

Land ownership clarified

Modernisation of land administration in the Western Balkans is necessary for activities such as state survey, cadastre and official mapping, as well as registration of secure property rights. An EU-funded project has been assisting with this work across South East Europe.

RULE OF LAW

Land administration is a precondition for the rule of law (security of right on ownership), the Common Agricultural Policy (implementation of the Integrated Administration and Control System and Land Parcel Identification System in particular) and for various environmental protection projects. It is referred to in many parts of the Accession, European Partnerships and in the Stabilisation and Association Agreements.

An EU-funded project promoted Spatial Data Infrastructure and further coordinated its implementation in the Western Balkans with a view to preparing the beneficiary countries to meet the objectives of the EU “Inspire” Directive, to create an inter-operable spatial data framework for citizens, businesses and public administration. During the project, experts have made specific country analyses and tailor-made recommendations for each of the beneficiary countries. A series of regional training and workshop sessions were organised.

ACCURATE DATA

By the time the project was completed in Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Albania, Kosovo*, Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the National Mapping and Cadastre Offices of the Western Balkans were able to provide increasingly accurate data. All stakeholders in the Balkans were considerably more aware of the necessity for spatial data information for issues relating to the rule of law and ownership. The beneficiaries are now better prepared to implement the necessary structural and pre-accession policies and the project has also helped improve the growth potential of the Western Balkan economies.



* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA)

Western Balkans

IPA – AN INVESTMENT IN EUROPE. AN INVESTMENT IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION REFORM.

SUSTAINABILITY

As the project closed, the beneficiaries confirmed their commitment to continue regional co-operation on geospatial data, underlining the sustainable impact.

The Swedish Development Co-operation Agency has ensured that the work will continue by giving further support for the development of Geospatial Data in the Western Balkans.

PROJECT DETAILS – Spatial Data Infrastructure in the Western Balkans and Turkey

Partners:

GFA Consulting Group, Germany

Total cost in €:

€ 1.438 million

EU Contribution in €:

100%

Start date:

January 2012

End date:

December 2013

Results:

More accurate, geospatial data across South East Europe. Increased growth potential for citizens, businesses and public administration.

Techniques:

Workshops, awareness raising activities, video.

