



GREEN HOME
act green

2025

Podgorica, March 2026.

ANNUAL WORK REPORT

NGO GREEN HOME

About organization

NGO Green Home was founded by biology students on February 14th, 2000, as a non-governmental, non-profit and non-partisan organization.

The organization was created out of a desire to actively participate in the preservation and improvement of the environment, as well as to take an active role in the development of civil society through the protection of biodiversity and the realization of the concept of sustainable development of Montenegro in practice.

Mission and vision

We are committed to protecting nature and improving the environment that will strengthen a sustainable future and lead to the social and economic improvement of communities in our country. In achieving this, we are committed to working with various stakeholders to strengthen cooperation and joint work towards achieving a sustainable future and the wide recognition of Montenegro as an ecological state.

The goal of the organization is environmental protection, preservation of natural resources and implementation of the concept of sustainable development.

Our areas of activity:

- Nature protection
- Sustainable development
- Sustainable use of natural resources
- Waste management
- Energy and climate change
- European integration

OUR TEAM



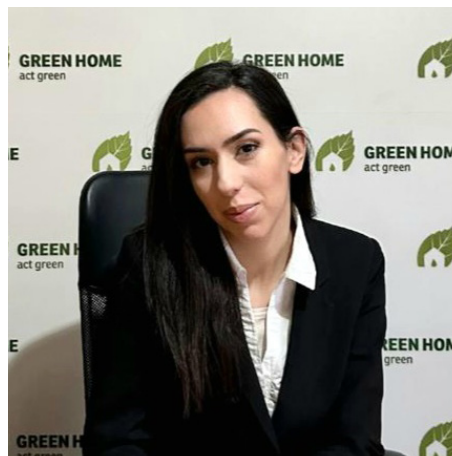
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CELEBRATION OF 25 YEARS OF THE NGO GREEN HOME



*Azra Vuković - from the celebration
25 years of Green Home*

The support of the European Union and the importance of cooperation in the implementation of environmental standards were the focus of the celebration of 25 years of the existence and work of the NGO Green Home. This jubilee, which was marked by a festive event, represents a significant milestone for the organization that has been dedicated to environmental protection, preservation of natural resources and achieving sustainable development since its inception.

Azra Vuković, Executive Director of the NGO Green Home, on that occasion emphasized that the organization proudly records many successes during its existence, including the campaign for the preservation of the Tara River, which resulted in the

adoption of the Declaration on the Protection of the Tara River, and the fight to stop the construction of hydroelectric power plants on the Morača River. Vuković also emphasized the importance of the initiative to establish new protected areas in Montenegro, such as the Prokletije National Park, the Cijevna River Canyon Natural Monument and the Katić Nature Park.

"During these activities, we managed to mobilize a large number of nature lovers, NGOs, colleagues from the region, as well as UN institutions and the European Commission, and finally succeeded in what initially seemed like an impossible mission: the preservation of Tara, Morača, as well as the establishment of new protected areas. Our mission is to strengthen ourselves by expanding the network of environmental lovers. I would especially



*Ricardo Serri - from the celebration
25 years of Green Home*



like to highlight the fact that we are the initiators of Coalition 27, which brings together 18 organizations in Montenegro and is engaged in monitoring the fulfillment of Montenegro's obligations under Chapter 27 in the European integration process," Vuković said.

Vuković appealed to all stakeholders to accelerate the implementation of European environmental standards through joint efforts, emphasizing the importance of implementing laws and protecting natural resources as quickly as possible.

"Today, the issue of environmental protection is more relevant than ever before. Environmental protection is not only viewed through the prism of nature conservation, but also as an issue of human health, the rule of law, democracy, economy, protection of human and minority rights, but

also the fight against corruption and organized crime. If we add to this that Chapter 27 is one of the most demanding in the process of accession to the European Union, then it becomes clear how important this area is for Montenegro and its future," Vuković said.

The NGO Green Home, she reminds, is firmly committed to the implementation of European environmental standards.

"By implementing these standards, the air in our cities, which is at an alarmingly high level of pollution, will be cleaner; our rivers, lakes and sea, which are currently being discharged with untreated wastewater, will become cleaner; the food we produce and consume will be healthier and, ultimately, we will have a healthier environment and preserved human health," concluded the Executive Director of the NGO Green Home.

Riccardo Serri, Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Montenegro, expressed his satisfaction with the cooperation with the NGO Green Home, praising the achievements of the organization and its contribution to nature protection. Serri recalled the importance of Chapter 27 in the EU accession process and emphasized that environmental protection is a key issue for the future of Montenegro.

"25 years of the existence of this organization is a truly significant anniversary. Green Home has laid the foundation for better protection of natural



resources in Montenegro with its work. Although much has been achieved, challenges lie ahead, especially in the context of the implementation of European climate and environmental standards. The European Union is committed to this and together with partners we are working to raise awareness and advance environmental protection,” said Serri.

“It is always an honour to attend such events, and the celebration of the 25th anniversary is particularly important. This organisation is a true friend, not only for us as the European Union, but also for Montenegro itself,” he added.

Serri notes that Chapter 27 is crucial.

“Negotiations are ongoing. Now the main goal, the main focus when it comes to the environment is to continue the negotiations and try to make progress in this regard. This is a very, very challenging area, because you have to have a cleaner country in line with, say, climate change requirements. Investments, harmonisation, new legislation, all this needs to be done. And I think the authorities should concentrate on this area, because there are many things that are still lagging behind,” concluded the Deputy Head of the European Union Delegation to Montenegro.



The celebration of the 25th anniversary of the NGO Green Home symbolises the continued commitment to environmental protection and cooperation on European and international initiatives, with a common goal – creating a healthier and more sustainable living environment for future generations.

The celebration of the 25th anniversary of Green Home brought together numerous representatives of NGOs, state and international institutions, ambassadors and representatives of the diplomatic corps, universities, as well as friends of environmental protection.



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1. PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES DURING 2025

1.1. Strengthening civil society participation in environmental reforms supported by the EU accession process

Project duration:

December 2024 - November 2027

Donor: European Commission, co-financing: Ministry of Regional Investment Development and Cooperation with NGOs

Budget: EUR 260,000.00

The project Strengthening the participation of civil society in environmental reforms supported by the EU accession process is a continuation of a long-standing and strategically important engagement aimed at strengthening the role of civil society in one of the most demanding segments of European integration - Chapter 27, which includes environmental protection and climate change. Through this project, the work of the Coalition 27 network, the leading national network of civil society organizations in this area, founded in 2016 with the aim of systematically monitoring reform processes and providing relevant, expert and well-argued recommendations to institutions responsible for closing this chapter, was additionally strengthened.

The key contribution of the project, in the first year of implementation, is reflected in the strengthening of the capacity of civil society organizations to, based on detailed monitoring and analysis of public policies, actively participate in reform processes and lead meaningful and argumentative dialogue with decision makers. During 2025, the key impact of the project was realized through the preparation and public presentation of the Shadow Report for Chapter 27, which, under the title Trapped in Time, clearly indicated the long-term stagnation and delays that seriously threaten the achievement of essential progress in the field of environmental protection and climate policies.



In parallel with that, the first comprehensive shadow report for Chapter 15 - Energy was prepared, which systematically analyzed the fulfillment of obligations in this area for the first time from the perspective of civil society. This provided an analytical basis for looking at the connection between energy policy, with a special focus on energy transition, with environmental protection goals and climate obligations. This approach additionally emphasized the need to implement the energy transition as a truly green transition, in accordance with the principles of sustainable management of natural resources.

Through these two reports, which contain a total of 174 specific recommendations, the role of civil society organizations in monitoring, shaping and



improving reform policies within the framework of European integration, especially in the context of Chapters 27 and 15, has been significantly strengthened.

Additionally, the project continuously monitors the situation in special priority areas, including nature protection, forest management and waste management. The results of this detailed monitoring are documented through thematic reports, which will gradually be presented to the public and relevant stakeholders, which further strengthens the role of civil society and enables a quality contribution to the creation of policies in these areas.

The project is implemented in cooperation with partners: Center for Protection and Study of Birds; Association of young ecologists of Nikšić and North land.

1.2. Improvement of the status of the otter (Lutra Lutra) and its habitat in the transboundary area of the Skadar Lake National Park

Project duration:

October 2024 - September 2025.

Donor: Euronatur, through BestBELT

Budget: €57,031.00

The project Improvement of the status of the otter (Lutra Lutra) and its habitat in the cross-border area of the Skadar Lake National Park was implemented in cooperation with PPNEA and Wildlife Montenegro. The project aimed to improve the protection of the otter, whose status on the IUCN Red List is Near Threatened (NT), with a tendency to decrease in numbers due to habitat destruction caused by human activities. Since Lake Skadar is located in Albania and Montenegro, activities aimed at the protection of otters have simultaneously contributed to the strengthening of cross-border cooperation in nature conservation.

The key result of the project was the creation of a cross-border assessment of the otter population on Lake Skadar, the improvement of monitoring protocols and the provision of useful data and recommendations to competent



institutions for reporting according to relevant international conventions and management. The project also strengthened cooperation between Montenegro and Albania and raised public awareness through education and active involvement of citizens in scientific monitoring of the status of endangered species.



The results of the project include two seasonal field monitoring in Albania and Montenegro, the identification of key habitats for the otter, and the production of two national and one

joint report, which are useful material both for reporting according to the Berne Convention and for supporting the managers of Lake Skadar. Through the project, more than 45 young people were trained, citizen science was initiated, threats to the otter and its habitat were recorded, and the awareness of the local community was raised. Educational materials, a brochure and an animated video were also created, and the final cross-border conference enabled the exchange of experiences and the strengthening of the capacity of managers of protected areas.

Through all activities, the project enabled more up-to-date data, improved cross-border cooperation and significantly contributed to the long-term protection of the otter and its natural habitat on Lake Skadar.



1.3. Prokletije - Cross-border science classroom Phase III

Project duration: May 2025 - November 2025.

Donor: Western Balkans Fund (WBF) and the European Union

Budget: €13,750.00

The third in a series of Prokletije projects - Cross-border science classroom, is aimed at strengthening cooperation between young people from Montenegro, Albania and Kosovo through joint learning about biodiversity and nature protection in the Prokletije region. Through scientific exchange, field activities and educational programs, the project contributed to the development of good neighborly relations and encouraged young people to actively participate in environmental protection.

During the implementation of the project, 15 students from three countries improved their knowledge and practical skills in the field of nature protection and sustainable development, while increasing awareness of the importance of cross-border cooperation. The project was realized in partnership with the organization Environmentally Responsible Action (ERA) from Kosovo and the Institute for Nature Conservation in Albania (INCA).





1.4. Initiative “Zone with reduced use of plastics” 2025

Project duration: July 2025 - December 2025.

Donor: MedWaves, supported by the French Government (FVC) through the UNEP/MAP Regional Activity Center

Budget: 11,540.00 EUR

During the implementation of the project in 2025, a series of activities aimed at reducing the use of single-use plastic products in the HORECA sector in Montenegro were carried out, with a special focus on selected hotels. The project is a continuation of the successful initiative implemented in 2023, which supported municipalities in Montenegro, Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina through the introduction of “Zones with reduced plastic use” (LPZ).

As part of the project, five hotels in Montenegro joined the initiative: Voco, Palata Venezia, Pelikan, Signum and Kings Park Hotel. The cooperation with the hotels included a comprehensive assessment of the existing use of single-use plastic products, including packaging, hygiene products and other SUP products. Based on the data obtained, each hotel was provided with mentoring and advisory support in the process of phasing out single-use plastics, while at the same time introducing sustainable alternatives. In addition, personalized implementation plans were created that define concrete steps towards a long-term sustainable business without the use of single-use plastic products.



A particularly significant activity of the project was the organization of a national conference, where



positive experiences and good practices of leading hotels, including Crowne Plaza and Voco Hotel from Podgorica, were presented. The conference served as a platform for the exchange of knowledge, but also for an open discussion about the challenges and obstacles for the full implementation of such sustainable practices in the HORECA sector. Key challenges were identified, such as the availability of alternatives, procurement costs and the need for additional employee education, but at the same time, new opportunities for improving policies and practices in the direction of further reducing the use of single-use plastics were also recognized.

The fact that this important topic is being implemented in Montenegro for the third year in a row, which ensures the continuity of activities, the strengthening of the sector's capacity and the gradual change of business models in accordance with the principles of sustainable development and environmental protection, is a particular satisfaction.



1.5. Monitoring of the species *Pinna nobilis* in marine protected areas Platamuni and Katič

Duration of the project: 2024 - 2027.

Donor: Public enterprise for the management of marine assets through the association MedFund

Budget: €8,250.00

During 2025, through the implementation of this project, we continued monitoring the *Pinna nobilis* species in protected marine areas - Platamuni Nature Park, Katič Nature Park. *Pinna nobilis* is on the IUCN Red List as a critically endangered species, and in Montenegro it is protected by the Law on Nature Protection.

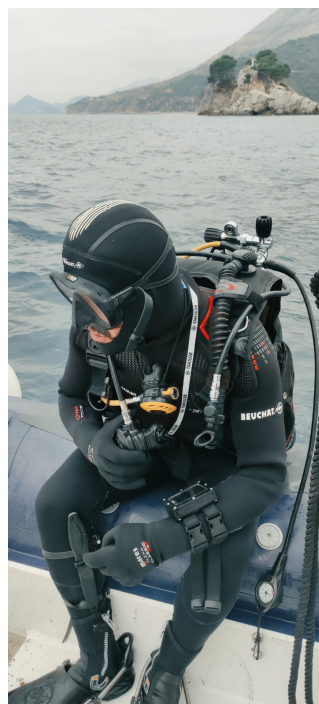
Monitoring was carried out using several methods: direct diving with observation and recording, as well as the installation of collectors - nets for the reception of fry and larvae of the mentioned species.

The results of the first two phases of monitoring indicate that the species is not present in these areas, which confirms the extremely unfavorable state of the population of this species in the territory of Montenegro. The absence of recorded individuals indicates a high degree of endangerment and possible local disappearance of the species due



to the combined effect of pathogens, habitat degradation, sea pollution and other anthropogenic pressures. Such results emphasize the urgent need for the continuation of long-term monitoring, as well as for the definition and implementation of specific measures for the conservation and recovery of the species, including the identification and removal of key factors that led to a drastic reduction in its abundance.

The goal of this project is a five-year monitoring of locations within Platamuni Nature Park, Katič Nature Park where the presence of *Pinna nobilis* species was previously recorded, as well as other potential locations suitable for the development of this species, in order to collect data on its presence during a period of five years.



1.6. Inventory of the species *Pinna nobilis* in the area of the Stari Ulcinj Nature Park

Project duration: January 2025 - September 2025

Donor: Public Enterprise for the Management of Marine Assets through MedFund Associations

Budget: €5,000.00

During 2025, through the implementation of this project, we conducted monitoring of the species *Pinna nobilis* in the protected marine area of the Stari Ulcinj Nature Park. *Pinna nobilis* is on the IUCN Red List as a critically endangered species, and in Montenegro it is protected by the Law on Nature Protection.

Monitoring was carried out using several methods: direct diving with observation and recording, as well as the installation of collectors - nets for the reception of fry and larvae of the mentioned species.



The monitoring results indicate that the species is not present in these areas, which confirms the extremely unfavorable state of the population of this species in the territory of Montenegro. The absence of recorded individuals indicates a high degree of endangerment and possible local disappearance of the species due to the combined effect of pathogens, habitat degradation, sea pollution and other anthropogenic pressures. Such results emphasize the urgent need for the continuation of long-term monitoring, as well as for the definition and implementation of specific measures for the conservation and recovery of the species, including the identification and removal of key factors that led to a drastic reduction in its abundance.



The aim of this project is to monitor locations within the Stari Ulcinj Nature Park where the presence of *Pinna nobilis* was previously recorded, as well as other potential locations suitable for the development of this species, in order to collect data on its presence over a period of five years.



1.7. EIT Food Start-up Awareness Events for the development of technology and entrepreneurship in the agri-food industry

Project duration:

September 2025 - November 2025.

Donor: EIT FOOD (European Institute for Innovation and Technology)

Budget: €15,000.00

The “EIT Food Startup Awareness Event” project was realized with a clear vision - to connect people, ideas and knowledge in order to create a more sustainable and innovative agricultural and food system in Montenegro.



Agriculture and food production face numerous challenges - from waste and inefficient use of resources, to climate change and the need to modernize production.

EIT Food Challenge Lab - Agrifood Hackathon, held in October, with a combination of online activities and live work. During seven days, students, young innovators and future entrepreneurs worked in teams, with the support of experienced mentors from the fields of economics, agriculture, business and environmental protection.

Participants developed solutions for real problems of the agri-food sector - agricultural waste management, reduction of plastic use, invasive species, as well as better connection between producers and markets. The final presentation of the



ideas and announcement of the winners was held on October 31, when the teams whose ideas showed the greatest potential for practical application were awarded:



- The first prize was won by the Lactoline team, with an innovative solution for the production of disposable packaging on a completely natural basis, using lactic acid and glycerin.
- The second prize was won by Nikola and Mitar Vujović, who offered a sustainable solution to the problem of the invasive perch species



in the Skadar Lake National Park, through the development of a food product with additional tourist value.

- The third prize was won by the WinePeel team, with the idea of turning winery waste into a natural beauty product for facial exfoliation.

The networking event brought together farmers, students, scientists, technologists, innovators and enthusiasts from various fields related to food production and sustainable agriculture.

This event was aimed at strengthening the local innovation community and creating space for open



dialogue about the challenges and opportunities of the Montenegrin agricultural system. Participants had the opportunity to learn about current initiatives, support programs and opportunities that EIT Food offers, but also to hear inspiring stories of local producers who are already contributing to changes in the sector with their work.

In a country where more than 52,000 tons of food is wasted annually, while a significant part of the population is at risk of poverty, such initiatives represent an important step towards a more responsible, fair and sustainable food system.



1.8. EU Youth Cinema: Green Deal

Duration of the project: 2024 - 2026.

Donor: Creative Europe MEDIA

Budget: €1400.00

EU Youth Cinema: Green Deal is a project that invites teachers and their students to participate in an innovative green program for the future. In 2025, two films by Jan Artur Bertrand were shown.

The film "Heritage" was shown on April 22, on the occasion of Earth Day, and conveyed to the audience a strong message about the relationship between man and nature, as well as about the challenges that modern society faces, but also concrete solutions for preserving the Earth as the home of future generations.

After the screening, students of upper grades of primary and secondary schools from Podgorica and Danilovgrad had the opportunity to participate in a conversation with one of the most prominent Montenegrin scientists in the field of biological sciences, Snežana Dragičević. The discussion showed a high level of awareness and understanding among young people about the environmental challenges facing Montenegro, but also the planet as a whole, as well as their willingness to actively contribute to solving these issues.

As part of the European Waste Reduction Week, on November 24, a screening of the film "Planet Ocean" was held, which, through impressive



research into aquatic ecosystems, encourages viewers to reconsider their own consumption habits and attitude towards waste. The screening was attended by more than 250 students and teachers from eight schools, who after the film participated in a conversation with Marija Blažević and Kristina Joksimović from the organization Zero Waste Montenegro. Through an open discussion, the young people exchanged their impressions of the film and discussed the way of waste management in Montenegro, with a special focus on the challenges associated with electronic and electrical waste, as well as on concrete steps that each of us can take to reduce its amount.

Teachers got access to the multilingual online platform www.euyc.green, where they can watch almost 50 European films with educational content, which supports modern education through film.



1.9. People Powered Tourism: Empowering local communities through co-designing transformative experience-based travel to enhance the visitor economy

Project duration: April 2025 - March 2028

Donor: Interreg Danube Region Program co-funded by the European Union

Budget: €141,663.00

In the People Powered Tourism project, 14 partners from 10 countries of the Danube region are joining efforts to empower local communities, including marginalized groups, in less-visited neighborhoods of tourist towns and rural areas. Through social innovation schemes, communities have the opportunity to recognize and value their untapped cultural and natural assets, and to co-design sustainable, experience-led tourism services that contribute to local economies and social benefits.

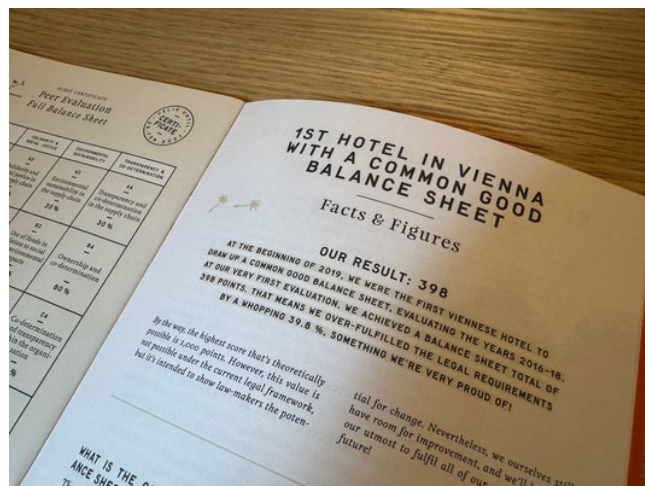
A key concept of the project is the visitor economy – an approach to tourism that emphasizes human connections, personalized experiences and the socio-economic impact of tourism on local communities, rather than just attractions and visitor numbers. In this way, tourism becomes a tool for real social and economic change.

As a partner from Montenegro, we decided to focus on Kotor, a city that is facing increasing pressure from excessive tourism. It is precisely in this context that we see the need to strengthen the concept of the visitor economy, which is still not sufficiently developed in Montenegro.



Through project activities, we strive to show how tourism can be sustainable, inclusive and transformative - for visitors, but also for the local community.

The project also addresses the global challenges of modern tourism, including sustainability, over-



tourism, the involvement of local communities and the development of ecotourism. Our mission is that experience-based tourism creates long-term socio-economic benefits for communities and becomes an example of a responsible approach in the region.

1.10. Breathe Clean! / Breathe healthy!

Project duration: September 2025

Donor: Urban Research Institute - URI

Budget: €600.00

On the Gorica Hill - the lungs of Podgorica, we held an info day on the eve of World Lung Day in order to try to raise awareness of one of the most important issues of our time - air pollution.

The aim of this event was to remind everyone that clean air is the right of all of us. Together, we explored how our daily choices and urban life are connected to the air we breathe and the health of our planet.

The interactive info stand presented three main topics:

1. Air pollution and climate change - how rising emissions and global warming affect the environment and air quality.

2. Air pollution and waste - the hidden impact of waste and poor waste management on air quality.

3. Air pollution and urban mobility - how sustainable transport can make our cities cleaner and healthier.

Next to the stand, there was a "Message Wall" where citizens shared their messages, thoughts, and ideas for future actions of a similar nature.

1.11. Waste Path: Mission of Education

Project duration: January 2025 – June 2025

Donor: Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Northern Development

Budget: €4,208.00

The “Waste Path: Education Mission” project was implemented with the aim of raising awareness and improving the knowledge of children, young people and citizens of local communities in Montenegro about the importance of proper waste management and environmental protection. The project is aimed at long-term changes in behavior, through education, motivation and empowerment of the youngest generations to recognize their own role in protecting the environment and reducing the pressure on sanitary landfills.



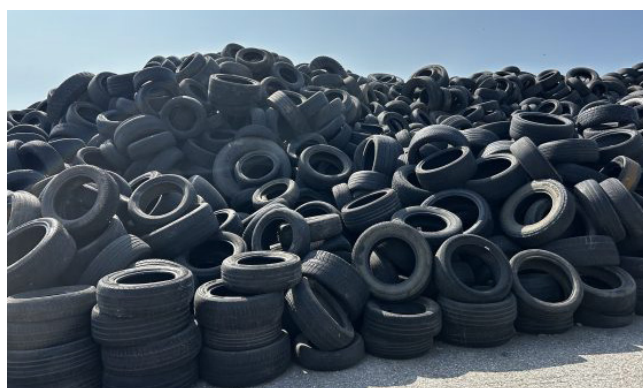
During the implementation of the project, we held seven educational workshops in primary and secondary schools in Podgorica and Nikšić. Through the workshops, students were introduced to the door-to-door waste collection system, types of waste, the problem of plastic pollution, the possibilities of separate collection and recycling, as well as the impact of improper waste management on human health and the environment. Special emphasis is placed on daily habits and small changes that individuals can implement in order to reduce the amount of waste generated in households.

As a continuation of the educational activities, an educational visit to the sanitary landfill “Livade” and the recycling center in Podgorica was organized



as part of the project. We organized the visit in cooperation with the city company Deponija d.o.o., for the students of the Elementary School “Vlado Milić”, with the support of the teacher Đina Mićović.

During the tour, which was led by the employees of Deponija d.o.o., Irena Kovačević and Milica Đurišić, the students had the opportunity to get to know in detail the functioning of the sanitary landfill, the work of the recycling center, various plants and the daily activities of employees in the field of waste management. The students were also presented with key information about the amount of waste generated in Montenegro, the problem of illegal landfills, as well as the challenges arising from the lack of systematic education on this topic.



The aim of the visit was to connect the theoretical knowledge acquired during the workshops with the actual situation on the ground, and to further develop students' awareness of the importance of proper waste disposal, recycling and a responsible attitude towards the environment.

1.12. Strengthening the protection and improving the management of the Bojana Delta in Montenegro

Project duration: November 2025 - April 2027

Donor: Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)

Budget: USD 39,320.00

Through this project, the NGO Green Home begins a new phase of its activities aimed at improving the protection and sustainable management of the key biodiversity area of Delta Bojana, with a special focus on Velika plaža and coastal wetlands. Starting from the need for a better understanding of the value of this space, as well as the increasingly pronounced pressures to which it is exposed, the project was conceived in such a way as to unify the scientific approach, work in the field and the active involvement of various social actors. Through systematic data collection and analysis of the current situation, work will be done on documenting biodiversity values and identifying key threats, which will create a quality basis for improving planning and management of this area.



In parallel, the project will be developed through concrete activities on the ground, such as actions to clean up waste and restore degraded parts of coastal wetlands, which directly contributes to the reduction of negative impacts and the preservation of sensitive ecosystems. Special emphasis will be placed on working with the local community, students and representatives of the tourism sector, through education, knowledge exchange and



capacity building for active participation in the protection of natural heritage. In this way, the project not only contributes to concrete changes on the ground, but also builds a long-term basis for a more



responsible attitude towards natural resources.

By combining research work, practical interventions and advocacy activities, Green Home will work



to improve dialogue with decision makers and strengthen institutional protection mechanisms, in order to ensure the long-term sustainability of this area. Through continuous information and involvement of the public, the project will contribute to a better understanding of the importance of

Velika plaža and coastal wetlands, as well as the need to preserve them. In this way, the initiative represents an integrated approach that connects biodiversity protection, ecosystem resilience and sustainable use of coastal resources, with the active role of civil society in those processes.



1.13. Strengthening the capacity of civil society organizations for the Green Agenda

Project duration:

November 2025 – October 2026

Donor: Belgrade Open School (BOŠ) and the European Union (EU)

Budget: €24,995.20

The project was launched with the aim of improving knowledge and greater participation of civil society organizations and citizens in local decision-making processes related to policies from the Green Agenda. This strategic document helps the countries of the Western Balkans to respond to the challenges of climate change and green transition, and to harmonize environmental regulations with European Union standards.

The implementation of the Green Agenda should contribute to climate neutrality by 2050, which means that our activities will not increase the amount of harmful gases in the atmosphere.



Through project activities, knowledge about the Green Agenda and its key goals will be improved, the implementation of the most important policies in the area of pollution reduction will be monitored, and strong cooperation with competent institutions will be implemented in order to implement these policies more efficiently at the local level.

1.14. Raising awareness and education within the MARICES project: Marine awareness, recycling, innovation through participation and community solutions

Project duration: December 2024 – June 2025

Donor: European Union - Horizon Europe, through the Horizon Europe Framework Program issued and implemented within the REMEDIES project

Budget: €28,900.00

The project MARICES Awareness of the sea, recycling, innovation through community participation and solutions was implemented in cooperation with DOO Komunalno preduzeće Ulcinj, with the aim of reducing the pressure on the Adriatic Sea caused by fishing activities in the territory of the municipality of Ulcinj. The project improved the infrastructure for the collection of waste fishing nets, their adequate disposal, while the possibilities of including this waste in



the circular economy system through reuse and production of new products were considered.



A special focus of the project was on solving the problem of ghost gear - discarded or lost fishing gear, which represents one of the most dangerous forms of marine litter and a significant threat to marine ecosystems, biodiversity, coastal communities and navigational safety. Fishing nets and equipment can survive in the sea for hundreds of years, continuing to threaten marine organisms even after they have ceased to be used. Precisely for this reason, through the project, containers were placed for the disposal of worn-out fishing equipment in locations that are suitable for use by fishermen.

As part of the project, we implemented a series of workshops aimed at increasing the awareness and education of fishermen and the local community about the negative impacts of marine waste, while at the end of the project we organized an international conference dedicated to the exchange of knowledge, experiences and good practices in the field of marine waste management and fishing equipment.



The key outcomes of the project include improved cooperation with the fishing community, an increased level of knowledge and awareness about the responsible management of fishing equipment, as well as laying the foundation for a systemic solution to the problem of worn-out fishing nets through the principles of a circular economy. The MARICES project is indirectly financed through the Action Program for Research and Innovation of the European Union - Horizon Europe, through the REMEDIES project.

1.15. Establishment of an association for waste management in Montenegro, Kosovo and Albania

Project duration: October 2024 – April 2025

Donor: Western Balkans Fund (WBF), co-financed by the European Union (EU)

Budget: €29,557.20 (Green Home €4,020.00)

The project Establishing an association for waste management in Montenegro, Kosovo and Albania was realized through a regional partnership of civil society organizations from four countries of the Western Balkans. The project was implemented with the participation of the NGO Green Home as a partner organization, while the leading partner was the organization Planktonium from North Macedonia. Other project partners were Advocacy Training and Resource Center (ATRC) from Kosovo and EcoDesign and Management Institute (EDMI) from Albania.

The aim of the project was to provide support for the establishment of a regional association for waste management, which would bring together representatives of the private sector and civil society organizations from Montenegro, North Macedonia, Kosovo and Albania, and which aims to contribute to the development and strengthening of the circular economy in the region through the promotion of efficient use of resources, implementation of customized education and training, support for the development of projects in the field of waste management, as well as through raising citizens' awareness of the importance of waste reduction, reuse, separate collection and recycling. Also, the association is conceived as a platform for joint representation and representation of the interests



of its members before relevant institutions at the national and regional level.

The implementation of the project contributed to the strengthening of regional cooperation, the networking of organizations and the exchange of knowledge and experience between the countries of the region, with the aim of a joint response to challenges in the field of waste management. The special importance of the project is reflected in the fact that all involved countries are signatories of the EU Green Agenda and are committed to the transition to a climate-neutral and resource-efficient society, with the waste management sector representing one of the key segments of the circular economy. Current practice in the region is still predominantly focused on dumping waste in landfills, with low recycling rates and the need for additional harmonization of the regulatory framework with European Union standards.

As part of the project, workshops were held in Skopje, Pristina, Tirana and Podgorica, which were the basis for exchanging experiences and defining the next steps towards the establishment of the association. The key activity of the NGO Green Home was the organization of the workshop “Waste management in Montenegro with a focus on the possibilities of regional cooperation”, where models of cooperation and the exchange of good practices were discussed in order to improve the circular economy in the region. The workshop was supported by all key stakeholders in the field of waste management in Montenegro.

The project is financed by the Western Balkans Fund (WBF), with co-financing from the European Union (EU).



1.16. We are learning about energy communities!

Project duration: January 2025 – June 2025

Donor: Ministry of Energy

Budget: €4,950.00

Through the project, we pointed out the fact that the transition from coal to renewable energy sources, primarily solar energy, opens up significant opportunities for citizens. This gives citizens a more active role in the energy sector - they do not remain passive consumers, but also become energy producers, with the possibility of mutual association through energy communities.



As part of the project activities, the key steps towards the formation of energy communities, as well as the potential challenges accompanying this process, were presented. Although it is a relatively new concept in Montenegro, it is gradually gaining its legal foundation. Through the examples of countries

that already have developed energy communities, citizens were provided with additional information and practical knowledge, with a special emphasis on the experiences of Croatia, thanks to the cooperation with the Green Energy Cooperative (ZEZ).

1.17. Regulating toxic plastics: Country status reports on phthalates, bisphenols and protection gaps

Project duration: July 2025 - April 2026

Donor: International Pollutants Elimination Network, IPEN

Budget: €2,629.27

As part of this project, during the year 2025, we started work on the analysis of the distribution, use, and presence of toxic chemicals phthalates and bisphenols in Montenegro. The analysis focuses on plastic products, as these products most often contain the mentioned toxic chemicals. The aim of the report is to provide an overview of production, import/export, use, as well as existing regulation and efforts by Montenegro to phase out phthalates and bisphenols. The reason for the analysis lies in the fact that phthalates and bisphenols are two large groups of chemicals in plastics that are known endocrine disruptors and which are currently not covered by global regulatory controls. The lack of global regulation allows the continued production



for a toxics-free future

and widespread use of these toxic chemicals in thousands of products, leading to contamination of households and the environment. In addition to the lack of regulation around production, there is also very little transparency about where these substances are being used, making them practically unavoidable. By conducting the analysis, together with other countries within the IPEN network, we will join and strengthen efforts to more rigorously regulate and phase out these chemicals on a global level.

2. EXTRA-PROJECT ACTIVITIES

In addition to the projects we implemented, our activities were extremely dynamic, including responding to current irregularities, public advocacy activities, participation in public dialogues and continuous communication with stakeholders and decision makers on a wide range of topics related to environmental protection.

In addition to decision makers, the target groups of our activities are often young people and children. In this sense, we often organize educational workshops in kindergartens, schools and similar institutions.

As a result of our activities during the 25 years of existence, the organization has been recognized by almost all national and international media, which turn to us for expert opinion on current topics in the field of environmental protection and climate change.

Our efforts, activities and commitment are focused on active participation in public discussions related to a large number of different projects.

In the previous period, we were primarily focused on monitoring the fulfillment of obligations from Chapter 27 - Environment and Climate Change, which Montenegro needs to fulfill within the process of joining the European Union. Bearing in mind that sustainable development is a strategic imperative for Montenegro, we are committed to continuous monitoring of this process, analysis of obstacles and careful preparation of recommendations that we deliver to decision makers.

2.1. Earth Hour 2025

The end of March is reserved for marking the Hour for the Planet (Earth Hour) - a global campaign that brought together around 190 countries and territories with the aim of raising awareness about

climate change, encouraging individuals and groups to turn off their lights for 60 minutes and take positive actions to protect the planet.

2.2. Workshops in schools

One of the activities to which we pay special attention is the education of young people, children and students. In 2025, we organized over 20 educational workshops in kindergartens, primary and secondary schools. We organize education most often on the occasion of significant environmental dates, but also when, in cooperation with teachers and professors, we recognize the need for additional information and awareness raising among young

people on a certain topic. We organized workshops on the territory of Podgorica, Nikšić and Budva, while further expansion of activities to other municipalities is planned in the coming period. We carefully adjust the content of the training to the age of the participants, with a special focus on an interactive approach, so that each workshop is interesting, understandable and stimulating for children and young people.

2.3. Public campaign for the protection of Velika plaža (Ulcinj)



At the beginning of 2025, Green Home, together with numerous civil society organizations, informal initiatives and individuals from all over Montenegro, participated in a public advocacy campaign aimed at protecting Velika plaža, one of the most valuable coastal ecosystems in the country. The campaign was launched in response to plans for long-term leases and intensive construction, which raised concerns about possible environmental degradation, pressure on local infrastructure and insufficient public involvement in decision-making processes.



Through continuous media involvement, public announcements and cooperation with local actors, the campaign contributed to strengthening trust, dialogue and social cohesion. Special focus was on presenting this issue as a matter of public interest and joint responsibility, which opened up space for

dialogue between citizens, the professional public, civil society organizations and decision makers.



By clearly and consistently communicating key risks, including ecosystem degradation, loss of public access and additional pressure on local services, the campaign contributed to a better understanding of the problem and strengthened citizens' confidence that their concerns could be articulated in a professional and evidence-based manner. At the same time, it gathered various social actors, including the local population of Ulcinj, non-governmental organizations, representatives of the tourism sector and citizens from all over the country, around the common goal of protecting Velika plaža as a public good.

The campaign resulted in a significant increase in public awareness of the environmental and



management aspects of the planned projects, as well as increased civic engagement through public debates and media discussions. Cooperation between civil society organizations and informal



groups has also been strengthened, with increased public pressure for more transparent and inclusive spatial planning processes.

After intense public debate, the investor abandoned the initial plan to lease the entire Velika Plaža area and develop large tourist complexes. Although this decision was influenced by several factors, the campaign contributed to the issues of environmental protection, public interest and the needs of local communities being in the focus of decision-making.



3. ACTIVITIES ON SOCIAL NETWORKS

In order to strengthen the visibility of our work and inform the general public about the activities we implement, we have placed a significant focus on our presence on social networks. During the year 2025, our social networks record about 500 announcements, which include:

- events that we have organized or supported with our presence,
- guest appearances and interviews in electronic and print media,

- various field and promotional actions,
- visits to partner organizations.

Thanks to regular and high-quality communication, we achieved a significant engagement of followers, which is reflected in the number of views, comments, shares and messages of support. This practice contributes to a better understanding of our mission and increases the trust of the community and partners in the work of the organization.

Održan performans „Darovi za Alabara”: Ova šaka zemlje je jedino što će dobiti besplatno od građana Crne Gore

Ekonomija (<https://rtmk.me/kategorija/ekonomija/>) 15.05.2025. 08:50 09:01
Izvor: Vijesti (<https://rtmk.me/izvor/izvor-vijesti/>)



DRUŠTVO

U Ulcinju diskutovali o izazovima i rješenjima u borbi za more bez plastike

18/06/2025 11:58 Izvor: CDM



NA SKUPU O ULOZI PRAVNICA U RJEŠAVANJU PROBLEMA ŽIVOTNE SREĐINE UKAZANO NA IZOŠTANAK ODGOVORNOSTI ZA ZLOČINE NAD PRIRODOM

Politički pritisak često jači od zakona

■ Da bi se pokrenule neke stvari u jednoj zajednici, često je djelotvorniji politički pritisak nego zakon, ukazao je profesor sa Univerziteta u Jorku Stiven Levett

U engleskom i u crnogorskom društvu često je prisutan nedostatak odgovornosti za zločine protiv životne sredine, koštao je na panel-diskusiji „Uloga pravika u rješavanju globalnih i lokalnih problema životne sredine”, koja je održana u sveučilišnoj sali Pravnog fakulteta. Na skupu je ukazano da su sve profesije veoma relevantne kada se govori o klimatskim procesima.

Specijalni gost na panelu, kojim je moderirala redovna profesorica Pravnog fakulteta Maja Kostić Mandić, bio je prof. dr Stiven Levett, direktor Klinike održivosti Univerziteta u Jorku i kodirektor Barone Keji pravne klinike tog jorkškog univerziteta. On je studentima podgoričkog PFO-a objasnio kako je na to englesko obrazovno-ustavno došlo do formiranja multidisciplinarnih klinika, na kojoj studenti različitih fakulteta mogu da se okupe kako bi radili na složenim problemima vezanim za klimu. Profesor Levett, koji je advokat, pojasnio je da na njihovom univerzitetu studenti treće godine prava na osnovnim situacijama mogu da provedu semestar u pravnoj klinici raditi s njim, a taj rad podrazumijeva stvarne slučajeve, gdje studenti besplatno savjetuju klijente iz zajednice o pitanjima koja ih muče. On je kazao da su primijetili da im klijenti



Profesor Levett, prof. Kostić Mandić i Azra Vukojević sa studentima

posljednjih godina dolaze sa sve složenijim problemima, u kontekstu situacija koje zakon nije lako riješio, uz napomenu da je često pritisak to što pokreće stvari.

— Nedavno smo imali mnogo klijenata koji su nam se obratili jer im je dom tužn i klag. Mnoge kuće u Engleskoj imaju taj problem. I postoje zakoni o ovome, ali oni zapravo ne pomažu puno. Ono što zamisla pomogne jeste da nagurate svoj lokalnog odbornika ili poslanika da napiše pismo odjeljenju za stanovanje

u kojem kaže: „Moji klijenti je veoma bolestan zbog vlažnosti. Uradite nešto”. To onda često pokrene stvari. Ne zakon, već pritisak, politički pritisak — naglasio je Levett.

Profesor je istakao da su u svojim višestrukim slučajevima, sa kojima se sve više suočavaju, navele da razmišljaju o stvarima sa službenicima za stanovanje, sa arhitektima, inženjerima ili sa svakim ko bi im mogao pomoći da pronađu praktična rješenja za sve probleme, s obzirom da zakon često nije dovoljan. Isto-

Ne dozvoliti političarima da prave predstave

U diskusiji je ukazano na tužbu koju je jedna građanka Pjevalja podnijela protiv države zbog zagađenja kaduza, na čemu čeka u Baru i koštile u centru Podgorice, ali i na problem sa izgradnjom kolektora u Botunju.

Azra Vukojević je ukazala da svako od nas, svakodnevno, proizvodi otpadne vode i ne razmišlja previše o svojim postupcima, da proizvodimo otpad, a kada je u pitanju tretman otpada onda imamo problem sa lokacijom.

— Neko to ne želi u svojoj dvoriti i svojoj blizini. Ali moramo pronaći način za postrojenje za prerađivanje otpadnih voda. Potrebni su nam objekti i ne možemo izmisliti političarima da od ovoga prave političku predstavu. Možemo da prečičavamo otpadne vode, da riskiramo, da imamo depozitu za otpad, odnosno objekte koji bi zapravo smanjili količinu zagađenja — naglasila je Vukojević.

koriste i za izgradnju zgrada, izvan zakonskih granica.

— Jedan od ovih problema je vađenje šaunka iz rijeke Morave, što je godinama rađeno potpuno nezakonito — ukazala je Vukojević.

Ona smatra da nam je potrebna svijest da su sve profesije veoma relevantne kada je riječ o klimatskim procesima.

— Ni jednu profesiju ne možemo odvojiti od procesa koji su globalni, koji su povezani sa svime što radimo u našim svakodnevnim životima — poručila je Vukojević.

Na imeno izlaganje nadovezao se profesor Levett, navodeći da u Ujedinjenom Kraljevstvu postoji toliko propisa — o zaštiti životne sredine, o planiranju, tektonički zakoni o kemikalijama koje se mogu koristiti, da pravila o tome gdje možete parkirati autobus, ali da to ne sprečava ljude da rade pogrešne stvari — sa namjerom. On je ukazao da investitori koji grade stambene objekte u toj zemlji imaju obavezu da sađe drveće zbog povećanja emisije ugljenika usled gradnje stambenih projekata. Investitori to urade, ali po njegovim riječima, sporazumi koje potpisuju na kraju im samo da posade drveće, ali ne i da posade pravo drveće za pravo mjesto ili da ga održavaju.

On je rekao da nema odgovornosti nad se osuđeni desetine hiljada stabala jer nisu bila za to mjesto, jer je investitor ispunio što je na planu traženo od njega, a u slučaju kada posijeku drvo staro preko 400 godina budu kažnjeni sa 10.000 funti, što je ništa za njih jer od izgradnje zarade milione.

U diskusiji sa studentima koja je uslijedila, budući akademski građani Crne Gore upozorili su na sveprisutni manjak odgovornosti, ali i manjak znanja u našoj državi. Jedan student je imao zanimljiv predlog za zaštitu drveća od sječe.

— Trebalo bi učestvovati da se u slučaju ako investitor posijekne drvo koje nije smio na tom mjestu sagraditi spomenik za posječeno drvo, kako na tom mjestu ne bi mogao graditi. Na taj način spasavamo drvo — predložio je taj student.

Prof. dr Maja Kostić Mandić kazala je da sa svako kada osjeđa da je neko pitao: „Kako ma važno uvijek treba da razmisli kako bi mogao da pozabavi njime.”

— Često ne bismo uspjeli. Ali, ne bismo to računala kao neuspjeh, jer bismo na kraju dana bili ponosni na sebe, zato što ste imali svoj stav i niste bili neko ko nije želio da se pozabavi problemom — istakla je Kostić Mandić.

A.O.

ZAMJENIK ŠEFA DELEGACIJE EVROPSKE UNIJE PORUČIO DA JE ZAŠTITA ŽIVOTNE SREDINE KLJUČNO PITANJE ZA BUDUĆNOST CRNE GORE

Seri: Vlast da se koncentriše na Poglavlje 27 jer mnoge stvari zaostaju

14. februar 2025, 16:38 Portal ETV



ОДРЖАНА КОНФЕРЕНЦИЈА КОЈОМ ЈЕ ПОКРЕНУТА
НАЦИОНАЛНА КАМПАЊА „ЧУВАЈ ДА ТЕ ЧУВА”



Сада је тренутак да Црна Гора буде еколошка држава

Страна 14

ГРИН ХОУМ ПРОСЛАВИО 25 ГОДИНА ПОСТОЈАЊА, АЗРА ВУКОВИЋ ИСТАКЛА

Сачували Тару и Морачу

Невладина организација (НВО) Грин хоум је за 25 година постојања забиљежила многе успјехе, укључујући кампању за очувању ријеке Таре, борбу за заустављање градње хидроелектрана на Морачи, иницијативе за оснивање нових заштићених подручја у Црној Гори, казала је на прослави 25 година постојања и рада те НВО њена извршна директорица **Азра Вуковић**.

Она је истакла да су током ових активности успјели да мобилишу велики број пријатеља природе, НВО, колега из региона, али и институција УН и Европске комисије, и да су коначно успјели у ономе што је на почетку изгледало као немогућа мисија – очување Таре и Мораче и оснивање нових заштићених подручја.

– Наша мисија је да, ширећи мрежу пријатеља животне средине, јачамо и себе. Посебно



Вуковић задовољна постигнутим

бих истакла чињеницу да смо иницијатори Коалиције 27, која окупља 18 организација у Црној Гори и бави се праћењем испуњавања обавеза Црне Горе у поглављу 27 у процесу европских интеграција – нагласила је Вуковић.

А.О.

4. MEDIJSKA PRISUTNOST

During 2025, we made over 200 announcements in printed and electronic editions, as well as on internet portals. We have also made over 50 television appearances. Through these performances, we continuously informed the public about key environmental issues, advocated for systemic changes and gave expert comments on current topics. We paid the most attention in the media to the following topics:

- The general state of the environment in Montenegro, the functioning of institutions and the process of European integration, with special reference to Chapter 27;
- Planned infrastructure and tourism projects, especially in the area of Velika plaža and Velje Brdo, as their impact on the environment;
- Adoption of the law on waste management and the ban on the circulation of plastic bags with a thickness of 15 to 50 microns;
- Celebrating the World Day for the Protection of Wetlands, with the aim of raising awareness of the importance of preserving these ecosystems;
- Biodiversity protection in protected areas, with special emphasis on the problem of poaching on Lake Skadar;
- The impact of air pollution on human health, especially in the winter period when the emissions of polluting substances are increased;
- Fire season in Montenegro, their causes, consequences and prevention measures;
- The importance of preserving forest ecosystems and sustainable forest management;
- Climate change and the need for a more serious approach to this global crisis through concrete measures and public policies;
- Promotion of the educational camp, which we

implemented in the valley of Grebaje (Prokletije), with the aim of raising the ecological awareness of young people;

- Protection of otters on Lake Skadar, as one of the key indicators of the health of this ecosystem;
- Marking important environmental dates, including World Environment Day and International Coastal Cleanup Day;

These media activities significantly contributed to the public debate, raising citizens' awareness and forming opinions on the most important environmental issues facing Montenegro.

5. PARTNERSHIPS AND NETWORKING

During 2025, we continued to establish and develop existing collaborations with numerous organizations, institutions and informal networks.

New: Rescoop.eu membership

In 2025, the NGO Green Home joined the REScoop.eu network, the European federation of energy cooperatives and civic energy communities, which further strengthened its activities in the field of sustainable energy and climate policies. Through membership in this network, the organization gained access to a wide range of activities and resources, including participation in advocacy processes at the European Union level, through which the interests of energy communities are represented and influences the development of relevant policies and legislation. Also, Green Home has the possibility of active participation in thematic working groups, exchange of knowledge and experience with organizations from all over Europe, as well as access to expert information in the field of renewable energy sources, energy efficiency and innovative energy management models. In addition, membership enables networking and development of partnerships, participation in international events and forums, as well as access to opportunities for the preparation and implementation of EU projects, which further improves the organization's capacity to contribute to the energy transition and development of energy communities in Montenegro.

Membership in networks of organizations

Through many years of work, the NGO Green Home has built a strong network of partnerships and memberships at the national, regional and international level, which actively contributes to the development of policies and practices in the field of environmental protection, climate change

and sustainable development. The organization is a member of numerous relevant networks and initiatives, including BioNet, Beyond Fossil Fuel, MedForVal, SeeNet, BeMed, Energy Academy, NGO Academy, EnvNet, Climate Bridges, GEF-CSO Network EECA, Youth Climate Council and Global Waste Cleaning Network - GWCN, and from this year, Rescoop.eu.

Through active participation in these networks, Green Home continuously improves its capacities, exchanges knowledge and experiences with relevant actors, and contributes to shaping innovative solutions for key environmental challenges. Membership enables the organization to be part of a wider dialogue on the energy transition, reducing dependence on fossil fuels, preserving biodiversity, managing waste and combating climate change. At the same time, through these platforms, Green Home actively participates in regional and international initiatives, advocates the improvement of public policies and a stronger role of civil society in decision-making processes.

This networking gives the organization access to various funding sources, opportunities for joint projects and educational programs, as well as greater visibility on the international stage. Through cooperation with partners from different sectors and countries, Green Home contributes to the development of sustainable solutions based on the principles of green economy, inclusiveness and long-term protection of natural resources. Active membership in the aforementioned networks confirms the organization's commitment to strengthening international cooperation and its significant contribution to the improvement of environmental standards and practices in Montenegro and beyond.





GREEN HOME
act green

