



Formulation of the new common strategy on local sustainable development (Local Agenda 21) through networking and exchange of experience among NGOs and other stakeholders from different countries with emphasis on promotion and development of the "green entrepreneurship"

FINAL NARRATIVE PROGRESS REPORT

Phase II - Covering period from 1st April– 30th September 2005

1. Project description

1.1 Problems addressed in the second part of the project by the partners

Project **"SuDNet - Sustainable Development Network"** was jointly run by the three NGOs: lead partner **EKO LIBURNIA**, Croatia (HR); **EKO-AGRO OHRID**, FYR Macedonia (MK); and **EKOPOT**, Bosnia-Herzegovina (BIH). **SuDNet** intended to introduce new methodology of sustainable local development through promotion and development of environmentally & socially acceptable economic activities in at least three Project municipalities (one each by country) within three selected Project regions: (1) County Primorsko-Goranska, HR; (2) Southern MK and (3) Tuzla Canton, BIH.

According to the Project partners' opinion, basic reasons to create and start this Project within selected regions were very much the same as the principal problems related to its brief implementation:

- Concept of sustainable development is almost unknown within Project regions.
- Lack of knowledge on economic value of the clean environment.
- Weak public participation in development decisions.

Although the above mentioned problems were similar in all three **SuDNet** project regions, project partners had concluded that present situation in Primorsko-Goranska County (HR) is much more favourable comparing to the other two, mostly due to the past efforts and activities of various regional sustainable development stake-holders (NGOs, municipalities, private sector, scientific & technical institutions, County government).

For that reason NGOs Eko-Agro (MK) and Ekopot (BIH), being beginners in the field of sustainable development projects implementation, have invited Eko Liburnia to assist them in their capacity building and formulation of the new common strategy on regional sustainable development (local Agenda 21 processes) through formulation and implementation of the joint



SuDNet is financially supported by the **Europe Aid Cooperation Office of the European Commission** through **Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)** call for proposals titled **Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Development in the Western Balkans.**





project, i.e. through networking and exchange of experience among Project partners and other regional and local stake-holders.

Taking the above mentioned into consideration 2nd Project Phase was aimed towards continuation of the capacity building of both Eko-Agro and Ekopot, as well as to beginning of sustainable development processes in their project regions. Training as planned was provided by Eko Liburnia (HR) and its stake-holder from Croatia (RDA Porin Rijeka,).

1.2 Goal and objectives set for addressing the problem

Principal goal of the Project was to develop common sustainable development concept to be implemented within three participating regions/countries through commencement of at least three Local Agenda 21 processes in selected pilot municipalities (one each by region/country).

Specific objectives of the **SuDNet** project were as follows:

- To create awareness on sustainable development principles among Project regions' population, decision-makers and potential stake-holders through different promotion and training activities.
- To commence with the process of partnership and networking among NGOs and other sustainable development stake-holders from the three participating regions/countries (SuDNet), which should result in better understanding and further cooperation once the Project is terminated.
- To promote principles and techniques of environmentally & socially acceptable economic activities (ecotourism, organic food production, use of renewable energy sources, etc.) through selection, training and assistance to the existing and potential “green entrepreneurs” from three regions/countries.
- To formulate and promote national standards on eco-agritourism based on existing AIAB Italy standards. These standards have been already implemented through inspection & certification scheme and presently more than 200 certified eco-agritourisms operate in Italy. Standards are based on sustainable development concept and include obligatory and facultative requirements concerning: certified organic food and drinks; certified organic textiles and eco-furniture; use of renewable energy sources; hospitality; environmental education; sustainable use of natural and cultural heritage; etc. Eko Liburnia has signed Protocol of Cooperation with AIAB in 1997 and may use the standards without legal restrictions.





1.3 Activities implemented in each of the countries involved during the second project phase, highlighting and assessing the achievements and results and how they contributed to reaching the objectives and goal of the project

Besides Project coordination and administration which has been done throughout the project life, **Phase II** of the SuDNet project consisted of:

- 1st Project workshop follow-up activities - Phase I continuation (April – July 2005)
- 2nd Project workshop (April 2005)
- 2nd Project workshop follow-up activities (May – July 2005)
- 2nd Project evaluation (August 2005)
- 3rd Project workshop + final Project report presentation (September 2005)
- SuDNet follow-up activities (April – September 2005)

1.3.1. First Project workshop follow-up activities - Phase I continuation (April – July 2005)

During period from November 2004 – February 2005 each project partner was to perform independently 1st Project workshop follow-up activities within its region/country, consisting of:

- * Holding of two local workshops per region/country which agenda is identical to the first SuDNet workshop held in Ohrid (October 2004).
- * Performing of project inquiry using the questionnaire jointly developed by partners during the Ohrid workshop.

However, due to the local government elections in Macedonia and Croatia, held in April and May 2005 respectively, it was decided that some of the above mentioned activities should be postponed after new local governments are elected (see Request for approval of changes within the Project time schedule dated 31st March 2005).

(a) Eko Liburnia (HR)

In Croatia Eko Liburnia held two local workshops:

- * Rijeka, County Primorsko-Goranska, 5th July 2005; and
- * Cakovec & Sveti Martin na Muri, County Medjimurska, 7th July 2005.

First workshop in Rijeka was held in collaboration with the RDA Porin Rijeka and it was aimed towards 11 selected entrepreneurs beginners (Annex 1 – Rijeka workshop list of participants). Lecturers were Ranko Tadic and two project consultants: Julije Domac (Energy Institute “Hrvoje Pozar” Zagreb) and Drazen Lusic (AgriBioCert Omisalj).

Second workshop taking place in County Medjimurska was held in collaboration with the NGO EOL Cakovec as part of the implementation of its on-going EU LIFE project "Mura". First part



SuDNet is financially supported by the **Europe Aid Cooperation Office of the European Commission through Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)** call for proposals titled **Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Development in the Western Balkans.**





of the workshop took place during afternoon in County's premises in Cakovec and it was aimed towards County officials and media. Second part of the workshop was held in evening in primary school premises in Sveti Martin na Muri and it was aimed towards the local government representatives and entrepreneurs. Lecturer was Ranko Tadic (Annex 2 – Cakovec workshop photo gallery).

In June 2005 Eko Liburnia also conducted Project inquiry in municipalities of: (1) Rijeka as representative of littoral community (50 questionnaires); (2) Delnice as representative of mountainous community (30 questionnaires); and (3) Novalja as representative of an island community (20 questionnaires).

Eko Liburnia also prepared the analysis of the Project inquiry in all three SuDNet countries based on 300 completed questionnaires (100 per country) in July 2005. This activity was performed by Sanja Gasparac and Kristina Badurina and results were presented during the third SuDNet workshop held in Tuzla in September 2005.

(b) Eko-Agro Ohrid (MK)

In Macedonia Eko-Agro held two local workshops:

- * Gevgelija, 14th July 2005; and
- * Kratovo, 19th July 2005.

The first local workshop was hosted by the local NGO "Evropski Forum" in another NGO "Support Center in Socially and Economically Deprived Areas in Macedonia" premises in Gevgelija. The workshop was attended by 15 participants - representatives of nine NGOs from southern Macedonia (Annex 3 – Gevgelija workshop list of participants). On behalf of Eko-Agro workshop was held by: Pance Nikolov, SuDNeT coordinator for Macedonia; and Monika Poposka, rural development expert. All participants expressed willingness to be involved in SuDNeT activities and its follow-up

The second local workshop was hosted by the cooperative "ZZ Zdrav Zivot" and supported by the NGO's "Support Center in Socially and Economically Deprived areas in Macedonia" local office in Kratovo. This workshop was attended by 12 participants - representatives of eight local NGO-s (Annex 4 – Kratovo workshop list of participants). Workshop was held by Pance Nikolov

Project inquiry in Macedonia was completed during the Phase I in December 2004.

(c) Ekopot (BIH)

In Bosnia-Herzegovina Ekopot completed all the first Project workshop follow-up activities as planned during the Phase I.





1.3.2. Second Project workshop, Crikvenica (25th – 27th April 2005)

Second Project Workshop was organized and hosted by Eko Liburnia and took place in hotel “Kastel” Crikvenica, Croatia from 25th-27th April 2005. It lasted three working days: two in the classroom and one day in the field. During workshop Project leader and contracted consultants from the Regional Development Agency (RDA) PORIN Rijeka trained selected participants (3 per region/county) in business plan preparation techniques related to the Project selected “green entrepreneurship” activities. Each project partner prepared state-of-the-art report on possibilities of financing of “green businesses” in its country (banks, funds, donors, projects, etc.). Moreover, this Project activity was officially visited and attended by the REC representatives Robert Atkinson and Erzsebet Aszalos.

(a) Eko Liburnia (HR)

On Eko Liburnia side hosts and organizers of the second SuDNet workshop were: Ranko Tadic (Project coordinator HR), Sanja Gasparac (Project administrator HR), and Kristina Badurina (Project assistant HR). Besides Ranko Tadic as lecturers were engaged Project consultants Doris Sosic and Mirta Klaricic from RDA PORIN Rijeka, both sponsored by REC. Sanja Gasparac and Kristina Badurina were trained to provide basic business and technical assistance to “green” entrepreneurs. Third Eko Liburnia person trained by SuDNet was Sinisa Mitrovic, second Project assistant, who was trained by his colleagues after the workshop (he had to stay in Eko Liburnia's office during the workshop).

(b) Eko-Agro Ohrid (MK)

On Eko-Agro Ohrid side participants of the second workshop were: Pance Nikolov (Project coordinator MK), Biljana Dimitrova Radeska (Project assistant MK), and Nikola Ivanovski (Project assistant MK), all of them trained to provide basic business and technical assistance to “green” entrepreneurs and all of them sponsored by REC.

Representatives of Eko-Agro started their long journey by car from Ohrid on 24th April 2005 arriving to Crikvenica in the evening. Return trip started from Crikvenica on 28th April and reaching final destination (Ohrid) on 29th October at 2:00 a.m.

(c) Ekopot (BIH)

On Ekopot side participants of the second workshop were: Edina Busovaca (Project coordinator BIH), Haris Hadziabdic (Project assistant BIH), and Tarik Dizdarevic (Project assistant BIH), all of them trained to provide basic business and technical assistance to “green” entrepreneurs and all of them sponsored by REC.





Furthermore, Ferhat Mustafic, mayor of Gradacac; and Enes Hadzimuhamedovic, deputy mayor of Gradacac also participated. Ekopot team travelled in two cars to Crikvenica on 24th April 2005 and returned to Tuzla and Gradacac on 28th April in the evening.

**Second SuDNet Project Workshop Agenda
Providing Assistance to “Green” Entrepreneurs**

Sunday, 24th April 2005

- 20:00 Arrival of participants from MK (3) and BIH (5) to hotel “Kastel” Crikvenica, REC participants (2) arrived the following day.
20:30 Dinner + Meeting of the Project team

Monday, 25th April 2005

First Session – Hotel “Kastel”Crikvenica

- 10:00 Workshop opening Ranko Tadic, Eko Liburnia
10:15 State-of-the-art of institutions and programs in support of SMEs in HR – example of PORIN Rijeka Doris Sosic, PORIN
10:45 State-of-the-art of institutions and programs in support of SMEs in MK – example of GICA Ohrid incubator Pance Nikolov, Eko-Agro
11:15 *Coffee break*
11:30 State-of-the-art of institutions and programs in support of SMEs in BIH– example of Tuzla Canton Edina Busovaca, Ekopot
12:00 Basics of certified “green” entrepreneurship Ranko Tadic, Eko Liburnia
12:45 Open floor discussion Participants
13:00 *Lunch*

Second Session – Hotel “Kastel”Crikvenica

- 14:30 Assistance to SME business plan preparation (1st part) Mirta Klaricic, PORIN
16:00 *Coffee break*
16:15 Assistance to SME business plan preparation (2nd part) Mirta Klaricic, PORIN
17:45 Discussion and conclusions Participants

Tuesday, 26th April 2005

Third Session – Hotel “Kastel”Crikvenica

- 10:00 Summary of the first day Ranko Tadic, Eko Liburnia
10:15 Presentation of REC programs and activities Robert Atkinson, REC
10:45 Report on completed SuDNet project activities in MK Pance Nikolov, Eko-Agro
11:00 Report on completed SuDNet project activities in BIH Edina Busovaca, Ekopot
11:15 *Coffee break*
11:30 Report on completed SuDNet project activities in HR Sanja Gasparac, Eko Liburnia
11:45 Entrepreneurial potential investigation (1st part) Doris Sosic, PORIN
12:45 Open floor discussion Participants
13:00 *Lunch*





Fourth Session – Hotel “Kastel” Crikvenica

14:30	Entrepreneurial potential investigation (2 nd part)	Doris Sosic, PORIN
15:15	SuDNet follow-up - EU CARDS project REGINA, HR	Ranko Tadic, Eko Liburnia
15:45	SuDNet follow-up - EU CARDS project BREAD & SALT, BIH	Edina Busovaca, Ekopot
16:15	<i>Coffee break</i>	
16:30	SuDNet follow-up - IFOAM ABM conference, MK	Biljana D. Radeska, Eko-Agro
16:45	SuDNet project activities, May-September 2005	Participants
17:45	Workshop conclusions	Participants

Wednesday, 27th April 2005

Project Study Tour

10:00	Visit to RDA PORIN Rijeka
11:30	Visit to Entrepreneurial Information Centre PIC Rijeka
13:00	Visit to town of Rijeka
16:00	Visit to “Gospoja” cooperative and winery, Vrbnik, island of Krk
18:00	Farewell dinner – “Gospoja” restaurant, Vrbnik, island of Krk
22:00	Return to Crikvenica

Thursday, 28th April 2005

09:00 Departure of participants from MK and BIH from Crikvenica, Ohrid, REC participants departed the previous day.

All Crikvenica workshop presentations are attached to this report as Annex 5.

1.3.3. Second Project workshop follow-up activities (May – July 2005)

During period from May - July 2005 all members of the Project team, including Project trained business advisors (participants of Crikvenica Workshop) and/or hired consultants worked independently in their region/country on 2nd Project workshop follow-up activities, consisting of:

- * Assistance to Project selected beneficiaries in “green businesses” plan preparation; and
- * Formulation of the local Agenda 21 processes in all selected pilot municipalities.

(a) Eko Liburnia (HR)

In Croatia Eko Liburnia's business advisory team consisting of: Ranko Tadic, Sanja Gasparac, Kristina Badurina and Sinisa Mitrovic, plus two hired consultants from PORIN sponsored by REC (Doris Sosic and Mirta Klaricic) was able to identify 15 potential “green” entrepreneurs, primarily in the sectors of organic food production and certified eco tourism. Majority of them attended local SuDNet workshop held in PORIN premises in Rijeka on 5th July 2005 (see 1.3.1.).

By August 2005 Eko Liburnia assisted in finalizing of 4 SME business plans, as follows:



SuDNet is financially supported by the **Europe Aid Cooperation Office of the European Commission** through **Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)** call for proposals titled **Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Development in the Western Balkans.**





- # Cooperative Eco X, Rijeka – three young university leavers wishing to establish a company for marketing of organic products;
- # Family farm Damir Janusic, Rovinj – certified organic producer of vegetables, olives and horse + goat breeder, wishing to expand family business with his own processing and ecotourism services (bungalows);
- # Family farm Nenad Kuftic, Marcana – certified organic producer of vegetables, fruit and olives, wishing to expand family business with his own processing and ecotourism services (camping on a farm); and
- # Organic cooperative Vidmar, Rijeka - certified organic producer of honey, wishing to expand his business through involvement of more organic apiculturists as cooperants in his company.

All the above mentioned producers were included in implementation of the EU CARDS project REGINA through which they will get constant business advisory services, theoretical and practical training and easier access to favourable loans through the RDA PORIN.

Concerning formulation of the local Agenda 21 processes in selected pilot municipalities, Eko Liburnia did not have an easy task taking into consideration that out of 22 Aalborg Charter signatories from Croatia 15 are from County Primorsko-Goranska, including municipalities of Rijeka, Skrad and Crikvenica with whom Eko Liburnia cooperates for many years. However, the result of SuDNet was that municipality of Krk decided to sign the Aalborg Charter in a near future.

(b) Eko-Agro Ohrid (MK)

In Macedonia Eko-Agro business advisory team consisting of: Biljana Dimitrova Radeska and Nikola Ivanovski, plus two hired consultants from GICA business incubator Ohrid sponsored by REC (Stojan Goreski and Ranko Martinoski) was able to identify 7 potential “green” entrepreneurs, primarily in the sectors of food production and tourism.

By August 2005 Eko-Agro assisted in finalizing of 2 SME business plans, as follows:

- # ZLATNO JAJCE Ltd., Ohrid – existing company producing eggs and other poultry products, wishing to expand its business through starting of organic poultry production close to town of Sv. Naum and through ecotourism services in Ohrid (apartments);
- # GOLD APPLE Ltd., Ohrid – existing company for fruit processing, wishing to expand its business with production of certified organic apple vinegar.

Concerning formulation of the local Agenda 21 processes in selected pilot municipalities, Eko-Agro’s task was even more difficult than the Eko Liburnia’s one but for different reason. Before SuDNet there were no Aalborg Charter signatories in Macedonia and due to the project activities municipality of Ohrid decided to sign. For that reason municipality decided to send their high representative to the third and final SuDNet workshop in Tuzla in September 2005.





(c) Ekopot (BIH)

In Bosnia-Herzegovina Ekopot business advisory team consisting of: Edina Busovaca and two Project trained consultants sponsored by REC (Haris Hadziabdic and Tarik Dizdarevic) was able to identify 6 potential “green” entrepreneurs in the sector of food production.

By August 2005 Ekopot assisted in finalizing of 3 SME business plans, as follows:

- # SIABEL Ltd., Kladanj – existing company producing compost for agriculture, wishing to improve its business through certifying its products as organic;
- # Family farm Zukic, Gradacac – producer of different kind of berries, wishing to improve its business through certifying its products as organic; and
- # Cooperative TREBAVA, Gradacac - existing company producing vegetable seeds and fruit seedlings, wishing to expand its business through production of certified organic seeds and seedlings.

The above mentioned producers were included in implementation of the EU CARDS project BREAD & SALT through which they will get constant business advisory services and theoretical & practical training.

Concerning formulation of the local Agenda 21 processes in selected pilot municipalities, Ekopot's task was identical to the Eko-Agro's one for the same reason. Before SuDNet there were no Aalborg Charter signatories in Bosnia-Herzegovina and due to the project activities municipality of Gradacac decided to sign, possibly municipality of Kladanj as well.

1.3.4. Second Evaluation (August 2005)

Second evaluation in August 2005 was used to finalize all unfinished Project activities: workshops proceedings; Project developed agro-ecotourism standards; analysis of the Project inquiry on potential for eco-agritourism development; results of the Project initiated and formulated local Agenda 21 processes in pilot municipalities; and Project assisted business plans (“green entrepreneurs”).

Taking into account that SuDNet project did not provide funds for holding of meetings of the Project team other than three workshops, 2nd evaluation was done through phone and e-mail contacts among partners. This activity was also used for planning of SuDNet follow-up activities (REGINA, BREAD & SALT, new projects) and preparation of the third workshop.

1.3.5. Third Project workshop, Tuzla (23rd – 25th September 2005)



SuDNet is financially supported by the **Europe Aid Cooperation Office of the European Commission** through **Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)** call for proposals titled **Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Development in the Western Balkans.**





Finally, the 3rd and the last Project Workshop was held in Tuzla, BiH in September 2005 (15). It will be organized by PP2 and will last for two days. During Workshop all Project produced materials will be presented to the SuDNet stakeholders and the general public in forms of the CD-rom and Project web pages. All Project stake-holders and beneficiaries from three regions/countries would be invited to attend in order to: (i) secure financial and non-financial support for the selected Project beneficiaries; (ii) ensure continuation of the Project initiated/formulated local Agenda 21 processes in pilot municipalities; and (iii) formalize SuDNet network in order to ensure smooth follow-up of the Project activities.

Second Project Workshop was organized and hosted by Eko Liburnia and took place in hotel "Kastel" Crikvenica, Croatia from 25th-27th April 2005. It lasted three working days: two in the classroom and one day in the field. During workshop Project leader and contracted consultants from the Regional Development Agency (RDA) PORIN Rijeka trained selected participants (3 per region/county) in business plan preparation techniques related to the Project selected "green entrepreneurship" activities. Each project partner prepared state-of-the-art report on possibilities of financing of "green businesses" in its country (banks, funds, donors, projects, etc.). Moreover, this Project activity was officially visited and attended by the REC representatives Robert Atkinson and Erzsebet Aszalos.

(a) Eko Liburnia (HR)

On Eko Liburnia side hosts and organizers of the second SuDNet workshop were: Ranko Tadic (Project coordinator HR), Sanja Gasparac (Project administrator HR), and Kristina Badurina (Project assistant HR). Besides Ranko Tadic as lecturers were engaged Project consultants Doris Sosic and Mirta Klaricic from RDA PORIN Rijeka, both sponsored by REC. Sanja Gasparac and Kristina Badurina were trained to provide basic business and technical assistance to "green" entrepreneurs. Third Eko Liburnia person trained by SuDNet was Sinisa Mitrovic, second Project assistant, who was trained by his colleagues after the workshop (he had to stay in Eko Liburnia's office during the workshop).

(b) Eko-Agro Ohrid (MK)

On Eko-Agro Ohrid side participants of the second workshop were: Pance Nikolov (Project coordinator MK), Biljana Dimitrova Radeska (Project assistant MK), and Nikola Ivanovski (Project assistant MK), all of them trained to provide basic business and technical assistance to "green" entrepreneurs and all of them sponsored by REC.

Representatives of Eko-Agro started their long journey by car from Ohrid on 24th April 2005 arriving to Crikvenica in the evening. Return trip started from Crikvenica on 28th April and reaching final destination (Ohrid) on 29th October at 2:00 a.m.

(c) Ekopot (BIH)



SuDNet is financially supported by the **Europe Aid Cooperation Office of the European Commission** through **Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)** call for proposals titled **Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Development in the Western Balkans.**





On Ekopot side participants of the second workshop were: Edina Busovaca (Project coordinator BIH), Haris Hadziabdic (Project assistant BIH), and Tarik Dizdarevic (Project assistant BIH), all of them trained to provide basic business and technical assistance to “green” entrepreneurs and all of them sponsored by REC.

Furthermore, Ferhat Mustafic, mayor of Gradacac; and Enes Hadzimuhamedovic, deputy mayor of Gradacac also participated. Ekopot team travelled in two cars to Crikvenica on 24th April 2005 and returned to Tuzla and Gradacac on 28th April in the evening.

Second SuDNet Project Workshop Agenda Providing Assistance to “Green” Entrepreneurs

Sunday, 24th April 2005

- 20:00 Arrival of participants from MK (3) and BIH (5) to hotel “Kastel” Crikvenica, REC participants (2) arrived the following day.
20:30 Dinner + Meeting of the Project team

Monday, 25th April 2005

First Session – Hotel “Kastel”Crikvenica

- 10:00 Workshop opening Ranko Tadic, Eko Liburnia
10:15 State-of-the-art of institutions and programs in support of SMEs in HR – example of PORIN Rijeka Doris Sosic, PORIN
10:45 State-of-the-art of institutions and programs in support of SMEs in MK – example of GICA Ohrid incubator Pance Nikolov, Eko-Agro
11:15 *Coffee break*
11:30 State-of-the-art of institutions and programs in support of SMEs in BIH– example of Tuzla Canton Edina Busovaca, Ekopot
12:00 Basics of certified “green” entrepreneurship Ranko Tadic, Eko Liburnia
12:45 Open floor discussion Participants
13:00 *Lunch*

Second Session – Hotel “Kastel”Crikvenica

- 14:30 Assistance to SME business plan preparation (1st part) Mirta Klaricic, PORIN
16:00 *Coffee break*
16:15 Assistance to SME business plan preparation (2nd part) Mirta Klaricic, PORIN
17:45 Discussion and conclusions Participants

Tuesday, 26th April 2005

Third Session – Hotel “Kastel”Crikvenica

- 10:00 Summary of the first day Ranko Tadic, Eko Liburnia
10:15 Presentation of REC programs and activities Robert Atkinson, REC
10:45 Report on completed SuDNet project activities in MK Pance Nikolov, Eko-Agro
11:00 Report on completed SuDNet project activities in BIH Edina Busovaca, Ekopot
11:15 *Coffee break*



SuDNet is financially supported by the **Europe Aid Cooperation Office of the European Commission** through **Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)** call for proposals titled **Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Development in the Western Balkans.**





11:30	Report on completed SuDNet project activities in HR	Sanja Gasparac, Eko Liburnia
11:45	Entrepreneurial potential investigation (1 st part)	Doris Susic, PORIN
12:45	Open floor discussion	Participants
13:00	<i>Lunch</i>	

Fourth Session – Hotel “Kastel”Crikvenica

14:30	Entrepreneurial potential investigation (2 nd part)	Doris Susic, PORIN
15:15	SuDNet follow-up - EU CARDS project REGINA, HR	Ranko Tadic, Eko Liburnia
15:45	SuDNet follow-up - EU CARDS project BREAD & SALT, BIH	Edina Busovaca, Ekopot
16:15	<i>Coffee break</i>	
16:30	SuDNet follow-up - IFOAM ABM conference, MK	Biljana D. Radeska, Eko-Agro
16:45	SuDNet project activities, May-September 2005	Participants
17:45	Workshop conclusions	Participants

Wednesday, 27th April 2005

Project Study Tour

10:00	Visit to RDA PORIN Rijeka
11:30	Visit to Entrepreneurial Information Centre PIC Rijeka
13:00	Visit to town of Rijeka
16:00	Visit to “Gospoja” cooperative and winery, Vrbnik, island of Krk
18:00	Farewell dinner – “Gospoja” restaurant, Vrbnik, island of Krk
22:00	Return to Crikvenica

Thursday, 28th April 2005

09:00	Departure of participants from MK and BIH from Crikvenica, Ohrid, REC participants departed the previous day.
-------	---

All Crikvenica workshop presentations are attached to this report as Annex 5.

1.4. Problems and challenges encountered during the first phase

- Unpredicted local elections in HR and MK (April/May 2005);
- Lack of experience of the partners from BIH and MK which resulted in delay in finalization of the Progress report;
- Huge geographical distance among partners which prevented regular direct contacts.

However, judging by the already started follow-up activities (REGINA project in HR, BREAD & SALT project in BIH, IFOAM ABM international conference in Ohrid, MK) involving all three SuDNet partners and ten SuDNet stake-holders (PORIN, AgriBioCert, Town of Rijeka - HR; TATC, municipalities of Kladanj and Gradacac - BIH; and Ministry of Agriculture, Municipality of Ohrid, GTZ-AgroPromotion and GICA Company Ohrid – MK) it can be stated that SuDNet project in its first phase achieved much more than expected in terms of its aim and objectives.



SuDNet is financially supported by the **Europe Aid Cooperation Office of the European Commission** through **Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)** call for proposals titled **Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Development in the Western Balkans.**





Moreover, already commenced follow-up activities will allow more often direct contacts among members of the Project team and other partners' representatives during the second Project phase.

1.5 Any upcoming events, which may be of interest to REC staff.

- ❖ 4th General Assembly of IFOAM AgriBioMediterraneo – ABM and the ABM International Conference on Soil Fertility and Diversity in Mediterranean AgriEcoSystems, hosted by Eko-Agro and Eko Liburnia, Ohrid, MK, 14th-16th April 2005.
 - ❖ First REGINA project public presentation / kick-off meeting, Rijeka, CPG, HR, 19th April 2005.
 - ❖ Second SuDNet Workshop, Crikvenica, CPG, HR, 25th-27th April 2005. Members of the Project team and consultants from the RDA PORIN Rijeka will train selected participants (3 per region/county) in business plan preparation techniques related to the Project selected “green entrepreneurship” activities.
 - ❖ First BREAD & SALT project Workshop, Tuzla, BIH, 26th- 28th May 2005.
 - ❖ Third SuDNet Workshop, Tuzla, BiH, 23rd -24th September 2005. During Workshop all Project produced materials will be presented to the SuDNet stakeholders and the general public in forms of the CD-rom and Project web pages.
- SuDNet follow-up activities (April – September 2005)

The other reason for such a decision was that on 24th September 2004 the EU Commission has approved co-financing of the REGINA project requesting just minor changes and amendments. On 8th February 2005 the contract was signed and REGINA will officially start with its implementation on 1st April 2005 allowing follow-up of SuDNet activities with much bigger funds for 18 more months (REGINA duration is 24 months).

During its 5th meeting, held in Athens, Greece on 20th November 2004, Regional Board of the IFOAM AgriBioMediterraneo – ABM has unanimously accepted joint Eko-Agro & Eko Liburnia candidature to host the 4th General Assembly of IFOAM ABM and the ABM International Conference on Soil Fertility and Diversity in Mediterranean AgriEcoSystems in Ohrid from 14th -16th April 2005. This candidature was supported by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of Macedonia, Municipality of Ohrid, GTZ-AgroPromotion office in Skopje and GICA Company Ohrid. From December 2004 – March 2005 joint Eko-Agro & Eko Liburnia team worked on national and international promotion of the event, as well as on its preparation including fund-raising to sponsor delegates from non-EU Mediterranean countries. More details about events can be found at www.ifoam-abm.com and www.ekoagro.com.mk.

Finally, following the successful Croatian experience with EU CARDS REGINA project, The Tourist Association of Tuzla Canton – TATC (one of the SuDNet BIH stake-holders) and Ekopot submitted on 19th October 2004 joint project proposal titled “BREAD & SALT -



SuDNet is financially supported by the **Europe Aid Cooperation Office of the European Commission** through **Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)** call for proposals titled **Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Development in the Western Balkans.**





Introduction and Implementation of the Sustainable Regional Development Model Based on Tourist Valuation of Tuzla Canton Natural and Cultural Heritage with Emphasis on Promotion of Certified Ecotourism and Organic Food Production” to the European Commission Office in Sarajevo (EU CARDS Programme - EU Support for Regional Economic Development in Bosnia and Herzegovina). In Project proposal preparation and implementation two partners were assisted by Ranko Tadic from Eko Liburnia as the project manager

The aim of BREAD & SALT project is to create new jobs in sectors of hospitality (tourism and complementary food production) through introduction and implementation of the reliable sustainable development model based on valuation of natural and cultural heritage connected to promotion of certified "green" entrepreneurship (ecotourism, organic food production) in all areas of Tuzla Canton (TC). This aim will be achieved through establishment of network of 7 BREAD & SALT multifunctional info-points (Gracanica, Gradacac, Kladanj, Lukavac, Srebrenik, Tuzla and Zivinice), linked to the project partners` offices: the Tourist Association of the Tuzla Canton (TATC) and NGO Ekopot Tuzla. Target groups are: (a) domestic and foreign visitors; and (b) existing and new cantonal entrepreneurs willing to be assisted in training, inspection & certification; and access to the favourable loans. Project is directly linked to the on-going REC/Europe Aid co-financed SuDNet project. Main activities are: state-of-the-art survey on natural and cultural heritage potential of the TC for tourism development purposes; holding of three workshops (for info-points coordinators and entrepreneurs); creation and maintaining of the Project web-site; publishing of three manuals for eco-businesses; and establishment of cantonal information services to visitors and business & technical advisory services to local entrepreneurs.

The Project was approved by the European Commission and officially started on 13th December 2004 (15 months duration). The approved budget of the BREAD & SALT project, which like REGINA project in Croatia represents follow-up of the SuDNet project, is 105.774,00 €, out of which TATC is providing 10.577,40 € (10%), while EU CARDS remaining 95.196,60 € (90%). The kick-off meeting was organised in Tuzla on 10th February 2005 attracting audience of more than 50 participants and many media representatives.





2. Support materials (see attached CD):

❖ Ohrid Workshop Presentations:

- SuDNet Project Presentation (.ppt) - English and Croatian version
- SuDNet Sustainable Development Approach Presentation (.ppt) - Croatian version
- Organic Food Certification (.ppt) - Croatian version
- Certified Ecotourism Presentation (.ppt) - Croatian version
- AIAB© EcoAgriTourism Standards (.doc) – short Croatian version
- Aalborg Charter (.doc) - Croatian version
- County Primorsko-Goranska Presentation (.ppt) - Croatian version
- SuDNet Conducting Inquiry Presentation (.ppt) - Croatian version

❖ SuDNet Inquiry

- SuDNet Questionnaire (.doc) - Croatian version
- Inquiry instructions

❖ SuDNet Photo Gallery 1

- Ohrid Workshop
- Gradacac Workshop (BiH)
- Kladanj Workshop (BiH)

