

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

## **2nd 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*

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

In the framework of the contract between EUROACTION SA and the Central Market of Thessaloniki SA, this report is the second (2nd) report on the progress of the “SOCIAL PLATE” project, accompanied by the material of the publicity actions implemented during the previous quarter and in particular the opening conference, and from the collected records, for the first certification of expenditure compiled and sent. The purpose of this progress report is to record the progress of the project from 21/08/2018 to 20/10/2018.

### 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 ", submitted on 22.04.2016 on Priority Axis 4 - 'A Cross-border Area without Social Exclusion' and in particular:

- On Thematic Goal: 09 - 'Promoting social cohesion, combating poverty and discrimination'
- On Investment Priority: 9c - 'Providing Support to Social Enterprises
- On Specific Goal: 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 agreement 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 LB 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 VA).

In the corporate form of this project, as submitted and approved, TECHNOPOLIS - INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE (126.040,00 €), Municipality of Borino (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 actions to be undertaken as the Project LB 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 «SOCIAL PLATE» & Next steps

### 2.1 Central Market of Thessaloniki SA

The Central Market of Thessaloniki SA, on July 30, 2018, entered into a contract with EUROACTION SA for the actions of Group A, namely 1.1.2, 5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.1.3 and 5.1.5 completion of the award stage of the competition.

In addition, the Central Market of Thessaloniki SA signed the contract on August 30, 2018 for the implementation of Group B actions, namely 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.1.4, 3.1.5, 6.1.2 and 6.1.3 with ROSE EDIAROGLOU Monoprosopos Ltd. - BUTTERFLY, upon completion of the award stage.

Regarding the implementation of the project, the Central Market of Thessaloniki SA:

- ❖ Organized the Open conference of the project (Deliverable 2.1.4), at the Thessaloniki International Exhibition Hall, Room D, “Nikolaos Germanos” Conference Center, in Thessaloniki on September 11, 2018 on Tuesday, attended by representatives of the participating organizations shape. The title of the conference was: "The social economy in the face of poverty and exclusion". In addition, the Central Market of Thessaloniki made a payment of € 16,740.00 including VAT.
- ❖ At the same time, in accordance with the provisions of its contract with ROSE EDIAROGLOU Monoprosopos Ltd. - BUTTERFLY, received the Deliverable 2.1.1 - Information & Publicity Plan which will be submitted in its final form by 31/10/2018.
- ❖ The Central Market of Thessaloniki SA has received the van (Deliverable 4.1.2) and remains to be sorted so that it can be launched. Within the next period the Central Market of Thessaloniki SA will pay for that deliverable.

- ❖ In the context of action 2.1.4 the Central Market of Thessaloniki SA has contracted with an external partner necessary for the smooth operation of the CNPC (Civil Non-Profit Company) set up and operating under the "SOCIAL PLATE" project.
- ❖ Within the framework of project 1.1.2 (Project Management & Coordination) the Central Market of Thessaloniki SA received from the company EUROACTION SA the deliverable for the 1st progress report on August 20, 2018 and for which it made the corresponding payment of € 3.600,00 (excluding VAT).

The Central Market of Thessaloniki SA requested, within the framework of the "SOCIAL PLATE" project, the approval and deposit of € 67,155.00 for the payment of deliverables received by the Receiving Committee.

In addition, the Central Market of Thessaloniki on 08 October 2018 sent a request for the appointment of a verifier / auditor, and submitted the dossier for the first certification of expenditure of € 20,840.00.

Finally, the finalization of the Project Management Team should be included in the actions of the Central Market of Thessaloniki.

## **2.2 Technopolis- International Training Institute**

PB 2 - Technopolis International Educational Institute, proceeded to:

1. Completion of Deliverable 3.2.2 "Mapping Report of the Social Partners' Needs on Food" under its contract dated 2/2/2018. 1/2017 Project Call for Proposals for Supporting Action Projects entitled: "Supporting Social Enterprises in Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion" under the acronym "Social Plate" under the European Territorial Cooperation Program INTERREG V-A Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020. The deliverable value of € 2,910.00 has been paid.

2. Completion of Deliverable 3.2.3 "Distribution Plan to the Social Partners" as part of the contract dated 2/2/2018. 1/2017 Project Call for Proposals for Supporting Action Projects: "Supporting Social Enterprises in Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion" under the acronym "Social Plate" under the European Territorial Cooperation Program INTERREG V-A Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020. The deliverable value of 3,880.00 has been paid.



3. Preparations for the job announcement have also been made and are expected to be published by November.

In addition, representatives of PB2 - Technopolis International Educational Institute participated in the Open conference of the project organized by the LB.

### 2.3 Borino Municipality

PB3 – Municipality of Borino has made progress on the following Work Package:

- For Work Package 1, the contract was signed on March 1, 2018.
- For Work Package 2, the contract was signed on July 4, 2018 and Deliverable 2.3.1 - Information and Publicity Plan will be delivered by the end of October.
- For Work Plan 3, it was originally designed to separate the three deliverables (3.3.1 - Joint Assessment of existing situation at local / regional / national level, 3.3.2 - Establishment of a SE network with higher educational / research institutions and 3.3.3 - Produce the crash course of the summer school and be directly contracted. However, in accordance with the Bulgarian Public Procurement Act and given the fact that PB3 - Borino Municipality is a Municipality, the above deliverables must be concentrated in a tender procedure and subsequently in a procurement procedure. Therefore, Borino Municipality has prepared these tender documents which will be announced immediately on the project website.
- Concerning the actions of Work Package 4, and in particular on Deliverable 4.3.1 - Creation of an NGO will be signed directly with two staffing NGOs, while the procurement of equipment has been signed and the office will be equipped immediately.
- Concerning Work Package 5 and 6, the relevant contract will be signed in mid-November.

### 2.4 Active Youths

PB4 - 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 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. Partner 4 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 Partner 4 responded to the Lead Partner'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 launch meeting.

### **3. Problems and modifications during the implementation of the "SOCIAL PLATE" project**

Apart from the first request for modification sent and accepted, there is no need for significant changes, according to the stakeholders.

PB3 - Borino Municipality has submitted to the Lead Partner a request to replace a Project Management Team member and in particular Project Manager Ms. Theodora Angelova with Ms. Meliha Velieva due to health issues. The request was forwarded to the Joint Secretariat by the Lead Partner and accepted.

It should be noted that no problems have been identified that would make it difficult to implement the "SOCIAL PLATE" project. It should be noted that in accordance with the requirements of the Program and the Joint Secretariat / Managing Authority, 20% of the total approved project budget should be certified by the end of 2018, a target achievable given the fact that Purchase Thessaloniki SA, is scheduled to send a second request for certification that will exceed 58,600,00 €

### 3. ANNEX CONTENTS

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

- Communication material from the Open conference, as the LB is required by the Program to collect material from publicity actions.
- Documents of the LB's 1st expenditure certification request
- Project Management Team Recommendation Document
- Request from PB3 to replace a member of the Project Management Team

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