

Green Action/FoE Croatia in cooperation with partners from the region and the world began with the implementation of the project Advocacy NGOs networks for sustainable use of energy and natural resources in the Western Balkans and Turkey.

The main objective of the project is to increase the capacity of NGOs in the Western Balkans and Turkey to influence EU environmental approximation process through public advocacy supported by the citizens.



Friends of the Earth Europe



Friends of the Earth International

energytransport&naturalresources



Advocacy NGOs networks for sustainable use of energy and natural resources in the Western Balkans and Turkey



**Government of the Republic of Croatia
Office for Cooperation with NGOs**

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About project

In spite of the many years spent on capacity building of NGOs in the WB and Turkey, there is still need to strengthen environmental advocacy in the region. NGOs could better support the efforts of local communities to protect their environment and influence local, national and regional policy making. Only a dozen of NGOs in the WB region are engaged in environmental advocacy and even fewer of them are grassroots oriented or directly linked to local communities' and citizens' initiatives. In 2007 a research study was conducted showing that out of 433 NGOs included in the research, less than a half are campaigning, mobilizing people, lobbying or engaged in other watch-dog activities.

Our project will strengthen capacity of NGOs to provide analysis, advocacy and monitoring of key environmental reforms at regional and national levels with special focus on energy, transport and natural resources. We decided to focus on these three issues because they demand regional approach.

Main project activities

Policy analyses, position papers, thematic seminars and network meetings, regional conferences, regional trainings, Environmental Law and Public Advocacy Toolkit, educational seminars for young environmental leaders, National public advocacy campaigns, Participation of project partners from WB in FOEI and FOEE activities and visit to relevant EU institutions.

Expected results

1. Strengthened regional policy networking of NGOs on energy, transport and natural resources;
2. Improved capacity of environmental NGOs in policy analysis, policy monitoring and public advocacy;
3. Increased legitimacy of NGOs on energy, transport and natural resources' policy and enhanced dialogue with national stakeholders (national governments, experts, business and media);
4. Improved networking among environmental NGOs from the WB and Turkey with EU-wide environmental networks and NGOs.

Green Action partners on this project are Friends of the Earth International (the largest international network of environmental organizations), Friends of the Earth Europe (their European subsidiary), Heinrich Böll Foundation (German green foundation with more than 30 offices worldwide) and four environmental NGOs from the region (Green home from Montenegro, Centre for Ecology and Sustainable Development from Serbia and Centre for Environment and Centre for ecology and Energy Tuzla from Bosnia and Herzegovina).

The project lasts for two years, ie from November 2012. to November 2014.

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Project website

www.etnar.net

