



E - C A - T

Environmental Center
for Administration and
Technology
Lithuania

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About ECAT

- Non governmental, non-profit organisation
- Established in 1997
- Main target groups:
 - local authorities
 - local communities



General objectives

- to implement principles of sustainable development
- provide information
- to support the implementation of EU legislation at local level



Main areas of activities

- Local Agenda 21
- Sustainable development strategies
- Capacity building on EU Environmental Policy
- Environmental Education



ECAT projects

- **Awareness Raising Campaign on Climate Change**
- **Development of Environmental Policy of Kaunas and Šiauliai Cities**
- **The ACCESS Initiative** (www.accessinitiative.org)
- **Hazardous Household Waste** – the threat we live with
- **Capacity Building** on European Community's Environmental Policy for the Regional and Local Environmental Administration
- **Assessment and Development of Local Sustainable Development Strategies**
- **Introduction of Sustainability principles to Strategic Regional Development (LoCIS)**
- **Education on Wheel:** European Union and Environmental Issues





Lithuania

*review of sustainable
development strategy*

25 – 26 July 2006, Kaunas

*Workshop Strategies for successful communication of
sustainability in Europe*

Main events

- 2000 “SD commission ” (26 members);
- 2002 first meeting;
- 2002 national implementation report;
- 2003 national strategy;
- 2003 – 2004 indicators;
- 2005 – evaluation

Main drivers

- Rio + 10 summit meeting (2002)
- Single programming document (2004-2006)
- Implementation plan for Lisbon strategy (2005)
- Programming for use of structural and cohesion funds for 2007 –2013
- EU policy



Sustainable development strategy: theory

main objective –

“to achieve the present developmental level of EU countries by 2020, according to indicators of economic and social development as well as the efficiency in consumption of resources, and not to exceed allowable EU standards, according to indicators of environmental pollution, while meeting the requirements of international conventions in the field of minimization of environmental pollution and input into global climate change.”



Sustainable development strategy: theory

Strategic objectives:

- short-term objectives and targets (until 2005),
- Midterm objectives and targets (until 2010)
- long-term implementation measures – till the end of the implementation period of the Strategy (until 2020).



Sustainable development strategy: theory

Indicators

- Emissions of the greenhouse gases
- Emission of air pollutants
- Waste water
- Pollution load on the Baltic see
- Collected waste
- Protection of the biodiversity and landscape
- **Labor productivity**
- **Gross value added and gross domestic product**
- **Final energy consumption**
- **Energy intensity**
- **Renewable energy recourses**
- **Transport, energy and household indicators**
- Activity of the population
- Average life expectancy
- Infant mortality
- Poverty and social exclusion
- Number of births and deaths
- Mortality rate by causes
- Education
- Students admitted to colleges and high schools and graduates
- Number of graduates from general schools
- Vocational education
- Development of information society
- **gross domestic product by counties**
- **gross domestic product per capita by counties**
- **Investments in tangible fixed assets by counties**
- **Unemployment rate by counties**
- **Emmision of air polutants by county**
- **Decoupling of economic growth from energy consumption and environmental pollution**
- **Energy and pollution intensity**



Sustainable development: reality

- No focus areas
- Weak integrated approach
- Intergenerational time- frame (2020)
- Integrated assessment tools are not used yet
- Coordination and institution established but are not operational
- Local and regional authorities are not involved sufficiently, no tailored guidelines
- Formal participation of stakeholders
- Monitoring and evaluation lack integrated and learning approach



Sustainable development reality

- a "catalogue of existing policies"
 - lack of political commitment
- but**
- **has opened-up the possibilities and constraints of designing a policy for sustainable development**

Who should do it ???



Implementation

National Commission on Sustainable Development

Ministry of Environment

NGO(2- 3) – project driven

UNDP:

(GEF MPP – nearly 100 projects since 2001)

Academic institutions

20 municipalities

Media (1 newspaper)



Communicating Sustainable Development

- public awareness of the main sd principles and public participation is not sufficient
- public education is not set as a priority task of sustainable development
- the scientific research role has to be enhanced: more effective applications of research results at practical levels
- design and implementation of environment-friendly production and information technologies is gaining speed
- lack of visibility of the strategy;




New threats

- the **costs** of new environmental legislation and its **impact on the competitiveness**
- the **costs of non-action**



...like building a sand castle



A misty forest scene with tall trees and sunlight filtering through the canopy. The text "Thank you for your attention" is centered in the middle of the image.

Thank you for your
attention