

# WESTERN BALKANS ENVIRONMENTAL HOT SPOTS PROGRAMME

Republic of Macedonia

Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning

18.11.2009

# Hot Spots Project contribution to addressing defined national priorities

- National Priorities of the Republic of Macedonia have been defined in strategic national documents:
  - National Plan for Waste Management (2005)
  - NEAP 2 (2006)
  - National Strategy for Environmental Approximation (NSEA, 2008)
  - Strategy for Waste Management (2008)
  - Strategy for Sustainable Development (2008)
  - Relevant project documents (CARDS 2006, UNDP Hot Spots)
- Historical Pollution Hot Spots:
  - **16 major industrial contaminated sites/hot-spots**
  - most of them- orphan sites
  - others, **burdened with the absence of clear set up of responsibilities for cleaning**
  - **very costly and should be envisaged as a long-term objective**
  - **crucial to prevent other similar developments**

# National Strategic Goals

## – Solid Waste, incl. Hot Spots (WMS, 2008)

- harmonisation of the ***policy and legislation*** ✓ Hot Spots
- effective ***institutional and organisational arrangements*** (planning, permitting, financing, operating and enforcement);
- strengthening ***human resources and capacity in the public and private sector*** ✓ Hot Spots
- introduction of stable ***financial resources and adequate economic mechanisms*** to assure the full cost recovery ("polluter pays")
- raising ***public awareness and awareness of all stakeholders*** ✓ Hot Spots
- establishing the ***data collection/information system*** ✓ Hot Spots
- ***contemporary technical waste management system***
- ***efficient and cost-effective management of segregated waste***
- introduction of ***landfills for hazardous and non-hazardous waste and other facilities***
- progressive ***closing down and/or remediation of existing municipal dumpsites and/or industrial "hot-spots"*** ✓ Hot Spots

# I. How did Hot Spots Project contribute

## The Hot Spots project:

1. Started physical clean-up activities
  - Bucim Mine – Water Protection & Dust protection
  - Lojane Mine – Remediation – capping of sources of pollution
2. Identified & addressed country needs (Needs Assessment + CB Plan):
  - Enacted nationwide expert/professional discussion on pending issues on historical pollution;
  - Identified capacity deficiencies and begun capacity building programmes;
  - Public Awareness raising activities (programme)
  - Market analysis & database of professional environmental practitioners – individuals, institutions/organizations, companies & NGOs.
3. Engaged wide range of stakeholders – national and local authorities, private sector, professional community, NGOs & general public

# I. How did Hot Spots Project contribute

## The Hot Spots project:

4. Set an example:
  - Public-Private Partnership (Bucim Mine) – cost sharing
  - Cooperation national – local authorities
  - Developed high-quality, state-of-the-art remediation technical designs (technological & civil) in a legally required procedure
5. Promoted regional cooperation & exchange of experience
  - National level – Ministries of Environment;
  - Expert community – database of environmental practitioners;
  - Four Study Tours organized - comparison of practices in the wider region;
6. Strengthened capacity @ national & local level
7. Set the stage for further national, regional & development cooperation projects on Hot Spots / Brownfields

# Current challenges – hot spots

- Preparation of a program for remediation of the main Industrial hot spots
- Challenges (not exclusively referring to Hot Spots/ **“brownfields”**):
  - Legislation
  - Institutional – Organizational
  - Finance
  - Ownership

# Challenges Legislation

- full *transposition (MoEPP)* of the
  - *Waste Framework Directive*
  - *Hazardous Waste Directive*
  - *Landfill Directive*
- Transposition in other sectors – **water... (Waste water & Nitrates)**
- Secondary legislation
- Mining Waste Directive – transposition into the Law on Mineral Resources (MoE)
- Environmental Liability Directive – transposed, but refers to new & active plants – no retroactive effect
- Not clear remediation policy and environmental liabilities

# Challenges Financial

- Substantial costs are needed (estimated **77 mio. €**) for the necessary closure and/or reclamation activities of old or abandoned municipal and industrial dumpsites, in particular **“hot-spots”**. **However, the system funds necessary for (co-) financing the remediation of some “hot-spots” in general is not available because of stopped production and unclear legal heritage;**
- **Inexistence of “super” fund for remediation**
- Dependency on donor contribution
- Financing of investments in the closure/remediation of **industrially contaminated sites (“hot-spots”) of national liability** shall be carried out by the earmarked Investment programme Fund, mainly formed with capital grants and soft loans (NWS,2008)

# Challenges

## Institutional - Organizational

- *Currently:*
  - Lack of monitoring and enforcement
  - No implementation body
- *Strengthening of institutions on a national level*
  - trained human resources
  - co-operation and harmonisation between sectors and among line Ministries
  - Waste Management Unit within the Administration for Environment of the MoEPP → the central agency for waste management
  - strengthened Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Dept.
- *Strengthening of institutions on a local level*
- *Strengthening of the regional cooperation*

# Challenges

## Ownership & Liability

- During the past privatization process of various state owned companies an opportunity has been missed in Macedonia, to make a clear provision on liabilities, or instate a fund for the closure and reclamation of the polluted industrial areas, as part of the state revenues for these privatizations.
- Framework for addressing liabilities for past pollution
  - liability system includes full, prospective liability for polluters
  - setting up cleanup standards, definition and classification of contaminated sites
- Select a model & implement :
  - *Purpose*
  - *Sources of funding*
  - *Disbursement options*
  - *Role of other institutions*

# Current country/territory priorities – incl. Hot Spots / Brownfields

- Macedonian EU integration is overarching national priority
- Completion of transposition of EU Legislation;
- Improved implementation of existing legislation and regulations
- Regionalization (solid waste management)
- Improved capacity @ all levels
- Increased public awareness
- Remediation fund
- Regional cooperation

# Regional cooperation

## Areas of cooperation

- EU integration - legislation drafting and implementation;
- Financing;
- Policy approaches
- Management practices
- Technology
- Exchange of experience, experts, expertise

# Regional cooperation

Next steps:

- Strengthened collaboration & exchange of experience
  - Permanent consultation body
  - Regular meetings on high and/or technical level
- Development of joint/regional environmental programmes
- Development cooperation
  - **Multilateral Technical Assistance (UN agencies, EU...)**
  - Bilateral TA

# WESTERN BALKANS ENVIRONMENTAL HOT SPOTS PROGRAMME

Republic of Macedonia

Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning

18.11.2009

# Thank You!