Western Balkans Climate Resilient Growth Roundtable Vienna, Austria, March 11, 2015

World Bank Office (21st floor) – Praterstrasse 31, Vienna 1020

Agenda

9:00-9:30 **Registration of Participants**

9:30-9:45

Welcoming Remarks

Ms. Ellen Goldstein, Country Director, Southeast Europe, World Bank

Mr. Harald Waiglein, Director General, Economic Policy and Financial Markets, Federal Ministry of Finance, Austria

9:45-10:45

Turn Down the Heat: Confronting the New Climate Normal

Turn Down the Heat: Confronting the New Climate Normal, prepared in collaboration with the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research and launched by the World Bank Group in November 2014, reviews the latest scientific evidence on climate change risks to development. This report, the third in the Turn Down the Heat series, examines climate scenarios in three regions, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East and North Africa, and Europe and Central Asia, including the prospects and implications for the Western Balkans in that challenging climate regime. In background to today's discussions, the session will review the main findings for the Western Balkans from the report.

Chair: Ms. Kanta Kumari Rigaud, Lead Environment Specialist, Climate Change Group, World Bank

Speaker:

Turn Down the Heat: Climate Impacts in the Western Balkans — Mr. Christopher Reyer, Coordinating Lead Author, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research

Discussants:

Ms. Eglantina Bruci, Vulnerability and Adaptation Technical Coordinator, Third National Communication Project, Climate Change Programme, UNDP, Albania

Ms. Sandra Andovska, Advisor, Cabinet of Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, FYR Macedonia

Prof. Goran Trbic, Professor Associate, University of Banja Luka, Faculty of Science, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Ms. Gertraud Wollansky, Senior Advisor, Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, Austria

Mr. Sami Zeidan, Legal Officer, DG CLIMA

Plenary Discussion — All Participants

10:45-11:00

Coffee Break

11:00-12:30 From Science to Action

Countries in the Western Balkans are already taking action to rise to the climate change challenge. In this session, representatives from the six Western Balkans countries will provide a snapshot of their adaptation program, including: (i) key climate risks of concern; (ii) on-going and planned initiatives, including with support from the development community; (iii) gaps and needs; (iv) future priorities, especially in light of knowledge and capacity needs. Development Partners will also share remarks about their support to these efforts, followed by plenary discussion. Main conclusions from this session will feed into the afternoon's technical sessions.

Co-chairs: H. E. Dr. Ferid Agani, Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning, Kosovo; Ms. Ellen Goldstein, Country Director, Southeast Europe, World Bank

Speakers:

Mrs. Laureta Dibra, Head, Air, Climate Change and Chemicals Sector, Ministry of Environment, Albania

Mr. Senad Oprasic, Head, Environment Unit, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations, Bosnia and Herzegovina

H. E. Dr. Ferid Agani, Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning, Kosovo

Ms. Brankica Cmiljanovic, Head, Directorate of the Harmonization of EU Regulations and Horizontal Legislation, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism, Montenegro

Ms. Lidija Chadikovska, Head, Department for International Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy

Ms. Sandra Nedeljkovic, Deputy Director, Flood Affected Areas Assistance and Rehabilitation Office, Serbia

Plenary Discussion — All Participants

12:30-14:00

Lunch

14:00-15:20 Regional Climate Resilience Program for Western Balkans

This session will review country priorities for adaptation discussed in the morning through a regional lens, in order to identify those priorities that could form part of a regional program, based either on sufficient commonalties among countries or the need for concerted multicountry action for effective response at scale. Five topics will be addressed, each introduced by presentation(s) on on-going initiatives in the Western Balkans and international experience, followed by moderated discussion, inviting countries and partners to share their views, including how regional issues resonate with national level activities and suggestions for prioritization among possible regional actions. Topics will be discussed in groups as follows: Disaster-Risk Management together with Water Management; then Agriculture and Forestry along with Energy.

Chair: **Ms. Marta Bonifert,** Executive Director, Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe

(i) Regional Disaster-Risk Management

Speakers:

Mr. Raymond Bourdeaux, Program Leader, Southeast Europe, World Bank

Mr. Andreas Schaffhauser, Head of Customer Service, Austria Meteorological Agency

(ii) Experience in Regional Water Adaptation Programs

Speakers:

Ms. Brankica Cmiljanovic, Head, Directorate of the Harmonization of EU Regulations and Horizontal Legislation, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism, Montenegro

Ms. Elisabeth Sötz, Environment and Natural Resources, Austrian Development Agency

15:20-15:40 **Cof**

Coffee Break

15:40-17:00

Regional Climate Resilience Program for Western Balkans (continued)

Chair: Ms. Kseniya Lvovsky, Advisor, Environment and Natural Resources, World Bank

(iii) Agriculture, Forestry and Climate Change

Speakers:

Mr. Irfan Tarelli, Director General, Water and Land Administration, Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Water Administration, Albania

Mr. Mehmed Cero, Assistant Minister for Environment, FBiH Ministry of Environment and Tourism

(iv) Addressing Resilience, Emissions and Air Pollution in the Energy Sector

Speakers:

Mr. Mehmed Cero, Assistant Minister for Environment, FBiH Ministry of Environment and Tourism

Mr. Peter Vajda, Environmental Expert, Energy Community Secretariat

17:00-18:00

Moving Towards a Regional Program

Chair: Ms. Kulsum Ahmed, Practice Manager, Environment and Natural Resources, World Bank

(v) Institutions for Climate Action: Ideas for a Regional Program

Speakers:

Ms. Gordana Kozhuharova, Regional Director for South Eastern Europe, and Mr. Jozsef Feiler, Expert, Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe

Ms. Kanta Kumari Rigaud, Lead Environment Specialist, Climate Change Group, World Bank

Wrap-up and Next Steps

18:00

End of Roundtable

18:00-20:00

Cocktail Reception