

JUNE 2019

# NEWSLETTER 23



CeProSARD



Dear colleagues, associates and readers,

in the new edition of our Newsletter, we would like to inform you about the activities our organization completed in the past period:

Ongoing activities regarding the monitoring of the large animals in the Pelister National Park through the project "Support for improved management of natural resources in NP 'Pelister'"

Improvement of infrastructure and reconstruction by introducing measures for improving the energy efficiency of a kindergarten in the municipality of Centar. We prepared a Feasibility Study for the needs of the MSIP project unit in the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Northern Macedonia

Final quarter of the project - "Capacity Building for Sustainable Development of Local Action Groups - LAG in EU Integration Processes - **BUILDLAG**". A newly formed LAG "Polog LEADER" was established in the Polog region.

Started the construction of tourist information centers in Kosovo in Prizren municipality and in the Republic of Northern Macedonia in Tetovo municipality - a project "Fostering Rural and Environmental Tourism through Smart Tourist Information Centres" / **FRET-STIC**

The Energy audit in the Special Hospital for Gynecology and Obstetrics "Mother Teresa" in the municipality Cair pointed out many disadvantages in the energy efficiency of the hospitals construction projects - **ZenH** Balkan Project - Towards Zero energy Hospitals in the Balkan Region

In March, we held a new cycle of Trainings for Continuing Professional Development of energy auditors

Our team was participating in training, workshops and events from different topics in our field of work.

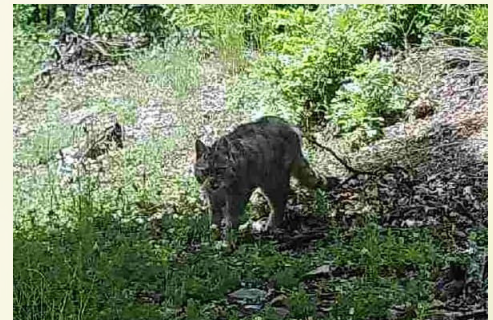
We have signed a Memorandum of cooperation with the "Union of Special Educators and Rehabilitators of the Republic of Northern Macedonia".

As an environmentally friendly organization we donated 30 evergreen trees for the *Day of Ecology* to students in schools of the municipality Butel



## ***CeProSARD in protection of biodiversity through the project*** **“Support for improved management of natural resources in NP Pelister”**

CeProSARD continued with the activities for monitoring the large carnivores in the National Park Pelister, and an audit was carried out on the locations on which the photo traps were placed on the basis of the results so far, in order to further contribute to the quality of the data obtained from the field . Within this project, a Study on eco system services from the waters of NP Pelister was also prepared, and at the moment there are ongoing preparations for starting activities for clearing and marking of two cycling routes on the territory of the Park.



This project is part of the European Union funded Program for the improved management of Protected Areas, and is implemented by UNDP with the support of the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning of the Republic of North Macedonia.

## **Preparation of feasibility studies for financing infrastructure projects - financed by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank)**

AC CeProSARD prepared a Feasibility Study - document on the feasibility of the project “Complete reconstruction of kindergarten ‘Pepelashka’, and reconstruction of the water supply on the street ‘Veleshka’” for the needs of the project unit MSIP in the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of North Macedonia.



Representatives from the CeProSARD team visited the Municipality of Centar and during the visit, separate meetings were held with the Mayor of the Municipality Mr. Sasa Bogdanovic, members of the municipal council as well as with the citizens from the populated areas in the municipality grouped into focus groups. The goal was to determine the real needs of the project implementation in the municipality Centar. After an interview with the mayor, the activities continued on the field where an insight was made on the actual situation.



The project is financed by a loan from the International Bank for Investment and Development (World Bank), through MSIP 2 Municipal Services Improvement Project.



## Project Capacity Building for Sustainable Development of Local Action Groups – LAGs in EU Integration Processes – “BUILDLAG“

In the period from March to June this year, the project team worked on registering the newly established LAG in the Polog region and developing a Strategy and Action Plan.

At the beginning of March, the project team organized a consultative meeting with the director of the Center for Development of the Polog Planning Region, Mr. Fatmir Saiti, where a cross-section of the activities related to the registration and establishment of the LAG, were made. The new LAG in the Polog region is formed between the municipalities of Tetovo, Zhelino and part of the territory of the municipality of Brvenica.

During the next months, April and May, the Strategy and Action Plan for the newly formed LAG Polog Lider were created by engaged experts. Afterwards an activity was selected to be completed until the closing of the BUILDLAG project in order to help support the functioning of the new LAG.

At the beginning of May, a workshop was held with the aim of presenting the developed Strategy in the premises of the Center for Development of the Polog Planning Region, where the members of the founding assembly of the LAG, as well as representatives from the targeted entities from the region took part.

This project is funded by the European Union.

Project partners: LAG UNA, Croatia and ASAJA, Spain



### *Development of rural tourism*

## *Fostering Rural and Environmental Tourism through Smart Tourist Information Centres "FRET-STIC"*



Within the project “Fostering Rural and Environmental Tourism through Smart Tourist Information Centres” / FRET-STIC, activities related to the establishment of tourist information centers (STICs) have been intensified in the past period. In that direction, their construction started in Macedonia and Kosovo, and it is expected that during the summer months they will be set up in defined attractive locations in Tetovo and Prizren. A software company has been hired to develop an interactive platform that will collect and analyze data about preferences from the searches of tourists and will allow for improvements and upgrades. Also, with this platform, networking of new and existing tourist information centers in the region of Shara Mountain will be made. The project team also continues with regular consultative meetings with stakeholders from the region. The second consultative meeting was organized on 19-20 March 2019 in Prevala (Kosovo), together with the Second Meeting of the Project Steering Committee.

The meeting was attended by more than 30 participants whose contribution is of great importance for the course of the further implementation of the project. This 24-month project is implemented by CeProSARD in cooperation with the Municipality Tetovo and the RDA South - Kosovo, with financial support from the European Union through the program for cross-border cooperation between the Republic of North Macedonia and Kosovo.








## Energy Efficiency of Hospitals - Zen-H Project

In the Hotel Colosseo, in Tirana, Albania, the fourth meeting of the project team of the project "Towards Zero energy Hospitals in the Balkan Region" was held. The working meeting was organized by the project partner  ALBAFOREST from Tirana. At the meeting, the project management reviewed and coordinated the implementation of  envisaged project activities. In the work package related to the expertise for the energy audits of the hospitals, the received information from the realized energy audits was shared with the partner organizations. CeProSARD presented the data from the detailed energy audit of the Special Hospital for Gynecology and Obstetrics "Mother Teresa" in Skopje.






In the premises of the AC CeProSARD, the experts engaged by AC CeProSARD for the implementation of energy audit of hospitals presented the results of the preliminary examination of the facility of the PHI  General Hospital Ohrid in front of the project team. In cooperation with the authorities  of the Ministry of Health of the North  Republic of Macedonia will be defined which is the next hospital appointed for detailed energy audit.



These activities are implemented to achieve one of the project objectives - Preparation of detailed analysis and testing of models for upgrading hospital buildings in buildings with near-zero energy. This is the first so-called "walk through audit" and detailed energy audits of hospital buildings in the Republic of North Macedonia. The prepared documentation will be submitted for use by the Ministry of Health, which provided support in the realization of this project.




## Held a new set of Training for Professional Development of energy auditors

 The CeProSARD team organized a new cycle of training for  Continuing Professional Development of energy auditors, starting on March 23, 2019. Participants of the training were introduced by lecturers with the highest knowledge in the wide range of energy efficiency. After the successfully completed training and upgrading of the knowledge and skills, the attendees of the training were given certificates by CeProSARD,  which will continue the validity of the licenses for the activity of the energy auditor.



## Continuous improvement of our team knowledge and skills

During April, a representative from our team participated on the "First joint training of the member organizations of the Aarhus network" in Ohrid, on the topic  of improving the knowledge about the Aarhus convention, as well as strengthening the capacities of the organizations for using the opportunities given by the Aarhus Convention to increase participation in environmental decision-making processes at the local and national levels.





## Cooperation between CeProSARD and the Association of Special Educators and Rehabilitators of the Republic of North Macedonia

In the past period we were actively involved in cooperation and networking with multiple organizations from different fields of work, in order to expand our horizons and find a way to complement our work areas. After several consultation meetings held, on April 19, 2019 in the premises of CeProSARD, a Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between the Association of Special Educators and Rehabilitators of the Republic of North Macedonia and the CeProSARD for promotion of sustainable agricultural practices and rural development - CeProSARD.

The goal of both organizations is networking to collaborate on various projects of common interest. The cooperation will be especially addressed in the area of introducing innovative practices in the work of both organizations.



## ***As a socially responsible organization in the field of environmental protection we took part at the event "Days of Ecology" organized by the municipality of Butel where we donated 30 evergreen trees***

CeProSARD took part in the event "Days of Ecology" organized by the Municipality of Butel.

At the event, which was part of a series of events under the motto "Days of Ecology", we promoted the importance of preserving the environment and presented the current activities of the organization. For the participants on the Event we prepared 30 evergreen trees which we gifted to the students and their parents. We gave the first tree to the Mayor of the municipality of Butel - Mr. Velimir Smilevski. The trees will be planted in the yard of the municipality, the school yards and the homes of the pupils from the municipality of Butel.

