



PROJECT INFORMATION

Transfer of knowledge for the development, implementation, evaluation and adaptation of air quality plans in Bulgaria

Updated: October 2015



Fuming chimneys in Sofia

Source: W. J. Müller

Background

Bulgaria is obliged to implement the Air Quality Directive 2008/50/EC. This directive requests that zones or agglomerations, in which limit values of air pollutants are exceeded, must prepare so-called air quality plans. These plans must comprise compulsory measures through which the air pollution can be decreased. The Ministry of Environment and Water of Bulgaria recognized differences in the quality of air quality plans in Bulgaria. Appropriate air quality plans are very important for municipalities in Bulgaria, inter alia in order to reduce the concentrations of dangerous air pollutants like airborne particles (PM10), which exceed limit values in most Bulgarian big cities already for many years.

Project details

The objective of the project was to support the different actors that are involved in the development, implementation, evaluation and adaptation of air quality plans in Bulgaria, in order to ensure that future air quality plans for Bulgarian municipalities contain more appropriate measures and can be implemented effectively. A study tour of a Bulgarian delegation to Germany (Karlsruhe – Stuttgart – Reutlingen) provided insights into air quality plans of cities in Germany and their measures (i. a. low-emission zones) as well as into their monitoring of air quality and their dispersion modelling. In the Bulgarian cities Veliko Tarnovo and Pernik, German and Bulgarian experts discussed options to improve existing air quality monitoring, dispersion models and air quality plans. At a final workshop, the information and results generated by the project were presented to representatives of further Bulgarian municipalities, regional inspectorates, of the Executive Environment Agency and of consultancies. The publication “Guideline on Air Quality Plans” shall provide assistance beyond the end of this project.

Target country: Bulgaria

Duration: 02/2014 – 10/2015

Beneficiaries: Ministry of Environment and Water, Regional Inspectorates of Environment and Water, Executive Environment Agency, municipal administrations, academic and private sector experts

Implementing organization:
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Project number: 31041

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