



United Nations Development Programme

MEDIA ADVISORY



Montenegro

Hand over of certificates to the trainees of the Environmental Geographic Information System

What: UNDP Montenegro through its Environmental Geographic Information System (EnvGIS) Project, together with the Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Protection and the Ministry for Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management of Montenegro are **organizing a joint media conference on the occasion of certificate giving ceremony for the employees from the environmental protection and the forestry sectors, who passed the GIS course.**

This course will enable trainees to prevent non-sustainable use of natural resources, and to use the gained knowledge and skills to increase and manage revenue from these resources and direct it to local development. It also provided the trainees with experience in creating and using digital maps, inventory planning, validation and visualisation, storage and usage of existing data, and detecting changes through time.

Speakers at the media conference will be:

Mr. Alexander Avanesov, UNDP Resident Representative and UN Resident Coordinator to Montenegro
H. E. Mr. Predrag Nenezić, Minister of Tourism and Environmental Protection
H. E. Mr. Milutin Simović Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management

When: 02 March 2009 (Monday), 09:30 a.m.
Where: City Hotel (ex Hotel Ljubović), Podgorica

After the opening remarks, presentation of the Project "Environmental Geographic Information System" will follow. Then the representatives of the Institutions (the Forestry Central Management and Monitoring Unit, Forestry Institute, Mountaineering Association, Institute for Marine Biology, Nature Museum, Geology Institute and Seismology Institute), whose employees were trained within this course, will give a short presentation of the importance and benefits from the use of GIS in these Institutions.

Media representatives interested in making additional interviews with the ministers, representatives of UNDP or the above mentioned institutions, will have a chance to do that after the certificate giving ceremony (11:30h).

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Introduction of GIS in Montenegro aims to create conditions for better management and protection of forests, biodiversity and land as most significant sustainable development resources in Montenegro. Ensuring environmental and forestry sustainability is one of the Millennium Development Goals, and it is unimaginable without complete and precise data on the condition of natural resources. By establishing data framework required by various EU conventions, the GIS in the Montenegrin environmental sector will also contribute to the European Integration processes.

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Geographic Information System (GIS) is a group of technologies, processes, human resources and data from different domains (meteorology, forestry, water management, environmental protection, etc.), which can be compared, verified and jointly used for different researches in order to manage natural resources in a sustainable way.

All GIS Project activities are financially supported with 1.1 million USD by the Governments of Finland, Japan and Montenegro and UNDP itself.

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