

Minister for
Environment and
Energy Svend Auken



The Baltic region puts the environment on the agenda

» A decade after the upheavals in Eastern and Central Europe, the former Communist countries surrounding the Baltic Sea are striving to get their economic growth going. This growth will play a decisive role in Eastern and Central Europeans' endeavours to reach our level of welfare. Unfortunately, the changes also leave their mark on the environment, making extraordinary efforts necessary if our Eastern European neighbours are to avoid a repetition of the Western countries' environmental errors.

In 1999, Danish energy consumption lay at the 1970 level of consumption – despite growth in the gross national product of more than 60 percent. This proves that it is not a law of nature that heightened growth equals heightened pollution. Rather, environmental considerations and sustainable natural management are in the long term a precondition for continued economic growth. High environmental standards are also a precondition for the EU membership

coveted by Poland and the Baltic states. Thus, it is crucial for environmental considerations to be integrated into all parts of society, and Danish sector-integrated environment activities aim at promoting this development. By targeting activities at sectors such as industry, fisheries, agriculture, transport, energy and tourism, we make sure that they are not solely the interest of environment ministries in Denmark and the Baltic region.

In the last 25 years, Denmark has solved a range of environmental problems. Consequently, our knowledge and expertise are in demand in many other countries facing similar environmental problems. This is not least true of countries such as Russia, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, and Poland which run significant environmental activities on their own. Denmark's assistance will enable them to take another step on the road towards sustainable development. That is our responsibility, too.



CONTENTS			
THE BALTIC REGION PUTS THE ENVIRONMENT ON THE AGENDA	2	CLEANER ENERGY IN THE BALTIC REGION	10
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE ACROSS MINISTERIAL BORDERS	3	ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OPENS UP NEW MARKETS	12
GREEN ACTIVITIES STRENGTHEN HEALTH AND SAFETY	4	COOPERATION ON SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES	14
SAFER NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS IN EASTERN AND CENTRAL EUROPE	6	GROWING TRANSPORT NEEDS SPELL ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS	16
FOCUS ON ENERGY CONSUMPTION IN THE BALTIC HOUSING SECTOR	8	DIVISION OF RESOURCES	18

Published by the Danish Environmental Protection Agency, 1999.
Number printed: 10,000. Printed on 100% recycled paper
Printed by: N. Olaf Møller, Denmark
Graphic design: Advice A/S
ISBN 87-7909-538-0



Environmental assistance across ministerial borders



Since 1991, Denmark has granted DKK 3.3 billion for environmental assistance to Eastern and Central Europe. This figure represents the biggest effort made by any country in the region – as measured in both

absolute figures and in proportion to inhabitants. DKK 2.6 billion were channelled through the environmental assistance programme Dancee under the auspices of the Ministry of Environment and Energy. The remaining aid was distributed by the various sectors in connection with the sector-integrated environment activities which this folder portrays.

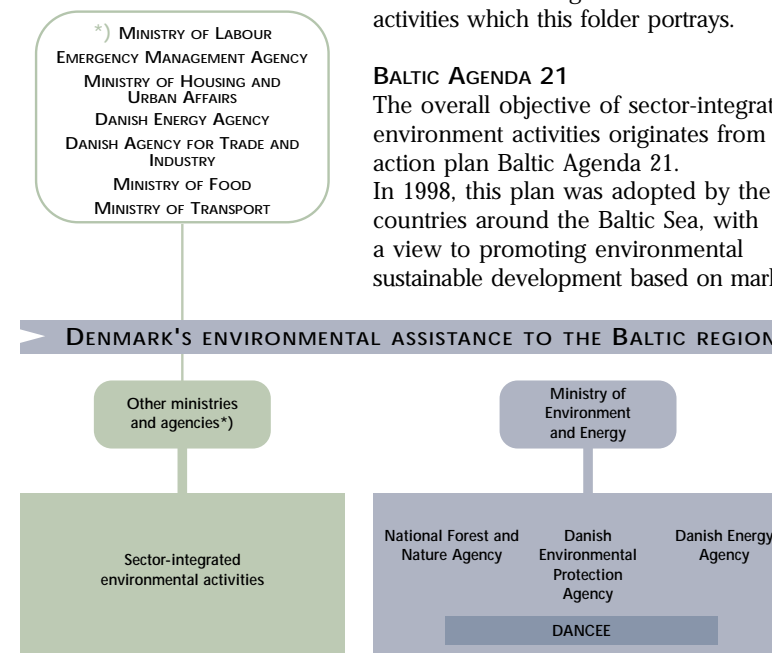
BALTIC AGENDA 21

The overall objective of sector-integrated environment activities originates from the action plan Baltic Agenda 21. In 1998, this plan was adopted by the countries around the Baltic Sea, with a view to promoting environmental sustainable development based on market-

economy principles in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and the Russian regions St. Petersburg and Kaliningrad. This regional action plan for the Baltic region is rooted in the global Agenda 21 adopted by UN member states in 1992 on a par with the Rio Declaration.

EXTENSIVE PARTNERSHIP

The activities are scheduled as partnerships between a range of Danish ministries (refer to table below) and their colleagues in recipient countries – assisted by environmental authorities. In itself, this type of cooperation may contribute to local competence development through transfer of knowledge from Danish ministries holding experience from integration of environmental considerations in their sectors. The Danish Environmental Protection Agency coordinates all activities and approves environmental components jointly with the Advisory Committee to the Danish Environmental Support Fund. The committee consists of representatives of business associations, professional associations, environment and nature associations as well as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Environment and Energy. The formal framework of the projects is general agreements between the ministers. In the context of such agreements, cooperation programmes are set up with precise indications of strategic objectives and prioritising of new and ongoing projects.



The sector-integrated environment programme of the Ministry of Labour is aimed at strengthening health and safety in recipient countries while also integrating environmental matters in traditional labour market policy tools.

Green activities strengthen health and safety



As envisioned by the Baltic Agenda 21, health and safety also falls within the scope of Danish sector-integrated environment activities in the Baltic region. The Ministry of Labour has launched a range of projects partly aimed at improving health and safety and partly at integrating environmental matters in traditional labour market policy tools such as employment and training programmes for unemployed.

Several resources have been spent on improving relations between labour market and environmental authorities and enhancing environmental aspects of employment and labour market policy activities. In addition, resources have been spent on improving training and education activities in the field of the environment in vocational adult education and joint education of inspectors in the field of the environment and health and safety.

NETWORK OF EXPERTS

The programme draws on a comprehensive network of Danish labour market experts from institutions and agencies under the Ministry of Labour. Cooperation also focuses on private consultancy firms in areas where the Ministry's expertise is insufficient. The programme coordinates the following cross-sectoral environment programmes:

- Coordinating activities on external and internal environments in Poland, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia (1998-2000)
- Projects combining the environment, employment and adult vocational training in Poland, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia (1999-2001)

- Coordination and integration of external environment, health and safety and vocational training in St. Petersburg and Kaliningrad as well as follow-up activities in Poland, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia (2000-2002).

PILOT PROJECTS DEMONSTRATE THE ENVIRONMENTAL BIAS

Programme resources are insufficient to finance entire employment programmes in recipient countries. Through pilot projects, the Ministry has consequently been challenged to demonstrate how the environmental bias can be increased in activities already launched – both in the field of employment and job-creation and in labour market and vocational training.

Additional information

Information on the Ministry of Labour sector programme is available from:

Ministry of Labour
SISA
Holmens Kanal 20
DK-1060 Copenhagen K
Tel.: +45 33 92 59 00
www.am.dk and www.sisa.dk

Health and safety are focal points when the Ministry of Labour implements environmental projects in Eastern and Central Europe.



Labour market policies grow greener in Lithuania

The environmental aspect must be strengthened in Lithuanian labour market courses and Lithuanian employment policy. This is the objective of a two-year project realised by the Danish Ministry of Labour together with the Lithuanian Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. The project was launched in 1999.

INCREASED AWARENESS ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT

Overall awareness of environmental matters in the Lithuanian Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs is to be improved through a range of different initiatives. In the field of employment policy, the project will primarily promote environmental considerations in evaluation and implementation of actual employment projects. In addition, a "best practice catalogue" will be set up containing employment projects which have integrated environmental aspects.

UPGRADING TEACHERS

In labour market courses, teaching qualifications will be updated for those in charge of training middle managers in environmental awareness and management. The upgrading will be performed in cooperation with a Lithuanian labour market training centre and Kaunas Technological University. Labour market courses in the food and building sectors will also undergo revision with a view to improving environmental, health and safety aspects.

WIDE REPRESENTATION IN CONSORTIUM

The project is realised by a consortium holding selected units from the Danish labour market education system, the Employment Service and a private consultancy firm. The consultancy firm is primarily in charge of process and quality management while also performing defined assignments relating mainly to environment.



PARTNERS

THE CLOSE COOPERATION COMPRISES RECIPIENT COUNTRIES' MINISTRIES OF LABOUR, LABOUR MARKET AUTHORITIES, EMPLOYMENT SERVICES, ADULT VOCATIONAL TRAINING SYSTEMS, NATIONAL WORKING ENVIRONMENT AUTHORITIES AND THE MINISTRIES OF THE ENVIRONMENT. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN THE RECIPIENT COUNTRIES ARE ALSO PARTNERS.

The objective of the Ministry of the Interior nuclear sector-integrated environment programme is to improve nuclear emergency management in the Baltic region and bolster security of the region's nuclear power plants and test reactors. In addition, the programme grants aid for monitoring the radiances environment and cleaning already polluted areas.

Safer nuclear power plants in Eastern and Central Europe

The Baltic region energy supply depends heavily on a string of nuclear power plants in the former East-Bloc countries. Through its Ministry of the Interior's nuclear sector programme, Denmark has therefore provided assistance to preventive activities aimed at improving safety at nuclear power plants and limiting the impact of radioactive leakages. Administered by the Emergency Management Agency, the programme also provided assistance for cleaning already polluted areas.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

The international cooperation on nuclear matters is broad and well-functioning. The cooperation is reflected in the regular consultations between Scandinavian countries on the planning of bilateral assistance to Eastern and Central Europe. In addition, the Danish programme is coordinated with the EBRD's nuclear fund in relation to improving safety in nuclear power plants of the region, whereas nuclear emergency management is coordinated with the EU and the IAEA in the Baltic States and Poland.

The work to improve the region's nuclear power plants has been divided between the Scandinavian countries: Sweden concentrates mainly on the Ignalina nuclear power plant in Lithuania; Denmark and Finland cooperate on the Sosnovy Bor at St. Petersburg, while Norway and Finland work jointly on the Kola nuclear power plant and the Murmansk region. This is the reason why the activities of the Emergency Management Agency on improved safety of nuclear power plants have been targeted more at Russia than at Ignalina in Lithuania, even though of much more interest to Denmark in view of its

location. In contrast, our emergency management activities zero in on the Baltic States and Poland.

PARALLEL ACTIVITIES

The Emergency Management Agency tries to ensure that environmental and emergency management projects relevant to all countries are realised simultaneously throughout the region. This procedure achieves both internal coordination in the countries and regional cooperation across national borders, which is essential to effective control of transboundary pollution.



Additional information

Information on the Emergency Management Agency's sector-integrated environment activities is available from:

Emergency Management Agency
Nuclear Department
Datavej 16
DK-3460 Birkerød
Tel.: +45 45 82 54 00
www.beredskabsstyrelsen.dk

Denmark grants assistance to preventive activities targeted at improving safety in the Eastern and Central European nuclear power plants.



New measuring stations improve nuclear emergency management

One of the Agency's significant projects is the establishment of a number of advanced measuring stations in the Baltic States, Poland and Russia. The measuring stations are able to detect radioactive pollution at a very low level and also determine the radioactive substance which caused the pollution. They make it possible to distinguish radioactive pollution from the frequent and often significant variations in the natural background radiation. The natural variations in radiation may easily surpass the increase in the radiation level which Denmark experienced during the Chernobyl disaster.

AUTOMATIC COMPILATION OF DATA

The measuring stations fall under the authorities of each country. Their data are automatically collected once every hour, or if the station discovers a marked change in the radiation level. When set levels are exceeded, the duty officers receive a warning. The warning may automatically be transferred to the duty officer's pager or mobile phone.

MEASURING VEHICLES

In addition to the measuring stations, Denmark has supplied a measuring vehicle to each of the Baltic States, Poland and Russia. The vehicles contain measuring equipment similar to the stationary measuring stations, supplemented with a BPS unit to determine the vehicle's position for automatic plotting on a map. For this purpose, the Danish-developed

decision-making support system ARGOS NT is applied, which has also been supplied to the countries. In addition to processing measuring data, ARGOS NT can also calculate forecasts for the spread of the radioactivity from a radioactive leakage.

The Emergency Management Agency has initiated the daily exchange of different measuring data between the Baltic region countries. The exchange boosts the nuclear emergency management in all countries around the Baltic Sea – not least in Denmark.



PARTNERS

THE EU, THE IAEA, THE ELSAMPROJEKT, BRÜEL&KJÆR, TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF DENMARK, RISØ NATIONAL LABORATORY, PROLOG DEVELOPMENT CENTER, GREENWOOD ENGINEERING, DANISH METEOROLOGICAL INSTITUTE.

The sector-integrated environment activities of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs aim at creating sustainable environment development in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Energy consumption in the housing sector is the focal point.

Focus on energy consumption in the Baltic housing sector

Energy consumption in housing and institutions represents an environmental problem which has only in recent years entered the agendas of the Baltic States. Consequently, resources have been allocated in the sector-integrated environment activities to promote environmental-friendly energy policies and strengthen consultancy at end-user levels.

TWO PROGRAMME COMPONENTS

The programme aims at increasing the energy efficiency of the housing sector and thereby diminish the CO₂ emissions. This is ensured through consultancy and knowledge transfer from Denmark when the countries prepare relevant, new legislation and administrative regulations for the area. As an example, a Danish civil servant has been stationed in Latvia's Ministry of the Environment. Here, he is to assist in developing an overall strategy for implementing energy improvements in dwellings. In another project, Danes and Latvians jointly translate EU standards for insulation and adapt them to Latvian conditions.

To promote energy-efficiency, the programme also provides assistance to projects at the end-user level. As an example, assistance has been provided to a project in an Estonian municipality which has implemented energy management in all public buildings. The municipalities heating managers have learned that simple routines such as lowering temperatures by night save a good deal of money. The savings are subsequently transferred to individual buildings' maintenance accounts. Another Estonian project provides assistance to a nationwide energy-consultancy service advising Estonians on possible energy improvements in their dwellings.



Additional information

Information on the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs' sector-integrated environment assistance is available from:

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
International Relations Division
Slotsholmsgade 1
DK-1216 Copenhagen K
Tel.: +45 33 92 61 00
Fax: +45 33 92 61 04
www.bm.dk

In Lithuania, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has assisted five consultancy centres providing information on energy-efficient renovation.



Free consultancy promotes energy-efficient renovations

In Lithuania, the Danish Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs enjoys close cooperation with the World Bank. The World Bank has made available a soft loan to Lithuania with the objective of improving tenants' opportunities of obtaining loans for energy-efficient renovations. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has granted aid to set up consultancy centres in the five big towns: Vilnius, Kaunas, Klaipeda, Alytus and Panevezys. The centres provide housing associations with free information on energy-efficient renovation and the possibility of obtaining loans for that purpose.

JOINT CONSULTANCY

The centres offer technological, legal and financial expertise, thus providing information and advice on all aspects of loaning and energy improvement to the users. In addition, the centres conduct comprehensive outreaching information activities, realise campaigns and prepare inserts on energy-efficient renovation to the local newspapers.

EVALUATION IN YEAR 2000

As of year 2000, the responsibility for the centres will transfer to the Lithuanian Ministry of the Environment, which will in the course of a 3-year transition period also assume the financial responsibility. The World Bank and the Lithuanian government will evaluate the project during the summer of 2000, with a view to deciding whether to continue the soft loan. With Denmark's support, the Lithuanian government will in advance prepare a strategy for the future activities of energy-improvements in dwellings.



The objective of energy-related sector-integrated environment assistance is to promote environmental and economic sustainable development in energy sectors while also supporting economic growth in the recipient countries.

Cleaner energy in the Baltic region

The former Communist countries in the Baltic region are faced with a range of energy-related environmental problems. The countries share a significant need to utilise energy sources in a more rational way to reduce environmental loads. And this aim can only be achieved if they succeed in lowering the negative impact of an energy consumption essentially based on fossil (and nuclear) fuel. This is why funds are being spent on developing and demonstrating alternatives to polluting fuels and unsafe nuclear power plants.

FOUR TARGET AREAS

Four target areas are given high priority in the Danish Energy Agency sector programme. First the Danish Energy Agency targets many activities at providing environmentally friendly and financially viable alternatives to existing energy production – not least the unsafe nuclear power plants. Secondly, efforts are made to rationalize energy supplies through, for instance, rehabilitation of heating supplies, increased combined heat and power production and renovation of supply systems. Thirdly, it is directing efforts at end-user energy-savings by utilising energy-saving technology and changing user behaviour through energy management, demonstration projects and information. Finally, it is also focusing on strengthening institutional development in the field of energy through education and training.

The Agency's activities consist of capacity-building projects supplying consultancy and training to various players in the energy sectors. Due to the programme's limited resources and the scale of the

problems, equipment projects are only realised to a small degree. In this case assistance is primarily targeted at establishing demonstration plants to illustrate the effectiveness and financial advantages of certain technologies.



Additional information

Information on the energy-related part of Danish sector-integrated environment assistance is available from:

Danish Energy Agency
Bilateral Cooperation
Amaliegade 44
DK-1256 Copenhagen K
Tel.: +45 33 92 67 00
Fax: +45 33 92 68 11
E-mail: ens@ens.dk
www.ens.dk

More rational utilisation of energy sources is to lower environmental loads in Eastern and Central Europe.



Environmental-friendly district heating reduces sulphur and CO₂ emissions markedly

For many years, sulphurous shale oil was the chief energy source in the district heating plant of Estonian coastal city Pärnu. Compared with other energy sources, the oil was heavily polluting, but also very cheap in the Soviet era. However, oil prices rose after the breakup of the Soviet Union, and the plant became in urgent need of modernising.

DANISH CONSULTANCY

Consequently, the Pärnu plant has in recent years upgraded and pollution-controlled its district heating system. The project was realised with Danish consultancy for DKK 6m from the Danish Energy Agency sector-integrated environment programme and through loans in the European Investment Bank. Danish consultancy consisted of providing assistance to achieve international loan financing through, for instance, setting up a plan to renovate the district heating system. In addition, the Danish Energy Agency assisted in the renovation and, finally, supported the implementation of an information campaign. The renovation comprised the installation of two biomass furnaces (for peat or shavings), pumps, water-treatment equipment, 4.5 km of district heating piping and upgrading of a large number of heat exchanger stations.

REDUCTION OF SULPHUR AND CO₂

A tangible outcome of the project is a reduction in consumption of sulphurous shale oil from 14,000 to 8,000 tonnes in

three years, whereas 26,000 tonnes of bio mass are now consumed annually, primarily locally produced peat. Environmentally, shavings would be better, but is still too expensive. Additionally, the project means that the sulphur pollution has dropped by 12 percent, whereas the CO₂ emissions are down by 10 percent. Consumption of shavings will reduce emissions even further.



Renovation of the Pärnu district heating plant reduced CO₂ emissions by 10 percent.

PARTNERS

CENTRAL ENERGY AUTHORITIES OF THE RECIPIENT COUNTRIES ARE THE MOST SIGNIFICANT PARTNERS. THEY WILL ENSURE THAT ASSISTANCE IS TARGETED AT THE MOST CRITICAL NEEDS WHILE ALSO ASSURING LONG-TERM AND STRATEGIC ACTIVITIES.

The business-related part of sector-integrated environment assistance aims at participating in preventing and remedying environmental loads occurring within the business community. Consequently, the sector programme of the Danish Agency for Trade and Industry focuses systematically on implementing environmental management in Eastern European companies.

Environmental management opens up new markets



Integration of environmental aspects in Eastern and Central European companies will increasingly become a precondition for access to markets outside national borders – not least in the EU. For that very reason, the Agency sector-integrated environment programme launched a range of company-related demonstration projects with focus on environment management and implementation of ISO 14001 and EMAS. This is an area where Danish authorities and companies have advanced far compared to authorities and companies in Russia, Poland and the Baltic States. Weight is attached to the demonstrative effect of projects, as they are to help in promoting the utilisation of cleaner technology in selected sectors of the Baltic region.

IMPROVED COMPETITIVENESS AND OPPORTUNITIES OF EXPANSION

Thus, the sector programme of the Danish Agency for Trade and Industry contributes to a more sustainable resource application by developing the Central and Eastern European companies to become better at documenting environmental conditions and thus become more interesting partners and sub-suppliers to Danish and other European companies.

Through the demonstration projects, the companies also perceive the savings inherent in improved management of energy and raw-material consumption with entailing lower costs to e.g. waste disposal. Thus, the activities are to contribute to improving companies' competitiveness and opportunities of expansion in the long run.

Additional information

Information on the business-related part of sector-integrated environment assistance is available from:

Danish Agency for Trade and Industry
 Langelinie Allé 17
 DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø
 Tel.: +45 35 46 60 00
 www.efs.dk

Through the demonstration projects, the companies also perceive the savings inherent in improved management of energy and raw-material consumption.



Environment management equals improved conditions for competition

The Danish Agency for Trade and Industry has launched demonstration projects in the electronics industry, food industry, pharmaceutical industry, wood industry, metal industry and printing industry. One of the projects targets the Estonian food industry. Its main objective is to introduce principles of environment management, but also to transfer knowledge and experience to Estonian consultants. The project is realised in cooperation with Carl Bro A/S, Det Norske Veritas and Stockholm Environmental Institute – Tallinn Centre and has mobilised a number of companies in the Estonian food sector.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT IN FOCUS
 Conferences and other dissemination activities (for instance quarterly newsletters) have put the focus on principles of environmental management and its advantages to Estonian industry. The project grants aid such as consultancy and training to a selected group of companies representing various branches of the food industry. Efforts have been the actual setup and implementation of environment management.

Eight companies participated in the intensive process. Their environmental conditions and problems were identified, and environment objectives and action plans were established. The work was performed by the companies themselves, but with the support and assistance of local and Danish consultants.

NEW BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

In the future phases, company-specific activities will be narrowed down to cover only two companies. In contrast, they will receive fairly extensive assistance in implementing their own environment management system and training internal auditors. Dissemination of the projects will be strengthened to ensure that the companies' project experience can be disseminated to the entire sector – and, hopefully, to even wider circles of Estonian society. The participating companies give the project very positive evaluations, and – as a result of their participation in the partnership – the local consultants perceive new, major commercial opportunities.



Sector-integrated environment assistance for foods aims at promoting sustainable agriculture and fisheries in the Baltic area. The programme supports the ongoing reform and democratisation process of recipient countries while also adapting the countries' current legislation in the Baltic States and Poland to EU regulations.

Cooperation on sustainable agriculture and fisheries

Sustainable agriculture and fisheries are focal points when the Ministry of Food provides environmental assistance to former Communist countries in the Baltic region. In cooperation with the countries' central agricultural authorities, a range of projects have been realised in recent years, which are aimed at ensuring better utilisation of animal manure and limiting agricultural use of fertiliser and pesticides (plant protection products).

mentally friendly substance is used in the smallest possible dosages in a given situation.

FUTURE CHALLENGES

The future poses a range of challenges to the food sector. The Ministry may provide assistance to projects minimising the application of pesticides, ensuring improved utilisation of animal manure and supporting the expansion of financially and environmentally sustainable farming. In terms of fisheries, the Ministry may assist projects promoting sustainable fisheries and ensuring improvements in the fisheries industry.

ACTIVITIES LEAVE THEIR MARKS

In the efforts to curb the use of fertiliser, assistance has been granted to a range of projects aimed at ensuring correct storage and use of animal manure. In addition, assistance has been given for setting up of fertiliser schedules, adaptation of crop rotation schemes and seasonally correct application of animal manure.

As to curbing the use of plant protection products, the primary need was to bolster farmers' knowledge on correct use of the substances, e.g. through a new certification system for professional spraying training. Simultaneously, a well-functioning control system was set up to enable testing of individual substances. Such activities also comprise the authorisation of new plant protection products and a strengthening of the laboratories in charge of control of any pesticide remains in foods and fodder. Several projects also focused on the implementation of the PC plant protection system, a computer-based warning system aimed at ensuring that the most environ-



Pesticide stocks in Lithuania

Additional information

Information on the Ministry of Food's sector programme is available from:

Danish Directorate for Development
East Assistance Office
Toldbodgade 31
DK-1253 Copenhagen K
Tel.: +45 33 63 73 00
www.strukdir.dk

The Directorate for Development and the EU Directorate will be merged on 1 April 2000. The new address of the Directorate will subsequently be available from the Ministry of Food, tel. + 45 33 92 33 01 or on www.fvm.dk.

Improved control underpins food quality in the Baltic region.



Improved food control in Poland and the Baltic States

Efficient food control cannot be taken for granted – neither in Eastern and Central Europe. Consequently, in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland the Ministry of Food has provided assistance to projects to ensure that – at a range of laboratories – chemists are able to perform analyses for residue concentrations of, e.g., pesticides in water, soil and foods. The project was realised by the Danish Institute of Agricultural Sciences at Flakkebjerg and also comprised modernisation and installation of analysis equipment.

Danish assistance amounted to DKK 12.6m, of which DKK 5.8m went to purchase state-of-the-art equipment in the recipient countries, which granted a total of DKK 5.7m to co-finance the projects. Two laboratories in Estonia have already won DANAK accreditation. This means that they fulfil all official EU requirements to laboratories performing analyses for residue concentration. The laboratories in the other countries are expected to receive DANAK accreditation in the course of 2000/2001.

EU APPROXIMATION

The Danish-supported projects were launched in early 1998. Until then, the Baltic and Polish analyses for pesticide residue were performed by a range of laboratories often lacking the necessary equipment and using obsolete analysis methods. Thus, one of the project objectives was to raise the quality of analyses to meet the EU standard and the quality level of the other Northern European countries. Consequently, the EU approximation was an essential element of the activities.



Training and new equipment strengthen the laboratories in charge of controlling any pesticide remains in foods and fodder.

ASSISTANCE FOR COURSES AND EQUIPMENT

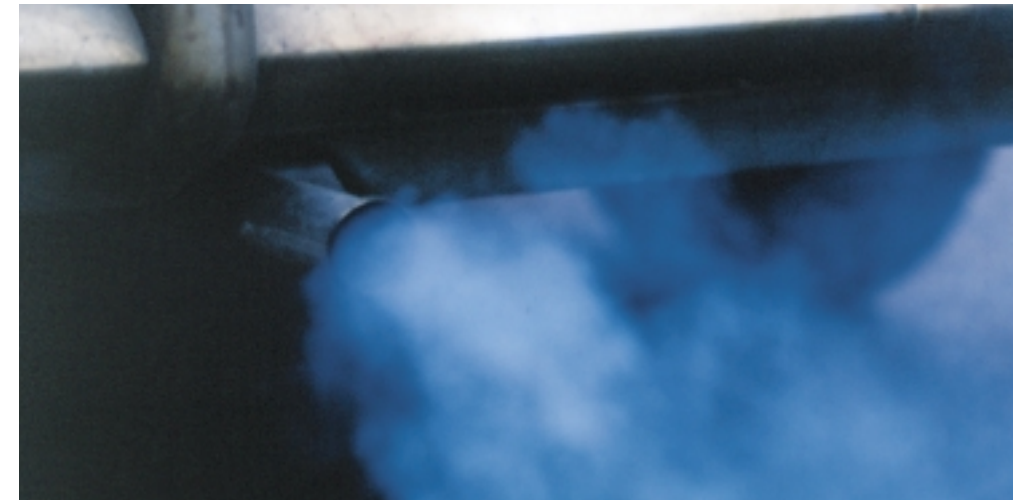
Financial and professional support were granted to training Baltic and Polish chemists in charge of analyses in the four countries. The training was scheduled at national, accredited laboratories in Norway, Germany, Sweden and Denmark, where the chemists acquired valuable understanding of analysis work, modern analysis equipment and methods. Total

PARTNERS

MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE IN ESTONIA, LATVIA, LITHUANIA, POLAND AND RUSSIA AS WELL AS LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN KALININGRAD AND ST. PETERSBURG.

Sector-integrated environment assistance in the transport field is targeted at supporting water and railroad transport by smoothing and rationalising procedures and document processing. In addition, the programme will be evaluating environmental impacts of the various modes of transport.

Increased transport needs give rise to a range of environmental problems from noise pollution to higher CO₂ emissions.



Growing transport needs spell environmental problems



Political changes and the market-oriented trend seen through the 1990s have magnified transport needs in the Baltic States, causing a number of environmental problems ranging from noise pollution to increased CO₂ emissions. Consequently, the Ministry of Transport has launched actual environmental projects aimed at contributing to sustainable development in the transport field in the Baltic States and north-western Russia.

TARGET AREAS

1999 saw the launch of two projects. One provide assistance to developing equipment able to measure external costs, i.e. the environmental load, of transport in Estonia and Russia (St. Petersburg). The other project provides assistance to developing procedures to assess impacts on the environment (EIA) in relation to transport projects in Latvia and Lithuania. DKK 8m has been earmarked for the two projects scheduled to run to the end of 2001. In addition, the Ministry plans to realise a project identification programme in year 2000. Based on thorough studies of recipient countries' needs, the Ministry of Transport will in the first half of 2000 set up a multi-annual programme with a range of actual project proposals. The proposals will be tendered in the autumn for launching in the year 2001, when the transport area is expected to apply for a considerably bigger chunk of the total resources available.

OBVIOUS PROJECT AREAS

Future projects will be selected on the basis of recipient countries' own prioritising, in close cooperation with the Danish expertise in the fields of transport

and the environment. Thus, activities may be targeted at many different problem complexities.

One possibility is to channel assistance for developing projects through the EU's ISPA programme. Not least the Baltic States will need to conduct a range of analyses before the EU grants aid to actual infrastructure and environmental projects. This field will offer ample opportunities for drawing on Danish expertise.

Other evident areas of activity are the development of public transport and multi-modal transport – i.e. transport involving several transport modes, e.g. marine and railroad.

Additional information

Information on the transport-related part of sector-integrated environment assistance is available from:

Ministry of Transport
International Division
Frederiksholms Kanal 27
DK-1220 Copenhagen K
Tel.: + 45 33 92 33 55
Fax: + 45 33 13 77 77
www.trm.dk

New paths out of negative environmental spiral

In the Eastern European countries around the Baltic Sea road haulage has in recent years grown constantly at the expense of the more environmental-friendly freight transport by rail or water. Changes between various modes of transport in the former East Bloc countries often require all-new transport documentation, which slows down changes. This causes delays as soon as changes are performed between modes of transport. To this should be added contrasting duty regulations in the Baltic States and Russia, giving rise to additional delays to freight transport between the various countries.

MORE EQUIPMENT INCREASES ENVIRONMENTAL LOAD

Such problems heighten the environmental load in the region. Where transport equipment is not utilised ideally, it becomes necessary to use more equipment to transport the same freight volumes. But more equipment just puts a

heavier load on the transport system, resulting in even more delays along the route at border crossings and changes to other modes of transport. This development creates a negative environmental spiral, which has only worsened in the Baltic region in the course of the 1990s.

DANISH ACTIVITIES

Denmark has provided sector-integrated environment assistance to three projects aimed at turning the negative development in the transport area. Two of the projects were to smoothen customs processing in Estonia and Russia (St. Petersburg), while a third project in Estonia is to promote multi-modal transport via, e.g., ships and railroads. The objectives of the projects were to optimise the utilisation of transport equipment without investing in new infrastructure. Concluded by the end of 1999, the three projects comprised, e.g., training local authorities and companies to enable them to follow up their experience from the projects.



Division of resources

Since 1998, about DKK 450 have been appropriated for sector-integrated environment assistance. Some projects were launched as a result of applications, others via invitations. Procedures may vary significantly from sector programme to sector programme. Consequently, for further information reference should be made to individual programmes.

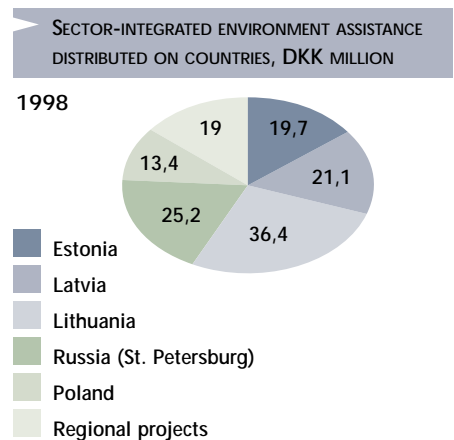
LOCAL OWNERSHIP AND CO-FINANCING

A common characteristic of the projects is that they must reflect the needs and prioritising of the recipient countries. Thus, both tenders and applications require the relevant authorities of the recipient country to accept the project in question. Cooperation with the recipient countries must also ensure the creation of local ownership and commitment, so that the project may continue to operate, once Danish aid ceases. Additionally, activities must be founded on Danish expertise and technology. Aid to equipment projects is primarily granted to establish demonstration plants meant to illustrate the efficiency and financial advantages of certain technologies. Recipients are required to finance a part of the project themselves, but co-financing may fluctuate substantially from country to country and project to project.

FINANCIAL DISTRIBUTION

The distribution of sector-integrated environment assistance appears from the table below. As the table shows, the energy area accounts for a considerable part – more than 36 percent – of the total sector assistance in the period 1998-2000. In contrast, the pie chart shows that division of the resources between the recipient countries has been fairly equal.

However, the distribution on countries and sectors may change in the coming years, depending on the scope of suitable projects or changed political prioritising.



SECTOR ASSISTANCE DISTRIBUTED ON MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES 1998-2000

Ministry/Agency	1998	1999	2000 *	Total
Ministry of Labour	9	10	15	34
Emergency Management Agency	14	15	18	47
Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs	8	12	8	28
Danish Energy Agency	62	28	73	164
Danish Agency for Trade and Industry	10	15	24	49
Ministry of Food	25	33	35	96
Ministry of Transport	13	15	3	31
Total	141	128	176	449

*Provided the Finance Bill 2000 is adopted.