

Montenegro

Public Awareness Raising and Joint Activity of Stakeholders in Decision Making Process Aiming to Find the Best Solution for Port Milena Lagune – Ecological “black point” for Municipality of Ulcinj

Implemented by NGO Greens of Montenegro

Implementation period: Dec 2005-Oct 2006



Project background

The Port Milena Lagoon near the Municipality of Ulcinj is a valuable natural site, a tourist attraction, and a source of fish for the local population. Due to improper wastewater management and neglect – specifically emanating from the Ulcinj Salt Factory, the Lagoon has become polluted and currently threatens public health. Greens of Montenegro would like to establish a concrete link between the authorities, tourist industry, salt factor, and the public regarding Lagoon pollution, both to encourage all parties to be aware of the problem, and to advance the utilization of public participation mechanisms as a means to find potential solutions. Given that the Master Plan for Tourism until 2020 recommends engaging in public participation, Greens of Montenegro hopes that the authorities as well as all stakeholders will cooperate in the project and that authorities will implement any identified solutions to the current problem, in light of the need to engage in public participation and the public participation requirements set out in the Tourism Plan.

Activities implemented

- Two different brochures/leaflets have been prepared in order to increase public awareness about the ecological condition in Port Milena and to give basic information about the Aarhus Convention.



- Local citizens have been informed through the local media about the project and their roles in the project realization.
- A questionnaire was prepared and a survey was conducted in order to find out people’s/interest groups concerns regarding the port and possible solutions to solve them. A report based on the outcome of

questionnaires has been drafted and discussed during a round table meeting.

- Several meetings with the stakeholders have been organized.
- The final report based on proposals and suggestions for solving the problems of Port Milena problem has been drafted.

- On 6th of June a half-a-day training for the municipal officials on how to conduct the public participation process and facilitate the public meeting has been jointly organized with the expert of the REC HQ.
- On 7th of June the Public meeting on the draft final report has been conducted (more than 60 people from different institutions from different levels attended). The Public meeting came up with a list of valuable ideas for the concrete solutions for the ecological problems of Port Milena.
- Round table and consultations based on conclusions and final report from the Public meeting has been organized in November 2006. This event has gathered different representatives from responsible institutions and finalised the proposed action plan for next steps in order to solve the ecological problems of Post Milena. **The action plan is given over both to the Local Municipality and to the Ministry of the Environment.**

Final results and outcomes

The project realization strengthened in certain extend the cooperation of responsible institutions and individuals to solve problems with Port Milena, unfortunately due to the political changes the relevant institutions did not show towards the end of the project a great wiliness and support for solving of the problems regarding the port Milena. **The project implementer, jointly with the Office for Sustainable Development of the Municipality of Ulcinj are preparing materials for the upcoming Donor Event in order to ensuring relevant fund for the future project realization.**