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Podgorica, 21.06.2016.godine.

**Subject: Ouestionnaire for adequate housing Montenegro**

Montenegro as transitional country dealing with many social and financial issues and that generally has impact on implementation of international social and housing standards that country adopted from period of independency in 2006. According to the Constitutional Act Montenegro is civil, democratic, ecological and the state of social justice, based on the rule of law. Even right to housing is not defined in the Constitution, Montenegro after adoption of the certain international treaties and conventions (ICESCR) is obligated to react in accordance with the taken commitments.

Having in mind that adequate housing have many aspects, we will focus on inadequate housing of particular groups (such as children from vulnerable families, people with disabilities, RAE population and women experiencing violence) and the issue of homeless people but only from general view of our practice.

1. Statistical Office in Montenegro[[1]](#footnote-1) has ho date about homeless people. That information can be partly provided from institutions for social welfare in Montenegro, but real number of homeless people is out-of-rich. The date on Poverty line in Montenegro was published every year till 2013. Statistical data from this source provides only demographic trends of migration especially from the North of Country to the Central and South region, so that information can relevant in survey.

2. The Institution of Ombudsman in Montenegro trough every day practice has reacted in many cases of homeless people, announced this problem to the public and address it to governmental and local bodies with recommendations for future practice. Cases from our practice show that homeless people faces social exclusion, poverty, impropriate treatment from police officers ( legitimization / identity checks) and professionals from social and health institutions.

Lack of servises for homeless people is also present. Montenegro has only one service for homeless people with support of local Center for social welfare in northern part of Montenegro. In other cities, services as Shelters and Day centers for homeless people not exist. In the past, Podgorica as capital of Montenegro, had one shelter for homeless. Shelter was founded by local NGO but faced with lack of financial support it's closed in 2013.

Vulnerable groups facing with poverty and low living standards due to in high percentage of unemployment (or low wages), limited state support. Inadequate housing is one of the result of that situation.

Woman and children victim of family violence and single parents are also category that need more proactive public approach in dealing with their everyday problems that can't be solved individually without public support.

Roma people also had limited support in state provision of adequate housing. Some of them live in suburban area in slams and ilegal objects witout of water and electicity suplies. Life conditions of that population is in health risk, social exlusion, poverty and risk of occurance of social patology problems (begging, violence, crime...).

Government support for this category exist trough regular Social Care system and limited financial support (Zakon o socijalnoj i dječjoj zaštiti (,,Službeni list CG", broj 27/2013). Social system provides only limited finansial benefits for beneficiaries, in many cases amoung of money is inadequate for basic needs.

Even Montenegro adopted The Low for social housing (Zakon o socijalnom stanovanju( „Sl. list CG“, broj 35/13) there are still many obsticuls for it's implementation (sub-legal acts and The Book of regulations for The Low implementation, capacity of the local government, finansial support...).

Despite of circumstances and limited financial resources, the Ombudsman of Montenegro reminded governmental and local authorities, that adequate housing is human right and precondition of social justice, that they are obligated to support citizens especially vulnerable groups who can't provide it adequate living and housing conditions individually and recommended to improve their action and approach in this field.

1. http://www.monstat.org/eng/index.php [↑](#footnote-ref-1)