Examples of Joint Programming in Serbia

UN Joint Program on Air Pollution

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The context and facts

In 2020, air pollution in Serbia caused 16,020 premature deaths, out of which 14,400 were attributed to PM2.5 exposure.

Serbia has the second highest number of years of life lost (YLL) per 100,000 inhabitants, due to PM2.5 exposure, among 41 ranked jurisdictions in Europe.

Due to PM2.5 concentrations in ambient air it is estimated that Serbia in 2015 lost over 2.1 million working days.

National Air Pollution Programme adopted in December 2022 – implementation started
Timeline of our activities

**Background**
- Awareness raising and outreach activities
- Initial collection of data and information on ongoing programmes

**2020**

**Formal establishment**
- IBC workshop (May), organized by the regional Task Team on Air Pollution at Serbia RC request.
- Air pollution part of Cooperation Framework, both as cross-cutting (as a human rights, gender equality, governance & LNOB issue) & as stand alone (under outcome 1.1)

**2021**

**Continuous Review of joint programme**
- Exchange among agencies in the RG1
- Cross-fertilization – joint problem solving – breaking silos – joint outreach

**2022**

**Joint programme finalized under RG1**
- 5 pillars
- Finetuning

**2023**

1. Policy development & Institutional capacity building
   UNDP, UNOPS, UNEP, UNICEF, WHO

2. Private sector support
   UNDP, UNEP, UNOPS, UNWOMEN

3. Design and calibration of subsidy/replacement scheme
   UNDP, UNOPS, UNWOMEN, UNEP

4. Awareness raising
   UNOPS, UNICEF, UNDP, UNEP, WHO

5. Education
   UNDP, UNOPS, UNEP, UNICEF, WHO

Info: https://uneuropecentralasia.org/en/ibc-environmental-coalition
Examples of activities under the Joint Programme

Pillar 1 (policy-institutions)
- Studies on energy poverty, landfill fires, stubble fires
- Support to the improvement of regulatory framework (e.g. Law on Air Quality)
- Climate Smart Urban Development Challenge (UNDP)

Pillar 2 (private sector support)
- Co-finance innovative technical solutions and business models

Pillar 3 (replacement schemes)
- Support to LSGs in Development and/or revision of Air Quality Plans; Trainings for LSGs on AQP's

Pillar 4 (awareness raising)
- Annual marking of the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies
- Campaigns on household heating with a focus on vulnerable groups
- Youth friendly videos with influencers on air pollution for social media engagement
- Web-based geo-platform to identify stubble burning

Pillar 5 (education)
- Air pollution monitoring in schools in 15 municipalities; engagement of youth through STEM education, youth activism; support to local self-governments for youth inclusive air pollution policies and plans
Joint public awareness raising event
Celebration of International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies
(RCO – UNEP – UNDP - UNICEF- Government – Civil Society & Media)

The way(s) forward for the UN Joint Programme Support...

... better targeting of beneficiaries through subsidy schemes to include socially vulnerable and energy poor

... the local level capacities to effectively utilise and implement the disposed funds

... monitoring and evaluation of the National Air Quality Programme implementation, including at the local level

... awareness programmes to showcase the benefits of air quality policies and EU eco standards to generate policy demand

... support knowledge creation on air pollution impacts and alternatives through formal and informal education and training

The way(s) forward for the UN Joint Programme

Support Serbia in transposing and implementing more stringent EU standards for heating devices


Support enforcement of existing air quality legislation
The way(s) forward for the UN Joint Programme

Support the implementation of adopted National Air Quality Programme that by 2030 envisages the following replacement rates of old domestic appliances using solid fuels with new heating appliances compliant with EU Eco-design Regulation:

- Kragujevac: 58% of domestic appliances are replaced in 2030.
- Beograd: 58% of domestic appliances are replaced in 2030.
- Valjevo and Niš: 74% of domestic appliances are replaced in 2030.
- Užice: 80% of domestic appliances are replaced in 2030.
Thank you for your attention!

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