

EU4GREEN

KNOW-HOW FOR THE GREEN AGENDA

EU4Green supports Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia in **implementing the Green Agenda**. Aim is to build synergies, encourage new ideas, improve the quality of decisions, in order to enhance regulatory reforms and foster monitoring and reporting.

To ensure ownership and strengthen acceptance, **EU4Green will strengthen communication and cooperation** between decision-makers, regional key institutions and stakeholders.

With funding from



Funded by
the European Union



Austrian
Development
Cooperation

umweltbundesamt^U
ENVIRONMENT AGENCY AUSTRIA

KEY OBJECTIVES OF EU4GREEN

EU4Green will regionally contribute to:

Move to a Circular Economy: Tailored to each economy, EU4Green strengthens the sustainable use of resources and waste prevention by supporting the development of waste prevention plans, enhancing the promotion of circular economy, new business models and capacity building.

Monitor and Reduce Pollutants:

- **Air:** With the aim of improving Air Quality Management, EU4Green addresses the development of air quality plans with a focus on domestic heating and agricultural waste burning, as well as monitoring and emission reporting.
- **Water:** To protect water resources and strengthen sustainable water management, EU4Green focuses on enhancing water quality through supporting the implementation of the Urban Waste Water Treatment and the Nitrates Directives and improving water monitoring.
- **Soil:** By assisting in the identification and remediation of diffuse soil pollution and contaminated sites that pose risks to health and the environment, EU4Green prioritises soil health.

Improve sustainability and climate-resilience in agriculture: With the aim of reducing pollution and strengthening sustainable water use and storage, EU4Green focuses on efficient nutrient management and the Nitrates Directive. The project also emphasizes the implementation of Agri-Environmental Indicators for robust monitoring systems.

Preserve Biodiversity: With the goal of protecting ecologically important habitats, using floodplains in protected areas as examples, pilot sites will be identified, relevant data compiled, and project-specific geodatabases built. Through transboundary activities, EU4Green strengthens cooperation of the Western Balkans in preserving biodiversity.

Strengthen Green Agenda Monitoring and Reporting: To enhance the effectiveness of existing national monitoring and reporting systems on the Green Agenda, EU4Green analyses their level of content and functioning. Based on this, a roadmap for a monitoring and reporting framework will be elaborated.

Improve Green Agenda Understanding Through Communication Activities: EU4Green's objective is to raise public awareness and understanding of the Green Agenda's significance and goals by highlighting the benefits of the Green Agenda and best practice examples for its implementation.

Strengthen Green Education: Innovative teaching methods, notably the development of micro-credentials modules, in collaboration with the Education Reform Initiative of South Eastern Europe, will be introduced. These modules are designed to foster critical green skills, including core areas such as environmental awareness, energy efficiency and sustainable agriculture.

Involve Civil Society and Other Stakeholders: EU4Green aims to improve the knowledge of civil society organizations on the pillars of the Green Agenda and encourages the substantial inclusion of the expertise of these organisations into decision-making processes.

Foster Financing the Green Transition: Strategies to finance the green transition will be proposed to the Western Balkan economies, emphasizing sustainable finance, understanding funding programs, and engaging local financial institutions. Trainings in green finance will be provided to the public and private sectors, and alignment of national regulations with the EU Sustainable Finance regulatory framework will be stimulated.

FACTS & FIGURES

Action: EU4Green: Support the implementation of the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans

Project Regions: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia

Duration: 2022 – 2025

EU Funding: EUR 10 million

Austrian Development Cooperation: EUR 1 million

Implemented by: Environment Agency Austria

Green Agenda for the Western Balkans (GAWB): The GAWB is a strategic roadmap for regulatory reforms in the region to align with the EU's ambitions to boost the efficient use of resources by moving to a clean, circular economy, stop climate change, revert biodiversity loss and cut pollution.

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and it is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.