



PECE

PARTNERS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION IN EUROPE - NEWSLETTER

Issue 1: April 2005

PECE Launch Event

PECE was officially launched on 8th March in London, at an event attended by almost 100 people from private sector, public sector and civil society organisations. Elliot Morley announced Defra funding for **4 new PECE projects** and a **further £250,000** to co-fund projects in 2005-06. Presentations, speeches and photos are available at

<http://www.pece.co.uk/en/background/launch.htm>

Please contact the Secretariat if you would like hard copies of the prospectus and/or a CD with all of the launch event photographs.

Meeting of founding members

The 34 founding members officially met together for the first time on 8th March, before the main launch event. A note of this meeting will be available on the website shortly.

New PECE members

Since the launch, 3 further organisations have signed up as PECE members: Russo-British Chamber of Commerce, British East-West Centre and Macaulay Institute.

Funding opportunities

Last month, Defra issued a call for project proposals to be co-funded from its Environment for Europe fund. For more details and an application form, please see <http://www.pece.co.uk/en/projects/funding/eef-0305.pdf>.

Other potential funding sources are being added to the website at <http://www.pece.co.uk/en/projects/funding/index.htm>

Project opportunities

The **Macaulay Institute** wish to identify potential partners to develop a project to conserve rangeland biodiversity while promoting improved livelihoods for livestock managers in the rangelands of Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan. See <http://www.pece.co.uk/en/projects/opps/macaulay.htm> for more details.

The **Environment Agency** is willing to consider expertise input that may be applicable to PECE project proposals, particularly in the field of building capacity or water management. Please contact anna.tombs@environment-agency.gov.uk.

Steering group

The first steering group meeting will take place on 4th May.

The first meeting will be chaired by Defra until an official Chair is elected. The agenda and papers will be posted on the website.

Partnership Event – September 2005

The next partnership event will take place in September 2005. If any members would like to offer a venue for the event, please contact the Secretariat.

Secretariat Seconded

Marat Karibzhanov joins the Secretariat on 13th April as a part-time secondee from Scott Wilson (members of BCCB), for a 6 month period. Marat is a business development consultant, originally from Kazakhstan, and one of his roles will be investigating and sharing information on project and funding opportunities for PECE members. Email: marat.Karibzhanov@defra.gsi.gov.uk; tel: 0207 082 8882

Next newsletter

Please send any information for the next edition of the newsletter to Amanda.Plimmer@defra.gsi.gov.uk. Any feedback on this first issue would also be appreciated.