how to involve the local and regional authorities in the EU enlargement policy.	Raising awareness on local and regional dimension of the enlargement process, as well as relevant RCC activities.	Finalized
	<i>Meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the CEI Members, 16 June 2016, Banja Luka</i>	Discussion on the situation in the CEI region with the focus on migration crisis, foreign terrorist fighters, the integration of the Western Balkans into the EU and improving business links and	Contribution to strengthening cooperation between RCC and CEI.	Finalized

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main OUTPUTS /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main OUTCOMES of the achieved results	Status of completion
		stronger connectivity in SEE.		
	<i>“Towards an Enhanced Long-Term OSCE Approach to Migration Governance” meeting, 17 June 2016, Vienna</i>	Exchange of views on migration legislation and developing effective migration policies.	Step forward in maintaining an inclusive and response-oriented dialogue on migration and mobility.	Finalized
	<i>“Public Governance as the Foundation of European Integration” conference, 23-24 June 2016, Vienna</i>	Sharing experience on current public administration reform priorities and challenges in SEE	Raising awareness of the SEE 2020 Strategy as an important channel to modernisation of public administration as a basic pre-condition for a regional balanced development.	Finalized
	<i>Paris Western Balkans Summit, 4 July 2016, Paris</i>	Building on the previous Berlin (28 August 2014) and Vienna (27 August 2015) Summits, Paris Western Balkans Summit took stock of achievements in connectivity agenda and youth cooperation; recalled the importance of closer cooperation between the EU Members and the Western Balkans, notably in the fight against arms trafficking, financing of terrorism, radicalization and its prevention and border control.	Reaffirmed high-level commitment to progress in areas such as youth cooperation and connectivity in the fields of transport and energy.	Finalized
	<i>Conference of Ambassadors 2016, 13-15 July 2016, Tirana</i>	Discussion on European security, Western Balkans’ European integration prospects, regional cooperation and economic development in SEE.	Launching of “Tirana Initiative” - a platform for encouraging debates on issues related to EU integration, security and interconnectivity in the SEE region.	Finalized
Communication	<i>Promotion of certificates for scholarships, 28 April 2016, Sarajevo</i>	RCC in partnership with the BBI Bank awarded ten pupils from Srebrenica and Bratunac with certificates for scholarship.	Promotion of RCC’s investments in education and training.	Finalized
	<i>Support to the organisation of “Civil Society Forum Belgrade”, 11-13 May 2016, Novi Sad and Belgrade.</i>	RCC supported The Civil Society Forum Belgrade - part of the Western Balkans Summit Series, as a follow-up to RCC’s Regional Cooperation Day	Fostering dialogue between civil society and SEE governments in the framework of the EU accession process.	Finalized

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main OUTPUTS /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main OUTCOMES of the achieved results	Status of completion
		held in Sarajevo in December 2015.		
	<i>Presentation of writers from Bosnia and Herzegovina in Serbia, 14 June 2016, Belgrade</i>	The RCC in cooperation with Turduki (European network for literature and books) supported and organised the presentation of two award winning writers/authors from the region in Belgrade's National Library of Serbia.	Fostering and promotion of regional cooperation via arts and culture.	Finalized
	Interviews with RCC SG	Interviews for SEE media, including Al Jazeera Balkans.	Raising awareness about the RCC activities.	Finalized
	<i>Meetings with media representatives</i>	Engagement of SEE press core throughout the region.	Maximizing the media coverage of RCC activities and creating and maintaining good relations with the media in SEE and SEE press core in Brussels.	Finalized
	Follow of the most relevant activities of the RCC SG, the Programme and the Political departments of RCC Secretariat	Press coverage included following of RCC activities conducted by the RCC SG, Political and Program departments, resulting in 13 news items and 14 press releases.	Raising public awareness about the RCC activities and the SEE 2020 Strategy implementation.	Finalized
	Summer 2016 in the region (#SEESummer2016, South East Europe in photos) - Facebook project	Photo gallery on RCC's Facebook profile inspiring citizens of the SEE region to send photos that represent the region at its best.	Promotion of the natural heritage of SEE. Increasing number of the followers on RCC social media profiles.	Finalized
SEE 2020 Horizontal Activities – Coordination, Programming and Monitoring of SEE 2020				
Coordination, Programming, Monitoring	<i>2nd call for proposals under the RCC Small Grant Facility</i>	Publishing the 2 nd call for proposals; Evaluation of the received applications on two steps (concept note and full application); Signing the contracts with the successful applicants Pre-monitoring visits held; Start of implementation of the grants.	All stages of the 2 nd call for proposals are finalized and contracts concluded with the grantees.	Finalized

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main OUTPUTS /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main OUTCOMES of the achieved results	Status of completion
	<i>Start of the Programming Cycle 2016 (covering the period 2017 -2019)</i>	Drafting of documents, communications and consultations with the SEE 2020 Strategy beneficiaries for the finalization of the draft Programming Document 2016-2018	The scope of the SEE 2020 programming agreed and the 2016 cycle launched	On-track
	<i>Coordination with donors, including up-dates on the SEEDAD</i>	Raised awareness and understanding of various regional activities and donor programmes	Closed involvement of donors and development partners in the regional programming process and increased donor coordination	On track
	<i>The Balkan Barometer 2016</i>	The analysis of the collected data is finalized, the preparatory work for publication of Balkan Barometer 2016 is done	2016 Balkan Barometer published	Finalized
	<i>Launching of Balkan Barometer 2017</i>	Preparation of ToR for the next Balkan Barometer edition, launch of the tender, selection of the next contractor	ToR for Balkan Barometer drafted and published	On track
	<i>Launch of the monitoring cycle 2017</i>	Preparatory work conducted	No outcomes for the reporting period	On track
Component 2: Implementing the SEE 2020 and the Stability and Rule of Law priorities				
Integrated Growth: Free trade; Competitiveness; Integration into the global economy;	<i>Regional Benchmark Study: Regional Investment Policy Review</i>	RCC found an alternative solutions with UNCTAD for official cooperation on this activity	Questionnaire for the first phase of the study distributed to the participating economies with their feedback anticipated in the 3 rd quarter of 2016	Revived, on-track
	<i>Regional Programme; Investment Policy and Regional Integration</i>	Programme finalization with comments received from the EC integrated in the final document	Programme endorsed by the SEEIC-CEFTA Investment Working Group	On-track
	<i>Regular Plenary SEEIC Meeting, 24 June 2016, Belgrade</i>	Regular meeting of the SEEIC Economic Teams (Ministries of economies), to review the work of the SEEIC Working Groups on Investments,	Endorsed the SEEIC rolling Work Programme for 2016 and up to date work and findings of its Working Groups	Finalized

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main OUTPUTS /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main OUTCOMES of the achieved results	Status of completion
		Tourism, and Industrial Policy and approve the forthcoming activities until the end of 2016.	on Investments, Tourism, and Industrial Policy.	
Smart growth: Education and competences; R&D and Innovation; Digital Society; Culture and creative sectors;	<i>TAIEX Workshop on reducing the costs for deploying broadband, 6 - 7 June 2016, Brussels</i>	Enhanced capacity in understanding and implementing the Acquis on broadband and in specific Directive 2014/61 as a result of the presented EU and MS' hands-on experiences. Generated detailed overview of the state of play and challenges re. the adoption of the Cost reduction Directive in the WB6 and Turkey.	Enhanced regional capacity with regards to prospective modes for enhancing infrastructure sharing and coordination of civil works for the deployment of broadband.	Finalized
	<i>Legal and Market Impact Study on roaming policies in WB</i>	Ongoing systematic analysis of the data on market impact of the existing Regional Agreement on reduction of the roaming prices (signed among 4 WB economies), as well as of the market data and institutional and legal frameworks underpinning the regulation of roaming policies in the WB6.	No outcomes in the reporting period. The expected recommendations will be related to furthering the existing Regional Roaming Agreement and defining the scope for further collaboration in the area of roaming.	On-track
	<i>3rd meeting of the Joint working group on mutual recognition of professional qualifications JWGMRPQ, 14 April 2016, Sarajevo</i>	The regional meeting gathered 25 representatives from ministries of trade, education and labour to discuss the findings of Mapping and Assessment Study aimed at identifying sectors and professions of mutual interest for mutual recognition agreements of professional qualifications in as well as agreed on priority sectors and professions of mutual interest.	Agreement was reached on prioritization of health and engineering sectors (doctors of medicine and dentists; architects and civil engineers) Studies launched on these four professions which will outline and compare national and EU legislation on recognition in those professions and provide four Roadmaps for Negotiations on Recognition of Professional Qualifications for these four professions	Finalized

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main OUTPUTS /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main OUTCOMES of the achieved results	Status of completion
	<p><i>Western Balkans Steering Platform on Research and Development, 7 June 2016, Sarajevo</i></p>	<p>The meeting was co-organised with DG R&I and gathered 30 representatives from Ministries in charge of Science, DG R&I, DG JRC, EU Presidency, Academies of Science and other actors active in R&D area in the region. The aim of this meeting was to exchange information on the progress of the region towards reaching European Research Area commitments as well as discuss Open Access policies and its state of affairs in the SEE economies.</p>	<p>Agreement reached to move the Steering Platform in more concrete and measurable activities. RCC presented its plans to develop a three year work plan on Open Access and Mobility of Researchers addressing requirements of the European Research Area. In addition several activities were announced on coordination and assistance to Western Balkans regarding R&I reforms vis-a-vis the Economic Reform Programmes and Open Access as part of the RCCs work plan were announced in the efforts to steer the work further into concrete actions in synergy with all the regional stakeholders.</p>	Finalized
	<p>Study on “Recognition of Professional Qualifications in SEE for four professions -Doctors of Medicine, Dentists, Architects and Civil Engineers “</p>	<p>Studies on four professions which will outline and compare national and EU legislation on recognition in those professions and provide four Roadmaps for Negotiations on Recognition of Professional Qualifications for these four professions. The studies will also provide a Roadmap for Negotiations on Recognition of Professional Qualifications as well as will serve as a background document for the next, fourth meeting of the JWGMRPQ</p>	<p>This activity is on-track and no outcomes can be reported during the reported period</p>	On-track

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main OUTPUTS /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main OUTCOMES of the achieved results	Status of completion
		where the participants will discuss and aim to agree on professions for which the start of negotiations in first quarter of 2017 would be recommended by the JWGMRPQ to the governments of CEFTA parties.		
	<i>Legal and Market Impact Study on roaming policies in Western Balkans</i>	RCC commissioned a systematic analysis of the data on market impact of the existing Regional Agreement on reduction of the roaming prices (signed among 4 WB economies), as well as of the market data and institutional and legal frameworks underpinning the regulation of roaming policies in the entire WB6 region.	No outcomes in the reporting period. The expected recommendations are expected to relate to furthering the existing Regional Roaming Agreement and defining the scope for further collaboration in the area of roaming (e.g. facilitating a negotiation process for prospective market-based elimination of roaming fees in line with EU-level advancements; potential geographic extension of the Regional Roaming Agreement, improving the legal and regulatory frameworks, etc.)	On-track
Sustainable Growth: Energy; Transport; Environment; Competitiveness.	<i>1st High-level Ministerial Panel on Responding to Climate and Environmental Challenges in SEE, 1 April 2016, Podgorica</i>	Adoption of a high-level Ministerial “Podgorica Declaration”.	Reconfirmed highest political commitment to implement the Environment dimension of the SEE 2020 Strategy. Agreement to annually convene a high-level panel of Environment Ministers of SEE with the aim of providing guidance on programming and implementation of the Environment dimension of the SEE	Finalized

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main OUTPUTS /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main OUTCOMES of the achieved results	Status of completion
			2020. Concrete financial pledge from Austria for supporting monitoring and verification processes in environment in WB.	
	<i>3rd meeting of the Balkan Bioenergy Task Force with support from the GIZ DKTl Program: "Development of a Sustainable Bioenergy Market in Serbia", 13-14 July 2016, Belgrade</i>	Mobilized regional expertise in the field of bioenergy as to leverage already tested models, solutions and projects through the experiences of the participating economies.	Agreement on a high-level conference on bioenergy in November, focused on the regulatory barriers and difficulties for private sector investments in bioenergy and the key policy changes that require enhanced advocacy.	Finalized
	<i>Ongoing: Preparation of a register of ancillary infrastructure and interoperability and signalization aspects on the Road Core Network</i>	Launch of a consultancy to establish a register of ancillary infrastructure and interoperability and signalization aspects on the Road Core Network. The consultancy will examine the compliance of the Core Network in the Western Balkans against the TEN-T standards that form part of the EU acquis.	No outcomes in the reporting period, The expected findings of the analysis should enable: creation of a register of the existing ancillary infrastructure along the selected parts of the TEN-T Core extension in the SEE; analysis of the regulatory and legal framework for identifying the necessary institutional reforms and presentation of best practices for ancillary facilities' planning and development, formulation of proposals of locations for ancillary infrastructure per WB economy and per Corridor/Axis, and preliminary cost-estimates of required investments.	On-track
	<i>Ongoing: Study on Developing economic corridors in WB</i>	Ongoing study to outline the economic corridors concept and identify the required policy mix and policy instruments to address the bottlenecks and investigate the wider economic gains from the corridors' development.	No outcomes in the reporting period. Based on the spatial-economic diagnostics along the TEN-T Corridors and as a response to the Vienna Summit Conclusions, RCC, in cooperation with	On-track

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main OUTPUTS /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main OUTCOMES of the achieved results	Status of completion
			CEFTA and SEETO works to develop the economic corridors concept.	
	<i>Ongoing: Pre-feasibility study on introducing electronic Border Queuing Management System on the extended TEN-T Road Core Corridors in WB</i>	Ongoing study examining the prospects for introducing electronic Border Queuing Management System on the extended TEN-T Road Core Corridors in WB, in an effort to assist in facilitating freight and passenger transport, through addressing physical queues at the border crossing points	No outcomes in the reporting period. The findings of the pre-feasibility study can outline potential solutions for improving border queuing management system and contribute to the ongoing transport and trade facilitation advances and the wider regional connectivity agenda	On-track
	<i>Ongoing: Cost-benefit study on enhancing air transport connectivity in SEE</i>	On-going study (as part of a small direct grant to SEETO) analysing the existent gaps and lack of connectivity in the air transport in the SEE area; exploring the potential of the airline market and airports capacity in the SEETO region, as well as in the wider area of SEE.	No outcomes in the reporting period. The study is expected to define a short, medium and long term action plan for the improvement of air transport connectivity.	On-track
	<i>Final meeting of the Governing Board of the ISIS 2 Programme on implementing the Single European Sky in SEE, hosted by CAA Albania, 2 June 2016, Tirana</i>	Endorsed Programme Activity Report and Joint Conclusions.	The ISIS 2 Programme has been successful in attaining legal and operational convergence towards EU legislation and standards in respect of the three key programme components (transposition, performance scheme, cross-border cooperation).	Finalized
	<i>Rapid assessment of climate impacts along two international SEE Transport Corridors</i>	Ongoing study (as part of a small direct grant to Regional Environmental Center) to survey two transport corridors that span four economies and deliver two state-of-the-art corridor assessments via four local expert workshops.	No outcomes in the reporting period. The expected outcomes will entail elaborated vulnerability assessments toward climatic threats and impacts that includes spatial data (annotated maps), scenarios and recommendations, as well	On-track

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main OUTPUTS /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main OUTCOMES of the achieved results	Status of completion
			as refine and update the transport corridor climate risk/resilience assessment methodology, initially developed on behalf of UNECE' s Inland Transport Committee.	
	<i>SEE Working Group on Industrial Policy Meeting, 23 June 2016, Belgrade</i>	First meeting of the working group held to officially launch this new regional platform	ToR of the WGIP along with the activity plan for 2016 endorsed. Commencement of the study on economic corridors and review of initial study analysis done.	Finalized
	<i>SEEIC Tourism Expert Group meeting, 11-12 May 2016, Ohrid</i>	Regular regional meeting of relevant ministries in charge of tourism industry, national tourism boards and private sector representatives, in order to finalize the concept note for the regional programme in tourism	Concept note on regional tourism programme developed, with a focus on joint regional products in tourism, policy responses to the main sector barriers, an implementation of minor-scale pilot projects.	Finalized
Inclusive Growth: Employment; Health.	<i>Kick-off conference of IPA MC project on Employment and Social Affairs Platform (ESAP), Sarajevo, 29 June 2016</i>	Following the signing of the agreement between RCC, DG Employment and ILO, the project implementation phases starts with a kick-off conference	ESAP project officially started.	Finalized
	<i>37th Plenary Meeting of the South-eastern Europe Health Network and High Level Pre-Forum</i>	Meeting gathered 20 participants from SEE representatives of Ministries of health. Preparatory documents for the Ministerial Forum in Chisinau on 3-4 of November were presented and discussed along with RCC's up-dates on	Timeline established for finalization of the programme of Moldovan Presidency of the SEEHN. Decision on the preparatory documents and studies to	Finalized

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main OUTPUTS /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main OUTCOMES of the achieved results	Status of completion
	<i>Event, 28-29 June 2016, Sarajevo</i>	flagship approach to implementation of SEE 2020 Strategy.	be presented at the Ministerial Forum.	
	<i>Study on “Establishing a cross border platform for emergency and response in South Eastern Europe”.</i>	RCC commissioned a study on “Establishing a cross border platform for emergency and response in South Eastern Europe”. This study will feed into the work of the Ministerial Forum of the SEEHN aims to objectively and rationally identify the strengths and weaknesses of existing emergency and response and public health systems in all SEE economies; as well as identify possibilities and legal constraints and requirements to establish a cross border platform on emergency and response;	No outcome during reporting period.	Delayed for fall 2016
Governance for Growth: Effective public services	Conference “Administrative Legal Framework in Western Balkans: Focusing on Administrative Justice and New General Administrative Procedure Acts”, 9-10 June 2016, Belgrade	Regional meeting of presidents of administrative courts to discuss new reform processes in the system of administrative courts and new legislation. Start of functioning as a platform for the exchange of experiences and lessons learned in the field of administrative law. Start of the cooperation with EIPA.	Agreement to meet regularly and discuss common topics	Finalized

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main OUTPUTS /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main OUTCOMES of the achieved results	Status of completion
	Conference 'Public Governance As The Foundation Of European Integration', 23-24 June 2016, Vienna	Regional meeting under the EUSDR aiming at more active involvement of the local authorities in the reform processes to make public administration more efficient. Identifying common areas of work and synergy between EUSDR and RCC Programmes in PA 10.	Conclusions of the Conference and agreement to meet yearly and discuss different topics in the area of public administration reform.	Finalized
Justice dimension	5th Meeting of the Working Group on Justice, 7 June 2016, Bled	Evaluation of RCC activities (RAP 2014-2016) since previous meeting and discussion about the future plan and programme in the field of Justice	Regular functioning of the cooperation platform with WB ministries of justice, exchange of information, evaluation of activities and proposals for future programme	Finalised
Anticorruption	Regional Workshop on Corruption Reporting and Whistleblower Protection, 10 – 11 May 2016, Rakitje	Discussions on implementation of international instruments and standards in the field of protection of whistleblowers; Outlining the most demanding common challenges in the field of whistle-blower protection; Identifying the future steps in addressing those challenges and needs from a regional perspective.	Increased capacity of relevant public institutions on protection of whistleblowers; Increased awareness about needed legal solutions in this field in South East Europe.	Finalised
	11th edition of the Summer School for Junior Anti-corruption Practitioners from South-East Europe, 5 – 11 June 2016, Chisinau	Developing and fostering relationships among anti-corruption practitioners; Trained participants on Financial Investigations and Asset Recovery.	Knowledge and practical skills enhanced; Networks created among the participants and trainers, serving in their future work and endeavours.	Finalised

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Promoting Stability and Rule of Law - JHA and Security Cooperation				
Justice and Home Affairs	Kick-off event "SEE Network of Associations of Mediators", 7 – 8 June 2016, Bled	First meeting of the future regular meetings of SEE associations of mediators showed the clear support of the ministries of justice and mediators to the work of the Network and to RCC plans 2017-2019 implementation	Established SEE Network of Association of Mediators.	Finalised
	Kick-off event "Establishing SEE Judicial Training Institutions Network", 13-14 April 2016, Bucharest	First meeting of SEE Network with strong support of ministries and training institutions created a platform for future exchange of information and regional trainings. RCC start to function as a hub for all the relevant regional events in the field of judicial training.	SEE Network of Judicial Training Institutions established.	Finalised
Security cooperation:	<i>Regional workshop for law enforcement experts and attorneys/prosecutors on legal and practical challenges in dealing with violent extremists and foreign terrorist fighters, 4 May 2016, Sarajevo</i>	Exchange of information, experience and good practices, identifying main obstacles in the work of law enforcement agencies and attorneys in dealing with national and international VE, terrorist, and foreign fighters' cases; networking.	Identifying ways and means how law enforcement action can be improved through bilateral and regional cooperation.	Finalized
	<i>Meeting of the SEEMIC EWG (Expert working group of the South East European Military Intelligence Chiefs forum), 19 May 2016 Chisinau</i>	Exchange of information and views; reaching consensus on the draft OSINT (Open-source intelligence assessment), dealing with migrant crisis and phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters; networking.	Agreed draft OSINT Assessment, as a main part of preparations for the main SEEMIC conference.	Finalized
	<i>Regional expert workshop on factors and drivers of radicalization and violent extremism leading to terrorism and foreign terrorist fighters, 7 June 2016, Sarajevo</i>	Exchange of information and views, including the results of research studies and practical efforts; debate on suitable ways to prevent and counter violent extremism; networking.	Conclusions and recommendations on various aspects of prevention of violent extremism.	Finalized
	<i>Commissioning a study - an overview of activities on prevention and</i>	Finalized study published, identifying gaps and duplications in current P-CVE efforts in Western	Study's conclusions and recommendations on how to address	Finalized

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main OUTPUTS /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main OUTCOMES of the achieved results	Status of completion
	<i>countering violent extremism in the Western Balkans and Turkey, July 2016</i>	Balkans and Turkey.	current deficiencies and further develop current P-CVE efforts in the region, especially through enhanced cooperation and coordination at regional and national level.	
	<i>Consultations with the EC, and with the U.S. Mission in Brussels, 11 July 2016, Brussels</i>	Exchange of views on ongoing and future activities on P-CVE.	Better coordination of efforts and avoiding duplication; support for the RCC's engagement in CVE.	Finalized
Extending Participation, Widening Partnerships – Cross-cutting Issues				
Roma Integration 2020	<i>Roma Integration 2020 Launch Event, 9 June 2016, Brussels</i>	Briefing on the RCC's activities with the focus on Roma issue; commitment from political leaders and civil servants to reduce the socio-economic gap between the Roma and the non-Roma population in the Western Balkans and Turkey.	Inclusion of specific Roma integration goals into mainstream policy developments.	Finalized
Gender Mainstreaming	<i>Project "Women Entrepreneurship – A Job Creation Engine in SEE" closing</i>	Final audit executed and preparation of the overall narrative report.	Project closed with clear audit, accepted by the donor, along with the overall project narrative report. Administrative procedures regarding the project closure executed.	Finalized

3. Management and Operations

A remaining open issue related to the setting-up of the RCC Secretariat concerns the implementation of the provisions of the Headquarters Agreement between the Kingdom of Belgium and the RCC Secretariat, which regulates the status of the RCC Secretariat's Liaison Office in Brussels.

The Kingdom of Belgium has conditioned the implementation of relevant provisions of the Headquarters Agreement between the Kingdom of Belgium and the RCC Secretariat providing for the fiscal privileges and immunities of the Head and Deputy Head of the RCC Secretariat's Liaison Office in Brussels with the issuing of an official authentic interpretation concerning the implementation of Article 17.1.(d) of the Host Country Agreement by the Parties to this Agreement in which the principle of taxability of the officials of the RCC Secretariat in their countries/places of origin and/or permanent residence would be explicitly confirmed. After a consultation procedure initiated by the RCC Secretary General in August 2008 it became evident that the adoption of an interpretative declaration amending the Agreement would not be acceptable to some of the Parties to the Host Country Agreement, as they consider that such declaration would run counter to the spirit of the current provisions of the Agreement and would lead to its de facto amendment. In light of the principles of general international law, the only recourse in this situation would be to proceed with amending the Host Country Agreement accordingly, in light of the request from the Kingdom of Belgium. This, however, remains subject to the will of the Parties to the Host Country Agreement. In this view, the RCC Secretary General sent a communication to the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina in early January 2009, proposing to the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina as a Party to and, at the same time, a depositary of the Host Country Agreement to consider the possibility of initiating the process of amending relevant provisions of the Agreement in order to provide for requested confirmation of taxability. This proposal of the RCC Secretary General is still under consideration by the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The RCC Liaison Office keeps regular contact with the Protocol of the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the ratification process of the Headquarters Agreement between the Kingdom of Belgium and the RCC Secretariat (signed in 2008).

The RCC Secretariat has published four vacancies during the month of April 2016 for the following positions: Political Advisor; Expert on Governance for Growth (Public Administration Reform and Anti-corruption); Expert on Competitiveness and Expert on Connectivity (Energy and Environment). The hiring procedure was completed in June 2016.

4. State of financial contributions to the RCC Secretariat's budget for 2016

Contribution		Commitments	Roll Over	Contributions	Contributions net of bank charges, including roll over	Date Received	Percent
Contributors (Donors)							
	Austria	50.000,00		50.000,00	50.000,00	13-Apr-16	100,00%
	Czech Republic	50.000,00		50.000,00	50.000,00	18-Mar-16	100,00%
	Federal Republic of Germany	50.000,00			-		0,00%
	Hungary	50.000,00		50.000,00	50.000,00	26-Apr-16	100,00%
	Italy	50.000,00			-		0,00%
	Ireland	50.000,00		50.000,00	50.000,00	20-Sep-16	100,00%
	Latvia	50.000,00		50.000,00	50.000,00	4-Mar-16	100,00%
	Norway	50.000,00		50.463,44	50.463,44	10-Jun-16	100,93%
	Sweden	50.000,00			-		0,00%
	Switzerland	50.000,00		39.965,00	39.965,00	7-Jun-16	79,93%
	United States of America	60.000,00			-		0,00%
	Total contributing countries donors:	560.000,00	-	340.428,44	340.428,44		60,79%
	European Commission	3.575.000,00		3.196.301,27	3.196.301,27	9-Dec-14	89,41%
South East Europe Contributors							
	Albania	60.000,00		60.000,00	60.000,00	13-May-16	100,00%
	Bosnia and Herzegovina	60.000,00		60.000,00	60.000,00	17-Mar-16	100,00%
	Bulgaria	140.000,00		140.000,00	140.000,00	19-Feb-16	100,00%
	Croatia	80.000,00			-		0,00%
	Greece	140.000,00			-		0,00%
	Kosovo*	40.000,00		40.000,00	40.000,00	13-Sep-16	100,00%
	Moldova	40.000,00			-		0,00%
	Montenegro	40.000,00		40.000,00	40.000,00	10-Jun-16	100,00%
	Romania	140.000,00			-		0,00%
	Serbia	80.000,00		80.000,00	80.000,00	4-May-16	100,00%
	Slovenia	80.000,00		80.000,00	80.000,00	14-Mar-16	100,00%
	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	60.000,00			-		0,00%
	Turkey	140.000,00		140.000,00	140.000,00	19-Apr-16	100,00%
	South East Europe Contributors set aside funding**	386.000,00		386.000,00	386.000,00	1-Jan-16	100,00%
	Total South East Europe Contributors:	1.486.000,00	-	1.026.000,00	1.026.000,00		69,04%
	Total Committed Funds	5.621.000,00	-	4.562.729,71	4.562.729,71		81,17%

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

** balance of set aside funds is EUR375,923

Annex: RCC Annual Work Plan for 2016
COMPONENT 1. Horizontal activities, including coordination, monitoring and programming

Objective: Position RCC as the main focal point for regional cooperation and the preeminent resource for governments, donors, business and the civil sector

PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	EXPECTED OUTPUTS/ DELIVERABLES	EXPECTED OUTCOME	
Coordination, monitoring, programming and granting							
1. Programming activities							
1.1. PROG 3rd SEE 2020 Programming Committee	x				Meeting	<i>Establish or maintain functioning coordination mechanisms with the governments, private sector, business community and civil society for the successful implementation of the SEE 2020 Strategy</i>	
1.2. PROG 4th SEE2020 Programming Committee				x	Meeting		
1.3. PROG 2nd Meeting on Donor Coordination in the Western Balkans	x				Conference		
1.4 PROG RCC Grant Facility		x			Grant		
2. Monitoring activities							
2.1. MONIT SEE 2020 Monitoring Committee		x	x		Meeting		
2.2. MONIT Balkan Barometer for 2016				x	Report		
3. Coordination activities							
3.1. COORD 3rd SEE 2020 Governing Board		x			Meeting		
3.2. COORD SEE 2020 Coordination Meeting		x			Meeting		
3.3. COORD Support to horizontal activities (short term TA)	x	x	x	x	Other		
3.4. COORD Following EU accession-related processes (Liaison Office)	x	x	x	x	Conference		
3.5. COORD Support to national coordination activities/national workshops	x	x	x	x	Other		
Political department and public relations activities							
1. Political coordination and support to SG's activities							
1.1. POLIT Meetings of the RCC Board (three meetings)	x	x		x	Meeting	Operational guidance and supervision of the RCC; acceptance of the regular reports of the Secretary General; decisions pertinent to the activities of the RCC Secretariat and overseeing their implementation	

PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	EXPECTED OUTPUTS/ DELIVERABLES	EXPECTED OUTCOME
1.2. POLIT Coordination meetings between SEECP Troika, RCC Secretariat and EU (four meetings)	x	x		x	Meeting	Review of the developments within regional cooperation in SEE and provision of recommendations; harmonization of the priorities of the SEECP CIO with the Strategy and Work Programme of the RCC.
1.3. POLIT RCC Annual meeting (one meeting)		x			Meeting	Strategic coordination and further development of the regional cooperation processes; revision and endorsement of the Annual Report on Regional Cooperation in SEE, as well as of the triennial Strategy and Work Programme of the RCC.
1.4. POLIT SEECP support: political consultations with SEECP participants (six events)				x	Meeting	Better alignment of priorities and actions; political support for the activities of the RCC.
1.5. POLIT Regional Cooperation Day in Brussels/High-level Conference		x			Conference	Maintain and enhance cooperation with EU institutions and Euro-Atlantic structures and other Brussels - based stakeholders; Promote European and Euro-Atlantic integration of the SEE region; Increase visibility of RCC and SEECP .
1.6. POLIT Participation of the Secretary General in the high-level conference on the Western Balkans - Friends of Europe				x	Conference	Promote European and Euro-Atlantic integration of the SEE region; Increase visibility of RCC and SEECP .
1.7. POLIT Meeting of the Steering Group of PA 10 of EUSDR		x			Conference	strengthening coordination; exploring possibility for joint projects; possible synergies with flagship initiatives
1.8. POLIT Meeting of the Ad-hoc Working Group of the RCC Board participants from SEE on the level of financial contributions to the RCC Budget for the period 2017 – 2019		x			Meeting	recommitment to the existing level of financial contributions
1.9. POLIT Training for young diplomats from SEECP participants	x				Workshop	An increased visibility and knowledge about the RCC and its mission within the Foreign Ministries in the region. Contribution to capacity development on regional cooperation.
2. Communications						
2.1. COMMS PR Public relations activities	x	x	x	x	Other	Strengthen RCC communications with regional audiences
COMPONENT 2. Implementing the SEE 2020 and the Stability and Rule of Law priorities						
Objective: Enhance mobility, connectivity and competitiveness and build mutual confidence between SEE governments and peoples						

PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	EXPECTED OUTPUTS/ DELIVERABLES	EXPECTED OUTCOME
Skills and Mobility						
1. Increased (labour) mobility in the region						
1.1. Removal of obstacles to (short-term) mobility of professionals in the region						
1.1.1. MOBI Mapping and Assessment Study aimed at identifying sectors and professions of mutual interest for mutual recognition agreements of professional qualifications in SEE	x				Study/ Assessment	<i>Agreed sectors and professions of mutual interest for mutual recognition agreements on recognition of professional qualifications in SEE. Roadmap for development of mutual recognition agreements in professions of mutual interest in SEE agreed and adopted.</i>
1.1.2. MOBI 3rd Meeting of the JWGMRPQ		x			Meeting	
1.1.3. MOBI Mapping of existing legislative and institutional framework on the recognition of professional qualifications in selected professions of mutual interest			x		Study/ Assessment	
1.1.4. MOBI 4th Meeting of the JWGMRPQ				x	Meeting	
1.2. Creating preconditions for automatic recognition of qualifications						
1.2.1. MOBI Regional meeting for preparation of ERASMUS+ project	x				Meeting	<i>Created preconditions for automatic recognition of qualifications in the SEE. Created preconditions for a functional network of ENIC/NARIC centres in SEE.</i>
1.2.2. MOBI Mapping study on recognition legislation in the region			x		Study/ Assessment	
1.2.3. MOBI Seminar on automatic recognition of qualifications back to back with the ERI SEE Governing Board meeting				x	Meeting	
1.2.4. MOBI Preparation of a regional project proposal on automatic recognition of qualifications for EU funding	x				Study/ Assessment	
1.3. Mobility of high skilled labour (PhD, researchers and academics) in SEE						
1.3.1. MOBI Mapping Study on Mobility of Researchers in SEE			x		Study/ Assessment	<i>Identified issues for enhanced mobility of high skilled labour (PhD, researchers and academics) in SEE. A mechanism for cooperation to removing issues for enhanced mobility of high skilled labour in SEE established.</i>
1.3.2. MOBI Working Group meeting to discuss the recommendations from the study) preparation for the SEECP Ministerial)			x		Meeting	
1.3.3. MOBI SEECP Ministerial summit on Mobility of Researchers				x	Meeting	
2. Building a competitive skills base in the region						
2.1. SKIL Coordination platform of regional actors in Education (RCC, ETF, ERI SEE, DG EAC, DG EMPL, DG NEAR)		x			Study/ Assessment	<i>Increased coordination between actors active in the field of education and skills development in SEE.</i>
3. Building an evidence base for development and coordination of education, labour and social affairs policies						
3.1. OBSE Regional Observatory on Education, Labour and Social Affairs Policies				x	Tool/toolkit	<i>Increased capacity to collect and analyse data on education, labour and social affairs policies. Conditions created for developing a sustainable, open, publically available and comparable regional depository of data and analysis on education, labour and social affairs policies in SEE.</i>
3.2. OBSE Meeting of the Advisory Group on Regional Observatory on Education, Labour and Social Affairs Policies				x	Meeting	
3.3. OBSE 2nd Working Meeting of the Steering Committee on Establishment of the Regional Observatory on Education, Labour and Social Affairs Policies				x	Meeting	
4. Support to sectoral activities under the Skills and Mobility Flagship						
4.1. Supporting health cooperation in SEE						

PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	EXPECTED OUTPUTS/ DELIVERABLES	EXPECTED OUTCOME
4.1.1. HEAL Study on cross border legislation on health				x	Study/ Assessment	<i>Adopt a regional information exchange mechanism for sharing experiences and good practices in cross-border public health, health care and mobility of health workforce. Continued dialogue on underlying health sector related issues to skills and mobility flagship</i>
4.1.2 HEAL Working Group meeting of the SEEHN				x	Meeting	
4.2. Research and Development for Innovation						
4.2.1. INNO WISE Steering Committee Meeting				x	Meeting	<i>Established membership role in the Supervisory Board of WISE and coordinate activities related to flagships</i>
4.2.2. INNO Western Balkan Steering Platform (Spring meeting)		x			Meeting	<i>Established coordination mechanism and a platform for policy dialogue for coordination of EU policies in Research and those of SEE economies.</i>
4.3. Support to cooperation in culture						
4.3.1. CULT 13th TFCS Coordination Meeting	x				Meeting	<i>Created preconditions for structured cooperation in the field of culture in SEE.</i>
4.3.2. CULT Technical Assistance for Project Writing				x	Tool/toolkit	
4.3.3. CULT Projects Design Workshops (3 workshops)				x	Meeting	
4.3.4. CULT 2nd Regional Summer School on Innovative On-Site Learning			x		Meeting	
4.3.5. CULT 14th TFCS Coordination Meeting			x		Meeting	
4.3.6. CULT TA to support the activities in culture	x		x		TA support	
Connectivity						
1. Adding Value to Core Transport network						
1.1. CORRIDOR Study on developing economic corridors in SEE	x				Study/ Assessment	<i>Developing economic corridors; Attracting international transport flows, improving connectivity and increasing the mobility in the region through further development of the SEE Core Transport Network; Optimization of individual transport modes and promotion of green & energy efficient transport; Contributing to the elimination of transport non-physical barriers; Encouraging public sector participation in the financing of transport infrastructure and promote the PPP model; Exploring and identifying airspace utilization possibilities; Further</i>
1.2. CORRIDOR Meetings of Task Force (RCC, SEETO, CEFTA, DG NEAR) on economic corridors	x	x	x	x	Meeting	
1.3. CORRIDOR Study on policy instruments, sectors and value chains identified in the Study on economic corridors			x		Study/ Assessment	
1.4. TRAN Introducing border crossing management best practices a) ToR for queue management service b) BCP waiting times measuring	x				Study/ Assessment	
1.5. TRAN Creation of a register of ancillary infrastructure along the Core Corridors in the Western Balkans and the other sections of the Core Network	x				Study/ Assessment	
1.6. TRAN Meeting of the Directors of the Air Transport Directorates at the Ministries of the JSPAI members and observers		x			Conference	

PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	EXPECTED OUTPUTS/ DELIVERABLES	EXPECTED OUTCOME	
1.7. TRAN Meeting of the "NSA Pool of Experts" Working Group			x		Meeting	<i>implementing the Single European Sky (SES); Improving ICT connectivity and extending the single digital market to SEE</i>	
2. Regional energy market in SEE							
2.1. ENERG Meeting of EP-ECS Parliamentary Forum				x	Conference	<i>Supporting energy market reforms in SEE</i>	
2.2. ENERG Awareness raising/capacity building training		x			Workshop		
3. Regional cooperation in environment							
3.1. ENV Meetings of Reg WGEnv	x			x	Meeting	<i>Setting up and maintaining a regional platform on environmental reforms to enable coordination and cooperation on joint actions in biodiversity, Nexus and climate change adaptation and mitigation</i>	
3.2. ENV Ministerial meeting		x			Conference		
4. Single digital market in SEE							
4.1. ICT Study on roaming in WB	x				Study/ Assessment	<i>Strengthened ICT connectivity in the region through reduced costs of communication</i>	
4.2. ICT Roaming Platform meetings (review ToR of study and discuss recommendations)	x		x		Meeting		
4.3. ICT e-SEE Initiative meetings		x	x		Meeting		
Competitiveness							
1. Investment Integration							
1.1. INVEST Regional Investment Policy Review (joint work with UNCTAD)				x	Study/ Assessment	<i>Improved investment integration and industrial policy coordination for a more business-friendly environment in the SEE</i>	
1.2. INVEST Support in analysing the legal base and drafting the investment agreement/protocols (consultancy)				x	Study/ Assessment		
1.3. INVEST Study visits to best practice MITs		x			Seminar		
1.4. INVEST Support to Investment Conferences		x		x	Conference		
1.5. INVEST Development of SEE Investment Promotion Publication					Promotional material		
2. Strengthening the industrial base							
2.1. INDUST SEE Investment Committee and CEFTA Investment Working Group (21 +3ppl) x2 meetings		x		x	Workshop		
2.2. INDUST SEE Investment Committee plenary session (21ppl) x2 meetings		x		x	Meeting		
2.3. INDUST SEE Investment Committee ministerial (high-level) meeting (30ppl)				x	Conference		
2.4. INDUST Support to business– trade in priority sectors					Conference		
2.7. INDUST Meetings of the food and beverages expert group (21 ppl + 3)		x		x	Workshop		
2.8. INDUST Meetings of the tourism expert group (21 ppl + 3)		x		x	Workshop		
2.9. INDUST Meetings of the industrial policy expert group (14 ppl + 3)		x		x	Workshop		
2.10. INDUST Mapping Tourism Routes (Cultural Heritage, Adventure)				x	Study/ Assessment	<i>Improved tourist offer and visibility of the SEE and increased visits to cultural sites</i>	
Rule of Law and Security Cooperation							

PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	EXPECTED OUTPUTS/ DELIVERABLES	EXPECTED OUTCOME
1. Governance and public administration reform						
1.1. PAR Follow-up to RIA Study: Workshop on Process of planning at governmental level	x				Workshop	<i>Increased efficiency and effectiveness of public service provision at the national and sub-national level</i>
1.2. PAR Follow-up to RIA Study: Workshop on Quality Checks for RIA and Coordination of Public Policies		x			Workshop	
1.3. PAR Trends in Reforms of Administrative Courts - RCC/ReSPA joint event		x			Seminar	
1.4. PAR Conference "Zentrum fuer Verwaltung Forschung" KDZ/RCC joint event		x			Conference	
1.5. PAR Decentralization Observatory: feasibility study		x			Study/ Assessment	
1.6. PAR Follow-up to Decentralization Observatory Study: Implementation of the methodology developed in the study (questionnaire, screening of data, analysis of data, report) - cooperation with NALAS			x		Report	
1.7. PAR Follow-up to Decentralization Observatory Study: Awareness raising event - cooperation with NALAS				x	Conference	
2. Anticorruption						
2.1. CORRUP Whistle-blowers - awareness raising events (regional and national) + observation report (at the end of the awareness raising events - issues, recommendations)		x			Report	<i>Developed regional methodologies and instruments for fight against corruption</i>
2.2. CORRUP Whistle-blowers - 2nd meeting of the coalition for the protection of whistle-blowers				x	Meeting	
2.3. CORRUP Workshop for Civil servants who deal with whistle-blowers (co-financing)		x			Workshop	
2.4. CORRUP Summer School: Asset Recovery			x		Training package	
3. Support to networks and CSOs in the area of justice						
3.1. JUS Regional Rule of law Forum - cooperation with NGO AIRE (co-financing and co-organizing)	x				Conference	<i>Further enhancing regional cooperation in the Rule of Law and coordinating existing initiatives in the region aiming at cross-border cooperation in the field of justice and home affairs. Signed Letters of intent or MoU aiming at strengthening the independent institutions, such as Judicial Training Institutions and independent bodies such as Councils for judiciary as a prerequisite for the efficient, competent and accountable judiciaries. Improved cooperation with the civil society organisations and already existing networks, support the cross-border cooperation in civil and criminal law, in the rule of law in the region.</i>
3.2. JUS Kick-off event "Establishing the network of the Judicial Training Institutions", SEE, 30 participants, followed by Workshop (WB)		x			Conference	
3.3. JUS SEEPAG meeting (co-ordination and co-financing)'Joint Investigation Teams - cooperation of police, prosecutors and judges in combating organised crime"		x			Seminar	
3.4. JUS Developed modules 'Functioning of EU' and 'Ethics' (regional trainings in 2017, target groups: judiciaries and public administration)			x		Report	
3.5. JUS Ministerial meeting SEE (joint statement supporting regional cooperation in judicial training and court related mediation)				x	Meeting	
3.6. JUS Coordination Conference 'Regional Initiatives in rule of law'				x	Workshop	
3.7. JUS Kick-off event "Network of the SEE Associations of mediators"		x			Conference	
3.8. HOME Meeting of the Chiefs of the Police and Chiefs of the State Prosecutor's Office (follow-up of the UNODC activities and RCC's cooperation with the UNODC in the field of CVE)		x			Conference	

PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	EXPECTED OUTPUTS/ DELIVERABLES	EXPECTED OUTCOME
3.9. HOME Meeting of the Law Enforcement and Prosecutors in CVE				x	Workshop	
4. Security cooperation						
4.1. SEC Meetings of established RCC-led specialised regional security sector formats, such as SEENSA and SEEMIC (including the working groups - 4 meetings)				x	Meeting	<i>Security policy issues: to contribute to the overall stability and security efforts in SEE; further building of mutual trust and confidence between the RCC participants from the region (in particular the Western Balkans); strengthening security sector cooperation in the region; to contribute significantly to the overall efforts in the area of countering radicalization and violent extremism leading to terrorism and the outflow of foreign fighters; to facilitate security sector reforms aimed at joining NATO and EU: to contribute to better coordination of national, regional and international efforts in the security sector; to closely cooperate with the EU, NATO and RCC stakeholders.</i>
4.2. SEC Commissioning or obtaining the relevant research in CVE area			x		Study / Assessment	
4.3. SEC Regional workshop on the root causes of radicalization and violent extremism leading to terrorism		x			Workshop	
4.4. SEC To establish and maintain a regional radicalization awareness network (SEE RAN) and a regional network of NGOs active in the field of CVE			x		Meeting	
4.5. SEC Regional workshop on the prevention of radicalization (online and offline)			x		Workshop	
4.6. SEC Establish and maintain a regional web-based platform for the countering violent extremism and terrorism		x			Web site	
4.7. SEC Regional conference on the coordination of the efforts in SEE in the area of countering violent extremism, terrorism and foreign fighters				x	Conference	
4.8. SEC 2 meetings of the forum of national focal points for countering violent extremism and foreign fighters		x		x	Meeting	
4.9. SEC Regular consultations with the EU, SECEP C-i-O, NATO, national authorities of participants and other relevant actors				x	Meeting	