

**Project Title:** “5B ALBANIA - CIVIL SOCIETY PLATFORM AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (1st phase)”

**Project Donors:** AMSHC – Agency for the support of civil society & CMSR Slovenia

**Period of project implementation:** October 2015 - December 2016 (15 months)

**Project Area:** Vlora, Albania

**Implementing Agency:** BCCD (Balkan Center for Cooperation and Development)



Agjencia për Mbështetjen  
e Shoqërisë Civile



## ***“5B ALBANIA - CIVIL SOCIETY PLATFORM AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (1st phase)”***

The project is focused in two main interventions:

**Youth mobility** programme - cooperation and knowledge transfer on natural cost-efficient approaches to solving identified environmental problems. In this context a student exchange program will be designed and established between Albania and Slovenia.

**Investment: Demonstration sites** will be constructed, introducing Eco - remediation (nature based sanitation systems - ERM) solutions for protection of drinking water source in Vlora. Main goal is to educate young people through practical work on a demonstration site.

### **7 April 2016, Vlora, Albania**

BCCD, Limnos Ltd. and Youth Centre in Vlora organised the workshop bringing together Slovenian professionals and Albanian youths. The representatives from Albanian government, decision-makers bodies, experts, practitioners, media, business innovators and young professionals from a range of sectors supported the event and came to its opening with the aim to network, exchange ideas, foster new thinking and develop solutions to the most pressing water-related challenges of today.

The opening ceremony was followed by the presentations and lectures especially prepared for Albanian youth.

The workshop represented a very special opportunity to:

- Publicly present project 5B ALBANIA - CIVIL SOCIETY PLATFORM AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (1st phase VLORA);

- Share know how on eco remediation for environmental protection, rehabilitation and sanitation;
- Share experience on eco remediation good practices and lessons learnt;
- Support the young environmental activists by sharing the knowledge base;

**On April 7<sup>th</sup> 2016**

1. Meeting between the Mayor of Vlora Mr. Dritan Leli and Ms. Tanja Fajon- member of EU parliament, took place in the presence of ms. Masa Siftar- Deputy Ambassador of the Republic of Slovenia, Mrs. Elvana Zhezha- Executive Director of BCCD, Mr. Ilir Nikaj- Director of Regional Youth Center Vlora and representatives of EU info center in Vlora.

This event was attended by local media and broadcasted live on Vlora TV. (photos below)



Mayor of Vlora Mr. Dritan Leli addressed the students and all the audience by saying: *“I have always expressed my support and I will keep being of support for every project and initiative that makes Albania similar to EU, Vlora especially should look similar to an EU touristic destination”* (photos below)



2. Mrs. Elvana Zhezha-Executive Director of BCCD and Mr. Ilir Nikaj -Executive Director of Regional Youth Center in Vlora mentioned that this event was organized in the framework of the project co-financed by AMSH and Slovenia’s Development Cooperation and confirmed the attention of the Government of Slovenia for Youth support and their personal engagement for more environment projects supported by Slovenia’s Development Cooperation in Albania.



3. Slovenian environment experts Dani and Anja presented/introduced to Mayor, Ms. Fajon and the audience, Eco Remediation Solution as a platform to protect water sources and environment. Contact and view exchange set the basis for the activities in the future where the Regional Youth Center will take a crucial role in voicing youth needs and strengthening cooperation between Vlora stakeholders with regard to environmental problems. *Below photos*



4. Slovenian and Albanian experts during site visit for identifying the spots for the introduction of the environmental polygon and the pilot wetlands. *Below photos*







5. Meeting of the Slovenian experts with the Administrator of QENDER commune discussing the needs for the proposed environmental solutions and the appropriate spots to introduce the pilot wetland. *Below photos*

