

# UNDP Fast Facts

## Montenegro

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- ✓ Democratic Governance
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In promoting **sustainable human development**, **UNDP Montenegro** supports the country's European Union accession priorities, building on its global development network, access to innovative solutions, knowledge, experience and resources. We do so by (i) advancing **democratic society and accountable institutions** with greater citizens' participation, (ii) building an inclusive society with **equal opportunity to all** citizens to reach their full potential and (iii) promoting **green future** through market transformation toward a low emission, resource efficient and resilient economy.

## Economy and Environment

### Green future for Montenegro

In Montenegro, more than 60 percent of people living in poverty reside in the north of the country, where unemployment is double that of central and southern regions.

This despite the fact that the north is home to 100 percent of the country's hydroelectric potential, 67 percent of cultivable land, 71 percent of forests, 70 percent of cattle, all of the country's known lead, zinc and coal reserves, and significant potential for year-around sustainable tourism (already accounting for some 17 percent of the region's GDP).

Montenegro's small and open economy - reliant on energy intensive industries - is vulnerable to rising resource prices. Montenegro is among the most inefficient consumers of energy and water in Europe.

Urban sprawl (estimates of illegal construction range from 30,000 to 100,000) and illegal deforestation additionally strain the quality of infrastructure and service provision at the local level, increase exposure to various hazards, and erode one of the key potentials for the country's competitiveness - natural resources.

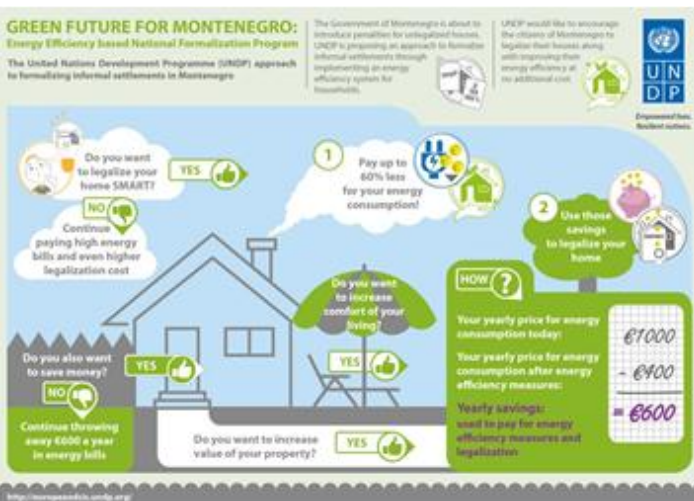
Montenegro's economic development is fully reliant on a dynamic and healthy environment with economic growth depending on natural resources.

## What we do

**Advancing market transformation toward low emissions, a resource efficient economy, resilient ecosystems and communities.**

UNDP provides assistance to Montenegro for a swifter market transformation toward low emissions, a resource efficient economy, and resilient ecosystems, economies and communities. The intention is to create green jobs, generate and conserve income, reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and dependence on energy imports. This includes:

- **Developing and monitoring policies**, informed by geographic information systems (GIS) for spatial representation of data and analysis - with specific emphasis on renewable sources of energy, energy efficiency, protected areas and urban planning;
- **Promoting investment in renewable sources of energy** and efficient consumption;
- **Designing policies and sustainable funding mechanisms**



The global economic crisis resulted in a six percent economic downturn in 2009. Despite a gradual recovery, poverty rose by 40 percent during 2009 and 2010 (relative to 2008), and a 20 percent increase in unemployment. Montenegro is also among the countries with the largest gap between the rich and the poor in the region.

## for low carbon tourism development;

- **Creating green jobs** (sustainable tourism, food production, payment for ecosystem services) with a focus on national and regional nature parks, including cross border cooperation; and
- Preparing plans to **reduce the risk of natural disasters** at the local level.

## Value added

UNDP's operations in Montenegro focus on the country's key priorities linked to EU accession, bringing in best international practices and facilitating the engagement of civil society. UNDP promotes evidence based policy making, provides advocacy support, technical assistance, access to knowledge, innovation and expertise, as well as coordination support to the Government. Our comparative advantages in accelerating Montenegro's sustainable human development stem from our impartiality and global presence, as well as from our successful track record in helping the country attract and use development assistance effectively. UNDP operating within the framework of UN Delivering as One strives to further contribute to UN coherence in the country according to the Joint UN Integrated Framework for the period 2012-2016.

## Key results

With UNDP's support Montenegro achieved the following:

The Government is offering incentives to **legalize informal buildings and make them energy efficient** at the same time. An action plan is in place, and a law to support legalizing buildings is under development.

The municipalities of Bijelo Polje, Bar and Žabljak **collected and analyzed data on average energy consumption**, potential savings, and possible GHG reduction for 25 informal households.

The Government **developed policies and laws to promote the use of renewable sources of energy**, including (i) Law on Concessions, (ii) Energy Law; (iii) Bylaws on privileged power producer, feed-in-tariffs, (iv) tender procedure simplified by reducing the necessary steps by half; (v) technical study on necessary requirements for connecting distributed energy sources to electrical power system grid.

Together with citizens, the Government developed its **platform for the Rio+20 summit** on sustainable development, based on an analysis of the country's potential for greening the economy.

Local authorities **assessed the risk of floods in 12 municipalities** - the first time in the country's history.

The Government adopted **a national strategy for introduction of business clusters by 2016**.

The Government **analyzed the economic contribution of protected areas** to Montenegro's GDP, as part of developing a National Financial Plan. Economic benefits of nature protected

and protected area system to Montenegrin economy assessed, serving as the basis for financial and management planning.

The Centre for Vocational Education designed and adopted **two new professions for nature-based tourism** (cave tour guides, and sea-kayak and canoe guides).

Montenegrin universities **established educational programmes** in protected area management and rural development.



## Our partners

Montenegrin local self-governments and key line ministries of: Sustainable Development and Tourism, Agriculture and Rural Development, Culture, Economy, the Interior (and its Sector for Emergency Management); specialized institutions: Agency for Environmental Protection, National Tourism Organization, Institute for Marine Biology, Public Enterprise National Parks, Morsko dobro, Mountain Rescue Service, Mountaineering Association, as well as academia and a number of non-governmental and civil society organizations.

We contributed to successful results through excellent cooperation and financial support from Governments of Montenegro and Norway, Old Royal Capital Cetinje, as well as from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the EU Delegation to Montenegro and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).