

CLIMATE CHANGE

is a burning issue!



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REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

REC

- The Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC) is an international organisation with a mission to assist in solving environmental problems.
- The REC Strategy defines two main directions of work in the 2011-2015 period: **governance for sustainability** and **green economy**.



Main directions of work

Governance for sustainability

- Educational Tools
- Health and Environment
- Law Development, Enforcement and Compliance
- Local Governance
- Participatory Governance
- Sustainable Development Academy

Green economy

- Biodiversity
- Climate Change and Clean Energy
- Environmental Financing
- Environmental Management
- Green Transport
- Water Management



Objectives

- General:
 - Assist countries in CEE and Turkey to implement UNFCCC and promote a low-carbon society and green regional development.
- Specific:
 - Assist to shape climate strategy/policies in both mitigation and adaptation by conducting studies/analyses, CB, awareness raising and facilitating stakeholder's dialogue



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REC's priority issues for activities

- Promotion of Low Carbon Society
 - This includes assistance in identifying mitigation options and assessments of national mitigation potential in various sectors, assessments of the technologically most viable and economically most feasible options to promote a low-carbon society and green regional development.
- Promotion of Sustainable Energies
 - It covers policy assessments, analyses and recommendations, facilitation of implementation of EU Directives related to energy It includes financing possibilities, information dissemination, awareness raising, and the change towards sustainable energy behaviour.
 - EE: focusing on the building sector and efficient household appliances for all sectors.
 - RES: focusing on application of renewables in buildings, connections to the grid and transmission, and the efficient operation of the whole system.



REC's priority issues for activities

- Promotion of Adaptation Policies
 - This covers managing vulnerability mapping and adaptation-related case studies in the region for various sectors such as water, agriculture and human health. Work includes capacity-building activities and methodological work to develop an integrated methodology for adaptation decision making to be applicable for various adaptation challenges, sectors and political contexts. The REC promotes sub-regional approach and co-operation towards adaptation and security aspects of climate change are also considered focusing on the water sector.
- Promotion of Article 6 of UNFCCC
 - This includes climate change–related educational programmes, public awareness campaigns, the training of experts, fostering public access to information and enhancing public participation. As Regional Focal Point for Article 6, the REC is to provide support to national focal points to implement Article 6 and aims to strengthen regional co-operation combating climate change.



I. Promotion of Low Carbon Society

- Regions for Sustainable Change
 - REC is the lead partner in a 12-member partnership. Working with/for regional authorities the project will explore ways to incorporate climate change in the economic and regional development plans of 12 EU regions
- LG-Action
 - Networking action to involve and mobilize local governments (LGs) in EU to take active part in international climate and energy debate. The project is discovering LGs' need, collect and analyze their input and submits to international negotiating forum
- Financing Low Carbon refurbishment
 - Demonstration project in the CEE region for removing barriers from financing low carbon refurbishment projects including research on existing policy framework for green banking and guarantee fund



II. Promotion of Sustainable Energies

- EU-China Clean Energy Center project
 - to facilitate cooperation between China and the EU in the field of clean, sustainable energy through the Center set in Beijing to mitigate GHG emission
- INTENSE
 - the transfer of intelligent energy-saving measures from municipal housing in old EU MS (Germany) to NMSs and candidate countries. Activities include selecting best practices for energy saving measures in buildings, developing adaptation scenarios and implementation guidance, assessing consumption patterns, developing public awareness raising strategies and public information toolkits, organizing trainings
- USE Eff (Universities and Students for Energy Efficiency)
 - aimed at improving energy efficiency in university buildings and establishing a training programme for students, collecting and analysing available methodologies. Outcome is improved energy performance of university buildings with students active involvement in defining energy efficient measures for universities



III. Promotion of Adaptation Policies

- Climate Change Framework Action Plan for SEE Region (SEE/CCFAP)
 - lots of priority actions/tasks including observation, modeling, sectoral policies, CB and awareness raising
- MEDIATION – Methodology for Effective Decision making on Impacts and AdaptaTION
 - developing an integrated methodology to support policy making. Methods and tools will be available to analyze and assess impacts, vulnerability and adaptation options will be identified.
- Impacts of CC on Water Scarcity and Drought
 - to synthesize knowledge on the problem, identify driving forces, identify and assess the adequacy of existing measures to prevent and suggest new measures



IV. Implementation of Art. 6 of UNFCCC

- Education, training, awareness raising
- REC is recognized regional FP
- Activities:
 - Train ministerial staff including others than MoE
 - to strengthen negotiation skill and increase interministerial cooperation
 - Train media to increase professional knowledge
 - Youth Forum on Climate Change
 - Responding to necessity to involve students in discussions on the future of the World and sustainable development
 - “Kyoto in Home”
 - Responding to necessity to involve children and school teachers in the process



REC at COP 16

- Statement by REC ED
- Stressing the importance of partnerships and regional co-operation
- Side event
 - Lessons learned from European regional co-operation (Central and South East Europe) – adaptation, mitigation, capacity building
 - Inter-continental cooperation focusing on China in the field of mitigation
- Exhibit





Thank you for your attention!

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