

CONCLUSION

The promotion of partnerships between the stakeholders has emerged as a shared element in all countries and it confirms the necessity of strengthening the open, participatory, democratic processes as a basic prerequisite for successful and complete implementation of the sustainable development in the long run. The common challenges that countries face and the specific similarities that are typical for the countries belonging to the same region are universal, whereas on the other hand, it shows that our country, as a candidate country for EU membership, tackles the same challenges as the member states, which shows high complementarity and reveals opportunities for future cooperation, aimed at easier overcoming of the present challenges. One of the priorities should be to identify the possibilities for partnerships with the countries in the region in order to strengthen the implementation of the sustainable development goals as part of the road to EU membership.

If the required regulatory framework is established, necessary level of awareness in the public is raised, concrete and feasible initiatives are identified and a partnership relationship with all stakeholders is built, we can expect a successful and sustainable implementation of the sustainable development goals and a more successful society that will ensure prosperity and progress for all.



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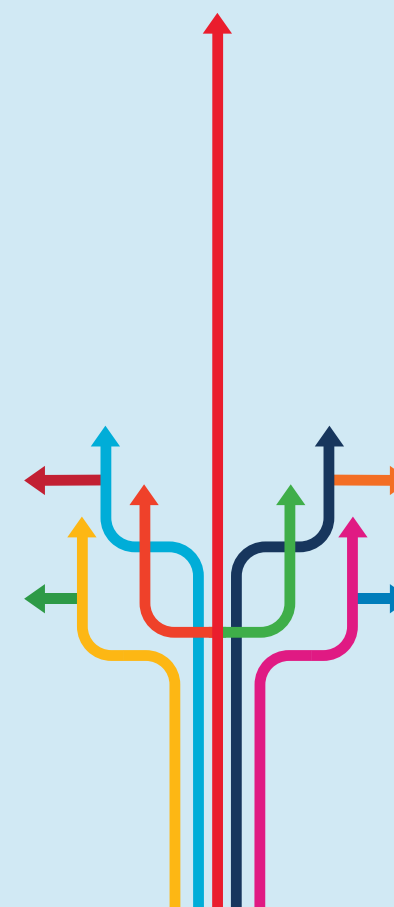
Building **CROSS - SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

The project is funded by the European Union



MAPPING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

INTRODUCTION



The UN Sustainable Development Goals have been part of the current affairs since they first emerged, attracting particular interest in the civil and public sector, but also recognizing the key role of the companies. The Sustainable Development Goals represent a new era for businesses and through sustainable solutions and activities together with other stakeholders they can contribute to sustainable solutions in the society.

Within the Building Cross-sector Partnerships for Sustainable Development Project funded by the European Union and implemented by the Association Konekt and Agora in our country, a series of activities were carried out on the territory of the country in order to determine the priorities of the society in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals and the stakeholders that need to play their part in the process of fulfilling the Agenda 2030.

Particular emphasis was put on the priorities that are relevant to the private sector, i.e. where the private sector, in partnership with other stakeholders, can have the greatest impact. As an inseparable part of the European Union membership process, the Sustainable Development Goals are gaining additional importance, since complying with the membership requirements and the necessary reforms inevitably lead to the achievement of the sustainable development goals, i.e. the processes are interconnected. All identified priorities are directly related to the established system of the UN for monitoring the success of their implementation as well as the individual indicators and the connection with the relevant national documents for implementing the priorities, such as the Program of the Government, researches and analyses.



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MAPPED PRIORITIES AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL:

	GOAL 4 - Ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all
	GOAL 8 - Promoting sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
	GOAL 9 - Building resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization and fostering innovation
	GOAL 3 - Ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages
	GOAL 16 - Promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

MAPPED SECONDARY PRIORITIES FROM REGIONAL WORKSHOPS:

	GOAL 5 - Achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls
	GOAL 11 - Making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
	GOAL 17 - Strengthening the means of implementation and revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development
	GOAL 6 - Ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
	GOAL 7 - Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
	GOAL 13 - Taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

WEAKNESSES THAT REQUIRE A PRIORITY APPROACH TO BE OVERCOME:

- ➔ Lack of adequate equipment and qualified teaching staff in schools
- ➔ Mismatch between the curriculum and the actual needs of the business sector (inclusive and non-formal education, skills and gender sensitivity)
- ➔ Poor relationship between the educational process and the practical work and work experience during the education
- ➔ Insufficient inclusion of persons with disabilities in the educational process
- ➔ Insufficient inclusion of vulnerable categories of citizens in the education
- ➔ Disparity between the quality of education in the rural and urban areas
- ➔ Insufficient representation of non-formal education and lifelong learning
- ➔ Insufficient inclusion of persons with disabilities in the labour market
- ➔ Insufficient inclusion of marginalised groups in the labour market
- ➔ Lack of skilled workforce with vocational secondary education
- ➔ Low level of respect for the workers' rights
- ➔ Insufficient awareness of the business sector for investing in the motivation and professional development of workers
- ➔ Insufficient focus on the development of the creative industry and craftsmanship
- ➔ A common practice of lower compensation for the same work, as part of the insufficient awareness of gender equality.
- ➔ Insufficient investments in salaries compared to the profits resulting in poor image of the industry as an employer
- ➔ Extremely low level of investments in scientific-research activity as a framework for achieving the goals for innovative development of the business sector
- ➔ Insufficient access to financial services for small industrial and other companies due to insufficiently developed infrastructure
- ➔ The economy as a whole is still at an early stage in the development of innovation, and the concept of innovation as a business potential is penetrating very slowly.
- ➔ Chronic lack of equipment and medicines, as well as medical supplies in the health care system
- ➔ Lack of doctors and support staff in public health institutions
- ➔ Low level of development of the utility services
- ➔ Low level of health care for workers by the employers, frequent work accidents with severe and fatal outcomes
- ➔ Lack of public awareness about the application of the healthy lifestyle principles
- ➔ Lack of good work practices of the courts, public institutions related to the order and peace, poor transparency
- ➔ High level of corruption in the relations between the public and the business sector
- ➔ Low level of knowledge among the judges and the support staff about the business environment and relations, international trade rules and usances

STAKEHOLDERS

- ➔ Ministry of Labour and Social Policy
- ➔ Ministry of Education and Science
- ➔ Ministry of Economy
- ➔ Ministry of Transport and Communications
- ➔ Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of North Macedonia, responsible for economic affairs and coordination with the economic sectors
- ➔ Employment Agencies
- ➔ Individual educational institutions at all levels
- ➔ Fund for Innovation and Technological
- ➔ Start-up centres and business-accelerators
- ➔ Trade Unions and occupational safety and health associations
- ➔ Centres for non-formal education and trainin
- ➔ Economic chambers and business associations
- ➔ Career centres
- ➔ Business community through direct partnerships of companies with educational institutions and civil society organizations
- ➔ Civil society organisations engaged in the field of education and career development
- ➔ Pharmaceutical companies
- ➔ Institute for Public Health
- ➔ Bureau for Development of Education
- ➔ Health and Sanitary Inspectorate
- ➔ Youth associations
- ➔ Judicial Council
- ➔ Individual courts
- ➔ Association of the units of local-self government and the local self-government units
- ➔ Civic organizations working in the sphere of democratic values, security and service quality for different categories of citizens
- ➔ Business community