




Interreg Greece-Bulgaria 	DATE	27 th of June 2022
	TIME	18:00 - 21:00
"INTERREG V-A COOPERATION PROGRAMME: GREECE - BULGARIA 2014-2020"	PLACE	
Minutes "THE HEALTHY MUNICIPALITY " Project Meeting with subject: «Prevention and primary health policies»		Online Zoom Meeting
Project: "Policies for Enhancing Access to Health Services in Deprived Areas" " THE HEALTHY MUNICIPALITY " The Programme is co-funded by the European Union (ERDF) and National Funds of Greece and Bulgaria		
AGENDA		
1st Session – Welcome Speeches		
➤ 18:00 Welcome Speech - Thanos Plevris, Minister of Health		
➤ 18:10 Welcome Speech - Nikolaos Tsalikidis, President of ANRO SA, Deputy Regional Governor of Rodopi Region		
➤ 18:15 Welcome Speech - Dimitrios Lourikas, Managing Director of ANRO SA		
➤ 18:20 Welcome Speech - Aristidis Moisiadis, Thematic Deputy Regional Head of Public Health and Social Policies		
2nd session – Presentations		
➤ 18:30 - 18:40 «Overview of the Project Policies for Enhancing Access to Health Services in Deprived		



Areas - The Healthy Municipality», presentation by **Mr. Kefalidis, Project Manager and General Manager of ANRO SA - Lead Partner**

- 18:40 - 18:50 Executing the pilot prevention plan, presentation by **Mr. Giorgos Ioannidis and Mr. Nikos Pantazis, Democritus-Model Diagnostic Laboratory**
- 18:50 - 19:10 Why the CB Lab?, presentation by **Mr. Athanasios Karamoschos, Transcoop, PB5**
- 19:10 - 19:30 Health policy for disease prevention at local level (for Krumovgrad municipality and Momchilgrad municipality): Conclusions and recommendations from the analysis of demographic, socio-economic & health indicators and from medical analysis, presentation by **Mrs. Zlatka Nikolova, Association of Rhodope Municipalities, PB7**
- 19:30 - 19:50 PB4 Actions during the Project, presentation by **Mrs. Christina Mbouka, Iasmos Municipality, PB4**
- 19:50 - 20:10 LB Actions during the Project - ICT Applications, presentation by **Mr. Giorgos Oikonomopoulos, Infodim, LB Subcontractor**
- 20:10 - 20:20 Project Activity by PB8, presentation by **Mr. Ivaylo Mitkov, PB8**

3rd Session – Questions, Discussion

- 20:20 - 21:00 Questions - Discussion

21:00 End of Meeting

PARTICIPANTS:

ANRO - Regional Development Agency of Rodopi SA (LP - P1)

- Nikolaos Tsalikidis
- Efsthios Kefalidis
- Vasiliki Athanasiadou
- Ioannis Kiosses
- Dimitrios Lourikas
- Giorgos Oikonomopoulos (Infodim)

Municipality of Iasmos (P4)

- Christina Bouka

ARM (PB7)

- Zlatka Nikolova

Municipality of Krumovgrad (PB8)

- Ivaylo Mitkov



Agency for Transnational Training and Development (P5)

- Sakis Kamoschos

Democritus-Model Diagnostic Laboratory

- Giorgos Ioannidis
- Nikos Pantazis

Individuals - Others

- Vassilis Gorgolis
- Christos Dimitrousis
- Dimitris Psaltis
- Spiros Poursanidis
- Maria
- Leyla Karaibryam
- Stamatis Bozidis
- Stavros
- Giannis Nik.
- Giorgos
- Johny K.
- Georgia Kontogianni
- Konstantina
- Pavlos
- N. Kouidis
- Marios Liodakis
- A. Areklakis
- Sofia Pavlatou
- Konstantinos Theodosiadis
- Antonis Kamoschos
- Dynami Psychis, Cancer Patients Association
- Lefteris Tsolakis
- Kostas Markou

GREETINGS - PRESENTATIONS

1ST Greeting from Mr. Tsalikidis (ANRO S.A.)

Mr.Tsalikidis welcomed all the partners who participated in the project and especially the partners from Bulgaria.

He thanked everyone for their participation in this very important project.

The objective through the project has always been to upgrade primary care and health



services and of course through this objective to improve the access of the local community to these services and much more so in the deprived areas.

A deeper objective was to underpin the methodology developed through the project and the establishment of policies that the local community and local government will adopt so that they can make it a tool for citizens and local communities to obtain a better life.

He further stated that the results of the project made us all proud and pledged to claim other similar projects in the future.

2ND Greeting from Mr. Lourikas (ANRO S.A.)

Mr. Lourikas welcomed all those present and stressed that when a project is completed he always has the special pleasure of mentioning the potential of the Rhodope Development Agency and especially this time.

He mentioned that the provision of health services in remote cross-border areas is mainly focused on dealing with emergencies rather than preventing them, while the project comes to introduce prevention policies.

Usually such projects are judged, from the CEO's point of view, by numbers but at this time we are not talking about numbers because we are talking about health.

This time saving even one life is important, because health is the ultimate good.

He added to what Mr. Tsalikidis said that some pathologies that exist in the region have become apparent and he believes that other programs will be able to take advantage of the results of this program by meeting objectives that may have been set by the Ministry of Health (such as prevention, upgrading primary and secondary health and digital health).

He added that health is also a development issue, because the health of citizens is a pillar of prosperity and an indicator of quality of life.

1ST Presentation from Mr. Efsthathios Kefalidis, General Manager of ANRO

Mr. Kefalidis started with a general presentation of the project and outlined the policies to enhance access to Health Services in deprived areas

He stated that the program, although it covered 1,000 free medical examinations for the citizens and despite the great and collective mobilization of the Municipality, the participation was limited. He concluded that proper prevention is not in Greek culture unfortunately.

Moreover, Mr. Kefalidis mention the difficulties they faced in the program such as the two invalid competitions of the diagnostic centers in the beginning, the effect of the pandemic that turned the health units into vaccination centers and the insupportable bureaucracy that wasted valuable resources.

Moreover he presented the results of the project containing:



- Equipment for the Health Center in the Municipality of Iasmos
- Equipment for the Regional Medical Center of the Municipality of Arriana
- Equipment for the Health Unit of the Municipality of Krumovgrad
- Equipment for the Health Unit of the Municipality of Momchilgrad
- Digital maps for morbidity and health infrastructures
- A website
- A health platform, including a digital database, an alert system and 500 patient cards per area.

In closing, he said that they already have the first results from the participating citizens in the free medical prevention exams and according to the findings, the program can be considered very successful because it can save lives.

2nd Presentation from Mr. Pantazis, Demokritos Diagnostic Center

Mr. Pantazis in the beginning of his speech informed us about the phases of the examinations of the program, presenting many interesting quantitative data from citizens who were examined and the diagnoses that followed.

In addition, he mentioned that within the framework of the program, 4 sessions of informing the citizens on health issues were held.

In the conclusions of his presentation, Mr. Pantazis stressed the benefit of the program as far as Public Health is concerned and proceeded with some proposals that could improve the program, in order to offer a greater and more substantial impact.

Closing his presentation, he thanked the stakeholders who helped in the implementation of the program and warmly supported the need for citizens to have a colonoscopy and mammogram as there are most cases of cancer.

3rd Presentation from Mr. Athanasios Karamoschos, Transnational Education and Development Company - Transcoop (PB5)

He delivered a presentation named "Why the CB Lab?".

He referred to the objective of the project and the need to involve local governments in the Health Sector.

He mentioned that the project attempts to introduce the sense of prevention, design and test policies and develop tools.

Mr. Karamoschos continued by emphasizing that

- People are sick and do not know it



- People have been sick without knowing about it
- People suffer from diseases which need special treatment and regulation (e.g. diabetes, heart, vascular diseases, etc.) without caring for them (severe problems in the future)
- They are not aware of the importance of prevention
- People are **not sensitized** on the need to care for their health (on the importance of health), so they don't care until a problem comes up
- It is **not a matter of costing** that hampers people of medical exams (when offered free people did not respond)
- Awareness raising and information on health very important- a **health culture** under the population needed
- Awareness raising on **prevention** is very important

He presented what the CB Lab is for and why it is needed and also mentioned potential actions.

4th Presentation from Mrs. Zlatka Nikolova, Representative of the Association of Rhodope Municipalities (PB7)

Mrs. Nikolova presented the conclusions of the project for the Krumovgrad and Momchilgrad Regions.

In her presentation she referred to

- Conclusions and recommendations from the analysis of demographic, socio-economic and health indicators and
- Conclusions and recommendations from the medical analysis.

5th Presentation from Mrs. Christina Bouka, Representative of the Municipality of Iasmos (PB4)

Mrs. Bouka was invited to present the PB4 Actions in the Project.

In her presentation she referred to the actions which included:

- Supply of medical equipment for supporting the Primary Health Care in the Municipality
- Diagnosis of diseases in vulnerable groups of the population through medical examinations and counseling
- Support target groups in group sessions aiming at the early diagnosis of symptoms and the adoption of a healthy lifestyle and
- Use of the digital tools and the digital infrastructure of the project for the design of local prevention policies and for the effective support of the population in the field of Primary Health Care.



6th Presentation from Mr. Giorgos Oikonomopoulos, Representative of Infodim (LB Subcontractor)

In the introduction to his presentation, Mr. Oikonomopoulos referred to the role of Infodim in the context of the project.

In the main part of his presentation, Mr. Oikonomopoulos introduced the website <https://healthmublic.com> which Infodim has created. In this context, he mentioned all the additionally features and capabilities that the platform can provide to the user or for the citizens.

In addition, he referred to the project management tools of the platform. This was followed by a detailed description and visual representation of the design of the digital map for morbidity and health infrastructure.

Finally, Mr. Economopoulos presented the Digital Public Health Platform. Explain how it works step by step, its capabilities and its usefulness for the program.

7th Presentation from Mr. Ivsylo Mitkov, Representative of the Krumovgrad Municipality (PB8)

Mr. Mitkov presented the Project Activities that Krumovgrad completed.

These included:

- Construction and Repair work
- Medical Equipment
- Identifying the Morbidity of the population of Krumovgrad Municipality
- information seminars

Closing his presentation, he thanked the stakeholders who helped in the implementation of the program.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Mr. Athanasios Karamoschos

He made a remark that simple actions, like the ones implemented in the Project, might be very interesting for the entire project network and essentially help the municipalities to adopt health policies without any additional effort.

These activities are linked to other sectors as well and can help in many aspects of the program and initiatives.

More importantly the health sector is linked to other sectors even if this is not obvious, like environment, energy, urban planning, residential conditions etc., which can contribute to the overall health of the citizens of deprived areas, even if it is not obvious.



He concluded that this is important as a message for future funding.

Mrs. Nikolova

She mentioned that maybe another topic like recycling of wastes and reuse of products can be important and linked to the reduction of carbon emissions and energy consumption which is also linked to better health for people living in such deprived areas.

Mr. Athanasios Karamoschos

He mentioned that it would be interesting to see how the private sector can cooperate with the public health sector.

In the case of Iasmos, i.e., not all doctor specialties were available, so it could be better to have a public-private sector cooperation to provide doctors specialties that are absent in these areas, in planned intervals.

Mr. Pantazis mentioned that the private sector would be very interested in such a model. He referred to other countries that utilize such a cooperation with mobile equipment that is transferred from area to area.

Event Closing

Mr. Kefalidis closed the event by mentioning the importance of the project and thanking all the participants.

ATTACHMENTS

- Agenda and invitation
- List of participants
- Zoom Meeting Video Recording
- Press releases
- Facebook Promotion Poster
- Presentations