



Government of the Republic of Montenegro



*Foundation Open Society Institute
Representative Office Montenegro*



*United Nations
Development Programme*

PROJECT MONTHLY REPORT (May 2006)

A. SUMMARY PROJECT INFORMATION

- **Title:** “Strengthening Capacities of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Physical Planning to Deal with Problems of Environmental Management”
- **Thematic Area:** Democratic Governance
- **Executing Agency:** Capacity Development Programme
- **Location:** Montenegro/Serbia and Montenegro
- **Duration:** August 15th 2005 – June 15th 2006
- **Total Budget:** \$462, 507.50 USD

Objectives of the project: Project will throughout its implementation address some of the most pressing capacity gaps of environmental management in Montenegro in the context of regional cooperation and EU integration. Therefore, it aims to assist the Ministry to develop structures, strategies, human resources, and management skills needed to strengthen its policy, regulatory and administrative capacity to be able to fully adopt, implement and comply with the EU Acquis.

B. PROGRESS TOWARDS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF RESULTS

COMPLETED ACTIVITIES

- The workshop entitled “Environment impact assessment (EIA) for Ministries, municipalities, investors, and non-governmental organizations” was held on 4-5 May 2006. 32 participants attended the EIA workshop. The workshop highlighted the steps of EIA procedure and the importance of doing it properly. The trainer pointed out the consequences of inappropriate EIA and the advantage of strengthening collaboration between various stakeholders in this field: Ministries, Local Authorities (institutions that will control the quality of EIA and grant permits on the basis of the new Law on EIA), institutions performing EIA, construction engineers and NGOs.
- The Action plan for preparation of verification of the National Park Durmitor according to PAN Parks criteria was presented to the high officials and expert staff from the State Company National Parks of Montenegro and Ministry of Environmental Protection and Physical Planning. The Conservation Manager of PAN Parks Foundation highlighted that NP Durmitor is one of a limited number of National parks in Europe, which can meet the requirements for certification in line with PAN Parks criteria.
- The Regional Engineering Expert submitted the draft ToR for Construction Strategy. The document is presented to MEPPP for their comments and suggestions..
- The Regional Expert for Communal Finance visited Montenegro during the week from 8th till 19th of April 2006 where series of meetings were held with the MEPPP Minister and Ministry staff, Secretariat for communal and housing affairs in Municipality Podgorica and Bar, Public communal services in Podgorica, Bar, Bijelo Polje and Water company in Bar.
- The visits of senior staff from the Ministry to the Slovenian Government Institutions are organized. The first group (Department for Urban planning and construction and Department for Spatial planning) visited Slovenia during the week from 29th of May till 2nd of June. The meetings were organized with officials from Ministry for Environment and Spatial Planning, Chambers of Commerce, Institute for Urbanism in Ljubljana etc.



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ONGOING ACTIVITIES

- The Regional Expert for Environmental Impact Assessment is preparing a guidebook for the EIA and SEA procedures for investors and independent service providers. The guidebook will be presented to the MEPPP in the beginning of June.
- The second group of MEPPP officials will attend the IT courses during June. The basic course attends 11 officials and advance course 14 officials.
- Three officials from Department for Communal and Housing Affairs will visit Slovenian Ministry during the first week of June. Department for Environment protection and Department for Inspection Control and Second Instance Administration and Offence procedure, will visit Slovenia during the second week of June. All visits have been planned/agreed between two Ministries - as part of twinning like arrangements - and the meetings at the appropriate level scheduled.
- The Regional Engineering Expert will visit Montenegro and present the final ToR for Construction Strategy.
- Regional Expert for Communal Finance will deliver the final report on June 5th.
- The document "Institutional analysis" will be reviewed and updated by the Regional Expert Consultant. The final document will be presented to the Minister and officials from MEPPP.

C. PROJECT FINANCES

Expenses on the project up to 31st of May 2006 are 368, 0897.06 \$.