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Improving the Implementation of Environmental Law Through Networking and Exchange of Experience

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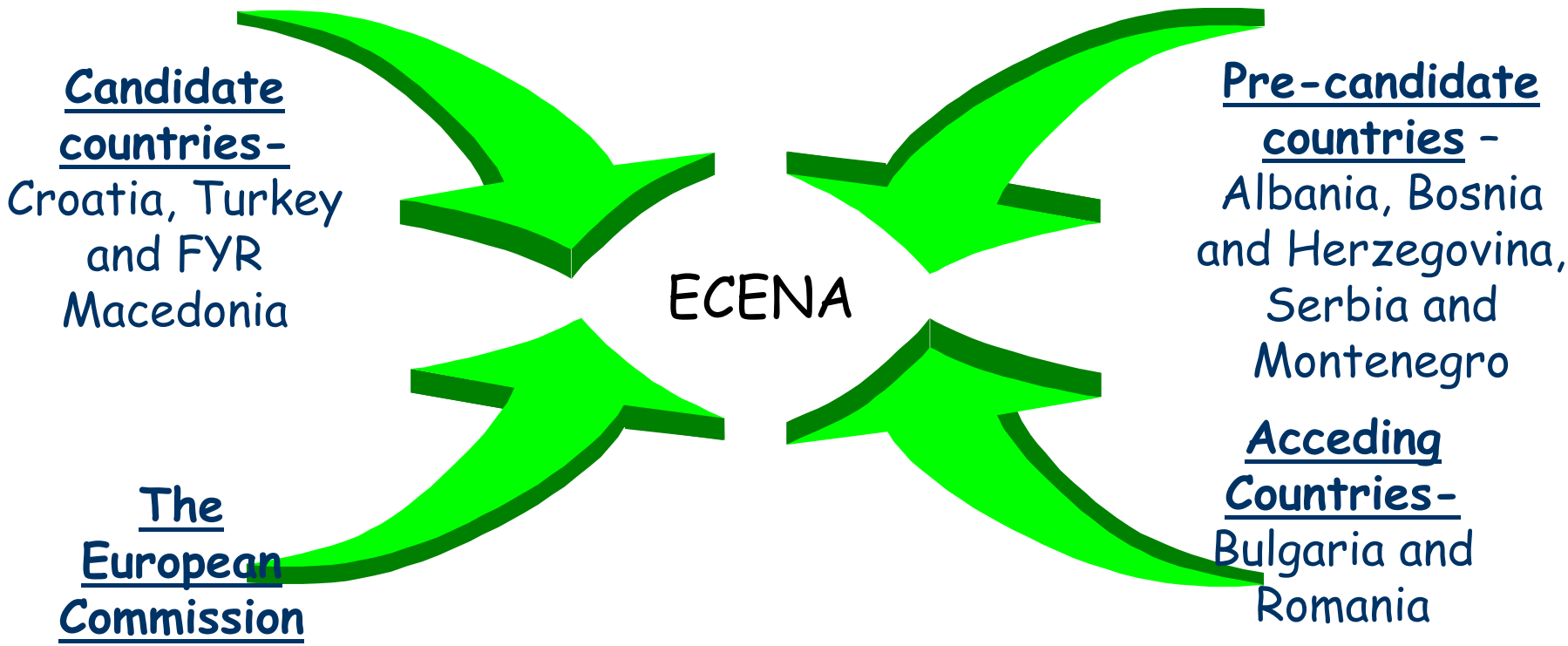
ECENA
Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network for Accession

Who is ECENA?


Candidate countries- Croatia, Turkey and FYR Macedonia
Pre-candidate countries - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro
ECENA
The European Commission
Acceding Countries- Bulgaria and Romania

Who is ECENA?

Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network for Accession

- **An informal network** of enforcement authorities and environmental inspectors
- **Established** with joint agreement of the countries committed to co-operate and supported by donor governments
- **Country driven network** with shared obligations and responsibilities , aimed to find joint solutions for common problems
- Network with **number of successful** regional projects with transparent and visible results
- Network where **exchange of experience** and cooperation is acknowledged as a successful mechanism for achieving significant results in implementation of environmental legislation

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ECENA Objectives

ECENA Aims at :

• **Increased effectiveness** of enforcement agencies and inspection bodies and compliance with environmental legislation;

• **Greater understanding** of the steps and measures needed to improve implementation of environmental acquis;

• **Well trained environmental inspectors** and permit writers, capable of performing their tasks of enforcing the environmental acquis;

• **Improved exchange of experience** and knowledge through stronger cooperation with IMPEL, INECE and other networks, as well as through training and exchange programmes; and

• **Taking a consistent approach** among pre-candidate, candidate and acceding countries in implementing the environmental acquis

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How does ECENA work?

- Informal Network
- National/Network Coordinators
- Plenary Meetings
- Multi-Annual Work Programme
- Strong Secretariat within the REC
- Multiply and Sustainable Funding

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ECENA Activities

- **Network Plenary Meetings** as a forum for strategic discussions and decision making on issues related to the objectives and activities of the network
- **Cluster Projects** aimed to achieve the network objectives and implement PM decisions :

- **"Train the Trainer" Programmes** for Environmental Inspectorates and Permits Writers
- **Exchange Programmes** for Environmental Inspectors;
- **Study Tours** in more advanced countries for Environmental Inspectors;
- **Assessments** on the legal status and resources available for enforcement and compliance;
- **Peer Reviews** of the national enforcement and compliance systems
- **Participation** of ECENA inspectors in other networks work (IMPEL,INECE, REPIN, AECEN)

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Benefits of Networking

- **Enhanced regional cooperation** provided strong political background for increased donor support in solving common problems. The viable and transparent results justifies the donor assistance and provides grounds for further support
- The network of enforcement experts and inspectors results with establishing a **core group of trained personnel** that can further distribute the knowledge on national level;
- **Exchanging knowledge and lessons learned** have significant impact on the improvement of the national permitting systems
- The enforcement agencies backed by Network get **better understanding** from their governments in issues related to the enforcement
- Significant regional training sessions results with **rapid improvement** of the level of enforcement on national level
- **Maintained database** of information and strong secretariat provides permanent place for advice and consultation
- **Participation of ECENA inspectors** to international projects and events results with application of gained knowledge and further improving the capacities.

Lessons Learned

- **Definition of objectives** and needs based on national priorities and level of development
- **Clear understanding of the benefits** of networking. Networking is a powerful tool.
- **Strong political commitment** to cooperate. Environment is politically neutral issue.
- **Countries ownership** of the network and joint decision making
- **Regular monitoring** and reporting on the progress and developments
- **Country acceptance** and ownership of the results
- **Transparent and visible** results
- **Strong secretariat** that has regional presence , sustainable funding for the network operations and wide cooperation with donors
- **Focus on** capacity building, exchange of experience and implementation of environmental law. **Always have indicators for measuring results**
- **Cooperation and communication** with similar international networks and partners

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ECENA Member Countries Wish You Success In Your Activities and are Pleased to Cooperate with You

http://www.rec.org/REC/Programs/RERep/BERCEN
http://www.rec.org/REC/Programs/RERep/ECENA

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