

# EASY-ECO Szentendre Training

25<sup>th</sup> January - 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2006

## Evaluation of Sustainability European Conferences and Training Courses

REC Country Office Hungary - Szentendre, Ady Endre út 9-11



EASY-ECO Szentendre training is the second in the series of training and conferences of the EASY-ECO 2005-2007, providing possibility for young researchers to improve their knowledge and competences in different forms of evaluation and impact assessment of sustainability and to collect practical experiences from case studies. The participation of young researchers in the EASY-ECO training will strengthen the evaluation culture of sustainable development all over Europe on national and international level.

The training is sponsored by the EU 6th Framework Program, Marie Curie Action. Details are on the website: [www.sustainability.at/easy](http://www.sustainability.at/easy)

### Participants - apply in October 2005!

The training is designed for a specific target group of young researchers (less than ten years experience) with a strong interest in the areas of evaluation and/or sustainable development. Participants may be studying for their doctorates, working in a government department, in public administration, in NGOs or for international organisations in the sustainability/evaluation field. EU-Grants are available to cover all costs (travel expenses, participation fees, accommodation and

living allowance) for participants of this target group. Young researchers are highly encouraged to visit a conference, and then attend one of the EASY-ECO trainings, all of which can be covered by an EU-Grant. Ideally, participants will submit a paper on an aspect of evaluation of sustainability for one of the conferences following their training. Full details on eligibility for grants is given on the EASY-ECO website at [www.sustainability.at/easy](http://www.sustainability.at/easy) **Deadline for (up to 35) EU-Grant is on the 25th October!**

**Training venue:** This training will be held in Szentendre, in the REC Headquarter Conference Center. Szentendre is situated north of Budapest on the banks of the Danube River. It takes about 20 minutes to reach Budapest by car and approximately 40 minutes by suburban train. Accommodation will be in comfortable hotels in the center of Szentendre. Further information is on the website: [www.rec.hu/travel.html](http://www.rec.hu/travel.html)

The EASY-ECO website [www.sustainability.at/easy](http://www.sustainability.at/easy) If you require any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact:

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THE REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER  
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**Theme**

Evaluation and impact assessment are playing increasingly important role in all European member states. Most governments have introduced regulatory impact assessment procedures for their own policy-making processes and candidate countries are being encouraged to do the same. Local Agenda 21 initiatives, and private sector corporations' sustainability reporting and environmental management systems are also increasingly widely used. Many development assistance programmes, as well as the EU's agricultural and structural funds, are subject to impact assessment or evaluation procedures.

The topics are important, because evaluation can support sector integration, institutional change, reforms, good governance, planning and implementation of sustainable development.


**Theme of the Szentendre training**


The structure and the content of the EASY-ECO Szentendre training was designed by the international team of the EASY-ECO project from Austria, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, Romania, United Kingdom and Canada.


➔ *In Hungary, as in other New Member States, impact assessment and sustainability evaluation of national development plans, sustainable development strategies and their implementation and EU projects are highly important due to the urgent need of more sustainable and innovative economic development.*

In addition to the core modules of the training three case studies can bring some specific topics, methods, region or country experiences during the afternoon sessions, designed by the case trainers. In the Szentendre training the SEA of the Hungarian Development Plan, the science role in sustainability in international context, a water resource management plan evaluation will connect the general new knowledge to practice.

**Structure of the training**

 The training starts with the *three month pre-phase internet based preparation* via the EASY-ECO website. The participants can have access to read the core materials to be prepared for the local training.

 *The local training, 25 January – 3 February 2006, Szentendre*, combines the morning core-modules with afternoon case-study practical sessions. The core modules comprise a series of high-quality lectures given by experienced international trainers. Each afternoon the course shifts its focus to practical case-study sessions. Participants are given the choice of working on evaluation/impact assessment case-studies focusing on international and EU policies and programmes; national policies for sustainable development; and regional and local activities for sustainable development (LA 21 etc). In groups of 10-15, participants will be supported by a scientific tutor.

 During the *three-month virtual follow-up phase*, participants can work on their own papers towards submission at one of the conferences, with the full support of case-owners and scientific tutors.

**Further Information and Booking**

The training itself runs for ten consecutive days, starting on the 25th of January and finishing on the 3rd of February. In order to book your participation at the training, please follow the application guidelines "How to apply" at [www.sustainability.at/easy](http://www.sustainability.at/easy)

**The host of the Training**

The REC Country Office Hungary: The conference is being organised by the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC), Hungarian Country Office(COH), which is based in Szentendre. Please take a look at the REC website for more information [www.rec.hu](http://www.rec.hu)

Date	25th	26th	27th	28th	29th
<b>Core courses</b>	Understanding SD and field of application	Types and standards of evaluations	Stakeholder involvement and participation	Market situation of sustainability evaluation in CEE	Individual support Informal activities of trainers and young researchers
<b>Case training</b>	Analysing call for evaluation	Developing quality checklists for case analysis	Stakeholder analysis and involvement strategy	Developing an evaluation design	
<b>Training Objectives</b>	Paradigmatic orientation, market overview	Professional ethics, paradigmatic orientation	Complementary skills, political sensitivity	Market overview, political sensitivity	Networking, individual scientific support
Date	30th	31th	1th	2nd	3rd
<b>Core courses</b>	Theory-based evaluation and policy analysis	Evaluation design and data collection	Data analysis, integration and evaluation methods	Communication of evaluation results	Get-together with local commissioning agents and evaluation professionals
<b>Case training</b>	Analysis of actual offer	Handling of quantitative and qualitative data	Aggregating and analysing data, possible judgements	Recommendations and communicating results	
<b>Training Objectives</b>	Theoretical and methodological knowledge	Theoretical and methodological knowledge	Theoretical and methodological knowledge	Communication skills and political sensitivity	Networking

