

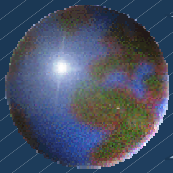
# REPARIS

## The Road to Europe: Program of Accounting Reform and Institutional Strengthening

Frederic Gielen

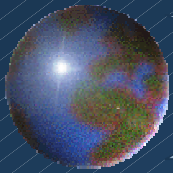
Senior Financial Management Specialist  
World Bank

BiH Conference – Sarajevo – October 20, 2004



# A Common Response to a Common Challenge

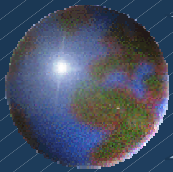
- Addressing weaknesses in the policy environment and institutional framework for corporate reporting
- Preparing for EU accession
- Improving economic performance
- Strengthening market integration
- Enhancing donor effectiveness



# The Road to Europe

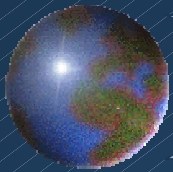
Leveraging the *acquis communautaire*

- Precondition for EU accession
- Robust, dynamic and comprehensive framework for the regulation of accounting, auditing and related areas
- Flexibility in application to different economic contexts
- Compatible with international standards and developments
- Agreed policy platform for donor interventions



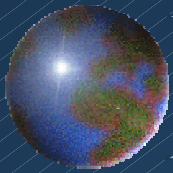
# Key Program Interventions

- Drafting of legal and regulatory instruments
  - Second generation reforms
  - *Acquis communautaire* plus
  - Flexibility in timing and scope
  - Ensuring the capacity for compliance
- Institutional design and operating procedures
  - Building the mechanisms for continuous improvement
  - Ensuring effective implementation
  - Focus on institutions for oversight and enforcement
  - Development of methodologies and human capacity
  - Paving the way for regulatory cooperation and mutual confidence
- Design of education and training programs, both academic and professional



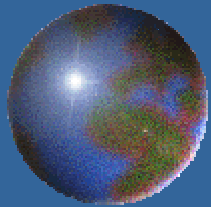
# Getting the Balance Right

- National Action Plans
  - Respecting national choices and specificities
  - Permitting countries to phase in their reforms
  - Balancing market incentives and regulatory actions
- Regional Dimension
  - Reinforcing national programs
  - Knowledge sharing, networking, regulatory coordination
  - Achieving cost-effectiveness and economies of scale
  - Enhancing access to external leading edge expertise
  - Peer pressure and support
  - Platform for donor coordination and support



# Donor Coordination

- Agreement on a common policy framework
- In depth knowledge of the *acquis communautaire*
- Active involvement in EU and international regulatory debate
- Linkages with other reform initiatives
- Solid diagnostic and analytical foundations
- Ability to mobilize leading edge expertise
- Track record of engagement in the region
- Commitment to cooperation and coordination
- Variety of financing instruments
- Support for national and regional interventions
- Enthusiasm to carry REPARIS forward



# REPARIS

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**Next steps?**