

Preparation for implementation of an Area Based Development Approach in the Western Balkans

ABD Strategy for Drina- Sava Region

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Vodice, Croatia



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Content:



ACTIVITIES SO FAR



DESCRIPTION OF THE CURRENT SITUATION

ACTIVITIES SO FAR



**Sremska
Mitrovica**

Bijeljina

Nijemci

Ilok

05.04.2012.

- Introduction to the project concept, partners
- The formation of thematic groups
- SWOT analysis

20.04.2012.

- Presentation of the results of the SWOT analysis
- Defining the development vision
- Identification of development objectives

4.06.2012.

- Identification of projects by thematic groups and strategic objectives
- Selection of priority projects

2.07.2012.

- Presentation of the strategic framework and the action plan
- discussion on future work and establishment of Project Management Units

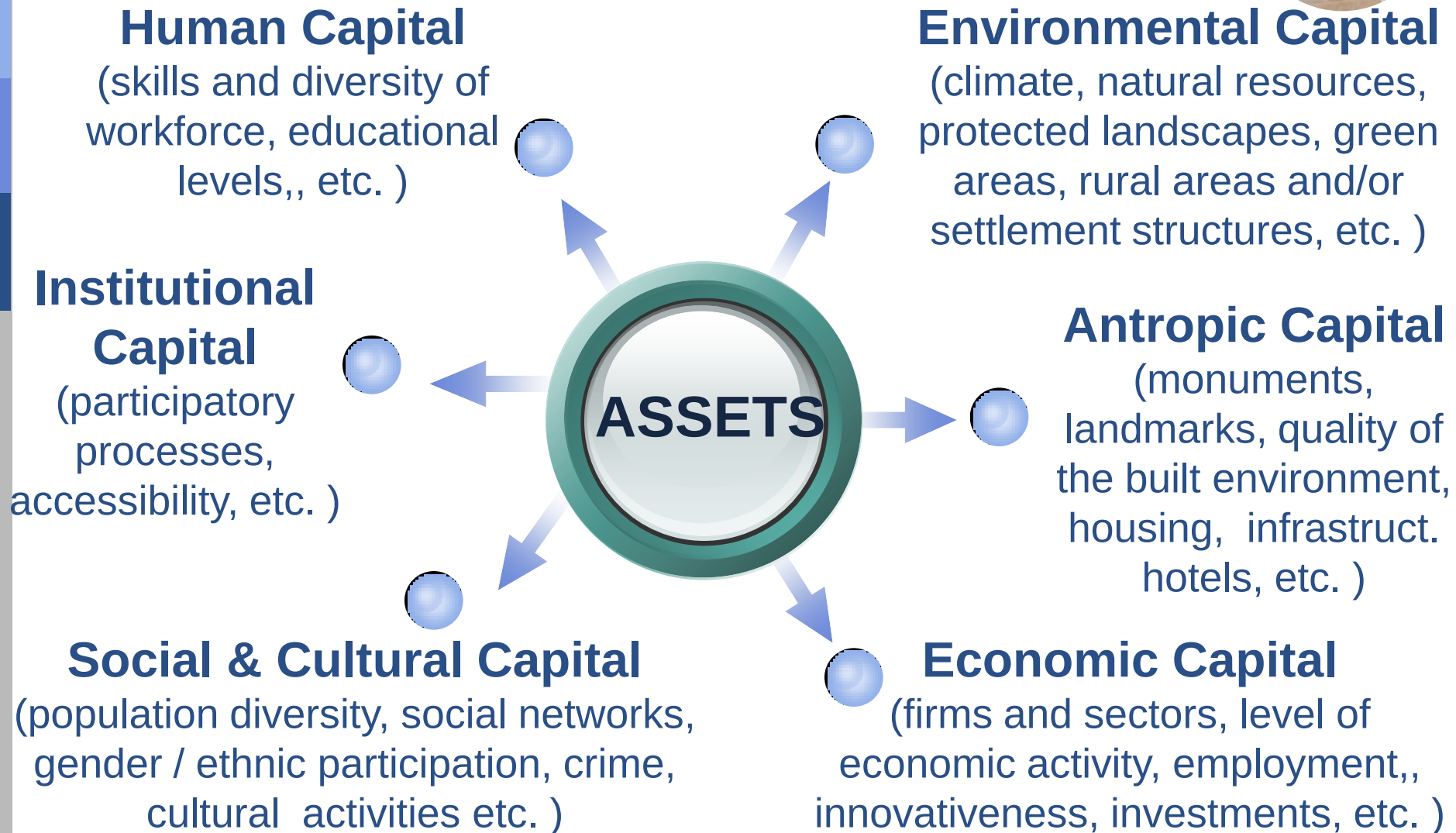
ACTIVITIES SO FAR



Partners contribution:

- ❖ Meetings attended by 56 representatives of which 59% representatives of local governments and their structures, 16% representatives of the business sector and 25% participants representing civil society;
- ❖ Established thematic groups are:
 - SHG for Agribusiness,
 - SHG for Infrastructure and Environment,
 - SHG for Entrepreneurship and
 - SHG for Cultural Heritage and Tourism
- ❖ Statistical data collected (incomplete results - 10 of 17 municipalities delivered reports on statistics!); survey conducted;
- ❖ Project proposals and comments on final version delivered;

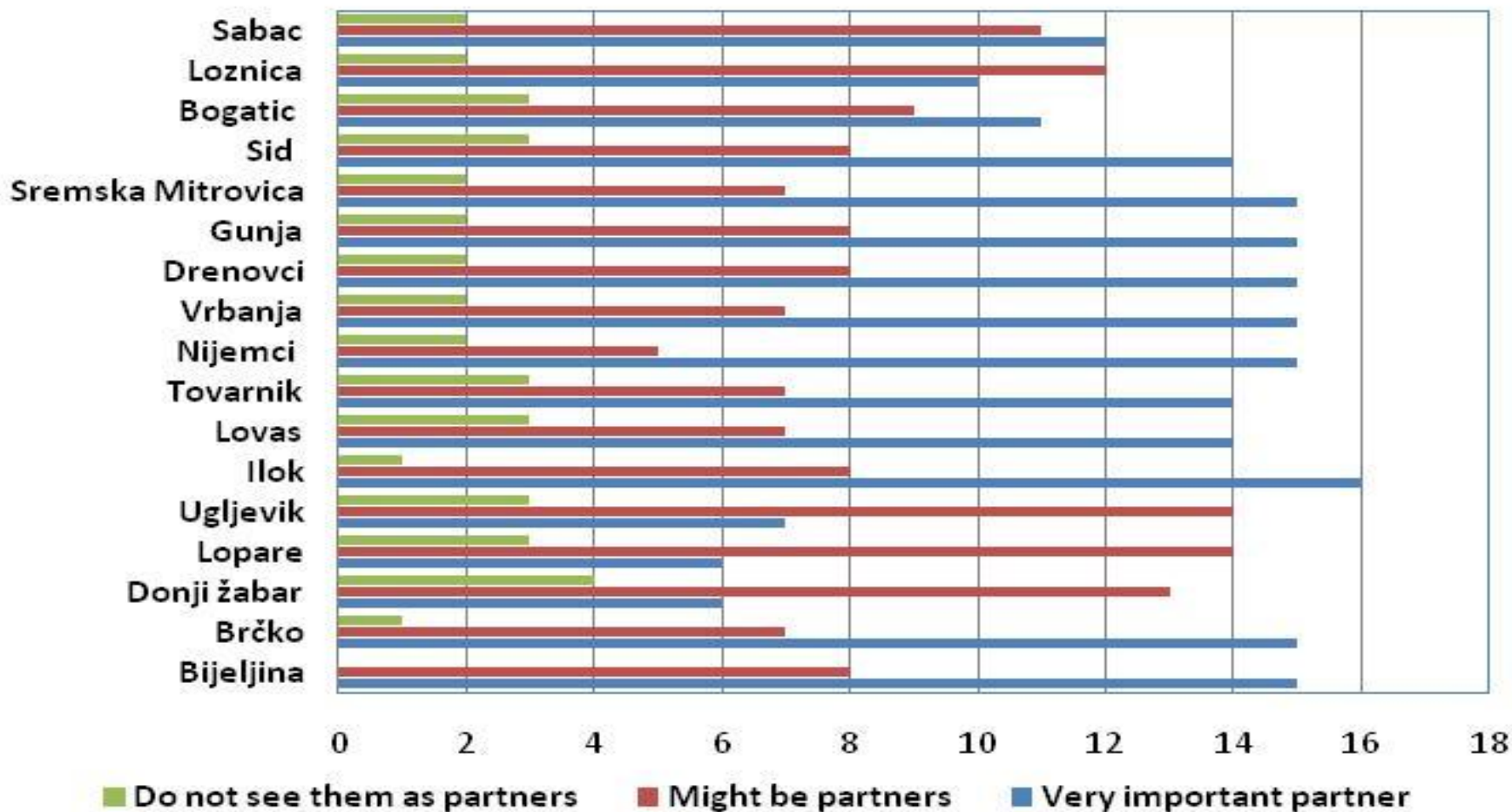
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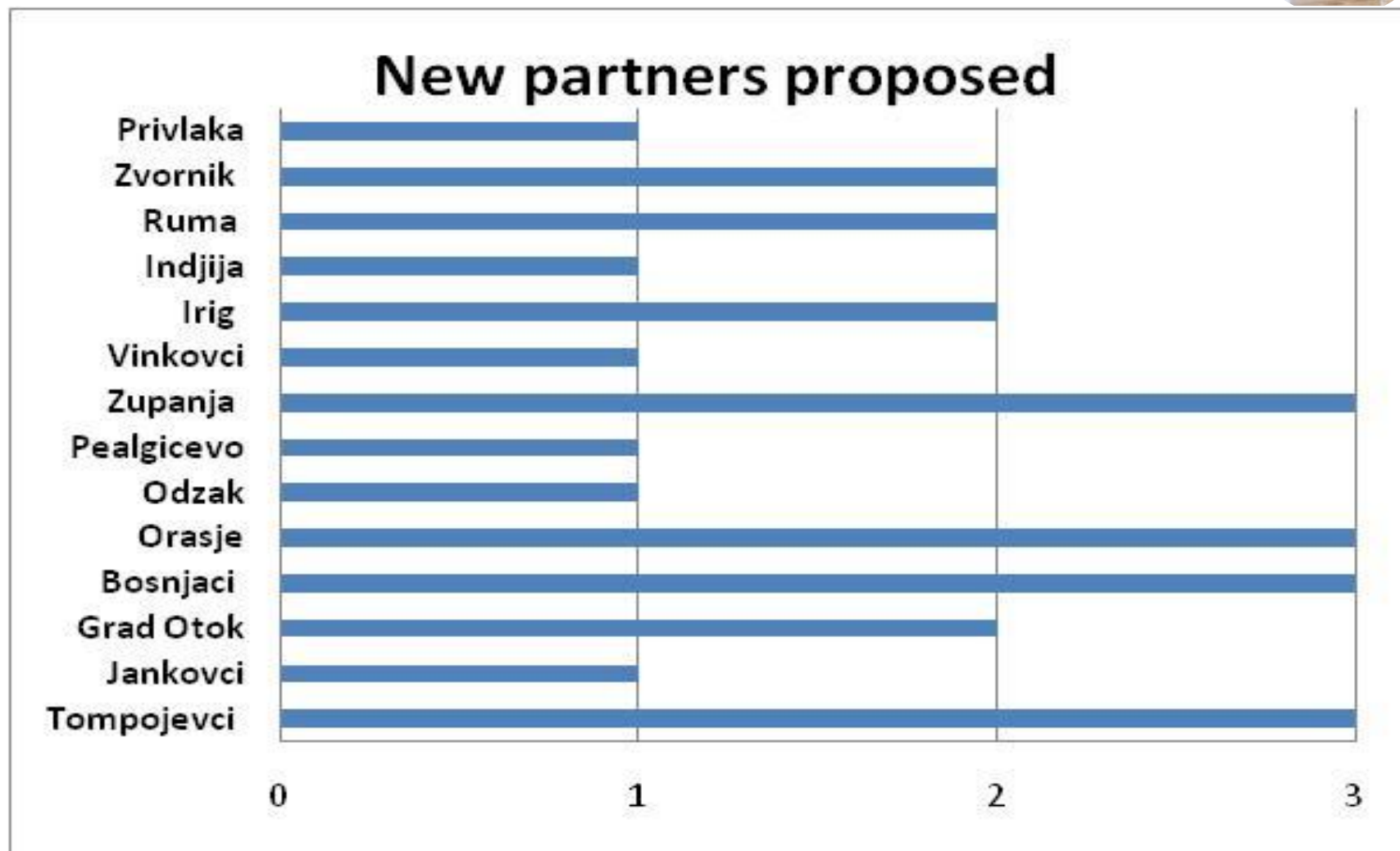
1. THE COHERENCE OF THE TERRITORY - A PRECONDITION FOR COLABORATION



Assessment of proposed partnership



1. THE COHERENCE OF THE TERRITORY - A PRECONDITION FOR COLABORATION



2. NATURAL RESOURCES (1)



- ❖ High quality of soil, even in those municipalities that encompass parts of the mountain (Lopare, Ugljevik, Loznica). In the majority of the area agricultural land covers 70-80% of the total territory; the area has still land strips contaminated with mines or under the suspicion of being contaminated with mines.
- ❖ The region contains afforested land (from 5% in Lovas to 50% in Loznica and Ugljevik). Forests are an important natural resource of the area; they are mostly preserved and only occasionally exposed to excessive felling.
- ❖ The region is also rich with geothermal waters (Loznica, Šabac), geothermal energy and excellent mineral water (Bijeljina). Thermal waters exist also in the Croatian part of the region, but they are not properly used for tourism.
- ❖ Environmental issues are a major threat for development (in particular, unsolved problems of trash and water sewage treatment).

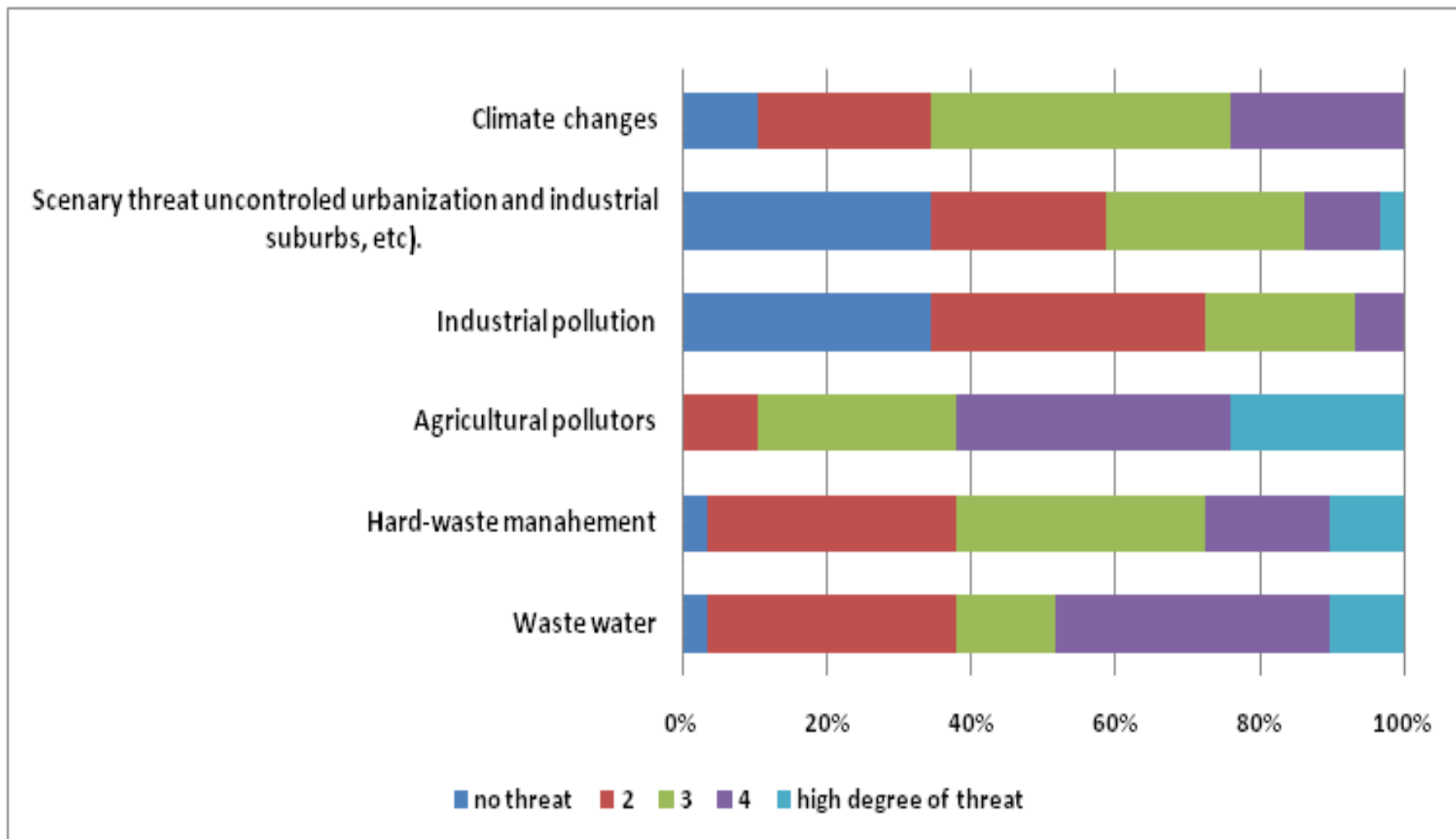
2. NATURAL RESOURCES (2)



2. Natural resources (3)



To what extent the following issues represent a threat to local environmental resources?



3. HUMAN CAPITAL (1)

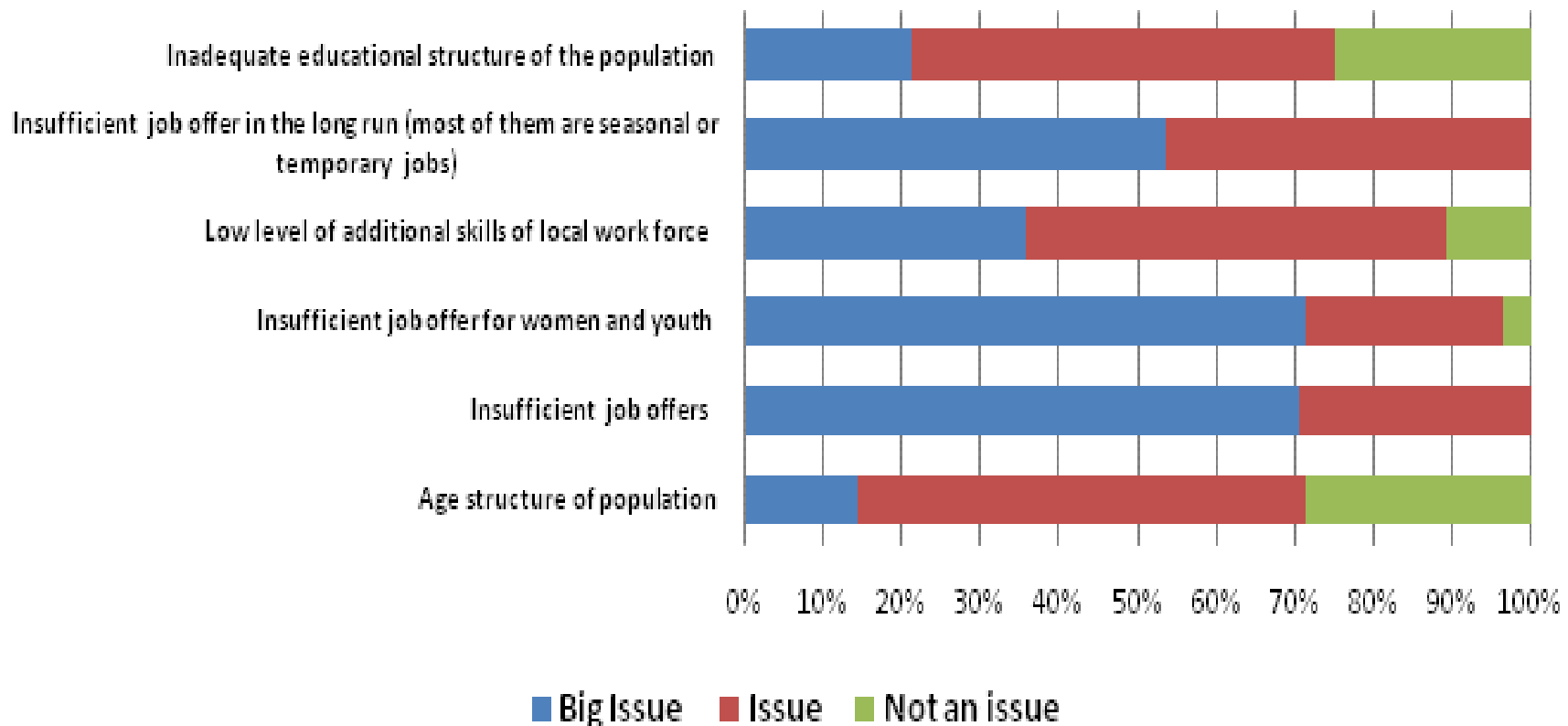


- ❖ Data on the population numbers are unreliable or outdated, and do not sufficiently reflect the changes caused by the war!!!
- ❖ Compared with the general situation in the Western Balkans region, dependence and aging rates in the region of the Danube Sava are somewhat better.
- ❖ Negative demographic trends are marked in municipalities Donji Zabar, Lovas and Bogatic. In spite of negative demographic trends, the structure of the population according to age groups generally is better than at the national averages!
- ❖ The system of permanent accredited trainings is not established. The training programs are created ad hoc, according to the projects needs, but not always in line to real needs of local economy. In addition, the qualities of these programs are not evaluated.

3. HUMAN CAPITAL (2)



What are sustainability key issues with regards to human resources in your municipality?



4. ECONOMIC STRUCTURES (1)

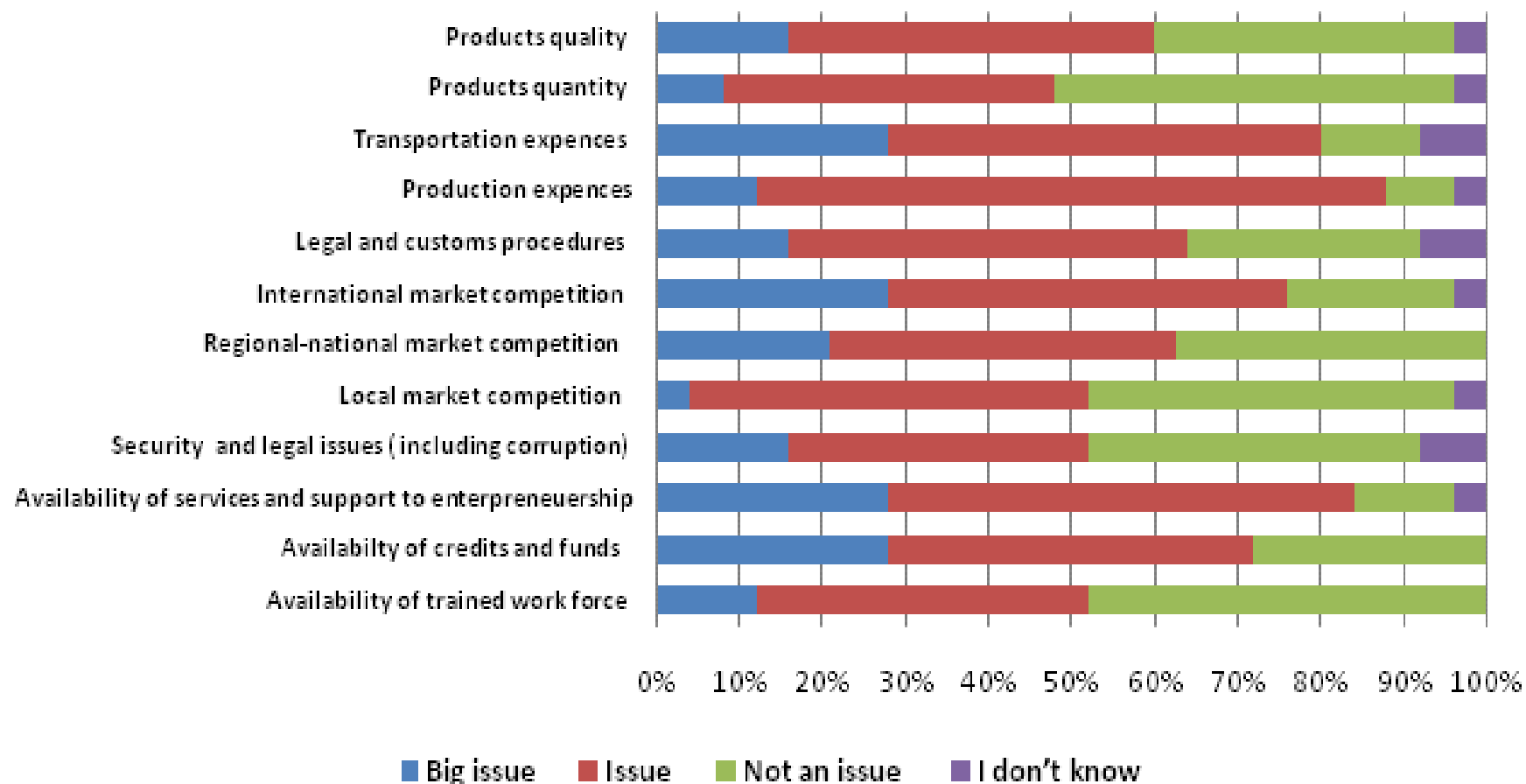


- ❖ GDP/pc of the region is at a level below the national average in Serbia and Croatia, and above that in Bosnia Herzegovina.
- ❖ The most important sectors identified in local development strategies are: **intensive agriculture production, processing industry and SMEs sector.**
- ❖ The region has a highly developed food industry, which is well integrated with the production of raw materials. Cooperatives and clusters are missing; undeveloped and unorganized market, poor logistics/processing infrastructure (cooling storages).
- ❖ The entrepreneurial potential of local population is based on a long tradition of SMEs (especially in Serbian part of region). There are number of registered SMEs, but most of them are businesses with just one employee.
- ❖ Unused opportunities exist in tourism (including fishing, hunting, cultural tourism, nautical and recreational activities). Accommodation facilities are largely missing and their quality of what accommodation is inadequate

4. ECONOMIC STRUCTURES (2)



What are economic core issues which you would like to outline as most important once ?



5. INFRASTRUCTURE (1)



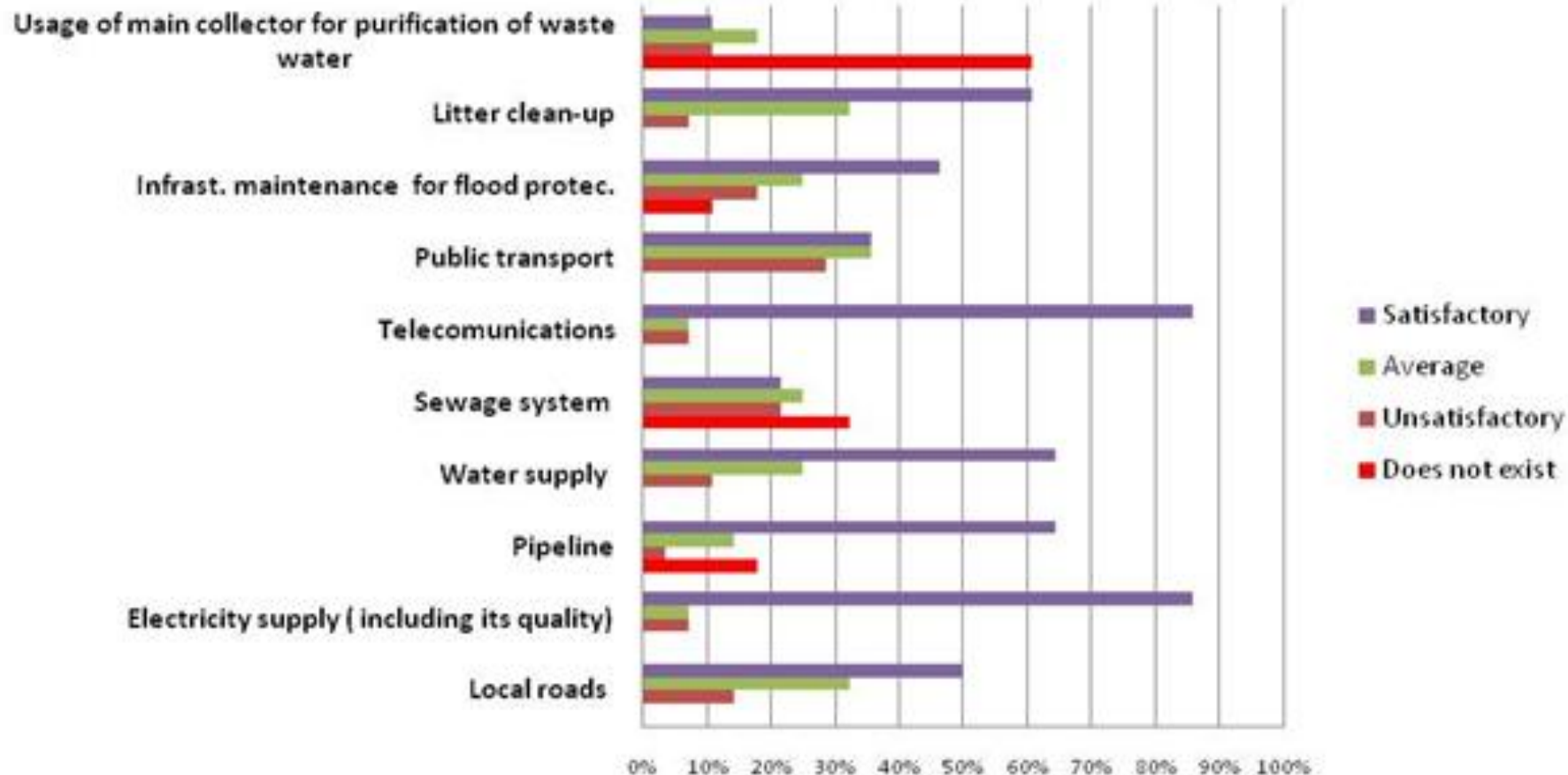
- ❖ Electricity, water, sewage and other communal systems are not equally developed within the region:
 - Electricity and water supply exist but need to be reconstructed and modernized (aged – over 30 years old, insufficient capacity, presence of asbestos, etc.).
 - The sewage network is poor and covers only the households in urban main centers.
 - State of water supply network is unsatisfactory in around 10% of the territory . Organized supply with drinking water is not used by about five percent of the population.
 - Equipment for waste water treatment either does not exist or is under-used and poorly maintained. Therefore, almost all waste waters are discharged mainly without any previous treatment.
 - Even though the transports connections (especially road transport), in the region are good, local roads are not in good shape and usually without appropriate road signalization.

- ❖ The social infrastructure in the region is soundly developed
 - health centers or ambulance exist in the all major towns,
 - kindergartens equipped and adapted to modern standards exist in most of settlements

5. INFRASTRUCTURE (2)



The state of infrastructure



6. SOCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPITAL



- ❖ The ethnic diversity of the population is the largest in municipalities Ilok, Gunja, and Sid, - 1/3 to 1/4 of the populations are ethnic minorities.
- ❖ Some CSO's in the region have very good experience in the access to funds from the state budget and international organizations (donors). The most developed network of civil organizations is present in the Croatian municipalities in which the activity of CSOs is based on the tradition and cultural identity.
- ❖ There are a number of institutions for development support, fund raising and banking, including the government and regional agencies on the local level.
- ❖ Development projects and activities are generally managed by the regional agencies or municipal teams which are dealing with development and programming. They have a small number of employees responsible for such activities and their sources of funding are unpredictable.



Thank you for your attention!