

# WEBG SOCIAL INVESTMENT PLAN - PROGRAM FOR SUPPORT OF LOCAL INITIATIVES

## ANNUAL REPORT - 2015

### **1. Introduction**

The Program for supporting local community initiatives (Social Investment Plan), implemented by WEBG (Wind Energy Balkan Group), was primarily focused on fostering cooperation with both the Local Communities (MZs) where the project “Čibuk 1” will be implemented and the representatives of their local governments with objective to support local economic and social development of the four villages: Bavanište, Dolovo, Mramorak and Vladimirovac and two towns: Alibunar and Kovin. The program is actively promoting the following principles and core values: sustainable development, transparency, cultural diversity, human rights, social freedoms and antidiscrimination in all personal and social aspects.

### **2. Background and rationale**

From the very beginning of its activities in Serbia, WEBG has been directing all its socially responsible efforts through the Local Communities and local governments. WEBG has so far been supporting numerous local initiatives, festivals, sport clubs and events, competitions and other activities.

As of 2013, WEBG has been carrying out the Program for support of social initiatives in a systematic and organized manner. In 2015, Bavanište was added as the fourth local community (in addition to Mramorak, Dolovo and Vladimirovac) to the SIP as the project is nearing the start of construction and Bavanište will be the community most heavily exposed to works on interconnection (grid construction). SIP 2015 was focusing on:

- Small projects for development of infrastructure;
- Improving quality of local public services in villages;
- Education and sport;
- Support to vulnerable groups (old people, disabled persons, youth and children);
- Promotion of renewable energy sources;
- Preservation of environment;
- Promotion of local customs and tradition.

**WEBG has allocated and adopted the annual budget of €24,000 for funding local initiatives in 2015.** The budget was divided into four parts to be allocated depending on the expected effects of the “Čibuk 1” project on each of the four local communities during 2015. Thus, the funds were allocated as follows:

- Local community Vladimirovac – €10,000
- Local community Dolovo – €6,000
- Local community Mramorak – €5,000

- Local community Bavanište – €3,000

### 3. Selection Process

Initially, in May 2015, WEBG representatives had informed Local Community and local government officials in Vladimirovac, Dolovo, Mramorak, Bavanište, Alibunar and Kovin about the Social Investment Plan basic principles, values and process, and had provided information on the total amount that each community may receive. On May 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> 2015 WEBG organized meetings in respective local community offices for all interested citizens, associations and organizations giving them opportunity to submit their proposals and suggestions about the activities that are nominated to be supported.

The meetings were held in the following order:

Local Community of Mramorak – Meeting held on May 5<sup>th</sup>. In addition to local community and municipality representatives Milka Novosel and Goran Vujović, and WEBG representatives Slobodan Perović and Aleksandar Andjić, the following local associations and organizations were present:

1. Scout organization “Beli bor” – Mr. Saša Mojašević
2. Volunteer Firefighting Association “Mramorak” – Mr. Milutin Novosel
3. Football club “Proleter” – Mr. Branko Cvetković
4. Civil Society Organization “Eko zona Kovin” – Mr. Saša Nikolić
5. Artistic Association “Mramorak” – Mr. Nenad Mladjenović
6. Horse club “Mramor” – Mr. Sava Jovanov
7. Elementary school “Sava Maksimović” – Ms. Brankica Savić
8. Civil Society Organization “ORA Deliblatski pesak” – Mr. Sava Truja.

Local Community of Dolovo – Meeting held on May 7<sup>th</sup>. In addition to local community and municipality representatives Branislav Pavlov and Nikola Radonjin, and WEBG representatives Slobodan Perović and Aleksandar Andjić, the following local associations and organizations were present:

1. Men’s Handball club “Dolovo” – Mr. Miroslav Rančić
2. Volunteer Firefighting Association “Dolovo” – Mr. Goran Ilić
3. Football club “Dolovo” – Mr. Radojica Djordjević
4. Women’s Association “Dolovke” – Ms. Zorica Subin
5. Association of Wine Producers “St.Trifun” – Mr. Stanimir Stanković
6. Moto club “Ghost Riders” – Mr. Vladimir Subin
7. Cultural Centre “25. maj” – Mr. Miroslav Prvulj
8. Elementary school “Aksentije Maksimović” – Mr. Predrag Bogatinčević
9. Association “Agrologistik” – Mr. Dragan Fišćag
10. Civil Society Organization “Pančevački ratari” – Mr. Jovan Negovan
11. Woman’s Handball club “Dolovo” – Mr. Vladimir Vemić
12. Local Community Office Dolovo – Mr. Branislav Pavlov
13. Public Utility Company “Dolovi” – Mr. Branislav Pavlov

14. Horse club "Dolovac" – Mr. Saša Popov
15. Civil Society Organization "Ekodol" – Mr. Vladimir Puzović
16. Hunters' Association "Dolovo" – Mr. Jugoslav Brzovan.

Local Community of Bavanište – Meeting held on May 8<sup>th</sup>. In addition to local community and municipality representatives Djurica Crepajski and Mladjen Urošev, and WEBG representatives Slobodan Perović and Aleksandar Andjić, the following local associations and organizations were present:

1. Football club "BSK" – Mr. Nenad Dimitrijević
2. Volleyball club "Bavanište" – Mr. Miodrag Savin
3. Beekeepers Association "Bavanište" – Mr. Dragan Belanov
4. Women's Association "Duga" – Ms. Mileva Djurdjev
5. Society for Preservation and Fostering of National Tradition "Bećarac" – Mr. Zoran Živanov
6. Union of Farmers "Bavanište" – Mr. Vasa Ćurčić
7. Cultural Association "Dani ćirilice Bavanište" – Ms. Vera Sekulić
8. Cultural Centre "Bavanište" – Mr. Slobodan Stojanov
9. Local Community Office Bavanište – Mr. Mladjen Urošev
10. Artistic Association "Aca Obradović" – Ms. Vera Sekulić

Local Community of Vladimirovac – Meeting held on May 14<sup>th</sup>. In addition to local community and municipality representatives Predrag Belić and Dragana Komatina, and WEBG representatives Slobodan Perović and Aleksandar Andjić, the following local associations and organizations were present:

1. Karate club "Vladimirovac" – Mr. Risto Ekmečić
2. Pre-school "Poletarac" – Mr. Grujica Ilić
3. Men's Handball club "Vladimirovac" – Mr. Dejan Lazić
4. Elementary school "Prvi maj" – Mr. Petar Glanda
5. Municipality of Alibunar – Mr. Predrag Belić
6. Volunteer Firefighting Association "Vladimirovac" – Mr. Djordje Sekešan

In line with the SIP Application Form, all submitted project proposals to be supported by the WEBG Social Investment Plan included the following:

1. Name of local community that proposes activity and necessary contacts;
2. Description of the proposed activity;
3. Duration of activity and the period of realization;
4. Budget per item;
5. Reasons why the proposed activity would contribute to local development and/or other desirable social objectives;
6. Other relevant information.

Following these public meetings, WEBG, Local Community Councils and local government officials met on May 18<sup>th</sup> (Mramorak, Dolovo and Bavanište) and May 25<sup>th</sup>

(Vladimirovac) to evaluate received proposals and decide on the list of project to be supported.

The final decision on projects to be financially supported was made in accordance with the principles stated in the Social Investment Plan and on the basis of past experience acquired during cooperation in the previous years (for example, if a project was sponsored during previous years and the organization which implemented the project failed to submit final report on costs and results of the project, that organization has not been taken into consideration for the ongoing year).

The entire selection process, step-by-step has been publicized on the project website and on the local communities' noticeboards in order to ensure transparency and participatory approach. The lists of successful project proposals containing short description of activities with name, location, expected period of implementation and budget was also published on the website of the "Čibuk 1" project and on the public noticeboards of all four local communities.

#### 4. Outputs and Results

In total, 33 projects were supported in 2015 and the funds were allocated as follows:

- 6 projects in Vladimirovac in total value of 1.200.000,00 dinars (cca €10,000)
- 13 projects in Dolovo in total value of 690.000,00 dinars (cca €5,750)
- 10 projects in Mramorak in total value of 570.000,00 dinars (cca €4,750).
- 4 projects in Bavanište in total value of 324.000,00 dinars (cca €2,700).

All projects were implemented during 2015 and all final reports and financial statements were provided to WEBG in a timely manner. Local community staff provided support during the implementation of these projects and WEBG representatives were present at most of these events.

#### VLADIMIROVAC

Project Title	Organization	Timeframe	Total Budget: 1.200.000 RSD
Construction of children's playground	Pre-school „Poletarac“	During 2015	Requested: 300.000
			Approved: 300.000
Repair of floors in classrooms	Elementary school "Prvi maj"	June 2015 / August 2015	Requested: 399.168
			Approved: 300.000
Purchase of sport equipment	Karate club "Vladimirovac"	May 2015 / June 2015	Requested: 150.000
			Approved: 135.000
Competition in the 1 <sup>st</sup> handball league	Handball club "Vladimirovac"	February 2015 / December 2015	Requested: 156.000
			Approved: 135.000
			Requested: 60.000

Purchase of firefighting equipment	Volunteer Firefighting Association "Vladimirovac"	May 2015 / September 2015	Approved: 30.000
Humanitarian action for medical treatment of Bogdan Mihajlov in the USA	Municipality of Alibunar	July 2015	Requested: 300.000
			Approved: 300.000

**Total Approved: RSD 1.200.000**

## **DOLOVO**

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Total Budget: 720.000 RSD</b>
Nature world of Deliblato sands	Elementary school "Aksentije Maksimović"	September 2015	Requested: 48.000
			Approved: 45.000
New concrete paths and stairs at the entrance to the sports hall	Woman's Handball club "Dolovo"	June 2015 / August 2015	Requested: 70.000
			Approved: 50.000
Reparation of hallways and locker rooms in the sports hall	Men's Handball club "Dolovo"	June 2015 / August 2015	Requested: 70.000
			Approved: 50.000
Farmers' day	Civil Society Organization "Pančevački ratari"	June 2015	Requested: 40.000
			Approved: 30.000
VIII Dolovo Kettle competition	Public Utility Co. "Dolovi"	September 2015	Requested: 50.000
			Approved: 35.000
Replacing the fence on the football field	Football club "Dolovo"	June 2015 / July 2015	Requested: 40.000
			Approved: 30.000
Purchase of folk costumes "Banat" for youth folk ensemble	Cultural Centre "25.maj"	June 2015 / September 2015	Requested: 35.000
			Approved: 20.000
Traffic safety course for schoolchildren	Moto club "Ghost Riders"	May 2015 / June 2015	Requested: 86.400
			Approved: 25.000
Purchase of tires for firefighting trucks	Volunteer Firefighting Association "Dolovo"	May 2015 / July 2015	Requested: 48.000
			Approved: 40.000
XVI Strudel festival	Women's Association "Dolovke"	September 2015	Requested: 100.000
			Approved: 35.000

Horse race competition and XI Horse cart show	Horse club "Dolovac"	May 2015 / June 2015	Requested: 40.000
			Approved: 30.000
Parking in the village center (detailed design)	Local Community Office Dolovo	May 2015. September 2015.	Requested: 200.000
			Approved: 180.000
The project for street Sava Kovačević (detailed design)	Local Community Office Dolovo	May 2015 / September 2015	Requested: 135.000
			Approved: 120.000

**Total Approved: RSD 690.000**

### **MRAMORAK**

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Total Budget: 600.000 RSD</b>
Construction of iron fence in the schoolyard	Elementary school „Sava Maksimović“	August 2015	Requested: 300.000
			Approved: 60.000
Purchase of sport equipment and furniture for pensioners club	Association of Pensioners "Mramorak"	During 2015	Requested: 175.000
			Approved: 35.000
Reconstruction of locker rooms and purchase of equipment	Football club "Proleter"	During 2015	Requested: 150.000
			Approved: 50.000
Purchase of firefighting equipment	Volunteer Firefighting Association "Mramorak"	May 2015 / July 2015	Requested: 150.000
			Approved: 65.000
Purchase of medical defibrillator	Home for old people and pensioners "Gazela"	August 2015 / December 2015	Requested: 70.000
			Approved: 70.000
ECO camp "Čardak" 2015	Civil Society Organization "ORA Deliblatski pesak"	July 2015	Requested: 104.400
			Approved: 35.000
Purchase of equipment	Scout organization "Beli bor"	May 2015 / June 2015	Requested: 71.300
			Approved: 55.000
Horse cart show	Horse club "Mramor"	May 2015	Requested: 50.000
			Approved: 50.000
Help for expert improvement of children	Artistic Association "Mramorak"	June 2015 / December 2015	Requested: 144.000
			Approved: 100.000
Getting to know nature of Kovin	Civil Society Organization "Green Link"	May 2015	Requested: 96.000
			Approved: 50.000

**Total Approved: RSD 570.000**

## **BAVANIŠTE**

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Total Budget: 360.000 RSD</b>
Recostruction of the hall in the Local Community building	Local Community Office Bavanište	July 2015	Requested:180.000
			Approved: 118.000
Reconstruction of children's playground	Local Community Office Bavanište	June 2015 / July 2015	Requested: 180.000
			Approved: 118.000
Installing spotlights on the volleyball sand court	Volleyball club "Bavanište"	June 2015	Requested: 43.150
			Approved: 40.000
Getting to know nature of Kovin	Civil Society Organization "Green Link"	May 2015	Requested: 96.000
			Approved: 48.000

**Total Approved: RSD 324.000**

## **5. Impact**

The representatives of four local communities were included in monitoring the implementation of each activity and timely submission of short reports on the project. Project implementers were collecting press clippings from the local media and reactions of the local community. WEBG used collected data to estimate a short, medium and longtime effect of the project on the community.

The following areas were impacted by the projects implementation during 2015:

- a. Village infrastructure development - **high impact, ten projects**
- b. Education, experience exchange and training – **low impact, two projects**
- c. Sport and promotion of healthy life styles – **medium impact, four projects**
- d. Fire and traffic safety – **medium impact, four projects**
- e. Support to vulnerable groups (old people, disabled persons, youth and children) - **medium impact, three projects**
- f. Environmental protection - **medium impact, four projects**
- g. Tourist promotion of local customs and tradition – **medium impact, four projects**
- h. Support to local culture and arts – **low impact, two projects.**

### **5.1. Short term impact – one year**

Although very high in scale, impact on local culture and arts can be considered as short term one, as it enabled local festivals and traditions to survive under severe financial conditions at the local level. The same can be said for the support for vulnerable groups and

environmental protection projects as the Social Investment Plan provided support in order to prevent these activities from vanishing as a result of the lack of state/local funding.

### **5.2. Mid-term impact – two to five years**

This impact level was in the very focus of the Social Investment Plan as it laid ground for the economic development during the wind farm construction timeframe, especially in the field of rural tourism and improved communities' capacities to prepare for, and respond to, fire and traffic accidents. Heavy input in tourist promotion of local customs and tradition recorded high impact through four projects and reinforced position of the promotion and income generating events improving the overall tourist offer of the wider "Čibuk" area. A few thousand people in total visited these events, and reaffirmed Bavanište, Dolovo, Vladimirovac and Mramorak as future tourist destinations. With the new wind farm, it is expected that these villages may be in a position to offer its capacities to construction companies' staff during the constructing phase, and after to become attractive for domestic tourists, especially for elementary and high school pupils.

### **5.3. Long-term impact – from five years on**

The rest of the supported projects which generally dealt with education, training, capacity building or promoting values and principles are considered to generate the long lasting effects, bringing new quality to the community social dynamics. Promotion of healthy life styles, through assistance provided to non-profit sport clubs dealing with volunteers and support to local based education and training are expected to motivate young people to improve their quality of life, connect more with the community and stay there. Additionally, significant funds were invested this year in education and small infrastructure projects, with the goal of improving education for schoolchildren in the longer run ("Getting to know nature of Kovin" project) and assisting local government in providing better quality services for the inhabitants of Bavanište, Vladimirovac, Mramorak and Dolovo.

Finally, the major positive impact in all four communities was made in the field of promoting the standards in corporate social responsibility and creating the sense of partnership with the Project among the citizens over the Social Investment Plan implementation and success.

## **6. Next Steps and Recommendation**

WEBG Social Investment Plan will continue to be constantly modified and upgraded in accordance with the local needs and project's progress. Comments were gathered from the local communities and incorporated in the proposal for 2016 Social Investment Plan Call for Proposals. It was highly recommended both by Kovin and Alibunar city officials and by the local community leaders to continue the joint efforts under the Social Investment Plan during 2016. Proposed 2016 annual budget for implementation of the Program aims to stay within the same amount as in 2015 and is to be allocated to four local communities' similarly as in 2015.

## **7. Annexes**



This annual report is produced in English and published on WEBG project web site [www.wpc.rs](http://www.wpc.rs) along with final individual Project Reports (in Serbian) containing project description, financial reports, photos, press clipping and all supporting documents.