



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Organisation internationale pour les migrations (OIM)
Organización Internacional para las Migraciones (OIM)

**B u i l d i n g C a p a c i t i e s o f a n d S t r e n g t h e n i n g
C o o p e r a t i o n b e t w e e n L a w E n f o r c e m e n t
O f f i c i a l s o f A l b a n i a , B o s n i a a n d
H e r z e g o v i n a , K o s o v o , M a c e d o n i a , M o n t e n e g r o
a n d S e r b i a**

FACT SHEET

July 2016

Background

The Western Balkan region constitutes a major transit route for irregular migration, smuggling of goods, drugs, weapons and stolen vehicles, as well as for trafficking of human beings. Vast areas of the green and blue borders within the region are difficult to monitor, presenting a real challenge for border surveillance and mobile units of all target countries.

Project Outline

Period	November 2013 - December 2016
Donors	Swiss Development and Cooperation (SDC) Agency; DCAF
Executing Agency	International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Partner(s)	Ministry of Interior of Albania, Ministry of Security of BiH, Border Police BiH, Ministry of Interior of Kosovo (Border Police), Ministry of Interior of Macedonia (Sector for Border Affairs), Ministry of Interior of Montenegro (Police Directorate – Border Police Sector, Department of State Border Surveillance), Ministry of Interior of Serbia (Border Police Directorate)

Project Description

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to reducing the risk of irregular migration and cross-border transgressions at the common borders of the Western Balkan countries, supporting the enhanced security in the region and the Western European States.

The project will serve to enhance the capacities of Border Police officials of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro and Serbia through cross-border coordination, sharing of information, joint patrols, and joint investigations at the bilateral, trilateral, and regional level.

The proposed activities will contribute towards the enhancement of the strategic and operational cooperation and trust between neighbouring countries, and further harmonisation of law enforcement approaches in the region, applying European Union best practices and lessons learned. The project plans to develop a Regional Transnational Crime Manual, encompassing an overview of topics and analysis related to combating transnational crime and a guide to interviewing migrants, as well as a handbook detailing



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relevant legislation governing joint patrols for utilisation at the border. Furthermore, specialised trainings are envisaged for law enforcement officials operating at the border. These trainings will be divided evenly between each project location and will be based upon an existing training curriculum developed through the Regional SDC-funded project mentioned above.