

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR IMPROVED IMPLEMENTATION OF MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS (MEAs)

Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

PROFILE

Donors: Global Environment Facility; UNDP;

Budget: \$950,000; \$50,000

Main partner: Ministry of Environmental Protection

Duration: 2017-2021

GOAL

To improve implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) in Serbia by increasing consultations among the public, private and civil sectors and integrating MEA provisions into national and local policies and programs.

CONTEXT

Serbia has ratified the three Rio Conventions (the Convention on Biological Diversity, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification), as well as a series of other MEAs. Assessments of national capacity to meet and sustain obligations under these conventions identified several major challenges: lack of institutional coordination, inadequate environmental databases, lack of public awareness, and lack of environmental impact awareness in key national policies, programs and documents.

FOCUS

- Develop and launch a report on meeting the Rio Conventions and other MEA obligations;
- Train researchers on environmental project design and management;
- Assist Ministry of Environmental Protection to organize consultations with Civil Sector Organizations (CSOs) on Rio Conventions;
- Train local officials on how to integrate international environmental requirements in strategic and environmental impact assessments (SEAs and EIAs);
- Train the Members of Parliament on international environmental agreements, treaties, and implementation oversight;
- Increase knowledge and skills of youth organizations and local youth offices on how to develop high-quality project proposals on global environmental issues;
- Develop an on-line database for reporting SEAs and EIAs conducted at national and local levels;
- Prepare guidance for local climate adaptation planning;
- Develop an action plan on resource mobilization for financing MEAs' implementation;
- Assist the law students engaged in the Environment Legal Clinic at the University of Belgrade Faculty of Law - to provide legal analysis and support state authorities related to international environmental issues.



The Project team initiated partnership with the private sector SBB Foundation on initiatives with positive impact on environment and the society. Following one of the UNDP's Youth Green Startup training, several participants applied with their green ideas for the SBB Foundation award program, and one of them was selected and received funds, making her idea a reality.



Info Day for youth organizations (Photo by Momira Markovic)

RESULTS TO DATE

- ✓ 88 representatives of 31 environmental research institutions trained on how to develop and manage projects for the biggest EU Research and Innovation programme (EU Horizon 2020);
- ✓ Consultations between the Ministry of Environmental Protection' officials and representatives of 21 CSOs were organized to share the highlights and conclusions of the Climate Change COP23 global conference;
- ✓ 123 officials in local governments trained to integrate international environmental requirements into SEAs and EIAs;
- ✓ 26 MPs from various political parties, members of the informal Green Parliamentary Group within the National Parliament, gained knowledge on Green public procurement, harmonization of national and EU environmental legislation; The Group's web site <http://zelenidijalog.rs> was developed;
- ✓ 40 members of Women Parliamentarians from national and local parliaments, as well as Green Parliamentary Group members gained knowledge on green entrepreneurship;
- ✓ Youth Info Days organized in Belgrade, Nis, Novi Sad, and Kragujevac, to help CSOs and local youth offices develop environmental projects that engage youth, and to share information on available funding sources;
- ✓ 25 young men and women trained to develop green startups.

PROJECT IS FOCUSED ON 3 RIO CONVENTIONS:



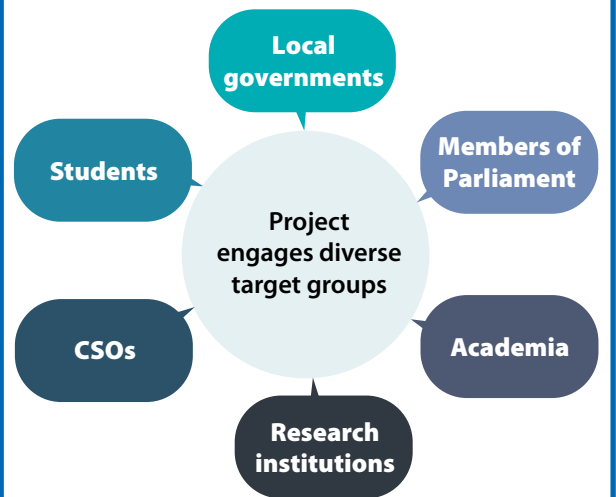
United Nations
Climate Change



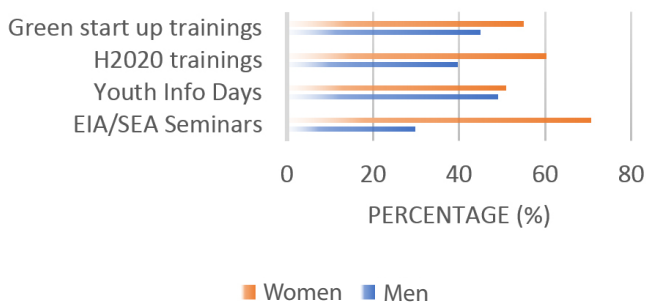
25 YEARS Convention on
Biological Diversity
SAFEGUARDING LIFE ON EARTH



United Nations
Convention to Combat
Desertification



Participation rate in key project activities
(by gender)



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