ANNEX VI FINAL NARRATIVE REPORT

- This report must be completed and signed by the contact person of the coordinator.
- The information provided below must correspond to the financial information that appears in the financial report.
- Please complete the report using a typewriter or computer.
- · Please expand the paragraphs as necessary.
- Please refer to the special conditions of your grant contract and send one copy of the report to each address mentioned.
- The contracting authority will reject any incomplete or badly completed reports.
- Unless otherwise specified, the answer to all questions must cover the reporting period as specified in point 1.6.
- Please do not forget to attach to this report the proof of the transfers of ownership referred to in Article 7.5 of the general conditions.

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List of acronyms used in the report

<i>CBC</i>	Cross-Border Cooperation
<i>DEU</i>	Delegation of the European Union
<i>CCPG</i>	Capital City Podgorica
<i>IADK</i>	Initiative for Agricultural Development of Kosovo
<i>MAP</i>	Medical and aromatic plants
MWFP	Non-wood Forrest Products
<i>MoU</i>	Memorandum of Understanding

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1. Description

- 1.1. Name of coordinator of the grant contract: Capital City Podgorica
- 1.2. Name and title of the contact person: Vojislav Ražnatović, Project Manager
- 1.3. Name of beneficiary(ies) and affiliated entity(ies) in the action:
 - Capital City of Podgorica (Lead partner)
 - IADK Initiative for Agriculture Development of Kosovo
- 1.4. Title of the action: Creating employment in agriculture
- 1.5. Contract number: CFCU/MNE/147
- 1.6. Start date and end date of the action: 01st August 2020 1st July 2023
- 1.7. Target country(ies) or region(s):
 - In Montenegro: Capital city Podgorica, Municipality Tuzi and Golubovci
 - In Kosovo, municipalities of Istok and Peja
- 1.8. <u>Final beneficiaries</u> &/or <u>target groups</u>¹ (if different) (including numbers of women and men):
 - Unemployed people in Istok, Peja and Podgorica a least 5000 of them.
 - Representatives of businesses in target area at least 50 of them
 - Local governments' officials at least 20 of them

Final beneficiaries are:

- Ministries of Agriculture and Rural Development in both countries -
- Local communities in cross-border area of Kosovo and Montenegro
- 1.9. Country(ies) in which the activities take place (if different from 1.7): n/a

¹ 'Target groups' are the groups/entities who will be directly positively affected by the project at the project purpose level, and 'final beneficiaries' are those who will benefit from the project in the long term at the level of the society or sector at large.

2. Assessment of the implementation of action activities and its results

2.1. Executive summary of the action

Please give a global overview of the action's implementation for the whole duration of the project

Referring to the <u>updated final logical framework matrix</u>² (see point 2.3. below), describe the level of achievement of the outcome(s) on both the final beneficiaries &/or target group (if different) and the situation in the target country or target region which the action addressed.

Please explain if the intervention logic has proved to be valid, including with the possible changes and their justifications presented in earlier reports, comment the likeliness of reaching the final target(s) related to the impact in a near future (specify).

Please indicate any modification that have be brought to the Logical framework matrix since the start of the Action and explain briefly why (complete explanation should be placed in the 2.2 section under the relevant level considered: outcomes, outputs, activities).

From the administrative point of view, the project had 4 approved contract addendums, what resulted with the extension of project duration period from 18 to 35 months. Four monitoring visits and on-thespot visits have been performed. Reasons behind the delay and extention of the implementation period were CORONA restriction and changes of project Managers of the Applicant, as well as issue of the changes of prices due to inflation that impacted delay of procurement of equipment in Montenegro. Finally, all project activities were successfully completed till the 1st July 2023. During the implementation period the Applicant - Secretariat of Entrepreneurship of the Capital City has finally been transformed and systematised, so the implementation of the project on the side of Montenegro continued without administrative obstacles. Project has received supervision instance together with the signatory authority in the Head of the Agriculture support department of the Capital City. In that regard, the delayed tender procedure for procurement of the equipment in Montenegro has been completed, clusters have been formed and the equipment has been installed. Also, marketing linkages activities have continued and completed on time. Moreover, capacity building activities have been successfully completed in Montenegro. Additionally, Agriculture Fair has been organized on 11th and 12th June 2022 in Podgorica. Study visit of MAP producers from Montenegro to Kosovo has been organized between 22nd and 25th June 2022. Contracting of Seljak.me has been completed in order to proceed with marketing activities. In Kosovo the activities have been completed. Capacity building and internship scheme has been done. Equipment for the beneficiaries has been delivered and the beneficiaries have continued with the production of MAPs. As per the addendum request, the experts from IADK have conducted the training and direct advisory services to increase and advance their skills in the organic cultivation of MAP and to ensure the longevity and sustainability of the activity. Additionally, 22 interns have realized their practical work in different MAP companies and which will aid them to be employable and out of them, 13 are employed in different agricultural companies or 59% of them. Besides, some of the beneficiaries received the required equipment for agricultural production and have been provided with direct advisory during project implementation.

2.2. Results and activities

A. RESULTS

The narrative report should be based on the monitoring and evaluation system set up using as a basis the Logical framework matrix. As such, narrative reports must inform all the indicators defined in the logical framework. Monitoring and/or evaluation reports relating to the performance of the Action

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² The relevant terminology (i.e. outputs, outcome, indicators, etc.) is defined in the logical framework matrix template attached to the guidelines for applicants (Annex e3d).

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shall be used and mentioned in the narrative report. All the monitoring and/or evaluation reports shall be submitted to the Commission with the Final narrative report.

What is your assessment of the results of the action so far? Include observations on the performance and the achievement of outputs, outcomes and impact and whether the action has had any unforeseen positive or negative results.

Explain how the Action has mainstreamed cross-cutting issues such as promotion of human rights,³ gender equality,⁴ democracy, good governance, children's rights and indigenous peoples, youth, environmental sustainability⁵ and combating HIV/AIDS (if there is a strong prevalence in the target country/region).

<u>Referring to the final updated logframe matrix</u> (see point 2.3. below) please <u>comment</u> the level of achievement of all the results on the basis of the corresponding current value of the indicators and all the related activities implemented during the reporting period.

- the level of achievement on the basis of the corresponding baseline, target and current value of the indicators, making reference to the assumptions and risks defined in the Logical framework
- the activities covered and implemented. Activities should be linked to corresponding output(s) through clear numbering.

Overall objective of this action is to improve the access to the labour market. The Action aimed to provide support to rural population to maximize utilization of available resources and to ensure income opportunities which will lead to increased level of socio-economic development of the region. This was achieved as 140 direct beneficiaries were involved in the action and increased their capacities, unemployed persons benefited from the project, while 59% of the internes found the job after the internship period and new business were established as result of this project.

The specific objective of the action was to create jobs in agriculture in rural areas. This objective is fully reached. In terms of indicators, it is 23 newly employed persons. In Montenegro, beneficiaries have completed trainings and received mentoring sessions. Beneficiaries and experts report on the increased quality of their products, especially herbs and dairy. In olive sector, this has been achieved in theory as they have completed the trainings. The receiving the olive processing machine would extensively increase the quality as well. Olive sector group has developed very good local network. Beneficiaries in Kosovo have cultivated and harvested the MAPs in their field and based on their contractual agreements with exporting companies have reached the average of 1,086.00€ until August of 2022. Additionally, the harvesting of the MAPs has continued after the period of the project implementation. Namely, in regard to the indicators of the specific objective 35 new business established as a result of the call, 5 private and/or public sector operators developed possibilities and conditions for practical training of unemployed persons. Also, 120 participants increased employability and employment competences during the project implementation while 13 out of 22 interns were employed as result of the project implementation. Moreover, 3 organisations/ institutions with increased their capacities through implementation of the project activities.

Therefore, it can be stated that the Overall and specific objective have been achieved.

Outcome 1: Unemployed people encouraged to get involved in agriculture.

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Including those of people with disabilities. For more information, see 'Guidance note on disability and development' at https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/disability-inclusive-development-cooperation-guidance-note-eu-staff en

See Guidance on Gender equality at https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/toolkit-mainstreaming-gender-equality-ec-development-cooperation_en

See Guideline for environmental integration at <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sectors/economic-growth/environment-and-green-economy/climate-change-and-environment-en-economy/climate-change-and-en-econo

This result was achieved through the implementation of several activities designed to attract and motivated unemployed people to be engaged in the action. Namely, 2 campaigns for self-employment were conducted, including 11 information/promotional events gathering in total 182 participants at these events. As part of campaign, having in mind the that on-line tools were at focus due to COVID-19 restrictions, 5633 people were reached, while the total number of applications received as a result of the set of activities was 197.

Outcome 2: Capacities of unemployed people strengthened for agriculture

This output/result was obtained through the implementation of activities dedicated to increasing the skills level of beneficiaries for continued employment in agriculture.

During the period September 2021- March 2022 the capacity building activities within this Outcome have been completed in Montenegro, including capacity building and direct advice sessions in three sectors of agriculture: olives, dairy and medical and aromatic herbs. Three experts have been engaged and each of them has developed appropriate methodology for beneficiaries depending on their level of experience. In terms of indicators, 72 men and 48 women have increased employability competences. Procurement of the agriculture equipment in Montenegro is also finalised during the June 2023, while the procured equipment for these three sectors has been delivered and installed within the clusters that have been formed during the project implementation.

The action in <u>Kosovo</u> side provided training on the sector of Medical and Aromatic Plant (MAP) cultivation and gaining of soft skills for students/graduates of agriculture-related fields. During this project, the in-kind supported beneficiaries (20 grant beneficiaries) continuously received in-site advisory sessions. All grant beneficiaries (20 out of 20) received all seven planned direct advisory services. The grant beneficiaries were regularly monitored by the project staff and they were regularly guided in the production and cultivation procedures, in order to achieve higher incomes and production from their activity. Additionally, the beneficiaries were part of the trainings with experts in the production of MAP seedlings and organic standards and drying packaging.

In terms of indicators for this output, 118 trainings and direct advice sessions have been organized and provided to 227 persons, while 18 sets of equipment have been procured in Montenegro and 20 in Kosovo. Moreover, a study visit for 13 Montenegrin beneficiaries has been organized in Kosovo.

Outcome 3: Sustainable linkages created for continued employment

This outcome consisted of activities that were necessary for sustainability of this action, securing or making easier the way of employment for project beneficiaries. This outcome has been achieved. Namely, in Montenegro contract has been signed with company *Seljak.me* who had a several different tasks regarding marketing promotion of the beneficiaries and their products. This also included building capacities to the beneficiaries on how they can be more competitive in the market as well as how to ease their approach to different funds intended for agriculture development. In addition, Agriculture Fair has been organized on the very attractive locations for visitors, as well as the middlemen and processing companies, during which 14 (4 men and 10 women) beneficiaries who presented their products on the Fair. Moreover, as one the core point of the project is that three clusters have been formed in Montenegro.

On the other side, in Kosovo, the largest activity under this outcome was the organization of the internship scheme. In total within the project, 22 interns/students in different fields of agriculture conducted their three-month internship, after which 13 students /interns or 59% of them were employed either by their host companies or found employment in companies/institutions through the linkages created. Also, in order to facilitate the process of selling and marketing MAPs produced by project beneficiaries, the action provided training in the "Marketing and Market Access" topic. To facilitate the process of the contractual agreement between the project beneficiaries and companies, the engaged expert visited and evaluated the potential of the 20 project beneficiaries and gathered data on their production capacities and selling potential. Additionally, the expert presented the data of the

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beneficiaries to the 10 purchasing companies of MAP and NWFP and managed to prepare a form of contract for cultivation and purchase of products, and as a result, 5-year contracts were signed between the beneficiaries/farmers of the project and the collection and exporting companies of MAPs and MWFP. Further, under this outcome, the action printed a catalogue where each of the producers were presented, their activity described and contact information provided. This publication was used and will continue to be used during meetings with potential buyers, to demonstrate the product and quantities that each producer can provide. Moreover, in order to promote the results of the project a video report was prepared, where interviews were presented with various actors related to the project, such as beneficiaries of grants for the cultivation of aromatic medicinal plants, students supported with internships, companies collecting and exporting aromatic medicinal plants and at the same time and students engaged in internship as well as interviews of staff involved in project implementation.

B. ACTIVITIES

Activity 1.1. Informational Campaign

On the side of Montenegro, this activity has been implemented a little longer than planned due to the Covid19 measures that disabled us to make bigger meetings and presentations of the project in order to get the attention of possible beneficiaries. Apart from the social network and website of the Capital city of Podgorica, the team decided to use more direct approach. The team has organized many different smaller meetings (Agriculture department of Municipality Tuzi, and Administrative unit Golubovci, Employment agency office in Tuzi and Golubovci and Podgorica, Chamber of Commerce, NGO Association of Women Entrepreneurship). Apart from that, the team has worked on the field, visiting targeted area villages and visiting agriculture producers that have their establishment already developed. We have also used Info boards at public institutions such as Municipality Tuzi, Admin unit Golubovci and we have published public call for applicants to apply. Social networks and the website of the Capital City Podgorica have also made a lot of impact. In terms of numbers, at the meetings we had 16 people, direct on the field we have met 14 people, social media and website have reached near 2000 persons, estimated number of people who saw the advertisement on the Info boards in two municipalities is 200. Application form as well as the public call for application is attached as annex 1. Info brochure has been created for these purposes and it has been disseminated via Agriculture departments of municipalities Podgorica and Tuzi, employment agencies in these municipalities. Information brochure is attached in Annex 2. So, as a result of all these activities Capital city Podgorica received 125 applications and after the project team has done the assessment, the three groups have been created.



At the <u>Kosovo</u> side, this was the preparatory activity of the action, and the implementation of this activity started with meeting with representatives of both municipalities of Peja and Istog, where the project staff presented the action and its expected result in the municipality. After these meeting and coordination with municipalities the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was prepared and signed with both municipalities. The MoU were signed in the municipalities premises, the MoU with the Municipality of Peja was signed on 12.10.2020 and the MoU with the Municipality of Istog was

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signed on 12.11.2021. After the signing of MoUs, the call for information session and help desks were prepared and published in social media and web pages of IADK and partner municipalities.





Signing of MoU with municipality of Peja

Signing of MoU with municipality of Istog

Due to the Covid-19 and the restriction set by the health institutions in Kosovo and the limitation for the number of participants in a gathering the project team had to organize an online informational session for which the project staff prepared a presentation that briefly describes the project objectives and the ways to get involved in the project, in which session a total of 15 participants were present. Also four help desk (Two for each of partner municipalities) were organized during the mid-November in smaller groups in order to provide information about the project to participants who had difficulties using electronics and joining our online session. These help desks were organized in the offices of agriculture department in municipality of Peja and Istog From all these four help desks a total of 31 potential candidates have been informed about the project.





Information session (presented by ED, PM and PO) and help desks held organized by IADK team

In order to ensure a higher project presentation and to ensure the visibility of the action and the support from EU, the project has developed visibility materials, such as: Two roll up banners, 150 Paper folders, 200 Pens, 240 Logo sticks (A3,A4,A5,A6), 200 Notebooks, and also informational materials such as leaflets. These leaflets were used to present the action objectives, place of implementation, the ways to get involved and the target group of the action to different stakeholders. The content of the leaflet were prepared in three languages, and in total 500 copies were printed.

Activity 1.2. Expression of interest from unemployed persons and selection of beneficiaries

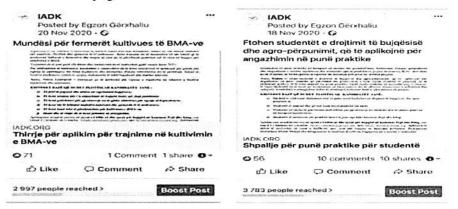
During info campaign in <u>Montenegrin</u> side, a short list of criteria has been set in accordance to the target and goals of the project. The criteria were: unemployed people, youth and people who are motivated and willing to work in the sector of agriculture. Application form has been created and it included very basic information about the candidates who were interested in the project. Application period lasted one month and 10 days and as soon as it ended, Project Manager and Agriculture Coordinator have done the assessment of the applicants. Capital city Podgorica received 125 applications and after the project team has done the assessment. Those applicants who already have some farm or plantation the team visited on the field, and in case they are complete beginners, the interview would be held in the office. The total of 9 interviews were held. The assessment itself

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included verification of several criteria: how employable the candidate is currently, how many dependable family members the applicant has, are there other family members who would provide support and make the agriculture more sustainable for the family, general opinion on the household of the beneficiary etc. After the assessment, three groups of beneficiaries have been created. The groups for olives and dairy consist of 24 and 25 beneficiaries, and group for medicinal herbs is smaller and it has 17 members.

On <u>Kosovo</u> side, this activity was a direct follow up of the informational campaigns held. For this in municipality of Peja and Istog a call for application for medical and aromatic plants trainings and grants and internship placement were prepared and shared through different means such as: social media, printed and hanged on most visible areas in both municipalities and web pages of IADK and Municipalities. From these publications approximately 6780 people were reached only from the call published on IADK's Facebook page.



People reached from the published calls on Facebook

With the publication of the calls the application forms were prepared and shared with interested candidates through email and hard copy from municipalities of Peja and Istog. The method for setting the criteria for internship scheme was mainly based on their education and the place where they live. The call was open for student from municipality of Peja and Istog, who have studied any department of Agriculture or Food Processing. Another important criteria was the previous experience, where students with no previous work of internship experience were considered. The call for internships was published on 18 of November 2020 and was open for 14 days. From the call for internship placement the project received 44 applications (23 from Peja, 18 from Istog and 3 from non-targeted municipalities). After the call initially the action selected 10 internees from municipality of Peja and 10 from municipality of Istog based on the criteria such as: Unemployed; Candidates who have not undergone any internship before (given preference); and Only the candidates who confirmed their willingness to work full time.

The method for setting the criteria for training in the MAP sector was mainly based on their activity on agriculture and the place where they live. The call was open for farmers and unemployed persons from municipality of Peja and Istog, who have enough land for setting up a MAP plantation, have enough water resources and are willing to engage in this activity. The call for MAP training was published on 18th of November and was open for 14 days. After the first deadline was closed the action re-opened the call for farmers in municipality of Peja, on 29.12.2020) and the call was open for 23 days. From the call for MAP training the project received 24 applications from Istog municipality whereas in municipality of Peja the call for MAP trainings had to be republished since during the first time only 13 were received. During the second call for application in municipality of Peja 6 more applications were received, where in total 19 applications were received from Peja municipality. After the closing of the deadline for applications, the project evaluated the applications received based on the following criteria:

Young and unemployed persons where given preference of selection – out of the total 42 candidates selected for training in MAP, 22 where youth under the age of 35

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- Women applicants had higher chances of selection out of the total 42 selected 8 were women who followed the MAP trainings
- Only the candidates who had the suitable land for the cultivation of MAPs(not treated with any
 pesticides in the last 5 years) sufficient water supply where considered
- Only the candidates that confirmed that they will follow the capacity building events where considered.

An evaluation committee was formed from two IADK/Action staff and a representative of each partner municipality, who was proposed on the MoU signed with both municipalities (municipality of Peja and Istog). After the evaluation of the applicants by the set evaluation committee, the action selected 19 candidates (2 women, 17 men) from Peja and 23 (6 women, 17 men) from Istog municipality. The action selected additional candidates in case there would be dropouts during the capacity building activities. However, after the selection of candidates for the trainings in MAP sector, two additional male candidates from municipality of Peja expressed their interest to participate in the training, who were also admitted to the training programme. In municipality of Peja, three selected candidates withdraw from the training programme when invited to partake in the training. Therefore, from 19 selected initially, plus two more candidates selected after the selection process was finalized and three withdrawn after selection, in total in municipality of Peja 18 candidates took part in the training programme. Therefore, in total from two municipalities the action trained 41 candidates. The action under this activity also held meeting with different companies in medical aromatic plants or non-timber forest products sector, in order to present to them the project and the scheme of internship. In total the project held 10 meetings with 10 different companies, where five where selected as they were suitable to the action needs, and where willing to ensure a place for internship placement for students. The action ensured five (5) companies in the sector of MAPs and NTFP to provide space for internship placement for internees selected by the action, and consider employing them in the future.

Activity 2.1. Capacity building activities in herbs, olives and dairy sector

On the side of Montenegro, the three groups have been created, for three given sectors – dairy, olives and medical and aromatic herbs. The groups for olives and dairy consist of 24 and 25 beneficiaries, and group for medicinal herbs is smaller and it has 17 members. Each of the 3 lecturers, selected experts from the relevant sectors of olive, MAP and dairy production have completed over 20 working days with their particular groups. Mrs. Aleksandra Martinovic has worked with dairy group and conducted 2 sessions at the municipal building and 14 field visits. The group consists of in average of 22 beneficiaries (6 female / 16 male). She adapted her work to the situation she has identified at the field and provided additional marketing activities in the later stage of the project. The report on dairy sector based on her findings, together with recommendations for further activities of sector for agriculture of the Capital city.





Mr. Velibor Spalevic is conducted capacity building activities within the sector of medicinal and aromatic herbs. Together with his fellow professors from the University of Montenegro, he has visited all of the beneficiaries separately and he worked with them on the field. Two workshops have been organised, on 27th September 2021 for 9 persons and 8th October 2021 for 7 persons. The visits have been conducted during November 2021 providing advices on following topics: Herbal processing for cosmetics; Cultivation of mild-effect medicinal herbs but also using of filling machines for fruits and juices prepared

by using medicinal plants; Gathering feedback from end-users to finalize the technical specifications of the equipment to be procured, etc. The group for MAP had in average 14 members (10 female and 4 male). This was the smallest group but members were proactive and motivated.



Mr. Cazim Alkovic worked with group of olive producers. He had very interactive approach in work so this group was not only provided with theoretical training but they have worked together on the field. During each of the phase of growing olives, harvesting and processing this group has visited each other's plantations or even plantations in Bar and Ulcinj and they worked there together. As a product of networking process members of olive producers group have participated on international events organised in Croatia and Montenegro, as follows: 4 members on event "Ex albis ulivis" organised at Bar on 2021; 2 members on event "Noćnjak" organised at Brač (Croatia) on September 2022; 2 members on event "Maslinijada" organised at Bar on October 2022; 2 members on event "testing of olive oil" organised at Bar on December 2022; 4 members on event "Noćnjak" organised at Brač (Croatia) on September 2023;

This group had in average 21 participants (6 female and 15 male).





Apart from that, capacity building activities in the area of marketing in Montenegro were conducted by Company Sejak.me, as well known Montenegrin web portal and agriculture stakeholder with image reliable partner to agriculture producers, but also good partner with state and local institutions. The team has chosen Seljak.me to work directly with the beneficiaries and help them create marketing plans for their products, to build their capacities in terms of approaching to state and local institutions for different funds, projects etc. Together with Capital City of Podgorica, Seljak.me created a section in the portal where beneficiaries will be advertised. Seljak.me has visited beneficiaries during the Fair and they have prepared short video on the activity.

On Kosovo side, the capacity building activities within this activity were divided into two components: trainings on soft skills for internees and training on MAP cultivation for training beneficiaries. Initially the project conducted the trainings on soft skill components for selected internees. The internees were divided into two groups, due to the Covid-19 restriction set by the health institutions of the country and limitation on the number of the participants for one gathering. Therefore one group of internees with 10 participants (9 women, 1 men) was formed in municipality of Peja and one group of 10 participants (6 women, 4 men) was formed in municipality of Istog. Furthermore, these trainings were all held on the first year of the action due to the fact that the biggest part of activities is carried out during March to October in the MAP and NTFP companies. In total in Kosovo side, 10 days of trainings were organized for the internees during the period of February 2021 till July 2022, each group received five(5) training days in the topics: Preparation of CV and Motivation letter, Presentation and delegation of duties, Critical and Strategical thinking, Verbal and non-verbal communication, Business management, record keeping and sales. During these trainings an average of 9 internees (8 women, 1 men) were present in municipality of Peja and 9 internees (5 women, 4 men) in municipality of Istog. After the training programme was completed, the forms for training and trainer evaluation were prepared and shared with the students, which have shown a high performance of the trainer and have rated the training with maximum of points. Both the trainer and the training program were rated by students with maximum of point (5 of 5).



Training with internees in municipality of Peja and Istog

The second component of this activity is the organization and provision of training for training in MAP sector for beneficiaries. These trainings were organized for two groups, one in Istog (21.12.2020 – 29.12.2020, five days of trainings) and one in Peja municipality during (14.01.2021 – 21.01.2021). For each group five days of MAP trainings were conducted with training beneficiaries in Istog and Peja Municipality, with the topics: Best agricultural practices for production of perennial and annual MAPs, organic production, Business management, record keeping and traceability of records. Due to the COVID-19 situation the number of participants in these trainings was highly affected since some of the participants had resulted positive at the time or had someone from their family infected with the virus. This situation had also affected the training organization, since during the last two training days in Istog Municipality due to Covid-19 restrictions this group was divided into two smaller groups in order to lower the number of participants and respect the limitation on the number of participants for one gathering set by the health institute. In total 12 training sessions, have been organized for the beneficiaries of the MAP sector. A total of 41 (33 men and 8 women) participants have taken part in the trainings. The average attendance of participants in the trainings sessions was of 85% (please find attached the attendance database of participants).

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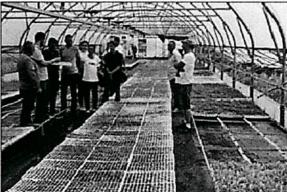


After the trainings, the forms for training and trainer evaluation were prepared, handed out and completed by training participants from both internees and training participants on MAP sector, which have shown a high performance of the trainers and the training in overall. Both the trainer and the training program were rated by students with maximum of point (5 of 5)

In order to advance the knowledge of all MAP cultivation techniques for the 20 grant beneficiaries, additional training was held in period June- August 2022, which were designed in the theoretical and practical form. The trainings were held separately in two groups from which the beneficiaries are in Istog and Peja.

In the first training (conducted on the date of 08th June 2022 with the group from Istog and on the 9th of June 2022 with the group of Peja), the beneficiaries were introduced to the MAP seedling production methods, where, in addition to the theoretical part, the practical part was carried out in a vegetable seedling cultivation greenhouse, where the methods of vegetable seedling production and the care that must have during this production. A total of 17 beneficiaries have attended this training, of which 14 are men and 3 are women.





Practical trainings on MAP seedling production

In the second training (conducted on 6th of July 2022 in Istog, and 07th of July 2022 with the group of Peja), the beneficiaries were introduced to the MAPs organic production standards, the care that must be taken when starting organic production, from the application to the certifying bodies, the selection of land, clean water for irrigation, the use of seeds, seedlings and fertilizers, ways to protect plants from diseases and pests, compliance with all regulations and requirements for this type of production. A total of 13 beneficiaries have attended this training, of which 10 are men and 3 are women.

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duction

In the third training (conducted on 17th of August with Istogu group and 18th of August 2022 with the beneficiaries from Peja), they were introduced to the drying, storage and sale of MAP, where the theoretical part was held first and then the BMA collecting and processing companies were visited, where the whole process was seen from the acceptance of the plants, drying, processing, packaging and preparation for sale. A total of 15 beneficiaries have attended this training, of which 12 are men and 3 are women.





Practical trainings on MAPs, drying, processing, packaging and preparation for sale

Under this activity the action has provided technical skills to 20 (4 women, 16 men) beneficiaries (selected grant beneficiaries under the activity 2.2.) supported with advices directly in their farms. For each beneficiary seven direct advisory services were provided, during which beneficiaries have been informed on the land preparation and planting techniques of the seedlings, on plant irrigation, weed removal, harvesting, drying, and stocking of MAPs as well as separation of seeds and plant parts for the planting on the following year, drying of the plants, on how to produce seedlings and care measures during the vegetation, including how to plant, maintain plots from weeds, watering plants, as well as the most appropriate time of harvesting, the way of drying and storing the products, , etc. In addition to the trainings, in total 7 sessions of direct advices were also offered to the 20 grant beneficiaries as part of the additional activities.

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Direct advisory service provided by the engaged expert at the fields of beneficiaries The beneficiary "VloraDreshaj" of the project during the drying process in the natural dyer

Direct advice was provided by the engaged expert, who for each beneficiary, depending on the situation on the ground. The direct advisory sessions offered to farmers have resulted in better plant quality and quantity in their plots. During the life-spam of the action have gone through all five direct advisory sessions, however, the 20 grant beneficiaries were in close contact with the project staff and engaged experts for any question or concern they might have had in regards to MAP cultivation. In total XX days were provided in form of direct advice to the beneficiaries.

In order to ensure the success of the beneficiaries, regular monitoring to the grant beneficiaries and the project staff has been in close contact with the beneficiaries, where they have been guided and advised for MAP harvesting techniques, equipment usage, selling opportunities, and using good agricultural practices.





Monitoring visits to grant beneficiaries by project team

The provision of training and direct advice has made it easier for the beneficiaries to make the right decisions about concrete agrotechnical measures during the cultivation of MAPs, and to have a clearer orientation of which types of plants are more suitable for cultivation and bring more income.





Direct advisory services to grant beneficiaries

Additionally, to the training and direct advisory services provided, the action prepared and printed a manual/brochure "Cultivation of Medical and Aromatic Plants" where the most profitable and suitable

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MAPs were introduced in the manual and the condition for success, cultivation methods, maintenance after planting, harvesting, drying packaging and storing where explained in details. The manual will serve to the beneficiaries and beyond to further inform them on the cultivation of the MAPs, of highest value and most suitable for cultivation in Kosovo. The manual/brochure is attached as an annex to this report.



Activity 2.2. Assistance to most successful training participants through landing equipment

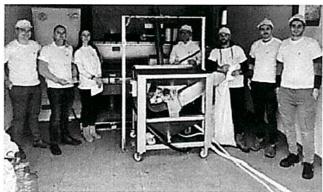
In Montenegro, after final no cost extension of the project, signed on 08.02.2023, the beneficiaries of the project expressed their final needs for the equipment. One set will be for dairy and it will include 8 milking devices and 8 equipment for transport of the milk "lactofreez".



In olive sector the equipment procured will be for pressing the olives in order to produce olive oil. For herbs sector the equipment procured will be for processing of essential oils of herbs. The tender process has been published on 2nd March 2023, contracting and delivering of equipment has been done through three lots and all equipment has been delivered to the beneficiaries on end of June 2023. As predicted in application form, - equipment is placed at the farms, and that producer will provide free of charge services to the other participants.

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Procured equipment will remain ownership of the applicants and it is only be borrowed for the usage of training participants/beneficiaries for two to three years, until their businesses are up and running, and when they can already apply for equipment to Ministries of Agriculture, or when they can even buy their own equipment. And at that point the applicants will transfer the equipment to the next group of unemployed individuals.

On the side of Kosovo, as another way of supporting the beneficiaries in creating employment opportunities the action supported 20 out of 41 trained beneficiaries, with grant of the average amount of 3,700.00€ in MAP sector. Namely, training participants were given application forms to apply for the grant support. On these application forms the training participants were asked to present their idea and develop the support package based on their needs. From all 41training participants, the action received 36 (14 from Peja and 22 from Istog municipality) applications for the grant support.

For the selection of the beneficiaries a commission composed of two IADK staff and one municipal representative (from each municipality) made the technical evaluation of the applications received. The selection process was based on the criteria of: Lands which are not treated with pesticides in last three years; Access and enough water supply for irrigation, Enough labour work force in the family business, Women and youth were given preference of selection, and Willingness to participate in the action by the cost sharing the package. After the evaluation made by the commission the project selected 20 grant beneficiaries 11(8 men, 3 women) from Istog and 9 (8 men and 1 women) from Peja. After the selection of the beneficiaries, the project staff has prepared grant packages (natural dryers, irrigation system, seedlings and agricultural mechanism) based on the request of the grant beneficiaries. After the coordination with beneficiaries on the grant packages the project staff has prepared three-party contracts (Municipality, Beneficiary and IADK) where the obligations of each party were described and signed these contract with 20 beneficiaries who were supported with goods.

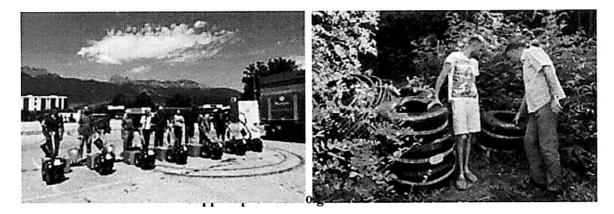




Signing of three party contracts (IADK, Beneficiary, Municipality)

The project staff made the assessment of the equipment used to all 20 grant beneficiaries, and since all 20 beneficiaries have been using the received equipment for the cultivation of MAPs for their primary usage purpose and they have not harmed the equipment in any way. The project staff has prepared the forms for the ownership transfer signed with both parties, IADK and Grant Beneficiaries.

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The supported beneficiaries of the project have generated immediate income from the cultivation and selling of MAP products at the collection/exporting companies. At the table below you may see the income generation of the project beneficiarie in year 2021 and in year 2022.



The data on production and income from this activity were obtained, which are presented in the following table, while the harvest continued in the upcoming season. These products are sold to the collection points and exporting companies with which they have contracts. On average the income generation per beneficiary was 1,013.28 € in 2021 and 2,099.28 € in 2021.

Name &		Municipality/	202	21	202	2	
No.	Surname	Residence	Total / kg	Total / €	Total / kg	7	otal/€
1	Dorentina Gashi	Pejë, Buqan	100	€ 1,200.00	180	€	2,160.0
2	Emin Sylejmani	Pejë, Leshan	327	€ 784.00	699	€	1,710.0
3	Qelë Shala	Pejë, Loxhë	240	€ 480.00	699	ϵ	1,710.0
4	Emerson Zeka	Pejë, Pejë	180	€ 810.00	520	€	1,040.0
5	Sokol Bunjoshi	Pejë , Pejë	195	€ 390.00	340	€	1,690.0
6	Veton Shoshi	Pejë, Pejë	210	€ 315.00	455	ϵ	910.0
7	Endrion Nikqi	Pejë, Nabergjan	240	€ 1,710.00	760	€	1,140.0
8	Mustaf Gjyheri	Pejë, Ruhot	240	€ 1,920.00	460	€	3,605.
9	Vlora Avdijaj	Istog, Sinajë	185.6	€ 820.20	420	€	3,870.
10	Elvis Adrovic	Pejë, Vitomirice	644	€ 1,032.00	470.6	€	1,960.
11	Lirim Beqiraj	Istog, Mojstir	450	€ 675.00	824	€	2,212.0
12	Florije Dreshaj	Istog, Vrellë	173	€ 973.50	1180	€	1,770.0
13	Shkelzen Tahiraj	Istog, Kerninë	331	€ 636.50	363	€	2,765.
14	Violeta Balaj	Istog, Lluga	1120	€ 1,680.00	821	€	1,556.
15	Dardan Ibrahimi	Istog, Zallq	734	€ 1,353.00	1883	€	2,824.5
16	Argjent Osmanaj	Istog, Trubohoc	870	€ 1,044.00	1272	€	2,403.
17	Visar Berisha	Istog, Kashicë	628	€ 1,034.40	1040	€	1,979.0
18	Arbër Bicaj	Istog, Vrellë	345	€ 780.00	789	€	2,081.9
19	Januz Binakaj	Istog, Studenicë	114	€ 1,368.00	640	€	1,425.0
20	Luan Lubeniqi	Istog, Tomoc	740	€ 1,260.00	204	€	2,538.0
		Total	8066.6	20,265.60	14725.6	€	41,985.0

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Average per beneficiary	402.22	1 012 00	736.28	c	2,099.28
Average per beneficiary	403.33	1.013.28	/30.20	C	2,099.28

Activity 2.3. Study visit from Montenegro to Kosovo to visit successful agricultural business in herbs sector

In order to promote and expand the cross-border cooperation of agricultural producers in the MAP sector of Kosovo and Montenegro, Capital City of Podgorica together with IADK have organized Study visit (conducted from 22nd to 24th of June 2022) of the group of Montenegrin beneficiaries of the project in the sector of medicinal and aromatic plants. During these visits, the participants were introduced to the two main companies in Kosovo, which deal with the export of MAPs, and simultaneously two presentations were held for the participants, related to the needs and requirements for the export of MAPS to the western countries of EU and for Marketing, sales, and packaging of MAP products.





Study visit of the Montenegro team to the MAP export companies in Kosovo

The participants were also familiarized with the experiences of some beneficiaries of grants for the cultivation of MAPs in Kosovo, where they saw the support that the beneficiaries received from the project, the methods of cultivation, harvesting, and drying of aromatic medicinal plants, as well as the realized benefits from this activity. Part of the visits were also companies or farmers that deal with the cultivation of small fruits, such as raspberries, strawberries, and blueberries, where the participants received important and interesting information from the cultivation, harvesting, storage, and export of these crops.





Study visit of Montenegro beneficiaries to the MAP grant beneficiary in Kosovo

Activity 3.1 Organization of internship scheme in Kosovo

The goal of this activity was to ensure that young unemployed people receive very practical training through actual work in one of the companies operating in agriculture sector, with focus on medical and aromatic herbs sector. The action has identified five local companies operating in the sector of MAP who showed interest in getting skilled labour, and invested time in preparing the young people for work in different departments in their companies, enabling the chances of getting qualified work force in the future. For internees this was an opportunity to learn about the processes in serious

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businesses, which helped them or will help them in finding employment opportunities in the future. Based on demonstration of their capacities and skills during the internship, the businesses had the opportunity to keep them employed even after the internship was completed.

After the trainings in coordination with the selected internees, the action has prepared the plan where and when each of the internees will be engaged in the internship. In total 22 unemployed perosns participated in the internship scheme and all of the engaged interns finalized their internship placement and this activity was successfully finalized. Namely, these students have completed their three-month internship program in one of the MAP or NWFP cultivating companies or in companies in the agriculture production sector. As an output, 13 out 22 internees remained employed either by their host companies or found employment in companies/institutions through the linkages created during the internship period.







Upon the completion of the internship, both interns and the host company were asked to do the evaluation for each other. From these evaluations, it is seen that companies and interns are both pleased with this opportunity and such opportunity should be replicated. Furthermore, the action conducted regular monitoring visits to the companies and interns, in order to see if there is any obstacle faced by any of the parties. And also at the end of the month each intern was asked to fill a monthly report where they would report on their daily activities within the company and it had to be signed and stamped by the host company.

12.55	Engag	ed students in th	e internship scho	me during the re	porting period	
#	Name & Surname	Municipality	Residence	Start date of internship	End date of internship	The company where the internship is performed
1	Blinishte Beqiraj	Istog	Mojstir	01.02.2021	30.04.2021	CNVP
2	Elifete Demiraj Hoxhaj	Istog	Istog	01.03.2021	31.05.2021	AgroProduct
3	Adem Loshaj	Istog	Permishtë	01.03.2021	31.05.2021	AgroProduct
4	Vesa Gjikolli	Pejë	Pejë	01.03.2021	31.05.2021	Organic Herb
5	Venera Kelmendi	Pejë	Lutogllavë	01.03.2021	31.05.2021	Organic Herb
6	Albulena Nikçi	Pejë	Pejë	01.05.2021	31.07.2021	Organic Herb
7	Diellza Muja Geguri	Pejë	Pejë	01.05.2021	31.07.2021	Boost Berries
8	Fortesa Hasani	Pejë	Pejë	01.06.2021	31.08.2021	Organic Herb
9	Herolinda Gashi	Pejë	Pejë	01.06.2021	31.08.2021	Organic Herb
10	Platur Dreshaj	Pejë	Nabërgjan	01.06.2021	31.08.2021	Boost Berries
11	Edmonda Bekaj	Istog	Dubravë	01.06.2021	31.08.2021	AgroProduct
12	Valmira Berisha	Istog	Staradran	01.06.2021	31.08.2021	AgroProduct
13	Vjona Osmanaj	Istog	Trubuhoc	01.07.2021	30.09.2021	AgroProduct
14	Fortesa Hasani	Pejë	Pejë	01.08.2021	31.10.2021	Boost Berries
15	Blerta Berisha	Pejë	Trestenik	01.08.2021	31.10.2021	Boost Berries
16	Kumrije Shala	Pejë	Pejë	01.09.2021	31.10.2021	Boost Berries
17	Agonis Blakaj	Pejë	Vrellë	01.09.2021	30.11.2021	Boost Berries
18	Kaltrina Kukleci	Istog	Llugë	01.09.2021	30.11.2021	AgroProduct
19	Naton Kabashi	Istog	Tomoc	01.09.2021	30.11.2021	AgroProduct

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20	Flakresa Nikçi	Istog	Vitomiricë	01.10.2021	31.12.2021	Egi Group
21	MeritaAsllani	Peja	Brestovik	01. 06. 2022	31. 08. 2022	Organic Herb
22	VesaBlakaj	Istog	Vrellë	01. 06. 2022	31. 08. 2022	AgroProduct

3.2 Facilitation of linkages with buyers of agricultural products

Within this activity, in Kosovo, in order to facilitate the linkages of the producers of medicinal aromatic plants (MAP) and the buyers of these herbs, an external expert was engaged, who carried out the activities of training, and connecting farmers/producers with buyers of MAPs.

First, the presentation was prepared for the provision of the trainings on the topic "Marketing and market access", and then two days of training were held with the beneficiaries (one day with the group of beneficiaries from Peja, where 9 grant beneficiaries were present and one day with the group of beneficiaries from Istog where 8 grant beneficiaries where present).





Pictures were taken during marketing and market access training

After the training, the expert started field visits all 20-projectbeneficiaries supported with grants for the cultivation of aromatic medicinal plants, to get information about the experiences achieved in the sector of cultivation of aromatic medicinal plants, difficulties, and opportunities to continue and expand production capacity in this sector.

In addition to the beneficiaries' visit, the expert also visited 10 companies engaged in the cultivation, collection, and marketing of aromatic medicinal plants, in order to provide more detailed information on the production capacities of the beneficiaries/farmers of the project, and the possibility of reaching contractual agreements for cultivation and purchase of MAP products.

Based on the visits with beneficiaries and purchasing companies of MAP, the expert managed to prepare a form of contract for cultivation and purchase of products, and as a result, 5-year contracts were signed between the beneficiaries/farmers of the project and the collection and exporting companies of medicinal and aromatic plants.





All activities carried out in the framework of this expert engagement have been carried out in full coordination and monitoring of the responsible project staff, from where the main goal has been

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achieved with the agreement of the two main companies of MAP collection and export (AgroProduct in Istog municipality and Organic Herb in Peja Municipality), to sign contracts for a period of 5 years with the beneficiaries for the sale and purchase of MAPs.

Furthermore, under this activity the action has prepared catalogue where each grant beneficiary has been presented, their activity described and contact information provided. The catalogue was used during meetings and with potential buyers, to demonstrate the product and quantities that each producer can provide. The catalogue is attached as an annex document to this report.



In Montenegro, -Agriculture Fair has been organized on 11th and 12th June in Podgorica. It has been successful event in terms of attendance and interest of the visitors. Location of the Fair was green market at the Mall of Montenegro and it has been very attractive for visitors. It was intentionally organised during days of weekend because it is the time when the market is the most visited. It is estimated that between 700 and 1000 people visited the Fair. The event has been covered by different electronic media. Gradska TV made and a report on the event. (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B1LnTmsuM k).





Moreover, in order to contribute to the linkages with buyers of agricultural products in Montenegro, the contract has been signed with company "Seljak.me" who had several different tasks regarding marketing promotion of the beneficiaries and their products. This also included building capacities of the beneficiaries on how they can be more competitive in the market as well as how to ease their approach to different funds intended for agriculture development. Separate page on the portal of Seljak.me was created in order to promote products of beneficiaries. As the initial activity, Seljak.me has been present at the Fair that has been organised and they have prepared a video about it that has been published on their portal and social media. (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= f8cMdLjzfE).

Moreover, three clusters were established in Montenegro. The first cluster is related to the olive growers which is established under the name "Regionalno udruženje maslinara" (Regional olive growers association – RUM) on June 2nd 2023 on address Spasoja Respopovića 10, 81000 Podgorica.

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The second cluster is related to the dairy sector which is established under the name "Regionalno udruženje proizviđača mlijeka i sira - RUMS" (Regional milk and cheese producers association – RUMS) on June 10th 2023 on address Ljajkovačka 5, Ljajkovići, Golubovci

The third cluster is related to the sector of medicinal and aromatic herbs which is established under the name "Udruženje proizvođača ljekovitog bilja" (Medicinal herbs growers association) on June 5th 2023 on address Dinoša bb, Tuzi.

Activity 3.3 Promotion of the project results

This activity was of utmost importance for spreading the information about the achievements of this action and making it replicable for other stakeholders. Additionally, this activity was an opportunity to promote the project beneficiaries and their agricultural activities.

In Montenegro, promotion of the results was done in several channels. One of those is promotion through Seljak.me web portal that will present each beneficiary and his/hers product. As of the activities completed in the reporting period, 2 videos have been made and published. One is published on portal Seljak.me and another one has been prepared by Gradska TV describing the project and more specifically the Fair.

In Kosovo, the project team developed a video reportage that involved interviews with project beneficiaries (grant beneficiaries and interns) where they showed their experience from this action, as well as interviews with companies engaged in internships and companies buying local products. This video involved interviews with grant beneficiaries, who emphasized the impact of the action on their economic and social inclusionas well as their increased technical capacities through trainings and direct advisory sessions. Furthermore, students explained through the video reportage the impact the action has had on their preparation for the job market, the building of their professional profiles and creation of linkages of students with professionals, and how the action has improved their chances for employment. Additionally, the companies (buyers of MAPs and internship providers) have expressed how the action has improved the quality of the products their receive from MAP producers, and the importance the internship program has for their recruitment process.

Least but not last, the municipal representatives showed how the action has contributed to the overall economic development in their communities. Through this video (over 12 minutes), the project was promoted, the achievements of the project were presented, also the video report was broadcast on TV respectively in Klan Kosova in the show TokaJonë, thus affecting promoting the impact of the project on grant recipients, students and companies engaged in the cultivation, collection and export of aromatic medicinal plants. The link of the published video reportage can be found here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BiVXIPwDnMo.

The final workshop was organized in Podgorica, on June 27, 2023. It was attended by representatives of project partners, farmers involved in project activities, representatives of CFCU and JTS and representatives of local media. In total, 27 people participated the event. Here are some photos showing the event:

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2.3. What has your organisation or any actor involved in the Action learned from the Action and how has this learning (including evidence from monitoring and evaluations) -been utilised and disseminated? What has and has not worked?

Describe if the action will continue after the support from the European Union has ended. Are there any follow up activities envisaged? What will ensure the sustainability of the action?

Sustainability of the third output is in creating a mechanism for improvement livelihoods of local rural communities through their employment opportunities. The project also promoted the concept of entrepreneurship among rural residents and motivate them to become more proactive in managing their rural businesses, but also in their lives. The project has significantly improved knowledge and skills of rural residents regarding dairy products, olive oil production and growing and processing of medical and aromatic herbs. Their products have become more marketable and changed their attitudes when it comes to managing and developing their rural businesses. This improved expertise has increased their capacities to become leaders and promoters of rural development and role models for other rural residents. The project has also increased capacities of local stakeholders engaged in rural development and enabled them to continue with similar activities on their own, thus, creating sustainability of the results. The results of the project will be used as best practice examples in development of all relevant regulations related to standards for small agricultural producers, as well as for new initiatives targeting rural parts of the cross-border area. As mentioned above, the market related contracts have been signed in Kosove and three local agriculture clusters have been established in Montenegro (Regional olive growers association, Regional milk and cheese producers association and Medicinal herbs growers association)

2.4. The Logical framework (logframe) matrix should evolve during the Action project (i.e. the projects) lifetime: new lines can be added for listing new activities as well as new columns for intermediary targets (milestones) when it is relevant and values will be regularly updated in the column foreseen for reporting purpose (see "Current value"). The term "results" refers to the outputs, outcome(s) and impact of the Action.

The logframe can be revised as necessary (in line with the provisions defined in Article 9.4 of the General Conditions).

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	Result chain	Indicator	Baseline (value & reference year)	Target (value & reference year)	Current value* (reference year) (* to be included in interim and final reports)	Source and mean of verification	Assumptions
Impact (Overall objective)	The broader, long-term change to which the action contributes at country, regional or sector level, in the political, social, economic and environmental global context which will stem from interventions of all relevant actors and stakeholders. Overall objective: Improve the access to the labour market	Quantitative and/or qualitative variable that provides a simple and reliable mean to measure the achievement of the correspondin g result To be presented, when relevant, disaggregated by sex, age, urban/rural, disability, etc. Number of direct beneficiaries involved Percentage of potential entrepreneurs benefiting from the programme activities who create a business (business) Percentage of unemployed who went through an internship or mentoring hired by the host enterprises.	The value of the indicator(s) prior to the intervention against which progress can be assessed or comparisons made. (Ideally, to be drawn from the partner's strategy)	The intended final value of the indicator(s). (Ideally, to be drawn from the partner's strategy) 120 (60 MNE and 60 KOS) by 2022 with the following approximate structure: 96 youth (68 men, 28 women), 24 long-term unemployed (7 men and 17 women). 50% by 2022	The latest available value of the indicator(s) at the time of reporting (* to be updated in interim and final reports) 140 (80 MNE and 60 KOS) by 2023	Ideally to be drawn from the partner's strategy. Project files Progress reports Evaluation reports Sign-up sheets Photos Video materials	Not applicable

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	Result chain	Indicator	Baseline (value & reference year)	Target (value & reference year)	Current value* (reference year) (* to be included in interim and final reports)	Source and mean of verification	Assumptions
		benefit from the programme, including women, youth and long-term unemployed, managed to find employment by 2022	0	56 (30 MNE and 26 KOS)	56 (30 MNE and 26 KOS)		
	The main medium- term effect of the intervention focusing on behavioural and institutional changes resulting from the Action (It is good practice to have one specific objective only, however for large	(see definition above)	The value of the indicator(s) prior to the intervention against which progress can be assessed or comparisons made.	The intended final value of the indicator(s).	(same as above)	Sources of information and methods used to collect and report (including who and when/how frequently).	Factors outside project management's control that may influence on the impact-outcome(s) linkage.
Outcome (s) (Specific objective(s))	Actions, other short term outcomes can be included here) Specific objective(s):To create jobs in agriculture	Number of new business established as a result of the call Number of private and/or public sector operators developing possibilities and conditions for practical training of unemployed	0	40 (20 MNE, 20 KOS) – 27 men, 13 women 5 private companies in KOS	5 private companies in KOS	Project reports Project files	No major changes in national strategies and policies in regard to rural development, agriculture and regional development. Political and economic stability
		Number of participants with increased employability and employment	0	120 (60 MNE, 60 KOS)	120	Sign-up sheets Evaluation Photos Media reports	

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	Result chain	Indicator	Baseline (value & reference year)	Target (value & reference year)	Current value* (reference year) (* to be included in interim and final reports)	Source and mean of verification	Assumptions
		Number of interns employed	0	6	13		
		Number of organisations/ institutions with increased capacities	0	3	3		
	The direct/tangible products (infrastructure, goods and services) delivered/generated by the intervention (*Outputs should in principle be linked to corresponding outcomes through	(same as above)	(same as above)	(same as above)	(same as above)	(same as above)	Factors outside project management's control that may influence on the other outcome(s)/outputs linkage.
	clear numbering) 1. Unemployed people encouraged to get involved in	Number of campaigns for self- employment	0	2	2	Project reports Project files	Sound collaboration with all relevant stakeholders: local and national authorities and
Outputs	agriculture	Number of information/ promotion events organised	0	10 information sessions	11	Sign-up sheets Evaluation	relevant institutions, public and private business sector and other stakeholders
Out		Number of participants in information/ promotion events	0	70 in information sessions	182	Media reports Training materials	
		Number of people reached by information campaign	0	5.000	5633	Photos	
	2. Capacities of unemployed people strengthened for agriculture	Number of applications (expression of interest) received	0	200	197	la.	
		Number of new services	0	5	5		

•	Result chain	Indicator	Baseline (value & reference year)	Target (value & reference year)	Current value* (reference year) (* to be included in interim and final reports)	Source and mean of verification	Assumptions
		developed					
		Number of capacity building events organised	0	111: 9 trainings and 102 direct advice sessions	118		
		Number of participants in capacity building events	0	402: 300 in trainings and 102 in direct advice sessions (281 men and 121 women)	227		
	3. Sustainable linkages created for continued employment	Number of sets of equipment purchased and made available to target groups (e.g. business start-up packs)	0	23: 3 in Montenegro and 20 in Kosovo	38: 18 in MNE and 20 in Kosov0	Purchase contracts, acceptance certificates, photos	
		Number of study visits organised	0	1	1	reports, Sign-up sheets, photos	
		Number of participants in study visits	0	13: 11 men, 2 women	13: 11 men, 2 women	Internship contracts	
		Number of internship programmes supporting new business opportunities of unemployed	0	1	1	Project reports, sign-up sheets, media	
		Number of internships carried out	0	22 KOS	22	reports, photos	
		Number of fairs organised	0	1	1 (2 days event)	Project	

Result chain	Indicator	Baseline (value & reference year)	Target (value & reference year)	Current value* (reference year) (* to be included in interim and final reports)	Source and mean of verification	Assumptions
	Number of participants in fairs organised	0	50: 35 men, 15 women	14	reports	
	Number of organisations directly involved in implementation of the project	0	12: 5 local governments unit, 1 NGO, 5 private enterprises, 1 educational institution	12	Project reports, samples of the materials	
	Number of promotion materials produced and distributed /published/ broadcasted	0	501: 1 video and 500 brochures	501: 1 video and 500 brochures		
	Number of new networks established	0	1	1		
	Number of organisations participating in networks	0	50 rural household	50		

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2.5. Activity matrix

What are the key activities to be carried out to produce the intended outputs?

(*activities should in principle be linked to corresponding output(s) through clear numbering)

- 1.1 Informational campaign
- 1.2 Expressions of interest from unemployed persons and selection of beneficiaries
- 2.1 Capacity building activities in herbs, olives and dairy sector
- 2.2 Assistance to most successful training participants through lending equipment
- 2.3 Study visit from Montenegro to Kosovo to visit successful agricultural business in herbs sector
- 3.1 Organization of internship scheme in Kosovo
- 3.2 Facilitation of linkages with buyers of agricultural products
- 3.3 Promotion of project results

Means

What are the political, technical, financial, human and material resources required to implement these activities, e.g. staff, equipment, supplies, operational facilities, etc.

Costs

What are the action costs? How are they classified? (Breakdown in the Budget for the Action)

Human Resources: EUR 72.286,87

Travel: EUR 7.933,60

Equipment and supplies: EUR 149.754,60

Local office: EUR 3.672,60

Other costs, services: EUR 17.371,81

Indirect costs: EUR 47.780,00

Assumptions

Factors outside project management's control that may impact on the activities-outputs linkage.

Commitment from rural beneficiaries to the Action Effectiveness of local stakeholders

Alignment of project activities with production calendar and agricultural season Availability of reliable suppliers and service providers

2.6. Explain how the action has mainstreamed cross-cutting issues such as promotion of human rights, ⁶ gender equality, ⁷ democracy, good governance, children's rights and indigenous peoples, environmental sustainability ⁸ and combating HIV/AIDS (if there is a strong prevalence in the target country/region) ⁹.

This action produced no negative environmental effects at all, as it did not create any physical changes. It provided specific opportunities for young people and women, as they are most vulnerable, unemployed groups. One of the key target groups of this action were young people, as can be seen in description of activities. This action has been implemented in ethnically diverse areas, and will provide equal opportunities for everyone to participate. Project team paid special attention in showcasing successful agriculture producers to involve different ethnicities and reflect the ethnic diversity in all project activities. Most

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⁶ Including those of people with disabilities. For more information, see 'Guidance note on disability and development' at https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/disability-inclusive-development-cooperation-guidance-note-eu-staff en

⁷ https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/toolkit-mainstreaming-gender-equality-ec-development-cooperation_en

⁸ Guidelines for environmental integration are available at: <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sectors/economic-growth/environment-and-green-economy/climate-change-and-environment-en-economy/climate-change-and-en-economy/climate-change-an

⁹ Please refer to EC Guidelines on gender equality, disabilities, etc.

importantly, this action have such multiplier effects, that all the results of this action can easily be replicable to other territories of both countries, and it will be very easy to use all the developed materials from this action in all other municipalities. This action promoted best practices in agriculture in both countries and had a broad outreach to the population of program area. More than 120 women have been supported through the project direct activities

2.7. How and by whom have the activities been monitored/evaluated? Please summarise the results of the feedback received from the beneficiaries and others.

The activities been monitored internally by the members of project teams with support of the JTS representatives, on regular bases. Evaluation of the project results have been done by an external evaluator, contracted after the completion of project implementation period. Results of the feedback received from the beneficiaries and others, are as follows:

Additional education in PCM within IPA CBC context is recommended for both

- Applicants in order to strengthen capacities for partnerships and successful implementation of the projects;
- Smart selection of partners with different competencies whenever it is possible, should be a request for future projects;
- Timely revision of the action plans is necessary for successful implementation;
- Timely dialogue among partners about expectations about each other's roles within PC is necessary for successful implementation;
- In order to achieve cross-border effect, it is necessary to maintain and support local, regional and cross-border networking through business-based events, in cooperation with local and national authorities;
- Informing and educating the members of relevant institutions, organizations, CSOs and
 media representatives about the action outcomes and deliverables as continual process,
 organized by applicants in their home countries will significantly contribute to
 multiplying effects and adding new projects in the CB region with the similar
 objectives;
- Affirmation of the cooperation with local business sector and regional/national stakeholders in order to support further advancement of employability of the target group;
- Exchange of the proven methodologies and best practices between local authorities in the cross-border region will significantly contribute to promotion of the IPA CBC Program;
- Following visibility and communication procedures and plans is essential for successful implementation as well as for the follow up activities.

2.8.	What has your organisation or any actor involved in the action learned from the action and
	how has this learning been utilised and disseminated?
	General lessons learned about project planning and implementation:

wen-done planning is the key issue for the project preparation and complete PCM;
☐ Know-how in implementation of IPA projects and PRAG procedures, including tendering
procedures which are essential for successful implementation;
☐ Financial and administrative management are of the key importance for successful PCM
in complex partnerships within CBC programs;
☐ Applicants have valuable opportunity for learning-by-doing within IPA CBC programs;
□ Well-defined timeframe of all project activities and well-estimated beginning of the
project are the important issues for successful implementation;
□ Continuous education in preparing and implementation of EU-funded projects is very
important for public institutions, especially those who implement IPA project for the first
time;

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	he	number	of	partners	should	be	in	optimal	frame,	because	of 1	the	efficient
com	mun	ication a	nd tl	neir select	tion shou	ıld b	e ba	sed on th	e their o	capacities	for a	cting	g the role
in th	e pr	oject;											
\square P	artn	ers shou	ld d	elegate f	or conta	et p	erso	n someb	ody wł	no is very	res	pons	sible and
unde	rsta	nds the r	equi	rements o	f the pro	cedi	ires	in EU-fu	nded pro	ojects;			
\Box D	ue t	o this pr	ojec	t, both pa	rtners h	ave	bette	r referer	ices for	future EU	J-fun	ded	projects'
parti	cipa	tion.											

2.9. Please list all materials (and number of copies) produced during the action on whatever format (please enclose a copy of each item, except if you have already done so in the past).

Please state how the items produced are being distributed and to whom.

Following promotional materials have been produced:

No	Item	No of items	Produced by
1	Leaflet	1000 + 500	Project coordinator + project partner
2	Roll up	2+2	Project coordinator + project partner
3	Folder A4,	200 + 150	Project coordinator + project partner
4	notebook	200 + 200	Project coordinator + project partner
5	pen	200 +200	Project coordinator + project partner
6	T-shirt	200	Project coordinator
7	cap	200	Project coordinator
8	Project sticker	50 + 240	Project coordinator + project partner
9	Brochure for medical plants	500	Project partner
10	Catalogue for beneficiaries' promotion	280	Project partner
11	Maps of flora and fauna	100	Project partner

The material has been distributed to local agriculture produces, media representatives, representatives of public sector from both counties

2.10. Please list all contracts (works, supplies, services) above EUR 60000 awarded for the implementation of the action for the whole implementation period since the last interim report if any or during the reporting period, giving for each contract the amount, the name of the contractor and a brief description on how the contractor was selected, including compliance with EU restrictive measures.

There are no contracts above EUR 60.000 awarded during the implementation period of the action.

3. Beneficiaries/affiliated entities, trainees and relations with Government/other cooperation

3.1. How do you assess the relationship between the beneficiaries/affiliated entities of this grant contract (i.e. those having signed the mandate for the coordinator or an affiliated entity statement)? Please provide specific information for each beneficiary/affiliated entity.

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CFCU MNE 147 <01.08.2020 - 01.07.2023>

The partners in this project have collaborated in a very successful manner from the beginning of the action. At the beginning of the project, partners have met online several times and have agreed on terms of Partnership Agreement. The agreement specified in a very transparent manner what each partner is supposed to do throughout the project, as well as the budget allocation for all of the partners activities. This transparent and open process contributed to the spirit of trust and confidence, which ensures smooth cooperation from the very beginning of the project. Each partner brings a specific skill to the team, and the strengths of each partner have been utilized for the benefit of the project.

3.2. Is the above agreement between the signatories to the grant contract to continue? If so, how? If not, why?

We believe that the most important part of the project is sustainability of project results and we hope that the continuation of cooperation of project partners will be continued if opportunity appears

3.3. How would you assess the relationship between your organisation and State authorities in the action countries? How has this relationship affected the action?

Both Kosovo and Montenegro have established very good cooperation with State and Local authorities involved in the project. In Kosovo side the cooperation with the municipality of Istog and municipality of Peja as co-financers has been very fruitful. IADK has singed memorandums of understanding (MoU) with these municipalities which the responsibilities are stated for all the parties. These municipalities have aided the action and been involved in the action for and were in the commission with equal scoring points will all of the other three members selecting the beneficiaries. All the information is disseminated to the municipality and vice versa as a copy of a contract with beneficiaries was always given to the municipality as well. This relationship affected that the action to implemented and to achieved the objective of the action. These municipalities also shared their halls to conduct help-desk, trainings and coordination meeting with these municipalities.

In Montenegro, the team has very good collaboration with Municipality Tuzi and Municipality Zeta, State employment agency and Government department for safety of food. Together with all the institutions mentioned here, the team collaborated mostly in the first phase of the project through information campaign. However, collaboration will continue through the promotional activities, marketing linkages and finally registration of agriculture households.

Regarding JTS the team has the utmost respect of the support that we have received. Having in mind difficulties in MNE side, JTS has been in the loop and has provided continuous support to the team.

- **3.4.** Where applicable, describe your relationship with any other organisations involved in implementing the action:
 - Associate(s): N/A
 - Contractor(s) During the reporting period, three contracts have been signed. Two of them were event organisation agencies. One was Galileo that has organised study visit to Kosovo and another one is Top Holidays who was in charge of organisation of the Fair. Third is Seljak.me who will be in charge of marketing and promotion of the beneficiaries.
 - Final beneficiaries and target groups on the side of Montenegro, Capital city of Podgorica and the project team have established very good relations with all stakeholders beneficiaries and target groups. The team gives additional effort to develop good relations among beneficiaries within the three groups. In Kosovo the relationship with final beneficiary and target groups was good and we are in close contact from the beginning of the action. In close cooperation with targeted municipalities, we have promoted the action

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and we have informed with action activities. The action team has contacted and visited in timely intervals the beneficiaries to assess their situations in the field. This method has been proven to be quite successful to reach and maximize their agricultural activities in the field.

• Other third parties involved (including other donors, other government agencies or local government units, NGOs, etc.)

So far, the action has developed many different level relations within the wide range of stakeholders. At this point, we would like to point out the one with University of Montenegro, Biotechnical Institute and University of Donja Gorica both involved through the lecturers that have been engaged on the project. Several professors from Biotechnical Institute will be involved in lectures regarding herbs production and on the other hand, the Laboratory of University of Donja Gorica will provide quality testing of the products made by our beneficiaries.

Employment agency has provided assistance on collecting data on possible beneficiaries.

Association of women entrepreneurs has been very supportive in terms of promotion of the project among women connected to their NGO.

In Kosovo, IADK team has closely cooperated with companies operating in the MAP sector, to place the students for internship. In addition, the action has created linkages between the beneficiaries of the project and exporting companies of MAP to sell their products and ensuring longevity of their activities in the field to cultivate MAPs.

3.5. Where applicable, outline any links and synergies you have developed with other actions.

On the side of Montenegro, the synergy with other actions has not been identified yet. In Kosovo this action has not developed synergies with other actions, since it is a specific sector and targets a specific agricultural activity such as MAPs.

3.6. If your organisation has received previous EU grants in view of strengthening the same target group, in how far has this action been able to build upon/complement the previous one(s)? (List all previous relevant EU grants).

N/A

3.7. How do you evaluate cooperation with the services of the contracting authority?

In relation to the collaboration with project involved institutions, we have to point out CFCU in Montenegro and CB in Kosovo. Both contracting and financial department of CFCU have shown great support to the action, especially having in mind difficulties on the side of Montenegro. During monitoring visits as well as the on-the-spot visit we have shared common understanding of the issues both teams are facing.

3.8 Where applicable, include a traineeship report on each traineeship which ended in the reporting period to be prepared by the trainee including the result of the traineeship and assessment of the qualifications obtained by the trainee with a view to his/her future employment.

In Montenegro, trainers for the sectors Dairy and MAP and Olive oil processing have drafted three reports. In Kosovo, the interns engaged in different companies assessed their experience in the companies that were engaged, in addition the companies also assessed their interest and benchmarked their interest in the companies activities to be further engaged. During the implementation period, all of the capacity building events and trainings were realized as per original contract.

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During this project, 2 students have completed practical work in companies that deal with the cultivation, collection, processing and export of aromatic medicinal plants. Through the three months practical work, they have gained very good knowledge and experience in the MAP sector. At the end of each month, they have sent the reports of the work they have done in the respective companies, and at the very end of the practical work they have filled in a practical work evaluation form, and the companies have also filled in a similar evaluation form. of trainees. The evaluations of this opportunity of practical work have been positive both from the part of the interns and from the companies where the internship was carried out. Depending on the needs of these companies for additional workers, these companies have the adequate potential candidates to be engaged to realize their duties in this sector. On Kosovo, in total from two municipalities the action trained 41 candidates. The action under this activity also held meeting with different companies in medical aromatic plants or non-timber forest products sector, in order to present to them the project and the scheme of internship. In total the project held 10 meetings with 10 different companies, where five where selected as they were suitable to the action needs, and where willing to ensure a place for internship placement for students. The action ensured five (5) companies in the sector of MAPs and NTFP to provide space for internship placement for internees selected by the action, and consider employing them in the future. On the side of Montenegro, the three groups have been created, for three given sectors - dairy, olives and medical and aromatic herbs. The groups for olives and dairy consist of 24 and 25 beneficiaries, and group for medicinal herbs is smaller and it has 17 members. Each of the 3 lecturers, selected experts from the relevant sectors of olive, MAP and dairy production have completed over 20 working days with their particular groups. Mrs. Aleksandra Martinovic has worked with dairy group and conducted 2 sessions at the municipal building and 14 field visits. The group consists of in average of 22 beneficiaries (6 female / 16 male)

4. Visibility

How is the visibility of the EU contribution being ensured in the action?

Visibility material that has been designed and printed.

For Montenegro side:

	Link	Description in English			
1	https://podgorica.me/vijesti/447?fbclid=IwAR2mDoxUmviaCQ RBH8KXCwwOv56flcubr6TruluL06nc8OyEoHzYE0klGgs	Web portal of Capital City of Podgorica			
2	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B1LnTmsuM_k	"Vikend na Gradskoj" report from Gradska TV about the project and the Fair			
3	https://www.cdm.me/ekonomija/poceo-dvodnevni-sajam- poljoprivrednih-proizvoda-na-pijaci-pobrezje/	CDM portal report about the Fair			
4	https://www.portalanalitika.me/clanak/poceo-dvodnevni-sajam-poljoprivrednih-proizvoda-na-pijaci-pobrezje	Analitika portal report about the Fair			
5	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_f8cMdLjzfE	Seljak TV report about the Fair			
6	https://www.standard.co.me/drustvo/sajama-poljoprivrednih- proizvoda-danas-i-sjutra-na-pijaci/	Standard report about the Fair			
7	https://seljak.me/savjetuje/glavni-grad-podgorica-organizuje- sajam-poljoprivrednih-proizvoda/	Seljak.me advertisment for the Fair			

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For the Kosovo side:

#	Link ¹⁰	Description in English
1	https://www.facebook.com/iadk.org/photos/a.1393827624212394/272 6096677652142/?type=3&_xts_[0]=68.ARCAS5E- 962KKERs2aJzB- nVcgtjgUFGvg9wyZQ_5ZyXcWNM0W0xhrZx73LfyXS- JWDdFrOAxJNix_DkRPbDFckrQO8UnMQ0QHgLyLgEdXccM7OK 9zyUIKLFaGT_y75UK9GcsgnPEBNBhBFtPEsl4c0mDSJ_os3HSiX_v4O8oV1_hzrZP67Hbj5p7TH76lw0_StmptpSAfU7M- oZomaFv4w0kqSsA9zFdqhZNwnnf5FyMyTXGOc0ZCeuajz8Gv- E7Mzj4N7m4MBNQupgtqvevwwnsne0fxNEJHS887A_tKP9NRRKsu e4NxU&_xts_[1]=68.ARBFr5lmJ0_LOEFvU8Z7SDzwe08bobtLVi vaFocDIABeX6bluGOnafUScVytpNW17bzdj4jKOliqxEUiJliZ6qkf9H q5yRtGrrwLadR3cQYLPgUvFCnpQi_3WVbZp1jQYcCE3FXfF5VbV sscskC4MXywI5S- FpXoC5CKZqSNF9e14UeWeRQhGArjnZ3Meie77gPn51rfgUA4yjm2 T3C42gHoot35AR187gd- oD9ULb4pPTbxwB4uAG_3T8BKoHF0hdb- 2hfUO2JWDl6h8Mrm0FlusnLwyQAjwwgOojyrzUtxOAo3AgbYXcw	Call for info session
2	https://www.facebook.com/iadk.org/posts/2731901350405008? tn =-R	Signing of MoU in municipality of Istog

#	Link ¹¹	Description in English
1	https://www.facebook.com/iadk.org/photos/a.1393827624212394/272 6096677652142/?type=3&xts[0]=68.ARCAS5E- 962KKERs2aJzB- nVegtjgUFGvg9wyZQ_5ZyXeWNM0W0xhrZx73LfyXS- JWDdFrOAxJNix_DkRPbDFekrQO8UnMQ0QHgLyLgEdXccM7OK 9zyUIKLFaGT_y75UK9GesgnPEBNBhBFtPEsl4c0mDSJ_os3HSiX_v4O8oV1_hzrZP67Hbj5p7TH76lw0_StmptpSAfU7M- oZomaFv4w0kqSsA9zFdqhZNwnnf5FyMyTXGOc0ZCeuajz8Gv- E7Mzj4N7m4MBNQupgtqvevwwnsne0fxNEJHS887A_tKP9NRRKsu e4NxU&_xts[1]=68.ARBFr5lmJ0_LOEFvU8Z7SDzwe08bobtLVi vaFocDIABeX6bluGOnafUScVytpNW17bzdj4jKOliqxEUiJliZ6qkf9H q5yRtGrrwLadR3cQYLPgUvFCnpQi_3WVbZp1jQYcCE3FXfF5VbV sscskC4MXywl5S- FpXoC5CKZqSNF9e14UeWeRQhGArjnZ3Meie77gPn51rfgUA4yjm2 T3C42gHoot35AR187gd- oD9ULb4pPTbxwB4uAG_3T8BKoHF0hdb-	Call for info session
2	2hfUO2JWDl6h8Mrm0FlusnLwyQAjwwgOojyrzUtxOAo3AgbYXcw https://www.facebook.com/iadk.org/posts/2731901350405008? tn =-R	Signing of MoU in municipality of Istog
3	https://iadk.org/f/42/4387/Shpallje-per-pune-praktike-per-studente	Call for application for internship
4	https://iadk.org/f/42/5383/Thirrje-per-aplikim-per-trajnime-ne-kultivimin-e-BMA-ve	Call for application for training in the MAP sector
5	https://iadk.org/f/42/5387/Perzgjedhja-e-20-te-rinjve-per-pune-praktike	Selection of 20 internees for internship placement
6	https://iadk.org/f/42/5390/Thirrje-per-aplikim-per-fermere-nga- Komuna-e-Pejes	Second call for application in municipality of Peja
7	https://iadk.org/f/42/5420/IADK-nenshkruan-kontratat-me-perfituesit- e-granteve-per-BMA	Signing of contracts with 20 grant beneficiaries
8	https://www.facebook.com/iadk.org/posts/2877371492524659? tn =-R https://iadk.org/f/42/5424/IADK-shperndane-fidanet-e-BMA-ve-te-	Distribution of MAP scedlings

¹⁰please click to the link to go directly to the publication (web/facebook)

¹¹please click to the link to go directly to the publication (web/facebook)

	perfituesit			
	https://iadk.org/f/42/5427/IADK-mundeson-studenteve-aftesim-ne-sektorin-e-BMA-ve	Internship in the MAP sector		
9	https://www.facebook.com/iadk.org/posts/2886925891569219? tn =-R			
10	https://www.iadk.org/f/42/5456/IADK-shperndane-motokultivatoret- per-kultivuesit-e-BMA-ve	Distribution of moto-cultivators for the grant beneficiaries of the action		

The European Commission may wish to publicise the results of actions. Do you have any objection to this report being published on the EuropeAid website? If so, please state your objections here.

Project partners will be happy if the European Commission would wish to publicise the results of actions

5. Location of records, accounting and supporting documents

Please indicate in a table the location of records, accounting and supporting documents for each beneficiary and affiliated entity entitled to incur costs.

The Location of the records, accounting and supporting documents are on the following Address:

Lead Applicant	Capital city Podgorica	Vuka	Karadžića	41,	81000	
		Podgorica, Montenegro				
Co-applicant	Initiative for Agriculture Development of Kosovo	_	Sfaraçakiulët i, Kosovo	p.n.,	42000	

The European Commission may wish to publicise the results of actions. Do you have any objection to this report being published on the website of DG International Cooperation and Development? If so, please state your objections here.

Project partners will be happy if the European Commission would wish to publicise the results of actions

Name of the contact person for the action: Vojislav Ražnatović, Project Manager

Signature Location: Podgorica

Date report due: 01.10.2023 Date report sent: 25.12.2023

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