

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

CEI Fund
at the EBRD





Central European Initiative

The CEI is a regional forum for cooperation and consultation, which promotes collaboration in Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe at political, economic and cultural level.

Founded in 1989, the CEI currently counts 17 Member States¹: Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, and Ukraine.

Since its inception, the Initiative's main aim has focused on supporting transition countries in their integration process with the European Union (EU). To achieve this goal, the CEI seeks to make a sustainable impact on strengthening the capacities of its Member States remaining outside of the EU to consolidate their institutional and economic background, thus bringing them closer to the Union.

In 1992, Italy signed an Agreement with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) on the establishment of a CEI Fund at the EBRD "to assist the Bank's countries of operations in Central, Eastern and South-eastern Europe in their economic and social transformation process". A Secretariat for CEI Projects (later renamed Office for the CEI Fund at the EBRD) was established to manage the Fund.

The Fund, towards which the Italian Government has solely made a total contribution of 53 million EUR, mainly provides grant-type assistance for Technical Cooperation (TC) projects. The Fund has so far provided about 30.6 million EUR for TC projects. It has also contributed over 3.7 million EUR to the Know-how Exchange Programme (KEP).

¹ According to the CEI Guidelines and Rules of Procedure the CEI Member States are: Republic of Albania, Republic of Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Bulgaria, Republic of Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Italian Republic, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Republic of North Macedonia, Republic of Poland, Romania, Republic of Serbia, Slovak Republic, Republic of Slovenia and Ukraine.

ToC

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AGLI ITALIANI CHE DIORANO
LA PATRIA NEL MONDO

Intro

Introduction



More than 30 years ago, the Central European Initiative was conceived as a tool for promoting dialogue and cooperation in Europe in order to address the radical changes our continent was experiencing at the time. The CEI has always demonstrated the value of regional cooperation as a catalyser for democratic transition, economic

growth and social inclusiveness. Today, Europe is facing unprecedented challenges following the Russian Federation's aggression to Ukraine, a long-standing member of the CEI family. We highlight our unwavering support for Ukraine's territorial integrity, full sovereignty and independence within its internationally recognised borders. We stand by Ukraine and its people in their fight for freedom and we are determined to support them as well as its neighbouring countries that are affected by the conflict.

Through 2021, the world's focus was still on COVID-19. In the Central European Initiative region, the pandemic had carried on longer than expected one year ago, with new restrictions threatening the recovery. Still, vaccines have made a major difference, and the CEI countries have managed not only

to recover but also to get back into a path of significant economic growth. With a new replenishment of 2 million euro, the CEI Fund at the EBRD supported, throughout 2021, the non-EU Member States in their reform process, sustaining their recovery with a special focus on green transition and connectivity, as well as on strengthening democratic institutions. Seven new technical cooperation projects were approved in 2021, with a total value of about 1.5 million EUR and a related international investment of about 62 million EUR, specifically focussed on energy transition and connectivity. The CEI Know-How Exchange Programme has contributed with about 200.000 euro to the implementation of seven new projects aimed at strengthening democratic institutions in the Western Balkans, in Moldova and Ukraine.

The CEI Fund is committed in 2022 to strongly supporting regional cooperation, to protecting and promoting EU values, to backing the non-EU CEI members through their democratic transition efforts and their path to the European Union. We want to support young generations as the drivers for change, towards a more integrated Central European Initiative region. We are going to face troubled times, and regional cooperation and dialogue will be intensified by using all the instruments at our disposal, including the CEI Fund.

Andrea Cascone

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrea Cascone'.



The CEI Fund at the EBRD

The **Central European Initiative (CEI)** was founded in Budapest on 11 November 1989. It is a regional intergovernmental forum committed to supporting European integration and sustainable development through cooperation between and among its Member States. While acting as a platform for political dialogue, the CEI has developed a strong operational, result oriented approach to regional cooperation. It combines multilateral diplomacy and financing.

The **European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)** was established and opened for business with its headquarters in London in 1991 to help build a new, post-Cold War era in Central and Eastern Europe. It has since then played a historic role and gained unique expertise in fostering change in the region – and beyond – investing more than 160 billion EUR in a total of over 6,000 projects across three continents.

Italy is a founding member and an important contributor of both the CEI and the EBRD. In this framework, in 1992, it established the CEI Fund at the EBRD, acknowledging the great opportunity the newly created development bank represented for the CEI and its objectives. Donor governments and partners make a vital contribution to the Bank's work by providing funds that act as a catalyst for investments and support to other activities in countries of operations. Therefore, the CEI Fund was created "to assist the Bank's countries of operation in central and eastern Europe in their economic and social transformation process".

The Fund has financed projects and activities targeting the entire CEI region with a sole Italian contribution of 53 million EUR. Currently, countries of operations are the non-EU CEI Member States, namely: Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Ukraine.

The Fund has mainly financed a grant-type Technical Cooperation (TC) Programme in support of EBRD operations in a number of areas, including agribusiness, energy/climate, finance and business, institutional development and capacity building, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), municipal infrastructure and services, and transport.

In addition to Technical Cooperation, the CEI Fund has been a source of financing for the Know-how Exchange

Programme (KEP) – a grant facility supporting capacity building and best-practice transfer from institutions in EU CEI countries to benefit recipients in non-EU CEI Member States.

From 1998 to 2006, the CEI Fund at the EBRD – in cooperation with a number of partners across the CEI region – co-financed Cooperation Activities, i.e. projects of small scale and limited duration, such as conferences, seminars, workshops, or other types of short trainings. Between 1998 and 2006, the CEI Fund supported 113 activities of this kind throughout the CEI member countries, with over 1.6 million EUR.

The Office for the CEI Fund at the EBRD is the operational body, which ensures constant dialogue among the CEI-Executive Secretariat, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI) and the EBRD on all issues related to the administration of the Fund. Through this Office – whose staff members closely collaborate with the EBRD teams – the CEI has managed to build a unique comparative advantage vis-à-vis other funds within the Bank. This collaborative approach allows the Office for the CEI Fund to choose projects more efficiently, thereby ensuring high-leverage ratios as well as greater effectiveness.

In 2021, the Office staff was composed of a Programme Manager and an Executive Officer.



Technical Cooperation Programme

EBRD technical assistance primarily aims at contributing to the preparation and implementation of the Bank's investment and non-investment operations, and at providing advisory services to private- and public-sector clients. Technical Cooperation (TC) projects can assist in implementing legal and regulatory frameworks, institutional reforms, as well as in achieving the highest standards of corporate governance. In general, TC projects enable the EBRD to:

- Make thorough preparations for its investments and undertake them more effectively.
- Pursue investment opportunities in higher-risk environments by reducing credit risks.
- Increase the impact of its projects in the transition process by supporting structural and institutional changes.
- Sponsor legal and regulatory reforms, institutional building, company management and training.

TC projects constitute the largest part of the activity funded by the CEI Fund at the EBRD. CEI Technical Cooperation is traditionally offered in the form of grant-type assistance. Operations include support for feasibility and pre-feasibility studies, project implementation, management training, capacity building, and pre-loan audits. These activities target a number of priority areas, including agribusiness, business and finance, energy/climate, institutional development, municipal infrastructure and services, SME support and transport.

Since its inception, the Italian Government – through the CEI Fund at the EBRD – has committed about 30.6 million EUR towards 189 Technical Cooperation assignments (see Annex 5). These projects have been coherent with the framework and general objectives of the EBRD and other international financial institutions (IFIs) and have represented a fundamental means of development for the countries of operations of the CEI Fund.

Investment links

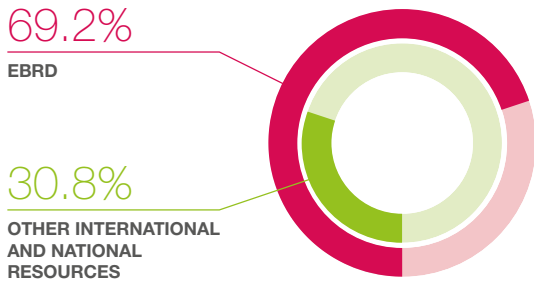
Technical cooperation grants typically involve technical expertise to help design or implement an investment project. The CEI TC Programme aims at supporting the Bank's investments and loans, either at project preparation or implementation level. The CEI has undertaken projects, which yield high co-financing ratios.

Between 1993 and 2021, the CEI Fund dedicated about 30.6 million EUR to technical assistance operations. These TC projects are expected to mobilise around 7 billion EUR of international investments. The EBRD alone is expected to contribute to those investments with around 5 billion EUR.

A Total Investment Ratio (TIR) can be calculated to show how many euros the international community is expected to invest for each euro granted by the CEI Fund for TC projects. Between 1993 and 2021, the TIR was estimated to be 1:231. The EBRD's share, alone, is expected to reach approximately 160 EUR for each euro of the CEI Fund dedicated to TC projects: this represents the EBRD Investment Ratio (EIR).

Chart 2.1.

Total Investments linked to the CEI TC assignments
(share of 7 billion EUR of estimated total linked investments)



Total Investment Ratio = 1:231

Total Investments / Total committed CEI grants

EBRD Investment Ratio = 1:160

EBRD Investments / Total committed CEI grants

Geographic distribution

The distribution of TC projects by country and their cumulative committed value since 1993 demonstrate the CEI Fund's focus on regional projects. 37% of its resources (amounting to 11.5 million EUR) have been committed to regional operations through over 50 TC assignments. As to country allocations, the initial focus on Central European

countries (which have since then become EU members) has shifted towards the Western Balkans, the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) countries that are CEI Member States and Belarus. The charts below illustrate the geographical distribution of TC projects by number of assignments and their value over the period 1993-2021.

Chart 2.2.

Cumulative distribution of TC assignments by country, 1993-2021 *(share of a total of 189 assignments)*

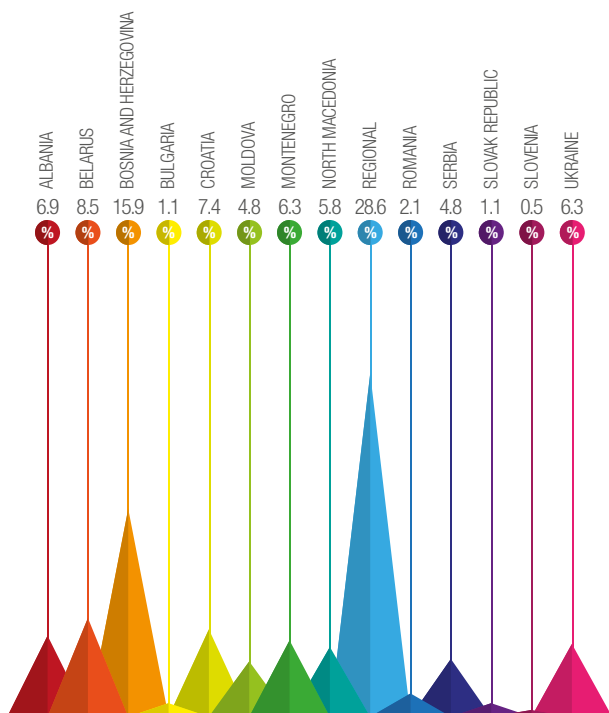
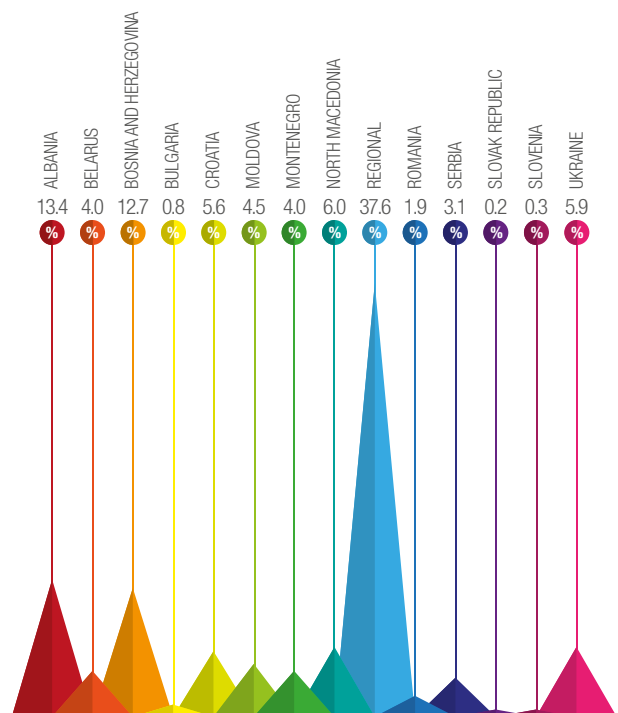


Chart 2.3.

Cumulative distribution of TC assignments by country, 1993-2021 *(share of total committed grants of 30,572,811 EUR)*



Sectors covered

The sector allocation analysis indicates seven areas of operations in which the CEI has funded TC projects: agribusiness, business and finance, energy/climate, institutional development, municipal infrastructure and services, SME support, and transport. According to this categorisation and in terms of resources, transport is the

sector that has benefited from the TC funds the most, followed by energy/climate and SME support. The charts below illustrate the sector distribution of TC projects by number of assignments and their value over the period 1993-2021.

Chart 2.4.
Cumulative distribution of TC assignments by sector, 1993-2021 (share of a total of 189 assignments)

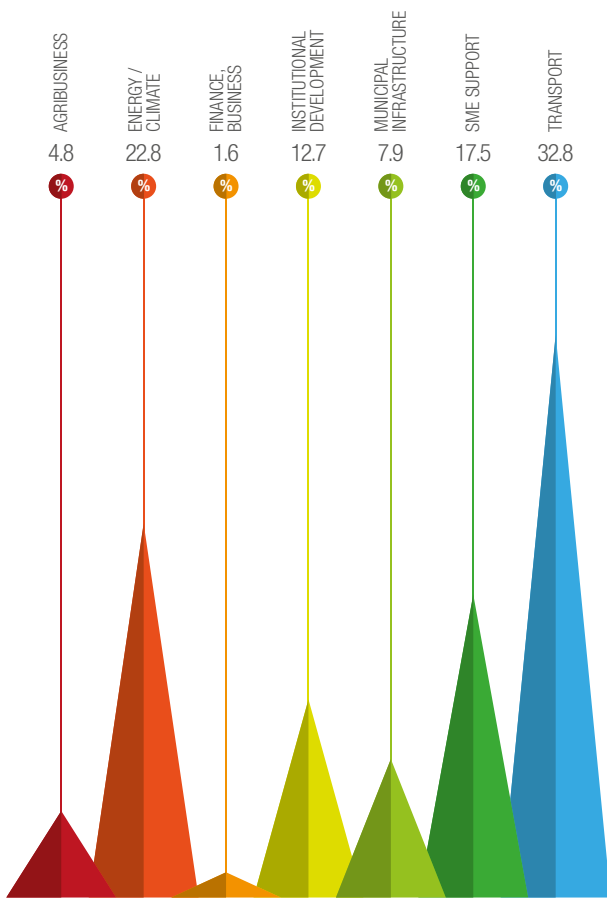
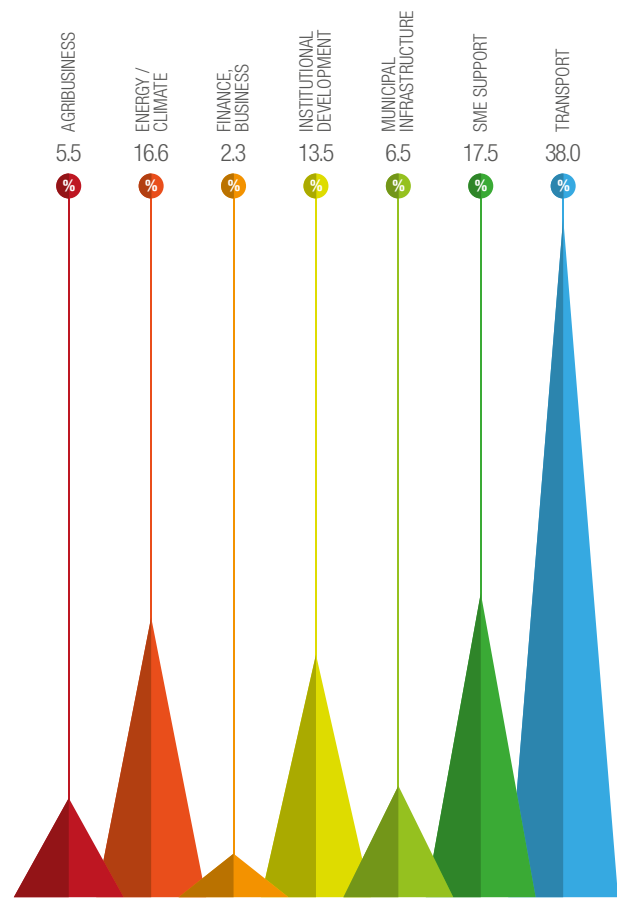


Chart 2.5.
Cumulative distribution of TC assignments by sector, 1993-2021 (share of total committed grants of 30,572,811 EUR)





Technical Cooperation Assignments Approved in 2021

02

Table 2.1. List of TC assignments approved in 2021

No.	Earmark document number	Assignment name	Country of operation	Sector of operation	Value €	Expected related investment (€ million)
1	50008295	Green City Action Plan for Brcko District	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Municipal infrastructure	275,000	21
2	50008332	Green Cities Framework 2 Window 2 Sarajevo Public Transport e-Mobility – Project Implementation Support	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport	430,000	20
3		Green Cities Framework 2 Window 2 Sarajevo Public Transport e-Mobility – Project Design	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport	70,000	
5	50008403	Chisinau Solid Waste – Project Implementation Support Services	Moldova	Municipal infrastructure	300,000	23
4	To be assigned	Port of Brcko – Corporate Development Plan	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport	250,000	12.4
6	To be assigned	Market Assessment for the Uptake of Climate Technologies in the Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia)	Regional	Energy/ Climate	150,000	n/a
7	To be assigned	Improving Corporate Governance in Family-owned Enterprises	Serbia	SME support	40,000	n/a
TOTAL					1,515,000	62.5

Green City Action Plan for Brcko District

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	50008295
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	Bosnia and Herzegovina
SECTOR OF OPERATION	Municipal infrastructure
VALUE	275,000 EUR
PLANNED DURATION	24 months

BACKGROUND

The EBRD launched the programme “EBRD Green Cities” (<https://www.ebrdgreencities.com/>) in late 2016 with the mission to build a better and more sustainable future for cities and their residents. The programme aims at achieving this by identifying, prioritising, and connecting cities’ environmental challenges with sustainable infrastructure investments and policy measures.

The Brcko District will be the 4th administration in Bosnia and Herzegovina joining the programme after Sarajevo, Banja Luka and Zenica.

Green City Action Plans (GCAP) are at the core of EBRD Green Cities, helping cities to articulate their challenges for sustainable development, and devise a politically and economically feasible plan of investments and policies to transition cities to greener paradigms.

The goal of the GCAP is to provide a systematic analysis and strategic approach for cities to articulate their sustainable development objectives in the short and medium-term. In areas where cities may have taken an ad hoc approach to investment and policy action in the past, the GCAP seeks to aggregate and organise cities priorities around a central mission for a greener future, while promoting socio-economic co-benefits. This benefits cities by:

- Providing inputs to optimising the allocation of a city’s limited financial and personnel capacity to those issues with the greatest environmental benefits.
- Enhancing the possibilities to attract co-finance and support when it is clear how a specific project fits into the broader priorities and road map for environmental improvement for a safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable city.

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF WORK

The overall objective of this assignment is to support the Brcko District to develop and support the approval of a Green City Action Plan. The contract period of the assignment will be 24 months consisting of the following:

- Inception, baseline and production of the GCAP.
- Support for the approval & Final Report.
- Capacity Building and monitoring activities.

The Consultant shall aim to achieve the following objectives:

- a. Assist the Brcko District to become familiar with the GCAP Methodology.
- b. Assist the Brcko District and its citizens to develop ownership of the GCAP. Encourage broad civil participation for the GCAP’s development.
- c. Support the Brcko District to identify the key stakeholders for the assignment, including main contact points of each entity responsible for contributing to the development of the GCAP.
- d. Ensure an open and inclusive GCAP development and support the Brcko District in its stakeholder engagement.
- e. Assist the Brcko District to conduct broad stakeholder consultations (including both bilateral meetings and consultation group meetings, surveys, depending on the need) during the different steps in the GCAP. Regularly report the progress to external stakeholders and make deliverables and information available to public accordingly to the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (Task 1e).
- f. Assist the Brcko District throughout the approval process of the GCAP including public hearing/disclosure of the draft GCAP and making necessary amendments if necessary.
- g. Identify and strengthen capacities of municipal staff and urban infrastructure service providers in order to be able to successfully implement, manage and/or operate green infrastructure investments, services and policy measures.

INVESTMENT LINKS

The EBRD is currently developing a Priority Investment Plan for the Brcko District which amounts to about 21 million EUR for investments into the water supply and wastewater network, including:

- The construction of the main water transmission pipeline which will help regulate the water pressure in the whole urban area of the Brcko District. As a result, almost 45,000 people will obtain better quality of water service. Moreover, the construction of the water supply branches will enable connection of new customers (Brod settlement with 400 households and two east settlements with some 1,100 households).
- The construction of a wastewater treatment plant in the urban area of the District.

Other investments are expected to be implemented over the next few years, depending on the availability of financing.

Green Cities Framework 2 Window 2 Sarajevo Public Transport e-Mobility – Project Implementation Support + Project Design

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	50008332
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	Bosnia and Herzegovina
SECTOR OF OPERATION	Transport
VALUE	430,000 EUR + 70,000 EUR
PLANNED DURATION	24 months

BACKGROUND

The Project is part of a broader EBRD Green Cities' programme (<https://www.ebrdgreencities.com/>), which is an initiative that strives to build a better and more sustainable future for cities and their residents. The programme aims at achieving this by identifying, prioritising and connecting cities' environmental challenges with sustainable infrastructure investments and policy measures.

Sarajevo, the most populated Canton in Bosnia and Herzegovina, joined EBRD Green Cities in November 2018 (<https://www.ebrdgreencities.com/our-cities/sarajevo/>). Through its Green Cantonal Action Plan (GCAP), financed by the government of Japan, the Canton will have the opportunity to address its key challenges of local air quality and greenhouse gas emissions, lack of public transport infrastructure, current transport policies and the prevalence of private transport in an aged vehicle fleet. By systematically identifying green investment priorities, Sarajevo will be able to develop a green and sustainable vision for the Canton while revitalising its environmental and urban landscape.

The GCAP has identified the investment in public transport infrastructure as one of the priorities for Sarajevo to tackle the alarming air pollution and improve the standard of living in the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The estimate is that CO₂ emission reductions are likely to exceed by 30 per cent.

The Project is the sixth follow-up investment in Sarajevo stemming from the GCAP. It will address key challenges in Sarajevo's public transport infrastructure by improving access to cleaner urban transport as well as the capacity and efficiency of public overall transport and the cantonal public transport operator Gradski saobraćaj d.o.o. Sarajevo (GRAS) in particular. The previous projects included the purchase of new trolleybuses, upgrades of the existing tram network and purchase/replacement of trams.

The Project is made up of three components:

- the acquisition and implementation of an Adaptive Traffic Management System (the "ATMS"; 7 million EUR);
- labour severance payments as part of the GRAS restructuring (3 million EUR), for which the Canton has already taken the first steps; and
- purchase of additional five trams, which is an add-on to the previously signed project (10 million EUR).

ATMS

The benefits of the previous public transport projects in the Canton are estimated at a 31% reduction in greenhouse gas and air pollutant emissions. Although the purchase of an additional five trams (Tranche 2 of this Project) is expected to only marginally contribute (1-2%), the introduction of ATMS (Tranche 1 of this Project) will amplify these and the benefits of the previous projects. The benefits of the introduction of ATMS will be estimated during due diligence.

The ultimate goal is to integrate public transport into the ATMS in order to increase punctuality, capacity and efficiency of public transport. These improvements will reduce greenhouse gas and air pollutant emissions from transport in the Canton by:

- incentivising a modal shift to public transport due to improved speed and accessibility of the transit network; and
- reducing idling times and congestion of vehicles.

Labour restructuring of GRAS

A PwC study financed by the UK Good Governance Fund includes the following key Restructuring Plan measures:

- optimisation of the GRAS management function;
- a significant redundancy programme;
- restructuring of GRAS' tax liabilities;
- increase in revenue compensations (i.e. subsidies);
- outsourcing of non-core activities.

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF WORK

In order to facilitate the timely and effective implementation of the ATMS, the Project Implementation Support will include, among others:

- assistance to the Canton with the development of the Preliminary design of ATMS;
- assistance to the Canton with the launching of the procurement process and implementation of the ATMS part of the Project, and
- supervision assistance to the Canton related to the implementation of Traffic Management Centre and ATMS.

INVESTMENT LINKS

20 million EUR from the EBRD.

Chisinau Solid Waste – Project Implementation Support Services

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	50008403
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	Moldova
SECTOR OF OPERATION	Municipal infrastructure
VALUE	300,000 EUR
PLANNED DURATION	30 months

BACKGROUND

In 2020, the EBRD signed a 9 million EUR loan with Regia “Autosalubritate” (the Client) a municipal company owned by the Municipality of Chisinau to implement the Chisinau Solid Waste Management Project.

The responsibility for solid waste collection and transportation in Chisinau lays on the General Housing Department of the city. These functions are executed through the Company, which is owned by the city. The Company is responsible for collection, transportation, and disposal of municipal waste as well as for operation of landfills. The Company collects around 1.5 million tonnes of waste per year with up to 60 per cent organic and 25 per cent recyclable content. Most of the collection and transportation is carried out by the Company using a fleet of 58 specialised vehicles. The waste is transported on small-size vehicles to the transfer station and then reloaded on bigger trucks transported to the landfill. Sorting operations are limited. Only plastic and glass are separated, and no sorting plant is currently in place.

In this context, the Chisinau Solid Waste Management Project consists of the improvement of the solid waste management system and upgrading the Tintareni landfill to comply with EU standards, thus contributing to enhanced solid waste services and environmental improvements in Chisinau.

The project proceeds of the loan will be used for: (i) closure of the re-opened section of the Tintareni landfill including the remediation and upgrade of the remaining sections of the Tintareni landfill to EU standards; (ii) rehabilitation of the access road to the landfill; (iii) closure of a temporary dumpsite in Ciocana, Chisinau; (iv) renewal of the Company’s vehicle fleet; and (v) refurbishment of the existing transfer station and investment in a waste sorting plant.

The Company will create a Project Implementation Unit (PIU), that will include individual specialists hired to be in charge of day-to-day management of the implementation of the Project. The PIU will be responsible for preparing and carrying out the procurement process, supervising implementation of works, and preparing reports as per the financing agreement requirements. The PIU will also be in charge of the preparation of consolidated reports to be sent to the Bank, as well as the approval and channelling of the disbursement applications to the relevant governmental body which will represent the Borrower.

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF WORK

The overall objective of the assignment is to facilitate the timely and effective implementation of the Project by rendering assistance to the Company during its implementation including design, all aspects of procurement and disbursement, Environmental, Health and Safety and Social (EHSS) requirements. It will ensure the implementation is in line with equality of opportunity principles.

With the involvement of the Consultant, the Company will have access to best practices in the implementation of the Project and procurement of works, goods and services, as well as advice on specific technical issues including EHSS requirements.

INVESTMENT LINKS

In addition to the 9 million EUR loan from the EBRD, the Project is co-financed by a loan of up to 9 million EUR from the European Investment Bank to the Government of Moldova and a capital grant of up to 5 million EUR from the Europe Energy Efficiency and Environment Partnership.

Port of Brcko – Corporate Development Plan

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	To be assigned
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	Bosnia and Herzegovina
SECTOR OF OPERATION	Municipal infrastructure
VALUE	250,000 EUR
PLANNED DURATION	12 months

BACKGROUND

The Port of Brcko (the Port) is located in the north-eastern part of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), on the right side of the Sava River waterway. The Port is a transit point for cargo traffic flows to and from the heavy industries in BiH. The Port is operated by J.P. Luka Brcko (the Company), a public enterprise fully owned by the District of Brcko. The District Assembly has direct supervision responsibility for the Company and is responsible for electing the Company's management board as well as approving the Company's business plans. The EBRD is considering co-financing an investment aiming to rehabilitate and upgrade facilities at the Port of Brcko and improve road and railway access to the Port (the Project). The Project is expected to significantly improve the operational efficiency of the Port and increase the cargo handling capacity of the port, which is currently limited by the difficult rail access and outdated infrastructure. The improvement of the port operations will give the potential to attract more cargo to water transport. The Project is expected to facilitate a change in the transport mode from road to rail for the Port's traffic, providing a cost-effective and environmentally-friendly transport route to local industry of commodities and finished products. Under the current structure, the Port's land area and port infrastructure are owned by the Company. However, the local legislation restricts the Company from selling the assets which is also enforced through the Company's corporate governance structure. The operational and financial performance of the Company is weak, and capacity building is needed to improve both operational and financial management. Given the weak financial and operational performance of the Port and the Company, the Bank will also support commercialising the operations of the Port and enhancing its financial and operational sustainability through technical assistance.

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF WORK

The aim of the assignment is to assist the J.P. Luka Brcko in its capacity and institutional building in order to allow the Company to operate on a commercial basis. This translates into the following objectives:

Institutional development

- review the current institutional and legal set-up of the port infrastructure;
- propose a new institutional set-up which reflects an established port ownership and operating models which will allow the Port to continue its development.

Organisation

- analyse the Company's current organisational structure including the organisation chart as well as qualifications and skills needed for the key management positions;
- elaborate a plan in order to identify the development needs related to the Company's current corporate status,

management structure, internal and external reporting lines and staff employed;

- propose transparent decision-making procedures, bodies, specifying competences and decision making powers; recommend a personnel development plan, including programmes for recruitment, training, advancement and remuneration;
- assess if terminal operations can be tendered out to the private sector.

Management Information System

- review and analyse the Company's existing Management Information System and procedures;
- review the Company's capacity to provide accounting data in accordance with IFRS;
- recommend any necessary improvements including financial reporting systems;
- prepare an implementation plan of the key improvements to the Management Information System.

Tariff calculation methodology setting and financial management

- analyse current tariffs charged by the company and the methodology of arriving at these tariffs;
- review and compare the company's tariffs against competing ports and determine the company's competitiveness;
- review of the key traffic trends and potential impact of tariff changes on the traffic flows through the port;
- develop and adopt a tariff policy for the services provided by the Company;
- analyse the Company's current accounting system and financial management practices, as well as the legal basis relating thereto, identifying any immediate shortcomings and development needs;
- prepare accounting policies and procedures to be followed by J.P. Luka which comply with IFRS and local accounting requirements;
- review the existing billing and receivables collection procedures.

Strategic development, Business planning and operational performance improvement

- review the key features of the traffic flow handled by the port and identify its main drivers of growth;
- assist in preparing the first 5 year business plan and financial projections;
- assist in setting up adequate business planning procedures;
- review the Company's current operating practices with a view to identify immediate shortcomings and development needs and propose new solutions for this purpose.

INVESTMENT LINKS

12.4 million EUR from the EBRD.

Market Assessment for the Uptake of Climate Technologies in the Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia)

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	To be assigned
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	Regional
SECTOR OF OPERATION	Energy/ climate
VALUE	150,000 EUR
PLANNED DURATION	12 months

BACKGROUND

The EBRD Finance and Technology Transfer Centre for Climate Change (FINTECC) <https://fintecc.ebrd.com/index.html> is a programme that has been helping companies in eligible countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Lebanon, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan) to implement innovative climate technologies since 2013.

The beneficiaries of FINTECC are clients of the EBRD investing into climate technologies with low market penetration in their respective countries and sectors. The programme offers technical assistance (climate technology audits), as well as incentive grants for companies to introduce eligible technologies (e.g. climate technologies, including energy/material/water efficiency, circular economy interventions, renewable energy, or any other innovative technologies resulting in carbon emission reduction or climate adaptation/resilience) alongside EBRD financing. Given the success of the FINTECC programme in the eligible countries, the Bank is interested in exploring the possibility to roll-out the Programme to the Western Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia).

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF WORK

Objective

The primary objective of this assignment is to prepare a Market Assessment that evaluates the climate technology uptake potential in each of the above-mentioned Western Balkan countries and provide sufficient information to guide the EBRD for expanding the FINTECC programme to the region.

The Market Assessment shall:

- Identify the primary market, regulatory, technical know-how, lack of awareness, financing or any other barriers which affect the uptake of climate technologies.
- Propose and assess the climate technology areas which currently have a low market penetration rate but high potential for implementation.
- Identify potential private sector beneficiaries (expected to be mostly SMEs) for investment grants.

Scope of Work

- Provide an assessment of key barriers to the implementation of climate technologies in the Western Balkan countries, including (i) regulatory, (ii) financial, (iii) knowledge gap, (iv) political risks, (v) underdeveloped supply chains, and how their barriers could be overcome.
- Propose and agree with the EBRD on selected technologies with high potential for implementation and low-market penetration rate.
- Gather market evidence of the low market penetration of selected technologies for each of the Western Balkan countries, utilising data from available studies, the Consultant's expertise, and market intelligence from market players such as technology suppliers, business/sector associations etc.
- Assess the implementation potential of the identified technologies across all relevant sectors (agribusiness, manufacturing, commercial buildings, etc.) and present the results by sector.
- Based on the above assessment, identify private companies which tend to be faster in the implementation of climate technologies and type of financing utilised for these technologies in each local market.
- Identify and provide a summary of similar programmes in the Western Balkans providing investment grants to private companies for implementing climate technologies.

INVESTMENT LINKS

Not applicable.

Improving Corporate Governance in Family-owned Enterprises

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	To be assigned
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	Serbia
SECTOR OF OPERATION	SME support
VALUE	40,000 EUR
PLANNED DURATION	12 months

BACKGROUND

Good corporate governance is essential for companies wishing to access external capital across the countries where the EBRD invests, including Serbia. Promoting good corporate governance practices has long been a priority of the EBRD as it is directly related to the sound banking principles of its investment operations. A large proportion of the Bank's corporate clients in Serbia and the region play a significant role in the real economy but are often unprepared to manage the challenges associated with the implementation of corporate governance standards and business conduct. Both large and smaller companies operating across different sectors require external support to operate more efficiently, manage risk, develop board and management structures, increase accountability and transparency, access finance, and improve overall sustainability.

The EBRD works with companies to assess the basic corporate governance structure and practices of potential clients and help address any areas for improvement. This approach includes a Corporate Governance Review conducted as part of the Bank's in-house due diligence and a Corporate Governance Action Plan. The approach provides a focus for a number of potential actions by the company, such as establishment of qualified boards and independent and qualified audit committees; establishment of a corporate secretary function to support the board and committees' work; creation of an independent internal audit function; mapping and establishment of clear lines of accountability and reporting throughout the company/group; undertaking of board evaluation exercises; development of succession planning and nomination policies; development of strategies for initial public offerings; and other areas.

Family-owned enterprises usually place a low priority on good governance standards. They require targeted support to improve such policies and practices because of their typical shareholding structure, as well as the "closed relationship" between the business and the family. At the same time, family-owned businesses in Serbia and across the region represent a large portion of the private sector. In light of increasing market competition and difficulties in gaining access to capital, it has become very important for companies to establish strong governance frameworks in order to continue to grow. Furthermore, the

COVID-19 pandemic has adversely affected private sector companies who now have to manage operational changes, evolving consumer demand, new worker health and safety procedures, and a variety of other issues as a consequence of the new business environment.

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF WORK

The EBRD implements a technical assistance programme for improving corporate governance in family-owned businesses in the corporate sector (Industry, Commerce and Agribusiness) to support the above stated needs of the private sector. In the context of this programme, the Bank will engage with international external experts to provide technical assistance to companies (both large and small family-owned enterprises) in Serbia and the region. The technical assistance will include:

- Two training sessions targeting specific areas for improvements identified by the experts, with the objective to facilitate transfer of knowledge and best practices and promote the corporate governance support offered by the EBRD (also in line with the existing EBRD Corporate Governance Review Approach). This could include sharing the experience and bringing relevant expertise from family-owned companies in countries whose private sector has already fully or partially developed best practices in corporate governance (e.g. succession planning), including Italy.
- Materials developed in the training (e.g. guidelines, presentations etc.) will be administered to a wider range of companies including SMEs based on identified areas for improvement or recommendations by industry experts.
- Targeted training participants will include private sector companies from Industry, Commerce and Agribusiness in Serbia as well as the wider South-eastern Europe region.
- The format of the sessions will be online, hybrid and/or in-person (as circumstances and the Bank's policies for travel allow).

Once the consultants are identified and implementation modalities agreed upon, specific Terms of Reference will be drafted for each of the two planned workshops.

INVESTMENT LINKS

Not applicable.



Technical Cooperation Assignments Closed in 2021

02

Table 2.2. List of TC assignments closed in 2021

No.	Earmark document number	Commitment name	Country of operation	Sector of operation	Project value €
1	50000874	JSC Serbian Railways: Lender's Monitor Advisor	Serbia	Transport	93,056
2	50006941	Climate Resilience Assessment for the Belarus Roads Sector	Belarus	Energy/ climate	74,960
3	50007101	Sustainable and Eco Tourism Programme - Albania National and Regional Roads Project	Albania	Transport	69,210
4	50007911	Study to assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the use of public transport in the Western Balkans	Regional	Transport	47,870
TOTAL					285,096

JSC Serbian Railways: Lender's Monitor Advisor

CLOSED IN 2021

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	50000874
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	Serbia
SECTOR OF OPERATION	Transport
VALUE	93,056 EUR
DURATION	June 2019 – June 2021 (24 months)

FRAMEWORK AND OBJECTIVES

The Joint Stock Company (JSC) Serbian Railways was responsible for both the rail infrastructure operations, and freight and passenger rail transportation in Serbia before unbundling in 2016. The EBRD was considering supporting the country in modernising rail infrastructure on the core rail network in Serbia (pan-European Corridor X). The total project cost (made of three separate projects) was estimated at 290 million EUR including the construction of double-track (where currently single track), rehabilitation of rail infrastructure and track renewal, and spot repairs of track, as well the procurement of new rolling stock and other railways maintenance equipment (the Project). It was implemented by Project Implementation Units within the Company and project supervision was undertaken by in-house staff.

In this framework the EBRD planned to engage a Lender's Monitoring Advisor as well to oversee the implementation of the Project. The Advisor was needed due to potential implementation problems contingent to civil works which require an expert engineer who can spot them at an earlier stage and propose solutions from an independent perspective.

This assignment also complemented another CEI-funded technical assistance (Rail Corridor X in Serbia and Macedonia: Lender's Monitor Advisor) which assisted the modernisation of another section of the Corridor X railway track.

The Lenders Monitor is an important tool for the EBRD, in order to ensure the contracts are successfully implemented. In detail, the objectives of the assignment were to:

- monitor tender evaluation and award the contract;
- monitor and audit the performance of the clients and their consultants;
- monitor the implementation of the contracts on behalf of the Bank;
- monitor the implementation of mitigation measures included in the Environmental and Social Action Plan, EBRD Performance Requirements in compliance with EU Environmental, Health and Safety requirements; and
- identify any key problems which may threaten the successful implementation of the Project so that corrective actions can be taken.

OUTCOMES

This assignment has successfully been completed and provided important assistance to the Bank in order to monitor project implementation of the three railway projects amounting to about 290 million EUR (of which 247 million EUR from the EBRD) for the rehabilitation and modernisation of key sections of Corridor X, which is the main north-south route running through Serbia, as well the procurement of new rolling stock and railways maintenance equipment. While supporting the implementation of important infrastructure projects, this assignment has contributed to one of the major challenges identified by the Bank in Serbia, where – despite sizeable investments in recent years – infrastructure is far from being adequate for private sector development. The transition impact expected for the Project concerns supporting the sector wide reforms of the railway sector, including market liberalisation and the restructuring of the state railway company. This was the EBRD's largest project to date with Serbian Railways.

Climate Resilience Assessment for the Belarus Roads Sector

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	50006941
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	Belarus
SECTOR OF OPERATION	Energy / climate
VALUE	74,960 EUR
DURATION	November 2019 – August 2021 (22 months)

FRAMEWORK AND OBJECTIVES

The EBRD was considering extending a loan of up to 240 million EUR to the Republic of Belarus to co-finance the reconstruction and modernisation of 12 regional bridges and M3 road section km 8.6 to km 56 on North-South Corridor (the Project). The Project was meant to facilitate the regional development through the reconstruction of dilapidated bridges in urgent need of repair and improvements on the key transport corridor towards Russia and Latvia. Both were priority investments for the Government.

In order to increase climate resilience in the EBRD's countries of operations, the Bank is systematically integrating climate risk assessments and adaptation measures in its investment operations. The Bank aims to reduce long-term risks and increase resilience through improved practices and investments in measures and technologies that are better suited to a changing and more variable climate.

Belarus is facing the effects of climate change in terms of increasing temperatures, including a strong increase in the duration of heatwaves; shifts in precipitation patterns, with more intense and frequent heavy rainfall events; and more variable hydrology in terms of river flows and increased risks of flash floods. These climatic hazards can have severe impacts on transport networks, both with regard to the costs of weather-related damage to infrastructure assets and also to the subsequent impacts on network disruptions for supply chains and trade.

The Bank engaged a consultant to assess the climate change risks to the entire road network of Belarus and specifically those associated with the bridge and road sections included in the Project and propose mitigating structural and non-structural improvement measures.

OUTCOMES

The selected consultant reviewed the designs of the various road and bridge sections and provided recommendations which were integrated into the final design. These included measures related to construction materials, bridge bearings and joints, the clearance heights under bridges, the foundations, deck storm water systems, bridge abutment cones and road embankments. Following clarification and confirmation from the designers, the consultant's work concluded that the structure design was expected to withstand any climate impact.

The EBRD Project (Regional Bridges and M3 Road Rehabilitation) was signed in December 2019, with the EBRD providing 259 million EUR of the total 326 million EUR overall project value. 50.4 million EUR of this was classified as green finance and will be used to finance the measures identified as part of the technical assistance financed by the CEI Fund at the EBRD.

Sustainable and Eco Tourism Programme - National and Regional Roads Project

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	50007101
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	Albania
SECTOR OF OPERATION	Transport
VALUE	69,210 EUR
DURATION	May 2020 – October 2021 (18 months)

FRAMEWORK AND OBJECTIVES

Since 2019, the EBRD has been providing a sovereign loan amounting to up to 50 million EUR to the Republic of Albania for the benefit of the Albanian Development Fund to finance the works and works supervision for the rehabilitation of two sections of Albania's regional and local road network (the Project). It is part of a larger investment programme for the rehabilitation of Albania's regional and local road network which is parallel-financed by the World Bank. This includes:

- Rehabilitation and widening of a road section approximately 10.6 km in length, including two small realignments, between the city of Vlore and Orikum along the southern seacoast of Albania.
- Rehabilitation and upgrade of a road section approximately 12.1 km in length, between the towns of Shengjin and Velipoje along the northern seacoast of Albania.

According to the Government of Albania, this road project is of great public importance, especially for the tourism sector since it is located along the coast from Shengjin to Velipoje. Whilst positive impacts of tourism include employment and income for the local economy, negative impacts can include damage to the landscape, water resources, litter and plastic waste, erosion, fires, traffic and road risks to road users, pollution and pressure on sensitive habitats/wildlife, and cultural resources. Therefore, the Bank decided to raise awareness on the benefits of ecotourism and encourage the local community to protect the environment. At the same time an environmental and social due diligence and consultation with ADF has identified that:

- Sustainable tourism concepts, promotion and policy dialogue have had limited coverage within the Shengjin and Velipoje region to date.
- Road safety for visiting tourists within the region has not been subject to targeted awareness raising.
- Whilst the National Agency of Protected Areas is in favour of the road construction, it will be monitored by the Regional Agency of Protected Areas (Shkoder and Lezhe) which has limited capacity to support targeted conservation and awareness raising initiatives relating to biodiversity.

- There is currently no forum to provide practical support and to promote sustainable tourism.

In this framework, the objective of the assignment was to establish a programme of activities and coordinated stakeholder consultation to support Sustainable Eco-tourism in the Shengjin and Velipoje region of Albania by undertaking strategic and local actions. The programme included:

- Establishing engagement networks, capacity building (through the provision of tools, management plans and awareness raising materials) and support of policy dialogue.
- Activities to improve general awareness of environmental and social measures that can contribute to a sustainable eco-tourism objectives.
- A particular focus placed on key biodiversity and community road safety due to the increased access and growth in tourism that is expected in the area (including the identification of opportunities related to circular economy and reduction of single use plastics).
- Proposals of how to monitor the success of the programme, part of the monitor plan.

OUTCOMES

The consultant delivered all the activities foreseen by the programme including analysis and recommendations; stakeholder, environmental and social risk mapping; engagement channels and tools (including awareness raising materials); and the establishment of monitoring mechanisms to measure the short- and long-term success of the action. The consultant also assessed the environmental and social needs and issues to be addressed that will have a positive contribution to sustainable tourism in the area with a particular focus on links to the road sections in the Shengjin and Velipoje regions. In addition, the consultant has managed to sign a memorandum of understanding between stakeholders, which have formed a working group in order to continue this initiative.

Study to assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the use of public transport in the Western Balkans

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	50007911
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo ¹ , North Macedonia, Serbia
SECTOR OF OPERATION	Transport
VALUE	47,870 EUR
DURATION	April 2021 – September 2021 (6 months)

FRAMEWORK AND OBJECTIVES

In March 2020, the World Health Organisation announced COVID-19 as a global pandemic, which has had a significant impact on mobility worldwide. Government authorities and public transport operators throughout the world, including the Western Balkan region, reacted by imposing safety measures to reduce risk of contagion, with implications on mobility behaviour. In addition to restricting the movement of people, the use of public transport was limited or in some cases entirely suspended. Consequently, social and health inequalities were exacerbated between those who can work remotely and commuters, as well as between those with access to private vehicles and other (often low-income) households that depend on shared transit.

To assess the impacts on public transport operations, the EBRD commissioned the development of a study in a number of cities in the Western Balkans which also identifies practical measures that could be introduced to help reduce health and safety risks to vulnerable passengers and road users.

The main objective of the Study covered the cities of Tirana (Albania); Sarajevo and Banja Luka (Bosnia and Herzegovina); Prishtina (Kosovo); Skopje (North Macedonia); and Belgrade and Novi Sad (Serbia). It was developed through a two-phase approach. The first phase (data gathering) involved a literature review to confirm whether any other similar studies had been undertaken globally or nationally in each country, an online media search to identify the key topics reported in the media with regard to the impact of the pandemic on use of public transport, and mapping of relevant road safety and public health stakeholders. The second phase involved the surveying of public transport operators, road safety and public health NGOs, users of the public transport system and direct interviews with a number of organisations in the fields of public transport, traffic safety and public health.

OUTCOMES

Even before the pandemic, there were numerous urban mobility challenges in the five analysed countries – significant traffic congestions, domination of private vehicles on roads, undeveloped and/or unsafe infrastructure for non-motorised transport and inefficient public transport service delivery (including issues such as public transport coverage). Tackling these issues requires the planning and implementation of policies and programs which are often lacking, as well as financial capacities which are limited in the sector. The situation has been further exacerbated by the start of the pandemic which has undoubtedly affected mobility behaviour patterns and affected the provision of public transport services. Before the start of the pandemic, public transport was the most frequently used type of transport in all of the cities. However, during the pandemic, private cars became the most preferred mode. While walking increased to some extent, it is indicative that the use of bicycles/scooters has increased slightly or insignificantly in all of the countries, presumably due to inadequate infrastructure.

Overall, the research found that changes in mobility behaviour patterns have negatively affected the business operations of public transport operators in all of the analysed cities and will almost certainly continue to negatively affect them. Moreover, besides small-scale analyses in some of the countries mainly developed by the NGO sector, this region ought to receive a more comprehensive inquiry.

Therefore, more substantial work needs to be done to outweigh the impacts of the pandemic on the public transport systems in all of the analysed cities in terms of reducing health and safety risks to vulnerable passengers and road users. This can be achieved by working on restoring trust and confidence in the safety of public transport services by prioritising health and safety issues and by making public transport a safer way of travelling in times of social distancing.

Further details of analysis per country, are available at: http://www.enova.ba/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Study_Impact-of-the-Pandemic-on-Public-Transport.pdf

¹ This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.



KNOWLEDGE

SUPPORT

POT

COACHING

EDUCATION

Know-how Exchange Programme

The CEI Know-how Exchange Programme (KEP) is an instrument dedicated to offering co-financing to projects and programmes, focused on the transfer of know-how and best practices from EU to non-EU CEI Member States. The KEP offers grants to institutions from EU countries willing to share their experience with their partners in the non-EU CEI countries.

The CEI Fund at the EBRD has been co-financing KEP projects since 2004. To date, 129 projects have been financed for a total CEI Fund contribution of over 3.7 million EUR with an overall project value amounting to almost 15.5 million EUR (see Chart 3.3 and Annex 6). The success of the Programme, which has steadily increased since its inception, has encouraged other CEI Member States, besides Italy, to financially contribute to the KEP.

As shown in Chart 3.1, the projects supported by the CEI Fund at the EBRD have targeted all non-EU CEI Member States and beyond. The countries that have benefited from direct KEP assistance the most, since its establishment, are CEI Western Balkan countries, with Serbia as first beneficiary country followed by Montenegro and Albania.

Chart 3.2 demonstrates that the countries with most know-how providers is Italy followed by Poland, and Slovenia, while several projects have been promoted by regional/international organisations such as OECD, OSCE and FAO. Bulgaria, Croatia, and Romania are the countries that have been involved both as recipient and provider countries, because of their entrance into the European Union.

Chart 3.1. Distribution of KEP projects by number of assignments according to know-how recipient countries. The projects with regional spread are highlighted in dark green (share of 129 projects).

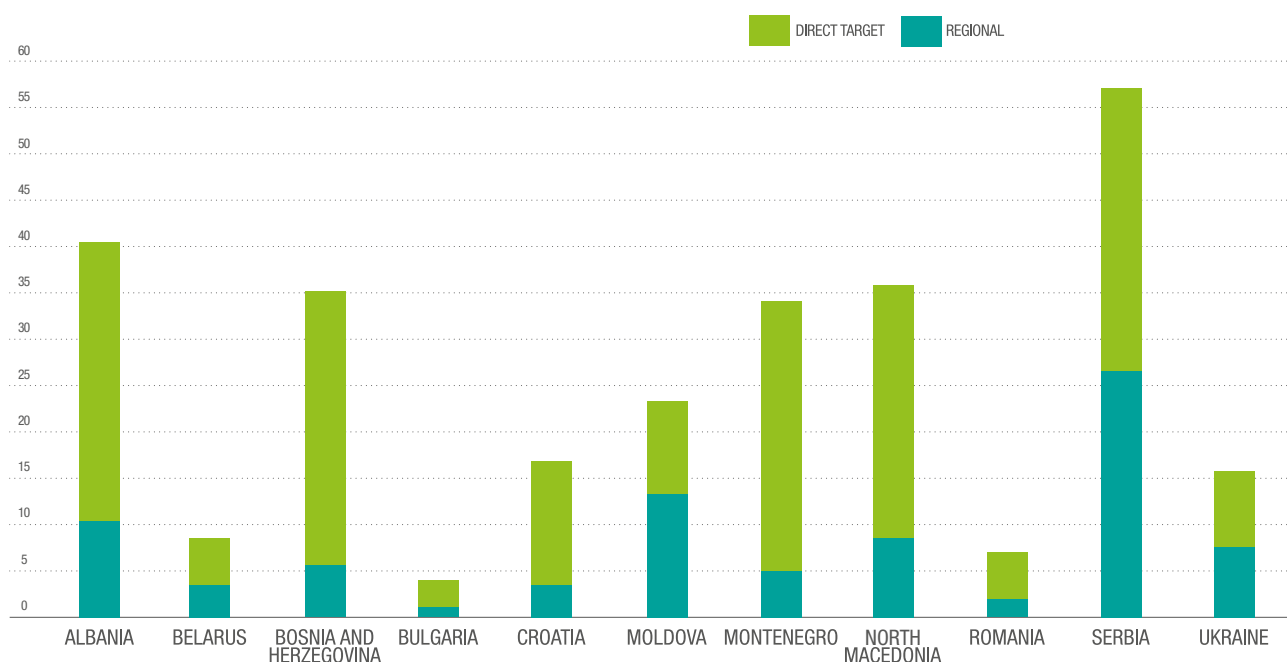


Chart 3.2. Distribution of KEP projects by number of assignments according to know-how provider countries. The projects benefiting from know-how providers from multiple countries are highlighted in red (share of 129 projects).

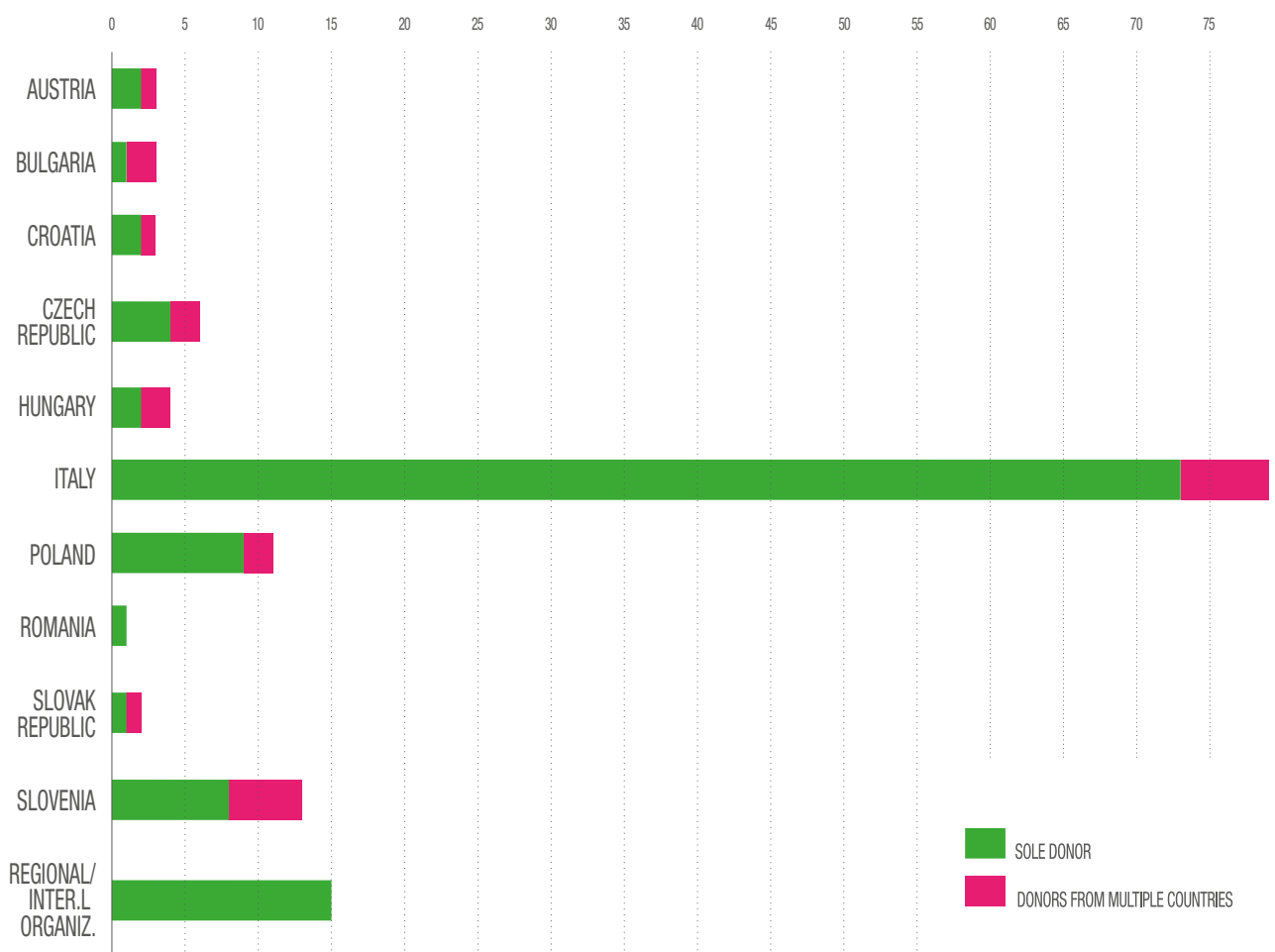
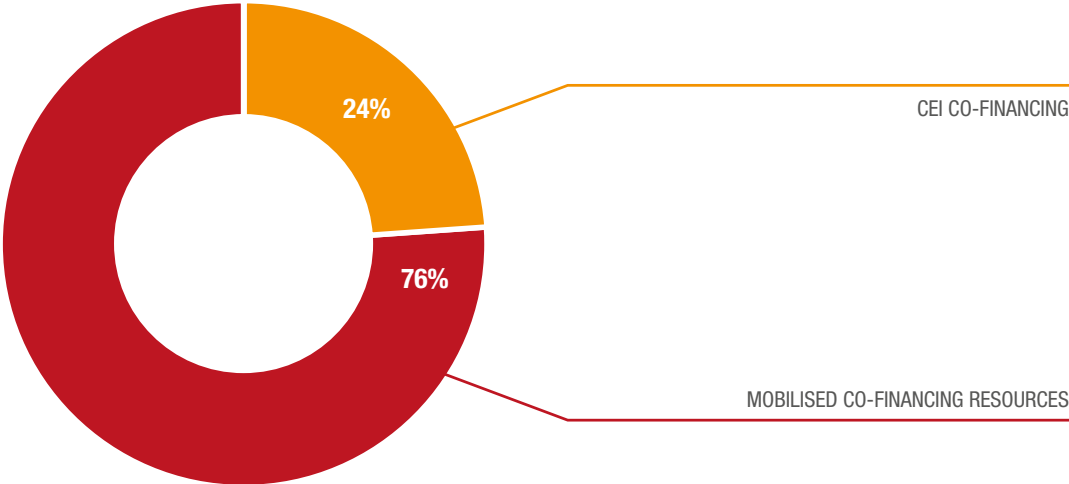


Chart 3.3. Total value of KEP projects (share of 15,461,655 EUR).





Know-how Exchange Programme

Projects approved in 2021

03

KEP grants are assigned through annual Calls for Proposals. In 2021 the CEI Fund provided resources for one call launched on 3 May. Sixty-five applications were received within the deadline for the project submission set on 21 June 2021. After a careful evaluation, seven capacity building projects were approved for co-financing with around

200,000 EUR (see Table 3.1). These projects will bring together know-how providers and beneficiaries from 11 CEI Countries and will cover a broad range of areas pertaining to academia, human rights, cultural heritage, arts cooperation, food regulatory frameworks and youth cooperation.

Table 3.1. List of KEP projects approved in 2021

No.	Reference number	Project name	Country of know-how provider	Country of know-how recipient	Total project cost €	CEI grant €
1	304.4.015-21	"Bridging the Culture Gap", Novi Sad 2022 - 95th International Session of the European Youth Parliament	Czech Republic, Slovenia, Italy	Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Serbia, Ukraine	98,700	15,000
2	304.4.022-21	To enhance the institutional and regulatory framework for organic food production in Albania	Italy	Albania	80,000	40,000
3	304.4.026-21	Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Constitution and EU Accession. An Academic Platform for Discussing the Options	Italy	Bosnia and Herzegovina	79,960	39,700
4	304.4.030-21	Exchange programme on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities between Albanian and Croatian Institutions of human rights and anti-discrimination	Croatia	Albania	30,369	15,175
5	304.4.044-21	FORKITS - FOod expeRtise and Know-how exchange on technology transfer between Italy and Serbia	Italy	Serbia	43,570	21,785
6	304.4.046-21	Italy-North Macedonia knowledge exchange in conservation and innovative management of cultural heritage	Italy	North Macedonia	50,470	25,020
7	304.4.072-21	MARteFund: developing cooperation in the creative sector in the Western Balkans through replication of an Italian expertise in project design and fundraising	Italy	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia	79,920	39,960
TOTAL					462,989	196,640

“Bridging the Culture Gap”, Novi Sad 2022 - 95th International Session of the European Youth Parliament

CEI REF. NO.304.4.015-21
TOTAL PROJECT COST.98,700 EUR
CEI GRANT.15,000 EUR
PLANNED DURATION.7.5 months

KNOW-HOW PROVIDERS

European Youth Parliaments of Czech Republic, Slovenia, Italy
www.eyp.org

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

European Youth Parliaments of Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Serbia (project applicant), and Ukraine
www.eyp.org

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

“Bridging the Culture Gap” is the annual flagship project of the European Youth Parliament network that has over 35 national branch organisations from different European countries and that annually hosts over 500 events with 30,000 young participants.

The main aim of this project is to mobilise European youth towards helping bridge the deeply rooted cultural gaps that exist in Europe. Under the theme “Bridging the Culture Gap”, the aim is to create an environment for positive development amongst the young. The main methodology used will be fostering exchange and dialogue between youth from areas with a more prosperous regional cooperation history (know-how providers) and young people from regions with a more difficult history in this regard (know-how beneficiaries).

The event will take place in Novi Sad (Serbia) from 4 to 13 March 2022 and activities will be academic (structured dialogue panels, research and academic writing, round-table discussions, general assembly) as well as cultural and social (culture exchange, committee evenings, excursions).

This project will be a unique opportunity for youth to get involved in the decision-making processes, become active citizens and learn how to participate in the problems facing their communities. It will gather a total of 220 participants (age 16-24) from the partner organisations and 20 professors. They will take part in a programme prepared by 60 volunteers using innovative methods of non-formal education, through a platform for multicultural exchange and dialogue. The participants will be split into 15 international working groups focusing on several topics which will range from reconciliation efforts in the WB6 region and fostering common European values, over freedom of academia, integration of national and religious minorities, to collaborative regional and international efforts in facing common cultural, social and developmental challenges. The programme will include debates, teambuilding and communication training, peer-to-peer education activities in a conference setting.

Project main objectives:

- promote the development of solidarity and tolerance by favouring intercultural dialogue and supporting the fight against discrimination;
- encourage young people to take action, by gaining knowledge on societal issues and discuss potential solutions, realising their power and potential as individuals;
- promote active citizenship and democratic participation by learning about youth position as Europeans, societal challenges, and how to contribute to the future;
- favour dialogue between young people and decision-makers by enabling active dialogue with decision-makers, influential and inspiring figures from the society.

European Youth Parliament Serbia is the project applicant and is, therefore, in charge of fundraising, partnership management, and logistical arrangements, while all other partners will be involved with human resources, selecting participants, knowledge and best-practices exchange, and promotion and dissemination of project results.

To enhance the institutional and regulatory framework for organic food production in Albania

CEI REF. NO.	304.4.022-21
TOTAL PROJECT COST.	80,000 EUR
CEI GRANT.	40,000 EUR
PLANNED DURATION.	12 months

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (CIHEM), Italy
www.iamb.it/

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENT

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD),
 Albania
bujqesia.gov.al/

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

EU integration is considered a major political and economic goal for Albania, as it represents major opportunities for democratisation and economic development of the country. Thus, Albania has undertaken numerous legal and policy reforms in all sectors, including agriculture. In this context, organic farming is considered a pillar to environmental and sustainable food development at European level. The use of harmful plant protection products has an impact on the environment and on people's health. Organic food production is more sustainable because it considers the medium- and long-term effect of agricultural practices on the agro-ecosystem.

Albania has the potential to successfully develop organic farming, but the sector needs structural and sustainable interventions. The fertile agricultural land, warm weather and mild climate make Albania an ideal source of organic production. According to the latest available data there are 653 hectares of organic farmland, which represents 0.05% of the total agricultural land area. The Albanian market is rather small, seasonal, and fragmented. Greater volumes and permanent supply seem to be a persisting problem, affecting both the development of the national and export markets.

Albania had had an organic law from 2004 until 2016 on the production, processing, certification, and marketing of 'bio' products. In 2016 a new law on biological production,

biological products, labelling, and control was approved. There is currently no national organic logo. Several challenges have been identified to further develop the organic sector in the country. EU rules for quality policy and organic farming are crucial for the achievement of the pre-accession process of Albania into the EU, but the level of alignment with the EU acquis on organic farming and future regulations remains low.

In this framework, the project know-how provider CIHEAM Bari – with its huge experience on valorisation and qualification of organic quality products, food safety and consumers' health protection including support to small local businesses – will address the needs of the MARD in terms of institutional capacity building also thanks to synergies with important international networks such as IFOAM – Organics Europe for strengthening the local production system.

The overall objective of the project is to encourage the alignment of the legal framework of the organic food production in Albania with EU acquis and its implementation. It will support the progress with the implementation of action plans for the acquis alignment in chapters 11 "Agriculture and Rural Development" and the fulfilment of given benchmarks in the chapter. This will be achieved by increasing the skills and capacities of MARD public officers. They will benefit from information and knowledge exchange with international expertise on issues concerning quality standards, organic food, traceability, and sustainable agri-food production models.

The main stakeholders involved in the development of organic agriculture in Albania in addition to the MARD are the Institute for Organic Agriculture, the Albanian Association for Marketing, and Albinspekt (a certification body). In this context, the project will strengthen and improve the efficiency of the institutions to be incisive in the organic sector which will, therefore, be able to guarantee the future sustainability of the intervention.

In addition, project activities will also aim at raising awareness on organic agriculture policies and instruments addressed to the consumers and SMEs at national level.

Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Constitution and EU Accession. An Academic Platform for Discussing the Options

CEI REF. NO.304.4.026-21
 TOTAL PROJECT COST.79,960 EUR
 CEI GRANT.39,700 EUR
 PLANNED DURATION.18 months

KNOW-HOW PROVIDERS

University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy (project applicant)
en.unimib.it

University of Trento, Italy
unitn.it/en

EURAC Research - Institute for Comparative Federalism,
 Bolzano, Italy
www.eurac.edu/en

Osservatorio Balcani Caucaso TransEuropa, Italy
www.balcanicaucaso.org/eng

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
www.unsa.ba/en

University of East Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
www.ues.rs.ba/en/ues/

University of Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina
www.unmo.ba/en/

University of Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina
www.unibl.org/en

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

As a consequence of EU integration, almost all EU Member States have amended their Constitutions or interpreted some constitutional provisions differently, in the light of the obligations deriving from membership and in order to adapt to the EU's multilevel governance system. The academic community has actively taken part in the debates on those changes sharing expertise and advice.

A free, critical and lively academic debate is characterised by different ideas and positions of scholars. Currently, in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) there is still limited public discussion on the constitutional impact of the future EU accession. The country acquired the status of a potential candidate for EU membership in 2000, signing the Stabilisation and Association Agreement in 2008, which did not come into force until June 2015 due to the impasse related to the ruling of the European Court for Human Rights. In the meantime, BiH fulfilled the conditions for entering the visa liberalisation regime with the countries of the Schengen Area in November 2010. In February 2016, the country officially submitted its application for membership. In a 22-month time span,

the government of the BiH delivered 3897 answers to the EC Questionnaire, yet a small, but crucial number of 22 questions remained open: one on political criteria, four on regional policy, and seventeen on educational matters. The opinion of the European Commission was published in late May 2019, imposing conditions on fourteen "key priorities" considered unsolved, and almost exclusively related to the issue of democracy and the rule of law. The EC Report, in October 2020, confirmed these priorities to be crucial for further accession steps of the country. It is essential that the academic community explore the different options for adapting the constitutional and legal system to the requirements of European integration and make its voice heard in the debate.

Scholarly expertise can help prepare and orient the decision on which option to adopt, with the decision evidently belonging to political institutions and to citizens. As scholars and universities play a key role in the debate on constitutional issues and possible reform options, the Embassy of Italy has promoted academic cooperation between Bosnian and Italian universities by organising two academic conferences as well as by inviting scholars from all Bosnian universities to engage in a recent series of workshops on fundamental constitutional issues. A group of Italian and BiH scholars have engaged in planning and preparing three workshops on essential questions related to key concepts of the Dayton Constitution and to options for their reform (January-May 2021). This debate and cooperation between and among scholars from all major BiH universities need to continue and become more intense.

The core of the project focuses on three 'foundational' questions, namely the formation of identities and the organisation of institutions and territories. These issues are of central importance for any system of multi-level governance, conceived bottom-up from the level of local self-government to the level of European integration.

In this framework, the project is coordinated by the University of Milano-Bicocca in collaboration with the University of Trento and EURAC Research Bolzano, to partner with BiH public universities. A series of workshops and a final conference will explore various options around the fundamental issues related to the constitutional challenges of EU accession. Through these activities a scholarly network will be established to accompany the political and public debate feeding in academic expertise. The results will be made available for a broader public via the OBCT TransEuropa website as well as in academic publications. The project will also include a technical workshop in which further cooperation activities will be explored in order to guarantee the sustainability of the network after the end of the project.

Exchange programme on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities between Albanian and Croatian Institutions of human rights and anti-discrimination

CEI REF. NO.304.4.030-21
TOTAL PROJECT COST.30,369 EUR
CEI GRANT.15,175 EUR
PLANNED DURATION.12 months

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

Ombudsman for Persons with Disabilities, Croatia
posi.hr/?lang=en

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENT

Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination, Albania
sos-decijasela.rs/en/

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

According to official Government of Albania statistics, there are over 140,000 officially registered people with disabilities in Albania. Disabled Albanians experience high levels of unemployment, they often lack access to basic medical and education opportunities and suffer stigmatisation and isolation from society. The Albanian legislation provides for protection of human rights, but this has done little to integrate people with disabilities into the Albanian society.

The Commissioner for the Protection from Discrimination (CPD) is the equality body in Albania, established in 2010 as an independent public institution, and responsible to provide effective protection from discrimination. CPD has the authority to observe the equality and non-discrimination principle in relation to a non-exhaustive list of grounds, including disability, in three main fields: employment, education and provision of goods and services. The CPD institution has many competencies to guarantee the effectiveness of the implementation of the national Law on Protection from Discrimination, but also other laws concerning human rights,

equality, and non-discrimination. In this respect, a new Directorate of Monitoring and Reporting has been established and an Action Plan for Persons with Disabilities is approved every four years. Albania has also ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and has developed related legislation.

It is worth mentioning that Albania acquired the status of a candidate for EU membership in 2014. This has set many challenges to meet the EU standards in many sectors including the quality of life of citizens, full access to their rights, equality and effectiveness.

Despite the range of legislation and policies in place, persons with disabilities face multiple barriers in social, economic and political inclusion in the country. Although CPD has made recommendations for improving the general situation of this category, and concrete requests have been made feasible, there is still a need to improve and raise capacities to propose appropriate interventions in the area.

In this context, the project is aimed at improving the competences of CDP in the area of disability management including legislation. It also focuses on increasing the awareness of key stakeholders in the sector. In this context, CPD will be provided with expertise and competences in conducting, monitoring and compiling reports on the implementation of national and international legislation for persons with disabilities. This will be reflected not only in the daily work of CDP, but also in its capacities to identify actions and solutions for alignment with national/international obligations through the identification of findings and recommendations. In addition, the overall impact on Albanian institutions will be enhanced through project promotional activities.

FORKITS - FOod expeRtise and Know-how exchange on technology transfer between Italy and Serbia

CEI REF. NO.304.4.044-21
TOTAL PROJECT COST.43,570 EUR
CEI GRANT.21,785 EUR
PLANNED DURATION.9 months

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

Foundation of the University of Padua (UniSMART), Italy
www.unipd.it/en/

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENT

Institute of Food Technology (FINS), University of Novi Sad, Serbia
www.uns.ac.rs/index.php/en/faculties/institutes/institute-food-technology

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The project FORKITS arises from the need to implement the guidelines defined within the local and European Strategies and initiatives related to the agri-food sector. The project scope is to foster collaboration among the local ecosystem of the Veneto Region (Italy) and Serbia that are linked both by the presence of a Serbian community in Veneto (around 14,000 people) as well as by a recent agreement for economic, social, cultural development to strengthen the relations between the territories.

FORKITS will involve UniSMART- the Foundation of the University of Padova located in Padua and the Institute of Food Technology of Novi Sad located in Vojvodina (Serbia). The project is in line with one of the priorities of the Smart Specialization Strategy of Veneto that focuses on providing healthy and safe food (agri-food) products. The scope of the priority is minimising environmental impacts and enhancing ecosystem services while reducing waste and ensuring adequate societal value. In addition, the University of Padova is a leading partner in RibesNest, the innovative network for the health ecosystem and smart nutrition. Serbia has an important agricultural vocation: the agri-food economy is well developed, in particular in the Vojdivonia Region in which industrial sectors related to the processing of agricultural products are indicated as strategic local assets.

The agri-food sector offers huge economic opportunities. European food, and in particular Italian food is considered a global standard in terms of safety and quality. In this context

the project will relate to current EU policies and strategies such as the European Green Deal, the Circular Economy Action Plan, and other strategies including the Farm to Fork Strategy and the Blue Growth Strategy. Both strategies can be fulfilled by harmonising local systems and by increasing the competitiveness of SMEs and the quality of research. In this respect the exchange of know-how is a crucial step to enhance the resilience of regional and local food systems leaving no one behind by building a resilient and sustainable food system.

The project will focus on the food value chain which can be considered a strategic priority for both the regions involved. It is designed to support the development of long-term cooperation through know-how exchange. This process will be realised through the development of a common cooperation framework able to cope with local needs and priorities. It will act in a crosscutting perspective by involving enterprises, research groups, young researchers and talents. FORKITS will generate opportunities of aggregation and collaboration arising from cross fertilisation and mutual sharing of best practices. In these terms, a knowledge exchange will be implemented from the Italian experiences after a recognition of the competences, methodologies and best practices by taking into account peculiarities and intersections among the two territories. The main objective is to lay the foundations to create an open innovation ecosystem between the two organisations and territories involved.

A preparatory dialogue with FINS has been carried out in order to identify main challenges and needs to be tackled by the project actions. FINS has indicated the following:

- cooperation and synergies between the academic (research) and industrial world;
- innovation and skills related to technology transfer;
- IP valorisation;
- engagement of young talents;
- innovative business models.

FORKITS is designed to offer a model to be replicated and applied on other sectors and topics that could emerge from the collaboration between the project partners and their stakeholders.

Italy-North Macedonia knowledge exchange in conservation and innovative management of cultural heritage

CEI REF. NO.	304.4.046-21
TOTAL PROJECT COST.	50,470 EUR
CEI GRANT.	25,020 EUR
PLANNED DURATION.	12 months

KNOW-HOW PROVIDERS

Centro Conservazione Restauro La Venaria Reale, Italy
www.centrorestaurovenaria.it/en

Fondazione Santagata per l'Economia della Cultura, Italy
www.fondazione-santagata.it/en/

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

Directorate for Protection of Cultural Heritage, Ministry of Culture, North Macedonia
uzkn.gov.mk/default_en.html

International Council for Monuments and Sites, North Macedonia
www.icomos.org/en
www.facebook.com/ICOMOSMacedonia/

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The Republic of North Macedonia has very rich, numerous and varied cultural heritage properties, many of which are under threat and in precarious conditions requiring even more urgent actions. One of the main threats to the heritage properties is the inherent lack of specialists in conservation/restoration since the trained conservators available in the country to perform the necessary works are insufficient. This is also a great challenge for the future. The lack of specialised profiles mainly stems from the fact that there is no specialised higher education institution in the country for conservation/restoration, so mainly the working conservators are coming from the Fine Arts Academy and are being trained in the practice, from more experienced conservators, even though different types of cultural heritage are subject to study in the curricula and scientific programmes of several universities.

Another weak aspect in the overall sphere of heritage protection in the country is the fact that cultural heritage conservation and restoration projects are often partial, methodologically, and functionally inadequate and out of sync, whereas comprehensive rehabilitation projects for such properties are very rare. This situation is a result of several factors, including lack of financial resources/partial financing of projects, insufficient staff and technical staff and expertise to perform specific and complex conservation procedures, problematic implementation of the methodology for project development, monitoring and implementation, and use of inappropriate materials.

This indicates a major need for training on conservation projects cycle management, sustainable planning and use of heritage properties, conservation principles and latest technologies used for specialists already employed within the conservation centre. The institutional network for the protection of immovable cultural heritage consists of nine national institutions with regional competencies but also for free-lance conservators (including students and recent graduates) that are usually hired for conservation works on Macedonian heritage properties. Until today there had not been any specific training programmes systematically organised for conservation/restoration specialists in the country. The National Strategy for Protection and Use of Cultural Heritage for the period 2021-2025, which, at the moment is at a draft version open for public debate, clearly recognizes these shortcomings and the impact it creates on heritage properties. In the Heritage Assessment Report prepared by the Council of Europe back in 2012, and subsequently revised in 2014, the shortage of specialist conservators is also noted, proposing the establishment of training programmes in order to tackle the issue. Moreover, the report also identifies the lack of skills in proper implementation of project activities.

In this framework the main objectives of the project are:

- The conservation and the innovative management of cultural heritage in the CEI region, through the strengthening of the technical and management skills of professionals involved in cultural heritage safeguard in the Republic of North Macedonia.
- The strengthening of international collaborative networks.
- The enhancement of cultural policies to foster intercultural dialogue, preserve the cultural and linguistic identity of minority groups and ensure equal access to knowledge.

The Conservation and Restoration Centre "La Venaria Reale", with its wide technical and scientific expertise in the conservation of natural and artificial stone materials, such as mural paintings, mosaics, stuccoes and mortars (all constituting the identified heritage at risk on the Republic of North Macedonia territory), will focus the didactical activity on the guidelines and the methodological approach in conservation interventions. The Fondazione Santagata with its expertise on cultural economics, cultural heritage management (including UNESCO conventions and guidelines) and culture-led local development, will focus the training activities on enhancing and updating practitioners understanding of approaches and methodologies adopted at the international level to secure the role of heritage in sustainable development, international relations, and community participation.

MARteFund: developing cooperation in the creative sector in the Western Balkans through replication of an Italian expertise in project design and fundraising

CEI REF. NO. 304.4.072-21
TOTAL PROJECT COST. 79,920 EUR
CEI GRANT. 39,960 EUR
PLANNED DURATION. 12 months

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

Associazione Culturale Procult, Italy
martelive.it/procult/

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

Tuzla Live, Bosnia and Herzegovina
tuzlalive.org/

Kulturanova, Serbia
www.kulturanova.org/index.php/en/

ADP-Zid, Montenegro
www.zid.org.me/eng/

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

While the creative sector in Europe boasts a high artistic quality, many organisations find it difficult to succeed in project design and fundraising. Due to the pandemic, the creative sector suffered significantly in 2020 and 2021 with considerable economic losses. The income from private sources, typically from paying audiences and sponsors, have disappeared. Cultural connection exchanges have suffered greatly during the pandemic, with no swift end in sight.

In this context, the MARteFund transfer of know-how is inserted in a wider strategy sustained by the European Commission. The know-how provider (Procult, Italy) and one of the beneficiaries (TuzlaLive, Bosnia and Herzegovina) are already partners in an EU project that supports emerging arts and includes training on innovative business models for sustaining cultural entrepreneurship. This know-how transfer scheme will be replicated in the MARteFund project.

Funding opportunities in order to bridge the gap between EU and non-EU economies exist in the Balkans. Despite their role in cultural life, practitioners from the creative sector in

the Western Balkans lack support in terms of project design and access to resources for implementing their ideas. Their capacity to access public funding and address European funding opportunities is limited, especially for small structures working in social innovation and culture. This action will support the Western Balkans in their transition towards increasing economic sustainability and achieving the requirements for accession to the European Union. By transferring the MARteFund know-how to reliable structures in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, and Montenegro, the project will improve the operational and financial capacity of practitioners in the field to activate relations between the Western Balkans and Europe.

ProCult will transfer its consolidated knowledge in the field of project design and fundraising to TuzlaLive, ADPZid (Montenegro) and Kulturanova (Serbia). Seven other candidate organisations from the Western Balkans will participate through a call for manifestation of interest.

Theoretical and practical tools to access the world of public and private funding and sponsorship at the international level will be provided. The scheme will integrate training modules and coaching activities that allows participants to apply the acquired knowledge to real-life calls for proposals and funding opportunities. The objective of the project is the creation of an ecosystem and a cooperation space for the Western Balkan countries, therefore activating cultural and social entrepreneurship. An expected impact is the promotion of cultural dynamism in the area by supporting the development of the cultural sector and intercultural cooperation. Main project activities are:

- An introductory workshop that will allow to assess participants' capacities.
- A training session on project design and fundraising.
- A coaching scheme for supporting the capacity building efforts of 3 selected organisations as well as the definition of robust cooperation projects in the field of culture.
- A round table in Rome, in December 2022 for presenting the results of the project.

Know-how Exchange Programme

Projects closed in 2021

In view of the exceptional international situation created by the COVID-19 pandemic and the restrictions set in place by many countries, to preserve project implementation continuity, the activities of most of the KEP projects in 2020 were delayed and extended to 2021. This has ensured good quality of activities respecting and sustaining international efforts to limit the spread of the virus.

Therefore, the completion of several projects was postponed resulting in 15 KEP projects completed in 2021. 8 of them were conceived for and primarily addressed actions countering the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic by supporting national health systems of the CEI Member States as well as specific needs at the local level.

Table 3.2. List of KEP projects closed in 2021

No.	Reference number	Project name	Country of know-how provider institution	Country of know-how recipient institution	Total project cost €	CEI grant €
1	1206.004-16	Development and Regulation of the University of Belgrade Laser-laboratory infrastructure for Education and Research	Italy	Serbia	571,664	27,090
2	1206.003-18	Training in dietary assessment and sharing platforms for monitoring population food consumption habits in a long-term perspective (TRAIN-DIE)	Italy	Serbia	79,905	39,999
3	1206.004-18	Capacity Building for Implementing Innovative EU Monitoring Tools for Good Governance and Anti-Corruption	Bulgaria	Regional	80,022	39,994
4	1206.001-19	CEI support for strengthening Energy Regulatory Authorities in the Western Balkans - Third phase	Italy	Regional	118,372	39,475
5	1206.004-19	On the Flood Wave of Vardar River, Flood Risk Management for Skopje	Italy	North Macedonia	80,236	38,726
6	1206.006-19	Promoting geological, ecological and cultural heritage through sustainable development and creation of geo-parks (GECCOSPARK)	Italy	North Macedonia	80,539	40,000
7	1206.007-19	Introducing modern learning methods in North Macedonia using Italian experiences (INLEARN)	Italy	North Macedonia	72,853	33,822
8	305.998-20	Strong nurses for strong health systems and a healthier world	SEEHN	Regional	39,848	39,848
9	305.1227-20	Portal Implementation for Sharing Information about Personal Protective (PPE-HEALTH-PORTAL)	Italy	Regional	38,997	38,997
10	305.1521-20	Distance Learning on Epidemic and Pandemic Outbreaks in the Western Balkans: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia	Italy	Regional	29,993	29,993
11	305.1543-20	Distance Learning on Epidemic and Pandemic Outbreaks in Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine	Italy	Regional	19,034	19,034
12	305.2347-20	SOS COVID-19 Emergency - Protecting Mental Health and Psychosocial Wellbeing of Adults and Minors during Social Distancing in Italy and Serbia	Italy	Regional	39,000	39,000
13	305.3763-20	Interactive Webinars to Accelerate the Shift to Digital Innovation in Albanian Health (WebinHealth)	Italy	Albania	40,438	39,800
14	305.6019-20	Use of Regressive Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Methods in Modelling of COVID-19 spread (COVIDAI)	Serbia, Croatia	Regional	37,900	37,764
15	305.6130-20	Hospital at Home in the Field of Chronic Wound Management during the COVID-19 Pandemic in Romania and Moldova	Romania	Regional	39,000	39,000
TOTAL					1,367,801	542,542

Development and Regulation of the University of Belgrade Laser-laboratory infrastructure for Education and Research

CEI REF. NO. 1206.004-16
TOTAL PROJECT COST. 571,664 EUR
CEI GRANT. 27,090 EUR
IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD 1 January 2017 – 31 July 2021 (54 months)

KNOW-HOW PROVIDERS

European Laboratory for Non-linear Spectroscopy, Italy
www.lens.unifi.it

Centre for Advanced Laser Technologies, Romania
www.cetal.inflpr.ro

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

University of Belgrade
www.bg.ac.rs/en

Vinca Institute, Serbia
www.vin.bg.ac.rs/index.php/en/

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

Research infrastructures play an increasing role in the advancement of knowledge, technology and their exploitation. They need a broad range of expertise to be developed and should be used and exploited by a large community of scientists and industries. These facilities have the ability to bring people and investments together. They are, therefore, important for research, education and innovation.

In this framework, the project aimed at providing transfer of know-how and technical assistance for the development of high-tech higher education, research, and start-up facilities at the University of Belgrade (UB). Two top research institutions, the European Laboratory for Non-linear Spectroscopy (Italy) and the Centre for Advanced Laser Technologies (Romania), provided consultancy, expertise as to how to improve UB laser-laboratory building infrastructure.

The Italian institution is the largest interdisciplinary laser laboratory in the country and is part of a European network of large-scale laser facilities. Associated with the University

of Florence, it provides advanced laser and spectroscopic facilities for European researchers providing facilitates and favouring the exchange of ideas, scientific techniques, and technical skills. The Romanian Centre offers access to high-performance laser equipment to academic and industrial entities.

The project was designed to unlock the potential of an investment of 500,000 EUR from the Serbian Government for purchasing equipment in order to enable the development of photonic science and innovation in the country. This led to a rescheduling of the project activities which, added to the COVID-19 pandemic, produced a delay in the project implementation (from 24 to 54 months).

Regardless of the extended implementation period, the project met most of the original objectives aimed at advancing laser know-how and innovation in Serbia, by:

- assessing the state-of-the-art at the UB laboratory;
- supporting the UB in the setup and upgrade of its infrastructure (installation of a microscopy facility at the UB and upgrade of laser installation at VINCA Institute);
- building a new laboratory early warning system;
- recommending an upgrade of laboratory safety facilities to satisfy EU standards;
- training the laboratory personnel on health and safety policy;
- identifying outdated workplace regulations and recommending updated standards;
- disseminating project results through the organisation of two workshops and the participation to two international conferences in the sector.

The project results will have an impact on the full photonics community of Serbia as well as on other educational and R&D based organisations in the Country. Indeed, many of the standards that were adopted and applied in the UB labs will be applied to other R&D laboratories, hence the knowledge will be easily translated across the University research facilities, institutions and companies.

Training in dietary assessment and sharing platforms for monitoring population food consumption habits in a long-term perspective (TRAIN-DIE)

CEI REF. NO.	1206.003-18
TOTAL PROJECT COST.	79,905 EUR
CEI GRANT.	39,999 EUR
IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	01 February 2019 – 31 January 2021 (24 months)

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

Council for Agricultural Research and Economics, Italy
www.crea.gov.it/en

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

The Centre of Research Excellence in Nutrition and Metabolism, Institute for Medical Research, University of Belgrade
srbnutrition.info/english/home

Capacity Development in Nutrition
www.capnutra.org

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

Since 2005, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has worked, in close cooperation with all organisations operating in the field, towards harmonising dietary survey methodology and building of a common EU food consumption database. Countries use different methods to collect food consumption data, which sometimes makes it difficult to carry out European-wide analyses or country-to-country comparisons. Therefore, EFSA has launched the EU Menu project “What’s on the Menu in Europe?” (EU Menu) that is currently supporting dietary surveys on children and/or adults from 21 countries (Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia and Spain).

In this framework, a nationwide food consumption survey to collect individual data on dietary intakes was launched in Serbia for promoting the adoption of harmonised methodologies for the collection of more harmonised food consumption data to be used in dietary exposure assessments of food-borne hazards and nutrient intake.

Building a continued training system for professionals skilled to perform individual dietary surveys to estimate eating habits, including dietary quality, adequacy (food security), exposure (food safety), environmental impact and

societal implications is a very complex issue per se. Food intakes need to be quantified, stored, aggregated, linked to composition data, occurrence, and many other factors. The process is determined by both objective and subjective determinants as food behaviours have an impact on health, economy and environment. Maintaining a monitoring system requires specialised operators able to manage tools, databases, technology changes, and many other aspects.

In this context, the TRAIN-DIE project aimed at supporting Serbia in carrying out its dietary survey at national level by sharing knowledge in:

- performing nationwide dietary surveys according to EFSA’s EU-MENU methodology;
- exchanging dietary assessment platforms;
- enhancing the information management (collecting, processing, sharing);
- designing and implementing a system for a continuous training system of fieldworkers specialists in individual dietary surveys.

Specialists in dietary assessment able to manage the tools have been skilled to perform surveys. Participants acquired and refreshed skills to carry out dietary surveys. Managing the underpinning database was a crucial part of the courses. Among these specialists the future trainers were also identified. A suitable communication strategy was also designed and implemented. Thereby, the project focused on a desk analysis of Italian and Balkan systems; a planning and implementing training system; dissemination of the project results. The project produced results in two perspectives: one was the capacity in conducting surveys through a community of trained fieldworkers; the second one was the quality of the data collection in the framework of surveys. The project results also enabled the building of a continuous training system for professionals trained to perform individual dietary surveys to estimate eating habits in order to assess dietary quality, dietary adequacy (food security), dietary exposure (food safety), environmental impact and societal implications. In addition, these results were presented on the occasion of a Final Conference with stakeholders and experts from all over the Balkan Region for possible replications in other countries.

Capacity Building for Implementing Innovative EU Monitoring Tools for Good Governance and Anti-Corruption

CEI REF. NO. 1206.004-18
TOTAL PROJECT COST. 80,022 EUR
CEI GRANT. 39,994 EUR
IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD 1 January 2019 – 30 June 2021 (30 months)

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

Center for the Study of Democracy, Bulgaria
www.csd.bg

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

Albanian Center for Economic Research, Albania
www.acer.org.al

Centers for Civic Initiatives, Bosnia and Herzegovina
cci.ba/index.php?lang=2

Macedonian Center for International Cooperation, North Macedonia
www.mcims.mk/en.html

European Policy Centre, Serbia
cep.org.rs/en/

The Center for Democratic Transition, Montenegro
www.en.cdtmn.org/

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

As important governance deficits remain entrenched across the Western Balkans, the EU has clearly reinforced its commitment to the region. On the one hand, the EU Enlargement Strategy continues to prioritise anticorruption as a key rule of law, affecting all aspects of the democratic and economic governance of the Western Balkans. On the other hand, the EU has demonstrated increased support for the region, which focuses on economic growth and regional cooperation. In this respect, economic and security – rule of law – governance will have to move hand in hand for the Western Balkans to effectively join the EU.

The project was submitted by the Center for the Study of Democracy Bulgaria, in its capacity as SELDI Methodological Coordinator. SELDI (Southeast Europe Leadership for Development and Integrity) is the largest indigenous anti-corruption civil society coalition in Southeast Europe. In an effort to build effective public-private partnership, SELDI has welcomed as associate members 5 Anticorruption Agencies from the region (www.seldi.net). The project is a continuation of the activities carried out under the KEP project “Good

Governance and Anti-Corruption Civil Society Initiative” implemented in 2016.

The project met the following objectives:

- To enhance the impact of civil society in public decision-making and reform processes in the Western Balkans through evidence-based advocacy, watchdog and policy monitoring, and dialogue with the Governments in good governance and anti-corruption area.
- To strengthen the capacities of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) for structured civil society dialogue and outreach through networking and cooperation.
- To increase the impact of CSOs’ evidence-based advocacy in the decision-making processes by piloting new approaches to develop and communicate results to the public with focus on state capture and the links between corruption and economic growth.
- To enlarge the space for civil society in the area of anticorruption and good governance, especially in countries, which have experienced recent backsliding.
- To enhance CSO – state partnership and networking for increasing CSOs’ impact on policy-making through making it more “structured and systemic”.
- To foster capacity building for increasing CSOs internal integrity and external outreach, advocacy and networking.

Thereby, the project beneficiaries gained methodological and analytical knowledge, built their advocacy capacities, and established links with the policy-makers in the course of the following actions: a methodological training in Sarajevo; two Regional Policy Forums; two webinars; 17 videos produced as a result of project events; the participation of over 250 experts; policy recommendations discussed with government representatives; 5 policy briefs prepared and published; media and social media dissemination activities.

Engaged institutions: Albania (OSCE local office, EU Delegation local representation); Bulgaria (Ministry of Foreign Affairs); Bosnia and Herzegovina (Agency for the Prevention of Corruption and Coordination of the Fight against Corruption); North Macedonia (State Commission for Prevention of Corruption, Ministry of Information Society and Administration, Ministry of Justice, EU Delegation local representation, OSCE Mission to Skopje, USAID CEP, Euro-Atlantic Council of North Macedonia); Montenegro (EU Delegation to Montenegro).

CEI support for strengthening Energy Regulatory Authorities in the Western Balkans - Third phase

CEI REF. NO.	1206.001-19
TOTAL PROJECT COST.	118.372 EUR
CEI GRANT.	39.475 EUR
IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	January 2020 - December 2021 (24 months)

KNOW-HOW PROVIDERS

Italian Regulatory Authority for Energy, Networks and Environment (ARERA)
www.arera.it/it/inglese/index.htm

Gestore dei Mercati Energetici, Italy
www.mercatoelettrico.org/en

Terna Spa, Italy
www.terna.it/en-gb/home.aspx

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

Energy Regulatory Authority, Albania
www.ere.gov.al/en/

Energy Regulatory Agency, Montenegro
regagen.co.me

Energy and Water Services Regulatory Commission of the Republic of North Macedonia
www.erc.org.mk/Default_en.aspx

Energy Agency of the Republic of Serbia
www.aers.rs/index.asp?l=2

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

The EU Multi-Regional Market Coupling, currently linking the majority of EU power markets, consists in allocating cross-border transmission capacity in the most efficient way. As a result, electricity flows from the lower price zone to the higher price zone, maximising the social welfare. In accordance with EC Regulation 2015/1222, the EC has set detailed rules for organising a single-day-ahead market and a single intraday market across Europe.

Indeed, the EU has chosen market coupling as the target model for cross-border capacity allocation among Member States. The market-coupling project between the EU Multi-Regional Market Coupling and the Balkans, via Italy, is part of a wider project of electricity market integration, known as Day Ahead Market Integration Programme and it is promoted within the Western Balkans Process. EC Regulation 2015/1222 will become part of the “acquis communautaire” that the Contracting Parties of the Energy Community are bound to implement. However, for the time being, Regulation

2015/1222 has not yet been transposed into the legal framework of the Balkan Countries.

The project of electricity market integration between the EU and the Balkans, via Italy, remains one of the major challenges within the SEE Region. Two capacity-building projects were financed by the CEI Fund at the EBRD in 2018 and 2019 and have successfully been implemented.

The projects implemented since 2018 have as a general objective to raise awareness among beneficiaries on the process of electricity market integration in the European Union. This objective, based on pure knowledge transfer, has been fully achieved, thanks to the multiple sessions where the topic has been extensively addressed. A more specific objective was to foster the market integration between Italy and the Balkan Region. In this respect, the project has contributed to the establishment of Power Exchanges in Montenegro and Albania (in Serbia a Power Exchange is already operational). However, the market coupling project between Albania, Italy, Montenegro, and Serbia has not yet gone live. This is due to the legal obstacles that have been extensively discussed and analysed within the KEP project. Unfortunately, it is beyond the competencies of project parties to solve the legal issues preventing the finalisation of the coupling project. In this regard, the KEP project has facilitated the identification of the most promising way forward, involving in the discussion representatives of the European Commission and of the Energy Community Secretariat.

In relation to the impact of COVID-19 on market coupling implementation, it is worth noting that thanks to the efforts of all parties, potential delays have been reduced and efficiently managed. Furthermore, the parties have recognised the importance to address the ecological transition: the EU will be putting pressure in the coming years to achieve the 2050 decarbonisation target and any market willing to be integrated into the EU framework should be consistent with such targets.

Finally, the objective of transforming the KEP project into a permanent knowledge transfer and capacity building activity has been achieved thanks to the commitment of all parties to create an energy school for the Balkan Region. The Balkan Energy School project was presented and launched during the KEP final conference. This can be considered as the main long-term outcome generated by the Project.

On the Flood Wave of Vardar River, Flood Risk Management for Skopje

CEI REF. NO. 1206.004-19
TOTAL PROJECT COST. 80,236 EUR
CEI GRANT. 38,726 EUR
IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD 1 February 2020 – 31 January 2021 (12 months)

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

BETA Studio s.r.l., Italy
www.betastudio.eu/en/

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

Chamber of Certified Architects and Certified Engineers,
North Macedonia
www.komoraoai.mk/en/

NGO Association 6th Star, North Macedonia
www.6thstar.org

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

The City of Skopje is an area with a high degree of threats from natural disasters. According to the geographical position of the city, statistical data and the natural characteristics of the river basin and the river network (river Vardar), the city and its surroundings are at constant risk of flooding.

Skopje and its surroundings have experienced nine major floods in the last 160 years (the last one on 6 August 2016). Most of the operational and preventive measures are part of the city of Skopje's plan for protection and rescue from natural disasters. It is a legal obligation resulting from several laws related to the floods and their changes and amendments, but most of them are too general and do not correspond to local and contemporary circumstances that have occurred within the City in the last years.

The country does not seem to be prepared to deal with major flooding risks. The EU Flood Directive (FD - 2007/60/EC) and the Water Framework Directive (WFD – 2000/60/EC) are behind the scheduling for the transposition into national legislation in North Macedonia.

The general objective of the project was to enhance the capacity of North Macedonia in flood management, flood prevention and flood risk reduction and to facilitate compliance with the pertinent European legislation. In this framework, the project aimed at transferring best practices and benchmarks already in place in Italy (under the EU Directive) in order to establish a line base for the flood risk management in the City of Skopje using the strong-rooted experience of BETA Studio (the know-how provider) in terms of hydraulic modelling, risk assessment and flood prevention and protection. BETA Studio provided a pilot hydraulic modelling, including hazard and risk assessment of the river Vardar (in-depth assessment still missing at national level) in order to strengthen the capacities of the decision makers delivering an important system for flood control and flood forecasting.

The project also included a training on Geographic Information Systems (GIS), developing and guiding the beneficiaries through the main steps of building a GIS application, including all the information acquired and processed, in order to assist the flood risk management activities.

Project actions also strengthened the capacity of the employees of the Beneficiary institutions on flood modelling, risk assessment and management.

Attention was also given to the concept of the “River Contract” as strategic measures for flood mitigation focused on a local governance participatory process. This specific participatory instrument, regulated by the Italian Ministry of the Environment under the EU Directive, has already been successfully applied in Moldova through two KEP projects in 2015 and 2017.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemics, all project activities were implemented remotely, including four thematic trainings.

Promoting geological, ecological and cultural heritage through sustainable development and creation of geo-parks (GECCOSPARK)

CEI REF. NO.	1206.006-19
TOTAL PROJECT COST.	80,539 EUR
CEI GRANT.	40,000 EUR
IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	3 January 2020 – 27 September 2021 (20 months)

KNOW-HOW PROVIDERS

University of Ferrara, Italy
www.unife.it/international

Gaya CER, Skopje, North Macedonia

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENT

State University “Goce Delcev”, Institute of Geology
www.ugd.edu.mk/index.php/en/

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

UNESCO Global Geoparks are single, unified geographical areas where sites and landscapes of international geological significance are managed with a holistic concept of protection, education and sustainable development. Their bottom-up approach of combining conservation with sustainable development while involving local communities is becoming increasingly popular. At present, there are 147 UNESCO Global Geoparks in 41 countries.

A Geopark is an area with clearly defined boundaries that has a remarkable geological heritage combined with a strategy for sustainable development (i.e. economic development that is planned and implemented taking into account environmental protection and sustainability).

Benefits from having a recognised geopark are relevant. Geoparks are places of cultural worship, environmental protection importance, and historical significance useful for education and research purposes. The related places become tourist attractions improving local economy and they can be included in the European Geopark Network, where knowledge is shared among 73 other parks across Europe, potentially receiving the UNESCO Global Geopark status.

North Macedonia has a really interesting geology as it includes different geological areas and unique places such as Demir Kapjija, Kokino, Matka gorge, Alshar and Treskavec, just to name a few. In this framework, the project aimed at supporting the beneficiary as well as local municipalities to promote the creation of geoparks in the country in potential sites through:

- investigations and field surveys (3 geo-heritage sites were visited in 2020);
- drone imagery, mapping and creation of GIS database for selected potential geopark sites;
- mineralogical and chemical analyses of rocks and minerals;
- signing of a memorandum for collaboration between the Municipalities of Demir Kapija, Gevgelija and Kavadarci, the NGO Stena Stenae and Gaya CER Skopje;
- creation of the MakGeopark Board;
- drafting of an Action Plan for the selected “MakGeopark”;
- organisation of several workshops and on-line meetings (replacing other activities due to the COVID-19 pandemics);
- preparation of the UNESCO application for the selected MakGeopark;
- several promotional activities including a website (<https://makgeopark.mk/>).

The application for MakGeopark was submitted by the Project Team to the National UNESCO Committee of North Macedonia and to the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning who approved the proposal. It is currently under evaluation by the Parliament before submitting it to the relevant UNESCO body.

Introducing modern learning methods in North Macedonia using Italian experiences (INLEARN)

CEI REF. NO. 1206.007-19
TOTAL PROJECT COST. 72,853 EUR
CEI GRANT. 33,822 EUR
IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD 15 January 2020 – 15 February 2021 (14 months)

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Department of Education and Human Sciences, Italy
www.des.unimore.it/site/home.html

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENT

Integrated Business Faculty - Skopje, North Macedonia
fbe.edu.mk/

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

The vast use of the Internet and the increasingly widespread access to the latest technologies have become the main reason for the development of remote teaching services. To modernise the educational offer, higher education institutions placed, in their study programmes, various teaching possibilities through distance learning. This trend is already very common in the world's largest universities.

E-learning refers to the use of information and communications technology to enhance and/or support learning in education. But this covers a wide range of systems that can be divided into several different types.

In this context, the current Law for Higher Education in North Macedonia does not include distance learning as a viable option for (Higher Educational Institutions. This reality is, however, set to change as the country implements reform changes to meet international and EU standards.

The main goal of the INLEARN project was to introduce the beneficiary to the comprehensive methodologies and implementation of e-learning systems, which would serve as a basis for the future implementation of distance learning.

The beneficiary institution utilises some functions of e-learning systems in its educational process. However, this is done at a basic level mostly for data access. Starting from the needs of the beneficiary and the knowledge and experience of the applicant, project actions were the following:

- identification of the main trends in the development of European education, with particular focus on e-learning and distance learning best practices;
- understanding the technical feasibility and infrastructure needed for implementing e-learning and distance learning systems;
- setting the method for the development of new distance learning programmes designed to provide students with skills and competencies equal to traditional learning;
- development of a process to provide adequate support to institutions and students, so that they can receive feedback and communicate with teaching staff and mentors;
- development of comprehensive guidelines, based on knowledge sharing and best practices, useful for implementing e-learning and distance learning systems taking into consideration the beneficiary's educational context and its final users.

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions the project activity was implemented remotely including a 5-day workshop and the project final conference.

Strong nurses for strong health systems and a healthier world

CEI REF. NO.	305.998-20
TOTAL PROJECT COST.	39,848 EUR
CEI GRANT.	39,848 EUR
IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	1 July 2020 – 28 February 2021 (8 months)

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

South Eastern Europe Health Network (SEEHN)
seehn.org/

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

The Ministries of Health of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Moldova and Serbia in partnership with the associations of nurses and other relevant national stakeholders

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

The project was financed by the CEI Fund in the framework of the CEI COVID-19 Extraordinary Call for Proposals. It was implemented by SEEHN, a regional intergovernmental organisation founded in 2001 with the aim to promote collaboration, common values and to encourage mutual efforts towards peace, health and well-being of the people in its 9 Member States (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Israel, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania and Serbia). The seat of the SEEHN Secretariat is in Skopje (North Macedonia)

The overall objective of the project was to contribute to a better COVID-19 response and other related emergency responses in the selected SEEHN Member States as well as provide support for strengthening emergency preparedness and response mechanisms, while enabling project beneficiaries to acquire evidence-based expertise and insights about COVID-19 case management.

Nurses are one of the important core pillars of health systems. They are also at the forefront of COVID-19 response – providing high quality cost-effective care and play a critical role in emergency risk reduction, preparedness and response. Most nurses have not received enough training to work in complex emergency settings. The credentialing and education of nurses varies considerably. Credentialing systems often fail to specify roles and limits during emergencies. Primary health care nurses are

often the first ones to get in direct contact with potential COVID-19 positive patients, providing guidance, in collecting samples for the diagnostic and essential care for patients, coordinating efforts with other health professionals and other members of the response team during emergencies.

There is no response without well prepared and protected healthcare staff and the COVID-19 emergency has revealed a lack of knowledge. Nurses' professional duty is to provide effective and timely care, whilst health systems shall maintain their skills and abilities. It is clear that nurse empowerment boosts health system resilience and this in turn enables a better COVID-19 response.

In this framework, the specific objective of the project was to strengthen the capacities of primary health care nurses in target Member States by developing and organising online trainings on COVID-19 emergency response that strengthen the prevention, promotion and advocacy work of nurses.

The project was designed around 5 activities.

- mapping and identifying the training modules for the implementation of the planned Emergency training;
- development of 3 training modules with 105 participants;
- organisation of 2 webinars on COVID-19, that included prevention, promotion and advocacy work/protection protocol for primary health care nurses (more than 100 participants from the South- Eastern Europe region connected);
- translation of training materials in 6 local languages;
- setting up of a communication strategy on the SEEHN website, also establishing special Facebook and Instagram web pages for the project, in addition, ministries of health from the beneficiary countries posted related information and project visibility.

The core project activity, i.e. training sessions aimed at improving the clinical performance of frontline nurses by providing ad hoc competences for present as well as future pandemics and emergencies. In addition, trainings focused on the health care workers' psychological pressure by providing recommendations to adopt supportive tools.

Portal Implementation for Sharing Information about Personal Protective (PPE-HEALTH-PORTAL)

CEI REF. NO.305.1227-20
TOTAL PROJECT COST.38,997 EUR
CEI GRANT.38,997 EUR
IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD1 July 2020 – 31 January 2021 (7 months)

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

INFORMEST Consulting, Italy
www.informestconsulting.it/

PARTNERS AND KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

Cooperation and Development Institute, Albania
cdinstitute.eu/

Development Association NERDA, Bosnia and Herzegovina
www.nerda.ba/index_e.php

LEDIB Cluster House Union BoD, Serbia
clusterhouse.rs/en/

Institute of Regional Development, Ukraine
www.institute.lviv.ua/index.php/en

Companies in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Italy, Poland, Serbia, Ukraine.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

The project was financed by the CEI Fund in the framework of the CEI COVID-19 Extraordinary Call for Proposals. It was implemented by INFORMEST Consulting, a company that has been successfully operating in support services to businesses for commercial development in the most dynamic and growing international markets for over twenty-five years.

In the framework of the COVID-19 pandemic the most requested medical equipment includes PPE (Personal Protective Equipment), such as masks, protective glasses, disinfectants, in addition to innovative telemedicine software and tools such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and solutions. The procurement of PPE equipment, the identification of innovative solutions for telemedicine and the diffusion of AI and ICT solutions are essential for the protection and support of health care workers, protecting them from exposure to COVID-19 and controlling the spread of the virus. In early spring 2020, institutions faced difficulties in

the procurement of PPE due to disruptions in the supply chain and to high demand as the number of infected patients continued to grow exponentially. EU countries and companies have adopted various support measures and solutions to try to decrease and/or solve these problems in the healthcare sector. Many EU companies have reacted by converting their production into essential and urgent medical devices or by creating new collaborations/joint ventures for the production of new production lines. Therefore, the project aimed at promoting economic collaboration initiatives and disseminating best practices in the framework of the COVID-19 emergency between EU and non-EU countries. It in particular supported companies that manufacture and distribute PPE devices and telemedicine solutions.

Main project activities and results:

- Creation of a reference portal (<https://ppehealthportal.eu/>) at European level gathering companies that produce and distribute PPE devices as well as telemedicine solutions which are necessary to fight the COVID-19 virus; or companies that have converted part of their production for the realisation of these devices. The aim was to provide, a valid, reliable and effective information and consultation tool for all stakeholders who need to procure PPE devices overcoming the difficulties in searching for manufacturers and reducing the time for finding and selecting suppliers. The companies supplying PPE devices can propose to be inserted on the portal for free, indicating products and solutions offered, contact data and other useful information, so as to bring supply and demand closer, in a cross-border perspective.
- Dissemination and transfer of know-how and success stories: companies from EU countries presented, through direct testimonies, their experiences of conversion of part of the production for the construction of PPE devices. 27 EU companies with conversion experiences joined the project, out of which 8 were selected for the know-how transfer activities. The goal was to support companies from non-EU countries in the process of converting production, by highlighting difficulties and obstacles encountered, but also providing solutions and guidelines for correct process planning (in this respect over 100 non-EU companies joined the project).

Distance Learning on Epidemic and Pandemic Outbreaks in the Western Balkans: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia

CEI REF. NO.305.1521-20
 TOTAL PROJECT COST.29,993 EUR
 CEI GRANT.29,993 EUR
 IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD1 October 2020 – 30 March 2021 (6 months)

Distance Learning on Epidemic and Pandemic Outbreaks in Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine

CEI REF. NO.305.1543-20
 TOTAL PROJECT COST.19,034 EUR
 CEI GRANT.19,034 EUR
 IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD1 October 2020 – 30 March 2021 (6 months)

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

The Italian Health Institute, Italy
www.iss.it/web/iss-en

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

National Health Institutes and Ministries of target countries

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

The two projects were financed by the CEI Fund in the framework of the CEI COVID-19 Extraordinary Call for Proposals. They were implemented by the Italian Institute of Health, a leader for research, auditing, training, technical and scientific consulting in public health founded in 1934.

Due to the wide-reaching implications of public health both at national and cross-country level, cooperation is crucial for a way forward. In this framework the ISS supported project-target countries to enhance their capacity to implement effective actions during the current and future emergencies by offering technical assistance. The projects were built on the successful collaboration between ISS and the institutes of public health of the target countries in several capacity-building projects financed by the CEI Fund at the EBRD since 2015.

The two projects aimed at improving epidemiological skills of professionals by strengthening the abilities of all parties to effectively and timely cope with outbreak preparedness and response. It was carried out by promoting national and cross border cooperation and identifying the capacity of each national public health surveillance system as well as regional communication channels to be activated in times of epidemics and pandemics. This was performed through a region-wide harmonised learning system.

Designed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and conceived in line with the EU directives and international health regulations, the two projects reinforced trans-national cooperation and improved public health safety e security. Specific objectives of each of the two projects were:

- to establish an action plan to address regional challenges to be translated into trainings;
- to enhance at regional level the public health technical capacity of selected experts;
- to provide technical assistance for building community resilience practices and skills at local level;
- to map a national surveillance system and diagnostic labs to develop an open-source permanent forum for intersectoral know-how exchange on the topic;
- to ensure adequate availability of quality public health training programmes in higher educational institutions in the target countries.

Results:

- implementation of an action plan at regional and community level, including a related SWOT analysis and an increased level of awareness and knowledge on the impact of outbreaks among communities;
- effective region-wide harmonised participatory mechanism regulated by an educational platform to support institutions and communities;
- a set of education and promotional materials to be shared among the beneficiaries and other stakeholders involved for further project development, dissemination and exploitation of results;
- map of surveillance system and diagnostic labs' national capacity;
- a final scientific report for dissemination among the scientific community and the dedicated social media.

SOS COVID-19 Emergency - Protecting Mental Health and Psychosocial Wellbeing of Adults and Minors during Social Distancing in Italy and Serbia

CEI REF. NO.305.2347-20
 TOTAL PROJECT COST.39,000 EUR
 CEI GRANT.39,000 EUR
 IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD1 July 2020 – 28 February 2021 (8 months)

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

SOS Children's Villages, Italy
www.sositalia.it/

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

SOS Children's Villages Serbia
sos-decijasela.rs/en/

Health operators, psychologists and social workers in the target countries.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

The project was financed by the CEI Fund in the framework of the COVID-19 CEI Extraordinary Call for Proposals. It was implemented by SOS Children's Villages Italy (SOS Italy), an Italian no-profit organisation, established in 1963 that provides direct support services in the areas of care for children and youth at risk of losing or have lost parental care. The organisation is part of the SOS Children's Villages International Federation.

The project was realised in the framework of a wide emergency programme that SOS IT was implementing to respond to the challenges posed by the virulent spread of COVID-19. SOS IT also sought to support other SOS member associations to fight the pandemic in resource-limited countries.

The living conditions of the most vulnerable social groups are additionally endangered due to the consequences of the pandemic caused by COVID-19. Many adults and children feel anxious and upset. Psychosocial support and counselling have become a priority. The limitation of the traditional face-to-face interaction between health service providers and utilizers is leading to the widespread introduction of innovative strategies for remote assistance.

In this framework, SOS Italy has designed an emergency response programme to implement evidence-based practices already applied and promoted by major actors in the mental health and psychosocial support policy area.

In this framework, this project aimed at introducing in Italy and Serbia a preventive mental healthcare model – Problem Management Plus – conceived by the WHO to assist mental health care providers with an intuitive and effective tool to remotely interact with patients. SOS Italy and Serbia joined their efforts thanks to a long-standing partnership for the protection of the mental health and psychosocial wellbeing of children and youths in the target countries.

The intervention included a set of key complementary activities primarily meant for children and youth without parental care or at risk of losing it. It addressed individuals at risk and vulnerable families, primarily but not exclusively inside the SOS support network, to help them cope with the adverse effects of the spread of COVID-19. The main project objective was to ensure quality offer of and access to preventive mental healthcare and psychosocial relief services to individuals and families severely affected by the prolonged quarantine, the loss of their loved ones or the loss of sources of income.

Outcome 1

Mental health operators have adequately trained on the provision of quickly and broadly responsive counselling in emergencies.

- Activity 1.1. Carrying out of a training of trainers and cascade trainings in Italy and Serbia on the implementation of Problem Management Plus.

Outcome 2

Practical tools for mental health protection and psychosocial support have been put in place and made easily accessible by remote.

- Activity 2.1. Virtual team-up sessions through videos have been made available in Italian and Serbian.
- Activity 2.2. Elaboration of videos in Italian and Serbian based on a methodology developed by the Emmer School to help parents to cope with the forced quarantine with children.
- Activity 2.3. Set up of an on-line archive comprising multimedia and multisource information on the different strategies to cope with the spread of COVID-19.
- Activity 2.4. Setup of an online informatics platform for training and service delivery.

Interactive Webinars to Accelerate the Shift to Digital Innovation in Albanian Health (WebinHealth)

CEI REF. NO.	305.3763-20
TOTAL PROJECT COST.	40,438 EUR
CEI GRANT.	39,800 EUR
IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	1 July 2020 - 31 January 2021 (7 months)

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

Lepida SCPA, Italy
www.lepida.net/en

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

Ministry of Health and Social Protection, Albania
www.shendetesia.gov.al/

University of Medicine of Tirana, Albania
umed.edu.al/?lang=en

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

The project was financed by the CEI Fund in the framework of the COVID-19 Extraordinary Call for Proposals. It was implemented by Lepida SCPA, a subsidiary of the Emilia-Romagna Region (Italy), its operational instrument for information and communications technology (ICT) as well as services including innovative solutions in the health sector. The project was developed in partnership with the Albanian Ministry of Health and Social Protection and the University of Medicine of Tirana.

The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated digital innovation in the health sector. Even before the emergency, Lepida and the Albanian Health Ministry of Health were committed to promoting digitalisation and the development of digital infrastructure to overcome the fragmentation of health data in different databases and provide better services to citizens. Considering that a multifunctional government platform already exists (<https://e-albania.al/>), this project aimed at:

- strengthening and expanding this platform by transferring the necessary skills to design an infrastructure for connecting doctors and structures of different levels of care;
- digitalising laboratory and radiology reports;
- adopting an electronic health record for clinicians and citizens.

These skills supported the alignment to European standards in the report digitalisation. In this framework the intervention aimed at upskilling public servants and stakeholders of the Albanian health system. This was carried out through webinars in support of the digitalisation of the healthcare sector based on the experience and expertise from the Emilia-Romagna Region, also in view of the emergency measures adopted.

The webinars ensured, in a timeframe of 7 months, an integrated panel of modular learning opportunities. They were delivered following a shared calendar with partners from Albania based on selected topics organised in modules addressed to capture value and help health care professionals, stakeholders and tech developers to create solutions to better meet their needs. Besides the traditional topics on eHealth architecture and tools, special attention was paid to the solutions adopted to counter the pandemic situation in Italy. The training modules were mainly provided online. Materials included online presentations, brochures, videos and online surveys to collect and map feedbacks from the audience and realise an evaluation. Live activities as debates and round tables with experts from Lepida and its institutional health members (local health authorities, regional government, universities, municipalities and other public entities engaged in digital transformation activities) were also implemented.

Main results:

- provision of digital competence and knowledge to design and develop systems and tools to connect medical doctors, IT systems in the health facilities and patient data;
- designing of useful tools to empower Albanian citizens to get confident with the digital health;
- knowledge transfer on how to design and realise contact centres and informative help desks for health and COVID-19 in particular;
- training on smart working features for contact centres and IT operators;
- provision of insight on compliance with data protection, security and privacy rules;
- keep value in looking outside the system to other regions and countries that are dealing with the same set of challenges.

Use of Regressive Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Methods in Modelling of COVID-19 spread (COVIDAI)

CEI REF. NO.305.6019-20
TOTAL PROJECT COST.37,900 EUR
CEI GRANT.37,764 EUR
IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD6 July 2020 – 31 December 2021 (7 months)

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

University of Kragujevac, Serbia
en.kg.ac.rs/

PARTNERS AND KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

University of Rijek, Croatia
www.riteh.uniri.hr/en/

Clinical Hospital Centre, Croatia
kbc-rijeka.hr/?lang=en

Public health institutions, hospitals, and epidemiologists in all CEI Member States

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

The project was financed by the CEI Fund in the framework of the COVID-19 Extraordinary Call for Proposals. It was implemented by the Faculty of Engineering and Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics of the University of Kragujevac - in cooperation with the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Rijeka and the Clinical Hospital Centre.

The project originates from the fact that COVID-19 is a highly infectious disease and modelling its spreading is extremely important in the prediction of its impact. While classic, statistical modelling can provide satisfactory models, it can also fail to comprehend the intricacies within the data.

In this framework, the COVIDAI project aimed at analysing many factors influencing COVID-19 development in humans, including genetical, blood markers, geographical position,

as well as medical X-ray images. Its unique Artificial Intelligence (AI) tool provided a set of solutions for COVID-19 development both in specific patients (personalised model), as well as on the level of the region (epidemiological model).

The COVIDAI tool would help medical experts to decide whether the patient will be subjected to further analysis and prescribe adequate therapy. Predictive models based on machine learning can provide useful data in terms of prediction of epidemiological events, which can save time for an optimal response of both the health system and the society.

Main activities performed within the COVIDAI project included the development of two models:

- a Personalized AI model for COVID-19 prediction (monitoring of patient's condition and prediction of disease progress in time);
- an Epidemiological model for COVID-19 (monitoring of number of people susceptible, exposed, infected, dead, recovered from COVID-19).

The final goal was the creation of predictive models as well as the determination of their quality obtained through different techniques in an attempt not only to pinpoint models of the spread of COVID-19, but to determine the best possible regressive AI modelling techniques to be used in the future predictions of epidemic spread. These models will be of crucial importance in case of future pandemic spreading for all interested stakeholders, such as: national public health institutions, hospitals, and epidemiologists.

More info is available at <http://www.covidai.kg.ac.rs/>.

Hospital at Home in the Field of Chronic Wound Management during the COVID-19 Pandemic in Romania and Moldova

CEI REF. NO.	305.6130-20
TOTAL PROJECT COST.	39,000 EUR
CEI GRANT.	39,000 EUR
IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	1 July 2020 – 31 January 2021 (7 months)

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

Association Caritas Alba Iulia- Medical and Social Assistance, Romania
caritas-ab.ro/en/

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENT

Centre for Home Social and Medical Assistance "CASMED", Moldova
casmed.md/en/

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

The project was financed by the CEI Fund in the framework of the COVID-19 Extraordinary Call for Proposals. It was implemented by Caritas Alba Iulia, an NGO with a 25-year experience in the field of medical and social assistance also providing social and healthcare services in rural areas.

Wound healing and wound care are an essential part of medicine. The topic of chronic wounds has become increasingly important while unfortunately, the principles for their treatment are not included in the curricula of doctors and nurses worldwide. This leaves health care professionals largely on their own when dealing with educational development. Patients experience disparate treatment quality, depending on the individual quality of the centres to which they are admitted. A more systematic approach is thus needed.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a deep impact on home care programmes because many patients with chronic

illnesses were sent home from the hospitals with limited medical assistance and care. Providing patients and their care givers with support in this framework is essential. Caritas workers of the home care services are responsible for the medical assistance and care of mainly bedridden sick and elderly people who need to be visited in their homes many times a week, in most cases daily. They visit 15-20 persons a day, which make them frontline health care workers during the pandemic. In addition, they work with higher risk persons: elderly and sick people. Caritas has developed competences in the field of modern wound management which is crucial in the care of chronic bedridden patients under the special conditions of the pandemic. Hospitals do not have the capacity to treat chronic diseases at the moment. This expertise has been transferred to the partner organisation CASMED in Moldova, the biggest provider of social and medical home-based care services in the country.

Main project activities were:

- training in the field of modern wound management for nurses and wound experts, including the use of an online application for the administration and follow up of chronic wound patients as well as the use of video communication tools. Webinars took place weekly in the first three months of project implementation;
- realisation of a video tutorial on modern-wound management;
- training of over 150 home care nurses;
- translation and distribution of an ad hoc manual;
- treatment of chronic wound patients at home in Romania and Moldova by Caritas and CASMED health care professionals.



Future Outlook: 2022 Strategies

The CEI Fund's Strategies for 2022 focus on sector and country priorities for projects financed by the CEI Fund through its two programmes - the Technical Cooperation (TC) Programme and the Know-how Exchange Programme (KEP). The overall allocation for 2022 amounts to over 3.2 million EUR to be used for the Fund's countries of operations: Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Ukraine.

Within the TC Programme, the Fund's mandate primarily aims at supporting the EBRD's operations and related technical assistance activities to generate greater impact in the non-EU CEI Member States where the Bank works, by fostering competitive, well-governed, green, inclusive, resilient and integrated economies. In order to achieve these common goals, the CEI Fund will continue to support the Bank in boosting investments, growth and policy dialogue in the region across the following sectors: Green Economy Transition (including, Energy & Resource Efficiency, Circular economy, Renewable Energy, Climate Resilience and Just Transition); Sustainable Infrastructures (including Municipal and Environmental Infrastructure as well as Transport); Agribusiness; Support to SME Development; and Improving the Investment Climate.

In this framework, in 2022, the CEI Fund will continue supporting the EBRD's increased funding to countries of operations to address economic recovery and tackle the long-term impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Projects with a regional impact will remain a priority, in line with the CEI's regional approach. The CEI Fund's resources will continue to act as a catalyst for the EBRD's investments and activities. Priority will be given to technical cooperation projects where relatively limited grants mobilise significant investment opportunities.

The CEI Fund's vision remains strongly focused on the EU integration of the Western Balkans. It is committed to supporting the implementation of the Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans adopted in 2020 by the European Commission to spur the long-term economic recovery of the region and to foster regional economic integration. Thus, the CEI Fund will continue to support the Bank in increasing investments and sources of growth in the Western Balkan region, including private sector development, transformation towards a green economy, and improvement of infrastructure to boost regional cooperation and trade.

In the EU Eastern Partnership region, considering the aggression by the Russian Federation on Ukraine and its people and the related human and geopolitical catastrophe, the CEI Fund will back the EBRD's operations to address short- and longer-term impacts of the war on Ukraine and on its neighbouring countries. This, in addition to actions aimed at improving the rule of law, enhancing policy dialogue, spurring economic reform, improving infrastructure and municipal services and promoting green energy.

The CEI Fund will also continue financing its Know-How Exchange Programme, aimed at accelerating the EU integration of the Western Balkans as well as fostering the approximation to EU standards of Eastern Partnership countries through know-how and best-practice transfer. In this framework, capacity building projects will mainly focus on strengthening capacities of public administrations at all levels and providing assistance in economic and social transformation.

Through its strategies, the CEI Fund is fully committed to continue helping the CEI countries achieve their transition and integration objectives by ensuring leverage and effectiveness in the use of Italian resources.

Annexes

Annex 1

Financial Report 2021

Summary as at 31 December 2021 ¹

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Inflows

Inflows 1992-2007 CEIE00 account (MEF account)	26,580,805
Inflows 2008-2021 CEI200 account (MAECI account)	26,499,989
Other income	3,000,012

Total inflows 1992-2021	56,080,806
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Expenditures

Office operating expenditure (1992-2003), CEI Summit Economic Fora (1998-2003), international events/cooperation activities (1998-2006)	6,011,597
EBRD management fee	1,944,660
Bank charges, income and reimbursements, interest expenses, other charges	445,178
Closed and open commitments	43,196,721

Total expenditures 1992-2021	51,598,156
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Fund availability

Available fund balance CEIE00 account	198,569
Available fund balance CEI200 account	4,284,081
TC assignments not earmarked	-700,000
Recovery from operative activities and KEP in Trieste	299,045

Total available	4,081,695
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Budget 2022-2023

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Expected inflow in 2022 (second tranche replenishment 2021)	500,000
Budget 2022	-3,500,000
Expected fund availability for 2023	1,081,695

¹ This Financial Report uses unaudited figures for planning purposes. Audited accounts are available from the EBRD System and external auditors for the Fund.

Annex 2

Budget 2022

A Projects	Trieste (€)	London (€)	Total (€)
Technical Cooperation Programme		1,350,000	
CEI Programme for Youth in the Western Balkans		1,500,000	
Know-how Exchange Programme	400,000		
Subtotal			3,250,000
B Human Resources			
Programme Manager	113,000		
Reimbursement to the CEI-ES (part-time personnel unit for Administration)	16,500		
Reimbursement to the CEI-ES (part-time personnel unit for Accounting)	15,300		
Reimbursement to the CEI-ES (part-time personnel unit for Communication)	17,200		
Subtotal			162,000
C Travel and Events			
Missions	10,000		
Events	7,000		
Reimbursement to the CEI-ES for events	2,000		
Subtotal			19,000
D General Expenses			
Utilities, suppliers, equipment, maintenance, audit, insurance	20,000		
Reimbursement to the CEI-ES for utilities, suppliers, equipment, maintenance	11,000		
Publications	15,000		
Reimbursement to the CEI-ES for publications	3,000		
Subtotal			49,000
E Contingency Reserve			
Contingency Reserve	10,000	10,000	
Subtotal			20,000
Total			3,500,000

Annex 3

Central European Initiative Fund

Balance 2021

	€
Contributions received	26,580,805
Other income	2,913,605
Total income	29,494,410
Management fee	969,660
Administrative/other expenses	6,011,597
Earmarks	22,296,908
Undrawn management fee and other administrative expenses reserve	17,676
Total expenditure/earmarks	29,295,841
Available fund balance for new earmarks	198,569

Central European Initiative Ministry of Foreign Affairs Fund

Balance 2021

	€
Contributions received	26,499,989
Other income	86,407
Total income	26,586,396
Management fee	975,000
Administrative/other expenses	182,010
Earmarks	20,899,813
Undrawn management fee and other administrative expenses reserve	245,492
Total expenditure/earmarks	22,302,315
Available fund balance for new earmarks	4,284,081

List of Technical Cooperation Assignments 1993-2021

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	COMMITMENT NAME	COMMITTED €	COMMITMENT STAGE	COUNTRY OF OPERATIONS	SECTOR OF OPERATIONS
50002143	Kyiv to Western Border Highway feasibility study	784,844	closed	Ukraine	Transport
50002144	Central European Initiative - transport information reporting project (design and supervision)	156,621	closed	Albania	Transport
50002145	Commercial law training	1,910,891	closed	Regional	Institutional Development
50002146	CETIR - Central Initiative System - transport information reporting system	505,484	closed	Regional	Transport
50002147	Industrial zone development (Phase I)	19,923	closed	Slovak Republic	Institutional Development
50002148	Co-financing advisory services	22,827	closed	Albania	Institutional Development
50002149	Board On-Line Documents	71,647	closed	Regional	Institutional Development
50002115	Board On-Line Documents	78,193	closed	Regional	Institutional Development
50002116	Funding of assistants for Directors representing constituencies of countries of operations	41,983	closed	Regional	Institutional Development
50002117	Commercial law training extension	619,474	closed	Regional	Institutional Development
50002154	Air navigation system management information	182,412	closed	Ukraine	Transport
50002191	Emergency power system reconstruction project	76,218	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Energy/ Climate
50002192	Emergency power system reconstruction project	133,581	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Energy/ Climate
50002193	Board on-line documents	59,058	closed	Regional	Institutional Development
50002194	Law reform and training programme III / CEI support	82,566	closed	Regional	Institutional Development
50002195	Project screening for Bosnia and Herzegovina	62,683	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Institutional Development
50002196	Sarajevo Airport Masterplan study	167,412	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50002197	Design and supervision consultants for Croatia Wholesale Markets	553,229	closed	Croatia	Agribusiness
50001458	Business Advisory Services - feasibility study	19,594	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	SME support
50002198	Board on-line documents	63,962	closed	Regional	Institutional Development
50002199	Sarajevo International Airport - Lighting and Equipment	409,971	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50004352	Sarajevo International Airport - Firefighting Training	30,000	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50002200	BOLD Project Manager and CEI Deputy Programme Manager	81,148	closed	Regional	Transport
50002201	Procurement assistance to the transport team	89,091	closed	Regional	Transport
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	24,633	closed	Croatia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia - TAM Management & Support	37,600	closed	Croatia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	759,928	closed	Croatia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	71,600	closed	Croatia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	85,944	closed	Croatia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	20,967	closed	Croatia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	61,431	closed	Croatia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	9,680	closed	Croatia	SME support

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	COMMITMENT NAME	COMMITTED €	COMMITMENT STAGE	COUNTRY OF OPERATIONS	SECTOR OF OPERATIONS
50002202	CEI Loans for Small Entrepreneurs in Albania	268,586	closed	Albania	Finance, Business
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia - Project Officer	36,688	closed	Croatia	SME support
50002203	CEI Romanian Railways Cooperation Project - Project Preparation and Implementation	409,448	closed	Romania	Transport
50003472	Albania - Rehabilitation of Road Network	1,700,000	closed	Albania	Transport
50002687	CEI Wholesale Markets Foundation	464,812	closed	Regional	Agribusiness
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in South East Europe	1,243,645	closed	Regional	SME support
50001183	TAM Programme - CEI TAM Privatisation Support	468,284	closed	Regional	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	14,482	closed	Croatia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	6,273	closed	Croatia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	21,965	closed	Croatia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	3,111	closed	Croatia	SME support
50002204	North Macedonia, ATCO refresher courses	235,408	closed	North Macedonia	Transport
50002205	North Macedonia, ATCO refresher courses	58,433	closed	North Macedonia	Transport
50001458	CEI Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia and North Macedonia - Programme Evaluation	9,748	closed	Regional	SME support
50002206	CEI Romanian Railways Cooperation Project	16,099	closed	Romania	Transport
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in SE Europe (Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, and North Macedonia)	1,070,930	closed	Regional	SME support
50002207	Bulgaria Water and Wastewater Project Facility	204,233	closed	Bulgaria	Municipal infrastructure
50003240	FAO CEI - EASTAGRI	56,323	closed	Regional	Agribusiness
50003201	Regional: Energy Audits Programme Framework Agreements (D'Appolonia)	226,582	closed	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50003201	Regional: Energy Audits Programme Framework Agreements (MWH)	238,162	closed	Regional	Energy/ Climate
20002208	Bulgaria Water and Wastewater Project	43,860	closed	Bulgaria	Municipal infrastructure
20002209	Milavitsa Strategic Industry Advisor	15,110	closed	Belarus	Finance, Business
50001183	TAM - Tikves	38,972	closed	North Macedonia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Slovenia - Framework	92,232	closed	Slovenia	SME support
50002210	CEI Insurance Privatisation Assistance for INSIG (Albania)	404,970	closed	Albania	Finance, Business
50002211	BiH Regional Railway Project: Environmental Analysis and Audit	19,800	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50002212	Bosnia - Sector Study of the Forestry Study	49,103	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Agribusiness
50002213	Market Study for Sustainable Energy in the Slovak Republic	49,307	closed	Slovak Republic	Energy/ Climate
50003241	Regional: EastAgri CEI Network - Phase II	46,889	closed	Regional	Agribusiness
50002214	North Macedonia: Consulting Services for Implementation of Management and Financial Procedures and Systems for Air Navigation System Provider	235,814	closed	North Macedonia	Transport
50002215	Brasov Urban Transport: Regulatory Strengthening Advisory Services to the City	69,084	closed	Romania	Transport
50002216	Brasov Urban Transport: Corporate Development Programme	79,998	closed	Romania	Transport
50002217	OECD Membership 2006	26,274	closed	Regional	Institutional Development
50002218	BiH Regional Railway Project: Assistance with Restructuring	279,950	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50001183	TAM - Tikves	8,040	closed	North Macedonia	SME support
50002219	Crimea Municipal Infrastructure - Yalta Vodocanal IFRS	49,440	closed	Ukraine	Municipal infrastructure
50002220	Albania: Tirana Creditworthiness Enhancement Programme	330,018	closed	Albania	Municipal infrastructure
50002221	BiH Regional Railway Project: Assistance with Restructuring (extension)	20,000	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50002222	Kiev City Transport: Financial Due Diligence and IFRS Audit - Kiev Metropolitan	60,000	closed	Ukraine	Municipal infrastructure
50002223	Assessment of Sustainable Energy Potential in West Balkans	196,000	closed	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50002003	BiH Resettlement Framework and Action Plan for Corridor Vc	79,604	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50002006	BiH Resettlement Framework and Action Plan for Corridor Vc (Extension)	12,138	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50002007	Extension to IBP and Strengthening of SME Loans Procedures	191,544	closed	Belarus	SME support
50002391	Energy Audits Programme (CEI funded - extension) D'Appolonia	142,784	closed	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50002391	Energy Audits Programme (CEI funded - extension) MWH	190,050	closed	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50002009	North Macedonia: Environmental and Social Analysis for ASR	46,567	closed	North Macedonia	Transport

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	COMMITMENT NAME	COMMITTED €	COMMITMENT STAGE	COUNTRY OF OPERATIONS	SECTOR OF OPERATIONS
50002010	Sarajevo Water & Wastewater - Feasibility Study	190,840	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Municipal infrastructure
50002011	Mahovljani Interchange Feasibility and Environmental Due Diligence	170,140	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50002012	Assessment of SEI Potential in Belarus - Market Demand Study	74,512	closed	Belarus	Energy/ Climate
50002013	Sarajevo Water & Wastewater - Feasibility Study-Extension	37,125	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Municipal infrastructure
50001183	TAM - Pantomarket	11,315	closed	Montenegro	SME support
50001183	TAM - Altimed	59,399	closed	Belarus	SME support
50001183	TAM - Pinski drev	55,217	closed	Belarus	SME support
50001183	TAM - Bereza Cheese Plant JCS	55,773	closed	Belarus	SME support
50002491	Regional Energy Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector - CEI - MWH	165,996	closed	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50002491	Regional Energy Efficiency Programme for Corporate Sector - CEI - D'Appolonia	65,493	closed	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50002014	Energy Efficiency Programme for Corporate sector - CEI - D'Appolonia - Moldovan Railways	47,250	closed	Moldova	Energy/ Climate
50002017	Life in Transition Survey II - Bosnia and Herzegovina	45,000	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Institutional Development
50002018	Life in Transition Survey II - Albania	45,000	closed	Albania	Institutional Development
50000872	Rail Corridor X in Serbia and North Macedonia: Lender's Monitor Advisor	83,307	closed	Regional	Transport
50002019	WeBSEDF:TC Banker	171,473	closed	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50000873	Support to ZS for Implementation of Energy Information Management System - Serbia	243,025	closed	Serbia	Transport
50002021	Capljina Water Supply Environmental and Social Due Diligence	49,400	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Municipal infrastructure
50000874	JSC Serbian Railways: Lender's Monitor Advisor	93,056	closed	Serbia	Transport
50001988	Montenegro: Energy Efficiency Action Plan for ZPCG	149,760	closed	Montenegro	Energy/ Climate
50001970	Market Study: Opportunities to Implement Sustainable Strategies in the Maritime Sector	220,032	closed	Regional	Transport
50001968	Enhancing Public Procurement Professionalism - Capacity Building Programme	40,000	closed	Regional	Institutional Development
50001967	Resource and Process Efficiency in Manufacturing Sectors	427,570	closed	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50000875	North Macedonia: Railway Corridor VIII - Energy Management System for PERI	175,000	disbursing	North Macedonia	Transport
50001182	EGP - MixNet	60,000	closed	Ukraine	SME support
50000876	Kotor - Cetinje Cable Car - Technical Review and Preparation of rere Tender	200,000	closed	Montenegro	Municipal infrastructure
50001182	EGP - Maize I	60,000	closed	Ukraine	SME support
50001966	Montenegro: Energy Efficiency Action Plan for ZPCG extension	20,000	closed	Montenegro	Transport
50001965	Public-Private Policy Forum Dairy Sector	28,165	closed	Ukraine	Agribusiness
50000877	Kotor Fortress Urban Regeneration - Technical and Market Due Diligence	24,800	closed	Montenegro	Municipal infrastructure
50000878	Training of Grain Farmers in Ukraine	225,245	closed	Ukraine	Agribusiness
50001964	Strengthening the capacity of the Belarusian Renewable Energy Association (BREA) for its active involvement in policy- and decision-making processes in Belarus	175,166	closed	Belarus	Energy/ Climate
50002355	Local Roads Reconstruction and Upgrade Project	164,350	disbursing	Montenegro	Transport
50000879	Moldova Railways: Environmental, Health and Safety Management Support and Capacity Building	72,600	closed	Moldova	Transport
50000880	Moldova Railways: Assistance in preparation and implementation of tender for rolling stock rehabilitation	250,000	disbursing	Moldova	Transport
50001957	Energy and Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector - Production of fertilizers from agribusiness wastes: technical and market potential in Ukraine and Western Balkans	49,850	closed	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50003087	Kotor - Cetinje Cable Car - Technical Review and Preparation of PPP Tender Extension	39,850	closed	Montenegro	Municipal infrastructure
50000881	Road Rehabilitation and Safety Project. Capacity Building on Road Safety Management (ISO 39001)	70,000	closed	Serbia	Transport
50000882	Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP) for Chisinau. Urban Regeneration Market Study	110,000	closed	Moldova	Municipal infrastructure

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	COMMITMENT NAME	COMMITTED €	COMMITMENT STAGE	COUNTRY OF OPERATIONS	SECTOR OF OPERATIONS
50001956	Energy and Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector CEI - Mark Formelle Cogeneration Plant: Feasibility Study	19,803	closed	Belarus	Energy/ Climate
50002889	Enhancing Public Procurement Professionalism - Capacity Building Programme	40,000	closed	Regional	Institutional Development
50002714	Resource and Process Efficiency in Manufacturing Sectors - extension 2014	42,650	closed	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50000883	Energy and Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector - CEI - D'Appolonia - Makstil	46,546	closed	North Macedonia	Energy/ Climate
50002556	Montenegro Agency for the Protection of Competition	48,428	closed	Montenegro	Energy/ Climate
50001954	Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector - Uniflex	18,697	closed	Belarus	Energy/ Climate
50000884	Energy and Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector - CEI - D'Appolonia - Agrofusion	37,628	closed	Ukraine	Energy/ Climate
50000885	Energy and Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector - CEI - KPMG - Belarus Industry Study	48,280	closed	Belarus	Energy/ Climate
50003909	North Macedonia: National Roads Programme - Project Implementation Unit support	450,000	disbursing	North Macedonia	Transport
50002468	North Macedonia: Railway Corridor VIII (second phase): PIU Support	350,000	committed	North Macedonia	Transport
50002889	Enhancing Public Procurement Professionalism - Capacity Building Programme	98,000	closed	Regional	Institutional Development
50001955	Energy and Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector - CEI - Bingo III	40,000	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Energy/ Climate
50004118	Montenegro Water Sector Reform - Plan for the Reform of the Montenegrin Coastal Region	81,200	closed	Montenegro	Municipal infrastructure
50002317	Tivat Airport Modernisation Project - Preparation of Concept Designs	281,000	closed	Montenegro	Transport
50002760	Establishing of Origination and Execution Capacity Program for SME Direct Finance in Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus	180,000	closed	Regional	SME support
50000886	Energy and Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector - CEI - D'Appolonia - Mesopromet	49,125	closed	Montenegro	Energy/ Climate
50000887	Energy and Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector - CEI - D'Appolonia - Serseris Grain Terminal	46,856	closed	Ukraine	Energy/ Climate
50000890	Energy and Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector - CEI - Polesie	21,875	closed	Belarus	Energy/ Climate
50000891	Energy and Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector – CEI – Resource Efficiency Audit at Glass Container Company	42,758	closed	Moldova	Energy/ Climate
50003482	Utilisation of Production Residues in the Food Processing Sector in the Western Balkans	150,000	closed	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50002949	Innovation Vouchers scheme for resource efficiency technologies and services: programme preparation and definition of possible implementation approaches	74,000	closed	Serbia	Energy/ Climate
50002951	Analysis of Climate Risks in Transport Infrastructures in the Western Balkans	74,500	closed	Regional	Transport
50004365	Framework for joint EBRD-CEI collaboration for policy engagements: Project Facilitation and Analyst Support - Silk Road + Extension	170,000	closed	Regional	Transport
50002889	Enhancing Public Procurement Professionalism - Capacity Building Programme	120,000	closed	Regional	Institutional Development
50004365	Project Preparation along the Silk Road in CSEE: Assessing and Tackling Policy Obstacles to Infrastructure Investment in the Region	90,000	disbursing	Regional	Transport
50004930	Independent System Operator of Bosnia and Herzegovina - Consultant for the Project Implementation Unit	400,000	disbursing	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Energy/ Climate
50004927	Climate Resilience in the Bosnian Road Network. FBIIH Roads – Flood Repair and Upgrade	135,000	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50005513	Implementation of the Corporate Governance Action Plan (CGAP) for "Korporate Elektroenergjitike Shqiptare Sh.A"	300,000	disbursing	Albania	Energy/ Climate
50005174	Albania Secretariat to the Investment Council	175,000	disbursing	Albania	Institutional Development
50005337	Assessment of environmental hotspots and review of remediation investment opportunities in the low Adriatic (Albania and Montenegro)	60,080	closed	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50005455	Supporting Public-Private Partnerships in the Transport Sector in Belarus: Road Sector Reform	99,990	closed	Belarus	Transport
50005615	CEI Support to Small Business Initiative: Expansion of Origination and Execution Capacity Program for SME Direct Finance and Risk Sharing in Belarus	90,000	disbursing	Belarus	SME support
50005643	Green Economy Transition (GET) Project Preparation and Implementation Framework	65,572	disbursing	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50002889	Enhancing Public Procurement Professionalism - Capacity Building Programme	125,000	closed	Regional	Institutional Development
50005796	Enhancing Public Procurement Professionalism - Capacity Building Programme	62,500	closed	Regional	Institutional Development

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	COMMITMENT NAME	COMMITTED €	COMMITMENT STAGE	COUNTRY OF OPERATIONS	SECTOR OF OPERATIONS
50005921	Corridor Vc in Republika Srpska - Quality Management System and obtaining ISO Standards	70,000	committed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50005922	Corridor Vc in Republika Srpska - Procurement Certification Support	70,000	closed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50006097	Moldova Railways - Fleet Renewal Project	50,000	committed	Moldova	Transport
50006267	Green Economy Transition - Project Preparation and Implementation Framework	185,000	disbursing	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50006442	Albanian Railways - Asset Management Plan and Track Access Charges Methodology	350,000	disbursing	Albania	Transport
50006443	Albanian Railways - Development of accounting and reporting systems for full IFRS compliance	150,000	disbursing	Albania	Transport
50006499	Albanian Railways - Assistance with Civil Society Engagement	120,000	disbursing	Albania	Transport
50006497	Preparation of the Study on improvement of public transportation and preparation of tender for a multi-year public lines distribution	150,000	disbursing	Montenegro	Transport
50006498	FBiH Roads: Flood Repair and Upgrade - Introduction of Quality Management Systems and obtaining the ISO 9001 standard	70,000	committed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50006531	Energy Efficiency in Public Buildings. Autonomous Province of Vojvodina	99,970	closed	Serbia	Energy/ Climate
50006822	Serbia Route 7 Highway - Lender's Monitor	125,000	committed	Serbia	Transport
50006823	Serbia Voz Rolling Stock Acquisition	75,000	committed	Serbia	Transport
50006824	Moldova: Support for the Competitive Procurement of Renewable Energy	200,000	committed	Moldova	Energy/ Climate
50006877	Analysis of Climate Change Risks to Critical Transport Infrastructure Networks in Ukraine	149,910	disbursing	Ukraine	Transport
50006941	Climate Resilience Assessment for the Belarus Roads Sector	74,960	closed	Belarus	Transport
50005615	CEI Support to Small Business Initiative: Expansion of Origination and Execution Capacity Programme for SME Direct Finance and Risk Sharing in Belarus - Phase 2	150,000	disbursing	Belarus	SME support
50005644	Technology review and market potential in CEI region about Floating Solar PV	36,900	closed	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50006242	Green Economy Project Preparation and Implementation Framework - Technical Due Diligence for four Biogas Power Plants	59,755	closed	Belarus	Energy/ Climate
50006328	Investment Climate and Governance Expert for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro	145,000	disbursing	Regional	Institutional Development
50007253	Advice for Small Businesses in Moldova (Youth and Skills)	300,000	disbursing	Moldova	SME support
50007101	Sustainable and Eco Tourism Programme - Albania National and Regional Roads Project	69,210	closed	Albania	Transport
50007325	Mostar North to Mostar South Motorway	72,790	disbursing	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50007341	Serbian Climate Resilience and Irrigation Project (SCRIP) - Development of irrigation strategy	142,826	committed	Serbia	Agribusiness
50007363	Increasing market opportunities for high-quality food products	118,416	disbursing	Regional	Agribusiness
50007692	COVID-19 Crisis Response: Environmental & Social Contractor Management	119,450	disbursing	Regional	Institutional Development
50007917	Methane Emissions Reduction Programme in Gas Supply Chains	110,200	committed	Ukraine	Energy/ Climate
50008223	Corridor Vc - Tunnel Prej: Corporate Governance Action Plan	150,000	committed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50007838	Market readiness for a low-carbon hydrogen economy in the Western Balkans	150,000	disbursing	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50007911	Study to assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the use of public transport in the Western Balkans	47,870	closed	Regional	Transport
50008295	Green City Action Plan for Brcko District	275,000	committed	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Municipal infrastructure
50008332	Green Cities Framework 2 Window 2 (GrCFW2) Sarajevo Public Transport e-Mobility – Project Implementation Support	430,000	approved	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50008332	Green Cities Framework 2 Window 2 (GrCFW2) Sarajevo Public Transport e-Mobility – Project Design	70,000	approved	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50008403	Chisinau Solid Waste – Project Implementation Support Services	300,000	approved	Moldova	Municipal infrastructure
To be assigned	Preparation of a Corporate Plan for the organisational strengthening of Public Enterprise for State Roads	200,000	approved	North Macedonia	Transport
To be assigned	Enhancing Public Procurement Professionalism - Capacity Building Programme	60,000	committed	Regional	Institutional Development
To be assigned	Port of Brcko – Corporate Development Plan	250,000	approved	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
To be assigned	Market Assessment for the Uptake of Climate Technologies in the Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia)	150,000	approved	Regional	Energy/ Climate
To be assigned	Improving Corporate Governance in Family-Owned Enterprises	40,000	approved	Serbia	SME support
Total		30,572,811			

List of Know-how Exchange Programme Projects 2004-2021

REFERENCE NUMBER	PROJECT NAME	COUNTRY OF KNOW-HOW PROVIDER INSTITUTION	COUNTRY OF KNOW-HOW RECIPIENT INSTITUTION	TOTAL PROJECT COST €	CEI CO-FINANCING €	IMPLEMENTATION STAGE
1206.009-04	Introduction to Public Finance Management	Slovenia	North Macedonia	15,172	5,000	closed
1206.001-05	Sharing Policy Know-how in Transition Countries in CEI Region	Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovak Republic, Slovenia	Regional	81,025	28,400	closed
1206.014-05	CEI Support to Wholesale Markets Development in Ukraine	FAO	Ukraine	65,164	36,502	closed
1206.016-05	APRI - AER PEER Review Initiative in the CEI Region	AER	Regional	61,621	16,100	closed
1206.004-06	Prospects of EU-Ukraine Economic Relations	Poland	Ukraine	54,143	21,790	closed
1206.005-06	Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development in South East Europe: Identification and Implementation of Good Policy Practices	OECD	Regional	95,900	38,200	closed
1206.006-06	Support for Moldova: Innovation, Leadership and Positive Environment (SMILE)	Italy	Moldova	83,183	22,708	closed
1206.007-06	Introduction to Public Finance Management for Junior Governmental Officials assigned to Public Finance Management Positions	Slovenia	Romania	15,830	5,240	closed
1206.008-06	Support to the Development of Rural Tourism and Setting up of a Professional Tourist Organisation with Member Municipalities of the Rose Valley, Bulgaria	Austria	Bulgaria	50,118	20,500	closed
1206.009-06	Building Effective Fresh Fruit and Vegetables Quality Control System in Moldova	Slovak Republic	Moldova	10,791	1,660	closed
1206.010-06	Study Tour on EU co-ordination	Austria, Poland	Romania	8,523	3,689	closed
1206.001-07	CEI support to Wholesale Markets Development in Ukraine (phase 2): Wholesale Markets Training at Regional Level	FAO	Ukraine	36,147	14,832	closed
1206.002-07	Improving Transparency in Local Government Finance in Moldova through Better Budgeting Process	Poland	Moldova	67,191	18,065	closed
1206.003-07	Human Resources Development and Improvement of Internal Control in Administration of Small Cities of Moldovan -Ukrainian Borderland – Floresti, Soroca, Yampil	Poland	Regional	117,712	23,249	closed
1206.004-07	Ecological Agriculture, Agrotourism Promotion and Development in the Eastern Ukrainian Carpathian Region and Moldova	Poland	Regional	83,853	24,308	closed
1206.012-07	CEI Study Tour and Workshop: Networking and Cluster Model to Support SME Internationalisation	Italy, Slovenia	Regional	88,044	34,584	closed
1206.001-08	Pilot project on enhancing sustainable local and rural development in the SAP (Stabilization and Association Process) countries by introducing the LEADER experience	Hungary	Regional	40,376	18,598	closed
1206.002-08	1st Ukrainian School of Civil Society Leaders	Poland	Ukraine	128,666	32,992	closed
1206.014-08	Analysis and Study of the Feasibility of a Biomass Chain in Albania (BIOM-ALBA)	Italy	Albania	97,039	31,987	closed
1206.015-08	Promotion and Development of Agrotourism and Ecological Agriculture in Moldova	Poland	Moldova	109,061	13,273	closed
1206.018-08	Systems for the Organisation of the Moldovan Food Farming Production Process (MOLDAGROFOOD)	Italy	Moldova	83,185	36,023	closed
1206.020-08	Fostering Innovation in SMEs in the Western Balkans, Phase II	OECD	Regional	91,591	35,084	closed
1206.021-08	Monitoring SME Policy Implementation in the Western Balkans	OECD	Regional	102,622	40,000	closed
1206.026-08	Capacity Building in Public Accounting (CBIPA) in Moldova	Slovenia	Moldova	241,357	40,000	closed
1206.027-08	Transfer of Macrolotto Best Practice to the Management of Sustainable and Equipped Productive Areas	Italy	Serbia	41,508	14,181	closed
1206.002A-09	PORTRAIN	Italy	Albania	91,979	33,900	closed
1206.003A-09	Supporting Serbian SMEs in Acceding to EU Markets	Italy	Serbia	42,448	21,224	closed
1206.004A-09	System for Energy Autonomy (SEA)	Italy	Moldova	121,600	20,000	closed

REFERENCE NUMBER	PROJECT NAME	COUNTRY OF KNOW-HOW PROVIDER INSTITUTION	COUNTRY OF KNOW-HOW RECIPIENT INSTITUTION	TOTAL PROJECT COST €	CEI CO-FINANCING €	IMPLEMENTATION STAGE
1206.005A-09	Assessment of Energy Sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina: AER Peer Review on Energy in Republika Srpska	AER	Bosnia and Herzegovina	25,992	12,092	closed
1206.006A-09	Development of Decision Support Systems for Integrated Water Management in Belarus	Italy	Belarus	64,306	31,288	closed
1206.007A-09	CEI Study Tour and Workshop: The Role of Professional Branch Associations in Fostering the Competitiveness of SMEs in the IT Sector – Creating a Common South-east Europe IT Brand	Austria, Bulgaria	Regional	66,961	25,941	closed
1206.008A-09	ICT Cooperation: Italy- Croatia Technology Cooperation	Italy	Croatia	14,492	6,239	closed
1206.009A-09	Capacity Building and Transfer of Knowledge for the Development of Organic Farming in Blidinje Nature Park	Czech Republic	Bosnia and Herzegovina	65,089	15,536	closed
1206.011A-09	Technical Assistance for the Development and Improvement of Technologies, Methodologies and Tools for the Enhanced Use of Agricultural Biomass Residues	Italy	Serbia	79,053	39,000	closed
1206KEP.005-10	Good Governance in Chisinau - Introduction of Performance Budget in the Capital of Moldova	Poland	Moldova	123,544	32,683	closed
1206KEP.006-10	Farming and Off-arming Activities in Mountain Areas and Natural Parks: "the Italian Experience" a Study Tour for Montenegro	FAO	Montenegro	59,851	24,851	closed
1206KEP.007-10	Technical Assistance and Good Practices Sharing in order to Promote Female Entrepreneurship in the Tourism and Services Sector	Italy	Croatia	103,016	40,000	closed
1206KEP.008-10	AER peer review on energy in Vojvodina "How to create sustainable energy communities within our regions?"	AER	Serbia	28,815	13,066	closed
1206KEP.009-10	Financial Facilities for SMEs: Training and Capacity Building for Business Support Organisations in non-EU CEI Member States (FIT4SMEs)	Italy	Regional	80,000	39,883	closed
1206KEP.010-10	Monitoring SME Policy Implementation in the Western Balkans	OECD	Regional	142,858	40,000	closed
1206KEP.011-10	Technical Assistance to Luka Bar for the Development of Action Plans to Improve the Capacity in the Domains of Environment protection, Safety and Security at work (SAFE ADRIA)	Italy	Montenegro	57,777	26,520	closed
1206KEP.012-10	Support to the Capacity in Developing and Managing Cooperation Projects: Institute of Transport (COOPERADRIA)	Italy	Albania	45,899	15,622	closed
1206KEP.013-10	Krapina Zagorje County Rural Development Strategy	Slovenia	Croatia	28,908	12,919	closed
1206KEP.005-11	Financial Facilities for SMEs: Training and Capacity Building for Business Support Organisations in non-EU CEI Member States (FIT4SMEs II)	Italy	Regional	80,633	39,948	closed
1206KEP.009-11	Public Accountants Certification Training (PACT) in North Macedonia	Slovenia	North Macedonia	114,080	29,915	closed
1206KEP.010-11	Training of Internal Auditors in Public Sector in Montenegro	Slovenia	Montenegro	225,122	39,641	closed
1206KEP.011-11	Evaluating SME Policy Implementation in the Western Balkans	OECD	Regional	102,150	39,671	closed
1206KEP.001-12	Improving Environmental and Disaster Prevention Capacity in Serbia	Italy	Serbia	72,135	33,002	closed
1206KEP.003-12	Conditions for Technology Transfer of Experience for Tirana City (Context)	Italy	Albania	86,193	28,435	closed
1206KEP.004-12	Application of Open-source Software and Methods for Territorial Analysis and Sustainable Use of Natural Resources in Belarus	Italy	Belarus	57,694	28,006	closed
1206KEP.005-12	Public Accountants Certification Training (PACT) in North Macedonia	Slovenia	North Macedonia	218,153	38,786	closed
1206KEP.006-12	Know-how for Donetsk Region - Strengthening of Administrative Structures and Regional Development in Ukraine	Poland	Ukraine	28,736	11,292	closed
1206KEP.008-12	Environmental Impact Assessment of the Kozuf Metallogenic District in Southern North Macedonia (ENIGMA)	Czech Republic	North Macedonia	77,590	37,895	closed
1206KEP.009-12	Renewable Energy Knowledge and Technology Transfer in Albania and in Bosnia and Herzegovina	Italy	Regional	89,737	39,110	closed
1206KEP.010-12	Competitiveness and New Industrial Policy: Building Capacities for Diagnosis, Design and Implementation	OECD	Regional	279,653	30,000	closed
1206.004-13	Supporting the Implementation of CEFTA 2006 in the Areas of Reduction and Elimination of Non-Tariff Barriers, Trade in Services and in Relation to the Investment Related Clauses	OECD	Regional	614,581	30,000	closed
1206.005-13	Improving Environmental Monitoring and Disaster Prevention Capacity in Drina River Basin – Phase II	Italy	Regional	67,767	25,372	closed
1206.006-13	Renewable Solutions: Transfer of Successful Renewables and Bioenergy Know-how to Ukrainian Stakeholders (RES-SOL)	Austria	Ukraine	34,774	13,451	closed
1206.008-13	Capacity Building and Transfer of Knowledge for Increasing and Improving Professional Skills in the Field of Secure, Clean and Efficient Energy in Albania, Montenegro and Serbia	Italy	Regional	86,979	35,056	closed
1206.009-13	Implementation of Directive 2009/28/EC in the Field of Biofuels and Transport in the Republic of Serbia - Transfer of Best Practices	Croatia	Serbia	34,053	12,356	closed
1206.010-13	Development of Online Geodata Portal of Cultural Heritage in Novi Sad (GISNS)	Italy	Serbia	44,106	14,951	closed
1206.011-13	Smallholders Farmers' Access to Markets in Eastern and Northern Bosnia-Herzegovina and Northern Albania	Italy	Regional	79,527	36,600	closed

REFERENCE NUMBER	PROJECT NAME	COUNTRY OF KNOW-HOW PROVIDER INSTITUTION	COUNTRY OF KNOW-HOW RECIPIENT INSTITUTION	TOTAL PROJECT COST €	CEI CO-FINANCING €	IMPLEMENTATION STAGE
1206KEP.001-14	Strengthening Serbian Multi-hazard Early Warning and Alert System (ALERT)	Italy	Serbia	86,291	30,741	closed
1206KEP.002-14	Strengthening Serbian Multi-hazard Early Warning and Alert System (ALERT II)	Italy	Serbia	84,633	32,984	closed
1206KEP.003-14	On the Job Training in Humanitarian Demining and Mine Risk Education	Italy	Bosnia and Herzegovina	80,000	40,000	closed
1206.004-14	Development of Guidelines for Implementation of the Principles of Sustainable Agriculture according to EU Directive 2009/128 (SUSAGRI)	Italy	Bosnia and Herzegovina	61,581	30,781	closed
1206.005-14	The Impact of the Controlled Atmosphere on Quality and Safety of the Close-Seal- Packaged Food applied in the SMEs of South Serbia (PACKSENSOR)	Italy	Serbia	86,695	37,000	closed
1206.006-14	Maritime Cluster Cooperation Italy Montenegro (MaCCIM)	Italy	Montenegro	70,736	30,781	closed
1206.007-14	Next Generation Competitiveness Initiative (NGCI): South East Europe Competitiveness Outlook 2015	OECD	Regional	5,000,248	30,000	closed
1206.008-14	Emergency Management and Community Resilience: a Goal for Serbia	Italy	Serbia	74,289	24,829	closed
1206.011-14	The Development of Graphene-based Sensors for the Detection of Environmental Pollutants	Italy	Serbia	83,435	25,808	closed
1206.012-14	Water Supply, Sewerage Networks, and Future City Development: Theoretical Update and on-the-job Training of the UKT staff members in view of the Territorial Reform	Italy	Albania	43,188	12,602	closed
1206.001-15	Capacity Building and Transfer of Knowledge for Increasing and Improving Professional Skills in Waste Management in the Region of Vinnytsia (WASTE MGMT in Vinnytsia)	Italy	Ukraine	88,853	38,047	closed
1206.002-15	Good Governance and Anti-Corruption Civil Society Initiative: Capacity Building for Monitoring SOE Governance in the Energy Sector	Bulgaria, Italy	Regional	83,498	39,474	closed
1206.005-15	Hydro meteorological Modelling for Environmental quality control (HYMEUR)	Italy	Serbia	78,881	37,831	closed
1206.006-15	Experiences in the Mirror from Italy to Moldova (SMA.RI.GO.)	Italy	Moldova	82,187	38,784	closed
1206.007-15	Development of a Training Program on Management of Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Rapid Response	Italy	Serbia	73,850	36,925	closed
1206.008-15	Capacity Building for Improved Mineral Fuels Monitoring System - Transfer of Best Practices against Grey Economy (FUELPAGE)	Czech Republic	Serbia	49,178	17,445	closed
1206.001-16	Support Anti-corruption Capacity Building in Albania	OSCE	Albania	70,210	34,920	closed
1206.002-16	Dams Safety: a New Approach for the Monitoring of the Dams with the Use of Remote Sensing	Italy	Albania	79,710	39,885	closed
1206.003-16	GIs for Non-wine Food Products: Exchange of know-how and Boost for Partnerships' based Rural Development in Moldova	Poland	Moldova	24,816	11,940	closed
1206.004-16	Development and Regulation of the University of Belgrade Laser-laboratory infrastructure for Education and Research	Italy	Serbia	571,664	27,090	closed
1206.005-16	Preserving Kotor Bay as Natural and Historical Heritage - Analysing Sea Pollution Sources and Raising Ecological Awareness	Italy	Montenegro	74,794	33,263	closed
1206.006-16	Professional Intergovernmental Know-how Exchange on the Implementation of Large-Scale Secondary School Scholarship and Mentoring Programme for Roma Students	Hungary	Regional	78,481	38,158	closed
1206.001-17	Innovation Vouchers Scheme for Resource Efficiency Technologies and Services in Serbia	Italy	Serbia	81,872	40,000	closed
1206.002-17	Strengthening Governance through Public Procurement in the Western Balkans - Regional Western Balkans Master's Programme in Public Procurement Management	Italy	Serbia	88,783	40,000	closed
1206.003-17	Heritage First Aid: Cultural Tourism in Support of Heritage Conservation	Italy	Albania	37,500	18,714	closed
1206.004-17	- Integrated Waste-oils Management System. Transfer of Best Practices for Safe, Sustainable and Eco-friendly Transport in Serbia (WASTEILFREE)	Czech Republic	Serbia	41,330	17,560	closed
1206.005-17	SAFEMEAT	Italy	Serbia	80,804	36,936	closed
1206.006-17	SMART RIVER GOVERNANCE 2.0	Italy	Moldova	83,325	37,000	closed
1206.007-17	Improving Disaster Risk Reduction Skills and Resilience. Building Practices in the Western Balkans (EMS WeB)	Italy	Regional	46,235	20,047	closed
1206.008-17	Sustainable Approach to Managing Construction and Demolition Waste (SAMCODE)	Italy	North Macedonia	63,149	30,870	closed
1206.009-17	CEI support for strengthening Energy Regulatory Authorities in the Western Balkans	Italy	Regional	81,588	27,845	closed
1206.010-17	Capacity building on PPPs for road construction and exploitation for Albanian authorities with the participation of Serbia and other Western Balkan countries	Italy	Regional	74,991	36,979	closed
1206.001-18	CEI support for strengthening Energy Regulatory Authorities in the Western Balkans - Second phase	Italy	Regional	89,162	39,662	closed
1206.002-18	Capacity building program for extension services in the Western Balkans to support participation in IPARD calls	Italy	Regional	25,105	12,552	closed

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1206.003-18	Training in dietary assessment and sharing platforms for monitoring population food consumption habits in a long-term perspective (TRAIN-DIE)	Italy	Serbia	80,000	40,000	closed
1206.004-18	Capacity Building for Implementing Innovative EU Monitoring Tools for Good Governance and Anti-Corruption	Bulgaria	Regional	80,022	39,994	closed
1206.005-18	BEst practices exchange to STimulate Serbian SMEs growth (BE.ST.)	Italy	Serbia	65,772	31,222	closed
1206.006-18	INNOVA.tion to prevention and protection from natural and environmental RISKS: experiences in the mirror between civil protection and emergency management from Italy to Moldova (INNOVA.RISKS)	Italy	Moldova	81,181	39,988	closed
1206.001-19	CEI support for strengthening Energy Regulatory Authorities in the Western Balkans - Third phase	Italy	Regional	118,372	39,475	closed
1206.002-19	MEAT BIOHAZ	Italy	Serbia	80,000	40,000	under implementation
1206.003-19	Innovative Know-how Exchange Programme in Animal Nutrition and Feed Technology (INNOKEP-FEED)	Italy	Serbia	86,450	39,950	under implementation
1206.004-19	On the Flood Wave of Vardar River. Flood Risk Management for Skopje	Italy	North Macedonia	80,236	38,726	closed
1206.005-19	Capacity Support of Regional Cooperation in Mine Action	Slovenia	Regional	35,000	17,500	under implementation
1206.006-19	Promoting geological, ecological and cultural heritage trough sustainable development and creation of geo-parks (GECCOSPARK)	Italy	North Macedonia	80,539	40,000	closed
1206.007-19	Introducing modern learning methods in North Macedonia using Italian experiences (INLEARN)	Italy	North Macedonia	72,853	33,822	closed
1206.008-19	Non-invasive and multi-analytical approach to the discovering of "Old Believer Faith icons" of VETKA Museum (ICONS)	Italy	Belarus	39,543	18,860	under implementation
305.998-20	Strong nurses for strong health systems and a healthier world	SEEHN	Regional	39,848	39,848	closed
305.1227-20	Portal Implementation for Sharing Information about Personal Protective (PPE-HEALTH-PORTAL)	Italy	Regional	38,997	38,997	closed
305.1521-20	Distance Learning on Epidemic and Pandemic Outbreaks in the Western Balkans: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia	Italy	Regional	29,993	29,993	closed
305.1543-20	Distance Learning on Epidemic and Pandemic Outbreaks in Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine	Italy	Regional	19,034	19,034	closed
305.2347-20	SOS COVID-19 Emergency - Protecting Mental Health and Psychosocial Wellbeing of Adults and Minors during Social Distancing in Italy and Serbia	Italy	Regional	39,000	39,000	closed
305.3763-20	Interactive Webinars to Accelerate the Shift to Digital Innovation in Albanian Health (WebinHealth)	Italy	Albania	40,438	39,800	closed
305.6019-20	Use of Regressive Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) Methods in Modelling of COVID-19 spread (COVIDAi)	Serbia, Croatia	Regional	37,900	37,764	closed
305.6130-20	Hospital at Home in the Field of Chronic Wound Management during the COVID-19 Pandemic in Romania and Moldova	Romania	Regional	39,000	39,000	closed
304.4.22-20	Improving Occupational Health and Safety System in Republic of Moldova	Italy, Hungary	Moldova	80,000	39,933	under implementation
304.4.41-20	Sustainable Management of Cultural Heritage in the Balkans in Response to Climate Change. Best practices for adaptation and intercultural cooperation (SMAC)	Italy	Regional	80,935	39,925	under implementation
304.4.56-20	An Evolution of the Automotive Training Centre Serbia toward the Concepts of Light and Sustainable Mobility (ATC Evo)	Italy, Croatia, Slovenia	Serbia	83,485	39,960	under implementation
304.4.15-20	Practical Application of 3D Technology in Medicine and Health Care	Italy	Bosnia and Herzegovina	59,556	24,975	under implementation
304.4.3-20	"Composites for All". Advanced Materials for a Modern, Improved, and Sustainable Society	Italy, Slovenia	Regional	84,020	39,775	under implementation
304.4.35-20	Sustainability of the Platforms for Monitoring Population Food Consumption Habits and Pilot Study on Web- and Computer-based 24-H dietary Recall Tools	Italy	Serbia	80,000	40,000	under implementation
304.4.026-21	Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Constitution and EU Accession, An Academic Platform for Discussing the Options	Italy	Bosnia and Herzegovina	79,960	39,700	under implementation
304.4.044-21	FORKITS- F0od expeRtise and Know-how exchange on technology transfer between Italy and Serbia	Italy	Serbia	43,570	21,785	under implementation
304.4.030-21	Exchange programme on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities between Albanian and Croatian Institutions of human rights and anti-discrimination	Croatia	Albania	30,369	15,175	under implementation
304.4.046-21	Italy-North Macedonia knowledge exchange in conservation and innovative management of cultural heritage	Italy	North Macedonia	50,470	25,020	under implementation
304.4.072-21	MARteFund: developing cooperation in the creative sector in the Western Balkans through replication of an Italian expertise in project design and fundraising	Italy	Regional	79,920	39,960	under implementation
304.4.022-21	To enhance the institutional and regulatory framework for organic food production in Albania	Italy	Albania	80,000	40,000	under implementation
304.4.015-21	"Bridging the Culture Gap", Novi Sad 2022 - 95th International Session of the European Youth Parliament	Czech Republic, Slovenia, Italy	Regional	102,445	15,000	under implementation
TOTAL				15,446,042	3,762,849	

Abbreviations and acronyms

AER	Assembly of European Regions
AI	Artificial Intelligence
ARERA	Regulatory Authority for Energy, Networks and Environment, Italy
ATCO	Air Traffic Control Officer
ATMS	Adaptive Traffic Management System
BAS	Business Advisory Service
BiH	Bosnia and Herzegovina
CEFTA	Central European Free Trade Agreement
CHIEM	Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari, Italy
CEI	Central European Initiative
CPD	Commissioner for the Protection from Discrimination, Albania
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
EBRD, the Bank	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EC	European Commission
EFSA	European Food Safety Authority
EGP	Enterprise Growth Programme
EHSS	Environmental, Health and Safety and Social
EIR	EBRD Investment Ratio
ENP	European Neighbourhood Policy
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
FBiH	Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
FINTECC	Finance and Technology Transfer Centre for Climate Change
FINS	Institute of Food Technology, University of Novi Sad, Serbia
GCAP	Green Cantonal Action Plan
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GRAS	Gradski saobraćaj d.o.o. Sarajevo
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IFI	International Financial Institution
IFRS	International Financial Reporting Standards
ISO	International Organisation for Standardisation
JSC	Joint Stock Company
KEP	Know-how Exchange Programme
MAECI	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, ALBANIA
MEF	Ministry of economy and Finance, Italy
MWH	Montgomery Watson Harza
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OSCE	Organisation for security and Cooperation in Europe
PACT	Public Accountants Certification Training
PIU	Project Implementation Unit
PPP	Public Private Partnership
SEE	South East Europe
SEEHN	South Eastern Europe Health Network
SME	Small and medium-sized enterprise
TAM	TurnAround Management Programme
TC	Technical Cooperation
TIR	Total Investment Ratio
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation
UniSMART	Foundation of the University of Padua, Italy
USAID CEP	United States Agency for International Development, Competitive Economy Programme
WHO	World Health Organisation
ZPCG	Zeljeznicki Prevoz Crne Gore (Montenegro Railway Transport)
ZS	Zeleznice Srbije (Serbian Railways Company)

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