









EUROPE INVESTS IN RURAL AREAS EUROPEAN AGRICULTURAL FUND FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL REGIONS 2014-2020

Projects financed by the Community-Led Local Development Strategy 2014-2020 of NGO "Local Action Group Stambolovo-Kardzhali 54" under Measure 19 "Community-Led Local Development" of Rural Development Program 2014-2020



2023 Stambolovo











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NGO "LAG STAMBOLOVO - KARDZHALI 54" is a legal entity with a non-profit purpose for public benefit. It was established on 24.11.2016 and was registered in the District Court of Haskovo upon Court Decision N: 217 of 21.12.2016. The organization comprises 32 business representatives, agricultural producers, non-governmental organizations and two municipalities - Stambolovo and Kardzhali.

The territories included in the area of "LAG Stambolovo - Kardzhali 54" have a continuous geographical connection with each other. All of the 26 settlements of the Municipality of Stambolovo and the 54 villages of the Municipality of Kardzhali, which border the Municipality of Stambolovo, are included in the territory of the LAG. The territory of the Local Action Group is located in the southwestern part of the South Central Region.

On the grounds of a signed Agreement with the Ministry of Interior, in the period from 2018 to the present, LAG "Stambolovo - Kardzhali 54" has been implementing the multi-sectoral Community-Led Local Development Strategy (CLLDS) for the tralization of sub-measure 19.2 "Implementation of operations within Strategies for Communi-

ty-Led Local Development" of Measure 19 "Community-Led Local Development" from the Rural Development Program for the period 2014 - 2020" in compliance with the signed Agreement N: RD 50-37 from 20.04.2018 and Order N: RD 09-307, issued on









04.04.2018. CLLDS included measures from the Program for Development of Rural Areas from OP"Science and Education for Smart Growth" and OP "Program for Environmental Protection".

Based on the implemen-

tation of the Community-Led Local Development Strategy (CLLDS) until the end of October 2023, 17 evaluation sessions were held, 46 project proposals were received, 18 project proposals were negotiated, out of which, 9 were implemented, the results of which have been presented to you in this brochure.

Under sub-measure 4.1 "Investments in agricultural holdings" a project titled: "Purchase of agricultural ma-

chinery" was implemented with Beneficiary - Delcho Zhelezanov Zhivakov. The agricultural machinery was necessary for the modernization of an organic farm located in the village of Golyam Izvor in the municipality of Stambolovo.

A tractor, a planter for summer crops, a spring planter and a disc harrow were provided under the project. The value of the approved and paid grant was in the amount of BGN 63



900. The use of new technology increased the farm's energy efficiency, ensured environmental protection and created opportunities for growing agricultural crops in an organic way. All this is a prerequisite that increases competitiveness and innovation of agriculture and improves quality of work.

The project "Purchase of agricultural machinery" with Beneficiary - Nazmie Ramadan Mustafa was implemented under Sub-measure 4.1.2 "Investments in agricultural holdings under the thematic sub-programme for development of small holdings". The value of the approved and paid grant amounted to BGN 32 760.

Under the project, a tractor was purchased, necessary for the agricultural holding, located in the village of Malak Izvor, Stambolovo municipality, Haskovo district. The main objective of this project was to increase the sustainability and competitiveness of the agricultural holding by improving its material assets, namely, by way of provision of agricultural machinery for its needs. The implementation of the project led to the realization of this project objective.

Another project under measure 4.1 "Investments in agricultural holdings" was with Beneficiary SPC "Private Agricultural Producer - GUNER SERBEST". A tractor which is also equipped with a trailer was purchased upon the project. The costs approved for financing amount to BGN 190,033.34, out of which, the approved and paid grant is





BGN 95,016.67.

In compliance with the project proposal, agricultural machinery was provided - a tractor and a self-unloading



trailer, which are necessary for the farm, located in the village of Silen, Stambolovo municipality, Haskovo district. The machinery is already in use, both for processing agricultural areas and for harvesting and transporting agricultural produce. The investments made improved the material assets of the farm and contributed to increasing its competitiveness and quality of agricultural services.

The achieved modernization also led to better planning and optimization of the agricultural work on the farm. In this way, the main objective of the project was achieved.

The use of new agricultural machinery led to increase in the farm's productivity, to protection of the environment during the cultivation of agricultural crops.

The eligible project activities under sub-measure 6.4.1 "Investments in support of non-agricultural activities" have been met with great interest by potential beneficiaries.







The project titled: "Purchase of a construction machine - an excavator with a forklift machine" with Beneficiary - "MIREL 13" EOOD ensured the purchase of a mini excavator. The value of the approved and paid grant amounts to BGN 55,006.88.



The investment intention was realized in the village of Most, Kardzhali municipality, Kardzhali region.

The purchased mini excavator is already being used for construction works. The implementation of the

planned project investment improved the competitiveness of the enterprise and upgraded its material assets. This provided conditions for improvement in the quality of the offered by "MIREL 13"EOOD services and for sustainable employment of the company employees.

Under sub-measure 6.4.1 "Investments in support of non-agricultural activities", the project "Purchase of a construction machine - an excavator with a cab and a forklift" was also financed - with Beneficiary "STROM TECH" EOOD. The value of the approved grant amounts to BGN 15,625. In this way, the company's machine fleet, necessary for carrying out construction works was upgraded.





The investment intention was realized in the village of Most, Kardzhali Municipality, Kardzhali District. With the implementation of the project, the applicant achieved, on one hand, a higher quality of the offered services, as well as, to a certain extent, an improvement in the competitiveness of the company.

Another project under sub-measure 6.4.1 "Investments in support of non-agricultural activities" was the project titled "Purchase of a construction machine" with Beneficiary - "EFE SERVICE" EOOD. A mini excavator was purchased for the project.

The value of the approved and paid grant amounts to BGN 55,006.88.

The investment led to improvement of working conditions, as well as to increase in the competitiveness of the company. The investment proposal was implemented in the village of Most, Kardzhali Municipality, Kardzhali Region. The main goal of the investor was to diversify and improve the quality of the offered services. Meeting this need was achieved by way of purchasing new and modern machinery and hiring qualified personnel.

The project "Equipping a workshop for opening and sewing at "GM21 - Textile" is one of the large projects realized under sub-measure 6.4.1 "Investments in support of non-agricultural activities". The Beneficiary - "GM 21 - TEXTILE" EOOD

purchased equipment for a workshop for cutting out and sewing knitwear. The value of the approved and paid grant is BGN 219,560.25.

In compliance with the project, a mobile cutting robot was purchased, which is equipped with a fitting trolley for one-way processing and 10 servicing tables. For the sewing part of the cut-out materials, specialized and universal sewing machines were also provided, on which certain operations can be performed; the machinery includes







2 three-needle five-thread flat roofing machines, 6 three-needle five-thread flat roofing machines of the universal type and 5 single-needle straight line machines for two-thread closed stitch row, subclass 301.

With the delivered machines,

the company's workshop in the village of Shiroko Pole was equipped, and fourteen new job places were created. The use of a mobile cutting robot led to full automation of this process, respectively, to a significant increase in the productivity of the company.

After the delivery of the new equipment, steps were taken to attract new customers and obtain production orders, which activities until then had been carried out outside the territory of the LAG.

The above-mentioned investment improved the competitiveness of the enterprise, since the existing microenterprise already meets contemporary requirements for offering this type of service, guarantees high quality in the field of tailoring and ensures sustainable employment of the employed staff.

Project "Together - for a happy childhood" was financed under sub-measure 1 "Support for pre-school education and training of disadvantaged children" of OP "Science

and education for intelligent growth" with Beneficiary – the Municipality of Kardzhali.

The value of the approved and paid grant



amounts to **BGN** 286,410.45. The "Together project for happy a childhood" focuses on working with specific target including group, children and parents



from ethnic minority groups and marginalized communities, whose social and personal realization is severely limited due to their social and psychological isolation.



The target group of the project consisted of 130 children from five partner kindergartens and 260 parents. The project enabled the implementation of activities aimed at mastering the Bulgarian language, organizing a number of cultural events and holidays, carrying out interest-based initiatives, organizing excursions and conducting training. All of these provided conditions for development of the social and communication skills of both participants - children and parents - and provided better conditions for their successful social integration.



Gifts made for mom



Birthday celebration



I am a pedestrian





I Final concert

The project "Improving the nature protection status of species in the Natura 2000 network through the CLLDS approach on the territory of LAG "Stambolovo - Kardzhali 54" was implemented by the Municipality of Kardzhali and was financed with a grant, amounting to BGN 186 644,28.





The project was aimed at researching and improving the condition of three species of bats, namely the Mehely's horseshoe bat (Rhinolophusmehelyi), the Broad-eared bat (Barbastellabarbastellus) and the Long-eared bat (Myotisbechsteinii).

The project included 7 activities, as follows:

- 1. Study of the distribution and mapping of the localities of the target species
- 2. Study of the number of species in breeding colonies and winter sites
 - 3. Placing of houses for broad-eared and long-eared bats
 - 4. Marking and preservation of biotope trees, providing



shelter for the species of broad-eared and longeared bats

- 5. Information activities and involvement of interested parties
 - 6. Project organiza-





tion and management

7. Provision of information and communication on the project

Information meetings and an educational campaign among students were held and volunteers were selected to participate in the studies. The information activities included in the project involved all the interested parties from the territory.

As a result of the implementation of the project, detailed information on the status of the target biological species was collected and analyzed and the conditions for their preservation were improved.

The project also raised the awareness of the local community and its motivation in respect to the preservation of bats as

part of the regional biodiversity.

The information collected upon the project on the status of the target species not only described their population, but also helped to plan and implement appropriate nature protection and conservation measures in the future, to preserve and increase the bats population in the region.





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The responsibility for the opinions expressed in this publication lies with the NGO "LAG Stambolovo-Kardzhali 54"