

City of Bijeljina promotes and localises Agenda 2030 and SDGs



The City Administration of Bijeljina has understood the importance of Agenda 2030 and SDG implementation, especially its benefits for the local level. Therefore, not waiting for the "top-down" approach, it decided to go for the "bottom -up" approach and started raising awareness among local stakeholders in the City beginning of 2017. The main activities conducted so far include:

- Survey on knowledge about Agenda 2030 and SDGs conducted with 173 representatives of the public, private and civil sector.
 - Consultations conducted with relevant International Organizations, including UN in BiH, on the approach of promotion and localization of SDGs.
 - Concept for promotion/awareness raising and localization of Agenda 2030 / SDGs established, training received on UN BiH methodology/interactive tool to be used for awareness raising training.
 - Conduct of awareness raising training sessions with Partner groups on Bijeljina City level (composed of private, public, civil sector and Academia) and other stakeholders: so far 18 training sessions have been conducted with 190 representatives (113 female, 77 male) of the banking sector, private companies, NGO, entrepreneurs, Municipal/City administrations, Association of towns and cities of RS, Social Welfare Centres, Police, public institutions from 26 cities/municipalities in BiH.
 - Localization of SDGs started in Bijeljina through implementation of concrete projects in PARTNERSHIP with private, public and civil sector and Academia - e.g. enhancement of unemployed people skills in accordance with the need of private sector; establishment of inclusive playground for children with and without disabilities in partnership with private and civil sector, supported by International level; enhancement of practical classes for 7 deficient occupations needed at the labor market, in partnership with 3 Vocational schools, private and civil sector; introduction of 2 new occupations in Vocational schools, etc.
 - In 2018, a systematic approach in localization of Agenda 2030 and SDGs started with inclusion of SDGs into the revised Development Strategy of the City of Bijeljina for the period 2019 - 2023. The city of Bijeljina is the first city/municipality in BiH that has adjusted and included relevant SDG targets and indicators into its Development Strategy. In order to promote SDGs and raise awareness among the wider public, a number of promotion materials, including information leaflets, have been established, which are also put up in the offices. Further, the SDG logo has been put up at the official City website and some employees add the small SDG banner to their signature in every email correspondence.
- Besides these activities, the Bijeljina SDG team has also conducted SDG awareness raising training with focus on SDG 10 /reducing inequalities for representatives of public and civil sector in 4 cities through the GIZ SoRI project and for municipal employees and community hub coordinators of 24 municipalities in BiH, through a UNDP driven project focusing on local communities.
- In partnership with the local NGO „Center for promotion of sustainable development - CePSuD“ the city of Bijeljina has raised awareness on SDGs among the private and banking sector as well as among the media and public sector, with emphasis on partnership and mutual support in future actions, as the only successful formula for a more human and sustainable way of life.