

## Ongoing project: **Technical support services for air pollutant emission inventories implementation and air quality planning in Albania**

In the framework of the Cooperation Agreement on environmental protection between the Albanian Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water administration and the Italian Ministry for Environment, Land and Sea, technical support is supplied to Albania for the implementation of the **Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution (LRTAP)** Convention and the related Protocols.

The main objective of the present project is the national emission inventory compilation, according to the criteria set by the mentioned Convention. The inventory will be produced using all available data and information related to the emission sources present in the Country in the period 1990 - 2008.

Carried out activities are the followings:

- Data collection organization, through the identification and involvement of all possible data owners and the analysis of relevant available documentation.
- Data collection and analysis, taking into account all available data coming from private companies, public institutions and Albanian statistical office.

At present, the project implementation is going on in order to make emissions estimation and produce a realistic picture of the emission situation of the Country using all available information and the proper emission factors.

At the end of the project, the compiled emission inventory will be delivered to the Ministry on CollectER, the software tool developed by ETC-ACC under the work programme of the European Environment Agency. Then the emissions data will be organized in the format to be used for an official reporting to **EIONET** and LRTAP Convention Body.

Having a compiled emission inventory will allow Albania to respect its international obligations and participate to the exchange of emission data on the main pollutants. Information coming from the inventory will be also a fundamental tool to start implementing air quality assessment and management according to European criteria and choose the proper strategies to reduce the levels of pollution in the Country.

## Possible future activities: **Technical assistance for air quality planning in Albania**

In the framework of the Cooperation on environmental protection between the Albanian Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water administration and the Italian Ministry for Environment, Land and Sea, the proposal for future activities foresees to go on with technical support to Albania in developing the capacity to assess and plan air quality on local/urban scale, with particular attention to urban and industrial areas.

European legislation currently in force provides criteria for air quality assessment and management; in particular, the main obligations established by Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe for Member States are the followings:

- classification of the territory in air quality zones, with homogeneous air quality regime, with reference to the established standards;
- air quality assessment through measurements and modelling techniques;
- air quality management, through the adoption and implementation of a plan identifying all the necessary measures to maintain air quality when it is good and to improve it when the levels of pollutants are above the established standards.

In this framework the activity proposed for Albania will be finalized to:

- **local scale emissions inventory compilation** for 2008/2009, taking into account point, area and line emissions and their allocation on the territory (on the basis of coordinates of points, 1 km x 1 km square grids and extremes of lines);
- application of a set of **integrated models** (meteorological, dispersion and photochemical) for the evaluation of air quality and their validation through comparison of the results with the measurements of pollutants concentrations;
- definition of **air quality zones** and proposal for the minimum structure of the monitoring network, according to European criteria;
- definition of **emissions scenarios** using a model for projections elaboration, to evaluate emissions reduction measures and **air quality in the scenarios**;
- supply of a **software** system for the analysis of environmental pollution;
- **training** sessions to Albanian personnel on used methodologies and supplied software, with the aim of transferring expertise on air quality assessment and management.