



WORKING GROUP ENVIRONMENT

EU environment policy aims to promote sustainable development and protect the environment for present and future generations. It is based on preventive action, the polluter pays principle, fighting environmental damage at source, shared responsibility and the integration of environmental protection into other EU policies. The acquis comprises over 200 major legal acts covering horizontal legislation, water and air quality, waste management, nature protection, industrial pollution control and risk management, chemicals and genetically modified organisms (GMOs), noise and forestry. Compliance with the acquis requires significant investment. A strong and well-equipped administration at national and local level is imperative for the application and enforcement of the environment acquis.

- **Purpose:** the purpose of the WG Environment will be to come up with conclusions and recommendations how to best coordinate the donor's assistance in the sector of environment which is very challenging for all pre-accession countries.
- **Method:** Updated information on the existing donor coordination in the environment sector will be provided to the participants in the working group. In addition, the moderator will pose questions as base for discussion in the working group as well as a guidance for the panellists in preparing their contributions. The session will come up with draft conclusions, based on the answers which will be received during the discussions. Environment at local level and different standards applied by the donors in assisting in infrastructure and institution building will be discussed. How to harmonise the standards for impact assessment for infrastructural projects will be one of the questions? How to coordinate the choice of donors and allocate donors to different municipalities? How to involve the private sector to the donor coordination?