<u>NbS Examples Submitted by Montenegro to the Intergovernmental</u> <u>Consultations on Nature-based Solutions</u>

Montenegro has used innovative NbS actions to restore river ecosystems. In Northern Montenegro, obsolete construction barriers were removed from a river to restore its natural flow regime, directly affecting the freshwater ecosystem. This was implemented in collaboration with WWF Adria, local NGOs, and the Ministry of Ecology, Spatial Planning and Urbanism. A small but successful pilot project used lactobacillus to remedy river sediments and overall water quality in river systems suffering severe pollution from illegal wastewater discharge, with positive results.

Montenegro has also been creating Marine Protected Areas to restore and protect fish stocks and sustainably develop the blue economy, declaring three as nature parks in the previous three years. All stakeholders, especially local fishing associations, took a very active role, recognising the importance of preserving marine ecosystems for their future livelihoods. The municipality and local communities are instrumental in implementing NbS.