

For more information

IPA – EU Assistance to Montenegro

Delegation of the European Union to Montenegro

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This programme is implemented by GFA Consulting Group. The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Commission

Montenegro has received financial assistance from the EU since 1998. Until 2010 the EU committed over 408.5 million € to Montenegro.

In 2007, CARDS assistance was replaced by the **Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)**. The purpose of IPA is to help candidate and potential candidate countries to progress on their way to EU membership.

Montenegro at present benefits from two IPA components:

- Component I (**Transition Assistance and Institution Building** – also known as **National Programme**)
- Component II (**Cross-Border Cooperation**).

The **IPA National Programme for Montenegro** focuses on key political fields such as judicial reform, public administration reform, fight against corruption and organised crime. IPA also supports strengthening the administrative capacity in areas as the internal market, consumer protection and market surveillance, environment, transport, statistics, education, employment. Financial assistance is furthermore given to civil society.



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The European Union

The European Union's IPA programme for Montenegro



Consumer Protection and Market Surveillance



A project implemented by
GFA Consulting Group



EU Project “Consumer Protection and Market Surveillance”

The EU-funded project supports the Montenegrin Government in its continued efforts to ensure a high level of consumer protection and an efficient surveillance of the markets.

The project partners

Main beneficiaries are the Market Inspection and the Ministry of Economy. In addition, the consumer organisations and the Chamber of Commerce are involved.

The project is implemented by GFA Consulting Group in cooperation with the Trading Standards Institute (UK) and TÜV Rheinland (Germany).

Budget and project duration

The project has a budget of 0.7 mio Euro for a duration of 18 months (27 February 2012 to 26 August 2013).



Strong Consumer Rights and Informed Consumers

The project components focus on four areas.

Montenegrin consumers fully benefitting from EU rights and safety standards

- Final gaps in Montenegrin legislation on market surveillance and consumer protection will be closed in order to achieve full harmonization with EU regulations.
- The third National Consumer Protection Programme 2012 – 2015 puts high priority on the effective implementation of the new rights.

Informed consumers claiming their rights

- Comprehensive information will empower consumers to actively use their rights.
- To facilitate solving of consumers complaints, a Central Information System for Consumer Protection (CISCP) will be developed.



Safe Products and Fair Business Practices

Best practice in market surveillance

- An effective market surveillance system ensures that consumers are well protected from unfair business practices and dangerous products.
- Market inspectors will be trained to apply EU best practice and methodology related to market surveillance in non-food product safety and protection of consumer rights.

Coordinated action and warning system

- Different inspection services and Customs will further improve the coordination of their activities and cooperate in joint control projects of non-food product safety.
- The regular exchange of information will be improved by further development of the National warning system on dangerous products. The system is related to RAPEX, the EU early warning system on unsafe products.