



Dear readers and colleagues,

Looking forward to the New Year, we are pleased to summarize the successfully completed activities that we had set as a goal at the beginning of the current year. We learned from the challenges we faced, we listened to all constructive suggestions, we adapted to the new reality of living and working in this long-standing state of pandemic, but we tried to recognize the positive aspects of the new circumstances and practice them in our activities.

We are especially pleased that within the project TIMOR we managed to resettle 10 people with disabilities to new fully reconstructed and equipped housing units for supported living, in two municipalities: Demir Kapija and Negotino. We hired 15 assistants for supported living, we supported a civil society organization - a private social service provider for supported living in the community.

We successfully supported the business sector in preparing their applications to the Fund for Innovation and Technological Development.

We also cooperated with national institutions - for the needs of the Ministry of Education and Science, we conducted energy audit of 16 schools throughout the country in 16 municipalities in order to contribute towards improved comfort for the primary school students that are using those facilities and financial savings for the Ministry and the municipalities.

and to create better living and working conditions in rural and urban areas in our country.

We can be satisfied by the conclusion that the hard work resulted with a success. On the eve of the New Year we start 2 new projects in the field of social entrepreneurship and environmental protection and energy.

As Executive Director of AC CeProSARD, before the beginning of the New 2022 I would like to express my gratitude to the team that worked on the realization of the numerous work responsibilities throughout the past year with patience and dedication. I would also like to thank all associates for their support, critique and advice. We are mostly proud that this year we especially helped the most vulnerable groups in our community.

On behalf of all employees CeProSARD team I wish you a **HAPPY NEW YEAR AND A MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



Project "Together for introduction of more opportunities and respect – TIMOR"

Macedonian Montessori Association, which works on preparing the personal plans for resettlement as well as the people with disabilities from DKSI for the deinstitutionalization into housing units for supported living.

In October and November, **two housing units for supported living were opened** in [Demir Kapija](#) and Negotino where 10 people got a new warm home and were resettled from Demir Kapija Special Institute.

On November 23, the third of the four planned [Steering Committee](#) meetings was held within the project. In addition to the project team and representatives of the members of the consortium, representatives from the EU delegation; MoLSP; the Macedonian Montessori Association; the Association of Persons with Cerebral Palsy and Other Disabilities - Veles; the Institute for Special Education and Rehabilitation – Faculty of Philosophy, Skopje and representative from the Center for Adult Education - AEC took part on the meeting as well.

During the meeting, the already implemented activities in the last 6 months of project implementation were presented, with special emphasis on the current field situation and criteria for selection of new housing facilities for community-based supported living, cooperation with the Special Institution Demir Kapija in preparing users for the deinstitutionalization process, as well as selection and expertise of staff engaged in the small group homes.

The project is funded by EU IPA II 2017, EU Action Program to support education, employment and social policy support in the process of deinstitutionalization in the social sector.

The project is funded by the European Union.





Project "Support to social enterprises by following the principle - Leave no one behind"

On December 1, 2021 CeProSARD started with the implementation of a project entitled "Support to social enterprises by following the principle - Leave no one behind".

The main goal of the project is to **support the development of new and existing social enterprises**, and to encourage their economic independence by following the principle - *Leave no one behind*. By re-granting new and existing social enterprises we expect to ensure stable economic development and improve the quality of social services and products. The project will also support the employment of the vulnerable category of citizens by creating new and stable jobs. The project activities are aimed at raising public awareness of the benefits of developing social enterprises and involving vulnerable people in the community by finding opportunities for their sustainability.

Before the official starting date of the project implementation - in November 2021 the representatives from CeProSARD attended the *First National Fair for Social Enterprises* in the Center for Support of Social Enterprises in Skopje, where our representatives took part in a panel discussion to present and promote the new project.

In the first half of December, the project unit team started collaboration with part of the identified relevant stakeholders which will take active involvement in the project course and held work meetings with part of the municipalities in the city of Skopje, as well as the Agency for promotion of entrepreneurship of the Republic of North Macedonia.

The project is funded by the European Union.

The project duration is 18 months, starting from December 01, 2021.



Green Heat project in partnership with the Municipality of Radovich, funded by the EU

At the end of this year, in partnership with the Municipality of Radovich, we are launching a new project: *“Green Heat - introduction of efficient customer-oriented small-grid district heating (DH) service based on renewable energy sources.*

The actual set-up of a **DH system for several public buildings** in the Municipality of Radovich in line with the overall objective of the project will enable forward-looking, environment-friendly municipal heating service that contributes to improved living conditions for the local population. It will be the first of such kind in the country and will be accompanied by research and know-hoe activities that will assist the local authorities to cope with their responsibilities, while at the same time overcome environmental challenges and contribute to sustainable local development. This DH system will connect five public buildings: municipal administrative building, one kindergarten, one elementary school, one high school and a sports hall and will be based on locally most available renewable sources of energy - the solar energy and biomass.

The project foresees establishment of Local key stakeholder group that will participate in the decision-making processes related to introduction on new service as crucial step to promote the public participation in decision-making.

In addition to the two project partners - Municipality of Radovich and CeProSARD, the project includes also two associate partners: public enterprise Plavaja from Radovich - as an entity that will undertake the operation of the service after the completion of the works; and the Town of Belicse (Croatia) who will transfer know-how and experience from the operation of the similar heating system in their community.

The project is funded by the IPA "EU for Municipalities" programme which aims at piloting innovative solutions to

stakeholders in problem solving.

CeProSARD signed framework partnership Agreement with the EU in the area Environmental protection and Climate change

The European Commission has selected our organization as civil society partner in the Republic of North Macedonia, with which shares common general objectives, in order to establish a long term cooperation to impact and guide public sector reforms in priority area "Environmental protection and climate change" through evidence based programmes, analysis, monitoring and advocacy initiatives. The parties signed a framework agreement with the aim to contribute to the objectives of the Union policy in this priority area.

EU supports CSOs in the region at building stronger democracies, improving accountability systems and ultimately achieving better policy and economic and social development. It supports the empowering of civil society to fulfill the key roles: creating stronger links to citizens by engaging in public policy processes, reaching out to society as a whole including marginalized groups and grass-root communities and encouraging civic activism across all areas; becoming professional and reliable partners in the policy-making and reform process through evidence-based advocacy across all sectors; contributing to enhancing responsible leadership in the political, economic and social spheres and provide early warning in case of societal change, strengthening economic development and creating better links with business by promoting entrepreneurship, social innovation and job creation.

Cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Science for improvement of EE in 16 schools in RNM

The expert team of CA CeProSARD successfully completed work in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energy sources at the request of the Ministry of Education and Science. In cooperation with the design studio MBM Architects, Skopje we prepared reports for energy audit of 16 schools with a total area of 45,617 m2. The schools belong to different climate zones and are located in the following locations:

- The cities: Bitola, Kumanovo and Debar;
- Municipalities: Chair and Saraj,
- Settlements: Pestani – Municipality of Ohrid, Tabanovce – Municipality of Kumanovo, Vrutok – Municipality of

The purpose of the audits was to assess the existing energy loss and through proposing appropriate measures for reconstruction to contribute to improvement of their energy efficiency and increase the comfort of users with minimal energy consumption.



Development of a project proposal application for the Fund for Innovation and Development for the needs of the production company Gobeks Plus Skopje

Among the basic and most important elements for creating sustainable development policies and preserving a healthy environment is solving the existing problem of pollution of all media, and thus protecting health and improving the quality of life of current and future generations. Increasing the share of production of organic products using sustainable, organic production methods is not a choice, but a necessity. Food production cannot be resumed in the future without a major emphasis on human health, soil, water and biodiversity, as well as the production of organic products.

In accordance with the guidelines and requirements of the Fund for Innovation and Technological Development within the call for *"Co-financed grants for commercialization of innovations"*, the team of CeProSARD prepared a project application for the company, to introduce an innovative recipe for organic juices. This innovative product will be produced through an innovative standardized, environmentally-friendly production process. By developing this production, the business opportunity that has been identified for product placement is used.

