

Media Announcement

The conference “Chemical and product safety in the Western Balkans - a priority area for the post-2015 Development Agenda”

11th of April
from 9:00 till 18:00 hours
Hotel Zira, 35 Ruzveltova Street,
11000 Belgrade, Serbia.

The conference “Chemical and product safety in the Western Balkans - a priority area for the post 2015 agenda” is organised jointly by WECF International and UNDP Serbia, together with non-governmental organisations from the Western Balkans, where United Nations Country Team in Serbia (UNCT) brings the focus on the post-2015 development agenda, and WECF and NGO partners the focus on chemicals and product safety.

The conference is organised with support from the European Union, the German Government Federal Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Nuclear Safety, and with support of the Serbian Ministry of Energy, Development and Environmental Protection and the Ministry of Health.

Speakers will share lessons learned from a 2-year EU-funded project by WECF International on the chemicals safety, products safety and corporate social responsibility, which took place in Serbia, FYR of Macedonia, Albania and EU country Estonia from 2010 to 2013.

The conference is part of the framework of the Post-2015 National Consultations in Serbia, which include the area of Chemicals Safety. UNCT will share the preliminary results of the National Consultations and possible priorities for the post-2015 Development Agenda will be presented, and recommendations formulated.

The conference comes shortly after the “toxic milk” scare, which highlighted that products produced and consumed in the Western Balkans may contain hazardous chemicals, and have negative economic impacts also on other sectors such as agriculture. Good information and regulation on chemical safety and product safety is not a luxury, but a necessity.

The conference will be opened by Mrs. Leposava Sojic, Assistant Minister of Energy Development and Environmental protection of Serbia, together with Borka Jeremic, representing the United Nations Country Team in Serbia and Sascha Gabizon, executive director of WECF international.

Other speakers include Petteri Mäkelä of the European Chemicals Agency ECHA of Finland and representatives of the Ministry of Environment of the FYR of Macedonia and the Public Health Agency of Albania. 100 participants from Serbia, Western Balkans, EU and international level have registered.

For interviews and other press information, please contact:

WECF, Bistra Mihailova bistra.mihaylova@wecf.eu

UNDP Serbia, Djordje Novakovic djordje.novakovic@undp.org

