

# Albania

The Memorandum of Understanding "Bilateral Cooperation regarding the development of Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) under Article 12 of the Kyoto Protocol", signed in 2005, has sanctioned the beginning of the partnership between the Ministries of the Environment of Italy and Albania. The cooperation aims at developing a technical assistance programme oriented towards the implementations of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol. The developed projects are:



## **Project GEF/UNDP "Market transformation for solar thermal water heating in Albania"**

The Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea promotes and supports the activities related to solar thermal water heating market in Albania in order to increase the number of installations by 50.000 m<sup>2</sup>. For this purpose, the government has received the necessary backing to enforce financial and tax policies in order to ease supply and demand mechanism. Moreover, capacity building actions have also been scheduled to support the local industry, the distributors and the installers.

## **Project "ADRICOSM-STAR"**

This project involves Montenegro's coastal area and the Bojana river basin, situated among Albania and Montenegro. The project activities shoot for creating an integrated monitoring system of the area, and a related database. The activities point also at assessing climate change impact on the coastal area, particularly as far as concerned river resources and water quality. 18 partners are involved in this project: some from Albania (such as the "Hydrometeorological Institute of Tirana"), some from Montenegro and some others from Serbia. The project has been financed by the Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea of Italy and it will last 3 years from its signature in March 2007.

## **Project in cooperation with the Regional Environmental Centre (REC)**

The ongoing project "Education for sustainable development at secondary schools: beyond piloting the 'Green Pack Albania' in basic education system" aims to organize training courses for teachers in order to integrate universities' curricula with environmental education.

## **Water resources monitoring**

The pilot project has been developed in the Ishem river catchment with the target of developing a batch of methodologies on water resources management repeatable in the whole Country. This project will increase the Local Authorities' capacity in managing water resources, and will become a valid decision-making support for investments in this sector.

## **Development of the necessary capacities to carry out activities related to air quality**

This project will provide assistance in realizing national inventories of emission in atmosphere in order to manage air quality, according to the Convention "Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution" and to Directive 96/62/CE of the Council of the European Union. The data will be compared with those contained in UNFCCC inventories. Subsequently, the necessary technical capacities and know-how will be disseminated through training courses. Moreover, the activities related to Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP) will be supported.

