

**REPORT**

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

**For the period 1 September – 31 December 2016**

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

**SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD OF THE REGIONAL COOPERATION COUNCIL IN LINE WITH ARTICLE 15  
OF THE STATUTE OF THE REGIONAL COOPERATION COUNCIL**

Sarajevo, 15 March 2017

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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 between 1 September and 31 December 2016.

## **1. Summary of activities**

The report traces the progress made by the RCC Secretariat in the implementation of the Strategy and Work Programme (SWP) for 2014-2016 and in transitioning to the SWP for 2017-2019. The RCC Secretariat engaged in regional political and sectorial activities and consolidated partnerships with key regional and international stakeholders, thereby remaining seized of the most important regional trends in SEE and generating, as appropriate, inputs germane to advancing economic and social development and the European integration process.

The RCC Board, which held its 30<sup>th</sup> meeting on 12 October 2016 in Sarajevo, provided operational guidance and supervision pertinent to the well-functioning of the RCC Secretariat. The RCC Secretary General informed the participants of the Board on the activities of the RCC Secretariat and, together with the Croatian SEECF Chairmanship-in-Office (C-i-O), summarised the conclusions of the Coordination Meeting between the SEECF Troika, the RCC Secretariat and the EU. The RCC Board accepted the Report on the activities of the RCC Secretariat for the period April - August 2016 and noted the progress made in the final stage of the implementation of the SWP 2014-2016 and the main priorities of the new SWP 2017-2019. The RCC Board adopted the Decisions on the dates of the RCC Board meetings in 2017 and on the Budget of the RCC Secretariat for 2017. Furthermore, the RCC Board adopted the “Statement of Principles on Mainstreaming Gender into the RCC SWP 2017-2019”.

The RCC Board witnessed and took note of the presentations of the RCC project “Employment and Social Affairs Platform”; the Austrian Regional Cooperation Strategy for the Danube and Western Balkans Region 2015-2020; and the Special Report “EU pre-accession assistance for strengthening administrative capacity in the Western Balkans: a meta-audit” presented by the representative of the European Court of Auditors.

The Coordination Meeting between the SEECF Troika<sup>1</sup>, the RCC Secretariat and the EU, which was held back-to-back with the meeting of the RCC Board on 11 October 2016 in Sarajevo, served as a framework within which the participants exchanged views on the priorities of the Croatian SEECF C-i-O and of the RCC, particularly those stemming from the SWP 2017-2019. The Croatian SEECF C-i-O and the RCC Secretariat agreed to explore the areas where joint action can be undertaken and, in general, on the ways the RCC can effectively support the implementation of the calendar of activities of the C-i-O.

The Croatian SEECF C-i-O convened, at the outset of its chairmanship, a number of high-level meetings, thereby setting the regional tone around the themes – Connection. Communication. Cooperation. - deemed important for the South East European (SEE) region.

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<sup>1</sup> The SEECF Troika includes the former SEECF C-i-O Bulgaria, the current SEECF C-i-O Croatia and the incoming SEECF C-i-O Slovenia.

Connectivity, transport, energy, political dialogue and European integration were at the centre of the discussions at the informal meeting of the SEECP Ministers of Foreign Affairs (MFAs) held on 22 September in New York on the margins of the 71<sup>st</sup> session of the United Nations General Assembly. The SEECP MFAs assented to the need for better connection within the region and between the region and the EU, enhancing cooperation around projects dealing with hard and soft infrastructure, greater solidarity in response to the ongoing migration crisis, as well as for strengthening cooperation on energy security and energy supply.

A follow-up to the Western Balkans Summit, held in July 2016 in Paris, took place a day before the informal SEECP Ministerial, on 21 September. The informal meeting convened the MFAs from the Western Balkans, including the Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations. The emphasis was on the implementation of the measures agreed in Paris; streamlining of regional initiatives and the pilot project on Young Professionals.

Furthermore, a SEECP ministerial meeting on SME Competitiveness and Growth, organised on 2 December 2016 in Zagreb, focused on the enhancement of competitiveness of small and medium enterprises through entrepreneurial learning and SME engagement. The ministerial meeting concluded with the Zagreb Charter on Lifelong Entrepreneurial Learning as a Keystone for Competitiveness, Smart and Inclusive Growth and Jobs. This will represent a steppingstone in the promotion of a cooperation model between the education and business sectors in SEE. The MPs from the SEECP Parliamentary Assembly (PA) participated in the ministerial meeting upon the invitation of the Croatian SEECP C-i-O. In the same context, the meeting of the Standing Committee of the SEECP PA, which took place on 3 December 2016 in Zagreb, has endeavoured to address outstanding issues related to the activities of the SEECP PA.

The RCC Secretary General participated in the aforementioned meetings of the SEECP and briefed the SEECP participants on the results attained in the implementation of the SWP for 2014-2016. The RCC Secretary General pointed out the main priorities of the SWP for 2017-2019, with a particular emphasis on the activities envisaged to be rolled out in support to the implementation of the triennial SWP.

The RCC Secretary General continued his regular dialogue with RCC participants with the aim of ensuring support for the RCC and its mission. In the reporting period, meetings were organised with officials from the EC, the MFA of Croatia (SEECP C-i-O), the MFA of Montenegro, the U.S. State Department, the Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States of the UNDP and the Federal Foreign Office of Germany.

These consultations in particular served as opportunities to keep RCC participants abreast of the main activities of the RCC Secretariat, particularly those pertaining to the SWP 2017-2019, and to galvanise support for the regional cooperation process and its potential to serve as a catalyst for the European and Euro-Atlantic integration process.

Steps have been made by the RCC in order to deepen cooperation with EU institutions and bodies, in particular with the EC, EEAS and EP.

More specifically the RCC Secretariat, through its Liaison Office (LO) in Brussels, focused on raising awareness of the role of regional cooperation in the EU accession process. This included a presentation in COELA, the EU Council's Working Party on Enlargement, meetings with representatives of different DGs of the EC and relevant NGOs. The RCC Secretariat contributed further to strengthening links between the RCC and EU macro-regional strategies, in particular with the EUSDR.

The RCC Secretary General continued to represent the RCC at high-level events and international meetings with a regional dimension such as Concluding Meeting of the OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum; Belgrade Security Forum; the international conference of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) "Laying the foundation in the UNECE region for economic integration and sustainable development towards 2030"; 13<sup>th</sup> Vienna Economic Forum; Friends of Europe Policy Summit; 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council; EU - Western Balkans Ministerial Forum on Justice and Home Affairs.

The Friends of Europe Policy Summit entitled "Balkans: Boosting Connections on the Road to the EU" was organised by the Friends of Europe, with the support of Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, the RCC, United Nations Development Programme, Trans Adriatic Pipeline and U.S. Mission to the EU. The event gathered high-level participants, including the Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, around the topics of EU membership; attracting businesses and investments by boosting regional connectivity; migration, youth, jobs and the perils of radicalization.

Moreover, the efficiency and cooperation of judiciaries, cooperation in matters such as migration, border management and internal security, including counter-terrorism and firearms trafficking were the main topics discussed at the EU-Western Balkans Ministerial Forum on Justice and Home Affairs held under the Slovak Presidency of the Council of the EU in Brdo on 15-16 December 2016. The RCC Secretary General highlighted RCC's actions supporting the independence, efficiency, integrity and competency of judiciaries in SEE economies.

On the **programming** side, the RCC finalised the consultation process on the SEE 2020 Programming Document 2017-2019 with both the national governments and regional partners. The process included discussions with the six SEE 2020 Strategy beneficiaries, as well as discussion with all regional dimension coordinators. The result achieved through this phase is an all-inclusive programming document, developed by keeping in consideration the national needs and translated into concrete activities. The future steps include finalisation of the draft Programming Document and its endorsement by the Programming Committee. The endorsed document will serve as a basis for the continuation of the donor consultation process.

With regard to the small grants programme, the Grant Work Programme 2017-2019 was developed and adopted. The third call for proposals was published on 25 December 2016 on the web page of the RCC. The call seeks for proposals for the implementation of the actions under the SWP 2017 - 2019 in the SEE region with financial assistance from the RCC Small Grants Instrument in the total amount of 150.000 EUR.

On the **monitoring**: the third meeting of the SEE 2020 Monitoring Committee that took place on 30 November 2016 supported the RCC in launching the monitoring cycle 2017 and approved the RCC proposal to launch the data collection process on 15 January 2017.

The meeting decided to provide for continuity of the process, and to ensure the stability of the set of indicators and comparability of results over the years. Thus, the Monitoring Committee decided to preserve the existing set of indicators, while it agreed on the necessity of an online data submission platform that RCC will work to establish. It also asked RCC to quantify the new headline indicators by the time of the meeting of the Governing Board of SEE 2020 Strategy.

After the meeting, RCC started to work on preparing the set of templates and the guidelines for data collection for national authorities and regional dimension coordinators.

The work on the attitudes and perception based indicators covered by the third edition of Balkan Barometer started. This year the Balkan Barometer 2017 has been expanded to include general public and business community of Turkey. The work on survey design, sample preparation, survey development, field work, data input, data processing and analysis was done.

With regard to **Gender Mainstreaming**, upon the successful closure of the project “Women Entrepreneurship – A Job Creation Engine in South East Europe”, the RCC has ensured sustainability of supporting gender equality in the region by mainstreaming it through the RCC Strategy and Work Programme 2017-2019 activities. Concrete measures have been proposed under the Statement of Principles on Mainstreaming Gender into Regional Cooperation Council’s Strategy and Work Programme 2017-2019, which has been approved by the RCC Board during its meeting held on 12 October 2016.

In addition to the developments related to programming, monitoring and coordination, **the implementation of the RCC Annual Work Plan 2016 continued as planned:**

- Within the **Integrated Growth pillar**, the RCC, in cooperation with UNCTAD, solicited the initial inputs for the Regional Investment Policy Review benchmark study, and thoroughly discussed the initial findings with the representatives of the SEEIC-CEFTA Joint Working Group on Investments (JWGI) during its regular meeting session in November 2016. The RCC and UNCTAD will work further with the participating economies on gathering the additional inputs to the study from each of them, with possible field visits and individual economy consultations for this purpose. The final draft report is expected to be ready by mid-2017. As follow-up, the recommendations of the Investment Policy Review benchmark study will be integrated into the implementation of investment policy reforms project that the JWGI will be working on together with the World Bank and with support of the European Commission in 2017.

During this reporting period, the RCC and GIZ have added two more activities to the investment agenda that contribute to the improvement of business and investment environment: (1) setting up the business friendliness standards and (2) implementing the electronic systems for construction permitting throughout the region. At its first meeting held in October, the Working Group on Business Friendliness Certification reviewed the state

of play in the development and implementation of business friendliness standards throughout the region and discussed the possibilities of implementing it in the economies that have not yet done so. The first meeting of the Working Group on Spatial Planning, Building and Infrastructure (WGSBI) was also held at the end of October 2016. It reviewed the status of implementation of already existing electronic building permitting and spatial planning systems throughout the region, as well as explored the possibilities of replicating these systems from one economy to another. It was agreed that the schemes proved as successful in these areas will be further used – after being adapted to the specificities of individual economies - for implementation throughout the region. This will be subject to the work of the respective working groups throughout 2017.

- Under the **Smart Growth pillar**, with regard to the **process of preparing the negotiations for the multilateral agreement on mutual recognition of professional qualifications**, at the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CEFTA-ERI SEE-RCC Joint Working Group on Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications (15 December 2016, Tirana) the participants reached a tentative agreement based on their preliminary positions to open negotiations in both health and construction sector for all four prioritised professions (Doctors of Medicine, Dentists, Architects and Civil Engineers). Based on the agreement made, an official Note to the Governments to open the negotiations on four multilateral agreements on recognition of professional qualifications for Doctors of Medicine, Dentists, Architects and Civil Engineers will be drafted and agreed upon in the first quarter of 2017.
- Furthermore, to help design and launch a three-year action plan on the Mobility of Researchers in the WB6, the RCC commissioned a study on the topic of **Mobility of Researchers in the Western Balkans**. The focus of the study was to evaluate the present level of mobility of the WB researchers, the present policy framework, and the perceived barriers to mobility by both researchers and policy makers, as well as to develop a roadmap to overcome these barriers. For the first time in this region, the study collated comparative data on research mobility in the Western Balkans and identified a set of barriers to research mobility. Based on the study and in order to improve the research excellence of young researchers (doctoral candidates and higher), an action plan has been drafted aimed at facilitating mobility of researchers in the wider Western Balkans region, to EU-MS and beyond. The action plan will be discussed at a meeting of the Ministries of Research/Science from the region in the first quarter of 2017. The meeting is expected to adopt the action plan and establish a working group on removing obstacles to mobility of researchers.
- With the support of DG Research and Innovation and representatives of Ministries of Research/Science of the WB6 economies, the **Working Group on Open Science** has been established under the RCC auspices. The representatives of Ministries in charge of research and science have agreed to focus the work on: defining clear policies for the dissemination of and open access to scientific publications and research data resulting from publicly funded research; ensuring synergies among national e-infrastructures at European and global level; and on designating a National Point of Reference for Open Access.

- Under the **Digital Society dimension**, activities continued on the regional roaming and broadband initiatives, as part of the overall efforts for digital transformation of WB. Comprehensive consultation and validation process was launched on the findings of the first regional legal and market impact assessment of the roaming agreement. The policy dialogue platform on roaming, established by RCC, was instrumental in triggering concrete developments towards prospective joinder of new signatory parties (amendments to legal framework initiated in Albania). Given the voiced interest from Eastern Partnership beneficiaries to investigate the possibilities to replicate the regional roaming agreement currently in force in the four WB economies, RCC facilitated a process of best-practices exchange. In the framework of the broadband initiative, RCC, in cooperation with EC services, supported the regional coordination on the broadband reform structural measures that will be included in Economic and Reform Programmes for 2017-2019 and on the upcoming World Bank financed Balkans Digital Highway study.
- In **Sustainable Growth, Environment** dimension, RCC continued its efforts to strengthen regional cooperation and ensure streamlining of regional actions in the **areas of environment and climate change**. Under RCC auspices, members of the Regional Working Group on Environment (RWG Env) gathered in December to discuss future regional activities. Using this unique intergovernmental platform RCC continues further headway in enforcement of commitments agreed by the Ministers of SEE economies and articulated through the Podgorica Declaration (adopted in April 2016), as well as implementation of regional activities contributing to achieving the commitments arising from the Paris Climate Agreement. Through the RWG Env and the consultations held, RCC has also strengthened and deepened cooperation with key players/stakeholders in the areas of environment and climate change in the region such as: REC, SWG RRD, GIZ ORF, WWF, IUCN, UN Environment, UNDP, EBRD, Austrian Development Agency, Austrian Environmental Agency, Energy Community, and others.
- Related to the **regional connectivity agenda**, RCC, in cooperation with REC, worked on addressing infrastructure sustainability aspects (piloting a methodology for rapid assessment of climate resilience of core transport corridors in WB). Analytical work continued in the framework of RCC-supported comprehensive analysis of road ancillary infrastructure along TEN-T Core extension in WB and the pre-feasibility study investigating the prospects of introducing an electronic Border Queuing Management System on the extended TEN-T Road Core Corridors in WB. A Conference on Air Transport Connectivity, bringing together representatives of the principal air transport policy-makers in the WB, was co-organised with SEETO and JSPAI, to discuss the future development prospects of the air transport sector in the region.
- On the **Energy dimension**, RCC, in cooperation with the Energy Community Secretariat, initiated a regional dialogue with the ministries in charge of energy and ministries in charge of transport, aiming to improve sustainable use of energy in the transport sector. Given that sustainable use of energy in the transport sector has been a largely under-investigated area, characterised with almost non-existent progress in terms of achievement of mandatory (10%



RES in transport) targets, RCC and EnC Secretariat have provided initial targeted capacity building for use of alternative and renewable energy sources in transport.

- Within the **competitiveness** area, the SEEIC Working Group on Industrial Policy (WGIP) has reviewed the first draft of the study on economic corridors. The study focuses on strategic sectors of SEE with the goal to initiate discussions on the selection of the third priority sector of the SEE 2020. While taking into account the national strategic document priorities (ERPs priorities) and in addition to mapping the economic corridors, the study is also focused on an in-depth analysis for the prioritisation of a third sector. Due to different priorities of the participating economies and taking into account the difficulties of choosing a single sector, a cross-sectoral approach is proposed, involving automotive, machinery and mechanical industries that could jointly form a successful regional value chain. WGIP has requested further study elaboration and a more extensive proposal for the third regional priority sector. It will include a proposal on the concrete activities that would be used in the development and utilisation of the regional value chain that is going to be prepared by the RCC and external consultants (TEPAV). The proposal will be subject to discussion and final decision of WGIP in the course of 2017.

In support to the strategic sectors, the project for “Triple P” tourism concept developed by SEEIC Tourism Expert Group (TEG) has been proposed under the scope of the SEE 2020 Programming Process to the EC - MC IPA for financing, anticipating a positive decision by mid-2017. The project entails development and promotion of joint regional products, proposed policy responses to the main sector barriers, and implementation of minor-scale pilot project(s). Furthermore, the project proposal has undergone a series of intra-governmental consultations, not only within the TEG, but also with National IPA Coordinators. TEG has already started deliberating on development of regional tourism routes, which would be subject to forthcoming project implementation.

- In the **Inclusive Growth**, coordination mechanisms were established with the key beneficiaries of the ESAP project (Ministries of Labour and Social Affairs and Public Employment Services) and a detailed, demand driven work plan was approved.

In this regard, ESAP provided targeted support to the Ministries of Labour and Social Affairs from Western Balkans and Turkey in preparation of the Economic Reform Programmes (ERPs). Secondly, an analysis of employment policies and targeted analysis of active labour market policies (ALMP) based on the EUROSTAT methodology was conducted. Based on this analysis, a structured peer-review exercise aimed at building national capacity to develop a coherent set of employment policies and ALMPs will be launched in 2017. In regard to the modernisation and capacity building of PES, a process of establishing a bench-learning exercise<sup>2</sup> was launched aimed at delivering regular systematic and comprehensive analysis of PES performance and its drivers; preparing recommendations for its improvement (from a comparative as well as a PES-specific perspective); and establishing networks of partners for organisational learning and development of PES. Additionally, demand driven technical assistance instrument of the ESAP project has been launched. The Ministries of Labour and

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<sup>2</sup> Modeled on the bench-learning exercise developed and conducted within the EU PES network framework.

Social Affairs and Public Employment Services from the Western Balkans - as the direct beneficiaries of this assistance - are in the process of identifying specific national needs so that they can apply for assistance in this regard.

- With regard to **health sector**, the 38<sup>th</sup> high level pre-ministerial forum of the SEE Health Network took place in Chisinau on 14-15 December 2016. While the main topic of the agenda was the future of SEEHN and how to further strengthen the network, the meeting agreed to extend the Presidency of Moldova by spring 2017 and to present the candidate to the ministers for appointment as the Head of the SEEHN Secretariat. RCC also supported the study on “Establishing a cross-border platform for emergency and response in South Eastern Europe” that will feed into the work of the Ministerial Forum of the SEEHN. It intends to identify the strengths and weaknesses of existing emergency and response services of the public health systems in all SEE economies, as well as to identify possibilities, but also legal constraints and requirements to establish a cross-border platform on emergency and response.
- There were several key developments in the area of **Governance for Growth and the Rule of Law**.

Within the **Rule of Law**: the RCC started to function as a hub for the two established SEE Networks (Judicial Training Institutions and Associations of Mediators), which serve as platforms for sharing information at regional level on events and activities, as well as a link to European training institutions. Meanwhile, the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of Working Group on Justice organised by RCC in November in Belgrade made a positive assessment of the implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Justice (June 2014 - June 2016) and supported its continuation.

Following the consultations held with DG NEAR and DG JUST, RCC's activities focused on the efficiency and competency of the judiciaries, on enhancing the exchange of information, good practices and experiences among the participants and on organisation of regional trainings in EU law. The joint meeting of the WGJ and the Judicial Training Institutions Network, with participation of representatives from DG JUST and EU Delegation, took place on 9 November 2016 in Belgrade with the aim to map the existing national and regional projects in the judicial training field.

In addition, RCC agreed with GIZ ORF-LR to jointly implement a 20-months sub-project on “Improving the regional cooperation between Western Balkans’ Judicial Training Institutions”.

On **Anticorruption**: following the study on corruption proofing of legislation, RCC and RAI delivered a tailored training on the topic to the relevant authorities of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and non-governmental organisations. The training provided the participants with in-depth knowledge on terminology of corruption proofing, detailed explanations on corruption risks in legislation, as well as reviews of Laws on Customs Service and Law on Procurement.

In addition, RCC and RAI organised the Annual Meeting of the SEE Coalition on Whistle-blower Protection in November 2016. With its organisation, the RCC has contributed to the SEE2020 Strategy key measure related to public awareness (researchers, whistle-blowers, media and other agencies should be actively supported and their findings considered and given ample publicity). The meeting held in Zagreb built on the results achieved so far, providing additional boost to the promotion and protection of whistle-blowers in the region. It contributed to the overall efforts encouraging the national governments to seek better legal solutions and to work more intensively on establishing policy implementation mechanisms.

In cooperation with RAI and the Bulgarian Commission for Prevention and Ascertainment of Conflict of Interest, the RCC organised the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regional Meeting of Oversight Bodies for Conflict of Interest and Asset Disclosure in October 2016. The event was attended by high level representative of anti-corruption bodies, as well as representatives of ministries of justice from SEE. The participants discussed the Draft Agreement on Exchange of Data for Verifying Assets Declarations at technical level, and agreed on the next steps in order to start official negotiations.

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

The activities of the **specialised security cooperation formats in the region** have continued with the support and guidance of the RCC. The 6<sup>th</sup> South East Europe National Security Authorities' forum (SEENSA), held on 29 September 2016 in Podgorica, resulted in an agreement on the SEENSA web page; deepening cooperation on cybersecurity and industrial security. The participants were encouraged to focus on the conclusion of bilateral agreements on exchange of personal data. The 8<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the South East Europe Military Intelligence Chiefs' forum (SEEMIC), held on 20 October 2016 in Chisinau, adopted the Open Sources Intelligence Assessment (OSINT) entitled "Migration crisis, roots of radicalization and violent extremism leading to terrorism in SEE". A decision was also taken on the next SEEMIC chair (Montenegro) and the topic of the next OSINT Assessment ("Use of social networks by violent extremists").

On the **regional CVE-FTF Platform**: the Regional Coordination Conference in the area of Counter-Terrorism (CT), Prevention and Countering of Violent Extremism (P-CVE), held on 11 November 2016 in Tirana, enabled exchange of information and good practices among the main P-CVE stakeholders in SEE and a greater coordination of regional efforts. The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the RCC's SEE Group of National Focal Points for CVE and Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTF) was held back-to-back with the regional coordination conference and the meetings of PCC and CTI bodies. The conference was a major step forward in strengthening regional cooperation and coordination in the area of CT and P-CVE.

The workshop on "Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTF) – Challenges for SEE" held on 23-24 November 2016 in Rakitje (Croatia) focused on border security, rehabilitation of former terrorists and violent extremists, and human rights in the context of counter-terrorism (CT). Moreover, the RCC Secretariat

continued to support the work of SEESAC, which is a joint project of the RCC and UNDP, in the implementation of the EU-funded project on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW).

On the **Roma Integration 2020 programme**: under the RCC framework, the Roma Integration 2020 Action Team organised five public dialogue forums in Belgrade, Sarajevo, Pristina, Skopje and Podgorica during October-November 2016. These forums provided for discussions on national policies and priorities on Roma integration, budget proposals for 2017, including sources of funding for the proposed measures, and discussions on relevant mainstream socio-economic policies to be used for advancing Roma integration. The public dialogue forums mirrored the EU National Roma Platforms and involved a wide range of stakeholders.

The Action Team organised the first Task Force meeting of the Roma Integration 2020 on 9 November 2016 in Belgrade. This meeting gathered all National Roma Contact Points, civil society representatives and representatives from the EC, RCC and OSF. The Task Force serves for steering the project within the general political processes relevant for Roma integration in the region.

The Action Team also organised the first regional workshop on the topic of monitoring and reporting on Roma integration policies on 12-13 December 2016 in Vienna. The workshop gathered participants from the region, including the National Roma Contact Points, and representatives of line ministries dealing with education, employment, housing, health, civil registration, finance and statistical offices, as well as Roma civil society representatives. The workshop focused on acquainting participants with the methodology and application of the annual reporting template (to be used by the participating economies) and exchanging good practices in data collection and reporting.

The RCC Secretariat's **Communication** efforts continued to raise awareness about the organisation and its activities, through spreading organisation's messages to different publics, gathering pertinent media interest and media coverage. Moreover, the new RCC Communication Strategy 2017-2019 has been produced in order to reflect the new endeavours of the RCC stipulated by its new Strategy and Work Programme for 2017-2019.

## 2. Update on progress in implementing SWP 2014-16

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main <b>OUTPUTS</b> /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main <b>OUTCOMES</b> of the achieved results	Status of completion
<b>Component 1: Horizontal activities</b>				
<b>Cooperation between RCC and SEECP</b>	<i>SEECP Troika, RCC and EU Coordination Meeting, 11 October 2016, Sarajevo</i>	Briefing and coordination between the SEECP Troika, RCC and EU related to the implementation of RCC SWP for 2014-2016 and the priorities of Croatian SEECP C-i-O.	Better synergy and cooperation between RCC, SEECP and EU. Further advancement in coordination of activities related to the priorities of the Croatian SEECP C-i-O and the RCC Secretariat.	Finalised
	<i>RCC Board Meeting, 12 October 2016, Sarajevo</i>	Exchange of views on RCC activities, including on those related to gender mainstreaming; presentation of RCC budgetary issues; briefing on the Employment and Social Affairs Platform – ESAP; presentation of the Austrian Regional Cooperation Strategy for the Danube and Western Balkans Region 2015-2020, as well as of the special report “EU pre-accession assistance for strengthening administrative capacity in the Western Balkans: A meta-audit”.	Adoption of the budget for the RCC Secretariat for 2017; approval of the Report of the Secretary General on the activities of the RCC Secretariat for the period April - August 2016; decision on the dates of the RCC Board meetings in 2017.	Finalised
	<i>The Informal Meeting of SEECP Ministers of Foreign Affairs, 22 September 2016, New York</i>	Exchange of views on the latest developments in SEE with the focus on connectivity, transport, energy and European integration; briefing on recent and other planned activities of SEECP C-i-O and RCC.	Support of the SEECP participants for the RCC’s activities.	Finalised
	<i>SEECP Ministerial Meeting: SME Competitiveness and Growth – Zagreb Charter on Lifelong Entrepreneurial Learning, 2 December 2016, Zagreb</i>	Exchange of views on strengthening economic cooperation and competitiveness of small businesses in the SEE region, through the presentation of the Zagreb Charter on Lifelong Learning for Entrepreneurship. The Charter emphasises lifelong learning as one of the key	Support for adoption of the Zagreb Charter on Lifelong Learning for Entrepreneurship by SEECP participants.	Finalised

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main <b>OUTPUTS</b> /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main <b>OUTCOMES</b> of the achieved results	Status of completion
		contents of public policy for strengthening competitiveness, smart and inclusive growth and new jobs in the SEECP area.		
<b>Consultations of the Secretary General with SEECP and RCC participants</b>	<i>Consultations with the Assistant Minister for Multilateral Affairs and the RCC Coordinator in MFA Montenegro, 12 September 2016, Podgorica</i>	Briefing on the RCC activities; exchange of views on current challenges and advancement of regional cooperation in SEE.	Reaffirmed commitment of Montenegro to regional cooperation and the activities of RCC.	Finalised
	<i>Meeting with the Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States of the UNDP, 19 September 2016, New York</i>	Dialogue on cooperation between RCC and UNDP across an array of key issues for the SEE region, such as: Roma related issues and public administration reform.	Commitment to closer cooperation between RCC and UNDP in order to avoid duplications.	Finalised
	<i>Consultations with the US Department of State, 23 and 26 September 2016, Washington</i>	Briefing on the activities of RCC, the results achieved and the targets for the future; exchange of views on recent developments in the SEE region.	Support of the U.S. to the activities of RCC, particularly in the areas of combating terrorism, radicalization and violent extremism, and anticorruption.	Finalised
	<i>Consultations with the Federal Foreign Office of Germany, 8 November 2016, Berlin</i>	Exchange of views on the latest developments in the SEE region and on the future activities of the RCC.	Support of Germany to the activities of RCC; encouragement for greater involvement of RCC in the areas of justice and anticorruption.	Finalised
<b>Regular consultations of SG and senior RCC officials with European Union institutions and services; dialogue with the EU macro strategies</b>	<i>Meetings with officials from the DG NEAR, 7 September 2016, Brussels</i>	Presentation of the RCC activities planned for the period 2017-2019.	Exchange of views, update and coordination of activities with EC.	Finalised
	<i>9<sup>th</sup> European Conference of Danube Cities and Regions, 2-3 November 2016, Bratislava</i>	Discussion on the role and potential of local actors for sustainable development of the Danube Region.	Promotion of RCC activities and the added value of EU macro-regional strategies for the SEE region.	Finalised
	<i>5<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region "Innovative Flows - Water, Knowledge and</i>	Exchange of best practices and discussion about the progress of the EUSDR implementation, with the focus on water management and research	Better understanding of direct links between the actions planned in the RCC's SWP 2017-2019 and the	Finalised

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main <b>OUTPUTS</b> /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main <b>OUTCOMES</b> of the achieved results	Status of completion
	<i>Innovation in the Danube Region”, 3-4 November, Bratislava</i>	and innovation.	respective EUSDR Pillars.	
	<i>11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Steering Group of Priority Area 10 of the EUSDR, 15 November 2016, Bucharest</i>	Briefing on the current progress of the ongoing projects and activities within the framework of EUSDR PA 10; exchange of views on the possible future projects.	More concrete cooperation between the RCC and EUSDR PA 10.	Finalised
	<i>Debriefing for COELA-COWEB, 14 October 2016, Brussels</i>	Presentation of RCC’s work and plans for the upcoming period.	Raising awareness on the RCC’s work among EU institutions.	Finalised
	<i>Meeting of the RCC LO Head with the representatives of Pre-Accession Actions Unit of the European Parliament, 21 November 2016, Brussels</i>	Discussion on joint activities aimed at fostering inter-parliamentary cooperation in SEE.	Improved cooperation between RCC and the European Parliament.	Finalised
<b>Participation of SG to high-level events</b>	<i>2016 Bled Strategic Forum: Safeguarding the Future, 5-6 September 2016, Bled</i>	Discussion devoted to the global and regional challenges such as European security, terrorism, energy geopolitics, sustainable tourism, cross-border water management, as well as digital transformation in the Western Balkans and the EU enlargement process.	Call for greater solidarity, responsiveness and respect for universal standards, norms and values, to ensure the security and sustainable development.	Finalised
	<i>24<sup>th</sup> OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum, 14-16 September 2016, Prague</i>	Exchange of views on reinforcing security and stability through cooperation in the area of good governance.	Greater awareness on the activities of RCC in the area of good governance, particularly on public administration reform, justice and anti-corruption.	Finalised
	<i>Supporting low-emission development pathways in South East Europe, 16 September 2016, Vienna</i>	Presentation of the results of the project titled “Support for Low-Emission Development (SLED)”; exchange of ideas on climate and energy priorities and potential follow-up activities aimed at supporting low-carbon pathways in the Western Balkans.	Raising awareness of low-carbon development opportunities in the building and electricity sectors in Western Balkans.	Finalised

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	<i>Meeting of the MFAs from the Western Balkans with Commissioner Hahn , 21 September 2016, New York</i>	Discussion on regional cooperation process and follow-up actions related to commitments made in the Paris Western Balkans Summit (July 2016).	Reiterated commitment to connectivity agenda; support to streamlining of SEE regional initiatives and the pilot project on Young Professionals.	Finalised
	<i>Meeting of the CEI MFAs, 22 September 2016, New York</i>	Briefing on the activities planned under the Bosnia and Herzegovina CEI Presidency; discussion on challenges such as migration and terrorism, as well as the impacts of Brexit on future of EU and enlargement process.	High level support for the Euro-Atlantic integration process of Western Balkans and for the adoption of CEI Action Plan for 2017-2020.	Finalised
	<i>International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Regional Development Forum for Europe, 27-28 September, Budva</i>	High-level dialogue on challenges in ICT development and ICT policy issues in Europe.	Contribution to regional cooperation in the ICT sphere.	Finalised
	<i>Belgrade Security Forum 2016: Migration, Security and Solidarity within Global Disorder, 12-14 October 2016, Belgrade</i>	Debate in the field of European security, with the focus on current migrant and refugee crisis.	New ideas on how to overcome problems related to migration and refugee crisis.	Finalised
	<i>Serbia-Albania Business Forum, 14 October 2016, Belgrade</i>	Agreement on establishment of a Serbian-Albanian Chamber of Commerce, to be headquartered in Tirana.	Contribution to improving trade, investment and economic ties between Serbia and Albania.	Finalised
	<i>16<sup>th</sup> Serbian Economic Summit, 17-18 October 2016, Belgrade</i>	Exchange of views on the measures for improvement of business environment and infrastructure in Serbia and SEE; as well as necessary economic reforms on the road towards EU membership.	Contribution to improving economic governance, competitiveness and promoting regional development in SEE.	Finalised
	<i>International conference "Laying the Foundation in the UNECE Region for Economic Integration and Sustainable Development towards 2030", 26-27 October 2016, Minsk</i>	Discussion on the perspectives for economic integration and cooperation to ensure sustainable economic development, with the focus on trade, transport, energy and green economy, and investments.	Promotion of RCC activities to the UNECE region.	Finalised



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	<i>OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting: Freedom of Expression and Freedom of the Media with a Special Focus on Conflict Situations, Including Protection of Journalists and Reporting during Armed Conflict, 27-28 October 2016, Vienna</i>	Exchange of information and good practices to discover the principal necessities to reform legislation and judicial instruments related to improvement of the safety of journalists working in the OSCE region.	Formulation of recommendations for the governments as to how to improve the security of journalists in the OSCE area.	Finalised
	<i>A Soul for Europe Conference 2016, 8-9 November 2016, Berlin</i>	High level dialogue on the European cities and regions and their new responsibilities for arts and culture of Europe.	Connecting and mobilising citizens and democratic institutions across Europe, fostering a sense of responsibility for the future of Europe and democracy through culture.	Finalised
	<i>IPA Multi-country Programme Coordination Meeting, 15 November 2016, Brussels</i>	Presentations and discussion about the support to be provided by the EC within Multi-country envelope.	Contribution to RCC's visibility and promotion of its activities.	Finalised
	<i>Joint History Project launch event for two new textbooks, 15 November 2016, Brussels</i>	Reflections on the continuous RCC support to reconciliation and good neighbourly relations in the SEE region.	Contribution to RCC's visibility.	Finalised
	<i>13<sup>th</sup> Vienna Economic Forum - Vienna Future Dialogue 2016, 21 November 2016, Vienna</i>	Discussion among high-ranking representatives on improving investment climate and the investment strategy in the region of the Vienna Economic Forum and beyond.	Raising awareness on the progress of implementation of SEE 2020 Strategy.	Finalised
	<i>Employment and Social Reform Programme of Serbia: Results and Challenges, 25 November 2016, Belgrade</i>	Briefing and discussion on the activities aimed at fulfilment of the objectives of "Employment and Social Reform Programme in the Process of Accession to the European Union" - a document adopted by government of Serbia.	Raising awareness on the Employment and Social Affairs Platform (ESAP) - a regional project financed by the EC, jointly implemented by RCC and ILO.	Finalised
	<i>21<sup>st</sup> Session of the Igman Initiative - Two Decades of Diplomatic Relations between Serbia and Croatia: State of</i>	Dialogue among key stakeholders about the open issues between Serbia and Croatia.	Contribution to efforts for improvement of relations, not only between Serbia and Croatia, but also between all	Finalised

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	<i>Relations and Open Issues, 25 November 2016, Belgrade</i>		signatories to the Dayton Agreement.	
	<i>Advocacy Strategy for the EU Integration of the Western Balkans, 29 November 2016, Brussels</i>	Presentation of Advocacy Strategy to Brussels-based institutions and organisation, designed to accelerating and facilitating the European Union enlargement towards the Western Balkans.	Joint advocacy activities of the Western Balkans towards the EU institutions and member states.	Finalised
	<i>12<sup>th</sup> SEETO Annual Meeting of Ministers on the Development of the Indicative Extension of TEN-T Comprehensive and Core Network to the Western Balkans, 6 December 2016, Brussels</i>	Agreement regarding the text of the Transport Community Treaty; the highest priority is given to the implementation of the pre-identified infrastructure projects on the indicative extension of the TEN-T Core Network for the Western Balkans.	Commitment and support for the Western Balkans Connectivity agenda.	Finalised
	<i>Balkans - Boosting connections on the road to the EU, 7 December 2016, Brussels</i>	Debate in attendance of high level politicians and decision-makers from SEE on the ways of further re-energising the region's connections with the EU, boosting regional connectivity, as well as security issues.	Promotion of regional cooperation in SEE; visibility of the RCC's activities.	Finalised
	<i>23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council, 8-9 December 2016, Hamburg</i>	Review and assessment of OSCE's current and future activities; ministerial debate on security issues in the OSCE area.	Adoption of the Final Decisions and Declarations pertaining to thematic issues within OSCE area.	Finalised
	<i>EU-Western Balkans Justice and Home Affairs Ministerial Forum, 15-16 December 2016, Brdo pri Kranju</i>	Exchange of views on efficiency of judiciary, judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters, as well as migration challenges and internal security in SEE. Adoption of a joint statement on enhancing the fight against illicit trafficking of firearms and ammunition in the Western Balkans.	Raising awareness on the JHA dimension of RCC activities.	Finalised
<b>Communication</b>	<i>Support to Juventafest, 10-14 September 2016, Sarajevo</i>	RCC supported International Festival of High School Theatre, with the main goal of educating high school students from the region in the field of theatre arts.	Fostering and promotion of regional cooperation in arts and culture. Promotion of RCC activities, particularly those related to education.	Finalised

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	<i>Support to Europa Nostra, 20 October 2016, Sarajevo</i>	RCC supported a concert of Spanish artist, maestro Jordi Savall, with ensemble Hesperion XXI and guest musicians from SEE, performed in Sarajevo City Hall on 20 October 2016. The concert was organised by Europa Nostra as part of the national celebration of the Grand Prix 2016 for Cultural Heritage.	Fostering and promotion of regional cooperation in arts and culture.	Finalised
	<i>Support to Sarajevske sveske (Sarajevo notebook) project</i>	RCC supported Sarajevo notebook project, whose aim is to bring together intellectuals from Western Balkans and spread their messages through publications distributed throughout the SEE region and website.	Fostering regional partnership, supporting initiatives dealing with reconciliation issues, supporting the engagement of youth throughout the SEE region in interethnic/cultural dialogue.	Finalised
	<i>Support to the project "Media and Civil Society in the Western Balkans"</i>	Within the project, RCC supported: publication of research and regional conference; six studies on media and civil societies in the Western Balkans, as well as a Regional Policy Paper with the respective recommendations. The final step of the project was a regional conference in Tirana on 27-29 October, which discussed the conclusions of the studies and the respective recommendations.	Promoting civic participation in decision making at all levels of governance; improving relations between media and civil society as actors and factors of democratic development in the Western Balkans; strengthening links and contacts between media and civil society groups throughout the region.	Finalised
	<i>Presentation and promotion of Balkan Barometer 2016, 10 November 2016, Tirana</i>	Presentation of main results of Balkan Barometer 2016, with the focus on Albania.	Promotion of Balkan Barometer as a monitoring tool produced by the RCC to track progress in the implementation of the SEE 2020 Strategy.	Finalised
	<i>Interviews with Secretary General</i>	Interviews organised with regional media, including Serbian Telegraf, Novi Magazin and B92, Albanian public broadcaster RTSH, Croatian Jutarnji List, Montenegrin Vijesti and MINA, BiH's public broadcaster BHTV1 .	Raising awareness about the RCC activities.	Finalised

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	<i>Promoting the most relevant activities of the Secretary General, the Programme and the Political Departments, as well as ESAP and Roma Integration 2020 projects and Grantees</i>	Press coverage included following a number of RCC activities conducted by the Secretary General, Political and Programme Departments, resulting in 44 news items and press releases, and more than 4000 media reports in 2016.	Raising public awareness about the RCC activities and SEE 2020 Strategy and activities of the Secretary General.	Finalised
	<i>Production of public information materials</i>	Two brochures on RCC activities have been produced, featuring Connectivity and Competitiveness flagships; RCC ID card has been produced as well featuring what the organisation is all about; a pocketbook of the Balkan Barometer 2016 featuring the survey through Infographics has been produced and presented to the wider audience.	Explaining RCC achievements and activities as well as raising awareness about the organisation.	Finalised
<b>SEE 2020 Horizontal Activities – Coordination, Programming and Monitoring of SEE 2020</b>				
<b>Coordination, Programming, Monitoring</b>	<i>Consultation with the six WB economies, as part of the Programming Cycle 2016, covering the period 2017 -2019 (Podgorica, Tirana, Pristina, Skopje, Belgrade, Sarajevo)</i>	Consultations were held and inputs were received from national authorities of six beneficiaries of the SEE 2020 Strategy for the finalisation of the draft Programming Document 2017-2019.	The draft Programming Document 2017-2019 is realistic and based on the real needs and priorities of the region.	Finalised
	<i>The launch of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Call for Proposals under the RCC Small Grant Facility, 25 December 2016, Sarajevo</i>	Internal RCC procedure for drafting and approving the Grant's package is concluded.	Call for Proposal 2017 launched.	Finalised
	<i>Balkan Barometer 2017 (ongoing)</i>	Preparation of ToR for Balkan Barometer 2017 edition, launch of the tender, selection of the next contractor, work on survey design and field work, data input, data processing and analysis was done.	Preparation of the final Balkan Barometer 2017 report.	On-track
	<i>Launch of the monitoring cycle - 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the SEE 2020 Monitoring</i>	Preparatory work concluded, the 2017 monitoring timeline and the scope of 2017	The scope and timeline of the SEE 2020 monitoring cycle agreed and the 2017	Finalised

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	<i>Committee, 30 November 2016, Vienna</i>	monitoring cycle proposed and accepted by the beneficiaries.	monitoring cycle launched.	
	<i>Setting-up the online platform for data submission (ongoing)</i>	Preparatory work under progress.	First design ready for consideration by RCC.	On-track
	<i>SEEDS – South East Development Scoreboard (ongoing)</i>	Data collected through 2016 monitoring cycle were cross-checked and ready to be uploaded to the RCC SEEDS database.	SEEDS published on RCC website.	On-track
<b>Component 2: Implementing the SEE 2020 and the Stability and Rule of Law priorities</b>				
<b>Integrated Growth:</b> Free trade; Competitiveness; Integration into the global economy	<i>Regional Benchmark Study: Regional Investment Policy Review</i>	Initial findings of the study, rough draft version.	Responses to questionnaire for the first phase of the study (distributed to participating economies in 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2016) have been thoroughly reviewed by the SEEIC-CEFTA Joint Working Group on Investments. Work on further drafting of the study to be continued in 2017, with final draft to be produced by mid-2017.	On track
	<i>Regional Programme; Investment Policy and Regional Integration</i>	Programme administrative work in progress.	Contracting procedures between the stakeholders (WB and EC) in progress.	On track
	<i>Regular Meeting of the SEEIC-CEFTA Joint Working Group on Investments, 18-19 November 2016, Geneva</i>	Regular meeting, rough draft of the Regional Investment Policy Review benchmark study produced.	Responses to questionnaire for the first phase of the study (distributed to participating economies in 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2016) thoroughly reviewed with further steps for finalisation of the draft agreed.	Finalised
	<i>Working Group on Business Friendliness first meeting, 25 October 2016, Belgrade</i>	First meeting, initiation of activities.	Agreement to utilise the schemes for business friendliness proved as successful for implementation throughout the region, and development of joint regional projects in this area, which will be subject to the	Finalised

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			work of the respective working groups throughout 2017.	
	<i>First meeting of the Working Group on Spatial Planning, Building and Infrastructure (WGSBI), 24 October 2016, Belgrade</i>	First meeting, initiation of activities.	Agreement to utilise the existing functional systems for electronic construction permitting proved as successful for implementation throughout the region, and development of joint regional projects in this area, which will be subject to the work of the respective working groups throughout 2017.	Finalised
	<i>Regular Plenary SEEIC Meeting, 1 December 2016, Belgrade</i>	Regular meeting of the SEEIC Economic Teams (ministries of economies) to review the work of the SEEIC Working Groups on Investments, Tourism, and Industrial Policy.	Endorsed the conclusions of the SEEIC expert/working groups and next planned steps for 2017.	Finalised
<b>Smart Growth:</b> Education and competences; R&D and Innovation	<i>Training of the Joint Working Group on Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications, 21 – 22 November 2016, Zagreb</i>	The training of the CEFTA-ERI SEE-RCC Joint Working Group on Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications was aimed at building joint base of knowledge and understanding of (1) procedures of recognition of professional qualifications in the European Union based on the Directive on Professional Qualifications and (2) methodology of conducting multilateral negotiations under a CEFTA framework of negotiations on trade in services.	As the participants of the Joint Working Group on Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications come from three different Ministries (Labour and Social Affairs, Education and Trade), they have different levels of knowledge and understanding of the procedures of recognition of professional qualifications and methods of conducting negotiations in a multilateral setting under a CEFTA framework of trade in services. The training provided an opportunity to ensure that the participants operate with the same knowledge and understanding of the two processes, therefore creating necessary preconditions for opening the	Finalised

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			negotiations on recognition of professional qualifications in the region.	
	<i>Study on “Recognition of Professional Qualifications in SEE for four professions - Doctors of Medicine, Dentists, Architects and Civil Engineers”</i>	Studies on four professions which will outline and compare national and EU legislation on recognition in these 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 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.	First part of the study – national in-depth and cross-national comparative study of the legislation and regulatory frameworks for recognition of professional qualifications of the four prioritised professions (Doctors of Medicine, Dentists, Architects and Civil Engineers) has been concluded and presented at the 4 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the JWGMRPQ. The findings suggest a high degree of compatibility between the current procedures which should be a sound basis for opening the negotiations. The study was presented at the 4 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the JWGMRPQ as the basis for agreement to open negotiations in the four prioritised professions.	On-track
	<i>4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Joint Working Group on Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications (JWGMRPQ), 15 December 2016, Tirana</i>	The aim of the fourth meeting of the CEFTA-ERI SEE-RCC Joint Working Group on Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications was to jointly agree on a beginning of negotiations in one of the four prioritised professions – doctors, dentists, civil engineers or architects. At the meeting an external expert engaged to present the comparison of the current regulation of recognition of professional qualifications in the four above mentioned professions and their compatibility with the EU regulation. Based on these findings the participants discussed a roadmap for negotiations of mutual recognition	The participants of the JWGMRPQ have tentatively agreed to open negotiations in all four prioritised professions. Based on the conclusions a recommendation to begin the negotiations will be drafted and sent for consultations and governmental approval at the 5 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the JWGMRPQ.	Finalised

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		agreements.		
	<i>Open Science Working Group Meeting back-to-back with IODC conference, 5-7 October 2016, Madrid</i>	The aim of this meeting was to discuss the formal establishment and a three-year work plan of the regional Working Group on Open Data and Access (OAWG) under the auspices of RCC. The organisation of the meetings on the margins of the IODC conference also represents direct capacity building support for the participants as they were able to register and attend selected sessions on Open Data and Open Access related to their line of work. The enhanced capacity will contribute to the development of national Open Science and in particular Open Data and Open Access policies, as well as to the future efforts of the regional Working Group on Open Data and Access.	At the session the participants, representatives of the ministries in charge of research and science welcomed the RCC initiative to establish a working group on Open Science for the region and have agreed to focus the work on: defining clear policies for the dissemination of and open access to scientific publications resulting from publicly funded research; ensuring synergies among national e-infrastructures at European and global level; designating a National Point of Reference for Open Access. The establishment of the Working Group was welcomed by the DG Research.	Finalised
	<i>Open Science Working Group back-to-back with the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the EU Member States network of National Points of Reference on Scientific Information (NPR), 9-10 November 2016, Brussels</i>	The DG Research and Innovation extended the invitation to the Western Balkan economies to participate as observers to the EU member states regular meeting of National Points of Reference on Scientific Information (NPR). The meeting was used to agree on an operational three-year work plan for the Open Science Working Group.	The WB participants will continue to take part in the regular meetings of EU Member States' National Points of Reference on Scientific Information (NPR) as observers, therefore building their capacity to take full part as future EU members. In addition, the participants agreed on a three-year work plan for the Open Science Working Group which was also highlighted as an example of good practice by the DG Research and Innovation for the EU Member States.	Finalised



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Digital Society	<i>Workshop on the Technological and Innovation Policy Structural Reform Priorities of the Economic Reform Programmes (ERP), 21 October 2016, Belgrade</i>	The workshop was organised jointly by the RCC and DG Research and Innovation. The aim of the workshop was to bring together ERP coordinators from ministries in charge of science and innovation policies from the Western Balkans and Turkey in order to discuss the outcome and the lessons learned from the 2016 ERP process, the EC guidance on the preparation of the 2017 ERP, and its relevance for the development of the research development and innovation policy structural reforms of the ERP.	The participants used the opportunity to exchange their experiences and clarify the ERP guidance with the representatives of the EC, with the aim of enhancing their capacity for preparing the ERPs.	Finalised
	<i>Study on Mobility of Researchers in the Western Balkans</i>	The focus of the study was to establish and evaluate the present level of mobility of the WB researchers, the present policy framework and perceived barriers to mobility by both researchers and policy makers. The study gathered information on policy and legislative reforms to facilitate mobility of researchers; collection and collation of statistics and their use to inform policy; national schemes to promote research mobility; and promotion of EU Mobility Policy measures and the EURAXESS NCPs.	The study for the first time collated comparative data on research mobility in the Western Balkans and identified a set of barriers to research mobility. Based on the study an action plan aimed at facilitating mobility of researchers in the wider Western Balkans region to EU MS and beyond in order to improve the research excellence of young researchers (doctoral candidates and higher) has been drafted. The action plan will be discussed at a meeting of the Ministries of Research/Science in the region in order to adopt it and form a working group on removing obstacles to mobility of researchers.	Finalised
	<i>Presentation and consultation meeting on the Legal and Market Impact Study on roaming policies in Western Balkans, 18 October 2016, Brussels</i>	Regional meeting focused on presentation, consultation and validation of the findings of the first systematic analysis of market impact data of the existing Regional Agreement on reduction of the roaming prices and roaming traffic, as well as of the market data and institutional and legal	Recommendations of the Study outline modalities for furthering the existing Regional Roaming Agreement and defining the scope for future collaboration in the area of roaming.	Finalised

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		frameworks underpinning the regulation of roaming policies in the entire WB6 region.		
	<i>Coordination meeting of regional broadband platform on broadband reform structural measures, 26 November 2016, Skopje</i>	Regional meeting focused on assessing progress in implementing the BB structural measures from ERPs 2016-2018 and understanding of the planned reform measures related to BB and telecom markets for 2017-2019. The meeting also provided a timely insight into the upcoming World Bank's regional study on the potentials of using excess infrastructure and infrastructure sharing for broadband development (scope of Balkans Digital Highway Study, timeline, expected deliverables).	Strengthened regional coordination on telecom and broadband-related structural measures within ERPs.	Finalised
	<i>Meeting of Electronic SEE Initiative, focused on open data policies in SEE, 5-6 October 2016, Madrid</i>	Regular regional meeting of e-SEE Initiative (thematically focused on open data issues), bringing together representatives of ICT line ministries from WB6, UNDP, EC services, EU MS' experts and representatives of key global open data initiatives. The meeting was organised back-to-back with the International Open Data Conference 2016 in an effort to provide considerable capacity building support, as well as innovative and vibrant context for learning, international peer exchange and networking.	Strengthened regional policy dialogue on open data policies and facilitated regional peer exchanges on open data policies and challenges in the e-SEE Initiative participants; capacity building on EU and Member States' policies, perspectives and implementation of open data policies, as well as global open data initiatives; potential follow-up regional actions and initiatives related to promoting open data policies identified.	Finalised
<b>Sustainable Growth:</b>	<i>Ongoing: Study on developing economic corridors in Western Balkans</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.	First draft of the study produced and presented to the SEEIC Working Group on Industrial Policy.	On-track
Competitiveness;	<i>SEEIC Working Group on Industrial Policy Meeting, 23 November 2016, Brussels</i>	Regular meeting with the aim to develop the regional economic corridors and select the third sector of priority for the region, which will be	The first draft of the study on economic corridors reviewed. The focus was on particular strategic sectors of SEE and	Finalised

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Transport;		addressed by the SEE 2020 activities.	the aim was to initiate discussions on the selection of the third priority sector of the SEE 2020. Further and more detailed elaboration of the third sector proposal with concrete activities requested.	
	<i>SEEIC Tourism Expert Group meeting, 28-29 November 2016, Brussels</i>	Regular regional meeting of relevant ministries in charge of tourism industry, national tourism boards and private sector representatives with the aim of finalising the “Triple P Tourism” project document and design forthcoming project activities.	Project document “Triple P Tourism” endorsed by the SEEIC Tourism Expert Group, which has also started deliberating on development of regional tourism routes, which would be subject to forthcoming project implementation.	Finalised
	<i>Ongoing: Preparation of a register of ancillary infrastructure and interoperability and signalisation aspects on the Road Core Network</i>	Analysis to establish an inventory/register of existing and planned/under development ancillary infrastructure and interoperability and signalisation aspects on the Road Core Network. The analysis also examines the future needs for ancillary infrastructure.	The implementation of the Study’s recommendations can contribute towards improved compliance of the road users’ infrastructure along Core Network in WB against the TEN-T standards that form part of the EU acquis.	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 instruments to address the bottlenecks and investigate the wider economic gains from the corridors’ development. The study scopes investments and industries; intra-regional industrial and trade linkages and complementarities and services’ integration along SEE corridor routes.	No outcomes in the reporting period. Based on the spatio-economic diagnostics along the TEN-T Corridors and as a response to the Vienna Western Balkans Summit Conclusions, RCC, in cooperation with CEFTA and SEETO, continues to work to develop the economic corridors concept.	On-track
	<i>Ongoing: Pre-feasibility study on introducing electronic Border Queuing Management System on the</i>	Ongoing study examining the prospects for introducing electronic Border Queuing Management System on the extended TEN-T	No outcomes in the reporting period. The findings of the pre-feasibility study outline potential solutions for improving	On-track



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		important regional projects.		
	<i>Workshop on sustainable energy use in transport and public sectors in SEE, 14 November 2016, Vienna</i>	The dialogue between ministries in charge of energy and ministries in charge of transport was initiated and participants were acquainted with obligations stemming from the EU acquis and solutions for introducing alternative and renewable energies in transport sector. A proposal/initiative for development of a tool/software for energy management in public sector (municipalities and educational sector) was also presented to participants by RCC.	Support in achievement of energy efficiency and renewable energy targets in the SEE economies and requirements of EU directives. Contribution towards the implementation of National Renewable Energy Action Plans.	Finalised
<b>Inclusive Growth:</b> Employment; Health	<i>38<sup>th</sup> Plenary and Second High Level Pre-forum Meeting of the SEE Health Network, 14-15 December 2016, Chisinau</i>	Instead of the planned ministerial meeting, the 38 <sup>th</sup> Plenary as the second high level pre-ministerial forum of the SEE Health Network took place on 14-15 December 2016 in Chisinau. The main topic of the agenda was the future of SEEHN and how to further strengthen the Network. The opportunity was used by RCC to present the implementation of the SEE2020 Strategy and the programming cycle 2017-19.	The meeting agreed to extend Presidency of Moldova by spring 2017. The meeting agreed to present the candidate to the ministers for appointment as the Head of the SEEHN Secretariat. RCC updated the participants on the status of implementation of SEE 2020 Strategy, putting the focus on the result-oriented approach which drives the programming process for the years to come (2017-2019).	Finalised
	<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 and aims to objectively and rationally identify the strengths and weaknesses of existing emergency response and public health systems in all SEE economies, as well as identify possibilities and legal constraints and	The study will be used to develop and support evidence-based policies and projects, the practical implementation of which would improve the surveillance and control of communicable diseases and strengthen health security in the SEE and between the SEE and the EU.	Finalised

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main <b>OUTPUTS</b> /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main <b>OUTCOMES</b> of the achieved results	Status of completion
		requirements to establishing a cross-border platform on emergency and response.		
<b>Governance for Growth:</b>  Effective public services	<i>Upgrade policy and regulatory capacities of public administration, 1-2 December 2016, Belgrade</i>	The conference gathered officials from regulatory reform and regulatory impact assessment units, relevant senior level public servants and decision makers, representatives of business associations, think-tanks and academic community, as well as experts in the field of Better Regulation. The event contributed to strengthening the concept of better regulations as a part of the public administration reform. In this regard, the weaknesses in the process of introducing new regulations of all Western Balkan economies were revealed and discussed, and proposals for improvement and larger engagement of business and civil society in the regulatory process were presented. The new Comparative Study on Better Regulation and Competitiveness in Western Balkans was presented and served as the baseline for discussions.	Public administration representatives got familiarised with the importance of better regulation aspects, thus taking into account lessons learnt in reforming their public administration systems. As a result of raising awareness on the needs of business associations and those of public at large regarding governments' decision making, it is expected to have the policies and legislation in an inclusive manner. It is also expected that regulations become better designed from the perspective of private sector, contributing to the general efforts of public administration.	Finalised
<b>Anticorruption</b>	<i>Training for specialised unit of the Commission for Prevention of Corruption, other relevant authorities, representatives of civil society, 28-29 November 2016, Skopje</i>	Delivering training on transparent rules: move away from discretion to rule-based political and administrative decision-making by conducting risk assessment actions and adopting public, simple and enduring rules.	Capacities of competent public authorities and also of civil society representatives in conducting anti-corruption assessment of laws are strengthened; most important draft laws and those enacted are screened from anti-corruption point of view; corruption proofing of legislation becomes self-sustainable.	Finalised

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main <b>OUTPUTS</b> /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main <b>OUTCOMES</b> of the achieved results	Status of completion
	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the SEE Coalition on Whistle-blowers Protection, organised jointly by RCC, RAI and non-governmental organisations, 14 November 2016, Zagreb</i>	Public awareness: researchers, whistle-blowers, media and other agencies are actively supported and their findings considered and given ample publicity.	Network created among NGOs active in the field of whistleblowing becomes self-sustainable; rights and protection of whistle-blowers are enhanced; whistleblowing as an important tool in tackling corruption is promoted and applied in practice.	Finalised
	<i>Regional Meeting of Oversight Bodies for Conflict of Interest and Asset Disclosure, organised jointly by RCC, RAI and Bulgarian Commission for Prevention and Ascertainment of Conflict of Interest, 20-21 October 2016, Sofia</i>	Build capacity of law enforcement agencies and judiciary and improve their regional cooperation and data exchange.	A network of oversight bodies on asset disclosure and conflict of interest is created; data exchange between the oversight bodies on asset disclosure is enabled.	Finalised
Justice dimension	<i>6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Western Balkans Working Group on Justice (WGJ), 8 November 2016, Belgrade</i>	RCC implemented activities are discussed and assessed by the WB WGJ. The 2017 working programme in justice area was discussed and approved.	RCC implemented activities are supported, the 2017 working programme in justice area is endorsed.	Finalised
<b>Gender Mainstreaming</b>	<i>Integration of gender mainstreaming into the RCC SWP 2017-2019</i>	Statement of Principles on Mainstreaming Gender for the RCC SWP 2017-2019 produced and presented to the RCC Board.	Statement of Principles on Mainstreaming Gender into Regional Cooperation Council's Strategy and Work Programme 2017-2019 approved by the RCC Board during its meeting held on 12 October 2016.	Finalised
<b>Promoting Stability and Rule of Law - JHA and Security Cooperation</b>				
<b>Justice and Home Affairs</b>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Coordination meeting (projects in judicial training in Western Balkans and Turkey), 9 November 2016, Belgrade</i>	Better use of different projects' results and reduced overlapping; creation of basis for future project proposals in the area of justice.	Mapping of projects (at regional and national level) in the area of judicial training and mediation in accession process economies done.	Finalised
	<i>International Conference</i>	Follow-up of the kick-off event organised by RCC	Project 'Improving the regional	Finalised

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main <b>OUTPUTS</b> /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main <b>OUTCOMES</b> of the achieved results	Status of completion
	<i>"Strengthening regional cooperation of Western Balkans' Judicial Training Institutions", 24-25 November 2016, Skopje</i>	establishing the SEE Judicial Training Institutions Network which brought together heads of schools and judicial training institutions from SEE.	cooperation between Western Balkans' is drafted.	
	<i>Conference on "Joint Investigation Teams" jointly organised by RCC, SELEC and SEEPAG, 20-21 September 2016, Podgorica</i>	Better use of joint investigation teams as a successful tool for fighting serious and organised crime; enhanced prosecution of organised crime through pro-active investigation.	Joint investigation teams are more efficient in developing tools to combat serious and organised crime; cooperation between criminal justice systems through legislative harmonisation and cross-border investigation is strengthened; cooperation of law enforcement and prosecutors at national, regional and international level is improved.	Finalised
<b>Security cooperation:</b>  Facilitate and support the development of effective regional mechanisms in security area	<i>6<sup>th</sup> South East European National Security Authorities' forum (SEENSA), 29 September 2016, Podgorica</i>	Discussion on the future SEENSA website, current situation of cyber security in SEE, the future steps of cooperation in vetting procedures as well as education and training; cooperation between SEENSA and 6S Initiative.	Functional SEENSA website; practical cooperation between SEENSA and 6S Initiative; progress in bilateral agreements on the exchange of personal data with other participating NSAs.	Finalised
	<i>8<sup>th</sup> South East European Military Intelligence Chiefs' (SEEMIC) Conference, 20-21 October 2016, Chisinau</i>	Exchange of views on cooperation of military intelligence services in SEE; adoption of OSINT Assessment entitled "Migration Crisis, Roots of Radicalization and Violent Extremism Leading to Terrorism in SEE"; agreement on the topic for the next OSINT Assessment (Use of Social Networks by Violent Extremists) and the host of 9 <sup>th</sup> SEEMIC conference (Montenegro).	Contribution to security cooperation in SEE.	Finalised



Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main <b>OUTPUTS</b> /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main <b>OUTCOMES</b> of the achieved results	Status of completion
	<i>Second meeting of the SEE National Focal Points Group on CVE and FTF, 11 November 2016, Tirana</i>	Evaluation of progress made under the SEE Regional CVE-FTF Platform, discussion on remaining challenges; endorsement of the 2017 Work Plan.	Regional contribution to the efforts of countering radicalization and violent extremism in SEE.	Finalised
	<i>Joint Meeting of the SEE Regional Cooperation Networks in the area of Counter-Terrorism and Countering Violent Extremism under the auspices of the EU Western Balkan Counter-Terrorism Initiative (WBCTI) – Regional Coordination Conference, 11 November 2016, Tirana</i>	Exchange of information, good practices and networking among all principal stakeholders active in P/CVE in SEE.	Improved cooperation and greater coordination in regional P/CVE efforts.	Finalised
	<i>Regional Workshop on Foreign Terrorist Fighters - Challenges for South Eastern Europe: Integrative and Complementary Approach to Counter-Terrorism and Violent Extremism, 23-24 November 2016, Rakitje</i>	Discussion on the possible solutions and best practices in border management focused on identifying possible FTF on their way to and from the warzones, including rehabilitation and reintegration programmes for those individuals who have been identified and prosecuted.	Raising awareness on: 1) need for better use of the existing multilateral information mechanisms in SEE to improve information sharing on known or suspected FTFs; 2) importance of development of national strategies and programmes for rehabilitation and reintegration.	Finalised
	<i>Preparatory work for the new RCC P-CVE website</i>	Preparations for the new website finalised.	New website will be able to serve its purpose – enhanced exchange of information on topics related to P-CVE efforts in the SEE region.	Finalised
<b>Extending Participation, Widening Partnerships – Cross-cutting Issues</b>				
<b>Parliamentary cooperation</b>	<i>Inter-Parliamentary Conference on “Oversight of IPA Funds: Successes and Challenges”, 16 September 2016, Belgrade</i>	Exchange of views on aligning IPA II with the enlargement strategy, parliamentary oversight of external instruments, efficiency of usage of EU funds, the role of EP in IPA II strategy, regional and cross-border cooperation involving IPA and	Greater awareness on RCC experiences regarding IPA funds.	Finalised

Objective	Description of main activities planned in the reporting period	Main <b>OUTPUTS</b> /deliverables/results in the reporting period	Main <b>OUTCOMES</b> of the achieved results	Status of completion
		structural funds, etc.		
	<i>Meeting of the SEECP Parliamentary Assembly Standing Committee, 3 December 2016, Zagreb</i>	Briefing on the work of RCC and priorities of Croatian C-i-O of the SEECP PA for 2016-2017; adoption of the agenda for SEECP PA general committees, appointment of rapporteurs, discussion on the outstanding issues concerning the candidacies for Secretariat seat and the work of the SEECP Parliamentary Assembly.	Strengthening cooperation between RCC and SEECP PA.	Finalised

### **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).

During the reporting period, the following staff members have joined the RCC Secretariat: Mr Zoran Popov, Political Advisor; Mr Radu Cotici, Expert on Governance for Growth (Public Administration Reform and Anti-corruption); Mr Radovan Nikcevic, Expert on Connectivity (Energy and Environment); and Ms Ivana Gardasevic, Expert on Competitiveness.

#### **4. Key challenges in the reporting period**

The situation with regard to risks and challenges to the implementation of regional cooperation remains basically unchanged. As for the previous reporting periods, in some of the regional processes it was difficult to obtain appropriate government representation and/or timely action from the beneficiaries' side. Notwithstanding the sometimes unclear mandate, the lacking of proper capacities and of proper expertise of nominated participants to take part in various RCC-facilitated processes, and the multifaceted challenges the economies of the region are facing domestically, influenced somehow moving away the attention from cooperation at regional level. Therefore, the RCC should continue to stress the importance of well mandated representation to the participating governments using also the upcoming consultative workshops in the region's capitals.

The reduction of the budget for 2017 has put an additional strain to the planning of activities for 2017. In parallel with more focused planning of activities in the prioritised areas of cooperation, RCC must work to find alternative funding sources to facilitate and/or implement those needed processes and activities for which funding is not available in the 2017 budget.

## 5. 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
<b>Contributors (Donors)</b>							
	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		50.000,00	50.000,00	14-Oct-16	100,00%
	Hungary	50.000,00		50.000,00	50.000,00	26-Apr-16	100,00%
	Italy	50.000,00		50.000,00	50.000,00	28-Oct-16	100,00%
	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		50.000,00	50.000,00	7-Dec-16	100,00%
	Switzerland	50.000,00		39.965,00	39.965,00	7-Jun-16	79,93%
	United States of America	60.000,00			-		0,00%
	<b>Total contributing countries donors:</b>	<b>560.000,00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>490.428,44</b>	<b>490.428,44</b>		<b>87,58%</b>
	<b>European Commission</b>	<b>3.575.000,00</b>		<b>3.196.301,27</b>	<b>3.196.301,27</b>	<b>9-Dec-14</b>	<b>89,41%</b>
<b>South East Europe Contributors</b>							
	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		80.000,00	80.000,00	3-Nov-16	100,00%
	Greece	140.000,00		140.000,00	140.000,00	30-Sep-16	100,00%
	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		140.000,00	140.000,00	20-Dec-16	100,00%
	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%
	<b>Total South East Europe Contributors:</b>	<b>1.486.000,00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1.386.000,00</b>	<b>1.386.000,00</b>		<b>93,27%</b>
	<b>Total Committed Funds</b>	<b>5.621.000,00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5.072.729,71</b>	<b>5.072.729,71</b>		<b>90,25%</b>

\*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.

**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	
<b>Coordination, monitoring, programming and granting</b>							
<b>1. Programming activities</b>							
1.1. PROG 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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 4 <sup>th</sup> SEE2020 Programming Committee				x	Meeting		
1.3. PROG 2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting on Donor Coordination in the Western Balkans	x				Conference		
1.4 PROG RCC Grant Facility		x			Grant		
<b>2. Monitoring activities</b>							
2.1. MONIT SEE 2020 Monitoring Committee		x	x		Meeting		
2.2. MONIT Balkan Barometer for 2016				x	Report		
<b>3. Coordination activities</b>							
3.1. COORD 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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		
<b>Political department and public relations activities</b>							
<b>1. Political coordination and support to SG's activities</b>							
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; harmonisation of 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 for regional cooperation.
<b>2. Communications</b>						
2.1. COMMS PR Public relations activities	x	x	x	x	Other	Strengthen RCC communications with regional audiences.
<b>COMPONENT 2. Implementing the SEE 2020 and the Stability and Rule of Law priorities</b>						
<b>Objective: Enhance mobility, connectivity and competitiveness and build mutual confidence between SEE governments and people</b>						

PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	EXPECTED OUTPUTS/ DELIVERABLES	EXPECTED OUTCOME
<b>Skills and Mobility</b>						
<b>1. Increased (labour) mobility in the region</b>						
<b>1.1. Removal of obstacles to (short-term) mobility of professionals in the region</b>						
1.1.1. MOBI Mapping and Assessment Study aimed at identifying sectors and professions of mutual interest for mutual recognition of professional qualifications agreements in SEE	x				Study/ Assessment	<i>Agreed sectors and professions of mutual interest for agreements on mutual 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 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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	
<b>1.2. Creating preconditions for automatic recognition of qualifications</b>						
1.2.1. MOBI Regional meeting for preparation of ERASMUS+ project	x				Meeting	<i>Created preconditions for automatic recognition of qualifications in 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	
<b>1.3. Mobility of high skilled labour (PhD, researchers and academics) in SEE</b>						
1.3.1. MOBI Mapping Study on Mobility of Researchers in SEE			x		Study/ Assessment	<i>Identified issues regarding enhanced mobility of high skilled labour (PhD, researchers and academics) in SEE. A mechanism for cooperation to remove issues regarding 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 SEECF Ministerial)			x		Meeting	
1.3.3. MOBI SEECF Ministerial Summit on Mobility of Researchers				x	Meeting	
<b>2. Building a competitive skills base in the region</b>						
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>
<b>3. Building an evidence base for development and coordination of education, labour and social affairs policies</b>						
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 repository of data and analyses 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 2 <sup>nd</sup> Working Meeting of the Steering Committee on Establishment of the Regional Observatory on Education, Labour and Social Affairs Policies				x	Meeting	



PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	EXPECTED OUTPUTS/ DELIVERABLES	EXPECTED OUTCOME
<b>4. Support to sectoral activities under the Skills and Mobility Flagship</b>						
<b>4.1. Supporting health cooperation in SEE</b>						
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	
<b>4.2. Research and Development for Innovation</b>						
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>
<b>4.3. Support to cooperation in culture</b>						
4.3.1. CULT 13 <sup>th</sup> 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 2 <sup>nd</sup> Regional Summer School on Innovative On-Site Learning			x		Meeting	
4.3.5. CULT 14 <sup>th</sup> TFCS Coordination Meeting			x		Meeting	
4.3.6. CULT TA to support the activities in culture	x		x		TA support	
<b>Connectivity</b>						
<b>1. Adding value to Core Transport network</b>						
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; Optimisation of individual transport modes and promotion of green &amp; energy efficient transport; Contributing to the elimination of transport non-physical barriers; Encouraging public sector participation in the financing of transport</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 other sections of the Core Network	x				Study/ Assessment	

PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	EXPECTED OUTPUTS/ DELIVERABLES	EXPECTED OUTCOME	
1.6. TRAN Meeting of the Directors of the Air Transport Directorates at the Ministries of the JSPA members and observers		x			Conference	<i>infrastructure and promote the PPP model; Exploring and identifying airspace utilisation possibilities; Further implementing the Single European Sky (SES); Improving ICT connectivity and extending the single digital market to SEE.</i>	
1.7. TRAN Meeting of the NSA Pool of Experts Working Group			x		Meeting		
<b>2. Regional energy market in SEE</b>							
2.1. ENER Meeting of EP-ECS Parliamentary Forum				x	Conference	<i>Supporting energy market reforms in SEE.</i>	
2.2. ENER Awareness raising/capacity building training		x			Workshop		
<b>3. Regional cooperation in environment</b>							
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		
<b>4. Single digital market in SEE</b>							
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 for study and discuss recommendations)	x		x		Meeting		
4.3. ICT e-SEE Initiative meetings		x	x		Meeting		
<b>Competitiveness</b>							
<b>1. Investment integration</b>							
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		
<b>2. Strengthening the industrial base</b>							
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		

PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	EXPECTED OUTPUTS/ DELIVERABLES	EXPECTED OUTCOME
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 tourism offer and visibility of the SEE and increased visits to cultural sites.</i>
<b>Rule of Law and Security Cooperation</b>						
<b>1. Governance and public administration reform</b>						
1.1. PAR Follow-up to RIA Study: Workshop on the process of planning at governmental level	x				Workshop	<i>Increased efficiency and effectiveness of public service provision at 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 Decentralisation Observatory: feasibility study		x			Study/ Assessment	
1.6. PAR Follow-up to Decentralisation 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 Decentralisation Observatory Study: Awareness raising event - cooperation with NALAS				x	Conference	
<b>2. Anticorruption</b>						
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 - 2 <sup>nd</sup> 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	
<b>3. Support to networks and CSOs in the area of justice</b>						
3.1. JUS Regional Rule of Law Forum - cooperation with NGO AIRE (co-financing and co-organising)	x				Conference	<i>Further enhancing regional cooperation in the Rule of Law and coordinating existing initiatives in the region aimed at cross-border cooperation in the field of justice and home affairs. Signed Letters of Intent or MoU aimed 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</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	

PLANNED ACTIVITIES	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	EXPECTED OUTPUTS/ DELIVERABLES	EXPECTED OUTCOME
3.6. JUS Coordination Conference 'Regional initiatives in rule of law'				x	Workshop	<i>judiciaries. Improved cooperation with 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>
3.7. JUS Kick-off event 'Network of the SEE Associations of Mediators'		x			Conference	
3.8. HOME Meeting of the Chiefs of Police and Chiefs of Prosecutor's Office (follow-up of the UNODC activities and RCC's cooperation with the UNODC in the field of CVE)		x			Conference	
3.9. HOME Meeting of the Law Enforcement and Prosecutors in CVE				x	Workshop	
<b>4. Security cooperation</b>						
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 among 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 countering violent extremism and terrorism		x			Web site	
4.7. SEC Regional conference on the coordination of 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, SEECPC-i-O, NATO, national authorities of participants and other relevant actors				x	Meeting	

## List of Abbreviations

<b>ALMP</b>	Active Labour Market Policies
<b>BB</b>	Broadband
<b>CEFTA</b>	Central European Free Trade Agreement
<b>CEI</b>	Central European Initiative
<b>C-i-O</b>	Chairmanship-in-Office
<b>COELA</b>	Working Party on Enlargement and Countries Negotiating Accession to the European Union of the Council of the European Union
<b>COWEB</b>	Working Group on Western Balkans of the Council of the European Union
<b>CTI</b>	Counter-Terrorism Initiative
<b>CVE-FTF</b>	South East Europe Regional Platform for Countering Radicalization and Violent Extremism Leading to Terrorism and Recruitment of Foreign Terrorist Fighters
<b>DG</b>	Directorate-General
<b>DG CLIMA</b>	Directorate-General for Climate Action
<b>DG JUST</b>	Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers
<b>DG NEAR</b>	Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations
<b>EBRD</b>	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
<b>EC</b>	European Commission
<b>ECAA</b>	European Common Aviation Area
<b>EEAS</b>	European External Action Service
<b>EnC</b>	Energy Community
<b>EP</b>	European Parliament
<b>ERI SEE</b>	Education Reform Initiative of South Eastern Europe
<b>ERP</b>	Economic Reform Programmes
<b>ESAP</b>	Employment and Social Affairs Platform
<b>e-SEE</b>	Electronic South Eastern Europe Initiative
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>EU MS</b>	European Union Member States
<b>EURAXESS NCP</b>	EURAXESS National Contact Points
<b>EUROSTAT</b>	Statistical Office of the European Communities
<b>EUSDR</b>	European Union Strategy for the Danube Region
<b>EUSDR PA 10</b>	European Union Strategy for the Danube Region Priority Area 10
<b>FTF</b>	Foreign Terrorist Fighters
<b>GIZ</b>	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
<b>ICT</b>	Information and Communication Technologies
<b>ILO</b>	International Labour Organization
<b>IODC</b>	International Open Data Conference
<b>IPA</b>	Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance
<b>ITU</b>	International Telecommunication Union
<b>IUCN</b>	International Union for Conservation of Nature
<b>JIT</b>	Joint Investigation Teams
<b>JSPAI</b>	Joint Service Provision Area Initiative
<b>JWGI</b>	Joint Working Group on Investments
<b>JWGMRPQ</b>	Joint Working Group on Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications
<b>LO</b>	Liaison Office
<b>MFA</b>	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organisation
<b>NPR</b>	National Points of Reference for scientific information
<b>ORF</b>	Open Regional Funds for South East Europe
<b>ORF LR</b>	Open Regional Fund for South East Europe – Legal Reform
<b>OSCE</b>	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
<b>OSF</b>	Open Society Foundation
<b>OSINT</b>	Open Sources Intelligence Assessment

<b>PCC SEE</b>	Police Cooperation Convention for Southeast Europe
<b>P-CVE</b>	Prevention and Countering of Violent Extremism
<b>PES</b>	Public Employment Services
<b>RAI</b>	Regional Anticorruption Initiative
<b>RCC</b>	Regional Cooperation Council
<b>REC</b>	Regional Environmental Centre
<b>RES</b>	Renewable Energy Sources
<b>ReSPA</b>	Regional School of Public Administration
<b>RWG Env</b>	Regional Working Group on Environment
<b>SALW</b>	Small Arms and Light Weapons
<b>SEE</b>	South East Europe
<b>SEE 2020</b>	South East Europe 2020 Strategy: Jobs and Prosperity in a European Perspective
<b>SEECF</b>	South-East European Cooperation Process
<b>SEECF PA</b>	South-East European Cooperation Process Parliamentary Assembly
<b>SEEDS</b>	South East Development Scoreboard
<b>SEEHN</b>	South-eastern Europe Health Network
<b>SEEIC</b>	South East Europe Investment Committee
<b>SEEMIC</b>	South East Europe Military Intelligence Chiefs
<b>SEENSA</b>	South East European National Security Authorities
<b>SEEPAG</b>	Southeast European Prosecutors Advisory Group
<b>SEESAC</b>	Southeastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons
<b>SEETO</b>	South East Europe Transport Observatory
<b>SELEC</b>	Southeast European Law Enforcement Centre
<b>SME</b>	Small and medium-sized enterprise
<b>SWG RRD</b>	Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group in South Eastern Europe
<b>SWP</b>	Strategy and Work Programme
<b>TEG</b>	Tourism Expert Group
<b>TEN-T</b>	Trans-European Transport Network
<b>TEPAV</b>	Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey
<b>ToR</b>	Terms of reference
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>UNCTAD</b>	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNECE</b>	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development
<b>WB</b>	Western Balkans
<b>WBCTI</b>	Western Balkans Counter-Terrorism Initiative
<b>WGIP</b>	Working Group on Industrial Policy
<b>WGJ</b>	Working Group on Justice
<b>WGSBI</b>	Working Group on Spatial Planning, Building and Infrastructure
<b>WWF</b>	World Wide Fund for Nature