

Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe

The Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC) is an international organisation with a mission to assist in addressing environmental issues. The REC fulfils this mission by promoting cooperation among governments, non-governmental organisations, businesses and other environmental stakeholders, and by supporting the free exchange of information and public participation in environmental decision-making.

The REC was established in 1990 by the United States, the European Commission and Hungary. Today, the REC is legally based on a charter with over 30 signatories. The organisation relies on a network of offices and experts in Central and Eastern Europe and beyond. Its head office is located in Szentendre, Hungary.

The REC actively participates in key global, regional and local processes and contributes to environmental and sustainability solutions within and beyond its country office network, transferring transitional knowledge and experience to countries and regions.

The REC is continually exploring innovative ways to focus attention on water-related issues, embracing a broad selection of stakeholder concerns in the interests of social and economic development and environmental protection. The REC's objectives within this area of expertise are to:

- Promote improved water governance, capacity-building and awareness.
- Strengthen coordination through promoting river basin approaches
- Assist countries in improving the efficiency and effectiveness of water management through multi-stakeholder dialogue and coordination.
- Foster design and improvement of mechanisms in mitigating the effects of climatic changes concerning water scarcity, draught and floods.
- Reinforce integration of integrated water resources management into other relevant sectors such as energy, transport, agriculture, fisheries, regional policy and tourism.

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