



Report to the Ministerial Council on the Implementation of Projects of Energy Community Interest



nfrastructure

Energy Community Secretariat 10 Oct 2019

I. Legal Background

According to the adapted and adopted Regulation 347/2013 Art.5. (5) of the Energy Community,

"within three months of the receipt of the annual reports referred to in paragraph 4 of this Article, the Energy Community Secretariat shall submit to the Groups a consolidated report for the projects of Energy Community interest falling under the categories set out in Annex I.1 and 2, evaluating the progress achieved and make, where appropriate, recommendations on how to overcome the delays and difficulties encountered."

Annex I.1. and 2. projects represent the electricity and gas infrastructure project categories from the PECI and PMI lists.

Paragraph 4 of Art.5. requires the promoters to:

"By 31 March of each year following the year of inclusion of a project of Energy Community interest on the Energy Community list pursuant to Article 3, project promoters shall submit an annual report, for each project falling under the categories set out in Annex I.1 and 2, to the competent authority referred to in Article 8 and either to the Regulatory Board or, for projects falling under the categories set out in Annex I.3, to the respective Group. That report shall give details of:

(a) the progress achieved in the development, construction and commissioning of the project, in particular with regard to permit granting and consultation procedures;

(b) where relevant, delays compared to the implementation plan, the reasons for such delays and other difficulties encountered;

(c) where relevant, a revised plan aiming at overcoming the delays."

Since the competent authorities have not yet been established in the Contracting Parties or have not yet collected the aforementioned annual reports, the Secretariat is collecting this data along with the data required to update the Project Transparency Platform – PLIMA.

After the adoption of the latest PECI and PMI lists by the Decision 2018/11/MC-EnC and Recommendation 2018/01/MC-EnC of the Ministerial Council of 29 November 2018, the Secretariat initiated a data collection in February 2019 to update the Project Transparency Platform – PLIMA, based on the provisions of the Regulation. The questionnaire was designed in a way that also serves the purpose of the present report and the aforementioned annual report. Consequently, the Secretariat requested information from the promoters with regards to the project development *progress achieved* and the required information listed in §4 of Art.5. Unfortunately, many project promoters' responses were received with very big delays (over 6 months).

II. Projects

In the present chapter, the Secretariat summarized the data *received from the project promoters*, as of February-August 2019. The Secretariat takes no responsibility for the accuracy of the information provided by the project promoters in their data submissions. Where the below indicated cells were left empty by the project promoters and it was necessary or possible, the Secretariat filled up the fields with information submitted in other corresponding sections of the submitted questionnaire for the Energy Community Transparency Platform – PLIMA. The Secretariat has done it in order to provide a more comprehensive picture of the projects, even if not all detailed information was not submitted in the corresponding cells by the promoters.

III. Electricity Projects

EL_01a / Transbalkan Corridor: OHL SS Kragujevac (RS) - Kraljevo (RS)

EL_01a	Serbia	
Project evolution status	Investment on time	
Evolution driver description	No information was provided	
Explanation	No information was provided	
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule	Close cooperation with competent ministries, local authorities and KfW in order to provide a smooth project execution.	

Project implementation actions conducted since 2016		
Project development	Pre-feasibility study completed in 2014. Feasibility study and Preliminary design finished in 2015. ESIA finished in 2016. Detailed design finished in 2017.	
Permit Granting	Permits granted for construction and works in SS Kraljevo and SS Kragujevac (August 2016). Permit for construction of OHL was obtained in February 2018.	
Consultation procedures	Public consultation completed in all municipalities where the OHL will pass through (local governments in Kraljevo, Kragujevac and Knic)	
Construction	Not started yet, expected till the end of 2019	
Commissioning	Expected in 2021	

EL_01b / Transbalkan Corridor: OHL Obrenovac (RS) - Bajina Bašta (RS)

EL_01b	Serbia	
Project evolution status	Rescheduled	
Evolution driver description	Financing delayed	
Explanation	Financing decision was delayed, pending on WBIF investment support. The lead financier is Kredit fűr Wideraufbau Bank (KfW) and the project promoter is the Serbian Transmission System Operator (JSC EMS). The financing gap between the investment cost and project revenues was expected to be fully covered through a WBIF investment grant, but given the significant volume, the decision was postponed. In 2018, this value was recalculated by EMS and KfW, and a 20% financial gap would be considered to be covered by a Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) grant, pending on other energy sector reforms.	
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule	Agreement with WBIF and lead International Financial Institution, KfW regarding the amount of financial grant and the progress of the sector reform conditions in Serbia	

Project implementation actions conducted since 2016		
Project development	Prefeasibility and Feasibility study were completed in 2011, therefore it was outdated and a Kredit für Wideraufbau Bank (KfW) grant of 0.25 MEUR was approved to harmonize Feasibility study, Preliminary design and EIA with the national legislation; this was achieved in December 2017. In 2015 a Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) grant in the amount of 0.8 MEUR was approved to prepare the Design for construction permit and for project execution plan. This started in November 2018 and continues to date.	
Permit Granting	Expected in year 2021.	
Consultation procedures	JSC EMS had consultations and meetings with the following national institutions: Ministry of Mining and Energy of the Republic of Serbia, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of European Integration (former Serbian European Integration Office), and National Regulatory body – Energy Agency of Republic of Serbia (AERS). In addition, JSC EMS conducted several meetings and consultations with EU Delegation in Republic of Serbia, European Commission Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR) as well as representatives of IFIs (EBRD and KfW). Other stakeholders, such as local municipalities, have also been contacted, and public hearings will be organized when the Spatial Plan of Special Purpose Area is presented.	
Construction	Expected to start till the end of 2021, provided that the investment grant is finally approved by WBIF in 2020	
Commissioning	Expected till the end of 2024.	

EL_01c / Transbalkan Corridor: OHL B.Bašta (RS) – Višegrad (BA) - Pljevlja (ME)

EL_01c	Serbia	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Montenegro
Project evolution status	Rescheduled	Rescheduled	Rescheduled
Evolution driver description	Financing delayed	Financing delayed	Financing delayed
Explanation	Following the decision of Italy not to continue with the construction of a second undersea cable of 600 MW to link with Montenegro, the current project financial calculations and the amount of grant available in principle (up to 20% of the investment cost) are no longer valid; EMS intends to re-visit the Feasibility Study and calculate the new financial revenues.	The link to Bosnia and Herzegovina is conditioned by the progress of the main connection between Serbia and Montenegro and this is delayed.	Decision on Financing is delayed. It is necessary to sign a binding bilateral agreement on a construction with EMS in order to proceed with implementation of the project. This would not be possible before EMS updates the Feasibility Study

Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule	Finalise the feasibility study and start discussions on the grant and loan needed in this case.	No information was provided	No information was provided
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Project implementation actions conducted since 2016			
	Serbia	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Montenegro
Project development	Prefeasibility and Feasibility study were completed in 2015. In all analysed scenarios in the Feasibility Study, the undersea cable between Italy and Montenegro was considered as constructed in one phase and in a bipolar arrangement, with a total capacity of 1200 MW. In the meantime, the Montenegrin Government, the Italian and the Montenegrin Transmission System Operators have decided to carry out the submarine cable project in two phases (gradual execution of the project). According to the altered project plan, in the first phase (and possibly the only one) a single wire of the cable operates in a unipolar mode with transmission capacity of 600 MW. For this reason, JSC EMS was compelled to withdraw the grant application and to start developing a new regional system study with techno- economic and financial analyses that will take into account the new circumstances. The continuation and dynamics of the construction of this section will depend on the results of the Study. The Government of the Republic of Serbia has made a decision for making of spatial plan for special purpose area. which was adopted by the Government of the Republic of Serbia in 2017. WBIF grant for technical assistance in the amount of 0.8 MEUR was approved for the Design for construction permit and for the Design for construction permit	No information was provided	Feasibility Study completed, grant funds obtained and Detailed Spatial Plan under preparation. Also, the contract with the Consultant for the Project implementation signed in 2017
Permit Granting	Not started.	No information was provided	No information was provided
Consultation procedures	JSC EMS have had consultations and meetings with the following national institutions: Ministry of Mining and Energy of the Republic of Serbia, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of European Integration (and National Regulatory body – Energy Agency of Republic of Serbia (AERS). In addition, JSC EMS conducted several	No information was provided	No information was provided

	meetings and consultations with EU Delegation in Republic of Serbia, European Commission Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR) as well as representatives of IFIs (EBRD and KfW). Other stakeholders, such as local municipalities, have also been contacted, and public hearings will be organized when the Spatial Plan of Special Purpose Area is presented.		
Construction	Expected to start in the second half of 2024, provided that the investment grant is approved by WBIF in 2021 and the loan agreement is signed with the IFIs.	No information was provided	No information was provided
Commissioning	Expected in 2026	No information was provided	No information was provided

EL_01d / Transbalkan Corridor: OHL Pljevlja (ME) - Lastva (ME)

EL_01d	Montenegro	
Project evolution status	Rescheduled/Delayed	
Evolution driver description	No information was provided	
Explanation	Delayed because of the delay in process of designing and construction and land acquisition process.	
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule	Coordination Committee has been formed by the Government of Montenegro consisting of key ministers and representatives of competent authorities with a task to address all pending issues related to the implementation of the project	

Project implementation actions conducted since 2016		
Project development	evelopment Project is under construction	
Permit Granting	Construction permits obtained for all segments of the Project	
Consultation procedures	In the line with EBRD procedure	
Construction	Construction phase for SS Lastva finished-TOC issued, Construction of OHL Lastva-Cevo is in final stage, OHL Cevo-Pljevlja 62% finished	
Commissioning	Commissioning of SS Lastva completed, while commissioning of OHL Lastva-Cevo is under preparation.	

EL_02 / 400 kV OHL Bitola (MK) - Elbasan (AL)

EL_02	North Macedonia	Albania
Project evolution status	Investment on time	Investment on time
Evolution driver description	No information was provided	No information was provided
Explanation	No information was provided	No information was provided
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule	No information was provided	No information was provided

Project implementation actions conducted since 2016			
	North Macedonia	Albania	
Project development	Feasibility Study finalised. Loan agreement 46274 between AD MEPSO and EBOR on 37MEUR. The investment grant of 9 MEUR and 3MEUR for Smart Grid Improvement.	Feasibility Study finalised. The following Agreements, have been signed between OST and KfW in order to finance the project: Loan agreement of 50 MEUR; WBIF investment grant of 13.72 MEUR; Detail Design WBIF Grant of 0.6 MEUR and KfW grant of 0.6 MEUR.	
Permit Granting	No information was provided	No information was provided	
Consultation procedures	Feasibility Study was issued in February 2013- grant from WBIF Consultations were conducted in line with the requirements of EBRD as lead IFI	Feasibility Study was issued in September 2012, grant from WBIF Consultations were conducted in line with the requirements of KfW as lead IFI	
Construction	Tendering for equipment launched in 2019	No information was provided	
Commissioning	No information was provided	No information was provided	

EL_06 / 400 kV OHL Vulcanesti (MD) - Issacea (RO), new 400 kV OHL Vulcanesti (MD) - Chisinau (MD)

EL_06	Romania	Moldova
Project evolution status	Investment on time	Investment on time
Evolution driver description	No information was provided	No information was provided
Explanation	No information was provided	No information was provided
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule	No information was provided	No information was provided

Project implementation actions conducted since 2016		
	Romania	Moldova
Project development	received a grant from EBRD to perform t	ty System Operator, SE Moldelectrica he Feasibility Study, To date, this study is Impact Assessment ESIA was finalized in
Permit Granting	Not required according to Transelectrica.	To be started during design stage. It is planned to start the design phase after the Consultants are in place.
Consultation procedures	The Investment Plan will be submitted by the Romanian Transmission System Operation – Transelectrica to the Romania Energy Regulatory Authority	To be conducted during the permit granting phase.
Construction	To be aligned with the 400 kV Isaccea SS refurbishment plan and with the works on Moldova side . Estimated end of 2019.	To be started after finalizing the design and land acquisition process. Estimated end of 2019.
Commissioning	This will be aligned with 400 kV Isaccea SS refurbishment and with Moldelectica. Estimated end of 2022.	Estimated end of 2022 it is expected to receive all approvals from concerned authorities and put the line into operation

EL_07 / Rehabilitation of 400 kV OHL Mukacheve (UA) – V.Kapusany (SK)

EL_07	Ukraine	Slovakia
Project evolution status	Under consideration	Under consideration
Evolution driver description	The project was reported "Under consideration" by Ukraine Transmission System Operator	The project was reported "Under consideration" by Slovak Transmission System Operator
Explanation	No information was provided	A bilateral Study for Slovakia - Ukraine cross - border line refurbishment has not proved the need to increase the current transmission capacity between the two counties.
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule	To clarify is the project is still of interest to Ukraine and Slovakia	To clarify is the project is still of interest to Ukraine and Slovakia

Project implementation actions conducted since 2016		
	Ukraine	Slovakia

Project development	Works on transformation coefficients of linear current transformers of circuit breakers in Substation Mukacheve were changed from 1000/1 to 2000/1 and the relay protection was reset Field survey of possible corridor of new construction OHL was accomplished Current state survey of the existing OHL was accomplished Pre - feasibility study carried out in three options: 1.New single line in the corridor close to the existing line; 2. New single line in the new corridor; 3. New double line (armed with one circuit at the first stage) in the corridor close to the existing line;	Memorandum of Understanding on the intention to enhance the transmission capacity was signed between power system of Slovak Republic and Ukraine was signed in February 2017; Bilateral Study for Slovakia - Ukraine cross - border line refurbishment has been accomplished in October 2018. The study has not proved the need to increase the current transmission capacity between Slovakia - Ukraine The part of the existing OHL between substations Mukacheve (UA) - Veľké Kapušany (SK) situated on the Slovak territory will be replaced by the new line by 2030 and will be connected to a new line built on the Ukrainian territory by 2023. This line will replaced the existing line between Slovakia and Ukraine. The final technical solution and transmission capacity of the new line will be set based on the results of the extended study by 2023 after a synchronous connection of NPC Ukrenergo to ENTSO-E.
Permit Granting	Under consideration	Under consideration
Consultation procedures	No information was provided	No information was provided
Construction	No information was provided	No information was provided
Commissioning	2023	2030

EL_09 / 750 kV Pivdennoukrainska NPP (UA) - Isaccea (RO) OHL rehabilitation and modernisation

EL_09	Romania	Ukraine
Project evolution status	Project initiated in 2018	Project initiated in 2018
Evolution driver description	No information was provided	No information was provided
Explanation	No information was provided	No information was provided
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule	No information was provided	No information was provided

Project implementation actions conducted since 2016		
	Romania Ukraine	
Project development	Project is still in its prefeasibility phase.	

Permit Granting	No information was provided	No information was provided
Consultation procedures	No information was provided	No information was provided
Construction	No information was provided	No information was provided
Commissioning	Correlated with Ukrainian Partners.	No information was provided

IV. Gas Projects

Gas_01 Interconnection Pipeline Bosnia and Herzegovina -Croatia - North (Slobodnica-Brod-Zenica)

Gas_01	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Croatia
Project evolution status	Rescheduled	Rescheduled
Evolution driver description	Other, see below	Other, see below
Explanation	Lack of consensus between the two entities regarding priority/commissioning date of this project.	Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has expired and a new EIA need to be conducted. In addition, location permit has expired and request for location permit need to be re-submitted.
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule	Adoption of State Gas Legislation pursuant to the 3th Energy package. Harmonisation of the priority status/commissioning date of this project.	No information was provided
P	roject implementation actions condu	icted since 2016
Project development	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Project documentation dated 1988 had been updated in 2006 with financial calculations. 1 milion EUR granted for Feasibility Study, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and Cost-Benefit Analysis by EU; grant cancelled because of lack of support by the Republika Sprska entitiy of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the project in that period. Main design is scheduled between January 2020 and April 2021. Final Investment Decision is schedule for December 2019.	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Environmental impact assessment has expired. Environmental impact assessment of the project of the northern interconnection pipeline shall be conducted again. Preparation for the re-implementation of the environmental impact is in progress. Main design is planned to be drawn up from July to October 2021. Final Investment Decision is scheduled for January 2022.
Permit Granting		[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Location permit has expired. New request for the issuing of the location permit should be submit to the relevant state body. Permitting phase will be concluded by obtaining the construction permit. Construction permit is planned to be obtained in March 2023.

		Tendering is scheduled between April- August 2023.
Consultation procedures	No informatio	on was provided
Construction	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of th Project Promoter]: Scheduled to finish by December 2023	
Commissioning	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Schedule for December 2023.	

Gas_02 Western Interconnection Bosnia and Herzegovina - Croatia (Rakovica-Trzac-B.Krupa with sections for Bihac and Velika Kladusa)

Gas_02	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Croatia
Project evolution status	Rescheduled	Rescheduled
Evolution driver description	No information was provided	Other, see below
Explanation	No information was provided	Environmental Impact Assessment for the gas pipeline Lička Jesenica- Rakovica-Bihać need to be reconsidered since the positive decision on environmental impact of the project issued by relevant Ministry has expired. For this reason new implementation plan of the project has been prepared.
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule	No information was provided	
Р	roject implementation actions conduc	ted since 2016
Project development	Final Investment Decision is scheduled for 2021	Final Investment Decision is scheduled for 2025
	Tendering is scheduled for 2024-2025	Tendering is scheduled for 2025
Permit Granting	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Scheduled between 2023 and 2025.	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: EIA for the project of the gas pipeline Lička Jesenica-Rakovica-Bihać was completed in February 2014. EIA has expired and need to be reconsidered. Permitting is scheduled between January 2022 and December 2024.
Consultation procedures	No information was provided	

Construction	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Scheduled between 2025 and 2026	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Scheduled between 2026 and 2027
Commissioning	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Scheduled for 2026	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Scheduled for 2027

Gas_03 Southern Interconnection Bosnia and Herzegovina - Croatia (Zagvozd-Imotski-Posušje-Novi Travnik/Travnik with Mostar section)

Gas_03	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Croatia
Project evolution status	Rescheduled	Investment on Time According to the information submitted by the Project Promoter.
Evolution driver description	Financing Delays	No information was provided
Explanation	1.5 mEUR grant was approved for Feasibility Study, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment, Cost-Benefit Analysis and Preliminary Design. Funds have not been used for this project, but redirected to the project mitigating consequences of floods that hit Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2014.	No information was provided
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule	In april 2017, a Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation on the continuation and intensification of project development activities was signed between Plinacro and BH-Gas.	
Р	roject implementation actions conduc	ted since 2016
Project development	Pre-Feasibility Study (PSF), including preliminary Environmental and Social Impact Assessment analysed the two route options: Ploce-Mostar-Sarajevo and Zagvozd-Posusje-N.Travnik. As a conclusion of PSF, the route Zagvozd-Posusje- N.Travnik was recommended to be elaborated at the next project level as more favourable one. Financial Viability Analysis and Cost-Benefit Analysis for the Interconnection pipeline was finalised in May 2018, financed by EU.	
Permit Granting	Permit granting for Environmental Permit and Location Permit are planned to be issued in 2020. Construction permit planned for 2022.	Location Permit was obtained in 2016 and extended in 2018. In 2017, the Regulatory Authority in the National Ten-Year Development Plan approved the project.
Consultation procedures	No information was provided	
Construction	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]:	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]:

	Planned between 2022 and 2023	Planned between 2020 and 2021
Commissioning	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Scheduled for December 2023	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Scheduled for 2022

Gas_04b Gas Interconnection Greece-North Macedonia

Gas_04b	Greece	North Macedonia	
Project evolution status	Rescheduled	Rescheduled	
Evolution driver description	Regulatory Regime not Defined	Planning, Design, Engineering	
Explanation	Regulator delayed the approval of the National Development Plan, including the Project	No information was provided	
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule	Conceptual Design was finalized. Environmental and Social Impact Assessment was completed and submitted in view of obtaining the approval of environmental permit	No information was provided	
Р	Project implementation actions conducted since 2016		
Project development	Feasibility study, Conceptual Design, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment are completed. Application for grants was submitted. Discussions with the European Investment Bank are in progress.	Feasibility study is completed. Basic Design and Environmental and Social Impact Assessment are under preparation with EU technical support. Application for grants was submitted. Discussions with European Investment Bank are in progress. [Added by the Secretariat]: In June 2019, EU approved an investment grant of 20% of the project eligible costs.	
Permit Granting	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment was submitted in December 2018 for the issuance of Installation Act	Nothing to report yet	
Consultation procedures			
Construction	Nothing to	report yet	
Commissioning			

Gas_08 Gas Interconnector Serbia-Romania

Gas_08 Serbia Romania	
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	Investment on Time	Investment on Time
Project evolution status	According to the information submitted by the Project Promoter. As the questionnaire received from the project promoter did not document any progress about the project on the Serbian side or future plans, the Secretariat's evaluation is that the project is Delayed .	According to the information submitted by the Project Promoter.
Evolution driver description		
Explanation		
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule		
Р	roject implementation actions conduc	ted since 2016
Project development	In Progress	In Progress [Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Pre-Feasibility and Feasibility Analysis were carried out by Dec. 2018. Main- design was scheduled to finish by January 2019.
Permit Granting		In Progress [Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Permit granting is scheduled to be carried out in 2018-2019. The project was approved in the National Network Development Plan in December 2018.
Consultation procedures	No information was provided	No information was provided
Construction	No information was provided	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Tendering and Construction is schedule to be carried out in 2019 and 2020.
Commissioning		[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Commissioning is scheduled for June 2020.

Gas_09 Gas Interconnector Serbia-Bulgaria

Gas_09	Serbia	Bulgaria
	Investment on Time	
Project evolution status	According to the information submitted by the Project Promoter. As the questionnaire received from the project promoter documented only vaguely any progress or future plans about the project, the Secretariat's evaluation is that the project is Delayed .	
Evolution driver description		
Explanation	No information	n was provided
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule		
Ρ	roject implementation actions conduc	cted since 2016
Project development	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Pre-Feasibility Study was prepared in 2011. Front End Engineering/Main Design, along with Feasibility Study and Environmental and Social Impact Assessment are scheduled to be finished by October 2019.	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Pre-Feasibility study was completed in 2012. Decision of MOEW dated Sep 18, 2012: *Designated project promoter Bulgartransgaz EAD to initiate necessary procedures to review and renew the Environmental Impact Assessment after the transfer of the project documentation from Ministry of Energy. Front End Engineering/Main Design was completed in July 2015. *Designated project promoter Bulgartransgaz EAD to tender for choice of contractor for adapting and updating the technical design after transfer of project documentation from Ministry of Energy.
Permit Granting	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Location Permit and Construction Permit are scheduled to be issued by April 2019 and July 2019 respectively. Regulatory Authority approval was scheduled by July 2019.	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Building Permit is scheduled to be issued by September 2020. Regulatory Authority approval was scheduled by December 2019. Final Investment Decision was scheduled for September 2019, after the transfer of the project to Bulgartransgaz EAD.

Consultation procedures	No information was submitted	
	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]:	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]:
Construction	Tendering is scheduled between October 2019 and September 2020. Is scheduled between September 2020 and January 2022.	Is scheduled to finish by May 2022, with the precondition that the project is transferred to Bulgartransgaz EAD in a timely manner.
Commissioning	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Is scheduled by May 2022.	

Gas_10 Gas Interconnector Serbia-Croatia – (Slobodnica - Sotin; Sotin - Bačko Novo Selo)

Gas_10	Serbia	Croatia
Project evolution status	Investment on Time According to the information submitted by the Project Promoter. As the questionnaire received from the project promoter did not document any progress about the project or future plans on the Serbian side, the Secretariat's evaluation is that the project is Delayed .	Investment on Time According to the information submitted by the Project Promoter.
Evolution driver description	No information was provided	
Explanation		
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule		
Р	roject implementation actions conduc	ted since 2016
Project development	No information was provided	Environmental Impact Assessment for the project of the gas pipeline section Sotin-Bačko Novo Selo (Croatian part) was completed in November 2014. Environmental Impact Assessment for both section either Slobodnica-Sotin or Sotin-Bačko Novo Selo has expired and need to be re-considered and eventually renewed. [Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Main Design documentation is scheduled to be completed by September 2021.

		Final Investment Decision is scheduled in January 2022, which will be followed by tendering.
		[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]:
Permit Granting		Croatian Energy Regulator has approved the project by acceptance of the National Ten-Year Network Development Plan 2018-2027
		Permit Granting is scheduled to be completed by December 2021.
Consultation procedures		
Construction		[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Construction is scheduled between June 2022 and June 2023.
Commissioning	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Scheduled by 2026.	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Scheduled by July 2023.

Gas_11 Gas Interconnector Gas Interconnector Serbia - North Macedonia

Gas_11	Serbia	North Macedonia
Project evolution status	Investment on Time According to the information submitted by the Project Promoter. As the questionnaire received from the project promoter did not document any progress about the project or future plans on the Serbian side, the Secretariat's evaluation is that the project is Delayed .	Investment on Time According to the information submitted by the Project Promoter. As the questionnaire received from the project promoter documented only vaguely any progress or future plans about the project on the North Macedonian side, the Secretariat's evaluation is that the project is Delayed.
Evolution driver description	No information was provided	
Explanation		
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule		
Project implementation actions conducted since 2016		
Project development	No information was provided	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]:

	Pre-feasibility is scheduled to be finished in 2019.
	MER JSC Skopje applied for technical assistance (TA GAF) from EU funding- WBIF for preparation of Feasibility study and Environmental and Social Impact Assessment for the Gas Interconnector Serbia-North Macedonia in February 2019.
	Main Design is scheduled to be finished by 2021, along with tendering.
Permit Granting	
Consultation procedures	No information was provided
Construction	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]:
	Construction is scheduled to be finished by 2022.
Commissioning	No information was provided

Gas_13 Albania – Kosovo* Gas Pipeline - ALKOGAP

Gas_13	Albania	Kosovo*
Project evolution status	Rescheduled	Rescheduled
Evolution driver description	Other	Other
Explanation	The date of specific implementation phase is not yet known. We are going to fulfil this schedule related to a preliminary plan created by both institutions.	
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule	Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy of Albania expressed its commitment to support the implementation of the project in every step.	Ministry of Economic Development of Kosovo* expressed its commitment to support the implementation of the project in every step.
Р	roject implementation actions conduc	ted since 2016
Project development	Since 2016, Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy has applied for EU funding-WBIF for the Technical Assistance in order to prepare the Feasibility Study for this project. WBIF has approved a grant of 300.000 Euro in order to prepare the Prefeasibility Study, which has been concluded in November 2018.	
Permit Granting		
Consultation procedures	No steps to report	
Construction		
Commissioning		

Gas_14 Gas Interconnection Poland-Ukraine – Reverse Flow

Gas_14	Poland	Ukraine
	Investment on Time	Investment on Time
Project evolution status	According to the information submitted by the Project Promoter.	According to the information submitted by the Project Promoter.
Evolution driver description		
Explanation	Not app	blicable
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule		
Ρ	roject implementation actions conduc	ted since 2016
Project development	In July 2016 GAZ-SYSTEM S.A. obtained phase and launched the engineering w detailed engineering works, EIA, obtaining to building permission. The works include On 6th December 2016 GAZ-SYSTEM S.A Agreement on Rules of Cooperation Interconnection Poland – Ukraine. Agree Operators during the engineering phas decision – during future implementation possibility to conduct the Open Season p business justification of the expansion of and primarily confirmation of the actu development of the Polish part of the G track, and until now no major risks have have been started. For the Polish part of (EIA) was obtained in February 2017. Lo 2018. At present GAZ-SYSTEM procee Hermanowice – Border PL/UA pipeline. The engineering works have been also November 2016, Lviv Regional Council a governments, executive and state bo implementation of the project "Con "Drozdovychi-Bilche-Volytsia". JSC "Ukr estimate documentation. In May, 2017, (stage P) and the positive cond "Ukrderzhbudekspertyza" and approved I 398 dated 20.06.2017. The total length of districts of the Lviv region (Stryi, Mykolay In August 2017, JSC Ukrtransgaz concl company about land allocation. The Gas Interconnection Poland-Ukraine and JSC Ukrtransgaz TYNDPs 2018-2027.	works phase, which includes basic and genvironmental localization decisions up also preparation of the detailed design. A. and PJSC "UKRTRANSGAZ" signed the for the implementation of the Gas ment regulates the cooperation of both e and – depending on the investment phase. The Agreement provides also the rocedure, which aims at commercial and of the national gas transmission system, hal interest in the market. The overall as Interconnection Poland-Ukraine is on been identified. The engineering works the Project the Environmental Decision calisation Decision was obtained in July eds with the Building Permit for the commenced by the UKRTRANSGAZ. In dopted a decision on assistance of local dies of JSC "Ukrtransgaz" during the struction of the main gas pipeline rtransgaz" has developed the design of the gas pipeline interconnector er DED) at the stages of Project and the state examination was conducted clusion was received by the SC by the order of the JSC "Ukrtransgaz" No. The gas pipeline is 98.8 km and runs in 5 riv, Drohobych, Staryi Sambor, Sambir). uded the agreement with responsible

	Non-binding market screening of demand on capacity on Ukrainian-Polish border has been conducted from 06.04.2018 to 08.06.2018. Results of assessment have shown following considerable interest on capacity: - 3.9 bcm/y for direction Poland-Ukraine	
	- 1.6 bcm/y for direction Ukraine-Polanc	1
Permit Granting	Ongoing, building permit expected in 1Q2019	In May 2017, JSC Ukrtransgaz got positive conclusion from Ukrderzhbudekspertyza (Ukrainian authority in building and construction sphere) that the project corresponds to all requirements. After that land allocation procedure was started. As of February 2019 JSC Ukrtransgaz concluded 742 of 2600 for private land plots servitude. For 195 land plots agreement with responsible authorities was reached.
Consultation procedures	Ongoing	JSC Ukrtransgaz and GAZ-SYSTEM S.A. conducted non-binding market screening of demand on capacity on Ukrainian-Polish border from 06.04.2018 to 08.06.2018.
Construction	Planned	
Commissioning	Not applicable	

Gas_16 Ionian Adriatic Pipeline - IAP

Gas_16 - IAP	Croatia	Montenegro	Albania
Project evolution status	Investment on Time According to the information submitted by the Project Promoter.		
Evolution driver description	No information was provided		
Explanation			
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule			
Р	Project implementation actions conducted since 2016		
	 Croatian sections are in a mature phase: 1. Split –Ploče a. Gas Node Split – Building permit obtained b. Split-Zagvozd - Building permit in the process of obtaining c. Zagvozd-Ploče - Building permit in the process of obtaining Ploče-Dubrovnik – Location Permit in the process of obtaining 3. Dubrovnik-MNE border - Location Permit in the process of obtaining 		
Project development			of obtaining ss of obtaining

	The project promoters are focusing on the activity in Montenegrin and Albanian sections. Gas Master Plan is finalized for both countries, and Preliminary design is in progress. The main focus is establishing the IAP project company, that is in process of foundation. The company should be established by the beginning of 2019. The members will be the TSOs of relevant countries.			
	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]:			
	Feasibility Study, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and Cost-Benefit Analysis was concluded in 2014 with the help of EU Funds-WBIF.			
		For the first section in Croatia: Split - Ploče the Main Design is finalized, for the other two sections Ploče-Dubrovnik and Dubrovnik-Dobreč it will be finalized in		
	Preliminary Design of the Ionian Adriatic Gas Pipeline – Montenegro and Albania (WB15-REG-ENE-01) sections has started in May 2018 and now is proceeding with the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment study. After this project, the FEED/Main Design will start.			
	The project was approved by the Croatia Regulatory Authority in the National Teny-Year Network Development Plan in December 2017.			
	Final investment decision is scheduled for 2021 in Croatia and 2022 in Montenegro and Albania.			
	Tendering is scheduled in 2020-2021 in Croatia and 2022-2023 in Albania and Montenegro.			
Permit Granting	Building Permit for the first phase of the Croatian section Split- Ploče	Planned until 2023.	Planned until 2021	
Consultation procedures	No Information was provided			
	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]:			
Construction	Scheduled between 2020-2023 in Croatia; 2022-2025 in Montenegro and 2024-2028 in Albania, subject to change based on FID and Permitting.			
Commissioning	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Scheduled for 2023 in Croatia, 2025 in Montenegro and 2026 in Albania.			

Gas_18 Ungheni - Chisinau gas pipeline, extension of the Iasi - Ungheni gas interconnector and NTS developments in North-East Romania for enhancing gas supply to the area and for ensuring transmission capacities to/from the Republic of Moldova

Gas_18	Moldova	Romania
Project evolution status	Investment on Time According to the information submitted by the Project Promoter.	Delayed

Evolution driver description	Other	Other	
Explanation	Delays in procurement procedures		
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule	Shortening deadlines for bid documentations analyses		
Р	Project implementation actions conducted since 2016		
Project development	In Progress [Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Final Investment Decision was made in 2018, along with the closing of the privatization of Vestmoldtransgaz. Construction Authorization nr.2/05.09.2018 issued by Ministry of Economy and Infrastructure in Republic of Moldova. Tendering is scheduled to finish in 2019.		
Permit Granting	Finalized		
Consultation procedures	Finalized		
Construction	In Progress	Planned to finish by 2020.	
Commissioning	Planned in 2020		

Gas_20 Trans-Anatolia Pipeline – TANAP

As part of the PECI Cluster Gas_20_21_22 of integrated, dedicated and scalable transport infrastructure and associated equipment for the transportation of natural gas from new sources from the Caspian Region, crossing Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey and reaching EnC markets in Georgia and Albania (via Trans-Adriatic Pipeline), including the following PECIs:

- Cluster of Trans-Caspian Pipeline and South Caucasus Pipeline

(further) Expansion (Gas 22);

- Cluster of Trans-Anatolia Pipeline and South Caucasus Pipeline

Expansion (Gas_20-21)

Gas_20	Turkey	
Project evolution status	Investment on Time	
Evolution driver description		
Explanation		
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule	First phase of the Project has been completed on time and is operational. Second phase of the Project is mechanically complete and commissioning is ongoing. Main mitigation measure was having a professional, hardworking and dedicated Project Management Organisation members of which were collectively targeting to achieve clearly set milestones.	
Project implementation actions conducted since 2016		

Project development	In 2016 Project was in Construction Phase with some ongoing detailed engineering works.	
Permit Granting	Project has received positive ESIA decision by Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation in July 2014.	
Consultation procedures	Prior to land acquisition public consultations were conducted back in 2013 and 2014, and Public Interest Decision for Land Acquisition has been received in February 2014. Continuous public consultation meetings on variety of subjects such as, land rights, social issues, environmental and health and safety related awareness, are being conducted	
Construction	Construction has started with Early Works in 2015, after official Ground Breaking Ceremony on 17th March 2015. Construction works for the first phase completed at the end of 2017 and construction works for the second phase has been completed at the end of 2018.	
Commissioning	Commissioning of the facilities for the first phase has been substantially completed at the end of June 2018, with full completion at the end of November 2018. Commissioning of the facilities for the second phase is ongoing since early January 2019 and is planned to be substantially completed by the end of June 2019, with full completion at the of October 2019.	

Gas_21 South-Caucasus Pipeline (Future) Expansion Project – SCP-(F)X

As part of the PECI Cluster Gas_20_21_22 of integrated, dedicated and scalable transport infrastructure and associated equipment for the transportation of natural gas from new sources from the Caspian Region, crossing Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey and reaching EnC markets in Georgia and Albania (via Trans-Adriatic Pipeline), including the following PECIs:

- Cluster of Trans-Caspian Pipeline and South Caucasus Pipeline

(further) Expansion (Gas 22);

- Cluster of Trans-Anatolia Pipeline and South Caucasus Pipeline

Expansion (Gas_20-21)

Gas_21	Azerbaijan	Georgia
Project evolution status	Investment on Time According to the information submitted by the Project Promoter.	
Evolution driver description		Information was submitted by the project promoter with regards to
Explanation		Azerbaijan section
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule		
Project implementation actions conducted since 2016		
Project development	Construction and commissioning of Compressor Station 1 (CSG1), Metering	

	& Pressure Regulatory Station (Area 81) completed, in operations since July 2018. Commissioning & start-up works at Compressor Station 2 (CSG2) and 489 km loop are in progress. Ready for operations end of 1Q'2019.	
Permit Granting	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Obtained construction permit in 2015.	Information was submitted by the project promoter with regards to Azerbaijan section
Consultation procedures		
Construction	Done	
Commissioning	In progress, to be completed in 1Q'2019	

Gas_22 Trans-Caspian Pipeline – TCP – Strings #1-2

As part of the PECI Cluster Gas_20_21_22 of integrated, dedicated and scalable transport infrastructure and associated equipment for the transportation of natural gas from new sources from the Caspian Region, crossing Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey and reaching EnC markets in Georgia and Albania (via Trans-Adriatic Pipeline), including the following PECIs:

- Cluster of Trans-Caspian Pipeline and South Caucasus Pipeline

(further) Expansion (Gas 22);

- Cluster of Trans-Anatolia Pipeline and South Caucasus Pipeline

Expansion (Gas_20-21)

Gas_22	Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan – String #1	Turkmenistan and Azerbaijan – String #2	
Project evolution status	Rescheduled	Delayed	
Evolution driver description	Financing Delayed		
Explanation	Financing issues were resolved by January 2019 that allows unhindered continuation of the project Pre-FEED		
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule	A number of preparatory works and actions have already been undertaken to ensure the financing and project implementation in accordance with the rescheduled timetable of the Pre-FEED.		
Р	Project implementation actions conducted since 2016		
Project development	Connecting Europe Facility - CEF grant was awarded for the Pre-Final Engineering Design (Pre-FEED) – January 2018. The promoter company signed a Grant Agreement with the INEA of the European Commission – May, 2018. The Grant co-funds the Pre-FEED, Reconnaissance Surveys and Strategic and Economic Evaluations of the Trans-Caspian Pipeline. The European Union is funding 50 per cent of study's estimated cost of ξ 3,743,450. [Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]:		

	 Further steps to be decided: The commencement of the Final Engineering Design works will be possible, subject to available financing, as soon as the needed data are obtained through the Pre-FEED study. The aggressive schedule is planned to meet TANAP/TAP implementation timetable. Final Investment Decision is subject to the timing of the above. 	
Permit Granting		
Consultation procedures	No information was provided	
Construction	[Added by the Secretariat based on	[Added by the Secretariat based on
Commissioning	Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]:	Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]:
	Commissioning is planned by December 2021	Commissioning is planned by December 2022

Gas_25 Trans-Balkan Corridor Bi-directional Flow between Moldova and Ukraine

Gas_25	Ukraine	Moldova
Project evolution status Evolution driver	Investment on Time According to the information submitted by the Project Promoter.	
description Explanation		No information was provided
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule		
Project implementation actions conducted since 2016		
Project development	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Pre-Feasibility: Currently, Ukrainian, Moldavian, Romanian, Bulgarian and Greek TSOs are discussing the starting time of the works and necessary measures for implementation of all phases as part of CESEC working group. Additionally, between Moldovatransgaz, Tiraspoltransgaz and Ukrtransgaz discussions are held regarding implementation for second and third phases. For implementation of the first phase of the project, Ukraine does not need feasibility study, because from Ukrainian side no works are required. Second phase of the project implementation prescribes reverse fitting on CS Orlovka and reconstruction of GMS Grebenyky, but currently this phase is still in the stage of Project pre-Feasibility Assessment, due to the fact that the implementation of this phase needs involvement of Bulgarian and Romanian sides. From March to May 2018 JSC Ukrtransgaz made non-binding assessment procedure to study the demand among the domestic and adjacent countries market players for firm capacities at the entry point of Isaccea-1-Orlovka (Transit- 1 pipeline) in the direction of Romania-Ukraine. 11 European and Ukrainian gas- trading companies expressed their interest in natural gas transportation in direction RO-UA for the total capacity of up to 10 billion cubic meters per year, exceeding the offered capacities 2 times.	

Permit Granting	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: Obtaining permissions necessary for second and third phases will be started after the Final Investment Decision. Currently adopted FID involves implementation of first phase. FID about other phases of the projects will be taken as soon as possible. The NERC (Ukrainian national energy regulatory) adopted this project as a part of National Ten Year Network Development Plan (TYNDP) 2018-2027. Subject of Regulatory Authority approval in Moldova, after inclusion by Q4 2019 of the project, in TYNDP 2020-2030 of Moldovatransgaz.	
Consultation procedures	No information was provided	
Construction	[Added by the Secretariat based on Transparency Platform data submission of the Project Promoter]: First phase – reverse capacity up to 1.5 bcm/y. Phase does not prescribe any major technical works (will be implemented in 2019); Second phase – reverse capacity up to 5.0 bcm/y. Phase prescribes reconstruction of GMSs Orlovka and Grebenyky, and reverse fitting on CS Orlovka (to be implemented after FID and some additional considerations); Third phase – reverse capacity up to 26.8 bcm/y. The decision about necessary works will be made after coordination of pressure parameters on IP Orlovka with Romanian TSO, and the prospects for the availability of a natural gas resource for transportation via the Trans-Balkan pipeline.	Phase 1 - 2020, reconstruction- construction of the reverse flow of the RI and ShDKRI pipelines on the GMS Caushany Phase 2 - 2022, reconstruction- construction of reverce flow for ATI on GMS Kaushany Phase 3 - 2024, the reconstruction and modernization of the connection system on the CS Vulcaneshty
Commissioning	Phase 1 - 2019; Phase 2 - 2021; Phase 3 – 2024	Phase 1 - 2020; Phase 2 - 2022; Phase 3 - 2024

V. Oil Projects

Oil_01 Ukraine - Poland oil pipeline (Brody - Adamowo)

Oil_01	Poland	Ukraine
Project evolution status	Reschedule	Rescheduled
Evolution driver description	Permit Granting	Permit Granting
Explanation	As a result of the non-constructive position of the Department of Agriculture, the Marshal's Office of the Lubelskie Voivodeship was granted a permit to change the purpose of the plots with a delay of two years. This led to a two-year delay in the	

	process of incorporating the route of the f plans in Poland.	uture oil pipeline into local development	
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule	The promoter strengthened cooperation with the local authorities of Poland to solve the problem.		
Р	Project implementation actions conducted since 2016		
Project development	In 2016-2019, the Promoter continued to prepare local development plans (LDP) for nine local communities (gminas) in Poland with a pipeline route implemented in them. This stage was completed in January 2019. In April 2018, the Feasibility Study update was finalized. A new time schedule for the Project has been prepared. The Promoter also continued the initial activity in the field of land acquisition.		
Permit Granting	The Environmental permit was issued for the Project in October, 2013. During 2016-2017, the promoter obtained the necessary permits for changing the purpose of the land use through which the pipeline will run in 9 communes in Poland. These permits were needed to prepare the local development plans.	The Environmental permit was issued for the Project in October, 2013.	
Consultation procedures	Public consultations were launched in March 2011. They were successfully completed in February 2017. All protests and comments were considered and resolved.	In accordance with the Ukrainian legislation the public consultation will be held at the stage of Construction Permit's obtaining.	
Construction	Has not started yet		
Commissioning			

Oil_02 Transportation of different crudes of oil via Southern Druzhba pipeline

Information was provided by the Ukrainian project promoter

Oil_02	Ukraine	
Project evolution status	Rescheduled	
Evolution driver description	Other	
Explanation	Political, security and macroeconomic challenges at that period left little opportunities to address the tasks of the Project	
Mitigation measures to ensure project schedule	Elaboration and signature of multilateral intergovernmental agreement for unified operational procedures, investment protection and facilitating incentives for operators, mitigation of regional/countries' risks is being proposed	
Project implementation actions conducted since 2016		
Project development	During the last several years MoU on project implementation were signed between Uktransnafta JSC as UA transit operator and SOCAR (AZ) as perspective supplier via the route and with UNIPETROL (CZ, refinery operator) as perspective buyer of those crudes. Project implementation had been endorsed at the last summit by UA and AZ Presidents. Several rounds of negotiations between operators and	

	project related consultations between public authorities conducted at different international bilateral and multilateral levels. Technical aspects of batching shipments have been addressed in detail and commercial rationale of the route checked by operators. In addition to the previously indicated readiness for batching shipments of other related oil transportation operators , SK oil transportation operator Transpetrol succeeded in realising batching transport via its oil transportation system of a different than REB (Russian export blend) type of crude oil to Slovnaft refinery with quantity and quality of separate amount of other crude oil provided by newly built system of control of supply movement in the management system	
Permit Granting	System of permit granting is being introduced in Ukraine in line with EU Regulation 347/2013	
Consultation procedures	See project development cell	
Construction	The only lacking project component - different crudes measurement system - expected to be introduced in form of additional one (max two) 40 000 t reservoirs on SK and/or CZ sections. FA,ESIA/EIA, FEED and other documentation on this object(s) and construction are expected to be developed by respective national oil pipeline transport operators with financing - if decided by those operators - to be accomplished in cooperation with other project participants and / or with EU specialized financial institutions.	
Commissioning	In accordance with project implementation plan to be agreed	

VI. Conclusions and Recommendations

Based on the experience of the first and second round of Projects of Energy Community Interest (PECI) and Projects of Mutual Interest (PMI) selection procedure, the Secretariat formulates the following recommendations to ensure and enhance the further development and eventually commissioning of the PECI and PMI projects.

The Secretariat is aware of the fact –as visible from the present report- that significant amount of required data was not submitted by a number of project promoters. Also, it was difficult to acquire reports from certain project promoters, and also a number semi-filled questionnaires were submitted (late) beyond the indicated deadlines. This issue of low level of cooperation and willingness of project promoters to supply updated progress information causes considerable difficulties to the Secretariat in complying with its own obligations of the Regulation 347/2013, such as the present report or more importantly the Energy Community Transparency Platform (PLIMA).

It shall also be noted that reporting of these data is not only the obligation of the Secretariat based on the Regulation 347/2013, but first and foremost of the project promoters.

Due to the late or no implementation of the Competent Authority in a number of the Contracting Parties, the Secretariat took upon itself, on voluntarily basis, further reporting role, such as collection of the Implementation Plans and Annual Reports of the projects, in line with the published PECI/PMI Project Realization and Monitoring Strategy1.

In the Secretariat's view, the lack of compliance with the minimum reporting requirements by project promoters raises the question in certain instances of how important, and mature the projects

¹<u>https://www.energy-community.org/dam/jcr:727a1620-bfd8-417d-87de-</u> 1b54f0de39a5/ECS_INF_2017_Project_Monitoring.pdf

submitted to the PECI/PMI selection are for the project promoters, which in a large majority are public companies.

- It is thus recommended that the project promoters comply with the reporting requirements and cooperates with the Secretariat by timely and full submission of the required data. In parallel the Secretariat continues to ensure that reasonable deadlines are set to fill-out and send the questionnaires and continues to actively support the project promoters in the event of doubt or questions to ensure that the submitted data is timely and complete. The Secretariat is completely relying on data submission and reporting of the project promoters.
- In order to ensure that viable and realistic projects apply and get selected on the list, it is recommended to introduce an additional eligibility criterion for projects which are on the present list for the next PECI-PMI selection process; namely that, where a project cannot document progress or the reasons thereof cannot be credibly explained, the project shall not be eligible to be assessed as a candidate PECI or PMI for the next round.

Any PECI or PMI project should represent a priority for the promoters and hence, no progress is a clear indication of the lack of maturity of these, or that the promoter(s) is no longer interested in it.

- The nature of cross-border projects requires the intense cooperation of project promoters and involved institutions on both sides of the border, alignment of deadlines for documentation, permits, and finally commissioning year, and regular exchanges on progress of the project status. In order to carry out a successful project, as this did not appear to happen in many PECIs and PMIs, the Secretariat recommends that the project promoters, involved in the implementation of a PECI/PMI projects set up working groups (where this has not yet been the case), in which the relevant departments of the promoters (and possibly other involved institutions) are represented. These working groups should discuss project steps regularly and harmonize their project schedules. It is also recommended that in the future only jointly submitted applications with project technical data from all sides of the cross border project in one single form should be accepted for the forthcoming PECI-PMI processes.
- In Contracting Parties where the Competent Authorities have been set up (Kosovo*, Albania, Serbia) by the corresponding legal acts, the Authorities shall in reality start operation and carry out the tasks as defined in the Regulation 347/2013 (Art.5; Art.8; Art.9; Art.10 of the Regulation 347/2013).
- The Secretariat, as did in the past, is ready to support the transposition and implementation of the Regulation 347/2013 and the formation of the Competent Authorities, furthermore is ready to assist the local authorities in defining the roles and tasks of the Competent

Authorities. The Secretariat will publish a practical Policy Guideline document to assist the setup of the day-to-day operation of these authorities.

- Contracting Parties that have not transposed the Regulation 347/2013, and/or the Competent Authority has not been nominated by a corresponding legal act (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Moldova and Ukraine), shall take steps without delay in order to overcome this breach of the acquis.
- > The Secretariat recommends the Contracting Parties, their authorities and the project promoters to contact the Secretariat in case obstacles arise in further developing the project on the PECI/PMI lists. This serves two purposes:
 - \circ $\;$ the Secretariat becomes aware about the reasons of non-advancement and
 - the Secretariat may jointly, with the promoters and authorities, be able to propose alternative solutions, initiate/coordinate dialogue between the project promoters/authorities and external stakeholders. Good practices already exist in this regard with some project promoters.
- The Secretariat also recommends that the project promoters re-evaluate which projects they really intend to go ahead with in cooperation with their partners. In case certain projects that are currently on the list, are no longer deemed a priority by the project promoters, these should no longer be submitted in the forthcoming PECI/PMI selection process.
- > A number of project promoters did comply with the reporting deadline and supplied most of the required information. It is recommended to browse through the Energy Community Transparency Platform - PLIMA² and use the example of projects where the required amount of information is filled in.

The Secretariat remains available to discuss with and assist the project promoters and the authorities of the Contracting Parties in complying with the obligations of the Regulation 347/2013.

² <u>https://www.energy-community.org/regionalinitiatives/infrastructure/PLIMA.html</u>