

## Two years of service to citizens across Bosnia and Herzegovina

We received a large number of requests for environmental information from citizens and NGOs from different regions of BiH in the period 2013-2015.

Below are some of the cases we have engaged in:

- The case SHPP Ljuta
  - legal support to mountaineering club "Zeljeznicar" in collecting documents that were required for claim amendment
- The case of the quarry Posusje
  - legal support for local population and NGO "Gomila Osoje" regarding collection of documents for filing a lawsuit
- The case of illegal waste depot Livanjsko polje
  - legal support to local population regarding collection of documents for submission of a criminal report or lawsuit
- The case of the GSM base station Zenik
  - legal support to local population regarding collection of documents for submission of a criminal report or lawsuit

## Collection of environmental information as main activity

From the Aarhus Centre's establishment until today our core activity has been the collection of environmental information from public authorities. The Mission of the Aarhus Centre lies in providing support in implementation of the Aarhus Convention, where we encourage transparency in the public authorities's work, through collecting environmental information on the one side and contributing to more adequate and efficient general public awareness, on the other side.

By the end of 2014, Aarhus Centre has sent 50 requests for access to information to 36 various addresses of public authorities. Until today we received 84% of required replies.

Information required from public authorities are related to:

- Information on laws and policies
- Information on plans and projects
- Information on the state of the environment and its segments

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ASSOCIATION  
AARHUS  
CENTRE IN BIH



*Two years with  
you and for you  
2013 - 2015*

## About Association “Aarhus Centre in BiH”

The Mission of the “Aarhus Centre in BiH” (hereinafter referred as: Aarhus Center) is primarily related to the implementation of the Aarhus Convention, as a unique international instrument, which is the foundation of environmental democracy and an important element of the European environmental acquis, as well as obligation of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the European integration process.

Aarhus Center was originally established in May 2012 as part of the OSCE project, in cooperation with City of Sarajevo.

In early 2013, the Center was registered as an independent non-governmental organization named the Association “Aarhus Centre in BiH”.



## Services provided by the Aarhus center are:

Public awareness and education on the Aarhus Convention and its implementation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Counseling partner organizations and citizens in terms of the realization of their rights deriving from the Aarhus Convention and related national laws

Assisting in obtaining of environmental information from the relevant institutions



Assisting in organization of public participation process in decision-making

Providing basic legal advice on legal regulations, policies and mechanisms of interpretation for the realization of legal protection in accordance with the Aarhus Convention

Access to over 400 publications for students, researchers and public

## Implemented projects in period 2013-2015

Improvement of the Aarhus Convention implementation in South Eastern Europe

Improvement of rule of law by strengthening access to justice in environmental matters

Earth Day 2013 and 2014.

Increasing level of public participation in environmental decision-making processes

Organization of public hearings and harmonization analysis of the Draft Law on Environmental Protection of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina with the Aarhus Convention

Strengthening capacity of the Aarhus Centres on disaster risk reduction in order to raise awareness in local communities

SECO group for environment, energy and transport in BiH

And many other initiatives that we supported with partner organizations.