

UNDP Fast Facts

Montenegro

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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.

Local Development Programme: Delivering better quality services for citizens

In the context of EU integration and national level policy making, in order to build a solid ground for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth at the local level, there are some challenges Montenegrin local self-governments need to tackle:

- In most cases local **strategic frameworks** are not aligned with national strategic documents and policies.
- Inappropriate **institutional set-up** for evidence based policy making, strategic planning and for the implementation of the strategic and policy framework.
- Limited capacities to translate development strategies into **practical development actions**.

Preconditions for surmounting these challenges are well coordinated actions at both central and local levels, building human capacities and the increase in quality and accountability of public sector institutions. **Delivering better quality services for citizens in a cost-effective manner** should be the ultimate result of these efforts, and it is the overall objective of the UNDP's Local Development Programme in Montenegro as well.



Employment of Persons with Disabilities workshop in Nikšić

What we do

The Local Development Programme is about assisting, empowering, and capacitating local authorities to make strategic decisions about life of their citizens in cooperation with local population, taking into account administrative capacities, geographical, economic and social situation and then to implement them. It is also about making local authorities more **transparent** and more **accountable**, as well as about developing the ways to execute their tasks and responsibilities effectively and efficiently for the benefit of the population.

The overall objective of the Local Development Programme is to contribute to achieving the key national development priorities related to **smart, sustainable and inclusive growth at the local level**, through efficient use of all resources including IPA funds, which is also fully in line with priorities of the Europe 2020 Strategy. For all three the enhanced/good governance, increasing transparency, accountability and quality of institutions in the public sector is a precondition.



Strategic planning in the Municipality of Kolašin

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

In 2010 we supported the Ministry of Economy in preparation of the **Strategy for Regional Development** (2010-2014). Following the adoption of the Law on Regional Development, we assisted in **local development planning** and selection of strategic projects in pilot municipalities of Žabljak and Kolašin. In order to strengthen local government capacities for effective Human Resources development and support to public administration reform at the local level, we have prepared a **Functional review of the Human Resources function and management capacities** in Montenegrin municipal administrations and Training Needs Analysis at the Local Level. In addition, we supported the development of the Analysis of Functioning of the Local Self-Governments in Montenegro.

In cooperation with relevant Ministries, agencies and municipalities, we also:

- prepared a template for **Local Energy Plans** (LEPs) to be used in all municipalities according to the Energy Law; supported the development of LEPs in Andrijevica, Bijelo Polje and Cetinje municipalities;
- drafted a **Local Social Inclusion Plan** for enhancing social services in three pilot municipalities (Bar, Bijelo Polje and

Nikšić);

- organized a **Spatial Planning Support Project** (SPSP) in several municipalities to ensure proper implementation of the Law on Planning and Construction;
- produced a publication on the **Inter-municipal cooperation** (IMC), and supported the Ministry of Interior in drafting the **Strategy for Inter-Municipal Cooperation** (2011-2015).

In order to support the institutional development, the Local Development Programme helped in:

- enhancing **financial management and control** in all Montenegrin municipalities;
- reinforcing National Training Strategy Unit in the Union of Municipalities of Montenegro by hiring two employees;
- promotion of the **Regional Park Komovi** as a hub for sustainable local economic development;
- establishing of needs-based **local social services** in 17 municipalities;
- economic empowerment of women at the local level in 4 municipalities;
- creation of a **GIS** based platform for **flood hazard mapping** in 12 municipalities.



Floods in Montenegro in 2010

After developing a strategic framework and working on institutional development, the Programme aided the development of a pipeline that would turn strategic priorities into investment plans. Projects like the **Beautiful Cetinje** in central Montenegro, or the **remediation of the tailings** in the northern municipality Mojkovac, helped in improving economic conditions in both regions.



Refurbished Music Academy in Cetinje

In support of relevant ministries, the Programme also worked on identifying alternative solutions for **legalization of informal settlements through usage of energy efficiency measures as incentive** and aided in planning, tendering and giving concessions for building of **small hydropower plants**.

