



## **Report from the Subgroup on Cleaner Production and Environmentally Sound Consumption (2010 – 2011)**

The Cleaner Production and Environmentally Sound Consumption (CPESC) Subgroup of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council's (BEAC) Working Group on Environment (WGE) is an arena for cooperation on the concepts of cleaner production and environmentally-sound consumption in the Barents region. The work of the subgroup is based on the principles and methods outlined in the strategy document "Cleaner Production and Environmentally Sound Consumption as an element of a life cycle perspective" and the CPESC subgroup's Work Programme 2010-2011 developed and adopted by the subgroup and acknowledged by the BEAC WGE for the period of the Swedish chairmanship of the BEAC WGE.

### **MANDATE**

The Subgroup on Cleaner Production and Environmentally Sound Consumption was given the mandate to work on projects on environmental hot spots, best available techniques (BAT), projects on reduction of anthropogenic greenhouse gases emissions, projects on cleaner production, energy efficiency and sustainable consumption, and projects on prevention and reduction of the pollution of the environment by dangerous and harmful substances.

### **OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES UNDER THE SWEDISH CHAIRMANSHIP**

The Goal under the Swedish Presidency was to promote cleaner production and environmentally-sound consumption through multilateral projects and strengthen co-operation and coordination with other BEAC WGE subgroups and with the Arctic Council working group ACAP (Arctic Contaminants Action Program), ACAP WG on Hot Spots, the BEAC joint Working Group on Energy and the Barents Regional Working Group on Environment, with the aim of reducing the environmental and social impact from the way products are produced, consumed and handled as waste in the Barents Euro-Arctic Region.

The goal was also to respond to the call from the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg which called for a global 10 year Framework on Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) and national and regional action by promoting SCP at national and regional level.

The main activities and priority projects within the CPESC Subgroup for the Swedish Chairmanship 2010-2011 are described below.

- Strengthening the interlinkages between the work on cleaner production and energy efficiency, finding synergies with the joint Working Group on Energy in light of the Ministerial Meeting on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy to be held in 2010, as well as the opportunity to develop projects under the Barents Window funding facility;
- Contributing to the hot spots elimination through the work of the subgroup and in cooperation with the temporary Subgroup on Hot spot elimination and with ACAP WG;
- Following-up the Marrakech Task Force Seminars on Building and Construction, Sustainable Lifestyles and Green Public Procurement in order to promote engagement in the Marrakech Process, and the development of a global 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production;
- Further developing training on cleaner production and environmentally sound consumption for engineers in industry as well as for authorities and agencies, and developing seminars on efficient tools and instruments for SCP
- Seeking opportunities for strengthening education, training and awareness rising on cleaner production and not at least sustainable consumption, involving universities and other educational institutions in the Barents region.
- Mainstreaming of Cleaner Production and Sustainable Consumption aspects through cooperation between different actors and levels.

### **ACHIEVEMENTS**

The CPESC subgroup has implemented projects with the aim to contribute to the reduction of environmental impacts from the way products are produced and consumed, and to contribute to the work on the exclusion of the Barents environmental Hot Spots. The work has been focused on best available technology (BAT) through case studies in the mining industry and dissemination of knowledge on SCP tools. A report presenting existing facilities for treatment and destruction of hazardous waste is under preparation. The group has contributed to sustainable consumption through a number of seminars disseminating information on best practices, methodology and guidelines under different themes (see elaboration below). Multilateral cooperation has been prioritized as well as cooperation and/or information exchange with other Barents groups like the Subgroup on Exclusion of Hot Spots , the Regional Working Group on Environment and the Arctic Council working group ACAP (Arctic Contaminants Action Program).

### ***Projects***

The group has initiated and implemented a number of bilateral and multilateral projects during the Swedish Presidency in order to meet the priorities identified for the group and according to the CPESC subgroup Work Programme for 2010-2011. The following list shows the current projects under the CPESC subgroup.

Accomplished projects:

1. Seminar on instruments and voluntary tools with a focus on Eco-labelling and Green Public Purchasing. St Petersburg 29 March 2011,
2. Seminar on Sustainable Lifestyles, St Petersburg 11 November 2010 (Swedish Task Force), as follow up of the previous Marrakech Task Force seminars.
3. Seminar on Green Public Purchasing (Swiss Task Force) St Petersburg 28 March 2011 as follow up of the previous Marrakech Task Force seminar.
4. Seminar on Sustainable Tourism (French Task Force and UNEP) in cooperation with the Regional Working Group. 6 October St Petersburg.
5. Contribution to the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on SCP by providing information on regional initiatives/activities under the BEAC WGE and RWGE to UN-organizations.

Ongoing projects:

6. Project on Best Available Techniques and Permit Granting – based on a permit procedure case study in Pajala, Sweden. Lead Country is Sweden.
7. Preparation of an overview of existing facilities for environmentally sound treatment and destruction of hazardous waste in the Barents and Baltic Sea countries. Lead country is Norway.
8. Project on education on cleaner production and environmentally sound consumption in the Barents region. The purpose is to promote implementation of cleaner production and environmentally sound consumption in the curricula of universities within the Russian part of the Barents region. The project will build on previous projects, run by Finland and on an ongoing project run by the Swedish EPA together with the Russian State University.
9. Case studies and good examples of cleaner production and Environmentally Sound Consumption approaches from the Barents Countries put together in a report by Norway.

Project under preparation

10. Additional contribution to Hot Spot exclusion through recommendations and activities on Cleaner Production, in cooperation with the Hot Spot group and responding to the needs identified by the regional Hot Spots groups.

**NOT ACCOMPLISHED**

The Focus on energy and cooperation with the Barents joint working group on energy, as well as the opportunity to develop projects under the Barents Window funding facility has not been accomplished.

**RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE WGE**

For the future work of the BEAC WGE and its subgroups it is recommended to more closely define the role of the CPESC subgroup and the Subgroup on Hot Spots exclusion, since there is risk for overlap. Some of the CPESC projects, directly linked to the work on Hot Spots could be considered moved from the scope of the CPESC subgroup to the

Hot Spot group. Additionally, it would be useful if the CPESC group would consider how the group in best way could complement and support the Hot Spot exclusion, using the Barents Window funding facility, the Barents Hot Spot Facility and other relevant funding opportunities, taking into consideration regional needs and based on sustainable production and consumption activities.

Further, the Subgroup should consider how it could strengthen the cooperation with other Barents working groups.

#### **ADMINISTRATION OF THE CPESC SUBGROUP AND MEMBERS**

The CPESC subgroup has had 4 meetings during the Swedish Presidency in 2010 and 2011. All decisions of the subgroup have been made in consensus and the meetings have been summarized in meeting reports. The Subgroup work has resulted in a number of documents: Work Programme, Short List of projects, Project Sheets (describing each project in more detail), reports from seminars. All relevant documents from the subgroup are posted on the BEAC webpage to secure availability and transparency.

Work programme and presentations of the achievements of the CPESC subgroup have been submitted to the BEAC WGE for approval respectively information.

The following persons have been the members of the CPESC Subgroup during 2010-2011 (observers in brackets):

Gunilla Blomquist, Chair, Swedish Ministry of the Environment

Malena Swanson, Swedish Ministry of the Environment (2010)

Andrey Peshkov Ministry of Nature Resources and Ecology (MNRE),  
Russia

Ruslan Butovskiy, The Fund for Sustainable Development, Russia

Hanne Aronsen, Climate and Pollution Agency, Norway

Kaarina Huhtinen, Finnish Environment Institute (2010),

Emma Nurmi, Finnish Environment Institute (2011)

(Henrik G. Forsström NEFCO)

(Maria Maliniemi, NEFCO)

(Yan Tsygankov Cleaner Production Centre, Moscow)