

# The impact of Inclusive Recovery Cities on policy and practice: Choose Recovery Project

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# Who are we?

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WFAD is a fast-growing multilateral community of over 435 non-governmental organisations and 800+ individuals in 69 countries representing all regions of the world. Our common aim is to strengthen prevention, increase access to treatment, and promote recovery.

WORLD FEDERATION  
AGAINST DRUGS



# Three pillars of WFAD

- **International Drug Policy debate**
  - ECOSOC-status, UNODC
  - AU, EU, national governments and authorities.
  - Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs (VNGOC)
- **Capacity Strengthening & Member development**
  - World Forums
  - Regional Forums
  - Webinar Series
  - Capacity strengthening trainings
- **Projects**
  - Rights-based, deployed with members

# The Importance of the Balkan collaboration



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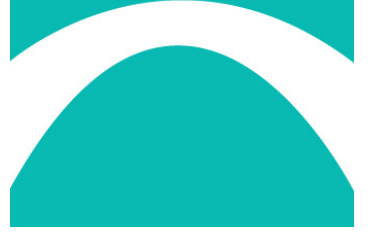
# Inclusive Cities Model in Practice

- Three project partners: Celebrate recovery BiH, Preporod Montenegro, and Izlazak Serbia.
- The aim of the project was to strengthen societies' responses towards people who use drugs and people in recovery.
- Strength-based approach to address addiction and recovery.

**ChooseRecovery**







# Unexpected outcomes: Regional Forum

- The 2nd Regional Forum on Drug Addiction and Recovery
- Forum: 200 attendees from local, regional and international NGOs and public institutions.
- Gathered members from different fields.
- Linkages to Inclusive Cities.





# Outcomes of the project - Mapping

1. Enhanced Collaboration
2. Supportive Approach
3. Access to Resources
4. Public Awareness and Education



# Outcomes of the project - Interviews

- Project partners are widely “recognised as experts in the field”.
- Acknowledgement of exceptional training.
- Project partners have “have played a significant role in publishing the first-ever guidelines for sectors”.
- The establishment of MDTs as a “pivotal outcome of this collaboration”.





# Conclusions

- The inclusive cities model has proven a huge success, positively impacting policy and practice in the Western Balkan Region.
- This has had also impacted also on the international context, not the least through the integration of Recovery in WFAD structures but also the promotion of recovery on international levels, such as the CND.
- Strengthened capacity to work with inclusive cities, local and national stakeholders.
- Showcasing positive and hopeful success stories has been instrumental and effectively creating visibility and reducing stigma.

# Thank you!

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