

## **Promoting environmental integration in Southeast Europe through the implementation of the Water Framework Directive**

The Horizon 2020 Capacity Building/Mediterranean Environment Programme wrapped up for the summer with a sub-regional training in Tirana, Albania (7-8 July 2011) where more than thirty participants from various public bodies of Southeast Europe gathered to be trained on “The implementation of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) as a means to promote environmental integration”. In partnership with the third phase of the GEF International Waters: Learning Exchange and Resources Network (GEF IWLEARN3), the Horizon 2020 two-day workshop attracted participants from Albania, FYROM, Kosovo and Montenegro.

The main objective of the course was to enhance the participants’ understanding, on the one hand, of the environmental integration opportunities and challenges in implementing the Water Framework Directive, including the links with other EU Directives, and on the other, of transboundary water resources management, leading ultimately to a de-polluted Mediterranean Sea. Presentations by experts covered a range of issues, showcasing examples and experiences from EU Member States and the region, while an open forum held at the end of each working day guaranteed the sharing of national and personal views and experiences. Strengthened problem-solving skills when facing such issues at home, was another desired output of the training.

The training was organized by WWF MEDPO with the support of the Global Water Partnership-Mediterranean and the Albanian Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Water Administration of Albania. For more info visit <http://www.h2020.net/en/resources/training-materials/viewcategory/92.html>

Press release – Tirana, Albania