

Government and Environment

*A Directory of Governmental
Institutions with Environmental Responsibilities
in Central and Eastern Europe*

Sixth Edition

edited by **Emese Gal** and **Grazyna Krzywkowska**

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THE REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER
for Central and Eastern Europe

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Introduction

In an effort to address environmental issues more effectively, Central and Eastern European (CEE) governments have been reorganising on several different levels. Various environmental responsibilities have therefore been shifted to the regional or local level, or are now shared between national and regional agencies. In many cases, governmental institutions outside the respective ministries of environment have acquired significant environmental responsibilities.

This reorganisation has made it difficult for environmental professionals, members of non-governmental organisations, academics and the layman alike to identify the governmental body or institution responsible for a given environmental issue, or to track down important information, accurate data or a well-informed expert. In order to identify the right person or obtain correct information, it is essential to understand the organisational structure of those government agencies with environmental responsibilities.

For this reason the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC) has compiled the 6th edition of *Government and Environment: A Directory for Central and Eastern Europe*. We also hope this directory will facilitate the exchange of information and experiences between governments of the region on the issues of environment protection.

How to use this directory

The Directory presents all ministries and other governmental institutions with significant environmental responsibilities in 15 Central and East European countries, and includes the territories of Kosovo (currently under United Nations interim administration) and Republika Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Each country chapter is divided into five main sections: an introductory country profile, listings of authorities responsible for environmental protection, environmental monitoring, public access to environmental information, and control and enforcement of environmental regulations. The introductory country profile includes data for the year 2000, unless otherwise indicated. The remaining sections each list key contact data, while an annex to each chapter includes organisational charts collected during the government survey.

In each case, we present all available information as of the date of publication. Missing information in some parts is most likely due to the fact that a responsible body has not been established in a given country. Data in the introductory country profiles, unless otherwise indicated, are the most recent available.

In order to assist us in keeping the Directory up-to-date, especially its online version, any notification of changes in country information is welcome. We also encourage the submission of comments on how to improve future editions of the Directory. Comments can be sent to Grazyna Krzywkowska, Project Manager, Information Programme, REC, Ady Endre ut 9-11, 2000 Szentendre, Hungary. E-mail: gkrzywkowska@rec.org.

A fully searchable online version of this edition of the Directory can also be found on the REC Web site at: www.rec.org/REC/Directories/GovDir/GovDirFind.html.

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