

Global information about the project

The Government to Government project Training competent authorities of Serbia on the implementation and execution of the Environmental Noise Directive 2002/49/EC (commonly abbreviated END) started in November 2011. Aim of the project is to learn and train Serbian authorities, institutions and other parties how to fulfil the requirements of the END as transposed in national (noise) legislation. This directive obliges competent authorities, designated by the national government, to draft noise maps, and noise action plans. In addition the public has to be informed on the maps and the action plans and involved in the process of selecting (noise abatement) measures. Based upon the noise maps situations and areas that have a high noise burden, so called hotspots, are identified and actions are defined specifically targeting these problem areas. It is up to the national government to set limit values in the national noise legislation which could be used in order to define these hotspots. In the action plan not only the measures that will be implemented should be reported but also the terms within these measures will be applied, the reduction of the noise levels that can be realized and the decline of exposed or annoyed people.

By means of a number of training sessions, carried out in Serbia but also in The Netherlands the officers from the ministries (Environment, Public Health, Transport and Infrastructure) have been trained in how to deal with noise legislation (Serbian Noise Act), how to draft noise maps by means of noise calculations and noise measurements and how to draw up Noise Action Plans and Noise Policy Plans. This was done by DCMR Environmental Protection Agency in collaboration with the Dutch Institute for Public Health and Environment (RIVM), Mr Wim van Keulen, a Dutch consultant, who was involved in a previous G2G project in Serbia, the former ministry of MEMSP and Serbian experts from the faculty of Medicines of the University of Belgrade and the faculty of Occupational Noise and Safety of the University of Nis. A representative of the Highway Institute of Belgrade also contributed to the training.

The RIVM en the Serbian faculty of medicines were responsible for trainings on the health effects of noise which is an important factor, especially in the case of long time exposure to (high) noise levels. Mr van Keulen provided a training on the measures that could be taken against traffic noise and costs benefit analyses. The representatives of the Highway Institute and the university of Nis demonstrated how to make noise calculations for road traffic noise and industrial noise.

During the two missions to The Netherland the noise calculations for especially traffic noise were trained at the DCMR EPA and the second mission consisted of visits to the DCMR EPA, the city of Utrecht, a presentation regarding the work of the national helpdesk for noise mapping and noise action planning (POLKA) and a visit to the RIVM. In addition we organized meetings in Brussels (EUROCITIES and European Commission). One of the last activities to be carried out is the closing conference. In December an extra mission is

planned during which, amongst others, a final meeting of the Project Advisory Committee (PAC) in order to discuss the end report.