



Press release

Closing conference of the Romanian-Serbian network for treating the soil contaminated with heavy metals to be held online

Politehnica University Timisoara (Romania) and the Mining and Metallurgy Institute Bor (Serbia) jointly launched in 2019 the project "Forming of network for enhancing environmental protection from pollutants of mining cross border areas", acronym NETMIN, eMS no. RORS-308, within the framework of the **Interreg-IPA Cross-border Cooperation Romania-Serbia Programme**. The created education and research network aimed to test green technologies for soil decontamination, to attract researchers, representatives of local authorities and citizens into joint action to protect the environment and to ensure the sustainable use of natural resources in the cross-border area. Also, the network set forth to contribute to the development of sustainable policies for the use of natural resources and thus to improve public health and protect the flora and fauna in the Romania-Serbia cross-border area.

At the end of the project implementation period, the Joint Steering Committee, composed of leading experts from both parties, meets online on Friday, 27 November 2020, to discuss the results obtained in the scientific, technical, relational and educational fields. At the same time, the committee aims to identify activities and strategies to ensure the sustainability of the project results after the end of the implementation period.

The closing conference takes place online on Thursday, December 3rd, 2020, starting with 13:00. Participants will have the opportunity to find out innovative ideas and solutions for the remediation of soils polluted with heavy metals because of mining activities, using the healing force of plants.

The project benefitted from the support of the European Union (85% of the funds). The created network will continue its activity to ensure the sustainability of the results and identify means to finance some of the tested measures for improving the quality of the soils in mining or former mining areas.

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