## **Newsroom:**

#### News 1: December 12, 2016

The Head of Joint Technical Secretariat Mrs. Albertina Ajeti- Binaku attended on workshop organized by the University of Prishtina and University of Tetovo on topic "Spatial data Application for adoptive Nature Conservation Management". The course is being facilitated by Mrs. Monika Hoffman and Mrs. Elise Gurske from the Center for Economics from Germany whereby 30 students participated from both universities.

The activity is part of the project "Cooperative Transboundary Learning for Ecosystem Management and Sustainable Development in the Sharr Mountain region", financed by EU office in Kosovo within IPA I Cross Border Cooperation Programme the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia-Kosovo 2007-2013.

#### Foto 1, 2

### News2: November 23, 2016

Antenna project officer Mr. Berat Limani attended the **Closing event** of the project "Equality and gender mainstreaming across border" financed by IPA CBC programme Kosovo - Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

The project was implemented by Kosovo Gender Studies Center and Akcija Zdruzhenska Skopje and lasted two years.

Foto 3 dhe 4

## News3: November 8, 2016

JTS/Antenna staff participated in closing event of the Cross Border Cooperation programme "Prevention of HIV transmissions and drugs among resident population in the cross-border area"

The project was implemented by the association HOPS - Healthy Options Project Skopje and association Labyrinth in Prishtina

Foto 5, 6 dhe 7

# News 4: 31 October – 01 November, 2016 Gjilan, Kosovo 3-4 November, 2016, Skopje, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

## Workshop for potential applicants In Gjilan and Skopje

#### **Enhancing project preparation capacities**

The Ministry for Local Government Administration (Kosovo) and the Ministry of Local Self-government (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), as operating structures of this CBC programme under IPA II, in close cooperation with the European Union Office in Kosovo (programme Contracting Authority) and with support of the programme's Joint Technical Secretariat, launched a visibility and publicity campaign, as well as organized two capacity building events in project preparation for potential applicants.

Two two-day training events were organized on 31 October - 1 November 2016, at Restaurant Garden in Gjilan/Gnjilane, Kosovo (60 participants), and 3 - 4 November 2016, at Hotel TCC Grand Plaza in Skopje, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (55 participants).

These workshops aimed at enhancing knowledge and skills of the participants to formulate and design project proposals in accordance with project cycle management (PCM) guidelines issued by the EC. The main topics of the training events were an introduction to the IPA II programme, characteristics of the grant scheme and content of the application package; the basics of project cycle management and logical framework approach (LFA), development of the LFA matrix as well as filling in the application form. As a result of the methodology used for these workshops, being a combination of presentations with plenary discussions and group exercises, the group interaction was so dynamic and the participants were so proactive that the latter regarded the events as an excellent opportunity to get familiarized with the new IPA CBC programme, the general requirements of the calls for proposals and the project preparation process. They also became aware of the weaknesses in the technical capacity of the organisations/institutions for which they work.

Foto 8,9,10,11,12,13

# News 5: September 19, 2016

#### **Opening of the Antenna Office in Kumanovo**

New antenna office for new IPA Cross Border Cooperation programme Kosovo - Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia 2014 - 2020 opens doors today.

The Antenna office is located in Kumanovo. Str. Hristijan Todorovski Karpos, 73.

#### Foto 14,15

#### News 6: July 17-18, 2016

The JTS/Antenna staff and the representatives of the Operating Structure – The Ministry for Local Government Administration (Kosovo) on the 17<sup>th</sup> of July 2016 attended a Training "Managing the "TA service contract" under the new IPA II Cross Border Cooperation Programme 2014-2020"organized by CBIB+. The training took place in Prishtina. On the 18<sup>th</sup> of July on the premises of the JTS office in Gjilan, the JTS/Antenna Staff were trained by CBIB+ on the topic of preparing Progress Reports for the IPA CBC Programme Kosovo – Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Foto 16,17

# News 7: July 16, 2016

Closing Event of the "Tourism Open Door for Cross Border Cooperation" Project in Dragash Municipality

The Tourism - Open Door for Cross Border Cooperation project funded by EU and implemented jointly by Dragash/Dragaš and Gostivar municipalities was officially closed on the 13th of July 2016 in a ceremony attended by Mr. Christof Stock, Head of Section in the EU Office in Kosovo, Mrs. Albertina Binaku the Head of JTS Office in Kosovo, Mr. Salim Jenuzi, Mayor of Dragash/Dragaš Municipality, the project team from Dragash/Dragaš, and many other participants.

Several activities were implemented in the framework of this 18 months project, including construction of hiking trails through four attractive locations in Dragash/Dragaš Municipality, establishment of the Tourist Information Office, organization of the joint Gastronomy Fair, establishment of the Joint Cooperation Committee and development of the promotional materials package.

During the Project Closure Event, the Tourist Information Center and the hiking trail in Zgatar village were officially launched, traditional dances were performed and local food was served.

Foto: 18, 19, 20

#### News 8: July 7, 2016

## **Joint Monitoring Committee Meeting**

On July 7<sup>th</sup> 2016, the first meeting of the new Joint Monitoring Committee of the IPA CBC programme Kosovo – Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia 2014-2020 was held.

During this meeting the JTS/Antenna team prepared a presentation of the activities implemented so far under the new IPA CBC programme Kosovo – Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia 2014-2020.

During the JMC meeting, the Rules and procedures of the JMC were discussed and approved. Also the 1<sup>st</sup> call for proposal under the new IPA CBC programme was discussed and the thematic priorities to be covered during the first call were approved. The visibility of the Programme was discussed and the the new Logo was approved. The last part of the meeting was the presentation of the Annual Implementation Report 2015. After the presentation the report was approved by all the JMC members.

Foto 21, 22

## News 9: 5 May 2016

## Official opening of the Joint Technical Secretariat office in Gjilan, Kosovo

On May 5<sup>th</sup> 2016, the new office of the Joint Technical Secretariat of the IPA CBC Programme Kosovo – Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia 2014 – 2020 was officially opened and starting from today will be active.

The JTS office is a new space tailored to meet the increasing demands and expectations of the new IPA II period that covers the period from 2014-2020. The Joint Technical Secretariat will provide information and technical support to potential and contracted project partners, support the implementation of calls for proposals, facilitate the monitoring and administration of Cross-Border projects and support the communication and dissemination of the results achieved and promotion of the Programme impact. The JTS will also have its branch office in Kumanovo in Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia