

SNV in Macedonia

SNV launched its programme in Macedonia 2006 and currently employs 12 professional staff, working from offices in Skopje and Stip.

Forestry, agriculture and tourism

In Macedonia, SNV assistance is focussed on forestry, agriculture and rural tourism. Our advisers bring together people and institutions involved in a common development issue to facilitate discussions, collaboration and participatory planning. We strengthen capacities where needed, mostly through local capacity building organisations.

SNV in Macedonia supported the creation of small private forest owners associations. The objective is to establish a network of associations and to prepare them to be an appropriate partner to talk with authorities at the regional and national level. In tourism, SNV supported the Ministry of Economy in developing a national strategy on tourism. Municipalities are responsible for economic development planning, in which tourism provides a great opportunity, so SNV helps them to set up strategies and Tourism Action Plans, identifying potential and requirements for stimulating tourism in the locality. SNV is also strengthening umbrella organisations like the Association of Municipalities in order to make the organisations stronger partners in negotiations with national government. This supports the inclusion of local priorities and problems into national strategies.

Tourism Action Plans

In the tourism sector, SNV focuses on the community level to raise awareness on the economic potential of tourism. Municipalities are responsible for planning their economic development, in which tourism can be very important.

Macedonia has a unique wealth of cultural/historical treasures and archaeological sites: over 6000 archaeological sites, churches and monasteries and monuments of culture. It has a natural heritage of mountains, rivers, lakes and an unique flora and fauna. There are winter sport centres, mineral and thermo-mineral springs and possibilities for hunting.

SNV Macedonia works with rural communities in the planning process of Tourism Action Plans, which makes them serious partners of the local and regional tourism industry. It ensures that they benefit from the growth in this sector. In Krusevo for instance, representatives from the municipality, the private sector, villagers and local and international ngos participated in the planning process. This resulted in a comprehensive, but 'simple to read' action plan to promote the tourism potential of Krusevo. Collaborating was an important experience for all who took part.

Berovo festival

The SNV team in Stip facilitated the organisation of the Berovo festival, in partnership with the municipality of Berovo, the ProCredit bank, and the German development organisation GTZ.

About 50 producers exhibited and sold their products at the fair. Almost 15.000 people from all over Macedonia and abroad (mainly from Serbia and Bulgaria) sampled their goods and celebrated the feast of the Holy Mary Bogodorica in the monastery area of Berovo. The Macedonian President and the Prime Minister, from opposing political parties, were seen together in public for the first time at this festival.

We need such association as we have been excluded from all decision making processes so far

Milanko Zejak,
private forest owner

The town (Krusevo) was seen as the centre for winter tourism, but we have managed to present the enormous potential. It's perceived a four-seasons touristic attraction now. The municipality has already received funding for some of the actions in the plan. Some €200.000 or €300.000 has been mobilised before the plans have even been presented. Municipalities are eager to collaborate with us

Violeta Madzova
SNV Macedonia

Contact us

Skopje St Orce Nikolov no 109 1000 Skopje
T: +389-2-3217322/1/0

STIP Office Ul Vanco Prke br 35 PO Box 110 2000 Stip
T: + 389 32 389 541/2

SNV

Connecting People's Capacities