

The SNAP-SEE project: an overview



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Minerals in Europe - Context

- Opposition to mining and quarrying has increased in Europe
- Mineral production in Europe dropped significantly in the late 20th Century
- Europe is import dependent for many minerals that are essential for the industrial base, though not for construction minerals
- There is no EU minerals policy, only national policies that differ substantially from country to country

Minerals in Europe - Challenges

Knowledge on both primary and secondary raw materials is dispersed, and terminology and reporting standards are often heterogeneous throughout the Member States, which has an impact on the reliability and comparability of European data, thereby making exploration and extraction activities within the EU more difficult. There is also no common mineral policy; each Member State has its own policy.

European Innovation Platform on Raw Materials

The long term vision of the EIP on Raw Materials is to tap the full potential of **primary and secondary** raw materials and to boost the innovation capacity of the EU raw materials sector, turning it into a strong **sustainable pillar of the EU economy** and an attractive industry, whilst addressing societal challenges and increasing benefits for society.

European Innovation Platform on Raw Materials

This can only be done by gaining relevant knowledge about raw materials in Europe and if all the stakeholders, including the relevant authorities, raw materials and downstream industries, research communities and society work towards the same objectives.

South East Europe Cohesion Programme

- The South East Europe Programme aims to develop transnational partnerships on matters of strategic importance, in order to improve the territorial, economic and social integration process and to contribute to cohesion, stability and competitiveness of the region.
- The Programme helps to promote better integration between the Member States, candidate and potential candidate countries and neighbouring countries.
- Regional cooperation in South East Europe is essential, regardless of the different stage of integration of the various countries.

Sustainable National Aggregates Planning Project

A group of institutions involved in or affected by aggregates planning and management agreed to collaborate on an initiative to improve aggregates planning in SEE, so as to achieve greater resource efficiency and sustainability in the whole SEE region.

The Sustainable Aggregates Planning in South East Europe (SNAP-SEE) project is funded by the South East Europe Cohesion Programme (SNAP-SEE, SEE/D/0167/2.4/X) and runs from October 1, 2012 through November 30, 2014.

SNAP SEE - Issues

The SNAP SEE project addressed two key questions:

How can SEE countries improve their aggregates planning processes, and integrate planning for primary and secondary aggregates, so as to increase resource efficiency, and raise capacity levels among authorities, industry and civil society with respect to aggregates management, planning and supply?

How can aggregates planning, management, use, and disposal contribute to the EU's goal of a more circular economy?

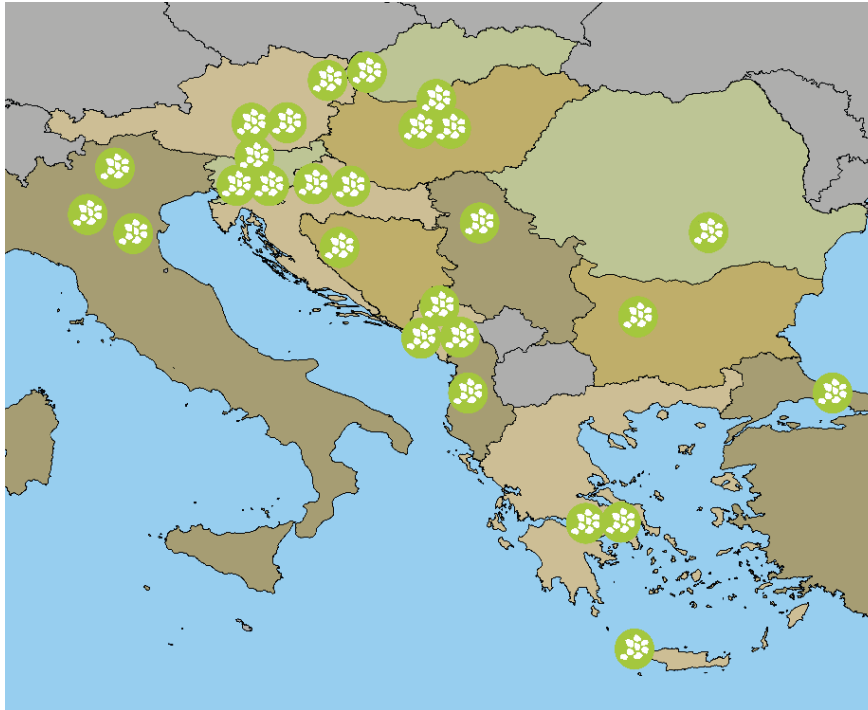
Role of the Circular Economy

The goals of a circular economy are the delinking economic development from social and environmental deterioration and decoupling of economic growth from resource use. Its achievement will require waste reduction or elimination based on the principles of reduce, reuse, repurpose, and recycle. These goals can only be achieved in the presence of appropriate, supportive, and effective policies and plans.

SNAP SEE - Partnership

The composition of partnership in the SNAP-SEE project reflects a mix of the institutions involved in planning of primary and secondary aggregates supply in the SEE area, including public authorities, ministries, research institutes, universities, and geological surveys. The Lead Partner is Montanuniversität Leoben and the Project

Manager is Dr. Günter Tiess.



Twenty seven partners
in fourteen countries

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SNAP SEE - Goals, Organization and Activities

SNAP-SEE has created tools to support the creation of National/regional, primary and secondary, aggregates plans in SEE countries that:

- Are comprehensive and cross-sectoral, covering all aspects of planning, including issues that may fall under other policy areas such as transportation, water, or waste management;
- treat primary and secondary aggregates as interchangeable sources of supply when appropriate, thus supporting the shift towards a circular economy;
- are adaptable to national circumstances without losing key planning elements, and are applicable regardless of a country's point in the planning cycle;

SNAP SEE - Goals, Organization and Activities – cont.

SNAP-SEE has created tools to support the creation of National/regional, primary and secondary, aggregates plans in SEE countries that also:

- are founded on the principles of sustainable aggregates resource management (SARM) and a sustainable supply mix (SSM) with the goal of achieving resource efficiency;
- are responsive to the needs, concerns, preferences and objectives of government, industry, civil society, and experts;
- are supported by necessary data, and
- are applicable across SEE regions and countries to facilitate cohesion and the harmonization of aggregates.

SNAP SEE - Work Packages and Activities

SNAP SEE is organized into 6 Work Packages:

WP 1: Administration

WP 2: Communication

WP 3: Capacity Building and Stakeholder Engagement

WP 4: Data and Analysis Methods

WP 5: National/regional Planning

WP 6: Aggregates Planning Scheme

WP 3: Capacity Building and Stakeholder Engagement

- Ensure a common base of understanding by creating and sharing capacity building materials.
- Conduct national consultations (at least 2) with target groups to ensure stakeholder input to the development of the SEE Vision and the Aggregates Planning Scheme.
- Create a Handbook on Capacity Building and Stakeholder Engagement, that includes the capacity building materials and also a detailed process plan for organizing and conducting stakeholder consultations.

Important Stakeholders

- Aggregate planning authorities
- Aggregate permitting authorities
- Environmental authority
- Transport authority
- Waste management authority
- Aggregates Association
- Aggregates industry representatives
- Recycling industry representatives
- Community representatives/groups
- NGOs
- Biodiversity groups
- Sportsmen
- Others

WP 4: Data and Analysis Methodologies

- Ensure that the full range of data needed to support effective and sustainable National/regional plans for primary and secondary aggregates, e.g., resources, location, technical characteristics, demand forecasts, etc., have been identified.
- Create a data dictionary that includes types, definitions, sources, scope, level of analysis needed for raw data, recommendations on state-of-the-art strategies for data collection and storage, reporting methods, and other issues identified by the partners.
- Investigate and report on key data analysis methodologies that can provide outputs useful for comprehensive, sustainable aggregates planning.
- Create a Handbook on Data and Analysis Methodologies.

WP 5: National/regional Planning

- Determine how planning is carried out in partner countries, including where each partner country is in the planning cycle with respect to each planning aspect. Create the National Aggregates Information (NAI) reports and the Multi-sectoral (M-S) reports.
- Identify how planning can be improved in partner countries. Create National/regional Guidance documents.
- Create a common Vision for Aggregates Planning in SEE.

WP 6: Aggregates Planning Scheme

- Review how aggregates planning is conducted in selected non-SEE countries.
- Create a Roadmap for planning that lays out all the steps that need to be taken, and issues addressed, to ensure comprehensive aggregates planning in SEE.
- identify text modules suitable for sustainable aggregates planning, addressing topics such as transportation, illegal quarrying, recycling, and permitting, plus issues that may be addressed in other plans such as waste and water management, and green public procurement.
- Create an Aggregates Planning Toolbox, comprising the 2 aforementioned Handbooks, the SNAP-SEE Vision and instructions on How to Create an Aggregates Plan.

SNAP SEE - Status

- SNAP SEE partners have met in Leoben, (AT), Budapest (HU), Budva (ME), Bratislava (SK), Pula (HR), Crete (GR) and finally here in Bled.
- The outcomes of SNAP SEE, a common Vision for Aggregates Planning in SEE and the Planning Toolbox, are completed and publicly available in all partner languages, and English, in print and electronic form.
- SNAP SEE partners have created a close, cooperative working relationship that will extend beyond the completion of the project. Most partners are already participating in a new project, MINATURA, that will address the need to create a protocol to identify mineral deposits of public importance.
- [HTTP://www.snapsee.eu](http://www.snapsee.eu)

Conclusions

- The EU has clearly recognized the need for access to a secure supply of mineral resources and have embarked on a very comprehensive program involving research, innovation, and technology transfer to achieve their goals.
- They also recognize that they need a ‘sustainable’ supply of minerals, in both senses of the word: supply that is produced in a sustainable manner and supply that is sustained.
- There is a strong commitment to supporting both primary and also secondary resource production for aggregates, thus also supporting the shift to a circular economy.
- Although the preceding SARMA and the current SNAP SEE projects predated the EIP RM, both are consistent with its objectives. The former project has impacted how aggregates are produced in SEE and the latter will provide a clear roadmap for sustainable policy and planning for aggregates.

Thank You!



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