



Environment and Security Initiative – Transforming risks into cooperation in South Eastern Europe

**Seminar on Finnish Supported Environment and Forestry
Projects in the Western Balkans**

Pier Carlo Sandei
UNEP Vienna

with funding from

Austrian

Development Cooperation



**MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS OF FINLAND**



ENVSEC

To facilitate a framework for cooperation on environmental issues across borders and promote peace and stability through environmental cooperation and sustainable development



Partners



Environmental Expertise

Ministry of Environment



Conflict prevention
Political Support
Field Presences

Ministry of Foreign
Affairs



Development Expertise
Implementation
Country Offices

Development Agencies



Security/Science Expertise

Ministry of Defense



Partners



Secretariat for 5 UN
conventions relevant
to the region,
Environmental
Performance Reviews

Ministry of Environment



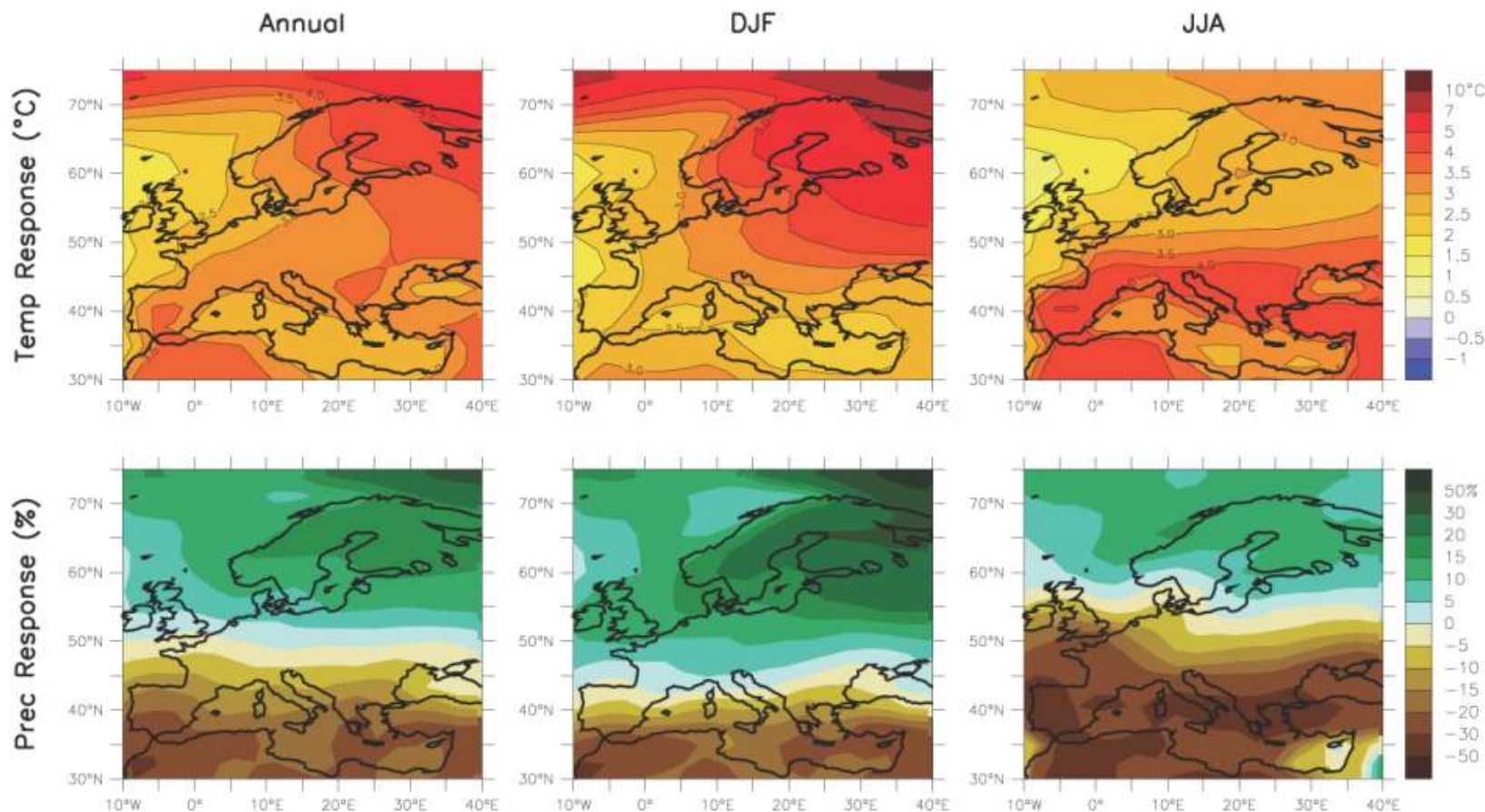
REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

National networks,
Country Offices

Ministry of Environment



Climate Change in Europe



Temperature and precipitation changes over Europe from the MMD-A1B simulations. Annual mean, DJF and JJA temperature and precipitation change between 1980 to 1999 and 2080 to 2099, averaged over 21 models

Source: IPCC 2007, AR4, WG1, p.875

Biodiversity loss and invasive species

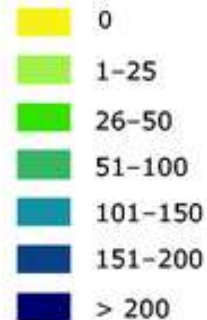


Projected changes in plant species in 2050, compared to reference year 2000

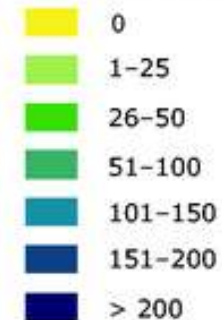
Number present (year 2000)



Number disappearing



Number appearing



North-western Europe (maritime climate)

- Increase in winter precipitation
- Increase in river flow
- Northward movement of freshwater species
- Higher risk of coastal flooding

Central and eastern Europe

- More temperature extremes
- Less summer precipitation
- More river floods in winter
- Higher water temperature
- Higher crop yield variability
- Increased forest fire danger
- Lower forest stability

Mountain areas

- High temperature increase
- Less glacier mass
- Less mountain permafrost
- Higher risk of rock falls
- Upwards shift of plants and animals
- Less ski tourism in winter
- Higher soil erosion risk
- High risk of species extinction

Mediterranean region

- Decrease in annual precipitation
- Decrease in annual river flow
- More forest fires
- Lower crop yields
- Increasing water stress
- Higher risk for desertification
- Less energy by hydropower
- More deaths by heat waves
- More vector-borne diseases
- Less summer tourism
- Higher risk of biodiversity loss

- North-western Europe
- Central and eastern Europe
- Mountain areas
- Mediterranean region

0 500 1000 1500 Km



BRIGHT SIDE

mountain biodiversity



DARK SIDE

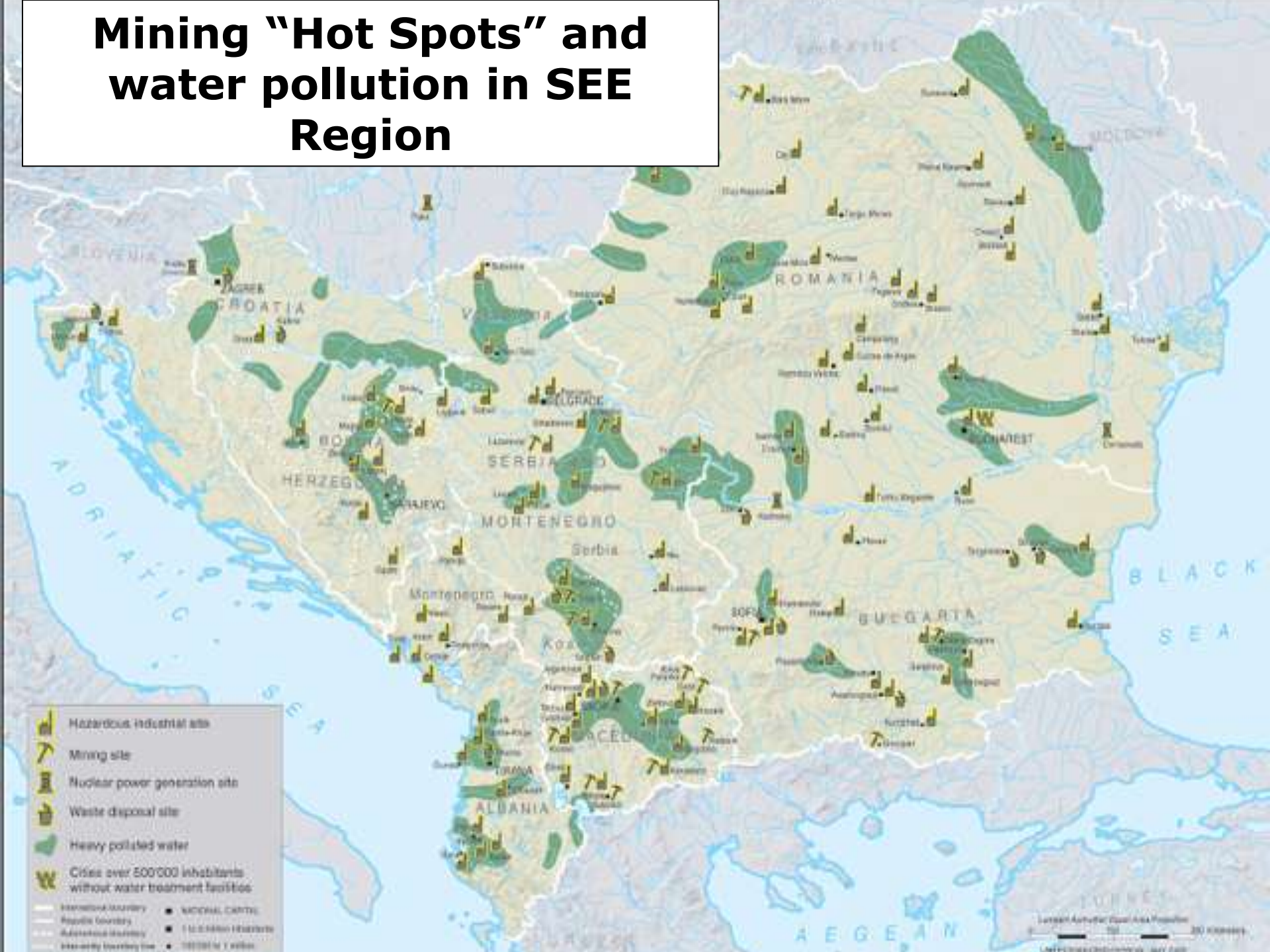
mining pollution



Priority 1: Management and reduction of trans boundary risks from hazardous activities



Mining "Hot Spots" and water pollution in SEE Region



Priority 2: Management of shared natural resources



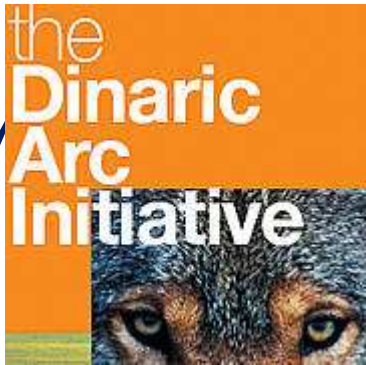
Transboundary mountain areas

- **Sharr/Sara Mountains and Korabi**
- **Bjeshket e Nemuna/Prokletije Mountains**
- **Sutjeska – Durmitor – Tara river valley** (Bosnia and Herzegovina/Montenegro)
- **Tara Planina – Drina** (Bosnia and Herzegovina/Serbia)

Dinaric Arc and Balkan Regional Cooperation Process



- Protection and sustainable development of South East European mountain regions
- Trans-boundary approach to foster sub-regional cooperation and reduce individual work load



Dinaric Arc Initiative

- preservation of Dinaric Arc's wealth and integrity through
 - establishment of networks of protected areas
 - Ecological corridors
 - conservation of its biological diversity
 - sustainable management of resources
- The promotion of intercultural dialogue, transboundary collaboration
- scientific cooperation among the countries of the region
- The integration of environmental policies across all relevant sectoral initiatives.



Cooperation on the protection and sustainable development of south east european mountain regions – dinaric arc and balkans



EURAC Research, Institute for Regional Development; Flavio Ruffini, Thomas Steinhilber, Swantje Süsselt, 2005
 Data: Mountain Areas in Europe, Nordregio for EC - DG Regio, 2004; Major Cities - ArcWorld Supplement © ESRI, 1999; National borders - DCW © ESRI, 1999; SRTM30 data are distributed by the Land Processes Distributed Active Archive Center (LP DAAC), located at the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Center for Earth Resources Observation and Science (EROS) <http://LPDAAC.usgs.gov>.

Belgrade Statement

- Art. 22. “We welcome the mountain partnerships within and between the Alps, the Carpathians, the South-Eastern European mountain region, the Caucasus and the mountain regions of Central Asia. We recognize the benefits from the existing legally binding instruments for the protection and sustainable development of the mountain regions like the Alpine and the Carpathian Convention, and **welcome the initiative of South-Eastern European and Caucasian countries** to develop such instruments. We encourage the Global Mountain Partnership to promote and foster exchanges of experience and expertise with other mountain regions in the world.”

Priority 3: Participatory and informed decision making and implementation processes

Objective

To strengthen national and local capacities for participatory and informed planning, decision-making, implementation and monitoring processes in relation to environment and security challenges and for environmental conflict prevention and resolution

With special focus to:

the Aarhus Convention and its PRTR Protocol
and
the Espoo Convention and its SEA Protocol



Priority 4: Climate change adaptation for reducing security risks in SEE

PURPOSE

→ To reduce environment and security risks related to climate change through enhanced knowledge base of climate change impacts and regionally consolidated approach for adaptation

OUTCOMES

- enhanced knowledge base of climate change impacts in the SEE regions
- strengthened inter- and transnational cooperation on the reduction of sensitivity, the alteration of the exposure and the increase of resilience of the region to the adverse effects of climate change

Proposed project for adaptation

OUTPUTS

- stakeholders consultation to ensure comprehensive information base on the climate change impacts the region faces and to detect vulnerabilities to climate change
- comprehensive report on climate change impacts, vulnerabilities to it and priority actions for climate change adaptation

ACTIVITIES

- stocktaking of all available information that address the impacts of climate change on the region
- assessment of climate change impacts mountain regions in SEE, considering all aspects in different sectors in a trans-boundary perspective (integrated, multi-sectoral methodology stemming from the Alpine and Carpathian Conventions), pointing out vulnerabilities and potential priority actions for adaptation

PIER CARLO SANDEI

piercarlo.sandei@unvienna.org

UNEP Vienna

www.envsec.org

www.unep.org www.unep.at

