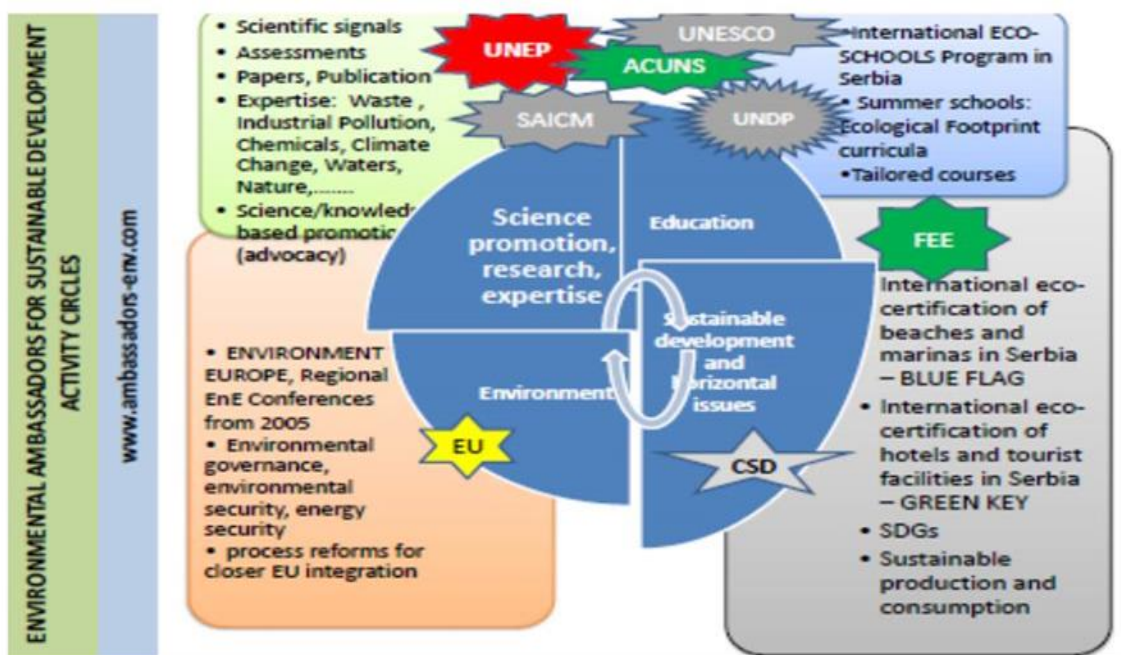


“Environmental Ambassadors for Sustainable Development”<sup>1</sup> develop and perform activities within the program areas:

- Scientific, Innovative, Research and Professional Work & Expertise and Consulting
- Education for Environment and Sustainable Development
- Sustainable development
- Environment.



The full list of activities could be find at: <http://ambassadors-env.com/en/news-archive/>

<p><b>2015: ECOSOC Special Consultative Status</b></p>	<p><b>Headline news from 2010/11 – 2014/15</b> is related to achievement: by the decision of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) at its Coordination and management meeting of July 2015 <b>special consultative status</b> to organization Environmental Ambassadors for Sustainable Development was granted.  <a href="http://esango.un.org/civilsociety/consultativeStatusSummary.do?profileCode=601476">http://esango.un.org/civilsociety/consultativeStatusSummary.do?profileCode=601476</a></p>
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<sup>1</sup> Organization “Environmental Ambassadors for Sustainable Development” is formally registered in 2012 by experts working together from 2004 as the non-formal experts group established within, at that time organization “Environmental Ambassadors”, and became the legal successor of that organization in 2013.

**Organisation of work**, as at the beginning of 2015:

Legal representative is **MSc Aleksandra Mladenovic, executive director, from March 2015** (she is also Eco-Schools and Blue Flag National Coordinator).

(Previous Legal representatives were: Prof dr Natasa Zugic Drakulic, executive director, January 2014 – March 2015, and Prof dr Andjelka Mihajlov, until January 2014).

**President of the Council is Prof dr Hristina Stevanović Čarapina.**

**Honorable President is Prof dr Andjelka Mihajlov** (from January 2014, acting as the President for specific tasks and in accordance with Council decision from January 2014).

Founders are: Andjelka Mihajlov, Sandra Radunovic, Hristina Stevanovic-Carapina, Ana Pudja, Filip Jovanovic and Milica Petrovic.

**Core team** includes also Filip Jovanovic (National Green Key Coordinator), Milena Tabašević (Young Reporters for Environment), Prof dr Nataša Žugić-Drakulić (executive director, ENV.net project National coordinator), Prof dr Dunja Prokić (Europe to Europe process coordinator), as well Danko Aleksic, Prof dr Zora Dajić-Stevanović and Prof Dr Predrag Simonović and Petar Marinković

EASD is organisation lead by women, and presence of women experts within the team should be noted.

According to Council Decision (meeting on October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013), EASD opened 2 Clubs: **Forum of Members (FoM)**: – members and former members and persons worked/working in EASD projects, and **Forum of Friends (FoF)**: – persons participated in EASD activities, as well as persons connected through social networks (evidence are the numbers). **FoM have 32 members, and FoF have 912 members, from SEE region mainly.** Network of the Partners include about 30 institutions.

**Organisation is accredited** to UNEP, have ECOSOC Special Consultative Status, have UN accreditation and participation in Conferences on Sustainable Development Rio +20 (Brazil, 2012), Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) NGO Focal Point, National Member of The Foundation for Environmental Education – FEE Serbia, Institutional Member of ACUNS - Academic Council on the United Nations System, Member of the United Nations and the Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform, Member of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network – SDSN , Accredited for the High-level event on the Millennium Development Goals and Post-2015 Development Agenda in 2013, becoming IPEN network Participating Organization in November 2013 and EYD2015 Civil Society Alliance member from January 2015.

Statute (<http://ambassadors-env.com/en/about/statute/>) and organization financial health (<http://ambassadors-env.com/en/about/financial-repor/>) are posted on web.

UNEP related activities are mostly financed Ad hoc or by organization own financial sources.

### Horizontal issue:

### UN related

(UNEP, UNDP, UNESCO, GEF, SAICM, ACUNS, IPEN, etc. ):

In 2010 EASD activities were mainly focused on preparation for Rio+20. We organize EnE10 Regional Environment to Europe Conference<sup>2</sup> (June 5, Belgrade, **UNEP WED** event) with thematic focus on **Green Education and Green Economy** (detailed Agenda and CD Proceedings of Papers is available on web). More than 200 participants from region.

In 2011 EASD started program activity: **Man and Biosphere, Mountains, Ecosystem Services**. EnE11 Regional Environment to Europe Conference (June 2011, **UNEP WED** event) was dedicated to **rural and sustainable mountain development**. We promote **International Mountain Day**, and support by activities sustainable mountain development.

We closely cooperate with the National Commission for UNESCO, and conduct **Ecological Footprint Project** (supported by **UNESCO participation program 2010/11**, Paris).



Project includes the development of syllabuses for the training course Ecological footprint Assessment<sup>3</sup>, raising awareness about the importance of reducing the ecological footprint on different levels. Eco-camp for students from various faculties was organized. Lectures and educative workshops included concept of protection of natural and cultural heritage within biosphere reserve "Golija-Studenica", biodiversity and sustainable use of plant resources, waste management, sustainable tourism and possibilities for development of rural areas, Ecological footprint, as well as walking tours ("Learning by Walking").

Outreach publication available at <http://ambassadors-env.com/en/files/Ecol.-Footprint-2013.pdf> . EASD and Prof A.Mihajlov took part at Panel:Earth after Man – The Story about Biodiversity and Climate Change (<http://www.festivalnauke.org/index-en.html> , [http://www.festivalnauke.org/#prettyPhoto\[iframe\]/29/](http://www.festivalnauke.org/#prettyPhoto[iframe]/29/))

<sup>2</sup> Environment to Europe process is initiated by Environmental Ambassadors in 2004 (and continuously implemented until now, linking the main event each year with UNEP World Environment Day event) and present different phases in EU accession. Started to raise awareness of the importance of the UNECE Ministerial "Environment for Europe" Belgrade 2007 Conference, and further continuously is mobilizing interesting parties in Serbia and Region to catalyze environmental and sustainable development towards European values. Within "Environment to Europe" Process, EASD actively participate and organize different supporting activities in different related thematic areas, like sustainable consumption and production, efficient resource use, chemicals, eco-consumers protection, participation at global, EC, regional and with papers at different conferences, etc. Regional cohesion projects supported Environment to Europe process.

<sup>3</sup> In 2012 Eco-camp at Golija Mountain was acknowledged and supported by Center of Science Promotion, as the modality of development international "Eco-schools" Program in Serbia. In 2013 EASD Ecological Footprint in addition becomes the part of the program within the Project "University in Nature" of University of Belgrade.

In 2011 Environmental Ambassadors are chosen by **UNDP (LTA contract)** as service agency to work on documents: **National Capacity Self Assessment for Environmental Protection Management and Green Economy Study**, for Serbia.

**National Capacity Self-Assessment for Environmental Protection Management, Cross-Cutting Analysis Report for Republic of Serbia** - The purpose of this Cross-Cutting Analysis report was to consolidate the major findings, and to highlight the issues that link the international conventions, both within and across the thematic areas, and other key environmental strategies in Serbia. This analysis will lead to preparation of an NCSA Action Plan in 2012 (3 Rio Convention: 1- The United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), 2- The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD), 3- The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)). Capacity analysis included the current state of implementation of the Conventions; the requirements and potential for development of capacities in meeting the Conventions' objectives were determined at an individual, institutional and systemic level.



Ministry of Environment,  
Mining and  
Spatial Planning



## NATIONAL CAPACITY SELF ASSESSMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION MANAGEMENT

Cross-Cutting Analysis Report for Republic of Serbia

[http://www.rs.undp.org/content/dam/serbia/Publications%20and%20reports/English/UNDP\\_SRB\\_NCSA.pdf](http://www.rs.undp.org/content/dam/serbia/Publications%20and%20reports/English/UNDP_SRB_NCSA.pdf)

Within the Program activity **Green economy**, Environmental Ambassadors coordinated preparation of **Study on Achievements and Perspectives towards a Green Economy and Sustainable Growth in Serbia National Report for the World Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio de Janeiro, 20-22 June 2012**. This study on the green economy and the corresponding institutional set-up is intended to trigger greening of central sectors of the economy and focus public and private sustainable investment on a low-carbon, resource-efficient path, increase green employment and achieve other related social goals. Within the research presented in this study, special attention was paid to identify potential synergies (regulatory above all), with the purpose of simplifying the procedures for greening the economy in Serbia without duplication. A number of examples show that with better allocation of investments to green sectors, higher economic growth and employment rates can be achieved. In addition, in order to integrate the economic, social and environmental aspects, the growth that is pursued must be "inclusive" and

“green.” Certainly, the key is the creation of favourable conditions for the transition towards a green economy, and there is much that can be done in this field, mainly through the creation of appropriate environment and practical policies, which are prioritised in this document in line with the multi-sectoral approach.



<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/984serbia.pdf>

Organisation experts participates in the development of Study on Achievements and Perspectives towards a Green Economy and Sustainable Growth in Serbia



This report was developed on the basis of Chapter 7, “Analysis of Scenarios in Selected Sectors”, a quantitative analysis undertaken as part of the “Study on Achievements and Perspectives towards a Green Economy and Sustainable Growth in Serbia”, and Environmental Ambassadors coordinated the expert team from Serbia, which consisted of data collection and consultations.

[http://www.unep.org/greeneconomy/Portals/88/Research%20Products/Serbia\\_GESS.pdf](http://www.unep.org/greeneconomy/Portals/88/Research%20Products/Serbia_GESS.pdf)

EASD participated in **consultation related the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2016-2020**

Within “Environment to Europe” Process, EASD actively participate and organize different supporting activities in different related thematic areas, like sustainable consumption and production, efficient resource use, chemicals, eco-consumers protection, participation at global, EC, regional and with papers at different conferences, etc. Regional cohesion projects supported Environment to Europe process. 2012 EnE12 Conference (**UNEP WED 2012 event**) was the Learning event for Rio+20 preparation – Green Economy and Governance for Sustainable Development

<http://www.pks.rs/Documents/Slu%C5%BEba%20za%20marketing/Agenda%20EnE12.pdf>

EASD participated at the **4th Western Balkan Civil Society Forum**, from 26-27 November 2012, in Zagreb, Croatia. The Western Balkan Civil Society Forum is a part of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) activities in the Western Balkans.

Environmental Ambassadors for Sustainable Development participated at the **“Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum (GMGSF-14)”**, and **“The First Universal Session of the Governing Council/ Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GC-27/GMEF)”**, **Nairobi, 16-22 February 2013.**

Ministers meeting for the first time under universal membership of 193 member states- again as a result of the decisions taken and adopted last year at Rio+20 and the UN General Assembly later in the year- adopted a welter of other decisions relating to the way UNEP will operate and work as the global platform for environmental policy-making and action over the coming years and decades. Governments called for the transformation of the existing Governing Council into a UN Environment Assembly of UNEP and to build stronger links between UNEP’s science-based Global Environment Outlook process and its ministerial meetings – further implementing the call by member states at Rio + 20 to strengthen the science-policy interface. Over 1300 participants from 147 countries, including 80 ministers, representatives of UN agencies, international organizations, academia, NGOs, business and industry, and women and youth organizations attended the first Universal Session of the GC following the decision of the United Nations General Assembly to strengthen and upgrade UNEP, as called for in the Rio+20 outcome document.



The day before the Governing Council got underway, the **Network of Women Ministers and Leaders for the Environment (NWMLE)** and UNEP hosted the second High-Level Gender Forum. Prof Andjelka Mihajlov participates, by invitation to “Gender Forum” as a member of

the **“Network of Environmental Women Ministers and Leaders”**, as the former Minister for Protection of Natural Resources and Environment. The forum participants called upon ministers and environmental leaders to have dedicated officials for coordination of related gender and environment programmes and agreed to send a consolidated proposal on gender actions to be forwarded for consideration by UN Secretary General’s High-level Panel of

Eminent Persons on the Post 2015 Development Agenda. The women ministers also requested nations to support the ratification of the Minamata convention on Mercury, which opens for signing in October.

**On June 5th**, Association of Consumers (APOS) and Environmental Ambassadors for Sustainable Development (EASD), in Media Center, organized the conference dedicated to **UNEP WED message: “Think. Eat. Save”**. EnE13 Conference (June, 2013, Belgrade) was **UNEP WED event**.

EASD approved as **the member of UN Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform**. In July 2013, the **United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)** Executive Committee approves EASD membership.

EASD representative participated on **GEF Expanded Constituency Workshop (ECW)** for the constituencies of Eastern Europe (Sarajevo September 5-6, 2013). GEF Expanded Constituency Workshop (ECW) for the constituencies of Eastern Europe comprising the following countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia Georgia, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine. The GEF Eastern Europe Expanded Constituency Workshop (ECW) is a component of the GEF Country Support Programme. The ECW will bring together GEF focal points, focal points from the main Conventions (Biodiversity, Desertification, Climate Change and POPs), representatives from civil society and representatives from GEF agencies. **The purpose of the meeting is to keep these stakeholders abreast of GEF strategies, policies and procedures and to encourage coordination.**

“Maybe we have different personal goals and interests – but, we have **ONLY ONE EARTH**”.

*Environmental Ambassador President for Sustainable Development, addressing SDGs process, 2013*

Environmental Ambassadors for Sustainable Development **accredited to attend the High-level event on the Millennium Development Goals and Post-2015 Development Agenda, 25 September 2013 at United Nations Headquarters, NY**

EASD representative participate at the **5th CEE regional meeting on SAICM in Skopje, Macedonia FYR**, from 23 to 26 September 2013. **EASD is National NGO/CSO Focal Point for SAICM**. Overall, the dynamic of the meeting was very positive with a total of 48 people participating, including 11 Governments, 6 IGOs, 3 regional centers and 9 NGOs.

Throughout a year, EASD promoted values of **ACUNS, as the institutional member**.

On November 15, 2013, **IPEN Secretariat** based in Berkeley, USA, welcome EASD as an IPEN Participating Organization (PO). Activities in **SAICM** and Against Lead Poisoning, contributed to decision.

In 2014 we participate at Workshop on **Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus Assessment in the Sava River Basin**, organized by the International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC) from March 4-6, 2014. in Zagreb, Croatia.

EASD contributed to UNESCO Serbia publication *INTEGRATION OF DIVERSITIES*.

On March 26th, 2014, the **United Nation Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)** organized the meeting with representatives of NGOs from Serbia at the Ministry of Energy, Development and Environmental Protection premises. NGOs working in environmental-related projects talked with the **Environmental Performance Review (EPR)** Team of UNECE, and it was a great opportunity to discuss some of the major environmental issues and to share experiences of our NGOs in carrying out environmental projects.

EnE14/ENV.net Conference on June 5, 2014 (**UNEP World Environment Day**) in Belgrade, thematically focused on Chapter 27 of Serbian negotiation with EU, present strong multi-stakeholder event (government-academia-industry-local communities-NGOs), with the presence and messages from representative of EU Delegation in Serbia, UN Resident Coordinator, OSCE and German Embassy, among others.



EASD participated in **UN City in Copenhagen** at the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) General Assembly (GA); over 100 representatives from environmental organizations from all over the world gathered in Copenhagen from 19-21 June. Many topics concerning **environmental education and education for sustainability** were discussed. EASD was approved as the FEE FULL MEMBER ORGANISATION.

EASD representative participate on the **2nd Europe Resource Forum 2014**. Thematic issues include: Europe's responsibility for a sustainable use of natural resources, Targets for a sustainable resource use, Natural resources – to whom do they belong?, Resources for the “Energiewende”, **UNEP's International Resource Panel (IRP) on Decoupling & Circular Economy, Sustainable development goals and post 2015 process**, Sustainable resource use and the role of the financial system, Resource efficiency in business – experiences from EU member states, How can Europe reach a sustainable use of natural resources? In Opening Plenary session participants were, among



others: Ernst Ulrich von Weizsäcker, Co-Chair, UNEP International Resource Panel; Co-President, Club of Rome; Germany, Marina Fischer-Kowalski, Head, Institute of Social Ecology, Alpen Adria University; member of UNEP International Resource Panel; Austria.

For attention: [European Western Balkans Interview: Andjelka Mihajlov, Environmental Ambassador for Sustainable Development](#)

In 2015 the **ACUNS Annual Meeting** commemorates the **70th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations**. EASD is ACUNS member. EASD Honorably President is in one of the ACUNS experts, and she participated at ACUNS Annual Meeting in the Haag, with presentation related to issue of environmental and energy security in region.

We follow **Informal interactive hearings** with representatives of NGOs, CSOs, major groups and the private sector on the **post-2015 development agenda**, in NY.

**12 years in the raw, we organize UNEP WED event.** Environmental Ambassadors for Sustainable Development, in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia, traditionally organizes the Regional Conference Environment to Europe. Through the years, the EnE Conference has grown into traditional gathering of experts and stakeholders in the field of environment and sustainable development, promoting adoption of the EU standards. Thematic areas this year is Horizontal Legislation: Methods, Standards and Tools toward EU Environmental Values. Traditionally, about 150 authors and co-authors of scientific papers, published in the form of the Conference Proceedings CD, participate at the EnE Conference every year. The Conference is an opportunity for institutions, organizations and experts to present their research and exchange viewpoints regarding methods, standards and tools toward EU environmental values and challenges on the road to EU. 2015 Conference EnE15-ENV-net was opened with introductory speeches by **Irene Vojáčková – Sollorano, United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative**, Richard MÁŠA, First Secretary and Head of Operations III Section of the Delegation of the EU to the Republic of Serbia, Dejan Lekić, Deputy Director of the Serbian Environmental Protection Agency, Miroslav Miletić, Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia, Aleksandar Dragišić, Head of the Institute for nature conservation of Serbia, and prof. dr Anđelka Mihajlov, Environmental Ambassador for Sustainable Development.



*UNDP Resident Representative and UN Resident Coordinator  
Ms. Irena Vojáčková – Sollorano, addressing Conference*

Conference was also ESDW (European Sustainable Development Week) event. **Panel on Media in Environment to Europe Process** was also held as the part of the Conference with support of the Public Policy Institute Podgorica/ Beograd/ Ljubljana.

We participate at the **First European-wide Sustainable Development Week and Green Week** in Brussels.

**2015 is busy year with activities in Post Rio+20 processes** ( opinion on Zero draft of the outcome document for the UN Summit to adopt the Post-2015 Development Agenda, acknowledged UNEP consultation with Major Groups related MTS 2018-21 and Programme of Work (PoW) for 2018-19, - EASD acknowledge Initiatives by Non-State Actors to Curb Emission....).

The UN Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations at its 2015 Resumed Session, held from 26 May to 3 June 2015, decided to recommend Special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to our organization EASD – Environmental Ambassadors for Sustainable Development.

**By the decision of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) at its Coordination and management meeting of July 2015 granted special consultative status to our organization, Environmental Ambassadors for Sustainable Development.** Consultative status for an organization enables it to actively engage with ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies, as well as with the United Nations Secretariat, programmes, funds and agencies in a number of ways, as well as the obligations for our organization will be required to meet under this relationship.



EU related, to mention:

Organisation „ Environmental Ambassadors for Sustainable Development“ conducts an EU funded project „**Development of ENV.net in West Balkan and Turkey: giving citizens a voice to influence the environmental process reforms for closer EU integration**“ EuropeAid/132438/C/ACT/Multi – 2012/306-642 and 2014/351-610 (duration of the project is four years: 2012-2016). Partners on the project are: Fondazione punto.sud from Italy (leading agency), Environment Ambassadors for Sustainable Development – EASD from Serbia, Co - PLAN from Albania, Advocacy Training & Resource Center – ATRC from Kosovo (under UNSCR 1244), 4x4x4 Balkan Bridges Skopje from the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the TEMA Foundation from Turkey, and European Environmental Bureau – EEB from Belgium.

The project goal is to achieve a greater commitment and capacity of the ENV.net partners to give citizens a voice and influence public sector reform processes in the environment sector. The project is expected to consolidate the ENV.net partners’ role in fostering the state-civil society dialogue at national and regional levels, in analyzing and monitoring the ongoing process reforms and to provide opportunities to give citizens and CSOs a voice in the environmental reform process and in the integration with EU.

The project activities include analysis, monitoring and advocacy of reform processes according to the standards of the environment acquis. To disseminate the information and results of project activities, EASD is organizing round-tables, workshops, training, seminars, conferences, and social events for citizens, and work on publications such as brochures, position papers, and scientific papers.



Other activities include science promotion, research and expertise, assessments, expertise, knowledge based promotion/advocacy, education (implementation of FEE International Eco-School and Young Reporters for Environment programs in Serbia, summer schools and tailored courses), sustainable development and other inter-sectoral issues (like implementation of FEE International Blue Flag and Green Key programs in Serbia, participation in Rio+20 process already mentioned above, sustainable production and consumption, rural development, ecosystem services, public participation in the decision making process).

