Bridging Partners, Regions, and Concepts…

Presentation of
The Regional Environmental Center
for Central and Eastern Europe

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Our Mission

• “(...) The REC is a non-partisan, non-advocacy, not-for-profit international organisation with a mission to assist in solving environmental problems (...)”

• The REC is legally based on a charter signed by the governments of 28 countries and the EC

• Inter-governmental organisation
  • 180+ staff (some 30 nationalities)
  • Over 300 running projects
  • 12 million Euro annual turnover
CEE

- 16 COs
- 2 FOs
  - Banja Luka
  - Kosovo/a
- Head Office
  - Szentendre, Hungary
- New Office
  - Turkey/Ankara
- Operation beyond CEE!

Bridges – Across Borders

- Government
- NGOs
- Local Governments
- Business
- Citizens
- The REC

www.rec.org
Activities and Tools

New Solutions:
- Lessons Learned
- Direct Solutions
- Cooperation
- Policy Tools
- Information
- Enabling, Capacity Building

1990 2000 2010

Transition
Accession
Sustainable Development
Post Accession Support

The REC & The Rio Process

• Since its establishment the REC is contributing to the sustainable development in CEE

• REC Mission emphasises partnerships / multi-stakeholder dialogue and cooperation

• The REC facilitates actions of the environmental stakeholders (informing, training and enabling)
Strategic Environmental Assessment

• SEA is a key tool for implementing WSSD commitments
• Our goal:
  • the integration of environmental issues into decision making by extending the use of environmental assessment,
  • supporting reforms that improve transparency, increase accountability and effectiveness in environmental assessment systems
  • searching for locally appropriate procedures rather than copying the environmental assessment practices of other countries

Strategic Environmental Assessment

• CEE-regional cooperative programme on SEA managed by REC since 1997 – includes 17 large-scale SEAs in EU Accession and SEE countries + regional activities
• REC has assisted Italian Presidency in formulating their recommendations on capacity building for the SEA directive
• This workshop follows these recommendations
• REC got mandate to develop a training resource manual for UNECE SEA protocol
Wishing you a fruitful and successful workshop in the coming days and a useful partnership in the future!

Thank You for Your Attention!