



## Building a Greener Economic Environment



**What makes CNVP tick?**

## **CNVP status:**

- Is a Dutch registered CSO.
- Has registered branch offices in Albania, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Bosnia-Herzegovina.
- Will establish local legal entities in each country where it is active, starting with Albania on a pilot basis.
- Employs 27 people who are supported by a wide range of specialist Associate Experts.

## Key points about CNVP:

- Focuses on agri-rural, NRM, forestry, renewable energy and governance activities that will reduce environmental risks and ecological scarcities, as well as achieve sustainable development without degrading the environment i.e. the **Green Economy**.
- Addresses issues of: unsafe water provision, sanitation and drainage; inadequate solid, plastic and hazardous waste management; and air pollution, including uncontrolled emissions from motor vehicles, factories and low grade domestic fuels i.e. the **Brown Agenda**.
- Is active in all six countries of the Western Balkans, and is interested to work in Turkey, the European Neighbourhood Space and the MENA area.

## Key CNVP skills:

- Built an international reputation as a facilitator, using tried and tested analytical, consulting, advisory, coaching, mentoring, demonstration and knowledge transfer skills to achieve long-term sustainability of development activities.
- Implements donor-funded projects at central level (in ministries of agriculture, forestry, rural development and environment), as well as at municipality and community levels.

## Project activities and key stakeholders:

- Implements in-country, cross-border and regional projects
- Cooperates with:
  - Central government and municipalities
  - Private sector, including forest and pasture owner/user associations
  - Agriculture and forestry cooperatives
  - Forest and environmental protection agencies
  - Producers' organisations and women's groups
  - Rural development networks and rural youth
  - Economic migrants, refugees and repatriated individuals
  - Local communities, NGOs, CSOs and LAGs
  - Universities and research institutions
  - Multilateral and bilateral development partners
  - The media

## **CNVP's Mission:**

Use evidence-based analysis to improve the sustainable livelihoods of rural communities affected by ongoing environmental and climate change.

## **Six key areas of CNVP capacity strengthening:**

1. Sustainable forest management
2. Climate change, environment and NRM
3. Agri-rural development, including sustainable zonal coast management
4. Renewable energy and waste management
5. Community mobilisation, governance and civil society
6. European accession and related policy questions

## 1. Sustainable forest management

- Multi-functional systems for farmer-focused forestry (small-scale, private or communal) to develop forest production, utilization and monitoring
- Forest governance and legislative reform, including evidence-based forest policy, decentralized forest management and joint forest management
- Forest certification capacity building to improve forest governance, strategic planning and decision-making
- Development of timber/non-timber forest product value chains through the improved organization of producers/collectors
- Agro-forestry, inter-cropping, permaculture and silvi-culture, as well as forestry and orchard establishment/management
- Innovative forest practices and use of appropriate technology, including GIS and GPS surveys, as well as drones
- Reform the legal and institutional frameworks for the forest sector
- Civil society monitoring to improve forest protection, overcome illegal logging, reduce corruption and enhance government accountability
- National timber tracking and revenue collection systems, and satellite monitoring of forests to improve law enforcement
- Build SME forest enterprises' capacity to help them comply with laws and regulations of the 'formal' sector



## 2. Climate change, environment and NRM

- Climate change mitigation measures and environmental impact assessments (EIAs)
- Disaster risk reduction (illegal logging and sand/gravel extraction, as well as soil erosion and excess flooding), and national/local food security
- Sustainable natural resource management (NRM), including forest inventories, as well as the efficient use and conservation of water, including transboundary pollution
- Support for green infrastructure, nature conservation, bio-diversity and eco-system restoration, including national parks and other protected areas, as well as watershed management
- Improved land use, tenure, management and consolidation, including securing property rights through use of participatory mapping, (plus CNVP membership of International Land Coalition (ILC))

### 3. Agri-rural development

- Job creation, income generation and improved rural livelihoods through better market access and rural diversification, including the development of eco-tourism
- Value chain development for high value agri-forestry-energy products/services – production, processing, storage, transport and sale to domestic/export markets
- Certification of organic agriculture
- Promotion of area-based development, including mountain areas
- Support for rural development networks and rural youth
- Socio-economic re-integration of repatriated individuals/families, economic migrants and refugees

## 4. Renewable energy and waste management

- Replacement of fossil fuels with renewable energy, particularly wood biomass, short rotation crops and bio-energy production
- Monitoring opportunities for other forms of renewable energy in rural areas e.g. geo-thermal, solar, wind, mini-hydro and tidal
- Increased use of carbon sequestration, energy audits and carbon credits
- Management of household and industrial waste

## 5. Community mobilisation, governance and civil society

- Empowering rural women through building ownership and trust
- Developing private and communal forest and pasture owner/user associations
- Strengthening organisations and supporting institutional development, including multi-stakeholder processes, advocacy, lobbying and promotion of democratic governance
- Developing local action groups (LAGs) based on LEADER principles
- Establishing National Rural Parliaments with which to bring rural communities, rural CSOs and rural development networks closer to national and local level policy/decision makers

## 6. European accession and related policy questions

- Application of EU standards in agri-rural and forestry development
- Approximation of national legislation with that of the *acquis communautaire*
- Use of policy simulations, particularly related to Chapter 11 (Agriculture) and Chapter 27 (Environment) of the *acquis*
- Development of evidence-based ‘Green Economics’, budget support for the environment sector, and green financing
- Implementation of measures in Agriculture and Rural Development Programmes for 2014-20 funded through IPARD II and the European Neighbourhood Instrument

**CNVP works with central and decentralised governments on issues covering:**

1. evidence-based strategic sector reviews, annual and medium term budget analysis;
2. identification of alternative sources of funding;
3. land registration and land consolidation;
4. fast growing forest plantations, and use of wood bio-mass for public buildings;
5. nature conservation, including protection against soil erosion and fire prevention on forested lands, as well as support for national parks, protected areas and other area-based conservation measures at local level;
6. transboundary (water/air) pollution, including rehabilitation of damaged land;
7. waste management, and production of energy from waste/sewage;
8. rural infrastructure, including improved water supply (for better community health);
9. technical, social and physical management skills of municipality staff;
10. consultancy and incubator support for the promotion of SMEs;
11. service delivery for mountain area/eco-tourism service delivery, using cluster policy;
12. awareness raising concerning environment/climate change;
13. socio-economic re-integration of repatriates, economic migrants and refugees;
14. development of public-private partnerships; and
15. promotion of social entrepreneurship.

**CNVP supports private sector partners by:**

1. representing and promoting them commercially at country and regional level;
2. being a reliable partner in and around the Balkan region;
3. providing inputs to project design, based on local knowledge and sound expertise;
4. supplying key experts and non-key experts;
5. providing consultancy on Chain of Custody (CoC) certification for the wood industry;
6. offering high quality project management, financial and monitoring systems;
7. providing technical support to identify/create/support competitive rural business models;
8. supporting the development of agriculture, forestry and energy value chains;
9. facilitating meetings with key public, private and CSO sector stakeholders;
10. gathering data through sample surveys, including field interviews;
11. accessing local translation and interpretation services;
12. providing logistical support through a network of offices in the Balkans;
13. creating public-private partnerships with government at central and local levels;
14. Promoting social entrepreneurship to create sustainable employment opportunities;
15. applying corporate social responsibility to address priority issues;
16. improving communication with all stakeholders concerning the EU integration process; and
17. issuing press releases to, and coordinating interviews with, local and regional press/media.

## Organisations of which CNVP is a member:

1. International Land Coalition (ILC)

<http://www.landcoalition.org/>

2. International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

<https://www.iucn.org/>

3. Partnership for Rural Europe (PREPARE)

<http://www.preparenetwork.org/>

4. Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)

<https://www.pefc.org/>

5. Rural Development Network, Montenegro

<http://www.balkan-noborder.com/content/network-rural-development-montenegro-0>



## **Major projects currently under implementation:**

1. Forest for Local Economic Development (FLED) (2014-18), Albania, Sida funding
2. Development of Tourism in Diber Region, Albania, USAID/Sida funding
3. Strengthening Sustainable Private and Decentralized Forestry (SSPDF) (2014-20), Kosovo, Sida funding
4. National Rural Parliament, Macedonia, EU funding
5. CSOs Driving Rural Development, Montenegro, EU funding
6. Rural Youth and EU Integration, Macedonia, EU funding
7. Communities Communicating Climate Change, Macedonia, EU funding

## **CNVP is seeking partners in the following project areas:**

1. carbon sequestration and climate change;
2. nature conservation, protected areas and wetlands;
3. agro-forestry;
4. women's economic empowerment;
5. LEADER and local action groups (LAGs);
6. area-based and local economic development;
7. value chain development and cluster policy;
8. eco/agro-tourism;
9. rural youth and outward migration;
10. refugees and repatriation; and
11. Erasmus + and VET activities.

**CNVP supports the Aarhus Convention which establishes the rights of the public (individuals and their associations) to:**

1. receive environmental information that is held by public authorities;
2. participate in environmental decision-making; and
3. review procedures used, in order to challenge public decisions that have been made without respecting Points 1 and 2 or the environmental law in general i.e. access to justice.

**CNVP is monitoring the credible enlargement perspective for, and enhanced EU engagement with, the Western Balkans, including its six Flagship Initiatives:**

1. Strengthen the rule of law;
2. Reinforce engagement on security and migration;
3. Enhance support for socio-economic development;
4. Increase transport and energy connectivity;
5. Facilitate a digital agenda for the Western Balkans; and
6. Support reconciliation and good neighbourly relations.

**Through these six initiatives, the Western Balkans Strategy sets out the EU's support for the transformation process, targeting specific areas of interest for both the EU and the Western Balkans' countries.**

See: [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/publications/eu-western-balkans-strategy-credible-enlargement-perspective\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/publications/eu-western-balkans-strategy-credible-enlargement-perspective_en)

## What differentiates CNVP from other NGOs working in the Balkans?

1. Is registered as a branch of CNVP Netherlands in all six Balkan countries, involving 28 staff who work in 12 decentralised offices supported by more than 30 Associate Experts;
2. Has in-depth knowledge in multiple areas, including national parks/protected areas, nature conservation, biodiversity, wetlands, forestry and agro-forestry, women's economic empowerment, value chain development, wood biomass for renewable energy, nature conservation, environmental protection, climate change, governance and national rural parliaments;
3. Has extensive experience of working at municipality and community levels;
4. Can facilitate the coordination of regional project activities involving the six Balkan countries;
5. Uses management and financial systems to operate large, medium and small donor-funded projects; and
6. Has an Executive Director who has been involved in implementing all aspects of the EU accession process since 1991, particularly related to Chapter 11 (Agriculture and Rural Development) and Chapter 27 (Environment), as well as National Programmes for Adoption of the Acquis and budget support activities.

## CNVP's four core values:

1. **Green** – intervenes to build a greener economic environment within the ongoing process of climate change
2. **Clean** – promotes renewable energy and improved household/industrial waste management
3. **Seen** – operates in the Balkans (now), and aims to be active in the surrounding European Neighbourhood Space and MENA area (future)
4. **Lean** – improves continuously and systematically the efficiency of its service delivery

Finally, we live in an uncertain world, particularly linked to climate change, extreme weather conditions and environmental degradation.

In an attempt to manage this, Plan A should always be backed-up by a Plan B (and preferably a Plan C).

But, don't forget:

**There is no Planet B.**



**Thank you for your attention.**



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