



Government of Montenegro
Ministry of Tourism
and Environment Protection



Montenegro



Western
Balkans
Environmental
Programme



Koninkrijk der Nederlanden

Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Protection of the Government of Montenegro with
United Nations Development Programme through Western Balkans Environmental Programme
and with support of the Government of the Netherlands

are organizing

Western Balkans Ministerial Conference
Addressing Global Warming
Through Adaptation, Pollution Prevention, Reduction and Control

13th and 14th November 2008
in Montenegro



All countries have been affected by climate change. For developing countries it will make it even more difficult to achieve their sustainable development objectives, since it is very likely that climate change can slow the pace of progress toward sustainable development. The pace of progress can be slowed either directly, through increased exposure to adverse climate change impacts or indirectly, through erosion of the capacity to adapt. On the other hand, increasing adaptive capacity requires activities associated with sustainable development goals. Determining the effect of global warming on the future state of climate in developing countries represents a serious challenge for national institutions, primarily those dealing with environmental and economic development issues. Therefore, national institutions in cooperation with international institutions and with bilateral support of developed countries are trying to create conditions where scientific, technical and human capacity is upgraded to meet these challenges. Such an improvement also aims to fulfill the obligations coming out from the international agreements and conventions, among which the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol are of the highest importance.

Western Balkans Ministerial Conference Addressing Global Warming Through Adaptation, Pollution Prevention, Reduction and Control

**13th and 14th November 2008
in Montenegro**

Goals of the conference are:

- a) Developing a shared agenda for the Western Balkans Region for the Conference of Parties meeting in Poznan, Poland and initiating dialogue for development of the common regional platform in post Kyoto negotiations,
- b) Improving regional cooperation through establishing a framework for dialogue and exchange of information on activities on mitigation and adaptation for climate change in the region,
- c) Presentation of existing and identification of new regional initiatives that will facilitate development and implementation of the shared climate change agenda for the Western Balkans region.

Topics to be presented and discussed:

Conference Day 1:

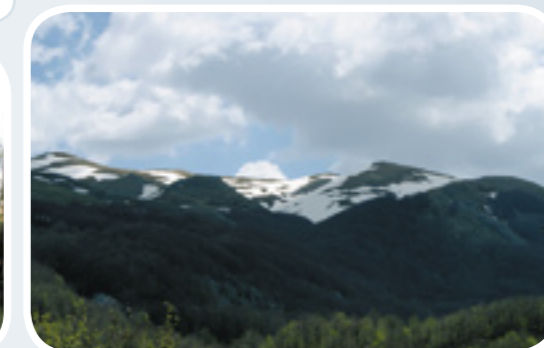
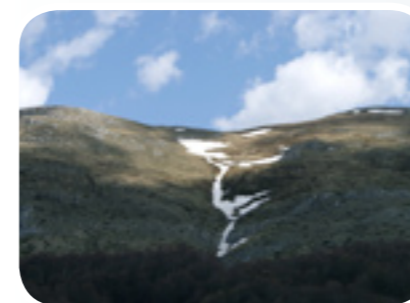
- Key note speaker address
- Western Balkans Ministers of environment key addresses
- International institutions overview of the climate change process globally and with respect to Western Balkans
- Meeting the climate change challenge in the Western Balkans through regional cooperation and using lessons learnt by developed countries
- Adoption of Conference Declaration

Conference Day 2:

- Ongoing and planned activities of the countries in the Western Balkans region related to climate change
- Presentation of experiences from international organizations and developed countries
- Economic impacts and opportunities from climate change; Market based Instruments and Carbon Financing; Role of insurance and financial sector in dealing with climate change
- Case studies from developed countries



In 1991, the Montenegrin Parliament adopted a declaration on Montenegro as an Ecological State, a commitment, which is repeated in Article 1 of the Montenegrin Constitution of 1992 and again of 2007: "Montenegro is civic, democratic, and ecological state". The implementation of these aspirations was disrupted by a difficult decade marked by conflict in the region, economic crisis and political instability. Nevertheless, the declaration was followed by the long-term sustainable development document "The Developmental Directions of Montenegro as an Ecological State" adopted by the Government of Montenegro in 2001 and more firmly in 2002 when Montenegro re-launched the concept of Montenegro as an ecological state at the World Summit for Sustainable Development in Johannesburg. That was followed with the foundation of The National Council for Sustainable Development (NCSD), the advisory body which is assigned to lead the process of implementation of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development with related Action plan. While NSSD was drafted under the supervision of the Ministry of Tourism and Environment, the National Team composed of eminent experts, following the recommendations received through wide participatory process, recognized air pollution and combating climate changes, as well as the energy and industry sector together with about 20 others, to be the areas for priority actions toward achievement of the sustainability of the Montenegrin society development. There is a considerable degree of consensus across the future of Montenegro lies in realizing its vision of an ecological state.



UNDP through Western Balkans Environmental Programme is working on strengthening capacities in the Western Balkans countries/territories to address environmental problems through remediation of nine high priority hot spots. This 3 year 15 million USD Programme supported by the Netherlands Ministry for Development and Cooperation is the biggest regional programme ever implemented by UNDP in the South Eastern Europe. The Programme is not only assisting in making progress in remediation of the nine (9) hot spots locations in the Region, but will also support and facilitate building of capacities and the network of knowledge that will help the Region deal with existing and upcoming environmental challenges including climate change. In that sense, this Programme represents an excellent opportunity for the Western Balkans region to deepen and extend the cooperation through working closely together on making progress in one of the most challenging "chapters" of the EU accession – the environment, and one of the most challenging Millennium Development Goals – ensuring of environmental sustainability.



The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Montenegro promotes sustainable development which is economically viable, socially inclusive and environmentally friendly. Its goal is to accelerate the country's EU integration aspirations and to help its progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, through the following thematic areas: social inclusion; institutional and judicial reform; economy and environment for sustainable development; regional environmental programme.

The regional approach of the Netherlands Ministry for Development and Cooperation is based on integrated policy from a regional perspective, aimed at promoting peace, stability and sustainable development in the Western Balkans.



For more information on the Conference please contact:

Ms. Sanja Bojanić, MBA
Programme Manager
Western Balkans Environmental Programme
United Nations Development Programme
Beogradska 24e
81000 Podgorica
Montenegro
Tel: +382 20 231 992
Fax: +382 20 231 993
E-mail: sanja.bojanic@undp.org

Web: <http://www2.undp.org.yu/montenegro/rep/index.html>
<http://www.westernbalkansenvironment.net>

