



Regional Environmental Advocacy, Action and Cohesion in Western Balkans (REA)

Context

The “Regional Environmental Advocacy, Action and Cohesion in Western Balkans” project is a regional initiative, carried out in six Western Balkan countries (Montenegro, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia, Macedonia, Kosovo and Albania whereas Urban Research Institute is the National Partner) in order to raise awareness of decision makers and interest groups, that environmental issues and sustainable development are seen as priorities on their national agenda.

The Goal

The focus of the REA project is to increase the number of Parliament members motivated to improve national laws and policies for environmental initiatives and to increase the initiatives of Parliament members in the field of environment, etc.

Within the REA project was established the Bells Movement, which was supported by the regional environmental program of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Bells Movement mission is to be the leader of sustainable development in the countries of the Western Balkans. Through various initiatives, actions and education, Bells members enable citizens of Westerns Balkans to fulfil their right to a healthy environment and better economic and social standards. Members of Bells Movement believe that there are no administrative



borders or political party colours around environment issues. Only through dialogue, partnership, understanding and the harmonization with EU legislature we can achieve big positive changes on the national and regional level.

Results

- Enhanced trans-sectorial cooperation in the Western Balkan countries regarding on environmental issues;
- Enhanced regional cooperation and exchanging experience in environmental related policies and initiatives in the Western Balkan region;
- Increased the knowledge of the stakeholders and population of the Western Balkan on the EU environmental values and standards.

MAIN FACTS

PARTNERS:

- ✓ Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands

DURATION:

September 2009 – December 2010

BENEFICIARIES:

- ✓ The Parliament members

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About URI

Since 1999 the Urban Research Institute (URI) has been delivering big results for development projects and programmers carried out throughout Albania. Our core business focuses on community development, local government strengthening, environmental protection, decentralization, and public services. We conduct studies, lobby the government, train local government units, increase public access to information, and connect development partners. URI has worked with donors such as USAID, Swiss Cooperation, the Netherlands Embassy, UNDP, World Bank, EU, SIDA, Open Society/Soros Foundation, etc.