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## **Project On Local Capacity Building in Municipalities Launched**

PRISTINA---The Administrative Department of Local Administration is launching a project, to be executed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), worth over \$500,000 for 'Building the Capacities of Municipalities in Development Management' from next month. The Norwegian government will fund the project.

DSRSG Mr. Tom Koenigs and UNDP Coordinator Mr. Paolo Lembo, recently signed the project agreement.

Known by its short title, Logo, for local governance, the project will be launched in the pilot phase in the ethnically diverse municipalities of Kamenica in the Gnjilane region and Dragash in the Prizren region. It will last for five months.

The project seeks to promote greater participation of the Kosovo people in local administration. It aims to promote local self-government and people's participation in the management of public affairs as well as decentralizing and empowering local authorities to fully respond to the needs of people. It will help build capacity for local public administration through development planning, programme/project management, municipal service provision and resource mobilization. Efforts will also be made to involve all the communities, including minorities in the project activities. Based on the experiences gained from the pilot project in the two municipalities, the project will be expanded to all other municipalities in Kosovo.

At the end of the project, the department will have a reliable, updated and relevant municipal development information data, mechanisms for consultative and participatory process of planning, management and coordination of development activities, trained municipal staff and local trainers and municipal development plans based on community priorities.