

## Bridging Partners, Regions and Concepts...

The Regional Environmental Reconstruction Programme  
for South Eastern Europe  
**Foundation for Integration**  
September 2007

Dr. Corrado Clini  
Chairman of the Board



## Bridging Stakeholders

- **The REC is an international organisation with a mission to assist in solving environmental problems.....**

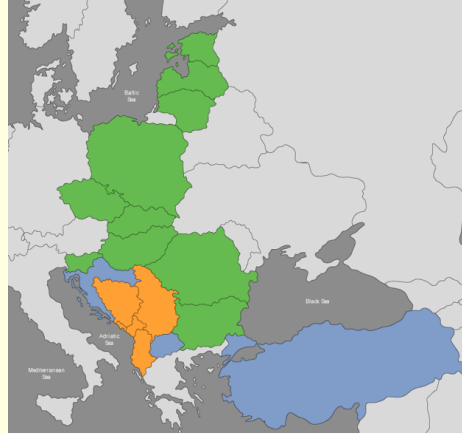
- Legally based on a charter signed by the governments of 29 countries and the European Commission
- Multi-stakeholder International Board
- 190 staff (some 30 nationalities)
- 100% project based organization (over 300 running projects)
- 10 million Euro annual turnover
- Offices in 17 countries
- Population served ~ 200 million
- Operations beyond Central and Eastern Europe



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## REC: access to different frames

- New EU Members
- Accession Countries
- Pre-Accession Countries/  
Stabilization and  
Association  
Programs



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## Projects in SEE (1)

- Offices in Banja Luka, Belgrade, Kosovo, Ljubljana, Podgorica, Sarajevo, Skopje, Tirana, Zagreb
- Projects on (and some key examples)
  - Capacity Building
    - Course for Sustainability
    - Training for Environmental Inspectors
    - Young Environmental Leaders
    - Capacity building in the field of greenhouse gas emission inventory
  - Climate Change
    - Kyoto Protocol
    - Vulnerability assessments and adaptation measures
    - Establishment of national scheme for CDM



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## Projects in SEE (2)

- Water Resources Management
  - International Sava Commission
  - Danube Regional Project
  - Non-conventional waste water treatment
- Energy Efficiency and Renewables
  - Renewable Energy Secretariat (REEEP)
  - Clean Fuels
- Natural Resources Protection
  - Cooperation on Shared Natural Resources (West Stara Planina, Skadar Lake)
  - Adriatic Sea Partnership



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## Major environmental Initiative under the Stability Pact for SEE – “REReP”

- Regional Environmental Reconstruction Programme for South Eastern Europe
- Launched in 2000 in the frame of Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe
- Task Force comprising of ministers of Environment, EC, donors and NGOs guides its implementation
- Since the very beginning the REC plays a role of Secretariat of REReP



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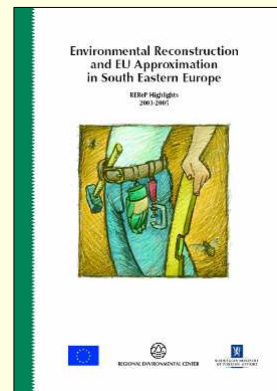
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## Major environmental Initiative under the Stability Pact for SEE – “REReP”

- Since launch of REReP growing efforts for
  - strengthening environmental institutions, policy reform and civil society building
  - transfer of best practices, exchange of experience, established networks
- Increasing
  - number of cross-border agreements and initiatives
  - mutual trust and long-term horizon for European integration
  - political support from the countries
- A great need for further environmental assistance



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## Cooperation

- **Biodiversity** – sharing benefits of conversation
  - Protected area at Shkodra Lake and its listing among the wetlands of global conservation importance of the Ramsar Convention
    - Partnership between Albania and Montenegro since 2001
    - 2006 decision of the Albanian Government to protect Shkodra Lake
  - Cross-border cooperation in West Stara Planina
    - Letter of intent for joint work signed by 11 municipalities from Serbia and Bulgaria, both sides of the border
    - Documents under preparation for putting under protection the Bulgarian part of the cross-border area
    - Specialisation in eco-tourism, organic agriculture, joint management of natural resources, joint promotional events



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## Enabling, Capacity Building

- **Course for Sustainability: Strategies, Methodologies, Policies and Actions...**

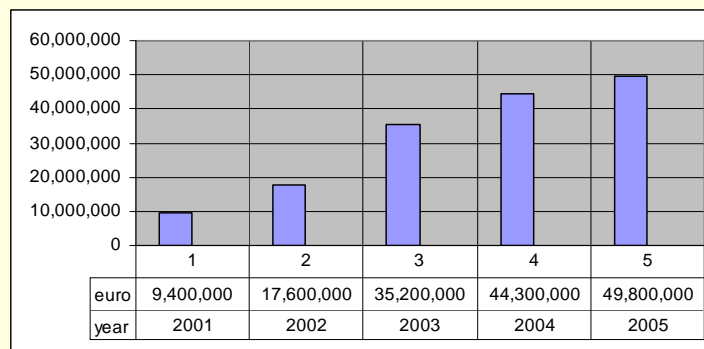
- is an educational programme for key government officials responsible for the “three pillars” of sustainable development
- is designed to give members of various ministries and agencies — not only environmental — from ten target countries a chance to examine the major approaches to sustainable development
- target countries: Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia, and Turkey - For members of various ministries and agencies
- 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006 – four courses and alumni meetings
- similar courses to be developed for EECCA (Moscow, Kiev, Thibilisi, Almaty) and under development for the Black Sea area



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## Donor contribution to REReP projects



**2006: 79 million Euro!**



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## REC Strategy 2006-2010

- (...) The assistance of the REC in South Eastern Europe would be needed for:
  - integration of environmental considerations into the process of economic reform to promote stability and long-term sustainable development, particularly in sectors with significant impact on the environment and human health (e.g. industry, transport, agriculture);
  - transposition and implementation of the Acquis Communautaire;
  - institutional strengthening and policy reform;
  - capacity building for efficiently addressing the problems of environmental hotspots and environmental infrastructure in general; environmental civil society building;
  - promotion of cross-border cooperation and joint management of shared natural resources;
  - development and implementation of "soft measures" promoting sustainable development: such as education on sustainable development, development and implementation of energy efficiency measures, etc.



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