

New EAR/IOM initiative advancing economic development in northern Kosovo



Previous EAR/IOM intervention supporting the employment of six persons through the EAR/IOM SEDMIN programme

Building on years of strong cooperation, the IOM Mission in Kosovo and the European Agency for Reconstruction (EAR) have agreed to initiate a new joint effort, with a budget of over 3.2 million Euros, to advance economic development in the northern part of Kosovo.

The new project, "Promoting Local Enterprise Development and Employment Creation in Mitrovicë/a and Zvečan/Zvecan Municipalities" (PLEDEC) will aim to foster economic growth, provide opportunities for local and foreign entrepreneurs, and promote greater adherence to European standards of financial accountability and transparency in business.

"Business development plays a crucial role in achieving long-term socio-economic stability in Kosovo. The project will support the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, which are the main driving forces underlying emerging market economies and foster the creation of a competitive environment", remarked Mr. Enrico Ponziani, IOM Kosovo Chief of Mission.

One of the unique and innovative dimensions of the new project is its focus on greater environmental protection and financial accountability among businesses in Kosovo. This project will benefit from IOM Kosovo's previous experiences and best practices developed through the implementation of similar economic development projects, which were also supported financially by the EAR, most notably including: Support for Enterprise Development in Minority Regions (SEDMIN) and Community Stabilization Programme (CSP).