



Romania

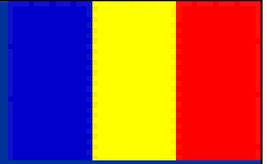
United Nations Development Programme

Newsletter

Issue #6

7 April

2005



Joint UNDP-GEF/SGP Environmental Donors Forum

On 7 April 2005 Environmental Donors Forum organized jointly by UNDP and GEF Small Grants Programme (GEF/SGP) was held at the UN House. The Forum aimed at introducing SGP to the “community of environmental donors in Romania” and discussing co-operation and co-ordination amongst them to address Romania’s environmental priorities.

More than 30 participants attended, representing: a) national and international organizations (EC Delegation, World Bank, USAID, JICA, Romanian-American Enterprise Fund, Mihai Eminescu Trust Foundation, Trust for Civil Society in CEE, UNDP Romania, GEF Small Grants Programme, REC Romania, Carpathian Foundation, Partnership Foundation, Federation of Romanian Local Authorities); b) embassies (Netherlands, Austria, Switzerland, Norway); c) government: Ministry of Environment and Water Management, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, National Authority for Tourism, Romanian Social Development Fund; d) banks (BCR); e) companies (ISPE).

Ms. Jung, UN Res. Coordinator/UNDP Res. Rep, chaired the event and said, “UNDP carries out a number of initiatives that support environmental protection and sustainable development in Romania, under the framework of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Recently launched GEF/SGP is entirely connected with UNDP’s strive to achieve the MDGs by strengthening synergies between policy-level and grassroots initiatives.” To support these statements, Ms. Violeta Kogalniceanu, Head of Energy and Environment, detailed the projects initiated by UNDP, and Ms. Mihaela Dupleac, GEF/SGP National Coordinator, introduced the programme to the audience.



Violeta Kogalniceanu, Head of Environment; Thore Hansen, Deputy Resident Representative; Soknan Han Jung, UN Resident Coordinator/UNDP Resident Representative; Mihaela Dupleac, SGP National Coordinator; Mihai Toti, Director of National Environmental Fund

At the round table, the representatives of ministries tackled the numerous challenges Romania has ahead in order to comply with the requirements of international conventions and EU accession, in the fields of environmental protection and agriculture. They also stressed on the huge financial needs the country faces in this respect. The donors presented their strategies including on-going programmes, and possibilities of co-operation and co-financing were explored amongst the participants. They stressed upon enhancing communication and achieving synergies between the financing programmes, so as to optimize and not duplicate efforts. The need for an active donors’ network with constant information, updates and regular meetings came forward.

In this context, Ms. Jung offered UNDP’s support in elaborating an updated directory of environmental donors (‘who does what’), so that the large donors network could be organized in dedicated sub-networks. Participants would forward their programmes and UNDP would organize the information received and distribute it to the donors. The Forum was highly appreciated by the participants and a follow-up meeting was scheduled for June 2005. For more information please contact mihaela.dupleac@undp.org, Tel: +(4021) 224 7494

