

**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**

### **3<sup>rd</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*

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

In the framework of the project between EUROACTION SA and the Central Market of Thessaloniki SA, this report is the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) report on the progress of the “SOCIAL PLATE” project, accompanied by collected, compiled and sent files for the second certification of expenditure, Documents of the 2nd Lead Partner's expenditure certification, LB's 1st expenditure certification Certificate and material for the 2nd SOCIAL PLATE project meeting

The purpose of this progress report is to record the progress of the project from 21/08/2018 to 20/01/2019.

### 1.1. A few words about the project «SOCIAL PLATE»

The project «**Supporting Social Enterprises in combating poverty and social exclusion**» under 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 V-A).

In the corporate form of this project, as submitted and approved, TECHNOLIS - 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 October 20, 2018, completed the tender process with the aim of collaborating with an external partner under Deliverable 2.1.4, which will staff the NGO, set up under the 'SOCIAL PLATE' project, resulting in the signing of the contract to take place on 28/11/2018.

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

- ❖ The Central Market of Thessaloniki SA proceeded with the pick-up of the van (Deliverable 4.1.2), its registration and the issue of its registration certificate while it was already operational. In addition, the Central Market of Thessaloniki made a relative payment of € 33,400.00 including VAT.
- ❖ In the framework of action 2.1.4, as mentioned above by the Central Market of Thessaloniki SA proceeded to contract with an external partner necessary for the smooth operation of the NGO set up and operating under the "SOCIAL PLATE" project, as well as its payment for November and December 2018, amounting to € 2,313.60 In addition KATH SA paid the first external partner that staffed the NGO for the months of August to December 2018, for the amount of € 5,089.92
- ❖ At the same time, in accordance with the terms set out in its contract with ROSE EDIAROGLOU Monoprosopos Ltd. - BUTTERFLY, received the finalized Deliverable 2.1.1 - Information & Publicity Plan originally submitted in draft form as stipulated in that contract.

At the same time, the company "BUTTERFLY" delivered the following to the Central Market of Thessaloniki: Deliverable 2.1.2 - Production of communication materials and tools, Deliverable 2.1.3 - Publicity & promotion actions in the Mass Media and Deliverable 3.1.5 - Creation of the "food angels" platform, which will be finally received by the Thessaloniki Central Market in the next progress report, following the necessary corrections made by the Contractor.

- ❖ 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 2nd progress report on October 20, 2018 and for which it made the corresponding payment of € 3,600.00 (excluding VAT).

In addition, the Central Market of Thessaloniki received the Expenditure Certificate for the 1st certification request sent on 08 October 2018 for the amount of € 20,840.00 and by the end of December 2018 submitted through MIS, the 2nd request for certification of expenditure amounting to 22,990.46 €.

Finally, the participation of its representatives in the 2nd project meeting held in Borino on October 30, 2018, organized by the PB3, should be included in the actions of the Central Market of Thessaloniki.

It should be noted that the Thessaloniki Central Market in the coming period has as a priority to monitor contracts with its contractors as well as to monitor the quality of the deliverables it receives, given that it has contracted 100% of its budget.

## **2.2 Technopolis – International Training Institute**

Partner 2 - Technopolis International Educational Institute has contracted the following deliverables from the beginning of the project to date:

### **Expenditure Category: Staff**

3.2.1 Conduct a secondary assessment of an external partner's assessment of potential social partners and contact with potential social partners in order to detect the possibility of cooperation during a pilot period of NGO operation.

3.2.2. Preparation of structured questionnaires for the interviews (identifying the required information and data and formulating the questions), recording the results of the interviews in an

excel file and interpreting the results of the analysis to be provided by the external partner (Configuration of final deliverable text)

3.2.3. Development of general rules and methodology for the food distribution plan (development of good practice guidelines, standardization procedures, design and monitoring of a grievance monitoring mechanism, etc.)

3.2.4. Communicating with the social partners in the cross-border area (organizing meetings to present the objectives, functions and participation of NGOs in assisting vulnerable groups, maintaining a contact point / contact office, etc.) and managing all kinds of work within administrative support.

3.2.5 Contribute to the formulation of the requirements for extracting results from the platform, the content of the platform and participating in the evaluation of its operation.

#### **Expenditure Category: External Expertise**

- 1.2.2 Project management and coordination
- 2.2.4 Organization of International Closing Conference
- 3.2.1 Evaluation and selection of the social partners
- 3.2.2 Mapping the social partners' food needs
- 3.2.3 Create a distribution plan for the social partners
- 3.2.4 Creation of cooperation with Social Cooperatives
- 3.2.5 Contribution to the development of the 'Food Angels' platform
- 6.2.1 Round table organization
- 6.2.3 Contribution Awards to Urban Nonprofit and Social Entrepreneurship

All of the above actions have been completed by the Staff Expense Category and the External Affiliate Expenditure Category:

- 1.2.2 Project management and coordination (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> progress report)
- 2.2.4 Organization of International Closing Conference
- 3.2.1 Evaluation and selection of the social partners
- 3.2.2 Mapping the social partners' food needs
- 3.2.3 Creation of a distribution plan for the social partners



- ❖ The next steps besides the implementation of the contractual actions include the publication of the Tender Procedures for Work Package 2 and the deliverable 2.2.2 - Production of communication materials and tools (External Expertise and Services) worth € 7,400.00 and the implementation actions 4.2.3 seminars totaling € 20,000 and 5.2.4 totaling € 21,575 which include the following:

Code	Description	Unit value	Total value
2.2.2.	3 Banners (3 roll ups, measurements 0,85*2,05 in English and 1 in Greek) (Design costs included)	400,00 €	1.200,00€
2.2.2.	200 Folders (A4, velvet, colored, 350gr) & pen with the program and project logo (design costs included).	3,00 €	600,00 €
2.2.2.	2000 Leaflets with information about the local office for Social Entrepreneurship in English and Greek (4page, B4, velvet, colored, 130gr, duplex)	0,30 €	600,00 €
2.2.2.	5 Local and national press releases (black and white, ¼ page)	500,00 €	2.500,00 €
2.2.2.	1 Radio spot (30") and 1 Radio Campaign (150 Broadcasts)	1.250,00 €	2.500,00 €
4.2.3	1 seminar from 2 cycles (15 people per cycle): the cost includes professional trainers for 100 hours, cost for educational material such as note books, hosting costs, space etc	17.500,00 €	17.500,00 €
4.2.3	Supervising and monitoring the implementation of the seminars	1.250,00 €	2.500,00 €
5.2.4	1 seminars of 2 cycles (15 people per cycle): the cost includes professional trainers for 100 hours, the cost of teaching material for note books etc. + An open call for expression of interest for SE shareholders and the creation	19.075,00 €	19.075,00 €

	of a curriculum for marketing strategies (internationalization-events-e-commerce etc.).		
5.2.4	Supervising and monitoring the implementation of the seminars	1.250,00€	2.500,00€

The bidding process is expected to be published by the end of February 2019.

- ❖ From the beginning of the project the expenses paid correspond to the amount of € 22,307.08 and for which an application for expenditure certification was submitted in December 2018. The paid expenses relate to all the above completed actions and correspond to 17%, 69% on PB2 budget.
- ❖ Specifically in the period from October 20, 2018, PB2 received 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" and 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.

### 2.3 Borino Municipality

PB3 - Borino Municipality, after the 2nd project meeting in Borino, sent an email to Ms. Antoniadou, Project Officer of the "SOCIAL PLATE" project asking if it would be acceptable for Municipality of Borino to create a social enterprise headed by the mayor of Borino. Following its positive response, Partner 3 set up and registered the social enterprise.

With a view to the smooth operation of the Social Enterprise, PB3 contracted with two external experts who will manage this office, one of which will be responsible for co-operating with volunteers, as well as for management and technical issues, while the other will be involved in the field of social entrepreneurship in practice as well as having a food business certificate.

Regarding to the implementation of the project, Municipality of Borino since 20 October 2018:

- ❖ Signed and sent to the Lead Partner of Internal Rules, accompanied by an official document on a change of team management project (PMT) by the municipality of Borino.

- ❖ Organized the 2nd Project Meeting in Borino on October 30, 2018, where representatives of all project partners participated.
- ❖ Created the information & publicity plan for Bulgaria in English, which was incorporated with LB (Deliverable 2.3.1).
- ❖ Submitted the 1st application for expenditure certification of €12,775.20

In addition, the Municipality of Borino on October 20, 2018 paid the amount of € 7,500.00 for office equipment which was part of the one sent for certification.

The Municipality of Borino will announce a public tender for the deliverables P 3.3.1, P 3.3.2 and P 3.3.3.

## 2.4 Active Youths

PB4 - Active Youth, completed the process for Competition 1 in accordance with the submitted Competition Plan on external expertise and services. In September 2018, he has signed the contract for external expertise and services and the remaining tenders will be held in the next reporting period.

In addition, PB4 set up a project management team and made the necessary administrative preparations for the implementation of the project, the implementation of which mobilized resources (financial, human and material). PB4 has also prepared an internal action plan for project execution, in contact with the Managing Authority at the Ministry of Regional Development, commensurate with the requirements of the project plan, milestones, and steps of the project implementation team. Concerning deliverables, communication material has been developed (Deliverable 2.4.2). The media promotion material (Deliverable 2.4.3) has been prepared and will be completed within the next reporting period. The work of Partner 4 will then focus on the conduct of scheduled tendering procedures in accordance with Decree No. 160/2016, the conclusion of contracts with the selected contractors and the implementation of the actions of the project.

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

In addition to the first request for modification sent and accepted by PB3 - Borino Municipality, a further modification of the cabinet-refrigerator budget will be requested next time. A detailed request will be sent by PB3 to the LB.

It should be noted about the problems identified in the "SOCIAL PLATE" project, that PB3 encountered a problem with contracts with shops and with producers of agricultural products, because the Social Enterprise has since been operating in the food bin, according to Bulgarian legislation, it is necessary to be registered with a 'food bank', a process that PB3 has already started.

The second problem faced by PB3 is that all the money he had received as a down payment as part of the national co-financing was spent, thus expecting either a loan from the municipality or the bank or up to the amount sent for certification , is returned to your bank account.

#### 4. ANNEX CONTENTS

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

- Documents of the LB's 2nd expenditure certification request
- Certificate of 1st LB's expenditure certification request

- 2nd meeting element of the project “SOCIAL PLATE”
- 3rd official progress report to the Joint Secretariat of the INTERREG V-A Greece-Bulgaria 2014-2020

# ANNEX CONTENT