



PHOTO CREDIT: ECO AND OUTDOOR TOURISM ACTIONS OF THE BALKAN ALPS (CZIP MONTENEGRO)

Enhancing Cooperation - Newsletter

of the IPA CBC Programmes
Montenegro-Albania and Montenegro-
Kosovo 2014-2020

August 2020

CONTENT

The eighth issue of the newsletter brings you information on activities and events implemented within both IPA Cross-border Cooperation (CBC) Programmes Montenegro - Albania and Montenegro - Kosovo* 2014-2020.

Please find below more information on the programmes.

IPA CBC Programme Montenegro - Albania

2014-2020

The global objective of the programme is to promote/strengthen good neighbourly relations and socioeconomic development of the border regions, through valorising its touristic potentials, an environmentally sustainable and socially inclusive economic development, with respect for its common cultural and natural heritage.

Click [here](#) for more information.

IPA CBC Programme Montenegro - Kosovo

2014-2020

The global objective of the programme is to improve the standard and quality of living of the people in the programme area through the environmentally sustainable and socially inclusive economic development of the region, with respect for its common cultural and natural heritage.

Click [here](#) for more information.

- » Increasing employability of women by using agricultural potential of the two countries2
- » News from projects financed under the 1st CfP IPA CBC Programme Montenegro - Albania.....3
- » News from projects financed under the 1st CfP IPA CBC Programme Montenegro - Kosovo.....5

This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the Joint Technical Secretariat of the Cross-border Cooperation Programmes Montenegro-Albania and Montenegro-Kosovo and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

News of the European Union
Kosovo and do not necessarily reflect the
views of the European Union

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.



This project is funded by
the European Union



MNE-ALB

IPA CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION PROGRAMME
MONTENEGRO-ALBANIA 2014-2020



MNE-KOS

IPA CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION PROGRAMME
MONTENEGRO-KOSOVO 2014-2020



Increasing employability of women by using agricultural potential of two countries

The project *The Feminine Side of Quality* finished in October 2019 and was implemented by the Municipality of Ulcinj, Monitoring Group Ulcinj – MogUL, UET Centre and Municipality of Mirdite. The project target group were the unemployed women living in rural communities, businesses (especially hotels, restaurants, markets) as well as local authorities. Capacities of women from rural areas of Ulcinj and Mirdite were raised through various trainings, handbooks, study visits and workshops. All of this was done in order to equip them with necessary skills and to use the agricultural potential of the two neighbouring countries. Following this, two promotional fairs were organized and this represents an activity that the project partners want to continue in the future.



The project manager of the project **Vjollca Lika-Cobaj** is satisfied with the results and she is of the opinion that *"In the framework of the project a variety of results have been achieved which are visible even today such as the existing capacities of women participants, increasing support from relevant institutions both at local and national level as well as the increase of opportunities for the integration of the cross-border market between Montenegro and Albania, especially when we talk about the promotion of local products and the use of these capacities in the enrichment of the tourist offer of both countries"*.

She underlined the importance of follow-up on the achieved results and emphasized the support of the local authorities in assisting the continuation of the organization of the fairs in order to place and promote the work and products of these women. Moreover, she stated that in the upcoming period the support measures by the local governments of both countries in terms of stimulating women's entrepreneurship will play an important role.



After the completion of the activities, the participants of the project have organized themselves within women's associations and now have more opportunities to improve their position.

In the view of the project partners the opportunities created within the project such as the possibility to register their household and/or activity, has led to more possibilities for placement in the market.

When asked on the importance of CBC projects, **Lika-Cobaj** is of the opinion that the importance of projects that address the issue of employment in the cross-border region lies in the opportunities offered by such initiatives. She underlines *"Considering that these areas manifest almost the same problems and the population of these areas face the same challenges and limitations, the common approach in this case helps to advance the issue of employment in both countries."*

To conclude, she stated that the main problem related to employment is the gap between what the market demands and what is offered in the market. Any kind of initiative which aims to reduce this gap, directly affects the increase of the employment level in the two neighbouring countries.



News from projects financed under the 1st CFP IPA CBC Programme Montenegro - Albania

Containers and green lands for local communities in Berane and Malesi e Madhe

Within the project *Green Lands* the partners Municipality of Berane, VIS Albania, Municipality Malesi e Madhe and CARITAS Montenegro continued with a set of activities in 2020. Namely, Green Lands have been mounted in eight locations in Berane during august. These locations represent the first ecological points for selective waste collection of this type in Montenegro.



Through the project, contribution is made to the improvement of the waste management system in Berane and Malësi e Madhe.

Moreover, a set of 32 containers of 1100 liters have been delivered to Koplik on 11 June 2020 and will be part of the 8 green ecological islands that will be built in Malësi e Madhe, for the separate collection of waste in 4 places, in the area of Koplik, Gruemira and Bajza.



The project started in April 2018, and the completion of the project is planned by the end of October this year.

Online exhibition

Polimski Museum and Regional Development Agency for Bjelasica, Komovi and Prokletije in Montenegro, and Regional Council of Shkodra and Euro Partners from Albania are jointly implementing a CBC project *Preserving Cultural Landscapes of Montenegro and Albania*. In light of the COVID 19 measures the Regional Development Agency for Bjelasica, Komovi and Prokletije in Montenegro organised an online exhibition via

their social media account. All of the published photographs are from the area of Polimje.



Make sure to check out the photographs [here](#).



Young Montenegrins and Albanians in Raspberry Crops project finished

The Municipality of Petnjica, National Association of Berries Producers, High School Petnjica, National Professional High School "Ndre Mjeda" and NGO COSPE Albania, as partners within the project *Young Montenegrins and Albanians in Raspberry Crops*, organized numerous activities with the aim to assist new local raspberry producers in Montenegro and Albania. The project has finished on 31 August 2020.



The results of the project on the Montenegrin side were presented on the Radio and Television of Montenegro. Make sure to check out the video material by clicking [here](#).

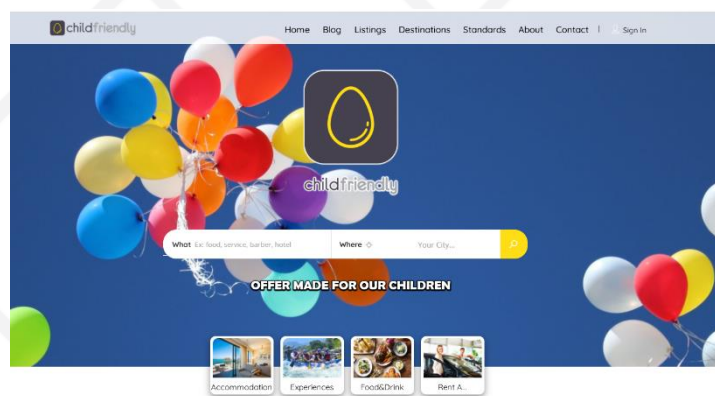


In Albania, after equipment delivery and set-up of plantations young raspberry producers have already harvested their first fruits.



"Child friendly tourism" promoted

The Association for Democratic Prosperity - Zid (ADP-Zid) in partnership with the Center "Children Today"(QFS) from Albania within foreseen activities of the project *Child friendly tourism in the cross-border area* launched the website <http://www.childfriendlytourism.com>.



The website offers recommendations for child friendly accommodation, places for food and drink, rent a car services and experiences/adventures routes.

Promotional video of gastronomic tourism in Pukë

Within the *project Local cuisine as tourism offer of cross-border region*, a promotional video of the tourism offer of Pukë was produced and published. Namely, the video reflects images of the region and the process of preparing traditional recipes using organic products of the Puka area.

Check out the promotional video of gastronomic tourism in Pukë municipality [here](#).



Make sure to check also the cookbooks produced within the project:

You can download the cookbook *Gorska trpeza* [here](#).

You can download Recipes from the region of Pukë [here](#).

FAST FACTS – WEBSITES OF THE PROJECT

Check out also the websites promoted within the project *Local cuisine as tourism offer of cross-border region* <https://www.ruralholiday.me/> and <http://www.gastro-puka.com/>.

News from projects financed under the 1st CFP IPA CBC Programme Montenegro - Kosovo

Recycling yard equipment delivered in Plav and Gjakova

Within the *Cross border joint initiatives for better waste management* project implemented by Limited liability company "Utility company Plav" from Montenegro in partnership with Regional Waste Company "Çabradi" from Gjakova in Kosovo, the construction of the recycling yard in Plav was completed. Within the project the purchase of the equipment and containers for the municipality of Plav was completed.



Check out the promotional video [here](#).

i2 Space Training: Graphic Design for Entrepreneurs

The I2 Space training Graphic design for entrepreneurs was organized in the period from 08 to 10 July 2020 in the premises of the Centre of Competences Podgorica. Namely, the three-day training was organized within the project *Self-employment and social entrepreneurship for youth* implemented by Association for Democratic Prosperity – Zid, NGO Lens, Liberal Democrat Centre and Creative Skills' Centre.

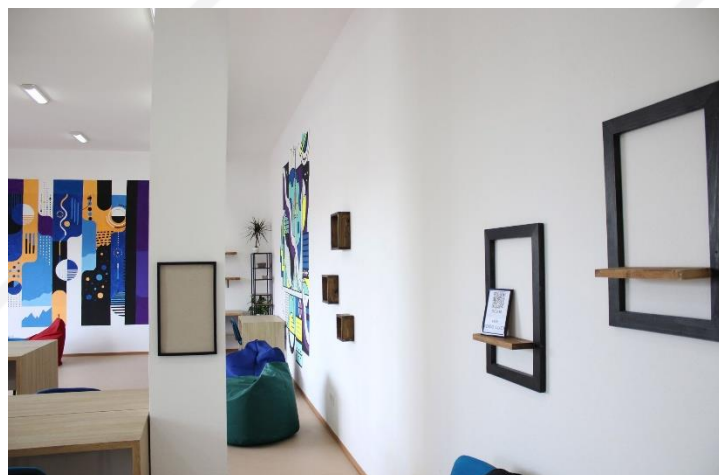
The aim of this training was to inform the participants with the basic postulates of graphic design, the basics of working in Photoshop (and its free surrogate on the web - www.photopea.com) in order to apply the acquired knowledge, through the practical part of this training, and develop the concept of visual identity of their projects for print and digital media.



Within this project two I2 spaces will be established. The I2 space in Kosovo is at its final stage of set-up. Namely, before the installation of the equipment and the start of the trainings, the project team supervised the preparations in the Space for Ideas and Innovation "I2space" in Peja.



The space created as part of the European Union project through the IPA CBC Programme Montenegro - Kosovo will welcome young people from the municipalities of Peja, Istog and Deçan to be part of the i2 Space community.



This space will facilitate the support of young people from the border region with Montenegro in the exchange of ideas, the development of prototypes and the establishment of start-up enterprises.

Equipment for demo farms purchased and demo fields set-up

Within the project *"Green jobs for better future of cross-border region of Montenegro and Kosovo"*, the project partners are conducting activities in municipalities in Montenegro and Kosovo.

After the process of equipping of demo farms and the completion of the training of 25 selected livestock farmers in the municipalities of Andrijevica, Berane and Plav two plots have been planted for the purpose of capacity building, with an area of 4 hectares of alfalfa and 3 hectares of corn in the rural area of Decan.



Marking of Cervical Cancer Prevention Week

Within the project *CARES – Cross-border Actions in the Reproductive Health Sector*, FORS Montenegro and ECMI Kosovo – European Center for Minority Issues conducted a series of activities. Namely, after the production of promotional TV spots, completion of an extensive campaign and after marking October as *Breast Cancer Awareness Month*, the *Cervical Cancer Prevention Week* brochures on reproductive health were produced. The brochure *Early detection and prevention of breast and cervical cancer* is available in [Montenegrin](#) and [Albanian](#) language.



Eco and Outdoor Tourism Actions of the Balkan Alps

The project *Eco and Outdoor Tourism Actions of the Balkan Alps* is implemented by the Centre for Protection and Research of Birds, Kosovo Advocacy and Development Centre – KADC, Mountain Rescue Service of Montenegro and Mountaineering and Alpine Society „PASHTRIKU“. Within the project, the project partners started with the marking of the hiking trail on Prokletije.



The marking of the hiking trails is being done in order to increase the safety of tourists, but also to promote the tourist potential of this area.

More than 50 km of trails on the massif that connects Montenegro and Kosovo are currently being marked. The cross-border trail will also get its own map and be ready to welcome tourists.



Workshops and clean-up actions held

The United Against Pollution - UAP project implemented by the Municipality of Petnjica, Municipality of Gjakova, Let's Do It Peja and the Centre for Regional Development – Rozaje continued with the activities in the cross-border region. Namely, as part of their activities the action of cleaning two illegal landfills in cooperation with the Municipality of Gjakova and K.R.M Çabratli was done on the International Environment Day.

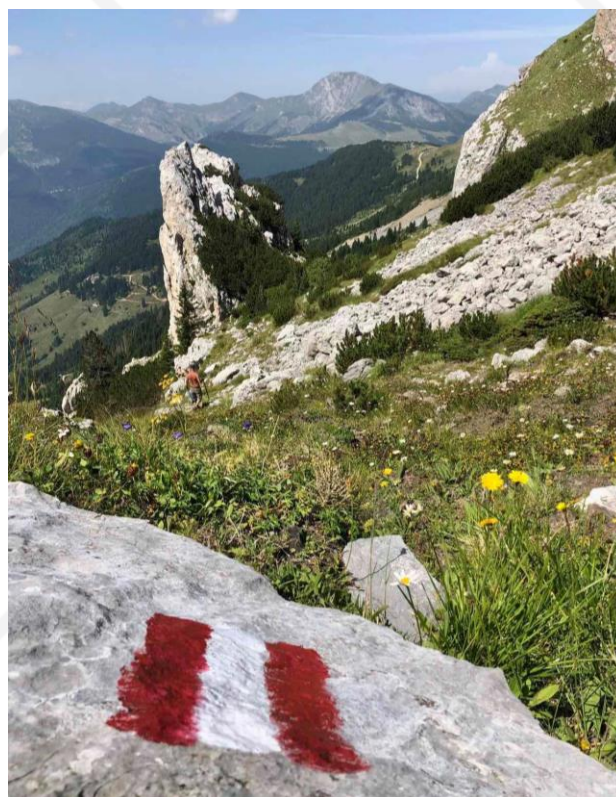
Check out the video from the action [here](#).



Signalisation of cross border trails

The project *Accursed mountains – exquisite outdoor destination* is implemented by RDA-West and Peja Municipality on the Kosovo side, and RDA for Bjelasica, Komovi and Prokletije and the Tourism Organization of Plav on the Montenegrin side.

During August, the installing of the signalisation continued in the field and the tourists that will visit Peja and Decane in Kosovo and Plav, Gusinje, Andrijevica, Berane and Rozaje in Montenegro will have an improved touristic offer.

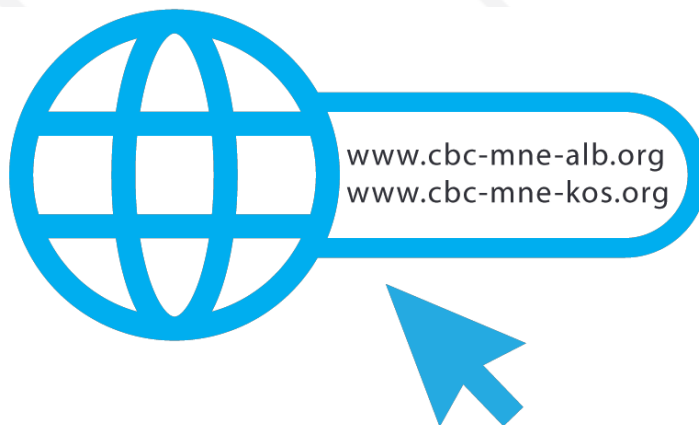


FAST FACTS – World Environment Day

World Environment Day, hosted by Colombia this 2020, is the most renowned day for environmental action. Since 1974, it has been celebrated every year on 5 June: engaging governments, businesses, celebrities and citizens to focus their efforts on a pressing environmental issue.

This year, the theme is biodiversity – a concern that is both urgent and existential. Recent events, from bushfires in Brazil, the United States, and Australia to locust infestations across East Africa – and now, a global disease pandemic – demonstrate the interdependence of humans and the webs of life, in which they exist. (United Nations website)

PLEASE NOTE: The JTS remains at the disposal of the potential applicants and grant beneficiaries through its established communication channels considering that the whole staff of the JTS worked continuously from their homes and, more recently, from their offices as usual. In case you need assistance or information related to the cross-border Programmes please [contact us](#).



» Operating structures of the programmes (click on the icon to visit the website)



European Integration Office



Ministry of finance
Directorate for Finance and Contracting
of the EU Assistance Funds



REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
MINISTRY FOR EUROPE
AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS



Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova-Republic of Kosovo
Qeveria - Vlada - Government
Ministria e Pushtetit Lokal
Ministarstvo lokalne samouprave
Ministry of Local Government



JOINT TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT OF THE IPA CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION PROGRAMMES

MONTENEGRO – ALBANIA AND MONTENEGRO – KOSOVO 2014–2020

Joint Technical Secretariat – Head Office

Address: Beogradska 17, 81 000 Podgorica, Montenegro

Phone: + 382 20 240 784; + 382 20 240 631;

Sanja TODOROVIC

Head of Joint Technical Secretariat

E-mail: sanja.todorovic@jts-mne-alb-mne-kos.org

Maja RADOVIC

Financial and Procurement Officer

E-mail: maja.radovic@jts-mne-alb-mne-kos.org

Nikola DJONOVIC

Project Officer

E-mail: nikola.djonovic@jts-mne-alb-mne-kos.org

Almir CAUSEVIC

Project Officer

E-mail: almir.causevic@jts-mne-alb-mne-kos.org

Petar BELADA

Administrative Assistant

E-mail: petar.belada@jts-mne-alb-mne-kos.org

Joint Technical Secretariat – Antenna Office Shkodra

Address: Rruga Ndoc Çoba, Nr 1 Shkoder, Albania

Phone: + 355 22 80 20 80;

Andi ÇEKAJ

Antenna Project Officer

E-mail: andi.cekaj@jts-mne-alb-mne-kos.org

Joint Technical Secretariat – Antenna Office Prishtina

Address: str. Tirana, entrance (D), 5th floor, no. 53, (complex PRIME), 10 000

Prishtina, Kosovo

Gazmir RACI

Antenna Project Officer

E-mail: gazmir.raci@jts-mne-alb-mne-kos.org

www.cbc-mne-alb.org | www.cbc-mne-kos.org



This project is funded by
the European Union