



# COURSE FOR SUSTAINABILITY

STRATEGIES, METHODOLOGIES, POLICIES AND ACTIONS FOR CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

---

## Session 1

# Introduction to the Concepts of Sustainable Development

October 11-15, 2004

Location: The Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe  
Szentendre, Hungary



---

## **Session One: Introduction to the Concepts of Sustainable Development**

---

### **Objectives**

- To develop an understanding of the origins of the concept of sustainable development, its core principles, and its prospects for realisation.
- To acquire a basic understanding of the scientific facts about the current state of the environment, development dilemmas and population dynamics.
- To learn about the policy framework for sustainable development, both on a global scale and in Europe.

### **Outputs**

By the end of the session, the participants will have:

- been introduced to the course and partner organisations;
- learned enough to follow the major debates in environmental change;
- become aware of multiple approaches and opinions;
- learned to critically assess various claims made by governments and NGOs;
- developed cohesion as a group and a working dynamic;
- clarified their expectations; and
- finalised their choice of modules.

# Course Agenda

Welcome and Orientation Session (Marta Szigeti Bonifert, the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe)

- The REC (film)
- Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory – Francesco Rizzo, IMET
- Agroinnova (film)
- Venice International University – Ignazio Musu, VIU
- Central European University – Alexios Antypas, CEU
- Agenda – Robert Atkinson, Cerasela Stancu, REC

Group Activities (Cecilia Simonyi, Concordia)

Lecture: Summary of the Main Sustainable Development Concepts (Janos Zlinszky, REC, Pazmany Peter University)

## **Theme: Introduction to Sustainable Development**

Lecture: Introduction to Sustainable Development: International Processes and Main Actors (Jacqueline Aloisi de Lardere, United Nations Environment Programme)

Lecture: The Science of Sustainable Development (Reuben Mnatsakanian, CEU)

Lecture: Economics and Sustainable Development (Sandor Kerekes, Corvinus University Budapest, Faculty of Business Administration)

Lecture: Sustaining Knowledge about World Development (Anna Rosling Ronnlund, Karolinska Institute, Sweden)

## **Theme: Sustainable Development and the European Union**

Lecture: The European Union's Sustainable Development Strategy: An Introduction (Alexios Antypas, CEU)

Lecture: The European Union's Sustainable Development Strategy: A Critique (Mikael Karlsson, Swedish Society for Nature Protection)

Case Study: Developing a National Sustainable Development Strategy: Slovakia. (Daniel Skobla, REC Slovakia)

Discussion: Implications of European Union Enlargement for Sustainable Development in the EU (Moderator: Tom Garvey, former Deputy-DG, DG Environment)

## **Theme: International Relations and Sustainable Development**

Lecture: European Union Law and Sustainable Development (Massimiliano Montini, University of Siena)

Lecture: Rights, International Law and Sustainable Development (Stephen Stec, REC, Leiden University)

Lecture: WSSD: Millennium Goals, Prospects for Attainment (Eva Csobod, REC Hungary)

Discussion: International Obligations and Priorities for Countries in Sustainable Development Implementation (Moderator: Zoltan Illes, member of the Hungarian Parliament)

**Theme: Implementing Sustainable Development**

Lecture: Understanding Sustainability: The Basis for Implementation (Ivan Gyulai, Ecological Institute, Hungary)

Case Study: Coping with the Mainstream: Local Efforts to Put Ideas into Practice (Ivan Gyulai, Ecological Institute, Hungary)

Closing (Cerasela Stancu, Robert Atkinson, REC)