

Bilateral Development Cooperation between Germany & Serbia

By  REPUBLIC OF SERBIA
MINISTRY OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION



Bilateral development cooperation between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of Serbia goes back whole 18 years. From 2000 till today the Republic of Serbia has been approved over 1.8 billion euros of development assistance in the form of grants and soft loans. On behalf of the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), projects of financial cooperation are implemented by German Development Bank (KfW – Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau), whilst technical cooperation projects are implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and National Metrology Institute of Germany (PTB – Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt). Germany directs its funds towards realisation of projects and programmes in 3 priority areas: Environment: supply of electricity and heat energy, water supply, waste water treatment, treatment and disposal of solid waste, biodiversity, energy efficiency, renewable energy; Sustainable economic development: improvement of financial and economic legal frameworks, development of financial system (by credit lines in the domain of environmental protection, development of local infrastructure and rural areas, especially agriculture), support to SMEs, support to secondary vocational education and training, including promotion of employment by applying holistic approach (job creation, increase employability and establishment of effective labour market services); Rule of Law, democracy, public administration, civil society: support to development of decentralised, results oriented and efficient

administration, improvement of the rule of law, judiciary system, assistance in preparation of accession negotiations and support to the process of EU accession, including sub-areas of public administration and sound financial management. Within the mentioned areas of cooperation, numerous reforms were initiated and/or completed and many results achieved that are of great significance for the development of the Republic of Serbia, its EU accession path and well-being of citizens. Official consultations on development cooperation 2018 were held on 18 September 2018 in Belgrade. The meeting was held in order to prepare Government Negotiations planned to be held in second quarter of 2019 in Berlin and included consultations on the status of ongoing bilateral development assistance, expression of the priorities of the Republic of Serbia for official development assistance (ODA), presentation of funding priorities and available ODA of the FR of Germany. The total volume of planned 2018 commitments is 49.1 million euros, 9.5 million in grant fund for Technical Cooperation projects and programs and 4.6 million euros grants and up to 35 million in loans for Financial Cooperation.



Did you know?

The Talanoa Dialogue is a facilitative process to take stock of the collective and individual efforts towards the goals of the Paris Agreement on climate change. Running throughout 2018, the Talanoa Dialogue is a key moment focus on the solutions and potential associated with the low-carbon transformation. More info

at: [https://](https://ec.europa.eu/clima/)

ec.europa.eu/clima/



Climate Diplomacy Week

24. - 29. September

Climate Diplomacy Week 2018



By: REPUBLIC OF SERBIA
MINISTRY OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

September, Minister of European Integration Jadranka Joksimović opened an event called 'CLIMATE ACTION – NEW APPROACH AGAINST NEGATIVE CLIMATE CHANGE', organized by MEI and the EU Info Center. The Minister's keynote address was followed by the presentation of four initiatives that tackle gender roles in climate change, green building, adjusting traditional ways of building to specific climate conditions, and a start-up project addressing practical solutions to overcoming climate change impact

On the occasion of the world Climate Diplomacy Week, on 24



in the building sector. From 24 to 29 September, the European Union and other countries in Europe and around the world are marking the week dedicated to climate diplomacy. The event, which places Serbia among those countries, is aimed at highlighting the importance of dialogue and cooperation on climate change, presenting examples of good practice in responding to this global challenge, and at encouraging further activities for overcoming its negative effects. Climate action is one of the goals of sustainable development and its formulation has been supported by the European Union within the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

USAID and Divac Foundation Partner to Make Giving Easier

By:



In April 2018 USAID launched a new four year, \$1.9 million Framework for Giving project, implemented by the Coalition for Giving lead by the Ana and Vlade Divac Foundation. The

project supports efforts of Serbian civil society to advance giving and strengthen partnerships with the private sector and government to address shared social and economic challenges. On the initiative of the project and the Philanthropy Development Council, headed by Prime Minister Ana Brnabić – the 2018 Belgrade Half-Marathon, on September 30, was designated a Race of Goodness. Companies and individuals who participate in the race were able to donate funds for the Petnica Science Center and help young talented individuals to innovate and develop their potentials.

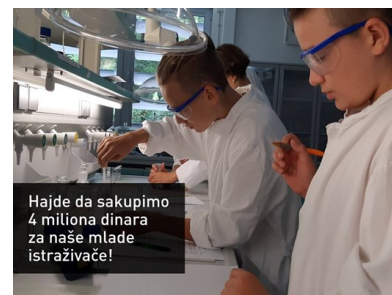
As part of campaign to increase philanthropy, a Belgrade Half Marathon poster encourages people to give charitably.



Učestvuj i ti u „Trci dobrote“!

Also on the initiative of the project and the Philanthropy Development Council, in 2018 Serbia will for the first time celebrate a National Day of Giving, on October 9 – the birthday of the great Serbian innovator and philanthropist Mihajlo Pupin. Over the past few years philanthropy in Serbia was on the rise – with more than 27 million Euros being donated in 2017 for health, support to marginalized groups, poverty reduction and education.

The National Day of Giving is an opportunity to highlight the great initiatives happening throughout the country and mobilize more good people to do good deeds for their communities.



Hajde da sakupimo 4 miliona dinara za naše mlade istraživače!

An advertisement for the National day of Giving, encourages donations to benefit young innovators at the Petnica Science Center.

Swiss Support for Civil Sector and Socially Innovative Projects



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

Within the Swiss PRO Programme the support of the Swiss Government worth €350,000 was granted to 26 civil society organisations for the

purpose of conducting socially innovative projects in 48 towns and municipalities, while technical support intended for local self-governments in conducting projects in partnership with the civil sector will be received by 16 towns and municipalities. Through the Swiss PRO Programme the project proposals submitted by the civil society organisations and local self-governments in the calls for supporting socially innovative projects have been approved. The Call was opened during August 2018 where as many as 85 organisations from 16 local self-governments applied. Grants worth between €10,000 and €14,000 per project were approved to 26 civil society organisations (CSOs) in order to implement “new ideas fit for communities”, i.e. socially innovative projects designed for vulnerable groups. Eleven projects will deal with the empowerment of vulnerable groups through trainings, while others will deal with the improved access of public services for vulnerable groups: access to social protection, access to healthcare services, as well as education. “We are extremely pleased with the implemented call, evaluation process and quality of the projects,” Ursula Läubli, Director of the Swiss Cooperation Office in Serbia said. “This is the continuation of the work in

the wake of another successful programme, “European PROGRES” and in the future we will try to provide support to local self-governments in line with their needs but also, in coordination with the line ministry, to support the projects addressing youth employment.” Moreover, within the second call, technical support for 16 local self-governments was approved so that they can develop or upgrade processes, procedures, and regulations about defining public interest and funding local projects implemented by CSOs, whereas in the next stage part of towns and municipalities will receive support for implementing the projects in partnership with CSOs. “This is the continuation of a successful cooperation between the Governments of Serbia and Switzerland,” Graeme Tyndall, European PROGRES Programme Manager stated. “Through the Programme we will try to achieve that both the Government and local self-governments have the essential ownership of the processes we implement together, so that the goals and priorities are realised and sustainable in the long run.” The Swiss PRO Programme has been supported by the Government of Switzerland with €5.8 million. The Programme supports enhancement of local capacities and resources for applying good governance principles, social inclusion and gender equality measures in order to meet the needs of citizens and improve the life conditions of excluded groups.

European Cooperation Day 2018 in Serbia

By:  REPUBLIC OF SERBIA
MINISTRY OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

celebrating the importance and achievements of territorial cooperation. From the very beginning, the Ministry of European Integration has been involved in the European organization of the European Cooperation Day in Serbia and, for the seventh year in a row, it has organized a series of events in Belgrade and the border regions of our country on this occasion. For the occasion of 2018 celebration our Ministry organized a three-day documentary film festival European Cooperation: Film Story. State Secretary at the Ministry of European Integration Anja Rović ceremoniously opened the festival, pointing out that the European Cooperation day celebrates the importance and the achievements of territorial cooperation through local events organized in more than 40 countries around Europe. She stressed that the Ministry of European Integration, as the National Coordinator, had been involved in the European organization of marking this date since the beginning. "Marking the European Cooperation Day, we once again want to highlight all those projects from cross-border and transnational cooperation programmes that the European Union has financed, together with numerous local governments across Serbia, to the benefit of all citizens living in border areas of our country and neighbouring countries", un-

The European Cooperation Day, 21 September, is being marked throughout Europe as a date cele-

derlined Rović. The festival was opened with the screening of the multi-award-winning domestic film *Trapped Time* directed by Milan Nikodijević, followed by the Greek film *A Family Affair*, by author Angeliki Aristomenopoulou and the documentary *The Paris Opéra*, directed by Jean-Stéphane Bron and made in a French-Swiss co-production. Interreg IPA CBC Programme Bulgaria-Serbia,



supported by our Ministry and in cooperation with the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works of the Republic of Bulgaria organized an Art Festival 'Painting our future together' in Knjaževac. The event had a rich and colorful programme, from painting workshops for elementary and secondary school pupils, face

painting, presentation of examples of good practice and successful projects implemented in Knjaževac, performance of mixed Serbian - Bulgarian choir to the concert by Biljana Krstić & Bistrik Orchestra. Interreg IPA CBC Programme Hungary-Serbia marked this year's European Cooperation Day by organizing 15 events through seven ongoing projects. Visitors had the opportunity to enjoy outdoor festivals as well as free sports events, art exhibitions, theatrical plays for children... Wishing you all a happy European Cooperation Day!

In Brief

Minister of European Integration Jadranka Joksimović has met with newly appointed Ambassador of the Czech Republic Tomáš Kuchta. They have discussed the continuation of Serbia's European integration and the cooperation of the two countries in the process, the effects of reforms, situation in the region, bilateral relations and other topics. More info at: <http://www.mei.gov.rs/en/news/753/189/335/details/j-joksimovic-and-kuchta-the-czech-republic-shares-its-experiences-from-the-process-of-european-integrationvest/>

UN Country Team in Serbia in Brief

By:  United Nations
SERBIA



⇒ Belgrade hosts a sub-regional conference on promoting progress in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. [Read more](#)

⇒ "From Accession to Acceleration" - the UN Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support (MAPS) Mission has visited Serbia for a week-long visit to support the ongoing efforts of the Government of the Republic of Serbia in contextualizing and adapting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to national needs in line with the ongoing EU accession and related reform processes. [Read more](#)

⇒ Supported by the Swiss government and UNCT, the City of Leskovac introduced an electronic parliament system at the local Assembly (LINK-ed), benefiting both for the MPs and citizens. The new digital tool comprises e-document management system and e-voting, significantly reducing the time and cost of assembly sessions, while ensuring transparency and increasing accountability. [Read more](#)

⇒ Serbia becomes one of the first countries to align national sexual and reproductive health priorities with international standards. [Read more](#)

⇒ Within the EU Support to Migration Management in the Republic of Serbia, a Training of Trainers was organized to prepare public health experts and interpreters for implementation of a Health Awareness Raising campaign to be conducted through workshops and interactive discussions with refugees, migrants and asylum seekers. The initial set of 51 workshops will be held in the period October 2018 to February 2019 at 16 locations in Serbia. [Read more](#)

Belgrade Crowdfunding Convention



By:

The German-Serbian Initiative for Sustainable Growth and Employment, together with the Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit of the Government of Serbia, the

Heinrich Böll Foundation and the social impact agency Brodoto, organised the second Belgrade Crowdfunding Convention on 25 September 2018. The Convention gathered more than 200 experts and enthusiasts, key note speakers from Serbia, the region and the European Union. The ambassador of Germany to Serbia, H.E. Thomas Schieb, the Minister without portfolio responsible for innovation and technological development, Nenad Popovic, state secretaries Branimir Stojanovic from the Ministry of economy and Anamarija Viček from the Ministry of education, science and technological development opened the conference and showed its cross-cutting importance. Previously, the German-Serbian



Initiative already conducted educational sets of trainings, implemented through Brodoto's Crowdfunding Academy earlier this year. The big interest in the Academy showed that the need for this kind of activities is huge. Furthermore, a study on legal and institutional obstacles for rewards-based crowdfunding shows shortcuts that need to be addressed in future for allowing this form of financing room to grow. The platform www.crowdfunding.rs provides further information. The German-Serbian Initiative for Sustainable Growth and Employment is a globally unique instrument of German development cooperation. It has been established by the German Minister for economic cooperation and development Gerd Müller and Serbian ministerial colleagues in May 2015. Conducted activities involve numerous Serbian partner ministries, institutions and organisations, which makes the German-Serbian Initiative a broad platform for exchange and cooperation on different topics.

Upcoming Events

Ministry of European Integration of the Republic of Serbia and Government of Montenegro – European Integration Office, with technical support provided by the Joint Technical Secretariat of the IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Serbia – Montenegro 2014-2020 (JTS), organizes the IPA Cross-border Cooperation Programme Serbia-Montenegro 2014-2020 is financed through the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance provided by the EU. The Programme covers period from 2014-2020 and being implemented under indirect management, where the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Serbia is the Contracting Authority.

Info Workshop will be held in accordance with the following schedule:

- ⇒ 17-18 October 2018, Nikšić, Montenegro
- ⇒ 24-25 October 2018, Vrnjačka Banja, Republic of Serbia

Gender Mainstreaming of EU Funds



By:

The training “Gender Mainstreaming of EU Funds and EU Gender Equality

Standards and Practices” was organized by the UN Women Serbia in close cooperation with the Coordination Body for Gender Equality, the Ministry of European Integration (MEI), the EU Delegation in Serbia and other partner institutions and women's organizations'. The training took place in Hotel “Sloboda” in Sabac, Serbia, on 12-14 September 2018. Based on the fact that gender mainstreaming is an obligation in the process of planning, programing and implementation of the projects,



in order to use of the available capacities in the national institutions, it was decided to have a joint training for all relevant representatives. The key training objectives were: 1)Reminder of the basic concepts related to gender and gender equality; 2)Understanding the importance of gender mainstreaming; 3) Introduction to processes and tools for introducing gender perspectives into public policies; 4)Using of gender mainstreaming tools in different project phases; 5)Discuss different cooperation models between IPA Units and gender focal points; 6)Encouraging cooperation and communication among participants.

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 Ministry of European Integration.

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



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If you wish to contribute, subscribe or unsubscribe, please send an e-mail to Nataša Kalaba, natasa.kalaba@mei.gov.rs Sector for Planning, Programming, Monitoring and Reporting on EU Funds and Development Assistance

Ministry of European Integration

Nemanjina 34, Belgrade, Serbia

011/3061-216

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