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“Balkan Policies for Green Economic Growth”

June 10-11, 2012

Sofia

MISSION:

A SEA-CHANGE IN POLICY AND PRACTICE, FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH EAST EUROPE

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Fairer, Cleaner, Safer

*Towards a more sustainable,
people centered approach to energy
development in South East Europe*

- *7 NGOs from the Region working with WWF*
- *Supported by Soros & Balkan Trust for Democracy*
- *Goal 100% Renewable by 2050*
- *Aimed at EU Institutions & People of the region*



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Green Growth Potential

“Leaders must pave the way for much higher investments to realise energy saving potentials. Doing so would immediately:

- *create jobs,*
- *increase public revenues,*
- *generate cost savings for all*

... and contribute to the European model of the future: environmentally friendly, economically strong and increasingly independent. The Energy Efficiency Directive, which could do that, must be rescued from austerity.”

Stefan Scheuer, Secretary General of the Coalition for Energy Savings



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The Energy Picture; Efficiency & Losses

The countries of South East Europe are extremely energy inefficient. Between 1.7 and 3.9 times more energy is used to produce a unit of GDP in the SEE compared to the EU average.

Losses in the electricity sector have reached soaring 35% and 39 % in Albania and Kosovo respectively.

This is in sharp contrast with Croatia where (despite public ownership) transmission losses have been kept at tolerable levels of 2.5%.

In Montenegro, total electricity losses in the system are 22%.

Total electricity losses in power system of Serbian EPS in 2009 were 15%.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, distribution losses range from 9% to 25%



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The Energy Picture; Savings Potential

Estimates of the energy savings potential by 2020, compared to a baseline, are shown below:

| Sector | % Energy Savings Potential |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| Transport | 10 |
| Residential | 10-35 |
| Public | 35-40 |
| Service | 10-30 |
| Industrial | 5-25 |

Status of Energy Efficiency in the Western Balkans: A Stocktaking Report by the World Bank, 2010



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The Energy Picture; Business & Investment Logic

Saving a kilowatt of energy is 1,000 to 10,000 times more cost effective than generating a new kilowatt of energy.

Energy Efficiency Unit Director European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

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So why are we not not on the right path?

Corruption is one of the main problems in the region, the energy sector being no exception.

In spite of the adoption in many countries of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) regulations and other important EU Directives, the quality of implementation has been very poor.

Public awareness and education in all aspects of sustainability are much neglected in this region and networking amongst related institutions equally poor.



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We recommend that the governments and public/state institutions of the region:

**Provide mechanisms that would allow and encourage people centered solutions and decision making in relation to energy strategies and plans;
Greatly improve the transparency and access to justice in energy planning and privatisation;**

Focus policy and budgetary priorities on reducing losses and increasing efficiency across the energy system from production and transmission to consumption;

Ensure measures to help people offset the impacts of rising energy prices, especially the most vulnerable;



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We recommend that the European Commission:

Lays greater emphasis on implementation of laws and regulations related to environment, energy and transparency, in addition to monitoring the adoption of laws and regulations required by the *acquis communautaire*;

Ensures that the enlargement policies and funding mechanisms in the region take due account of the EC 20/20/20 Communication and the EC 2050 Road Map ;

Uses its considerable influence to ensure much greater transparency and less corruption in the privatisation and tendering of energy projects.



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We recommend that the Energy Community Treaty Secretariat:

Provides programmes and funds to allow civil society organizations to participate in the work of ECTS;

Strengthens their expert profile in terms of the level and number of staff engaged in energy efficiency, smart grids, energy poverty, calculation of externalities on a programme and project basis and energy sustainability;



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We recommend that the Energy Community Treaty Secretariat (Cont.):

Provides a series of studies in relation to the sustainability of energy networks, implementation issues related to smart grids, the poverty impact and amelioration mechanisms of the single energy market.

Subject its so far secret Regional Energy Strategy to a two part public consultation and an SEA in line with EC and Arhuas Best Practice



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Opportunities

- The vast amount of planned investment in the region by the EU Institutions in the context of the accession process who are more “amenable” to pressure
- The looming threat of the regional energy market as promoted by the Energy Community Treaty which will come into effect in 2015
- Increasing interest amongst NGOs and Donors to work together on “Alternatives” as well as “Opposition”



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Thanks, Hvala, Faleminderit, Blagodarya!

Questions ?

Suggestions ?

Support ?

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