

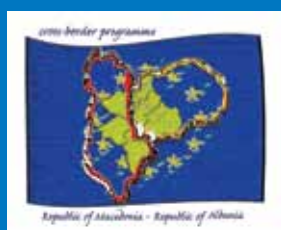


Republic of Macedonia

IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Republic of Macedonia – Republic of Albania 2007 – 2013



Ministry of Local Self-Government



Programme
co-funded by the
European Union

INTRODUCTION

The cross-border programme between Republic of Macedonia and Albania will be implemented during the period of 2007–2013. This strategic document is based on a joint strategic planning effort between the two countries and is also the result of a large consultation process with the local stakeholders and potential beneficiaries.

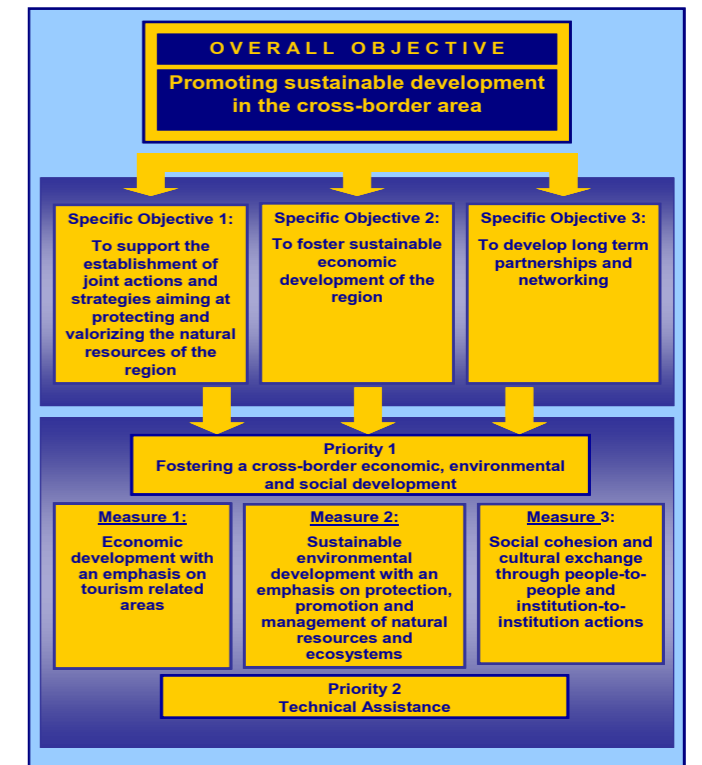
The objective of the cross-border programme is to promote good neighbourly relations, foster stability, security and prosperity, which is in the mutual interest of both countries, and encourage their harmonious, balanced and sustainable development.



THE MAP AND THE DESCRIPTION OF THE ELIGIBLE AREAS

PRIORITIES AND MEASURE

The objectives will be reached through the implementation of one priority comprising of three measures and the second priority for the technical assistance to the programme.



PROGRAMME STRUCTURES

1.1. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURES AT NATIONAL LEVEL

Each country has designated National IPA Coordinator.

In Republic of Macedonia, the Deputy Prime Minister for European Affairs is designated as the National IPA Coordinator, who acts as the representative of the country vis-à-vis the Commission. National IPA Coordinator has designated the Minister of Local Self Government as the Cross border cooperation Coordinator.

In Albania the National IPA Coordinator is the Minister of European Integration (MoEI).

Cross border cooperation Coordinator is the main

contact point between each beneficiary country and the Commission for all issues related to participation of the respective country in programmes under the IPA CBC Component.

1.2 OPERATING STRUCTURES

The Cross-border programme shall be implemented by the Operating Structure (OS) which is designated in each country. These are:

Republic of Macedonia Ministry of Local Self Government	Republic of Albania Ministry of European Integration
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Operating Structure of each country cooperates closely in the programming and implementation

of the relevant cross-border programmes. The OSs are responsible for the implementation of the programme in their respective country.

1.3 JOINT TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT

Joint Technical Secretariat – Struga (JTS) assists the JMC and the Operating Structures in carrying out their responsibilities. The JTS is jointly managed by both OSs.

The location of the JTS is in Struga, Republic of Macedonia. It has an Antennae in Elbasan, Albania.

The Joint Technical Secretariat is the administrative body of the programme responsible for its day-to-day management.

1.4 CONTRACTING AUTHORITIES

In both countries, the European Union will be the Contracting Authority.

Republic of Macedonia Delegation of the European Union

Mito Hadzivasilev
Jasmin 52v,
1000 Skopje
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Republic of Albania Delegation of the European Union

APA Business Centre
17th floor
Rr. Papa Gjon Pali II, Tirana
Tel: (+355 4) 2228 320
Fax: (+355 4) 2230 752

In both countries, in line with Article 140(1) of the IPA Implementing Regulation, the European Commission retains overall responsibility for ex ante evaluation on calls for proposal, awarding grants, tendering, contracting and payment functions.

1.5 PROGRAMME BENEFICIARIES

Programme beneficiaries (partners) are nationals of a Member State of the European Union, other IPA beneficiary country, a country that is a beneficiary of the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument, or a Member State of the European Economic Area.

The partners in each beneficiary country shall appoint the Lead Partner among themselves prior to the submission of the Application. In principle there will be two Lead Partners/Applicants for each application, one in each participating country.

The two Lead Partners shall appoint among themselves a Functional Lead Partner prior to the submission of the project proposal, for coordination and reporting purposes.

PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

Under the implementation of this programme there were launched three Call for Proposals:

1st Call for Proposals – the overall indicative amount available under the 1st Call for Proposals was €1.020.000 (out of which €680,000 for the Republic of Macedonia and €340,000 for Republic Albania). In the Republic of Macedonia were signed 14 grant agreements between grant beneficiaries and the Delegation of the European Union in the Republic of Macedonia in total amount of €571,270.46 or 84%. In the Republic of Albania were signed 15 grant agreements between grant beneficiaries and the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Albania in total amount of €527,139.41. For the Republic of Albania were used all available funds from IPA 2007 of the 1st CfP and the allocated funds for the 2nd CfP from IPA 2007 in amount of €187,139.41.

2nd Call for Proposals – the overall indicative amount available under the 2nd Call for proposals was €3,525,000 (out of which €2,200,000 for the Republic of Macedonia and €1,325,000 for Republic Albania). In the Republic of Macedonia were signed 8 grant agreements between grant beneficiaries and the Delegation of the European Union in the Republic of Macedonia in total amount of €662,447.46 or 30%. In the Republic of Albania were signed 8 grant agreements between grant beneficiaries and the Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Albania in total amount of €581,740.46 or 44%.

3rd Call for Proposals – the overall indicative amount available under the 3rd Call for proposals was € 4,995,000 (out of which € 2,700,000 for the Republic of Macedonia and € 2,295,000 for Republic of Albania). The evaluation process of this call for proposal is in the final stage.

Projects awarded under the 1st Call for proposals of the IPA Cross-border Programme Republic of Macedonia – Republic of Albania, that are already implemented:

Disability and Prevention

This project aims at contributing to the prevention of disability, i.e. providing workshops and materials on relevant issues related to early prevention, detection, treatment and rehabilitation. Expected results should be reflected in a decreased number of persons with intellectual disability, better life quality of the disabled and their families, indirect stimulation of the work of institutions dealing with the disabled, an increased level of education of the target group and development of joint strategies between the Republic of Macedonia and Albania.

Location

Macedonia – Struga, Southwest region
Albania – Elbasan, Librazhd

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:

Poraka Nova – Macedonia,
Anita Gagovska, porakanova@yahoo.com

Lead Partner: Defending the rights of people

with disabilities (MEDPACK) – Albania,
Zela Koka, medpak@albmail.com

Project Duration (months): 12

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 55,591.58

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 40,064.01



Social Integration of Vulnerable Groups through Joint Cross-Border Initiatives in the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Albania

The aim of the project is to increase the capacities of local governments in designing and implementing the Local Strategy and Action Plan for Employment, and initiating sustainable partnerships through the Regional Network for Employment Development. The project will contribute to increasing the social integration of marginalised groups in the cross-border communities of the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Albania through developing and implementing strategies, action plans and employment programmes. This will be followed by initiating sustainable partnerships for the capacity building of grassroots NGOs and marginalised youth groups so as to cope with the entrepreneurship and free-market possibilities of both cross-border areas.

Project Duration (months): 8

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 52,922.20

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 49,858.00



Location

Macedonia – Prilep
Albania – Elbasan, Librazhd

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:

Centre for Civic Initiative – Macedonia,
Marina Kitanoska, marina@cgimk.org.mk

Lead Partner: National association of social workers – Albania,
Eliona Kuluri, info@nasw-albanian.com

Establishment of a Cross-Border Institutionalized Partnership in a People-to-People Approach

The project aims to contribute to the promotion of sustainable development in the cross-border area. It is expected to result in establishing and developing long-term partnerships and networking between university communities, local government, and civil society organizations in the cross-border area. This will be achieved through presenting mechanisms and instruments for spreading social values and experience between the actors and local government.

Project Duration (months): 12

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 53,437.50

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 53,064.38



Location

Macedonia – Gostivar, Tetovo
Albania – Elbasan

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:

Tjeter vizion – Albania,
Dijana Kasa, dkasa@hotmail.com

Lead Partner:

CSD Alka – Macedonia,
Gjorgi Velkovski, gjorgi.velkovski@alka.org.mk

Business without Borders

The project goal is to contribute to a wider economic development of the cross-border area of the south-west region in the Republic of Macedonia (Struga, Ohrid, Zajas, Debar municipality) and Korca region in the Republic of Albania (Pogradec and Korca municipalities). The project plans to establish interactive communication between representatives of Economic Chambers of Albania (Tirana-Korca) and the Macedonian Chambers (OEMVP). By achieving this kind of communication, the project hopes to create a possibility for a thorough mutual introduction of best practices that both Chambers can share, and thereby build a lasting cross-border partnership. This will be done through identifying differences in these practices, as well as recommendations for improving them and defining the cooperation between the Chambers. The resulting partnership will contribute to further regional development by using a new tool of cross-border cooperation.

Location

Macedonia – Struga, Ohrid, Debara, Zajas
Albania – Korce, Pogradec

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:

Economic Chamber of North-West Macedonia (OEMVP) – Macedonia, Mirlinda Rushiti Bytyqi, marlindarbytyqi@gmail.com

Lead Partner:

Chamber of commerce and industry – Albania, Suela Jahaj, sjah002@hotmail.com

Project Duration (months): 10

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 56,548.40

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 48,523.97



Capacity Building for the Cross-Border Communities for Improved Environment Governance

The overall objective of the project is to improve the perception and implementation of environmental protection standards. Specific activities will include spreading the network of cross-border participants and relevant institutions, associations, and groups, as well as ongoing training and promoting community resources and partnerships. Within this framework, the project plans to increase the knowledge and perception of environmental protection in line with European standards, as well as to support and build the capacities of community members, organisations and local authorities from both sides of the border. The workshop discussions will be used as a tool for sustainable cross-border dialogue, implementing European standards, preparing relevant training and support programmes which will in turn promote continuous capacity development and ensure the exchange of all relevant data on environmental issues. These results will lead to a responsible management of natural resources at the community level in the bordering municipalities of the Republic of Albania and the Republic of Macedonia.

Project Duration (months): 12

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 56,201.96



Location

Macedonia – Debar, Kicevo, Ohrid, Struga
Albania – Peshkopi, Kolonje, Bulqize, Korce

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:

National Centre for Community Services – Albania,
Liliana Dango-Gjokutaj, lilianadango@gmail.com

Women Crossing Borders for Change

This project aims to enable and speed-up the social integration of unemployed women of all ages by increasing their capacities for employment and focusing on equal opportunities for women in the very patriarchal and conservative urban and rural areas in the cross-border region.

Leadership and management training, exchange of experience, study trips, educational activities, as well as cross-border meetings, will be organised. The final result will be to create awareness and interest within the local and national organisations of the problems of social injustice suffered by unemployed women, facilitate a dialogue and develop continuous cooperation between women of all ages, support joint cross-border actions between women from both countries and improve local governmental programmes for unemployed women.

Project Duration (months): 12

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 31,704.00

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 32,130.00

Location

Macedonia – Struga, Vevcani
Albania – Korce

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:

Local Development Agency – Macedonia,
Jasminka Popovska,
jasminka.popovska@ldastruga.org

Lead Partner:

CSO Une Gruaja – Albania,
Eleni Jajçari, une_gruaja@yahoo.com

Working in the Rural Areas, Investing in the Future

This project aims to improve the economic situation in the cross-border region between the Republic of Albania and the Republic of Macedonia. A distinctive inequality between the economic situations in the urban and rural areas has forced the people to abandon rural areas on a massive scale. The project hopes to increase the incomes and improve the economic situation in the rural areas by developing and promoting rural tourism in Gorna Belica, Visni, Vevcani and Dardha.



Project Duration (months): 12

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 46,692.00

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 39,732.58

Location

Macedonia – Gorna Belica, Visni, Vevcani
Albania – Dardha

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:

Tabita Foundation – Albania, Dritan Naum,
dritan_naumi@yahoo.com

Lead Partner:

Parumba – Macedonia,
Hristijan Kovaceski, kovaceskikiko@gmail.com

Enhancing Awareness and Organization of Awareness Campaigns on Environment Protection in the Area of Shebenik-Jablanica Trans-Border Park

The aim of this project is to increase the awareness and participation of local community organisations in better management and protection of the Shebenik-Jablanica National Park and other natural resources. The project also seeks to find mechanisms for further development by creating cooperation partnerships between NGOs on a trans-border level: Aurora association, Communal Forest and Pastures Users Associations, Local Government Units, District Forest Service, etc. This should ultimately result in raising public awareness and supporting community action for the protection and management of the park and natural resources.

Location

Albania – Elbasan, Librazhd, Stebleva, Qender, Rajce

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner: Aurora OJF– Albania,
Pellumb Gjini, Aurora_OJF@yahoo.com

Project Duration (months): 11

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 31,250.31



Cross-Border Civil Society Forum

In order to contribute to the strengthening of the role of CSOs in the sustainable development in the cross-border region, this project aims to create an open atmosphere for the exchange of experience, stimulate free communication and better dialogue in order to motivate mutual understanding and coordination, and increase the cooperation and partnership-building among CSOs. The project should also raise the awareness of communities at large in the cross-border region about the activities of the CSOs, grounds of their actions, their goals, values and stances. This would result in an improved broader regional cooperation on specific issues of common interest.

Project Duration (months): 12

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 58,046.00

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 44,353.53



Location

Macedonia – Southwest, Polog
Albania – Dibra, Elbasan

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:

Macedonian Center for International Cooperation – Macedonia,
Daniela Stojanova, dsj@mcms.org.mk

Lead Partner:

Instituti per democraci dhe ndermjetesim – Albania,
Erisa Cela, ecela@idmalbania.org

Building a Pathway Together for Employment Opportunities in the Cross-Border Area

The project is focused on improving and developing services on the market in order to create better employment opportunities in the cross-border area. The plan is to create a wider and closer cooperation between the participants who work in employment and professional education fields on a regional level. The end result will be to stimulate the social integration of the unemployed and improve their qualifications for future employment in the region of Korca (the Republic of Albania), as well as in Ohrid and Struga (the Republic of Macedonia).



Project Duration (months): 12

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 52,183.50 – MK

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 49,940.00 – AL

Location

Macedonia – Ohrid, Struga
Albania – Korca

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:

Dorcas Aid International – Albania,
Mirela Dishnica, office@albania.dorcas.org

Lead Partner:

Foundation for Support of Enterprises
Ohrid – Macedonia,
Elizabeta Petanova, fpp-oh@t-home.mk

Integrated Sustainable Environmental Management with the Implementation of a Decision Support System

The aim of the project is to improve sustainable management of natural resources between the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Albania. The project will identify and focus on the problems related to natural resources in the cross-border region, and also develop and implement a Decision Support System based on information and communication technology. This system will have an impact on the efficiency of the decision-making process, involving three sectors: local authorities, NGOs and business organizations. In the end, the project will increase public awareness in the cross-border area of the importance of sustainable management of natural resources, and emphasise the problems regarding natural resources.

Project Duration (months): 12

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 43,040.00

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 23,090.00



Location

Macedonia – Bitola (Pelagonia), Resen
Albania – Pogradec

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:

Institute for New Technologies, Innovations and Knowledge Transfer “Carl Friedrich Gauss” (Bitola) – Macedonia, Aleksandra Lozanovska,
aleksandra.lozanovska@gmail.com

Lead Partner:

Nehemia Foundation – Albania,
Mangalina Cane, Nehemia@nehemia-al.org

Cross-Border Shared Integrated Alternative Tourism

The overall objective of this project is to support the economic development of small infrastructure and tourism activities, focusing on eco-tourism in the cross-border region, as well as to launch regional cooperation in tourism. The project will form a group of trained tourism professionals who will contribute to the development of small businesses and the tourism offer in the region. The project seeks to implement “people-to-people” actions which will have an impact on cross-border business cooperation and training, increase employment, and attract businesses from all over the world.

Project Duration (months): 12

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 49,995.00

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 49,992.14



Location

Macedonia – Krushevo, Pelagonia
Albania – Pogradec

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:

ORT Training for Sustainable Development – Macedonia,
Biljana Stevanovska, orts@t-home.mk

Lead Partner:

Local economical development agency (AULEDA) – Albania,
Mirela Kochi, auledavlore@yahoo.com



Promoting Business Women Enterprises in the Cross-Border Area

This project aims to increase the business capacities of 30–40 business women in the cross-border area, to promote their businesses and create a supporting environment for their development. Using capacity-building programmes, promotional activities and networking, the project plans to develop cooperation and commercial exchange between women-owned business companies in the Republic of Albania and the Republic of Macedonia.

Project Duration (months): 9

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 30,166.00

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 35,704.95



Location

Albania – Pogradec
Macedonia – Struga

Project Partners

Functional Lead Partner:

Centre for change and conflict management – AL,
Arjola Agolli, partners@partnersalbania.org

Lead Partner:

Macedonian Enterprise Development
Foundation – MK,
Gligor Mihailovski, gmh@mrfp.org.mk

Assistance Provision for Children with Speech and Language Difficulties

The goal of this project is to improve the life quality of children with speech and language difficulties in the Republic of Albania, with a special focus on 3–6 year-olds in the Elbasan region. In order to achieve this goal, the project will endeavour to educate society on how these difficulties occur, what the statistics show and what the available services are in Albania and the neighbouring countries, as well as raising the awareness of how to identify and support children who may have speech, language and communication difficulties.

The end result will be to expand the abilities of the Albanian society to offer these children an easier way to communicate with their surroundings.



Project Duration (months): 9

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 51,875.00

Location

Albania– Elbasan, Cerrik, Librazhd, Gramsh,
Peqin

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:
Hope and Homes – Albania,
Evelina Azizaj, evelinaazizaj@gmail.com

Contribution to the Biodiversity and Enhancement of Regional Cooperation in the Pelagonija/Prespa–Ohrid Trans-Boundary Region

The goal of this project is to increase the general awareness of the natural values of national parks Galicica, Pelister and Prespa, and to promote these national parks as future tourist destinations. In order to achieve this goal, the project will customize the national parks' promotional material in accordance with visitor profiles, distribute the promotional material to a wide range of customer service providers, improve the connectivity between the national parks, as well as between development agencies, and create a cooperation platform for customer service providers in the region.



Project Duration (months): 7

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 42,819.00

Location

Macedonia – Bitola, Resen
Albania – Korca

Functional Lead Partner:

Pelagonija Regional

Development Agency – PREDA – Macedonia,
Milena Dimitrovska, director@preda.org.mk

Borders without Boundaries

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the creation of new relations and networks as the most important tools for exchanging experience, future cooperation and defining development strategies between the municipalities of Korca in the Republic of Albania, and Bitola in the Republic of Macedonia. The project will use the cultural and historical heritage, as well as new media products, to achieve the end result which is to create a presentation of the two cities' potentials and specificities for the general public. The project also seeks to create social cohesion among the youth from the two cities and help the people to overcome all prejudices about the way of life and culture in the neighbouring country.



Project Duration (months): 12

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 83,550.00

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 25,690.00

Location

Macedonia – Bitola
Albania– Korce

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:

Municipality of Bitola, Macedonia,
Evgenija B.Josifovska,
e.b.josifovska@hotmail.com

Lead Partner:

Municipality of Korca:
Vilma Petro, anikris_67@yahoo.com



Action on Entrepreneurship Business Support and Development of Cross-Border Cooperation

This project seeks to contribute to the launching of cooperation development between small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the cross-border region. The project will implement actions to improve commercial exchange and economic relations between the Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Albania by creating cross-border exchange and partnership programmes, emphasizing and defining necessary joint strategies, enabling the exchange of knowledge and good practices between the two countries and encouraging a common interest in supporting and organizing the SMEs. The project activities will be aimed at building capacities for entrepreneurs' development and also creating opportunities for establishing contacts, assistance, communication and strengthening relationships between.



Project Duration (months): 12

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 54,850.10

Location

Macedonia – Kichevo
Albania – Korca

Project Partners

Functional Lead Partner:

Regional Enterprise Support Centre Bitola – Macedonia,
Simeon Petrov, sime.petrov@gmail.com

Projects awarded under the 2nd Call for proposals of the IPA Cross-border Programme Republic of Macedonia – Republic of Albania that are currently under implementation:

Cross border cooperation for Improvement of VET

The objective of this project is to contribute to the improvement of vocational educational and training (VET) through cross border cooperation between neighboring regions of Albania and Macedonia. Vocational Education and Training system continues to be in a delicate moment in Macedonia and Albania. Reforms in Vocational Education in Albania and Macedonia have for more than 10 years been a high priority on the agenda of our government. Despite all efforts by government and donors for reform in VET in the these countries, participation in VET of the age cohort 15 – 18/19 is still less than 20–30 percent, while in other European countries the participation in VET is around 60 percent. The low participation in VET and the quality of VET in Albania has a negative impact on the percentage of qualified and qualitative labour force in the labour market.

Project Duration (months): 12

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 27,534.99

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 44,614.50

Location

Macedonia – Ohrid, Struga, Bitola
Albania – Elbasan, Korca, Pogradec

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:

Educational Centre Elbasan – Albania,
Edlira Leazer, eleazer@enet.al

Lead Partner:

Centre for Sustainability and Advance Education – Macedonia,
Igor Mishevski, igor@csae.mk.

Strengthening Education and Training Capacity on Natural Resource Conservation in Ohrid – Prespa Basins

There are considerable differences between both countries in managing the business activities and natural resources, with Macedonian side having a better management due to historical, political, economical and legal differences. The project aims to improve professional performance in environmental education contributing to a sustainable economic development of the cross border area of South-West region in Macedonia and Korça and Elbasan regions in Albania. The specific objectives of Build TRACA (Environmental Educational Network) are to (i) improve environmental education capacity by raising competence levels on both sides of the border; (ii) encourage knowledge transfer by establishing networks among the local government authorities, academics, training institutions and NGO's, and (iii) promote joint activities. The Action will be implemented in the Republic of Macedonia, and Republic of Albania, Korça region, towns of Pogradec; Elbasan region and town of Librazhd.

Project Duration (months): 18

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 121,519.96

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 147,236.00

Location

Macedonia – South-West Region, towns of Struga and Ohrid
Albania – Korça region, town of Pogradec; Elbasan region and town of Librazhd

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:

Research Centre for Rural Development, Albania,
Jamarbër Malltezi, abi_malltezi@yahoo.com

Lead Partner:

The Union of the Ecologists "Natyra" – NGO, Macedonia,
Berat Sela, Berat_70@hotmail.com

Strengthening the SME Sector in the cross border region

Despite significant progress in macroeconomic stabilization and the process of privatization in both countries, job creation is still limited. Companies in the border region are not enough sufficiently competitive. The overall objective of the project is to strengthen the local economic development and to increase the competitiveness of enterprises from Southwest and Pelagonija region in Macedonia and Korca region in Albania. The project is focused on increasing the competitiveness and capacity building of the enterprises from the tourism sector, reducing the unemployment rate of the younger population in the cross-border regions and strengthening the institutional infrastructure and establishment of public-private dialogue for improving the local economic development. The Action will be implemented in the Republic of Macedonia: and in the Republic Albania.

Project Duration (months): 18

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 114,188.50.

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 81,661.00

Location

Macedonia – Bitola, Prilep, Ohrid, Struga and Kicevo
Albania – Korca and Pogradec

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:

Foundation for small and medium sized enterprises development Regional Enterprises Support Centre Bitola, Macedonia,
Goce Petrovski, rcbt@t-home.mk

Lead Partner:

Regional Development Agency Korca, Albania,
Aurel Grabocka, rdakorca@yahoo.com



Dibra Region Environment Promotion Project (DREPP)

The environment in the cross-border region (Dibra region in Albania and Commune of Dibra in Macedonia) is threatened by poor water and sewage management, uncontrolled waste disposal, unregulated urbanization, and by industrial pollution that has caused critical environmental damages. Thus, nature protection needs to be improved and the ecological balance of the important eco-systems present in the cross-border area and of its biodiversity need to be preserved. Moreover, there are environmental challenges that need to be kept under control and pollution-reducing activities are necessary to be implemented. The goal of this project is to contribute at protecting, promoting and managing sustainable environmental development in the cross-border area through support of joint initiatives. The specific objective of the project is to improve the level of understanding, management and implementation capacities of community based groups on the environmental issues, based on public awareness and educational activities, and small-scale interventions in the environment in the cross-border area (Dibra region in Albania and Commune of Dibra in Macedonia).

Project Duration (months): 18

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 90,311.00

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 123,893.70

Location

Macedonia – Southwest Region, Municipality of Debar
Albania– Dibra Region, Districts of Dibra, Burrel and Bulqize.

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:

Democratic Integration and Development Center, Kukes (DIDC) – Albania, Zyrjan ALUSHI, zyrjanalushi@yahoo.com

Lead Partner:

Centre for Sustainable Community Development, Debar (CSCD) – Macedonia, Shuip MARKU, s.marku@gmail.com

Cross-border water resource management

This project recognizes needs expressed by representatives of municipalities and local stakeholders for further development of environmental planning, efficient public participation in decision-making, facilitating environmental investments and improving environmental resource management. Project would open channels of communication and improve cooperation across national borders and among different ethnic groups in Macedonia and Albania. The project will guide two cross-border municipalities in Macedonia and Albania towards prudent use of water resources and increased awareness of the communities for sustainable living and behaviour. Improving the water supply systems efficiency, strengthening the capacities in the Municipalities and Public Communal Enterprises, enhancing the capacity of the stakeholders in the basin for Integrated Water Resource Management Planning are specific objectives of this project. The Action will be implemented in the Republic of Macedonia and in Albania.

Project Duration (months): 18

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 196,556.25

Location

Macedonia – South west region – municipality of Debar
Albania– District of Diber – Municipality of Peshkopi.

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:

The Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe – Country Office for Macedonia (REC Macedonia) – Macedonia, Katarina Stojkovska, katarina@rec.org.mk

Branding: Paving the Path for Promoting and Protecting Local Products in the Cross-Border Region

Rural areas of the target CBC region are rich in natural resources, biodiversity and highly specific and traditional agricultural products (sheep cheese, kaskaval and lamb meat but also some fruits and vegetables (such as apples, cherries plumps, beans, forest nuts, medicinal herbs) and recognized as such by the consumers. These traditional products, if properly registered and protected under the existing laws and regulations (Protected Designation of Origin, Protected Geographical Indications, and Protected Traditional Denomination) and linked to the new market conditions, could highly participate in strengthening the regional identity and in fostering the economic development of the region. The project aims to contribute to the rural economic development of the CBC Area through promotion of regional products branding. Specific objective of the project are: implemented planning and management framework for the process of branding and preserving local products in the CBC regions, enhanced capacities of the target CBC regions to manage the process of product branding and established cross-border cooperation and coordination of CBC channels related to promotion of regional products.

Project Duration (months): 15

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 96,413.25

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 88,761.00

Location

Macedonia – Polog Region, Municipalities – Gostivar and Mavrovo/Rostuse
Albania– Dibra Region– Communes of Maqellare, Melan, Tomin, Kastriot, Slllove, Kala e Dodes.

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:

Center for Sustainable Development ALKA – Macedonia, Zarko Dzipunov, zarko.dzipunov@alka.org.mk

Lead Partner:

Institute for Democracy and Mediation – Albania, Sotirag Hroni, shroni@idmalbania.org

Social inclusion of persons who served prison sentence

This action responds to the common needs identified in the targeted countries, Macedonia and Albania, regarding the social inclusion of the marginalized groups – prisoners and the need for improvement of the prisons conditions in the cross-border region. Cross border cooperation will be established between institutions – prisons and human rights NGOs in favour of partnerships for quality reintegration of prisoners is one of the priorities for EU accession.

Location

Macedonia – Prilep, Bitola
Albania– Korca

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:

Center for Civic Initiative – Macedonia, Mr. Goce Todoroski, ccimk@t-home.mk

Lead Partner:

Albanian Rehabilitation Center for victims of trauma and torture – Albania, Adrian Kati, arct@albmail.com



Empowerment of women in touristic areas through handcrafting production

Fundamental changes need to occur at all levels of government and society for Albania and Macedonia diversity to be recognized as interrelated with their culture. Most importantly, there is a lack of awareness of how culture can be used as a tool for sustainable development, increase economic benefits from tourism and increase trade generated and conversely, how such development can be used as a catalyst for culture. This project will contribute to the promotion of sustainable economic growth and attractiveness of the Albanian Korca Region and Struga Region so as to make better use of their socio-economic and cultural potentials in pursuing regional development and facilitating cross border cooperation. The Action will be implemented in the Republic of Macedonia: Region of Struga, Kalishta Village and Albania: Region of Korça, Tushemisht Village, Voskopoja Village.

Project Duration (months): 18

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Macedonia is € 83,470.00

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 113,838.00

Location

Macedonia – Region of Struga, Kalishta Village
Albania – Region of Korça, Tushemisht Village, Voskopoja Village

Project partners

Functional Lead Partner:

Association for Women with Social Problems – Albania,
Bajana Cevoli, bceveli@yahoo.com

Lead Partner:

Women Association “Aureola” – Macedonia,
Ruhije Sula, aureola_6@yahoo.com

Enable new forms of services for children with autism spectrum disorders

The overall objective of this proposal is to create an effective process of cross –border cooperation to enable new forms of services for children with autism spectrum disorders in the region, through exchange development practices for this target, their families and societies they are living in.

Project Duration (months): 12

Total Project Budget for the grant beneficiary in Albania is € 52,750.00

Location

Albania – Municipality of Elbasan

Project Partners

Functional Lead Partner:

Hope and Homes – Albania,
Evelina Azizaj, evelinaazizaj@gmail.com;
albaniachildren@yahoo.com

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Implementing authority: **Ministry of Local Self –Government**

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Skopje, November 2012





Republic of Macedonia



Ministry of Local Self –Government

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