

Keeping an eye on other applicants (candidates and potential) and next step (focused on the last Progress Report of EC)

**ARDIAN KRYEZIU,
Legal Expert, ISMAFRD**

KOSOVO	<p>1. Agriculture and Fisheries: Laws on Organic Agriculture and Apiculture were promulgated; Food Law has not been adopted yet. A need for division of responsibilities between MAFRD and MH. No clear division of responsibilities between different services in agricultural sector and definition of relations between central, local and municipal levels; Increased budget by 32% compared to 2007. <i>Farms</i> are small and lack modern technology in order to improve their ability for competing in the market; Vinery and Agricultural Institutions was established in March 2007 (However, action to regulate the wine sector and implement the Law on Wine with <i>acquis</i> is pending); ARDP 2007-2013 has started to be implemented (in particular land consolidation); An updated ARDP expected later this year will introduce concrete and detailed measures for a number for agricultural sub-sectors (need for a legal basis); No sustainable forest management despite the decentralization of KFA. Veterinary and Phytosanitary area made some progress. Fisheries underwent no development. Overall, some legislative progress has been done in areas of agriculture, veterinary and phytosanitary matters further efforts required.</p> <p>2. Environment: Steps undertaken for developing an integrated framework for environmental legislation; KEAP is connected with 16 sectoral plans (4 out 52 projects envisaged for the period 2007-2010 have been implemented so far); Local environmental action plans for five municipalities have been signed. Horizontal legislation – some progress reported (Adoption of provisions on EIA through the Law on Environmental Protection; No developments in air quality (lack of legislation and no air quality monitoring network). Some progress noted in waste management (one permit issued; one AI on criteria for defining protected drinking water zones and water resources adopted). Law on Water provides establishment of River Basin Authority that is responsible for water resource management in the territory of the rivers basins. No progress in nature protection (transposition of Wild Birds Directive and Habitats Directive is still pending). No progress on industrial pollution control and risk management as well. Little progress in the area of chemicals. Administrative capacity – EPA is fully staffed and operational (however, the human and financial resources of MESP and related institutions are far from being sufficient to address Kosova’s environmental challenges. Municipalities are limited to exercise their responsibilities due to lack capacity in both personnel and funding.</p>
ALBANIA	<p>1. Agriculture and Fisheries: Some progress has been made in the area of agriculture and rural development. The Law on Agriculture and Rural Development was adopted, thereby providing the legal basis for agricultural and rural development policy. Kosovo’s Law on Agriculture and Rural Development is due to be approved in 2009 without establishing Paying</p>

	<p>Agency at this stage. (Kosovo's law on food is not force yet) Direct support to farmers continued. Cooperation with the Agricultural Technology Transfer Centres has resulted in 25 on-farm research projects involving a large number of farms, and in a wide range of training activities (No agricultural information centre in Kosovo). Paying Agency is due to be operational in 2009. (Kosovo's Paying Agency is due to be operational maybe after 2-3 years). Overall, there has been some progress in improving the legal framework on agriculture and rural development, food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy, but further efforts are still required in order to enhance the capacity of all actors involved. There has been some progress in the field of fisheries.</p> <p>2. Environment: Some progress can be reported in the area of horizontal legislation. The second part of the National Methodology for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was approved. With regard to climate change, some efforts can be noted, in particular concerning the development of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM). Limited progress can be reported on air quality in urban areas. There has been little progress in the area of waste management. There has been some progress in the field of water quality. There has been some progress in the area of nature protection. The Habitats Directive has been further transposed. Some progress can be reported on industrial pollution and risk management. There are no developments to report on chemicals and genetically modified organisms. Legislation has been adopted on evaluation and management of environmental noise and on maximum levels of noise in certain environments. Further efforts are required to strengthen the administrative capacity. Overall, preparations in the field of the environment are advancing slowly. (Albania in the field of Environment is slightly in a better position besides chemicals where Kosovo has a little progress).</p>
BOSNIA	<p>1. Agriculture and Fisheries: Some progress has been made in the field of agriculture and rural development policy. (Kosovo's administrative structure is much more consolidated). The support earmarked for agriculture and rural development in 2008 totalled €73 million, an increase of 35% as compared to 2007." (Funds increased more than in Kosovo for Agriculture and Rural Development). Some progress has been made on food safety. (More progressive in food safety than Kosovo). Progress has been made on international cooperation, as Bosnia and Herzegovina is now a member of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. (Kosovo is unable to join international organizations at this stage). There has been limited progress in the field of veterinary and phytosanitary policies. There has been no progress in the field of animal health. There is no strategy for the control of animal diseases. (Kosovo does have Law on Welfare of Animals, whereas Bosnia lacks a strategy as such). Overall, Bosnia and Herzegovina's preparations in the area of agriculture are advancing slowly, although the adoption of a State-level legal framework will facilitate gradual approximation to the <i>acquis</i>.</p> <p>2. Environment: There has been limited progress in the field of the environment. Limited progress has been made as regards horizontal legislation. Bosnia and</p>

	<p>Herzegovina ratified the Aarhus Convention and Espoo Convention. No developments can be reported with regard to air quality. Regarding waste management, there has been little progress. Some progress can be reported on water quality. There has been limited progress in the field of nature protection. Bosnia and Herzegovina has drafted a biodiversity strategy and Action Plan, as required by the Convention on Biological Diversity. Transposition of the Habitats and Wild Birds Directives, including aspects required under the Energy Community Treaty, is at an early stage. Bosnia and Herzegovina suffers from weak administrative capacity in the environment sector. Bosnia and Herzegovina needs to strengthen its environmental protection institutions, in particular at State level and international obligations as well. (Bosnia has made little more progress in general compared to Kosovo. Bosnia also adheres now to some international conventions which is not possible for Kosovo at the moment).</p>
SERBIA	<p>1. Agriculture and Fisheries: Some progress has been made in the area of agriculture and there have been some improvements to the administrative capacity. In the area of rural development the government adopted three regulations defining the distribution and use of subsidies in 2008 in the areas of rural tourism, support to internally displaced persons, and support to the Roma community. (Kosovo does have ARDP 2007-2013 a commission responsible for its implementation has been adopted). No Paying Agency established, yet. (We both lack Paying Agency). A new law on wine has not yet been adopted. (Compared to Serbia we have the Law on Wine). The government has adopted four regulations on organic production. In the area of food safety, the full implementation of the new division of responsibilities and in particular cooperation between the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Health is subject to the adoption of a new framework legislation. (Comparing to Kosovo, Serbia is expected soon to divide legally responsibilities of the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Health). Serbia also needs to adopt a new law on animal welfare. (it's covered by law in Kosovo). Overall, Serbia is in a relatively advanced stage of preparation in the area of agriculture to fulfill SAA obligations.</p> <p>2. Environment: There has been little progress in the area of environment and horizontal legislation. There is a growing awareness of the importance and role of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The administrative structures to implement the Kyoto Protocol are not yet in place. Serbia has acceded to the Espoo Convention whereas the Aarhus Convention has still to be ratified. Administrative capacity has improved following the creation of a separate Ministry for Environment Protection. Environment protection inspectorates have been re-organised, allocated more resources and provided with specific training. Overall, Serbia is moderately advanced in the area of environment, including in some areas of horizontal legislation. (Serbia has made more progress in general compared to Kosovo. Serbia also adheres now to some international conventions which is not possible for Kosovo at the moment).</p>
Montenegro	<p>1. Agriculture and Fisheries: Good progress can be reported on agriculture and rural development policy. A draft law on agriculture and rural</p>

	<p>development and a national programme for food production and rural development for 2009-2013 were adopted by the government in September 2008. (No register yet for the organic agriculture producers due to lack of certifying body. In Montenegro first organic producers registered). Support continued for construction of rural infrastructure, including roads and water supply. (Due to lack of Law on Agriculture and Rural Development, the rural infrastructure is not developed to a satisfactory degree). In the area of food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy was made some progress for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV). (In these areas Kosovo lags behind Montenegro). A national strategic plan for the fisheries sector is being finalized.</p> <p>2. Environment: Progress has been made as regards horizontal legislation. The Ministry of Tourism and the Environment has been designated as the national authority for projects related to the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) under the Kyoto Protocol. Preparations for Montenegro to become party to the Espoo and Aarhus Conventions have advanced. In the area of air quality, limited progress can be reported. Overall, harmonisation with the EU standards in this area is at an early stage, and significant efforts are needed to ensure implementation and enforcement. Some progress has been made in the area of waste management. Some progress can be reported in the area of nature protection. A Law on nature protection transposing provisions of the Habitats and Wild Birds Directives was adopted in June 2008. Some progress can be reported on industrial pollution control and risk management. Overall, some progress has been achieved in terms of alignment with the European standards. Overall, environmental protection, in particular in coastal areas and national parks, is a cause for concern. (Montenegro has made more progress in general compared to Kosovo. Montenegro soon will adhere to some international conventions which is not possible for Kosovo at the moment).</p>
MACEDONIA	<p>1. Agriculture: Significant progress has been achieved in the area of horizontal issues. A Framework Law on agriculture and rural development was enacted. No progress can be reported in setting up an integrated administration and control system (IACS) since the pilot projects. The capacity of the <i>paying agency</i> has been strengthened. Little progress has been made on implementing the Law establishing a farm accountancy data network (FADN); adoption of the implementing legislation is progressing slowly. A law on <i>State aid</i> in agriculture has not yet been enacted. The rural development programme under the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPARD programme) has been adopted. Substantial progress has been made with the preparations for the national accreditation of the IPARD agency. Preparations in the area of rural development are advanced.</p> <p><i>Conclusion</i></p> <p>There has been progress in the field of agriculture and good progress has been made on rural development. Policy development has been followed by increases in the administrative capacity of the relevant institutions and by effective implementation. Alignment with the <i>acquis</i> is still at an early stage.</p>

(Since Macedonia is a candidate country, its progress comparing to Kosovo is much higher)

2. Food Safety:

Some progress has been made as regards the **general** principles. Progress has been made in the area of **veterinary policy**. The aid schemes for HACCP certification have been extended to 2008. There is no strategy for enhanced implementation of the HACCP system. Progress can be reported in the area of **food safety rules**. The legislation on *food contact material* and *GMOs* has yet to be adopted. No progress was made on **specific rules for feed**. Progress has been made in the area of **phytosanitary policy**. A new Law on *plant health (harmful organisms)*, aiming to transpose the *acquis*, was enacted.

Conclusion

There has been modest progress in the area of food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy, mainly regarding legislative preparedness. The administrative capacity, in terms of both the number and competence of staff, has been strengthened, but is not yet adequate to ensure proper implementation of the *acquis*. No single authority has competence for food safety control.

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3. Fisheries: Substantial progress has been made in the field of **resource and fleet management** with the enactment of the Law on fisheries and aquaculture. No progress has been achieved in the field of **market policy**.

Conclusion

There has been progress in this area. The administrative capacity has still to be developed. Since the country is landlocked, most of the fisheries *acquis* is not relevant.

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4. Environment: Some progress has been made in the area of **horizontal legislation**. The EIA requirements relating to informing and consulting the public are not yet adequately applied. Some activities have started to prepare projects aiming at reduction of the greenhouse gas emissions, in line with the clean development mechanism (CDM) under the Kyoto Protocol. **Administrative capacity** in terms of human and financial resources is insufficient at both State and local levels.

Conclusion

Progress has been made in developing the legislative framework in the field of environment, in particular as concerns horizontal legislation and the air and waste sectors. Overall, the country is not yet sufficiently prepared in the field of environment. (Since Macedonia is a candidate country, its progress comparing to Kosovo is much higher and requirements differ slightly from other WB countries).