



Open Regional Fund SEE – Modernisation of Municipal Services

Sub-Project “Municipal services for the creation of employment opportunities for vulnerable groups”

Component E-registration of seasonal workers in agriculture



Implemented by



Open Regional Fund for South-East Europe – Modernisation of Municipal Services (ORF MMS)



The context

Municipalities and public utilities lack capacities and products to improve the quality of municipal services and implement EU standards



Objective

Regional cooperation for improvement of municipal service in accordance with EU accession requirements is strengthened



Partner Countries

Albania
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Kosovo
Macedonia
Montenegro
Serbia



Key Figures

- Duration: 2006 – 2021
- Budget: 27.9 MEUR

Approach of ORF MMS



Approach

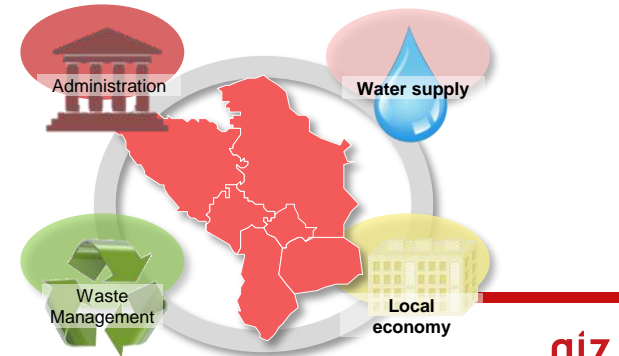
Regional and cross border projects (including minimum 3 countries) identified, designed, developed and implemented in cooperation with national and regional partner organisations and networks.

Identification of best practices and transfer of know-how through the region, close cooperation with bilateral projects.



Sectors

- Administration
- Water Supply
- Waste Management
- Local Economy



Municipal services for the creation of employment opportunities for vulnerable groups - RuRP



What we are doing with our partners

- Support to municipalities improving their services towards vulnerable groups to create employment opportunities
- Increasing employment opportunities of seasonal workers in agriculture through simplified e-registration
- Competencies Passport in Serbia and Kosovo for better employability of vulnerable groups
- Aggregation of employment or income generating opportunities for vulnerable groups in Solid Waste Sector



Key Figures

- Duration: 05/2017 – 12/2019
- Budget: 3.1 MEUR



What we have already achieved

- 38 counsellors trained and 300 persons counselled
- 843 informal waste collectors improved income in municipal waste sector
- E-registration system for seasonal workers launched



E-registration of seasonal workers in agriculture



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Before the reform

- Approximately 65.000 – 80.000 seasonal workers in agriculture (source: Ag Census 2012)
- Out of which 95% are undeclared
- 2017: 3.585 seasonal workers registered (data: Tax Administration, 2018)
- Unregistered workers have no benefits
- Important source of grey economy



Stakeholders & timeline 1/2

May 2017: Government of Serbia adopts Action Plan of Combating Shadow Economy, plans to adopt a Law and establish a simplified for the registration of seasonal workers in agriculture

June 2017: Launch of the Project *Increasing Employment Opportunities for Seasonal Workers* implemented by NALED and GIZ, through the Open Regional Fund for South-East Europe – Modernization of Municipal Services



Stakeholders & timeline 2/2

August 2017 MoU signed between:

- Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Welfare
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management
- NALED
- GIZ

Working group established

June 2018: Law on Streamlined Employment for Seasonal Work in specific economic activities adopted

January 2019: Application of the Law started



Law on seasonal labour in agriculture 1/2



- **Everyone** can employ workers for seasonal work in Agriculture: companies, farmers, entrepreneurs
- Registered workers are entitled to **retirement** and disability insurance + **insurance** against injury at work
- Only e-registration, directly linked to Central Registry of Mandatory Social Insurance and National Employment Office (**Registry of Seasonal Workers**)
- Tax return information delivered to the employer via the portal

Law on seasonal labour in agriculture 2/2

- Employers and workers conclude **verbal agreement** effective at the time of on-line portal registration
- **Fixed tax & benefits rate** per worker / day
- Average monthly expenses paid by the employer for taxes and benefits per seasonal worker 30% lower than prior to the reform
- Workers keep their previously acquired **social rights**
- Workers **can check their employment status** on-line

E-registration of workers

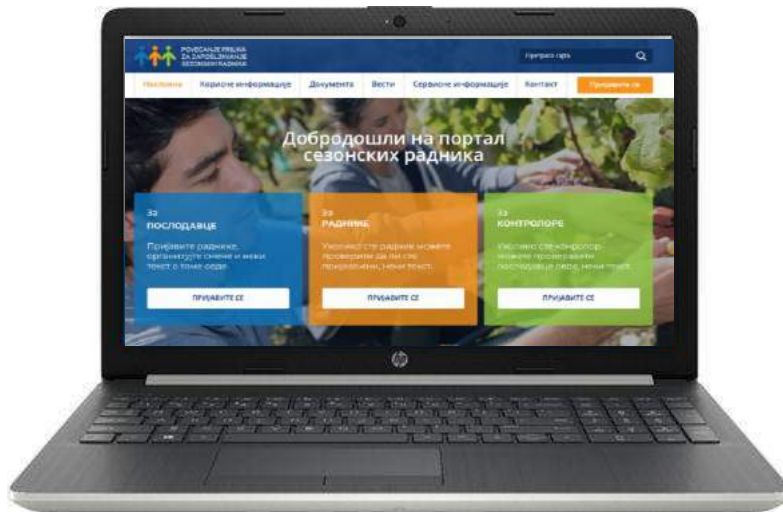
Joint project work by all stakeholders: portal within the Tax Administration

Operational as of January 2019

Registration within a few clicks:

1. Personal ID number (JMBG)
2. Day(s) working
3. Type of work

<http://sezonskiradnici.gov.rs>

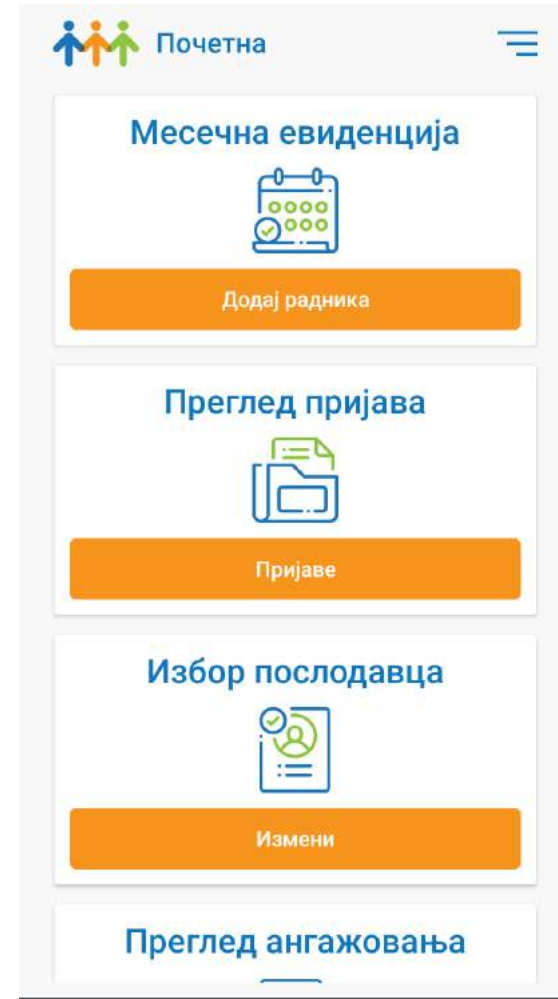


M-registration of workers

Mobile application for Android operational as of April 1

IOS application for iPhone coming soon

Google Play Store: Sezonski radnici



Employment data: Jan - March

- Number of man-days 53.101
- Number of workers 2.987
- Taxes over 4 million RSD (app. 34.000 €)
- Benefits over 12 million RSD (app. 102.000 €)
- 70 registered employers, out of which 17 physical persons



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Municipal support & next steps

- 80 + service centres set up in local governments
- Trainings: 30 trainings for service centres in local governments (March) + 30 coming up (April)
- 600+ people trained (employers, farmers, service centres)
- April: trainings for inspectors
- Next steps: regional cooperation



Thank you!



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In cooperation with:



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