

# **THE CZECH REPUBLIC NATIONAL REPORT**

## **on the implementation of the UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION**

**in those countries experiencing serious drought  
and/or desertification, particularly in Africa**

**April 2002**



**Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic**

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*Participants of the Consultative Meeting to Prepare the Implementation of the UNCCD in Central and Eastern Europe, 3 - 4 September 2001, Prague*

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## I. Introduction

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa (“the Convention”) became effective for the Czech Republic on 24 April 2000. The Czech Republic acceded to the Convention with understanding that it does not belong to the countries affected by desertification, but only by moderate soil degradation (soil exhaustion due to agricultural overuse, contamination with chemicals, etc.). From the perspective of the Czech Republic, the accession to the Convention was an expression of solidarity with affected developing countries and of its will to collaborate in the addressing of global environmental issues.

The Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic is responsible for the implementation of the Convention in the Czech Republic and doing so it cooperates with other relevant ministries and stakeholders.

In accordance with Article 26 of the Convention, the Czech Republic presents this report on the measures which it has taken for the implementation of the Convention.

The Report provides an overview of the activities of the Czech Republic concerning the implementation of the Convention and of the most important current as well as former activities relating to combating desertification and drought, although not directly linked to the Convention.

This Report is the first one submitted by the Czech Republic. There are numerous activities in this field undertaken by private companies, government institutions and scientific facilities, however it has not been possible to acquire a complete list of these activities. Many different institutions contributed to the preparation of the National Report and it is expected that they will stay involved in the activities related to combating desertification. Hopefully, this Report shall be only the first step towards establishing new contacts and shall become inspiration for future activities of the Czech Republic in assisting the developing countries affected by desertification.



*Executive Secretary of the UNCCD Mr H. A. Diallo and the Minister of Environment of the Czech Republic Mr Miloš Kužvart at the opening of the Meeting of the Central and Eastern European Countries in Prague, 3 September 2001*

## 2. Activities Concerning Implementation of the Convention

### Assistance to the affected developing countries

The Czech Republic had been involved in projects and scientific research in the field of desertification, soil degradation, and management of water resources a long time before its accession to the Convention. Thus, the Czech Republic can build on the experience of its experts in implementing the Convention.

Since 2000, when the Czech Republic became a Party to the Convention, new projects directly responding to the Convention needs have been initiated, some of them following consultations with the Secretariat of the Convention (No. 6 and 7 in Annex 2, their final approval including funding is expected in 2003).

The Czech Republic has been paying duly contribution to the Convention regular funds. Based on the invitation of COP 5 contained in the Decision ICCD/COP (5)/11/Add. 1., the Country contributed USD 5000 for the support of the newly established Committee for Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC) in 2001.

### Regional Implementation Annex for Central and Eastern Europe

The Czech Republic supported the adoption of Annex V – Regional Implementation Annex for Central and Eastern Europe, which provides the affected Parties of the region with a framework within the Convention to address the issues of desertification and extensive soil degradation.

The Czech Republic does not consider itself a country affected by desertification and is therefore not going to prepare a national action programme. Communication of the understanding of the position of the Czech Republic is presented to the Conference of the Parties in Annex 1 to this Report. This position has been presented by the Head of the Czech delegation at the high-level segment of the COP 4 in December 2000, when the additional Regional Implementation Annex for Central and Eastern Europe had been approved. The Annex entered into force for the Czech Republic on 6 September 2001.

In the Czech Republic, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Environment and their respective scientific agencies are the leading government bodies dealing with land degradation. Areas suitable for extensive farming have been selected. Non-production functions of agriculture and activities contributing to landscape management are supported and agro-environmental programmes are under preparation. Elements of territorial systems of ecological stability of landscape are being established, there is ongoing reforestation, and the proportion of arable land in use is decreasing. At the territory of the Czech Republic, land degradation occurs in the extent comparable to the situation in the neighbouring countries – Member States of the European Union (Austria, Germany), or in other accession countries of the European Union (Slovakia, Poland). The Czech Republic

recommends deepening of sub-regional co-operation between countries facing similar problems. Such co-operation is also supported by bilateral agreements of the Czech Republic with the above-mentioned countries on co-operation in the protection of the environment, which also cover the field of soil protection and prevention of soil degradation.

With the intention to increase awareness of the importance of the Convention among the countries of the region and to encourage the accession of Poland and Slovakia to the Convention, the Minister of Environment of the Czech Republic Mr Miloš Kužvart invited the Secretary General of the Convention Mr H. A. Diallo to participate in the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Ministers of Environment of the “Visegrad Group Countries”, i. e., the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia (Olomouc, the Czech Republic, 30 – 31 August 2001, see also page 5).

On 3 – 4 September 2001, the Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic arranged for a meeting of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe in Prague. Representatives of 19 countries met to discuss the upcoming 5<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of the Parties and the implementation of the Convention in the countries of the region. They also discussed the preparation of national action programmes by the affected countries and of national reports by the developed countries. The meeting was supported by the Secretariat of the Convention by the amount of USD 1500. The same amount provided the Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic through financial and in-kind contribution.

### Participation in the work of the Convention bodies

The Czech Republic sends regularly its delegation to the Sessions of the Conference of the Parties. At the high level segments of COP 4 and COP 5, the Czech Republic was represented by a Deputy Minister of Environment.

A representative of the Czech Republic was a vice-president and a member of the Bureau of COP 4. At COP 5 in 2001, a representative of the Czech Republic has been elected for the post for the second consecutive term, and has been elected a rapporteur of COP 5.

The Czech Republic was also represented at other meetings under the Convention: the Workshop on the land degradation/desertification in Central and Eastern Europe in the context of the Convention, hold on 8–9 May 2000 in Brussels, Belgium, and the Meeting of Ad Hoc Working Group for the in-depth review and analysis of reports, hold on 19 March – 6 April 2001 in Bonn, Germany.

Being the vice-president, the Czech Republic carried out consultations with countries of the region of Central and Eastern Europe and participated in the Meeting of the Committee on Science and Technology on 15 – 17 August 2001, which discussed ways to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its work.

### 3. Other Activities of the Czech Republic Relating to Combating Desertification and Drought

#### General international activities with relation to combating desertification

The Czech Republic is a so-called “emerging donor”, that is, the volume of aid received is gradually decreasing and the Czech Republic is becoming increasingly involved in the international development co-operation as a donor.

On 23 January 2002, the Government of the Czech Republic approved “the Concept of the Czech Republic Foreign Aid Program for the 2002 – 2007 Period”. This concept is based on the following targets and principles:

- supporting democracy, human rights, and social justice;
- reducing poverty through sustainable economic and social development, taking into account its environmental aspects;
- partnership replacing the outdated approach of donor-recipient relation;
- the aid is first of all provided in the fields where the Czech Republic is able to offer its traditional experience (health care, education, energy, machinery industry, environment management), while respecting initiatives and recommendations of the European Union and OECD;
- the aid is lead by the demand of the recipients and not by the offer of its providers.

In 2001, the Czech Republic allocated financial resources of CZK 350 million (approx. USD 10 million) to projects of foreign development aid. Out of that, CZK 16.2 million were provided to projects partially or in the whole devoted to combating desertification and lack of water resources. At the same time, the Czech Republic provided almost USD one million (CZK 31 million) to humanitarian aid projects. In 2001, mandatory/voluntary contributions to international organisations accounted for approximately USD 12 million and about USD 18 million were allocated for the debt-relief of HIPC in 2001.

The Czech Republic suggested the issue of development aid to be considered by the meeting of Ministers of Environment of the Visegrad Group countries (Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia). On 30 August – 1 September 2001, the Executive Secretary to the Convention Mr Hama A Diallo made a visit to the Czech Republic and participated in the mentioned meeting of the Ministers of Environment of the Visegrad Group. At this occasion, he informed the ministers of the need to address desertification, and he emphasised the importance of foreign development aid. Mr H A Diallo also took part in the graduation ceremony of the graduates from the Summer School of Development Aid in Olomouc, the Czech Republic, and met with representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic.

Following previous years' national summer schools, the 1st International Summer School of Development Aid will be organised for participants from the countries of the Visegrad Group in Olomouc on 18 – 24 August 2002. Invited representatives from other countries and the Secretariat of the Convention shall participate as well. The

summer school is organised by the Palacký University in Olomouc, under the auspices and with financial support of the Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic.

The Czech Republic organised the 7<sup>th</sup> Seminar on Cleaner Production on 29 – 30 April 2002 in Prague. The principles of cleaner production represent an integrated approach to solving complex environmental issues and contribute to



*Selection of inappropriate raw materials causes contamination of sludge and waste water in Moldova - a lagoon with high cadmium content.*

improving the quality of human life. The cleaner production projects aim to improve the environment in developing countries. Although the projects are not primarily focused on desertification, management of water resources and improving water quality represent their important part. The Czech Republic is involved in cleaner production activities and has supported various projects within the framework of foreign development aid. At present, the Czech Cleaner Production Centre is preparing a project proposal, which shall be specifically focused on saving of water resources in a country affected by desertification.

#### Bilateral and multilateral aid to countries affected by desertification

Within the foreign development aid, a number of projects has been implemented. Many activities have been financed by universities and research institutes, and in a few cases also by private companies or non-governmental organisations. Annex 2 gives an overview of activities related to desertification, which were implemented in the last few years. The overview is divided by region (countries within the region are listed alphabetically). At the end of every regional part there is a list of planned projects, which are in an advanced phase of project preparation.

There is a broad variety of institutions and bodies who have participated in the implementation of different projects in combating desertification. The majority of activities were financed through the Czech foreign development aid co-ordinated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic in collaboration with other

ministries responsible for projects within their respective competence. Most projects have been supervised by the Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic (projects No. 1, 2, 7, 10, 20, 21, 22, 24, 32), some by the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic (No. 11, 15, 23, 25), and the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic (No. 14). Recently, inter-ministerial projects have also been introduced (the project No. 6 has been submitted as a joint one by the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic and the Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic).

Private companies have been active in regions affected by desertification for many years and possess extensive experience, e. g. companies of Aquatest, Aquatis a.s. Brno, Geomin Jihlava, Geotest Brno, Enki public benefit corporation, and others (No. 2, 3, 6, 12, 13, 14). Geological works from all over the world of Czech private companies as well as government research institutes have received a wide recognition. Recently, Czech hydrogeological works have been mostly concentrated in Mongolia, but also in certain African countries (Ethiopia, see Frame 1).

Frame 1 – Model case: Transfer of know-how in the field of hydrogeology

**Survey of water resources in Ethiopia with focus on drought-affected areas (2001-2002, implemented by Aquatest Co., the Czech Republic)**

The aim of the project is to provide background materials for regional water management planning of development and use of water resources, especially groundwater resources in semiarid areas of Western Ethiopia (Benishangul Province). The plan implementation focuses on the use of these resources in the periods of extreme drought and in prevention of famine. The project is structured as technical aid, including training of the co-operating Ethiopian hydrogeologists.

From the methodology point of view, the project is subdivided into three parts: analysis of water balance, development of water management plan of the Dabus River basin, and development of hydrogeological and hydrochemical map of the area (map double sheet of Asosa - Kurmuk). Together with the fundamental water management instruments for the regional development, the appropriate know-how is being transferred in the form of co-operation in the project implementation with local partners and through training. Necessary material and technical equipment has also been provided.

Some of the projects of the Czech Cleaner Production Centre (No. 10, 20, 21, 22) have been dealing with the issues of saving water resources and the water quality. Other projects have been implemented within the framework of international co-operation and in co-operation with international organisations. The Czech Hydrometeorological Institute co-operates with the WMO (No. 29, 32), the Czech National Committee of the UNESCO-MAB has been participating in the implementation of some projects (No. 3, 31).

Universities have many related activities in developing countries financed from their own resources, within the

framework of their research programmes, or within the framework of foreign development aid in co-operation with relevant ministries. The Institute of Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture, Faculty of Agronomy, the Czech University of Agriculture in Prague offers a study program "Tropical and subtropical agriculture". The University collaborates with developing countries in the area of sustainable agriculture (projects No. 4, 5, 9, 25, 27, 28, 35). The Mendel University of Agriculture and Forestry Brno (Faculty of Agronomy and Faculty of Forestry and Wood Technology, projects No. 8, 11, 16, 17, 26, 36) deals with soil degradation and sustainable forestry. The Masaryk University Brno (Faculty of Science, project No. 26) and the Palacký University Olomouc are involved in scientific research in pedology and soil protection and also concentrate on the foreign development aid. The Palacký University (projects No. 30, 36) has been organising, in co-operation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic and the UNDP, the Summer School of Development Aid. The University is now preparing accreditation of a new study programme "International development studies". Technical University Ostrava (Faculty of Mining and Geology) is engaged in landscape reclamation following industrial exploitation and mining (No. 18, 19). Pedology and hydrology are studied at the Charles University Prague (Faculty of Science, project No. 33).

The Institute of Forestry Management in Brandýs nad Labem, managed by the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic, is involved in study of desertification and soil degradation. It may offer expertise in the development of map background materials employing satellite and aerial photographs, in forest inventory and typology, including soil analyses etc. The Institute is ready to arrange for study stays of scientist, technicians or students dealing with these issues. The Institute has been dealing with these issues at international level for over twenty years, when the Institute was active in tropical and subtropical areas of the world, namely in Africa and Asia. In 1974 – 1988, for instance, the Institute carried out an inventory of forests of the Democratic Republic of Congo, studied the state of forests in Angola and Laos (1978 – 1980) and co-operated in numerous projects and training of local experts in Cameroon. Some of the projects were directly related to desertification. Now the Institute is ready to use the experience gained and to get involved in joint projects in combating desertification in collaboration with partners from affected countries (evaluation of current situation, determination of areas of conflicts, suggesting preventive measures, evaluation of implemented projects and proposals for their modification).

The Research Institute of Amelioration and Soil Protection deals with an integrated approach to the problems of soil, water and landscape management. It implements projects aimed at development and protection of landscape and of soil and water resources (soil protection against erosion, drought, floods, compaction, acidification; minimisation of harmful contaminants from agriculture and from external sources; irrigation; reclamation of lands devastated by mining and industrial activities, etc.). The Institute is involved in international co-operation within the river basins of the Labe River, Danube River, and Odra River, as well as in other river basins. It also organises international

conferences (e.g. Sustainable Utilisation of Land and Water in 2001; Protection of Natural Resources in Agriculture of Central and Eastern Europe in 1998; Floods and Landscape in 1998). The Institute publishes methodologies for field use and scientific publications on different subjects including desertification, which are distributed also to developing countries. Foreign experts are trained in the Institute (e.g. a technician from the University of Dar-as-Salaam, Tanzania was trained in water sampling and analysis).

Frame 2 – Model case: Technology transfer in the prevention of aridisation of landscape

**“The role of wetlands in retention of water and nutrients in the landscape, i.e. in preventing aridisation of the landscape, and in final treatment of wastewater”** (1999 – 2004. The project is implemented by Enki public benefit corporation, in co-operation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, UNESCO, and the European Union)

The main focus of the project is the protection of wetlands and water resources and their sustainable use in the Lake Victoria region in East Africa and in the Middle Asia. The project has been further extended to the solar energy utilisation and management of lakes. The project also contributes to improving the quality of human life of the populations on the shores of Lake Victoria by means of increased fish production. It enables full participation of local communities. Women, who trade in fish, cultivate the land, and harvest farm production, play the key role in the project.

Within the project a system of integrated agriculture was developed and tested: it is based on fish breeding in fingerponds of Lake Victoria wetlands while maintaining biodiversity and integrity of the environment. The project builds on local experience with lake management, which is enriched by innovative procedures. The breeding in fingerponds is based on extensive or semi-intensive techniques of fish production, which provides a sufficient source of proteins to the local population during the dry season. The fingerponds are dug out in the direction from land and run like fingers into the wetlands. Soil excavated from the fingerponds is piled in between the fingerponds and thus create small elevated fields for cultivation. In the course of seasonal floods in wetlands larger numbers of fish get concentrated in the fingerponds. Then the fish remains captured in fingerponds once the water level in surroundings drops. Fish is bred in the fingerponds enriched by natural organic fertilisers (kitchen waste, manure).

The Project contributes to reduction of starving and increases the income of the local population without causing damage to the natural environment. The local

community is involved and the stakeholders participate in the management of the project.

The Project was launched within the framework of the Czech Republic foreign development aid to the countries of East Africa (Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania), and was further expanded to cover the region of wetlands in surroundings of Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. The project acquired financial support within the participation programmes of the UNESCO, and in 2002 – 2004 the European Union shall participate in its funding. Therefore the project is also a model case of a trilateral project, with participation of the country of recipient, country providing mostly expertise, and a third country, the donor.



*People living on the shores of the Lake Victoria.*

Several non-governmental organisations are interested in arid areas, e.g. the Union for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection - TIS organisation, which arranged for six expeditions to the Sahara region in 1967 - 75. The results of the expeditions were, among others, the proposal for establishing protected areas in Tassili and a film about the Sahara nature, which was awarded at the festival in Cartago. A methodology of propagation of the vanishing Tassili cypress *Cupressus dupreziana* has been developed and new valuable zoological findings from Sahara, namely in the fields of entomology and ichthyology, have been presented (from distant relict water bodies in the middle of the Sahara Desert).

The above given information demonstrate that the Czech Republic as an emerging donor country is ready to contribute to addressing the issues related to desertification in developing countries. However, the financial aid provided by the Czech Republic will not, for a certain period of time, reach the levels of traditional donor countries. Nevertheless, the Czech Republic may often provide unique knowledge, information, technology, and know-how. In such cases, it is of a great benefit for all when a third party (a donor country), is willing to join the project and provide the missing financial resources (see Frame

## 4. Summary

2).The Czech Republic became a Party to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, on 24 April 2000, with the intention to assist with addressing the global issues of today's world. It is the poorest countries, who often suffer from these global problems most.

The Czech Republic does not belong to the affected countries as defined by the Convention.

The Czech Republic is an accession country of the European Union and one of the so-called emerging donor countries. Although the financial resources of the Czech Republic for the foreign development aid are limited, numerous projects in the field of combating desertification have been implemented. The assistance to the affected countries is also provided by scientific and research institutions, universities, and private companies. The importance of the Czech development assistance may be seen in providing technology, know-how, and information.

Numerous institutions in the Czech Republic are interested in getting involved in the work of the Convention. For their easier orientation in the Convention matters, there is a need for improving the information flow between the affected developing countries and the countries providing assistance not only on the financial needs but also on the needs for technologies and on other problematic issues related to desertification.

Attention should be paid to the potential of the countries having experience, know-how and technologies, but not in a position to provide significant funding. A support from the traditional donor countries within the framework of trilateral projects may bring high quality results and effectiveness.

The Czech Republic has extensive experience and is willing to provide assistance to the affected countries namely in the fields of development of map background data employing satellite and aerial photographs, geological, hydrogeological and soil survey, climatology, meteorology, and hydrology, soil and water management, landscape management, forest typology, inventory and management, scientific research, reclamation and regeneration of landscape following industrial exploitation and mining, etc.

## 5. Abbreviations and Acronyms

COP	Conference of the Parties
CHMI	Czech Hydrometeorological Institute
CRIC	Committee for Review of the Implementation of the Convention
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
MAB	Man And Biosphere programme
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoE	Ministry of Environment
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
UNCCD	the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
ITSA	Institute of Tropical and Subtropical Agriculture
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
WMO	World Meteorological Organisation

## Annex I

### **Communication of the Czech Republic concerning Annex V to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa**

The Czech Republic welcomes the adoption of the Annex V to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, adopted in Paris of October 14, 1994 ("Convention") aimed at providing guidelines and arrangements for the effective implementation of the Convention in the affected areas - Parties to the Convention in the region of Central and Eastern Europe. The Czech Republic also acknowledges the importance of Annex V for the promotion of subregional co-operation between the affected and non-affected countries in the region.

The Czech Republic understands that it is not an "affected country" as defined in Article 1 of the Convention, and that it is therefore not required to prepare a national action program pursuant to Articles 9 -15 of the Convention, and pursuant to Articles 3, 4 and 5 of Annex V.

The Czech Republic also understands that no changes to its existing land management practices and programmes will be required to meet its obligations under Annex V.

## Annex 2

### Overview of Activities to Combat Desertification

#### Part 1 – Africa

##### Completed and ongoing activities

N°.	State	Project Name	Implemented by	Date	CR Contribution	Project Scope
1.	Burkina Faso	Evaluation of energy potential of black shales in the Republic of Burkina Faso and environmental effects of their combustion	Czech Geological Survey, the Czech Republic	2001-2002	CZK 2.8 million	The Project addresses the lack of energy raw material in the country with the highest energy prices in Africa. The objective of the project is to contribute to reducing deforestation and related desertification.
2.	Ethiopia	Survey of water resources in Ethiopia with focus on drought-affected areas	Aquatest, the Czech Republic	2001-2002	CZK 3.9 million	Background materials for regional water management development planning and use of water resources, namely groundwater in semi-arid areas of western Ethiopia, water utilisation in periods of extreme drought and famine prevention.
3.	Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Central Asia (Kyrgyzstan)	The role of wetlands in retention of water and nutrients in the landscape, i.e. in preventing aridisation of the landscape, and in final treatment of wastewater	Enki, o. p. s. and the Czech National Committee of UNESCO-MAB, since August 2001, with the support of the European Union for the three-year period 2002-2004	1999-2004	CZK 3.8 million	Training of experts in the use of natural resources. In Africa the project helps to return water into landscape, to seek alternative sources of nutrition (fish breeding), involvement of local population, including women. In Asia the project addresses the landscape devastation due to excessive grazing and damage to the natural hydrological regime. The project is financially supported by the European Union.
4.	Namibia, Czech Republic	Selection of certain varieties of vegetables to be grown on saline soils in Namibia	Czech University of Agriculture in Prague, ITSA, a PhD Thesis			Soil salinity; the author is also responsible for the co-operation with the University of Namibia in the field of education and research.
5.	Namibia, Czech Republic	Screening of tolerance to salinity in selected species of the family Cucurbitaceae	Czech University of Agriculture Prague, ITSA, the Czech Republic and the University of Namibia	since 1998		Detailed analyses of soil, water, field experiments, selection of varieties of some vegetable species to be grown on saline soils under semi-arid conditions of Namibia.
	Ghana	See project No. 27				

##### Activities under preparation

6.	Burkina Faso	Town of Toma – drinking water supply	Aquatis a.s. Brno, the Czech Republic	project under preparation	CZK 6.7 million	Technical assistance in the search for water resources for the town; the follow-up project and delivery of the construction of the public water supply system. The project will be financially supported by the Government of Burkina Faso.
7.	Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger	Liptako-Gourma – transboundary cooperation between Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger in the field of combating desertification	UNCCD, UNDP, non-governmental organisations from the recipient countries	intention to join a multilateral project	CZK 1 million	Support to sustainable management of natural resources – pastures and forest ecosystems. It is a multilateral project with several donors.
8.	Mali, Czech Republic	Research on mycorrhiza in relation to increasing water supply for plants	Mendel University of Agriculture and Forestry Brno, Faculty of Agronomy, the Czech Republic; Université du Mali, Institute de Polytechnique Rural de Katibougou-Koulikoro, Mali	project under preparation		Education of postgraduate students from the Université du Mali at Faculty of Agronomy of the Mendel University of Agriculture and Forestry Brno, expert assistance of researchers of the Faculty in the application of mycorrhiza techniques in Mali.

## Part 2 – Asia

### Completed and ongoing activities

Nº.	State	Project Name	Implemented by	Date	CR Contribution	Project Scope
9.	Israel	Afforestation of desert areas in the Negev desert	The Czech University of Agriculture in Prague, ITSA, Keren Kaymeth Lesrael, Istrael	since 1998		Co-operation in the afforestation in the desert areas of the Negev and in other areas of Middle East.
10.	India	Implementation of Czech environmentally friendly technologies and know-how in India	Czech Cleaner Production Centre, the Czech Republic	2001-2002	CZK 2.9 million	Providing of Czech environmentally sound technologies, namely in fields of wastewater treatment, measuring of water flow rate, producing drinking water from surface water, etc.
11.	Republic of Yemen	Formation of environmental network and agro-forestry aspects of sustainable development of the Socotra Island – Republic of Yemen	Mendel University of Agriculture and Forestry Brno, Faculty of Forestry and Wood Technology; in co-operation with the Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic and the FAO Foundation Fund	1999-2001	CZK 8.1 million	Analysis of ecotopes, geomorphology, geology, pedology, climate, floristic analysis, analysis of tree populations, propagation of autochthonous forest species, analysis of indigenous management methods, education of workers, replanting of the species <i>Avicena marina</i> onto the natural, at present degraded habitats at the North of the island.
12.	Mongolia	Geological and geochemical mapping in the Gobi Desert region at scale 1:200 000	Geomin Jihlava, the Czech Republic	1999-2002	CZK 31 million	One of the outcomes of the project is a hydrogeological characteristic of the area and determination of an area suitable for acquisition of new water resources in the arid region.
13.	Mongolia	Geological works in Mongolia	Geomin Jihlava, the Czech Republic	1997-1999	CZK 4 million	Hydrogeological survey and determination of contamination of water by oil in selected industrial premises in Ulaanbaatar; hydrogeological and geophysical surveys in Chandmani and Erdene, centres of Somons, where the drinking water supply is permanently very poor.
14.	Mongolia	Assistance in designing the water supply system in the region of Mandalgobi	GEOtest Brno, a.s., the Czech Republic	2002-2004	CZK 5 million for 2002, total CZK 19 milion	Hydrological survey of the area Dunogobi; development of feasibility study of the water supply to the town and enterprises in Mandalgovi. In the region there is an old and insufficient water distribution system and numerous water resources were exhausted.
	Kyrgyzstan	See project No. 3				

## Part 3 – Latin America and the Caribbean

### Completed and ongoing activities

Nº.	State	Project Name	Implemented by	Date	CR Contribution	Project Scope
15.	Ecuador, Chile, Columbia, Peru	Reforestation of deforested localities in the Andes by means of container-grown plants of the PATRIK system	Lesy ČR, s.p., the Czech Republic	1998-2003	CZK 10 milion	Technical assistance in the forests revitalisation, transfer of the Czech know-how and technology.
16.	Nicaragua	Reconstruction and revitalization of economy of the community Chacra Seca	Faculty of forestry of the Mendel University of Agriculture and Forestry, Brno, City council of Brno	1996-1999	Czech expert assistance, the Netherlands-finances, Nicaragua – forest workers	Trilateral project (the Netherlands, the Czech Republic, Nicaragua) co-ordinated by the foundation N.E.W.S., technical supervision by a Czech expert. Protection of soil through afforestation of severely damaged and eroded agricultural lands after the Hurricane Mitch shift of sub-humid agricultural land towards dry savannah forest.
17.	El Salvador	Afforestation in El-Salvador, village El Paraíso	Faculty of forestry of the Mendel University of Agriculture and Forestry, Brno and company 3F Prague, s.r.o.	2001-2002	In 2001 – CZK 0,5 million	Protection of soil through afforestation of sub-humid land, shift from sub-humid agricultural land towards dry savannah forest.

## Part 4 – Central and Eastern Europe

### Completed and ongoing activities

N°.	State	Project Name	Implemented by	Date	CR Contribution	Project Scope
18.	Czech Republic	Initiation of natural ecosystems in the process of regeneration of landscape affected by mining in the Karviná Region	University of Mining – Technical University of Ostrava, Faculty of Mining and Geology, the Czech Republic	2001-2003	CZK 0.15 mil. annually	Development of strategy of regeneration of landscape affected by mining. Regeneration of water cycles and regeneration of vegetation cover of dispersed trees out of forest on the territory affected by mining activities.
19.	Czech Republic	Environmental issues of the landscape affected by mining and industry	University of Mining – Technical University of Ostrava, Faculty of Mining and Geology, the Czech Rep.	1999-2003	CZK 0.1 -0, 2 mil. annually	Issues of ecological stability and regeneration of landscape devastated by mining activities.
20.	Croatia	Building of capacities for the cleaner production in Croatia	Czech Cleaner Production Centre, the Czech Republic	1997-1999	CZK 6.5 million	Prevention of pollution in industry. Many model projects often focused on issues of water management.
21.	Macedonia	Building of capacities for the cleaner production in Macedonia	Czech Cleaner Production Centre, the Czech Republic	2001-2003	CZK 8 million	The project builds on the project in Macedonia. Many model projects often focus on issues of water management.
22.	Moldova	Building of institutional and professional capacities for the application of precautionary approach in industry	Czech Cleaner Production Centre, the Czech Republic	2001-2003	CZK 6 million	Measures to be incorporated into manufacturing technologies, aiming at solving environmental issues and improving the efficiency of the enterprise. Model projects mostly focus on rationalisation of water management and reduction of wastewater production.
23.		Seminary of the FAO “Transformation and reconstruction of irrigation and drainage systems in Central and Eastern Europe”	A seminar organised within the framework of 19th European Regional Conference of the ICID (International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage)	4.-8.6.2001	CZK 1.5 million	The seminar concentrated on sustainable use of soil and water.
24.	Czech Republic	Survey and analysis of the state of land degradation and damage at the territory of the Czech Republic	The Research Institute of Amelioration and Soil Protection, Prague – project MoE	1997-1998	CZK 1,4 million	Assessment of land degradation in the Czech Republic including evaluation of different causes of land degradation.
25.	Czech Republic	Soil quality, criteria for its assessment, evaluation of the present state and trends in relation to degradation processes and the need for improvement and the usage of soil	The Research Institute of Amelioration and Soil Protection and the Czech University of Agriculture – project MoA	2001-2004	CZK 3,42 million	With respect to the Convention, the most important part of the extensive project is the one dealing with the use of degraded lands.
	Macedonia	See project No. 27				

### Activities under preparation

N°.	State	Project Name	Implemented by	Date	CR Contribution	Project Scope
26.	Czech Republic	Soil degradation in the region of South Moravia	Masaryk University Brno, Mendel Agriculture University Brno, the Czech Republic	project under preparation		Effects of climate change on soil quality and degradation in the region of South Moravia.

## Part 5 – activities of inter-regional character

### Completed and ongoing activities

Nº.	State	Project Name	Implemented by	Date	CR Contribution	Project Scope
27.	Czech Republic	Support to sustainable development of agriculture in some developing countries	Czech University of Agriculture in Prague – ITSA			Composting of biological waste aimed at the reduction of energy inputs of fossil fuels and formation of waste free technologies in agricultural systems.
28.	Czech Republic	UNESCO/WMO international post-graduate course on hydrology “Hydrological Data for Water Resource Planning”	Czech University of Agriculture in Prague-Committee for Post-Graduate Studies in Hydrology, in co-operation with the CHMI, under patronage of the UNESCO and WMO	1998, 2000 (every 2 years)	CZK 0.8 million (every year CZK 0.4 million)	Education of specialists from developing countries (Africa, Eastern Europe) in modern hydrology, including improvement of water management.
29.	Czech Republic, Macedonia, Ghana	Climatic database system “CLIDATA” – training and technical support to developing countries	Czech Hydrometeorological Institute	1998-2000	CZK 2.4 million	Assistance to the developing countries to create an up-to-date climatological database, based on the Oracle system (providing information technology, software, training of administrators and users). In 2000, the system CLIDATA was provided to Ghana and Macedonia.
30.	Czech Republic	International summer school of development aid and co-operation	Centre of Inter-disciplinary Studies of the Palacký University, Olomouc, in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic and UNDP	18. - 24.8. 2002	CZK 0.12 million	One week course of development aid for representatives of the countries of the Visegrad Group aimed at supporting the transition of these countries from the position of recipient into the position of donor countries. Participation of representatives from African countries planned. UNESCO has been asked for USD 12500.
31.	Czech Republic	International conference “Roles of Wetlands in Biosphere Reserves”	Czech National Committee of the UNESCO Programme “Man and Biosphere (MAB)”	13.-18.10. 2002	CZK 0.35 million	The conference organised in co-operation with the Czech Ramsar Committee, with participation of experts on wetlands from less rich countries. UNESCO has been asked for USD 16500.
32.	Various states	Technical assistance in the fields of meteorology, hydrology, and air pollution control	Czech Hydrometeorological Institute	1997-2001	CZK 9 million	Assistance to the countries from mostly Eastern and Southern Europe, but also from Africa, Asia, and South America in the fields of climatology, meteorology, and hydrology in co-operation with WMO.
33.		International conference Model CARE 2002 “Calibration and accuracy of hydro-geological modelling”	Department of Hydrogeology of the Faculty of Science of the Charles University in Prague, the Czech Republic	17.-20. 6. 2002		An international conference on results of research in the modelling of processes and forecasting simulations in hydrogeology, with participation of experts from developing countries. UNESCO has been asked for USD 11250.

### Activities under preparation

Nº.	State	Project Name	Implemented by	Date	CR Contribution	Project Scope
34.	Czech Republic	Development of a new study program “International development studies”	Palacký University, Olomouc, Faculty of Science, the Czech Rep.	since 2003		Focus on aid to developing countries.
35.	Czech Republic	Natural resources and Environment	Faculty of Agronomy of the Czech University of Agriculture in Prague, the Czech Republic	Academic year 2002-2003		A study programme in English aimed at education of experts in the fields of natural resources protection and environmental management; protection of soil, water resources, and their mutual relations including effects of agricultural activities are included in the course program.
36.	Czech Republic	Indicators of soil degradation	Faculty of Agronomy of the Mendel University of Agriculture and Forestry Brno, the Palacký University, Olomouc, the Czech Republic	Project under preparation		The aim is to develop a proposal of simple and economically viable indicators, describing the degree of soil degradation and potential for improvement. Trans-boundary co-operation is planned and students and experts from some African countries should become involved.

