

October, 2012

Volume 1, Issue 6

ELI Newsletter

Serbia and Montenegro

Source: NBTC - Luider Imago Fotobureau

Business News

Inside this issue:

<i>Business News</i>	1-2
<i>Agriculture</i>	3
<i>Culture in October</i>	4

In this edition:

- EBRD announces investments in Serbia
- Memorandum signed on strategic cooperation
- Delhaize plans to open large distribution center in Serbia
- The third annual meeting of the High level Working Group
- Culture in October

EBRD announces investments in Serbia

According to the Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the EBRD expects that investments in Serbia will reach the amount of €400 million during 2012 and 2013 mainly aimed for infrastructure, transportation and energy. However the complete structure of the investment will be defined after talks with Serbian officials. In 2011 EBRD invested € 500 million in Serbia.

Austrian real estate developer to invest in Stara Pazova

Real estate developer Eyemaxx is looking into possible investment in Stara Pazova: Primarily focusing on the infrastructure and the geographic position of the town. Eyemaxx is also planning to build a cargo and logistic center Nis, investing an amount of Eur 613 million.

Kladovo shipyard completes cargo vessel for the buyer from the Netherlands

A vessel has been built in Kladovo for a buyer from the Netherlands. Dimensions of 135 meters long and 115 meters wide it is the biggest ves-

sel built in Kladovo in 2012. The value of the work performed is estimated on € 700.000. Previously the shipyard also built vessels worth over € 3 million.

Bosch to start building windshield system plant

German technology giant Bosch will start building a factory for production of windshields systems. First stage of this project envisages construction of 22.000 square meters of this facility scheduled to be completed by the end of this year, and construction of another 20.000 square meters will be finished by the end of 2014. With serial production starting in 2014, the new factory will provide 620 jobs.

Engine cooling systems factory opened in Subotica

Continental, the German auto and truck parts producer, opened an engine cooling system factory in Subotica. The total investment being € 10,7 million, the new factory spans over 6000 square meters and will employ 250 people.

Mercator reopens Belgrade shopping center

After four months of renovation Mercator, top retailer from Slovenia, has reopened the Belgrade shopping center. After the €12 million worth investment, the

shopping center now has 74 stores (14 more than before the renovation). By the end of this year Mercator will open several more shopping centers in Serbia. Mercator generated € 531 million in revenues in Serbia during 2011 which was a 18% increase compared to 2010.

Memorandum signed on strategic cooperation

Representatives of the Serbian Electric power Company (EPS) and German energy concern RWE signed a memorandum of understanding for strategic cooperation in the field of energetic systems. It is expected that the memorandum will solve problems of construction of Nikola tesla III thermoelectric power plant as well as plants on Morava River.

Solar power plant in Leskovac

A solar power production facility with the capacity of 260 kW has been opened in Leskovac, South Serbia. This facility can supply 50 to 60 households with electricity. The contract for a new facility of 650kW capacity in the municipality of Bojnik near Leskovac was signed at the same time. Local authorities together with Government officials announced the construction of several solar power plants in 10

Business news (continued)

Tourism: If the current trends continue, by the end of 2012, the foreign currency income of tourism will amount € 10 million.

different municipalities in the region with the capacity of 40 MW.

Electric car charging stations network across Vojvodina

In cooperation with the Technical Sciences Faculty of Novi Sad, State power utility Elektrovojvodina started working on a design and business plan for developing a network of electric car charging stations across the province of Vojvodina. According to the plans of Elektrovojvodina some 5000 stations are to be set up across the province.

Mayor of Belgrade announced industrial zones around Belgrade

Mayor of Belgrade Dragan Djilas announced that Belgrade authorities will build industrial zones around Belgrade. In the meeting with business people and representatives of the Chamber of Commerce it was explained that this project is to be financed from the sale of city's property and commercial premises. The first zones will be constructed along the way Surcin-Batajnica. Land will be free of

charge in first three years.

Income from tourism increased

First six months of 2012 brought Serbia € 288 million more compared to the same period last year. If this trend continues the foreign currency income of tourism will amount €710 million by the end of 2012.

KB to open demo lighting center in Novi Sad

On 16th October KB, distributor of Philips Lighting, is opening a lighting demo center in Novi Sad. The center will span on some 800m² and will also include many other facilities aimed to promote both lighting and the Netherlands in Novi Sad



Source: Kladovo Shipyard

Agriculture

Delhaize plans to open large distribution center in Serbia

Belgrade Delhaize group, the owner of the biggest retail chain in Serbia, announced the building of a distribution center in Serbia. The construction should be completed in 2014. This center will enable growth and improve efficiency of the Delhaize operation in the region. Moreover, this distribution center will ensure the employment of 600 people.

Sojaprotein to start operating new factory

Company Sojaprotein from Becej, which is part of Victoria Group Agribusiness and Food Company, will begin operating a new factory which will produce soy protein concentrate for animal food. The whole investment amounted €30 million.

The third annual meeting of the High level Working Group

The Third annual meeting of the High Level Working Group (HLWG) on agricultural cooperation between Serbia and the Netherlands took place in Belgrade on August 27 - 28.

Besides Serbia such bilateral cooperation is ongoing with China, India, Russia, Turkey, Ukraine, Indonesia and Taiwan.

Since the start of the formalized

agricultural cooperation between the two countries in 2010, the Netherlands is of the view that the cooperation is reaching a kind of mature status with a well balanced portfolio of activities, ranging from discussing policy affairs and implementing joint projects to taking initiatives that stimulate and facilitate bilateral trade.

Since the last meeting in The Hague in September 2011 some important results were achieved. In the first place the scientific study "Serbia on the road to EU-accession" was successfully published and presented by the authors during the Novi Sad Fair, last May. Everyone is convinced the study provides good insight in the state of the Serbian agricultural sectors and can serve as a source of inspiration for policymakers, decision makers and students. During the third HLWG meeting ideas were shared regarding a possible follow up on the study. Also, it was noted that The Netherlands will be a partner country for the Agricultural Fair in Novi Sad in 2014. It was agreed that Serbian Ministry will form a Task Force consisting of Serbian and Dutch government representatives that will facilitate all related activities.

Numbers of business visits to and from the Netherlands increased considerably over the last year. These visits are important tools for orientation and the establishment of business links. Spin off of such

visits contribute to the growth of the agricultural trade.

Issues regarding exchange of expertise in cooperative sector, water management sector and veterinary and phytosanitary sectors were discussed.

The results of the meeting will be published on the joint website www.agribusiness-nl-srb.com where you can find more information on the Serbia-Netherlands agricultural partnership.

Agricultural census

From October 1st to December 15th 2012 an agricultural census will take place. It is the first agro census after 1960. It will cover around 800.000 farm-households. Besides farms, census will mark agricultural entrepreneurs, agricultural enterprises, agricultural cooperatives, agricultural companies and all relevant stakeholders. The questionnaire is aligned with EU requirements and EU will finance implementation of the census.

The census will gather exact data on agriculture in Serbia e.g.: how many people are involved with agricultural production, what is the cultivated agro-area, how many cattle there are in Serbia, what is the age of agricultural machinery, what is the agro-area under organic production etc.

The data collected by this census will provide significant information for future plans, projects, development strategies and policy documents.



Source: Agribusiness Communications

Culture in October

International Festival of Ethnological Film 2012, 11.10 – 15.10, Belgrade.

International Festival of Ethnological Film will take place from 11 to 15 October. In the framework of the Festival film “I am gay and Muslim” by the Dutch director Chris Belloni will be shown on Friday, 12 October, as of 16:00 at the Ethnographic Museum in Belgrade.

“I am gay and Muslim” is a documentary focusing on homosexuality and gay rights in the Islamic world. The film follows a number of Moroccan homosexual young men, in their exploration of their religious and sexual identity. The very different men share their personal and emotional experiences on camera.

More information on the Festival and the complete program is to be found at <http://www.etnofilm.org/eng.html>.

Cultural News:

International Festival of
Ethnological Film



Source: Etnofilm

Contacts

Netherlands Embassy Belgrade

Simina 29, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia

www.nlembassy.org

bel@minbuza.nl

To subscribe or unsubscribe please contact Mrs. Ljubca Sibinovic via lj.sibinovic@minubza.nl