

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention
Fifth Session

Italy
National Report

Measures taken to assist the implementation of the UNCCD for
the Fifth Session of the Committee for the Review of Implementation of the UNCCD in
the Regions other than Africa
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Jointly prepared by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Italian Ministry of the Environment
and Territory

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1. INTRODUCTION

By its decision 7/COP 7, the COP decided to renew the mandate of the CRIC as its subsidiary body up to and including COP8. CRIC 5 focuses on the submissions of national reports from affected country parties of regions other than Africa. Reports from developed country Parties should focus on activities in support of those regions.

Italy compiled two reports: the National Report as an affected country Party member of Annex IV; the National Report as a developed country Party analysing the development cooperation activities to combat drought and desertification implemented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Environment and Territory accordingly with their respective mandates.

With the intent to reflect the indications provided by decisions 11/COP1, 8/COP4, 10/COP4, 1/COP5, 1/COP6, 4/COP6, 5/COP as asked by the explanatory note prepared by the UNCCD Secretariat (ICCD/CRIC(5)/INF.4), the report provides all the relevant information (the seven key areas) using a chart. Each chart contains a project relevant in the fighting against desertification also in the light of eradicating poverty and achieving sustainable development.

According to decision 8/COP4, projects have been listed into *seven strategic areas*:

- sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas;
- sustainable use and management of rangelands;
- development of sustainable agricultural and ranching production systems;
- development of new and renewable energy sources;
- launching of reforestation programmes and intensification of soil conservation programmes;
- development of early warning systems for food security and drought forecasting;
- desertification monitoring and assessment.

Also taking into account the *four thematic areas*:

- the promotion of traditional knowledge;
- the promotion of appropriate environmental education;
- the enhancement of cooperation with institutions and organization dealing with development policies and programmes to eradicate illiteracy and the development of capacity building in affected areas.

The report has given particular attention also to the activities undertaken by Italy to support the 2006 International Year of Deserts and Desertification.

2. The Italian Cooperation Strategy carried out by the Ministry of foreign affairs and by the ministry of environment

Italian cooperation identifies desertification as a global environmental problem given its direct and/or indirect impacts on socio-economic assets not only at local level. Desertification calls for a common vision and approach as well as for strong joint efforts.

The fight against desertification is a key component of the sustainable development agenda and of the global efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, particularly MDG 7 on environmental sustainability and MDG 1 on poverty eradication.

The projects we fund and manage are not limited to the most degraded lands, but address also the situation of those facing serious risks, which may not receive enough support by the development partners community. Our approach in this area is a systemic and preventive one. Our starting point is ecosystems preservation, since ecosystems are in themselves at the centre of our strategy. This approach is in line with the findings of the *Millennium Ecosystems Assessment*, which have highlighted that the protection of ecosystems services and goods is key to poverty eradication.

In this context, institutional capacity building is a precondition for meeting the needs of the ecosystems. In particular, we have established a number of *decisions support systems*, which are intended to provide local decision makers with advanced skills on tailored methodologies to manage the scarcity of resources these zones have to cope with. Resources competition is often the cause for conflict and tensions within the communities, especially when water, the source of life, is at stake. Therefore, enhancing capacities in this respect, through an appropriate balance of traditional knowledge and technological innovation, can contribute to solve local problems without affecting the ecosystems and damaging the social habitat.

Our ultimate goal is to help the communities building a sense of ownership over the projects, which are designed to improve their lives without changing their traditions and values. As the ecosystems run across the borders, we have developed long-term transboundary programmes. This further proves that we can not deal with issues such as economic growth, crisis prevention, environmental protection and spatial planning, separately since their all parts of the same process that should eventually lead to sustainable development.

Our experience shows that specific inter-sectoral approaches are needed to accomplish impacts on the ground, especially in the field of agriculture, water and forests resource management, rural development, sustainable territorial planning and education. In particular, sustainable forest management is an effective tool to prevent and mitigate the effects of land degradation, loss of biodiversity and climate change. This integrated approach also allows to utilize resources in a more efficient and effective way.

This Report, therefore, refers to cooperation projects in different but interlinked sectors. This is done both in the light of the Convention and the *Declaration on the commitments under the Convention to enhance implementation of the obligations of the UNCCD* (the so called **Bonn Declaration**), which states that Parties shall adopt an integrated approach addressing the physical, biological and socio-economic aspects of desertification and drought and encourages synergies between the Rio Conventions and related Multilateral Environmental Agreements, as well as international organizations, in order to strengthen their cooperation and seek partnerships, with a view to facilitate progress in the implementation of these Conventions at all levels.

Moreover, these projects are characterized by specific and clear objectives, which is a fundamental precondition to be operational; they focus on a community based/bottom-up approach - which is a basic principle of the Convention; they also identify non-ODA funds from the private sector and connect them to the priorities of the poor.

In addition to the main projects identified in Chapter 5, numerous in-kind contributions are also implemented. In the framework of EU research and demonstration programmes, additional costs were boreed by Italian scientific bodies in the role of both coordinators and realizers as it is the case, for example, of SMAP II and III/NRD-UNISS implemented respectively in Tunisia and Morocco and in Egypt.

Furthermore, in 2005-2006, three fellowship programmes of 18 months each were funded by the MFA and other four are to be supported in 2007-2008. The fellowships are devoted to North African young researchers with the aim to enhance their capacity to cope with desertification at home.

3. THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION

The clear linkages and the need to create operational synergies between cooperation for development and environmental cooperation have been increasingly recognized by the donor community. The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation for Sustainable Development, the Millennium Development Goals and the OECD work are fundamental frameworks inspiring the Italian action on poverty eradication, protection of the environment and long lasting economic growth.

The OECD *Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness* and the OECD *Joint Ministerial Declaration on Development and Environment* (4 April, 2006) are also taken into account to pursue their follow-up.

In the years 2005 and 2006, the publication of the *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment*; the G8 particular focus on Africa as well as on the environment and sustainable development, with specific attention devoted to the linkages between sustainable energy production and consumption and climate change; the World Bank Report on the achievement of MDGs and the World Summit Outcome (14-16 September 2005) should be listed as some of the most important events in the field of environment and development.

Indeed, in the context of the UN reform, international security (including energy security), peacebuilding initiatives, migration and human rights have received specific attention.

With particular reference to sustainable development, the need to shift towards sustainable consumption and production patterns, using available natural resources more efficiently, climate change adaptation measures, biodiversity, renewable energy sources have also received further consideration and have been discussed at length in international fora.

In this context, Italy has launched two important initiatives with a view to contribute to sustainable development: the Global Bio-energy Partnership as a follow-up to the G8 and the Task Force on Education as a follow-up to the Marrakech Process on Sustainable Production and Consumption Patterns.

4. THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DESERTS AND DESERTIFICATION. ITALIAN INITIATIVES

On December 2003, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted resolution A/Res/58/211 which declares 2006 the “International Year of Deserts and Desertification”. The resolution contains a number of provisions, placing particular emphasis on the following:

- 1) Inviting all countries to establish National Committees or focal points and to celebrate the Year by arranging appropriate activities.
- 2) Encouraging countries to contribute, as they are able, to the Convention and to undertake special initiatives in observance of the Year with the goal of enhancing the implementation of the Convention.
- 3) Calling upon all relevant international organizations and member states to support the activities related to desertification, to be organized by affected countries, in particular African countries and the least developed countries.

The resolution designates the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), as focal point of the Year, in conjunction with the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and other relevant bodies of the UN. The UNCCD Secretariat and its institutional partners convened to develop a joint strategy with a view to explore viable options and identify possible activities for the successful celebration of the year.

Such strategy has been discussed with the cluster of agencies designated by UNGA, and other bodies of the United Nations system that have been involved in the preparation of the Year (the World Bank, UNV, CBD, GEF, UNESCO, FAO...), as well as and other relevant partners.

The Secretariat asked to UNCCD National Focal Points to undertake the activities to celebrate the International Year of Deserts and Desertification, ensuring the greatest possible impact at national, regional and international levels. Focal Points were also required to include the celebration of the IYDD within the programme of work of their respective National Committees to combat desertification.

Italy has been actively engaged officiating the launch of the International Year in New York in November 2005 and also promoting an array of political, cultural and scientific initiatives, including film festivals, art exhibitions, workshops, national and international conferences.

4.1 The role of the NGO's

The first Italian contribution to the IYYD has been the “International Conference on the role of civil society in the fight against desertification” held in Rome, at the premises of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 19-20th January 2006.

The Conference has been the final output of an intense process started already in 2004, when the UNCCD Secretariat, in collaboration with the Italian Association of NGOs (AIO) and the support of the Italian Cooperation has launched a wide awareness raising campaign to enhance collaboration and to foster cooperation with the Italian NGOs involved in sustainable development activities related to land degradation and poverty eradication. This campaign has been the starting point to develop an action programme to strengthen the UNCCD process at local level and to mobilize civil society.

The meeting has contributed to a better definition of the role and opportunities for an enhanced involvement of *relevant intergovernmental, governmental, regional local and non-governmental stakeholders*, including the following:

- The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs: the Unit for Non-Governmental Cooperation and the Unit for Coordination of Decentralized Cooperation;
- Italian NGOs (associated to AOI);
- Regional Administrations;
- Representatives from selected NGOs and NGO networks from developing countries (one per each Regional Annex of the UNCCD);
- Representatives from identified affected developing country Parties to the UNCCD (one per Regional Annex of the UNCCD)
- Representatives from International Financial Institutions (GEF, World Bank, Regional Development Banks) and from the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD;
- OICS, Interregional Observatory on Cooperation for Development;
- ANCI, National Association of Italian Municipalities;
- UPI, Union of Italian Districts;
- Mediterranean Institute of Agronomy, IAM;
- Istituto Agronomico d'Oltremare IAO;
- The Department for Non-Governmental Cooperation of the European Commission;
- The European Network of NGOs in Combating Desertification;
- The Italian National Committee to Combat Drought and Desertification;

Three key approaches have been singled out by the meeting:

1. *participation*, that constitutes not only a democratic tool but a crucial element for a successful outcome of the policies against desertification;
2. *partnership*, where partnership building means creating new alliances among civil society, local authorities, private sector and public institutions able to prevent conflict and to create new opportunities for development
3. *sharing information success stories and best practices* is essential for an effective involvement of the civil society and for generating virtuous circle and multiplication effects for the successful policies.

4.2 Women and Desertification

The Government of Italy, has financially contributed to the organization of the International Conference on Women and Desertification held from May 29th to June 1st in Beijing.

The conference was opened by the Chinese vice premier Mr Hui Liang Yu who, among other things, underlined the importance of the cooperation between China and Italy for the protection of the environment and for the promotion of sustainable development, in particular in the field of combating desertification.

Delegates coming from 49 countries, especially from Africa, Asia and Latin America, participated to the Conference.

Three parallel thematic working groups were set up, namely on: 1) Follow-up of the Beijing Platform for Action; 2) Empowering women in dry lands and 3) New opportunities for Women in Drylands.

The results of the conference consisted on a Rapporteur's Summary and on the "Beijing Statement". The Beijing Statement recommends to take actions on the establishment of adequate institutional

arrangements, on identification of key priorities areas, creation of specific funding mechanisms as well as monitoring systems in order to promote the role of women in combating desertification and management of resources in the drylands.

In this context, Italy has reaffirmed the key role of women on the sustainable management of natural resources in arid and degraded zones and has confirmed its commitments to support measures to:

- improve women living conditions in drylands thanks to the utilization of sustainable technologies, renewable energies (in particular solar energy and biomass) and integrated water resources management;
- promotion of land ownership for women through micro-credit;
- promotion of higher education for women in science and technology;
- legal and institutional empowerment of women in decision making, in particular in the elaboration and implementation of National Action Plans;
- recognition and promotion of the important role of women in protecting the environment through the reinforcement of the environmental pillar of the UNCCD Convention.

4.3 Youth and Environment

The Governments of Italy, Finland and Germany are financially supporting the UNCCD Secretariat and the Government of Mali in organizing an International Conference in Bamako, Mali, from 4 to 6 September 2006, on "Youth and Desertification", a theme that is placed high on the agenda of the Convention within the context of participatory approaches. The main objective of the conference is to encourage countries most affected by desertification and land degradation to give priority to creating youth employment as a matter of national urgency, with job creation mainstreamed into macroeconomic and sectoral (agriculture, industry, services and labour) policies, by offering concrete cases of challenges and opportunities for youth in drylands.

Delegates from across the world, ranging from youth representatives, NGOs, policy makers, subregional, regional and international organizations and institutions, development partners will be invited to participate in the meeting.

As major part of the conference proceedings and sharing of experiences, a number of participants from selected countries, including from Africa, will be requested to present best practices being undertaken in their respective countries as part of addressing some of the major problems affecting the youths in the context of desertification

This Conference is one of three major international events organized within the framework of the IYDD, together with the International Conference on "Women and Desertification" that have been held in Beijing, China and the International Conference on "Global Assessment and the way forward in the implementation of the UNCCD" to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

4.4 Integrating culture exchange in sustainable development: the Desert Night Film Festival

If the Conference on the role of the NGO has been opening the Italian contribution to the IYDD another inclusive and multicultural event is going to be closing the Italian Activities of the International Year on Desert and Desertification: the Desert Night Film Festival "Tales from the Desert"

The main objectives of this initiative are:

- To raise the awareness of the public at large, on the issue of desertification as it relates to social and cultural dimensions;
- To promote cultural identities and capacities of drylands communities;

- To identify and launch concrete actions in support of affected developing countries, in particular as relates to cultural initiatives.

The film festival will focus on the **daily life in desertification-prone areas**. Movies have being selected among the **international most successful movies produced in affected countries**.

Considering the objectives to be achieved, a wide sensitization and fund-raising campaigns have been required, involving governmental institutions and non-governmental organizations, civil society and different stakeholders at local, national and international levels. The Government of Italy supports the preliminary activities to launch the initiative, through the voluntary contribution to the UNCCD Secretariat, while additional contributions - including those coming from the private sector – have been levered in support of the initiative in its totality.

5. Measures taken to assist the implementation of the UNCCD

5.1. Sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	India
Title	Vulnerability Reduction through Community Management and Control of Water in the drought prone areas of Marwar Region.
Specific Thematic Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promotion of traditional knowledge - Promotion of appropriate environmental education.
Specific Strategic Areas	Sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas
Partnership Agreement	Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs /DG Development for Cooperation, UNDP and local communities
Participatory Process	Community management
Objectives	Mitigation of drought effects in 400 villages of Marwar region.
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	Indian Natural Disaster Risk Management Program. JPoI: Chapter IV “Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development”, in particular paragraphs 24, 26, 27, 28, 40, 41; Chapter IX “Other regional initiatives”, in particular paragraphs: 77 and 78; Chapter X “Means of implementation”, in particular paragraphs: 105 and 106.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	
Target Years	2005-2007
Target Area	Marwar Region, Rajasthan, India
Expected Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creation of water channels in catchments areas. - Construction of 400 village ponds providing drinking water for human and animal population. - Water storage tanks that will ensure storage of water from the village ponds. - Greater environmental awareness that will lead to better natural resources management. - Increased water security of the community in the event of drought. - Increased leisure and productive time for women and study time for children. - Advocacy of water rights and policies trough the country
Resource Mobilization	EURO 3.2 Million from Italy UNDP also contributes substantially. More donors are planning to contribute.
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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	China
Title	Italian Technical Assistance for China Biodiversity Partnership Framework
Specific Thematic Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - strengthening the overall enabling environment for biodiversity conservation; - mainstreaming biodiversity conservation into socio-economic sectors and development; - protecting biodiversity inside nature reserves, and - protecting and sustainably utilising biodiversity lying outside of nature reserves.
Specific Strategic Areas	Sustainable land use management, including water soil and vegetation in affected areas
Partnership Agreement	Memorandum of Understanding between the State Forestry Administration of the People's Republic of China and the Italian Ministry of the Environment and Territory on <i>Cooperation in the field of synergies among Rio Conventions and Sustainable Development</i>
Participants	Division IV (GEF Division); Foreign Economic Cooperation Office (FECO); Chinese State Environmental Protection Administration (SEPA); UNDP (United Nations Development Program).
Objectives (including Abstract)	<p>In line with the objectives stated in the China Biodiversity Partnership Framework (CBPF) PDF-B proposal submitted by UNDP and approved by the GEF, objective of this project is to support SEPA in the effort to streamline country-wide Biodiversity programs in China, and specifically, within the recently launched CBPF PDF-B implementation phase. The project has provided Italian expertise to support SEPA from the initial stage of this effort (concept paper preparation, PDF-B proposal) and will continue through the PDF-B implementation phase.</p> <p>In order to strengthen the overall approach to biodiversity conservation, and to exploit unique opportunities, and to significantly lessen threats to biodiversity nationally, the Government of China is calling for a new and innovative partnership, with the capacity and ability to leverage changes in the current systems and practices. The partnership is to be built around a multi-level, multi-phase, multi-component, well-funded framework of activities for conserving biodiversity, many of which are new and innovative in China (The China Biodiversity Partnership Framework – the CBPF). As mentioned above, GEF is to support both developing the CBPF and implementing components of the Framework. The CBPF has a general objective to “build momentum around the programmes of the many partners, leading to a shift in the national approach to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, to a fuller integration of biodiversity into development at all levels, and providing a vehicle to address the many weaknesses”.</p> <p>Main objectives of the project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contributing to implement the CBPF Proposal; - Providing specialized support, through Italian experts, on the preparation of the concept paper and finalization of PDF-B proposal prepared by UNDP and SEPA; - Coordinating an effort to integrate and streamline SICP-funded ecological and biodiversity projects in the CBPF
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	Project activities will be implemented in accordance with the principles, rules and modalities of the three Rio Conventions, namely the United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol (the project is a Afforestation/Reforestation CDM), the United Nation Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	Chinese 11th Draft Five Year Plan. GEF replenishment (GEF IV).
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	JPoI: Chapter II “Poverty eradication”, para 7 (1); Chapter IV “Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development”, in particular paragraphs 41 and 44.

Target Years	2006 - 2007
Target Area	China
Expected Outcomes	<p>Under the forthcoming GEF replenishment (GEF IV), the limit of GEF resources to biodiversity in China may be estimated to be around \$50million. With co-financing of 1:2, this would mean around \$150 million mobilized/coordinated to the CBPF in the four-year period 2006-2009.</p> <p>Once the CBPF is established and running, it should be able to attract more resources from both government and non-government sources. For example, over the medium-term, payments for biological services (such as carbon funds, biodiversity off-sets, watershed protection, wetlands banking, etc) could generate greater resources. These are mostly market mechanisms, and funding may not be through the government budget. However, CBPF can influence, if not supervise, these funds.</p>
Resource Mobilization	Total amount of funding by the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory: 100,000 Euro.
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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	West Asia, Central Asia, North Africa
Title	WESCANA Systemic integration of Networks for Sustainable Freshwater Management in West/Central Asia and North Africa national and regional levels
Specific Thematic Areas	The enhancement of cooperation with institutions and organizations dealing with development policies and programmes to eradicate illiteracy and the development of capacity-building in affected areas
Specific Strategic Areas	Sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas
Partnership Agreement	The Project is a Type II Partnership Initiative.
Participatory Process	Several intergovernmental Institutions will be included in the process, among those the Med Wet Programme, Middle East Desalination Research Centre, the Inter-Islamic Network on Water Resources Development and Management and the International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas.
Objectives (including an Abstract)	The Initiative aims at contributing to sustainable, ecosystem-based freshwater management on the basis of an integrated, systemic approach linking two of the core development components related to water. The first component, water resources, refers to aspects such as water supply and storage, and their related technologies, institutional and policy frameworks and networks. The second component, water quality, pertaining to the maintenance of the freshwater ecological balance, biodiversity, and environmental and human health, etc, and related institutions, policies and networks. In this context, the main objectives are: a) Generate awareness and trust among policy makers within WESCANA region on the systemic approach to water management promoted by the IUCN Regional Water Programme. b) Strengthen decision-makers capacities for systemic -cost effective- sustainable water resources planning and management in the region. c) Strengthen policy-makers capacity to promote the involvement of all stakeholders (e.g. NGOs, Private Sector) in water resources planning and management. d) Connect WESCANA Countries with relevant water initiatives worldwide.
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	The Initiative is linked to the Convention on Wetlands and to several global initiatives such as: the Global Water Partnership Programme, the Global International Water Assessment, the International Rivers Network, the International Water Management Institute, the World Water Assessment programme and the IUCN Water and Nature Initiative.
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	JPoI: Chapter IV “Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development”, in particular paragraphs 24, 26, 27, 28, 40, 41; Chapter X, “Means of Implementation” in particular 116, 121, 124.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	The governments of each country in the area will be involved, particularly the Ministries of Environment. In each country there will be a special Local Unit receiving and supplying information to and from the main network centre (Amman), which will coordinate all operations. The Local Unit will act as a consulting agency for the State, Province, municipalities, Universities, scientific centers etc
Target Years	2006-2008
Target Area	West Asia - Afghanistan, Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Yemen. Central Asia – Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. North Africa – Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia.
Expected Outcomes	The WESCANA water network will be an integrated and systemic networking in the water field grounded in Amman (Water Thematic Main Center), each WESCANA country having its own local structured unit with the same “dignity” of the central one (Amman). unit/local center. There will be, in each country, a Unit specialized in a specific field related to water issues, transmitting information to and taking information from the local network. Key outcomes include: a) Publications in Arab-English and French, building upon lessons

	<p>learned through the programme widely disseminated throughout the region. b) Planning and management contributions of the project integrated into relevant national water management processes. c) Provide services to network members on specific topics (incl. technology transfer). d) Support in drafting policies and laws that integrate the systemic approach to water management, providing specific guidance for at least one country sub-region. e) Know how and technologies on planning and system management transferred and tested through the pilot projects. f) A regional systemic network of national and international sectoral networks established and running with the active involvement of policy-makers and relevant stakeholders. g) Administrative and technical staff trained through formal and on-the-job training. h) A regional level Decision Support System is designed and supports stakeholder participation in water resources decision making. i) strengthening of existing partnerships and new partnerships development.</p> <p>Finally, the project partners will link documented experience, policy guidelines and technical know-how by identifying and preparing integrated, systemic water management demonstration pilot project.</p>
Resource Mobilization	Total 2.400.000 euro (first year 2006 800.000 euro) by the Directorate General for Development Cooperation of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Multilateral Desk
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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	People's Republic of China
Title	Sustainable Development and Environmental Management Advanced Training Program
Specific Thematic Areas	The promotion of appropriate environmental education
Specific Strategic Areas	Sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas
Partnership Agreement	Many different bilateral agreements between the Italian Ministry of the Environment and Territory and each one of the following Chinese partners have been signed: State Environmental Protection Administration Ministry of Science and Technology Chinese Academy of Social Sciences Beijing Municipality Shanghai Municipality
Participants	Italian members: Venice International University and Agroinnova - University of Turin Chinese members: State Environmental Protection Administration Ministry of Science and Technology Chinese Academy of Social Sciences Beijing Municipality Shanghai Municipality
Objectives (including an Abstract)	The core aim of the Training Program is to promote capacity building among Chinese key figures involved in the process of policy making, management and knowledge development, in order to foster a sustainable approach to environmental, social and economic issues. The exchange of know-how and experiences on best available technologies and practices is an important feature of the program. In year 2003, Venice International University in cooperation with the University of Turin, inaugurated the Sustainable Development and Environmental Management Advanced Training Program as part of the Sino-Italian Cooperation Program for Environmental Protection (SICP). The Program offers advanced training courses on Environmental Management and Sustainable Development for senior government officials, professors, researchers and experts selected from the State Environmental Protection Administration of China, the Ministry of Science and Technology, the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing and Shanghai Municipal Governments. The training courses are structured as a set of two-week modules and include scientific activities at Venice International University (Venice), the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory (Rome) and Agroinnova (Turin). Lectures are held in English with consecutive translation into Chinese. With each training module concentrating on a specific field of study, the Training Program covers a broad and comprehensive spectrum of topics: Clean Development Mechanism, Water and Air Pollution, Waste and Water Management, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energies, Sustainable Urban Development, Sustainable Agriculture, Policy and Governance of Sustainable Development, Marine Environment. Site visit to relevant Italian experiences are also part of each course activities.
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	Capacity Building is a cross-cutting issue, common to all the major environmental Conventions.
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	JpoI : Chapter IV, "Protecting and managing the natural resources base of economic and social development", in particular paragraphs 24, 26, 27, 28, 40, 41; Chapter X " Means of implementation" par. 116, 121, 124.

Target Years	From year 2003- 2006
Target Area	China
Expected Outcomes	By the end of year 2006, about 1.800 Chinese officials and experts will have attended the Training Program and a total of 55 training sessions will have been arranged in Italy and in China.
Resource Mobilization	Total amount of funding by the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory by the end of 2006: euro 8.700,00
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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	Central and Eastern Europe
Title	Programme for the environmental protection of the Radika River Valley
Specific Thematic Areas	Promotion of appropriate environmental education
Specific Strategic Areas	Sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas.
Partnership Agreement	Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs/DG Development Cooperation, Macedonia Republic's Ministries of Local Governments and Environment
Participatory Process	Local Municipalities, local private sector
Objectives	Improving the living condition of the local population, preventing migration from the region while preserving the natural characteristics of the site which is a National Park
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	JPoI: Chapter II "Poverty eradication", paragraph 8 and Chapter IV "Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development", in particular paragraphs 24, 26, 27, 28, 40, 41.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Target Years	2003-2006
Target Area	Radika River Valley - Eastern part of Macedonia
Expected Outcomes	i) Radika River Valley protection from wastewater and solid waste pollution; ii) Provision of sanitation facilities technically and financially sustainable; iii) Awareness raising of local population on adequate practices of sanitation; iv) Implementation of income generation activities locally promoted such as tourism. Moreover: i) Construction of 6 waste water treatment plants and 1 solid waste landfill; ii) capacity building and establishment of sectoral responsible institutions; iii) business incubation and income generation promotion of environmentally sustainable activities
Resource Mobilization	7.300.000,00 euro (grant)
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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	Central Eastern Europe
Title	Training course on strategies, methodologies, policies and actions for sustainable development issues in Central and Eastern Europe (Course for Sustainability)
Specific Thematic Areas	Promotion of appropriate environmental education
Specific Strategic Areas	Sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas
Partnership Agreement	The Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory (IMET) has established in 2001 the Italian Trust Fund (ITF) as a targeted contribution to the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC). The ITF operates in the areas of environmental governance; renewable energy; sustainable agriculture; technical support in Central and Eastern Europe and South Eastern Europe; development of joint environmental investment projects; institutional strengthening; strategic environmental assessment; assistance to NGOs; support to international conventions; climate-change protection.
Participants	The Course for Sustainability is being implemented by Venice International University (VIU) and the REC, with the support of Agroinnova- University of Turin and Central European University (CEU) with IMET funding.
Objectives (including an Abstract)	<p>The project will enhance the capacities of key senior government officials in the target countries to ensure that the policies and programmes of their governments are more sustainable - environmentally, socially and economically. The course is open to senior civil servants from ministries and agencies competent for, and influential in, the introduction of the various dimensions of sustainability into policy making. Participants are selected based on the existing governmental structures and competencies for implementing sustainable development policy in order to ensure that the course is effective. Regarding “Rural Development and Natural Resources” issues, the course will deal with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction to Sustainability Planning and Resource Management - Resource Management - Water - Sustainable Agriculture: Trends and Traditions - Biotechnology and Organic Agriculture - Local Agricultural Systems and Rural Traditions - Organic Food Production, Auditing and Distribution (site visit) - Landscape Ecological Planning; Non-Renewable Resource Management - Economic Evaluation of Natural Resources; Forestry - Tourism – Threat or Opportunity - European Policies for Rural Development; Water Resource Management - Biodiversity Protection - Build relationships between the various authorities needed to implement sustainable development policy (gathering officials from different ministries and agencies); - Establish a high-level network of government officials within CEE that work towards the implementation of sustainable development; - Support participants as they build substance into their policy-making on sustainable development and develop and gain an overview of the approaches that can be taken; and - Develop personal commitments to change among the participants.
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	JpOI : Chapter X " Means of implementation" par. 116, 121, 124.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	The Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory (IMET) has established in 2001 the Italian Trust Fund (ITF) as a targeted contribution to the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC).
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	Project activities will be implemented in accordance with the principles, rules and modalities of the three Rio Conventions, namely the United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol (the project is a

	Afforestation/Reforestation CDM), the United Nation Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
Target Years	2005-2006
Target Area	Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia and Turkey
Expected Outcomes	<p>By the end of the course participants will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understand the international, regional (EU) and national policies and concepts for regional and rural development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common Agricultural Policy • Economic and Social Cohesion Policies - Understand multiple dimensions and impacts of resource use, and be able to differentiate between sustainable and unsustainable use of natural resources and limits to growth - Consider social, environmental and economic factors and effects when making resource-use-related decisions - Understand the role of local communities in natural resources management, and their engagement and ability to develop implementation tools at the national level <p>During 2006 will be organized a seminar “Alumni Seminar: <i>Putting Sustainability in to Practice</i>” to support Course for Sustainability alumni in their endeavours to make the policies and programmes of their governments more sustainable - environmentally, socially and economically; to reinforce and encourage the use of the personal relationships fostered among course alumni and project partners; and continue the learning and information-sharing process. This seminar shall go one step further than the Courses for Sustainability, focusing on sustainability in practice.</p>
Resource Mobilization	Course for Sustainability € 510.500,00 - Alumni Seminar € 53.475,00
Contact	<p>Valeria Clara Rizzo Italian Ministry of Environment and Territory Address: Via Cristoforo Colombo, 44 Ph.: 0039-06-5722 8106/9; Fax: 0039-06-5722 8178 E-mail: pia-s1d@minambiente.it</p>

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	Central Eastern Europe
Title	Training for Young Environmental Leaders & Young Experts Programme
Specific Thematic Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promotion of appropriate environmental education - Enhancement of cooperation with institutions and organizations dealing with development policies and programmes to eradicate illiteracy and the development of capacity-building in affected areas
Specific Strategic Areas	Sustainable land management use, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas
Partnership Agreement	The Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory (IMET) has established in 2001 the Italian Trust Fund (ITF) as a targeted contribution to the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC). The ITF operates in the areas of environmental governance; renewable energy; sustainable agriculture; technical support in Central and Eastern Europe and South Eastern Europe; development of joint environmental investment projects; institutional strengthening; strategic environmental assessment; assistance to NGOs; support to international conventions; climate-change protection.
Participants	IMET, REC and Umana Dimora Onlus (Italy)
Objectives (including an Abstract)	<p>The development of NGO sector and young experts in environment in Central and Eastern Europe is behind that of Western societies. However, like in the West, the NGOs represent an important element of the civil society and democracy as a whole, and their development must be supported by any means. NGOs and their members particularly play an important role in the environmental field where they not only actively contribute to solving environmental problems but practice has shown their leaders are likely to have a future role in the environmental decision making at local and national level. Therefore the NGO leaders are the main target of this programme.</p> <p>Training opportunities for these future leaders are very rare. The Training for Young Environmental Leaders Programme is a capacity building programme targeted at young environmental activists from Central and Eastern European NGOs and the Newly Independent States.</p> <p>The training focuses in particular in the following subjects: preservation of protected areas; management of water resources; sustainable agriculture and eco tourism; waste Management; certification of food products; funds available and NGO fundraising in the EU; energy efficiency; cleaner production</p> <p>The objectives of the Training for Young Environmental Leaders are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To enhance and develop the management capability and leadership skills of 30 NGO members in managing a non-profit organization and projects in the environmental field 2. To empower the participants with an appreciation of the theory of environmental issues and its applications in the target countries 3. To provide NGO members with valuable working experience, exchange views and skills and establish links for future cooperation with the host organizations <p>The objective of Young Experts Programme is:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To build on the capacity of the former fellows and to invest in their future development 2. To prepare 18 experts in environmental issues across the region who can be later used as resource for the NGO community
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	The IMET has established in 2001 the ITF as a targeted contribution to the REC. The ITF operates in the areas of environmental governance; renewable energy; sustainable agriculture; technical support in Central and Eastern Europe and South Eastern Europe; development of joint environmental investment projects; institutional strengthening; strategic environmental assessment; assistance to NGOs; support to international conventions; climate-change protection.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	JpoI : Chapter X " Means of implementation" par. 116, 121, 124.
Linkage and Synergies	Project activities will be implemented in accordance with the principles, rules and

with other Environmental Conventions	modalities of the three Rio Conventions, namely the United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol (the project is a Afforestation/Reforestation CDM), the United Nation Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
Target Years	2005-2006
Target Area	The youth of the CEE (the age range is 20-30) is the target group of these programmes. They represent the new phase of environmentalists and will be the ones who will improve the capacities of their NGOs and will act as resource experts in the region. The programmes target the following 18 countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Malta, Poland, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia, Slovakia and Turkey.
Expected Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of NGO members completing the programme; • The number of young experts in the three topics; • Improved activity of trainees in their NGOs; • The number of cooperative projects of participants and their NGOs during and after the programme. • Cooperation with other Italian NGOs • Project proposals <p>During these two years long project 5 groups of young leaders and 3 groups of young experts will be trained. Each group will be formed by 6 members. At the end of the training period the trainees will submit action plans that reflect how they will use information provided during the training period.</p> <p>The real results are measured with time. As the main objective is to strengthen NGO groups and therefore civil society in CEE through these groups in the environmental field by training new and committed members it is a process which can only be measured by the increased activity and sustainability of these groupings within each country.</p>
Resource Mobilization	€ 299.650,00
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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	Central Eastern Europe
Title	Training for staff members of protected areas in implementing Volunteer in Park Programmes (ViP) in Central and Eastern Europe
Specific Thematic Areas	- Promotion of appropriate environmental education; - Enhancement of cooperation with institutions and organizations dealing with development policies and programmes to eradicate illiteracy and the development of capacity-building in affected areas.
Specific Strategic Areas	Sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas
Partnership Agreement	The Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory (IMET) has established in 2001 the Italian Trust Fund (ITF) as a targeted contribution to the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC). The ITF operates in the areas of environmental governance; renewable energy; sustainable agriculture; technical support in Central and Eastern Europe and South Eastern Europe; development of joint environmental investment projects; institutional strengthening; strategic environmental assessment; assistance to NGOs; support to international conventions; climate-change protection.
Participants	IMET, REC and Umana Dimora Onlus (Italy)
Objectives (including an Abstract)	<p>The ViP programmes provides the opportunity to bring and consolidate the efforts of local community towards the sustainable use of natural and cultural resources of National Parks. The experience is quite relevant for the countries from SEE region, where protected areas are taking their steps towards better management and use of the resources (natural and cultural). Additionally it will build the ground for building stronger civil society in these countries.</p> <p>The goal of this project is to enhance and to improve the exchange of information, experience and skill in conservation and management of protected areas between Italy and SEE countries, through equipping staff of SEE countries protected areas with the knowledge and practical skills for implementing the Volunteer in the Parks (ViP) Programs.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To equip PA (protected areas) staff and a core group of key local activists representing local NGO community, teachers and/or professional associations (e.g. eco-tourism providers, members of local tourism associations, etc.) with specific knowledge on ViP as well as necessary skills to initiate ViP in their regions. Thus four sessions of Train for 40 staff members of protected areas from SEE countries will be carried out. 2. To enable PA staff and core group to establish/implement Volunteer in the Park (ViP) Programmes in SEE Countries. 3. To involve public in the conservation and management of natural resources in protected areas, through the ViP Programmes in SEE Countries. 4. To exchange valuable knowledge and experiences between Western and Eastern European Protected Areas.
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	The IMET has established in 2001 the ITF as a targeted contribution to the REC. The ITF operates in the areas of environmental governance; renewable energy; sustainable agriculture; technical support in Central and Eastern Europe and South Eastern Europe; development of joint environmental investment projects; institutional strengthening; strategic environmental assessment; assistance to NGOs; support to international conventions; climate-change protection.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	The program of the course fits within WSSD Plan of Implementation and the Millennium Development Goals
Target Years	2005-2006
Target Area	South Eastern Europe Countries

Expected Outcomes	<p>At the end of each training session an evaluation will be conducted by the consultants. The trainees will receive a certificate for completing the training and as a follow up the Italian experts will assist the core group of ViP initiative to run a model of ViP in their PA.</p> <p>At the end of this project, the REC and L'Umana Dimora Onlus staff will evaluate the results achieved in terms of number of staff members completing the training; improved activity of trainees in their parks; number of ViP Programmes implemented in SEE Countries; members from local communities of SEEC protected areas involved in the project</p>
Resource Mobilization	€ 191.600,00
Contact	<p>Valeria Clara Rizzo - Italian Ministry of Environment and Territory – Address: Via Cristoforo Colombo, 44 Ph.: 0039-06-5722 8106/9; Fax: 0039-06-5722 8178; E-mail: pia-s1d@minambiente.it</p>

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	Argentina
Title	Feasibility study for a demonstration project on strategies to combat desertification in arid lands of central western Argentina with the direct involvement of local sylvopastoral communities.
Specific Thematic Areas	the enhancement of cooperation with institutions and organizations dealing with development policies and programmes to eradicate illiteracy and the development of capacity-building in affected areas
Specific Strategic Areas	<u>Main Area:</u> Sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas <u>Other Areas:</u> development of sustainable agricultural and ranching production systems; launching of reforestation/afforestation programmes and intensification of soil conservation programmes
Partnership Agreement	The feasibility study will develop in the frame of the relationships between the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Global Mechanism (GM) and the Focal Point from Argentina (Cooperation Italy-Argentina). The partnership is composed of two institutions from Italy and one from Argentina. The Italian partners are: the Istituto Sperimentale Lazzaro Spallanzani and the Nucleo Ricerca Desertificazione of the University of Sassari (NRD-UNISS). The partner from Argentina is the Instituto Argentino de Investigaciones de las Zonas Áridas (IADIZA). The feasibility study for this project is funded by the Global Mechanism. Potential partners might also include GEF and the INCO Programme of the UE.
Participatory Process	The participatory activities the project is supposed to carry out are the following: Meetings with the involved stakeholders; Workshops: Support to Families Family Units map: Capacity building and Training.:Job-orienting Meetings(identification of skills and job profiles); Exchange of knowledges (traditional and technical).
Objectives	The objective of the feasibility study is to determine what strategies and activities are more suitable for the project to be carried out. Broader objectives includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - planning strategies for sustainable development and desertification fighting in arid lands, to reduce social and cultural inequalities as well as policy and production marginality in the area. - improve the conditions of the ecosystem in a wide arid zone - enhance the access to water resources in terms of quality and quantity - promote the diversification of productions - promote people involvement in the Project activities
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	UN Convention on Biodiversity
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	Both the feasibility study and the project have a high value linked to the valorisation of local communities through the building of sustainable conditions in productive systems and on environment reducing the processes of land abandonment from the Harpe population towards the suburbs of the cities of Argentina. The project foresee the improvement of life quality through the enhancing of services (electrification and bringing water to the villages and houses) but also to capacity building through training activities on forestation, animal breeding, milk/cheese production, water management The project also foresee the valorisation of local products on the market guaranteeing, that way, the growth of family incomes and, consequently, improving the general conditions of life.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Target Years	The ongoing feasibility study foreseen that the target years, from 2007- 2010, should be extended to five years (until 2012).
Target Area	Argentina - Mendoza province, Lavalle department, place Asunción.
Expected Outcomes	The expected outcome from the feasibility study is to find out the best strategies to develop the project activities and to make it efficient both in the short period and in the medium and long term. The project expected goals are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restoration of degraded areas by the forestation of a wide area using forage shrubs;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enlarging water pipe network both in villages than in rural areas - Developing/optimizing the whole spinneret for the production of goat milk and meat - Diversification of production by means of: cheese production, leather handicraft, etc... - Inverting migratory fluxes stimulating coming back to the villages of young people by the building of job and economic perspectives
Resource Mobilization	<p>Mobilised Resources to carry out the feasibility study:</p> <p>Financial mobilization: 150.000,00 €</p> <p>Institutional mobilization: Provincial Ministries of Memdoza; National Ministries of Argentina; General Direction of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Concession of the Global Mechanism</p>
Contact	<p>Prof. Giuseppe Enne President of the dell'Istituto Sperimentale Lazzaro Spallanzani Tel: 02 76110935 Fax: Giuseppe.enne@istitutospallanzani.it</p>

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	Republic of Serbia
Title	Pančevo Action Programme
Specific Thematic Areas	- Promotion of appropriate environmental education; - Enhancement of cooperation with institutions and organizations dealing with development policies and programmes in affected areas; - Intensification of soil conservation programmes.
Specific Strategic Areas	Sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas
Partnership Agreement	Ministry for the Environment and Territory of Italy, Ministry of Science and Environmental Protection – Republic of Serbia, Municipality of Pančevo
Objectives (including an Abstract)	The Program is aimed at the definition of an <i>Action Plan</i> designed for the revitalisation and requalification of the Pančevo industrial area. The industrial Complex causes concerns for the environment and health of the population, but at the same time it represents a strategic resource for the economic development of the Country. The Action Program represents a regional priority and identifies several projects in different sectors: environmental and risk monitoring, prevention and control systems improvement, capacity building, air quality, water quality, soil and groundwater remediation, waste management, clean energy supply, risk prevention and control.
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	National Environmental Action Plan, Strategy for Sustainable Development, Implementation of new legislation in compliance with EU Directives and Regulations. JPoI: Chapter II “Poverty eradication”, paragraph 7 (l) and 10; Chapter IV “Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development”, in particular paragraphs 24,26,27,28, 41.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Linkages and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	UNECE Convention of the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention)
Target Areas	Municipality of Pančevo
Target Years	2004 – 2006, with possible extension to 2007 – 2008
Expected Outcomes	The implementation of the projects will require investments of about 600 millions €. The most part of the investments should have a medium term payback from the increase both of the energy efficiency and of the productivity in the industrial processes. The implementation of the Action Program will be based on the design of the financial mechanisms and sources finalised to integrate public and private funds. At this moment, Italian enterprises, International Financing Institutions and International Agencies, are involved and interest to develop investments. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Industrial Air Pollution Management System - Due Diligence on Water and Sanitation Services and Implementation of the Wastewater Treatment Facilities - Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan and Waste Management Plan for Industrial Wastes - Remediation of Hydrocarbon Soil Contamination and Clean-up of the Pančevo Canal
Resource Mobilization	3.500.000,00 €
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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	Central Eastern Europe
Title	Support to implementation of the Carpathian Convention on the protection and sustainable development of the Carpathians - PhaseTwo
Specific Thematic Areas	Enhancement of cooperation with institutions and organizations dealing with development policies and programmes in affected areas; Intensification of soil conservation programmes.
Specific Strategic Areas	Sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas
Partnership Agreement	The Italian Ministry of Environment and Territory has established in 2001 the Italian Trust Fund (ITF) as a targeted contribution to the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe, REC. The ITF operates in the areas of environmental governance; renewable energy; sustainable agriculture; technical support in Central and Eastern Europe and South Eastern Europe; development of joint environmental investment projects; institutional strengthening; strategic environmental assessment; assistance to NGOs; support to international conventions; climate-change protection.
Participants	The Italian Ministry of Environment and the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe-REC
Objectives (including an Abstract)	Starting with September 2004, Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC) in partnership with European Academy of Bolzano (EURAC) has been implementing the first phase of a project aimed at supporting the implementation of the Carpathian Convention. This is part of an umbrella project supported by the Italian Ministry of Environment and Territory. The project has two components: one leading to the development of national environmental assessments in each Carpathian Countries and one to the development of a Carpathian Convention Handbook. - Contribute to the sustainable development of the Carpathian Mountains region; - Support streamlining of efforts for implementation of the Carpathian Convention; - Facilitate implementation of the Convention at local level, through increased awareness and ownership by the local authorities.
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	The Carpathians are not just one of Europe's largest mountain ranges, but also a unique natural treasure of great beauty and ecological value, and home of the headwaters of major rivers. They also constitute a major ecological, economic, cultural, recreational and living environment in the heart of Europe, shared by numerous peoples and countries. The Carpathians are an important reservoir for biodiversity. The Carpathians are shared by seven Central and Eastern European Countries, four of which have already joined the European Union. This increases the possibilities of sustainable development based on the rich natural, environmental, cultural and human resources of the region, and for preserving its natural and cultural heritage for future generations. On 22 May 2003 in Kiev, Ukraine, the Ministers of the Environment of the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovak Republic and Ukraine signed the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians. The Carpathian Convention provides the framework for cooperation and multi-sectoral policy coordination, a platform for joint strategies for sustainable development, and a forum for dialogue between all stakeholders involved. JPoI: Chapter II "Poverty eradication", paragraph 7 (I); Chapter IV "Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development", in particular paragraph 42.
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	Carpathian Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians
Target Years	2006-2008
Target Area	Carpathian Countries (Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Ukraine)

Expected Outcomes	A regional report will be prepared based on the findings of the national assessments that will summarize common priority issues in the implementation of the Convention. The regional report will include a set of comprehensive recommendations for streamlining implementation efforts targeted to donors, governments and civil society organizations. It will be a planning tool for investments towards sustainable development of the Carpathians. The regional report will be prepared by REC experts. The regional report will be published by REC in English and will be distributed to governments, international organizations, donors, NGOs, local authorities.
Resource Mobilization	Total amount of funding by the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory: € 271.450,00
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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	Iraq
Title	The New Eden Project – The Italian-Iraqi Cooperation Programme for the Sustainable Development of the Mesopotamian Marshlands
Specific Thematic Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the promotion of traditional knowledge; - The enhancement of cooperation with institutions and organizations dealing with development policies and programmes to eradicate illiteracy and the development of capacity-building in affected area; - The promotion of appropriate environmental education..
Specific Strategic Areas	<p><u>Main Areas:</u> Sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas</p> <p><u>Other Areas:</u> Development of sustainable agricultural and ranching production systems</p>
Partnership Agreement	Memorandum of Understanding between the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory (IMET) and the Free Iraq Foundation (signed on July 22, 2003).
Participatory Process	<p>UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme)</p> <p>Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory</p> <p>Iraqi Ministries of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environment - Municipalities and Public Works - Water Resources <p>Local councils headed by the Marsh Arab Forum</p> <p>Free Iraq Foundation and Nature Iraq (Iraqi NGOs)</p>
Objectives (including an Abstract)	<p>The purpose of the New Eden Project is to re-flood and restore the Mesopotamian marshlands in southern Iraq.</p> <p>Following the agricultural development plans and the water management policy pursued under the former regime, the wetland area, which extends for some 10,000 km² at the confluence of the Tigris and Euphrates, was completely desiccated with devastating effects from the climatic, ecological and socio-economic perspective. Over 300,000 people fled the area in search for better living conditions.</p> <p>The project is aimed at recovering the large wetland ecosystem, improving water utilisation efficiency and providing facilities and infrastructure to foster the sustainable development of the Marshlands.</p> <p>Objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restoration of the former Marshlands - Optimization of water resources use in order to combine civil, agricultural, ecological and transportation needs - Re-settlement of the refugees that fled the area (about 300.000 people) - Development of water, sanitation and transportation infrastructure
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	<p>UNEP – Restoration of the Iraqi Marshlands</p> <p>UNEP is the Liaison Officer for the International Project: the main donors are the governments of USA, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom and Canada</p>
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	<p>JPoI: Chapter II “Poverty eradication”, paragraph 7 (l) and Chapter IV “Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development”, in particular paragraphs 24, 26, 27, 28, 40, 41.</p>
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	Ramsar Convention on Wetlands
Target Years	The project started in 2003 and should be completed by year 2015
Target Area	The area to be recovered is included between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in southern Iraq and has a total surface of about 10,000 km ²
Expected Outcomes	<p>Re-flooding of about 8,000 km² of land which are currently desiccated.</p> <p>Implementation of the Master Plan for Integrated Resources Management in the</p>

	<p>marshlands area developed within the IMET funded project. This will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construction of villages for the re-settlement of the former inhabitants of the Marshlands; - Supply and installation of drinking water production plants (desalination units), sewage treatment facilities, telecommunication infrastructure; - Construction of regulators for the optimization of the water management. <p>Development of a plan for land and urban management in the marshland area. Establishment of a system of protected areas (Mesopotamia Marshlands National Park) and application for the UNESCO World Heritage Programme</p>
Resource Mobilization	<p>2004-2005, a total of euro12.000.000,00 were delivered. 2006-2008 A total of € 34.400.000,00 given by the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory</p>
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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	ISRAEL
Title	Artificial Marine Structures: Multifunctional Tool for Research and Environmental Management in the Mediterranean and Red Sea
Specific Thematic Areas	The enhancement of cooperation with institutions and organizations dealing with development policies and programmes to eradicate illiteracy and the development of capacity-building in affected areas
Specific Strategic Areas	Sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas
Partnership Agreement	Cooperation programme between the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory (IMET) and Tel Aviv University (TAU)
Participatory Process	Participation of the academic and business sectors and involvement of local authorities
Objectives (including an Abstract)	Artificial marine structures interact with natural marine habitats and have an impact on the surrounding flora and fauna. This project is implementing multi-disciplinary analysis of the impact of such structures on the marine environment in Mediterranean and Red Sea Israeli coastal waters. It will also create a range of experimental artificial marine structures to examine their potential role in long-term monitoring and coastal zone management Quantifying the environmental and ecological impacts of Artificial Marine Structures in coastal habitats
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	JPoI: Chapter II "Poverty eradication", paragraph 7 (l) and Chapter IV "Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development", in particular paragraphs 24, 26, 27, 28, 30, 40, 41.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	UN Convention on Biological Diversity Barcelona Convention on the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea.
Target Years	2004-2007
Target Area	Mediterranean and Red Sea coastal areas (Israel)
Expected Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - development of scientific assistance to policy makers and decision makers in the field of coastal management - development of technologically feasible solutions - capacity building for expertise in the setting up and running of observing Artificial Marine Structures in managing data, modelling and forecasting the ecosystem changes - awareness raising on the benefits of Artificial Marine Structures for marine Global Change forecasting at local, regional and global scales, involving stakeholders
Resource Mobilization	875,738 Euros financed by the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory
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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	ASIA – People’s Republic of China, Chongming Island
Title	ECO-DEVELOPMENT OF CHONGMING ISLAND
Specific Thematic Areas	- the promotion of appropriate environmental education; - the enhancement of cooperation with institutions and organizations dealing with development policies and programmes to eradicate illiteracy and the development of capacity-building in affected areas.
Specific Strategic Areas	Sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation
Partnership Agreement	The project “Environmental Analysis of Chongming Development” is part of the Sino-Italian cooperation project “Eco-development of Chongming island” agreed in August 2005 between Ministry of Environment and Territory of Italy, Shanghai Environmental Protection Bureau and Chongming County Government
Participatory Process	Together with Italian experts, the Chinese participants are: Shanghai Academy of Environmental Sciences, Tongji University and Chongming Government.
Objectives (including an Abstract)	<p>Chongming is the world’s largest alluvial island and is China’s third island. The whole island is 79 kilometres from east to west and 13 to 18 kilometres from north to south, stretching more than 1,200 square kilometres. Together with the smaller islands of Changxing and Hengsha, it forms the Chongming three islands system that is surrounded by the Yangtze river on the west, the east China sea on the east, the Pudong area on the south and Jiangsu province on the north. An Italian team of experts is working together with a team of Chinese experts with the support of UNEP/UNDP consultancy to analyse the planning process of Chongming County from an environmental perspective and to provide recommendations and suggestions to guide its sustainable development. Chongming County is formed by three islands: Chongming, Changxing and Hengsha, that are all considered in the analysis.</p> <p>Main scope of the project is the analysis of the planned development of the three islands of Chongming, Changxing and Hengsha (Chongming County) from an environmental perspective, providing recommendation to support their sustainable development, with particular concern for environmental preservation.</p> <p>The project is organised according to a “<i>general to detail</i>” analytical approach and foresees three main activities. A particular effort, common to all the three activities, has been put into data and information collection. This has foreseen various missions to the three islands, too, that resulted to be very useful in providing direct information from the field and in meeting local representatives of various institutional bodies.</p> <p>The first activity foresees the critical environmental analysis of the Master Plan of the three islands systems. This implies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of the present environmental situation; • Analysis of the planned situation, according to what the Master Plan foresees; • Identification of main environmental implications related to the present and planned states of the three islands system; • Provision of technical and management recommendations for the sustainable development of the Chongming three islands system. <p>The activities focus on some key development interventions foreseen by the Chongming Master Plan. The main scope is the analysis of potential environmental implications of the selected interventions that are characterised by different implementation status.</p>
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	JPoI: Chapter II “Poverty eradication”, paragraph 7 (I).
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Linkage and Synergies	The attention on the sustainable development of the Chongming Island was also

with other Environmental Conventions	addressed at the Vancouver Fourth World Urban Forum (June 2006)
Target Years	2005-2006
Target Area	Chongming Island
Expected Outcomes	<p>The first activity foresees the critical environmental analysis of the Master Plan of the three islands systems present and future situation, the identification of main environmental implications related to the present and planned states of the three islands system providing technical and management recommendations for the sustainable development of the Chongming three islands system.</p> <p>The analysis is carried out both at the general level and on specific sectors that include: waste management, water management, natural resources management, energy management, transportation infrastructure and mobility, urban development and built environment, agriculture, industry and tourism.</p> <p>Particular concern is addressed to demonstration projects pertaining to three main areas of interest: energy management, agriculture and tourism.</p> <p>The project delivered the final report by the beginning of July 2006. As a first deliverable, an interim report was completed by the beginning of February 2006. This report include the first results of the critical analysis of Chongming Master Plan from an environmental perspective. The results of the first project activity will be finalised in the final document, that will also describe results of the other two activities, i.e. analysis of key development interventions and identification of demonstration projects.</p> <p>The work performed and reported in the interim report has enabled to figure out the present situation of the three islands and the main elements of it future development. First comments and suggestions have been provided in order to support the Chongming planning towards sustainable goals.</p>
Resource Mobilization	800.000,00 Euro
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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	YEMEN
Title	Regional Training Course on Desalination System Supplied by Renewable Energies.
Specific Thematic Areas	Enhancement of cooperation with institutions and organizations dealing with development policies and programmes to eradicate illiteracy and the development of capacity-building in affected areas
Specific Strategic Areas	<u>Main Area</u> sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas; <u>Other Areas:</u> Development of sustainable agricultural and ranching production systems;
Partnership Agreement	Cooperation programme between the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory (IMET) and UNESCO: “ <i>Water Programme for Africa and other water scarce zones</i> ”.
Participatory Process	Italian Ministry of the Environment and Territory and Yemen's Ministry of Water and Environment as well as UNESCO.
Objectives (including an Abstract)	<p>Yemen’s water resources situation reveals that annual per capita water availability of 120-150 cubic meters per annum is far below the regional average of 1,250M³ per capita per annum. Uncontrolled groundwater abstraction, of which 90 percent goes to agriculture, is largely responsible for the over exploitation of Yemen’s scarce water resources. Estimates indicate an annual water deficit of over one billion cubic meters/year. Studies shows that the country’s 200 mm average annual rainfall is simply insufficient to re-charge age-old aquifers and meet the demands of both rural and urban populations. In several critical areas, water tables are dropping by as much as six meters per year. Water quality is also deteriorating due to sea water intrusion in coastal aquifers.</p> <p>Full implementation of Integrated Water Resource Management is strongly recommended in Yemen, including (i) water reuse e.g. for agriculture to save groundwater resources, (ii) the use of non-conventional water resources e.g. desalination of brackish and seawater to increase available water resources, (iii) campaigns to use water wisely, (iv) full cost recovery and progressive tariff structure and (v) reducing physical losses and ‘unaccounted for’ water in the domestic water sector, which is very important because the cost of desalinated water is much higher than groundwater.</p> <p>Yemen’s “Vision 2000-2025” indicates that future economic development will take place in coastal areas of Yemen. It is becoming clear that water quality in coastal areas is deteriorating.</p> <p>The main objective is a three-days regional training course on desalination technology followed by a two-days international workshop on “Desalination and renewable energy”, to enhance regional capacity to deal with water scarcity and contribute to the achievement of water security, growth and development in this water-stressed region.</p> <p>The specific objectives were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a 3-days basic training on desalination technology to some 30 Yemeni engineers working in the urban water supply sector. • Provide a forum for the exchange of scientific knowledge among professionals from within and outside the region on new technologies for the exploitation of brackish water and desalination, especially with respect to desalination systems operated by renewable energies. • Share the valuable experience which is accumulating in the region with respect to confronting water scarcity through desalination, with focus on issues pertinent to arid and semi-arid lands. • Facilitate the development and strengthening of partnerships and networking among professionals and institutions in the desalination field. • Develop appropriate recommendations regarding desalination and RE, based on the gaps identified and priorities assessed during the workshop.
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	JPoI: Chapter IV “Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development”, in particular paragraphs 24, 26, 27, 28, 40, 41; Chapter IX “Other regional initiatives”, in particular paragraphs: 77 and 78; Chapter X “Means of implementation”, in particular paragraphs: 105, 106, 110, 116, 121.

Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	The WPA objectives fit within the scope of the UNEP/GPA, the UNEP Water Policy and Strategy, the WHEAB Framework for Action on Water and Sanitation.
Target Years	2005
Target Area	Yemen
Expected Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prove the feasibility of desalinated brackish and sea water and wastewater in agriculture for securing and enhancing water supplies in semi-arid areas. - Facilitate the development and strengthening of partnerships and networking among professionals and institutions in the desalination field. - Reduce costs as a result of technology development leading to lower energy consumption per cubic meter. - Gradually introduce desalination after making best use of the conventional and other non-conventional sources, including treated wastewater re-use.
Resource Mobilization	80.000,00 Euro financed by the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory
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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	Vietnam
Title	Fight against desertification; Groundwater Artificial Recharge
Specific Thematic Areas	enhancement of cooperation with institutions and organizations dealing with development policies and programmes to eradicate illiteracy and the development of capacity-building in affected areas
Specific Strategic Areas	<u>Main Area</u> sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas; <u>Other Areas:</u> - development of sustainable agricultural and ranching production systems; development of new and renewable energy sources; launching of reforestation/afforestation programmes and intensification of soil conservation programmes;
Partnership Agreement	<i>Water Programme for Africa and Arid and Water Scarce Zones</i> ": Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory (IMET), UNESCO, UNEP/Global program of Action (GPA) for the protection of the Marine Environment.
Participatory Process	Italian Ministry of the Environment and Territory, Government of Vietnam and local authorities, UNESCO.
Objectives (including an Abstract)	The Binh Thuan Province is located along the coastal plain in the lower part of Central Eastern Viet Nam and its principal city is Phan Tiet, 200 km East of Ho Chi Minh City. The area of the province is approximately 8,000 km ² , with a total population of one million. As massive desertification resulted due to a clear-cut tropical forest occurred in 1975, the area suffers considerable water shortage during the dry season. In order to fight desertification, best practices on ecosystems rehabilitation as well as remediation techniques to restore aquifer systems and groundwater storage capacity, are being developed in Hong Phong sub district in Binh Thuan Province, Vietnam. The project includes three major components, such as a) research and investigation, b) development of a pilot project to supply water for different use, c) capacity building through various international and local training courses/workshops. During the ongoing implementation the results achieved so far have allowed the site selection for the Aquifer Recharge Project in the morphological depression of Nuoc Noi, where the aquifer is emerging at ground level. The chemical analyses of groundwater indicated the occurrence of very high concentration of coli, therefore making the water unsuitable for human consumption (the pond was used as a drinking through by cattle). The use of the bank filtration technique is giving satisfactory results as water quality is increasing.
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	JPoI: Chapter IV "Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development", in particular paragraphs 24, 26, 27, 28, 40, 41; Chapter IX "Other regional initiatives", in particular paragraphs: 77 and 78; Chapter X "Means of implementation", in particular paragraphs: 105, 106, 110, 116, 121.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	The WPA objectives fit within the scope of the UNEP/GPA, the UNEP Water Policy and Strategy, the WHEAB Framework for Action on Water and Sanitation.
Target Years	2005
Target Area	Binh Thuan Province

Expected Outcomes	<p>General outcome expected is water supply to the district for human and agricultural use. In particular, the pilot project, currently used as a production site (up to 220 m³/day), aims at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demonstrating the potential development of the area through application of techniques able to provide water for both human and agricultural uses, - Reforestation of the area, as it was until 1975, to allow original environmental conditions to be re-established (land cover, run-off, base flow) - Provide water supply in a desert area where water is not available between December and March - use innovative techniques including bank filtration (as aquifer recharge), never performed before in Viet Nam. <p>The capacity building component has been crucial to the Vietnamese team working in the pilot project in particular, and to part of the scientific community in general.</p>
Resource Mobilization	100.000,00 Euro financed by the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory
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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	China
Title	SHICHAHAI Project: “Eutrophication control and environmental restoration in the Shichahai Lakes system.
Specific Thematic Areas	enhancement of cooperation with institutions and organizations dealing with development policies and programmes to eradicate illiteracy and the development of capacity-building in affected areas
Specific Strategic Areas	Main Area sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas;
Partnership Agreement	MoU between the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory (IMET) and the Ministry of Environment of China
Participatory Process	Agreement IMET/Beijing Environmental Protection Bureau (EPB)
Objectives (including an Abstract)	Considering the dangerous lack of water Beijing faces and the need for better and sustainable management of water resources, the project aims at understanding the causes of water quality deterioration in the Shichahai Lakes which surround the Forbidden city in Beijing. The project is focused on identifying the measures to be put in place in order to increase the water quality (also in view of the 2008 Beijing Olympics games).
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	JPoI: Chapter IV “Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development”, in particular paragraphs 24, 26, 27, 28, 40, 41; Chapter IX “Other regional initiatives”, in particular paragraphs: 77 and 78; Chapter X “Means of implementation”, in particular paragraphs: 105, 106, 110, 116, 121.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	
Target Years	2004- 2008
Target Area	Shichahai Lakes, Beijing
Expected Outcomes	Construction of small treatment plants along the lakes in order to restore the water quality of the system in the Qianhai and Hohai lakes. The construction of the works will be supported by a monitoring campaign that will consent to evaluate the physical and chemical processes in the lakes throughout the year and provide the basis for the optimization of the newly installed treatment works and the evaluation of the costs and benefits of the rehabilitation of the whole lakes system.
Resource Mobilization	200.000,00 Euros financed by the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory
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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	ISRAEL
Title	Polishing Municipal Secondary Effluent For Stream Rehabilitation
Specific Thematic Areas	The enhancement of cooperation with institutions and organizations dealing with development policies and programmes to eradicate illiteracy and the development of capacity-building in affected areas
Specific Strategic Areas	Sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas
Partnership Agreement	Cooperation programme between the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory (IMET) and Tel Aviv University (TAU)
Participatory Process	Participation of the academic and business sectors and involvement of local authorities
Objectives	Water scarcity is increasing worldwide and is well known as a significant environmental problem in Israel. Treated, high quality effluent has the potential to be an important source of extra water, and in Israel in particular would contribute greatly to stream rehabilitation. This project aims to develop an economically viable, environmentally sound system for treating effluents to a level that maximizes their potential for reuse. It will evaluate and compare the efficiency of a biological treatment method (a constructed wetland) with a novel electrochemical technology (electro-flocculation). It will assess the ecological viability of using the treated effluent as a source of water for rehabilitated streams and will evaluate the economic costs of a full-scale project. The objective is to develop an economically and environmentally sound system for treating effluents to a level that maximizes their potential for reuse
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	JPol: Chapter II "Poverty eradication", paragraph 8 and Chapter IV "Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development", in particular paragraphs 24, 26, 27, 28, 40, 41.
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	Barcelona Convention on the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea
Target Years	2004-2007
Target Area	Yarqon River (Israel)
Expected Outcomes	-Develop a system for upgrading secondary effluent under local conditions to the level that will permit their use for stream rehabilitation -Optimise the design and operation of those technologies under site-specific conditions -Explore the replication potential in other Mediterranean/North African countries
Resource Mobilization	1.177.362,00 Euros financed by the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory
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5.2 Development of sustainable agricultural and ranching production systems

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	Brazil
Title	Water-social integrated program for the cohabitation with the semi-barren land in Curimatù Paraíba (Brazil)
Specific Thematic Areas	The enhancement of cooperation with institutions and organizations dealing with development policies and programmes to eradicate illiteracy and the development of capacity-building in affected areas
Specific Strategic Areas	<u>Main Area:</u> Development of sustainable agricultural and ranching production systems <u>Other Areas:</u> Sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas.
Partnership Agreement	Activities have been carried out in the context of the new MoU between Italy and Brazil on Economic-Industrial and Development Cooperation, signed in Rome on February 1999 and of the Agreement between the NGO and the Diocese of Campina Grande. Main partner: Diocese of Campina Grande (State of Paraíba-Brazil) Other partners: CENEP, Universidade de Estado della Paraíba, Funda, Carital Brasileira, Pastoral da Crianca.
Participatory Process	Effective participation of target groups involved in the project
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure economic and social development of municipalities. - Improvement of water resources management - Increasing micro credit programs. - Implementing training for women. - Promoting hygiene-health education. - Including disabled children in social activities.
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	JPoI: Chapter II "Poverty eradication", paragraph 8 and Chapter IV "Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development", in particular paragraphs 24, 26, 27, 28, 40, 41.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Target Years	2005 - 2008
Target Area	Brazil: State of Paraíba, 9 municipalities of Curimatã: Pocinhos, Damiao, Picui, Nova Floresta, Cuitè, Sossego, Baraunas, Nova Palmera and Pera Lavrada.
Expected Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - access to rotating credit system; - transmission of technical competences for building cisterns to the 690 members of the families involved; - drilling of 6 artesian wells - building of a laundry and a botanic garden in 6 municipalities. - donation of a couple of breeder animals to every family involved in the activities; - increasing the income originated from agricultural and zootechnic activities; - creation of a regional network of cooperation among associations, communities and local authorities; - improvement of hygiene-health conditions; the increase of participation.
Resource Mobilization	Total costs: 1.197.557,00 euros . The total cost has been so distributed: Amount for NGO : 291.868,00 euros (24,37%) Amount for local institution: 306.910,00 euros (25,63%)

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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	Republic of Serbia
Title	Reducing the use of chemical tools introducing environmentally friendly farming practices
Specific Thematic Areas	Promotion of appropriate environmental education
Specific Strategic Areas	<u>Main Area:</u> Development of sustainable agricultural and ranching production systems; <u>Other Areas:</u> Sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas; Sustainable use and management of rangelands; Launching of reforestation/afforestation programmes and intensification of soil conservation programmes.
Partnership Agreement	Ministry for the Environment and Territory of Italy, Ministry of Agriculture - Republic of Serbia, University of Torino - Centre of Competence for Innovation in the Agro-Environmental Sector (AGRINNOVA)
Objectives (including an Abstract)	<p>The project is aimed at reducing the use of pesticides besides the introduction of new, environmentally friendly techniques in three selected municipalities of Serbia. It has been developed based on professional and technical inputs of AGRINNOVA, a desk research on agriculture. The desk research is elaborating a document which summarises the main features of Serbian agriculture, defines the needs of targeted agricultural advisory centres and research institutes and proposes priority actions. The project sets the overall goal to introduce environmentally friendly farming practices and to strengthen the capacity of local agricultural advisory and research centres in order to increase the efficiency of services they provide to farmers and agricultural enterprises. The project focuses on three rural provinces of Serbia where agriculture plays a very important role in the economy and engages a significant share of the population. By transferring proper technologies, working techniques, new crop varieties and the necessary equipment from Italy, the project will create the possibility for producing in a safer and environmentally friendly way.</p> <p>In line with these the following specific objectives have been set:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To reduce the use of chemicals having a high environmental impact and/or obsolete and not in line with the regulation in force and replacing them with new control agents. - To build the capacity of regional agricultural advisory centres and selected farmers on the sustainable production of certain crops through introducing environmentally friendly agricultural techniques, know how and new varieties from Italy - To introduce new laboratories techniques and instruments able to supply useful information to farmers. - To carry out a plan of educational trainings directed to the enhancement of the knowledge of the principles of sustainable agriculture. - To facilitate the establishment of good working relationship and contacts between Serbian producers and interested Italian agricultural companies.
Linkages and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	UNCBD The Basel Convention and the Stockholm Convention are also considered as relevant and taken into account.
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	JPoI: Chapter II “Poverty eradication”, paragraph 7 (I); Chapter III “Changing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production”, in particular paragraphs 23; Chapter IV “Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development” in particular paragraph 40 and 41; Chapter X “Means of implementation”, in particular paragraphs: 105, 106, 110, 116, 121.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Target Years	2005 – 2006

Expected Outcomes	<p>The methodology of the project follows a step-by step approach, concentrating first on building a good working relationship between implementing partners and project beneficiaries, clearly define their needs and expectations, and prepare the ground for the joint work through finalising together concrete pilot projects focusing on improving the sustainable production of crops important for selected Serbian regions.</p> <p>These pilot projects will be used as the means for building the capacities of advisory centres and selected farmers: transferring techniques and specific knowledge on sustainable agriculture, introducing varieties that fit better to production circumstances and provide small equipment for supporting the sustainable production of certain crops. Special attention will be given to ensuring a long term sustainability of project results, on the one hand through the proper and efficient dissemination of the lessons learned, and on the other, through the valorisation and use of supplied equipment.</p>
Resource Mobilization	600.000,00 €
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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	Central and Eastern Europe
Title	Inventory of Post War Situation and Land resources
Specific Thematic Areas	Promotion of appropriate environmental education
Specific Strategic Areas	Development of sustainable agriculture and ranching production systems
Partnership Agreement	Partnership with FAO and the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Participatory Process	First phase: the Agropedology Institute of Sarajevo, the Agronomy Institute of Mostar (both in Bosnia and Herzegovina) and the Agricultural Institute of Banja Luka (Serb Republic) (main partners and direct beneficiaries) The second phase envisages the broadening of the platform of partners. A Consultancy Committee was established with University representatives and technical institutions.
Objectives	The preparation of a database and maps with relevant agricultural information on land resources in the country is considered a high priority by the government and as a basic pre-requisite for planning and implementation of emergency and agricultural rehabilitation interventions. An extensive knowledge of war damages to land, and an analysis of state and quality of land in the country are valuable tools for the optimization and allocation of resources to the agricultural sector and for any agricultural planning, development and rehabilitation activity. The overall development objective is to provide essential information on land resources, capability and risks following the war, and to create capability for a better territorial management. In particular the objectives of technical assistance are: (i) provision of tested methodologies for action-oriented land resources management at the municipality level to guide rural investment and development; (ii) strengthening the capacity for land resources management at country, entity and pilot area level; and (iii) development and dissemination of an operational land evaluation system as a technical basis to support land use decision making.
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	JPoI: Chapter II "Poverty eradication", paragraph 7 (1); Chapter IV "Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development" in particular paragraph 40 and 41; Chapter X "Means of implementation", in particular paragraphs: 105, 106, 110, 116, 121.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Target Years	2000-2006
Target Area	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Expected Outcomes	At the end of the project, the governments will have at their disposal a modern tool with methodologies and guidelines for land resource management and land use planning, which will improve the decision makers capacity for priority setting in land use matters, in particular in rural areas. This tool includes a comprehensive set of data and digitized information characterizing the natural resource base of the country. The Consultancy Committee has already produced six technical reports on Bosnia and Herzegovina's planning and rural development related to the following topics: availability of credit to agricultural entrepreneurs, market for agricultural produce, land use planning, genetic resources available for agriculture and technology level for agricultural production.
Resource Mobilization	Total amount of the project: 3,2 millions of dollars Italian contribution: 600.000,00 euros (voluntary contributions to FAO)

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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	ASIA – People’s Republic of China
Title	Organic farming systems and techniques for the promotion of “green” agriculture in Dongtan Chongming Island
Specific Thematic Areas	Enhancement of cooperation with institutions and organization dealing with development policies and programmes to eradicate illiteracy and the development of capacity-building in affected areas
Specific Strategic Areas	Development of sustainable agricultural and ranching production systems
Partnership Agreement	On January 24, 2005, IMET and the Shanghai Environmental Protection Bureau (SEPB) signed the agreement “Sustainable Development of Chongming Island” that foresees, inter alia, the implementation of the cooperation project “Organic Farming Systems and Techniques for the Promotion of ‘green’ Agriculture in Dongtan Chongming Island”.
Participatory Process	The agreement appoints the Centre of Competence for the Innovation in the agro-environmental sector (AGROINNOVA) of the University of Turin and the Shanghai Academy of Environmental Sciences (SAES) as coordinating bodies of the Project.
Objectives (including an Abstract)	The project aims to transfer organic farming strategies and techniques for minimizing the use of chemical pesticides and organic fertilizers towards the promotion of organic food production. The objective is to transfer organic farming strategies and techniques and reduce emission of agricultural non-point source pollutants and find remediation of soil salinisation problems in the production of vegetables and fruits in Chongming Island. The project foresees technology transfer, field demonstration trials, training, and information and publication activities. Project activities will be carried out both in China and Italy. Strategies and techniques considered: crop rotation, resistant/tolerant varieties, grafted plant on resistant rootstocks, soil less cultivation systems, plant and animal waste recycling, composting systems, biodegradable mulching films, integrated pest management, fertirrigation systems, and water quality monitoring for agricultural non-point source pollutants.
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	JPoI: JPoI: Chapter II “Poverty eradication”, paragraph 7 (l) and Chapter IV “Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development” in particular paragraph 40 and 41; Chapter X “Means of implementation”, in particular paragraphs: 105, 106, 110, 116, 121.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	
Target Years	2005 -2007
Target Area	Chongming Island – Shanghai- People’s Republic of China
Expected Outcomes	1. Creation of a “green” agricultural production area in Chongming Dongtan Modern Park, towards the transformation of Chongming in a Shanghai Ecologically Green Island. 2. Long lasting production of “green” products for the local tourist market, particularly in view of EXPO 2010. 3. Creation of a pool of local experts well acquainted with planning and management tools for organic farming production with respect to sustainable development and environment protection
Resource Mobilization	Euro 2.340.648,00
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5.3 Launching of reforestation/afforestation programmes and intensification of soil conservation programmes

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	China
Title	Rural Development and Fight to Poverty in the Hetian Prefecture , in the Autonomous Province of Xinjiang
Specific Thematic Areas	Enhancement of cooperation with institutions and organizations dealing with development policies and programmes to eradicate illiteracy and the development of capacity-building in affected areas
Specific Strategic Areas	<u>Main Area</u> : Launching of reforestation/afforestation programmes and intensification of soil conservation programmes <u>Other Areas</u> : Sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas; development of sustainable agricultural and ranching production systems.
Partnership Agreement	The initiative has been launched in the framework of the Protocol of the MoU on Environmental protection and Rural development cooperation signed by China and Italy in 1995. An additional specific MoU with the Prefecture of Hetian is going to be signed
Participatory Process	Involvement of local communities, especially farmers, woman and ethnic minorities
Objectives	To prevent desertification with an impact on the sustainable development of the affected area. The project will be protecting an area threatened by desertification and drought using irrigation systems and afforestation as a toll to develop job opportunities for over 35000 workers.
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	The Project is expected to have positive impact alos with regards to the implementation of the United Nations Convention for Biological Diversity CBD and of the United Nations Convention for Climate Change UNFCCC
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	JPoI: Chapter II “Poverty eradication”, paragraph 7 (l) and Chapter IV “Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development”, in particular paragraphs 41,44, 45.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Target Years	2006 - 2009
Target Area	Pimo Ecological Demostration Site”, Hetian –China
Expected Outcomes	Converting an area affected from desertification phenomena to sustainable land management area and launching a virtuous circle that will be involving around 3500 farmers, mostly woman (1500) and ethnical minorities (Uygura)
Resource Mobilization	11 million of Euro (concessional loan) 385.000 euro (Grant)
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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	Central and Eastern Europe
Title	Forest development and conservation in Bosnia-Herzegovina
Specific Thematic Areas	Promotion of appropriate environmental education
Specific Strategic Areas	Launching of reforestation/afforestation programmes and intensification of soil conservation programmes
Partnership Agreement	World Bank.
Participatory Process	Local Governments and municipalities
Objectives (including an Abstract)	<p>Component 1 aims at accelerating the implementation of new legal, institutional and economic frameworks. New legal and institutional frameworks, will support the setting of a forest management regime, ensuring the sustainable use, and protection of forest resources, while at the same time pave the way to an autonomous, and self-financing forest sector. Supporting the sector's institutional reforms will assist in work implementation, to support the establishment of the newly created Forest Offices. Technical assistance, and training will be focused on establishing a forest management, financial monitoring system, and basic office equipment, to enable communication, and coordination; and, in addition, operational support will be provided to forest guards, and inspectors, as well as for procurement of, and training in the use of field equipment to ensure compliance with the new forest law, improve transparency, and forest governance.</p> <p>Component 2, "Strengthening of Technical Capacity for Sustainable Forest Management", will facilitate the implementation of economically environmentally, sound forest management, and, will set up technical instruments, critical to ensure monitoring and sustainable uses of forest endowment, forest management and forest certification.</p> <p>Component 3, "Promoting Biodiversity and Forest Conservation", will address, and respond to the governments commitments, in leveraging the country's biodiversity into protected areas. Component 4, "Project implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation", will be managed by two small Project Implementation Units (PIUs), responsible for forestry during project implementation, including procurement, disbursement, accounting and coordination, and, will also strengthen donor coordination regarding the national forest agenda. The objective of the project is to assist with the implementation of mandated reforms in forest management, increased revenues from forest resources and participatory approaches in forest land use planning through pilot learning activities.</p> <p>The project is expected to improve ownership of the reform process at the canton level. Although the two entities (Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Federation), and Republika Srpska (RS)) are at different stages of readiness to implement the reform, the project will be active in both of them, to ensure that the reform momentum developed under the Forest Project is maintained.</p> <p>Importantly, the lessons of institutional reform developed under the project could also be relevant for other sectors.</p>
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	United Nations Convention on Biodiversity United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	JPoI: Chapter II "Poverty eradication", paragraph 7 (l) and Chapter IV "Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development", in particular paragraphs 41,44,45.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Target Years	2004-2007

Target Area	Bosnia-Herzegovina
Expected Outcomes	The Project will assist with the implementation of mandated reforms in forest organization and management, which are expected to lead to better forest management, increased revenues from forest resources as well as participatory approaches in forest and protected area land use planning through pilot learning activities. In addition, the project is expected to improve ownership of the reform process at the canton level. Local benefits from the project will include recreation, employment opportunities from tourism, and watershed protection, as well as the maintenance of gene pools for forest products harvested and used by the local population, including berries and mushrooms.
Resource Mobilization	Total import of the project cost: 5.9 millions of dollars Italian contributions to the project: 600.000,00 euro
Contact	Cons. Federica Ferrai Bravi Head of Bureau III General Direction for Development Cooperation Ministry of Foreign Affairs Federica.ferraribravo@esteri.it

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	Argentina
Title	Afforestation for the purpose of combating desertification, mitigating climate change and protecting biodiversity in Argentina – Environmental Youth Groups in Santiago del Estero, Argentina.
Specific Thematic Areas	The promotion of appropriate environmental education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The enhancement of cooperation with institutions and organizations dealing with development policies and programmes to eradicate illiteracy and the development of capacity-building in affected areas
Specific Strategic Areas	Launching of reforestation/afforestation programmes and intensification of soil conservation programmes
Partnership Agreement	Memorandum of Understanding between the Secretariat of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Ministry of Health and Environment of the Government of Argentina and the Ministry for the Environment and Territory of Italy on Cooperation on Environmental Protection.
Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Secretariat of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Ministry of Health and Environment of the Government of Argentina: on behalf of project recipient country; - Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory: on behalf of project donor country; - Grupo Ambiental para el Desarrollo (GADE): executing agency; - Fundacion del Sur; - University of Tuscia (Viterbo, Italy): scientific and technical support;
Objectives	The project has the overall objective to form groups of young volunteers in twelve locations at Santiago del Estero Province, which will develop reforestation/afforestation activities aimed at restoring degraded land and to reducing the presence of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	JPoI: Chapter II “Poverty eradication”, paragraph 7 (l) and Chapter IV “Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development”, in particular paragraphs 41, 44, 45; Chapter X “Means of implementation”, in particular paragraphs: 105, 106, 110, 116, 121.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	Project afforestation activities will be implemented in accordance with the principles, rules and modalities of the three Rio Conventions, namely the United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol (the project is a Afforestation/Reforestation CDM), the United Nation Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
Target Years	2004 - 2008
Target Area	Santiago del Estero Province, Argentina.
Expected Outcomes	Through the afforestation of 3,000 hectares with native species, the project mainly aims at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Combating desertification and land degradation, - Creating conditions to recover and protect local biodiversity, - Sequestering carbon dioxide and mitigating climate change, - Creating job opportunities and improving socio-economic conditions within the area of influence of the forest, and - Strengthening the role of civil society organizations in the promotion of sustainable development and, in particular, increasing environmental awareness among the youth on the topic of sustainable development.
Resource Mobilization	Total amount of funding by the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory: 1.649.400,00 USD.

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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	China
Title	Youth Participation in Plantation Establishment for Combating Desertification, Mitigating Climate Change and Protecting Biodiversity in China
Specific Thematic Areas	The promotion of appropriate environmental education The enhancement of cooperation with institutions and organizations dealing with development policies and programmes to eradicate illiteracy and the development of capacity-building in affected areas
Specific Strategic Areas	Launching of reforestation/afforestation programmes and intensification of soil conservation programmes.
Partnership Agreement	Memorandum of Understanding between the State Forestry Administration of the People's Republic of China and the Ministry for the Environment and Territory of Italy on Cooperation in the field of synergies among Rio Conventions and Sustainable Development.
Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - China State Forestry Administration: on behalf of project recipient country; - Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory: on behalf of project donor country; - China National Committee for implementing Programmes for combating Desertification (CCICCD): executing agency; - The Forestry Bureau of Aohan Banner, Youth League Commission, Women's Federation of Aohan Banner, Chifeng City, Inner Mongolia, China: project supporting agency; - China Academy of Forestry: scientific and technical support; - University of Tuscia (Viterbo, Italy): scientific and technical support;
Objectives (including an Abstract)	<p>In 2003 the Government of Italy decided to support a pilot-project to combat desertification in China. This project follows the priorities set out under the National Action Plan to Combat Desertification and Drought of China. The project has the overall goal to increase the capacity of implementing sustainable development policies, in particular in the agro-forestry sector. 3.000 hectares of forest will be planting in area at risk of desertification and according to the principles of the three Rio Conventions. Pilot initiative consists on the fact that the project is under the review to be selected as an A/R CDM project activity, in accordance with the rules and modalities set out by the Kyoto Protocol.</p> <p>The project has the overall objective to increase the capacity of implementing sustainable development policies, particularly related to the UNCCD process under the National Action Programme to Combat Desertification and Drought (NAP) of China.</p>
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	JPoI: Chapter II "Poverty eradication", paragraph 7 (l) and Chapter IV "Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development", in particular paragraphs 41, 44, 45.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	Project reforestation activities will be implemented in accordance with the principles, rules and modalities of the three Rio Conventions, namely the United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol (the project is a Afforestation/Reforestation CDM), the United Nation Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
Target Years	2004 - 2008
Target Area	Aohan County, Northeast China

Expected Outcomes	Through the afforestation of 3,000 hectares with native species, the project mainly aims at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Combating desertification and land degradation, - Creating conditions to recover and protect local biodiversity, - Sequestering carbon dioxide and mitigating climate change, - Creating job opportunities and improving socio-economic conditions within the area of influence of the forest, and - Increasing environmental awareness, particularly among the youth.
Resource Mobilization	Total amount of funding by the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory: 1.352.400,00 USD.
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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	China (Inner Mongolia – Municipality of Chifeng, Balinzuoqi County)
Title	Project for the Afforestation of a Pilot Area through the Application of the “Vallerani System” Technology in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region
Specific Thematic Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - promotion of traditional knowledge - promotion of appropriate environmental education
Specific Strategic Areas	<p>Main Area: Launching of reforestation/afforestation programmes and intensification of soil conservation programmes</p> <p>Other Areas: sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas</p>
Partnership Agreement	Memorandum of Understanding between the State Forestry Administration of the People’s Republic of China and the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory on <i>Cooperation in the field of synergies among Rio Conventions and Sustainable Development</i>
Participants	Italian experts Academy of Forestry and Inventory & Planning (AFIP) of the State Forestry Adm. (SFA) Balinzuo County Government of the Municipality of Chifeng, Inner Mongolia
Objectives (including an Abstract)	<p>In the framework of the MoU between the Italian Ministry for Environment and Territory and the State Forestry Administration of China on “Co-operation in the field of synergies among Rio Conventions and sustainable development”, signed on 23-12-2004, the project was launched on August 1 2005 for combating drought and desertification in Inner Mongolia. Main target of the project is to contribute to the development of the “Green Belt” for the protection of Beijing from dust and sand storms.</p> <p>The project will contribute to poverty alleviation and soil conservation, sustainably providing local people with plants for heating and for feeding cattle, and protecting cropping areas from wind. The system, consisting mainly in a mechanised water harvesting technology for soil and water conservation in arid environments, prepares and works the ground so that rainwater which would otherwise have run off, is retained in situ, and the fertility of the soil is increased, thus increasing the planting survival rate. Promoting direct seeding of local species, it represents an innovative way of afforestation at very low costs with higher percentage of plants survival.</p> <p>The main objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contributing to implement the National Action Programme to Combat Desertification and Drought (NAP) of China - Reforestation/afforestation of 1000ha of degraded grassland, for reduction and prevention of dust and sand storms; - Training of local operators and farmers, raising public awareness on soil conservation; - Project evaluation for further dissemination of the system in China; - Evaluation for further CDM application.
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	Project reforestation activities will be implemented in accordance with the principles, rules and modalities of the three Rio Conventions, namely the United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol (the project is a A/R CDM), the United Nation Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	Activities implemented in the respect of the National Action Programme to Combat Desertification and Drought (NAP) of China, and local rules and regulations for land management.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	JPoI: Chapter II “Poverty eradication”, paragraph 7 (l) and Chapter IV “Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development”, in particular paragraphs 41, 44, 45; Chapter X “Means of implementation”, in particular paragraphs: 105, 106, 110, 116, 121.
Target Years	2006 – 2008
Target Area	Different sites located in Chifeng Municipality, Inner Mongolia (Northeast China)

Expected Outcomes	<p>Through the afforestation of 1,000 hectares with native species, the project mainly aims at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Combating desertification and land degradation, - Creating conditions to recover and protect local biodiversity, - Increasing of soil fertility and capacity water retention and absorption, thus conserving and replenishing aquifers; - Sequestering carbon dioxide and mitigating climate change, - Creating job opportunities and improving socio-economic conditions within the area of influence of the forest, and - Increasing environmental awareness among people.
Resource Mobilization	<p>Total amount of funding by the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory: 470.000,00 Euro, for covering the first year of activity and the CDM procedure.</p>
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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	ISRAEL
Title	Identifying Plants To Be Used For Combating Desertification
Specific Thematic Areas	The enhancement of cooperation with institutions and organizations dealing with development policies and programmes to eradicate illiteracy and the development of capacity-building in affected areas
Specific Strategic Areas	Launching of reforestation/afforestation programmes and intensification of soil conservation programmes
Partnership Agreement	Cooperation programme between the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory (IMET) and Tel Aviv University (TAU)
Participatory Process	Participation of the academic and business sectors and involvement of local authorities
Objectives (including an Abstract)	Desertification, already a severe environmental problem for many areas including the eastern Mediterranean, is expected to be further compounded by global climate change. The resilience of plant species to drought and rising salinity is a key factor in maintaining plant cover and reducing the onslaught of desertification. The goal of this project is to identify drought- and salt-resistant plant species that could replace sensitive species in order to increase plant cover. The plants to be tested will be native species that will not run the risk of becoming undesirable weeds. They will be tested in controlled conditions and their seeds will be available for future tests in locations affected by desertification. Identify plant species for reforestation and carbon sequestration in arid areas affected by salinization
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	JPoI: Chapter II "Poverty eradication", paragraph 7 (l) and Chapter IV "Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development", in particular paragraphs 24, 26, 27, 28, 40, 41.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	Clear linkages can be drawn with the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC)
Target Years	2004-2007
Target Area	Some arid regions in Israel
Expected Outcomes	-Find out suitable plants that can be used as efficient carbon traps -Extend the identification and suitability of plant species in other regions of the world -Evaluate the potential for carbon credits of plantation in arid zones -Draw up guidelines for estimating biomass production in arid regions to be submitted for approval by the CDM Executive Board
Resource Mobilization	712.836,00 Euros financed by the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory
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5.4 Development of new and renewable energy sources

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region - China
Title	Solar Village in China
Specific Thematic Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the promotion of appropriate environmental education - social and economic development in decentralized rural areas
Specific Strategic Areas	Development of new and renewable energy sources
Participants	Italian Experts China Energy Research Society, China Photovoltaic Technology Development Center (CPVC); Zhejiagang Sino-Italian Photovoltaic Corporation Ltd (SIPV), Science and Technology Bureau and natural Resource Research Institute of Inner Mongolia.
Objectives (including an Abstract)	The overall project is a bilateral cooperation to establish a Photovoltaic (PV) demonstration Project with the Italian and Chinese PV Technologies to focus the challenge of sustainable development and environmental protection in the conventional power off-grid in remote areas of Inner Mongolia. In accordance with the MoU between the Italian Ministry for Environment and Territory and the China Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China the Parties agreed to carryout a feasibility study as fist stage to the implementation phase started in May, 2002, after the signature of the Agreement for the Implementation of Joint Projects on Environment and Energy Main objectives is: solve the power supply problem with a total amount of 100Kwp Photovoltaic Power installed and additional components for monitoring, reappraisal as well as dissemination and lesson-learnt of project results.
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	Project activities are implemented in accordance with the principles, rules and modalities of the three Rio Conventions, namely the United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	China's Tenth Five Year Plan (2001-2005). JPoI: Chapter II "Poverty eradication", paragraph 7 (l) and Chapter III "Changing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production", in particular paragraph 20; Chapter X "Means of implementation", in particular paragraphs: 105, 106, 110, 116, 121.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Target Years	2002 - 2006
Target Area	Different counties located in a radius of 100 Km from Sai Han Tala (county town of Xi SuQi county)
Expected Outcomes	The scale of the project foresees four different system: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A Hybrid PV diesel mini-grid with pumping system for one village; - Solar Home Systems for two villages; - Two pumping system for two single households. - Solar Home System for 88 scattered households.
Resource Mobilization	Total amount of funding: 2.000.000 Euro (1.850.000 Euro by the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory and 250.000 Euro by the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China)
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GEOGRAPHIC AREA	ASIA – People’s Republic of China, Shanghai
Title	Promotion of renewable energies, energy Savings and Energy Efficiency in the Industrial and Urban Areas (Residential and Public Buildings)
Specific Thematic Areas	Energy efficiency in the industrial sector
Specific Strategic Areas	Development of new and renewable energy sources
Partnership Agreement	A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Shanghai Environmental Protection Bureau and the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory has been signed on September 6, 2004 in Shanghai
Participatory Process	Shanghai Environmental Protection Bureau, the Italian Ministry for Environment and Territory and the Shanghai Academy of Environmental Sciences.
Objectives (including an Abstract)	<p>The proposed project is aimed at assessing in detail the technical, economic and environmental/CDM feasibility of the installation of a Cogeneration Heat and Power (CHP) unit in an industrial plant. A possible financial mechanism for the implementation of the project will be also proposed. Possible Italian technologies and partner potentially interested in the CHP plant installation will be also identified.</p> <p>The feasibility study will provide a detailed assessment of the technical, economic and environmental aspects of the proposed energy saving intervention. The development of the study will imply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - determination of the CHP design and technical specification of each of the equipment, with particular attention to the available Italian technologies/partnership potentially interested in the project. Alternatives on the use of fuel (coal or methane) will be explored; - estimation of the costs and timing for the implementation and elaboration of a 10-years economic evaluation of the investment. The assessment of the main economic parameters (payback, NPV and IRR) will be made as well; - assessment of the potentials for energy saving and CO2 emissions reduction. Evaluation of the potentials for the development of the investment as CDM in the framework of the Kyoto Protocol implementation mechanisms; - definition of a possible financing scheme for the implementation of the CHP.
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	JPoI: Chapter II “Poverty eradication”, paragraph 7 (l) and Chapter III “Changing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production”, in particular paragraph 20; Chapter X “Means of implementation”, in particular paragraphs: 105, 106, 110, 116, 121
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	Kyoto Protocol, in particular the flexible mechanisms such as CDM
Target Years	2006
Target Area	Shanghai Municipality
Expected Outcomes	<p>The project will work out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the technical feasibility of the CHP plant, with the technical specifications and sizing of the main equipment. The comparison of the two explored solutions in fuel use (coal/natural gas) will be also provided. - the environmental benefit and CDM feasibility of the CHP plant. The amount of CO2 emission reduction will be calculated; - the economic feasibility of the CHP plant, with main economic parameters, such as the cost of the intervention, pay back and NPV; - a possible financing mechanism for the CHP plant installation in the framework of CDM

Resource Mobilization	180.000,00 Euro
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5.5 Development of early warning systems for food security and drought forecasting

GEOGRAPHIC AREA	China (Beijing Municipality and Alashan Prefecture of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region)
Title	Project to Combat Dust Sandstorms in Northern China ('WinDust project')
Specific Thematic Areas	Development of scientific and technical knowledge to combat desertification
Specific Strategic Areas	<p>Main Area: Development of early warning systems for food security and drought forecasting</p> <p>Other Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Launching of reforestation/afforestation programmes and intensification of soil conservation programmes; - Sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation - Desertification monitoring and assessment
Partnership Agreement	Memorandum of Understanding between the Beijing Municipal Environmental Protection Bureau of the People's Republic of China and the Ministry for the Environment and Territory of Italy with reference to the Beijing 2008 Green Olympics Program
Participants	Italian Experts Beijing Municipal Environmental Protection Bureau (Chinese part)
Objectives (including an Abstract)	<p>In the framework of the Sino-Italian Cooperation Program for the Environmental Protection (SICP) bilateral framework, the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory (IMET) and the Beijing Municipal Environmental Protection Bureau (EPB) lunched in 2005 the 'WinDust project' to increase the knowledge on the phenomena involved in Dust and Sand Storm (DSS) and to propose and test methodologies of intervention aimed at the prevention and mitigation of DSS impacts. The distinctive idea characterizing the project is to join scientific research, experimentation and practical implementations for rural development into an integrated effort of co-operation and mutual exchange, in order to develop a comprehensive and participatory methodology. Following this approach, advanced Remote Sensing (RS) and Geographical Information System (GIS) techniques were implemented to characterize the potential DSS originating source areas and to describe the evolution of the land cover in the last twenty years. A fully coupled atmospheric/emission/dispersion model was set up to understand the DSS dynamics. Direct measurements of emission dust fluxes were conducted in sensible areas by means of an Eddy Covariance-based technology, setting the basis for a dedicated emission inventory. Such emission measurements allowed selecting and tuning the most effective dust emission model. Demonstration activities (energy and water saving in agriculture, low-tillage techniques, micro-propagation-based plant production, rubble pits restoration) were undertaken in order to identify the most suitable and cost-effective mitigation and control measures, both in the Alashan area and in the degraded areas surrounding Beijing. Such activities provided several results that were assessed to set up an integrated management approach to DSS mitigation and control. The 'WinDust project' results showed the effectiveness of advanced RS methodologies and monitoring/modeling techniques in assessing the trend of many environmental variables, such as those controlling DSS phenomena.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Providing an overall understanding of DSS dynamics in Northern China, and more specifically, characterizing the sources and transport mechanisms of the DSS affecting Beijing - Identifying the most sensible soil types and most effective vegetation covers to wind erosion - Introducing the concept of sustainable development in the rural areas of Alashan, limiting human pressure on natural resources, thus leading to prevention of anthropogenic enhancement of DSS and mitigation of natural hazards - Proposing and testing methodologies of intervention - Evaluating scenarios of intervention - Forging collaborative alliances between participating Sino and Italian experts.

Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	The 'WinDust project' activities have been implementing in accordance with the principles, rules and modalities of the three Rio Conventions, namely the United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol, the United Nation Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD).
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR Plans, Strategies and programs	Activities are implemented in the framework of the Beijing 2008 Green Olympics Program and the Beijing Agricultural and Forestry Bureau planning for 2010.
Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	JPoI: Chapter II "Poverty eradication", paragraph 7 (l) and Chapter IV "Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development", in particular paragraphs 41, 44, 45; Chapter X "Means of implementation", in particular paragraphs: 105, 106, 110, 116, 121.
Target Years	2005 – 2007
Target Area	Beijing Municipality and Alashan Prefecture of Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region
Expected Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GIS-based emission maps of Beijing Municipality and Alashan Prefecture - Beijing Emission Inventory - Eddy Covariance-based prototype device to measure dust fluxes - Atmospheric/emission/dispersion model to simulate DSS - Screening of the cost-effective pilot projects that could be implemented at large scale - Contribution to the development of an integrated management approach to combat DSS in Northern China - Study exchange workshops
Resource Mobilization	Total amount of funding by the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory to cover the first year (2005) of the project activities: 2.5 millions €. Funding is planned for the continuation of activities in 2006 and 2007.
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5.6 Desertification monitoring and assessment

<u>GEOGRAPHIC AREA</u>	Six pilot areas in Central China: Liaoning Sewage Irrigation Area, Haihe River Basin, Yellow River Delta Area, Three Gorges Reservoir Area, Jiangnan Plain, Wuyi Mountain
Title	The Survey and Evaluation of the Ecological Environment in Selected Areas in Central China ('EcoSurvey project')
Specific Thematic Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustainable use and management of rangelands; - The promotion of appropriate environmental education.
Specific Strategic Areas	<p><u>Main Area:</u> Desertification monitoring and assessment</p> <p><u>Other Areas:</u> Sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas</p>
Partnership Agreement	Memorandum of Understanding between the State Environmental Protection Administration of the People's Republic of China and the Ministry for the Environment and Territory of Italy.
Participants	<p>CETMA - D'Appolonia SpA (Italian part)</p> <p>SEPA - State Environmental Protection Administration (Chinese part)</p> <p>CRAES - Chinese Research Academy of Sciences (Chinese part)</p> <p>Environmental Protection Bureaus and other local institutions/universities (Chinese part)</p>
Objectives (including an Abstract)	<p>In the framework of the Sino-Italian Cooperation Program for the Environmental Protection (SICP) bilateral framework, the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory (IMET) and the State Environmental Protection Administration of China (SEPA) launched the 'EcoSurvey project' in 2002 with the aim of conducting an ecological survey and evaluation of six pilot areas in Central China, covering an area of over 200,000 square kilometers. The first phase of the project was focused on a large-scale Land use/Land cover (LU/LC) classification and change detection analysis of the six pilot areas, and the second phase was focused on the development of a Remote Sensing (RS) and Geographic Information Systems (GIS)-based method for investigating environmental topics of concern for each pilot area through the specific thematic studies (i.e. water quality analysis, vegetation analysis, coastline change detection analysis, modeling of potential soil erosion, river beds morphology analysis and comparison). The project was carried out based on data acquired from sensors on board the Landsat 5 TM and Landsat 7 ETM+ satellites. All thematic maps developed using RS techniques were subsequently imported into GIS software for further classification and/or interpretation. Field site visits were carried out to provide a ground validation of the RS analysis and discuss environmental issues of concern with local experts. Project results include both spatial and temporal data of LU/LC environmental features for each of the pilot areas, as well as more detailed data for the specific thematic studies. Findings from the 'EcoSurvey project' have the potential to assist long-term environmental planning in Central China through application of innovative techniques for assessing and monitoring environmental issues in this highly developed region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developing comprehensive LU/LC classification maps for each of the six pilot areas - Analyzing the extent of change (i.e. 'change detection') of selected land cover features of interest in each of the six pilot areas - Conducting specific thematic studies for each pilot area - Forging collaborative alliances between participating Sino and Italian experts
Linkage and Synergies with other Environmental Conventions	The 'EcoSurvey project' activities were implemented in accordance with the principles, rules and modalities of the Rio Conventions, namely the United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol, and the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD).
Relevance to the Plan of Implementation of WSSD and/or other SD and PR	<p>China is progressively developing national strategies and framework for sustainable development.</p> <p>The project activities were carried out in the framework of "The 10th five-year Plan for</p>

Plans, Strategies and programs Legislative and Institutional Framework and Arrangements	National Eco-environmental Protection” aimed to conduct survey on eco-environmental status, establish a nationwide database on the ecological environment conditions, draw up national eco-zone and eco-protection plan, and set up administration information system on national eco-protection. JPOI: Chapter II “Poverty eradication”, paragraph 7 (l) and Chapter IV “Protecting and Managing the natural resources base of economic and social development”, in particular paragraphs 41.
Target Years	2002 – 2005
Target Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Liaoning Sewage Irrigation Area (Liaoning Province) - Haihe River Basin (Hebei Province and Tianjin Municipality) - Yellow River Delta Area (Shandong Province) - Three Gorges Reservoir Area (Hubei and Sichuan Provinces) - Jiangnan Plain (Hubei, Hunan and Jiangxi Provinces) - Wuyi Mountain (Fujian Province)
Expected Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spatial overview of the level I and level II LU/LC classes - Spatial overview of the land cover changes (i.e. total increase, decrease, or unchanged area) of each class of interest in the period between 1986 to 2001 - Mapping of the water quality parameters (chlorophyll, suspended minerals, colored dissolved organic content, secchi depth and turbidity, trophic status index) for the selected water bodies - Mapping of the vegetation cover - Evaluation the coastline change detection for the Yellow River Delta Area - Evaluation of the potential soil erosion in pilot area - Analysis of the changes in the river bed morphology - Study exchange workshops in Italy and China - Presentation of the final project results and future opportunities in a dedicated event in Beijing (May 2005)
Resource Mobilization	Total amount of funding by the Italian Ministry for the Environment and Territory to cover the project activities from 2002 to 2005: 2,000,000 €.
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