

UNION OF BULGARIAN BLACK SEA LOCAL AUTHORITIES (UBBSLA)

Organization profile

The Union of Bulgarian Black Sea Local Authorities (UBBSLA) is an independent non - governmental voluntary, self - governing , non - profit organization, which is established as a juridical person since 1992 for unspecified period and can take up and pursue activities in the country and abroad in compliance with the relevant local legislation.

The Municipalities - members of the UBBSLA are 21 as follows:

Avren, Aksakovo, Balchik, Beloslav, Bjala, Bourgas, Dalgopol, Dolen Chiflik, Devnja, Dobrich, Kavarna, Malko Tarnovo, Nessebar, Pomorie, Primorsko, Shabla, Sozopol, Tsarevo, Valci dol, Varna, Suvorovo.

The UBBSLA have organizational structure that help its function in accordance with Bulgarian Law and provide effective services to its members.

Mission of the UBBSLA :

UBBSLA co-ordinates the activities of its member-municipalities in the sphere of economics, science, ecology, energy management and sustainable development: organizes their efforts in the process of solving common for the Black Sea region problems.

Vision of the UBBSLA :

The UBBSLA is an organization uniting the interests of all of its member-municipalities and encouraging strong and effective local self-government and active citizen participation.

The objectives of the UBBSLA :

- To improve the competency and knowledge of local officials and municipal staff.
- To provide opportunities for municipal officials and staff and to exchange experience and information on municipal policies, programs and projects.
- To develop commentary and/or proposals on laws and regulations affecting Local Self - Government.
- To conduct studies, collect data, prepare research related to the responsibilities and functions of Local Self - Government.
- To facilitate the exchange of experience and practices in Local Self-Government among Governmental officials, academicians and Local Self-Government in other countries.
- To organize common projects or programs for the mutual benefit of its members.

To fulfil its purposes and to accomplish its tasks, UBBSLA do the following:

organising of meetings; receiving, processing and delivering information at local, regional, state and governmental level together; developing of local, regional and international Projects in the above mentioned area; participation in EU and other Programs; promoting and supporting legislative initiatives at local, central and international levels in the Bulgarian Black Sea region among the Municipalities-members.

The main strategic goal of the UBBSLA:

To support the development and improvement of strong local self-government in Bulgarian Black Sea region.

In order to achieve this goal the UBBSLA has adopted and developed the following strategic objectives (Adopted by General Assembly during the Annual meeting on September 21, 2001):

1. **The UBBSLA should provide the local authorities with a favorable legislative - legal, financial, informational framework**

The Union should develop effective mechanisms for involvement and work with experts, for preparation and giving of statements; defending the statements concerning legislative changes in the current and initiating new legislation, which should be favorable for the municipality-members.

2. **The UBBSLA should offer its members various high quality services**

The UBBSLA should provide a wide range of timely, qualitative and various services and thus become a steady and reliable organization that would raise the capacity of the local administration. The UBBSLA should provide opportunities for professional development and consulting the local authorities and their civil partners. It should provide the necessary actual information to the local authorities through appropriate technologies.

3. **The UBBSLA should indirectly support the economic development of its member-municipalities**

The UBBSLA should become an organization which has the capacity to support the process of economic development of its member-municipalities; to become a reliable partner of the local authorities, businesses, regional state institutions and NGOs which work for the economic development of the Black Sea region municipalities.

4. **The UBBSLA should work to support the partnership with the Black Sea region countries.**

The aim is the UBBSLA to become an organization that can make a considerable contribution for the cooperation between the Bulgarian Black Sea municipalities, the towns on the Black Sea coast and association of municipalities in the sphere of local self-government and regional economic development.

5. **The UBBSLA should establish and maintain a network of partnerships with Bulgarian and foreign state, local, regional and national institutions and NGOs.**

The UBBSLA should develop and apply mechanisms for popularizing its activities; for involvement of partners and friends at local, regional, national and international level in order objectives of common interests and similar to UBBSLA's objectives to be achieved. The UBBSLA should become an organization encouraging active citizen participation.

6. **The UBBSLA should become a sustainable and effective organization**

The Union should become an organization having effective and working inner executive and managing structures. It should develop and establish a mechanism for self-financing through different and alternative sources and activities.

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