

# **Environmental Protection in Bulgaria facts and challenges**

*Workshop on : “Protection of the environment:  
climate change, pollution and biodiversity”*

*Sofia, 15<sup>th</sup> November 2007*

**Dr. Vania Grigorova**

**Director of Preventative Activities Directorate**

**Ministry of Environment and Water**

# **Environmental problems**

- **water-supply problem/lack of money for completion of wastewater treatment plants**
- **air pollution/smog in the cities due to the transport**
- **illegal dumping of waste/low speed in constructing the necessary network for waste treatment**
- **tourism development - pressure on the infrastructure: roads, waste water treatments plants, waste dumping/pressure on the protected areas**
- **historical pollution - past environmental damages after privatization or liquidation of industrial plants, incl. mining**

# Priorities of the new environmental policy

- full transposition of environmental *aquis communautaire* in the national environmental legislation;
- strengthening the administrative capacity of the MoEW and its structures at central and regional level;
- implementation of the agreements of Republic of Bulgaria undertaken over the negotiation process on Chapter “Environment”.

## **New policy - additional efforts**

- **better implementation of environmental legislation by municipalities, other ministries, business sector**
- **strengthening the administrative capacity in sectors “Noise” and “GMO”**
- **implementation of risk assessment procedures for chemicals and GMO’s**
- **establishing the national network of Natura 2000 sites**
- **introducing the European scheme for emission trading of greenhouse gases**
- **execution of remediation programs for past environmental damages**

# MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATER

*15 regional  
Inspectorates of  
Environment and  
Water (RIEW)*

Head of the  
Minister's  
cabinet

Parliamentary  
secretary

*Executive Environment  
Agency*

**Deputy Minister**  
Specialized administration

**Directorate**  
Coordination of the RIEW  
Control and management of  
dangerous chemicals  
Department

**Directorate**  
Preventitive activities  
EIA and EA Department  
Industrial pollution prevention  
Department

**Directorate**  
Air quality  
Air quality Department  
Global atmospheric processes  
Department

**Directorate**  
Waste management  
Municipal and construction  
WM Department  
Industrial and hazardous WM  
Department

**Deputy Minister**  
Specialized administration

**Directorate**  
Bowels of the earth and  
subsurface resources  
Bowels of the earth and  
protection of subsurface  
resources Department  
Geology and prospecting  
permits Department

**Water Directorate**  
Protection of water bodies  
Department  
Water use Department

**Deputy Minister**  
Specialized administration

**Directorate**  
National nature protection  
service  
Protected areas  
Department  
Biological diversity  
Department

**Directorate**  
Strategy, EU integration  
and international  
cooperation  
EU Integration Department  
Strategy and environmental  
programs Department  
International cooperation  
Department

**Directorate**  
EU Environmental funds

**Secretary General**  
General administration

**Legal Service Directorate**

**Directorate**  
Management of finances,  
property, human  
resources and PR  
Economic activity and  
information service  
Department

Sector Protocol  
Budget planning and  
management, financial  
resources and accounting  
Department

Budget Unit  
Human resources,  
chancellery and public  
relations Department

Sector Public relations  
Sector One-desk service

# **Tools for implementation of the environmental legislation (1)**

- **Pollution prevention tools:**
  - **Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)**
  - **Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)**
  - **environmental permits-IPPC, water abstraction permit, waste treatment permit**
  - **voluntary schemes for better environmental performance - EMAS, ISO 14 000, ecolabelling**

# **Tools for implementation of the environmental legislation (2)**

- **Enforcement tools:**
  - **administrative measures and administrative penalty liability**
  - **liability of the state for past environmental damages**
  - **market oriented economic instruments**

# **Financing of environmental programs and projects**

**EU funds**

**State Budget**

**Enterprise for managing the activities in the environmental protection**

**National ecotrust fund**

**«Joint implementation» scheme under Kyoto**

**Protocol to the Climate Change Convention**

**Bilateral agreements**

**International financial institutions**

# **Possible areas for cooperation in the frames of the EEA Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian cooperation program for Bulgaria**

- **preparation of projects under Operational program “Environment”;**
- **waste management and safety transport of dangerous substances;**
- **reduction and prevention of the greenhouse gas emissions;**
- **reduction and prevention of water pollution and encouraging the use of new environmental sounded technologies;**
- **preventing air pollution and encouraging the use of renewable energy sources;**
- **nature protection and eco-tourism development**

■ ***THANK YOU FOR THE  
ATTENTION !***