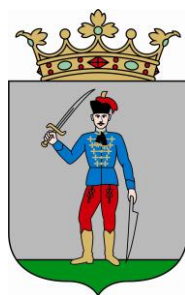


**SEEMIG Local Strategy for enhancing migration data production and
utilization**

*(Proposal for a local strategy data enhancement and utilization on
migration, labour market and human capital processes)*

Kanjiža, Serbia



2014

The local strategy was developed in the framework of SEEMIG – Managing Migration and its Effects in SEE – Transnational Actions towards Evidence-based Strategies. SEEMIG is a strategic project funded by the European Union's South-East Europe Programme. Project code: SEEMIG - SEE/C/0006/4.1/X

The local strategy was prepared within the SEEMIG activity *Strategies, capacity building and transnational dialogue* coordinated by the University of Trento.

The information published here reflects the authors' views and the Managing Authority is not liable for any use that may be made of the information concerned.

Author: Dragana Lukić- Bošnjak (Municipality of Kanjiža)

This work is subject to copyright. All rights reserved, whether the whole or part of the material is concerned.

Information for reproducing excerpts from this report can be found at www.seemig.eu. Inquiries can also be directed to: Dragana Lukić- Bošnjak, Glavni Trg 1, Kanjiža, Serbia or by contacting dragana@icr.rs.

Suggested citation: Municipality of Kanjiža (2014): SEEMIG Local Strategy for enhancing migration data production and utilization for Kanjiža, Serbia (Proposal for a national strategy on data enhancement and utilization on migration, labour market and human capital) <http://www.seemig.eu/downloads/outputs/SEEMIGLocalStrategySerbia.pdf>

1. INTRODUCTION

The aim of this proposal for developing local strategies for enhancing data production and utilization in the field of migration is to provide the decision makers with evidence on which local policy areas are in need of improvement and what steps are to be taken in order to address these needs and to acquire relevant data for successful local policy making. The SEEMIG project offers possible solutions for those important issues. The goal of SEEMIG is to achieve a better understanding of long term migratory and demographic processes and human capital in South East Europe, and their impact on the labour market, and the national and regional economies. The main goal of the project is to enhance the capacities of national administrations to develop and create policies and strategies by utilizing improved statistical data and the results of empiric research. Importantly, the findings of the project can also be applied at the local level.

The SEEMIG Project provided also local authorities with tools to create strategies for enhancing data production and utilization in the field of migration, necessary in order to get a better understanding of the policy areas in need of evidence. SEEMIG outputs, such as the **Dynamic Historical Analysis – Country Report for Serbia, Analysis on existing data production and major data sources in Serbia**, results of the **Foresight exercise, Action plan for improvement and enhancement of data production on migrations and data sources in Serbia** were used as sources to create this strategy. Results from hands on activities with experts, decision makers and representatives of non governmental organizations (NGOs) and relevant institutions working in related fields emerged during the **Master Class** and **Round table** discussions, were also used to prepare this document (see Annex 1).

The local strategy looks into the future of the time span of 7-8 years by drawing out the consequences of findings of the SEEMIG foresight exercise and the population projection. The aim of the strategy in the short-term to provide the municipality with support for capacity building processes on how to collect, analyse and utilise data.

2. BACKGROUND

The Social Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was disintegrated in 1991, and that was followed by wars and international sanctions, which led to a huge decrease in economic activities and blocked the transition process. After the fall of Milošević regime in 2000 and the complete lift of severe international sanctions, comprehensive political and economic reforms began in parallel with the intensification of Euroatlantic integration (the stabilisation and Association Agreement was signed in 2008, and visas for Schengen area were abolished in 2009). Also the gross domestic product (GDP) per capita began to recover during these years and in 2005 reached the level of 1980; GDP per capita again started to decrease with the beginning of the global economic crisis in 2009, together with a general trend of increased unemployment.

The political and socio-economic situation in the country considerably affected international migration. The emigration increased until it reached 270 thousand persons in 1991. Emigration intensified during the 1990's, so it rose to 415 thousand, according to the 2002 census, while the 2011 census showed that it decreased by more than 25% in relation to 2002. However, based on available data on main countries of destination, it may be concluded that emigration according to the census was and continues to be underestimated and it is in reality considerably higher.

Emigration from the economically more developed Vojvodina province was at first more intense starting from 1971 (Institute of Social Science, ISS). Later, the emigration rate became higher in Central Serbia where the main emigration zone was its eastern part (especially the Braničevo area). During the 1980's, and especially during the 1990's two new emigration zones formed in the south of the country (municipalities with ethnic Albanians) and in West Central Serbia (municipalities with ethnic Bosnjaks/Muslims).

During and after the wars in the 1990's Serbia became one of the main destinations for refugees from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia (more than 600 thousand according to the refugee census from 1996). Right before and during the NATO military campaign in 1999, over 200 thousands Internally Displaced Persons from Kosovo and Metohija came to Serbia. Even though refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) were mainly ethnic Serbs, they distributed territorially very differently. The refugees from Croatia mainly settled in Vojvodina, and the refugees from Bosnia and Herzegovina and IDPs from Kosovo and Metohija in Central Serbia, however in completely different areas, excluding Belgrade. During the 90s, 712 refugees came to the municipality of Kanjiža: 90% of them came from Croatia and 10% from Bosnia and Herzegovina. Around 90 people remained in the municipality, while the rest either moved back to their country of origin, or moved abroad.

Serbia never had a comprehensive migration policy neither as an independent country nor as a member of a federal state (from 1950 to 2006). The contribution of migration to population development is not discussed in the political, economic, academic and public discourse. In the official strategic migration documents (the Migration Management Strategy and the Strategy on Counter Illegal Migration in the Republic of Serbia for the period 2009-2014) there has not been an attempt to find a political response concerning out-migration. A sufficiently developed consciousness in the political and expert community on the significance of the migratory phenomenon does not exist in Serbia, nor is the potential of including migrations in development programmes for the country's revival completely recognized. Migrations into Serbia could be an engine for overall demographic revitalization. In general the need to comprehensively act in this sphere is not recognized by the relevant instances. One of the conclusions of the Focus group discussions supports this claim: "The impression is that the representatives of the policy makers were not completely aware of all most important aspects of international migration in the context of relations on the national labour market and that they do not perceive them in a long term perspective. It is evident that they do recognize the causes and motives of emigration and future challenges in that direction, as well as the problems the emigrants face. Although they did not initiate a discussion in view of enabling realization of positive effects of emigration, they are aware of the role and significance the government should have in that field".

The necessity of mitigating the factors causing emigration (unemployment, political and financial instability, obsolete educational system, etc) needs to be especially stressed. In that sense, the country urgently needs to strengthen its economy, assist investments, back employment, support health, educational and ecological programmes, strengthen democratic processes and create an atmosphere of optimism. The encouraging news is that the economic and social development of Serbia will probably speed up upon its (European Union) EU accession and this is expected not only contribute to a decrease of emigration but also to accelerate immigration into the country. Even though immigration to Serbia is not yet perceived as significant in numbers, it is important to promote registration of all types of immigrants, define target groups of immigrant population and develop integration measures such as language learning, education or active measures of employing foreigners. At the same time, it is important to create a positive climate towards immigration, develop tolerance and acceptance of immigrants in Serbia.

3. MAIN ISSUES/CHALLENGES RELATED TO MIGRATION IN KANJIŽA

Demographically, Serbia is one of the oldest countries in the world¹. Its population is ageing for several reasons. First of them is low population growth with decreasing tendency. Also, members of the working age population migrate either to industrial centres, and leave the villages, or leave the

¹ "Is there Active Ageing in the Post-Socialist Countries? Example of Croatia and Serbia" by Sanja Klempic Bogadi and Vladimir Nikitovic, http://www.oeaw.ac.at/vid/datasheet/DS2014/VID_DataSheet2014_print.pdf, <http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do?dvsc=9>.

country. That by default leaves the country with settlements in which the elderly prevail. Long economic crisis and unemployment deriving from it conditioned a string of very worrying population tendencies, which influence the abovementioned demographic occurrences.

Population ageing in Vojvodina has reached such a level that it represents one of the most eminent political, national and economic issues. The municipality of Kanjiža belongs to the group of “older” municipalities, in which more than 20% of inhabitants is over 65 years of age. The demographic situation of the municipality was already denounced in the article. According to local research² the main consequence of low birth-rate and emigration in the municipality of Kanjiža during the last 30-40 years is that the population in 1971 was in fourth stage of demographic development, meaning that both death and birth rates were low. On page 3 of the article, in the Age Structure section, it is stated that all indicators analysed in the period between 1971 and 2002 show negative tendency when it comes to the old and young population ratio. The age structure of the municipality shows a regressive trend (the fertile and young contingent is decreasing, the population is ageing rapidly). The increasing number of the elderly represents a greater economic and social burden on the active population. The article concludes that economic development, quick and radical population policy measures, increase of employment rate are some of the measures which by disincentive emigration could stop, or even reverse this unfavourable process.

Unfortunately, the recommendations from the article were not implemented. Currently even more young people leave in search of better life quality and employment, however the municipality does not have a database, which could provide precise information on out-migration

The municipal Development Strategy reports that 143 elderly have no family members to turn for help to, 315 have no means of livelihood and 505 are chronically ill or are disabled. These are the official data, but it is estimated that this number is constantly changing for the worse, as more elderly apply for certain forms of social aid because their family members left.

The unemployment rate continues to increase, and the long term unemployment (people waiting for employment for 3 and more years) was 66% in 2013, and it affects both genders and all age groups. Young people who finished their education cannot find work as the economy stagnates, even deteriorates; 30% of the total number of employed is in the young category (30 years of age and less). When it comes to older generations, population of 50 years of age and more face age discrimination, they represent 25% of the unemployment structure. Among the unemployed there are also 212 women older than 50, with no education, usually from marginalized groups who lost their jobs in the privatization processes (started in 2004) and who are also struggling to find employment. They represent 36% of the unemployed. The situation is similar for the 370 unemployed men, especially those who were manual workers. As the industry deteriorated (as a consequence of a badly conducted privatization processes), many of them lost their jobs; they are struggling finding new jobs, as they cannot afford to learn new skills that would make them more competitive in the labour market. This information can be found in the municipal Employment Action Plan for 2014.

The main deterrent from emigrating seems to be education. In Kanjiža it was observed that people who have children of school age are more reluctant to try their luck abroad. One of the reasons is their children's education, which would be very difficult to continue in a country where a different language is spoken from their own. The other most common reason is personal education, in particular not knowing foreign languages, or the lack of specific skills and high education. These factors do not hinder the unemployed alone, but also the employed category as well. Many of the unemployed have primary (1360) or at the most secondary education (860), have worked for years in specific occupations, which ceased to exist after the big privatisations started in 2004, and have only

² “The Ageing of Population in Kanjiža Municipality” published in the Bulletin of the Serbian Geographical Society, (year 2009, tome LXXXIX-No3).

the skills for that specific occupation. They do not have a steady income and they do seasonal work in the summer, or work in the grey economy. Since there is a high percentage of elderly households, it is common for women to take care of the elderly (cook, clean, go to the pharmacy, accompany them to the doctor's) in exchange for their house after they decease.

Kanjiža is demographically old, and shows no tendency of population ageing' improvements due to the low birth rate and continuous outmigration, especially of young people in reproductive age.

Thanks to the cross-data research and qualitative information, the experts and local/national stakeholders participating in our Focus Group meeting and Local Round Table maintained that England, Germany and Hungary but Canada as well are the main countries of destination for migration from our area.³

In order to revert this demographic process it is necessary to find permanent solutions for incentivizing young people to stay, ensuring employment and socio-economic security.

On the other side, immigration is not perceived as an important factor as it is virtually non-existent. Kanjiža is a border municipality and migrants just use it as a stopover on their way to the EU. None of them are interested in settling down and starting a new life here. In general Serbia is not yet perceived as a stable country, which could attract immigrants. According to the Ministry of Interior, in the period between 2010 and 2012, the number of persons caught in the attempt to illegally cross the border between Serbia and its neighbouring countries rose from 2,682 to 14,958.

The SEEMIG Foresight exercise conducted in Kanjiža in December 2013, revealed 4 key factors, which may influence the future of Serbia by 2025 concerning migrations, labour market and demographic processes. Those are political stability, economic development, human capital as a resource and the system of values. Translated to the local level, these factors can be broken down to the following: capacity of the local government to support the citizens, employment opportunities and support for local businesses, more attention to legal regulations connected to employment, and efficient strategies for education and youth.

However, the municipal Development Strategy for 2011-2020 does not include concrete recommendations for ameliorating these areas. The issues are recognized as important in the document, yet the ways to solve them are very complex, and sometimes out of the hands of the local community, meaning that they require intervention from higher instances. As currently these matters are not under the municipality's jurisdiction, local authorities can only offer suggestions and recommendations to relevant ministries, but cannot act independently. Finally the strategy doesn't include a separate set of measures to deal with migration. The local Development Strategy's priorities by 2020 are the following: Infrastructure development; maximization of energy efficiency; modernization of agriculture; competitive tourism; job creation; creation of home/households; modernization of public services. None of these priorities are strictly connected to migrations, but in general they aim to keep the population in the municipality.

Additionally to what has been highlighted in the Development Strategy, the SEEMIG events organized in Kanjiža (Foresight exercise, Master class workshop, Round table) were an excellent opportunity to hear what various experts, decision makers, representatives of civil organizations see as being problematic issues, that in their opinions need special attention on all levels (national, provincial, local). During the discussions, the following policy areas that require immediate intervention in Kanjiža and in the Vojvodina region emerged:

³ As it is explained below, the Municipality of Kanjiza still lacks an institutionalized methodology for tracking migratory tendencies and collecting migration related data. This is exactly the reason why this local strategy in migration data collection is timely appropriate and needed by the policy-makers and stakeholders.

- creating employment opportunities for different generations and education profiles on the municipal territory
- preventing outmigration of the fertile active population
- boosting low birth rate
- preventing brain drain and brain waste
- introducing measures to stop/reverse population ageing
- widening the scope of health care and social services
- improving the quality of elementary and secondary education
- acquiring assistance in dealing with illegal migration

4. KEY PROBLEMS IN THE DATA SYSTEM

Currently there is no reliable insight into different types of international migrations at the municipal level. The existing sources of information, although indirect and mostly incomplete, are the following:

- The database of the Centre for Social Work on illegal migrants;
- The register of financial social aid beneficiaries who came from Kosovo and Metohija;
- The list of submitted Renunciations of Citizenship (there were 8 of those in 2012 and this represents the only complete and accurate data).

The municipality is about to create a Council for migration management and permanent solutions for the municipality of Kanjiža in September 2014. The municipal Police has no database of illegal migrants, as there is no way of identifying them with certainty. Since the EU is the target destination of the majority of “immigrants” and generally they do not want asylum in Serbia, therefore when they are asked they generally do not give valid information about themselves. That is why **there is a need for establishing an internationally unified, traceable identification system for following emigrants. This system could also provide a concise and inter-connected information concerning the identification of transit emigrants in Serbia**. This would be useful in case of recurring immigration. If the person tries to go cross the border illegally and is caught, it would facilitate their identification.

According to the opinions of the employees of the Centre for Social Work of the municipality of Kanjiža, who conduct field work as well, illegal migrants mostly have fake documents. The number of families from Kosovo and Metohija which live in the municipality of Kanjiža is higher than the one in the financial social aid beneficiaries register, and a significant number of people and their family members went abroad in search of employment, without deregistering from any kind of a database.

Continuous migration monitoring and collection of information about immigrants in the municipality of Kanjiža is absolutely necessary, as well as precise register of people living and working abroad (emigrants).

The institutionalization of migration monitoring systems and the creation of a relevant local migration database are needed in order to formulate successful local action plans for development, employment, child and youth protection, and for any population policy at the local level. However, the creation of the local migration database does not depend on the municipality, but on the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Social Affairs. Unfortunately at the moment there seems to be no cooperation between them, at least concerning decisions affecting local level initiatives. Also on the financial side, the municipality doesn't have sufficient funds for acting independently.

The SEEMIG Work Package 4 Action Plan for Serbia, has the aim to improve data quality (at the national, regional, and local levels) and highlights a set of steps that need to be taken in order to

achieve improvement in data collection for a successful implementation of evidence-based strategies. This Action Plan foresees the following measures on the local level:

- Training of the employees and data base set up: municipal employees need to be trained to develop skills for setting up and maintaining a municipal level database on migration, labour market and human capital.

- Conducting local work force/migration surveys: these two measures relate to creating questionnaires, engaging people to conduct the surveys and experts to interpret the results. The surveys would be dealing with the mapping of destination countries of migration or wished destinations of migration – if any; the family and educational background and reasons of migration or the reasons of staying in country; the planned period of staying in a foreign country and the means of acquiring the proper paperwork before leaving the country; what would the reasons be for staying in one's home country or one's home town etc.

The possibility of producing local level labour force and migration estimates considering both short and long term migration strongly depends on the financial support from the national authorities and the availability of EU funds, especially to hire new experts and to increase the number of staff at the local level.

Apart from the issues mentioned in the SEEMIG WP4 Action plan, Kanjiža as a border municipality has other needs, which are not specifically related to data collection/production, but would need data in order to overcome them. In particular:

- a local strategy would need to be complemented with a strategy which would provide recommendations and measures for the entire northern border region. There are 6 border crossings between Serbia and Hungary, and they are most often the goal of illegal migrants as they lead them directly to the EU. Specific guidelines to ensure the existence of records of all people trying to pass the border illegally should be created. The relevant local authorities in the border region should initiate the process and the relevant ministries should prepare the strategy.

- Interpreters should be available on the local level in order to get relevant information from illegal migrants from non-European countries (Pakistan, Syria, Afghanistan, etc.) Possible solution for this would be to contact the embassies of those countries and ask for such assistance. Language is the biggest barrier for local people working with migrants.

- New procedures with clear instructions concerning duties and responsibilities in dealing with migrants need to be established for the border police, local police, health workers and social workers. Relevant ministries should define those procedures, based on the experiences of people working directly with migrants. Both horizontal and vertical coordination among the institutions involved would be necessary.

- Finally the ministry of social affairs should allow for more flexible employment conditions depending on the geographical location of the Centre for social work. All the Centres for social work in Serbia can employ only as many workers as the ministry of social affairs prescribes. Yet, the ministry does it uniformly, not taking into consideration the geographic specificities. For example, the Centre for social work in Subotica has 40 employees due to the size of the city, opposed to 4 that Kanjiža has, despite the fact that one of the busiest border crossings to the EU is on its territory. The needs of a centre located at the border with EU countries are not the same as of one located in the central region of the country. The Ministry should take into consideration the recommendations for changes concerning the number of employees, regulation of procedures for various situations (dealing with illegal migrants, with minors crossing the border, medical emergencies among illegal migrants, etc.) which come from the local level, and are based on hands on experiences of experts dealing with migrants.

Overview table:

Key Issue/Challenge	Non-existent database on migration, labour force and demographic processes	No local labour force surveys	No local migration surveys	No migration strategy for border region
Key proposed activities to handle the challenge	Setting up a municipal database	Introducing local labour force surveys	Introducing local surveys on migration	Creation of a migration strategy for border region
Level of intervention	Municipality with the support of national statistical office	Municipality with the support of national statistical office and relevant ministries	Municipality with the support of national statistical office and relevant ministries	Border municipalities with the support of relevant ministries and national statistical office
Relevant stakeholders	Municipal administration, statistical office and entities using the data	Municipal administration, statistical office and entities using the data	Municipal administration, statistical office and entities using the data	Border municipalities administrations, border police, local police, local centres for social work, statistical office
Relevant political level endorsers	Local authorities working on migration issues and labour market, migration and employment related policies	Local authorities working on labour market issues	Local authorities working on migration issues, migration related policies	Local authorities battling illegal migrations, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Policy
Previous policy attempts to tackle the issue (if any)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Short term (2/3 years)	Collection of specific data	Collection of specific	Collection of specific data	Recognizing border

outcomes/achievements of the proposed activities	for the municipality as a base for evidence based policy making, creating a migration database at local level with detailed data and breakdown. Improvement of the analysis of the migration phenomena at the local level	labour force data as a base for investment and employment strategies	for the municipality as a base for evidence based policy making	municipalities as specific settlements with needs for special measures and legislation enabling them to collect and produce data on illegal migrations
Long-term (6/8 years or longer) outcomes/achievements of the activity	Successful municipal strategies developed which deal with migrations, employment, social issues	Investments into the municipality which best suit the local labour force, decreased unemployment	Successful municipal strategies developed which deal with alleviating the effects and causes of out-migration	A fully operational system for monitoring and recording illegal migration towards the EU, creation of strategies to mitigate such migrations. Up to date and precise data on illegal migration available.
Potential risks and suggested solution to overcome risks	Finances and know-how are lacking. Applying for national and EU grants may help financially, SORS could provide expertise.	Finances and know-how are lacking. Applying for national and EU grants may help financially, SORS could provide expertise	Finances and know-how are lacking. Applying for national and EU grants may help financially, SORS could provide expertise	Centralized system of the Ministry of Interior. Decentralization with emphasis on specific needs of specific municipalities. The municipalities do not have funds or skills to work independently. Assistance from higher instances needs to be ensured.

Links to national/EU level policies // transnational character	Law on the self-governments	Law on the self-governments	Law on the self-governments, Law on migration management	Law on the self-governments, Law on migration management
Financial feasibility and sustainability	Financial feasibility: N/A Financial sustainability: This activity will require continuous investment over time, it could be financed from national and EU grants.	Financial feasibility: N/A Financial sustainability: This activity will require continuous investment over time, it could be financed from national and EU grants.	Financial feasibility: N/A Financial sustainability: This activity will require continuous investment over time, it could be financed from national and EU grants.	Financial feasibility: N/A Financial sustainability: This activity will require continuous investment over time, it could be financed from national and EU grants.
Monitoring implementation	SORS	SORS	SORS	SORS, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Policy.
Pipeline interventions	-	-	-	-

5. SUGGESTIONS AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

The municipality of Kanjiža is facing both emigration and population ageing and is a regular stop for illegal migrants on their way to the EU. These processes can be mitigated only by joint actions on both national and local levels. The first steps to be taken are to present the measures proposed in this session and stress their importance to higher instances, such as relevant ministries and institutions. Continuous joint efforts of the municipal authorities and higher instances (relevant ministries, statistical office and research institutions) would eventually promote the creation of legislation, which would enable the introduction of the proposed measures on local level.

1. A municipal database on migration, labour force and demographic processes needs to be set up in order to have relevant data which would enable decision makers to create evidence based policies. In order to achieve that, the municipality needs to hire demographers and statisticians who would be in charge of maintenance of the database. Also, they would be in charge of creating questionnaires and interpreting the results of the labour force/migration survey. Based on that data, they could update the database whenever there are changes. These people would be in constant contact with the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia (SORS). SORS would be in charge of assisting and monitoring the data collection and processing. Once interpreted, data would represent the base for policy making. Main policies, which would arise from this measure, would regard managing migration from the municipality and poverty reduction. Short term effects of developing a municipal database on migration, labour force and demographic processes would be the availability of needed tailor made data the municipality never had before. These data would represent the starting point for creating policies, which would be based on realistic, up to date data that provides a clear cross section of issues to be tackled. The long term effects of the newly developed policies, in particular ones connected economic development and drawing investors to the municipality, are expected to be an increase in employment and a decrease of out migration in the municipality. This measure would require the creation of a connection between relevant institutions regarding the availability of information for the local institutions. Currently, there is no mandatory exchange of data between the ministries, statistical office or other institutions, unless the municipality sends a special request.

2. Local surveys on labour force that would be conducted every second year after the establishment of the municipal database on migration, labour force and demographic processes. Experts from SORS will prepare the questionnaires in consultation with the local municipality. Local people will be employed to conduct the survey in all the 13 settlements of the municipality. The data will be interpreted by the municipal employees working on the maintenance and updating and of the database with the assistance from SORS. The short term result of conducting local surveys on labour force is the availability of up to date and locally relevant data which would be a base for creating local employment and investment strategies. In the long term, thank to these policies and strategies the municipality is expected to become more successful in attracting investments and creating new jobs which best suit the local labour force. That will promote a decrease in unemployment.

3. Local surveys on migrations would also be conducted every second year, in parallel with the local surveys on labour force. Experts from SORS will prepare the questionnaires in consultation with the local municipality. All types of migrations in the municipality will be captured including questions on: commute, studying abroad, temporary employment abroad, change of residence within or out of municipality, new residents and their former residence, reasons for migration, etc. These data will be interpreted by the municipal employees working on the maintenance and updating and of the

database with the assistance from SORS. In the short term these data will create a base for evidence based policymaking, including policies concerning youth, urban planning and housing, social services. These data and policies in the long run will lead to successful municipal strategies, which are expected to mitigate outmigration. In order to achieve this, the municipality needs to be given autonomy to create tailor made questionnaires with the assistance of relevant institutions and ministries.

4. The **border region illegal migration strategy** is a measure proposed by experts dealing with this phenomenon. The northern part of Serbia's border region is a strategic crossing point for many illegal immigrants on their way to the EU. Yet the border municipalities are left to their own capacity and devices in tackling this problem. Procedures on how to tackle the problem of illegal migration differ among the organization/institutions responsible for dealing with the issue. The border police have their procedures, the local police also have their own, the centres for social and health institutions have different ones, and none of them are coordinated. The recognition of border municipalities as specific settlements with needs for special measures and legislation enabling them to collect and produce data on illegal migrations would be the first requirement of the border region illegal migration strategy. In the long term, the expected results are the creation of a fully operational system for monitoring and recording illegal migration towards the EU, and the preparation of strategies for the relevant bodies to mitigate such migrations' effects. Uniformed, up to date and precise data on illegal migration could also support the creation of an international strategy for border management.

ANNEX 1: Stakeholder events, scholarly analyses and policy documents used to develop the strategy proposal.

The SEEMIG strategy proposal has been developed using/referring to the following stakeholder events, scholarly analyses and policy documents, detailed SEEMIG analyses:

SEEMIG STAKEHOLDER EVENTS

- Training – 16-17 January 2014, Institute of Social Sciences, SORS, Municipality of Kanjiža
- Foresight Exercise – 12-13 December 2013, Institute of Social Sciences, SORS, Municipality of Kanjiža
- Master Class – 15 April, SORS, Institute of Social Sciences, Municipality of Kanjiža
- Focus Group – 3 April 2014, Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade
- Local Roundtable – 30 June 2014, Municipality of Kanjiža

REFERENCED SCHOLARLY ANALYSES AND POLICY DOCUMENTS

- Migration Profile by Commissariat for Refugees and Migration, 2012
 - Bulletin of the Serbian Geographical Society, tome LXXXIX- No3, 2009
- Articles*
- Migracione karakteristike stanovništva Vojvodine, Ivo Marinić i Radislav Bugarin, 2006
 - International Migration in Serbia – Facts and Policies, M. Bobić i M. Babović 2013

DETAILED SEEMIG ANALYSES

SEEMIG project outputs are available under <http://seemig.eu/index.php/downloads-project-outputs>:

- Conceptual framework for modelling longer term migratory, labour market and human capital processes
- Dynamic historical analysis of migratory, labour market and human capital processes – country report for Serbia local chapter on Municipality of Kanjiža.
- Dynamic historical analysis of migratory, labour market and human capital processes - synthesis report
- Analysis of existing migratory data production systems and data sources – country report for Serbia, local chapter on Municipality of Kanjiža.
- Action Plan to improve and enhance the migratory data production system and data sources in Serbia
- Analysis of existing migratory data production systems and data sources – synthesis report
- Surveying emigration - report on the first stage of the pilot study in Hungary and Serbia
- Comparative analysis of existing major population projections
- Foresight synthesis report