

PRESS RELEASE

United Nations Development Programme



Podgorica, October 18 2006

October 17th, the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, day after

On the occasion of October 17th, the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Montenegro held a press conference yesterday at the Multimedia Conference Hall - KIC Budo Tomović, Podgorica, Montenegro. The conference was hosted by Resident Representative a.i. Mr. Garret Tankosić Kelly, Economy and Environment Team Leader Ms. Sanja Bojanić, Institutional and Judicial Reform Team Leader Mr. Mirsad Bibović and Social Inclusion Team Leader, Mr. Miodrag Dragišić. Also, during the conference a video-clip titled «Poverty in Montenegro» was shown.

Following the statement of our partners from Montenegrin Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare saying that «the UNDP Office did not quote the sources of data so these could be characterized as imprecise and incorrect», we would like to inform you that we put the information on the sources of data for our yesterday's press conference on our website <http://www.undp.org.yu/montenegro>.

Information excerpts:

If we could turn the population of Montenegro into a small community of 100 people, 12 would be *absolutely poor* (living without sufficient supply of food, adequate accommodations, clothes and footwear) and 30 would be economically vulnerable, very close to *absolute poverty*. Nearly half (45%) of the poor population of Montenegro live in the North.

Source: Human Development Report for Montenegro, Diversities – Potential for Development, Institute for Strategic Studies and Prognoses, September 2005

Measured through consumption of 10% of the poorest and of 10% of those at top of consumption scale, the inequality in Montenegrin society is the greatest in the region.

Source: Human Development Report for Montenegro, Diversities – Potential for Development, Institute for Strategic Studies and Prognoses, September 2005

* * *

For additional information, please contact Ms. Nadica Dujović, Communications Associate, UNDP Montenegro; Phone: ++381 81 231 251; Fax: ++381 81 231 644; Cell: ++381 69 319 709; E-mail: nadica.dujovic@undp.org

Web: <http://www.undp.org.yu/montenegro>

* * *

UNDP in Montenegro promotes sustainable development, which is economically viable, socially inclusive and environmentally friendly.