

THE FONDAZIONE WILLY BRANDT'S ACTIVITIES

The "Fondazione Willy Brandt - FWB" has been recognized as a non-profit Institution by decree of the Ministry of Interior of August 4, 2000 (published in the Official Gazette n. 207, September 5, 2000, General Series).

As settled in the Articles of Association, the FWB is aimed at pursuing and developing ideals of social and cultural integration, of general welfare and of diffusion of solidarity and ethical and humanitarian values.

It devotes particular attention to the qualification of human resources in the Mediterranean area, in countries where it is urgent the strengthening of social, political and economic bonds.

A NETWORK FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Today the Fondazione Willy Brandt, holder of all the acknowledgements of its legal and administrative *status* in the countries where it is present (Serbia, Montenegro, Albania, Macedonia, Romania), established **a Network of services and logistic and infrastructural support in the Balkan area**, which represents a sound platform for the development of initiatives and activities of cooperation, research and training with local Institutions.

Moreover it consolidated a model of initiatives based on stable representations able to work on the area of the beneficiary countries:

- ✓ like "**Antenna**" in constant relationship with the local Institutions and authorities, therefore capable to provide timely and direct news about the trend of the local social, economic and cultural dynamics;
- ✓ like "**Logistic Base**" for the localization of initiatives and programmes of various nature;
- ✓ like technical and organizational "**Service**".

THE ITALIAN ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION IN THE BALKANS: A PATRIMONY OF THE FONDAZIONE WILLY BRANDT

The FWB has committed itself to sustain and promote the initiatives of the Italian Ministry of Environment and of the Conservation of the Territory and the Sea in the area of the Balkans, in the awareness that the protection of the environment and a sustainable development are representing a crucial challenge for the immediate future but it also serves to expedite a successful integration process prior to the widening of the European Union.

The Italian Ministry of Environment is developing some Bilateral Cooperation Programmes in South-Eastern Europe and established an *ad hoc* Operational Unit in the second half of 2003.

The same Ministry signed a Programmatic Agreement of Assistance with the Fondazione Willy Brandt on August 1st, 2004 (then extended for the years 2006,

2007 and 2008) in order to make more effective its presence especially in the Western Balkans.

Within the new Agreement ("**Assistance for the development and the realization of activities included in the Programmes of bilateral cooperation on environment undertaken in the Countries of South-Eastern Europe and in Russia**"), it has been created a highly qualified technical working group, formed by experts both from Italy and from the Balkan countries where the Ministry is operating.

Upon these premises, the FWB is now managing **a human fortune of professionals who are working in the "environmental" field, highly competitive on the international labour market.**

The implementation of the Kyoto Protocol, the financial and project procedures connected with the reduction of the emissions that generate the change of climate, the instruments for the inducement of the renewable sources of energy, the environmental recycling of obsolete industrial works are some of the main issues on which specialized the selected human resources who are working in that area.

Therefore the Fondazione Willy Brandt, besides giving its support for the development of all the initiatives in the above-mentioned geographical area to the Ministry of Environment and Conservation of the Territory and the Sea (including the supply of the infrastructures and of the working tools), developed its expertise and professionalism according to its goals and principles.

OTHER INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

In 2009 FWB has realized:

- The university course on Environmental Management in cooperation with PUC - Pontificia Universidade Católica de São Paulo (Brazil);
- In cooperation with REC Regional Environmental Center, FWB is realizing (October - December 2009) master courses, lectio magistralis, seminars and educational activities, through specific agreements with local institutions and universities, in Novi Sad (Serbia), Skopje (Macedonia), Tirana (Albania), Bucuresti (Romania).
- 8 university courses in cooperation with Tuscia University (Italy) and Universities of Balkan area in Beograd, Skopje and Tirana, on Environmental Protection Related Matters and Specifically on Waste Materials as a Bio-Renewable Materials and Energy Sources – Potentials for CDM and Energy Production from Biomass and Waste Materials and Soil Remediation;
- Program proposals on Water Management have been developed for Countries such as Libya, Jordan and Iran.