

# International Conference: THE FUTURE OF FISCAL DECENTRALISATION IN SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE

1-2 November 2012 | Dynasty Hall, Hotel Splendid, Budva, Montenegro

## 1 November 2012 (Thursday)

10:00-13:30

Registration

Conference Moderator: Mr. Greg Clark

13:30-15:00

Opening Lunch

### Welcome Addresses:

- Mr. Özgen Keskin, PhD, NALAS President
- Mr. Milorad Katnić, PhD, Minister of Finance of Montenegro
- Mr. Tarzan Milosevic, Minister of Agriculture of Montenegro and Former NALAS President
- Mr. Aleksandar Bogdanovic, President of the Union of Municipalities of Montenegro
- Ms. Catherine Farvaque Vitkovic, Lead Urban Development Specialist of the World Bank Institute
- Mr. Waldemar Figaj, Acting Head of OSCE Office in Montenegro
- Representative of Council of Europe

15:00-17:00

Introductory Session: The Future of Fiscal Decentralisation in South Eastern Europe

- *Changed Context and Trends in Fiscal Decentralisation in SEE*, Mr. Özgen Keskin, PhD, NALAS President
- *The Importance of the Fiscal Decentralisation for the Central Governments in SEE*, Mr. Milorad Katnić, PhD, Minister of Finance of Montenegro
- *Opportunities for Local Investments through Fiscal Decentralisation*, Mr. Zoran Tegeltija, PhD, Minister of Finance of the Republic of Srpska
- *How can Central Governments Support the Strengthening the Local Administrative and Financial Capacity for Investments*, Mr. Aleksandar Bogdanovic, President of the Union of Municipalities of Montenegro
- *Challenges of Local Government Associations Supporting their Member Local Governments to Strengthen Local Administrative Capacities*, Ms. Ginka Chavdarova, Executive Director, National Association of Municipalities of the Republic of Bulgaria
- *Priority Needs for Public Investments in South Eastern Europe*, Mr. Veaceslav Ionita, Head of Parliamentary Commission for Economy, Finance and Budget, Republic of Moldova
- *Sovereigns Creditworthiness have Strong Impact on Municipal Finance*, Mr. Piter Vins, General Manager for Central and Eastern Europe, Moody's

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Future of Fiscal Decentralization in SEE</i>, Mr. Anthony Levitas, Independent Expert in Intergovernmental Finance</li> </ul> <p>Discussion and Debate</p>
<b>17:00-17:30</b>	<i>Networking Coffee Break</i>
<b>17:30-18:15</b>	<b>Exploring New Ways to Raise Investment in SEE: The View of the International Institutions</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Western Balkans Small and Medium Municipalities Environmental Infrastructure Fund and Western Balkans Investment Facility</i>, Mr. Giulio Moreno, Head of the EBRD Podgorica Office, EBRD</li> <li>• <i>The World Bank Europe and Central Asia (ECA) Sustainable Cities Initiative: Helping Local Governments to become more Sustainable and Mobilizing Resources</i>, Mr. Bjorn Philipp, Sr. Urban Specialist, Sustainable Development Department, World Bank</li> <li>• <i>Sources of Financing Local Capital Investments in Times of Crisis</i>, Mr. Kenneth Davey, Council of Europe Centre of Expertise</li> </ul> <p>Debate</p>
<b>18:15-19:30</b>	<b>Roundtable of Ministries and Local Government Associations: Progress with Local Investment and Fiscal Decentralisation</b>
	<p>Statements and Discussion by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Representatives of Ministries of Finance</i></li> <li>• <i>Presidents of Associations of Local Authorities</i></li> <li>• <i>Presidents of Committees of Finance of Associations</i></li> </ul> <p>Reading and Approval of a Joint Declaration</p>
<b>20:00-23:00</b>	<p>Dinner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Address by Mr. Milorad Katnić, PhD, Minister of Finance of Montenegro: <i>Overview of the Fiscal Decentralisation in Montenegro and the way forward</i></li> <li>○ Address by Mr. Lazar Rađenović, Mayor of Budva: <i>Investments in the City of Budva</i></li> </ul>

## 2 November 2012 (Friday)

<b>08:30-11:00</b>	<b>Mobilizing Resources for Capital Investments at the Local Level in South Eastern Europe: Learning from Experience</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Capital Investments and Local Finances in the Western Balkans: What do We know?</i>, Mr. Gabor Peteri, International Expert, World Bank, SEE Municipal Finance Review</li> <li>• <i>The Role of the Credit Rating in Financing Capital Investments</i>, Mr. Gjorgji Josifov, Assistant Vice President – Analyst, Sub-Sovereign Group, Moody's</li> <li>• <i>Innovative Financing of Bus Procurement in Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality</i>, Mr. Adil Alkan, Revenues and Finance Director, Istanbul Electricity Tramway and Tunnel Enterprises</li> <li>• <i>Financing of Development Projects in Rijeka</i>: Mr. Ante Mađerić, mag.oec., Advisor to the Mayor for Finances</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Municipal Services Improvement Project funded by the Loan of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (WB)</i>, Ms. Malgorzata Markiewicz-Bogov, Project Director, Ministry of Finance of Macedonia</li> <li>• <i>Urban Development Funds – FLAG Bulgaria - Successful Financial tool for assisting local governments in using the EU Structural Funds for Investments</i>, Mr. Emil Savov, member of FLAG Board of Directors, Deputy Director of NAMRB</li> </ul> <p>Debate and discussion</p>
<b>11:00-11:30</b>	<b>Networking Coffee Break</b>
<b>11:30-13:00</b>	<b>Building the Agenda for Investment and FD in SEE: What is Next?</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Short introduction: Mr. Greg Clark and Mr. Anthony Levitas</li> <li>○ National Roundtable Discussions on How to Develop a Clear Agenda for the Future</li> </ul> <p>Final Statements and Discussion by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Representatives of Ministries of Finance</i></li> <li>• <i>Presidents of Associations of Local Authorities</i></li> <li>• <i>Presidents of Committees of Finance of Associations</i></li> </ul>
<b>13:00-14:30</b>	<b>Closing Lunch and Networking Reception</b>