

Aid Matters

Newsletter on Development Assistance in Serbia



Република Србија
Влада
Канцеларија за европске интеграције
Republic of Serbia
Government
Serbian European Integration Office

Issue no. 24 September 2016

Inside the issue:

Development Cooperation between Switzerland and Serbia	2
Board Game "Play for Energy" for Better Knowledge about Energy Efficiency	2
International Assistance to Flooded Areas in Serbia	3
"Use of Biomass for Energy Purposes – the Road to Business Success"	3
"Just Not by Car!"	3
SA-ŠA Support to Cooperation, Inclusion, Education and Promotion of Roma Culture in BiH and Serbia	4
Serbia to get 755,000 euro CEB grant for refugees, migrants	4

Chapter 22 - Regional Policy and Coordination of Structural Instruments

By:  The European Union Regional (Cohesion) Policy implies financial support to Member States (MS) and regions through implementation of projects aimed at strengthening the economic, social and territorial cohesion. With over one third of the Union budget (EUR 351.8 billion for 2014-2020), cohesion policy is the largest tool for EU investment in the real economy and a key pillar of the EU economic policy triangle - fiscal consolidation, structural reforms and investment in growth. Chapter 22 includes regulations, which do not require transposition into national legislation, and define the rules related to planning and implementation of the EU cohesion policy whose implementation is financed from the Structural and Investment funds (the European Regional Development Fund and the European Social Fund) and Cohesion Fund programmes reflecting each country's territorial organization. These programmes are negotiated and agreed with the European Commission (EC), but implementation is responsibility of the MS. Regulation (EU) 1303/2013, lays down subject matter and definitions, common and general provisions applicable to

the ERDF, the ESF and the Cohesion Fund. The negotiation group for Chapter 22 was established to lead the Serbia-EU negotiation process within Chapter 22. The Group is chaired by Serbian European Integration Office and composed of representatives from 20 institutions relevant for Chapter 22. Within Chapter 22 Serbia needs to establish adequate legislative and institutional framework, to provide sufficient administrative capacity and to ensure solid administrative system for programming country development priorities, monitoring and evaluation and financial management and control (including audit) of ESI funds. When the EC assess that country is well prepared for transparent programming, management and implementation of the Cohesion policy funds the chapter negotiation are closed. As result of the screening process, the EC issued Screening Report in February 2016 which recommends development of an Action Plan as the Chapter opening benchmark. Currently, the negotiation group is preparing the Action Plan which sets out clear objectives, timeframe and measures which will contribute to the harmonization, adoption and implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy requirements.



The Film Festival

By:  On the occasion of the European Territorial Cooperation 21st September, Integration Office, in cooperation with the Youth Center "Studentski grad", organized a three-day documentary film festival "European coop-

eration: film story". The aim of the festival was to highlight, by projecting of three documentaries, the importance of the regional cooperation, as well as connection of people in all life segments, from the economy through the creativity.

Did you know?

Guide to the programming and monitoring of IPA II implementation in the Republic of Serbia for the SECO mechanism members was prepared in order to improve their knowledge of the process of programming IPA II and to present the current programming process of IPA funds. It can be found on: <http://sekomehanizam.org/> or http://www.seio.gov.rs/upload/documents/publikacije/vodic_kroz_proces_programiranja_praceni_a_sprovodjenja_ipall.pdf

Фестивал документарног филма „Европска сарадња: филмска прича“
поводом Дана европске територијалне сарадње

Среда, 21. септембар „ПОТОП“ р. Јелена Јовчић Србија, 2016, 62' Након пројекције разговор са ауторком	Четвртак, 22. септембар „У ПОТРАЗИ ЗА СНОМ“ р. Младен Митровић Србија, БиХ, Хрватска, 2015, 127'	Петак, 23. септембар „КЕМБРИДЖ“ р. Елдора Трајкова Бугарска, 2015, 64'
---	--	---

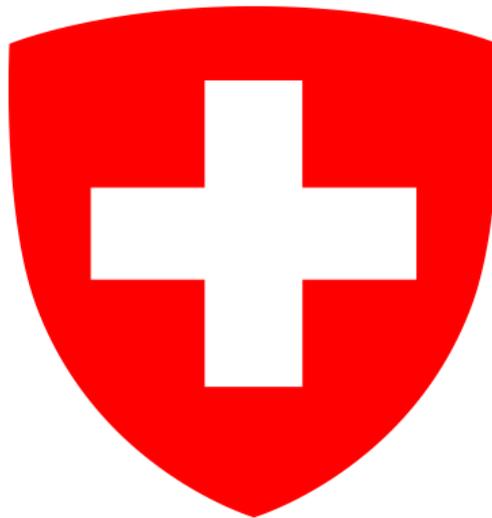
Мала сала Дома културе „Студентски град“, од 20.00



Development Cooperation between Switzerland and Serbia

By:  Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Switzerland and Serbia have been long-standing partners for more than 20 years and Switzerland is among the most important bilateral donors. Serbia will remain a priority country for the Swiss Cooperation in Eastern Europe for the next years as well. The Cooperation Office is part of the [Swiss Embassy](#) and the Cooperation Program is jointly implemented by various Swiss federal institutions: The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), a division of the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs The State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), a division of the Swiss Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research The State Secretariat for Migration (SEM), a division of the Swiss Federal Department for Justice and Police The Swiss Cooperation Strategy for Serbia 2014 – 2017 with a total budget of approximately 86 Million Euro is rooted in a spirit of partnership and mutual accountability. Building on Switzerland's long term presence in the country and earlier accomplishments, its overall goal is to contribute to Serbia's transition towards strong democratic systems, social inclusion and enhanced competitiveness of its economy in support of Serbia's integration. It focuses on three domains of interventions which are Governance, Economic development and energy Efficiency



and renewable Energy. Switzerland is the leading donor in the Sector Working Group Human Resources and Social Development. In 2009, Serbia and Switzerland signed a Migration Partnership to strengthen the capacities to deal with the challenges of migration. Furthermore, Serbia is served by Swiss programs extending to several countries in the region in the area of science and research. In 2017, a new Cooperation Strategy with Serbia will be elaborated which will be the opportunity to revise and align Switzerland's support. Since 1991, the Swiss support amounts to 318 Million Euro. Switzerland's cooperation is guided by the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation aiming to secure ownership for the joint endeavors among the national partners to achieve a well-coordinated and efficient cooperation with other donor agencies. As of September 2016, a new management team has taken over with Ursula Läubli as Director of Cooperation and Priska Depnering as her Deputy. For more information visit the [Swiss Cooperation Office Serbia](#) website.

Board Game “Play for Energy” for Better Knowledge about Energy Efficiency

By:  немачка сарадња
DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

 giz
Spremono od strane
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

One of the goals of the Serbian-German development cooperation is to enhance public awareness on the importance of energy efficiency. Understanding the efficient use of energy is an important lesson to teach even the youngest. For that reason, the GIZ Project “Energy Efficiency”, together with partners, developed a board game “Play for Energy” targeting children aged 12-15. On September 12, a game board tournament gathering more than 50 children and their teachers, followed by a seven-day exhibition on energy efficiency was organized at the Kolarac Foundation in Belgrade with the aim to enable children to learn more about renewable energy sources as well as easy tips on how to reduce energy consumption at households. Similar events will be organized in : Pirot, Sokobanja, Arilje, Vrsac and Vrbas.

Another important event was planned by the GIZ Project “Energy Efficiency”. Namely, the team was announcing a conference held on 29th September 2016, at 11.00h in Metropol Palace Hotel. The event was hosted by the Ministry of Mining and Energy and marked the beginning of the important initiative to collect energy

related data in public buildings on the level of local self-government in Serbia. University of Belgrade in cooperation with GIZ will use the data to develop National typology for schools and kindergartens.



International Assistance to Flooded Areas in Serbia

By: Public Investment Management Office

The cost of damage of devastating floods that hit Serbia in May 2014 has been estimated at more than €1.7 billion. Due to flooding, approximately 32,000 people have been evacuated from their homes, public facilities and infrastructure have suffered damage, while substantial damage and losses have been recorded in the sectors of energy, economy and agriculture. Over the previous two years, nearly 500 families affected by the floods have been given a roof over their heads. More than 21,000 families have received financial assistance exceeding RSD5 billion in total. Also, financial and/or in-kind assistance has been provided to more than 2,000 small and medium-sized enterprises and sole proprietors as well as to over 26,000 farmers. Works on reconstruction and improvement of flood protection infrastructure in the excess of RSD3 billion have been carried out at more than 300 sites across Serbia. The electric power system has been restored, which is why, despite an estimated €0.5 billion in damage



suffered by the sector, Serbia has not plunged into a power blackout for a single day. The cost of reconstruction covered by Serbia has been close to €0.5 billion, half of which has been funded from donations, primarily from the European Union in the amount exceeding €160 million. Serbia was caught by the 2014 floods without a system in place which would allow it to respond to the needs of its citizens resulting from the forces

of nature in an adequate, prompt and responsible manner. Law on Reconstruction Following Natural and Other Hazards adopted in December 2015, which replaced the lex specialis Law on post-flood rehabilitation in Republic of Serbia passed in May 2014, has dealt with the issue of all future reconstruction processes in a sustainable fashion. Activities related to preparing the Draft Law on natural and other hazard risk reduction and emergency

management have also been finalized. As a result of work done in the previous two years, Serbia is now safer and more prepared than prior to May 2014.

"USE OF BIOMASS FOR ENERGY PURPOSES — THE ROAD TO BUSINESS SUCCESS"



The Conference on "Use of Biomass for Energy Purposes – the Road to Business Success", which is being jointly organized by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia (CCIS) and

the Embassy of the Slovak Republic with the support of the Ministry of Mining and Energy of the Republic of Serbia. The Conference will take place on 13 October 2016 at the Belgrade Fair in the Ceremonial hall of the Administration Building, Belgrade, Bulevar Vojvode Misica 14 and will start at 10.00 a.m. The Con-

ference will be organized within the 12th International Energy Fair, Belgrade Fair, Serbia. The Conference will present the results and activities of biomass project in Serbia: "Reducing Barriers to Accelerate the Development of Biomass Markets in Serbia", funded by the Global Environment Fund (GEF) and implemented by UNDP, the Ministry of Mining and Energy and the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection. There will also be a presentation on Green Energy Portal with the first electronic biomass trading platform, experiences of investors and representatives of the Real sector in the field of biomass utilization in Serbia.

"JUST NOT BY CAR!"



Belgrade, September 22nd 2016 - Belgraders marked the World Car-Free Day 2016 by participating in the challenge entitled Just not by Car! A total of 450 employees from 35 participating employers took part in the challenge and left their cars in the parking lot

while opting to walk or cycle to work. This challenge is the first of its kind in Belgrade and was jointly organized by the Cycling Associations Bajsologija (Bycology) and Ulice za bicikle (Streets for Bicycles), the Heinrich Böll Foundation and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as part of the European Mobility Week 2016. The goal was to mobilize the corporate sector to join the quest for more sustainable means of transportation, protection of the environment, reduced traffic and healthy living.



SA-ŠA Support to Cooperation, Inclusion, Education and Promotion of Roma Culture in BiH and Serbia

By: CBC This project was financed through IPA CB programme Serbia – Bosnia and Herzegovina 2007-2013, with total amount for Serbia of €155,052.17.

The "Beauty Academy Sa-Ša" was founded in Šabac. The modern premises, during the project, served as a training center where young Roma from Šabac and the surroundings, as well as members of the majority population, with the help of internationally certified trainers, gained the skills which will allow them to find work or start their own business. The training is based on the latest knowledge of the 'hair and beauty' Academies in London, Paris and Milan.



After termination of the project, this center becomes sustainable through the provision of services to third

parties. To present Roma culture, tradition and contemporary creativity, two exhibitions were organized: one in Šabac, during well known Šabac fair, and one in Sarajevo, in the unique premises - in the House of "Sevdah".

The film about the life and career of the famous Roma singer Sofka Nikolić was produced and presented. The conditions were created for the networking of Roma associations in order to strengthen local offices with staff and technically equip them in Sarajevo and surrounding areas. The establishment of the cross-border Roma Council was agreed.

In Brief:

The Joint Task Forces Meeting were held at September 20, 2016 in Palace of Serbia, Belgrade. The purpose of the meeting was to further discuss and agree on the functioning and reinforcement of the aid coordination mechanisms.

Upcoming Events

- ⇒ **12th October - The Final Conference of the Romania - Republic of Serbia Cross-Border Cooperation Programme** will be held in Vršac
- ⇒ **21st October - The 5th National Conference on Cross-Border Cooperation**, organized by the European Integration Office of the Republic of Serbia will be held in Belgrade

Serbia to get 755,000 euro CEB grant for refugees, migrants

By:



Serbia and the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) signed in Paris a grant agreement according to which Serbia will receive €755,000 for providing support to migrants in the Republic of

Serbia. The agreement was signed at a meeting between Serbian PM Aleksandar Vucic and CEB Governor Rolf Wenzel. It is a

continuation of the 2.3 million euro assistance already provided by the CEB which have been used in the past in order to face the challenges raised by the increased inflow of migrants. Representatives of the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) pointed out that Serbia is a good example of how to properly and responsibly spend money of the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB).

About Aid Matters Newsletter

Aid Matters Newsletter on development assistance to Serbia is developed by the Sector for Planning, Programming, Monitoring and Reporting on EU Funds and Development Assistance of the Office for the EU Integrations of the Republic of Serbia.

The newsletter aims at improving communication between stakeholders and exchange of information relevant to development assistance activities in the Republic of Serbia.



Република Србија
Влада
Канцеларија за европске интеграције

Republic of Serbia
Government
Serbian European Integration Office



If you wish to contribute, subscribe or unsubscribe, please send an e-mail to Nataša Kalaba, nkalaba@seio.gov.rs

Sector for Planning, Programming, Monitoring and Reporting on EU Funds and Development Assistance

Serbian European Integration Office

Nemanjina 34, Belgrade, Serbia

011/3061-100

<http://www.evropa.gov.rs/>

<http://www.seio.gov.rs/>

