

## Electronic networking of environmental NGOs

*According to Vesna Petrovic, vice-president of Green Istria, «green» electronic communication workshops are carried out by the REC in all countries of South East Europe region.*

**PULA** – A two-day workshop on electronic networking of Croatian environmental NGOs, organised jointly by the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe and the NGO Green Istria, started yesterday in Pula. On the first day, in the «Pula» Hotel, members of around 20 Croatian NGOs and the representatives of national «green» enetworks of Romania (*StrawberryNet*) and Bulgaria (*BlueLink*), REC Country Office Croatia, and REC Head Office, took part in the workshop. The workshop is a part of a wider REC project, aimed at promoting cooperation among environmental NGOs in South East Europe via electronic communication development. Namely, the REC is a regional organisation, which, among other activities, financially supports activities of environmental non-governmental organisations of the Central and Eastern Europe. The REC was founded in 1990 by the governments of the USA, Hungary and the European Commission, and is seated in Szentendre, near Budapest. The REC is active in Croatia as well, through its Country Office established in Zagreb in 1993.

According to Vesna Petrovic, vice-president of Green Istria, «green» electronic communication workshops are carried out by the REC in all countries of the South East Europe region. Regionally, environmental NGOs are, namely, at different stages of development as concerns their electronic communication capacity, ranging from those who lack even the basic PC equipment to the others, which take an active part in enetworking. An example, claims Ms Petrovic, is Bulgaria, where environmental NGOs have been connected into an e-network five years ago.

The workshop ends today, after the practical part of the programme has been held in the information lab of the Faculty of Economy and Tourism in Pula.