### CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION PROGRAMME SERBIA-BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA 2014–2020

Financed within the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance



#### **PROGRAMME AREA:**



**SERBIA, ELIGIBLE CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES:** Srem County (Sremska Mitrovica, Šid, Inđija, Irig, Ruma, Stara Pazova, Pećinci), Mačva County (Šabac, Bogatić, Loznica, Vladimirci, Koceljeva, Mali Zvornik, Krupanj, Ljubovija), Zlatibor County (Bajina Bašta, Kosjerić, Užice, Požega, Čajetina, Arilje, Priboj, Nova Varoš, Prijepolje, Sjenica) and Kolubara County (Valjevo, Osečina, Ub, Lajkovac, Mionica, Ljig).

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, ELIGIBLE LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT UNITS: Brčko District BiH, Gradačac, Doboj Istok, Gračanica, Srebrenik, Čelić, Lopare, Ugljevik, Donji Žabar, Domaljevac-Šamac, Modriča, Odžak, Osmaci, Banovići, Bijeljina, Brod, Bratunac, Han Pijesak, Kalesija, Kladanj, Lukavac, Milići, Orašje, Pelagićevo, Petrovo, Sapna, Srebrenica, Šamac, Šekovići, Teočak, Tuzla, Vlasenica, Vukosavlje, Zvornik, Živinice, Trnovo RS, Istočna Ilidža, Istočno Novo Sarajevo, Vogošća, Istočni Stari Grad, Vareš, Visoko, Fojnica, Višegrad, Rogatica, Sokolac, Pale, Pale (FBiH), Novo Goražde, Rudo, Čajniče, Goražde, Foča (FBiH), Foča, Kalinovik, Trnovo, Hadžići, Ilidža, Novi Grad Sarajevo, Stari Grad Sarajevo, Ilijaš, Breza, Kiseljak, Kreševo, Olovo, Sarajevo Centar, Novo Sarajevo.

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#### INTRODUCTION

Cross-border cooperation plays a key role in the European Union enlargement policy. Its strategic goals – promoting good neighbourly relations, fostering European Union integration, and promoting socio-economic development – are being achieved through creation of conditions to deal with, and overcome common challenges. In this regard, the European Union financially supports cross-border cooperation programmes with the Instrument for pre-accession assistance, encouraging therewith the candidate and potential candidate countries in the EU accession process.

The Cross-border Cooperation Programme Serbia-Bosnia and Herzegovina promotes economic and social development and aims at decreasing relative isolation of the cross-border area. This programme was established in December 2007 and its implementation started the year after. To this day, beneficiaries from Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina have jointly implemented 62 projects worth of 19.5 million euros. The joint initiatives were related to the following fields: environmental protection, natural disaster prevention, emergency response, increase of employment opportunities, protection of cultural heritage, and tourism strengthening, and education improvement. In total, 219 institutions/organisations from two countries were involved in implementation of these projects. The Programme significantly contributed to the improvement of good neighbourly relations, especially between local communities in the Programme area, also positively affecting its economic and social development. Implementation of projects for the benefit of the population of the Programme area will continue in the 3rd Call for Proposals and afterwards within the new IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Serbia-Bosnia and Herzegovina 2021-2027 that will be supported by the European Union with 14 million euros.

This catalogue is a compilation of projects from the 1st Call for Proposals within the IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Serbia-Bosnia and Herzegovina 2014–2020. In total, 9 projects in the amount of EUR 4.606.516,56 have been implemented within this Call – 4 related to improving sustainable environmental planning and promotion of biodiversity, and 5 to strengthening the cultural identity of the Programme area. The following pages will provide a brief overview of the achievements of these projects.

More information about the projects implemented within the Programme, as well as about the Programme activities and news, can be found at the Programme website: <a href="www.srb-bih.org">www.srb-bih.org</a> and the Facebook page: <a href="www.facebook.com/ipa.cbc.srbbih">www.facebook.com/ipa.cbc.srbbih</a>.



## IMPROVING SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT IN URBAN AND RURAL AREAS OF BAJINA BAŠTA, VIŠEGRAD AND HAN PIJESAK MUNICIPALITIES

**PROJECT PARTNERS:** Public Utility Company (PUC) "12 September" Bajina Bašta (Serbia), Public Utility Company (PUC) "Komunalac" Višegrad (BiH), Public Utility Company (PUC) "Kraljeva Gora" Han Pijesak (BiH).

**PROJECT GOAL:** Improve the waste management system in the municipalities Bajina Bašta, Višegrad and Han Pijesak.

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

The activities within this project covered the territories of municipalities Bajina Bašta, Višegrad and Han Pijesak. The utility companies from the 3 municipalities significantly improved waste management systems. In Bajina Bašta, the utility company introduced the waste selection in the rural areas, covering a larger num-



ber of citizens with the service. On the other side of the border, the utility companies from Višegrad and Han Pijesak successfully introduced a waste selection system in their municipalities for the very first time.

The 3 companies purchased the relevant equipment during the project implementa-

tion. They also organised educational and promotional activities on the importance of waste selection. In Bajina Bašta, the utility company educated and informed the population of the rural areas on the newly introduced municipal services. In addition, it continued educating its staff on the process of the waste selection in the municipality. The utility companies in Višegrad and Han Pijesak promoted the primary waste selection as a brand-new municipal service. Promotional activities were adapted for each targeted group: local economy, schools, and the public in general. They were provided with the access to the basic information on how primary



waste should be selected and why was it important for their respective communities.

This project also included some technical and administrative improvements. The 3 utility companies purchased trucks, tractors and containers that will be used for waste collection. In addition, the companies from Višegrad and Han Pijesak purchased conveyor belts for waste separation and vertical presses for the separated waste. Following the purchase of a special freezer, the company in Bajina Bašta started treating animal waste. This company also purchased a woodchipper for producing woody biomass. The biomass will be used for the heating of the company's buildings. In Višegrad and Han Pijesak, local authorities adopted relevant decisions on waste management and local waste management plans.



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## SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT UPGRADING

**PROJECT PARTNERS:** Public Utility Company "Rad" Sarajevo (BiH), Public Utility Company "Vidrak" Valjevo (Serbia), Danube Competence Centre (Serbia).

**PROJECT GOAL:** Improve the separation, collection, and transportation of solid waste in the areas of Sarajevo and Valjevo, and raise awareness on waste separation and recycling.

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

In Valjevo, the utility company introduced the process of primary waste selec-

tion for the very first time. The utility company from Sarajevo significantly improved the provision of the primary waste selection services.

The Valjevo utility company purchased 2,000 trash bins for 1,000 households, and a truck for the removal of separated waste. The residents of Sarajevo





benefited from the purchase and distribution of 47 specialised bell containers for separating waste. The Sarajevo utility company also purchased a specialised truck for the removal of bell containers.

In addition, both utility companies purchased the tanker trucks to be used primarily at the landfills. However, the trucks can also be used for the cleaning the city streets. In Valjevo, the utility company re-established the operation of a belt for the secondary waste separation at the Kalinić Landfill. The company in Sarajevo reconstructed a well with technical water.

This project contributed to the promotion of recycling and waste selection in both cities. The project partners jointly organised promotional events on the impor-

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tance of recycling and produced printed materials with the instructions on how to properly separate solid waste. In this manner, they actively engaged local population, and thus improved their knowledge on waste separation and recycling.



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## "SUBURBAN RECYCLING" – ESTABLISHING SYSTEM OF WASTE MANAGEMENT IN SUBURBAN AREAS OF UŽICE AND TUZLA

**PROJECT PARTNERS:** Public Utility Company (PUC) – Regional Waste Management Centre "Duboko" Užice (Serbia), Public Utility Company (PUC) "Bioktoš" Užice (Serbia), Public Utility Company (PUC) "Komunalac" Tuzla (BiH), Centre for Ecology and Energy Tuzla (BiH).

**PROJECT GOAL:** Improve the public services the suburban areas of Užice and Tuzla by establishing the waste selection system for the households.

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

This is a second project partnership between the utility companies from Užice and Tuzla, together with the Centre for Ecology and Energy from Tuzla, within this Programme. Through the partnership, they continued improving waste management system in the 2 cities. In a joint effort, these utility companies established municipal waste separation at the point of origin and home composting in the suburban areas of Užice and Tuzla.





Waste separation at the point of origin was established for 6,400 households, while home composting covered 600 homes. For this purpose, the utility companies purchased waste bins, containers, and composters, which were distributed in the suburban local communities of Užice and Tuzla. Major benefit of waste separation at the point of origin is that recyclable raw materials are no longer mixed with other municipal waste, but immediately transported to the centres for secondary waste separation. Therefore, the utility companies achieved significant savings in the landfill space. For instance, more than 430 tons of packaging and recyclable waste and 15 tons of glass packaging have been collected in these 2 cities during 2020. On the other hand, separation of biodegradable waste during home composting has started reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Very important aspect of these activities was certainly the willingness of the citizens to act daily in line with the new system. It was achieved through several successful media campaigns and more than 20 promotional and educational events. The project

partners organised these events for the staff of utility companies, residents of the suburban areas and students.

In general, this was one of the first projects to introduce and test such new practices. Therefore, it can be used as an example for the future initiatives for improving the waste management system in the cities across the Programme area.



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## SAFEGUARDING UNIQUE BIODIVERSITY OF DRINA VALLEY ENVIRONMENT

**PROJECT PARTNERS:** Public Enterprise "Nacionalni park Tara" Bajina Bašta (Serbia), Public Forestry Enterprise "Šume Republike Srpske" Sokolac (BiH).

**PROJECT GOAL:** Foster the protection of nature and endangered species in the Drina River basin by using the tools for conservation of the Pančić spruce natural sites.







**EU CO-FINANCING:** 165,179.07 EUR

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

Project partners deal with the management of sensitive ecosystems and biodiversity on a daily basis. Therefore, they focused their joint activities on preserving the unique habitats of the Pančić spruce. In this manner, this project contributed to the preservation of the biological diversity of the Drina River basin.





The 2 public enterprises collaborated with the Institute of Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering from Belgrade to determine genetic diversity of the Pančić spruce populations, which was the basic precondition for the preservation of the species in the future. They mapped the spruce habitats and analysed the dynamics of tree growth, their current state, and the influence of climate conditions. These project activities were carried out at the 40 habitats of the Pančić spruce in the municipalities of Bajina Bašta, Srebrenica, Milići, Rogatica, Višegrad and Foča. Finally, a joint plan for managing the spruce populations on both sides of the border was created as a concrete measure for the protection and preservation of this endangered species.

In addition to the scientific aspect of this project, educational and promotional activities for the young people from the above mentioned 6 municipalities were also particularly important for the project implementation. The two enterprises promoted and informed the young people on the biological diversity and the importance of the Drina River basin though entertainment and games. Their joint expert team designed a set of online games, which included puzzles, quizzes, associations, colouring books, etc. These games can be accessed via the link: <a href="https://biodiverzitet.nptara.rs/">https://biodiverzitet.nptara.rs/</a>. Simultaneously, digital exhibition with panels on the biodiversity of the Drina River basin was created and can be visited via the following link: <a href="https://izlozba.nptara.rs/">https://izlozba.nptara.rs/</a>.

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## CROSS-BORDER NATURAL HERITAGE NETWORK - CBC NATURE NET

**PROJECT PARTNERS:** Public Institution National Park "Sutjeska" (BiH), Faculty of Forestry Belgrade (Serbia), Public Institution "Srbija šume" (Serbia).

**PROJECT GOAL:** Better preserve the historical and natural heritage and traditions of the cross-border area.

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

The activities within this project covered the following protected areas and nature reserves: the Sutjeska National Park, the Special Nature Reserve Mileševska Reka, the Zlatibor Nature Park and the natural areas of Kamena gora and Ozren-Jadovnik. The project partners established new and improved existing educational trails in the protected areas. In the Sutjeska National

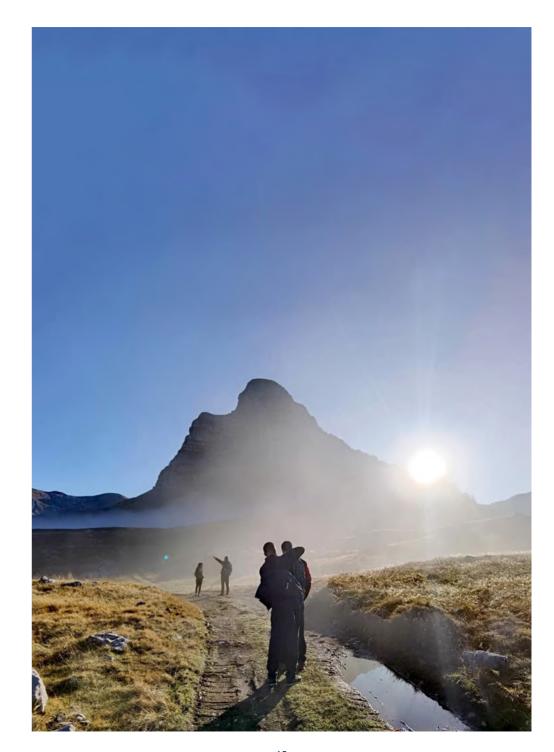


Park, they opened the Centre for Scientific Research and Ecology, and the Botanical Garden. The national park also hosted 2 exhibitions about the natural heritage of the regions of Užice, Prijepolje and Foča.

The exhibitions included a tour of the most attractive micro-destinations and a lecture on the nature protection and biodiversity. Students of 12 elementary and high schools from this part of the cross-border area attended the exhibitions. Thus, the project partners succeeded in promoting the environmental protection among young people of this cross-border region.

The project partners also organised 2 regional conferences and 2 round tables on the topic of protecting and improving biodiversity. These events were held on both sides of the border, in Zlatibor and Tjentište each. The participants included the tourism professionals, staff from the institutions managing nature reserves, academic community, and the NGO representatives.

Additional activities of the project partners included mapping of the areas with specific natural characteristics and producing joint monitoring plan. The cross-border educational and exhibition programmes were successfully created to be used in the newly opened Centre.



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#### **MUSEUM STORIES**

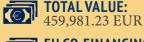
**PROJECT PARTNERS:** City of Sarajevo (BiH), Cultural Centre "Vuk Karadžić" Loznica (Serbia), History Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), Institute for Protection of Cultural Heritage Kraljevo (Serbia).

**PROJECT GOAL:** Strengthen the cultural identity of Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina through support for the two countries' museums.

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

If you want to get to know a city, the first thing you do is go to a museum. The project Museum Stories focused on culture and museums as institutions that preserve our heritage. The most important achievement of the project was the creation of







the network of 11 museums from the 5 cities: Sarajevo, Loznica, Priboj, Prijepolje and Užice.

The museums cooperated in the digitalization and restoration of their collections and shared exhibitions across the border. Digitalization included the development

of a mobile application that enabled visitors to follow museums' online presentations. The project also created a joint catalogue of the museums included in the network. The catalogue was printed in 4 languages. Staff working in the museums participated in the educational workshops that were meant to provide knowledge on how to apply innovative methodology in the presentation of the museums' collections.



Promotional activities significantly

increased visibility of the museums and cultural institutions in the cross-border area of Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The introduction of a contemporary methodology in the presentation of exhibitions made museums more sustainable and provided easier access to the museums' exhibitions and collections for the interested visitors.

This project confirmed that the museums were the guardians of cultural and historical heritage. It also proved that the museums represented a meeting point for all generations, where they could learn how to love their home and culture, as well as to learn how to appreciate knowledge and each other.



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#### NEW LIFE OF NEOLITHIC HERITAGE IN RECOGNIZED NATURAL AREAS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE - NeoLIFE

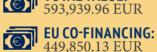
**PROJECT PARTNERS:** City of Užice (Serbia), City of Tuzla (BiH), Art School Užice (Srbija), Municipality of Milići (BiH).

**PROJECT GOAL:** Preserve cultural and historical heritage of the cities of Užice and Tuzla through establishment of the functional management model for archaeological parks.

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

A Neolithic Archaeological Park was built in the nearby area of Užice as one of the project activities. To display the Neolithic lifestyle of Užice, four wattle and daub houses, a pit house and 2 kilns were built at the selected site. The project partners also successfully improved the





facilities and the content of the existing Pannonica Neolithic Settlement located within the Pannonica Lakes complex in Tuzla. In addition, they improved the content of the Geological Museum of the Pannonian Sea in Tuzla also located within the Pannonica Lakes complex. The museum holds an exhibition of the shells found in the Tuzla area from the era of the Pannonian Sea.







For both archaeological parks, the project partners created 7 animation programmes as a kind of active presentation of the Neolithic heritage. In a customized environment, the visitors have access to the animation programmes presenting the art of ceramics, bone processing, stone processing, and the Neolithic food preparation. In the Tuzla archaeological settlement with pile dwellings, the visitors can watch an animation programme displaying the process of salt production.

In the Užice archaeological settlement, the visitors have an opportunity to try their hand at using a bow and arrow in the archery facility. It is important to stress that the youngest visitors can participate in the educational workshops on experimental archaeology in both archaeological parks.





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# WHITE SPORT AND 19TH CENTURY COMMON CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL HERITAGE AS TOURISTIC OFFER OF THE MUNICIPALITIES RUDO AND PRIBOJ

**PROJECT PARTNERS:** Tourist Organization of Priboj (Serbia), Public Institution for Tourism and Sport of Rudo (BiH).

**PROJECT GOAL:** Improve cultural and sport exchange in the border municipalities of Rudo and Priboj by developing cultural and sport content based on the joint historical heritage.

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

The first tennis tournament in Serbia was held in 1880 in Priboj in the garrison of the Austro-Hungarian Army. This historical fact motivated the project partners to jointly improve cultural and sport content in their local communities. In Priboj, a







decrepit tennis court was rehabilitated, while a brand-new tennis court was built in Rudo. The 2 tennis courts were also equipped with tennis rackets, balls, tennis nets and the players clothing.

The project partners organised 2 tennis camps for beginners. The



camps were led by professional tennis coaches and the participants included 20 girls from Priboj and 20 boys from Rudo. Moreover, 5 coaches for younger categories obtained their licences through the training process during the project implementation. Tennis clubs were formed in both Priboj and Rudo. The clubs are now actively working, and many recreational players use the tennis courts every day.

The project partners jointly improved the cycling and trekking routes on the 2 sections of the old railway: Priboj – Uvac and Mioče – Rudo. Afterwards, they successfully organised a promotional race of old bicycles.

By reconstructing the ancillary building of the Jeveđević House, the project partners also improved the cultural offer in Priboj. Vujica Jevđević was a famous scientist from Serbia born in Priboj. This reconstructed building has been transformed into an art workshop, which can now be used for the organisation of exhibitions, press conferences and literary evenings. To support the new use of this building, the project partners organised a workshop on making souvenirs for 10 participants. The souvenirs produced within the workshop were afterwards exhibited in the building. A great contribution of the project was the selection of the official souvenirs of the Rudo and Priboj municipalities from the exhibited works.

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### SOCIAL INTEGRATION THROUGH PARASPORT – PARAINSPIRED!

**PROJECT PARTNERS:** Provincial Secretariat for Sports and Youth Novi Sad (Serbia), Olympic Committee of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), European Affairs Fund of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (Serbia), Municipality of Indija (Serbia).

**PROJECT GOAL:** Increase participation of people with physical disabilities in sport activities.

#### **ACTIVITIES:**

Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina achieved a great amount of success at the Paralympic Games. A special place among the Paralympic sports in Serbia holds







table tennis, while in Bosnia and Herzegovina the most award-winning sport is sitting volleyball. This project additionally improved the position of people with disabilities by supporting them in their daily sport activities and, simultaneously, their integration into society.

The project partners purchased 2 vans for the transport of athletes in wheelchairs and 18 sport wheelchairs. They also purchased the props required for table tennis and sitting volleyball and supporting equipment for players and referees. Simultaneously with the equipment purchase, the project partners organised a series of trainings on sensitizing sport workers and coaches to work with athletes with disabilities, whether they play sports professionally or as amateurs. Under the slogan "Be inspired!", the project also promoted the necessity to improve the living and working conditions for this vulnerable category of population. The project partners also organised several promotional trainings in the cross-border area between Serbia and BiH, which promoted parasport and stressed its benefits.

The Municipality of Inđija made a significant step forward among the Srem County municipalities by participating in this project. During the implementation, the children from Inđija had free access to the sport equipment and they could work

with trained coaches. In this way, the municipality provided significant support to the children with physical disabilities and mental development problems, but also to their families.

Several awarded Paralympians supported the project publicly.



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This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the Ministry of European Integration of the Republic of Serbia and the Directorate for European Integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

