Community Resilience for the Sustainable Development of SEE River Basins (CRESSIDA)

The project builds stakeholder capacities to face sustainability challenges in the Drin and Drina River basins, focusing on improving the flexibility and adaptive capacities of communities and businesses.

**Activities**
- Assessing strategic plans and tools for water management at river basin and local community levels
- Organising regional forums for the sharing of experience on mobilising local resources
- Developing and implementing processes, tools and investments to address identified challenges and improve river basin management
- Funding pilot projects to put into practice knowledge of water management and the building of local resilience

**Impacts**
- Understanding of sustainable development deepened in local communities
- Discussions held on implementing the EU Water Framework Directive at river basin level
- Greater focus on the importance of science-based sustainable resources management in order to contribute to peaceful cross-border relations and long-term economic development

**Duration:** 2014–2018  
**Donor:** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
**Budget:** USD 405,000

**IN NUMBERS**
- 6 countries
- 18 local communities

**GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE**
Albania | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Kosovo* | Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | Montenegro | Serbia

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Environmental Civil Society Support Programme for Serbia (CSOnnect)

The CSOnnect programme contributes to the development of a pluralistic environmental civil society capable of taking a more proactive role in the EU negotiation process with institutions in Serbia and officials from the EU.

**Activities**
- Establishing a help desk to support environmental CSOs
- Strengthening environmental CSOs to network and address civil society messages to decision makers
- Creating communication channels between CSO working groups, members of CSO networks and relevant government institutions involved in the EU negotiations
- Organising study tours to EU countries to learn from their experience of the negotiation process, and cooperating with international and EU CSO networks

**Impacts**
- A grant scheme developed to support environmental CSOs in Serbia
- Capacity training programmes developed and tailored to CSOs
- A mechanism for dialogue with representatives of institutions at local, regional and national level established
- A system developed for monitoring the work of CSOs and the impact of their actions and public advocacy initiatives
- The greater involvement of women in environmental policy making encouraged

**Duration:** 2015–2018  
**Donor:** Government of Sweden  
**Budget:** EUR 1,995,219

**GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE**
Serbia

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