

## Project INFO

### “ Enforcement of the Aarhus Convention in the Adriatic Region Countries“

**Project „Enforcement of the Aarhus Convention in the Adriatic Region Countries“** has started on Jan 1, 2010, with duration of 20 months. Its value amounts to EUR 375.000, out of which the European Union is funding 80%, namely EUR 300.000.

The project-carrier is **GONG**, together with its partners **Green Istria** (Pula, Croatia), the **Network for Affirmation of NGO Sector MANS** (Podgorica, Montenegro), the **Centre for Management, Development and Planning** (Doboj, Bosnia and Herzegovina), **AdriaticGreeNet** (Udine, Italy) and the **European Environmental Bureau** (Brussels, Belgium).

The project **aims to improve implementation standards of the weakest pillar of the Aarhus Convention – access to justice in environmental matters, as well as access to information and public participation in decision-making processes that deal with environmental matters in Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro.** It will strengthen the role of civil society organizations through sustainable partnerships and networks of organizations active in the field of environmental protection, as well as those dealing with democratization and transparency, with the goal to improve the quality of implementation of commitments deriving from the Aarhus Convention in the Adriatic Region Countries.

The main activity of the project will be the conduction of **a specialized educational programme for judges, lawyers and journalists from Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro.** Within it, the first two seminars will cover all three pillars of the Aarhus Convention (including case-studies related to the Aarhus Convention as well as European Court of Justice and European Court of Human Rights practices), while the third seminar will be consisted of a trial-simulation before one of the international judicial bodies.

All reports and cases covered by the programme will be published in a **publication** intended for all interested stakeholders, especially those in judicial bodies, the academic community, CSOs, and beyond. A special **handbook for the media** will be published as well.

A more intense affiliation and cooperation of CSOs from this thematic area in the Adriatic Region will be facilitated by developing a **web-site** and by strengthening the existing **Adriatic GreeNet network.**

The results of the programme will be presented at the **international conference** on the implementation of the Aarhus Convention in the Adriatic Region.



**This project is funded by the EU**