

FEBRUARY 2019

NEWSLETTER 22



CeProSARD



Dear colleagues, associates and readers,

We completed 2018 with the results that we have achieved with our activities in the field of rural development, environmental protection, energy efficiency, nature protection and biodiversity. In the last quarter of 2018, the activities we carried out were aimed at achieving our vision and mission, and in cooperation with the business sector, civil society organizations and institutions:

1. The wild animals, including the bear, the wolf, the fox, the wild boar, were among those trapped by our cameras in the Pelister National Park set up as part of the monitoring activities carried out through the implementation of the project "Support for improved management of natural resources in NP Pelister". This project is funded by the European Union, and is implemented with the support of UNDP and the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning;
2. We have developed feasibility studies for infrastructure projects for better and faster rural development of the municipalities Ilinden, Resen, Kisela Voda, Krivogastani, Demir Hisar and Gazi Baba. The construction of infrastructure facilities is foreseen with funds provided by the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Macedonia through the MSIP 2 project from the World Bank;
3. For representatives of the civil sector, the business sector and the municipalities of the Polog Planning Region, we organized a study visit to the Local Action Groups in Granada - Spain. The representatives from the BUILDLAG Project Steering Committee from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Economy and the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and Food also joined us at this study visit. This project is funded through CFCD with funds from the European Union;
4. In order to develop rural tourism in the region of Shara within the framework of the FRET-STIC project, we organized a joint meeting with the partner organizations from Kosovo, the municipality of Tetovo, as well as representatives from the tourism business sector and non-governmental organizations from the region, where we exchanged experiences and knowledge, and detected opportunities for further development and cooperation in the field of tourism. The implementation of this project is financially supported by the European Union for cross-border cooperation between Kosovo and Macedonia.
5. To learn more about the possibility of using software solutions to improve energy efficiency in the hospitals sector, together with the representatives of the Ministry of Health, we organized a trip and attended a technical seminar on the topic "Simulation of the energy of buildings" in Sofia. This activity was carried out within the framework of the Interreg Balkan Mediterranean program with funds provided by the European Union.

In this Newsletter, we also provide you with detailed information about current projects, news, events we participated in and cooperation and partnerships that we have concluded. We thank everyone who continuously gave us support and cooperate with us! We invite you to read the latest issue of our Newsletter and join us in creating future new, interesting and useful activities for sustainable development.

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

On December 5th and 6th, 2018, within the activities of the project “Support for improved management of natural resources in NP Pelister”, at the hotel Capri in Bitola, CeProSARD organized training for monitoring the brown bear (*Ursus arctos*), lynx (*Lynx lynx*) and wolf (*Canis lupus*) for employees of NP Pelister. The training, which is part of the package of activities for monitoring large carnivores, was preceded by the procurement and installation of 10 cameras (photo-traps) and other computer equipment. In addition to theoretical lectures and presentations, the training included education at the locations in the park where the cameras were placed. 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 Macedonia.



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

In the last months of 2018, we have successfully completed feasibility studies for the construction of infrastructure projects and procurement of equipment and vehicles for strengthening the capacities of the Communal Services Enterprises - CSEs. We worked for the municipalities of Ilinden, Resen, Kisela Voda, Krivogastani, Demir Hisar and Gazi Baba.

In the municipality of Ilinden, the goal was preparation of a document on the justification of the project "Reconstruction of the local road Kadino that is connected with the A4 motorway in the Municipality of Ilinden". For the Municipality of Resen, we have prepared the document on the justification of the project for reconstruction of three streets in the city of Resen, in the municipality of Resen. We prepared a study on reconstruction of local streets for the needs of the municipality of Kisela Voda, and the project included the reconstruction of the section of Sasa 6 in the settlement Pintija and a branch of the Jablanica street.

In the municipality of Krivogastani, the overall objective of the Project was to improve the level of illumination in the municipality, and at the same time to achieve financial efficiency for street lighting and maintenance. Regarding this case, the Project assumed improvement and upgrading of local street lighting in two directions: replacement of existing bulbs by placing energy efficient LED bulbs and increasing the number of light units in the municipality.

The project for the Demir Hisar municipality envisaged procurement of four vehicles - minibuses for transporting pupils to schools that are under the jurisdiction of the municipality. Based on a contract for the performance of works of public interest for the transportation of students, the Communal Services Enterprise (CSE) "Komunalec" will be charged with the minibuses. Through loan borrowing from MSIP 2 program, the Municipality of Gazi Baba requested funds for: construction of vacuum primary and secondary sewerage network for catchment area - zone 2 - branch 4; procurement and installation of monitoring system for vacuum sewerage network for zone 2; construction of a pumping station; finalization of a vacuum station with the purchase and installation of equipment and construction, procurement and installation of equipment for wastewater treatment plant with one modular reactor MBBR for 1500 population equivalent – P.E.

The implementation of these projects, such as the reconstruction of local streets with the construction of storm water sewerage, the change of energy inefficient street lamps with LED lights, the supply of minibuses for the needs of the municipalities, and the construction of sewerage for rural settlements, will contribute to the development the locality, the local economy and the implementation of planning documents in the municipalities. These independent projects will be financed by a loan from the International Bank for Investment and Development (World Bank), through MSIP 2 Municipal Services Improvement Project.



Study Visit in Granada, Spain within the project Capacity Building for Sustainable Development of Local Action Groups – LAG in EU Integration Processes – “BUILDLAG“

From 20-23 November, a group of 9 participants from Macedonia, together with 3 representatives from LAG UNA, Croatia were on a Study Visit in Granada, Spain within the project Capacity Building for Sustainable Development of Local Action Groups – LAG in EU Integration Processes – “BUILDLAG“.

During the study visit the participants had a meeting with representative from the Regional Government of Agricultural and Rural Development which is the responsible body for the functioning of the local action groups in the region. The group also visited several local action groups in Andalucia – the Local Action Group ALTIPLANO (Baza, Granada); the Local Action Group COMARCA DE GUADIX (Guadix-GRANADA) and the Local Action Group Lecrin - Temple-Costa where they met with the Presidents of the local action groups and discussed the way of functioning of the LAGs and the implementation of the LEADER approach. The group also had a chance to visit several business which are members of the local action groups and better understand the way of collaboration between the LAGs and the private sector.



Development of rural tourism

Fostering Rural and Environmental Tourism through Smart Tourist Information Centres

In the past period, we continued with activities for development and promotion of local and regional tourism through innovative approaches and systems for improving rural and environmental experience through the project “Fostering Rural and Environmental Tourism through Smart Tourist Information Centres” / FRET-STIC.

In October, in the hotel "Skradus" at Popova Shapka, the first consultative meeting was held with the stakeholders in which the project was presented with presentations from the three project partners "CeProSARD" from Skopje, "RDA-South" from Prizren and the Municipality of Tetovo. The same day, in the second part, the first meeting of the Steering Committee was held.

In November, in Prizren, with our partners "RDA-South" from Prizren, we held a meeting for the selection of the most favorable bidder for the construction of the STIC facility from the Kosovo side, which is part of the planned activities in the project for creating strategic tools that will enable better understanding of the requirements of the visitors, while serving as mechanisms for enhanced inter regional cooperation.

Representatives from CeProSARD and our partners took part in a three-day workshop for grantees from the IPA II cross-border program with Kosovo, held from December 10th to 12th in Prishtina. The project is supported by the European Union, with a duration of 24 months, started on May 15, 2018. The project is implemented within the IPA Cross-Border Cooperation Program between Macedonia and Kosovo.

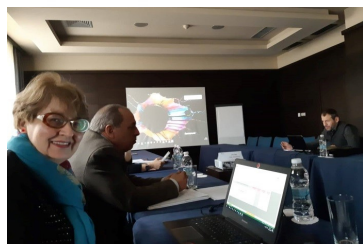


Energy Efficiency of Hospitals - Zen-H Project

In the period from October to the end of December 2018, our team started with the development of a Database with basic information on the energy characteristics of the facilities - public hospitals. This database is prepared in cooperation with the Unit for implementation of the projects for reconstruction and construction of health institutions within the Ministry of Health and will be one of the first documents that will help to detect the situation with the energy efficiency of the hospitals in Macedonia. Experts in the field of energy efficiency, involved in the project, will exchange information related to the findings from the audit of the energy efficiency of hospitals made in the countries where the five project partners come from and will propose measures to improve the energy efficiency of hospitals. For that purpose, we will develop a manual with recommendations for improving the energy efficiency of hospitals.

Together with representatives of the Ministry of Health jointly participated in a technical seminar "Simulation of the energy of buildings" from 13.11.2018 to 14.11.2018, in Sofia, Bulgaria, before the upcoming energy audits of hospitals. The participants at the technical seminar were presented with the technical concept of buildings with near-zero energy, and then the participants were introduced with various simulation software, the impact of lighting, and environmental assessment, accompanied by the influence of the financial parameters in dependence of the actions taken.

On 15.11.2018 in Sofia, Bulgaria was held the third meeting of the project team. At the meeting, the project management reviewed and coordinated the implementation of the envisaged project activities. Hospital buildings are complex buildings built over decades ago, before the requirements for energy efficient buildings are introduced, and very often in terms of energy efficiency are not adequately built. The future activities of the project will be directed towards draft measures and standards that will need to be implemented to improve the energy efficiency of hospitals so that energy consumption is as close as possible to zero. The advantage of the solution that the project will give is that it will also apply to other types of buildings.



Celebration of the 10th anniversary of CeProSARD

On December 26, 2018, the employees of AC CeProSARD, together with the active members of the Assembly and associates, celebrated the 10th birthday of CeProSARD with wishes for more successful work and mutual cooperation in the future.



Cooperation of CeProSARD with Skopje Planning Region and Mountaineering Association Teteks

Center for Promotion of Sustainable Agricultural Practices and Rural Development - CeProSARD builds bridges for cooperation with institutions and civil society organizations. On October 22, 2018 on behalf of AC CeProSARD, the Executive Director Svetlana Petrovska signed a memorandum for cooperation with the Center for Development of the Skopje Planning Region.

Memorandum of cooperation also was signed on December 19, 2018 between CeproSARD and Mountaineering Club Teteks from Tetovo.

