

Title:

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS IN CENTRAL EUROPE
V4 Conference on planning and implementation**

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Context:

The stage of the SD Strategy implementation and the preparation of the National Development Plan II are diverse in the V4 countries.

There are countries, where the preparation of the National Development Plan II (National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF) and the Strategy of State Development 2007-2013) and the Sustainable Development Strategy implementation are going in parallel, coordinated by the Ministerial Office/National Development Office.

EU Sustainable Development Strategy Review is an important step to the European sustainability.

It is a challenging and promising process and require national and international consultations.

Description:

The overarching goal of the V4 conference was the exchange of information and national experiences on the planning and implementation of Sustainable Development Strategies and the National Development Plans for the forthcoming period. The V4 country delegates (Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia) presented their National Development Plans and the present stage of the SD implementation.

The integration of the principles of sustainable development priorities into the development plans and various sectoral plans in the Visegrad countries, as well as in some interested EU countries and the sharing of these experiences with other accession countries was given special attention.

Examples: planning and integration:

Cz: Integration of the SD priorities in the operational program 2007-2013:

There are 16 Regional Operational Programmes and 6 Sectoral Operational Programmes. One of the Sectorals is Infrastructure and Environment, which includes priorities concerning environmental issues.

Hu: National Development Concept, Strategic Development Objectives 2007-2013:

Long term competitiveness -Employment-Education
Health-Strengthening cohesion
Improved physical and virtual access
Protection and sustainable use of natural resources

Sk: Strategic priorities-NSRF 2007-2013:

Infrastructure and regional accessibility
Innovations, information society and knowledge economy
Human resources and education

Po: NDP 2007 – 2013. Positive elements:

Sustainable development as a strategic goal
Increase share of renewable, increase energy efficiency
Promotion of environmentally friendly products and services
Shaping of sustainable production and consumption patterns
Strengthening of Natura 2000 network

Outlook: NEEDS - NSDS/EU SDS

Visioning the future development in Europe: focusing on the common vision of the EU-25 Member States.

Indicators for planning and evaluation of sustainable development, more effective evaluation and coordination between complementary activities and policies.

Institutional frame for sustainable development implementation at national and international level.

There is a strong need for public participation/stakeholder involvement and information dissemination.

Achieving targets related to specific priorities for EU-25 might require more clarification.

It is necessary to define governance in details in the EU SDS, measures and communication methods