

ALDA NEWSLETTER MAY 2016



ALDA General Assembly 2016: Building a bottom-up Europe is possible, thanks to the cooperation of local authorities and civil society

The General Assembly of ALDA, the European Association for Local Democracy, was held on 12 May in Paris, at “La Convention”, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

ALDA counts today over 200 members among local authorities, associations of local authorities, and civil society organizations and their networks in the enlarged Europe. Over 80 members attended the event, this year focused on decentralized cooperation and on its potential as a tool to enhance good local governance.

The partnership and support of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, together with the partnership with the Art Initiative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and with the French Association of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (AFCCRE), transformed the day and all related events into high-level debates, while constituting the occasion for ALDA’s members to decide and live the Association strategic choices.

On top of approving the [accounts](#), [the activity report](#), and the [programme](#), the General Assembly 2016 elected the [new Governing Board](#), which will lead the activities of ALDA during the next four years. The former President Oriano Otočan, representative of the Croatian Region Istria, was confirmed, thus proving his engagement and vision supporting the association expansion.

The Assembly decided on the status of the three former Local Democracy Agencies in Croatia (Verteneglio/Brtonigla, Osijek, and Sisak), which are now Operational Partners of ALDA (see [change to ALDA Statute approved](#)). The Assembly also approved the [recommendations on tackling migration](#) arising from the initiative on the topic and on the inquiry run by ALDA and the LADDER consortium.

“Witnessing the increase in our members’ participation year after year cannot but fill us with pride and hope” stated Antonella Valmorbidia, Secretary General of ALDA. “The new Governing Board is a perfect synthesis of ALDA’s soul - local authorities and civil society, women and man, European Union, Balkans, Eastern Partnership, and Mediterranean area. They all share knowledge, skills, and the wish to promote local democracy, improving their citizens’ lives, and building a bottom-up Europe. I am extremely confident they - we - will do a great work”, concluded Mrs Valmorbidia.

As part of the event, the 4th edition of the annual scholarship Gianfranco Martini was awarded to Eva Komlossyova and Lenka Dušková of the Palacký University of Olomouc, in Czech Republic, for their study

project titled "Assessing Impact of Local Democracy Agencies in Bosnia and Herzegovina".

Useful links:

Agenda of ALDA General Assembly 2016 ([EN, .pdf](#)) ([FR, .pdf](#))
[President's Moral Report 2015 and Mandate's report \(2012-2016\)](#)
Treasurer's Activity Report 2015 ([EN, .pdf](#)) ([FR, .pdf](#))
[Accounts Report 2015 - Bilan \(FR, .pdf\)](#)
ALDA Programme of Activities 2016 ([EN, .pdf](#)) ([FR, .pdf](#))
[The Migration Initiative: Recommendations](#)
[Operational partners of ALDA - Changes for ALDA Statute](#)

[Meet the new Governing Board \(2016-2020\)](#)

Agenda of Public Events ([EN, .pdf](#)) ([FR, .pdf](#))

Photos:

Photogallery of [ALDA General Assembly](#)

Photogallery of the [conference "Capitalisation of the European Year for Development: The added value of Decentralised Cooperation to promote local governance"](#)

Photogallery of the [toolkit day on decentralized cooperation, in partnership with UNDP Art and AFCCRE](#)



"New Governing Board of ALDA – The sky is the limit!" - Statement of ALDA President, Oriano Otočan

Dear members, dear friends,

I am happy and proud to have been re-elected as the President of ALDA for the next four years. I thank all members of the Governing Board mandate 2012-2016, an incredible group that managed to develop the activities of the Association beyond any possible objectives.

In light of the fantastic results achieved so far, I cannot but express all my joy, hope, and thrill by chairing the new Board, which will lead the work of ALDA until 2020. Its members are a true reflection of the soul of the Association – a balanced mix of representatives of local authorities and civil society, from the EU, enlargement, and neighbouring countries, women and men, of all ages.

With the support and lead, ALDA will be a crucial actor supporting the building of a bottom-up Europe, and aim at consolidating and further expanding its activities. In short, the sky's the limit!

Oriano Otočan
President of ALDA

Meet the [New Governing Board of ALDA](#)



Kairouan, host city of the upcoming Local Democracy Agency in Tunisia

On 28th and 29th April 2016, Mr Alessandro Perelli, Vice-president of ALDA, Ms Antonella Valmorbida, Secretary General, and Ms Anne-

Laure Joedicke, Med Area Coordinator, were present in Kairouan in order to formalize the cooperation with the municipality of Kairouan in the context of the opening of a Local Democracy Agency in Tunisia.

The first step of this formalization took place within the public event organised the 28th April in co-operation with [PASC – le Programme d’Appui à la société civile en Tunisie](#), in the presence of civil society, medias and representatives of the municipality and the Governorate of Kairouan.

On this occasion, the First Delegate of the Governorate, Mr Bassem Chrigui, and the Deputy Mayor, Mr Ahmed Amri, confirmed the will of the municipality to host the upcoming Local Democracy Agency (LDA), which will be the first LDA in the Mediterranean.

All the stakeholders who took part to the meeting have welcomed this new initiative and the efforts already undertaken in favour of local democracy in Tunisia. In this way, Mr Alessandro Perelli has declared during the press conference which followed the meeting: «I am proud and delighted not only to be here today, where so many struggles have been and still are conducted in favour of democracy, but also to feel that local democracy is under way».

The formalization continued on Friday 29th April 2016, when Mr Alessandro Perelli and Mr Lassad Ghdami, Mayor of Kairouan, signed a Memorandum of Understanding to formalize the will of the municipality of Kairouan to become host city of the upcoming Local Democracy Agency (LDA) in Tunisia.

The signing was done in presence of Mrs Antonella Valmorbida and of representatives of 15 organisations of the civil society that have submitted their application to be part of the LDA’s partnership.

ALDA is currently in the final stage of the identification of the international partners of the LDA Kairouan, in order to ensure the effective and successful opening of the agency in autumn 2016.

Useful links:

[Photo gallery](#)

[Mediterranean in the spotlight: meeting of the LADDER Med Path in Tunis](#)



“Migration initiative” recommendations adopted by ALDA General Assembly

Given the increasing number of migrants arriving to European Union, ALDA and the LADDER consortium adopted, during the General Assembly, some recommendations following the “Migration Initiative” with the aim of addressing

this issue.

Due to various reasons such as conflicts, dictatorships, poverty, hunger, lack of jobs opportunities, increasing numbers of migrants are fleeing their countries and trying to reach the European Union. During the last few years this phenomenon has reached an incredible proportion and has often been accompanied by dramatic humanitarian issues, including shipwrecks, high numbers of deaths and illegal smuggling of human beings. Furthermore, the increasing flow of migrants and refugees managing to reach Europe contributed to awaken dangerous movements with racist and xenophobic connotations, questioning European values such as integration and tolerance.

ALDA – European Association for Local Democracy – has elaborated an analysis on the root causes of migration in the last decade and on the level of civic participation of migrants in local communities across Europe. The document aimed at collecting the voice of migrants already living in Europe in order to better understand the obstacles faced in their integration process and promote evidence based policies capable of addressing the current crisis within a long term perspective. The document has been presented on the occasion of the General Assembly in Paris last 12 May and a set of recommendations have been adopted, which highlight the role of local authorities in policy making and implementation, call for effective aid and migrants integration in the local communities, and stress the importance of migration as a driver for development.

Read the [recommendations on migration](#) (ENG, .pdf)

Read the [full document on results of the survey on migration](#) (ENG, .pdf)



Capitalising EYD2015: LADDER special initiative investigates decentralized cooperation as a tool for good local governance

In the framework of the project LADDER and of its General Assembly in Paris, ALDA launched a

special initiative titled “Capitalisation of the European Year for Development: The added value of Decentralised Cooperation to promote local governance”.

The event, organized by ALDA in cooperation with the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with the Art Initiative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and with the French Association of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (AFCCRE), was aimed at capitalizing and consolidating the

lessons learned from the European Year for Development 2015, within the new development framework: the 2030 Global Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). What are the next steps seen from the perspective of local authorities working together with civil society to face the challenge of SDGs implementation at local level? A series of speakers representing institutions, local authorities, and civil society participated and stimulated debate on the topic.

Local Authorities (LAs) and Civil Society Organisations (CSO) are major stakeholders for development. Having a considerable potential to reach out to citizens and create impact and a change in development policies and practices, they shall be recognized and their actions supported. Furthermore, the local level has been recognized a key element, as “localizing development” in the Sustainable Development Goals.

At the same time, innovative approaches are needed to enable international cooperation to tackle SDGs. The event showcased decentralised cooperation as a powerful tool to foster global action for peace building, social cohesion and sustainable development, by stimulating action on the implementation of the SDGs at local level.

The event was opened with the words of Bertrand Fort, Delegate for the external action of local authorities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France, and it led to the adoption of recommendation on the promotion of decentralized cooperation as a tool for development and good governance.

Useful links:

Recommendations ([ENG, .pdf](#); [FR, .pdf](#))

Agenda ([ENG, .pdf](#); [FR, .pdf](#))

[Photo gallery](#)



ALDA in Lampedusa to exchange experience and good practices on managing the emergency and integration of migrants

In cooperation with the Municipality of Lampedusa and the Science Po, ALDA launched

the initiative “The Gates of Europe: Global migrants and local development”. The event took place on 6 May in Lampedusa, symbol of the migration flows in Europe in the last decade. The activity had the objective of identifying feasible solutions for all local communities affected by global challenges such as migration. Participants exchanged on what local communities can do for Europe and what Europe can do for local communities affected by the migration emergency.

The debate was opened by Ms Cécile Kyenge, MEP, rapporteur of the “Report on the Mediterranean”, showcased as an EU global and holistic approach to migration. The report has been recently adopted by the European Parliament and approaches the migration issue by a short, medium and long term perspective. “Migration is a complex phenomenon and it is unthinkable to manage it with the same tools used in the previous decade. It cannot be tackled but only managed via a global approach, involving all stakeholders, particularly local authorities and civil society associations. Europe can get out of the migration crisis only via an effective internal and external solidarity”, stated Ms Kyenge.

Ten points summarise the key elements of the Report: to put human life at the heart of the EU policy on migration; to overcome Dublin’ regulations no longer able to manage the current migration flows with a new European centralised asylum system; force Member states to respect the reallocation mechanism;

open humanitarian corridors; revise the visa system; strengthen EU action against human trafficking; save Schengen; open legal channels of migration; set up an action plan at EU level on migrants' integration; relaunch Europe's action to tackle the root causes of migration. The objective of the document is to also fight populist movements that exploit the crisis for electoral purposes against the actual needs of European communities.

Mr Alessandro Perelli, Vice-President of ALDA, welcomed the emphasis of the report on the role of local authorities and civil society associations in managing the migration emergency and promoting integration. The European institutions and Member States should acknowledge such role and set up proper responses and mechanisms to support all the successful initiatives promoted at the local level. Support local authorities' decentralised cooperation action in partnership with civil society is key in managing the migration phenomenon. ALDA's programme of Local Democracy Agencies, developed in most of the Neighbourhood region, represents a successful tool to get inspired from. Mr Perelli stressed the necessity to base European and national policies on migration on the success of concrete practices developed at the local level as in Lampedusa.

The second panel promoted the exchange of good practices among the Municipalities of Grande-Synthe, Ventimiglia, Lampedusa, Barcelona, Palermo and Lampedusa. "Solutions will come from successful local practices", stated Mr Careme, Mayor of Grande-Synthe while showcasing the initiative welcoming and providing shelter to more than 2800 migrants in a local community with around 22 000 inhabitants. Not only incoming flows but also expelled migrants from France has particularly been affecting the Municipality of Ventimiglia. Mr Enrico Ioculano, Mayor, underlined the need of a better governance in migrants' management. Local authorities should be empowered with more competencies rather than these being spread among too many institutional actors at different level with scares cooperation. The panel also benefited of the videos interventions of Ada Colau, Mayor of Barcelona and Leoluca Orlando, Mayor of Palermo. "We need to change EU policies on migration by getting together and bringing in our experience and perspective. A different Europe more linked to the principles of the founding fathers has to be built", stated the first. Mr Orlando's intervention can be summarised by his closing remarks "Migrants contribute to make the globalisation image more human. They make us, Europeans, reflect upon how we apply human rights within our borders".

Mr Francesco lo Piccolo, President of the Association of the European Schools of Planning, concluded the session by bringing in the perspective of how urban planning and citizenship are close interrelated, with particular reference to migrants' integration processes. Integration cannot be exclusively promoted through the legislative mechanism, barriers to a fulfilled citizenship need to be removed substantially and urban planning does play an important role. When public spaces able to bring different parts of the community together are not existent, access to rights is denied by substantial factors and this can be the results of conscious or unconscious policies.



Extraordinary opportunity for LAs and CSOs to build active citizenship in Europe - Apply now!

This, Open call! ALDA is offering support for activities promoting good governance and citizen participation at the local level in

Europe.

ALDA - the European Association for Local Democracy - continuously supports activities in the field of active European citizenship. In this perspective, ALDA will be supporting the organization and implementation of the selected activities within this field. The call is open for proposals for activities and events which will take place from 1 September to 31 December 2016.

The applications should be committed to the advancement of ALDA's main goal, which is promoting good governance and citizen participation at the local level in Europe. Eligible activities must promote the active involvement of citizens on the most current issues on the EU agenda and contribute to an ever-integrated European Union.

The call is open to local authorities and civil society organizations; based in the following countries: Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Austria, the Netherlands, Hungary, Portugal, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Germany, Cyprus, Luxembourg, UK, Ireland, Iceland. Partnerships between civil society and local authorities will be preferred.

The deadline for applying is **9 September 2016**.

Useful links:

For more information, read the full [Call for Proposals 2016](#)

[Annex 1 – Project Proposal 2016](#)

[Annex 2 – Budget Proposal 2016](#)

Activities implemented through ALDA's support in 2014-2015: [Active Citizenship Publication](#)



Join ALDA's International Summer School on Remembrance in Bitola, Macedonia!

ALDA organizes its first International Summer School on the topic of "Remembrance through the cultural heritage of the First World War on

the Macedonian Front". This experience provides a unique opportunity to visit and research untouched cultural heritage from the First World War in the Republic of Macedonia.

This summer school will take place in Bitola (R. Macedonia) from the 25 until 30 June 2016. The program proposes various discussions on the subject of the First World War on the Macedonian Front as well as visits on the field led by professionals, professors and practitioners in the field of history, archeology, ethnology, cultural heritage and art.

If you are students or enthusiasts interested in the field of history, archeology, ethnology, civil society representatives or activists on the topic of Remembrance, between 18 and 30 years old, you are welcomed to ALDA's International Summer School!

If you are interested to apply for ALDA's International Summer School please contact ALDA Skopje's office at: aldaskopje@aldaintranet.org.

For more details about the program and costs' related information, please consult the documents below:

- [International Summer School 2016 \(English version\)](#)
- [Ecole d'été internationale de l'ALDA \(version française\)](#)



Ready? Steady? Go! Sign up for a practical 3-day training on project management in Pula, Croatia!

ALDA is offering a unique practical training for those interested in learning and improving their project management skills.

The training aims to enhance the participants' skills and knowledge required when dealing with the different phases of project cycle management. The approach is based on using non-formal and practical methodologies, which ALDA's experts have learnt and practiced in their +15-years' experience in the field. In addition, the training will take place in the beautiful sea-side city of Pula, Croatia, from 6 to 8 July 2016, as it is organized by ALDA, in cooperation with the Region Istria.

Throughout the three intensive days, the participants will learn how to build a working team, how to create a projects, how to optimize time, how to organize the team-work efficiently, how to drive a project and engage people, how to reach the target audiences, and tools to make the project sustainable. It will include recommendations on how to solve the typical and not-that-typical emergences that may arise, based on the life experiences of the trainers, who will be sharing ideas and topics that cannot be learnt in a classic project management course.

In brief, the 3-day course for brave project managers will teach all those who approach the role, or who want to improve their skills, with tips and knowledge that no other course would provide!

For more information: [Training programme](#)

The price of the training is €350; a minimum number of participants is required for the course to be confirmed.

Sign up by [filling out the online form](#)!

Please contact Anna Ditta for more information, at anna.ditta@aldaintranet.org, or at the number +39 04 44 54 01 46.

Do not miss this amazing and unique opportunity, and sign up now!



Educational process on sustainable development and recycling in Novo Mesto, Slovenia

Within the framework of the project WE-NET (Working for Environmentally Educated Towns) funded by the programme Europe for Citizens, the Association for Developing Voluntary Work

Novo mesto organised on 14-16 April two educational activities on the themes of recycling waste management and sustainable development. More than 60 participants, mainly youngsters attended and contributed to the event.

The project WE-NET brings together local authorities and civil society associations from 8 countries to work together on issues of mutual concern and exchange ideas. The emphasis of the local processes is on raising young people's awareness on sustainable development and the concept of circular economy. Collaborative partnerships among municipalities, educational facilities, like-minded institutions and businesses, and community organisations is seen as crucial to maximise reach and impact of the project.

In the educational process in Novo mesto, children and teenagers had a unique opportunity to get to know more about the recycling circle and selective waste sorting. They contributed in the workshop session to create a sustainable model of Novo Mesto today and in the future by using recycled materials. They also had the opportunity to debate on the screening "The True Cost", documentary giving inputs on the fashion industry, its huge costs for the environment and workers' human rights. Participants reflected and exchanged upon how to bring better alternatives for customers.



Tourism and Culture: key areas of the spring activities for the twin-territories of Normandy and Macedonia

March and April 2016 were rich in events for local authorities of Normandy and Macedonia. In these last two months, three activities took place

focused on the topics of tourism, culture and cultural heritage in Normandy and Macedonia.

In the end of March, the representatives of the Regional Center for Development of Pelagonija visited their partners of the commune Mont-Saint-Michel in Normandy. The objective of this visit was to gain from the extensive expertise that Normandy has on the topic of cultural heritage: the tools for promotion and for development of touristic attractiveness of the territory. While in Normandy, the representatives from

Pelagonija presented their new smartphone application for tourists. This application is dedicated to the tourists wishing to visit the Baba Montain and its monasteries in the Pelagonija Region in Macedonia. This tool has been created with the support of the cooperation between Normandy and Macedonia.

In the beginning of April, the municipality of Berovo welcomed a group of hikers from their partners, the Municipality of Livarot. This activity is a new step in the cooperation between Livarot and Berovo, who are already working together for many years on the promotion of their territories on the topic of culture, cultural heritage and agriculture as well as the production of cheese which is a common specialty in both territories.

The last activity of April 2016 in the framework of twinning towns of the cooperation between Normandy and Macedonia, was the launch of the new “Strategy for integrated protection of the architectural heritage of the old town of Ohrid”. This strategy is the result of a 3-year project implemented by the Municipality of Ohrid. This strategy was created due to fruitful exchanges of experiences between Ohrid and their partners, the Municipality of Caen, Normandy. The Municipality of Caen is currently implementing their own strategy and it was a good opportunity to share their good practices as well as the difficulties they had to face.

These activities are representative of the Cooperation’s inclusiveness and ability to develop promising fields of the territories through good practice sharing and exchanges of experience.



Seminar on “How has the crisis changed the symbolic context of societies and of European identities?” in the framework of the project Re.Cri.Re

On 28 April, Mr Alfonso Santarpia, lecturer at the University of Aix-en-Provence and French partner of the Re.Cri.Re consortium, presented the project at Maison de la Recherche Schuman in the context of the seminar “How has the crisis changed the symbolic context of societies and of European identities?”.

The seminar brought together a varied group of participants including journalists, policy-makers, students, teachers, and members of political, social or cultural associations interested in the topic of European identity.

This event represented indeed the perfect occasion to disseminate information about Re.Cri.Re, which has precisely the goal of understanding the impact of the current socio-economic situation on the way people perceive the place they live in, to eventually be able to give policy-makers concrete advice on how to improve the effectiveness of their future actions at the local, national and European level.

Re.Cri.Re is a three-year project funded under the call “Europe in a changing world - Inclusive, innovative and reflective societies” in the framework of EU Programme Horizon 2020, and was launched in May 2015 by the European Association for Local Democracy in cooperation with a consortium of 15 universities across Europe.

Useful links:

Further information about Re.Cri.Re. can be found on [ALDA's website](#) as well as on the [project's official website](#).

Contribute to the success of the project by filling in and disseminating Re.Cri.Re's questionnaire on how people represent the space they live in and how these representations are linked to their way of thinking and feeling. The questionnaire is anonymous and only takes ten minutes to complete!

[Questionnaire in all languages](#)



Panel discussion on local governance in Belarus at the European Parliament

On 26 April, the panel discussion on local governance in Belarus: "Dialogue between Citizens and Institutions – the Way Forward?" took place at the European Parliament, hosted by the Chair of the EP's Delegation for Relations with

Belarus, Mr Bogdan Zdrojewski MEP.

Jointly organized by ALDA and our Belarusian member Lev Sapieha Foundation, the event aimed at discussing the state of the dialogue between citizens and institutions in Belarus while addressing the question to what extent the enhanced dialogue could contribute to better governance.

MEP Zdrojewski thanked ALDA and Lev Sapieha for their work, emphasizing their role and solid contribution to strengthening participative democracy in Belarus.

Among the speakers Paweł Adamowicz, Mayor of Gdańsk, Committee of the Region's CORLEAP Representative and Rapporteur for a CORLEAP political report on "Development of active citizenship as a way to strengthen local democracy in the Eastern Partnership countries. Adamowicz stressed that ALDA has a stronger role to play in the Eastern Partnership area, particularly in Belarus.

The President of ALDA Oriano Otočan put the accent on the fact that "There is a lack of trust between people and institution, not only in the non-EU countries but also in EU countries. More subsidiarity and more decentralization also means easier citizens participation in decisions making process, which constitutes an enabling condition for local democracy".

After the speech of Mr Miroslav Kobasa, Chairman of Lev Sapieha Foundation, the debate was enriched from the contributions of the participants from the three citizen centres in Slonim, Mogilev and Vitebsk, who shared their experience and recommendations on how to enhance the dialogue in the country

Useful links:

[Agenda of the event: "Dialogue between Citizens and Institutions – the Way Forward?"](#)



LDA Georgia's General Assembly: new Executive Director and new partners from Poland!

On 5 May the General Assembly of Local Democracy Agency Georgia was held at the premises of the Kutaisi City Hall.

The aim of the General Assembly was to elect the new members of the governing board, to accept new partners - Kujawsko-Pomorskie Region from Poland, to adopt the Report of 2014-2015 of the Executive Director of LDA Georgia Nino Tvaltvdze, and to get acquainted with Nino Khukhua, the new candidate for the position of Executive Director of the LDA.

The meeting was attended by the Mayor of Kutaisi, Shota Murgulia; Nino Beglarishvili, Head of Internal Relations of Tbilisi City Hall; David Melua, Executive Director of the National Association for Local Authorities; Nodar Jikia, Georgian Young Lawyers' Association Kutaisi branch; and Ioseb Khakhleishvili, Vice Governor of Imerety Region. The City of Strasbourg sent their proxy to Nino Tvaltvdze to take part in the decision-making process. The meeting was also attended by the delegation of Kujawsko-Pomorskie Region, Poland, which has been accepted as partner of the LDA Georgia.

The General Assembly was informed about the changes in the organization; the Governing Board approved the candidacy of Nino Khukhua as Executive Director and the decision was proceeded for registration procedures.

From May a new phase will start for LDA Georgia, with the contribution of a new excellent Executive Director, Nino Khukhua, and new partners from Poland, the Kujawsko-Pomorskie Region!



Launching the cross-border project Kosovo-Montenegro

The Local Democracy Agency of Kosovo and the lead partner Associazione Trentino con i Balcani, have officially launched the Cross-Border (Kosovo-Montenegro) project with the first Steering Committee Group Meeting, led by the LDA Kosovo Delegate, Elbert Krasniqi.

In the framework of the cross-border project Kosovo - Montenegro, the first steering committee group meeting of the project BorN- Biodiversity Protection and Development of Prokletije / Bjeshkët and Nemuna Natural Parks, a EU-funded project, implemented from LDA Kosovo with the lead partner Associazione Trentino con i Balcani, has been held in cooperation with the Municipality of Plav, the Environmental Protection Agency of Kosovo and the Regional Development Centre of Rozaje.

The steering committee is composed by seven partners of the project representing Local Authorities and Civil Society Organizations. This first meeting gathered the Mayor of the Municipality of Petnjice Samir Agovic, the Secretary of the Municipality of Rozaj, Nezir Dacic, the Director of Economical Development of the Municipality of Plav, and the Director of Associazione Trentino Con i Balcani, Maurizio Camin, with the general aim to provide Kosovo and Montenegro stakeholders with skills and opportunities to enhance the cross-border cooperation in the field of environmental protection through joint multilevel initiatives aimed at protecting, promoting and managing the valuable and sensitive ecosystem of the project area, fostering the private-public (CSOs, private small local business and Local Administrations - LAs) dialogue.

Over its 18 months duration, the project will promote environmental protection and sustainable economic development in the cross-border area Kosovo - Montenegro.