



Press release
For immediate release
Podgorica, 29 May 2026

The text in Montenegrin follows the text in English.

Montenegro Connects All Municipalities Into a Single Digital System

"Through the GSB system, we are connecting all local governments in a single digital network for the first time. This is a historic step towards modern administration in Montenegro," said the **Minister of Public Administration, Marash Dukaj**, at the official closing of the "Digital Transformation of Local Self-Government" project.

Speaking at the event, **Minister Marash** emphasized that the results of this project represent the foundation for a new phase of public administration development. He also pointed out that the project represents one of the most important steps towards the modernization of public administration and the improvement of digital services for citizens and the economy in Montenegro.

The project was implemented by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in partnership with the Ministry of Public Administration, and was funded by the Montenegro SDG Acceleration Fund (MAF) which is supported by the EU and the governments of Luxembourg, Switzerland, Montenegro, Austria and Ireland.

"By bringing together the expertise of different UN entities, in close partnership with the Ministry of Public Administration and municipalities, we have helped advance digital transformation in ways that can make public services more responsive to people's needs," said **Karolin Tiso, Resident Coordinator of the UN in Montenegro**.

The **Director of the UNOPS South East Europe Multi-Country Office, Michela Telatin**, assessed that this project represents an example of how meaningful digital transformation happens when institutions work together around a shared vision.

"By strengthening capacities for citizen-centred digital services and expanding the scope of support from the initially planned six to 20 municipalities, we have helped lay the foundations for a more connected, efficient, and accessible public administration in Montenegro," **said Telatin**.



Jaroslav Ponder, Head of the ITU Office for Europe, also pointed out that the project shows the true value of partnership in advancing digital transformation at the local level.

“Through the roll-out of the GovStack approach municipalities and national institutions strengthened a whole-of-government approach to digital transformation, advanced interoperability, and developed practical foundations through three citizen-centred digital service prototypes aligned with national priorities and local needs” **said Ponder**.

Through the project, local self-governments were provided with technical equipment for access to the GSB electronic data exchange system, which for the first time connected all municipalities in Montenegro into a single digital communication system. It was assessed that this is a historic step towards a completely modernized and more efficient public administration.

Additionally, through the acquisition of firewall devices and antivirus licenses for 14 municipalities, the protection of local information systems and the resistance of institutions to modern security challenges have been significantly improved.

The project included technical support to municipalities, improvement of the normative framework, strengthening of information security standards, formation of local working groups and creation of digital road maps for the further development of local administrations.

It was especially emphasized that the digital transformation is carried out in parallel with the process of decentralization and strengthening of local self-government. In this context, it was pointed out that the Government of Montenegro recently established the Draft Law on Local Self-Government, which will represent a key normative framework not only for other procedures, but also for further digitization and decentralization of the state.

"The most important reform of public administration is not the one that the institutions see, but the one that the citizen feels when he receives the service immediately instead of waiting," **said Minister Dukaj**, emphasizing that, in accordance with the Public Administration Reform Strategy, we will continue to work hard on the modernization of public services and their greater availability to citizens.

During the event, gratitude was extended to all municipalities, partners, experts and institutions that contributed to the implementation of the project, as well as to the organizations UNOPS and ITU for their continued support of reform processes and modernization of the state.



The continued support of the Delegation of the European Union in Montenegro was especially welcomed, with the assessment that this is a confirmation that the reform results have been recognized and that we are on the right track when it comes to the modernization of public administration.

Notes to the editors:

Press contact details:

Radomir Cvetkovic, UNOPS Communications Officer for South East Europe

radomirc@unops.org

About UNOPS

UNOPS offers practical solutions across peace and security, humanitarian and development operations. We help the United Nations, governments and other partners, such as the European Union and its Member States, to manage projects, and deliver sustainable infrastructure and procurement across the world. Read more: www.unops.org.



SAOPŠTENJE ZA JAVNOST

Crna Gora povezuje sve opštine u jedinstven digitalni sistem

„Kroz GSB sistem, prvi put povezujemo sve lokalne samouprave u jedinstvenu digitalnu mrežu. Ovo je istorijski korak ka modernoj upravi u Crnoj Gori“, poručio je ministar javne uprave, mr Marash Dukaj, na zvaničnom zatvaranju projekta „Digitalna transformacija lokalne samouprave“.

Govoreći na događaju, ministar javne uprave, mr Marash Dukaj, naglasio je da rezultati ovog projekta predstavljaju temelj za novu fazu razvoja javne uprave. Takođe je istakao da projekat predstavlja jedan od najvažnijih koraka ka modernizaciji javne uprave i unapređenju digitalnih usluga za građane i privredu u Crnoj Gori.

Projekat su sprovele Kancelarija Ujedinjenih nacija za projektne usluge (UNOPS) i Međunarodna telekomunikaciona unija (ITU) u partnerstvu sa Ministarstvom javne uprave, a finansiran je iz Fonda za ubrzani razvoj Crne Gore (MAF), koji podržavaju Evropska unija i vlade Luksemburga, Švajcarske, Crne Gore, Austrije i Irske.

„Udruživanjem ekspertize različitih organizacija UN, u bliskoj saradnji sa Ministarstvom javne uprave i opštinama, pomogli smo unapređenju digitalne transformacije kako bi javne usluge još bolje odgovorile na potrebe građana“, rekla je Karolin Tiso, rezidentna koordinatorka UN u Crnoj Gori.

Direktorka kancelarije UNOPS-a za Jugoistočnu Evropu Mikela Telatin je ocenila da ovaj projekat predstavlja primer kako održiva i suštinska digitalna transformacija postaje moguća onda kada institucije djeluju koordinisano, vođene zajedničkom vizijom i jasnim razvojnim ciljevima.

„Jačanjem kapaciteta za pružanje digitalnih usluga usmjerenih na građane i proširivanjem obima podrške sa prvobitno planiranih šest na 20 opština pomogli smo u postavljanju temelja za povezaniju, efikasniju i pristupačniju javnu upravu u Crnoj Gori“, rekla je Telatin.

Jaroslav Ponder, šef Kancelarije ITU za Evropu, takođe je istakao da je projekat pokazao stvarnu vrijednost partnerstva u unapređenju digitalne transformacije na lokalnom nivou.

„Kroz primjenu GovStack pristupa, opštine i nacionalne institucije ojačale su pristup digitalnoj transformaciji na nivou cijele uprave, unaprijedile interoperabilnost i razvile



praktične osnove kroz tri prototipa digitalnih usluga usmjerenih na građane, usklađena sa nacionalnim prioritetima i lokalnim potrebama“, rekao Ponder.

Kroz projekat je lokalnim samoupravama obezbijedena i uručena tehnička oprema za pristup GSB sistemu elektronske razmjene podataka, čime su po prvi put sve opštine u Crnoj Gori povezane u jedinstven sistem digitalne komunikacije. Ocijenjeno je da se time pravi istorijski korak ka potpuno modernizovanoj i efikasnijoj javnoj upravi.

Dodatno, kroz nabavku firewall uređaja i antivirusnih licenci za 14 opština, značajno je unaprijeđena zaštita lokalnih informacionih sistema i otpornost institucija na savremene bezbjednosne izazove.

Projekat je obuhvatio i tehničku podršku opštinama, unapređenje normativnog okvira, jačanje standarda informacione bezbjednosti, formiranje lokalnih radnih grupa i izradu digitalnih mapa puta za dalji razvoj lokalnih uprava.

Posebno je naglašeno da se digitalna transformacija sprovodi paralelno sa procesom decentralizacije i jačanja lokalne samouprave. U tom kontekstu istaknuto je da je Vlada Crne Gore ovih dana utvrdila Predlog zakona o lokalnoj samoupravi, koji će predstavljati ključni normativni okvir ne samo za druge procedure, nego i za dalju digitalizaciju i decentralizaciju države.

„Najvažnija reforma javne uprave nije ona koju vide institucije, već ona koju osjeti građanin kada umjesto čekanja uslugu dobije odmah“, poručio je ministar Dukaj, ističući da ćemo, u skladu sa Strategijom reforme javne uprave, nastaviti snažno da radimo na modernizaciji javnih usluga i njihovoj većoj dostupnosti građanima.

Tokom događaja upućena je zahvalnost svim opštinama, partnerima, ekspertima i institucijama koje su dale doprinos realizaciji projekta, kao i organizacijama UNOPS i ITU na kontinuiranoj podršci reformskim procesima i modernizaciji države.

Posebno je pozdravljen nastavak podrške Delegacije Evropske unije u Crnoj Gori, uz ocjenu da je to potvrda da su reformski rezultati prepoznati i da smo na pravom putu kada je riječ o modernizaciji javne uprave.