

**Interreg**  
**Greece-Bulgaria**



**SOCIAL PLATE**  
SUPPORTING SOCIAL ENTERPRISES IN COMBATING POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION  
European Regional Development Fund



# **DELIVERABLE 1.1.2 – PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION**

## **1<sup>st</sup> PROGRESS REPORT**

of project “**Supporting Social Enterprises in combating poverty and social exclusion**” with  
the acronym “**SOCIAL PLATE**” in the framework of the European Territorial Cooperation  
Program INTERREG V-A Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020

<https://www.socialplate.eu/en/>

“The contents of this deliverable are sole responsibility of the Central Market of Thessaloniki SA and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union, the participating countries the Managing Authority and the Joint Secretariat”

*The Central Market of Thessaloniki SA participates in the project “Supporting Social Enterprises in combating poverty and social exclusion” with the acronym “Social Plate”, which is implemented within the framework of the INTERREG V-A Greece-Bulgaria Territorial Cooperation Program 2014-2020 and co-funded by the European Union and National Funds of the participating countries*

August 17, 2018

## Contents

<b>1. General elements of the project «SOCIAL PLATE»</b> .....	3
<b>1.1 A few words about the project «Social Plate»</b> .....	3
<b>1.2 Object of the project «SOCIAL PLATE»</b> .....	4
<b>2. Project progress «SOCIAL PLATE»</b> .....	6
<b>2.1 Central Market of Thessaloniki SA</b> .....	6
<b>2.2 Technopolis - International Training Institute</b> .....	7
<b>2.3 Borino Municipality</b> .....	7
<b>2.4 Active Youths</b> .....	8
<b>3. Next steps of the project «SOCIAL PLATE»</b> .....	8
<b>4. Kick off meeting of the project «SOCIAL PLATE»</b> .....	9
<b>4.1 Agenda of kick off meeting</b> .....	11
<b>4.2 List of participants in the kick off meeting</b> .....	13
<b>5. Problems and modifications during the implementation of the project «SOCIAL PLATE»</b> .....	14
<b>6. ANNEX CONTENTS</b> .....	15

## 1. General elements of the project «SOCIAL PLATE»

In the framework of the contract between EUROACTION SA and the Central Market of Thessaloniki SA, this report is the first (1) progress report of the “SOCIAL PLATE” project accompanied by the two official progress reports submitted to the Joint Secretariat of the European Territorial Cooperation Program INTERREG V-A Greece - Bulgaria 2014 - 2020, January and July 2018. The purpose of this progress report is to track the progress of the project from its start day until 20/08/2018.

### 1.1 A few words about the project «Social Plate»

The project "**Supporting Social Enterprises in combating poverty and social exclusion**" with the acronym "**SOCIAL PLATE**", was submitted on 22.04.2016 to priority axis 4 - 'A Cross-border Area without Social Exclusion' and in particular:

- In Thematic Goal: 09 - 'Promoting social cohesion, combating poverty and discrimination'
- In investment priority: 9c – 'Providing support to social enterprises'
- In Specific Objective: 9 - 'Expanding social entrepreneurship in the cross-border area'

The duration of the project in the stage following its formal approval was from 01/08/2017 to 31/07/2019 and after an extension request is from 28/09/2017 to 27/09/2019 and is of a duration 24 months in total.

The financing contract was signed on September 28, 2017 and has the number B2.9c.03, while the partnership agreement was signed respectively by the representatives of the partners participating in the partnership on August 29, 2017.

The Central Market of Thessaloniki SA is the Lead Beneficiary in the project entitled "Supporting Social Enterprises in Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion" and under the acronym "SOCIAL PLATE", which is 85% co-financed by Community funds and 15% national, in framework of the European Cross-Border Cooperation Program Greece - Bulgaria 2014 - 2020 (INTERREG V-A).

In the corporate form of this project, as submitted and approved, TECHNOPOLIS - INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION INSTITUTE (126.040,00 €), Borino Municipality (106,009,40 €) and Active Youths (100,980,00 €) also participate. The total approved budget of the project "SOCIAL PLATE" is €

551.779.40, while the budget of the Central Market of Thessaloniki SA for the implementation of the deliverables to be undertaken as the Project Lead Beneficiary amounts to 218.750,00€.

## 1.2 Object of the project «SOCIAL PLATE»

### Project background

The cross-border area comprises some of the most remote and isolated areas of both countries as they are characterized by increasing levels of poverty and high unemployment rates especially for women and young people. Social entrepreneurship has been able to alleviate such problems in various parts of Europe but in the cross-border area it has not developed sufficiently. Social entrepreneurship can address issues of reduced service provision to specific populations subject to or threatened by social exclusion and at the same time provide them with access to the labor market. This deteriorating socio-economic context has aroused the interest of partners in the creation and operation of social enterprises in Greece and Bulgaria that offer (a) an additional opportunity to enter the labor market the professionally and financially troubled and vulnerable groups and (b) to seek new and sustainable resources to meet social goals for the benefit of the public.

The idea of the project was developed as a solution to the issues of unemployment, poverty and social exclusion. Specifically, the project aims to promote regional cohesion through the creation and promotion of social enterprises in Greece and Bulgaria with the role of not only providing long-term unemployed and marginalized people but also feeding people from vulnerable social groups. In addition, through training seminars, the project seeks to increase the skills of the unemployed, as well as people already working in other social enterprises lacking in marketing, business planning, etc.

The purpose of the project is to support the establishment of a social enterprise in Greece (Central Macedonia) and to promote it in Bulgaria through social franchising, that is, the cross-border transfer of the social enterprise from one country to another. The purpose of the social enterprise will be the distribution of long-term products that would otherwise be wasted, promoting an ecological approach while employing individuals from economically and professionally disputed groups to ensure the daily operations of the entity.

### Expected results

The project is a solution to the perennial problems of poverty and marginalization of socially vulnerable groups such as women and young unemployed. The “Social Plate” project will create jobs for the

aforementioned individuals, helping them to contribute to the local economy as well as help themselves: two NGO staff will be employed as volunteers. Volunteering is promoted after it has been shown that through socialization and community participation, people can go beyond marginalization. Using a food surplus that would otherwise end up in the trash bin suggests an innovative and environmentally friendly approach.

The fact that public, regional and local stakeholders are involved in the partnership ensures the project's broader contribution to the development and support of social entrepreneurship. Educational institutions and other public bodies will also be involved in information effort and raising awareness about the opportunities and conditions for the development of social entrepreneurship by organizing joint forums / discussions. There will also be joint seminars / events of good practice aimed at a wider audience of people with financial and social problems, providing them guidance in business planning, marketing strategies etc. By providing guidance and support in creation of new NGOs, the project "Social Plate" becomes one of the few organized efforts to promote social entrepreneurship locally and nationally in the cross-border area, thereby enhancing the development of local businesses economies.

## 2. Project progress of «SOCIAL PLATE»

### 2.1 Central Market of Thessaloniki SA

Since the beginning of the project "Supporting Social Enterprises in Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion" under the acronym "SOCIAL PLATE" of the European Territorial Cooperation Program Interreg V-A Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020, the Central Market of Thessaloniki has submitted two (2) progress reports to the Joint Secretariat of the European Territorial Cooperation Program Interreg V-A Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020, January and July 2018, as well as responding to the Joint Secretariat's request to update the Startup Time plan & Procurement Plan. In addition, the Central Market of Thessaloniki SA as the Lead Beneficiary of the project on 15/01/2018 submitted the project release in the NSRF Integrated Information System 2014 - 2020, which received the code MIS 5012493.

At the same time, on 12 February 2018, the Lead Beneficiary submitted to the Joint Program Secretariat, a request for the first modification (1st modification) which was initially approved by the corporate form and subsequently by the Joint Program Secretariat. The reasons for the first modification are discussed in the next section. It should be noted that the Central Market of Thessaloniki SA after approving the modification request and updating the project files (Application Form, Justification of Budget, Startup Time Plan & Procurement Plan) which was posted to the IMP in the approved modifications on 09/07/2018.

Regarding the implementation of the project, the Central Market of Thessaloniki SA organized the kick-off meeting on 08/03/2018 at the premises of the Central Market of Thessaloniki SA, which was attended by representatives of all stakeholders involved in the company.

At the same time, the Central Market of Thessaloniki SA completed the tender procedure for the selection of the candidate and the contract for the implementation of the actions 1.1.2, 5.1.1, 5.1.2,

5.1.3, 5.1. 5 was signed on 30 July 2018, while actions 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.1.4, 3.1.5, 6.1.2 and 6.1.3 respectively will be signed in August as it is in the submission phase.

In addition, since the commencement of the project until today, the Central Market of Thessaloniki SA has completed the NGO Legal Recommendation (Deliverable 4.1.1) and has procured and paid for the equipment of the NGO offices, two laptops and software, two offices, armchairs, libraries and freezers for food preservation. He was also provided with a fax, 1 telephone and 1 photocopier. In order to recruit and launch the NGO set up under the “SOCIAL PLATE” project, the Central Market of Thessaloniki SA published a call for employment of two people, which was due on July 12 and then proceeded in the evaluation of tenders. At the same time, the Lead Partner proceeded to sign the contract for the supply of the van, as specified in the project's Technical Bulletin and the supply will be procured in the near future.

## 2.2 Technopolis - International Educational Institute

Partner 2 - Technopolis International Educational Institute, has signed a contract with the contractor for the implementation of the deliverables 1.2.2, 2.2.4, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.2.4, 3.2.5, 6.2.1 and 6.2.3 since February 2018, following a short competition. In addition, following the publication of a call for expressions of interest in January 2018 to hire an employee to implement the deliverables 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.2.4 and 3.2.5, the contract was signed in March. 2018. The call for the deliverables 4.2.3 & 5.2.4 is foreseen next year, with the Contractor delivering 3.2.1 "Evaluation and Selection of Social Work Groups" in May 2018 and deliverables expected to be delivered, D 3.2.2 and part of D 1.2.2. In addition, the newly hired staff is working on the preparation of the Deliverables of Work Package 3. It should be noted that Partner 2 has responded to the Lead Beneficiary's request, both for preparing official progress reports and for updating Startup Time-plan and Procurement Plan and for participating in the kick off meeting of the project.

## 2.3 Borino Municipality

Partner 3 - Borino Municipality completed the tender process and signed a contract with the contractor for the implementation of action 1.2.1 - Project Management & Coordination. At the same time, in early July 2018 PB3 signed the contract for actions 2.3.1 - Information & Publicity Plan and 3.3.1 - Joint Assessment of the existing situation at local / regional / national level. Concerning the actions of Work



Package 4, and in particular Action 4.3.1, PB3 has selected the contractor and will soon sign the relevant contract and the procurement of NGO equipment will follow. Concerning its staffing, PB3 has already launched a call for expressions of interest and the process will be completed in the near future. It should be noted that PB3 responded to the LB's request, both for the preparation of official progress reports and for updating the Startup TimePlan and Procurement Plan, and for participating in the project kick-off meeting.

## 2.4 Active Youths

Partner 4 - Active Youths, has developed an internal Action Plan for the proper and successful implementation of the "SOCIAL PLATE" project, and has been in constant contact with both the Managing Authority of the Program and the Ministry of Regional Development for the purpose of elaboration of the competition plan, the project milestones and the steps to be followed by the project team. At the same time the contract for national funding of the body under the project was signed. PB4 has already started preparing the documents for the procurement procedures and preparing the technical specifications, following the rules of publicity and transparency required by Bulgarian legislation. At the same time, the project monitoring procedures are specified and the project submission to the national program authority has been completed. It should be noted that PB4 responded to the LB's request, both for the preparation of official progress reports and for updating the Startup TimePlan and Procurement Plan, and for participating in the project kick off meeting.

## 3. Next steps of the project «SOCIAL PLATE»

The **Central Market of Thessaloniki SA** will sign the contract for the implementation of the Deliverables 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.1.4, 3.1.5, 6.1.2 and 6.1.3 in August as it is being awarded. The project information & publicity plan (Deliverable 2.1.1) will be elaborated next time and the Open and closing international conference (Deliverable 2.1.4) will be held in September 2018. In addition to the call for two people it will proceed to evaluation of tenders. At the same time, the van will be delivered (Deliverable 4.1.2) in the near future.



**Technopolis – International Educational Institute** will publish the Tender '1' (Deliverable 2.2.2) and Tender '2' (Deliverable 4.2.3 & 5.2.4) according to the tender schedule by the end of August, and will proceed with the process conclusion of the relevant contracts.

The **Municipality of Borino** plans to establish an NGO, to select administrative staff to staff the office and to supply the necessary equipment for the next period. Following the development of the publicity plan, PB3 will continue with the completion of Deliverable 3.3.2. At the same time, PB3 is in the process of preparing the technical specifications for the Work Package 5 (Deliverables 5.3.1, 5.3.2 and 5.3.3) and 6 (Deliverable 6.3.1) tender. Concerning its NGO staffing, PB3 has already launched a call for expression of interest and the process will be completed in the near future

**Active Youths** will prepare the bidding and contract documents for the purpose of implementing it, following the requirements of the Bulgarian legislation on tendering and contracting.

#### 4. Kick-off meeting of the project «SOCIAL PLATE»

On Thursday, March 8, 2018, the kick off meeting of the project partners entitled “Supporting Social Enterprises in Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion” and the acronym: “SOCIAL PLATE” took place at the premises of Central Market of Thessaloniki SA (KATH SA) in the framework of the Cross-Border Cooperation Program INTERREG VA Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020, in which KATH SA participates as a Lead Beneficiary (LB).

The meeting was attended by representatives of the four partners involved in the project:

For "KATH SA" the President and Managing Director, Mr. Dimitrios Hambidis, as well as the Vice President, Mr. Theodoros Papadopoulos, and the project managers.

For 'TECHNOPOLIS - International Educational Institute' the President, Mr Athanasios Papathanasiou, project manager, Ms. Emmanouela Stefani and the Technical Advisor Ms. Georgia Venizelou.

For the "Borino Municipality" of Bulgaria, the Mayor Mr. Mustafa Karaahned, the Deputy Mayor. Ms Nehiza Velieva, the project spokeswoman Ms. Petya Sotova and the Project Technical Advisor Ms Teodora Angelova

For "Active Youths", the project manager and member of the Board of Directors, Ms. Elena Boyuklijska.

On behalf of the Joint Secretary of the Program Ms. Kiriaki Antoniadou

During the workshops, the activities of the stakeholders involved in the partnership were presented, as well as the actions undertaken by the stakeholders to implement within the project, followed by a discussion with references to the current stage of implementation of the above-mentioned actions for each entity as well as references to the technical aspects of the project.



The meeting was followed by a tour at KATH premises and the offices of the NGO (under construction) whose operation is a major part of the 'SOCIAL PLATE' project.

At the close of the meeting both the President and CEO of KATH SA, as well as, Mayor Mustafa Karaahned, offered commemorative gifts to the participants of the kick-off meeting.

#### 4.1 Agenda of kick-off meeting

<b>MEETING AGENDA</b>	
<b>11:00 - 11:30</b>	<b>Arrival and registration of the participants</b>
<b>11:30 - 11:45</b>	<b>Welcome speech</b> <i>Dimitrios Champidis - Central Market of Thessaloniki SA (LB)</i>
<b>11:45 - 12:15</b>	<b>Presentation of 'SOCIAL PLATE' partners</b> <i>All partners</i>
<b>12:15 - 12:30</b>	<b>General Overview of the project &amp; presentation of LB's action plan</b> <i>Katerina Demertzi - Central Market of Thessaloniki SA (LB)</i>
<b>12:30 - 12:40</b>	<b>Presentation of PB2's action plan</b> <i>Emmanouela Stefani - TECHNOPSIS – International Educational Institute (PB2)</i>
<b>12:40 - 12:50</b>	<b>Presentation of PB3's action plan</b> <i>Ms. Teodora Angelova - Municipality of Borino (PB3)</i>
<b>12:50 - 13:00</b>	<b>Presentation of PB4's action plan</b> <i>Mrs. Elena Boyuklijska - Active Youths (PB4)</i>
<b>13:00 - 13:15</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>

<b>13:15 - 13:30</b>	<b>Definition of the Project Management Team</b> <i>All partners</i>
<b>13:30 - 13:45</b>	<b>Management Procedures</b> <i>Katerina Demertzi - Central Market of Thessaloniki SA (LB)</i>
<b>13:45 - 14:00</b>	<b>Discussion on 'SOCIAL PLATE' requests for modifications, Summary of the tasks for the upcoming period - Final conclusions</b> <i>All partners</i>



## 4.2 Participants' List in the kick-off meeting

**Kick-off Meeting**

**Project Title:** Supporting Social Enterprises in combating poverty and social exclusion  
**Project Acronym:** SOCIAL PLATE  
**Thessaloniki, 08/03/2018**

No	Name	Organization	Position	Phone Number	e-mail	Signature
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3.	Mustafa Kabaohmed	Borino Municipality	Mayor	+3598874574	deshtina_borino@abv.bg	
4.	Elena Boyuklyks	Acting Mayor	Board	+57898627255	elena.boyuklyks@gmail.com	
5.	Eliza Sofronova	Municipality Borino	Chair	+351878590086	konqogend.sofronova@gmail.com	
6.	Athanasios Papathanasiou	Technopolis	Director	6572014555	spapa@technopolis-exp.gr	
7.	Emmanouela Stefani	Technopolis	Member of Committee	+302231035602	emstefani@technopolis-exp.gr	
8.	Georgia Venizelou	Technopolis (P2)	Consultant	+306949915350	venize@technopolis-exp.gr	
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10.	Pavlos Ioannidis	CMT	Electric Engineer	+306982940731	info@kath.gr	
11.	Kyriaki Antoniadou	Joint Secretariat	Project Officer	+302340469692	kantoniadou@mcu.gr	
12.	Theodor Popdopoulos	CMT, Vice President		+306980787720	theface59@gmail.gr	
13.	Lilakis Dimitrios	CUT SA	Head of Financial Services	+306936101514	lilakis@kath.gr	
14.	Katerina Demestasi	CUT SA	Secretary of office	+30694946466	demestasi@kath.gr	

## 5. Problems and modifications during the implementation of the project «SOCIAL PLATE»

The first modification request under the 'SOCIAL PLATE' project, was sent by the Lead Beneficiary, Central Market of Thessaloniki to the Joint Secretariat of the European Territorial Cooperation Program INTERREG V-A Greece - Bulgaria 2014-2020, on 12 February 2018 and has been accepted as a result the update of the Application Form and Justification of Budget files, which will include the following changes:

- **Modification of the project timetable:** concerning the modification of the project timetable as presented in the approved Application Form in order to be incorporated into that actual project start date which coincides with the date of signature of the financing contract, September 28, 2017. The amended Application Form also changed the date of completion of the 'SOCIAL PLATE' project on September 27, 2019, so that its duration remained stable at 24 months.
- **Budget Transfer between Budget Expenditure Category for Deliverable 4.1.2 - Setting up the Premise (for 2 people for the operation of the NGO, purchase of furniture & equipment):** relating to the transfer of 30.000 € from the Expenditure category "Staff Costs" in the "External Expertise and Services" expenditure category for the purpose of hiring more properly and faster people needed to recruit NGOs.
- **Contact Person for "Active Youths" Partner (PB4):** dealing with the change in the person designated as contact person compared to the one originally mentioned in the Application Form.

The request for modification, as submitted to the Joint Program Secretariat, is attached. In addition, the Central Market of Thessaloniki SA after approving the modification request and updating the project files (Application Form, Justification of Budget, Startup Time Plan & Procurement Plan), it submitted the approved modifications to the ISP on 09/07/2018.

## 6. ANNEX CONTENTS

The following finalized approved files are listed in the Annex in the following order:

- Approved Application Form
- Approved Justification of Budget
- Approved Startup Time plan and Procurement Plan
- 1<sup>st</sup> progress report to the Joint Secretariat of the INTERREG V-A Program Greece - Bulgaria 2014 - 2020 (January 2018)
- 2<sup>st</sup> progress report to the Joint Secretariat of the INTERREG V-A Program Greece - Bulgaria 2014 - 2020 (July 2018)
- Signed Subsidy Contract
- Signed Partnership Agreement
- Request for the first modification
- Modified Application Form
- Modified Justification of Budget
- Modified Startup Time plan and Procurement Plan
- Material of kick-off meeting of project "SOCIAL PLATE"



# ANNEX CONTENTS