



PHOTO CREDIT: DISASTERS DO NOT KNOW BORDERS – DRAWING COMPETITION

Enhancing Cooperation - Newsletter

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

December 2020

CONTENT

The ninth 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.

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Views of the European Union
Kosovo and do not necessarily reflect the

* 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.



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



MNE-KOS

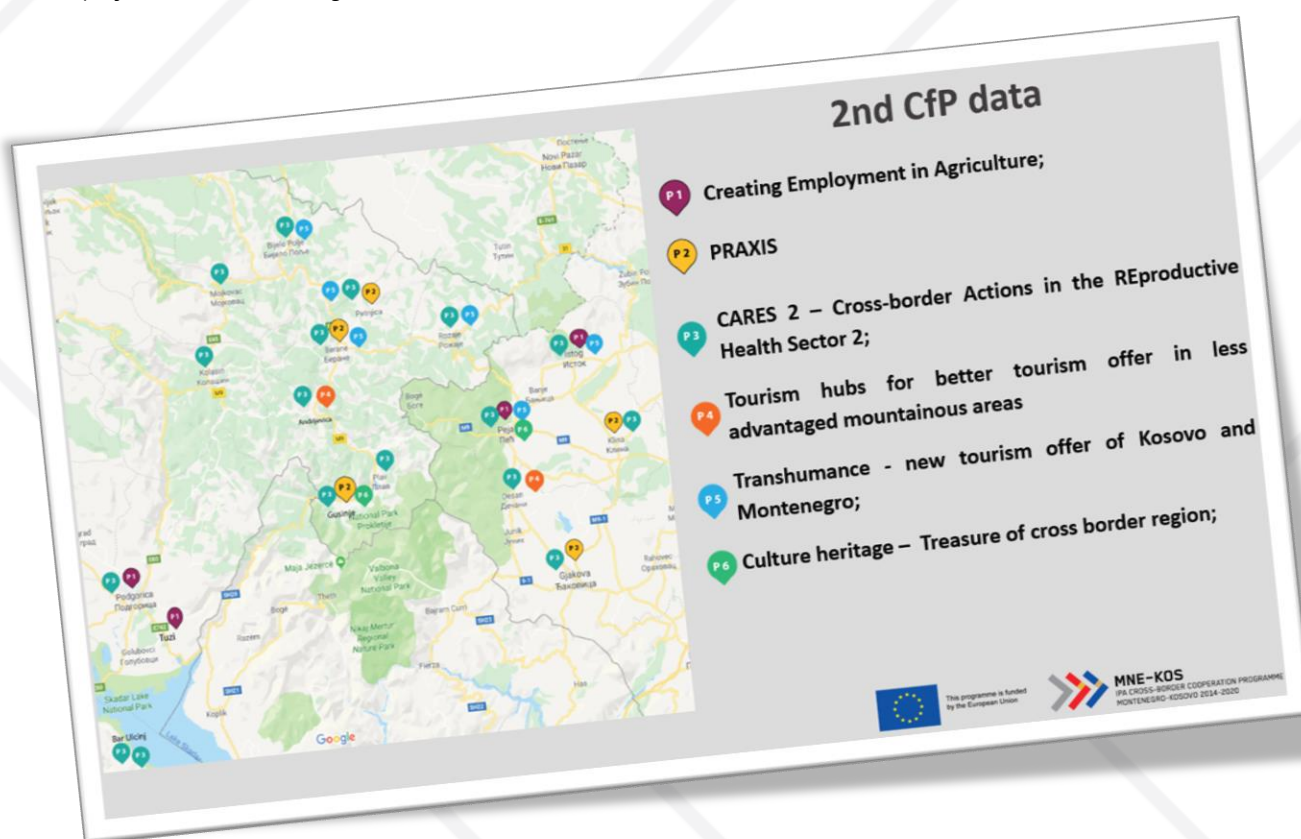
IPA CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION PROGRAMME
MONTENEGRO-KOSOVO 2014-2020



Six projects funded under the 2nd Call for proposals within the IPA CBC programme Montenegro - Kosovo 2014-2020

The 2nd CFP for IPA CBC Programme Montenegro – Kosovo 2014 – 2020 merging the annual allocations of 2016 and 2017 was published on 15th January 2019 by the Ministry of Finance of Montenegro - Directorate for Finance and Contracting of the EU Assistance Funds (CFCU). The Call was published for thematic priority 1 - *Promoting employment, labour mobility and social and cultural inclusion across the border*; and thematic priority 3 - *Encouraging tourism and cultural and natural heritage*. Out of 2.040.000,00 EUR of EU funds that were available, 2.016.678,23 EUR were contracted. In total, 16 projects partners are engaged in implementation of the projects (7 from Montenegro and 9 from Kosovo).

Partners per country



Moreover, the whole Programme area will be covered and tackled with the contracted projects.

Under the 2nd CFP the following projects will be implemented:

- **Creating Employment in Agriculture** -implemented by Capital City Podgorica - Department for Entrepreneurship and the Initiative for Agriculture Development of Kosovo- IADK;
- **PRAXIS** – implemented by Caritas Kosova, Caritas Montenegro, QAKP Gjon Nikolle Kazazi - Gjakove and Municipality of Berane;
- **CARES 2** – Cross-border Actions in the REproductive Health Sector 2 – implemented by FORS Montenegro – Foundation for the Development of Northern Montenegro and the ECMI Kosovo – European Center for Minority Issues;

- **Tourism hubs for better tourism offer in less advantaged mountainous areas** – implemented by Andrijevic Municipality, Municipality of Decane and Mountaineers association "Shkelzen Haradinaj" from Decane;
- **Transhumance - new tourism offer of Kosovo and Montenegro** – implemented by the Initiative for Agricultural Development of Kosovo, Regional Development Agency for Bjelasica, Komovi and Prokletije, Municipality of Istog; and
- **Culture heritage – Treasure of cross border region** – implemented by the Municipality of Peja and Municipality of Gusinje.

News on projects financed under the 1st CfP IPA CBC Programme Montenegro - Albania

Project Green Lands finished

On October 22nd 2020, in the hall of the Municipal Council of Malësi e Madhe a press conference to conclude the cross-border project *Green Lands* was held. The project with a duration of 30 months was implemented in the municipalities of Berane (Montenegro) and Malësi e Madhe (Albania), in partnership between the Municipality of Berane and Caritas Montenegro for the Montenegrin side and VIS Albania and the Municipality of Malësi e Madhe for the Albanian side.



The project aimed at environmental protection in the target area, capacity building of employees in public institutions and the establishment of an efficient and integrated waste collection system.

In her greeting speech, **Lisjana Çukaj**, the representative of the Municipality of Malësi e Madhe, said that this project was very efficient and that the awareness-raising in terms of waste separation started for the first time in the Municipality of Malësi e Madhe. Moreover, she added that the containers for separate waste collection were put in place through 8 ecological (green) islands and 58 containers 1100 liters in the territory. She stated that Malësi e Madhe Municipality is already in line with government priorities and the project also created an opportunity to work in synergy with the community and schools.

The same activities and procurement procedure were done in Montenegro in the Municipality of Berane.

Anna Carboni, representative of VIS Albania said that proper functioning of the separate waste collection system requires a lot of commitment from all actors involved and that after this project, proper and efficient management for waste management in Malësi e Madhe is in place. VIS has insisted on cooperating with institutions for waste separation in Malësi e Madhe, stating that the development of tourism in this area required commitment of citizens for environmental protection, not just seen as a request to institutions, but also a commitment of the families themselves in their communities.

In her speech **Sonila Kocli**, coordinator of the project Green Lands, presented the results that the project achieved in both sides of the border. She explained that due to the situation of COVID 19 pandemic the partners from Montenegro were prevented to attend the closing event. Moreover, she said that the commitment of the communities and the municipality of Malësi e Madhe in the relevant sectors needs to continue with waste management and their separation at source, giving importance to education and awareness of the population regarding the

benefits of recycling, which brings not only a positive environmental impact on human health, but also economic benefits.

The environmental engineer in the Public Services Sector of the Municipality of Malësi e Madhe, **Kledis Kukaj**, said that waste management is a priority in this municipality and that it is among the first to implement waste separation in two streams (wet and dry) through the

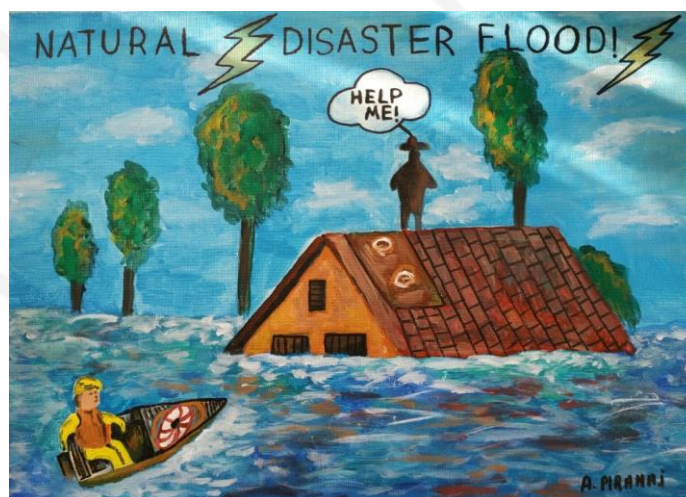


involvement of 1000 families in Malësi e Madhe, with the aim of spreading it further in the territory, to gradually move towards the two-basket system, as foreseen in the Waste Management Strategy.

It was concluded that through this project the environmental protection in the target area is enhanced and that significant progress is made in both municipalities related to the efficient and integrated waste collection system.

Drawing competition

Within the project *Disasters do not know borders* implemented by FORS Montenegro in partnership with the Directorate for Emergency Management of the Ministry of Interior of Montenegro and the Prefecture of Shkodra from Albania a cross-border drawing competition in natural hazards with the emphasis on floods was organised for primary schools students from target municipalities from Montenegro and Albania.



Before the competition, specially designed workshops on this topics were organised with the aim to inform children of the most frequent

natural hazards in their municipalities, as well as of the ways how they and their families can make contribution to mitigation of the consequences of these hazards. The students from six primary schools from the municipalities of Bar, Podgorica and Ulcinj and the Shkodra region from Albania took part in the competition.

The Committee consisting of the representatives of the project team, Directorate for Emergency Management of the Ministry of Interior of Montenegro, protection and rescue services and an Art teacher decided to award two drawings from each country. From Montenegro, the awarded students are Sara Halili and Emir Kalezić from the Primary School "Maršal Tito" from Ulcinj. The awarded drawings can be viewed [here](#).

The project *Disasters do not know borders* has the aim to strengthening capacities of institutions and services from Montenegro and Albania dealing with protection and rescue for disaster risk reduction, as well as raising awareness of the local population on the risks of floods.

Local cuisine as tourism offer of cross-border region

The Montenegrin Regional Development Agency for Bjelasica, Komovi and Prokletije, National Tourism Organisation of Montenegro and Eco-Partners for Sustainable Development and Municipality of Puka from Albania completed the implementation of the project that dealt with local cuisine as tourism offer in municipalities Berane, Andrijevica, Plav, Gusinje, Petnjica and Rozaje in Montenegro and Puke municipality in Albania.



The RDA BKP states that "Within this particular project, local gastronomy has been identified as valuable asset for diversification of tourism offer of CBC region and we will aim to build up on gastronomy offer and take advantage of other available resources in future CBC initiatives as well".

The results of the project are 2000 guidebooks designed and printed with 50 old, traditional recipes, 2 thematic gastronomy routes created with signalization set-up, 20 families have been supported in upgrading conditions for receiving guests for tasting of their products, 40 families were trained in providing quality rural tourism service and 1 brand name and logo Mountain Bounty was created to identify businesses and families offering traditional food.

Make sure to visit these rural households set-up in two routes, more information at <http://www.gastro-puka.com/en> and <http://montegastro.me/>.



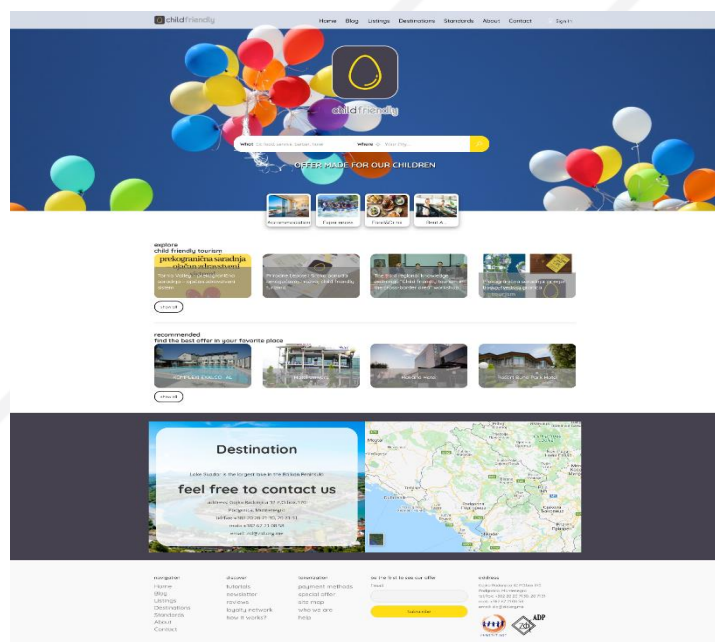
"Child friendly tourism" standards produced and promoted

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> at an earlier

stage. Promotion of the website as well as registration of new offers was done during the last quarter of 2020. New *child friendly standards for tourist offers* were produced, uploaded and promoted with stakeholders.

The child-friendly standards were guided by 4 basic principles and understanding of the needs and routines of children and families. This was done in order to effectively plan the offer of tourist facilities and activities that are an integral part of meeting the needs during the use of the touristic offer.

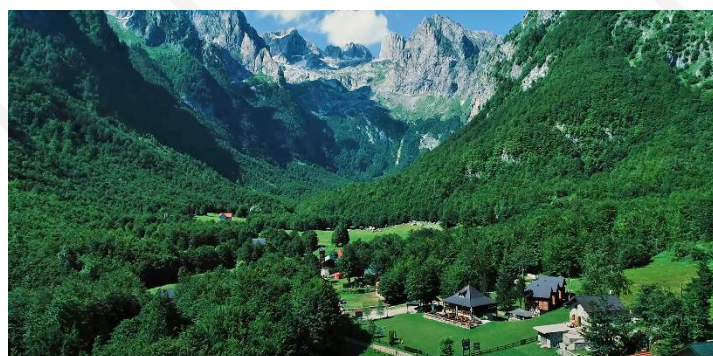
All other information about child friendly standards can be found [here](#).



News on projects financed under the 1st CfP IPA CBC Programme Montenegro - Kosovo

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, a new promotional video was produced promoting the CBC region.



Check out the video [here](#).

Cross border joint initiatives for better waste management

The final conference of the project *Cross border joint initiatives for better waste management* was held on 26th August 2020. The project was implemented by Limited liability company "Utility company Plav" from Montenegro in partnership with Regional Waste Company "Çabrat" from Gjakova in Kosovo. The project partners presented the results of the projects to the media and to a limited number of stakeholders due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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



Namely, through the project the technical preconditions for integrated solid waste management were established in two municipalities. Moreover, two recycling yards in the territory of two municipalities (Plav, Montenegro and Gjakova, Kosovo) have been established. The recycling yards have been equipped with two conveyors, two drilling machines for PET bottles, two vertical presses for bailing secondary raw materials and two hand pallet stackers. Moreover, nine recycling points were set at the urban territory of Plav and Gusinje municipality in Montenegro and 10 recycling points set at the urban territory of the Gjakova/Djakovica municipality, Kosovo. Moreover, several education trainings for local Public Utility Companies and others have been completed.

Additionally, containers and other bins for the usage of citizens have been procured and are being used accordingly.



i2 Spaces opened in Peja and Podgorica

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 two i2 Spaces were opened. Namely, Space for Ideas and Innovation "i2space" has opened its doors to young people from Peja, Istog and Deçan. With the financial support of the European Union, the cross-border program IPA II Kosovo - Montenegro, the first two trainings in the field of 3D Printing and Graphic Design have already been realized. Besides having the opportunity to get acquainted with the spaces created especially for them, participants have gained new knowledge from the mentioned fields and have been able to use the equipment available in space for their first creations.



In Podgorica, by the end of December 2020 an open call for interested youth was opened for three trainings on the following topics: Programming and customization of websites, Digital Marketing and Photography.



i2space obuke u Podgorici

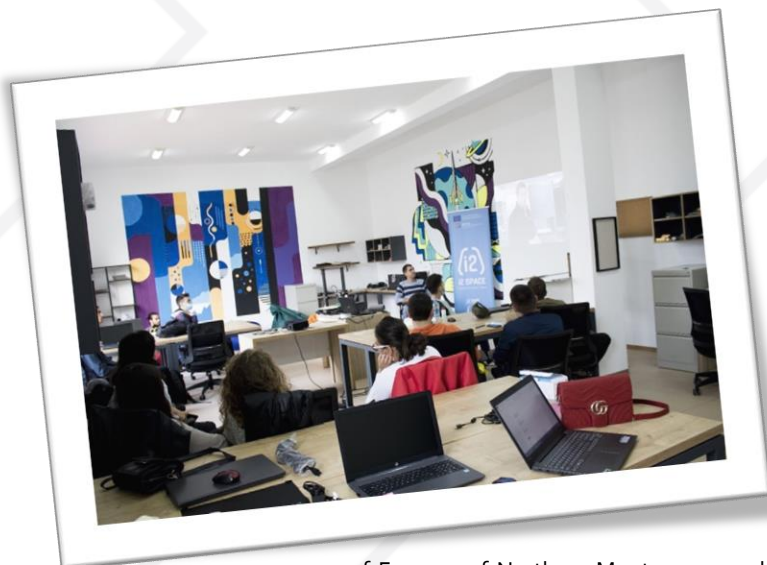
- Programiranje i kustomizacija web stranica
- Digitalni marketing
- Fotografija




Rok za prijavu: 14. decembar

Equipment for demo farms purchased and demo fields set-up

The project *Green jobs for better future of cross-border region of Montenegro and Kosovo* has completed their project activities. The project was implemented by Municipality of Andrijevica and NGO Union



of Farmers of Northern Montenegro and NGO Local Action Group Gjeravica from Kosovo. The main results of the project were the mapping of resources in the target municipalities in Montenegro and Kosovo, production of handbooks for start-up farms, organisation of educational trainings for 50 farmers in Montenegro and Kosovo, establishing of the training centre in Kosovo (with demo fields and demo farms) and organization of two agricultural fairs (one in Montenegro and one in Kosovo). All the results were presented in two promotional videos and during the final conference that was organized in Montenegro.



For the promotional video for Montenegro click [here](#).

Zeleni poslovi za bolju budućnost prekograničnog regiona Crne Gore i Kosova





Ovaj projekat je finansiran
od strane Evropske unije



For the promotional video for Kosovo click [here](#).



Valuable equipment and awareness raising in CARES project

The project CARES – Cross-border Actions in the Reproductive Health Sector was implemented by FORS Montenegro and ECMI Kosovo - European Center for Minority Issues in Kosovo. The project covered the territory of the following municipalities: Andrijevica, Berane, Bijelo Polje, Gusinje, Petnjicu, Plav, Kolašin, Mojkovac and Rožaje in Montenegro and Peć, Istok, Klina, Dečani i Đakovica in Kosovo.



Its main objective was to improve reproductive health of women from the programme area, with the emphasis on vulnerable groups, by developing the quality of reproductive health services in the programme area and raising awareness on the importance of protecting reproductive health.

The main activities of the project included organisation of more than 700 preventive examinations for women from the target region, procurement of new equipment for health centres on both sides of the border, organisation of lectures in local communities and high schools, development and distribution of publications on reproductive health, marking October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month and Cervical Cancer Prevention Week, organisation of round tables on reproductive health, organization of the cross-border Conference on Improvement of Reproductive Health, conduction of media campaign, etc.

Through the project, new equipment worth more than € 130,000 was provided to the health centres in Montenegro and Kosovo. The equipment includes ultrasound machines, ultrasound probes, medical instruments, colposcopes, supplies, etc.). Implementation of this project activity contributed to the improvement of capacities of health institutions and improvement of the quality of services they offer to citizens in the target region.

FAST FACTS – CARES

Dr Zuhra Hadrović, Director of the Health Centre Berane, on CARES project “Procurement of medical equipment significantly facilitated everyday work of the teams consisting of chosen doctors for women. Gynaecological diagnostic procedures have been made simpler and faster, which increased the satisfaction of women as users of these services. New equipment enables the staff to establish diagnosis with higher certainty and considerably saves time, which increases the efficiency and effectiveness of their work.

Dr Samoni Loxha, Head of Gynaecological Ward in General Hospital in Peja about the project “The project has improved my daily work and routine, as my work at the General Hospital of Peja has been greatly facilitated with the equipment we have received as a donation.”

United Against Pollution

The Municipality of Gjakovë/Đakovica in cooperation with Let's Do It Peja in Kosovo and Municipality of Petnjica and Centre for Regional Development – Rožaje in Montenegro are implementing the project *United Against Pollution - UAP* that involves residents living near illegal landfills, municipal authorities, waste management employees and students from municipalities of Gjakovë/Đakovica and Petnjica.



A series of activities has been implemented in the last quarter of 2020. Thanks to small infrastructure investments within this project, Public Utility Companies in Gjakova/Kosovo and Petnjica/Montenegro, as final beneficiaries will now have a new space and equipment for separating collected waste before dumping it at the sanitary landfills. Also, 40 workers have received protective winter working clothes protecting their health while working at the polluted area and dealing with contaminated waste. Moreover, the beneficiary workers have been trained to deal with waste and to protect their health while collecting waste.



Check out the page of the project [here](#).

Continuation of the 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 the last quarter of 2020, 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.



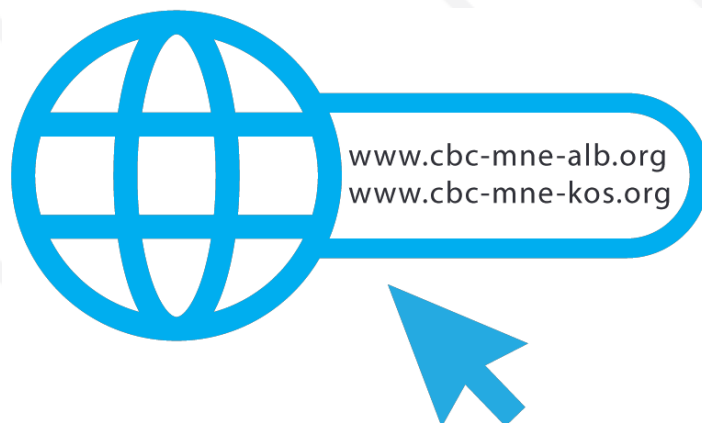
Use our Partner Search Tool to find your future project partner

Are you looking for a partner for a new project within the IPA CBC Programme Montenegro-Albania 2014-2020 or IPA CBC Programme Montenegro-Kosovo 2014-2020? Our partner search tool is available to assist you in finding potential partners. Please fill in the partner search form and publish the information in the database so that you become visible to others.

Click [here](#) for access to the tool for IPA CBC Programme Montenegro-Albania 2014 - 2020.

Click [here](#) for access to the tool for IPA CBC Programme Montenegro-Kosovo 2014-2020.

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)



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