

SNV strengths

Worldwide experience

SNV has almost 50 years worldwide experience with capacity building of local people and institutions.

Local presence

SNV in the Balkans has over 100 professional staff working in 5 countries, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, and Montenegro. We have 11 local offices spread throughout the region. The majority of our advisers are nationals of the country in which they work, supported by a team of international experts.

Working with Local Capacity Builders

Where possible SNV works through and with local organisations that complement our capacity building work, and mirror our participatory approach. This leads to effective and sustainable local development and achieves lasting development results. It is an essential element in our strategy.

Cross-border • trans-national

Because of SNV's local presence in 5 countries in the Balkans connecting people even works in cross-border settings. We are currently working in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, and Montenegro

Participatory processes

SNV is strong in initiating and facilitating participatory processes, where the voices of all stakeholders are taken into account.

Quality time

SNV advisers take time to get acquainted with people, organisations and governmental structures involved in a certain problem, including marginalised groups.

People before projects

People's needs and capacities guide SNV's advisory work, not pre-designed solutions and projects.

Bringing people together

SNV advisers easily communicate with people at different levels in society, from a small bioorganic farmer to the Minister of Agriculture. SNV is able to bring these stakeholders together. Working at different levels simultaneously increases the effectiveness of SNV interventions.

Holistic approach

SNV focuses on institutions and the enabling environment as a whole. SNV would rather train a local guides' association in a tourist area than come up with a worked-out concept of hiking and biking tours.

Bringing EU accession closer

Accession to the European Union is a major national development strategy for the countries where SNV is working and, consequently, SNV has adopted the preparation of local-level organisations to EU requirements as a priority.

SNV has invested core funding in the participatory planning process, which leads to effective capacity building. Most international organisations do not have this possibility, because they are restricted to project execution.

Jan Willem Knegt
SNV in Montenegro

SNV

Connecting People's Capacities