

Newsletter N°5, December 2020

The fifth biannual newsletter from the IPA CBC Programme Serbia-Bosnia and Herzegovina 2014-2020 provides an update on the activities, goals, and good practices from the second half of 2020.



In the context of COVID 19 pandemic, Joint Technical Secretariat team has successfully managed to find ways to adapt to new circumstances. We have had to adjust the way we provide support to our potential applicants and beneficiaries to ensure Programs' success. During the mentioned period online monitoring visits of projects under the First Call for Proposals were successfully conducted. All the achieved results make us feel confident that we will continue to meet set goals and carry out this Programme successfully!

JTS team participated in the process of programming the CBCP SRB-BIH for financial perspective 2021-2027. If you are interested in our future funding opportunities, we recommend you to regularly check our website and follow our social media pages.

As the holiday season is upon us, we find ourselves reflecting on the past year looking on toward the coming year, and we hope that our successful collaboration continues for a long time to come.

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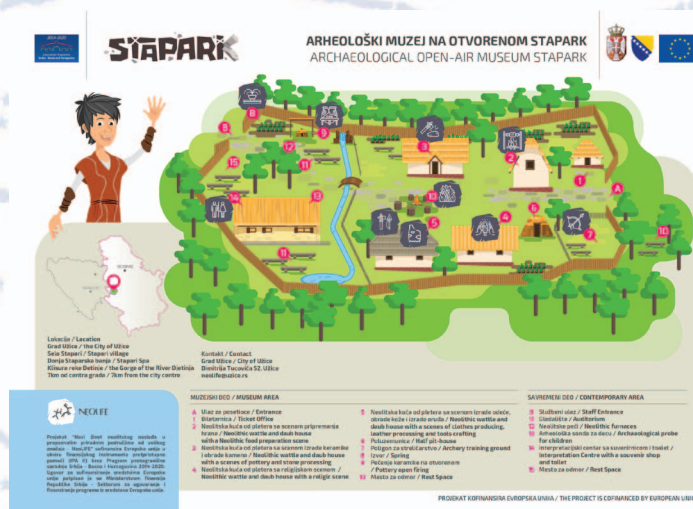
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This Programme is funded by the European Union

Open-air museums StaPark and Pannonica have been completed under the project NEOLIFE

The construction works of the Neolithic Archaeological open-air museum StaPark, in the village of Stapari and the very vicinity of the archaeological localities Velika Gradina and Mala Gradina where the Neolithic population's natural environment has been recognized and mainly researched, have been completed. A settlement of 1.500 square meters, consisting of four wattle and daub houses and one half-pit-house, was built in accordance with lifestyle of Neolithic population.

Interior decoration includes the installation of silicone life-size dolls and equipment in the form of permanent exhibitions dedicated to the clothing manufacture, leather processing, tools crafting, processing of ceramics and weapons, and preparing food in the manner of Neolithic population.



Along with the construction of the Neolithic Museum in Uzice, the reconstruction of Pannonica Neolithic settlement in Tuzla has been completed. Also, the contents and the facilities of the Geological Museum of the Pannonian Sea in Tuzla that offers an exhibition of the shells found in the Tuzla area, which remained from the time of the Pannonian Sea, have been improved.



In order to enable the visitors' active experience and the Neolithic heritage presentation through life-participating concept in both settlements, seven animation concepts have been developed. In a customized environment, visitors will have access to animation programs in the field of pottery, bone and stone processing, as well as the preparation of Neolithic food. The youngest visitors will be offered the educational workshops in experimental archaeology. Slightly more skilled visitors could also try their hand at using the bow and arrow at the archery facility located within the settlement in Uzice.

Common Ideas for Better Future!

The project SUBREC is in the final phase

In the final phase of the implementation of SUBREC, employees in utility companies are completing the second round of training. Also, monitoring of newly established waste management systems was conducted in Užice and Tuzla.

The research showed that a high percentage of citizens, over 90% of them, absolutely understand the way how the system of primary waste selection works and they gladly participate in the process in correct way. In order to involve the remaining 10% of citizens in the process and to minimize any mistakes during the separation of waste at the place of origin, additional efforts should be made, primarily in the area of education and information.

We can summarize some of the results after 10 months of system operation. In two cities, 5,000 households with about 15,000 members managed to select about 350 tons of waste at the place of origin. Through the proper waste management, the mentioned quantity ended up on the market of recycled raw materials or as a raw material for the production of alternative fuels in the cement industry, instead on one of the landfills. A significant increase in the quantities of selected waste is expected in the next three months of the final project implementation, due to the fact that additional 1,400 households, which are living in collective housing in Tuzla, will be included in the process. From the end of October, standard containers for primary selection and containers for glass are also in operation at these addresses, which will significantly contribute to the achievement of set goals in terms of the amount of primarily separated waste.



In parallel with the primary selection, home composting of bio-degradable waste is performed in 600 households and those quantities also do not end up in city landfills, which additionally relieves the waste management system in two cities.

In addition, the success of SUBREC is supported by the words of Vesna Petrović from Tuzla, "I was not aware how much waste is generated in my household, until I started composting organic waste" She successfully carries out primary waste selection for her household.

Common Ideas for Better Future!

After rafting, tennis opportunities were developed in Priboj and Rudo

The project "White sport and 19th century common cultural and historical heritage as touristic offer of the Municipalities Rudo and Priboj" marked the end of project activities with a final conference at September 30, 2020.



Tennis camps for boys and girls were held in Priboj and Rudo in the period from September 12 to 18, 2020. To the general joy of both children and parents, two tennis courts, constructed within the project, were opened. On the newly built court in Priboj, located next to the children's playground in Mramori, 20 girls aged 7 to 15 played tennis. Tourist organization of Priboj was the organizer of this sporting event. While girls played tennis in Priboj, 20 boys of the same age competed on the newly opened court near the "Mitar Mićo Mandić" stadium in Rudo. Competition was organized by the Public Institution for Tourism and Sports Rudo. The seven-day camps were led by the licensed coaches, and the final tournament was held on the last day. Participants in the final tournament were 4 participants from each category, and at the end of the day, diplomas for placement were awarded. In addition, diplomas for participation were awarded to other participants in the tournament.



At the final conference, the creator of the project, Vidoje Didanović, expressed hope that white sport would gain popularity in the coming years that rafting already has. "In the previous two projects the municipalities of Rudo and Priboj developed rafting as a tourist attraction and adrenaline sport. We managed to become a rafting center in 5 years through the purchase of boats and equipment, training and licensing of skippers. We founded the Rafting Association of Serbia in Priboj, and the members of the Rafting Club EKO-LIM from Priboj became the men's and women's rafting national team of Serbia. We hope, expect and invite all tennis fans to advance tennis in the next few years, following the example of our rafters. Also, we want to tell Novak Djokovic to get ready and know that his successor comes from Priboj and Rudo. We plan to successfully represent this region, as our rafters do, at European and World competitions.

The two neighboring cities enabled their citizens to include tennis in their regular sports activities aiming to be recognizable in white sport like they are in rafting.

The project Parainspired made a significant sports stimulus for people with disabilities

The final virtual conference for the project “Social integration through parasport - Parainspired!” was held on September 25, 2020 and marked successful completion of the project activities. The conference was attended by para-sportsmen, many interested sports workers from Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Lectures in the field of parasport were given by prof. dr. Ekrem Čolakhodžić and prof. Dr. Ifet Mahmutović.



The 21-months project aimed to popularize sports among people with disabilities in the border area of Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The importance of physical activity for people with disabilities is emphasized through project implementation. They improve their psychophysical condition, through sports and become more visible in society. The project focused on sports such as sitting volleyball, table tennis for people with disabilities and wheelchair basketball because significant successes in these sports already exists in both countries. Seated volleyball is the most trophy-winning sport in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the most important are two gold medals from the Paralympic Games, three world champion titles and nine European champion titles. Serbia can boast of top table tennis players, winners of the highest European and world medals.

In order not to miss the results, this project provided support to parasports through the provision of certain funds and equipment.

“For the first time, our Paralympians have their own van, which is adequately equipped and which will serve them to go to competitions and trainings. In this way, we wanted to support our Paralympians, who have been promoting Serbia in the best way all these years,” said Vladimir Batez, the Provincial secretary for sports and youth. The provision of equipment has enabled wheelchair basketball to come to life again in Bosnia and Herzegovina, for young para-sportsmen to play sports and show their full potential.

“Most parasports require large funds, especially for the purchase of sports equipment, such as professional sports wheelchairs for basketball, and we would not be able to achieve significant results without these kind of projects,” said Igor Ignjatovic, Bosnia and Herzegovina’s basketball representative.

Museum stories successfully told their story

Numerous exhibitions were opened in March and October 2020 within the project Museum Stories.

The second cycle of exhibitions began on October 2 at the History Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina with the exhibition "Monuments of the Second World War" focusing on the Kadinjača Memorial Complex. On the same day, an exhibition by the academic painter Drago Simić from Loznica "Faces of the Earth, Faces of People" was opened at the Museum of Literature and Theater Arts of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The exhibition "Winter Olympic Games 84" was opened in the Museum in Prijepolje, by the Olympic Museum from Sarajevo. The exhibition is a unique combination of sports and artistic spirit of the XIV Winter Olympic Games. The first part of the traveling exhibition "ZOI '84" includes posters designed by the academic painter Ismar Mujezinović for the needs of the Sarajevo Olympics. These are eight posters presenting Olympic disciplines. With the second part of the exhibition, visitors had the opportunity to see ten caricatures prepared by cartoonist Hasan Fazlić during those Olympic days portraying participants, athletes and organizers.



After Zagreb and Ljubljana, audience in Užice had the opportunity to see the works of František Topič at the exhibition "Between Two Empires". The exhibition from the fund of the Sarajevo National Museum was opened at the beginning of November in the National Museum in Užice. Topič's work was created at the turn of the centuries, where two civilizations met - the departing Ottoman and the newly arriving Austro-Hungarian. That time and people in it were noted by František Topič. He left about five thousand glass photo-tiles, now kept in the National Museum. After visiting the Museum in Užice, the exhibition moved to Loznica.

As a part of the project Museum Stories, the exhibition of the Museum of Literature and Theater Arts of BiH "Embroidered Bridge" was opened at the Museum of Language and Letters in Tršić. The exhibition contains a selection of poems from the work of Nasiha Kapidžić Hadžić. The exhibition was presented by Marina Cvetanović, and everything took place within the manifestation Museums for 10, Museum Night.

The Olympic Museum in Sarajevo had the opportunity to open the exhibition of the Museum in Prijepolje “Vlade Divac - from Prijepolje to Springfield”. Legendary basketball player Vlade Divac attended the opening of the exhibition and pointed out: “I feel good in this city, especially in this beautiful ambience of the Olympic Museum, which my friends from the BiH Olympic Committee managed to renew and show everyone the values that athletes of this city and the region have achieved in the past. After my career, I donated all my medals, cups, and my achievements to my hometown Prijepolje and its Museum. Today, the Museum of Prijepolje is a guest at the Olympic Museum with the aim to present and show one beautiful time of athletes from this region” he added. “I am glad that my hometown has the opportunity to present itself in Sarajevo and to present an exhibition of my career through all the medals I won and donated to my city”, said Divac.



“Walter - from Prijepolje to Sarajevo” is the last in a series of open exhibitions and represents the crown of joint project activities. Specificity of this exhibition is the fact that it is not part of the permanent exhibition in Museum of Prijepolje.

Beside the successes in performing all exhibitions, achievement of the project are reflected in the field of digitalization, creating applications for museums, and training of museum workers.

One of the project members, Natasa Knezevic, summarized the goals so far: “We cooperated on the digitization and restoration of museum collections. In terms of strengthening the technical capacity of the museums, we have developed an application for mobile phones, which enables the visitors to follow the museum contents. Special attention is paid to the education of museum workers. We have created a joint catalog in four world languages and established cooperation in organizing joint and producing new exhibitions.”

Numerous activities were successfully achieved in the field of biodiversity and environmental protection

The past six months can be characterized as a successful phase of the project “CBC Nature NET”. The intensive project activities are conducted on the both sides within the National Park Sutjeska and in the area managed by PE Serbia Forests.

The Botanical Garden has been arranged within the National park Sutjeska. The purpose of this garden is to display specific species of trees, shrubs and ground flora on a certain limited area. The garden will serve pupils, students, mountaineers, tourists and other visitors, to get acquainted with the flora of the National Park.

The most important activity is opening and equipping the Center for Scientific Research and Ecology, which is a special organizational unit within the Sutjeska National Park. One of the basic activities of the Center is education, which has primary and secondary school students and university students as a special target group. Educational trails that are closely connected with the Center have also been arranged. Sutjeska National Park was the organizer of the exhibition of natural heritage of the cross-border region with a tour of the most attractive micro-destinations in the National Park Sutjeska. Within this activity, a lecture was organized for participants on the topic of nature protection and biodiversity.



As a part of the project, setting up of the educational hiking trails was successfully completed, which is a direct support to the development of green and sustainable tourist attractions and offers in Serbia. The activity was carried out within four protected areas: r Nature park Zlatibor, Special Nature Reserve – “Mileševska river”, Landscapes of exceptional features “Kamena gora” and “Ozren – Jadovnik”. In these protected areas, educational trails are equipped with educational and information boards, poles/tables, trash cans, benches and tourist signs. The above activities adequately promote the protection of biodiversity in the border area and raising awareness of environmental protection, which is one of the project’s goal.



Balanced progress in solid waste management

JKP "12 Septembar" from Bajina Basta is one of the implementers of the project "Improving Solid Waste Management in Urban and Rural Areas of Bajina Bašta, Višegrad and Han Pijesak municipalities", and the progress of the project was reported by its main actors.

Velimir Mitrović confirmed that key activities were performed in the previous six-month period, that enable the successful realization of the project, taking into account specific circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic. "All three partners have procured the necessary equipment, put it into use, and initiated the processes of passing municipal acts that will clearly define the ways of waste treatment," Mitrović pointed out.

Representative of PUC "12. September" Bajina Basta, Ivan Marković, stated the details related to the activities in Serbia, "The procedures for managing different types of waste completes by procuring the equipment for PUC "1. Two trucks of different types and capacities were delivered, tractors with appropriate trailers, 20 containers of 5 m³ and 100 containers of 1.1 m³, shredder for branches. We were also supplied with a mini refrigerator that is used for collecting and transporting animal waste. A one-day training was conducted for employees on how to properly use new trucks, tractors and shredders. After minor difficulties, a new location was determined for the pilot composting plant, where the appropriate organic waste has been stored for some time. The composting process is monitored on site."



Predrag Blagojević, director of PUC "Komunalac" from Višegrad, describes the current phase of the project: "The equipment for our utility company was procured, namely: truck, tractor, waste selection conveyor belt and large containers of 5 cubic meters. Thus, we have created conditions for the continuation of the project. A joint educational campaign is planning for the next period in cooperation with PUC "Kraljeva Gora", encouraging final users to provide contribution in environment by changing their habits. In addition, a team has been formed to develop a local waste management plan that will clearly define procedures for the treatment of different types of waste."



Ivana Maksimović, director of PUC "Kraljeva Gora", said, "We are going in the right direction, similarly to our colleagues in Višegrad, we are at approximately the same level of project implementation. Delivered equipment is being put into operation quickly, and the preparation of the selected location for the delivered waste selection conveyor belt is in progress." Ivana Maksimović confirmed that the municipality of Han Pijesak has made a decision on the development of the Waste Management Plan, which is being prepared by the municipal and the team of JKP "Kraljeva Gora".

Protection of Serbian spruce through the project SAVE

The day of the discovery of Serbian spruce was August 1, 1875. This date was marked on Tara with the opening of the exhibition "Biodiversity of the Drina River Basin". The exhibition is part of the project Save, which is implemented by the National Park Tara and the Public forestry enterprise Šume Republike Srpske.



Serbian spruce is endemic species of the Balkan Peninsula, whose natural habitats today extend in a narrow area around the middle course of the Drina River. Serbian spruce was protected in 1955, and this spruce is most endangered due to climate change. The fact that number of trees is reducing, so that it may completely disappear in the next 50 years is worrying. This is the reason for the conference "Preservation of unique biodiversity in the Drina river valley - Challenges for the future" that took place on the Tara mountain in mid-October, where preservation and renewal of Serbian spruce in the border area of Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina were discussed. The two-day

conference gathered eminent experts in the field of protection of this endangered species. Milan Mataruga, professor at the Faculty of Forestry at the University of Banja Luka, pointed out that spruce is analyzed in this way for the first time. "We will set up experiments to analyze spruce within the Rogatica forest farm, where we are trying to use direct methods to help the natural regeneration of spruce in its natural habitat," said Professor Mataruga.

In order to get children familiar with the biological diversity of the river Drina and endangered species of this area, project team developed interactive educational material. The idea is to present this issues on the interesting way through the game. Young people can be acquainted with the uniqueness of the biodiversity of the area in which they live. Also, they can be encouraged to think about the significance and endangerment of certain species.



About Us

IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2014-2020 is implemented under the framework of the Instrument of Pre-accession Assistance (IPA II).



The Programme is implemented jointly by both countries. Ministry of European Integration of the Republic of Serbia and Directorate for European Integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina are in charge of the overall coordination of the Programme as the Operating Structures. Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Serbia, Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded Programmes (FCU) is responsible for all contract as the Contracting Authority (CA). Programme is assisted by Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS).

The overall budget of the Programme for the period 2014-2020 is 14,000,000 EUR while Beneficiaries co-financing is expected to be 2,223,529.41 EUR.

So far, since its establishment in 2007 the Programme has funded 49 projects, providing 14.85 million EUR of EU funds across the Programme area.

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This Programme is funded by the European Union

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