

Targeting 2016

The REC's results-based planning approach



REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

The year 2016 brings new challenges for the REC. Our new strategic planning period, which ends in 2020, focuses on the achievement of three key results across REC partner countries that correspond to regional needs and global sustainability agendas: strengthened environmental governance; strengthened low-emission development, enhanced resilience to the impacts of climate change, and fostered sustainable and healthy lifestyles; and improved natural resources management.

Our work in 2016 is geared towards the achievement of the targeted results outlined in this leaflet.

The REC is uniquely positioned to help transfer best practices and promote regional cooperation and initiatives involving national stakeholders. Based on the environmental challenges, political status and funding opportunities in specific regions, REC activities are implemented in the EU28, with a focus on the new EU member states; EU enlargement countries; EU Neighbourhood countries; and other regions.

Selected activities

ACHIEVE

GRESSIDA

CSConnect



SLED

themīs

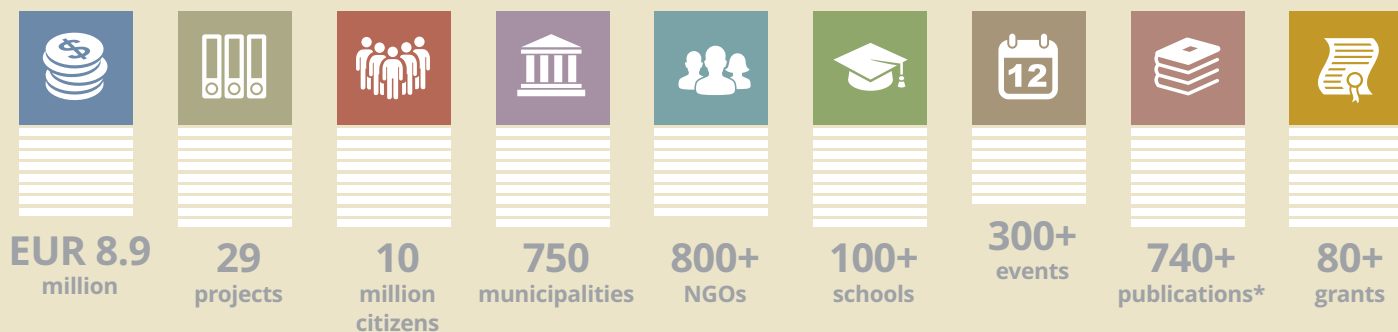
 **watersum**

Targeted result 1

Strengthened environmental governance

- Contributing to environmental law reform; promoting compliance with international, EU and national environmental legislation; and building institutional capacities.
- Promoting participatory governance in the field of environment and sustainable development; and involving key stakeholders in environmental decision making.
- Helping to improve local environmental planning and its integration in all sectors; and building the capacities of local governance institutions in Ukraine, the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) and South Eastern Europe (SEE) for sustainability planning and management.
- Contributing to the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in Europe and beyond; pursuing a multi-stakeholder approach to ESD; and contributing to reforms to educational systems through the integration of sustainable development concepts.
- Improving environmental planning and management; providing pilot environmental investments; and helping to develop the capacities of local institutions in SEE and beyond for sustainability planning and management.
- Delivering a targeted capacity-building programme to high-level senior leaders in the fields of politics, public service, business, NGOs and the media, and, at the same time, forging partnerships between these groups and academia; and offering advanced training to young environmental leaders.

Result 1: Key indicators

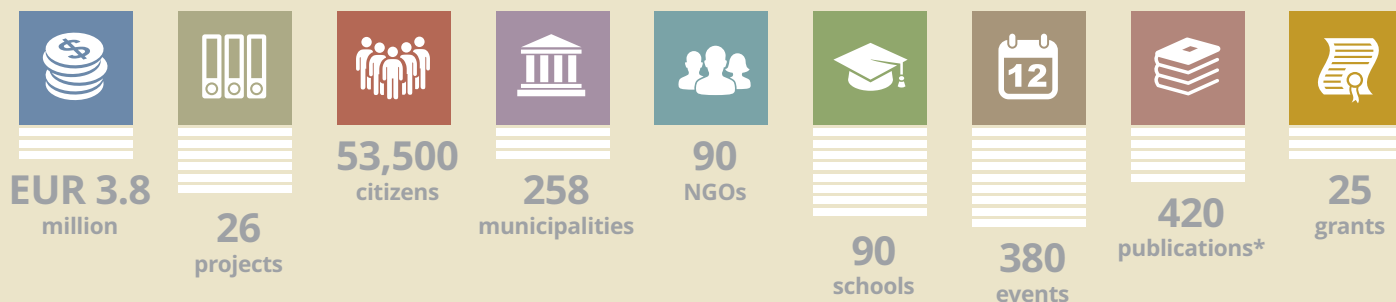


Targeted result 2

Strengthened low-emission development, enhanced resilience to the impacts of climate change, and fostered sustainable and healthy lifestyles

- Supporting the international process under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) by implementing the REC's mandate as regional focal point for Article 6.
- Responding to climate change challenges by promoting energy efficiency, the increased use of renewable energies and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and by facilitating strategies for the transition towards a low-emission society; and providing practical tools and assessments to enable the transition to a low-energy building sector.
- Enhancing the resilience of societies to the impacts of climate change; promoting large-scale climate impact and vulnerability assessment practices; and providing assistance in the preparation of adaptation strategies and the integration of adaptation aspects into sectoral policies.
- Achieving improved strategic environmental investment planning and better integrating climate change and environmental issues into EU funds, regional policy instruments and development programmes, as well as the instruments of international financial institutions; and supporting European regions to shift towards a low-carbon economy.
- Supporting the WHO Europe/UNECE Environment and Health Process in the implementation of the Parma Declaration, the preparation of the Sixth Environment and Health Ministerial Conference and the implementation of its outcomes.
- Achieving technology development and know-how transfer with an accent on smart cities and mobility; helping to limit damage to the environment and public health; and delivering high-quality information services and products that put the accent on sustainable urban mobility planning.
- Implementing research and capacity-building activities related to green economy and helping to identify opportunities for European regions; and continuing the REC's involvement in the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles and the Global Fuel Economy Initiative.

Result 2: Key indicators



Targeted result 3

Improved natural resources management

- Promoting sustainable resources management and adopting practices for resource efficiency, waste as a resource, waste prevention and reduction, land and soil use efficiency, sustainable consumption and production and green public procurement; supporting the implementation of the Roadmap to a Resource-Efficient Europe; and assisting countries to unlock the potential of the EU's Circular Economy Package.
- Increasing the capacities of practitioners on integrated water resources management and focusing attention on water-related issues; and contributing to safeguarding the human right to water and sanitation and the sustainable management of water resources, including the management of shared resources and the protection of aquatic ecosystems, as well as adaptation to climate change.
- Supporting key stakeholders at local, national and EU level to implement and enforce legislation on water and the protection of biodiversity and its integration into planning and economic decision making; supporting the designation, protection and management of areas of natural value; and supporting payments for ecosystem services.
- Supporting the strengthening of the knowledge base and building capacities to develop green infrastructure, which delivers environmental and socioeconomic benefits such as the connection of fragmented habitats, water retention and flood protection.



Result 3: Key indicators



* Printed and electronic, including web pages

The Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC)

is an international organisation that works as a catalyst, accelerating sustainable solutions in partnership with governments and non-governmental stakeholders.

Our projects focus on helping communities to strengthen environmental governance, shift to a low-carbon economy, build resilience to climate change, manage natural resources, and develop capacities for future environmental stewardship.

With 25 years of experience in supporting the region's transition to democracy and sustainability, the REC is a flexible mechanism for cooperation in Central and Eastern Europe and beyond, delivering results through its office and expert network.

Major ongoing activities

- **Adaptation to Climate Change in Hungary**
EEA, Financial Mechanism Office
(Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein)
- **Sustainable Use of Transboundary Water Resources and Water Security Management in the Middle East and North Africa (WATER SUM)**
Government of Sweden
- **Wetlands Conservation and Restoration in Puszcza Kampinowska Natura 2000 Site (LIFE Kampinos Wetlands Poland)**
European Commission and Government of Poland
- **Environmental Civil Society Support Programme for Serbia (CSOnnect)**
Government of Sweden
- **Local Initiatives for a Sustainable Ukraine (LINK)**
Government of Norway
- **NGO Programme in Slovenia**
EEA, Financial Mechanism Office
(Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein)
- **Introducing the UN Sustainable Development Goals in Schools in South Eastern Europe (SEEDLING)**
Government of Austria
- **Support for Low-Emission Development Strategies in South Eastern Europe (SLED)**
Government of Austria
- **Promoting Regional Cooperation in South Eastern Europe via Networking within the Authorities Responsible for the Environment and Justice Sectors (Themis Network)**
Government of Austria
- **Strengthening Institutional Capacity for Environmental Management in Turkey**
European Commission
- **Education for Sustainable Development in the Western Balkans**
Rockefeller Brothers Fund
- **Albanian Civil Society for a European Environment (ACHIEVE)**
European Commission
- **Building Local Community Resilience for Sustainable Development in International Watersheds such as the Drini-Drina River Watershed (CRESSIDA)**
Government of the USA
- **Catalysing Market Transformation for Industrial Energy Efficiency and Accelerating Investments in Best Available Practices and Technologies in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**
GEF/UNIDO