
**Annual report on national thematic
workshops (D2.3.)**

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1. Introduction

Under a WP2 - Community buildings RESEERVE consortium aims to facilitate an open dialogue with identified stakeholders associated with the RM sector in all involved ESEE countries. For that purpose, seven national thematic workshops are being organised during four years of the project within each of the participating West Balkan country, focused on most important national resource (critical elements, metallic raw materials or industrial minerals) according to the United States Geological Survey Mineral yearbook containing countries production rates (data for 2015). Participation of the relevant national raw materials value chain stakeholders are ensuring national task partners. Official language of the thematic workshops is mother tongue of the host country, simultaneously translation is being ensured for English lectures when needed. In previous project years three workshops were organised (in Montenegro, Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia). In 2020, four National thematic workshops were planned. In table 1 countries with narrower topic are listed. Some of the topics are modified comparing with those in project proposal due to current situation in the country.

Table 1: National thematic workshops organised in 2020 with specific focus

Country	Focus on
North Macedonia	primary and secondary metallic mineral resources
Serbia	Li, B, Au
Bosnia and Herzegovina (Republic of Srpska)	Pb, Zn, Al
Albania	Cr, Pt

Several target groups for all RESEERVE workshops are detected and reached: experts in mining, geology, mineral and metallic raw materials, circular economy; raw materials industry stakeholders; policy and decision-makers in the field of mineral prospection and mining industry; and stakeholders in the field of raw materials education.

Results and conclusion from these four workshops are serving as an input to WP6 -- SWOT//GAP analysis and businesses opportunities in the ESSEE region.

2. Mitigation measures and Risk management in WP2 due to COVID-19 impact

This year, due to uncertain situation with Covid-19 virus, all National thematic workshops were moved to autumn and 3 scenarios were developed:

Scenario 1: Workshops would be performed in the same way as in the last year (physical presence)

Scenario 2: Workshops would be organised with physical presence of presenters and industry representatives but UNIZG team and other project members from abroad will join by video conference (if there were border crossing restriction) – some modifications in group work organisation compared with workshop organisation in previous years would be necessary.

Scenario 3: Workshops would be organised online – group work will be replaced by questionnaire which should be filled by participants of the workshop in advance and results would be discussed in the workshop.

Due to situation in all four countries which was worse than in spring, we decided to move all four planned national thematic workshops online. Duration of the workshops itself are shortened (lasted for 2,5 hours) to attract as many participants and to keep their attention, but the registered participants got questionnaire in advance which we analysed and discussed during workshop. UNIZG-RGNF provided GoToMeeting video conferencing. Registration was required so we sent registered participants link to the online meeting (table 2).

Table 2: National thematic workshops organised in 2020 with date and time, as well as link to the meeting

Country	Day, date and time	Link used to join the meeting
North Macedonia	Monday, 21.09., 10:00 - 12:30	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/321728277
Serbia	Tuesday, 20.10., 10:00 - 12:30	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/758158333
Bosnia and Herzegovina (Republic of Srpska)	Thursday, 22.10., 10:00 - 12:30	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/326281749
Albania	Friday, 06.11., 10:00 - 12:30	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/543249189

3. National thematic workshop: Mineral potential of the Federation of North Macedonia

3.1. Topic of interest

United States Geological survey report Minerals Yearbook for Macedonia 2015 available at <https://www.usgs.gov/media/files/mineral-industry-macedonia-2015-pdf> under a sub-chapter Commodity Review describes following metals commodities: (1) copper and gold; (2) iron and steel; and (3) lead and zinc. From industrial minerals, the main industrial minerals are those for cement industry. In this report, it is concluded that metals are expected to remain valuable export commodities. Hence, a RESEERVE national thematic workshop topic had integrated lectures related to both primary and secondary raw materials.

3.2. Agenda

The National thematic workshop on mineral potential of North Macedonia had following agenda:

- 10:00-10:10 Welcome speech and introduction (Sibila Borojević Šoštarić, UNIZG-RGNF; Trajče Stafilov, MES) (see Attachement 3.1)
- 10:10-10:20 Project RESEERVE (Matej Draksler, GeoZS)
- 10:20-10:50 Polymetallic deposits in the Republic of North Macedonia (Todor Serafimovski, UGD, Štip) (see Attachement 3.2)
- 10:50-11:10 Secondary deposits in the Republic of North Macedonia (Goran Tasev, UGD, Štip) (see Attachement 3.3)
- 11:10-11:25 Geochemical Atlas of the Republic of North Macedonia (Robert Šajn, GEOZ, Ljubljana) (see Attachement 3.4)
- 11:25-11:40 Mineral potential and related SWOT analyses of the North Macedonia (Goran Tasev, UGD, Štip) (see Attachement 3.5)
- 11:40-12:00 Discussion with final conclusions (moderator: Sibila Borojević Šoštarić, UNIZG-RGNF) (see Attachment 3.6)

3.3. Attendies

An invitation to the workshop has been sent to the stakeholders via for this reason opened e-mail (rabotilnica.reseerve@mes.org.mk). List of the local stakeholders was provided by our task partner from North Macedonia, who was together with UNIZG-RGNF co-organiser of national thematic workshop.

Attendees (Figure 3.1. and 3.2.) from Macedonia (see Attachment 3.7) were coming from different parts of raw material sector: 2 participants from **Industry** (Buchim Ltd Radoviš; Knauf Radika Debar), 5 participants from **education sector** (Goce Delchev University; The Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje), 4 participants from **governmental agency** (Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning). Several members of project partners from various states attended the workshop as well.

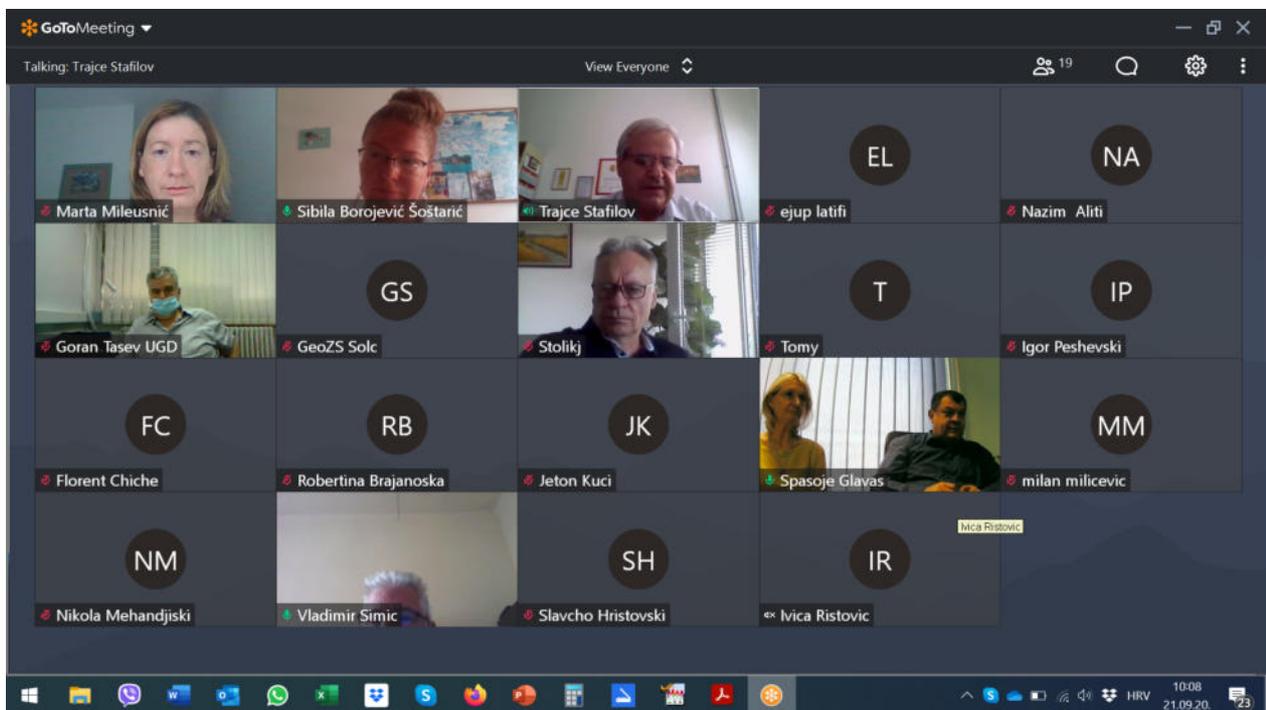


Figure 3.1. Attendees of National thematic workshop of North Macedonia

4. National thematic workshop: Mineral potential of Serbia

4.1. Topic of interest

Serbia has industrial mineral resources, including bentonite, borate, feldspar, kaolin, limestone, magnesite, mica, and wollastonite; and metallic mineral resources, such as antimony, chromite, cobalt, copper, gold, iron, lead, molybdenum, nickel, platinum-group elements, tin, tungsten, uranium, and zinc. United States Geological survey report Minerals Yearbook for Serbia 2015 available at <https://prd-wret.s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/assets/palladium/production/atoms/files/myb3-2015-rb.pdf> under a sub-chapter Commodity Review describes following metals commodities: (1) copper and gold; (2) iron and steel; and (3) lead and zinc. The main industrial minerals are lithium and boron. Serbia relies heavily on foreign investment and loans for infrastructure development and mineral extraction. Implementation of the Law on Mining and Geological Research by the Government might help to promote the mineral industry and attract foreign investment. Many copper and gold projects in Serbia were at the exploration stage and Serbia has potential to become a lithium and boron producer. Hence, a RESEERVE national thematic workshop topic had integrated lectures related to lithium, boron and gold.

4.2. Agenda

The National thematic workshop on mineral potential of Serbia had following agenda:

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 10:00-10:10 | Welcome speech and introduction (Sibila Borojević Šoštarić, UNIZG-RGNF; Vladimir Simić, UNIBG-RGF) (see Attachment 4.1) |
| 10:10-10:20 | Project RESEERVE (Matej Draksler, GeoZS) |
| 10:20-10:50 | Rezultati geoloških istraživanja u Jaderskom neogenom basenu, zapadna Srbija (Ivana Misailović, Rio Sava Exploration) (presentation is not public) |
| 10:50-11:20 | Ležišta zlata u sedimentnim stenama Timočke oblasti, istočna Srbija (Jelena Živanović, Avala Resources) (see Attachment 4.2) |
| 11:20-12:00 | Mineral potential and related SWOT analyses of Serbia (Vladimir Simić, RGF)
(see Attachment 4.3) |
| 11:40-12:00 | Discussion with final conclusions (moderator: Sibila Borojević Šoštarić, UNIZG-RGNF)
(see Attachment 4.4) |

4.3. Attendees

An invitation to the workshop has been sent to the local stakeholders by our task partner from Serbia, who was together with UNIZG-RGNF co-organiser of NTW. NTW was announced on web page of our task partners (Figure 4.1.)

Registration for the NTW was performed using online application form. List of the local stakeholders was provided by our task partner from Serbia. In addition, we used network of Virtulab project partners who helped in announcement for NTW Serbia.

Altogether 25 persons (see Attachment 4.5.) from different parts of the knowledge triangle from RM sector of Serbia registered. At the end there were more than 27 attendees (Figure 4.2. and 4.3.). Attendees were coming from different parts of raw material sector: 17 participants from **Industry** (GEOPROFESIONAL; Jantar grupa; Geosfera; Avala Resources; Mundoro Capital Inc.; Geotarget consulting; Rio Sava Exploration; SERBIA ZIJIN COPPER; Jugo Kaolin; Balkan Exploration and Mining; PKS; Bonavija com.; Zeo Invest), 8 participants from **education sector and governmental agency** (Rudarsko-geološki fakultet; Tehnološko-metalurški fakultet; Privredna komora Srbije), 1 participants from **research** (Geological surveys). In addition, 8 members of RESEERVE project from other countries participated as well.

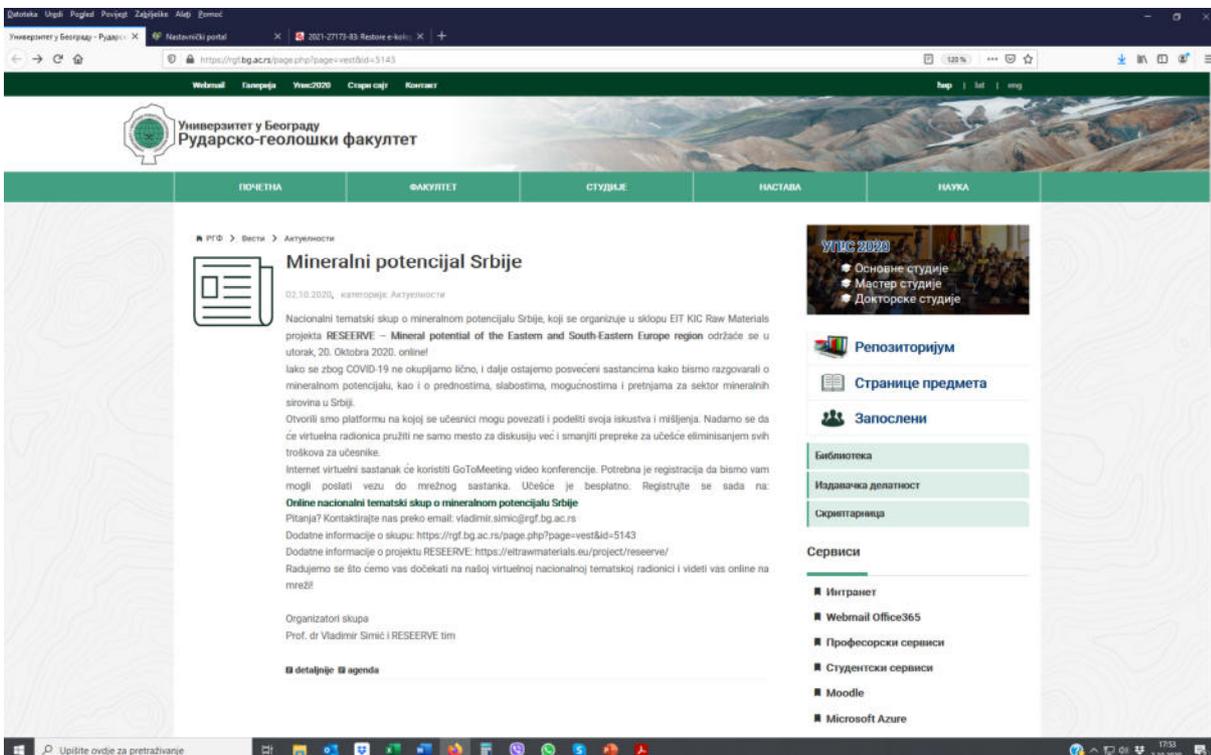


Figure 4.1. Announcement of National thematic workshop of Serbia on web page of our task partners

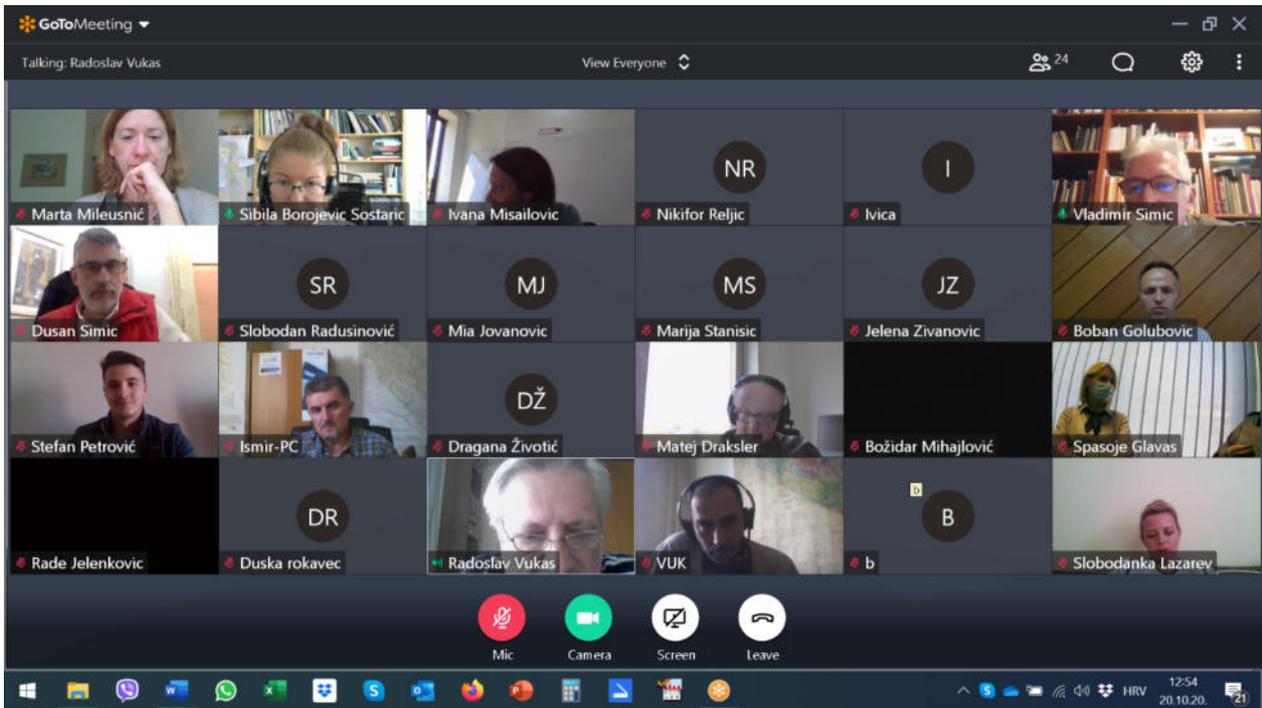


Figure 4.2. Attendees of National thematic workshop of Serbia



Figure 4.3. One of the presentations of National thematic workshop of Serbia

5. National thematic workshop: Mineral potential of Republic of Srpska

5.1. Topic of interest

United States Geological survey report Minerals Yearbook for Bosnia and Herzegovina 2015 available at <https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/prd-wret/assets/palladium/production/mineral-pubs/country/2015/myb3-2015-bk.pdf> under a sub-chapter Commodity Review describes following metals commodities: (1) bauxite, alumina, and aluminium; (2) iron and steel; (3) lead and zinc and (4) silicon. From industrial minerals, the main industrial minerals are those for cement industry. In this report, it is concluded that metals are expected to remain valuable export commodities. Lead-zinc ore production is likely to increase. Hence, a RESEERVE national thematic workshop topic in Republic of Srpska had integrated lectures related to mineral potential with slight emphasis on lead and zinc ores as well as bauxites for aluminium industry.

5.2. Agenda

The National thematic workshop on mineral potential of Republic of Srpska had following agenda:

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 10:00-10:10 | Welcome speech and introduction (Sibila Borojević Šoštarić, UNIZG-RGNF; Spasoje Glavaš, Geozavod) (see Attachment 5.1) |
| 10:10-10:20 | Project RESEERVE (Matej Draksler, GeoZS) |
| 10:20-10:35 | Video about Mine „GROSS“ Sase – Srebrenica (representatives of mine: Velibor Cvijanović, Nemanja Rajlić, Pb-Zn mine „GROSS“) (see Attachment 5.2) |
| 10:35-11:50 | Chemical and mineralogical characterisation of bauxites in Republic of Srpska (Dragana Kešelj, The Faculty of Technology Zvornik) (see Attachment 5.3) |
| 11:50-11:05 | Potencijali valorizacije rudnih bogastava Republike Srpske u fabrici Alumina (Željko Ostojić, Fabrika glinice „Alumina“ – Karakaj – Zvornik) (see Attachment 5.4) |
| 11:05-11:30 | Mineralno - sirovinski potencijal i SWOT analiza minerlnog sektora Republike Srpske (Evica Divković-Golić; Spasoje Glavaš, Geozavod) (see Attachment 5.5) |
| 11:30-12:00 | Discussion with final conclusions (moderator: Sibila Borojević Šoštarić, UNIZG-RGNF) (see Attachment 5.6) |

5.3. Attendies

An invitation to the workshop has been sent to the local stakeholders by our task partner from Republic of Srpska, who was together with UNIZG-RGNF co-organiser of NTW. Registration for the NTW was performed using online application form. List of the local stakeholders was provided by our task partner from Republic

of Srpska, who was together with UNIZG-RGNF co-organiser of national thematic workshop. In addition, we used network of Virtulab project partners who helped in announcement for NTW Republic of Srpska.

Altogether 16 persons (see Attachment 5.7.) from different parts of the knowledge triangle from RM sector of Republic of Srpska applied. At the end there were 18 attendees (Figure 5.1. and 5.2.). Attendees were coming from different parts of raw material sector: 12 participants from **Industry** (Mine and Thermal plant Ugljevik, GROSS mine, TGP Perovo, RiTE Gacko, Alumina Zvornik), 1 participant from **education sector** (The Faculty of Technology Zvornik), 3 participants from **research** (Geological surveys).

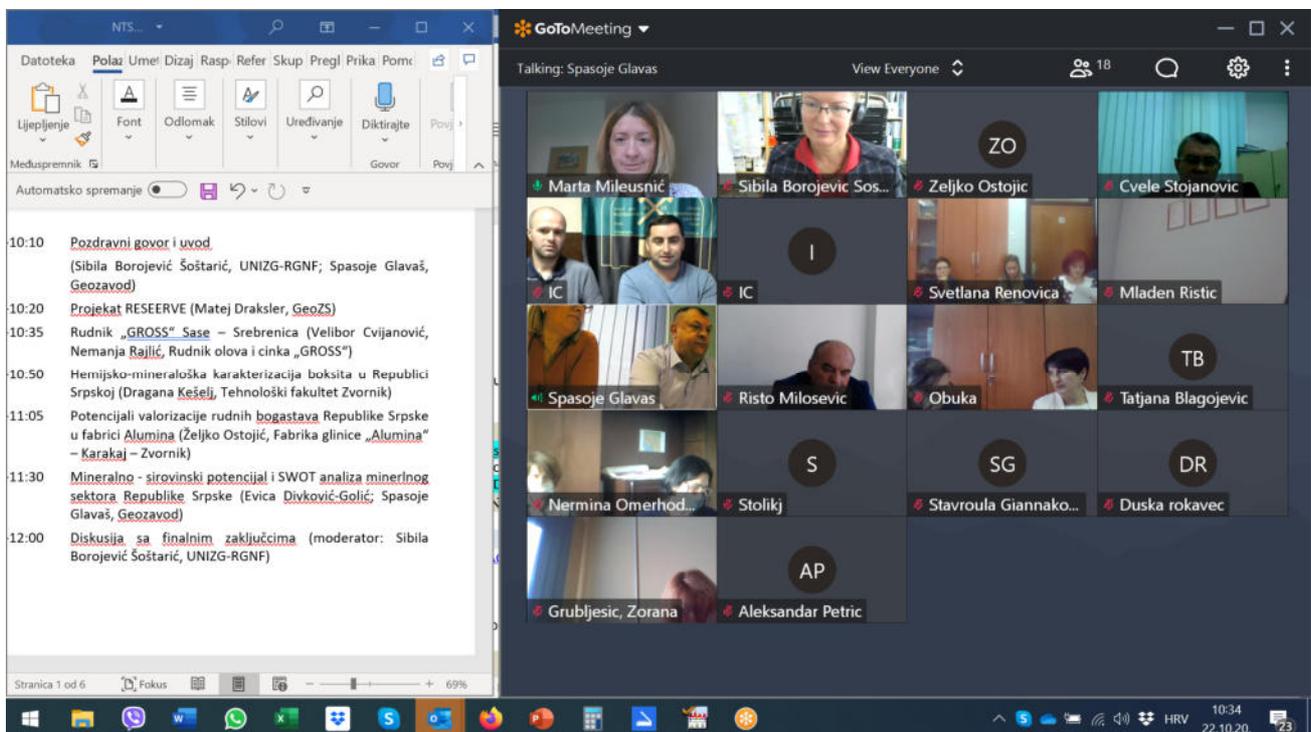


Figure 5.1. Attendees of National thematic workshop of Republic of Srpska

10:10-10:20	Project RESEERVE (Matej Draksler, GeoZS)
10:20-10:45	Mineral Potential and Critical Minerals in Albania (Eng Donald Deda, AGS) (see Attachment 6.2)
10:45-11:30	SWOT analyses of mining sector in Albania (Prof.Dr. Sokol Mati, adviser, expert) (see Attachment 6.2)
11:30-12:00	Discussion with final conclusions (moderator: Assoc. Prof. Sibila Borojević Šoštarčić, UNIZG-RGNF) (see Attachment 6.3)

6.3. Attendies

An invitation to the workshop has been sent to the local stakeholders by our task partner from Albania, who was together with UNIZG-RGNF co-organiser of NTW. NTW was announced on the web of our task partners as well (Figure 6.1.). Registration for the NTW was performed using online application form (Figure 6.2.). Altogether 33 persons (see Attachment 6.4) from different parts of the knowledge triangle from RM sector of Albania applied. At the end there were more than 44 attendees (Figure 6.3. and 6.4.).

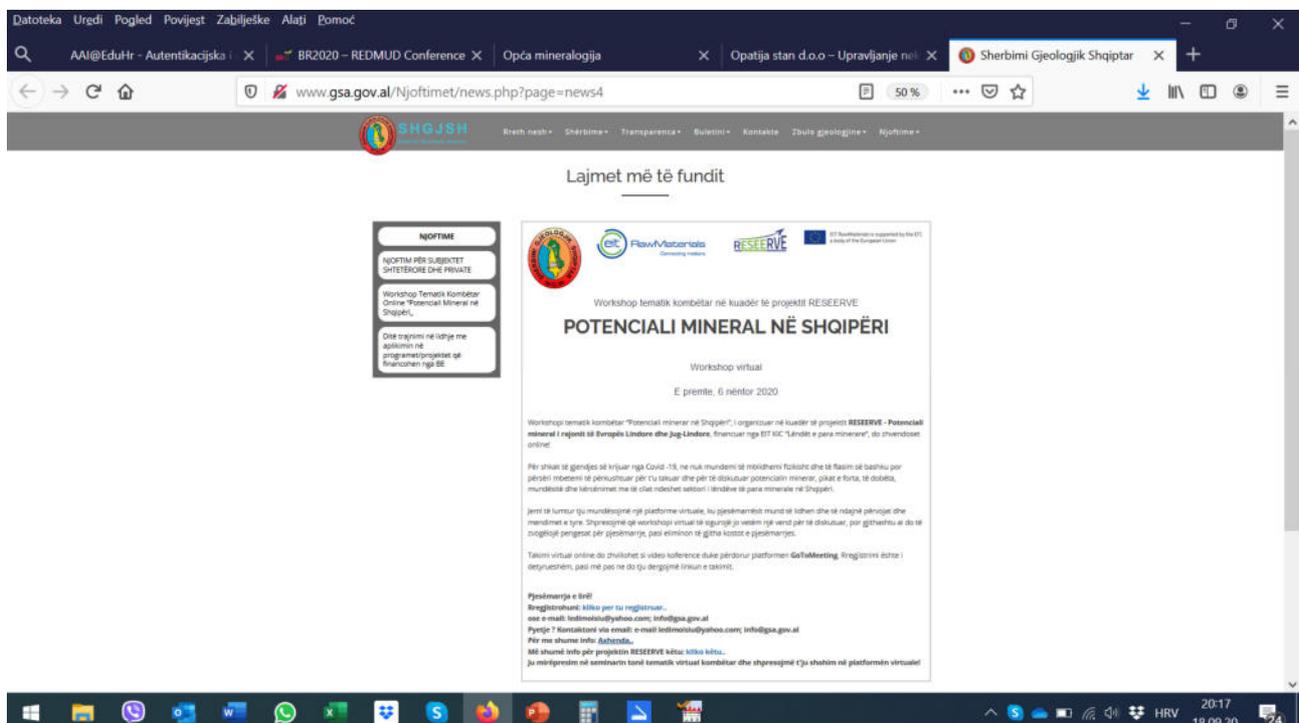


Figure 6.1. Announcement for the NTW Albania on the web page of Albanian geological survey

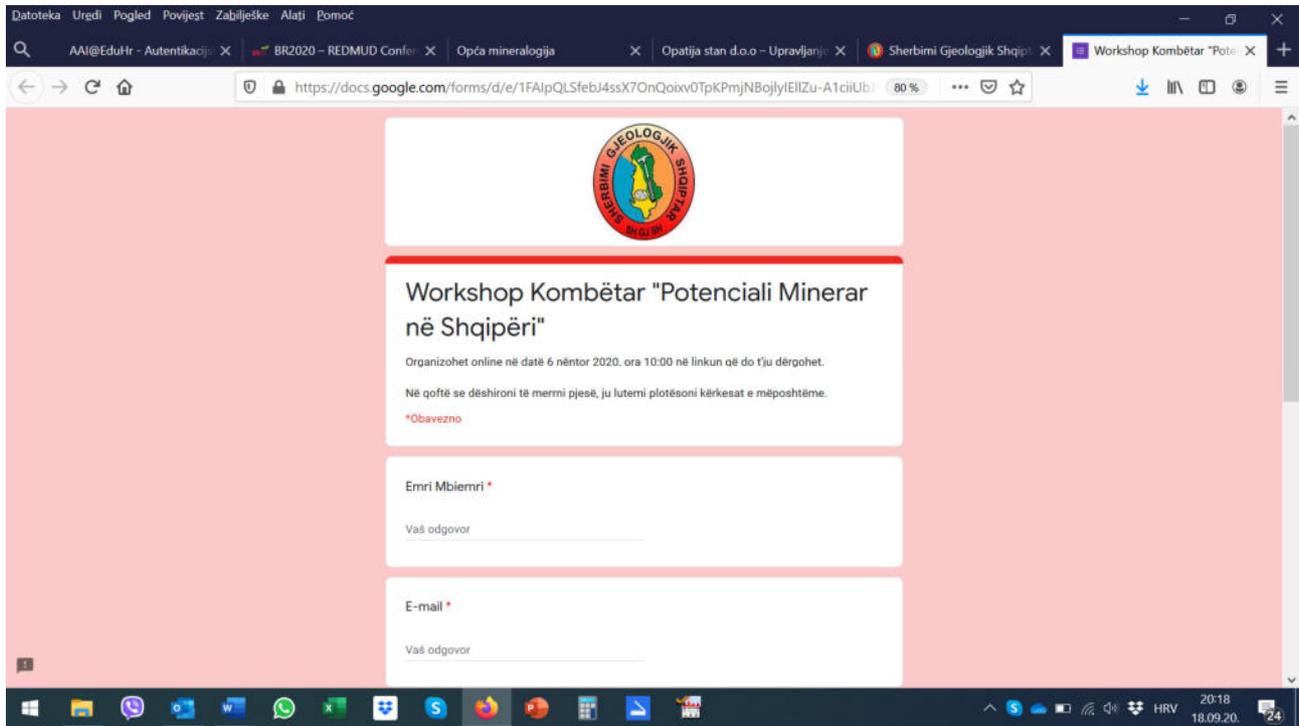


Figure 6.2. Registration form for NTW Albania

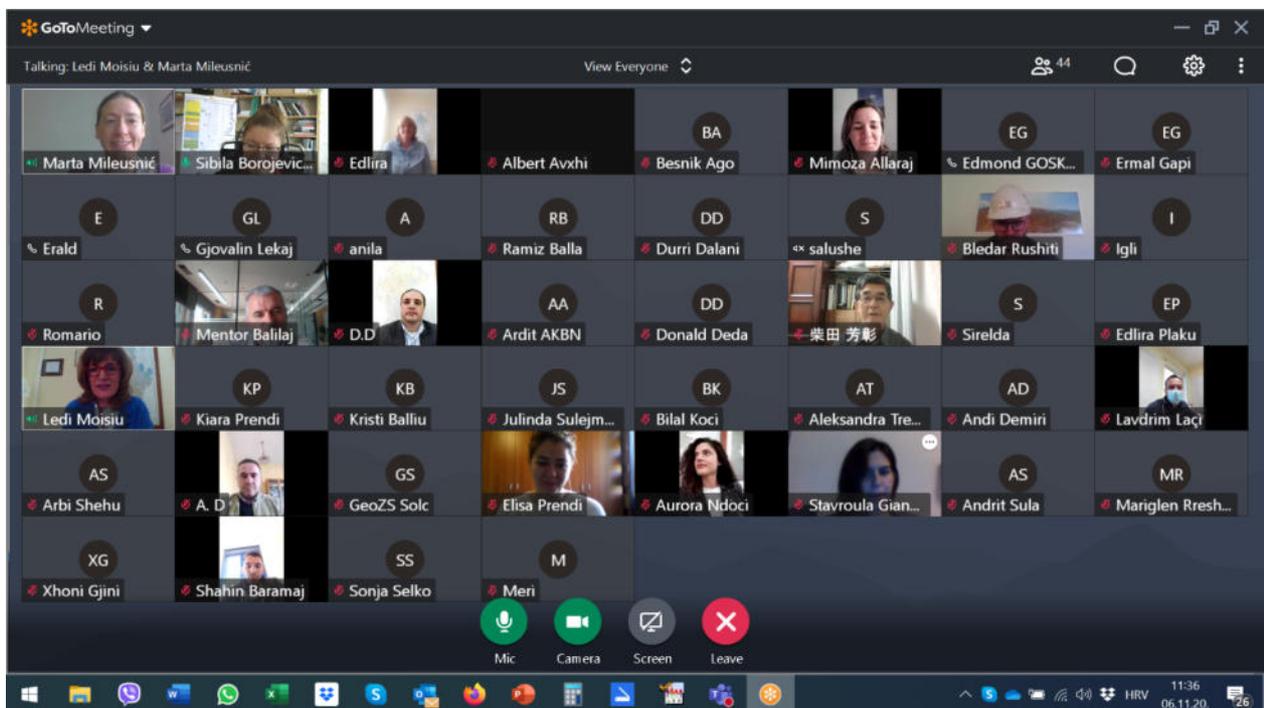


Figure 6.3. Attendees of National thematic workshop of Albania

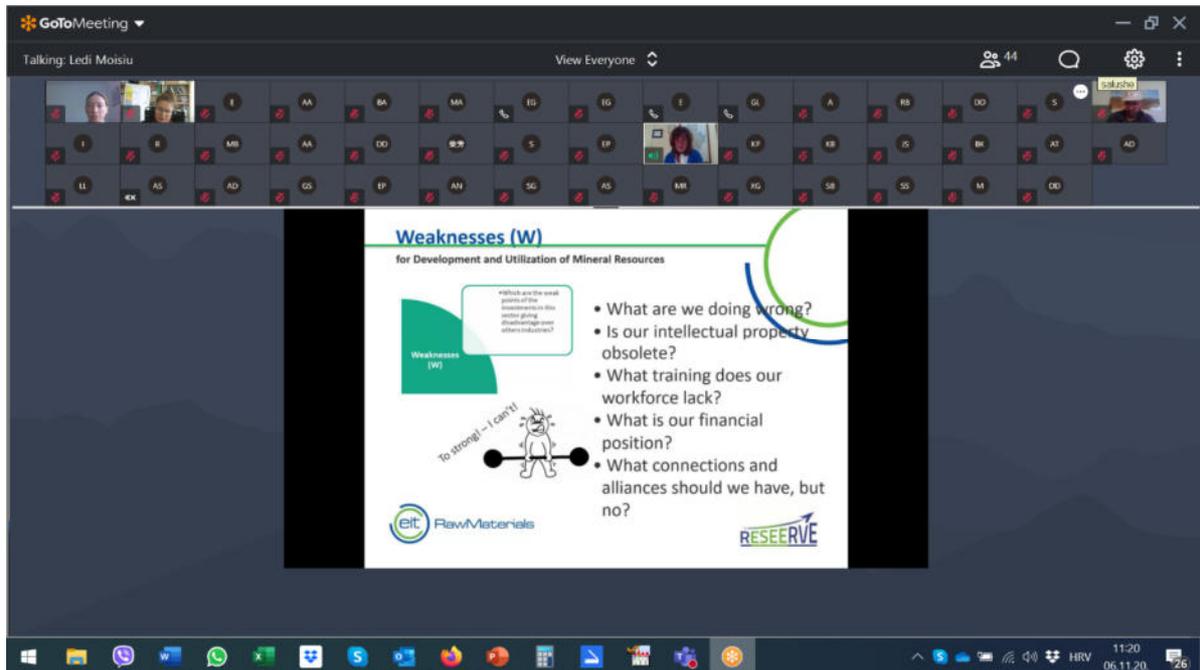


Figure 6.4. Presentation of SWOT analysis of RM sector in Albania by Ledi Moisiu

7. Final remarks

Though COVID-19 keeps up from gathering in person, we managed to organise online meetings to discuss mineral potential, as well as strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats for mineral raw material sector in North Macedonia, Serbia, Republic of Srpska and Albania. We provided a platform where participants could connect and share their experiences and opinions. Virtual workshops provided not only a place to discuss but they also reduced barriers to participation by eliminating travel costs for participants.

Thematic topics for all four National thematic workshops were correctly selected. Participants were very satisfied with lectures and their presenters. Presentations were straightforward, opening new business possibilities/options for stakeholder in North Macedonia, Serbia, Republic of Srpska and Albania. Drafted SWOT analyses of the RM sector were supplemented with participants feedback and served as one of the starting points for WP6 - SWOT/GAP analysis and businesses opportunities in the ESSEE region.

A. Annexes (separate files)

- 3.1. Introduction to NTW North Macedonia
- 3.2. Presentation by Serafimovski: Polymetallic deposits
- 3.3. Presentation by Tasev: Secondary deposits
- 3.4. Presentation by Šajn: Geochemical atlas
- 3.5. Presentation by Tasev: Mineral potential and SWOT analysis – North Macedonia
- 3.6. NTW North Macedonia - questionnaire results and discussion
- 3.7. Registered persons for NTW North Macedonia
- 4.1. Introduction to NTW Serbia
- 4.2. Presentation by Živanović: Gold deposits
- 4.3. Presentation by Jelenković et al.: Mineral potential and SWOT analysis - Serbia
- 4.4. NTW Serbia - questionnaire results and discussion
- 4.5. Registered persons for NTW Serbia
- 5.1. Introduction to NTW Republic of Srpska
- 5.2. Video on Mine GROSS (available upon request due to large file size)
- 5.3. Presentation on bauxites
- 5.4. Presentation by Ostojić: Alumina company
- 5.5. Presentation by Divković-Golić and Glavaš.: Mineral potential and SWOT analysis - Republic of Srpska
- 5.6. NTW Republic of Srpska - questionnaire results and discussion
- 5.7. Registered persons for NTW Republic of Srpska
- 6.1. Introduction to NTW Albania
- 6.2. Presentation by Mati.: Mineral potential and SWOT analysis - Albania
- 6.3. NTW Albania - questionnaire results and discussion
- 6.4. Registered persons for NTW Albania