

Recent developments with the Stabilisation and Association Process

REReP meeting
Brussels September 2005



Elements of the SAP

- Stabilisation and Association Agreements
 - Contractual basis for relations
- European Partnerships
 - Identify priorities (short and medium term)
- Monitoring and reporting
- National programmes to meet priorities
- Financial assistance to meet the priorities through CARDS until 2006



Stabilisation and Association Agreements

- Croatian SAA entered into force on 1 February 2005
- fYROM in force since April 2004
- Albania
 - under negotiation
- Serbia and Montenegro
 - Negotiations to start soon
- Bosnia-Herzegovina
 - Awaiting progress in priorities identified in 2003 feasibility report



Developments

- Croatia
 - Benefits from ISPA + Phare
 - ISPA Strategy (DABLAS/PEIP projects included)
 - Retain CARDS regional but not national
 - Opening of negotiations not yet underway
 - SAA in force since 1/2/05 – framework of meetings initiated
 - Benefits study extended to cover Croatia
- Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
 - Commission opinion due 9 November



Developments

- **Serbia and Montenegro**
 - Commission Communication recommended opening SAA negotiations
 - Council agreement –April 2005
- **Kosovo under UN Security Council Resolution 1244**
 - Commission Communication in April 2005
 - supported inclusion in regional initiatives with REReP cited as an example



Developments

- CARDS Regional 2005
 - Financial proposal approved by CARDS Committee Sept. 05
 - Intention is to continue support for REReP Secretariat beyond current contract.
- Commission reorganisation
 - SEE now dealt with by DG ELARG
 - Reinforces perspective of EU membership



Danube-Black Sea (DABLAS)

- Half of the 30 priority projects moved forward with 9 now fully funded
- 17 New projects identified through the Danube Investment Support Facility, the Priority Environmental Investment Programme (PEIP), the Black Sea Project Broker, the PPC officer for the Balkans, the ISPA Strategy for Croatia and by countries themselves
- Total pipeline consists now of 38 priority projects



DABLAS cont.

- **Priorities for 2005/2006**
 1. Continue pipeline development
 2. Technical Assistance work
 3. Dissemination of information and experience
 4. Increasing stakeholder participation
 5. Links with WFD and EUWI
 6. Identify Special Initiatives for Black Sea Countries



Infrastructure Steering Group

- Environment meeting May 2005 – PEIP focus
- IFIs preliminary view on bankability
- Projects with best chance of finance identified (if supported nationally) – not endorsed by ISG
- Need to fit into strategies (current or future) – can't bypass
- Need to fit into national investment programme – cross ministry involvement.



Other initiatives

- SEE Regional Electricity Market
 - binding legal agreement
 - Opens up electricity market and phases-in EU environmental norms and standards
 - General agreement reached



The future

- EU member states must still decide on financial perspectives (2007-2013)
- CARDS and pre-accession instruments (Phare, SAPARD, ISPA) to be replaced by a single pre-accession instrument.

- Further information
 - http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/enlarg/southeasteur_en.htm