

# **9<sup>th</sup> Regional CBC Consultative Forum**

12 May 2023, Hotel Izgrev, Struga, NMK

## **The IPA 2014-2020 CBC programme Serbia – Montenegro**



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## 2014-2020: 2<sup>nd</sup> call for proposals - State of play

- Announced 12/9/2019 – deadline 27/12/2019

Thematic priorities	Specific objectives	Allocation €
TP1: Promoting employment, labour mobility and social and cultural inclusion across the border	SO1.2: Strengthening social and cultural inclusion of vulnerable groups	1,140,000.00
TP3: Encouraging tourism and cultural and natural heritage	SO3.1: Improving capacities for exploiting tourism potentials of the programme area	2,100,000.00
Total		3,240,000.00

## 2014-2020: 2<sup>nd</sup> call for proposals - State of play

- Main achievements
  - 47 applications received
  - 9 projects contracted
  - Amount committed EUR 2,106,333.25
  - Decommissioned EUR 860.46
- Main challenges
  - Delay in approval of interim and final reports and grant contract addendums.
  - CFCU has taken several steps in order to speed up the process of controls and therefore the process of payments, such as spreading out the start of implementation of contracts under CBC programmes. New staff has been engaged, too.

## 2014-2020: 3<sup>rd</sup> call for proposals - State of play

- Announced 3/3/2022 – deadline 1/6/2022

Thematic priorities	Specific objectives	Allocation €
TP1: Promoting employment, labour mobility and social and cultural inclusion across the border	SO1.1: Increasing employability and employment opportunities	766,403.15
TP2: Protecting the environment, promoting climate change adaptation and mitigation, risk prevention and management	SO2.1: Improving waste management and waste water treatment	1,880,000.00
TP3: Encouraging tourism and cultural and natural heritage	SO3.1: Improving capacities for exploiting tourism potentials of the programme area	766,403.14
Total		3,412,806.29

## **2014-2020: 3<sup>rd</sup> call for proposals - State of play**

- Main achievements
  - 35 applications received
  - 10 projects recommended for financing
  - 4 contracts signed by 31/12/2022
  - Contracted amount so far EUR 1,135,590.04
- Main challenges
  - Delays in contracting projects from the list of recommended actions for financing

## Examples of good CBC practice

Project: **One-stop-shop service for social inclusion and youth employability**

Duration: 20 months

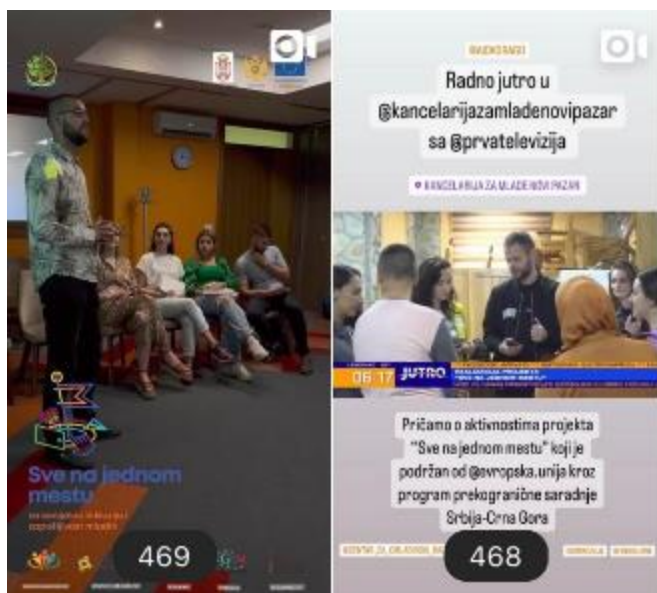
Budget: € 231,937.67 (EU: € 197,147.02)

The service reached the most disadvantaged youth and supported them through one-stop-shop methodology with digital, transferable and entrepreneurship competencies, empowering youth not only to seek for open job opportunities but to create new jobs and act globally – preparing youth for future jobs. Specifically, the project fostered employability and social inclusion of the vulnerable youth in cross-border Sandžak area by increasing their employment competencies and networking with SMEs through piloting innovative youth employability one-stop-shop service.

## Examples of good CBC practice

Project: **One-stop-shop service for social inclusion and youth employability**

50 youth from Sandzak region attended 3 training modules (2 modules of soft skills and 1 module on developing business ideas) and received 3 months mentor support. The best business idea was presented at the event „Elevator Pitch“ in Novi Pazar. One person employed after completed training course.



# Technical Assistance

- The final IPA II TA grant for the programmes SRB– MNE and SRB–BiH will be implemented in the period of 12 months from 1/12/2022 until 30/11/2023.
- The value of this contract is € 960,000 (SRB-BiH € 600,000 and SRB-MNE € 360,000)

## Main challenges:

- Impact of the pandemic on activities related to large social gatherings
- Procurement of the official vehicle – formal limitations
- Inflation and limited wages
  - Locked wages
  - Locked amounts of daily allowances for staff in Serbia
  - Type of contract for the JTS staff in Serbia (service contract)
    - huge amounts of taxes
    - insolvency of commercial banks



## Topics for discussion

- How to encourage a bigger involvement of the applicants/beneficiaries to design and implement operations with their own capacity