



THE REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER  
for Central and Eastern Europe

## Summary Report for NGO REReP Cooperative Grants

**REC grant:** #21254  
**Grant Topic:** Regional Environmental Reconstruction Programme (REReP)  
**Donor:** The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Netherlands

**Project Title:** Development of SEE Environmental NGO Network (SEEENN)

**Leading NGO:** The Ecologists' Movement of Macedonia  
**NGO Contact information:** Vasil Gjorgov 39/6 1000 Skopje, Macedonia  
**Project leader:** Daniela Stojanova

**Cooperative NGO Partners and Countries:**

**Grant Awarded:** Green Action – Croatia;  
Young Researchers of Serbia – Yugoslavia;  
Young Researchers of Banja Luka – Bosnia & Herzegovina;  
80.000,00 EUR

**Project Duration:** July 2001 – June 2002

### Background of the problem:

The last decade of conflicts, war and economic fail in the Balkan region made damages both to the people's health and environment. Beside this we have to recognize that such co-operation, networking and civil society meetings in the SEE region existed in the past decades.

SEEENN – South Eastern European Environmental NGOs Network was established in June 2000 with the agreement of more than 60 Balkan environmental NGOs, participating in the Conference "Sustainable development in the Balkans" in Struga, Macedonia.

### Goal and objectives of the project:

Main goal of the project is to create a platform for co-operation and information exchange of NGOs in SEE in order to:

- to strengthen the environmental NGO community in SEE;
- to ensure permanent flow of information between NGOs; and
- to enable permanent and sufficient NGO input into REReP, Stability Pact and other development initiatives in the region

### Methodology and strategy:

- **Establishing the SEEENN Secretariat** in Macedonia
- **Organizing Network Meetings** in different SEE countries with the wide participation of NGOs.



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- **Participating in the REReP Task Force Meeting** – ensuring representation of SEE NGOs as well as reporting and monitoring the REReP implementation.
- **Establishing SEENN Executive Board and Advisory Committee** – definition and improvement of SEENN structure as well as SEE NGOs representation.
- **Organizing National NGO meeting** with Bosnian NGOs.
- **Ensuring information exchange** through meetings, bulletin and web site.

#### **Achievements/Outcomes**

- Secretariat Office is established and equipped in Skopje, Republic of Macedonia and is helping NGOs with distributing information, assisting the implementation of REReP projects, promoting cooperation and networking among SEE NGOs etc.
- Report on realized activities of SEENN between two REReP TF meetings was prepared and presented to the third REReP TF Meeting that took place in Sarajevo on 7<sup>th</sup> of September 2001.
- Project Partners organised 3 preparatory meeting before starting with other activities in order to organise First Regional Conference better as well as to prepare the intermediate report.
- Secretariat in coordination with Advisory Committee prepared the proposal to the First Regional Conference concerning the Structure of the Network including the Executive Board and Advisory Committee.
- First Regional Conference took place from 7 – 10 February 2002 in Stubicke Toplice, Croatia. Conference was attended by 75 participants from 35 Balkan environmental NGOs and European international organizations. Participants discussed about environmental condition in the Balkans, priority issues, joint activities, and development of SEENN. A Conference Statement was adopted.
- The document about SEENN Structure was agreed during the I SEENN Conference. I Executive Board of SEENN was elected which strengthened the geographical representation of the SEE NGOs.
- First Meeting of Executive Board took place on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2002 in Belgrade. Members reviewed the Conference results, defined the Terms of References, agreed on participation in the forth REReP Task Force Meeting.
- Secretariat prepared the NGO report for the Fourth REReP Task Force meeting and organized the NGO participation. The Meeting took place on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2002 in Brussels. Participants used the opportunity to participate in Green Week events and represented SEENN.
- First Issue Oriented Workshop took place from 27 – 30 April 2002 in Palic, Serbia on Biodiversity issues. The Conference was attended by 34 participants from 23 Balkan NGOs as well as representatives of the Balkan Net, WWF. Participants adopted recommendations concerning bio diversity in the SEE region.
- National Meeting in Bosnia took place from 7 – 10 June 2002 in Jahorina, BiH. 12 BiH NGOs attended meeting. Problems, priority activities and time schedule were agreed for BiH NGOs.
- One number of the Bulletin is printed on 7 languages, presented and distributed. Two other are in process of lay out – and they will be printed until end of June.
- Web site is created - SEE NGOs have opportunity to discuss through Forums and find new information about environmental issues. The address is [www.seenn.org.mk](http://www.seenn.org.mk)/[www.seenn.net](http://www.seenn.net).

#### **Follow Up:**

Realization of second phase of “Development of SEENN” project, financed by European Commission – DG Environment.