



Organisation for Economic Co-operation and
Development



UMIS – SMEA

Udruga malih i srednjih poduzetnika
Small and Medium Entrepreneurs' Association



OECD Local Economic and Employment
Development Programme



Grad Hrvatska Kostajnica
Town Hrvatska Kostajnica

PARTNERSHIPS, CLUSTERS OF ENTERPRISES AND CROSS BORDER CO- OPERATION IN THE HRVATSKA KOSTAJNICA REGION

**6 April 2004
Hrvatska Kostajnica, Croatia
Hotel Central**

Organisers:

OECD LEED Programme, the Town of Hrvatska Kostajnica, Small and Medium Entrepreneurs' Association (UMIS-SMEA) Croatia

In co-operation with:

Central European Initiative & CEI National Co-ordinator, Investment Compact, BIOS – Croatian Union of Associations of eco/bio/org-food producers

Supported by:

Sisak-Moslavina County administration, Municipalities of Dvor, Dubica and Kukuruzari, Business Centre Hrvatska Kostajnica, Cooperative "Defender", Tourist Board Zagreb

COCA COLA Beverages Hrvatska will provide refreshments during the conference



Agenda

9.30 – 10.00

Opening remarks

Chair: Mr. Sylvain Giguère, Deputy Head, OECD LEED Programme

Mr. Zdravko Gavran, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Croatia - CEI National Co-ordinator

Mr. Ivan Krpan, Head of the department in Croatian Ministry of Economy, Labour and Entrepreneurship

Mr. Ivan Šantek, Deputy Head of the Sisak-Moslavina County

Mr. Davor Govorčinović, Mayor of Hrvatska Kostajnica

10.00

PARTNERSHIPS: FINDING SOLUTIONS TO LOCAL PROBLEMS

To better respond to a new set of concerns of the population and to promote sustainable development, governments today actively seek a broad partnership with civil society and the private sector. It is at local and regional levels, closer to the problems and the individuals, that partnerships are most often formed to address issues of collective implications. Accordingly, partnerships are being established throughout OECD countries to tackle issues of economic development, employment, social cohesion and the quality of life. The session will start with a definition of the role of partnerships, will provide examples of different partnership models in Ireland, Russia and South East Europe and will focus on how these experiences can be transferred and adapted to the Croatian context.

10.00-11.00

Introduction by the chair

Partnerships for employment: a profile of an Irish partnership company

Mr. Pat Leogue, Manager, OAK Partnership, Ireland

Alleviating the mismatch of labour supply and demand: an example of Russian local social partnership

Ms. Ekaterina Travkina, consultant, OECD LEED Programme

Comments, discussion, Q/A

11.00-11.20

Coffee break

11.20-12.00

Sharing experience with South East Europe: building partnerships in Albania and Kosovo (Republic of Serbia and Montenegro)

Mr. Francesco Panzica, Country Manager for Albania, European Training Foundation

Mrs. Stela Luzi, Project Director for the Albanian part of the LEED AK project (Local Economic and Employment Development in Kosovo and Albania)



12.00-13.00 Debate on the potential of partnerships and on how to foster their development in Croatia

Mrs. Marica Đureković, Croatian Employment Service Sisak

13.00- 14.00 Lunch

14.00 ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND CLUSTERS

This session will examine the possibilities for small business and cluster development in the Hrvatska Kostajnica region. The Italian industrial districts experience will be presented, followed by several examples of emerging Croatian clusters. The session will identify the possibilities for fostering inter-regional and cross-border SME co-operation.

Chair: Ms. Katarina Jagić, President of UMIS-SMEA, Croatia

14.00-14.15 Building clusters in Croatia: achievements and perspectives of CEI-EBRD co-operation with Croatia

Ms. Marta Simonetti, Political Analyst, CEI-EBRD

14.15-14.30 Italian industrial districts: sharing Italian experience with countries in transition

Mr. Ugo Poli, Informest – Service & Documentation Centre for International Economic Co-operation, Italy

14.30-15.15 Textile production: possibilities for cross-border co-operation and cluster building

- The experience of Prato textile clusters, Italy
Mr. Lorenzo Incagli, Head of the International Department, Business Association of Prato, Italy
- Discussion and comments by Mr. Tihomir Babić, POUNJE company, Croatia, and local representatives involved in textile production

15.15-16.15 Furniture, wood products production: possibilities for cross-border co-operation and cluster building

Italian Alto Livenza industrial district, Mr. Diego Comuzzi, Manager, Istituto Civiltà' Altolivenza, Italy

- Possibilities for co-operation between Hrvatska Kostajnica and Trebinje region, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Ms. Ljiljana Čičković, President, „Women Centre“ Trebinje, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Discussion and comments by local representatives involved in the potential cluster
- Possibilities for co-operation with the Croatian county of Varaždin, Mr. Zvonimir Novak, President of Economy and Development



Council, County of Varaždin

16.15-16.30 **Coffee break**

16.30-17.30 **Rural tourism and eco/bio/org food**

- Possibilities for co-operation with the Crikvenica Riviera: “Healthy food in Crikvenica Riviera tourist offer”
Dr. Vlasta Brožičević, Clinic TERME SELCE, Croatia
- Discussion and comments by local representatives involved in the potential cluster

17.30-18.00 **Policy conclusions: co-operation and economic integration of Croatia in Europe**

Mr. Lodovico Sonogo, Minister, Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region, Italy

Prof. dr. Miodrag Hitrec, UMIS-SMEA Vice-president

Mr. Zvonimir Novak, President of Economy and Development Council,
County of Varaždin

Mr. Davor Govorčinović, Mayor of Hrvatska Kostajnica

Mr. Sylvain Giguère, Deputy Head, OECD LEED Programme

18:00 – 19:00 **Farewell Cocktail**