

CEI Fund at the EBRD



ANNUAL REPORT 2022



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, Belarus², 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 55 million EUR - mainly provides grant-type assistance for Technical Cooperation (TC) projects. The Fund has so far provided about 33.5 million EUR for TC projects. It has also contributed over 4 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.

² On 25 March 2022, the CEI Member States decided to suspend the Republic of Belarus of its rights of representation in the CEI, as a consequence of the country's actions in support of the Russia's war against Ukraine.

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AGLI ITALIANI CHE DIOPANO
LA PATRIA NEL MONDO

Intro

Introduction



In 2022 the decision of the Russian Federation to launch a full-scale war of aggression against Ukraine radically changed the security landscape in the CEI region and has triggered disruptive impacts in the energy and food sectors across Europe and worldwide.

This crucial turning point for regional cooperation has posed challenges to the CEI, as its Member States have unanimously agreed to stand beside Ukraine and to freeze Belarus' status as a CEI Member State.

Immense resources will be necessary to address the dramatic consequences of the war in Ukraine. The CEI Fund intends to contribute to the reconstruction of the country.

Across 2022, while war was devastating Ukraine and challenging the socio-economic balance of the European continent, the CEI Fund has kept as a key priority to shore up the stability of the Western Balkans and Moldova, as directly exposed to risk of destabilisation.

In 2022, we committed a record 3.5 million EUR for technical assistance and capacity building projects in the CEI non-EU Countries, supporting their stability and socio-economic development and strengthening their EU perspective and related reforms.

This report comprehensively outlines the Technical Cooperation projects and Know-how Exchange Programme projects financed through the CEI Fund at the EBRD in 2022.

Through the Technical Cooperation Programme, the CEI Fund committed over 3.2 million EUR in providing technical assistance to the CEI non-EU members in sectors such as sustainable energy, transport and support to SMEs.

In particular, the CEI Fund provided 1.5 million EUR to the EBRD's Youth in Business Programme in the Western Balkans aimed at increasing young entrepreneurs' and Youth M&SMEs' access to finance and skills to help them grow their business. This initiative also promotes youth participation in the economy to pave the way for develop a new generation of businesses, in line with the EU Western Balkans Agenda on Innovation, Research, Education, Culture, Youth and Sport.

The Know-how Exchange Programme, in 2022, contributed with about 300,000 EUR to the implementation of eight new projects aimed at strengthening European integration of the CEI non EU members through institutional capacity building actions on significant areas of cooperation including the EU Cohesion Policy, migration, countering corruption, food regulatory frameworks, environmental and water management, seismic hazard management and improvement and digitalisation of municipal services.

The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation has always supported regional cooperation as a crucial instrument to promote stabilisation, to strengthen the rule of law and to promote socio-economic growth in the CEI region. In this regard, the CEI Fund will continue to support EU perspective for all CEI non-EU Member States through its programmes, also in 2023.

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RENT AN ICON.
OWN THE SKYLINE.

VIEW, RESERVE &
MOVE IN.

UNITS

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 CEI-Executive Secretariat is based in Trieste (Italy).

The **European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)** was established and opened for business with its headquarters in London in 1991. It is a multilateral bank that promotes the development of the private sector and entrepreneurial initiative in 38 economies across three continents. The Bank is owned by 71 countries as well as the EU and the EIB. EBRD investments are aimed at making the economies in its regions competitive, well governed, green, inclusive, resilient and integrated.

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 55 million EUR. Currently, countries of operations are the non-EU CEI Member States, namely: Albania, Belarus¹, 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 aimed at European integration by 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 – also 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 Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI), the EBRD and the CEI-Executive Secretariat, 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 2022, the Office staff was composed of a Programme Manager.

¹ On 25 March 2022, the CEI Member States decided to suspend the Republic of Belarus of its rights of representation in the CEI, as a consequence of the country's actions in support of the Russia's war against Ukraine.



Technical Cooperation Programme

A wide community of donors is backing the EBRD. Donor partnerships are an integral part of how the EBRD operates, using donor funds strategically and responding to country specific conditions. By co-financing EBRD's operations and related activities such as policy reforms and technical cooperation projects, Italy helps generate greater impact in the CEI region, through the CEI fund at the EBRD, making economies competitive, well-governed, green, inclusive, resilient and integrated.

The 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 several 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 33.5 million EUR towards 196 Technical Cooperation assignments (see Annex 6). 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.

TC projects supported by the CEI Fund in from 1993 to 2022 are expected to mobilise around 7.8 billion EUR of international investments. The EBRD alone is expected to contribute to those investments with around 5.8 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 2022, the Total Investment Ratio (TIR) was estimated to be 1:233. The EBRD's share, alone, is expected to reach 173 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 7.8 billion EUR of estimated total linked investments)



Total Investment Ratio = 1:233

Total Investments / Total committed CEI grants

EBRD Investment Ratio = 1:173

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. 39% of its resources (amounting to 13 million EUR) have been committed to regional operations through over 55 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 1993-2022.

Chart 2.2.

Cumulative distribution of TC assignments by country, 1993-2022 *(share of a total of 196 assignments)*

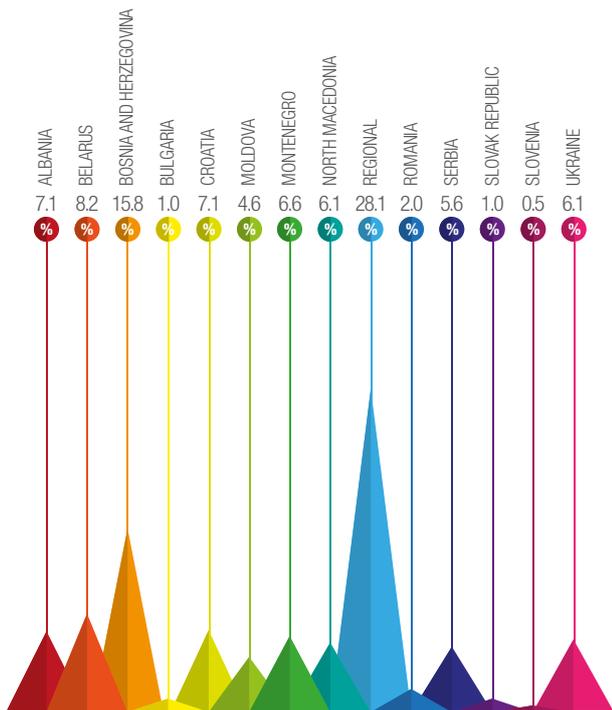
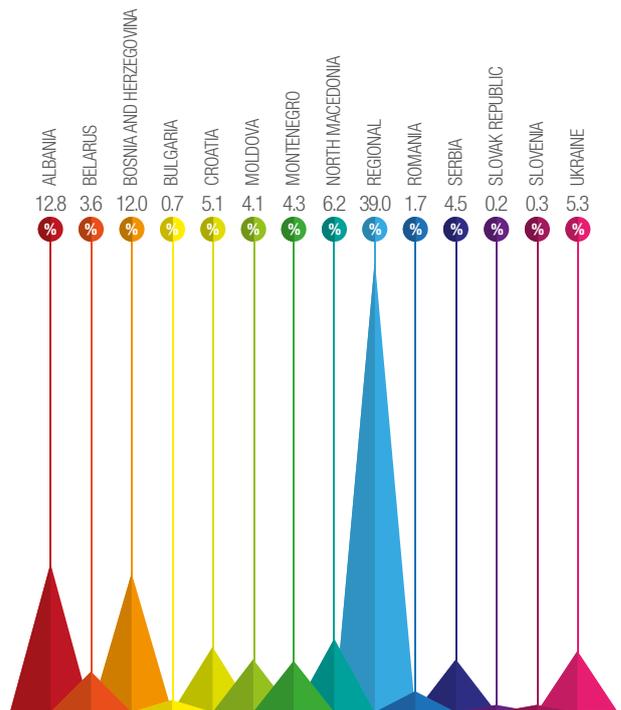


Chart 2.3.

Cumulative distribution of TC assignments by country, 1993-2022 *(share of total committed grants of 33,566,048 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 CEI Fund the most, followed by SME support and by energy/climate. The charts below illustrate the sector distribution of TC projects by number of assignments and their value over the period 1993-2022.

Chart 2.4.
Cumulative distribution of TC assignments by sector, 1993-2022 (share of a total of 196 assignments)

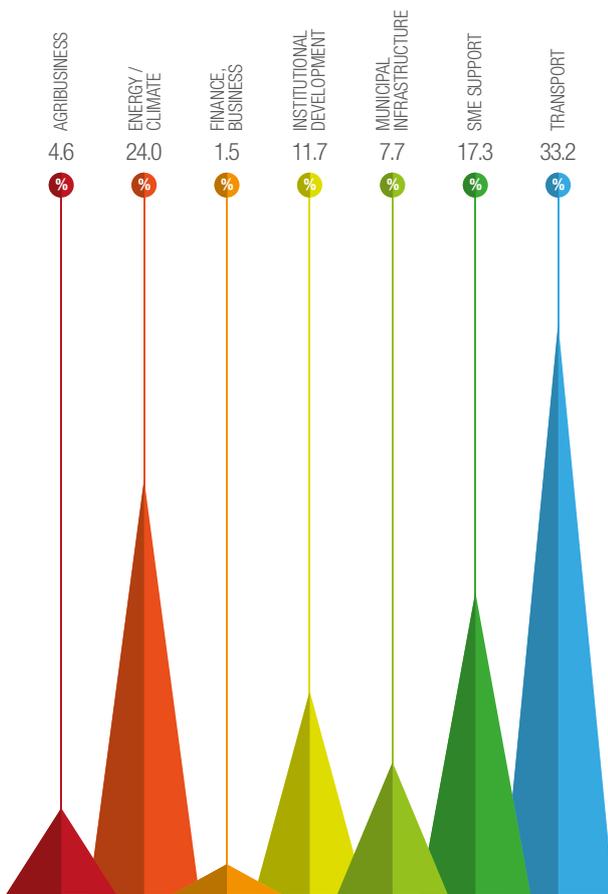
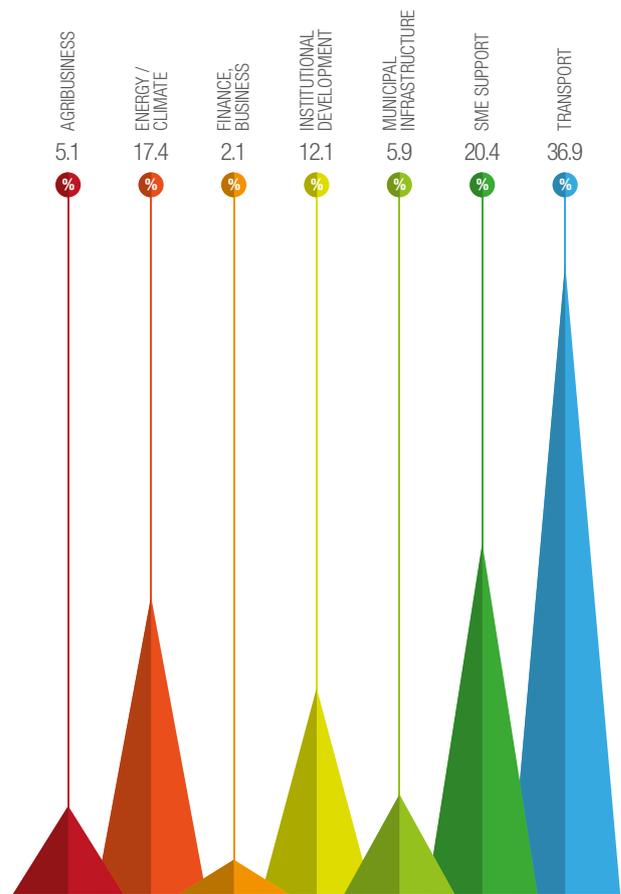


Chart 2.5.
Cumulative distribution of TC assignments by sector, 1993-2022 (share of total committed grants of 33,566,048 EUR)





Technical Cooperation Programme

Projects approved in 2022

02

Table 2.1. List of TC assignments approved in 2022

No.	Earmark document number	Assignment name	Country of operation	Sector of operation	Value €	Expected related investment (€ million)
1	To be assigned	North Macedonia: Rail Corridor VIII, Phase 3 - Economic, E&S and GET Assessment	North Macedonia	Sustainable Transport	250,000	94
2	50008879	OSHEE COVID-19 Response - Smart Grid Development Roadmap	Albania	Sustainable Energy	220,000	70
3	50008812	Support for the Implementation of Renewable Energy Auctions in Montenegro	Montenegro	Sustainable Energy	250,000	not applicable
4	To be assigned	Feasibility Study for Albania - Montenegro 110 kV Overhead Transmission Line Connection Dajc (Kosmac) - Briska Gora (Ulcinj)	Regional (Albania, Montenegro)	Sustainable Energy	250,000	to be determined
5	50009263	Brcko District: Electrical Grid Expansion - Due Diligence & Advance Procurement	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Sustainable Energy	150,000	10.2
6	50009267	Youth in Business Programme in the Western Balkans	Regional (Western Balkans)	Enterprise Development	1,500,000	100
7	50009034	Serbia: High Speed Rail Belgrade to Nis - Serbian Railways Infrastructure: Corporate Governance Action Plan	Serbia	Sustainable Transport	150,000	500
8	50009035	Serbian Rail Sector Reform and Regulatory Capacity Building	Serbia	Sustainable Transport	400,000	
TOTAL					3,170,000	774.2

North Macedonia: Rail Corridor VIII, Phase 3 - Economic, E&S and GET Assessment

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	To be assigned
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	North Macedonia
SECTOR OF OPERATION	Transport
VALUE	250,000 EUR
PLANNED DURATION	18 months

BACKGROUND

In North Macedonia, the Orient/East-Med Corridor includes a 89 km rail section from Kumanovo to the border of Bulgaria and 103 km of rail between Kicevo and Skopje. Plans to develop this route date back to the nineteenth century, with various segments built and/or overhauled until 2004 when all construction had ceased because of a substantial shortage in funding.

The rationale of the Railway Corridor VIII Project in North Macedonia is to complete the railway link between the Country and Bulgaria, as part of the commitment of North Macedonia in the development of the Pan European Corridor VIII. The Project will significantly influence the socio-economic growth of the North-Eastern region of the Country.

The Eastern Section Project comprises 88.1 km of railway running across the North-Eastern region of North Macedonia. The Project has been divided into the following 3 sections:

- Section 1: Kumanovo to Beljakovce (30.8 km)
- Section 2: Beljakovce to Kriva Palanka (33.9 km)
- Section 3: Kriva Palanka to Deve Bair, at the Bulgarian Border (23.4 km): no previous railway development has been undertaken within this section. Therefore, the construction of the railway line and structures is required along the entire route.

In this framework, the EBRD is considering a sovereign loan of up to 94 million EUR to the Republic of North Macedonia for the benefit of the Public Enterprise for Railways Infrastructure for completion of the last section of rail infrastructure on the eastern end of rail Corridor VIII, including:

- The construction, signalling and telecommunication from Kriva Palanka to the Bulgarian border for a total length of 23.4 km, including a station in Kriva Palanka and a halt in the village of Zhidilovo.
- The electrification works for the overall eastern rail line including sections 1, 2 and 3 for a total length of 88.1 km.

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF WORK

The technical assistance project “Economic, E&S and GET assessment”, will include the assessment of physical climate risks and recommendations for potential climate change adaptation measures, the Economic and Green Economic Transition Approach (GET) assessment of the Project, as well as additional Environmental and Social (E&S) due diligence. The Project design review assignment is currently ongoing. Decisions will then be made on the scope of this technical assistance and how to proceed.

INVESTMENT LINKS

94 million EUR from the EBRD.

OSHEE Covid-19 Response Project - Smart Grid Development Roadmap

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	50008879
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	Albania
SECTOR OF OPERATION	Energy
VALUE	220,000 EUR
PLANNED DURATION	18 months

BACKGROUND

The EBRD is providing a 70 million EUR loan to the Albanian energy company Operatori i Shpërndarjes së Energjisë Elektrike (OSHEE), out of which 55 million EUR will be provided for liquidity gaps caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and 15 million EUR will finance the construction of a 110/20 kV substation.

OSHEE is the largest state-owned enterprise in the sector in Albania, with more than 6,000 employees. Its distribution company manages and operates the country's power distribution network and related infrastructure, while its retail supplier is responsible for electricity supply to regulated customers.

As part of this investment project, the EBRD is considering providing consultancy support to conduct a smart grid development roadmap in the Country for industrial, commercial and residential electricity consumers.

In Albania, 7.6 TWh (terawatt hour) are distributed annually by the OSHEE's operated network. However, in some areas the Network is overloaded and needs repairing. The level of loss is consequently high (at 21.4% as of the end of 2020). In addition, Albania's network is mostly aerial, covering 44,000 kilometres. Digitalising the network would be an excellent solution to improve the grid's performance.

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF WORK

The main purpose of the assignment is a technical review and analysis of the existing situation of OSHEE and the development of a smart grid action plan for the rehabilitation and modernisation of the network of the company, including the installation of the smart meters. The objectives are:

- To review the current situation in terms of condition of major equipment and facilities, performances of recent years, operation and maintenance (O&M) practices as well as losses.
- To review and analyse the power loads in recent years as well as the forecasts for the medium to long term future, the billing and collection system in the country, number and type of customers, type of meters.
- To perform a detailed estimation of the expected costs and benefits from the implementation for a modern smart metering system installation.
- To develop a Smart Grid Action Plan and related investment programme for the medium term (2020-2025), which is in line with international best practices and ensures that the current investments in the modernisation of the company's networks incorporate technologies that are in line with a longer-term vision of a Smart Grid.
- To review the current system of the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA); assess costs and benefits of the development and implementation of modern communication systems and SCADA for the national dispatching centre of OSHEE and develop an action plan for the introduction of the new SCADA system that will be needed to support the smart metering system.

INVESTMENT LINKS

70 million EUR by the EBRD.

Support for the Implementation of Renewable Energy Auctions in Montenegro

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER 50008812
COUNTRY OF OPERATION Montenegro
SECTOR OF OPERATION Energy
VALUE 250,000 EUR
PLANNED DURATION 18 months

BACKGROUND

The Energy Law in Montenegro establishes the legal basis for an organised day-ahead market, which is not functional yet. It defines the institutional roles and responsibilities in the electricity sector, such as the designation of a nominated market operator. It also foresees administratively set feed-in tariffs for projects up to 1 MW, and a competitive process for awarding support to larger projects. The Montenegrin authorities are considering the transition to a mechanism by which support to renewable energy is provided in relation to a reference electricity market price.

Montenegro is reforming its regulatory framework and liberalising its energy market in line with the legislative requirements stemming from its membership of the Energy Community Treaty. Electricity sector reform in Montenegro is well advanced, but a number of areas remain to be addressed, such as the establishment of a functional day-ahead market and the rules for the provision of support to renewable energy projects.

The Montenegrin authorities envisage further development of primary legislation, in the form of a Renewable Energy Law, as well as secondary legislation to promote renewable energy (RE) sources and clarify the framework for the competitive procurement of renewable energy as well as the corresponding support mechanism.

The Energy Law forms the basis for the 2030 energy and climate targets, and the National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP), which is still in its early stages. Montenegro has surpassed its 2020 RE target by 33%, registering a share of RE of about 38% in 2019. However, there has been a continuous decline in the share of RE in gross final consumption because of a decrease of RE in the heating and cooling sector. Hydropower constitutes the majority of RE sources.

The majority of electricity in Montenegro is produced at the Pljevlja lignite-fired thermal power plant, and the Perucica and Piva hydropower plants. There are also a number of small hydropower plants. Montenegro is not connected to natural gas systems. An important development project in the transmission system was the construction of a one-way underwater electricity cable to export power to Italy (operation began in Dec 2019).

Wind energy accounts for around 10% of power generation through the operation of the Krnovo (72 MW) and Možura

(46 MW) wind farms. Only about 2 MW of solar power are currently installed. The country has great potential for the use of solar PV technology and good conditions for onshore wind development and there are further plans for wind and solar power development. The transmission and distribution network will need to be upgraded to support increased RE penetration. Awarding renewable energy projects through competitive processes would allow adding new generation capacity at competitive prices.

The Montenegrin Ministry of Capital Investments has requested the assistance of the EBRD in the preparation and implementation of competitive RE auctions. Envisaging an increase in the penetration of RE in Montenegro's power system over the short to medium-term, the authorities have also requested the assistance of the Bank in improving the efficiency of the balancing costs arrangements for RE. Within this context, the Bank wishes to engage a consultant to provide support to the Authorities in preparing and implementing renewable energy auctions in Montenegro.

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF WORK

- 1) Provide detailed recommendations on specific elements, which are relevant to the development of renewable resources, and draft / make amendments to existing related legislation and documentation.
- 2) Develop detailed recommendations on the design of auctions for procuring renewable energy capacity (including on the associated institutional, legal and regulatory frameworks), based on the analysis conducted in Parts 1) and 4).
- 3) Prepare, up to the final version, all the auction related documentation required for the implementation of the renewable energy auctions.
- 4) Conduct a high-level assessment of site suitability assessing technical, environmental and social dimensions alongside resource availability.
- 5) Provide detailed technical, financial, legal and environmental assistance to the Authorities for the implementation of the renewable energy auctions.
- 6) Evaluate the process and results of the auctions implemented under this Assignment and provide advice to the Authorities on potential future changes to the renewable energy auctions framework.

INVESTMENT LINKS

Not applicable.

Feasibility Study for Albania-Montenegro 110 kV Overhead Transmission Line Connection Dajc (Kosmac) - Briska Gora (Ulcinj)

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	To be assigned
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	Regional (Albania, Montenegro)
SECTOR OF OPERATION	Energy
VALUE	250,000 EUR
PLANNED DURATION	12 months

BACKGROUND

According to the Thessaloniki agenda (June 2003), the Western Balkan countries committed themselves to developing regional cooperation and to promoting a series of specific objectives with regard to regional free trade, creation of regional markets for electricity and gas, development of transport, energy and telecommunication infrastructures, environment, research technology and development, cross border and parliamentary cooperation. The location of Albania and Montenegro in South-East Europe provides favourable conditions to act as an “electricity channelling” region (from Italy/Montenegro to Eastern Europe and vice-versa), making it necessary to develop and operate a stable and readily available transmission grid.

The further development of the South-East Europe regional electricity market in line with the Energy Community Treaty and the expected opening of the local electricity markets in both countries, along with the necessity to fulfil EC goals concerning the implementation of Renewable Energy Resources (RES) in Montenegro and Albania, implies the need for the further strengthening of the internal transmission networks as well as strengthening of the respective transmission interconnection lines.

The geographical characteristics of Montenegro and Albania, and the energy policy of diversification of electricity sources and the revised legal framework have paved the way for a growing number of RES power plants (wind and photovoltaic) to be built and connected to transmission networks of both countries. The integration of these new RES plants and the accommodation of their generated electricity through a secure grid also shows the need for a robust transmission system.

There are numerous new private and institutional investors who have expressed an interest in implementing new RES projects in the regions close to the border between these two countries, who intend to export the production towards the rest of South-East Europe, or the Italian electricity market, by making use of the new submarine HVDC cable between Montenegro and Italy. The availability and stability of the transmission network in the region, where these new capacities are to be connected, represents a major potential obstacle and risk for the implementation of RES projects.

Also, there is the wind power plant Mozura, already constructed in the region of Ulcinj in Montenegro with 46 MW installed capacity, and in Albania there are concrete investment interests in harnessing the wind potential close to the Dajc region.

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF WORK

The study will analyse the regional network and propose immediate necessary transmission network extensions in order to accommodate new RES in the power systems of the two countries. The Consultant will review and refine the network models, data sets, characteristic network regimes, as well as load and generation scenarios which are necessary to execute the analysis that will allow the development and assessment of two options for the strengthening of the transmission network in Montenegro and Albania.

This option analysis and planning will include the development of several different project options relating to the electrical configuration of the project, in order to remedy the overloading and system security stability issues. These options shall subsequently be analysed and assessed from the technical, economic, social and environmental perspectives.

Relevant options (project alternatives) for the transmission network development should be investigated. The indicative two development options are as follows:

Option 1

Construction of a new 110 kV line between Montenegro and Albania, including construction of necessary 110/x kV substations.

Option 2

with the following new elements:

- Construction of a new 400 kV single circuit OH transmission line between SS Koman (Albanian territory) and point of Albanian-Montenegrin border with extension of 400 kV Koman substation.
- Construction of a new 400 kV single circuit OH transmission line between SS Lastva (or 400 kV OHL Lastva-Podgorica) and point of Montenegrin-Albanian border with extension of relevant substation(s).

INVESTMENT LINKS

To be determined.

Brcko District Electrical Grid Expansion - Due Diligence & Advance Procurement

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER 50009263
COUNTRY OF OPERATION Bosnia and Herzegovina
SECTOR OF OPERATION Energy
VALUE 150,000 EUR
PLANNED DURATION 18 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 achieves this by identifying, prioritising and connecting cities’ environmental challenges with sustainable infrastructure investments and policy measures.

The Brcko District joined “EBRD Green Cities” in April 2022 after Sarajevo, Banja Luka and Zenica.

In this framework, the District signed its first trigger investment responding to its priority related to environmental challenges identified under the Green City Action Plan (‘GCAP’) also financed by the CEI Fund at the EBRD with 275,000 EUR in 2021. The investment will mitigate greenhouse gas emissions across the network by improving energy efficiency, reducing losses, digitalising and enabling renewable energy connection to the grid.

The EBRD sub-sovereign commercial loan of up to 10.2 million EUR will support the District in reaching its strategic objectives of:

- Improving the quality of supply, with the replacement of substations and reconstruction of connections (total 13 locations) in the most populated areas projected to provide a more stable supply of electricity and increase capacity.
- Facilitating new connections and a first renewable energy connection to the distribution network, by installing new substations (a total of 18 locations) and two new high-voltage lines.
- Reducing losses (10.7% technical losses in 2020), through the installation of new protected cables, substations as well as auto-transformers and smart meters with remote reading and disconnection features.

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF WORK

The Due Diligence will provide a detailed environmental, social, technical and economic appraisal of the EBRD investment project while the Advance Procurement will assist the District with preparation of tender documents, tenders’ evaluation of as well as management of the supplier contracts.

INVESTMENT LINKS

10.2 million EUR from the EBRD.

Youth in Business Programme in the Western Balkans

APPROVED IN 2022

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	50009267
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	Regional (Western Balkans)
SECTOR OF OPERATION	Enterprise development
VALUE	1,500,000 EUR
PLANNED DURATION	5 years

BACKGROUND

SMEs make up about 99% of businesses in the Western Balkan region, accounting for 75% of total employment and generating about two thirds of the region's added value. Nevertheless, SMEs often struggle with numerous challenges that hamper their growth and productivity, both in terms of access to finance and in terms of access to know-how.

Especially young entrepreneurs are facing disproportionate difficulties in accessing finance due to their limited management skills, business experience and to banks' risk aversion towards them. According to the Global Findex database, access to finance is reported as a greater obstacle (45% vs 35%) by less experienced managers (2-5 years). Particularly in the Western Balkans, young adults are three to four times less likely to borrow, start, operate, or expand a business if compared to older adults. This could be explained by the fact that financial institutions perceive young entrepreneurs as riskier financing opportunities. As a result, loan requests from young entrepreneurs are more likely to be rejected. They may turn into "discouraged borrowers", thereby impact growth and hinder full financial inclusion. The challenging economic circumstances posed by the COVID-19 crisis are likely to have exacerbated this situation.

In addition to weak financing prospects, many young people lack the business skills and mind-set to start and run their own business. For instance, only 28% of young people in the Western Balkans have access to training to start and grow a business. Furthermore, even entrepreneurs who have successfully started a business often find themselves stuck and require know-how to bring their business to the next level, unlocking their full potential and putting them on a sustainable footing.

While the route of self-employment is cumbersome, youth unemployment also remains high at an average of 48% in the region. On the other hand, brain drain constitutes another key economic and social problem in the region. According to the World Bank, it is estimated that around 40% of youth indicate they wish to emigrate. Therefore, efforts are needed to develop an ecosystem conducive to entrepreneurship, fostering youth participation in the local economies and providing long-term economic prospects to the young generation across the region. Leaving the above-mentioned gaps and challenges unaddressed, represents a missed opportunity for the Western Balkan economies, and the EBRD region more broadly, to boost growth as well as equality.

In response to these challenges in the Western Balkans, the EBRD has developed a Youth in Business Programme (the Programme). It aims at promoting youth entrepreneurship and enhancing youth participation across the region. The Programme aims to achieve this through a holistic approach, reflecting the multi-faceted challenges of young people, and comprising two interlinked components - access to finance and access to know-how. Access to finance includes EBRD credit lines to Partner Financial Institutions (PFIs) for on-lending to Youth MSMEs, a risk enhancement mechanism in the form of a First Loss Risk Cover (FLRC) or a guarantee, as well as technical assistance to PFIs that aims to support Youth MSMEs' access to finance on sustainable basis. This is complemented with technical assistance to Youth MSMEs, both to existing sub-borrowers and potential ones to strengthen their entrepreneurial and management capacities and further grow their business. Digitalisation is a cross-cutting element, recognising the need for local companies to digitalise in order to maintain their competitive edge.

The Programme was launched in the Western Balkans in 2021 and will be implemented over a period of 5 years. In order to achieve the Programme's goals, approximately 22 million EUR in donor funding are required. This would cover the FLRC/guarantee, PFI capacity building and advisory services for Youth MSMEs. So far, the EBRD has secured an initial contribution to launch the Programme from Sweden.

The Programme was built upon good results and proven successful structure of the EBRD's Women in Business (WiB) Programme, launched in the Western Balkans in 2014.

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF WORK

The overall objective of the Programme is to increase young entrepreneurs' and Youth MSMEs' access to finance and skills to help them grow their business. The Programme also supports the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) linked to youth entrepreneurship (SDGs 8, 10 and 1), especially SDG 8 which promotes "decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services". The specific objectives of the Programme are as follows:

1. Increase young entrepreneurs' access to finance and skills to help them grow their business.
2. Promote youth participation in the economy to pave the way for a new generation of businesses.

3. Combine financial and non-financial tools to strengthen Youth MSMEs' resilience and growth potential and make them attractive banking clients.

The Programme targets local small-and medium-sized enterprises that are owned or managed by a person (or persons) under the age of 35 across the Western Balkan economies, seeking to offer an effective response to address the multi-dimensional nature of Youth MSMEs' barriers to growth. It comprises two inter-linked components deployed at regional level to reach scale: (i) access to finance and (ii) access to know-how and capacity building.

The components of the Programme are structured to optimise the impact on PFIs and Youth MSMEs at the market level, promoting both finance and advice to the Youth MSME segment. Access to finance includes EBRD credit lines to Partner Financial Institutions (PFIs) for on-lending to Youth SMEs, a risk enhancement mechanism in the form of a First Loss Risk Cover (FLRC), or a guarantee, as well as technical assistance to PFIs that aims to support Youth MSMEs' access to finance on a sustainable basis.

This is complemented with advisory services and business development expertise to Youth MSMEs, both existing sub-borrowers and potential ones, in order to strengthen entrepreneurial and management capacities and further grow their business.

Digitalisation will feature as a core cross-cutting element throughout the Programme. A strong focus is on digital delivery to maximise outreach and improve accessibility to services in the regions outside of capital cities, making the products attractive to young entrepreneurs and micro-companies. In addition, the introduction of digital solutions and strategies will spur digital transformation and strengthen Youth MSMEs' competitive edge. This is done through the know-how component that includes advisory services aimed at digitalisation of business processes and procedures, training on digital solutions and tools, a digital maturity assessment, and customised digital road maps, enabling enterprises to develop a milestone of their digital journey. This will help ensure that beneficiaries remain agile in a fast-changing global market. Support to incentivise digital investments will also be considered. This combination of support will be customised to serve the specific needs and requirements of Youth MSMEs.

INVESTMENT LINKS

The Programme in the Western Balkans aims at extending credit lines via EBRD partner banks in the amount of up to 100 million EUR and reaching over 2,500 Youth MSMEs via advisory services, entrepreneurial learning, mentoring and other outreach activities. Specifically, the overall Programme is expected to:

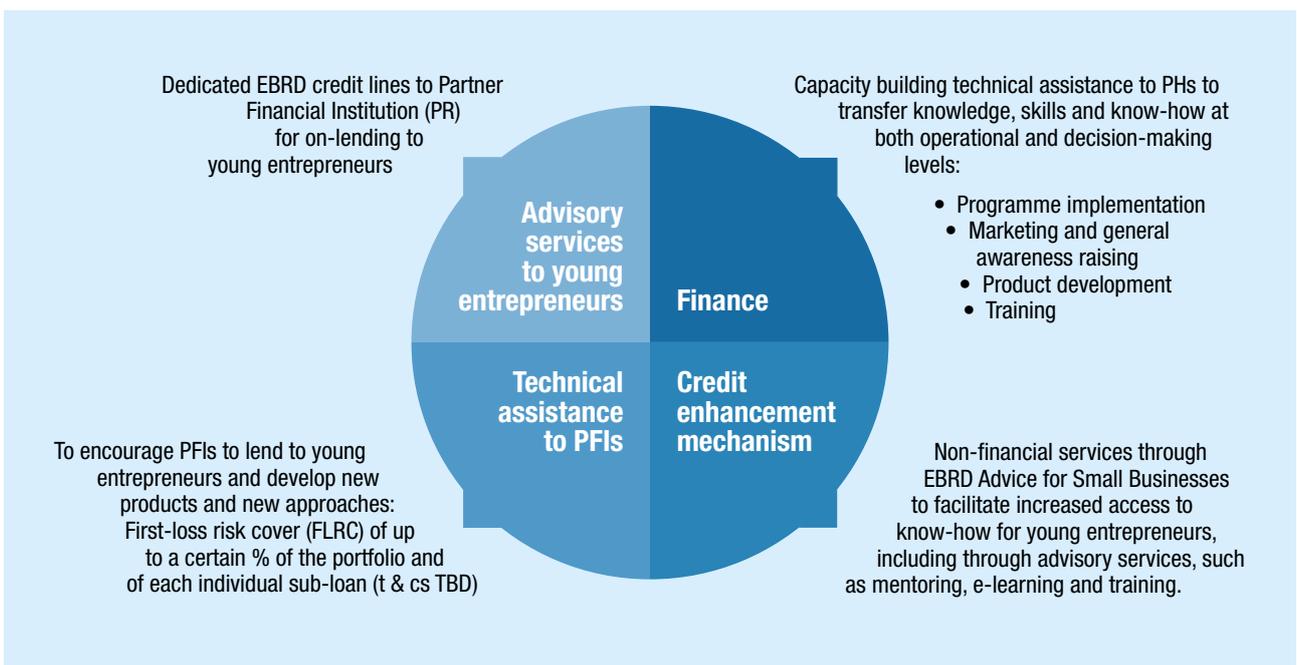
1. Increase access to finance for Youth MSMEs: 100 million EUR of volume of sub-loans to Youth MSMEs.
2. Increase capacity of PFIs to serve the young entrepreneur segment: up to ten PFIs; each PFI evidencing at the end of the Programme that they have updated, changed or implemented new instruments, products, and services dedicated to Youth MSMEs.
3. Increase access to know-how and business development expertise for Youth MSMEs: at least 40% of advisory projects with Youth MSMEs reporting increases in turnover one year after completion of advisory projects; at least 300 Youth MSMEs benefitting from advisory services; at least 500 Youth MSMEs trained and improved their skills; at least 2,500 Youth MSMEs reached through outreach activities.

The CEU Fund's contribution to the Programme will be used over the five- year implementation period to fund activities within the components below:

1. Increase capacity of PFIs and other partners to serve the young entrepreneur segment: up to 8 relevant partners supported; each relevant partner evidencing at the end of the Programme that they have updated, changed or implemented new instruments, products and services dedicated to Youth MSMEs.
2. Increase access to know-how and business development expertise for Youth MSMEs: at least 40% of advisory projects with Youth MSMEs reporting increases in turnover one year after completion of advisory projects; at least 50 Youth MSMEs benefitting from advisory services; at least 200 Youth MSMEs trained and improved their skills; at least 600 Youth MSMEs reached through outreach activities.



Figure 2.1. Youth in Business – Programme elements



Support for the Implementation of the Corporate Governance Action Plan - Serbian Railways Infrastructure JSC Belgrade

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER.50009034
COUNTRY OF OPERATION.Serbia
SECTOR OF OPERATION.Transport
VALUE150,000 EUR
PLANNED DURATION.36 months

BACKGROUND

The EBRD is considering providing a sovereign loan of up to 550 million EUR to the Republic of Serbia for the benefit of Serbia Railways Infrastructure JSC Belgrade, a railway infrastructure management company fully owned by the Republic of Serbia.

The loan will support the rehabilitation and upgrade of the rail infrastructure of Corridor X, the railway line connecting Belgrade to Niš (approximately 230 km), with the aim to increase the speed to up to 200 kph (significantly reducing the travel time between the two cities) while enhancing the quality of passenger and freight rail services. This will, in turn, support Serbia's economic development, contribute to its local and regional connectivity, and increase competitiveness of rail transport, especially for international and transit freight traffic, allowing a significant modal shift to rail as a low carbon intensity sector.

The modernisation of Corridor X is one of the main investments in the railway sector carried out by the Government of Serbia, for it is an axis of national importance connecting Western and Central Europe to Greece, Türkiye and the Middle East.

As part of the Loan Agreement, the Company and the Republic of Serbia - in its capacity as the Company's shareholder - have committed to implementing a Corporate Governance Action Plan (CGAP), targeting the most relevant areas of the Company which need to be improved from a corporate-governance-practice point of view.

In this context, the EBRD will provide technical assistance to the Company, the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure in order to assist them with the implementation of the CGAP. In particular, activities will, inter alia, include:

- Defining the rationale for state ownership in the Company and setting out its main commercial and non-commercial long-term and medium-term objectives.
- Updating the Company's long-term strategic plan to achieve defined objectives and serve as a basis for annual business plans and oversight of Company's performance.
- Adopting a Nomination Policy for the Company's supervisory board and appointing at least one independent member
- Strengthening the role, responsibilities and functioning of the supervisory board of the Company and introducing board evaluation exercises.
- Restructuring an audit committee as a subcommittee of the supervisory board with appropriate responsibilities.

- Adopting a policy on conflicts of interest and related party transactions.
- Entrusting the corporate secretary with functions and responsibilities in line with international best practices.
- Introducing a compliance function, adopting a compliance programme and introducing a risk management function.
- Strengthening the Internal Audit function.
- Adopting a Policy on provision of non-auditing services by the external auditor.
- Adopting a diversity policy and conducting a gender assessment and equal opportunities action plan including the introduction of female target in senior management.
- Improving the Company's governance-related disclosures.
- Introducing Succession Planning.

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF WORK

The Company and the Ministries will be assisted in developing internal legal acts, policies and procedures, establishing or restructuring selected functions of the Company and providing training, as described in more detail below and including:

- Developing a Nomination Policy for the Supervisory Board in line with international best practices.
- Defining composition, role, responsibilities and functioning of Supervisory Board.
- Drafting selected documents to be approved by the Company's Supervisory Board.
- Assisting with introduction of Supervisory Board evaluation practices.
- Restructuring the Audit Committee.
- Structuring the function of the Corporate Secretary.
- Supporting the development of the Compliance Function, Compliance Programme and Risk Management Function.
- Strengthening the Internal Audit Function.
- Developing a policy on conflicts of interest and related party transactions.
- Adopting a Policy on Provision of Non-auditing Services by the External Auditor.
- Reviewing the Company's Disclosure.
- Drafting a diversity policy.
- Developing a Succession Planning.

INVESTMENT LINKS

550 million EUR from the EBRD, the investment project is envisaged to be co-financed by the European Investment Bank and the EU through the Western Balkans Investment Framework. The estimated value of the project is 2 billion EUR.

Serbian Rail Sector Reform and Regulatory Capacity Building

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	50009035
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	Serbia
SECTOR OF OPERATION	Transport
VALUE	400,000 EUR
PLANNED DURATION	36 months

BACKGROUND

The EBRD is considering providing a sovereign loan of up to 550 million EUR to the Republic of Serbia for the benefit of Serbia Railways Infrastructure JSC Belgrade, a railway infrastructure management company fully owned by the Republic of Serbia.

The loan will support the rehabilitation and upgrade of the rail infrastructure of Corridor X, the railway line connecting Belgrade to Niš (approximately 230 km), with the aim to increase speed to up to 200 kph (i.e. significantly reducing the travel time between the two cities) while enhancing quality of passenger and freight rail services.

The modernisation of Corridor X is one of the main investments in the railway sector carried out by the Government of Serbia, for it is an axis of national importance connecting Western and Central Europe with Greece, Türkiye and the Middle East.

The investment project will support Serbia's economic development, contribute to its local and regional connectivity, and increase competitiveness of rail transport, especially for international and transit freight traffic, allowing significant modal shift to rail as a low carbon intensity sector.

The investment project will support the physical and regulatory integration of the Serbian rail network into the wider Western Balkans and European rail transport network, thereby enabling the development of a larger, better connected and more efficient rail market which will be more able to compete with other modes.

This will primarily be achieved through the physical implementation of the project as well through technical support for the adoption of relevant legal and regulatory steps and capacity building linked to the objectives of the EU rail market liberalisation packages (4th Railway Package).

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF WORK

In 2017, the Republic of Serbia alongside its five Western Balkan regional partners, signed the Transport Community Treaty (ratified in 2019) forming the Transport Community Treaty (TCT). The TCT has the objective of assisting the six Western Balkans partners to adopt and implement the EU legislation in the field of transport by supporting projects that are connecting Western Balkan regional partners among themselves and with the EU.

In this framework, the 4th railway package aims to remove the barriers to the creation of a single European rail area. The proposed legislation would introduce a reform in the

EU's rail sector by encouraging competition and innovation in domestic passenger markets. It would also implement structural and technical reforms. The end result should include an higher levels of safety as well as interoperability and reliability in the European rail network.

There has already been significant progress in this regard in Serbia (and the regional partners) including legal reforms in the sector such as the Law on Railways, the Law on Railway Safety and the Law on Rail Interoperability adopted in 2018. These regulations have collectively aligned the sector with EU objectives for rail liberalisation – including regulation of access and market entry, route allocation, access to services and access fees.

Further legal and regulatory reforms as well as practical steps identified by the Treaty and by the associated Rail Action Plan are needed. To date, the Serbian Rail Directorate has mainly focused on safety and technical regulation and has developed limited capacity and experience in its wider evolving responsibilities to oversee the rail market in its new form. For example on approval of access charges, ensuring non-discriminatory access to new entrants, support for the development of competition, market monitoring and regulation of the activities and efficiency.

In this framework, this technical assistance will support the development of the Serbian Rail Directorate into a formal independent rail sector regulator in line with the objectives of the Treaty and wider best practice. This will include:

- Providing support to the Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure and to the Rail Directorate in developing a strategy for the future of the Serbian rail sector explaining the role, rationale and need for an independent regulator.
- Delivering a Study and an Implementation Action Plan for the formation of an independent regulator, based at the Rail Directorate.
- Providing general support and training to the Rail Directorate across several regulatory activities.

INVESTMENT LINKS

550 million EUR from the EBRD, the investment project is envisaged to be co-financed by the European Investment Bank and the EU through the Western Balkans Investment Framework. The estimated value of the project is 2 billion EUR.



Technical Cooperation Programme

Projects closed in 2022

02

Table 2.2. List of TC assignments closed in 2022

No.	Earmark document number	Assignment name	Country of operation	Sector of operation	Value €
1	50006442	Albanian Railways - Asset Management Plan and Track Access Charges Methodology	Albania	Transport	350,000
2	50006443	Albanian Railways - Development of Accounting and Reporting Systems for full International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) Compliance	Albania	Transport	149,050
3	50002355	Montenegro Local Roads Reconstruction and Upgrade: Strategy and Model Contracts for Performance-Based Maintenance and Road Safety Regulation	Montenegro	Transport	137,516
4	50007325	Mostar North to Mostar South Motorway - Environmental and Social Impact Assessment	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport	72,790
5	50000881	Serbian Roads - Road Rehabilitation and Safety Project. Capacity Building on Road Safety Management (ISO 39001)	Serbia	Transport	70,000
6	50005615	CEI Support to Small Business Initiative: Expansion of Origination and Execution Capacity Program for SME Direct Finance and Risk Sharing in Belarus (Phase 1 + Phase 2)	Belarus	Enterprise development	238,726
7	50004930	Independent System Operator of Bosnia and Herzegovina - Consultant for the Project Implementation Unit	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Energy	399,530
8	50008531	Market Assessment for the Uptake of Climate Technologies in the Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia)	Regional	Energy	55,575
TOTAL					1,473,187

Albanian Railways - Asset Management Plan and Track Access Charges Methodology

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	50006442
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	Albania
SECTOR OF OPERATION	Transport
VALUE	350,000 EUR
DURATION	12 months

FRAMEWORK AND OBJECTIVES

The EBRD provided a sovereign loan of up to 36.87 EUR million to the Government of Albania to be on-lent to the Albanian Railways. It was used to finance the rehabilitation of the 34.17 km railway line between the Tirana Public Transport Terminal and the city of Durres as well as for the construction of a new railway line approximately 5 km in length and its interchange connecting the Tirana-Durres line with the Tirana International Airport (the Project).

The Project is part of Route 2 of the Western Balkans Core Network connecting the cities of Podgorica in Montenegro and Vlore in Albania. It has been established as an indicative extension to the Trans-European Transport Networks to the Western Balkans core railway network. The Project is part of the Connectivity Agenda of the European Union, which promotes transport connectivity in the Western Balkans as an important factor for the economic development, regional cooperation and EU integration.

Under the Project, the Hekurudha Shqiptare (HSH, the Albanian Railways Company) engaged a consultant to assist with the Track Access Charges Methodology Review and Asset Management Plan. The two key objectives of the technical cooperation assignment were to develop an Asset Management Plan to support the efficient maintenance of the assets utilised by HSH and to establish the cost base for the Track Access Charges as well as to support the Company in implementing the Track Access Charges methodology based on the direct cost of operating the infrastructure.

OUTCOMES

The overall outcomes of the Asset Management Plan (AMP) included:

- Effective development of an AMP covering each class of asset. The plan considers condition monitoring (e.g. track recording), routine and preventative maintenance, periodic maintenance, renewal and upgrading and takes into account the required legislative, regulatory and other standards for the assets. The AMP includes a systematic guide for the planning, acquisition, operation

and maintenance, renewal and disposal of assets as well as operations and maintenance programmes for the short, medium and long-term, setting out the optimal maintenance required to provide reliable and cost-effective service delivery. The AMP specifies each element in detail as well as provides the associated costs, taking into account the planned investments financed as part of the EBRD project. The plan also indicated what alternatives have been considered and why the selected plan was preferred.

- Complete inventory of all assets for which HSH is responsible.
- Defined procedures for monitoring and reporting asset use, equipment utilisation, and labour.
- Forecast of demand, physical standards and service levels required over the next 10 years for each section of the rail network.
- Forecasts of the funding required for the plan period, together with the implications on service levels if the aggregate amount is reduced or increased by 25%.
- Successful assessment of the overall cost of operating the network and assistance to HSH in developing a cost reporting structure that is suitable as a basis for the calculation of Track Access Charges.

The overall outcomes of the Track Access Charges (TAC) included:

- Clear overview on the compliance of the legislation with the relevant EU Directive.
- Assistance to HSH in calculating the TAC in full compliance with the methodology and support in ensuring the carry out all required steps in the TAC setting process.
- Based on the findings of the AMP, assistance to HSH in determining the appropriate cost base to be used for the TAC calculations.
- Consultation with HSH, the Ministry of transport, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Economic Development, Tourism, Trade and Entrepreneurship and other relevant stakeholders to address obstacles to the effective implementation of the TAC methodology.
- Development of appropriate performance indicators in order to incentivise good performance, considering financial incentives and penalties, including the development of efficiency targets.

Albanian Railways - Development of Accounting and Reporting Systems for full International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) Compliance

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	50006443
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	Albania
SECTOR OF OPERATION	Transport
VALUE	149,050 EUR
DURATION	9 months

FRAMEWORK AND OBJECTIVES

The EBRD provided a sovereign loan of up to 36.87 million EUR to the Government of Albania to be on-lent to the Albanian Railways Company (HSH), which was used to finance the rehabilitation of the 34.17 km railway line between the Tirana Public Transport Terminal and the city of Durres and the construction of a new railway line approximately 5 km in length and its interchange connecting the Tirana-Durres line with the Tirana International Airport (the Project).

The Project is part of Route 2 of the Western Balkans Core Network connecting the cities of Podgorica in Montenegro and Vlore in Albania. It has been established as an indicative extension to the Trans-European Transport Networks to the Western Balkans core railway network. The Project is part of the Connectivity Agenda of the European Union, which promotes transport connectivity in the Western Balkans as an important factor for the economic development, regional cooperation and EU integration.

As a condition to receiving the loan, the Company was required to be compliant with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

The objective of the Assistance with IFRS Reporting was for the Consultant to review HSH accounting policies and procedures and advise amendments to ensure their consistency with IFRS and support the Company in preparing fully IFRS compliant financial records and reporting. Moreover, the Consultant advised on other reports and special analyses, as part of the Management Information System, which are needed to facilitate effective financial

management. Furthermore, the Consultant trained the Chief Financial Officer and its team on the application of the new IFRS compliant policies and procedures.

OUTCOMES

The Consultant successfully and satisfactorily carried out a number of tasks, resulting in the following outcomes and allowing for the successful completion of the Assignment and requirements for the Company in relation to the EBRD Loan:

- Improved financial management and improved accounting policies and procedures consistent with IFRS.
- Enhanced internal management reporting which includes medium-term strategic objectives plan, multi-annual and annual work programs (budget), annual work plan monitoring report, selection of appropriate Key Performance Indicators (KPI) for analysis and planning purposes, etc. These will help in facilitating effective management decision making.
- An updated Assets register, including property and equipment, for which the outcome is more accurate financial information in the preparation of IFRS Financial Statements.
- Revised cost accounting system and improved methodology, including analysis templates and guidelines, which will improve and assist in better management decision making.
- Improved skills and capacities of the relevant HSH staff for the application of IFRS compliant policies and procedures and preparation of fully compliant IFRS financial statements.

Montenegro Local Roads Reconstruction and Upgrade: Strategy and Model Contracts for Performance-Based Maintenance, and Road Safety Regulation

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER. 50002355
COUNTRY OF OPERATION. Montenegro
SECTOR OF OPERATION. Transport
VALUE 137,516 EUR
DURATION 9 months

FRAMEWORK AND OBJECTIVES

The EBRD provided a loan to Montenegro to support the Local Roads Reconstruction and Upgrade Project (the Project) in order to fund the reconstruction of two sections of the Berane to Kolasin road in northern Montenegro. The Project created the opportunity to build on the progress already made in Montenegro in relation to reforming its road sector. Road maintenance and improvement in road safety are two areas that still offer considerable challenges and the Project seeks to extend the transition impacts in these areas.

In this regard, the Transport Directorate (TD) of the Ministry of Transport and Maritime Affairs (MoTMA) wished to develop and refine its Performance-Based Maintenance (PBM) contracting strategy so as to improve the attractiveness of PBM contracts in the wider market and to optimise cost efficiency, as well as expand capacity and training in the area of road safety.

The objectives of this “Strategy and Model Contracts for Performance-Based Maintenance, and Road Safety Regulation” Assignment were to:

Performance Based Maintenance Contracts

- Develop a national strategy for PBM contracts; prepare model PBM contracts to be used for future tenders; recommend whether future PBM contracts should cover a wider scope of maintenance activities than those which have been used to date;
- Review the institutional capacity of the TD to implement PBM contracts and recommend appropriate capacity-building measures and training.

Road Safety

- Prepare amendments to Montenegro's Road Safety Law to bring it in line with EU Directives;
- Carry out a Road Safety Assessment on the road sections to be financed by the Bank and some other accident black spots on the national and regional road networks;
- Assist MoTMA to put in place a road safety auditing regime for the whole country;
- Recommend a programme of training and capacity building within MoTMA and TD to develop the capability to implement a national programme of road safety improvements.

OUTCOMES

The Consultant successfully produced the following deliverables:

1. PBM Contract Strategy Report for Montenegro (including Action Plan and Capacity Building Strategy for TD): Assessment of the current TD's capacity on asset Management Practices, to inspect and monitor road conditions: establishing monitoring systems and databases, quality management, road inspection, laboratory facilities, methods of measurement; Identification of a strategic sample and collection of physical data on site; Review and recommend pre-conditions of road for PBMCs; Review of industry capability and appetite for PBC.
2. Model Performance-Based Maintenance Contracts: Review of current legal environment; Review of fiscal resources allocated to the road maintenance activities: budget evaluation; Assessment of existing model of contract; Implementation of a model for PBM Contracts; Implementation of PBMC for the above sample, including cost analysis for maintaining the quality of the roads at acceptable and international standards level.
3. Complete Training of TD Staff basing on our common international practice for maintenance supervision: Proposal of our common international practice for maintenance supervision; Proposal on measurement method on site named “Roadroid” for asphalt performance evaluation.
4. Proposed legislative amendments on road safety: Strengthening Institutional Framework for road safety management activities; Identification and definition of structure, actors and responsibilities, procedures, stakeholders, aim, priorities and targets, and monitoring systems.
5. Road safety management System and action plan for ISO 39001: Review and assess actions to obtain ISO 39001 (road safety).
6. Road Safety Audit Strategy.
7. Road Safety Audit in the accident black spots at other locations in the national and regional road network.
8. Complete training of MoTMA and TD staff in the management and implementation of road safety program.
9. Final Report.

Mostar North to Mostar South Motorway - Environmental and Social Impact Assessment

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	50007325
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	Bosnia and Herzegovina
SECTOR OF OPERATION	Transport
VALUE	72,790 EUR
DURATION	18 months

FRAMEWORK AND OBJECTIVES

The Project supported by this TC assignment consists of the following parts and is expected to be completed by 31 December 2026:

- Construction of (i) two motorway interchanges Mostar North and Mostar South, (ii) a 15 km motorway section between these two interchanges, and (iii) a two-lane road connecting the interchanges with the existing trunk road M17. It is expected that the section will have 7 tunnels and 9 viaducts on each of the two carriage ways.
- Consultancy services related to the preparation of preliminary and main design, compulsory review of the main design and engineering supervision of works and, if needs be, related to the reporting on various aspects of the Project implementation (including, without limitation, matters such as the lender's monitor or the environmental and social matters). Consultancy service related to project implementation and management consultant.

The objective of the Assignment was to identify and assess any potentially significant future adverse environmental and social impacts associated with the Project. The assessment determined the measures needed to prevent, minimise, mitigate and compensate adverse impacts, and identify potential environmental and social opportunities, including those that would improve the environmental and social sustainability of the Project.

As part of this, the Consultant worked with the design team in order to inform Project design based on environmental and social issues. The Consultant also identified and informed the Client and the EBRD of the time and budget implications of complimentary studies (e.g., climate change, human rights and gender).

The assessment process commensurated the potential risks, aspects and impacts of the Project, and covered, in an integrated manner, all relevant direct, indirect & cumulative environmental and social aspects and impacts of the Project, and the relevant stages of the Project cycle (e.g., pre-construction, construction, operation, and decommissioning or closure and reinstatement). In addition, the E&S audit determined Motorways of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBHM's) current E&S performance and management provisions.

OUTCOMES

The Consultant successfully and satisfactorily carried out a number of tasks, resulting in the following outcomes. It allowed for the successful completion of the Assignment and requirements for the Company in relation to the EBRD Loan:

- Report and participation in scoping stage public consultation.
- Performance Requirements (PR) Compliance Summary Table .
- Draft Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and Environmental and Social Action Plan (ESAP), draft Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP, draft Framework Environmental and Social Management Plan.
- Draft Waste and Construction Waste Management Plan.
- Study for Issuance of the Preliminary Water Consent.
- Draft Land Acquisition Plan.
- Draft stand-alone Non-Technical Summary (NTS) for disclosure to the public.

Serbian Roads - Road Rehabilitation and Safety Project. Capacity Building on Road Safety Management (ISO 39001)

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER 50000881
COUNTRY OF OPERATION Serbia
SECTOR OF OPERATION Transport
VALUE 70,000 EUR
DURATION 24 months

FRAMEWORK AND OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of this Assignment was to assist the Public Enterprise Roads of Serbia (PERS) in the preparation and certification of a road safety management system in line with the ISO 39001 requirements, assisting the company during the certification process and to develop local expertise in order to assist other organizations in the future. The specific objectives were:

- To successfully develop and implement a Road Safety Management Plan.
- To demonstrate conformity with the International Standard, assisting PERS along the process to become ISO 39001 certified.
- To train PERS staff in the road safety management practices.
- To develop and establish local capacity to be able to continue such work in future.

The ISO 39001 “Road Traffic Safety Management” is an international standard for a management of road safety system (similar to ISO 9000 series). Achieving the standard requires the development and implementation of an appropriate policy, development of objectives and action plans, which take into account legal and other requirements, aimed at enabling organisations to reduce the number of road deaths and serious injuries in road traffic crashes.

By adopting the ISO standard 39001 (which was published in October 2012), PERS will demonstrate its commitment to road safety and will be a pioneer of the adoption of this standard in the region, becoming the first organisation there to be ISO 39001 certified in the region, and the first roads agency world-wide.

OUTCOMES

In order to meet the objectives of the project, the Consultant’s work included the following specific activities:

- Review of the existing situation.
- Action Plan for ISO 39001 certification.
- Preparation of Road Safety Management System.
- Transfer of skills.

The Consultant successfully and satisfactorily delivered the above tasks, which resulted in the successful delivery and outcome of the Capacity Building on Road Safety Management (ISO 39001) Assignment as follows:

- The Road Safety Management System is prepared to suit the particular needs of PERS and developed in line with ISO 39001.
- PERS gain increased efficiency in road safety management of the Serbian roads.
- Knowledge and skills successfully transferred from the consultant to PERS which will ensure the Road Safety Management System is maintained and updated as per ISO 39001 requirements.

CEI Support to Small Business Initiative: Origination and Execution Capacity Programme for SME Direct Finance in Belarus (Phase 1 + Phase 2)

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	50005615
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	Belarus
SECTOR OF OPERATION	Enterprise development
VALUE	90,000 EUR (Phase 1) + 148,276 (Phase 2)
DURATION	4.5 years

FRAMEWORK AND OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Programme, started in the spring of 2018, were to facilitate access to finance for local SMEs and to promote a sustainable growth of the SME sector. It was expected that the majority of beneficiary SMEs would introduce new technologies and/or processes, making the companies more competitive. Their increased competitiveness generated a good demonstration effect, prompting more SMEs to improve operations and, therefore, providing an impact at sector level.

Given the extent of the task and the limited donor resources, it was identified that hiring a dedicated local professional responsible for originating, executing and monitoring SME transactions in Belarus was the most efficient and meaningful way to use the CEI funding. The hired professional at an Associate Banker level was based in the EBRD Resident Office in Minsk and worked with the EBRD staff on direct EBRD transactions. The transactions included the ones under the Risk Sharing Framework (RSF) and those under the Direct Finance Framework (DFF). The beneficiary SMEs were assessed against the EBRD's strict criteria, including integrity checks. Other key factors taken into account in the screening process included additionality, sound banking principals (including growth potential) and commitment (including transparency and cost sharing). As part of the origination effort, the Associate Banker cooperated closely with the EBRD's Advice for Small Business team ("ASB team") that provided targeted expertise to SMEs through international advisories, local consultancies, market and sector development activities. Thanks to business advice, many SMEs can access finance, which provides a better leverage of the donor funds.

The Programme was conceived and designed in line with the EBRD Country Strategy for Belarus and was to complement the EBRD's overall ambitious intervention in the country in support of the SME sector.

OUTCOMES

The specialist funded by CEI contribution since April 2018 got actively involved in expanding cooperation with local commercial banks, raising their SME risk appetite and helping promote financial intermediation in the country. The EBRD was able to establish RSF relationships with at least three banks (on a funded and/or unfunded basis). With the team at the EBRD Office in Minsk, the Associate Banker actively worked on a pipeline of RSF projects. In 2019, a 1 million EUR RSF transaction was signed with the local Priorbank to support a poultry meat producer located in

small regional town southwest of the capital Minsk. The loan financed the working capital needs of the company in support of its production expansion programme. It was repaid in 2021.

Thanks to the financing, the beneficiary company was able to improve its competitiveness versus state-owned producers of poultry products. In 2020, a 7 million EUR RSF loan was signed with a local producer of plastic tubes for cosmetic industry located in the industrial zone outside of Minsk. The financing was required for the company's CAPEX and working capital needs to allow it to stay competitive in the environment of political and economic instability caused by Covid-19 and the protests post the presidential elections. With the part of the loan, the company was able to purchase better energy- and resource-efficient equipment. It also benefited from a FINTECC grant as it introduced recyclable packaging solutions into its production process. A year later, the company obtained another RSF loan for 4 million EUR, which was to help strengthen its balance sheet structure by extending the maturity of the debt portfolio and providing additional capital for growth. The fourth RSF loan to a local SME for 1 million EUR was extended to an industrial paint producer located in Dzershinsk, a small town in the suburbs of Minsk. The proceeds were to finance CAPEX for expansion of powder paints production to allow the company to reach a maximum capacity load and to increase production efficiency. All the loans were co-financed on a 50/50 basis with the largest private local bank, Priorbank, majority owned by the Raiffeisen Bank International.

The work of the Associate Banker also contributed to the signing in 2020 a DFF loan for 4 million EUR to a local producer of innovative packaging solutions, so that it could relocate to a new production site and modernise its production capacities. The company was to benefit from the FINTECC programme, too, to install modern equipment allowing for a significant decrease of electricity consumption.

As is seen from the description, all the loans were for CAPEX and/or working capital needs, thus creating a benefit for the SMEs in the longer-term. They involved almost 2,000 jobs. All in all, the mobilised SME finance amounted to 17 million EUR, i.e. it leveraged the CEI finance by a ratio of 70.8 to 1.

In addition, the Associate Banker helped manage the portfolio of SME deals. There have been no defaults. He also referred multiple SME clients to receive business advice via the EBRD's ASB. Through the support provided by the ASB (e.g. local and international consultancy services, market and sector development activities), more SMEs could become competitive, which helps create a vibrant SME sector.

Independent System Operator of Bosnia and Herzegovina - Consultant for the Project Implementation Unit

CLOSED IN 2022

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER 50004930
COUNTRY OF OPERATION Bosnia and Herzegovina
SECTOR OF OPERATION Energy
VALUE 399,530 EUR
DURATION 45 months

FRAMEWORK AND OBJECTIVES

The EBRD provided financing to the Independent System Operator of Bosnia and Herzegovina (ISO or the Company) for the development and installation of a new state-of-the-art IT system including the Energy Management System (EMS) and the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system as well as the construction of the new premises of the Company (the Project).

ISO is a public company owned by the governments of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH) and Republika Srpska (RS) and operates on the entire territory of BiH in accordance with the license which was issued by the State Electricity Regulatory Commission (SERC). ISO is responsible, inter alia for (i) managing the transmission system and assuring its stability; (ii) managing assets and equipment in the central control and dispatching centre; (iii) dispatching, balancing and allocating the cross-border interconnection capacities; (iv) developing and managing the rules which regulate the transmission system utilisation and (v) developing and managing of market rules which are based on the provisions related to system and ancillary services in the transmission system.

The main objective of the PIU Consultant was to provide organisational and technical assistance to the Client to ensure the successful completion of the Project in accordance with the Project Implementation Plan (PIP) and with all the Banks' requirements stipulated in the Loan Agreement.

OUTCOMES

The Consultant was key to ensure adequate procurement (supporting an inexperienced client), which led to significant cost savings vs overall budget. It was also key to ultimate successful implementation of the project components.

The Consultant successfully and satisfactorily carried out a number of tasks, resulting in the following outcomes and allowing for the successful completion of the Assignment and requirements for the Company.

Task 1 – Project Preparation Phase

- Development of Project Implementation Unit (PIU) operating procedures.
- Support during the procurement process.
- Support during the evaluation process.
- Support during contract finalisation.

Task 2 - Project Implementation Phase

- Assistance in supervision, monitoring and reporting.
- Testing, Commissioning and Operational Acceptance.
- Knowledge transfer to Client in all aspects of oversight and management of project implementation.

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

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	50008531
COUNTRY OF OPERATION	Regional
SECTOR OF OPERATION	Energy/ Climate
VALUE	55,575 EUR
DURATION	8 months

FRAMEWORK AND OBJECTIVES

The EBRD Finance and Technology Transfer Centre for Climate Change (FINTECC - <https://fintecc.ebrd.com/index.html>) is a programme that helps 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 Region.

OUTCOMES

The consultant team carried out an analysis of the business sectors of each target country and identified the main industrial sectors of interest: manufacturing, food and beverage, agriculture and agro-industry as well as tourism sector being a very key sector where climate technologies (“near zero”) have not yet penetrated.

The EU Best Available Techniques reference documents were selected as the main source to identify the long list of potential technologies. The assessment prioritised the “horizontal” technologies with cross-sectoral applicability, and then “vertical” sector specific in case a sector(s) is large enough to make an effect.

The proposed final shortlist of climate technologies includes 23 elements. For each technology and for each country of the Region, the consultant team implemented an in-depth analysis defining and describing:

- The minimum performance requirements.
- Market penetration assessment.
- A key barriers assessment for the implementation of the technologies primarily by the SMEs, including regulatory, financial, knowledge gap, political risks, underdeveloped supply chains, and how these barriers could be overcome.
- Technical specifications typical for the local market.
- Benchmarking comparing the selected technologies to the national requirements and the relevant EU best-performing benchmarks.
- The areas for trainings/workshops to potential sector beneficiaries in relation to climate technologies.

Finally, for each country, the study identified and provided a summary of similar programmes in the Western Balkans providing investment grants to private companies for implementing climate technologies. This final section includes the name of the institution, donors, type/description of eligible technologies, eligible beneficiaries, terms and conditions of the grants. This will help to ensure that if/when EBRD expands FINTECC to the Western Balkan Region, the Bank will be able to avoid overlaps and maximize the impact of the FINTECC programme.



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, 137 projects have been financed for a total CEI Fund contribution of over 4 million EUR with an overall project value amounting to over 16 million EUR (see Chart 3.1 and Annex 7). 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 3.2, 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 Albania and North Macedonia.

Most KEP grants are assigned through annual Calls for Proposals. In 2022, the CEI Fund provided resources for one call launched on 11 April. Eighty applications were received within the deadline for the project submission set on 13 June 2022. After a careful evaluation, seven capacity building projects were approved for co-financing with 262,251 EUR.

In addition, the CEI Fund also financed a priority project originated from the cooperation between the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Mission in North Macedonia, the Italian Embassy in Skopje, and the Office of the Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia.

These projects (see Table 3.1) will bring together know-how providers and beneficiaries from several CEI countries. They will focus on significant areas of cooperation aimed at strengthening European integration such as the EU Cohesion Policy, migration, countering corruption, food regulatory frameworks, environmental and water management, seismic hazard management and improvement and digitalisation of municipal services.

Chart 3.1. Total value of KEP projects (share of 16,104,177 EUR).

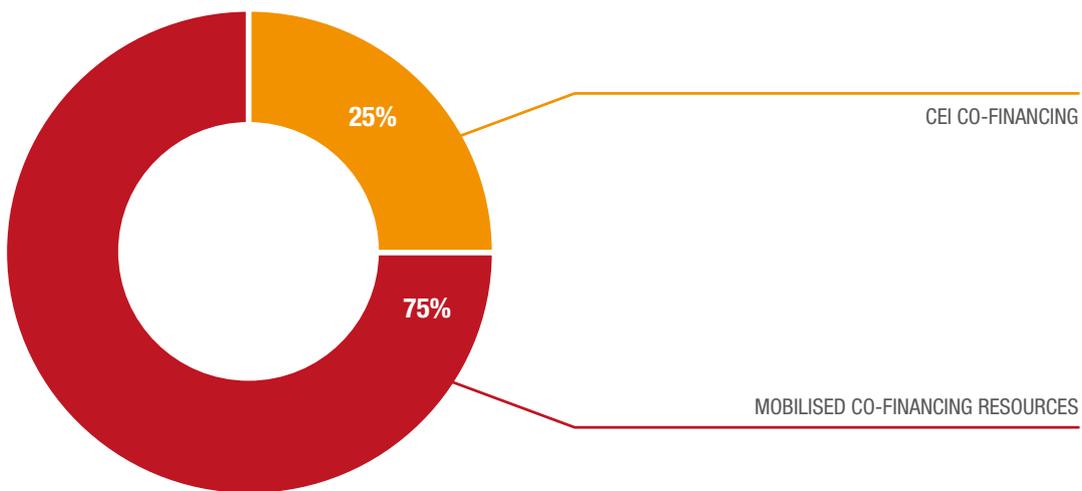
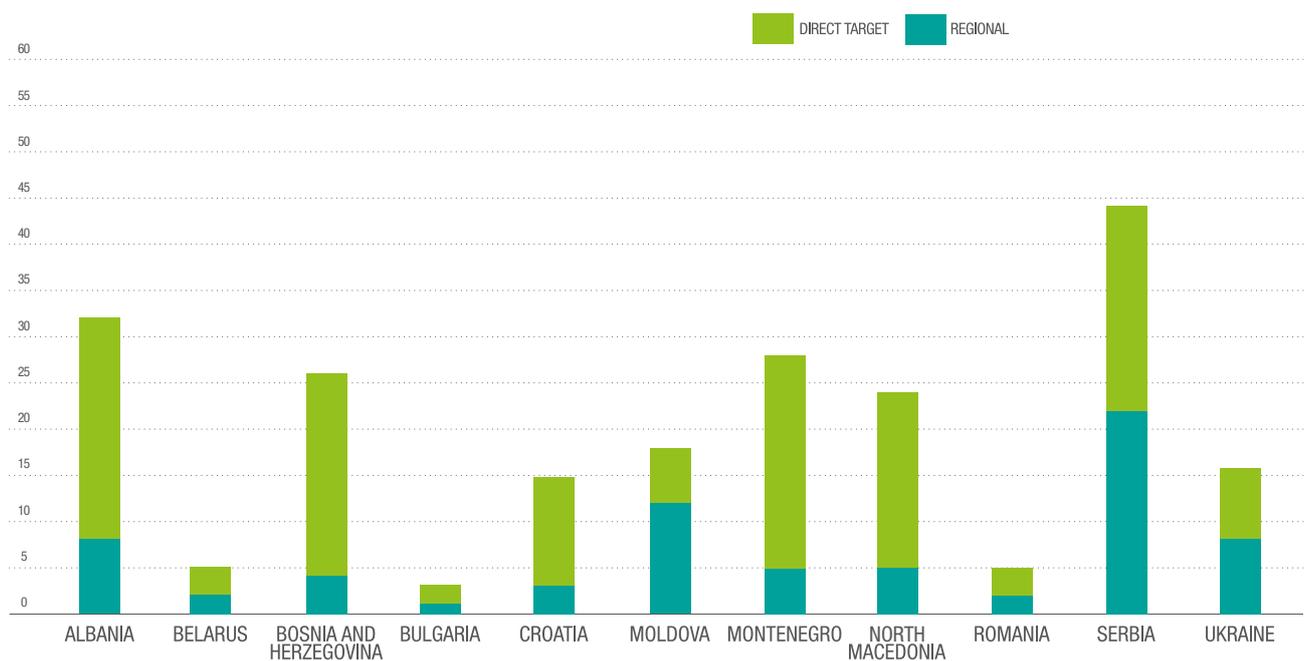


Chart 3.2. Distribution of KEP projects by number of assignments according to know-how recipient countries. The projects with regional spread are highlighted in dark green (share of 137 projects).



Know-how Exchange Programme Promotional Activities 2022

In May 2022, the Office for the CEI Fund at the EBRD - in cooperation with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation - organised a promotional tour to capital cities of several CEI Member States, namely Tirana, Podgorica, Sarajevo, Belgrade, Sofia and Skopje.

The visits were meant to raise awareness about the Know-how Exchange Programme.

The events gathered local representatives of institutions dealing with transnational projects from ministries, national/regional agencies and authorities, local governments including municipalities, as well as selected NGOs and the private sector.

In each capital city, a representative of the Italian Embassy together with the CEI National Coordinator from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the host country welcomed the participants. Their opening words were followed by a presentation of the KEP and its Call for Proposals 2022 and finally by a lively question & answer session. Selected KEP project partners were also involved by sharing their experience with the call and project implementation.

The ultimate goal was to further enhance the visibility of the KEP and contribute to improving the level of financed projects by enabling beneficiary countries to participate also as project originators.



A promotional video has been also realised and is available at <https://www.cei.int/KEP>





Know-how Exchange Programme

Projects approved in 2022

03

Table 3.1. List of KEP projects approved in 2022

No.	Reference number	Project name	Country of know-how provider	Country of know-how recipient	Total project cost €	CEI grant €
1	304.4.001-22	North Macedonia: Advisory Support for Strengthening the Capacities for Diaspora Engagement and Evidence-based Migration Policy Planning	IOM	North Macedonia	80,000	40,000
2	304.4.015-22	Programming the EU Cohesion Policy: Exchange Programme on Chapter 22 in Serbia and Montenegro	Italy	Serbia, Montenegro	79,718	39,808
3	304.4.022-22	Assessing the effectiveness and affordability of tariff-setting methodologies in covering drinking water and wastewater services costs in the Western Balkans	Italy	Regional	121,800	39,400
4	304.4.029-22	Reducing the impact of earthquakes in Albania through collaboration: Computing seismic hazard to support the update of Albania's building code	Italy	Albania	66,698	26,698
5	304.4.055-22	Executive Program "Countering Corruption within Public Administration Through Transparency"	Italy	North Macedonia	82,820	39,820
6	304.4.065-22	Harmonising the Regulatory FRAMEwork for the ORGanic food production in Montenegro with the Regulation (EU) 2018/848 - FRAME.ORG MONTENEGRO	Italy	Montenegro	74,700	37,350
7	304.4.068-22	Strengthening ties and learning between the twinned municipalities of Centar Sarajevo and Reggio Emilia	Italy	Bosnia and Herzegovina	80,000	40,000
8	304.4.070-22	Habitat, landscape, forest and water management: experiences in the mirror between Italy and Moldova	Italy	Moldova	78,350	39,175
TOTAL					664,086	302,251

North Macedonia: Advisory Support for Strengthening the Capacities for Diaspora Engagement and Evidence-based Migration Policy Planning

CEI REF. NO. 304.4.001-22
TOTAL PROJECT COST. 80,000 EUR
CEI GRANT. 40,000 EUR
PLANNED DURATION. 12 months

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

International Organisation for Migration (IOM) North Macedonia
north-macedonia.iom.int/

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENT

Office of the Prime Minister of the Republic of North Macedonia, relevant Ministries dealing with Diaspora
vlada.mk/?ln=en-gb

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The Government of North Macedonia is increasingly seeking to strengthen cooperation prospects with the Diaspora. Germany, Italy, and Switzerland are European countries with the highest number of migrants from the Republic of North Macedonia. According to data from the World Bank, the majority (around 60%) of foreign-currency remittances from the diaspora come from European countries, specifically: Germany (23%), Italy (22%), Switzerland (11%) and Austria (5%). This basically corresponds to the scope of emigration from the Republic of North Macedonia to European host countries. In recognition of the potential of the Macedonian diaspora, including through financial, human and social resources, the Government of North Macedonia has made significant efforts in devising measures to systematize diaspora engagement in the country in the National Strategy of the Republic of North Macedonia for cooperation with the diaspora 2019-2023, which features objectives and activities aimed at ensuring participation of the diaspora in the transfer of knowledge, investments, and other contributions.

The proposed project will contribute to the national efforts aimed at enhancing and widening the engagement of the Diaspora in Italy in the development of the country. The government's National Diaspora Cooperation Strategy (2019) also points out to the growth of the 'scientific diaspora', made up of high -skilled individuals who either obtained their degrees at home and departed, or went on to complete their degrees abroad and did not return. The latest Migration Profile of the Republic of North Macedonia 2021 also underlines that 'the ties with the diaspora play an important role'.

Additionally, the project will complement the ongoing efforts for overcoming the challenges of lack of reliable data on migration, the limited and outdated inter- and intra-institutional information exchange and insufficient data on emigration, remittances, and returnees. The activities will support key national stakeholders to increase their capacity for evidence-based policy making and inter- and intra-institutional collaboration on migration data management. Furthermore, the alignment with EU standards will contribute to a continued long-term use of the introduced methodologies.

At institutional level, relevant stakeholders will benefit from the project action - after the project ends - through skills generated from the capacity-building trainings and enhanced capacities and institutional performance in migration data collection. They will also enhance their capacities to promote gender-responsive diaspora policies, as well as ensure gender and age responsive approaches and take into consideration their needs when engaging with diaspora.

In line with the existing and ongoing government strategies and efforts, the project aims to address the following core issues:

- Strengthening inter-institutional cooperation and reinforcing capacities for diaspora engagement.
- Supporting policy makers and institutional stakeholders design and implement evidence-based and coordinated migration policies.
- Facilitating the transfer of knowledge and skills from the diaspora to support business development and EU-accession priorities and alignment process.

The actions of this project will be aimed at the staff in those institutions directly involved at either policy or operational level. By utilising local and international expertise, secondary available data will be analysed and used on the migratory stock and the migrants' skills and knowledge, thus contributing to a comprehensive approach to dealing with migration and development issues. Additionally, the activities will provide tools for direct engagement of the North Macedonian diaspora in Italy.

Programming the EU Cohesion Policy: Exchange Programme on Chapter 22 in Serbia and Montenegro

CEI REF. NO.	304.4.015-22
TOTAL PROJECT COST.	79,718 EUR
CEI GRANT.	39,808 EUR
PLANNED DURATION.	18 months

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

Institute for the Study of Regionalism, Federalism and Self-Government of the National Research Council of Italy (ISSIRFA-CNR)
www.issirfa.cnr.it

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

Ministry for European Affairs of the Government of Montenegro (MEA)
www.gov.me/en/mep

Ministry of European Integration of the Republic of Serbia (MEI)
www.mei.gov.rs/eng/

European Affairs Fund of the Autonomous province of Vojvodina (FEP), Serbia
vojvodinahouse.eu/en

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

EU Cohesion Policy is the EU's main investment policy for sustainable and inclusive economic growth. It pursues the strategy to promote and support the overall balanced development of its Member States and regions. As such, it requires adequate administrative capacity for the proper use of financial instruments and the implementation of related projects.

In this framework, this project aims at contributing to the preparation of two EU-candidate countries, Montenegro and Serbia, for the implementation of EU Cohesion policy, in line with Chapter 22 of the Acquis Communautaire. The acquis under this chapter consists mostly of framework and implementing regulations, which do not require transposition into national legislation. They define the rules for drawing up, approving and implementing Structural Funds and Cohesion Fund programmes reflecting each country's territorial organisation. These programmes are negotiated and agreed upon with the Commission, but Member States are responsible for their implementation. Member States must respect EU legislation in general, for example in the areas of public procurement, competition, and environment, when selecting and implementing projects. Member States must have an institutional framework in place and

adequate administrative capacity to ensure programming, implementation, monitoring and evaluation in a sound and cost-effective manner from the point of view of management and financial control.

Therefore, by focusing on the programming phase of the Cohesion Policy, this project aims to offer a strategic framework and goal-oriented roadmap tailored to meet the needs of the two target countries. Actions will provide support for improving good governance by strengthening the quality and capacity of public institutions to undertake policy reforms and to promote the horizontal inclusion of diverse actors of society, such as civil society organisations, trade unions and chamber of commerce representatives.

Whereas opportunities for exchange of know-how in funds' management are provided by EU instruments (e.g. the European Territorial Cooperation programmes), it is more difficult to exchange experiences and know-how concerning the programming phase. Yet, planning of activities is crucial for an efficient and effective display of EU Cohesion Policy. Not only does the programming activity follow specific steps, but specific pre-requirements are in place for the implementation of the policy (horizontal and thematic enabling conditions). Moreover, growing attention is paid from the 2021-2027 programming phase to create synergies, avoid duplications and strengthen the coordination of funds between the two main objectives of the EU Cohesion policy, Investments for Jobs and Growth (IJG) and European Territorial Cooperation (ETC), as well as with other funds and policies within wider frameworks (e.g. the EU macroregional strategies).

Programming is a crucial step not only in the Investment for Jobs and Growth objective but also in the European Territorial Cooperation component, and specific attention should be devoted to territorial strategies and tools. All of these elements should be carefully taken into consideration in the programming activity.

This action will, therefore, include: an assessment, with the identification of participants following a multi-stakeholder approach, training activities and their specific needs; a training activity focused on the programming phase of EU Cohesion policy, including a follow up activity; a site visit of some representatives in Rome; a final event (online) to discuss the results of the project; communication activities throughout the life of the project.

Assessing the effectiveness and affordability of tariff-setting methodologies in covering drinking water and wastewater services costs in the Western Balkans

CEI REF. NO. 304.4.022-22
 TOTAL PROJECT COST. 121,800 EUR
 CEI GRANT. 39,400 EUR
 PLANNED DURATION. 12 months

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

WAREG - European Water Regulators
www.wareg.org

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

Water Regulatory Authority of Albania (WRA)
www.wareg.org/articles/the-water-regulatory-authority-of-albania

Energy and Water Regulatory Agency of Montenegro (REGAGEN)
regagen.co.me/en/pocetna-english

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

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Freshwater from ground and underground sources are a public commodity that becomes ready for safe human consumption only after several industrial stages, i.e., from abstraction to treatment and finally distribution to domestic and non-domestic customers. Once used across the different economic activities in a country, wastewater goes down sewer pipes and needs further treatment to remove pollutants and cleaned and returned to the environment. This complex and costly process is carried out by companies that charge prices to final customers, in order to cover the very high capital investment, financial and operational expenditures needed to build and operate drinking water and wastewater infrastructures. Charges are calculated by water companies according to the rules designed by water regulators through tariff-setting methodologies. Water bills for final customers should not reward cost-inefficiencies and additionally they should cover public utility targets such as access to a minimum water supply for all citizens at affordable and transparent prices and environmental sustainability of the water cycle to meet the targets set by EU water legislation and prepare for the application of the EU Green Deal and circular economy objectives.

Considering that water services are typically offered by local companies in non-competitive and monopolistic economic contexts - under political influence that may keep prices artificially low, hence discouraging investment, innovation and environmental concerns - public utility targets can only be ensured by public authorities such as water regulators, who have the power to provide stable rules, mitigate political interference and meet public utility targets.

The three target countries of this project, namely Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia, are lagging behind in the implementation of EU water directives and regulations, especially with respect to the application of the following principles: • recovery of the costs of water services, including environmental and resource costs; • universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all; • wastewater treatment targets.

In addition, the three countries share the following challenges in the water sector: • reduce the high level of losses due to obsolete water networks • potentiate wastewater treatment • reduce the excessive number of local companies compared to the low number of the population served in the region; • promote technological innovation of the water industry.

In order to address these challenges, the three regulators need to: • increase tariffs (hence final prices for customers) to cover the huge capital expenditures needed by the regulated water companies to substitute ageing water and sewer networks and to build new wastewater treatment plants; • reform tariff-setting methodologies in order to take into account affordability constraints of the poorest categories of customers to pay water bills, and to promote the respect of EU water directives and regulations; • develop more accurate data collection instruments and techniques, in order to analyse efficient costs and service quality of the regulated water companies, and to benchmark their performances against EU Green Deal and circular economy targets.

The KEP project aims at transferring know-how to senior officials of the national water regulators of the three target countries in order to support them in facing their challenges. This is part of a long-term strategy to strengthen the regulatory competencies of the three beneficiaries, with the following general objectives: • carry out peer reviews of tariff-setting methodologies and provide recommendations to increase their effectiveness in applying the general principles of EU water legislation; • consolidate the current cooperation among water regulators in the region, in order to disseminate best practices and promote the advantages of an independent regulation for investments, customers and environmental sustainability; • facilitate access to specific EU funding and programmes in the future, to carry on capacity-building in water regulatory institutions from other countries in the region.

The project will also be the first instrument of regional cooperation ever used by the three regulators to share knowledge on common water-sector problems and analyse specific regulatory actions. Finally, the project will serve as a leverage to access additional and more specific EU funding for regional integration and capacity building on water sector regulation in the Western Balkans.

Reducing the impact of earthquakes in Albania through collaboration: computing seismic hazard to support the update of Albania's building code

CEI REF. NO.	304.4.029-22
TOTAL PROJECT COST.	66,698 EUR
CEI GRANT.	26,698 EUR
PLANNED DURATION.	12 months

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

Global Earthquake Model (GEM) Foundation, Italy
www.globalquakemodel.org

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENT

Institute of Geosciences (IGEO), Albania
www.geo.edu.al

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Albania is an earthquake-prone country which has seen destructive earthquakes resulting in casualties and large economic losses. Despite its long history of damaging events, the vulnerability of the Albanian building stock – and, therefore, of earthquake risk – remains high. The last significant seismic event (Durrës Mw=6.4 November 2019 earthquake) has devastated the Albanian economy and exacerbated the existing poverty rate by 2.3%, and the GDP dropping by more than 1%.

In this framework, the current seismic design code in Albania released in 1989 is outdated. There is an urgent need to replace it with a more modern regulation. Further delays of this process will severely expose the future infrastructures to high level risk, with possible human, and material loss.

Despite the considerable investments carried out in the past for translating and adapting the Eurocode into a national standard for Albania, there are still concerns within the Albanian government. The Eurocode implementation process has been halted since the two probabilistic seismic hazard maps currently being used in the Albanian engineering community, show significant differences in various parts of the country. The probabilistic seismic hazard map proposed by the Academy of Sciences has been largely used, even though informally, in the structural design buildings in Albania. The hazard values in this map are controversial, especially in the south-west of the country. The consequence of underestimation of the hazard is the design

of buildings unable to withstand the shaking that is expected to be generated in that region. This has already been observed with the last large earthquake in Albania dated 26 November 2019. The Institute of Geosciences (IGEO) has developed - over the last few years - an alternative seismic hazard model that attempts to resolve these discrepancies. However, this model needs to be further improved using the most recent local information.

The objectives of this project are to strengthen the capabilities of the Albanian Institute of Geosciences (IGEO) to compute seismic hazard, to produce a reliable seismic hazard map to be implemented in the new building code and to introduce the IGEO personnel to the seismic risk modelling concepts required to assess it at the national level. The successful implementation of this project will be an important step towards the improvement of seismic safety of future infrastructures and the effective management of seismic risk for the Albanian conventional buildings stock. The main objectives of this action are the following:

- Improving the actual seismic hazard model, to be included as national annex in the new design code for Albania.
- Involving, through the organisation of workshops, different communities and stakeholders (potentially also from the Balkan Region) including students (High school, University), engineering professionals, insurance companies, the scientific community, governmental representatives.
- Establishing a mobility scheme for training IGEO staff at GEM's headquarters on topics such as seismic hazard modelling, risk modelling, usage of Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS).
- Introducing a course on seismic hazard and risk at the university level. The establishment of such a course within a legal framework as well as the possibility to integrate it in a Post Graduate curriculum.
- Obtaining international scientific recognition for the analyses performed and the results computed through the participation in one international conference and the production of a high impact scientific paper.
- These activities are essential for a widespread acceptance of the hazard and risk results produced within this project.

Executive Program “Countering Corruption within Public Administration Through Transparency”

CEI REF. NO.304.4.055-22
TOTAL PROJECT COST.82,820 EUR
CEI GRANT.39,820 EUR
PLANNED DURATION.13 months

KNOW-HOW PROVIDERS

Luiss Guido Carli University, Italy
www.luiss.edu

Ministry of Public Administration, Italy
www.funzionepubblica.gov.it

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENT

Office of Prime Minister, Government of the Republic of North Macedonia
vlada.mk/?ln=en-gb

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Through its School of Government and School of Law, Luiss Guido Carli has long been involved in training for senior civil servants. In this context, it aims at giving a contribution to the training of senior civil servants also at the international level by carrying out an activity consistent with Italian international policies as communicated also by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, with specific focus on countering corruption within the public sector through the use of legislative and processes fostering transparency.

The Office of the Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia is particularly interested in developing collaboration relations with the best Italian training institutions to strengthen the public administration capacity in these areas. As specifically indicated in the Work Programme of the Republic of North Macedonia for the Period 2022-2024, North Macedonia is directing specific and advanced attention in fostering the rule of law and good governance through, inter alia, countering corruption and the development of a modern administration using digitised services focused on citizens.

In this framework, the Executive Programme “Countering Corruption within Public Administration Through Transparency” will deal with issues that are of great importance such as the discipline of public procurement, administrative transparency, accountability in administrative processes as well as digital administration. It will involve 20 civil servants who will be trained in modules both on-line and in presence in Italy (Rome). Upon completion of the full course, participants will receive the title of “Corso di Perfezionamento Universitario” from Luiss Guido Carli awarding 7 ECTS.

This programme will respond to a growing need of legal and technical skills in preventing the negative consequences of organised crime and corruption in both countries involved, as well as others from the Western Balkan region.

Harmonising the Regulatory FRAMEwork for the ORGanic Food Production in MONTENEGRO with the Regulation (EU) 2018/848 - FRAME.ORG MONTENEGRO

CEI REF. NO.	304.4.065-22
TOTAL PROJECT COST.	74,700 EUR
CEI GRANT.	37,350 EUR
PLANNED DURATION.	12 months

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

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

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENT

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management (MAFWM), Montenegro
www.gov.me/en/mpsv

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Organic farming is considered a pillar to environmental and food sustainable development at European level. The use of harmful plant protection products has an impact on the environment and on people's health, due to the risks to which they are exposed.

In this framework, the overall objective of the project is to review and update the regulatory framework of organic agricultural and food products in Montenegro. This objective aims to encourage the alignment of the existing national legal framework of the organic food production in Montenegro with the EU acquis, and its implementation. The organic farming sector, as reported in the EU Commission staff working document "Montenegro 2021 Report" has the required infrastructure in place (i.e. the competent authority, an accreditation system for control bodies and a certification system). With about 863 hectares under organic production, the sector is still small, but has good opportunities to expand.

Montenegro adopted the Law on Organic Agriculture in 2013. Since its adoption, no harmonisation or amendments have been made, thus the level of alignment with the EU acquis on organic farming remains low. By-laws regulate specific aspects of organic production. Supervision over

the application of the Law on Organic Agriculture and regulations adopted on its basis is controlled by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management.

The new Strategy for the development of agriculture and rural areas (2022-2030) foresees an increase in the organic production area by 25% by 2030. To help reach this ambitious goal Montenegro needs to harmonise its current regulation for agricultural and food organic products with the new EU regulation applied since 1 January 2022 and update its by-laws. Several challenges have been identified to further develop the organic sector. Farmers have difficulties accessing, preparing, and promoting their produce for both the export and domestic market. On the other hand, traders and exporters need verified information on what they can source from Montenegro and how to go about it best.

EU rules for quality policy and organic farming are crucial for the achievement of the pre-accession process of Montenegro into the EU area. Nevertheless, the level of alignment with the EU acquis on organic farming remains low. For this reason, Montenegro has sought for support to update its organic farming and related procedures. The overall objective is expected to provide for efficient legislation, gradually aligned with the EU acquis. This will be carried out in line with food quality and safety requirements of the EU, progressing in the approximation of the legislation and practices of Montenegro to the EU standards in line with disposals of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement (Art. 95). The specific objective is to increase skills and capacities of public officers from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management in achieving and harmonising the national legislation on organic food production, with the EU acquis. A greater awareness level, technical skills and methodological procedures will be gained from public officers involved in the EU acquis process. They will benefit from information and knowledge exchange with international expertise on issues related to quality standards, organic food, traceability, and sustainable agri-food production models.

Strengthening ties and learning between the twinned municipalities of Centar Sarajevo and Reggio Emilia

CEI REF. NO.304.4.068-22
TOTAL PROJECT COST.80,000 EUR
CEI GRANT.40,000 EUR
PLANNED DURATION.12 months

KNOW-HOW PROVIDERS

Reggio Emilia Municipality, Italy
www.comune.re.it

E35 Foundation for International Projects, Italy
e-35.it/en/front

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

Centar Sarajevo Municipality, Bosnia and Herzegovina
www.centar.ba/stranica/about-municipality

Institute for Development and European Integration (IREI),
Bosnia and Herzegovina
irei.com

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

Bosnia and Herzegovina is at an early stage with public administration reform and innovation. Centar Sarajevo Municipality is quite developed, and, in this regard, it is ranked as the most advanced in the Federation entity. The Municipality has been working with the Institute for Development and European Integration (IREI) on the “Ozone project – Open and Accountable Municipalities” that selected motivated newly elected mayors and provided them and their municipal staff with assessment by experts with governance experience in order to enable the setting of a New Policy Programme (NPP) with specific and measurable goals during the first 2 years of their mandate. Special emphasis was placed on better communication with citizens regarding the needs and expectations of citizens and municipal goals and the progress made.

Therefore, the KEP project complements and builds on existing work regarding municipal development planning and citizen participation. It will focus on two priorities of the Municipality, namely working on a more democratic political

culture and digitalisation of municipal services. This will aim at empowering the civil society as a crucial component of any democratic system that should be recognised and treated as such by public institutions, also at local level.

Since the Centar Sarajevo Municipality signed a twinning agreement with the Reggio Emilia Municipality in May 2022, this Italian municipality is a natural knowledge provider considering the needs in terms of expertise. Indeed, Reggio Emilia has been investing a lot since 2005 in participation-related policies, particularly through ITC tools, with emphasis on policies concerning inclusion and social innovation. This project will make the twinning between the two municipalities more concrete and at the same time it will provide focused assistance to Centar Sarajevo to achieve its goals.

Centar Sarajevo is an innovator concerning citizen participation in public planning and has relatively high IT capacity. As a large municipality in the country’s capital, it manages extensive real estate used for public events and civil society. It manages parks, and is responsible for urban planning, which is central to the quality of life of its citizens. Centar Sarajevo has embarked on the creation of regulations for conducting public hearings (regarding budgets, urban planning, and more broadly) that for the first time in BiH make broad principles of transparency more concrete (how should citizens be informed in advance and about results of public hearings), how to conduct and facilitate public hearings to ensure equal participation. Regarding IT capacity, Centar Sarajevo is the only municipality in BiH that has created its own smartphone application. It is an early adopter of electronic submission of forms and a document management system which, however, remains underutilised. In addition, it is currently in the process of revamping its website to improve communication with citizens. In this framework, the project will further enhance the Municipal’s capacity and might be a best practice example for other BiH municipalities. Municipal staff will be provided with support by experts in order to integrate new policies and practices in the implementation of their priority actions.

Habitat, Landscape, Forest and Water Management: experiences in the mirror from Italy to Moldova

CEI REF. NO.	304.4.070-22
TOTAL PROJECT COST.	78,350 EUR
CEI GRANT.	39,175 EUR
PLANNED DURATION.	11 months

KNOW-HOW PROVIDERS

Romagna Acqua Società delle Fonti SPA, Italy
www.romagnacque.it

AlberItalia Foundation, Italy
www.alberitalia.it

Institute for Research and Study on Education and Family, Italy
www.irsef.it/english-info

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENT

MoldSilva Agency Moldova
www.moldsilva.gov.md/?l=en

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

According to the EU Association Agreement the Republic of Moldova signed in 2014, the country is committed to developing and strengthening cooperation on environmental and climate action issues, thereby contributing to the long-term objective of sustainable development and greening the economy. This also concerns the environmental governance including, inter alia, nature protection (conservation and protection of biological and landscape diversity), water resource management, flood risk management, awareness raising, education and training.

In this framework, Moldova had developed an overall strategy on environment and is also engaged in carrying out approximation of its legislation to the EU acts and international instruments including: the Water Framework Directive 2000/60 / EC; the Floods Directive 2007/60 / EC; the Council Directive 92/43 / EEC on the conservation of

natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora; the FAO Forestry Paper 185. The latter is a guide to forest–water management aimed at improving the global information base on the protective functions of forests for soil and water. It reviews emerging techniques and methodologies, provides guidance and recommendations on how to manage forests for their water ecosystem services, and offers insights into the business and economic cases for managing forests for water ecosystem services.

In this framework, the KEP project aims at supporting the country in fulfilling its obligations and commitments in the transposition of the FAO guideline by also combining the implementation of the European directives. KEP actions will support the country's institutional capacity to guarantee the management and preservation of protected natural areas and biodiversity including the water cycle. Indeed, forests and trees are an integral part of the global water cycle and, therefore, vital for water safety. The capacity building activities will focus on institutional structures of natural protected areas, their regulatory framework, financing, related management & monitoring plans.

The project beneficiaries (State Forest Agency "Moldsilva", Institute of Ecology and Geography University Chisinau and Women Association for Forests Chisinau) will be involved in extensive training sessions including the application of methodologies and best practices targeting also a specific "case study" such as the Lower Prut Biosphere Reserve in Moldova.

In addition, the project also foresees a study and related guidelines for the design of an environmental education and biodiversity conservation centre in Moldova based on a model developed by the Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research. This centre should promote and develop education and training programmers of environmental themes.



Know-how Exchange Programme

Projects closed in 2022

03

Table 3.2. List of KEP projects closed in 2022

No.	Reference number	Project name	Country of know-how provider institution	Country of know-how recipient institution	Total project cost €	CEI co-financing €
1	1206.003-19	Innovative Know-how Exchange Programme in Animal Nutrition and Feed Technology (INNOKEP-FEED)	Italy	Serbia	85,188	39,950
2	1206.008-19	Non-invasive and multi-analytical approach to the discovering of "Old Believer Faith icons" of VETKA Museum (ICONS)	Italy	Belarus	33,427	9,855
3	304.4.003-20	Composites for All. Advanced Materials for a Modern, Improved, and Sustainable Society	Italy, Slovenia	Regional	84,020	39,775
4	304.4.015-20	Practical Application of 3D Technology in Medicine and Health Care	Italy	Bosnia and Herzegovina	137,205	24,975
5	304.4.041-20	Sustainable Management of Cultural Heritage in the Balkans in Response to Climate Change. Best practices for adaptation and intercultural cooperation (SMACH)	Italy	Regional	45,969	22,942
6	304.4.015-21	"Bridging the Culture Gap", Novi Sad 2022 - 95th International Session of the European Youth Parliament	Czech Republic, Slovenia, Italy	Regional	81,619	15,000
7	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	18,310	9,130
8	304.4.044-21	FORKITS - FOod expeRtise and Know-how exchange on technology transfer between Italy and Serbia	Italy	Serbia	35,199	20,802
TOTAL					520,937	182,429

Innovative Know-how Exchange Programme in Animal Nutrition and Feed Technology (INNOKEP-FEED)

CLOSED IN 2022

CEI REF. NO. 1206.003-19
TOTAL PROJECT COST. 85,188 EUR
CEI GRANT. 39,950 EUR
IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD March 2020 – July 2022 (28 months)

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

University of Milan, Department of Health, Animal Science and Food Safety, Italy
www.vespa.unimi.it/ecm/home

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENT

Institute of Food Technology of Novi-Sad, Research Department for Feed Technology and Animal Nutrition, Serbia
fins.uns.ac.rs/index.php?page=research-center-for-feedtechnology-and-animal-products

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

Livestock farming is a very demanding business activity, requiring excellent technical and managerial skills, making livestock farmers real entrepreneurs. Livestock farmers are facing challenges of sustainability and resilience and at the same time have to meet consumer expectations for safe, nutritious and high-quality products of animal origin.

They are also expected to address challenges such as animal welfare, sustainability, and reduce the use of antibiotics. This kind of expertise is usually provided and embedded in animal science departments and courses, which are not covered by the University of Novi Sad where specific courses in animal nutrition and feeding are available.

This is a limit for a country with such a potential in producing agro-feed-food commodities. In this respect, the project activities contributed to providing scientific and technological knowledge in the field of food and feed technology by addressing the latest developments/achievements in science and research in the field.

The project aimed at providing specific expertise on alternative and sustainable animal nutrition. The added value of the project was the complementary nature of the expertise of the institutions involved: animal nutrition and feeding (University of Milan) and feed technology and processing (Institute of Food Technology of Novi-Sad). This mutual collaboration also fostered the know-how transfer to the industry.

In the framework of the project a certified course titled “Animal nutrition and feed technology” has been carried out both remotely and at the Institute of Food Technology of Novi Sad. It focused on the theoretical aspects of feed production operations and processes, feed quality, safety evaluation, alternative and innovative feed ingredients, feed additives, and physical quality of broiler feed. It was followed by practical work in a feed pilot plant at the Institute of Food Technology and a visit to a local feed factory.

The project enhanced the collaboration between the two institutions that started in the framework of the “FEEDNEEDS” and “SUN” projects, financed by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. It aimed at investigating potential areas for research and development in the feed sectors, in order to enhance the technological compliance between Italy and Serbia.

Non-invasive and multi-analytical approach to the discovering of “Old Believer Faith icons” of VETKA Museum (ICONS)

CEI REF. NO. 1206.008-19
 TOTAL PROJECT COST. 33,427 EUR
 CEI GRANT. 9,855 EUR
 IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD January 2020 – January 2022 (25 months)

KNOW-HOW PROVIDERS

University of Palermo, Italy
www.unipa.it

Institute of Low Temperature and Structure Research,
 Polish Academy of Sciences
www.intibs.pl/en

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENT

Francisk Skorina Gomel State University, Belarus
www.gsu.by/en

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

During the twentieth century, we witnessed a profound evolution in the idea of preservation of cultural heritage moving from the simple preservation of its aesthetic function to that of safeguarding its function as proof of a civilisation. The concept of Diagnostics has become a real discipline. The knowledge of materials contributes to the correct placement and “reading” of an ancient artefact.

Among the cultural heritage sites and museums in Belarus, the Vetka Museum of Old Believer Faith and Belarusian Traditions in the Gomel region is proof of the history of the country. The museum was founded in 1978 and today is a research and educational centre in the field of traditional culture. The museum displays the art culture and creativity of several folk traditions of the region in the southeast of Belarus.

The museum has a unique collection of the Old Believers’ icons, manuscripts and early printed books of the 16-19th centuries, and others. The Old Believers’ icons constitute an

immense historical/archaeological heritage and contribute to the knowledge of the religious customs of ancient civilisations. The main current challenges are understanding the techniques of realisation in a given historical period, the originality of the artefact, the state of conservation.

The main goal of this project was, therefore, to enhance the skills in the Archaeometric field by organising specific training activities as well as by carrying out an example investigation of selected icons at the Vetka Museum. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which severely limited the ability to travel and conduct research in Belarus, the study conducted in this project focused on Greek Byzantine icons from Sicily, which were used to develop a methodology easily adaptable to other icons made by using a similar technique.

The aim of the joint research was understanding the painting techniques used by the iconographers in a given historical period, the originality of the icon itself, and the definition of their conservation state. The identification of the materials (pigments and binders) provides a decisive contribution to the correct historical and artistic placement of an artefact or to the history of an archaeological object. In addition, the identification of materials allows to trace the cause of any problem, identifying the products generated by the transformation of original materials, the presence of foreign materials to the original work and provides support for an appropriate project of restoration. The investigation was carried out considering the principle of non-invasiveness.

The Diagnostic studies followed a virtuous protocol based on the use of various analytical techniques, non-invasive or micro-invasive, applicable in situ through the use of portable instruments, that provided complementary information, aimed at providing useful information to the knowledge of the artefact. In addition, training activities were organised in order to transfer the knowledge and skills in the field of Archeometric investigation and Conservation Science.

Composites for All. Advanced Materials for a Modern, Improved, and Sustainable Society

CLOSED IN 2022

CEI REF. NO.304.4.003-20
TOTAL PROJECT COST.84,020 EUR
CEI GRANT.39,775 EUR
IMPLEMENTATION PERIODMarch 2021 – October 2022 (20 months)

KNOW-HOW PROVIDERS

University of Bologna, Italy
www.unibo.it/en

University of Camerino, Italy
international.unicam.it/

University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
www.uni-lj.si/university/

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

University of Montenegro
www.ucg.ac.me/

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

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

Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, North Macedonia
www.ukim.edu.mk/en_index.php

Tehnopolis, Montenegro
www.tehnopolis.me/online/en/home-eng/

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Banja Luka Region, Bosnia and Herzegovina
www.bl.komorars.ba/en

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

A composite material is a combination of (at least) two physically different materials, bound together while remaining separated. Such a combination can offer very dissimilar physical & chemical features representing a flexible solution in material optimisation with respect to different targets: low cost, easy workability, slow degradation, environmental factors, high productivity and so on. A significant know-how evolution has also emerged over the years, regarding aspects as reinforcements (as carbon, glass, aramid or less common natural fibers), resins (as thermoplastic, thermosetting or even emerging biological resins) and manufacturing processes (as vacuum bag, autoclave technology, resin transfer mouldings).

After several decades, it is now evident how a lack of knowledge about and competence in essential aspects (as materials' properties, modelling, optimal design, applicability etc.) at educational level can represent a limit for social and economic development as well.

Despite their relevance for the rest of the world, composite materials are almost unknown in the project target countries: no specific research centre has been established to work on them; only a few professors have included these topics in their own classes; their industrial use is almost limited to low-value applications and materials (e.g. traditional fiberglass in boatbuilding). A similar situation also emerges in other Western Balkan countries, such as Serbia and Albania, where, however, initial steps have been moved to fill this technological gap. An example of a direction to be followed can be represented by the closest countries, such as Italy, Croatia and Slovenia, where composites are under constant and growing interest, both at academic and industrial levels.

The "Composites for all" project built on the collaboration among the involved Higher Educational Institutions that aimed at taking a first step towards filling the existing knowledge gap between the Western Balkans and the Europe Union in the field of high-performing light materials. In particular, the project offered a first answer implementing an intense know-how transfer on the strategic material segment of fiber-reinforced polymers (FRP). The project activities supported professors and researchers based in target countries to increase their operational capacities. Moreover, the project was also designed for training students and researchers who were also involved in exchanging competences with industrial companies for supporting their technological development. To ensure this result, local business-oriented partners took also part in the initiative.

Project activities included four Work Packages. The first two addressed the knowledge transfer & consolidation, while the third and fourth focused on knowledge spreading & large use. The project partnership involved 12 research groups including more than 30 researchers and 2500 students in 5 countries. In addition to didactics and courses, other initiatives were implemented such as study visits and on-the-job training. As a wide and long-term impact, the project enabled the establishment, for the first time in the WB region, a multidisciplinary group of academic experts able to:

- deal with composite materials, especially in relation to FRPs;
- design and develop advanced industrially oriented composite solutions;
- support the development of new processes and techniques in composite manufacturing;
- act as trainers into their academic courses for the benefit of students;
- act as specialists respect to any potential (institutional or private) stakeholders;
- pay more attention to the aspects of environmental sustainability and circular economy.

Additional info available at: <https://compositesforall.me/>

Practical Application of 3D Technology in Medicine and Health Care

CEI REF. NO.	304.4.015-20
TOTAL PROJECT COST.	137,205 EUR
CEI GRANT.	24,975 EUR
IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	March 2021 – July 2022 (16 months)

KNOW-HOW PROVIDERS

University of Pavia, Italy
wcm-3.unipv.it/site/en/home.html

Politecnico di Torino, Italy
www.polito.it/index.php?lang=en

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

Centre for Home Social and Medical Assistance University of Zenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina
medf.unze.ba/

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

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

Three-dimensional (3D) printing refers to a number of manufacturing technologies that generate a physical model from digital information. Nowadays, the 3D printing technology represents a huge opportunity. Medical applications are expanding rapidly and are expected to revolutionise healthcare.

Medical use for 3D printing, both actual and potential, can be organised into several broad categories, including tissue and organ fabrication; creation of customised prosthetics, implants, and anatomical models; and pharmaceutical research regarding drug dosage forms, delivery, and discovery.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the University of Zenica has been working on research and innovation potential for a few years, analysing how to use 3D technologies in medicine and health science while having long-lasting cooperation with Italian institutions. In this framework, the project focused on the transfer of know-how and cooperation in this specific field also in the context of COVID-19 response as a basis for rapid prototype technology. The University of Zenica has already started a strategic research and innovation project

of usage of 3D technologies in the field of development of orthosis and prosthesis, spare parts that cannot be produced by service companies, production of models for better operation plan and communication with patients.

This project was, therefore, a great opportunity to develop and strengthen the competences related to 3D technology in medicine and healthcare mainly at the level of higher education (university) by involving students in innovation and research protocols thanks to the cooperation with the two Italian partner universities (University of Pavia and Politecnico Torino).

Project achievements are summarised as follows:

- Development of new knowledge, products, ideas and innovations based on learning and know how transfer by partners from Italy through a series of workshops, study visits and the organisation of a short cycle training course.
- Transfer of technologies in field of additive technologies (3d printing and scanning) in area of medicine and healthcare to meet the increased interest of students and expert in this specific area.
- Development of new area of services at IdeaLab laboratories at University of Zenica for practical usage in field of medicine and healthcare.
- Development of syllabi for specific training for experts, students and industry.
- Development of the connections for future joint research and educational process.
- Development of the connections for future project and mobility application with focus on Erasmus+, Horizon 2020 of Central European Exchange Program for University Studies (CEEPUS) network.

The project impact was not limited to the involvement of partners and participants but has been expanded to the whole of Bosnia and Herzegovina. In addition, participating students shared 3D printing potentials at peer-to-peer level. The project impacted two levels: students (usage of new technologies, learning new skills, development of innovations and new products, self-employment); and institutions (development of new courses, expanding number of services, strengthening cooperation with partners and stakeholders).

Sustainable Management of Cultural Heritage in the Balkans in Response to Climate Change. Best practices for adaptation and intercultural cooperation (SMACH)

CEI REF. NO. 304.4.041-20
 TOTAL PROJECT COST. 45,969 EUR
 CEI GRANT. 22,942 EUR
 IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD March 2021 – February 2022 (12 months)

KNOW-HOW PROVIDERS

Venice International University (VIU), Italy
www.univiu.org

University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
www.uni-lj.si/university

City of Venice, Italy
www.comune.venezia.it

National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA), Italy
www.enea.it/en

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENTS

Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, North Macedonia
www.ukim.edu.mk/en_index.php

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

Sarajevo School of Science and Technology, Bosnia and Herzegovina
www.ssst.edu.ba

University of Montenegro
www.ucg.ac.me

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

Monitoring climate and climate change in cultural institutions is essential to provide information for planning and promoting conservative actions for cultural heritage. Innovative analytical technologies and monitoring systems play a key role in this regard but have to be included in the broader approach of sustainable management of cultural heritage, that requires a balance of the three pillars of sustainability: economic, environmental and social, where cultural values play an important role in how priorities are set, how communities manage and accept loss.

Adaptation to climate change and resilience strongly depend on institutional management, decision making and visitor behaviour. These aspects are very relevant for the Western Balkans where an experienced global approach to cultural heritage is often missing. Conservation activities are often carried out by a few experts who are unable to manage such a wide and complex territory with an integrated approach. The lack of dedicated university programmes for cultural heritage

studies in some countries does not support the required sustainable approach.

The know-how exchange promoted by this project represented a key opportunity to fill these gaps. SMACH was built on existing projects that mainly tackle each topic individually. SMACH promoted know-how exchange between EU and the Balkan region on sustainable management of cultural heritage in response to climate change. It contributed to promoting climate change adaptation and, broadly, sustainable development in the area, engaging the regional decision makers and key stakeholders in a dialogue to compare current approaches and develop best practices.

The project developed a know-how exchange programme for cultural-heritage stakeholders from the region, playing a role in the fields of restoration, conservation, cultural management, strategic planning, climate change, sustainability and science communication. The programme was built around the actual needs of the region in this concern identified in collaboration with scholars and stakeholders from the beneficiary countries. It addressed technologies, tools and strategies for understanding, documentation and communication of cultural heritage, with a special focus on adaptation to climate change.

Beneficiary partners were academic partners from the target countries, working in the project fields and with strong linkages to the national and local authorities. The project included four main activities:

- Mapping the state-of-the-art and needs concerning sustainable management of cultural heritage in relation to climate change in the target countries.
- Development of the project on the basis of identified gaps.
- Organisation of a high-level workshop that involved institutional representatives of the key institutions of the target countries.
- Implementation of a programme over four months (October 2021 – February 2022, 18 sessions and 44 hours of lectures), involving over 40 participants.

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.

“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.	81,619 EUR
CEI GRANT.	15,000 EUR
IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	October 2021 – July 2022 (8 months)

KNOW-HOW PROVIDER

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

KNOW-HOW RECIPIENT

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

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

“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 was 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 was to create an environment for positive development amongst youth. The main methodology used was fostering exchange and dialogue between youth from areas with a more prosperous regional cooperation history (knowhow providers) and young people from regions with a more difficult history in this regard (know-how beneficiaries).

The event took place in Novi Sad (Serbia) in March 2022 and activities were 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 was 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 gathered a total of 180 participants (aged 16-24) from 25 countries and 10 professors. 75 participants were from CEI member states. They took part in a programme prepared by 38 volunteers using innovative methods of non-formal education, through a platform for multicultural exchange and dialogue. The participants were split into 11 international working groups focused on several topics which ranged 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 included debates, teambuilding and communication training, peer-to-peer education activities in a conference setting. Project objectives included:

- 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 decisionmakers by enabling active dialogue with decision-makers, influential and inspiring figures from the society.

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. 18,310 EUR
 CEI GRANT. 9,130 EUR
 IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD January 2022 – November 2022 (11 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/

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

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 were made feasible, there is still a need to improve and raise capacities to propose appropriate interventions in the area.

In this context, the project aimed at improving the competences of CDP in the area of disability management including legislation. It also focused on increasing the awareness of key stakeholders in the sector. In this context, CPD has been provided with expertise and competences in conducting, monitoring and compiling reports on the implementation of national and international legislation for persons with disabilities.

This has been 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 has been enhanced through project promotional activities.

Project activities included:

- A study visit to Slovenia that included also site visits to schools, multifunctional centres, enterprises that employ disabled, city of Zagreb facilities for disabled.
- An institutional visit to Slovenia for meeting peers at the government level.
- A specialists' mission to Tirana focusing – inter alia – on drafting legal recommendation aiming at reducing barriers and enhancing equal inclusion of persons with disabilities as well as on awareness-raising activities.
- Implementation of a monitoring report in the sector.
- Summary of best practices.
- Production of a video for awareness-raising purpose.
- An on-line conference for the presentation of project results.

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

CEI REF. NO.	304.4.044-21
TOTAL PROJECT COST.	35,199 EUR
CEI GRANT.	20,802 EUR
IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	January 2022 – September 2022 (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/instituteof-food-technology

BRIEF DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS

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 was 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 relations between the territories.

FORKITS involved 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 was in line with one of the priorities of the Smart Specialization Strategy of Veneto Region that focuses on providing healthy and safe food (agri-food) products. The scope of the priority was 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 also has an important agricultural vocation: the agri-food economy is well developed, in particular in the Vojdivonia Region where industrial sectors related to the processing of agricultural products are indicated as strategic

local assets. In this framework, the project focused on the food value chain which can be considered a strategic priority for both regions involved.

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 related 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 regard, the exchange of know-how is a crucial to enhance the resilience of regional and local food systems leaving no one behind by building a resilient and sustainable food system.

The project was also designed to support the development of long-term cooperation through know-how exchange. This process was realised through the development of a common cooperation framework able to cope with local needs and priorities. It acted in a crosscutting perspective by involving enterprises, research groups, young researchers and talents.

A preparatory dialogue with FINS was carried out in order to identify main challenges and needs to be tackled by the project actions. Therefore, the project led to the following results:

- Provision of know-how on IP valorisation.
- Building on tech transfer activities.
- Innovation scouting and generation.
- Engagement of young talents.
- Cooperation and synergies between the academic (research) and industrial world.

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



Future Outlook: 2023 Strategies

The CEI Fund's strategies for 2023 will focus on sector and country priorities for projects financed through its two programmes, i.e., the Technical Cooperation (TC) Programme and the Know-how Exchange Programme (KEP). Projects with a regional impact will remain a priority, in line with the CEI's regional approach.

The main strategic objective of the CEI Fund in 2023 will be the strengthening of the EU perspective for the CEI non-EU Member States. The available resources will be committed consistently to ensure the stability of the Western Balkans and Moldova, as directly exposed to a risk of destabilisation. They will contribute, when feasible, to the reconstruction of Ukraine.

The overall allocation for 2023 amounts to over 2 million EUR to operate in the CEI non-EU Member States: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Ukraine¹.

The TC Programme 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.

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.

The resources of the CEI Fund will continue to act as a catalyst for the EBRD's investments and activities. The CEI Fund will continue to support the Bank in increasing investments and sources of growth in the Region, including private sector development, transformation towards a green economy, and improvement of infrastructure to boost regional cooperation and trade.

Priority will be given to technical cooperation projects where relatively limited grants mobilise significant investment opportunities.

The CEI Fund will also continue financing its Know-How Exchange Programme aimed at accelerating the EU integration of the CEI non-EU Member States 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 at providing assistance in economic and social transformation.

¹ On 25 March 2022, the CEI Member States decided to suspend the Republic of Belarus of its rights of representation in the CEI, as a consequence of the country's actions in support of the Russia's war against Ukraine.

Annexes

Annex 1

Financial Report 2022

Summary as at 31 December 2022 ¹

€

Inflows

Inflows 1992-2007 CEIE00 account (MEF)	26,580,805
Inflows 2008-2022 CEI200 account (MAECI)	28,499,989
Expected inflow in 2023 (second tranche replenishment 2022) CEI200 account (MAECI)	500,000
Other income 1992-2007 CEIE00 account (MEF)	2,913,605
Other income 2008-2022 CEI200 account (MAECI)	86,407
Total inflows 1992-2022	58,580,806

Expenditures

Office operating expenditure (1992-2003), CEI Summit Economic Fora (1998-2003), international events/cooperation activities (1998-2006) CEIE00 account (MEF)	6,012,236
EBRD management fee CEIE00 account (MEF)	969,660
EBRD management fee CEI200 account (MAECI)	1,075,000
Bank charges, income and reimbursements, interest expenses, other charges CEIE00 account (MEF)	1,037
Bank charges, income and reimbursements, interest expenses, other charges CEI200 account (MAECI)	352,501
Earmarks CEIE00 account (MEF)	22,496,908
Earmarks CEI200 account (MAECI)	23,869,472
Total expenditures 1992-2022	54,776,814

Fund availability

Available fund balance CEIE00 account (MEF)	14,569
Available fund balance CEI200 account (MAECI)	3,789,422
TC assignments not earmarked	-775,000
Unspent balance Trieste Office	202,417
Total available	3,231,408

Budget 2023-2024

€

Annual budget 2023	2,155,000
Expected fund availability for 2024	1,076,408

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

Budget 2022

Annex 2

Allocations Report

Budget items	Approved €	Actual allocations €	Not allocated €	Additional allocations €
Projects				
Technical Cooperation Programme	1,350,000	1,670,000	0	320,000
Programme for Youth in the Western Balkans	1,500,000	1,500,000	0	0
Know-how Exchange Programme	400,000	302,251	97,749	0
Subtotal	3,250,000	3,472,251		
Human Resources				
Programme Manager	113,000	114,747	0	1,747
Reimbursement to the CEI-ES (part-time personnel unit for Administration)	16,500	16,502	0	2
Reimbursement to the CEI-ES (part-time personnel unit for Accounting)	15,300	15,301	0	1
Reimbursement to the CEI-ES (part-time personnel unit for Communication)	17,200	17,207	0	7
Subtotal	162,000	163,757		
Travel and Events				
Missions	10,000	10,238	0	238
Events	7,000	9,975	0	2,975
Reimbursement to the CEI-ES for events	2,000	1,966	34	0
Subtotal	19,000	22,179		
General Expenses				
Utilities, suppliers, equipment, maintenance, audit, insurance	20,000	2,804	17,196	0
Reimbursement to the CEI-ES for utilities, suppliers, equipment, maintenance, audit	11,000	12,212		1,212
Publications	15,000	5,035	9,965	0
Reimbursement to the CEI-ES for publications	3,000	1,806	1,194	0
Subtotal	49,000	21,857		
Contingency Reserve				
Contingency Reserve	20,000	0	20,000	
Subtotal	20,000	0		
Total	3,500,000	3,680,044		

Annex 3

Budget 2023

Projects	Trieste (€)	London (€)	Total (€)
Technical Cooperation Programme		1,500,000	
Know-how Exchange Programme	400,000		
Subtotal			1,900,000
Human Resources			
Programme Manager	115,000		
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			164,000
Travel and Events			
Missions	15,000		
Events	15,000		
Reimbursement to the CEI-ES for events	2,000		
Subtotal			32,000
General Expenses			
Utilities, suppliers, equipment, maintenance, audit, insurance	10,000		
Reimbursement to the CEI-ES for utilities, suppliers, equipment, maintenance	12,000		
Publications	15,000		
Reimbursement to the CEI-ES for publications	2,000		
Subtotal			39,000
Contingency Reserve			
Contingency Reserve	10,000	10,000	
Subtotal			20,000
Total			2,155,000

Central European Initiative Fund

CEIE00 account (MEF)

Balance 2022

		€
Contributions received		26,580,805
Other income		2,913,605
Total income		29,494,410
Management fee		969,660
Administrative/other expenses		6,012,236
Earmarks		22,496,908
Undrawn management fee and other administrative expenses reserve		1,037
Total expenditure/earmarks		29,479,841
Available fund balance		14,569

Central European Initiative CEI200 account (MAECI)

Balance 2022

€	
Contributions received	28,499,989
Expected inflow in 2023 (second tranche replenishment 2022)	500,000
Other income	86,407
Total income	29,086,395
Management fee	1,075,000
Administrative/other expenses	210,438
Earmarks	23,869,472
Undrawn management fee and other administrative expenses reserve	142,063
Total expenditure/earmarks	25,296,973
Available fund balance for new earmarks	3,789,422

List of Technical Cooperation Assignments 1993-2022

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	COMMITMENT NAME	COMMITTED €	COMMITMENT STAGE	COUNTRY OF OPERATIONS	SECTOR OF OPERATIONS
50002143	Kyiv to Western Border Highway feasibility study	closed	784,844	Ukraine	Transport
50002144	Central European Initiative - transport information reporting project (design and supervision)	closed	156,621	Albania	Transport
50002145	Commercial law training	closed	1,910,891	Regional	Institutional Development
50002146	CETIR - Central Initiative System - transport information reporting system	closed	505,484	Regional	Transport
50002147	Industrial zone development (Phase I)	closed	19,923	Slovak Republic	Institutional Development
50002148	Co-financing advisory services	closed	22,827	Albania	Institutional Development
50002149	Board On-Line Documents	closed	71,647	Regional	Institutional Development
50002115	Board On-Line Documents	closed	78,193	Regional	Institutional Development
50002116	Funding of assistants for Directors representing constituencies of countries of operations	closed	41,983	Regional	Institutional Development
50002117	Commercial law training extension	closed	619,474	Regional	Institutional Development
50002154	Air navigation system management information	closed	182,412	Ukraine	Transport
50002191	Emergency power system reconstruction project	closed	76,218	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Energy/ Climate
50002192	Emergency power system reconstruction project	closed	133,581	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Energy/ Climate
50002193	Board on-line documents	closed	59,058	Regional	Institutional Development
50002194	Law reform and training programme III / CEI support	closed	82,566	Regional	Institutional Development
50002195	Project screening for Bosnia and Herzegovina	closed	62,683	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Institutional Development
50002196	Sarajevo Airport Masterplan study	closed	167,412	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50002197	Design and supervision consultants for Croatia Wholesale Markets	closed	553,229	Croatia	Agribusiness
50001458	Business Advisory Services - feasibility study	closed	19,594	Bosnia and Herzegovina	SME support
50002198	Board on-line documents	closed	63,962	Regional	Institutional Development
50002199	Sarajevo International Airport - Lighting and Equipment	closed	409,971	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50004352	Sarajevo International Airport - Firefighting Training	closed	30,000	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50002200	BOLD Project Manager and CEI Deputy Programme Manager	closed	81,148	Regional	Transport
50002201	Procurement assistance to the transport team	closed	89,091	Regional	Transport
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	closed	24,633	Croatia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia - TAM Management & Support	closed	37,600	Croatia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	closed	759,928	Croatia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	closed	71,600	Croatia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	closed	85,944	Croatia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	closed	20,967	Croatia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	closed	61,431	Croatia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	closed	9,680	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	closed	268,586	Albania	Finance, Business
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia - Project Officer	closed	36,688	Croatia	SME support
50002203	CEI Romanian Railways Cooperation Project - Project Preparation and Implementation	closed	409,448	Romania	Transport
50003472	Albania - Rehabilitation of Road Network	closed	1,700,000	Albania	Transport
50002687	CEI Wholesale Markets Foundation	closed	464,812	Regional	Agribusiness
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in South East Europe	closed	1,243,645	Regional	SME support
50001183	TAM Programme - CEI TAM Privatisation Support	closed	468,284	Regional	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	closed	14,482	Croatia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	closed	6,273	Croatia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	closed	21,965	Croatia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia	closed	3,111	Croatia	SME support
50002204	North Macedonia, ATCO refresher courses	closed	235,408	North Macedonia	Transport
50002205	North Macedonia, ATCO refresher courses	closed	58,433	North Macedonia	Transport
50001458	CEI Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Croatia and North Macedonia - Programme Evaluation	closed	9,748	Regional	SME support
50002206	CEI Romanian Railways Cooperation Project	closed	16,099	Romania	Transport
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in SE Europe (Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, and North Macedonia)	closed	1,070,930	Regional	SME support
50002207	Bulgaria Water and Wastewater Project Facility	closed	204,233	Bulgaria	Municipal infrastructure
50003240	FAO CEI - EASTAGRI	closed	56,323	Regional	Agribusiness
50003201	Regional: Energy Audits Programme Framework Agreements (D'Appolonia)	closed	226,582	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50003201	Regional: Energy Audits Programme Framework Agreements (MWH)	closed	238,162	Regional	Energy/ Climate
20002208	Bulgaria Water and Wastewater Project	closed	43,860	Bulgaria	Municipal infrastructure
20002209	Milavitsa Strategic Industry Advisor	closed	15,110	Belarus	Finance, Business
50001183	TAM - Tikves	closed	38,972	North Macedonia	SME support
50001458	Business Advisory Service (BAS) Programme in Slovenia - Framework	closed	92,232	Slovenia	SME support
50002210	CEI Insurance Privatisation Assistance for INSIG (Albania)	closed	404,970	Albania	Finance, Business
50002211	BiH Regional Railway Project: Environmental Analysis and Audit	closed	19,800	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50002212	Bosnia - Sector Study of the Forestry Study	closed	49,103	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Agribusiness
50002213	Market Study for Sustainable Energy in the Slovak Republic	closed	49,307	Slovak Republic	Energy/ Climate
50003241	Regional: EastAgri CEI Network - Phase II	closed	46,889	Regional	Agribusiness
50002214	North Macedonia: Consulting Services for Implementation of Management and Financial Procedures and Systems for Air Navigation System Provider	closed	235,814	North Macedonia	Transport
50002215	Brasov Urban Transport: Regulatory Strengthening Advisory Services to the City	closed	69,084	Romania	Transport
50002216	Brasov Urban Transport: Corporate Development Programme	closed	79,998	Romania	Transport
50002217	OECD Membership 2006	closed	26,274	Regional	Institutional Development
50002218	BiH Regional Railway Project: Assistance with Restructuring	closed	279,950	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50001183	TAM - Tikves	closed	8,040	North Macedonia	SME support
50002219	Crimea Municipal Infrastructure - Yalta Vodocanal IFRS	closed	49,440	Ukraine	Municipal infrastructure
50002220	Albania: Tirana Creditworthiness Enhancement Programme	closed	330,018	Albania	Municipal infrastructure
50002221	BiH Regional Railway Project: Assistance with Restructuring (extension)	closed	20,000	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50002222	Kiev City Transport: Financial Due Diligence and IFRS Audit - Kiev Metropolitan	closed	60,000	Ukraine	Municipal infrastructure
50002223	Assessment of Sustainable Energy Potential in West Balkans	closed	196,000	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50002003	BiH Resettlement Framework and Action Plan for Corridor Vc	closed	79,604	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50002006	BiH Resettlement Framework and Action Plan for Corridor Vc (Extension)	closed	12,138	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50002007	Extension to IBP and Strengthening of SME Loans Procedures	closed	191,544	Belarus	SME support
50002391	Energy Audits Programme (CEI funded - extension) D'Appolonia	closed	142,784	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50002391	Energy Audits Programme (CEI funded - extension) MWH	closed	190,050	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50002009	North Macedonia: Environmental and Social Analysis for ASR	closed	46,567	North Macedonia	Transport

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	COMMITMENT NAME	COMMITTED €	COMMITMENT STAGE	COUNTRY OF OPERATIONS	SECTOR OF OPERATIONS
50002010	Sarajevo Water & Wastewater - Feasibility Study	closed	190,840	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Municipal infrastructure
50002011	Mahovljani Interchange Feasibility and Environmental Due Diligence	closed	170,140	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50002012	Assessment of SEI Potential in Belarus - Market Demand Study	closed	74,512	Belarus	Energy/ Climate
50002013	Sarajevo Water & Wastewater - Feasibility Study-Extension	closed	37,125	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Municipal infrastructure
50001183	TAM - Pantomarket	closed	11,315	Montenegro	SME support
50001183	TAM - Altimed	closed	59,399	Belarus	SME support
50001183	TAM - Pinskiđrev	closed	55,217	Belarus	SME support
50001183	TAM - Bereza Cheese Plant JCS	closed	55,773	Belarus	SME support
50002491	Regional Energy Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector - CEI - MWH	closed	165,996	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50002491	Regional Energy Efficiency Programme for Corporate Sector - CEI - D'Appolonia	closed	65,493	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50002014	Energy Efficiency Programme for Corporate sector - CEI - D'Appolonia - Moldovan Railways	closed	47,250	Moldova	Energy/ Climate
50002017	Life in Transition Survey II - Bosnia and Herzegovina	closed	45,000	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Institutional Development
50002018	Life in Transition Survey II - Albania	closed	45,000	Albania	Institutional Development
50000872	Rail Corridor X in Serbia and North Macedonia: Lender's Monitor Advisor	closed	83,307	Regional	Transport
50002019	WeBSEDF:TC Banker	closed	171,473	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50000873	Support to ZS for Implementation of Energy Information Management System - Serbia	closed	243,025	Serbia	Transport
50002021	Capljina Water Supply Environmental and Social Due Diligence	closed	49,400	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Municipal infrastructure
50000874	JSC Serbian Railways: Lender's Monitor Advisor	closed	93,056	Serbia	Transport
50001988	Montenegro: Energy Efficiency Action Plan for ZPCG	closed	149,760	Montenegro	Energy/ Climate
50001970	Market Study: Opportunities to Implement Sustainable Strategies in the Maritime Sector	closed	220,032	Regional	Transport
50001968	Enhancing Public Procurement Professionalism - Capacity Building Programme	closed	40,000	Regional	Institutional Development
50001967	Resource and Process Efficiency in Manufacturing Sectors	closed	427,570	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50000875	North Macedonia: Railway Corridor VIII - Energy Management System for PERI	disbursing	175,000	North Macedonia	Transport
50001182	EGP - MixNet	closed	60,000	Ukraine	SME support
50000876	Kotor - Cetinje Cable Car - Technical Review and Preparation of PPP Tender	closed	200,000	Montenegro	Municipal infrastructure
50001182	EGP - Maize I	closed	60,000	Ukraine	SME support
50001966	Montenegro: Energy Efficiency Action Plan for ZPCG extension	closed	20,000	Montenegro	Transport
50001965	Public-Private Policy Forum Dairy Sector	closed	28,165	Ukraine	Agribusiness
50000877	Kotor Fortress Urban Regeneration - Technical and Market Due Diligence	closed	24,800	Montenegro	Municipal infrastructure
50000878	Training of Grain Farmers in Ukraine	closed	225,245	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	closed	175,166	Belarus	Energy/ Climate
50002355	Montenegro Local Roads Reconstruction and Upgrade: Strategy and Model Contracts for Performance-Based Maintenance, and Road Safety Regulation	closed	137,516	Montenegro	Transport
50000879	Moldova Railways: Environmental, Health and Safety Management Support and Capacity Building	closed	72,600	Moldova	Transport
50000880	Moldova Railways: Assistance in preparation and implementation of tender for rolling stock rehabilitation	disbursing	250,000	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	closed	49,850	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50003087	Kotor - Cetinje Cable Car - Technical Review and Preparation of PPP Tender Extension	closed	39,850	Montenegro	Municipal infrastructure
50000881	Serbian Roads - Road Rehabilitation and Safety Project. Capacity Building on Road Safety Management (ISO 39001)	closed	70,000	Serbia	Transport

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	COMMITMENT NAME	COMMITTED €	COMMITMENT STAGE	COUNTRY OF OPERATIONS	SECTOR OF OPERATIONS
50000882	Sustainable Energy Action Plan (SEAP) for Chisinau. Urban Regeneration Market Study	closed	110,000	Moldova	Municipal infrastructure
50001956	Energy and Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector CEI - Mark Formelle Cogeneration Plant: Feasibility Study	closed	19,803	Belarus	Energy/ Climate
50002889	Enhancing Public Procurement Professionalism - Capacity Building Programme	closed	40,000	Regional	Institutional Development
50002714	Resource and Process Efficiency in Manufacturing Sectors - extension 2014	closed	42,650	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50000883	Energy and Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector - CEI - D'Appolonia - Makstil	closed	44,546	North Macedonia	Energy/ Climate
50002556	Montenegro Agency for the Protection of Competition	closed	48,428	Montenegro	Energy/ Climate
50001954	Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector - Uniflex	closed	18,697	Belarus	Energy/ Climate
50000884	Energy and Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector - CEI - D'Appolonia - Agrofusion	closed	37,628	Ukraine	Energy/ Climate
50000885	Energy and Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector - CEI - KPMG - Belarus Industry Study	closed	48,280	Belarus	Energy/ Climate
50003909	North Macedonia: National Roads Programme - Project Implementation Unit support	disbursing	450,000	North Macedonia	Transport
50002468	North Macedonia: Railway Corridor VIII (second phase): PIU Support	committed	350,000	North Macedonia	Transport
50002889	Enhancing Public Procurement Professionalism - Capacity Building Programme	closed	98,000	Regional	Institutional Development
50001955	Energy and Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector - CEI - Bingo III	closed	40,000	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Energy/ Climate
50004118	Montenegro Water Sector Reform - Plan for the Reform of the Montenegrin Coastal Region	closed	81,200	Montenegro	Municipal infrastructure
50002317	Tivat Airport Modernisation Project - Preparation of Concept Designs	closed	281,000	Montenegro	Transport
50002760	Establishing of Origination and Execution Capacity Program for SME Direct Finance in Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus	closed	175,561	Regional	SME support
50000886	Energy and Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector - CEI - D'Appolonia - Mesopromet	closed	49,125	Montenegro	Energy/ Climate
50000887	Energy and Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector - CEI - D'Appolonia - Serseris Grain Terminal	closed	46,856	Ukraine	Energy/ Climate
50000890	Energy and Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector - CEI - Polesie	closed	21,875	Belarus	Energy/ Climate
50000891	Energy and Resource Efficiency Programme for the Corporate Sector – CEI – Resource Efficiency Audit at Glass Container Company	closed	42,758	Moldova	Energy/ Climate
50003482	Utilisation of Production Residues in the Food Processing Sector in the Western Balkans	closed	150,000	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50002949	Innovation Vouchers scheme for resource efficiency technologies and services: programme preparation and definition of possible implementation approaches	closed	74,000	Serbia	Energy/ Climate
50002951	Analysis of Climate Risks in Transport Infrastructures in the Western Balkans	closed	74,500	Regional	Transport
50004365	Framework for joint EBRD-CEI collaboration for policy engagements: Project Facilitation and Analyst Support - Silk Road + Extension	closed	170,000	Regional	Transport
50002889	Enhancing Public Procurement Professionalism - Capacity Building Programme	closed	120,000	Regional	Institutional Development
50004365	Project Preparation along the Silk Road in CSEE: Assessing and Tackling Policy Obstacles to Infrastructure Investment in the Region	disbursing	90,000	Regional	Transport
50004930	Independent System Operator of Bosnia and Herzegovina - Consultant for the Project Implementation Unit	closed	399,530	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Energy/ Climate
50004927	Climate Resilience in the Bosnian Road Network. FBiH Roads – Flood Repair and Upgrade	closed	135,000	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50005513	Implementation of the Corporate Governance Action Plan (CGAP) for "Korporate Elektroenergjitike Shqiptare Sh.A"	disbursing	300,000	Albania	Energy/ Climate
50005174	Albania Secretariat to the Investment Council	disbursing	175,000	Albania	Institutional Development
50005337	Assessment of environmental hotspots and review of remediation investment opportunities in the low Adriatic (Albania and Montenegro)	closed	60,080	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50005455	Supporting Public-Private Partnerships in the Transport Sector in Belarus: Road Sector Reform	closed	99,990	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	closed	90,000	Belarus	SME support
50005643	Green Economy Transition (GET) Project Preparation and Implementation Framework	disbursing	65,572	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50002889	Enhancing Public Procurement Professionalism - Capacity Building Programme	closed	125,000	Regional	Institutional Development

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	COMMITMENT NAME	COMMITTED €	COMMITMENT STAGE	COUNTRY OF OPERATIONS	SECTOR OF OPERATIONS
50005796	Enhancing Public Procurement Professionalism - Capacity Building Programme	closed	62,500	Regional	Institutional Development
50005921	Corridor Vc in Republika Srpska - Quality Management System and obtaining ISO Standards	disbursing	70,000	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50005922	Corridor Vc in Republika Srpska - Procurement Certification Support	closed	70,000	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50006097	Moldova Railways - Fleet Renewal Project	committed	50,000	Moldova	Transport
50006267	Green Economy Transition - Project Preparation and Implementation Framework	disbursing	185,000	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50006442	Albanian Railways - Asset Management Plan and Track Access Charges Methodology	closed	350,000	Albania	Transport
50006443	Albanian Railways - Development of Accounting and Reporting Systems for full International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) Compliance	closed	149,050	Albania	Transport
50006499	Albanian Railways - Assistance with Civil Society Engagement	disbursing	120,000	Albania	Transport
50006497	Preparation of the Study on improvement of public transportation and preparation of tender for a multi-year public lines distribution	disbursing	150,000	Montenegro	Transport
50006498	FBiH Roads: Flood Repair and Upgrade - Introduction of Quality Management Systems and obtaining the ISO 9001 standard	committed	70,000	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50006531	Energy Efficiency in Public Buildings. Autonomous Province of Vojvodina	closed	99,970	Serbia	Energy/ Climate
50006822	Serbia Route 7 Highway - Lender's Monitor	disbursing	125,000	Serbia	Transport
50006823	Serbia Voz Rolling Stock Acquisition	disbursing	75,000	Serbia	Transport
50006824	Moldova: Support for the Competitive Procurement of Renewable Energy	committed	200,000	Moldova	Energy/ Climate
50006877	Analysis of Climate Change Risks to Critical Transport Infrastructure Networks in Ukraine	disbursing	149,910	Ukraine	Transport
50006941	Climate Resilience Assessment for the Belarus Roads Sector	closed	74,960	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	closed	148,276	Belarus	SME support
50005644	Technology review and market potential in CEI region about Floating Solar PV	closed	36,900	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50006242	Green Economy Project Preparation and Implementation Framework - Technical Due Diligence for four Biogas Power Plants	closed	59,755	Belarus	Energy/ Climate
50006328	Investment Climate and Governance Expert for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro	disbursing	145,000	Regional	Institutional Development
50007253	Advice for Small Businesses in Moldova (Youth and Skills)	disbursing	300,000	Moldova	SME support
50007101	Sustainable and Eco Tourism Programme - Albania National and Regional Roads Project	closed	69,210	Albania	Transport
50007325	Mostar North to Mostar South Motorway - Environmental and Social Impact Assessment	closed	72,790	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50007341	Serbian Climate Resilience and Irrigation Project (SCRIP) - Development of irrigation strategy	committed	152,508	Serbia	Agribusiness
50007363	Increasing market opportunities for high-quality food products	disbursing	122,814	Regional	Agribusiness
50007692	COVID-19 Crisis Response: Environmental & Social Contractor Management	disbursing	119,450	Regional	Institutional Development
50007917	Methane Emissions Reduction Programme in Gas Supply Chains	disbursing	110,200	Ukraine	Energy/ Climate
50008223	Corridor Vc - Tunnel Prej: Corporate Governance Action Plan	committed	150,000	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50007838	Market readiness for a low-carbon hydrogen economy in the Western Balkans	disbursing	150,000	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50007911	Study to assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the use of public transport in the Western Balkans	closed	47,870	Regional	Transport
50008295	Green City Action Plan for Brcko District	committed	275,000	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Municipal infrastructure
50008332	Green Cities Framework 2 Window 2 (GrCFW2) Sarajevo Public Transport e-Mobility – Project Implementation Support	committed	430,000	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50008332	Green Cities Framework 2 Window 2 (GrCFW2) Sarajevo Public Transport e-Mobility – Project Design	committed	70,000	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50008403	Chisinau Solid Waste – Project Implementation Support Services	committed	300,000	Moldova	Municipal infrastructure
50008587	Port of Brcko – Corporate Development Plan	committed	250,000	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Transport
50008531	Market Assessment for the Uptake of Climate Technologies in the Western Balkans	closed	55,575	Regional	Energy/ Climate
50008661	Improving Corporate Governance in Family-Owned Enterprises	disbursing	40,000	Serbia	SME support
50008879	OSHEE COVID-19 Response - Smart Grid Development Roadmap	committed	220,000	Albania	Energy/ Climate
50008812	Support for the Implementation of Renewable Energy Auctions in Montenegro	committed	250,000	Montenegro	Energy/ Climate

EARMARK DOCUMENT NUMBER	COMMITMENT NAME	COMMITTED €	COMMITMENT STAGE	COUNTRY OF OPERATIONS	SECTOR OF OPERATIONS
50009263	Brcko District: Electrical Grid Expansion - Due Diligence & Advance Procurement	committed	150,000	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Energy/ Climate
50009267	Youth in Business Programme in the Western Balkans	committed	1,500,000	Regional	SME support
50009034	Serbia: High Speed Rail Belgrade to Nis - Serbian Railways Infrastructure: Corporate Governance Action Plan	committed	150,000	Serbia	Transport
50009035	Serbian Rail Sector Reform and Regulatory Capacity Building	committed	400,000	Serbia	Transport
To be assigned	Preparation of a Corporate Plan for the organisational strengthening of Public Enterprise for State Roads	approved	200,000	North Macedonia	Transport
To be assigned	North Macedonia: Rail Corridor VIII, Phase 3 - Economic, E&S and GET assessment	approved	250,000	North Macedonia	Transport
To be assigned	Feasibility study for Albania-Montenegro 110 kV overhead transmission line connection Dajc (Kosmac) - Briska Gora (Ulcinj)	approved	250,000	Regional	Energy/ Climate
Total			33,566,048		

List of Know-how Exchange Programme Projects 2004-2022

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
1206.002-09	PORTRAIN	Italy	Albania	91,979	33,900	closed
1206.003-09	Supporting Serbian SMEs in Accessing to EU Markets	Italy	Serbia	42,448	21,224	closed
1206.004-09	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
1206.005-09	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
1206.006-09	Development of Decision Support Systems for Integrated Water Management in Belarus	Italy	Belarus	64,306	31,288	closed
1206.007-09	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
1206.008-09	ICT Cooperation: Italy- Croatia Technology Cooperation	Italy	Croatia	14,492	6,239	closed
1206.009-09	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
1206.011-09	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
1206.005-10	Good Governance in Chisinau - Introduction of Performance Budget in the Capital of Moldova	Poland	Moldova	123,544	32,683	closed
1206.006-10	Farming and Off-farming Activities in Mountain Areas and Natural Parks: "the Italian Experience" a Study Tour for Montenegro	FAO	Montenegro	59,851	24,851	closed
1206.007-10	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
1206.008-10	AER peer review on energy in Vojvodina "How to create sustainable energy communities within our regions?"	AER	Serbia	28,815	13,066	closed
1206.009-10	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
1206.010-10	Monitoring SME Policy Implementation in the Western Balkans	OECD	Regional	142,858	40,000	closed
1206.011-10	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
1206.012-10	Support to the Capacity in Developing and Managing Cooperation Projects: Institute of Transport (COOPERADRIA)	Italy	Albania	45,899	15,622	closed
1206.013-10	Krapina Zagorje County Rural Development Strategy	Slovenia	Croatia	28,908	12,919	closed
1206.005-11	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
1206.009-11	Public Accountants Certification Training (PACT) in North Macedonia	Slovenia	North Macedonia	114,080	29,915	closed
1206.010-11	Training of Internal Auditors in Public Sector in Montenegro	Slovenia	Montenegro	225,122	39,641	closed
1206.011-11	Evaluating SME Policy Implementation in the Western Balkans	OECD	Regional	102,150	39,671	closed
1206.001-12	Improving Environmental and Disaster Prevention Capacity in Serbia	Italy	Serbia	72,135	33,002	closed
1206.003-12	Conditions for Technology Transfer of Experience for Tirana City (Context)	Italy	Albania	86,193	28,435	closed
1206.004-12	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
1206.005-12	Public Accountants Certification Training (PACT) in North Macedonia	Slovenia	North Macedonia	218,153	38,786	closed
1206.006-12	Know-how for Donetsk Region - Strengthening of Administrative Structures and Regional Development in Ukraine	Poland	Ukraine	28,736	11,292	closed
1206.008-12	Environmental Impact Assessment of the Kozuf Metallogenic District in Southern North Macedonia (ENIGMA)	Czech Republic	North Macedonia	77,590	37,895	closed
1206.009-12	Renewable Energy Knowledge and Technology Transfer in Albania and in Bosnia and Herzegovina	Italy	Regional	89,737	39,110	closed
1206.010-12	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
1206.001-14	Strengthening Serbian Multi-hazard Early Warning and Alert System (ALERT)	Italy	Serbia	86,291	30,741	closed
1206.002-14	Strengthening Serbian Multi-hazard Early Warning and Alert System (ALERT II)	Italy	Serbia	84,633	32,984	closed
1206.003-14	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

REFERENCE NUMBER	PROJECT NAME	COUNTRY OF KNOW-HOW PROVIDER INSTITUTION	COUNTRY OF KNOW-HOW RECIPIENT INSTITUTION	TOTAL PROJECT COST €	CEI CO-FINANCING €	IMPLEMENTATION STAGE
1206.003-18	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	85,188	39,950	closed
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 (SEEMACC)	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	33,427	9,855	closed
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
304.4.003-20	"Composites for All". Advanced Materials for a Modern, Improved, and Sustainable Society	Italy, Slovenia	Regional	84,020	39,775	closed
304.4.015-20	Practical Application of 3D Technology in Medicine and Health Care	Italy	Bosnia and Herzegovina	137,205	24,975	closed
304.4.022-20	Improving Occupational Health and Safety System in Republic of Moldova	Italy, Hungary	Moldova	80,000	39,933	under implementation
304.4.035-20	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
304.4.041-20	Sustainable Management of Cultural Heritage in the Balkans in Response to Climate Change. Best practices for adaptation and intercultural cooperation (SMACH)	Italy	Regional	45,969	22,942	closed
304.4.056-20	An Evolution of the Automotive Training Centre Serbia toward the Concepts of Light and Sustainable Mobility (ATC Evo)	Italy, Croatia, Slovenia	Serbia	85,954	39,960	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	81,619	15,000	closed
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
304.4.026-21	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
304.4.030-21	Exchange programme on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities between Albanian and Croatian Institutions of human rights and anti-discrimination	Croatia	Albania	18,310	9,130	closed
304.4.044-21	FORKITS- FOod expertiSe and Know-how exchange on technology transfer between Italy and Serbia	Italy	Serbia	35,199	20,802	closed
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

REFERENCE NUMBER	PROJECT NAME	COUNTRY OF KNOW-HOW PROVIDER INSTITUTION	COUNTRY OF KNOW-HOW RECIPIENT INSTITUTION	TOTAL PROJECT COST €	CEI CO-FINANCING €	IMPLEMENTATION STAGE
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
304.4.001-22	North Macedonia: Advisory Support for Strengthening the Capacities for Diaspora Engagement and Evidence-based Migration Policy Planning	IOM	North Macedonia	80,000	40,000	under implementation
304.4.015-22	Programming the EU Cohesion Policy: Exchange Programme on Chapter 22 in Serbia and Montenegro	Italy	Regional	79,718	39,808	under implementation
304.4.022-22	Assessing the effectiveness and affordability of tariff-setting methodologies in covering drinking water and wastewater services costs in the Western Balkans	Italy	Regional	121,800	39,400	approved
304.4.029-22	Reducing the impact of earthquakes in Albania through collaboration: Computing seismic hazard to support the update of Albania's building code	Italy	Albania	66,698	26,698	under implementation
304.4.055-22	Executive Program "Countering Corruption within Public Administration Through Transparency"	Italy	North Macedonia	82,820	39,820	under implementation
304.4.065-22	Harmonising the Regulatory FRAMEwork for the ORGanic food production in Montenegro with the Regulation (EU) 2018/848 - FRAME. ORG MONTENEGRO	Italy	Montenegro	74,700	37,350	approved
304.4.068-22	Strengthening ties and learning between the twinned municipalities of Centar Sarajevo and Reggio Emilia	Italy	Bosnia and Herzegovina	80,000	40,000	approved
304.4.070-22	Habitatat, landscape, forest and water managemet: experiences in the mirror between from Italy to Moldova	Italy	Moldova	78,350	39,175	approved
TOTAL				16,106,646	4,032,084	

Abbreviations and acronyms

AER	Assembly of European Regions
ATCO	Air Traffic Control Officer
BAS	Business Advisory Service
BiH	Bosnia and Herzegovina
CEFTA	Central European Free Trade Agreement
CHIAM	Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari, Italy
CEI	Central European Initiative
CPD	Commissioner for the Protection from Discrimination, Albania
EBRD, the Bank	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EC	European Commission
EGP	Enterprise Growth Programme
EIR	EBRD Investment Ratio
ENP	European Neighbourhood Policy
EU	European Union
E&S	Environmental and Social
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 City Action Plan
GET	Green Economic Transition
HSH	Hekurudha Shqiptare (Albanian Railways Company)
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
MEF	Ministry of Economy and Finance, Italy
MW	Megawatt
MWH	Montgomery Watson Harza
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OSCE	Organisation for security and Cooperation in Europe
OSHEE	Operatori I Shperndarjes se Energjise Elektrike (Albanian Alectric Energy Company)
PACT	Public Accountants Certification Training
PIU	Project Implementation Unit
PPP	Public Private Partnership
RES	Renewable Energy Resources
SEEHN	South Eastern Europe Health Network
SME	Small and Medium-sized Enterprise
SCADA	Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition
TAM	TurnAround Management Programme
TC	Technical Cooperation
TIR	Total Investment Ratio
UniSMART	Foundation of the University of Padua, Italy
ZPCG	Zeljeznicki Prevoz Crne Gore (Montenegro Railway Transport)
ZS	Zeleznice Srbije (Serbian Railways Company)

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