



***№ СВ007.2.13.173 „Folklore in cross-border region - key to European cultural identity“***

**STRATEGY FOR REVIVAL, PROMOTION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF THE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE MUNICIPALITIES OF RAŽANJ (SERBIA) AND BOBOV DOL (BULGARIA)**

**2021-2025.**

RAŽANJ, SEPTEMBER 2021

This project is co-financed by the European Union through the Interreg-IPA Cross-border Cooperation Program Bulgaria-Serbia

This publication has been produced with the assistance of the European Union through the Interreg-IPA Cross-border Cooperation Program Bulgaria-Serbia under CCI No. 2014TC16I5CB007. The sole person responsible for the content of this publication is the Municipality of Razanj and in no way can it be interpreted as the position of the European Union or the Managing Authority of the program.



Content

[1. INTRODUCTION 4](#_Toc83888268)

[2. CONDITION ANALYSIS 6](#_Toc83888269)

[2.1 Ražanj 6](#_Toc83888270)

[2.1.1 General information 6](#_Toc83888271)

[2.1.2 Population 11](#_Toc83888272)

[2.1.3 History 12](#_Toc83888273)

[2.1.4 Religion 13](#_Toc83888274)

[2.1.5 Economic situation 13](#_Toc83888275)

[2.2 Bobov Dol 15](#_Toc83888276)

[2.2.1 General information 15](#_Toc83888277)

[2.2.2 Population 18](#_Toc83888278)

[2.2.3 History 18](#_Toc83888279)

[2.2.4 Religion 19](#_Toc83888280)

[2.2.5 Economic situation 20](#_Toc83888281)

[3. CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL CONTENTS 23](#_Toc83888282)

[3.1 Ražanj 23](#_Toc83888283)

[3.1.1 Cultural institutions and activities 23](#_Toc83888284)

[3.1.2 Cultural monuments 27](#_Toc83888285)

[3.1.4 Intangible heritage 28](#_Toc83888286)

[3.2 Bobov Dol 28](#_Toc83888287)

[3.2.1 Cultural institutions and activities 28](#_Toc83888288)

[3.2.2 Cultural monuments 29](#_Toc83888289)

[3.2.4 Intangible heritage 30](#_Toc83888290)

[4. TOURISM 31](#_Toc83888291)

[4.1 Ražanj 31](#_Toc83888292)

[4.2 Bobov Dol 33](#_Toc83888293)

[5. SWOT ANALYSIS 35](#_Toc83888294)

[6. VISION, PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIC GOALS OF CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION OF RAŽANJ AND BOBOV DOL 38](#_Toc83888295)

[6.1 Priorities 40](#_Toc83888296)

[6.2 Strategic objectives 41](#_Toc83888297)

[6.3 Mechanisms for achieving strategic objectives 42](#_Toc83888298)

[6.4 Risk assessment 42](#_Toc83888299)

[7. STRATEGY MANAGEMENT 44](#_Toc83888300)

[8. ACTION PLAN 45](#_Toc83888301)

# 1. INTRODUCTION

Cross-border cooperation between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of Serbia is one of the axes in the development of relations between the two Balkan countries. Republic of Bulgaria from 01 January.2007 is part of the large family of the European Union, and the Republic of Serbia is in the process of joining the European Union. Stimulating joint development, especially of border areas, is in line with the new realities in European regional policy. Cross-border cooperation can and should be considered as an innovative approach and regional planning, which is both specific and beneficial, if applied in accordance with local conditions. Its innovation lies in the fact that it harmonizes "individual" models and development policies of neighboring countries. On the other hand, this approach completely changes the role of borders - from barriers that separate them, they become a symbol of "door to others", a factor prosperity.

The municipalities of Razanj in Serbia and Bobov Dol in Bulgaria are striving to establish good neighborly cooperation. The joint project in the field of cultural heritage confirms that cross-border cooperation has multiple positive effects on the development of the border region. The development of this strategy aims to contribute to the development of cross-border cooperation by building capacity in the field of strategic planning in the field of revitalization, promotion and sustainable use of cultural heritage.

As entities, the territories of the municipalities of Razanj and Bobov Dol can be characterized as peripheral and backward for both sides, but at the same time a territory with a significant development perspective. Both municipalities have very poor demographic indicators, with a relatively high unemployment rate.

In order to achieve the desired policy of prosperity and intensive economic and social development of border areas, a planned approach to valorizing the potential of cultural heritage is necessary, which is constantly available to local communities living there, as well as potential visitors to be attracted. Based on that, and as a result of intensive contacts and consultations, a common vision of development, goals and concrete measures was made, which would serve as a basis for the realization of joint projects.

The development of this Strategy was made possible through a project of the Municipality of Ražanj entitled "Folklore in the cross-border region - the key to European cultural identity", and supported by the INTERREG IPA cross-border cooperation program Bulgaria-Serbia.

Culture represents what we are and what shapes our identity, and the cultural heritage that consists of literature, art and cultural monuments, as well as crafts, customs and national cuisine, represents the backbone of a culture. Cultural heritage represents the cultural value of a nation, testifies to its history and identity, and influences the development of society, and the way a society treats its cultural heritage affects the way their descendants will remember them, so care for cultural heritage the moral obligation of every society. The more preserved the heritage, the more open it is to external influences and the easier it is to understand a different identity from one's homeland. Putting culture at the heart of development policies is an important investment in the future and is a prerequisite for successful globalization based on the appreciation of cultural diversity.

Culture has a significant role to play in achieving sustainable development, poverty reduction and inclusive economic growth. Cultural heritage is a very important value for regions, cities, societies and communities. Cultural projects and activities in the field of culture make the city more attractive, while the creative industry can be a strong driver of urban development.

Culture plays a very important role in job creation and economic growth, especially in the sectors of tourism, creative industries, innovation and education. The creative industry is recording the highest growth rates globally, even during the financial crisis, and cultural tourism is one of the main economic branches in Europe.

The European Commission defines cultural heritage as “natural, built and archaeological sites; museums; monuments, works of art; historic cities; literary, musical and audiovisual works and knowledge, practice and tradition of European citizens ". While Member States are largely responsible for their cultural heritage policy, Europe's cultural heritage benefits from a range of support measures (policies, programs and funding) aimed at preserving (Article 3 of the EU-SFEU Treaty) and promoting it (Article 167 SFEU).

Europe's cultural heritage is of great economic importance to the tourism industry, generating an estimated annual revenue of 335 billion euros, and many of the 9 million jobs in the tourism sector are directly or indirectly linked to it.

Responsibility for cultural heritage funding and funding is shared by the European Commission's Directorates-General for Culture and Education, Research and Regional Policy:

Support for cultural heritage - Directorate General for Education and Culture.

Cultural Heritage and Digital Cultural Heritage - Directorate General for Research. Digital Culture / Digital Agenda for Europe. The EU's research program supports solutions based on research and innovation aimed at improving the preservation of cultural heritage.

Culture in Regional Policy - Directorate General for Regional Policy. Structural funds have been used for cultural heritage projects, for example in Italy: Saving Pompeii with EU regional funds.

Three EU actions are specifically dedicated to cultural heritage:

European Heritage Days, a joint initiative with the Council of Europe, provides access to thousands of rarely opened sites and unique events to more than 20 million people each year; cultural events highlight local skills and tradition, architecture and artwork;

The European Union Prize for Cultural Heritage, or the Europa Nostra Prize, highlights some of the best European achievements in heritage care;

The European Heritage Label chooses sites because of their symbolic values, the role they have played in European history and the activities they offer to bring the European Union closer to its citizens.

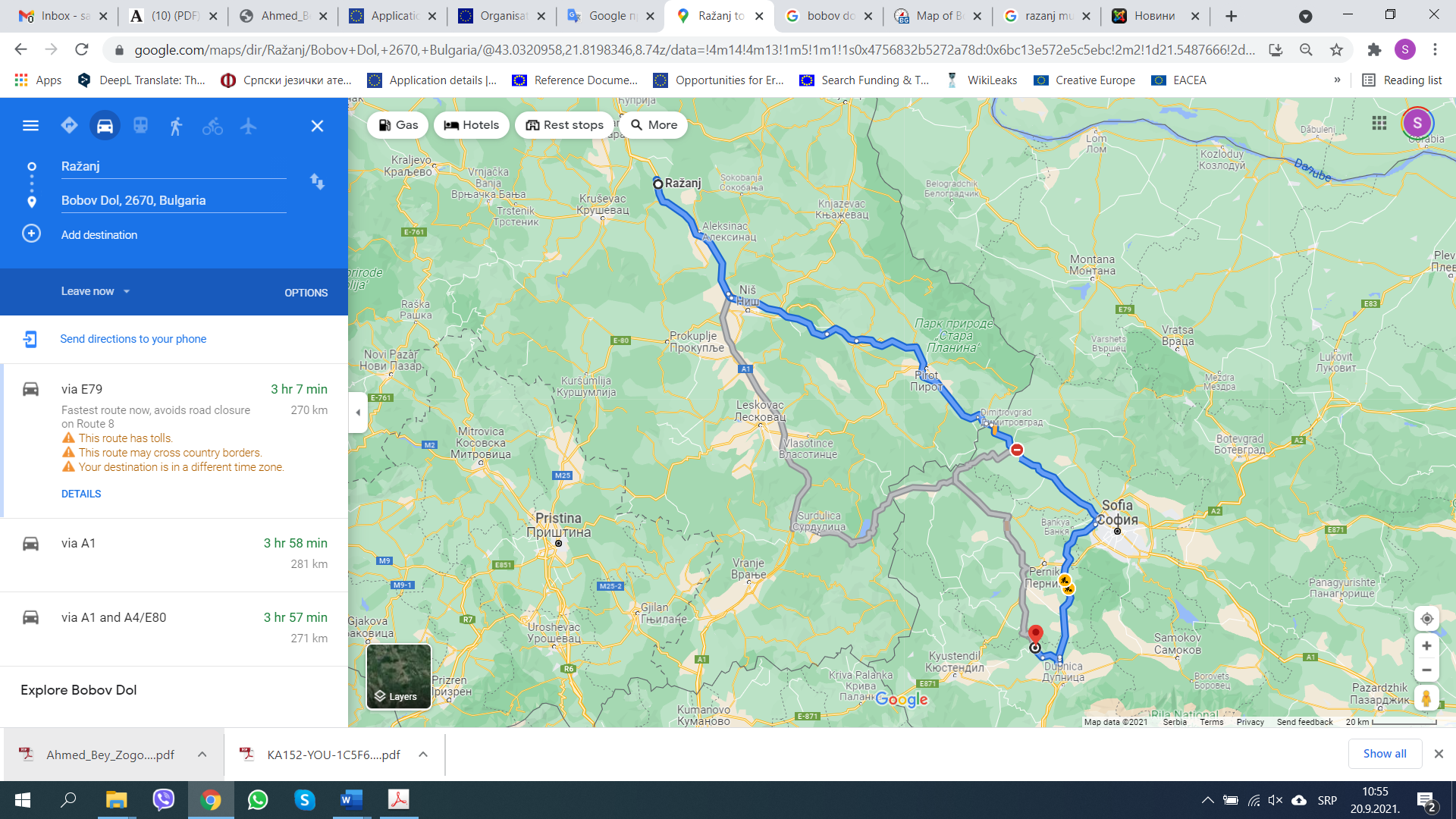
# 2. CONDITION ANALYSIS

## 2.1 Ražanj

### 2.1.1 General information

The municipality of Ražanj belongs to the Nišava District in the Republic of Serbia. According to the 2011 census report, there were 9.150 inhabitants. The center of the municipality is in Ražanj (1,245 inhabitants). The municipality of Ražanj has a very favorable geographical position because it is located at the crossroads of Balkan and Carpathian Serbia and Greater and South Pomoravlje (the mountain Bukovik above the seat of the municipality is a hub). It is surrounded by municipalities: Kruševac, Ćićevac, Aleksinac, Soko Banja, Boljevac and Paraćin, with which it is relatively well connected by three regional roads. The most important national road Corridor 10, highway Belgrade - Niš, passes through its territory. The town of Ražanj is located 55 km from Niš towards Belgrade, at an altitude of 264 m. The Braljina and Đunis railway stations on the Belgrade-Niš line are located west of Ražanj, about 10 kilometers away. The municipality covers an area of 289 km2. Administratively, it belongs to the Niš region, and the municipality itself consists of 23 settlements:

|  |
| --- |
| Braljina |
| Vitoševac |
| Lipovac |
| Maletina |
| Novi Bračin |
| Podgorac |
| Poslon |
| Ražanj |
| Skorica |
| Stari Bračin |
| Crni Kao |
| Šetka |
| Varoš |
| Grabovo |
| Mađere |
| Maćija |
| Pardik |
| Pretrkovac |
| Praskovče |
| Rujište |
| Smilova |
| Cerovo, |
| Čubura |



Picture 1 – Position of the municipalities of Ražanj and Bobov Dol

The relief is undulating, it passes from the valley of the South Morava to the foothills of the Kučaj mountains, Rtanj, Ozren, Bukovik with the highest point of the municipality (Ražanj 893 m) and the Mečka pass. Most of the territory has a flat character.

Cloudiness and precipitation are an important factor for agricultural production. Creating an accurate picture of the climatic characteristics of the Municipality of Ražanj is a difficult task, given that there is only one hydrometeorological station in Ćuprija. To consider the climate, it is necessary to single out two units: the area that stretches from South Morava to the mountainous parts and the climate in the mountainous areas.

Climatic characteristics of the South Morava valley is such that the average annual air temperature in this area is around 11 °C. The coldest month is January with an average temperature - 0.8 °C, and the warmest July with about 22 °C. The total duration of sunshine in this area averages 2.143 hours. The sunniest month is July with 300 hours and August with 291 hours.

The average annual value of air humidity in the Moravian valley is 76.2%. The lowest average monthly value of humidity is 68.3% in July, and the highest in December and January (85%).

Precipitation is extremely important for agriculture, and their more detailed study is not negligible. The average annual amount of precipitation is about 650 mm. The highest precipitation is during May (73 mm), June and autumn months, and the lowest in March (33 mm) and February. Snow occurs every year throughout the territory. The average number of days with the city is 2, which endangers agricultural production.

Winds from the Northwest are dominant in this area (183%). In terms of frequency, the winds from the southeast are in second place (176%), while the wind from the west has the lowest frequency. Košava is the strongest wind and causes significant material damage.

The most important road communication in the Republic passes through the municipality of Razanj, the international high-ranking road E-75 (Budapest-Belgrade-Niš-Skopje), Corridor 10. The nearest Niš airport is located about 50 km from the municipality of Ražanj. Including the highway, the total length of roads is 116 km, of which the Municipality has about 100 km of roads with modern roads.

The connection of the municipality of Ražanj with the immediate surroundings is realized over 38 km of regional roads: R-121a (E-75, Podgorac-Jošanica connection with R-121 and Soko Banja), R-214 (old road communication Belgrade-Niš, parallel to E -75 connects Ražanj, Aleksinac and Niš) and R-221 (connection with R-214 Junis-Prokuplje), of which 29 km under the modern road. On the territory of the municipality of Ražanj, there are local roads in the total length of 77,76 km, of which 70,80 km are under modern roads and 6,96 km with dirt roads.

The modern road cover on the local road is represented with 91,05% of the total area, but it is extremely damaged, which significantly reduces the representation. All regional roads were made of bituminized base course in 1959 and since then interventions have been carried out only on maintenance (filling potholes) and not on asphalt concrete. Due to the age itself, as well as the high frequency of motor vehicles, network cracks have appeared that require constant maintenance.

Railway traffic is also available to the residents of the municipality of Ražanj. The connection between railway and road transport in the area of the Municipality is realized through the railway station in Braljina, which is about 15 km away from the settlement of Ražanj. The southwestern border of the Municipality is touched by a single-track railway that stretches for about 6 km, with a railway station in the village of Braljina, a stop in the village of Cerovo with a length of about 3 km. Railway traffic on the territory of the Municipality is represented by the international main line Belgrade-Mladenovac-Niš-Preševo-state border, as part of Corridor 10.

On the territory of the municipality of Ražanj, the network of school institutions consists of two primary schools: "Ivan Vušović" in Ražanj and "Vuk Karadžić" in Vitoševac.

Elementary school "Ivan Vušović" in Ražanj is one of the elementary schools with a long tradition. The school has existed and operated since 1836 until today and includes students from 13 local communities.

In the last five years, the number of students has decreased by about 30, while in the last 14 years the number of students has decreased by about 200. Classes are organized at the Home School in Ražanj and 6 villages, or seven separate classes: Lipovac, Madjere, Praskovce (2), Rujište, Crni Kao and Šetka. The school is currently attended by 223 students, distributed in 17 classes.

The school has 9 school buildings (buildings for teaching, school ceremonial hall and school sports hall), which fully meet the criteria for educational work. The equipment of the school is also at a high level, both in material and technical terms. In all classrooms, there are new student desks and student chairs with an anatomical shape, cassette cabinets for students, a teacher's desk and a chair, a white magnetic board, while in the school halls there are four-seater. A room for travelers, biology, physics and chemistry, music culture, Serbian language, foreign languages, mathematics, technique and technology, as well as history and geography classrooms has been equipped with didactic means prescribed by the rulebook on norms in primary school.

The school also has an IT office with 25 work places, while a laptop computer is provided for all teachers, both subject and class, in the home school and separate classes, as well as for the professional service and school administration. The prestigious classroom is modernly equipped, and has two smart boards for teaching, seminars and lectures at the school. All classes, both in the home school and separately, have an internet connection. The school's ceremonial hall is used for lectures, sessions, meetings with school guests, performances, celebrations, ... The school sports hall was built in the period from 2016 to 2019, equipment from the Ministry of Education, Science and Technical Development project is expected, as well as commissioning , both for the needs of the school and sports organizations on the territory of the municipality of Razanj. The employees of the school regularly follow the novelties in the educational process, are educated and apply what they have learned in modern teaching.

The school has a surplus of space that can be used for the purpose of opening a new high school or a school of higher or university education.

The elementary school "Vuk Karadžić" in Vitoševac has existed for 156 years and the school has a long tradition. It began its work in 1864.

In the last five years, the number of students has decreased by about 100. Classes are organized in the home school in Vitoševac and 7 separate classes: Novi Bračin (eight-grade separate class) and 6 four-grade - Skorica, Smilovac, Pretrkovac, Pardik, Podgorac and Stari Bračin.

The school has 8 school buildings (buildings for teaching), which meet the criteria for educational work. The equipment of the school is at a high level, both in the home school and in other separate classes. All classrooms in the home school and in a separate class in Novi Bračin are equipped with new chairs, lockers for students, whiteboards, computer and TV, which are used in teaching. In these buildings, there are IT cabinets with 15 places each. Also, there are 2 smart boards, which are used in teaching, for the purposes of seminars, presentations, ...

The school kitchen works in the home school and in a separate department in Novi Bračin. In the home school and in a separate department in Novi Bračin, there are ceremonial halls, which are used as dining rooms and for holding sessions, seminars, lectures, performances, celebrations and similar activities.

All classrooms in the four-grade separate classes have whiteboards, projectors, laptops, printers, lockers for students ... All classrooms in the home school and in all separate classes have an internet connection. The school does not have a gym.

In the home school and in a separate class in Novi Bračin, there are "specialized classrooms" in which physical and health education is conducted in the winter.

Preschool groups of the Primary School "Leptirići" Ražanj work in school buildings in the home school, in a separate class in Novi Bračin, in a separate class in Smilovac and in a separate class in Skorica.

### 2.1.2 Population

Demographic trends in the municipality of Ražanj are characterized by constant, relatively intensive migration and deterioration of vital characteristics of the population. In terms of distribution and population, it belongs to the group of smaller municipalities in Serbia. It covers an area of 289 km2 with 9.150 inhabitants (according to the 2011 census) or 32 inhabitants per km2. In terms of population density, the Municipality lags significantly behind the regional and national average. The structure of the population by age consists of:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **YEAR** | **NB OF INHABITANTS** | **% PARTICIPATION** |
| up to 19 years | 1.524 | 17% |
| From 20 to 39 years | 1.765 | 19% |
| From 40 to 59 years | 2.415 | 26% |
| From 60 to 79 years | 2.793 | 31% |
| over 80 years | 653 | 7% |
| **TOTAL** | **9.150** | **100%** |

The average age in the municipality of Razanj is 49 years, and the rate of natural increase is 19 per thousand.

The national structure of the population of the municipality of Razanj consists of:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **NATIONALITY** | **NUMBER** |
| Serbs | 11.046 |
| Montenegrins | 4 |
| Albanians | 6 |
| Bulgarians | 7 |
| Macedonians | 8 |
| Muslims | 1 |
| Roma | 182 |
| Russian | 1 |
| Slovenians | 4 |
| Croatians | 3 |
| Other | 5 |
| Undeclared | 40 |
| Regional affiliation | 4 |
| Unknown | 58 |
| **TOTAL** | **11.369** |

### 2.1.3 History

It is assumed that the settlement existed in prehistoric times, because various objects were found during the construction of houses and digging wells, although archaeological research in this area has never been carried out. Various excavated objects from this area are kept in museums in Belgrade and Niš. In Roman times, the settlement was called Arsena, which means "warehouse for storing war equipment", and in the 16th century, the remains of the Roman road were found - Via Militaris, which still exists today.

It is believed that the name Ražanj originates from the Turkish era, when the inhabitants defended themselves from the invasion of the Turks with a pointed stake, or that the place was named after the highest point of the mountain Bukovik - Ražanj. On the road leading to Kruševac, on the right bank of the South Morava, there is the monastery of St. Roman, which dates from the IX century, which means that it was built before the Nemanjić era. Earlier, there was a district of Ražanj, to which the entire territory of the current municipality of Ćićevac belonged, as well as two villages of the municipality of Aleksinac (Deligrad and Jasenje). Ražanj is one of the least developed municipalities in Serbia. It belongs to the Nišava district and borders the municipalities of Aleksinac, Soko Banja, Boljevac, Paracin, Ćićevac and Kruševac.

### 2.1.4 Religion

Orthodox religion is the main one in the municipality.

In the very center of Ražanj is the church of Saint Prophet Elijah, which is otherwise a gathering place for municipal festivities. According to data, Ražanj is the only municipality in Serbia where the church and the local self-government celebrate a common event.

On the territory of the Municipality of Ražanj, there are several church municipalities that belong to two dioceses:

|  |
| --- |
| **Diocese of Kruševac** |
| Church municipality of Ražanj |
| Church municipality of Lučina and Braljina |
| Church municipality of Bračina and Pretrkovac |
| Church municipality of Skorica |
| Church municipality of Vitoševac and Podgorac |
| Monastery Saints Peter and Paul in Gabrovo |
| **Diocese of Niš** |
| Monastery Saint Roman in Praskovče |

### 2.1.5 Economic situation

In 2018, the municipality of Ražanj was less suitable in terms of quality of life, which is shown by the fact that it is ranked among the less developed municipalities in several areas within the Social Development Index. In 2018, the average age in Ražanj was 49.6 years. In the period from 2011 to 2018, the total index of dependence of the population increased from 70.65% to 73.12%, and the index of dependence of the elderly from 49.28% to 55.56%.

Economic activity is an important means of achieving a higher standard of living. In Ražanj in 2018, the average net salary was 36,110 dinars, which was below the average of the Republic of Serbia of 49,650 dinars. In terms of employment, 24.83% of persons aged 15 to 64 years in Ražanj had formal employment, which was below the average employment of 46.59% at the level of the Republic of Serbia. In the period 2011-2018. The unemployment rate in Ražanj decreased from 43.48% to 32.37%.

When it comes to other indicators of quality of life, the municipality of Ražanj in 2018 was one of the less suitable municipalities in Serbia. The rate of convicted adult offenders decreased in the period from 2011 to 2018 from 0,33% to 0,26%, while the rate of juvenile offenders increased from 0% to 0,28%. When it comes to domestic violence, the share of children victims of domestic violence in Razanj in 2018 was 0,28%, and the share of women victims of domestic violence was 0,87%. Social participation measured by the turnout of citizens in the elections was 62,2% during the previous elections, which is above the average of the Republic of Serbia of 56,22%.

The age-work-education structure in the municipality of Razanj is as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **EDUCATION** | **NUMBER** |
| Without education | 414 |
| Uncompleted primary school | 2.649 |
| Primary school | 2.260 |
| Secondary school | 2.368 |
| High school | 207 |
| University education | 175 |
| **TOTAL** | **8.076** |

A good education is an important prerequisite for finding a job. In Ražanj in 2018, children from other municipalities also attended the preparatory preschool program (129,3% of children of the appropriate age), and 94% of children were included in primary education. The dropout rate in primary education in Ražanj decreased in the period from 2011 to 2018 from 0,4% to 0%.

In terms of health and health care, the municipality of Ražanj in 2018 was one of the less suitable municipalities in Serbia. Life expectancy at birth in Ražanj in 2018 was 75,39 years. The number of doctors per 1.000 inhabitants increased from 1,4 in 2011 to 1,5 in 2018.

Caring for the socially disadvantaged and the elderly is one of the important aspects of social development. The share of users of financial social assistance in the total number of inhabitants in 2018 was 3,2%, which was less than 3.5%, which was the share of users of financial social assistance at the level of the Republic of Serbia. The average pension in Ražanj was 15.559 dinars. Expenditures for social insurance and social protection per capita increased in the period 2011-2018. year from 412 dinars to 1.240 dinars.

## 2.2 Bobov Dol

### 2.2.1 General information

The municipality of Bobov Dol has a favorable geographical position, located in southwestern Bulgaria in the flat and semi-mountainous territory of the District of Kyustendil.

Its area is 206,2 m2, and represents 0,2% of the state territory and 11% of the district territory.

It is located in the eastern part of the Konyavska mountain with the Razmetanica plateau in the south, surrounded by heights on each side.

It has common borders with the following municipalities: Radomir, Dupnica, Boboshevo, Nevestino and Kyustendil.

The municipality of Bobov Dol is characterized by different relief of the mountain basin. The territory is located in the Kraišteto range, which is distinguished by a mosaic of basins, extensions of valleys and valleys and medium-low mountains and heights.

The municipality of Bobov Dol covers a large part of the western part of the Razmetaniški pole, the basin in Dupnica, the surrounding low and medium high mountain heights. These are mostly the extreme eastern branches of the Konyavska mountain. The relief there is most pronounced in the northern parts, where the Kološ and Gologlavskite hills are located. The steepest slopes of 20-25 cm are located along the southern slopes of Konyavska mountain.

The ridge of Konyavska mountain has the shape of an arch and divides the field of Radomir from the fields of Kyustendil and Bobov Dol.

The bottom of the basin is mostly flat. The average altitude of the municipality is 694 m.

According to the division of climatic areas of the state, the territory of the municipality of Bobov Dol is located in the transitional area.

The climate is transient continental with the influence of the Mediterranean along the valley of the river Struma and in areas with higher altitude - mountainous. The average annual temperature is 10.2 °C, and the relative humidity is 72%. The average annual rainfall is 676 l/m2. Spring will begin in the first half of March with cases of sudden warming and a significant increase in precipitation in April. Summer is warm and dry with average maximum temperatures of 35-36 °C around the end of July and the beginning of August. In some cases, the absolute maximum temperatures reach as high as 38-39 °C. In the first half of autumn, the weather is quiet, moderately warm and dry, but after that it suddenly becomes cold and precipitation increases. The winter is moderately cold with about 5-6 days of snowfall on average for each month. Observations on the amount of precipitation show that it mainly rains in April-June, and less in October and December.

The administrative, economic and cultural center of the municipality is the town of Bobov Dol.

The municipality consists of areas with 18 settlements, with the town of Bobovi Do as the administrative center. The settlements are:

|  |
| --- |
| Bobov Dol |
| Babinska reka |
| Golema Fucha |
| Golemo selo |
| Dolistovo |
| Lokvata |
| Malo Selo |
| Mlamolovo |
| Pantcharevo |
| Babin |
| Blato |
| Golem Varbovnik |
| Gorna Koznica |
| Korkina |
| Mala Fucha |
| Mali Varbovnik |
| Novoseljane |
| Shatrovo |

Its territory is located between two local development centers - Kyustendil and Dupnica.

Important roads pass through the territory of the municipality. Bobov Dol is 20 km from Dupnica and 37 km from Kyustendil. Distance between Bobov Dol and Radomir is 27 km, between Bobov Dol and Pernik: 42 km, and between Bobov Dol and Sofia 65 km.

Four republic road networks of Bulgaria with a total length of 44,8 km partially pass through the municipality.

From the town of Bobov Dol there is a bypass road of the Sofia-Kulata railway and a direct connection with the Struma highway.

Education in Bobov Dol has a long history and tradition. In recent years, education has strengthened its position as one of the priorities of the municipality of Bobov Dol.

Structure of the education system

Kindergartens

* Day care center "Minior" (Bobov Dol)
* United Kindergarten "Druzhba", incl. branches
* Nursery at the United Kindergarten "Družba"

All kindergartens are municipal and are located in specially built buildings for the care and upbringing of preschool children. They have enough buildings that meet the requirements for the entire, qualitative and pedagogical process of full value.

Schools

* Public schools:
  + High school "Dr Petar Beron" (at the penitentiary)
  + Vocational Gymnasium of the town of Bobov Dol
* Municipal schools:
  + Elementary school "Nikola Vapcarov" City of Bobov Dol
  + High school "Hristo Botev" City of Bobov Dol
* Service units
  + Center for Social Rehabilitation and Integration

The Center for Social Rehabilitation and Integration is a set of social services related to the implementation of rehabilitation, social and legal consultations, educational and professional training and orientation, preparation and implementation of individual programs for social inclusion. The Center for Social Rehabilitation and Integration provides short-term and long-term social services. A social worker, a psychologist and a kinesitherapist work with the children.

* Social rehabilitation
* Psychological rehabilitation
* Kinesitherapeutic rehabilitation

Several medical and dental surgeries are registered on the territory of the municipality of Bobov Dol:

* primary medical care
* primary dental care
* specialized medical care
* Medical center
* home
* branch of the emergency center
* home
* pharmacies

### 2.2.2 Population

To date, 7.210 people live in the municipality of Bobov Dol, 4.729 people live in the town of Bobov Dol, and the rest 2.481 live in the villages of the municipality.

Regarding the trends in the dynamics of the population in the municipality in the last 10 years, it decreased with 2,459 citizens in the period 2010-2020.

The distribution of the population in the municipality by gender is almost uniform, because there are 2.444 men and 2.221 women.

As for births in the municipality of Bobov Dol, they also decreased over the years, in the period 2010-2020. In 2020, 47 babies were born in the municipality. Most of the children were born in 2015. Most people died in 2020. The rate of natural increase in the municipality has been negative throughout the years.

The ethnicity of citizens outside the municipality represents a community of people, similar in origin, lifestyle, culture and language. The largest ethnic group in the municipality of Bobov Dol is the Bulgarian ethnic group, followed by the Roma and Turks.

In the municipality of Bobov Dol, people with completed secondary education have the largest relative share – 46,29% of the population, followed by people with primary education – 34,03%.

These groups lead, as in the town of Bobov Dol, but also in the villages. In the town of Bobov Dol and the villages, the number of the population with primary education is almost the same, and the biggest difference is in the number of the population with secondary education in the town and villages. The relative share of people with higher education is relatively small, 6,24% of the total population of the municipality, because in the villages that percentage is equal to 4,68%.

### 2.2.3 History

The region of the municipality of Bobov Dol has been inhabited since ancient times by the Thracians. There are a large number of monuments in the municipality, dating from XII-VI. century old era. They are considered to be the only ones in western Bulgaria. The municipality of Bobov dol is surrounded on all sides by heights - Mount Kološ / 1.315 m / from Konyavska mountain in the northwest, and in the north follows the ridge of Kasilaški dabica, Mount Venec, Čukovski hill with the church Razvalena, in the east: Musibeiski korii, Goleminskite ornici / Ravensko brdo with the mountain Gola glava, the hills Mlomolovski and Golemoselski, the mountains Golem and Malak, the mountain Golak and the heights of the Holy Mother of God.

Razmetanica is a historical-geographical area in the valley of the river of the same name on the territory of the village system Bobov Dol.

In the II century AD, the Romans settled here, leaving a significant number of monuments and roads. In the nearby village of Babinska Reka, there are Thracian rock niches, unique for the western part of Bulgaria. Remains of a fortification from the XII century were found on Kolosh Mountain. century / period of Byzantine domination between the First and Second Bulgarian states

In Golemo Selo, there are mounds from the Thracian era, as well as a granite column, which was inscribed by several priests. There are silver coins on the land of Golema Fucha from the time of King Alexander the Great.

In the village of Panicharevo, there is a treasure with coins from the Roman era, which were minted by the rulers Augustus, Mauritius, Spazian, and Anthony.

Copper coins from the V - VI century of emperors Anastasius and Justinian I were found in Vram.

During the First and Second Bulgarian States, Razmetanica witnessed the flowering of the Bulgarian state, the heroic struggle for strengthening and preserves the memory of the brothers of the Bulgarian kings Samuel and Aaron.

It is difficult to define when the village of Bobov Dol was formed, but according to scarce Ottoman documents, it has been organized since the end of the 15th century. century and early XVI. century. The name Bobov dol was first mentioned in 1576 in Ottoman tax documents. He appears after the deportation of the villages of Grebikal, Selnik and Kovatchevtsi.

The basic means of livelihood is agriculture and animal husbandry. Until the liberation of Bulgaria from Byzantine domination, 42 families were permanently housed in Bobovo Dol.

One of the most significant events for the future of the region is the visit of the French geologist Ami Boué in the ’30s of the XIX century. He explores coal fields. Industrial processing of these fields begins after the liberation.

At the end of the XIX century, the citizens of Bobov Dol were already digging coal and selling it to the state. The region is beginning to develop. In 1981, the coal field became the state mine "Bobov Dol".

After 1944, a strong rise in the economy began. In 1954, the construction of the residential settlement "Minior" began on the location of Bankovica. On 27 October 1967, the village of Bobov dol was declared a town. In the period 1973-1975, ten kilometers from the city, near the village of Golemo selo, the thermal power plant Bobov Dol was built by the decision of the then Council for Mutual Economic Assistance. In the 70's and 80's of the XX century, the city is going through an economic and demographic revival - people from all parts of the country come to it, even from abroad (there are multiple groups of workers from Nicaragua).

After 1989, as a result of the economic downturn, a large part of the population emigrated to other cities in the country and abroad.

### 2.2.4 Religion

Eastern Orthodox Christians are a majority in the municipality. The city church "St. Nicholas" is located in Aleksandra Stambolijskog Street (residential area of Hristo Botev). The city also has a common church, part of the Union of Evangelical Cathedrals, as well as an Adventist church.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **TEMPLE** | **AREA** |
| Church "St. Nicholas" | Bobov Dol |
| Church "St. 40 Martyrs " | Babino |
| Church of the Assumption of Virgin Mary | Golema Fuča |
| Church "St. Nicholas" | Korkina |
| Church "St. Dimitri" | Mali Varbovnik |
| Church of „St. Theodore Tyron“ | Novoseljane |
| Holy Trinity Church | Golemo Selo |
| Church „St Nicholas from Marilia“ | Mala Fucha |
| Church of the Assumption of Virgin Mary | Mlamolovo |
| Holy Trinity Church | Veliki Varbovnik |
| Church "St. Dimitri" | Upper Koznica |
| Church of St. George the Victorious | Dolistovo |
| Holy Trinity Church | Shartovo |

### 2.2.5 Economic situation

The economy of the municipality of Bobov Dol is characterized by unequal development from the point of view of economic activities and branches.

Economic activities:

* + agriculture, forestry and fishing
  + Mining industry
  + Manufacturing industry
  + Construction
  + Trade, repair of cars and motorcycles
  + Transport, storage and post office
  + Hotel and catering
  + Humanitarian health care and social work

Decisive for the structure of the municipality and the region are the activities of production of energy carriers and production of electricity. The processing industry is developing steadily.

On the territory of the municipality of Bobov Dol are registered 225 persons unemployed until 31.12.2020. The level of registered unemployment in December was 6,27%.

The structure of registered unemployed persons with a professional trait in December is as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **PROFESSION** | **NB OF PERSONS** |
| Workers | 54 |
| Specialists | 67 |
| Without specialty and profession | 104 |
| **TOTAL** | **225** |

The structure of registered unemployed persons who are educated in December is as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **PROFESSION** | **NB OF PERSONS** |
| University education | 16 |
| Secondary education | 139 |
| Special secondary and professional education | 105 |
| Primary education | 29 |
| **TOTAL** | **289** |

The structure of registered unemployed from risk groups on the labor market by the end of December 2020 was:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **GROUP** | **NB OF PERSONS** |
| Women | 144 |
| Persons with reduced working capacity | 22 |
| Youth | 31 |
| Older than 50 years | 36 |
| **TOTAL** | **233** |

In 2020, 112 jobs were registered on the primary labor market on the territory of the municipality of Bobov Dol.

During the year, 197 unemployed people started working, of which 67 started working with the help of an employment agency. 40 people started working on the primary labor market, and 18 people under the operational program "Human Resources Development". In the programs of the National Plan for Activity and Employment - 8 people - 4 of them are included in the regional program.

# 3. CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL CONTENTS

## 3.1 Ražanj

### 3.1.1 Cultural institutions and activities

U samoj opštini Ražanj postoji ustanova Dom kulture ali postoje i objekti i prostorije kulture u okolini, odnosno u manjim mestima (seoskim sredinama) koja teritorijalno pripadaju opštini Ražanj. Pomenuti objekti su uglavnom vezani za Mesne zajednice, ili pripadaju osnovnim školama i koriste se po potrebi i za kulturna dešavanja u tim mestima i formalno čine deo opštine Ražanj. Prema uvidu na terenu odnosno obilasku pomenutih Mesnih zajednica stanje je sledeće:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **LOCATION** | **CONDITION OF THE FACILITY** |
| Braljina | There are facilities, the condition is solid |
| Varoš | In solid condition |
| Vitoševac | In function |
| Grabovo | There are facilities within the school building |
| Lipovac | There are facilities within the school building |
| Mađere | Premises of the territorial office are used upon necessity |
| Maletina | Premises of the territorial office are used upon necessity |
| Maćija | Not usable |
| Novi Bračin | Only the summer stage |
| Pardik | Not usable, the building is new |
| Podgorac | Available, in solid condition |
| Poslon | Partially demolished, a small part is used |
| Praskovče | In solid condition |
| Pretrkovac | None |
| Rujište | There are facilities within the school building |
| Skorica | In function |
| Smilovac | In function |
| Stari Bračin | In function |
| Cerovo | Not usable |
| Crni Kao | In function |
| Čubura | In function |
| Šetka | The new building is in function |

In the center of Ražanj, in the church courtyard, there is a stage for holding summer cultural events, which can accommodate about 500 people.

Activities in the field of culture in the municipality of Ražanj are performed by institutions established by the Assembly of the municipality of Razanj and citizens' associations whose main activity is culture. Cultural institutions founded by the local self-government are the Cultural Home and the Municipal Public Library.

Organizations in the field of culture are financed from the municipal budget. The municipality finances staff expenditures, material costs and program activities.

At the end of 2007, the Municipal Assembly of Ražanj made a decision to merge the Municipal Public Library with the Cultural Home Ražanj, which now works as the Organizational Unit "Library" and is housed in the House of Culture. Supervision over its work is performed by the Main Library "Stevan Sremac" from Niš.

The Cultural Home implements its program tasks through its regular activities:

* + Library activity,
  + Music and stage activities and artistic creation,
  + Festivals, competitions, colonies, exhibitions,
  + Amateur and educational activities,
  + Promotions, presentations and other activities.

Cultural Home Ražanj realizes its program tasks in cooperation with the municipality and local communities, schools, institutions and associations in the field of culture.

In order to preserve our cultural heritage and customs, events are held during the summer:

* Festival of Flutists and Folk Art "Days of Sava Jeremić",
* Festival of music and folklore "I looked over farandole" and
* Concert in Ražanj within the International Student Folklore Festival in Niš, organized by the Cultural Home Ražanj, KUD "Sava Jeremic" and the municipality of Ražanj.

Today is the most famous event called "Days of Sava Jeremić", which has been held in Ražanj for 20 years at the beginning of July and brings together the best cultural and artistic societies, singers and instrumentalists of folk music.

Of the other actors in the culture of the municipality of Ražanj, we note that KUD "Sava Jeremić" from Ražanj has been successfully working under that name since 1998 and is engaged in cultural and artistic creation and preservation of Serbian folk tradition and culture. KUD performs at numerous festivals and competitions throughout the country and abroad, gathers about 100 members and organizes its work through the work of the folklore and music section and the flute school.

Since 2012, two more cultural and artistic societies have been operating in the municipality of Ražanj.

* KUD "Vitoshevac" from Vitoshevac and
* KUD "Vidovdanski vez" from Smilovac

that also bring together numerous members and deal with the preservation of cultural heritage.

The "Sava Jeremić" Foundation is also working hard to preserve the name and work of the great Serbian flute player from our region and is participating in the organization of the aforementioned Flute Festival.

Regarding the further development of the Cultural and Artistic Societies of the Municipality of Ražanj, the priority will be, above all, the preservation of membership and society as a whole where young people can travel, socialize, and thus preserve our original folk art.

Cultural events have been held over the past five years:

2015

- Book Month - free enrollment of champion students and organized visit to the library

- The play "Pokindirena tikva" performed by the Aleksinac Theater

- Municipal review of reciters

- Music concert of the Gymnasium from Aleksinac

- Exhibition of books about Milutin Milanković

- Sales exhibition of books by the publishing house "Laguna".

- New Year's concert of the Music School Aleksinac-Razanj

- Flute Festival and Art Colony

-Festival of music and folklore

2016

- Book Month - free enrollment of champion students and organized visit to the library

- Play "Captain John Peoplefox" - Aleksinac Theater

- "Children's games" Theater "Zvonce“ from Niš

- Municipal review of reciters

- Sales exhibition of books by the publishing house "Laguna".

- festivities, performances and plays organized by the Elementary School and Kindergarten from Razanj

- Flute Festival and Art Colony

- Festival of music and folklore

2017

- The play "Strange Love" based on the text by Maja Pelević, directed by Biljana Nikolić, and performed by the Aleksinac Theater

- The play "Alone in the House" by the "Art Theme" agency from Belgrade - Jelena Stajkovac

- Play "Sharenko" of the Kragujevac Theater

- Municipal review of reciters

-New Year's events of school and kindergarten

- Flute Festival and Art Colony

-Festival of music and folklore

2018

- The play "Smurfs and Mother Nature" by the agency "Art Theme" from Belgrade - Jelena Stajkovac,

- Play "Circus Colorado" from Nis.

- Municipal review of reciters

- Flute Festival and Art Colony

-Festival of music and folklore

- Within the International Student Festival in Nis, in addition to our organization, a concert was held in Razanj, where guests from Bulgaria, Mexico and the hosts of KUD "Sava Jeremic" performed.

2019

- The play "Magic Valley" by the agency "Art Theme" from Belgrade - Jelena Stajkovac,

- Play "Circus Colorado" from Nis

- Children's play "Knight in Love" by the MS Agency from Nis.

- Municipal review of reciters

- Flute Festival, art colony and competition "Magic from Crepulja"

- Festival of music and folklore

2020

Due to extraordinary sanitary circumstances caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and the measures announced by the health authorities, there were no events held that year.

### 3.1.2 Cultural monuments

Immovable cultural property of exceptional importance - Saint Roman Monastery is located on the right bank of the South Morava, near the village of Praskovče. This religious building dates from the beginning of the IX century and belongs to the monasteries built before Nemanjić. The relics of Roman Sinait, who was proclaimed a saint whose life is only speculated, rest in the monastery. Although renovated three times, the faithful call this monastery "the Eighth Wonder of the World". In addition to the well-known healing powers at this location, the believers also speak of the great mercy of Saint Roman, who fulfills every well-intentioned and sincere prayer. That is why the monastery of St. Roman is already a well-known destination for religious tourism.

Immovable cultural property - Cultural monuments:

* + The House of Government of the Republic of Serbia declared the Sava Jeremić Memorial House in Poslon (erected in 1930) a cultural monument in 2002, recognizing the importance and contribution that Sava Jeremić gave to Serbs with his music, permanently preserving the tradition and spirit of the warm Serbian soul for generations to come. Otherwise, Sava Jeremić (1904-1989) was a famous Serbian flutist and soloist of Radio Belgrade. He left behind a legacy in the form of permanently recorded recordings of folk dances and games. He achieved the greatest success at the International Folklore Festival in Llangollen (Wales) in 1953, winning first place with the "Paraćinke" kolo.
  + The Church of the Holy Prophet Elijah in Ražanj, with movables that are of special cultural and historical significance, is located in the municipality of Razanj, in Ražanj, Partizanska ulica bb, in private ownership, on cadastral parcel number 202, KO Ražanj. The Church of the Holy Prophet Elijah in Ražanj was built in 1841 and renovated in 1930-32. It is a single-nave building with a triconch apse, vaulted with a semicircular vault. Its interior is divided with three pairs of pilasters into an altar part, a choir space and a nave, the western part of which is covered with a wooden gallery. The facades are enlivened by two arched portals, framed by stone frames with a vine and a cross in the middle made in shallow relief, and seven slightly profiled arched window openings. The interior walls were painted in 1940 by Dragoljub Stojković from Aleksinac. The iconostasis, a simple wooden construction, was erected in 1930, and the icons made with the tempera technique on wood date from the middle of the XIX century. The cultural monument, primarily with its architectural forms, is a characteristic example of sacral architecture in Serbia from the Milosh era, which is rarely found in this border zone.
  + The house "Moravka" was built in the first half of the XIX century as a ground floor building, smaller in size. It consists of three rooms and a porch characterized by shallow profiled wooden pillars, with arches. The house has an approximately square asymmetrical base with a corner porch. It was made according to the bondruk system, plastered with mud mortar and covered with shingles. As an example of small town architecture of the first half of the XIX century, created under the direct influence of folk architecture, it reflects the urban structure and appearance of the Serbian city from the time of their formation after the liberation from the Turks.
  + Monuments of the National Liberation War on the territory of the municipality of Ražanj. At the top of the mountain Bukovik, there is a monument reminiscent of the Battle of Bukovik, and it is dedicated to the fallen partisan fighters in July 1944. A monument to the fallen freedom fighters 1941-1945 was erected in the central park of Ražanj. In 1947, and reconstructed in 2010. In the same park, there are also busts in memory of the first fighters Ivan Vušović and Mihajlo Vujić-Radin.

### 3.1.4 Intangible heritage

In December 2019, the old craft from the municipality of Ražanj was entered in the National Register of Intangible Cultural Heritage of the Republic of Serbia (No. 47) under the name Ražanj Crepulja Making. This craft has existed on the territory of the municipality for more than a century. Crepulja making is the production of recipients for cutting bread, pastries and cooking food for which a local resource is used - clay and ceramic sand (area of the village of Rujište, municipality of Ražanj). The technique of making crepulja in Ražanj is completely primitive - old tools without the use of a potter's wheel. The Municipality of Ražanj, the Tourist Organization of the Municipality of Ražanj and the Agricultural and Social Cooperative of Ražanj deal with the preservation and promotion of this intangible heritage.

## 3.2 Bobov Dol

### 3.2.1 Cultural institutions and activities

There are 12 houses of culture on the territory of the municipality of Bobov Dol. They represent the traditional self-governing Bulgarian cultural and educational associations in the settlements, which perform tasks from the state and municipal cultural policy.

Activities of amateur formations of various ranges exist and are developing in almost all social centers on the territory of Bobov Dol. They are mostly folklore groups - dance and music ensembles, folklore groups, singing groups. The interest of children and youth is mostly focused on schools for folk singing, music lessons, tambourines, folk and modern dances.

The following social centers are active:

|  |
| --- |
| „Prosveta-1903”,  City of Bobov Dol |
| „Caricina 2008”,  City of Bobov Dol |
| „Razmetanica-1919”,  Village Golemo selo |
| „Al. Dimitrov- 1899“,  Village G. Koznica |
| „Prosveta - 1902”,  Village Shatrovo |
| „Vasil levski-1932”,  Village Novoseliane |
| „Minior-2006”,  City of Bobov Dol |
| „Zora - 2001”,  Village Mlamolovo |
| „Probuda-1916”,  Village Malo selo |
| „Hristo Botev 1927”,  Village Korkina |
| „Novi dani-1934”,  Village Dolistovo |
| „P. Hilendarski-2017“,  City of Bobov Dol |

The centers of national communities meet the needs of citizens, related to the development and enrichment of cultural life, social and educational activities in the settlement, where they perform their activities. They protect the cultural and historical heritage and traditions of the region and national identity. They are expanding the role and activities of community homes in small settlements in response to the new needs of the population..

### 3.2.2 Cultural monuments

In the municipality of Bobov Dol, there are cultural and historical layers of antiquity, the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, with several unique architectural and historical monuments discovered and stored, there are 83 cultural monuments here, most of which are located in villages.

In 1976, the temples were registered as cultural monuments:

|  |
| --- |
| Church St. 40 Martyrs,  Village Babino |
| Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary,  Village Golema Fucha |
| Church St. Nicholas,  Village Korkina |
| Church St Dimitry,  Village Mali Varbovnik |
| Church of St. Theodore Tyron,  Village Novoseliane |
| Church St. Nicholas,  Bobov Dol |
| Church of the Holy Trinity,  Village Golemo selo |
| Church St. Nicholas of Marilia, Village Mala Fucha |
| Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary,  Village Mlamolovo |
| Church of the Holy Trinity,  Village Shatrovo |

Archaeological monument of local significance - medieval church, Gorna Koznica village, old entrance to Bobov Dol mine, Ancient village and necropolis in the village of Golemo selo with legal archeological significance, Ancient town on the site of Caritchina in the village of Golemo selo and ancient fortress on the site of Gradishteto in the village Mlamolovo.

### 3.2.4 Intangible heritage

Intangible cultural heritage - customs, ceremonies, rituals, beliefs are practiced in all villages of the municipality. It is of significant interest and attracts church holiday guests from nearby villages and other settlements.

Churches are objects of belief, rituals and religious ceremonies. Such ceremonies are traditionally held on a specific date or for churches that stem from beliefs or religious phenomena. Characteristic of the country are the village of Novoseliane, the village of Shatrovo and the village of Korkina are ancient crosses at the locations of the Holy Trinity Spasovets and St. Peter. Places with stone crosses are respected by the local population, who gather near them and cook "Kurban“.

# 4. TOURISM

## 4.1 Ražanj

Having in mind the geographical position of Ražanj, it is certain that tourism is one of the important forms that can activate the cultural content in the municipality and its surroundings.

The Pomoravlje region is especially adorned by the Holy Mountain Mojsinje as a representative and specific landscape with a lot of natural values and significance for mountain mountaineering, typical for Central Serbia. We should point out the mountain Bukovik (893m), which belongs to the huge mountains near the highway, rich in beech and coniferous forests, rich in pastures and lookouts as well as springs of several rivers and hidden clear waters and healing flora.

Also, when it comes to mountain tourism, we should mention the Poslonske mountains, which provide a third of the territory of the municipality of Ražanj under forest plantations. As the trails are marked, it is used in mountaineering activities, but also in hunting tourism due to the existence of three commercial hunting grounds in which the most common are deer, rabbit, pheasant and wild boar. Hunting has been organized in this territory for more than a century, and currently private houses are used for hunting tourism, and the construction of accommodation in nature on the basis of Glamping tourism is planned. At the moment, the building of the Hunting Lodge is on that stretch, which is a gathering place for both hunters and picnickers. This location is called Varnica, it is located on a hill above Razanj and is 6 kilometers away from the city center.

It should be noted that the South Morava flows through the municipality of Ražanj in the length of 20 km, which makes it challenging for fishing enthusiasts because it is rich in fish (carp, catfish ...).

On the right bank of the South Morava is the monastery of St. Roman, renovated three times, and believers call it "the Eighth Wonder of the World", precisely because of the famous healing powers and the great grace of St. Roman, so in that sense this monastery is a famous destination for religious tourism. By the way, that is the place where the heart of Count Rajevski was buried, and on the other hand, Tolstoy was inspired to create the character of Count Vronsky from the famous novel by Anna Karenina.

The most important road communication in the Republic of Serbia passes through the municipality of Razanj, the high-ranking international road E-75 (Budapest-Belgrade-Nis-Skopje), Corridor 10. The nearest airport is Constantine the Great in Nis and is located about 50 km from Razanj. Including the highway, the total length of roads is 116 km, of which the local government has about 100 km of roads with modern roads.

Railway traffic is also available to the residents of the municipality of Razanj. Railway traffic in the municipality of Razanj, is the international highway Belgrade-Mladenovac-Niš-Preševo-state border, as part of Corridor 10.

The connection between railway and road transport in the municipality of Razanj is realized through the railway station in Braljina, which is about 15 km away from the center in the city.

After a general assessment and analysis of the situation on the ground (natural resources, cultural heritage, traffic and communication, accommodation capacities and characteristics of the tourist offer and demand), three basic areas can be singled out in which general and specific goals and projects are defined:

* Development of tourist infrastructure,
* Development of marketing with a special aspect on eco-tourism
* Entrepreneurship development with traditional crafts and cuisine

The following catering facilities are located on the territory of the municipality of Ražanj:

* In addition to the city pool "Osmača plus", there are also pools "Stević", which are located in a rural environment full of greenery with excellent accessibility. This pool property has a bar and a restaurant in Stari Bračin. There is a possibility of organizing both individual and group visits with a capacity of up to 50 guests. Traditional dishes and house specialties, including "Miloš's saber" (meat and vegetable treat), make it special in an unforgettable natural environment.
* Tourist household "Borina koliba", is a specific accommodation capacity located above the village of Vitoshevac in the middle of a coniferous forest, directly in a natural environment, 2.5 km away from the settlement. In addition to accommodation services, up to 7 people, offers and organizes meals for up to 50 people. Food preparation and hunting specialties is what this local facility is famous for.
* Restaurant "Proleće" is an example of Serbian traditional cuisine. Various types of events, up to 70 people, are organized in a beautiful ambience and a terrace full of greenery.
* Catering facility "Mis market" offers domestic and international menu, as well as various types of catering services. Friendly staff and preferential ambience are the ID card of this restaurant that can accommodate up to 100 people.
* "Roasting House SS" is located in the center of Razanj. It offers all kinds of roasts, barbecues and salads and can serve up to 70 guests.
* Cafe "Gypsy" is located in the center on the main city promenade. It can accommodate up to 100 guests.
* Ethno house Hrebeljanović in the ethno environment offers local specialties characteristic of this area; accommodation is provided for a maximum of 4 people.
* Winery "Glass of wine and story", located in the village Pretrkovac 10km away from the highway E-75. In addition to wine tasting and stories about Moravian vineyards, it offers traditional dishes and specialties of this region and with a service capacity of up to 30 people.

A special challenge for scientific and speological and tourism is the speleological facility (cave) Pećura in the village Skorica, in the municipality of Ražanj. The cave is a dry cave with a low intensity of dripping water in some parts of it, where the structures of cave jewelry in the form of saliva, draperies and stalactites are identified. A special species of bats (up to 100 units) and large deposits of guano were observed in the cave.

According to the data of the Republic Bureau of Statistics, the municipality of Razanj did not record the turnover of tourists. In 2019, 68 tourist overnight stays were recorded, of which 46 were foreign and 22 domestic. The year 2020 marked a decline in tourist traffic, probably caused by the Covid-19 virus pandemic

## 4.2 Bobov Dol

On the territory of the municipality of Bobov dol, there are three restaurants, six cafes and one guest house. There is no hotel.

Preserved natural environment, various landscapes and historical sights in the municipality of Bobov Dol provide opportunities for the development of modern and alternative tourism in all forms - eco, rural, cultural heritage, hunting, etc.

The phenomenon of "Momata" rocks is located on the land of the village of Korkina - Gabrashevo. There are unique rock formations on the land of the village of Mala Fucha, as the "Stone King Marko" leaves a special impression. In the village of Golem Varbovnik you can see a geological phenomenon (cylindrical rock formation) - "Kuklata" / translation "Doll" 10-12 m high above the terrain of the main slope.

On the land of the village of Gorna Koznica there is a cave "Asandelegija" (Asan delija). In the register of the Bulgarian Speleological Federation it is under number 1.004, with a displacement of 46 m, depth minus - 43; goes up: 3; The "Asandelegia" cave has not been fully explored.

On the lands of the town of Bobov Dol, the village of Mlamolovo, the village of Malo selo, the village of Golemo selo and the village of Dolistovo, there is air pollution and damaged terrains as a result of mining and energy activities. For the other part of the municipality, there are no data on basic pollution and relief damage. The natural environment is preserved here and there is a great variety of landscapes. Parts from protected zones BG0002108 Skrino and BG0002100 Dolna Koznitsa - protected zones according to Directive 79/409 / EEC for protection of birds and protected zones BG0000298 Koniavska planina and BG0001013 Skrino - protected zones according to Directive 92/43 / EEC for protection of natural habitats and wild flora and fauna, located in this part of the municipality, under the appropriate exposure to available biodiversity will help in the municipality of Bobov dol to create and implement a unique product for ecotourism and thematic tourism. A higher percentage - 26.3% of the participation of protected zones on the territory of the municipality is a serious precondition and opportunity for the development of ecotourism.

The municipality of Bobov dol has a huge potential of natural resources and cultural heritage resources for the development of alternative tourism - rural, eco, sports, thematic, etc. When a person uses damaged abandoned terrains, fun tourism could develop - horse and motorcycle competitions, using facilities for fun and entertainment in the park, etc.

Regarding the above mentioned tourism resources, there is potential in the municipality for the development of the following basic directions:

* Ecotourism and rural tourism - in villages, next to protected areas under Natura 2000;
* Sports and entertainment tourism - in areas where mining activity has been completed.
* Tourism, associated with traditional music and crafts, hobby tourism, religion, wine, traditional cuisine, ethnography, etc in all parts of the municipality.

The potential market of tourist resources is part of the development of the tourist product from the markets of the national and southwestern planning region. Market insurance includes a priority offer of routes in attractive and preserved nature, cultural heritage facilities, appropriate sleeping conditions and quality food.

For the development of tourism in the municipality, the priority is the construction and maintenance of infrastructure, servicing of tourism, attracting tourists through advertising and tourist facilities, which are located in the municipality, preserving safety and protecting nature.

# 5. SWOT ANALYSIS

The area to which the municipalities of Razanj and Bobov Dol belong has numerous but, unfortunately, in most cases insufficiently used potentials of cultural and historical heritage. In addition, a special role is played by natural resources - agricultural land, forest areas and unpolluted environment, which provide additional quality for the possible valorization of existing cultural and historical monuments in both municipalities. The most important resources of cultural and historical heritage are certainly churches and intangible heritage.

The region has significant resources for energy production using natural and renewable energy sources (wind power, water potential for mini and micro hydropower plants), and in some locations there are unexplored deposits of mineral resources and mineral resources.

These resources, however, are poorly used, and tourism potentials and infrastructure are underdeveloped, or in their infancy, which has led to both municipalities belonging to the category of underdeveloped municipalities. Rural areas face significant problems that are sociological, infrastructural, productive and organizational in nature.

The main sociological problems that occur in rural areas are migration, unfavorable birth rate and old agricultural households. Infrastructure problems are numerous, and are much more pronounced in rural areas where communal infrastructure is almost non-existent. The great disunity of the village additionally contributes to the weak traffic connection of the rural areas with the city center.

The existing tourist capacities are very modest, and rural tourism is not developed. Project and planning documentation is missing. Funding is not available. The processing capacities that were the carriers of production are in a slow process of transformation. Municipal budgets are low. Concern for environmental protection is modest.

n the coming period, it is necessary to work in parallel on the economic and social development of municipalities with special attention to the development of rural areas.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **STRENGTHS** | **WEAKNESSES** |
| * Rich cultural and historical heritage * Existence of knowledge in the municipality for the realization of cultural and artistic events * Existence of reliable actors in culture outside the municipality * Municipal policy of popularization of local community awareness of its cultural and historical heritage * Existence of a strategic document for the development of culture in municipalities * The infrastructure in the culture is at a good level * Existence of natural resources, protected areas and natural phenomena * Good potential for alternative tourism and eco-tourism * Proximity to a cultural and historical monument of world importance "Rila Monastery" * Proximity to well-developed tourist destinations - Sapareva Banya, Boboshevo, Kyustendil, Rila * Good transport geographical position * Good transport accessibility at regional level through the passing transport corridor IV * Preserved traditions * Preserved Ethnographic Museum Collection in the village of Mlamolovo * Created Folklore dance ensembles in the municipality of Bobov dol * Created Folklore music and singing ensembles * Organizing a Traditional Folklore Festival in the village of Novoselyane * Initiative local government in terms of attracting investments for tourism development * Current Strategy for development of tourism in the Municipality of Bobov dol * Current Strategy for protection of cultural heritage | * Insufficient diversification of municipal actors in culture * Lack of events dedicated to cultural and historical heritage * Lack of local expertise on cultural and historical heritage * Insufficient budget funds * Insufficient expertise of managers * Insufficient maintenance of existing historical monuments * The absence of a municipal body dedicated to the valorization of cultural and historical heritage * Insufficient number of projects in the field of cultural and historical heritage * There are no places for accommodation * Underdeveloped services sector * Lack of investment * Lack of funding * Presence of air and water pollution as a result of the activity of TPP "Bobov dol" * Lack of research and development. |
| **OPPORTUNITIES** | **THREATS** |
| * Use of Corridor 10 * Domestic funds * International program * Development of incentive measures by local self-government in the field of valorization of cultural and historical heritage * Regional cooperation * Cooperation with other municipalities * International cooperation (Bulgaria, France) * Moravka House as an embryo of the local museum * Establishment of a center for popularization, learning pottery * Increasing interest in alternative tourism and eco-tourism * Creation of tourist routes * Diversity of the cultural calendar and creation of forms of tourist attractions * Marketing and advertising of the destination and sites in the region, including combined tourist routes * Increasing the capacity to provide tourist services * Providing partnership and expert support to cultural institutions and non-governmental organizations for application and implementation of projects for protection and sustainable management of the intangible cultural heritage * Funding from European Union funds * Promoting cross-border cooperation * Establishment of a tourist information center in the municipality, for the purposes of promoting the cultural heritage * Promoting regional cooperation with neighboring municipalities * Promoting international cooperation | * Poor economic situation * Insufficient level of social development * Lack of coordination between programs and activities * Poor maintenance of cultural values * Difficulties in conducting municipal policy due to lack of own funds, including implementation of projects. * Negative demographic trends * Insufficient advertising and marketing of the destination. |

# 6. VISION, PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIC GOALS OF CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION OF RAŽANJ AND BOBOV DOL

Strategic issues are the starting point for deciding which issues will become the focus of the strategic plan. Strategic issues of cooperation within the vision of the cross-border area can be defined as follows:

* In which sectors should cooperation be established and which should be strengthened in order to revive and promote cultural heritage and its sustainable use?
* What are the joint sustainable development projects that are most likely to have a direct or short-term effect on local community development and population engagement?
* What projects in the infrastructural development of the cultural heritage of the border area are needed to strengthen the short- and medium-term processes of local economic development?
* What infrastructure development should you strive for in order to preserve, protect and promote our cultural heritage?
* What institutional capacities need to be established or strengthened to support and improve the sustainable use of cultural heritage in the cross-border region?
* What opportunities need to be developed to increase the financial capacity of municipalities for greater participation in cross-border cooperation in the field of cultural heritage valorisation?

The strategic planning process involves identifying strategic issues, ie. issues that are important for achieving the desired vision and that have proven important in SWOT analysis. The following criteria were taken into account in the selection of critical strategic issues:

* When will the cross-border region face a critical issue?
* What will be the extent of the impact of this issue?
* How difficult will it be to address this issue?
* Will addressing this issue require the creation of new partnerships?
* Will addressing this issue require significant funding?
* What are the possible consequences if this issue is not addressed?

Strategic issues of any sustainable development of any institution (republic, municipality, company, institution, etc.) usually arise from the strategic development plan of that institution and the recorded problems, and there is almost always a certain cause-and-effect relationship between them. This connection is more pronounced, ie. more noticeable in deductive procedures for making strategic and action plans, when there is no professionally created and sufficiently clear vision in advance and when problems are solved more by consequences and less by causes. The modern development of today's municipalities and cities, and even parts of cities, is inconceivable without a participatory, accessible and known vision and strategic plans, together with a compatible mission, principles to be adhered to individually and strategic goals to be achieved in the short term.

The current situation raises the question of how to strengthen existing capacities, but also how to build, establish new mechanisms and practices that will lead to the realization of set strategic goals.

Based on the above, it is unequivocal that the cross - border region is lagging behind and developing as a typical periphery in the geographical and socio - economic aspect. On the other hand, the region has numerous strategic advantages, which could significantly intensify its development in the case of properly defined and applied regional policy and to ultimately improve the quality of life of local people and turn the region into an attractive place for business and life.

Achieving the desired situation requires the maintenance of the set principles, in relation to which the appropriate vision, priorities and goals of this Strategy should be determined. On the one hand, the cross-border character of the document must be taken into account, and on the other - the fact that the valorization of cultural and historical heritage is regulated by national normative frameworks in Bulgaria and Serbia. They presuppose adherence to certain postulates and procedures, so that the goals and measures set out in this document can be translated into realistic political and strategic instruments for the development and management of appropriate territories on both sides of the border.

Taking into account all the above, the following basic principles of this Strategy for the revival, promotion and sustainable use of the cultural heritage of Ražanj and Bobovi Dol have been defined.

Cross-border cooperation must be seen as an innovative tool for intensifying regional and local development on both sides of the border, and this tool should provide the necessary basis for achieving integrity between common strengths and existing policies in the field of sustainable development of territorial units on both sides of the border.

Another guiding principle of the strategy is partnership, which requires the provision of the necessary conditions to build an effective relationship between local and state authorities, civil society structures and business representatives. Partnership and work in wide networks can significantly improve the effectiveness of planning and management processes in this territory, which in turn could seriously stimulate their development.

The third principle of this strategy is the principle of coordination. This principle requires the achievement of a logical interrelationship between activities within management structures and between the structures themselves at all levels in order to achieve the expected level of development of cross-border cooperation between border territories.

The principle of "rounded whole" is another important principle, which presupposes close links and interrelations between activities, determined by different priorities and actions to achieve a complex social and economic effect and increase the positive effects of cross-border cooperation.

The principle of transparency in document management requires the availability of a clear, feasible and understandable monitoring system for the implementation of the strategic objectives set out in the document.

The vision answers several questions in a synthesized way: "Where are we now?" "Where would we like to be?", "What would we like to achieve?", "How do we know we have achieved that?" By realistically formulating the Vision, we determine how we would like to "see" the process of cooperation between border regions in its ideal form after achieving certain goals.

Created from these motives, the **Vision** for the development of cross-border cooperation in the target region can be presented with the following message:

„Cultural heritage as a pledge for identity and recognizability, but also a basis for sustainable and inclusive development of the local community“

The implementation of the vision should be realized under the conditions of close interrelationship and partnership between local entities as a whole, representatives of the economy, civil society structures, state and local authorities from border territories. It must be realized on the basis of well-planned strategic goals, priorities, measures and specific actions, aimed at efficient use of local potential.

## 6.1 Priorities

Based on the principles on which this Strategy is based and the vision of joint sustainable development of border municipalities, and relying on the current state of development of the two municipalities, the following priorities have been defined:

1. Creating conditions for the establishment of an effective partnership between the authorities on both sides of the border, the structure of civil society and business. In the first place, it is related to overcoming all problems and difficulties in the interaction between cross-border territories, at the institutional and infrastructural level, as a precondition for creating conditions for the implementation of efficient and stable cross-border cooperation.

2. Strengthen the practice of cultural heritage management, which connects its sustainable use and development of the municipality. Local self-government encourages, above all, protection institutions and other relevant institutions, departments and sectors to put a greater focus on the use, management, maintenance, interpretation, adaptation and accessibility in the processes of cultural heritage management. This includes encouraging the development of strategic and planning documents, such as management plans, action plans, business plans, feasibility studies, interpretation plans, education, tourism promotion and the like, as an integral part of the restoration and conservation process, to ensure that investment in protection heritage actively contributes to the long-term development of the local community. The guiding principles should be the principles of sustainable local development, with an emphasis on the preservation and valuation of cultural and historical heritage within a clean and relatively preserved natural environment. In general, the strategy takes into account international norms, European directives and national laws of Bulgaria and Serbia in the field of protection of cultural and historical heritage, environment and integration of its problems into other policies, including cross-border cooperation.

3. Improving human resources and administrative capacity for cultural heritage management. Local self-government encourages projects that involve cooperation between the public, private and civil sectors in the field of protection and use of cultural heritage, which creates a complementary approach to this field. The competence of the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments, Archives, Libraries and Museums is to assess, analyze, prepare studies and make recommendations for the protection and use of various types of tangible and intangible cultural heritage. By connecting with associations and private initiatives, these institutions implement projects outside their core business, which aim to improve and promote cultural heritage. In this way, through vertical departmental connections, it contributes to the activation and popularization of cultural heritage. Protection of cultural heritage and institutions engaged in this activity officially belong to the department of culture; however, heritage is an inseparable element of urban planning and the development of social activities because it recognizes and interprets elements of the past in the context of the present and future planning. The cultural heritage sector is thus inseparable from urban planning, education, science and economic development, tourism and the creative industry. Local self-government, therefore, obliges all institutions over which it is competent for all forms of cooperation which, in addition to protection understood through conservation activities, affirms and promotes the creation and active and responsible use of the cultural heritage of the local community.

4. Transforming cross-border cooperation from an administrative concept into a routine practice for local entities. The preconditions for this are tradition in human relationships, similarities in language, culture and tradition, as well as a rich cultural and historical heritage and a well-organized cultural life. In a broader and purely pragmatic aspect, the availability of archaeological, historical and architectural and ethnographic sites, churches, monasteries and museums, economic, cultural, sports and any other cooperation. Periodic events and festivals in the cultural calendar represent significant preconditions for the development of cultural, educational, rural, religious and other types of specialized tourism.

## 6.2 Strategic objectives

The main strategic objective for the development of cross-border cooperation in the border area and the municipalities of Ražanj and Bobov Dol is to unite the efforts of government, civil society, business and local entities as a whole to achieve stable sustainable development of the border area by effectively exploiting cross-border cooperation .

In order to achieve this objective and on the basis of certain priorities, the following specific and logically related strategic goals have been formulated:

Priority 1: Creating conditions for establishing effective partnerships

Objective 1.1. Building an institutional basis for effective cross-border cooperation

Objective 1.2. Providing available information on cross-border cooperation and opportunities for partnerships between stakeholders and citizens and creating databases

Priority 2: Strengthen the practice of natural, cultural and historical heritage management, which connects its sustainable use and development of the municipality

Objective 2.1. Ensuring the coincinding and integrity of strategic and planning documents in the field of valorization of cultural and historical heritage and sustainable development on both sides of the border

Objective 2.2. Attracting investment

Objective 2.3. Support for small and medium business

Objective 2.4. Support for tourism development

Objective 2.5. Improvement of traffic and reception infrastructure

Objective 2.6. Application of the principles of stable regional development by providing assistance to activities for better use of the natural, cultural and historical potentials of the area.

Priority 3. Improving human resources and administrative capacity for cultural heritage management.

Objective 3.1. Improving administrative capacity

Objective 3.2. Development and efficient management of human resources in the field of valorization of cultural heritage

Priority 4. Transforming cross-border valorization of cultural heritage from an administrative concept into a routine practice for local entities.

Objective 4.1. Development of joint business initiatives

Objective 4.2. Realization of joint activities

Objective 4.3. Creating a common media space

Objective 4.4. Creating a common cultural calendar

Objective 4.5 Consolidate the tourist offer

## 6.3 Mechanisms for achieving strategic objectives

Achieving each strategic objective presupposes the application of different approaches and measures while preserving the general direction of the Strategy. This fact dictates the need to follow a certain logic in achieving the set objectives. This strategy will be applied in a dynamically developing social and economic environment. Successful implementation of the Strategy presupposes further efforts in a significant period of time with good coordination of plans and activities, implemented by various state and municipal institutions and organizations, in active partnership with non-profit organizations, in dialogue with representatives of private business initiative and media in cross-border cooperation.

The implementation of the abovementioned objectives requires the achievement of a new level of concreteness in local policy in terms of the development of sustainable use of cultural heritage. Acceptance of the paradigm of sustainable development as an adequate scale for assessment and effective intervention in solving the problem of cross-border cooperation in the region presupposes the need to accept the definitive scope and scale of application:

* Implementation of activities from this strategy at the municipal level;
* Targeting certain groups, organizations and institutions - representatives of stakeholders - engaged in the process of valorization of cultural heritage in the area, which have a mediating character in terms of strategy implementation;
* Effectiveness in the selection of participants and groups for the execution of various activities arising from the Strategy.
* Preliminary analysis of the feasibility of appropriate activities and measures. Assessment of the impact of integral and systemic factors operating at the cross-border level.
* Ensuring a high degree of transparency of monitoring and evaluation
* Creating realistic conditions for effective participation in the decision-making process and control over the implementation of decisions on behalf of representatives of all stakeholders, as well as other members of local entities in the area.

## 6.4 Risk assessment

Risk factors, which may lead to difficulties or deviations from the direction of implementation of the Strategy can be presented in the following groups:

* + Insufficient cooperation of local decision makers;
  + Existence of deficits in the organization and management capacity of the Strategy, i.e. in state/municipal administrations in the area, which can lead to poor coordination, delays in some of the planned activities for the implementation of the strategy and as a consequence create pressure and suspicion among the representatives of local decision makers.

In order to minimize these risks and minimize their negative possible effect, it is necessary to involve all relevant decision makers in all phases of preparation and implementation of this Strategy and timely inform them about all activities.

The already existing administrative structures in both municipalities should be further improved and included in all activities related to the implementation of the Strategy, and special attention should be paid to the implementation of projects in partnership with the civil society sector, which could partially compensate for the lack of administrative capacity.

# 7. STRATEGY MANAGEMENT

Strategy management and monitoring are integral parts of the activity, aimed at increasing the possibilities for effective implementation. Management and monitoring should be carried out at every stage of the process of designing, implementing and improving the measures and policies included in the strategy.

The main goal of the Strategy management should be focused on the effective allocation and use of funds in order to achieve the greatest possible economic and social results with a high degree of coordination of activities of individual organizations and institutions from the cross-border area. The implementation of this strategy in a given institutional medium as a continuation and expansion of management approaches and measures to overcome the problems faced by cross-border cooperation in the field, requires a high degree of compatibility and timeliness. An essential part of these difficulties, registered in the conducted research and expert assessment of the conducted policy, is related to duplication of activities and inadequate use of existing resources, caused by lack of good coordination between various institutions and organizations that were or must be engaged in the implementation of this Strategy. For this reason, the priority in defining the main goal of the management and monitoring of the Strategy is given to the problem of coordination and efficiency of the envisaged measures.

The main institutions that will implement the Strategy are municipal administrations. In detail, the procedure for managing the Strategy includes the following levels:

1. Approval of the political decision for the implementation of the Strategy - through the decision of the municipal administrations in the respective municipalities;
2. Forming a team for the management of the Strategy, which consists of:
   1. mayors on both sides of the border;
   2. experts from the relevant departments of municipal administrations or municipal enterprises (institutions), engaged exclusively in the management of this Strategy;
   3. civil society and representatives of the business community;
3. Training of the team for managing the implementation of the Strategy in accordance with its main goals and possible ways of implementation;
4. Creation of permanent commissions, which will be responsible for determining the priority spheres and forms of cooperation that will be started on the territory of the municipality;
5. Implementation of priority projects;
6. Preparation and presentation of periodic reports and analysis of the results of the implementation of the Strategy.

# 8. ACTION PLAN

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Priority/Objective/Measure** | **Responsible institutions** | **Deadline for implementation** |
| **Priority 1: Creating conditions for establishing effective partnerships** | | |
| **Objective 1.1. Building an institutional basis for effective cross-border cooperation** | | |
| Measure 1.1.1 Creating an effective management system of the Strategy | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 |
| Measure 1.1.2. Study of organizational structures in both municipalities | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 |
| Measure 1.1.3. Creation of permanent specialized institutions (commissions) in municipal administrations for cross-border cooperation | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 |
| **Objective 1.2. Providing available information on cross-border cooperation and opportunities for partnerships between stakeholders and citizens and creating databases** | | |
| Measure 1.2.1. Creation and support of specialized web pages on the Internet | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 |
| Measure 1.2.2. Creating an online catalog for civil society structures and business units interested in developing cross-border cooperation | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 |
| Measure 1.2.3. Publishing a guide on establishing partnerships and networking | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 |
| Measure 1.2.4. Production of promotional material (advertisements and information brochures and posters) | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Priority/Objective/Measure** | **Responsible institutions** | **Deadline for implementation** |
| **Priority 2: Strengthen the practice of cultural and historical heritage management, which connects its sustainable use and development of the municipality** | | | | |
| **Objective 2.1. Ensuring the coincinding and integrity of strategic and planning documents in the field of valorization of cultural and historical heritage and sustainable development on both sides of the border** | | | | |
| Measure 2.1.1. Study and harmonization of strategic planning documents in both municipalities | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 | |
| Measure 2.1.2. Creating a database with priority projects in the field of valorization of cultural and historical heritage and local development | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 | |
| Measure 2.1.3. Targeted zoning of the territory of the area in accordance with the goals of development of cross-border cooperation for valorization of natural, cultural and historical heritage; | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 | |
| **Objective 2.2. Attracting investment** | | | | |
| Measure 2.2.1. Development of a plan for marketing performance and investment promotion in the accommodation industry for Razanj and Bobov Dol | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 | |
| Measure 2.2.2. Joint participation in national and international investment forums and fairs | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 | |
| **Objective 2.3. Support for small and medium business** | | | | |
| Measure 2.3.1. Development of a joint cross-border program to support cooperation between small and medium enterprises on both sides of the border in the valorization of cultural and historical heritage | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 | |
| Measure 2.3.2. Organizing fairs and exhibitions | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 | |
| **Objective 2.4. Support for tourism development** | | | | |
| Measure 2.4.1. Defining a common tourist offer | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 | |
| Measure 2.4.2. Production of propaganda material | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 | |
| Measure 2.4.3. Joint appearances at fairs | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 | |
| **Objective 2.5. Improvement of traffic and reception infrastructure** | | | | |
| Measure 2.5.1. Creating a cross-border program to improve the condition of the connecting transport infrastructure for the key locations of cultural heritage | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 | |
| Measure 2.5.2. Improving the signaling of the connecting traffic infrastructure for the key locations cultural heritage | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 | |
| Measure 2.5.3 Establishment of a center for popularization, learning of pottery in Ražanj | Municipality of Ražanj | 2025 | |
| Measure 2.5.4 Establishment of a center for interpretation and promotion of coal mining in Bobovo Dol. | Municipality of Bobov Dol | 2025 | |
| Measure 2.5.5 Conversion of the Moravka House into a local museum | Municipality of Ražanj | 2025 | |
| **Objective 2.6. Application of the principles of stable regional development by providing assistance to activities for better use of the cultural and historical potentials of the area** | | | | |
| Measure 2.6.1. Studying the chances of attracting investments for accommodation and restaurant industries in Ražanj and Bobovo Dol | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 | |
| Measure 2.6.2. Integration of the principles of valorization of cultural and historical heritage into strategic documents in the field of regional and local development | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2025 | |
| Measure 2.6.3. Development of projects for valorization of cultural and historical heritage in the field of sustainable regional development | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2023 | |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Priority/Objective/Measure** | **Responsible institutions** | **Deadline for implementation** |
| **Priority 3. Improving human resources and administrative capacity for cultural heritage management.** | | |
| **Objective 3.1. Improving administrative capacity** | | |
| Measure 3.1.1. Study and assessment of the administrative capacity of municipal administrations in both municipalities | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022. |
| Measure 3.1.2. Development of a joint cross-border program for training and qualification of municipal officials | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2023. |
| Measure 3.1.3. Development and implementation of an integrated information system for cross-border cooperation | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2023. |
| **Objective 3.2. Development and efficient management of human resources in the field of valorization of cultural heritage** | | |
| Measure 3.2.1. Conducting research on staffing needs in municipal economies | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022. |
| Measure 3.2.2. Development and launch of a joint cross-border vocational training program | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022. |
| Measure 3.2.3. Creating a system for communication and cooperation between educational structures and business structures in both municipalities | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2023. |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Priority/Objective/Measure** | **Responsible institutions** | | **Deadline for implementation** |
| **Priority 4. Transforming cross-border valorization of cultural heritage from an administrative concept into a routine practice for local entities.** | | | |
| **Objective 4.1. Development of joint business initiatives** | | | |
| Measure 4.1.1. Organizing a cross-border forum | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2023 | |
| Measure 4.1.2. Creating a regional quarterly business newsletter | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022 | |
| **Objective 4.2. Realization of joint activities** | | | |
| Measure 4.2.1. Organization of a cross-border forum | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2023 | |
| Measure 4.2.2. Preparation of joint project proposals | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2023-2025 | |
| **Objective 4.3. Creating a common media space** | | | |
| Measure 4.3.1. Exchange of information material between media | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol in cooperation with media from both municipalities and the region | 2022-2025 | |
| Measure 4.3.2. Creating a common website linked with social media | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022 | |
| **Objective 4.4. Creating a common cultural calendar** | | | |
| Measure 4.4.1. Study and systematization of cultural events in the cross-border region | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 | |
| Measure 4.4.2. Organizing joint cultural events | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 | |
| **Objective 4.5 Consolidate the tourist offer** | | | |
| Measure 4.5.1. Making a joint promotional material | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022 | |
| Measure 4.5.2. Appearances at fairs | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022-2025 | |
| Measure 4.5.3. Creating a common website linked with social media | Municipalities Ražanj and Bobov Dol | 2022 | |