



## Ministry of Economy Conducted Study Visit on Best Practice of EU-Regional Economic Development in Croatia



The TA project Support to Rural and Regional Development Programme (SRRDP) in Azerbaijan organized for Ministry of Economy staff for a group of 6 staff of the Department of Development of Regions and selected stakeholders (Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Economy of the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic, regional and local authorities) a study tour to Croatia from September 24<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The aim of this study tour was to familiarise with good practices in the implementation of complex rural and regional development programmes operating through different projects as these are implemented in the European Union.



The study visit provided all participants with an insight into regional development in Croatia, and the changes over the past 15 years. The visit was also focused on Croatian regional and rural policies, structures, especially the relationship between stakeholders, beneficiaries, communities and the Regional Development Agencies, their strategies and the implementation of regional projects.



The participants could see Zagreb, the capital of Croatia, and compare the development model with other two regions Zadar and Sibenik, which are less developed regions compared to the region of the capital. The participants visited apple, wine, olives and figs plantations, a cheese production and eco-ethno-village, where domestic and home-made products were served.

At the same time participants could attend on the presentation about common agriculture policy framework and have been introduced to concrete Croatian examples of the implementation of the EU rural development policy framework.

The participants had the opportunity to see on the spot examples on funded projects and initiatives supported by national, regional and local authorities.



Through concrete examples it was possible to see how EU funding currently supports regional and rural development in Croatia.



Links to Croatian media reports can be seen below:

<http://www.tehnopark.hr/Novosti/Posjet-delegacije-Republike-Azerbajdzana-TPZ-u>

<http://www.zagreb.hr/delegacija-azerbajdzana-obilazak-vocnjaka-u-obilas/115141>

<http://www.raza.hr/Novosti/Posjet-delegacije-Republike-Azerbajdzana-TPZ-u>

<https://www.zagrebancija.com/posjet-delegacije-azerbajdzana-obisli-vocnjak-opg-a-ivkovic-koje-se-bavi-proizvodnjom-preradom-jabuka/>

<https://www.zadarska-zupanija.hr/index.php/novosti/item/794-zadarsku-zupaniju-posjetilo-izaslanstvo-ministarstva-gospodarstva-republike-azerbajdzan>

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