

Press release

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT EVALUATION AND STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT EVALUATION PROCESS OF TRANSPOSITION AND IMPLICATION AT STAKEHOLDERS' LEVEL

București, 12 January 2009 – Centre for Legal Resources, TERRA Mileniul III and Justice and Environment announce the launch of the project “Environmental Impact **Evaluation and Environment Strategic Evaluation – Process of transposition and implication at stakeholders’ level**”, funded by the European Union, through Phare Programme.

The project aims at improving the transparency of procedures for public participation to decision-making on the environmental impact evaluation and strategic environment evaluation, by transposing and correctly applying the law that governs these fields and by raising the awareness of the involved stakeholders (central environment authorities and civil society organizations).

At the end of this project, the environmental NGOs will have an improved perception on the environmental law. They will have learned how to get involved in the public participation process of decision-making, will be aware of making complaints to international bodies in case of law violation and last but not least, they will be aware of the transposition deficiencies and its application.

Judges and clerks within the environmental authorities will have improved their knowledge on domestic and international environmental legislation and will be more aware of the European standards in the field.

The Romanian Government and central environmental authorities will benefit from a legal analysis which will allow them to make adjustments to the actual legal frame for a better transposition and a more coherent implementation.

Also, this project will generate jurisprudence on application of the Environmental Impact Evaluation and Strategic Environment Evaluation in protected and intensely polluted areas, which will support a practical application of the law in environmental cases in Romania.

The transparency of procedures for Environmental Impact Evaluation and Strategic Environment Evaluation will improve on the one hand as the civil society will know how to use the legal framework so that it participates actively in the act of justice. On the other hand, as public clerks and judges will have knowledge of the domestic law and European standards altogether, they will be able to apply legislation and respect the principle of transparency at the same time.

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