

ANNUAL REPORT

2022



Ecumenical
Humanitarian
Organization



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Organization

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Dear reader,

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the annual report of the Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation for 2022. This year our organisation succeeded in conducting 52 projects all over Serbia. These include both short-term and long-term projects, falling into our five programme categories – civil society, social welfare, diaconia, interfaith and interethnic cooperation and humanitarian work – all of which aim to improve the status of vulnerable groups in our country.

This year, too, the Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation has been working to address broad societal problems through the provision of material assistance, legal support, economic empowerment, assistance in education, the improvement of housing conditions, home care and home assistance, social and emotional support, the development of innovative services, and more besides. We have worked successfully with all partners who are of significance in addressing specific problems in society: donors, local authorities, provincial and national bodies and other major institutions.

More than 130 employees, more than 70 external associates working in the field and 60 volunteers, all working for the good of others in order to fulfil our slogan, “With our neighbours, for our neighbours, beside our neighbours,” which is our guiding principle in every project. This year our organisation has also initiated several new projects working with migrants and refugees, as well as with returnees under the readmission agreements.

Next year – 2023 – will be of key importance for our organisation as we celebrate 30 years of EHO and plan a range of activities to mark this significant milestone.

Director Anna Brtka Valent

ABOUT US

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The Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation is a development organisation which through practical action in implementing projects, and guided by Christian ethical values, is contributing to the building of a just society in which diversity is respected.

Human rights, equality and human dignity, peace and reconciliation, interfaith cooperation, solidarity, social justice and inclusion, sustainable development, accountability, efficacy and transparency as well as a participative approach, are the basic values of EHO, and those which guide the organisation in its work.

EHO's target groups are all vulnerable and marginalised groups whose human rights are compromised or who are discriminated against. The organisation works directly with children and young people, people with disabilities, the elderly, migrant men and women, Roma men and women, people with health issues, the unemployed, girls and women, young church leaders and civil society organisations. EHO also works with local communities, provincial and national government bodies and state institutions – all those who are responsible for implementing policies aimed at improving the status of vulnerable and marginalised groups.

EHO's vision:

A civil society fostering human dignity.

EHO's mission:

The Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation is a development organisation which through practical action, guided by Christian ethical values, is contributing to the building of a just society in which diversity is respected.

EHO's strategic objectives (2019-2023):

- Development of a civil society through advocacy for rights, social inclusion and developing the potential of vulnerable groups, as well as through partnerships with state institutions and other stakeholders;
- Integrating EHO services into the existing system of social welfare and developing innovative services by building our own capacities and partnering with all interested parties;
- Improving cooperation between ethnic and faith communities in the country through information-sharing, public advocacy, partnership, development of intercultural values, establishing dialogue and joint initiatives for peace-building and reconciliation;
- Participative management, developing and building organisational resources and capacities and securing the institutional and financial sustainability of the organisation.

MUNICIPALITIES AND PLACES WHERE WE WORKED IN 2022



Subotica

Novi Sad

Sombor

Žabljak

Šid

Bački Petrovac

Plandište

Zrenjanin

Kovin

Bač

Titel

Kovačica

Kikinda

Novi Bečeј

Bečeј

Bačka Palanka

Stara Pazova

Ruma

Šabac



Pećinci

Sremska Mitrovica

Smederevska

Palanka

Kragujevac

Zvezdara

Palilula

Obrenovac

Arandželovac

Požega

Kanjiža

Alibunar

Valjevo

Gadžin Han

Mali Iđoš

Opovo

Lajkovac

Pirot

Subotica

Tutin

Sjenica

Bosilegrad



Bela Palanka

Nova Crnja

Kula

Beograd

Kruševac

Surdulica

Vladicin Han

Velika Plana

Bujanovac

Babušnica

Raška

Preševo

Mionica

Kraljevo

Aleksinac

Bor

Knjaževac

Vranje

Leskovac

Lebane

**TOTAL NUMBER OF DIREKT
BENEFICIARIES:**

15709

**TOTAL NUMBER OF
INDIREKT BENEFICIARIES:**

22726

SOCIAL INCLUSION OF ROMA AND OTHER SENSITIVE GROUPS IN SERBIA 2019-2022



Implementation of this four-year project was continued in 2022. Project activities targeted towards improving the living conditions of Roma men and women and other people from vulnerable categories in three areas – housing, education and legal support – were successfully completed.

The project was implemented in partnership with 11 local government authorities: Novi Sad, Žabalj, Smederevska Palanka, Kragujevac, Šabac, Zvezdara, Obrenovac, Aranđelovac, Surdulica, Požega and Raška.

We supported 107 families from substandard settlements in Žabalj, Kać, Kovilj, Begeč, the village of Pridvorice, the village of Banja and the Belgrade municipality of Zvezdara in drawing up the necessary documents and providing advice in the process of legalising illegally constructed dwellings. Housing support in the form of packages of building materials were received by 15 families in the city municipality of Zvezdara. The city municipality of Zvezdara co-financed the housing support portion of the project for 5 out of the 15 Roma families.

Additional learning support was organised at weekends in four primary schools in Žabalj, Đurđevo and Smederevska Palanka. A total of 107 children were supported who are at risk of social exclusion and dropping out of the education system. Peer support was provided by 18 pupil volunteers with mentorship from 17 young people, mostly students. Intercultural and inclusivity training was completed by 116 teachers from 6 schools in Požega, Žabalj, Obrenovac, Grabovac and Đurđevo. Small school projects aimed at strengthening interculturality, inclusiveness and antidiscriminatory values were conducted in partnership with 10 schools. Schools in Novi Sad, Žabalj, Đurđevo, Kragujevac, Smederevska Palanka, Raška and Begeč were awarded grants to conduct these projects.

Two professional training seminars were organised in Novi Sad and Belgrade for 30 providers of free legal advice working in local government authorities that are partnered with us. The project team provided legal information on an ongoing basis to all project participants receiving support in the process of legalising their dwellings.

Models for practice in working with the Roma community which EHO has for more than two decades been developing and implementing in its work were shared at the Roma Forum 2022. The Roma Forum 2022 was organised in Čuprija by EHO together with its project partners. Taking part in the Forum were 20 Roma journalists from Belgrade, Novi Sad, Niš, Leskovac, Kragujevac, Jagodina, Čuprija and Pirot.

Coordinator: Slađana Jovanović > sladjana@ehons.org

PARTNERSHIP IN IMPLEMENTING THE “ACCESS TO WATER” INTERVENTION PROJECT

The “Reducing additional vulnerability of Roma men and women and other marginalised groups, caused by the COVID-19 pandemic” project is being implemented by the General Secretariat, represented by SIPRU, Belgrade, with the Center for Interactive Pedagogy and the Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation from Novi Sad as sub-implementation partners. These activities are part of the German developmental partnership programme, “Inclusion of Roma and other marginalised groups in Serbia”, being implemented by the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) in partnership with the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights and Social Dialogue.

As a sub-implementation partner, the Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation has been coordinating implementation of the Access to Water intervention in seven local authority catchment areas: Kanjiža, Alibunar, Zrenjanin, Kovin, Stara Pazova, Smederevska Palanka and Valjevo.

Thanks to the construction and/or reconstruction of water supply networks and individual connections to the network carried out under the project, 552 families from 19 substandard settlements in the aforementioned 7 local authority areas have clean drinking water in their homes.

Project activities to provide access to drinking water were complete in July 2022.

Coordinator: Sladana Jovanović > sladjana@ehons.org



PARTNERSHIP: WORKING AND BUILDING FOR AN INCLUSIVE RAŠKA – “EU SUPPORT TO SOCIAL HOUSING AND ACTIVE INCLUSION” PROGRAMME

The project is being conducted by the municipality of Raška in partnership with the Centre for Social Work in Raška and the Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation from Novi Sad. The project is being conducted as part of the “EU Support to Social Housing and Active Inclusion” programme. The programme is being implemented in Serbia by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS).

The project supported 25 families/75 individuals during 2022 through measures to improve their living conditions and facilitate their inclusion in society. Members of the families supported received assistance on an ongoing basis in pursuing their social and economic rights, as well as in strengthening their work competencies in order to improve their opportunities in the labour market.

A total of 18 families from the Roma community will be housed in newly-constructed social housing in the Kučevski Lug neighbourhood in Raška at the beginning of 2023. Two families from the Roma community will be housed in two social houses in Raška. Repair and adaptation work was completed on the houses of five families that have members with disabilities or are female victims of domestic violence, and their housing conditions improved.

Members of families involved in the project receive support on an ongoing basis in the form of additional support measures in the education of their children, strengthening the family unit, employability and employment, access to health and welfare services and procuring personal documents.

Project activities will continue into the next year and go on until July 2023.

Grant Manager: Sladana Jovanović > sladjana@ehons.org



MOBILISATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE ROMA COMMUNITY – A STEP FORWARD

The objective of the project is to develop capacities in representatives of marginalised groups in municipalities in Serbia which are partnered with the Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation, as well as to acquaint them with basic human rights, mentor them and develop their skills.

In 2022 the focus was on additionally strengthening capacities by:

- Equipping offices for organisations/informal groups in Žabalj, Smederevska Palanka and Aranđelovac;
- Holding online talks on the following topics: human rights, gender-based violence, discrimination and human trafficking;
- Adopting an Anti-Discrimination Code in Kragujevac and Aranđelovac, aimed at protecting human rights, prevention, combating discrimination and ensuring the better exchange of information;
- Working on improving economic and social rights through a series of forums held in partnership with NGOs.

Coordinator: Gorana Sredanović > gorana@ehons.org



IMPROVING THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF THE MARGINALISED IN VOJVODINA THROUGH EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT



In 2022 we continued implementing project activities aimed at improving the socio-economic situation of marginalised groups in Vojvodina in two areas: economic empowerment and education. The plan over the duration of the project (2019 -2022) is to support 590 members of marginalised groups (Roma, the internally displaced, returnees, recipients of social benefits, families living below the poverty line) through a variety of activities.

Monitoring visits to 60 beneficiaries, who have been supported since the beginning of the project with start-up grants in the form of tools and equipment for self-employment, allowed us to evaluate the effectiveness of the measures implemented thus far and plan future ones. Monitoring also included nine beneficiaries who have been supported in the process of registering a small business, as well as with equipment and tools to a value of €3,000 and accounting services paid for a duration of 6 months. Ongoing consultancy support (business mentorship) was available to these new businesses, with the idea of strengthening their personal capacities, monitoring the implementation of their business plan, resolving challenges faced by the beneficiaries in their business and also in ensuring that the business was operating and functioning legally. Beneficiaries were also entitled to consulting services from a law firm in order to ensure they were keeping in line with regulations and improving existing procedures and their working environment. Four joint meetings were held for beneficiaries who have been supported with grants in the preceding period, intended to provide additional support through the exchange of experiences and information, networking and creating opportunities for future partnerships.

In partnership with primary schools in Novi Sad, Subotica, Kikinda, Zrenjanin, Novi Bečej, Srpska Crnja and Feketić, 148 pupils were supported, from first to eighth grade, with a particular focus on children attending seventh and eighth grade. Individual mentorship, workshops and assistance with school supplies and obtaining documents were provided, in order to improve the integration of children into the education system and to help them achieve the best results they can in school. These activities also contribute to greater motivation in pupils, increased awareness of the importance of education and lower drop-out rates. Also, successful pupils, especially girls, are examples of good practice and can help change attitudes in those around them, and in the long term increase the chances of employment and an escape from poverty.

Through these interconnected components (educating children, economic empowerment, training etc.) we want to contribute towards improving the status of marginalised groups and reducing their social exclusion.



The following activities were conducted from January to June 2022:

- Monitoring and consultative support provided to 60 beneficiaries supported with start-up grants;
- Monitoring and consultative support provided to 9 beneficiaries supported with entrepreneurial venture grants;
- 4 joint meetings organised for supported beneficiaries in order for them to exchange experiences and to network;
- Personal documents obtained for 15 beneficiaries;
- 149 pupils supported with individual mentorship and school supplies;
- 38 workshops held on learning skills, strengthening accountability and self-confidence, communication and presentation skills, motivation to continue schooling and other subjects.

Number of users in this period: 233

Coordinator: Tanja Stojković > tanjas@ehons.org

SCHOOL BAGS AND PENCIL CASES FOR ROMA PUPILS

Before the beginning of the 2022/2023 school year, EHO organised the procurement and distribution of school bags, exercise books and drawing pads for first-grade Roma pupils from the Veliki Rit substandard settlement just outside Novi Sad who are attending Dušan Radović Primary School.

The project supported 50 first-grade Roma pupils (26 boys and 24 girls) who were considered socially vulnerable.

Coordinator: Tanja Stojković > tanjas@ehons.org





CIVIL SOCIETY

EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF MARGINALISED GROUPS

In July 2022, activities began on a new three-year project aimed at improving the socio-economic status of marginalised groups in Vojvodina. The plan over the duration of the project (1st July 2022 – 30th June 2025) is to support 588 members of marginalised groups (Roma, the internally displaced, returnees, recipient of social benefits) through a variety of activities.

Three training events about writing a business plan were organised during this period, aimed at improving opportunities for increasing income amongst marginalised groups, which were attended by 49 beneficiaries. The knowledge gained during the training was put into practice by 44 beneficiaries who completed a business plan with the help of a mentor and applied for a start-up grant in the form of tools and equipment for self-employment. After the selection process, which included individual on-site evaluations, 14 beneficiaries were supported with business start-up grants. In addition to this activity, support was planned for beneficiaries in registering a small business, procuring equipment and paying for accountancy services. Monitoring and support from a mentor was made available to all beneficiaries for the duration of the project.

In order to improve the educational integration of children and young people belonging to marginalised groups, cooperation was established with primary schools in Novi Sad, Subotica, Zrenjanin and Ruma, as well as two secondary schools in Novi Sad which are part of the dual education system. A total of 123 pupils from the first to eighth grade were supported with individual mentorship, school supplies and workshops, with a special focus on children attending the first, fifth and eighth grade of primary school and the final grades of secondary school. Technical support was provided to all schools involved in the project in the form of equipment meeting the needs of the particular school.

The activities contribute to more successful integration of children into the education system, better school performance, reducing the drop-out rate and increasing the numbers of those completing their education and going on to further schooling. These activities also contribute to improving pupil motivation, developing digital literacy, increasing awareness of the importance of education and providing the best possible preparation for the world of employment.

Through complementary activities in the areas of education and economic empowerment we are striving to provide equal opportunities to marginalised groups in order to help them to emerge from poverty and improve their position in society.



The following activities were conducted from July to December 2022:

- 3 training events held, and 49 beneficiaries gained basic knowledge on writing a business plan by working directly with a trainer;
- 14 beneficiaries were supported with beginners' grants;
- 123 pupils were supported with individual mentorship and school supplies;
- 24 workshops were held on learning skills, strengthening accountability and self-confidence, communication and presentation skills, motivation to continue schooling and other subjects;
- Technical equipment was provided to schools involved in the project (interactive boards, computers, projectors etc.).

Number of users in this period: 172

Coordinator: Tanja Stojković > tanjast@ehons.org

WITH AND FOR THE ROMA IN THE DANUBE REGION

This is a project aimed at exchanging experiences, knowledge and examples of good practice in working with the Roma community and other marginalised groups in the countries of the Danube region.

The project consists of three phases:

Phase A: Capacity-building in Roma villages for the prevention of domestic violence in the regions of Sibiu in Romania and Vojvodina in Serbia

Phase B: Educational measures in the fight against poverty in Roma settlements in Slovakia and Serbia

Phase C: Providing advice and information on the mobility of Roma in Stuttgart and Novi Sad as part of social work in the field and support for legal migrations.

In addition to the three main phases, the project also involved regular contacts with partners, study visits to the countries of the Danube region, issuing publications with examples of good practices in working with the target group, an evaluation meeting in Serbia and a closing congress in Romania.

The project was conducted by EHO in partnership with Diakonie Württemberg of Germany and partners from the Transylvania Evangelical Academy from Sibiu, Romania and Diakonia from Slovakia, during the period December 2020 – March 2022.

The project was made possible with the financial support of the State Ministry of Baden-Württemberg and the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR). This macro-regional strategy is aimed at strengthening partnerships amongst the countries of the Danube region and involves nine EU member states: Bulgaria, Germany, Croatia, Austria, Czechia, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia. Non-EU countries involved are Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Moldavia and Ukraine.

Coordinator: Milisav Milinković > milisav@ehons.org





CIVIL SOCIETY



SUPPORT FOR THE INTEGRATION OF RETURNEE FAMILIES



This project addresses the integration of returnees under the Readmission Agreement from the state of Baden-Württemberg and other parts of Germany to Serbia, seeking to support their dignified return and prevent the key causes of repeat illegal migration.

The project contributes towards solving the problems of returnee families through various support measures provided by the local integration officers who comprise the Network for Integration in Serbia. Support for the integration of returnee families includes the following measures:

MEASURE 1. Establishing minimum sanitary standards and improving housing conditions: interior work in dwellings and minor repairs in houses;

MEASURE 2. Economic empowerment measures through self-employment, the selection of candidates with the best business initiatives and award of start-up grants to them, and informing and advising returnees about the opportunities for seeking work;

MEASURE 3. Urgent aid: obtaining food, hygiene products, medications for people with no health insurance in order to continue their treatment, school supplies and essential documents, depending on the needs of the family;

MEASURE 4. Connecting returnee families with state institutions and NGOs.

During the project the network of local workers has been continually working on connecting returnee families with all relevant local institutions and NGOs in order to identify any additional opportunities and resources to better integrate the beneficiaries.

In the period 2020-2023 the project aims to support 130 vulnerable families returning voluntarily or being deported from Germany to Serbia.

In 2022, 33 families from Serbia were supported, with more than 130 family members.

Coordinator: Milisav Milinković > milisav@ehons.org



ASSISTANCE FOR A NEW START

This project, targeting returnees under the readmission agreements in order to facilitate their better, legal access to public services, better access to employment and to improve their living conditions, began in December 2020. Under the project, the plan was for assistance to be provided primarily to returnees in the towns of Sremska Mitrovica, Ruma and Pećinci, but also to cover a wider area including the whole of Vojvodina, with Novi Sad as the focal point. During 2022, 231 people were provided with legal support (providing information and securing personal documents), 28 people completed training in writing a business plan, 25 people received self-employment support (100 family members) in the form of equipment for their work and professional guidance, and 22 people (114 family members) got housing support in the form of home repairs. EHO continued its involvement in all relevant events in order to work towards improving existing policies and practices relating to the (re)integration of (Roma) returnees. The project will continue until the end of May 2023, providing additional forms of support to beneficiaries in the same locations.

- Three project locations: Sremska Mitrovica, Ruma and Pećinci, with Novi Sad as the focal point.
- Beneficiaries of the project services are 80% returnees and up to 20% non-returnees.
- Three project components: legal support, support for self-employment and support for improving living conditions.

Services provided were supported by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Technical Cooperation and Development (BMZ) as part of the Migration for Development (PME) programme.

Coordinator: Ana Birgeš > ana@ehons.org



SUPPORT FOR THE EDUCATION OF SOCIALLY DEPRIVED CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN SERBIA

The objective of this three-and-a-half-year project is to improve opportunities and success rates in educating socially deprived children and youth (from poor families, and those belonging to especially vulnerable categories such as those from the Roma community, or children and youth with disabilities and/or developmental difficulties). This is the third project cycle and has brought on board five new schools, which means that the project is now being conducted in a total of 14 local communities all over Serbia: Mali Iđoš, Bač (Selenča), Šid, Opovo, Lajkovac (Jabučje), Mionica, Kraljevo, Aleksinac (Aleksinački Rudnici), Kruševac (Gornji Stepoš), Bor, Knjaževac, Leskovac, Lebane (Bošnjace) and Vranje. Support is being provided on an ongoing basis to primary school pupils in grades five to eight, as well as the first grade of secondary school, by organising supplemental lessons and workshops, buying them school supplies and covering food and travel costs, among other ways. Two laptops were also donated to each school as technical support for project activities. Through this project EHO seeks to support the efforts of schools and local communities in investing in the education of children from poor families and in so doing achieve positive personal, social and economic change.

During 2022:

- 216 children and youth received ongoing project support;
- 1,196 supplemental lessons were organised to help improve children's results, as well as 91 workshops with additional psychological and pedagogical support for them and 50 workshops aimed at motivating and empowering their parents;
- 22 teachers underwent 10 accredited training sessions relevant to working with children from families of lower socio-economic status.

Coordinator: Damir Krkobabić > damir@ehons.org



OUTREACH WORK WITH CHILDREN AT RISK OF LIVING AND/OR WORKING ON THE STREET



Activities under the “Outreach work with children at risk of living and/or working on the street” project are conducted in Novi Sad in three substandard neighbourhoods – Bangladeš, Veliki Rit and part of the Adice neighbourhood. The objective of the project is to reduce the number of children and youth who see the street as a significant aspect of their identity, and to increase the number of children and youth involved in ongoing social and educational activities.

Accordingly, activities are conducted directly in the field and in cooperation with educational institutions. Conducting support activities directly in the field were 4 peer educators and 10 outreach support volunteers (who carried out a total of 496 outreach visits), while educational support within educational institutions was provided by 16 educational support volunteers (conducting a total of 596 visits to schools). Learning support was provided to 205 pupils of primary schools Jozef Atila, Vuk Karadžić and Dušan Radović in Novi Sad, Veljko Petrović Primary School in Begeč and users of the Drop-In Centre for Children and Youth, Novi Sad, with 243 children supported with school supplies.

In 2022 partnership was also continued with the Dr Rodolphe Archibald Reiss Professional Police Association, and the fourth cycle of the sports activity workshops went ahead, involving 91 children. Participants also received participation certificates. A New Year’s show was also organised for children, as well as a distribution of a total of 253 New Year’s gift packages in substandard settlements.

Training was organised for educational and outreach support volunteers on the topic of Conflict Management. Also, to mark World Children’s Day on 20th November, a project publication was issued titled “A step towards an inclusive society through support for children at risk of living and/or working on the street”.

Coordinator: Vedrana Bjelajac > vedrana@ehons.org



CAPACITY-BUILDING –EXCHANGE OF GOOD PRACTICES AND COOPERATION IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION TO GENERATE ENGAGEMENT

During 2022 there was a continuation of the project aimed at capacity-building of humanitarian organisations to receive and manage volunteers according to EU standards. During the first project year, EHO received a certificate under the EU Aid Volunteers programme, and in 2021 an application was submitted for Quality Label certification. The benefit of receiving this certification is that it opens up the possibility of applying for Solidarity Corps funding and programmes. In March 2022, the European Commission gave a positive assessment of EHO's compliance with its Quality Label standard. The certificate EHO received is valid until 2027, when validation will need to be repeated.

Project activities were organised with the mentorship of ADRA Slovakia, as part of a consortium comprising European and non-European partners. The focus of the work in 2022 was on presenting project results. Accordingly, the EHO project team together with partners from Serbia took part in the 7th Serbian Visions multicongress organised by the German-Serbian Chamber of Commerce on the topic "Towards a better society – voluntary service". In addition to this the EHO team shared the results of the project at a total of 5 meetings, attended by 72 participants. The final activity activity was held in Cantù and included a meeting organised by ASPEm, Italy who coordinated the project, at which final conclusions were presented. A training event organised by ADRA Slovakia on the topic of Conflict Management was also a significant contribution towards strengthening the capacities of EHO.

Project coordinator: Vedrana Bjelajac > vedrana@ehons.org



PROJECTS SUPPORTING CANCER PATIENTS

The objective of the project activities is to provide practical, functional, social and emotional support to patients, improve the quality of their hospital stay and promote voluntary work in healthcare institutions, as well as contribute to the well-being of patients and improve their quality of life.

Supporting cancer patients entails talking and actively listening to them, keeping them company when they are alone, as well as providing essential information and emotional support for the patients, their families and their friends, via phone and through personal visits, emails and letters.

During 2022, volunteers on the project took 432 calls to the helpline.

Coordinator: Borka Vrekić > borka@ehons.org





SOCIAL WELFARE



HOME ASSISTANCE AND HOME CARE

The overall objective of the programme is to improve the quality of life of the elderly and sick by providing a high standard of home care and assistance services. EHO was awarded a licence to provide home assistance services by the Ministry for Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Policy in September 2015.

The programme is being conducted in a number of municipalities – Bački Petrovac, Novi Sad, Plandište, Stara Pazova, Opovo, Gadžin Han, Alibunar and Raška. Home assistance and home care services are available to elderly people who have physical or mental difficulties which prevent them from living independently in their own homes without regular assistance in carrying out their everyday activities, or without care or supervision, and where family support is either insufficient or unavailable.

During 2022, the home assistance and home care services had 1,132 beneficiaries. 80 medical nurses and carers were contracted to provide medical and social services, providing a total of 95,500 home visits. The psychosocial assistance volunteer service was used by 35 elderly people in Novi Sad.

Coordinator: Borka Vrekić > borka@ehons.org



CHILD'S PERSONAL ASSISTANT

EHO was issued a licence to provide personal assistance services to children by the Ministry for Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Policy in February 2019. A personal assistant is made available to a child with a disability or developmental difficulty who needs support in meeting basic needs in everyday life – getting around, maintaining personal hygiene, feeding, dressing and communicating with others. The support of a personal assistant is provided to children who are in the school system, from kindergarten until the end of regular schooling, including secondary school.

The role of the personal assistant is to provide appropriate individual and practical support to the child in order to enable him/her to attend regular schooling and participate in community activities, as well as to maximise his/her independence.

Partners on the project are the municipalities of Bački Petrovac, Raška and Gadžin Han. During 2022, 37 personal assistants were retained, with support provided to 37 children within the school system.

Coordinator: Borka Vrekić > borka@ehons.org





THERAPY AND COUNSELLING, AND SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES



The beneficiaries of the services are children, young people and adults with mental and physical developmental difficulties within the municipality of Raška. Therapeutic/advisory and social/educational services include clinical psychological and special needs evaluation and diagnosis, speech therapy, mental and psychological treatment, individual treatment and rehabilitation of children aged up to 18 years of age, as well as counselling for parents. Semi-intensive psychological, special needs and speech therapy treatments are provided via group or individual work, depending on the needs of beneficiaries. For adults, these services include vocational training using machines for working with wood, metal, plastic, paper and textile, depending on their abilities and needs.

All those using the services for more than four hours a day are provided with a meal, tailored to their developmental and healthcare needs. The service is provided on a continuous basis to each beneficiary every working day or one or more times during the week according to the scope envisaged in their individual support plan, the recommendation of the Centre for Social Work and the opinion of the interdisciplinary medical board. EHO's partner on the project is the municipality of Raška.

The total number of beneficiaries in 2022 was 44. Of those, 17 beneficiaries used the services of the physiotherapist, 22 beneficiaries the services of the special needs teacher, the speech therapist 10 beneficiaries, the psychologist 44 beneficiaries, day- and personal care 16 beneficiaries, minivan transport 21 beneficiaries and food services 35 beneficiaries.

Coordinator: Borka Vrekić > borka@ehons.org

SENIORS' CLUB

The Seniors' Club is an ongoing service we provide to older members of the community. It is a meeting-point for around 20 senior citizens 2-3 times a week for socialising and for various cultural and entertainment activities, workshops and talks. A range of services are available to them to use at the club, depending on which projects have received approval: medical services, pedicure, psychological counselling and various courses. The more socially vulnerable seniors can use the free laundry service and get second-hand clothing and other household items. In 2022 more than 500 visits were recorded, 90 workshops and 10 cultural/entertainment events. The Martha Centre humanitarian service provides support to socially vulnerable groups in Novi Sad and Vojvodina in the form of second-hand clothing, footwear, household items and free laundry services. The centre is a collection point for second-hand clothing which is made use of primarily by Roma families, displaced persons and the elderly. In 2022 more than 3 tonnes of second-hand clothing were collected and distributed. Laundry services are used annually by 10 beneficiaries belonging to marginalised groups in Novi Sad.

Coordinator: Marija Parnicki > marija@ehons.org





HUMANITARIAN WORK



RESOURCE CENTRE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The centre aims to improve the quality of life of people with disabilities, developing activism and autonomy and economically empowering them. The Centre is used by 10 adult and elderly beneficiaries with varying types and degrees of disability. A variety of workshops are available to them as part of an occupational programme. The most significant activity, which continued throughout the year, was the EHO tailoring workshop, a project which this year employed four seamstresses – women from marginalised groups – who worked on recycling clothing and providing tailoring services to the general public. This year the tailors not only sewed unique items of clothing and accessories but also toys for children. They sewed a total of over 300 various unique items and accessories and 250 individual tailoring services of various kinds were provided. We took part in 8 bazaars and fairs.

You can see these products at: <https://www.instagram.com/ehokrojackiproizvodi>.

Coordinator: Marija Parnicki > marija@ehons.org



ECUMENICAL FORUM AND WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The ecumenical women's work operates as part of the Ecumenical Women's Forum of Vojvodina and the committee of the World Day of Prayer. The aim is to promote interchurch dialogue and peace-building in Serbia and the region. This committee is comprised of women from five churches and gets involved in various ecumenical events. In 2022 we took part in World Day of Prayer, a regional ecumenical conference titled "Women and migrations from the Western Balkans" and various seminars in Serbia and the region.

Coordinator: Marija Parnicki > marija@ehons.org





HUMANITARIAN WORK



PREVENTION OF BREAST AND CERVICAL CANCER IN WOMEN IN RURAL AREAS OF VOJVODINA

This women's health project began in 2021. The objective of the project is to raise the awareness of women in rural areas of Vojvodina about the importance of prevention and early detection of cancers and the need for timely treatment. The doctor we have retained on the project visits women's organisations in Vojvodina communities and holds health workshops, refers women to the appropriate institutions and encourages them to get regular check-ups. In 2022 a total of 5 workshops were held in five communities in Vojvodina with around 90 women taking part. As part of the project 150 brochures were handed out. A special email address was also set up (zdravlje@ehons.org) for additional consultations with the doctor, where questions can be asked confidentially, providing another way for women to get answers to their questions.

Coordinator: Marija Parnicki > marija@ehons.org



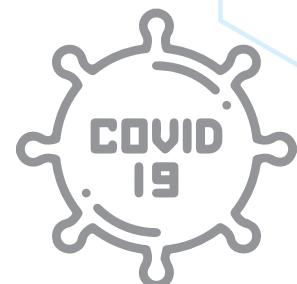
EHO APPEAL 2022 – SUPPORT FOR VULNERABLE ROMA FAMILIES DURING COVID-19



The Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation provided packages of humanitarian assistance to vulnerable Roma families in Serbia through this project which was supported by the Hope for Eastern Europe (Hoffnung für Osteuropa – HfO) programme and Diakonie Württemberg from Germany. In the period between January and September 2022, 150 packages of food and hygiene products were distributed as urgent assistance to families additionally impacted by the fallout from the COVID-19 crisis. As these mapped Roma families were scattered all over Serbia, distribution of the packages was done via the network of local integration workers, who made sure that the assistance reached the families that needed it most.

Humanitarian aid in the form of food parcels and personal hygiene and household hygiene supplies was distributed to the most vulnerable Roma living in the following municipalities and cities in the Republic of Serbia: Novi Sad, Sremska Mitrovica, Vladičin Han, Surdulica, Novi Bečeј, Stari Bečeј, Bačko Petrovo Selo, Bačka Palanka, Smederevska Palanka, Bujanovac, Babušnica, Pirot, Kikinda, Crepaja, Mali Idoš, Kruševac, Kragujevac, Lebane and others. This distribution was part of the broader efforts of the Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation to help alleviate the impact of the coronavirus pandemic in Serbia.

Coordinator: Milisav Milinković > milisav@ehons.org





ADDITIONAL EHO ACTIVITIES

EMPOWERING REFUGEE WOMEN AND CHILDREN



The third cycle of the “Empowering refugee women and children” project was continued in 2022. The project is directed towards providing support to refugee women and children accommodated in reception centres in Šid and Sombor. Project activities were organised with the involvement of 2 educators in Šid and 1 in Sombor. The educators organised educational/creative, social/entertainment and sports/recreational activities with children and youth on a daily basis, as well as occupational workshops with women, based on needs they had identified. The purpose of these activities was to provide support to children, young people and women and in doing so alleviate the impact of the refugee crisis, as well as the additional impact caused by COVID-19. Educational support also continued to be provided to children and youth under the Akelius programme and the Winter School programme, implemented by UNICEF together with its partners. In 2022, in addition to UNICEF, partnership was established with the Slovak Evangelical Church in Šid and the Educational Centre in Sombor.

During the third project cycle, a total of 158 creative and educational workshops were held with women in the RC in Šid, while for children and youth 321 educational, 193 creative and 483 sports and recreation workshops were held, as well as 625 social/entertainment activities. In the RC in Sombor a total of 287 educational, 243 creative and 445 sports and recreation workshops were organised for children and youth, as well as 674 social and entertainment activities. Through the project the following distributions were also made: 65 pairs of footwear and 70 New Year's gift packages. Two New Year's shows were also held.

Coordinator: Vedrana Bjelajac > vedrana@ehons.org

SUPPORT FOR PROTECTION AND HUMANITARIAN AID TO PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

All of us came from somewhere, and for a variety of reasons we may at some point need to move elsewhere to seek out a better life. This may be of our own free will, but unfortunately some will have no choice. Wars, politically, socially or economically unfavourable circumstances, climate change and natural disasters have always been the most common reasons for migration. Reception centres for migrants in Serbia are stop-off points for people on the move. Both in the places they previously lived, and during their journey to the reception centres in Serbia, the great majority of them have experienced the worst that life can throw at them – war, the loss of their loved ones, poverty, sickness, violence, discrimination and the restriction of their basic human rights – and they suffer from the psychological impact of these, both traumatic and post-traumatic. These conditions come about as a result of increased levels of stress factors, acute emotional factors or factors that have a negative mental impact. The minimum international standard for services provided by reception centres includes providing safe accommodation, food, clothing and footwear, as well as advisory, medical and social psychosocial assistance.

The project began on 1st March 2022 and aims to reduce levels of vulnerability among migrants in reception, asylum and transit centres in Serbia by providing direct humanitarian aid and access to psychosocial support by organising occupational workshops. Planned activities were conducted in 16 reception centres all over Serbia, including:

- Training 20 volunteers to work with people on the move
- Training 20 social workers, pedagogues, educators and other professionals who provide psychosocial and integration assistance and support aimed at improving the quality of their work with people on the move
- Distribution of cash gift cards. Over 11 months we distributed 6,866 cash gift cards to those most vulnerable in 16 reception, asylum and transit centres in Serbia, in: Adaševci, Bosilegrad, Bujanovac, Bogovađa, Divljana, Kikinda, Krnjača, Obrenovac, Principovac, Preševo, Pirot, Sombor, Subotica, Tutin, Sjenica and Šid
- Distribution of hygiene packages. Over the 11 months we distributed hygiene packages intended for maintaining communal hygiene in the reception centres of Adaševci, Principovac, Sombor, Subotica and Šid
- Documentary film workshops in three reception centres: Sombor, Subotica and Šid
- Occupational/artistic and sports workshops involving more than 2,000 people in three reception centres: Sombor, Subotica and Šid

The project served more than 9,000 direct and more than 19,000 indirect beneficiaries.

Coordinator: Milica Milović Kinoli > milica@ehons.org



ADDITIONAL EHO ACTIVITIES



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: “POVERTY AND EDUCATIONAL DEPRIVATION OF ROMA CHILDREN - CHALLENGES DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC PRE-AND POST-2022”

This international conference was held 22nd-23rd September 2022 at the Putnik Hotel in Novi Sad, and was organised by Diakonie Würtemberg from Germany and the Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation in Novi Sad. The aim of the conference was to bring together participants from different countries and over the two days offer various examples of practice and experience in promoting education, social security and health protection in Roma children, with a particular focus on the challenges that arose during the COVID-19 pandemic. There were more than 80 participants at the conference, from the following countries: Slovenia, Great Britain, Croatia, Hungary, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Switzerland, the USA, Germany, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Belgium and Serbia. During the two-day conference, four panels were held, at which 17 local and foreign speakers had an opportunity to share their presentations on children's rights, education, inclusion and services in the social welfare system.

- Panel topics:
- 1: “Educational deprivation of Roma children”
 - 2: “The rights of children in education, the social security system and the health system”
 - 3: “Services in the social security system as an effective response to challenges during the pandemic”
 - 4: “Ethnic background, welfare and old age”

The last section of the conference was in the form of practical workshops at which participants worked on specific challenges and proposed specific solutions and recommendations for alleviating them and improving the situation in regard to the education of Roma people. The Roma are one of the most vulnerable social groups, deeply impacted by poverty, and Roma children living in ongoing poverty or who are “at risk of poverty” are also exposed to deprivation, social marginalisation and stigmatisation. Poverty has a negative impact on the health of children, their emotional and cognitive development, their behaviour and their performance in school. Poverty additionally burdens families, which can impact the mental health of the parents and lead to family and financial problems, social exclusion and segregation and substance abuse.

The long-term effects of a lack of exposure to early development programmes and limited education of children include isolation, depression, reduced self-control and poor resilience. The greatest burden of poverty is usually borne by children as the most vulnerable members of the community. Roma children living in extreme poverty are often trapped in a cycle of intergenerational poverty. The Roma community has faced challenges in adapting to the “new normal” in schooling (e-learning and remote learning) – inability to access to e-learning due to a lack of the necessary equipment, a lack of knowledge (amongst pupils and parents) and of expertise (among teachers) relating to the use of e-learning technologies and tools, a lack of resources to provide equipment for e-learning and help in learning how to use it in the regular/state school system, substandard settlements that lack a power supply, and limiting factors of a social and cultural nature such as discrimination and segregation which are falsely regarded as being unique to the Roma community and are uncritically attributed to it (such as early abandonment of school, child marriage, child labour etc.).

This conference arrived at a set of conclusions and recommendations for improving the education of Roma children. The general conclusion was that despite the many challenges imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic in all social strata, efforts to include children in the education system have not lessened, and education and programmes for Roma children and youth are a powerful means to achieving their social inclusion and integration. By their nature they are also a means to empowerment within Roma communities themselves.

A report with conclusions in English and a YouTube video about the conference can be found at the following links: <http://ehons.org/rs/uploaded/stories/2023-02-02/Summary%20of%20the%20Conference.pdf> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4EZytMgPo5c&t=5s>

Coordinator: Milisav Milinković > milisav@ehons.org

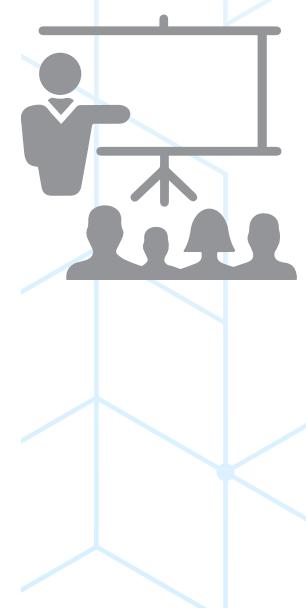
STARTING POINT SERVICE CENTRE AND ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT FOR RETURNEE CHILDREN

Towards the end of 2022, two projects were initiated which are intended to benefit returnees under the readmission agreements who live in the Novi Sad catchment area:

- The Starting Point Service Centre, aimed at establishing a single service centre for returnees, for their (re)integration, improving the availability of services intended for returnees, ensuring they are better informed, and improving social cohesion by strengthening social connections;
- Supplementary Education Support for Returnee Children, intended to provide support to children of primary school age from returnee families in managing their school work, through inclusive educational activities, support from tutors with experience working with children and support from peer tutors. The project envisages cooperation with two primary schools in Novi Sad: Dušan Radović and Vuk Karadžić, attended by children from Veliki Rit.

The Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation is implementing this project as part of the "Strengthen national and local systems to support the effective socio-economic integration of returnees in the Western Balkans", financed by the European Union and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Coordinator: Tijana Čeliković > tijana@ehons.org



MEETING OF EU PARTNERS AS PART OF THE EXCHANGE PROJECT

In May 2022, as part of the “Exchange of good practices and cooperation in humanitarian action to generate engagement” project, EHO took part with European partners in a three-day training event in Cantù, Italy. The attending organisations shared their experiences working with volunteers. Instruments for evaluating the work of volunteers were also shared. Funding for project activities was provided under the EU Aid Volunteers programme. Project coordinator Vedrana Bjelajac represented EHO at the event.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ROMA NETWORK

A meeting of the Roma Network was held in Prague in June 2022, with a focus on access to employment and education for Roma, on the challenges to Roma inclusion experienced by network member organisations and on good practices for tackling them. The Roma Network Meeting, organised by Eurodiaconia in cooperation with member organisation the Diaconia of the Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren was attended by Slađana Jovanović, project coordinator.

YOUTH EXCHANGE VISIT DORTMUND – NOVI SAD

A youth exchange was organised from 25th to 4th July with the slogan “Diversity and gender equality” between the twin cities of Novi Sad and Dortmund. This year’s youth exchange was the fifteenth in a row organised by the Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation together with partner organisations Evangelische Jugend Lünen and Evangelische Christus-Kirchengemeinde from Dortmund.



During a ten-day visit to Dortmund, young volunteers of the Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation aged 17-26 had the opportunity to take part in numerous workshops on the given topic, as well to visit some institutions: the Support Centre for Victims of People Trafficking, the Centre for Equal Rights, the Support Centre for Girls and the Volunteer House.

Educational tours were also organised to learn about the historical and cultural heritage of the cities of Cologne, Bonn and Münster. There was also a visit to the Bonn Women's Museum, the first museum of its kind in the world.

At the final evaluation, participants had a discussion to select the topic of the 2023 Dortmund youth exchange, which will be "Peace".

Coordinator: Milisav Milinković > milisav@ehons.org

EHO TAKES PART IN ELCA US CONFERENCE

The "Becoming Conference" was held between 22nd and 28th August 2022 in Chicago, USA. The seven-day conference was about connecting ELCA missionaries from all over the world. After the official week of the conference, participants got a chance to meet missionaries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America serving all over the world. The exchange of experiences amongst participants will contribute to better results in their further work EHO was represented by project coordinator Vedrana Bjelajac.



EURODIACONIA SOCIAL AND HEALTH CARE SERVICES NETWORK MEETING

A meeting of the Network was held from 6th to 8th October 2022 in Vienna, Austria, focusing on demographic changes and perspectives for long-term care. The COVID-19 crisis brought existing challenges in long-term care into sharp relief – such as the lack of personnel and the lack of accessible, affordable, quality care services. There were discussions on the key measures that might be taken in order to soften the impact of demographic changes in Europe, and on what could be done to ensure that people needing care get the necessary assistance. It was also an opportunity for network members to exchange good practices in the area of care. EHO was represented by project coordinator Borka Vrekić.

EHO TEAM VISITS WÜRTTEMBERG

In late October 2022 representatives of EHO, headed by director Anna Brtka Valent, made a trip to Württemberg organised by Diakonie Württemberg (DW) and had meetings with several partner organisations in Germany. This included a meeting in Stuttgart with the director of Diakonie Württemberg, Prof. Dr. Annette Noller and stakeholders of the Council of the Evangelical Church in Württemberg to discuss DW's and EHO's partnership to date, the social impact of EHO's work in the last 15 years, and the lessons learned for partnership going forward.



STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITIES OF THE PROJECT TEAM AND EMPLOYEES OF THE ECUMENICAL HUMANITARIAN ORGANISATION IN THE AREAS OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

In June 2022 a two-day seminar was held, organised by the Green Circle Institute for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development and Ekokoncept Pogon. Participants had a chance during the seminar to learn more about general concepts relating to environmental protection and sustainable development, the role of the media and communication in promoting sustainability, green solidarity and environmental protection, the importance of education and how we can change ingrained ways of thinking in order to impact the state of the environment, the impact of agriculture on the environment, the state of the environment and protection measures, air quality and the challenges faced by developing societies.

WRITING PROJECT PROPOSALS AND MANAGING THE PROJECT CYCLE

In October 2022, staff working on ongoing project activities got an opportunity to attend a training event called "Writing project proposals and managing the project cycle". During this three-day training the staff learned more about the different aspects of writing project proposals, about project cycles, structure, objectives, indicators, budgets and evaluations. Some ongoing project issues faced by the staff were also tackled through practical group work. This training was an opportunity for staff to improve and strengthen their competencies and knowledge as part of their ongoing professional development.



DONATIONS

Donors	Donors country	Donation in 2022 in RSD
Hilfswerk der Evangelischen Kirchen Schweiz (HEKS/EPER)	Switzerland	100,168,229.86
Municipality of Raška	Serbia	27,892,967.99
Bread for World/Brot für die Welt	Germany	27,456,484.71
Federal Ministry od Economic Cooperation and Development/ Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung	Germany	23,560,411.60
Municipality of Raška-Home assistance	Serbia	14,499,182.82
Municipality of Plandište	Serbia	10,001,278.15
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	USA	7,735,267.27
Diakonisches Werk der Evangelischen Kirchen in Württemberg	Germany	7,645,703.12
Municipality of Bački Petrovac	Serbia	5,935,653.61
Herbert Stepic CEE Charity	Austria	5,333,019.55
Municipality of Sečanj	Serbia	3,250,000.00
Otto per Mille - Tavola Valdese	Italy	2,936,459.66
Gustav-Adolf-Werk e.V. Diasporawerk der Evangelischen Kirche in Deutschland	Germany	2,716,732.27
Municipality of Alibunar	Serbia	2,711,200.00
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	USA	2,589,754.10
City municipality of Zvezdara	Serbia	1,500,000.00
Municipality of Žabalj	Serbia	1,370,000.00
Donation-individuals-home care	Serbia	1,230,090.00
Municipality of Gadžin Han	Serbia	895,000.00
Municipality of Smederevska Palanka	Serbia	830,000.00
EHO funds	Serbia	770,672.59
Ecumenical Forum of European Christian Women	USA	635,288.00
Donors-individuals	Serbia	613,394.73
Evangelisch-reformierte Kirchengemeinde St.Gallen	Switzerland	557,996.50
Other donors (jointly)		1,292,334.77
Donors total		254,127,121.30



STRUCTURE OF PAID DONATIONS BY COUNTRY IN 2022

Number	Country of donor	Income from Donations in 2022 (RSD)	Income from Donations in 2022 (EUR)	%
1.	Switzerland	100,761,051.88	859,005.66	39.65%
2.	Serbia	72,192,687.88	618,085.69	28.41%
3.	Germany	61,379,331.70	524,139.44	24.15%
4.	USA	10,960,309.37	95,980.96	4.31%
5.	Austria	5,333,019.55	44,940	2.10%
6.	Italy	3,439,198.00	29,890	1.35%
7.	Brussel	61,522.92	530	0.02%
TOTAL		254,127,121.30	2,172,572.29	100.00%

AUDITORS'S REPORT 2022

"In our opinion, the attached financial report is, in every materially significant respect, a true and objective reflection of the financial position of EHO as of 31st December 2022, and of its financial performance for the year ending the date, in accordance with Republic of Serbia's Law on Accounting."

CODEX AUDIT

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the managing authorities and the director
Ecumenical Humanitarian Organization, Novi Sad

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Ecumenical Humanitarian Organization, Novi Sad, street Čirila i Metodija 21 (hereinafter: 'EHO'), which comprise the balance sheet as at December 31, 2022, and the income statement, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the EHO as at 31 December 2022, and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the Law of Accounting of the Republic of Serbia.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the EHO in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the Republic of Serbia, and we have fulfilled our other responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the accounting regulations of the Republic of Serbia and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the EHO's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the EHO or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the EHO's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will

CODEX AUDIT

always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the EHO's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the EHO to cease to continue as a going concern.

We communicate with those charged with management regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Auditors' signature:

Name of Auditor signing:
Auditors' address:

Olivera Loci, Certified Auditor
Codex Audit doo, Belgrade 11070,
Bulevar Zorana Djindjića 28/VII/25

Date of the auditor's report:

30 March 2023

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COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER 20984376 | TAX NUMBER 108364062
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