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RESULTS ACHIEVED AND PROJECT BEST PRACTICES OF IPA CBC 2007-2013



ALBANIA - MONTENEGRO
IPA Cross Border Cooperation Programme

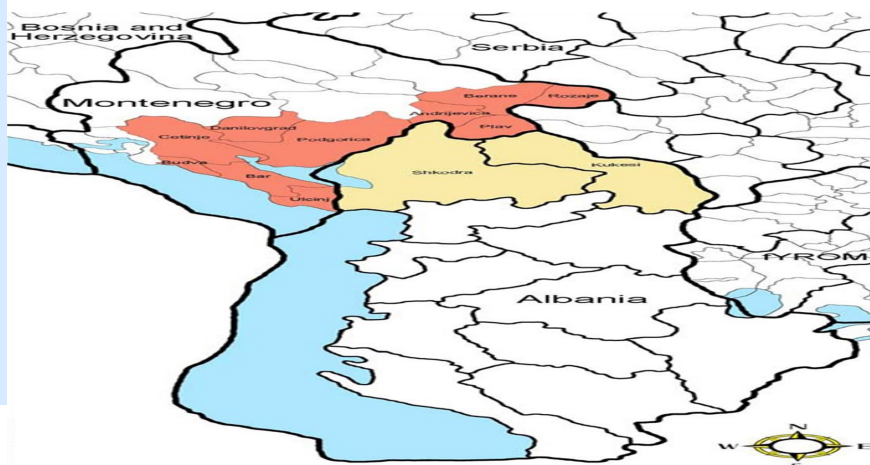
**IPA CROSS BORDER COOPERATION
PROGRAMME BETWEEN ALBANIA AND
MONTENEGRO
2007—2013**

Minister of European Integration

Text

Photo

Programme Area



ALBANIA:

Territory = 5.936 km²
 Population = 337,247 inhabitants

Shkoder Region
 Kukes Region

MONTENEGRO:

Territory = 5.745 km²
 Population = 377,366 inhabitants

Budva Municipality
 Berane Municipality
 Andrijevisa Municipality
 Plav Municipality
 Danilovgrad Municipality
 Podgorica Municipality
 Cetinje Municipality
 Ulcinj Municipality
 Bar Municipality

Total Cross Border Programming area

Territory = 11.681 km².
 Population = 714,613 inhabitants

The Commission adopted on 18 December 2007 the Cross-border Programme between Albania and Montenegro under the IPA Cross-border cooperation Component, for the year 2007 .

Albania-Montenegro IPA cross-border programme has been elaborated in accordance with the following regulations:

- Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 of 17 July 2006 establishing an Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA);
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 718/2007 of 12 June 2007 implementing Council Regulation (EC) No1085/2006 establishing an Instrument for pre-accession assistance (IPA), amended by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1292/2011 of 9 December 2011.

The **overall objective** of this programme is to *promote cooperation between people, communities and institutions on the bordering areas, aiming at good neighbourly relations, sustainable development, stability and prosperity in the mutual interest of the two countries* .

Specific objectives of the Programme include:

- *Promote of economic development of the programming area through the economic valorisation of its tourist and cultural potentials*
- *Support joint initiatives and actions aimed at protecting, promoting and managing sensitive ecosystems and sustainable environmental development*
- *Encourage citizens cooperation and partnership building across the border*
- *Strengthen capacities of national and joint structures to manage cross-border programme*
- *Prepare and disseminate programme information and improve capacities of potential beneficiaries to prepare and implement projects*
- *Provide technical expertise for external programme evaluations*

The Program objectives will be reached via Two Priority Axis:

Total available budget 2007—2013

Nr	Priority
Priority Axis I	Promotion of regional cohesion and competitiveness, through an approach that integrates economic, environmental, cultural and social development
Priority Axis II	Technical assistance for an effective programme management and information flow

Measure 1.1 Economic development with an emphasis on tourism promotion	Measure 1.2 Environment protection and promotion	Measure 1.3 Enhancing social cohesions through people-to-people actions
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Priority Axis & Measures		Total Budget	
Priority Axis I : Promotion of regional cohesion and competitiveness, through an approach that integrates economic, environmental, cultural and social development		AL	MNE
		5,853,000	4,700,000
Measure 1.1	Economic development with an emphasis on tourism promotion		
Measure 1.2	Environment protection and promotion		
Measure 1.3	Enhancing social cohesions through people-to-people actions		
Priority Axis II : Technical assistance for an effective programme management and information flow		AL	MNE
		1,032,882	829,410

The rationale of these measures is based on the fact that both eligible areas are compatible in terms of their individual resources and needs, considering also the missed opportunity of cooperation over decades for sharing common values and potentials for economic development and social cohesion. This Programme aim was to capitalise further on existing national initiatives targeting individually development of these regions.

The selected interventions gave a burst toward support economic development with focus on tourism, as tourism is considered to have a great potential for the region as a whole.



Part of the programme and projects was focused to support environmental protection measures, awareness and respect of environmental aspects, in particular at Shkodra/Skadar Lake.

The third measure was dedicated to people-to-people partnership and cooperation as a core element of the Programme seeking to enhance the flow of exchanging experience and communication across the bordering area, intensively facilitate the strengthening of local communities and NGOs and promote social cohesion.



IPA CBC AI-MNE 2007-2013, was a successful experience. The implementation of this programme started on beginning of 2009 and since then, 3 Call for Proposals were successfully organized. The statistics show an increasing number of project submitted form one Call to the other, as programme structures were flexible to adopt and improve the procedures.

Time		Projects		Money €		Status	
Launc h	Close d	Re- ceive d	Con- tract ed	Request- ed	Con- tracted	Fin- ishe d	On- goi ng
1st Call for Proposals							
29.06.0 9	29.09. 09	26	6	4,846,425	1,170,60 0	6	0
2nd Call for Proposals							
28.06.1 0	14.10. 10	42	11	8,786,124	2,458,05 4	11	0
3rd Call for Proposals							
03.09.1 2	03.12. 12	70	7	20.236.71 1	2,340,06 5	6	1
Total		138	24	33,869,28 7	5,968,71 9	23	1

For the entire programme period, 138 projects were submitted, covering all 3 measures.

Out of the 3 Calls for Proposals, 24 projects were selected and awarded a grant contract.

At the time when this document is being prepared, 23 projects have already and in different times, finalized their respective activities, while only 1 is still running. This remaining project, extended his contract deadline mainly due to the changes of administrative organization of Albanian territory, which has a huge impact on the project itself..

In total, selected projects are distributed per measure as follows:

Measure I— 9 projects

Measure II— 8 projects

Measure III— 7 projects

STRATEGIC PROJECT

The annual allocations of 2012 and 2013 were dedicated to a Strategic Project commonly identified by both countries benefiting from this programme as an strategic intervention with high cross border effect. This project officially started the implementation of activities on October 2015.



Title of the action: *“Improvement of cross border infrastructure- Reconstruction of the existing border crossing point Hani i Hotit – Božaj” and “Construction of the new border crossing point Grabom – Zatrijebačka Cijevna”.*

Total budget – € 3.6 M

IPA Contribution – € 3.06 M

National Contribution – € 540.000

Albania – € 270.000

Montenegro – € 270.000

Beneficiaries:

Albania:

1. Ministry of Interior / General Directorate of State Police and its structures/Border and Migration Department
2. Albanian Development Fund (ADF)

Montenegro: 1. Ministry of Interior

Overall objective:

The overall objective of this project is to contribute to the improvement of cross-border infrastructure between Albania and Montenegro, aiming at strengthening the economic and social development in the region.

**Specific objective(s) of the project:**

The specific objective of this project is to facilitate the movement of persons, vehicles and goods and improve infrastructure in the cross-border transit zone at the BCP Hani i Hotit – Božaj and new joint border crossing point Grabom – Zatrijebačka Cijevna, through:

Upgrading of the border crossing point Hani i Hotit – Božaj including transit zone;

Construction of the new joint border crossing point Grabom (AL side) - Cijevna (MNE side) and road connection with access from Albania.



The 1st CfP for IPA CBC Programme Albania – Montenegro, under 2007 annual allocation, was launched on 29th June 2009, and it was opened for three months, until 29th September 2009. Prior to launching and during the

time when the Call was opened, JTS in close cooperation with other Programme Structures organized the following activities:

- 1 Info day and Partner Search Forum;
- 2 trainings for potential applicants;
- 1 Opening Ceremony and Partner search Forum and
- 5 Info Sessions.

26 projects were applied under this Call for Proposals.

At the end of the evaluation process, 6 projects were selected to award a grant contract.

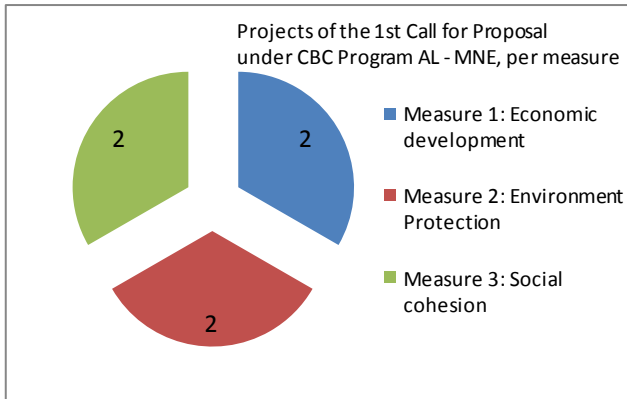


Event	Date	Location	Nr part.
Info day/PSF	11	Shkoder, AL	82
Training on project preparation	17 June	Shkoder, AL	18
Training on project preparation	22 June	Kukes, AL	20
Opening Ceremony/PSF	07 July	Podgorica, MNE	121
Info session	20 July	Ulcinj, MNE	26
Info session	24 July	Shkoder, AL	42
Info session	27 July	Plav, MNE	14
Info session	29 July	Kukes, AL	17
Info session	03 Aug	Podgorica,	47

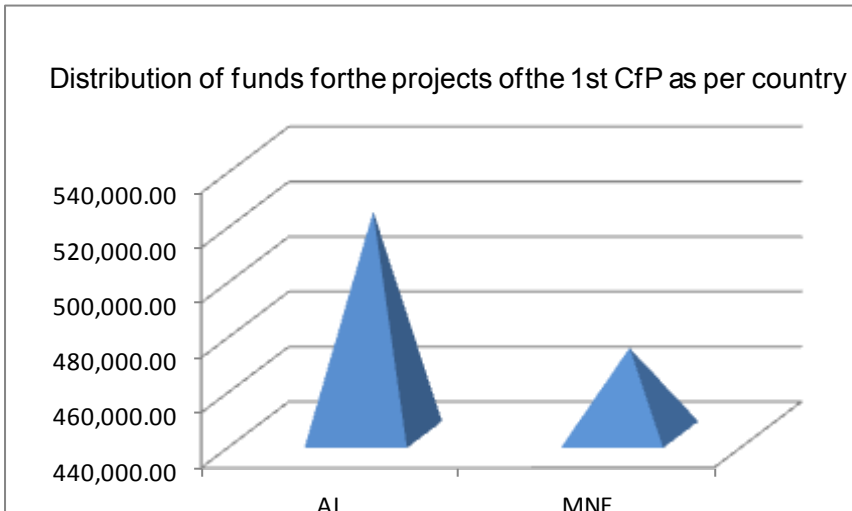
Projects per measure under the 1st Call for Proposal

In the framework of the 1st Call for Proposal 6 projects were approved. Total cost of the Action 992.894,38. Total awarded Funds 793.163,55.

The diagrams below presents the distribution of projects per measure.



Awarded funds per measure under the 1st Call for Proposal



Supporting the proposed Trans-boundary Biosphere Reserve of Lake Skadar/Shkodra area through a participatory approach (Best Practice)



The aim of the action is contributing to more successful and efficient environmental and nature conservation policy and action in Albania and Montenegro by increasing the information and professional skills of CSOs and national authorities, and promoting the biosphere reserve concept among them. Selected capacity building operational tools (e.g. trainings courses, exchange visit

to similar experience in other pre accession countries) and capacity building resources (e.g. national/international experts for the collection of data about species and habitats) will be use to this end.

Shkodra Lake and its environment have been for a long period the key aspect in the relations between Albania and Montenegro, including the protection of flora and fauna.

This project captured the attention of all interested actors toward the necessity of approving a special status for the area by giving priority to the coexisting of men and nature.

The main output of this project was the publication of the Study on the Biosphere Reserve of Shkodra Lake.

Total cost of the Action - € 213,368.7

Duration - 12 months

Institute of Nature Conservation in Albania-INCA	Functional Lead Applicant
Green Home	Applicant 2
Transboundary Shkodra Lake Forum	Partner 1
Ministry of Environment	Partner 2
Transboundary Skadar Lake Forum	Partner 3

1st Call for Proposal

Activities implemented by the project were the following:

- Preparation of a training manuals in both languages;
- Organization of 2 training courses, 1 exchange, 1 technical workshop (each for 3 days) with at least 25 participants;
- Design a monitoring system to assess the impact of the CB activities.

Results Achieved

- The transboundary needed structure, the existing data and the procedures for data collection are clarified;
- An integrated report the designation of the "Biosphere Reserve" in the area of Lake Shkodra/ Skadar is elaborated;
- Training materials available on the national languages (Albanian and Montenegro) are elaborated;



The capacities of NGOs, nature conservation authorities in biosphere reserve, Advocacy techniques and EU biodiversity standards is increased;

Overall access to global resources (knowledge, skills and partnerships) related to Man&Biosphere Program is improved.

This project was a significant incentive for the local/national authorities and environmental NGO's toward approving the status of National Park.



Two Languages - One book (Best Practice)



Overall objective was to Introducing new and long-term communication between the two cultures by means of personal contacts, partnership and cooperation, exchange of information, knowledge and literary translations and contemporary creative work in two languages at cultural and educational institutions, for the purpose of improving cultural and social

and economic situation in the border area and providing conditions for good quality development of civic multi-ethnic communities.

After a long period of absence exchanges for all aspects of life between cross-border communities, this project which was focused on culture cohesion, brought on the opportunity to introduce and exchange literature experiences among writers and public.

In the long-term, the project will inspire and create some of the required conditions for broader cultural participation of citizens from the region, members of minorities in one or the other state (Albanians in Montenegro, Montenegrins in Albania) and presentation of their own, authentic cultural expression.

Total cost of the Action - € 94.150,46

Duration - 12 Months

NGO Prostory
University "Luigj Gurakuqi"
Centre for Culture Preservation and Development of Montenegrin Minorities,
NGO Cultural Centre "Camaj Pipa"

Functional Lead Applicant
Applicant 2
Partner 1
Partner 2

1st Call for Proposal

Activities implemented by this project were the following:

1. Organization public discussions in Shkodër and Podgorica with the topics of literary and translation activities in Albania and Montenegro;
2. Guest appearance of Ismail Kadare in Podgorica and Shkodër;
3. Preparation and printing two bilingual publications including the works of Albanian and Montenegrin authors;
4. Presentation of Albanian and Montenegrin authors, presentations of publications in Podgorica and Shkodër;
5. Presentations and distribution of publications in other towns of the cross-border area.

Result Achieved

1. Close communication between the people and institutions dealing with literary work and education in Albania and Montenegro;
2. New resources for regular cultural cooperation and artistic exchanges in the cross border area;
3. Growing interest of young people in the cross-border area in cooperation and good quality of life in civic multi-national communities.
4. First time artists from both sides of the border cooperated together in a joint publication of novels and poetry.
5. building a network of artists and publicist for future cooperation and exchange.



Cross Border Sculpture Symposium

Albania - Montenegro 2007 - 2013



Public sculpture has the widest impact any work of art can have because of its unavoidable visibility. Even a passer by, uninterested in art will notice an outdoor sculpture merely because it comes his/her way. One of the principal benefits of a sculpture symposium is the production of monumental scale works with a minimum of cost. In the cross border context the symposium is to be the first held between Albanian

and Montenegrin sculptors. Outdoor sculpture is responsible for shaping the artistic landscape of our cities, and such a symposium will enhance the urge for current and future similar collaborations.

Results Achieved

- A change of mentality of artists and the common public toward the correlation art-history.
- Creation and installation of 10 public sculptures per country
- Creation and publication of the sculpture catalogue
- Cultural exchange among artists and communities through figurative art

Total cost of the Action - € 105,855;

Duration - 8 Months

Municipality of Shkoder
NGO Art Dulcinimum
Gallery of Arts Shkoder
Boshko Strugar" School

Functional Lead Applicant
Applicant 2
Partner 1
Partner 2

1st Call for Proposal

Community Empowerment a KEY to better environment



Albania - Montenegro 2007 - 2013

The planned action presented in this project will provide an opportunity to common people to use their potential for direct and fast improvement in environment and will allow them to learn about environmental policies in ways that they can engage in meaningful dialogue in processes of policy-formulation while they can also monitor the implementation of policies through the monitoring of different projects that will be taking place in their own communities. Participation in local council meetings and engagement with local media and the use of it will be some of the mechanisms that will be used in the project to enable the participation and engagement.

Results Achieved

- 15 study visit participants understand environmental and policy related issues.
- 25 workshop participants share knowledge and develop plans of actions,
- 10 training modules are offered to the project participants,
- One publication with training modules is issued,
- One newsletter is published,
- 5 mini-project supported in Albania and 1 mini-project in Montenegro,
- 2 TV debates about 5 success stories on environmental improvement are broadcasted,
- one final conference for networking, advocacy and knowledge sharing is organized.

Total cost of the Action — 292.332 €

Duration — 16 months

Albanian Centre for Human Rights
TERRA
Municipality of Shkoder

Functional Lead Applicant
Applicant 2
Associate

1st Call for Proposal

Building pathways for tourism cooperation through developing handicraft products



The proposed action aims to make the artisans in both countries enthusiastic and receptive for improvements, to give a boost to the development of their typical products, to realize good sales on the planned events and to generate higher level of sales. It will also help to increase the level of exchange between the craftsmen in the cross border area to capitalize on the experience of each other. Through the action the artisans in Albania and Montenegro will discover the roots of their crafts and learn to make use of cultural designs for the creation of a variety of new products. The action in both countries will lead to the creation of a sustainable private public partnership between artisans and municipality.

Results Achieved

1. The brand "Zadrimea home textile" in Guri i Zi Commune is established.
2. The Albanian and Montenegrin craftsmen are effectively promoting their products (home textiles and trad. dresses) to local and foreign visitors in both sides of the border.
3. Handicrafts museums in Guri i Zi Commune and Museums and Galleries in Podgorica displaying handicraft products are available for visitors.
4. Handicraft products are available in the tourist offer of Capital-City of Podgorica.

Total cost of the Action - € 268,968.72

Duration - 12 Months

Commune of Gur i Zi
Capital City of podgorica
Regional Council of Shkodra
Albanian Artisans Association
Montenegro Chamber of
Skilled Crafts

Functional Lead Applicant
Applicant 2
Partner 1
Partner 2
Partner 3

1st Call for Proposal

Valorisation of the Ethno-Gastronomic Heritage in Shkoder/Skadar Lake



The project will promote the valorisation of ethno-gastronomy as a key element to establish a new sustainable endogenous model of tourism. The integration of the ethno-gastronomic resources is of a great interest due to the ability to promote development at the local level. This supports the generation of new economic opportunities especially in the Shkoder/Skadar Lake area, where tourism is an important element for the diversification of the local economy and culture.

Results Achieved

1. Mapped local Ethno-gastronomic traditions, services and products, 2.
2. Designed a new touristic offer in Shkodra/Skadar Lake Area
3. Improved and standardized ethno-gastronomic goods and services
4. Developed and promoted a Shkodra/Skadar Lake Ethno-gastronomy route
5. Build up a network of farms, restaurants and guest houses for an alternative touristic route

Total cost of the Action - € 220,961.13

Duration - 18 months

CERAI	Functional Lead Applicant
CSTI -The Centre for Sustainable Tourism Initiatives	Applicant 2
Permaculture Resource Centre	Partner

1st Call for Proposal



The 2nd Call for proposals, under the IPA 2008 and 2009 annual allocations was launched on 28 June 2010 and remained open until 11 October 2010. Prior to launching and during the time when the Call was opened, JTS in close cooperation with other Programme Structures organized the following activities:

1 Partner Search Forum and 6 Info Sessions.

42 project were applied under this Call for proposals.

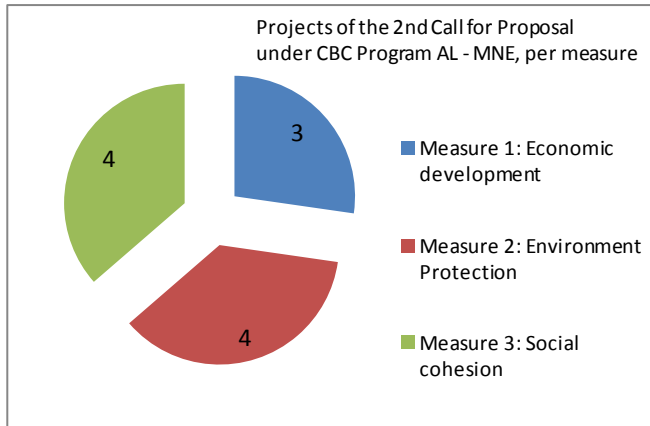
At the end of the evaluation process, 11 projects were selected to award

Event	Date	Location	Nr of part
PSF	20 May	Podgorica, MNE	97
Info session	08-09 July	Shkoder, AL	29
Info session	15 July	Kukes, AL	26
Info session	23 July	Berane, MNE	20
Info session	27 July	Tirane, AL	28
Info session	2 Aug	Ulcinj, MNE	19
Info session	03 Aug	Podgorica, MNE	30

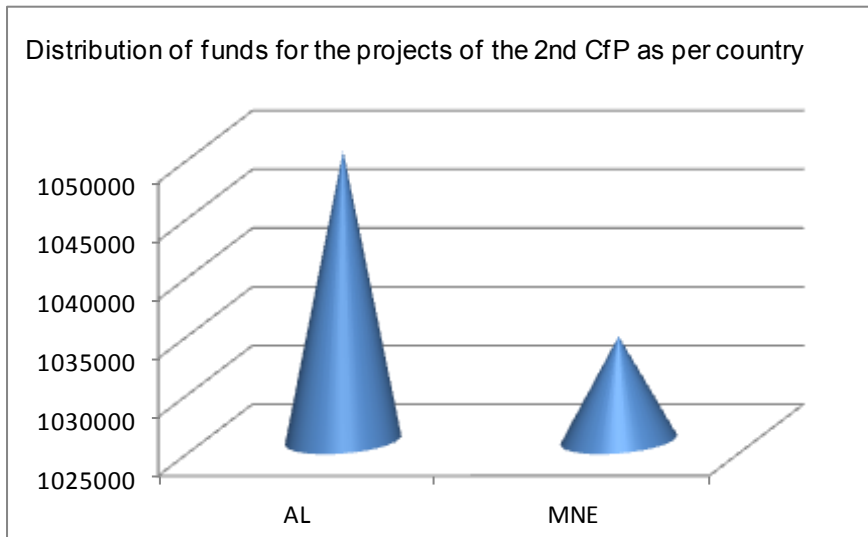
Projects per measure under the 2nd Call for Proposal

In the framework of the 2nd Call for Proposal 11 projects were approved. Total Cost of the Action 2.458.092,00. Total Awarded Funds 2.083.495,82

The diagram below presents the distribution of projects per measure.



Awarded funds per measure under the 2nd Call for Proposal





MARUBI: a cooperative model for tourist promotion between Shkodra and Ulcinj (Best Practice)



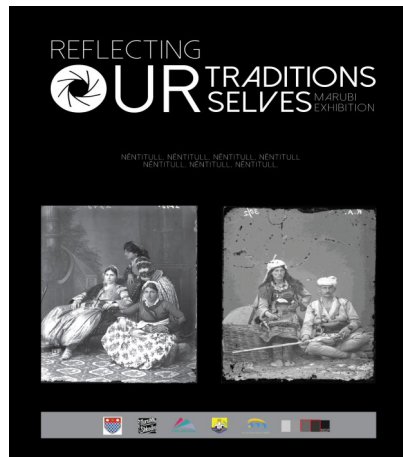
The project was between Shkodra and Ulcinj, historically known for close relations in culture, economy and commerce focused toward a possible development of cultural tourism by creating a dedicated path to connect cities with the photos made by the famous photographer MARUBI, in past years.

The project managed to realize a tourist path linking Shkodra to Ulcinj on the basis of the Marubi's photographs of the places and persons living in the border region in the past two centuries. Marubi's wide heritage, amounting at around 150.000 photographs, is the common thread of this tourist path, aiming at discovering to tourists the habits and traditions of the border region inhabitants as well as its beautiful natural spots. This path will stimulate tourists to visit the area and let them discover how beautiful and interesting the area is.

Total cost of the Action - €

426,433

Duration - 24 Months



Municipality of Shkodra

Municipality of Ulcinj

TEULEDA

Fototeka MARUBI

Focus Europe

Functional Lead Applicant

Applicant 2

Partner 1

Partner 2

Partner 3

2nd Call for Proposal

Activities implemented by the project were the following:

1. Strategic census of Marubi's patrimony
2. Feasibility plan of the Marubi route
3. Training course for economic and tourism operators and young people
4. Territorial cross marketing at local level
5. Territorial cross marketing at more than 20 European destinations

Results Achieved

1. Identified and collected the undiscovered Marubi patrimony
2. Elaborated the management model for the Marubi path
3. Realized the Marubi path and realized a Permanent and Itinerant Exhibition on Marubi
4. Enhanced the competences of local economic and tourist operators
5. Realized instruments of tourism promotion
6. Inserted the Marubi patrimony within local and European networks conducting more than 10 international exhibitions in Europe countries.
7. Build up a close cooperation among national and local institutions between two countries dealing with cultural issues.

The project overall impact was estimated by all actors involved as extraordinary important for future perspectives of economic development and culture of the local community. The sustainability of the project outputs is achieved by local authorities itself and MARUBI museum.



Farm-tour: Development of agritourism in Northern Albania and Eastern Montenegro (Best Practice)

Albania - Montenegro 2007 - 2013



Overall Objective was to encourage economic development and cultural integration of regions Northern Albania and Southeastern Montenegro, through the development of agro tourism.

The regions selected for this project Kukes, in Albania and Plav and Andreevicehas in Montenegro do have plenty of resources such as: minerals; water (used for power production); and a rich biodiversity (resulting in a diverse range of agricultural products,

animal production and agro processing). The regions are also rich in heritage, with a strong tradition of local culture and folklore and both are surrounding very beautiful mountains called Prokletije/Bjeshket e Nema-na/Accursed Mountains. The possibilities for agro tourism development in these area are enormous, that is a real option for social and economic development.

This project was specifically addressed to 21 selected farms (11 in Albania and 10 in Montenegro) to improve their business capacities through infrastructure investments, increasing business capacities and technical support.

Total cost of the Action - € 213.125,00

Duration - 20 Months

Rural Assoc.Support Programme

Reg. Tour. Org., Bjel & Komovi

Margegaj Commune
Fierza Commune
Shishtavec Commune
Plav Commune
Andrejevice Commune

Functional Lead Applicant

Applicant 2
Partner 1
Partner 2
Partner 3
Partner 4
Partner 5

2nd Call for Proposal

Activities implemented by the project were the following:

1. Study of the development capacity and needs for implementation of agri tourism in 20 pilot farms in Albania and Montenegro.
2. Capacity building for pilot farms in technology improvement, management, hospitality and marketing.
3. Organization of local fairs.
4. Promotion of agri-tourism as a new tourist destination and new tourist fair

Results Achieved

1. New tourist offer increased the number of tourists by 5% in Montenegro project area and 12 % in Albanian area.
2. The number of night accommodation increased also by approximately 10 % in average.
3. Cross border cooperation in tourist sector emerged, from 0 at the beginning of the project, to more then 6 activities in two years.
4. 21 farms were directly supported in all aspects of tourism services and standards.

These farms will further become a model for future and similar initiatives in the region. Family members of these farms whom were directly involved in the project activities were around 120 people.



Development of hydrological and hydraulic study of regulation of Skadar lake and Bojana river water regime - on going



As a very complicated water system, different factors such as the existence of a very big water basin, the big amount of rainfall in period of October-April, and concentration of water downstream the junction of Buna River with Drini River have made this water basin very problematic, and it is expected to be resolved as soon as possible in technical and scientific meaning.

Results Achieved

1. Statistical analysis of the design flood events for water system components based on in situ measurements as well as historical data where possible to independently validate the results of the analysis
2. Application of the hydrologic model for the explanation of hydrologic and hydraulic factors in the hydrological cycle and flow oscillations of Buna River and Shkodra Lake water system
3. Bathymetry of the river cross-sections for Drini River and its tributaries and the digital terrain of floodplains for Buna, Drini Rivers and their tributaries in WGS-84 coordinate system
4. Evaluation of the Water Balance of Skadar Lake
5. Regulation of the water regime of Skadar Lake, Bojana river water system to protect cultural monuments situated around this area.
6. Preservation of environment and community for tourist purpose

Total cost of the Action - € 368,314

Duration - 24 Months

Montenegrin Academy of Science
Academy of Sciences of Albania
Hydrometeorological Institute of Montenegro
Institute of Energy Water and Environment
(INEWE)

Lead Applicant
Applicant 2
Partner 1
Partner 2

2nd Call for Proposal

Placement of joint tourist products on the international market



Thanks to this action two hundred hotel and restaurant owners, tourist agencies, tourism organizations and local communities, event organizers and transport companies will be given an opportunity to participate with their products on the regional international market more efficiently in order to promote better tourist offers for foreign visitors.

Results Achieved

1. The market competitive products of hoteliers, gastronomes, tourist agencies, event makers and transportation companies on the both sides of the border are improved and combined into an attractive joint offer for the regional and international market.
2. The joint Albanian and Montenegrin tourist offers are effectively promoted on 3 tourism fairs and Global Distribution System to the regional and international business partners and customers.
3. Local touristic operators, hotel, restaurants etc are registered at the GDS online system to offer their services.
4. Build up of a network of touristic operators between two countries
5. Joint touristic offer provided and promoted
6. cooperation and communication of local actors from both sides of the border significantly improved.

Total cost of the Action - € 367,147.80

Duration - 12 Months

Commune of Shkrelli	Functional Lead Applicant
Capital City of Podgorica	Applicant 2
Regional Council of Shkoder	Partner 1
MADA(Mountain Areas Development Agency)	Partner 2
Montenegro Chamber of Skilled Crafts and Entrepreneurship	Partner 3

2nd Call for Proposal

Performing the Integrated Environmental Management Plan at local level in the Shkodra Lake Ecosystem - EMA-PLAN



This project will foster the creation of a permanent co-operation network among government/local authorities, universities/research institutions and civil society on both sides of the border, which will offer innovative services through the management of technical and government expertise and the exchange of best practice between the two countries.

Results Achieved

1. Establishment of two strategic documents (Integrated Environmental Management Plan - IEMP) and the Monitoring Programme - MP) for the entire ecosystem of Shkodra Lake
2. Improvement of capacity building in environmental management at and sustainable development at local level of natural resources through the establishment and functioning of monitoring programme and training courses
3. Dissemination of results and raising stakeholder's awareness on environmental management and especially on the conservation of natural patrimonies through activities like training courses, workshops, conferences.
4. improved knowledge's and cooperation among nd with local and central authorities in relation to environmental issues.

Total cost of the Action - € 249,520

Duration - 18 Months

Research Centre for Rural Development
Green Home
Ylber
Ulcinj Bussiness Asociation (UBA)

Functional Lead Applicant
Applicant 2
Partner 1
Partner 2

2nd Call for Proposal

Separate waste collection in schools and communities



Project aims at improvement of selective waste collection of the cross-border regions in Albania and Montenegro. Proposed activities are related to the creating and monitoring of Local Waste Management Plans implementation in Albania and Montenegro are also continuation of Albanian and Montenegrin Government towards implementing new laws about waste management.

Results Achieved

1. Formed ECO patrols in schools
2. Increased level of information of pupils and citizens on separate waste collection
3. Municipal solid waste management plan created
4. Trans-boundary environmental risks and pollution reduced
5. Updated information on waste management, pollution and hygiene offered to wide public and school children in particular
6. cooperation with local institutions and educational authorities was enhanced

Total cost of the Action - € 150,313

Duration - 12 Months

FORS Montenegro	Functional Lead Applicant
EDEN Center	Applicant 2
Municipality of Berane	Partner 1
Municipality of Plav	Partner 2
Municipality of Andrijevisa	Partner 3
Commune of Ana e Malit	Partner 4
Commune of Dajçi	Partner 5
Commune of Velipoja	Partner 6

2nd Call for Proposal

Art, Plastics and Recycling

With this initiative, project team managed to creative and innovative pilot program 'Art, Plastics & Recycling' which was found to strike a perfect balance of improving the environment and encouraging environmentally-friendly economic activities in the cross-border Skadar/Shkoder Lake area. This proposal aims to introduce one of the most innovative actions to overcome complex problem of environmental pollution and waste use/recycling. It relies in the trans-boundary and interdisciplinary methods that combine artistic skills, economic and engineering, in order to use waste and introduce environmental friendly products the very



Results Achieved

1. The manual of environmental friendly works of art for plastic collection and use drafted and promoted .
2. An adequate skills and knowledge on the methods for artistic use and recycling of plastic waste enabled to 15 artists and 50 visitors.
3. Awareness on negative environmental impact of plastic waste and the necessity for its recycling and alternative use is improved.
4. cooperation and communication between local and national educational institutions was improved.
5. A new initiative of plastic art was promoted and implemented in close cooperation with art-students and local authorities.

Total cost of the Action - € 179,068.20

Duration - 18 Months

CSTI
Marin Barleti University
Culture Zone
Deliart Association

Functional Lead Applicant
Applicant 2
Partner 1
Partner 2

2nd Call for Proposal

THE CROSS-BORDER PACT, CULTURAL HERITAGE WITHOUT BORDERS

Albania - Montenegro 2007 - 2013



The project aims to promote cooperation between people, communities and institutions on the bordering areas. This action is necessary in order to unfold, preserve and cultivate cross-border cultural values, of the selected areas, to transmit their traditions to the new generations, and build a partnership between Vau-Dejes, Tuz and Ulcinj.

Results Achieved

1. Increased flow of information and communication across the bordering area in order to jointly promote, unfold and preserve the folklore identity and the reinforcement of the values of Vau Dejes, Tuz and Ulcinj.
2. People to people actions and initiatives in order to establish sustainable solution for the preserve and promotion of the regional culture heritage of Vau Dejes, Tuz and Ulcinj introduced and established.
3. Promotion of local traditions among children and communities in both sides of the border
4. Internal and international cooperation between CSO's and local authorities was significantly enhanced

Total cost of the Action - € 112,921

Duration - 12 Months

Municipality of Vau Dejes	Functional Lead Applicant
Municipality of Ulcinj	Applicant 2
Regional Council of Shkodra	Partner 1
Women Center "HAPA E LEHTE"	Partner 2
Commune of Tuz	Partner 3
Cultural Association "RAMADAN SARKIC"	Partner 4

2nd Call for Proposal

Common Roots and Cultural Cooperation

This project aims was to contribute to creating the conditions for a major cooperation in the area of the programme, utilizing the language of ethnic music and dance as a primary element of cohesion, which is a language easily deciphered by both parts because it has its roots in cultural heritage. It results to be quite easy to set the conditions for cooperation targeting at participative and comparative mechanisms of two parties when the elements dealt with, lie in the cultural context of traditions.

Results Achieved

1. Dialogue between the two areas is stimulated and activated
2. Assessment on the common music roots realized and discussed between the representatives of the two areas.
3. 6 concerts in Albania and Montenegro realized with the participation of two ensemble from both countries performing together and 6 handicraft exhibitions with artisans from both areas.
4. New instruments of cooperation are identified and established
5. The artistic and cultural heritage values of the eligible areas are valorized through the promotion done by the project.
6. Cultural and artistic cooperation among national and international actors and stakeholders are intensified
7. Creation of a network of local/national artistic institutions between two countries



Total cost of the Action - € 207.563,00

Duration - 12 Months

**Culture-Media-Art Association
University of Montenegro/Cetinje Music
Academy**
Keshilli i Qarkut Kukës / Kukës Regional
Council

Functional Lead Applicant
Applicant 2

Partner 1

2nd Call for Proposal

Local development strategies on social services in Shkodra and Ulcinj region

Albania - Montenegro 2007 - 2013



The project has a specific aim to develop strategies for better social services in Shkodra and Ulcinj region. Policy decisions are made by politicians and civil servants, with no consultation with the end users, no mechanism of accountability. Mechanisms are needed to increase transparency and accountability of service providers and the involvement of stakeholders.

Results Achieved

1. Enhanced capacities and cross border cooperation among local stakeholders and institutions
2. Enhanced awareness about regional social assets through structured and professional information dissemination
3. Enhanced the capacities of local professionals to reach international standards on child budgeting and child participation and a series of trainings to build civil society and local institutions capacity to reach said standards, with a particular emphasis on the inclusion of vulnerable groups.
4. An increased role of social opportunities and in engaging community participation in regional and local social development strategies.

Total cost of the Action - € 179.121,98

Duration - 18 Months

Center CHILDREN TODAY

Association for Democratic Prosperity - ZID

Functional Lead Applicant

Applicant 2

2nd Call for Proposal

Civil society and local self-governments in enhancing social cohesion in Albania and Montenegro

Albania - Montenegro 2007 - 2013



Civil society play significant role in decision making process on local level. This means that citizens actively participate in processes which define there own living standards and strategic development of their local communities. The main preconditions for this participation is not only development of civil society in both countries and achievement of certain degree of its capacities, but also existence of more accountable and more democratic local self-governments. Integration and cooper-

ation of civil society from both sides of the border will be achieved by increased number of joint projects, activities and initiatives in this area.

Results Achieved

1. Increased capacities of CSOs and community groups in program area
2. Developed good models of cooperation between CSOs, community groups and local self government
3. Increased exchange among civil society representatives in program area.
4. Exchange of experience and set up of a network between representatives of CSO's and local institutions between two countries.
5. Improved capacities of local representatives toward challenges of National and international procedures/programmes.

Total cost of the Action - € 122.977,24

Duration - 12 Months

Centre for Development of Non-Governmental Organizations

Functional Lead Applicant

Partners-Albania, Center for Change and Conflict Management

Applicant 2

2nd Call for Proposal



The 3rd CfP, under the IPA 2010 and 2011 annual allocations, was launched on 03 September 2012 and it was open for three months until 03 December 2012. Prior to launching and during the time when the Call was opened, JTS in close cooperation with other Programme Structures organized the following activities:

2 trainings for potential applicants; 1 Partner Search forum and 5 Info Sessions.

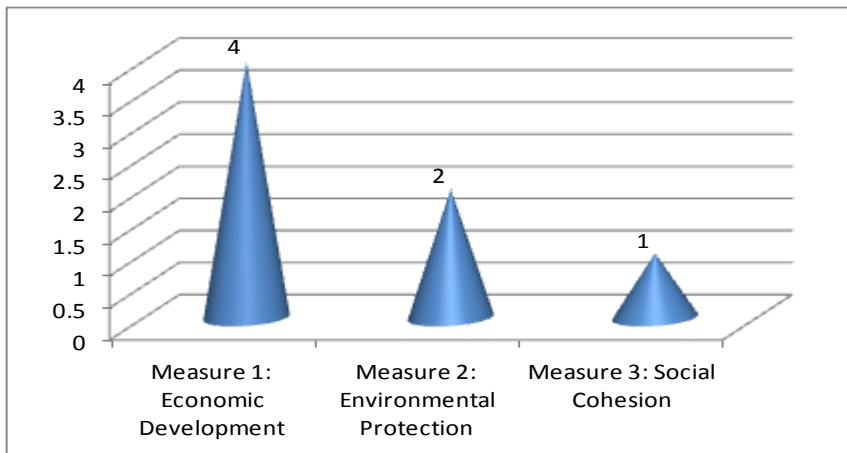
70 projects were applied under this Call for proposals

Event	Date	Location	Nr of part
Training on project preparation	3-5 Apr	Shkoder, AL	21
Training on project preparation	16-18 Apr	Kukes, AL	26
PSF	17 Sep	Shkoder, AL	104
Info session	21 Sep	Shkoder, AL	20
Info session	26 Sep	Kukes, AL	25
Info session	2 Oct	Podgorica, MNE	66
Info session	3 Oct	Ulcinj, MNE	33
Info session	5 Oct	Berane, MNE	33

Projects per measure under the 3rd Call for Proposal

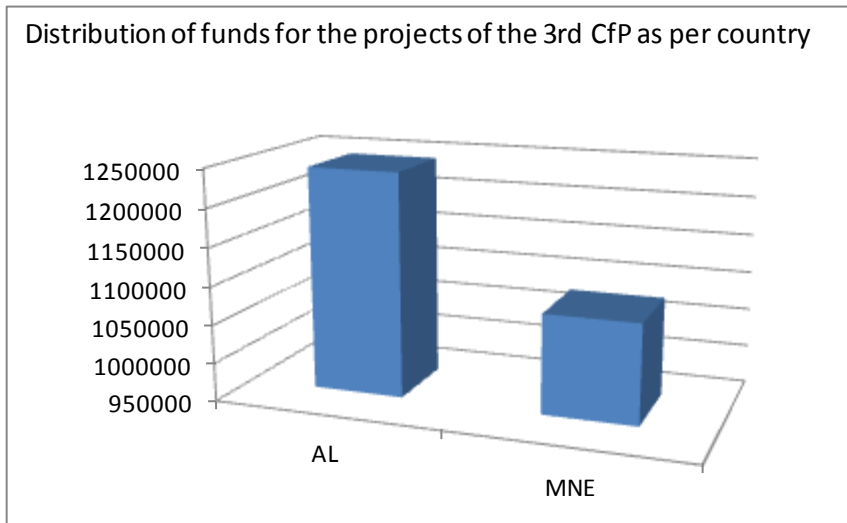
In the framework of the 3rd Call for Proposal 7 projects were approved. Total Cost of the Action 2.458.092,00. Total Awarded Funds 2.083.495,82

The diagram below presents the distribution of projects per measure.



Awarded funds per measure under the 3rd Call for Proposal

Distribution of funds for the projects of the 3rd CfP as per country





Promoting Connectivity of Internet Broadband in the Accursed Mountain Border Area (Best practice)



The project is intended to provide a development framework and establish best examples on how to bridge the digital divide and support the socio-economic development the Accursed Mountains / Bjeshket e Namuna / Prokletije area. Local communities including government structures, businesses and citizens will benefit from the availability of Internet broadband services in both their day-to-day business activity and in the quality of life benefits

that access affords to citizens.

Development of touristic opportunities in mountain areas has become a very important instrument for economic growth of both Albania and Montenegro. Beside seaside tourism, mountain tourism is growing day by day and the area so called Bjeshket e Namuna has recently become a joint touristic attraction and target. The main activity in the area is the agriculture while the economic development is hindered by physical and virtual connection.

Total cost of the action - € 599,000

Duration - 20 months

Minister of Innovation and Information & Communication Technologies - AL
Cooperation & Development Institute Ar-gjiro **Ministry**
for Information Society and Telecommunications - MNE

Functional Lead Applicant

Partner 1

Partner 2
Applicant 2

3rd Call for Proposal

One of the main outputs of this project was the direct benefit of 21 touristic businesses in Albania and 17 in Montenegro of free internet access for 12 months, including maintenance service, IT equipment and capacity building in terms of webpage and internet use of local staff.

Main Activities

1. Providing internet bb access & ict solutions for the needs of mountain communities
2. Education & training of the target group in ibb based applications
3. Assessment / eligible area of the current state-of-affaires regarding the access & connectivity (ac) of internet broadband and basic ict infrastructure
4. Information & public relations



Results Achieved

1. Infrastructure, access & connectivity, of IBB in mountain area provided
2. assessment of current legal context / list of relevant national policies & suggestion for improvement / potential CB synergies;
- d) technology mix ((VDSL2/3G & 4G fix / WIMAX / Satellite / landlines / optical fibre / etc) in each area finalized
3. at least 52 businesses provided with free IBB;
4. two museums digitalized;
5. 60 stakeholders trained on IBB usage & ICT benefits;
6. at least 6 conferences / workshops to promote IBB themes;
7. one study tour for exchanging experiences

MONTEAL - Investing to sustainable human and local economic development through participatory tourism management in cross-border area

(Best Practice)



The overall objective of the action is to expand the potentials of growth and prosperity for the regions of Kelmend, Shkrel, Plave, Andrijevice and Berane through diversification of their local economies and sustainable tourism development.

The actual trend of tourism development clearly shows tourism industry as one of the main instruments of economic growth in the region and both countries of this CBC programme are in possess of great potentials to become connected destination for exploring unknown wild natural sites.

MONTEAL project intervention, managed to increase values of local potentials through small scale infrastructure improvements of touristic destinations.

Total cost of the action - € 480,167

Duration - 20 months

Albanian Development Fund Commune of Kelmend	Com- VIS	Functional Lead Applicant Partner 1 Partner 2
Regional Tourism Organization Bjelastica & Komovi		Applicant 2
Commune of Plav		Partner 1
Commune of Andrijevica		Partner 2
Commune of Berane		Partner 3

3rd Call for Proposal

Main Activities

1. Cross-border tourism development plan
2. Assess current situation and develop a strategic framework for tourism development and infrastructure improvement interventions
3. Through infrastructure improvements from both respective areas, develop a local tourism product that can feed into and link with the tourist attractions
4. Through capacity development and exchange of management practices prepare and promote a joint tourism offer that connects activities in targeted communities.

Results Achieved

1. Reconstruct of the existing mountain paths, building of resting sites, installation of area maps and information billboards in order to provide necessary information to the visitors.
2. Supporting given to the local authorities in organizing the cultural events to promote the area.
3. A solid documentation base of heritage, culture, nature of the project area as well as specific training is developed to strengthen identity and add value to cross border sustained attraction to local tourism
4. One joint cross border tourism offer is promoted and the networking of tourism business on both sides is strengthened to serve the offer



Cross Itineraries For Tourism System Empowerment and economic development - Shkodra Lake



The overall objectives is to ensure a continuous cultural tourist offer through creating a positive economic climate for the inclusion of the wider area in the tourist flux, as well as to empower the capacities of target groups of both regions, in Albania and Montenegro.

Results Achieved:

Creation of the basis for a complete tourist offer focused on Shkodra Lake, through emphasizing it's natural and cultural resources through directly or indirectly include a large number of business entities-SME, different tourists organizations and other stakeholders to promote the handicraft in heritage, local products, cultural, historical and touristic routes; 20 handicraft businesses and local producers directly benefited from the financial support to improve their products or touristic offers, while 100 representatives of target groups were trained on Marketing, Touristic promotion and Branding; Publishing of the Territorial Marketing and Management Plan.

Total cost of the action - € 466,000

Duration - 24 months

Montenegrin Employers Federation - MNE	Functional Lead Applicant
	Partner 1
Directorate for Development of Small and Medium Sized Enterprise	Partner 2
Employment Agency of Montenegro	Applicant 2
Business Albania - AL	Partner 1

3rd Call for Proposal

START-W (Support to activate rural tourism potential of women)



Overall objective of this project is the contribution to enhance cross-border cooperation between Albania (Shkoder region) and Montenegro (Podgorica/ Bar) Cross-border area through joint women's participation in improving rural tourism offer.

Results Achieved: Identifying and establishing a network of artisans,

traditional agricultural and gastronomic producers.

Raising awareness of local entrepreneurs, national and local authorities toward handicraft industry.

increasing capacities of women in cross-border region for engaging in rural tourism entrepreneurship through training of existing ones and mentoring of 10 start up women businesses.

Promotion of women business as an economic instrument for future development through production and publishing of Women Business Catalogue, Mapping research report, Feasibility study and three training modules.

Albanian Investment Development Agency (AIDA) - AL

Functional Lead Applicant

Regional Center for Gender Equality

Partner 1

Professional, Business Women and hand-crafters Association

Partner 2

Ministry for Information Society and Telecommunications - MNE

Applicant 2

Regional Center for Gender Equality

Partner 1

Montenegrin employers federadion

Partner 2

Joint action plan for the ecologic defense of Cemi River and the sustainable environmental development of the cross-border area



The project aims to increase collaboration between stakeholders from both cross-bordering areas on the sustainable management of natural resources, in order to allow a socio-economic development, which is environmentally-friendly for reciprocal benefit.

Expected results

This is only one still ongoing project, addressing problems connected to the River Cemi such as illegal and overfishing, grit exploitation of Cemi's Canyon, erosion, river pollution, deforestation etc.

Therefore a lot of efforts and activities are focused on built capacity of local administrative staff and public rising awareness for tackling environmental deterioration existing at both sides of the border.

They planned and are very close to finalize and publish a Feasibility study on developing eco-tourism in the cross border area and a 4 years action plan to implement it. In the meantime a lot of activities focused on promotion and protection of environment are jointly implemented.

Total cost of the action - € 599,000

Duration - 24 months

Commune of Kelmend - AL		Functional Lead Applicant
Hope for the Future		Partner 1
OpenCom		Partner 2
Urban Municipality Tuzi - MNE	Ur-	Applicant 2
Green		Partner 1
Home	OpenCom	Partner 2

Supporting the sustainable environmental development in the cross border area through the joint initiatives.



The overall objective of the proposal is to contribute at improving the protection, promotion and management of sustainable environmental development in the cross-border area.

Results achieved: This project managed to improve capacities and expertise of existing services for monitoring of natural resources preservation, information & awareness on environment protection and implementation of environmental protection issues, by creation of environmental clubs, increasing the exchange of know-how and mutual cooperation, trainings of around 150 local administrative staff and school children, workshops and environmental days. Raising awareness on de-forestation and erosion in some highly sensitive areas, by organizing planting campaigns of more than 6,000 seedlings and creation of a new green line.

One of the most important products of was the publishing of the Environmental Tourism Guide which includes the touristic destinations, natural beauties, accommodation and gastronomic information etc.

Total cost of the action - € 273,272

Duration - 18 months

Democratic Integration and Development Center Kukës

Municipality of Bicaj

Functional Lead Applicant

Partner 1

Municipality of Plav - MNE

Public Utility Company

Applicant 2

Partner 1

3rd Call for Proposal

Increasing the wellbeing of pre-school children by promoting socio-emotional values



The Overall Objective, was the promotion of social emotional values among preschool children, as a preventive strategy to later social problems in the Albanian Shkodra Region and Montenegro Ulcinj Region in the mutual interest of citizens of the two countries through the use of their social and economical potentials facilitating cross border cooperation.

Results Achieved

Both applicants managed to promote socio-emotional values in young preschool children (4-6 years old) by providing new and positive models of behaviour and relationships, through the creation of the Children's Work Book and Instructions' Manual which is intended to be used as an educational tool from teachers, kindergarten psychologists, and also parents, both included as an extracurricular tool to be used in the public kindergarten program..Moreover, 110 trained teachers and 10 psychologists in the public kindergartens in Malsia e Madhe, Ulcinj and Tivar were trained and now are capable to identify and cope with children facing socio-emotional problems

Total cost of the action - € 250,885

Duration - 18 months

Albanian Development Center for Mental Health	Functional Lead Applicant
The Educational Office of Malesia e Madhe	Partner 1
	Applicant 2
Monitoring group Ulcinj MogUI	Partner 1
Commune of Ulcinj	



Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS) of IPA CBC AL-MNE

According to Article 139(4) of the IPA Implementing Regulation, the Operating Structures set up a **Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS)** in 2008 to assist the JMC and the Operating Structures in carrying out their responsibilities.

JTS is jointly managed by both OSs.

The Joint Technical Secretariat is the administrative body of the Programme, responsible for its day-to-day management and for its administrative arrangements.

The JTS is located in **Shkodra, Albania** and has an Antenna in **Podgorica, Montenegro**.

The JTS consists of 4 employees from both sides of the border.

From left to right

Andi Çekaj – Head of JTS (AL)

Violeta Camaj – JTS Antenna (MNE)

Eduina Ymeri – JTS Task Manager (AL)

Irfan Murati – JTS Task Manager (MNE)



Joint Technical Secretariat



ALBANIA - MONTENEGRO
IPA Cross Border Cooperation Programme

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