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Heart Safe Cities

Cross Border Heart Safe Cities

D.5.1.1.

Development of a cooperation network, the
“Heart Safe Network”

Lead Partner: 4th Health District of Macedonia Thrace
Aristotelous 16, Thessaloniki
Telephone: 2313 327804, Fax: 2313 327871
URL: www.4vpe.gr, E-mail: www.4vpe.gr

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Author(s):	Papaioannou Ioanna Tsekeridis Vasileios Argyropoulou Kiriaki

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Target Audience

Leader	Description/Purpose	Audience
LB	The current document proposes the mission, scope, objectives, form of a Heart Safe Cities partners' network	Project stakeholders Including the project sponsor, senior leadership and the project team

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Project Partners

Role	Partner name	Country
Lead Beneficiary	4th Health District of Macedonia Thrace	Greece
Partner Beneficiary 2	Municipality of Kalamaria	Greece
Partner Beneficiary 3	Institute for prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of cardiovascular disease St.Stefan Ohrid	Republic of North Macedonia
Partner Beneficiary 4	PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTION Health Home Ohrid	Republic of North Macedonia

Short presentation of the programme

The Interreg IPA Cross-Border Cooperation Programme CCI 2014 TC 16 I5CB 009 was approved by the European Commission on August 6, 2015 by decision C (2015) 5655. The total budget allocated to the Programme is 45.470.066,00€, out of which 38.649.552,00€ (85%) is Union Support and the 6.820.514,00€ (15%) the National Counterpart. The eligible area of the Programme consists of the NUTS III regions along the border of the two countries: Florina, Pella, Kilis and Serres, Thessaloniki on the Greek side and Pelagonia, Vardar and Southeast and Southwest from the Republic of North Macedonia. The Programme is built upon the following three Priority Axes: (1) Development and Support of Local Economy, (2) Protection of Environment – Transportation and (3) Technical support.

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1 Introduction - Background

The development of an organizations network aims to capitalize and build upon the cooperation capital that was created during the implementation of the project Heart Safe Cities, in order to improve the preventive health care and social services in the cross-border area and increase of the number of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest incidents that are effectively managed.

In particular, the partners want to safeguard and increase the sustainability of the outputs and results of the project.

Since April 2016, when the four (4) organizations located in the cross-border area Greece – Republic of North Macedonia started their official cooperation by submitting a proposal with the Call of the Interreg IPA Cross-Border Cooperation Programme CCI 2014 TC 16 I5CB 009 important steps have been taken to to improve the preventive health care and social services in the cross-border area. With the completion of the project the main achievements of the project will be

- Creation of two pilot safe heart cities – Kalamaria & Ohrid – both in terms of equipment required in public spaces (Automated External Defibrillators) and closest health units as well as in terms of 5.500 trained citizens and public/ local servants in Basic Life Support (BLS), 550 certified BLS instructors and 750 doctors, nurses and other medical staff on Intermediate Life Support (ILS).
- Upgrading of the medical services provided in 9 health units in the cross-border area thanks to the supply of new medical equipment
- Increased use of IT applications in the health care sector both by the potential beneficiaries as well as by medical staff (doctors & nurses).
- Raising awareness on preventive health care with particular focus on cardiovascular diseases prevention and early diagnosis through a series of open information events and other promotional activities ending in an average number 8.000 informed citizens and relevant stakeholders.

All the above and especially the creation of the two pilot safe heart cities, as well as the wide training of the population developed an important cooperation capital that is very important to be safeguarded, since it allows a more participatory long-term and hopefully more resilient policy planning.

2 Mission Statement

The mission of such a network would improving the preventive health care and social services in the cross-border area and increasing the number of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest incidents that are effectively managed, through the development of targeted activities.

2.1 Objectives and Scope of the Network

Considering the mission of the network, the special characteristics and the development perspectives of the cross-border area, the strategic and operational objectives of the network could be:

- Improving of the preventive health care and social services in the cross-border area
- Increasing the number of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest incidents that are effectively managed
- The adoption of Heart Safe Cities Model from other cities of the cross border area of Greece – North Macedonia
- Raising awareness on the seriousness of cardiac arrest incidents and inform for ways that they can be prevented and/ or effectively managed
- Provision of know-how to the members in order to adopt the practices of the Heart Safe Cities project
- Development of a communication network between the stakeholders in the field of preventive health care
- Improvement of the life support services provided by local and regional health care units.
- Reducing the losses of human lives by increasing the overall capacity for life support and first aid provision on city level.
- Creating multipliers addressing directly to the general public.
- Inform and train healthcare professionals, special target groups like teachers, public servants etc and the general public on the above mentioned issues,
- Policy planning, and implementation of actions to promote preventive medical care and improve citizens' lives
- Continuous information and awareness raising of the cross-border are in the above-mentioned issues.

2.2 Form of the network

There can be several ways for the organization, development and implementation of such a network. Amongst them, the most practical taking into account the mission statement and the overall characteristic would be an informal network that would include initially the partners of the project and that would gradually increase in members.

The original members would safeguard the mission statement and scope of the network by the processes of accepting new members such as:

- Setting specific criteria for the acceptance of new members
- Setting voting criteria for the acceptance of new members

The formal arrangement of such a network could be safeguarded by signing an agreement. A draft agreement like this is included in Section 3.

2.3 Communication

Communication between the members of the network can be based on the capabilities that the internet gives and should not be face to face. Several tools like online groups, asynchronous communication, etc can be utilized. A yearly meeting hosted by one of the members would be enough in order to resolve more important matters about the network.

2.4 Duration

There is no specific duration of the network. The network could continue as long as the member chooses to and could be dissolved only with a unanimous decision of its members.

2.5 Administration Issues

Administrational Issues would not put a lot of burden on the member organizations. The offices can be hosted in the offices of the Lead Partner and a brunch may also be hosted in the partners in the North Macedonia side. Different branches would be helpful to coordinate actions on both sides of the borders.

The official communication language of the network can be English, while Greek and national language of North Macedonia may be also used occasionally.

3 Proposed Agreement

Preamble

In April 2016, four (4) organizations located in the cross-border area Greece – Republic of North Macedonia started their official cooperation by submitting a proposal with the Call of the Interreg IPA Cross-Border Cooperation Programme CCI 2014 TC 16 I5CB 009 and in particular in Priority Axis 1 Development and Support of Local Economy, Specific Objective 1.2 - Improvement of preventive health care and social services of children and elderly population.

The partnership of Heart Safe Cities consists of the following four partners, which come from Greece and Republic of North Macedonia:

- 4th Health District of Macedonia Thrace
- Municipality of Kalamaria
- Institute for prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of cardiovascular disease St.Stefan Ohrid
- PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTION Health Home Ohrid

The proposed project titled “Cross Border Heart Safe Cities” with the acronym Heart Safe Cities, was approved and officially signed a subsidy contract on April 2018 and includes a series of joint activities in order to increase the number of effectively managed out-of-hospital cardiac arrest incidents and save patients’ lives. The Heart Safe Cities project approaches the cardiovascular diseases, cardiac arrests and the provision of preventive health care in a special way, by trying to create multipliers addressing directly to the general public and confronting the occurrence of heart arrests immediately and effectively.

Among the main activities of the project are:

- Training of 5.500 citizens and medical staff of the Municipalities of Kalamaria & Ohrid in Basic Life Support (BLS) and in Intermediate Life Support (ILS) in order to be able to deal with heart attack incidents until Immediate Assistance arrives
- Upgrade of medical equipment for 8 Health Units in Thessaloniki and Ohrid.
- The procurement and installation of Automated External Defibrillators (AED) in key locations in the Municipalities of Kalamaria and Ohrid in order to improve overall incident management
- The implementation of Instructor Training Seminars on Immediate Life Support (ILS) and Basic Life Support (BLS) with multiple benefits for each city.

- Development of an online mark-up IT app for the immediate tracking of the closest AED spot in Kalamaria and the wider area

Intending to continue their cooperation in order to achieve the sustainability of the project and the continuation of its actions aiming to improve the preventive health care and social services in the cross-border area and increase of the number of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest incidents that are effectively managed, the four (4) organization had envisioned in the creation of a permanent cross-border cooperation network. The establishment and the operation of this network are beginning officially with the signing of the present cooperation agreement.

Article 1

Mission

The sustainability and functionality of Heart Safe Cities project after its completion aiming to improve the preventive health care and social services in the cross-border area and the increase of the number of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest incidents that are effectively managed.

Article 2

Name – Emblem – Offices

The full name of the network is COOPERATION NETWORK FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF HEART SAFE CITIES IN THE CROSS BORDER AREA. Its short name is “Heart Safe Network” and its emblem is the same as the logo of the project, without the reference in the Interreg Programme

The headquarters of the network will be located in the 4th Health District of Macedonia Thrace (Aristotelous 16, Thessaloniki), while the network could also have an office in Republic of North Macedonia hosted by the Institute for prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of cardiovascular disease St.Stefan Ohrid in Ohrid. The office in Republic of North Macedonia will coordinate the activities of the network in North Macedonia.

The official communication language of the network will be English, meanwhile Greek and the national language of North Macedonia may be also used occasionally.

Article 3

Duration

The duration of the network' s life is unlimited. The network can be dissolved only with a unanimous decision of its members.

Article 4

Strategic and operational objectives

Considering the mission of the network, the special characteristics and the development perspectives of the cross-border area, the strategic and operational objectives of the network are:

- Improving of the preventive health care and social services in the cross-border area
- Increasing the number of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest incidents that are effectively managed
- The adoption of Heart Safe Cities Model from other cities of the cross border area of Greece – North Macedonia
- Raising awareness on the seriousness of cardiac arrest incidents and inform for ways that they can be prevented and/ or effectively managed
- Provision of know-how to the members in order to adopt the practices of the Heart Safe Cities project
- Development of a communication network between the stakeholders in the field of preventive health care
- Improvement of the life support services provided by local and regional health care units.
- Reducing the losses of human lives by increasing the overall capacity for life support and first aid provision on city level.
- Creating multipliers addressing directly to the general public.
- Inform and train healthcare professionals, special target groups like teachers, public servants etc and the general public on the above mentioned issues,
- Policy planning, and implementation of actions to promote preventive medical care and improve citizens' lives
- Continuous information and awareness raising of the cross-border are in the above-mentioned issues.

Article 5

Scope - Activities

In order the above mentioned objectives to be achieved, the contracting organizations are committed to developing altogether or separately each of them indicatively the following types of actions:

- Development of policy papers and submission to the competent bodies in order to encourage them to adopt policies and actions at national, regional and local level, to achieve the above mentioned strategic and operational objectives as they are defined in article 4.
- Coordinated publication of articles in newspapers and magazines of wide circulation and in the websites of the network' s members, regarding the protection and promotion of the above mentioned strategic and operational objectives as they are defined in article 4
- Organization of informational events for the wide public as well as for special population groups with emphasis to the above mentioned strategic and operational objectives as they are defined in article 4
- Organization of educational events addressed to local healthcare professionals, special groups like teachers, public servants as well the general public with emphasis to the above mentioned strategic and operational objectives as they are defined in article 4
- Participation in events, conferences, exhibitions etc. for the promotion of the objectives of the network
- Cooperation for the joint project development and implementation in the field of preventive healthcare

Article 6

Financing

For the development of the above mentioned activities, the member organizations are able to use either their own means or national and European financing tools, within special calls and programs, including sponsorships.

Article 7

Structure and Organization

The founding members of the network are the four partners of the Heart Safe Cities project, who will be responsible for the coordination of the network until the end of the project (01/04/2020 or any new date which could be defined)

- 4th Health District of Macedonia Thrace
- Municipality of Kalamaria
- Institute for prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of cardiovascular disease St.Stefan Ohrid
- PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTION Health Home Ohrid

The members of the network will communicate on line (exchange of e-mails, groups work through internet etc.) Moreover, an annual plenary session will take place every year, which will be hosted by another organization-member of the network, each time, after the concentration of nominations at the previous plenary session and the voting among its members. The organization that will host the plenary session has the sole obligation to cover the organizational expenses of the session (providing space and audio-visual support, catering reception, secretarial support, etc.).

One (1) month before the end of the Heart Safe Cities project, the members of the network will meet to elect the first Steering Group that will be in charge after the completion of the project.

The election of the Steering Group (apart from the representatives of the four partners) will be done by voting of the remaining members of the network.

The main tasks of the Steering Group will be:

1. The evaluation of potential members' applications as well as their justified approval or rejection
2. The development of the annual action plan of the network
3. The scheduling of activities, events etc. per trimester
4. The development of papers aiming at the adoption of policies and activities in the fields of preventive healthcare and/or effectively managed out-of-hospital cardiac arrest incidents

Article 8

Members' rights and obligations

Members of the network can be public authorities, organizations governed by public law, non-profit organizations and non-governmental organizations, as long as they satisfy the following criteria:

- They have their headquarters or at least a branch in the Greece-North Macedonia cross-border area
- They have proven activity in the field of preventive health care and/or social care

Each organization that wishes to join the network, it has to submit a written application with full contact details (postal address, phone, fax, email address, website, details of the legal representative and the contact person), accompanied by a copy of its statutes and a brief overview of its recent activities.

Each organization that participates in the network can submit proposals by mail for the implementation of actions that will support to the achievement of network' s mission at any time at the Steering Group. The Steering Group will evaluate the proposals and if are in line with the character of the network will include them to the action plan.

Moreover, organization that participates in the network has to promote in every opportunity, like workshops, conferences, articles etc the mission, objectives and scope of the network in order to achieve the sustainability of the project and the continuity of its actions.

Article 9

Network' s amendment process

Each organization that participates in the network, can submit proposals for the amendment of the cooperation agreement for the establishment and operation of the network at any time. The Steering Group promotes concrete proposals at the annual plenary.

A proposal is considered accepted when at least 3/4 of the Network members agree with it.

Article 10

Publicity of data to members and third parties

A copy of the partnership agreement, after it is signed by any organization that approves it, has to be submitted to the Bureau of the Network, which maintains the member' s file and compiles a list of names and addresses of the organization that

have accepted the agreement. This Catalogue is accessible to all the members of the Network (with the exception of personal postal address and mobile phone numbers). If a third party (person or body) wishes to obtain the list of the network' s members, it has to make an official request (to the Bureau of the Network) and it will take the list with the names and the contact details of all the network' s members that have declared that they accept that their data to be disclosed to third parties.

Thessaloniki, .../.../2019

4th Health District of Macedonia –
Thrace

Municipality of Kalamaria

.....
.....
Manager

.....
Dardanelis Ioannis
Mayor

Institute for prevention, treatment and
rehabilitation of cardiovascular disease
St.Stefan Ohrid

PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTION Health
Home Ohrid

.....
Gordana Donevska
Director

.....
Ajsel Zejnovska
Manager

