

# ANNUAL REPORT 2025



KEY WORDS:  
support, development,  
inclusion, solidarity,  
together

Initiative for development and cooperation  
**Annual report 2025**

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# Who we are

**The Association of Citizens Initiative for Development and Cooperation, IDC, is a non-profit organization dedicated to the social and economic inclusion of vulnerable groups and the protection of their human rights.**



The association was officially registered in 2007 and inherits the experience and continues the initiatives and program guidelines of the international organization from Spain, Movimiento por la Paz (MPDL), in which the founders of IDC were active from 2002 to 2007.

For 18 years, IDC has been working with vulnerable social groups whose members live below the poverty line, and together with them we are trying to fight for a greater degree of social inclusion as well as greater visibility of the problems faced by our beneficiaries.

The work of IDC is based on the principles of equal opportunities, confidentiality, impartiality, non-discrimination and data protection. These principles are contained within the policy of our organization and in the Code of Conduct.

**Over the years, IDC has provided over 250 housing solutions, more than 3,000 people have gone through our economic empowerment programs, while over 2,000 people have received legal aid or support.**

IDC employees have many years of experience in working with refugees and internally displaced persons, returnees, Roma and other members of vulnerable groups, as well as in working with young people, developing volunteer programs, providing humanitarian aid, developing social entrepreneurship and social protection services in the community and other areas.

Our team consists of 14 employees, who have extensive experience in the preparation and implementation of projects financed by various donors.

IDC is the only organization from Serbia that is a member of international networks such as Solidar, SAM.I, and the European Civil Forum. During the previous years, IDC took over the management of the regional network of social service provider organizations IRIS, as the coordinator of the ongoing projects of the network. IDC is the founder and member of the Coalition for the Development of Solidarity Economy, and currently serves as an administrator. Since 2013, IDC has been acting as the general secretary of SENS (Social Economy Network of Serbia). As Secretary General of SENS, IDC is a member of ENSIE - European Network of Enterprises for Social Integration.

# Filed work in 2025

During 2025, the IDC worked on 13 projects aimed at social inclusion, economic empowerment, and strengthening of civic participation. Special focus was on vulnerable social groups such as persons with disabilities, internally displaced persons, and foreigners on the labor market. We implemented projects and activities focused on young people and strengthened and networked organizations that provide social protection services.

Through the projects IRIS Progress and EMPOWERED, IDC was active at the regional level, participating in conferences and educational activities throughout the Western Balkans, thereby contributing to the exchange of knowledge and the improvement of social services.

**The overall work of the organization in 2025 is characterized by a combination of direct support to beneficiaries at the local level and taking strategic action in the field of public policies and cooperation, at the local and regional level.**



IDC implements its projects in partnership with organizations from the country, region and Europe. Our most important partner remains the German organization **Arbeiter-Samariter Bund**, and its office in the region Arbeiter-Samariter Bund South East Europe. Together with ASB, we realize our most important projects IRIS Progress, EMPOWERED, and SOLIS.

IDC projects in 2025 are also implemented through partnerships within partners from international networks: Solidar, ENSIE, European Civic Forum, Volonteurpe, and others.

This year we have worked in partnership with local governments, including Novi Pazar, Pirot Leskovac, Dimitrovgrad, Krusevac, Zvezdara, the municipality of Palilula in Nis, and others.

# Projects

Our projects are developed to contribute to the realization of the organization's goals, the realization of our mission, and in accordance with the values and vision of IDC. In 2025, we worked on 13 projects, of which we successfully implemented 5, while we continue 8 in 2026.

Considering that social exclusion is often a multidimensional problem, our projects rarely try to respond to only one dimension of this problem, and we strive to provide comprehensive support to people in need.

**This year, the focus of our projects was social services, service beneficiaries, and providers. We worked together on their development, strengthening accessibility, developing innovative solutions, strengthening the capacity of providers, and cooperation between the institutional and non-governmental sectors in this area. Also, the focus remains on programs of economic empowerment, development of social entrepreneurship, provision of direct assistance, youth exchange programs, social inclusion, volunteer programs, and other.**

## Ongoing projects in 2025

| Project  | Role | Duration                         | Donor  | Value         |
|--|------|----------------------------------|--|---------------|
| Sustainable social protection - Support to social services in local communities in Serbia (SOLIS)  | ★    | november, 2025 – september, 2028 | German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development BMZ | 1,600,000 EUR |
| EMPOWERED  | ★    | september, 2024 - april, 2028    | German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development BMZ | 3.333.334 EUR |
| IRIS Progress - Strengthening capacities and policy engagement of community service providers  | ★    | february, 2023 - january, 2026   | European Commission  | 822.770 EUR   |
| Step Forward to Return   | ★    | january 2025 – april 2027        | European Union   | 440.000 EUR   |
| 4Voices: Reflecting on Europe's Past   | ★    | march, 2025- january, 2027       | European union, CERV   | 18.500 EUR    |
| WAVE II - What about democracy education, participation and the transfer of European values in the context of intercultural youth social work? | ★    | september, 2024- august, 2026.   | Erasmus+   | 35.600 EUR    |
| Training Module for Inclusive First Aid (TIFA)   | ★    | october, 2025 - september, 2027  | Erasmus+   | 19.367 EUR    |
| Piloting integrated approaches in providing services to clients at the local level   | ★    | may, 2025 - april, 2026          | GIZ  | 156,540 EUR   |

★ lead applicant    ★ project partner

## Projects implemented in 2025

|   |   |                             |  |               |
|---|---|-----------------------------|--|---------------|
| REINTEGRATE II - Further support to sustainable (re)integration of returnees in Serbia            | ★ | july, 2022 - april, 2025    | German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development BMZ | 2.222.222 EUR |
| Position of Vulnerable Foreigners in Accessing Labour Rights in Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina | ★ | march, 2025 - july, 2025    | European Union   | 10.000 EUR    |
| IRIS Progress - Strengthening social services, exchange, practice and partnership                 | ★ | july, 2025 - december, 2025 | ASB  | 10.000 EUR    |
| Inclusive first aid - INFA  | ★ | may 2023 - may 2025         | Erasmus+   | 11.181 EUR    |
| Boosting trust and engagement of citizens in democratic processes - BRIDGE                        | ★ | March 2025 - October 2026   | Council of Europe  | 4.313 EUR     |

## Our donors



The most important donor of the IDC in 2025 remains the **German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)**. Since 2019, through the continuous support of BMZ, IDC has been implementing both national initiatives, such as ReIntegrate and SOLIS, as well as regional cooperation projects such as EMPOWERED, whereby the organization has the role of a local implementing partner of the Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund (ASB). This cooperation has contributed to the significant organizational development of IDC, both in terms of budget growth and through the expansion of the scope of activities, improvement of internal capacities, and realization of increasingly complex and strategically relevant projects.



A significant number of projects in 2025 were implemented with the support of the **European Union** and **the European Commission**. Activities were carried out within the framework of various EU programs, including the Civil Society Facility and Media Program (CSF), Erasmus+, Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Program (CERV), as well as through the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA III) implemented by the Delegation of the European Union in Serbia. This support enabled the implementation of projects of different scope and thematic focus, in areas in which IDC has extensive experience.

# REINTEGRATE II

## Further support to sustainable (re)integration of returnees in Serbia

AT the beginning of the year, the second cycle of the Reintegration project was successfully completed. The project was implemented in the period from July 2022 to February 2025. The goal of the project was to contribute to the sustainable (re)integration of returnees and the local socially vulnerable population in central and southern Serbia.



The project was implemented in cooperation with the local governments of Novi Pazar, Pirot, Dimitrovgrad and Kruševac

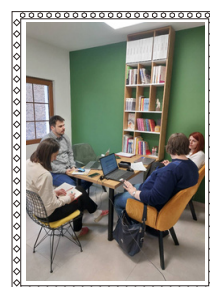


The project included **three types of activities**:

- economic empowerment
- psycho-social support
- strengthening of institutional capacities

### PROJECT RESULTS

- Support for the establishment of 102 small businesses through the allocation of grants in the form of equipment, machinery, and materials.
- Employment of 120 beneficiaries at 51 employers, with subsidies for the creation of new jobs.
- Support for 90 beneficiaries through retraining to improve competencies on the labor market.
- Organization of more than 1,160 inclusive workshops within the Good Neighbor Clubs, in which over 2,350 children and young people participated.
- Implementation of 5 social initiatives aimed at strengthening social services at the local level.
- Conducting training for more than 60 representatives of the public, civil, and private sectors in order to strengthen the capacity of inclusive mechanisms.



**The Reintegrate II project** is a continuation of the initiative of the same name, which IDC as a local implementing partner of ASB, implemented in the period from 2019 to 2021. And within this project, special attention was paid to strengthening the capacities of social actors at the local level, establishing Good Neighbouring Clubs - local community spaces, and improving cooperation between local institutions and the community. Aspects such as gender equality, youth inclusion and rural development are integrated throughout the entire project. The project was financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development - BMZ.



*The greatest success of the project is reflected in real-life stories - individuals and families who, with the support of the project, managed to realize their ideas, start their own businesses, and provide stable sources of income. A special value is represented by the Good Neighbor Clubs, which contributed to the activation of local communities, strengthening the sense of belonging and creating a safe space for creative expression, especially for young people. At the same time, the project significantly contributed to the organizational development of the IDC, which, through both phases, showed a high level of capacity in the management, coordination, and implementation of complex activities in the field.*

Igor Kojcic, IDC



## SOLIS

**Sustainable social protection - Support to social services in local communities in Serbia**



The end of the year was marked with the beginning of a new national project financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Development and Cooperation - BMZ. The implementation of the SOLIS project began in November 2025 and will last until September 2028.

The project is implemented in municipalities in the southeast of Serbia (Svrljig, Knjazevac, Babusnica, Bela Palanka, Dimitrovgrad, Pirot) and in the southwest of Serbia (Raska, Novi Pazar, Tutin and Ivanjica).

### MAIN ACTIVITIES:

1. Strengthening of local social policies and inter-municipal cooperation
2. Establishment of a new regional social service and implementation of local social initiatives
3. Advocating for innovative models of social protection services

**IDC is implementing the project as local implementing partner of Arbeiter-Samariter Bund.**

# EMPOWERED

## Inclusion of persons with disabilities, regional cooperation and development in the Western Balkans

The EMPOWERED project is a **regional initiative** to improve the social, economic and political inclusion of persons with disabilities in the countries of the Western Balkans. It is financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Development and Cooperation - BMZ.



Project implementation started in 2024 and lasts until 2028.



EMPOWERED engages 15 municipalities in the Western Balkans with regional coordination and knowledge exchange.



### Project partners:

- Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund South East Europe – coordinator
- IDC (Serbia) - regional coordinator
- PREDA Plus (Kosovo\*)
- LIR Civil Society (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- CDI (North Macedonia)
- Alfa Center (Montenegro)
- Albanian Foundation for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities



EMPOWERED  
WESTERN BALKANS



The goal of the project is to create a society of equal opportunities for people with disabilities through the adoption and implementation of inclusive policies, institutional reforms, removing barriers to access to education, employment, and public services, and ensuring practical protection of the rights of PWDs.



As an implementation partner in Serbia, IDC implements the EMPOWERED project in Novi Pazar, Leskovac and Dimitrovgrad.

### PROJECT RESULTS AND ACTIVITIES IN 2025

- In cooperation with the Forum of Young People with Disabilities, career guidance and counseling programs for persons with disabilities were launched.
- Training sessions for writing projects to strengthen the capacities of local social actors (members of inclusive teams, PWD associations, and others) were held in all three municipalities.
- Through training and mentoring support, 6 local inclusive projects were designed, with a total value of 210,000 EUR, which will receive support and be realized in the further course of the project in Novi Pazar, Leskovac and Dimitrovgrad.
- Strengthened mechanisms of inclusion through activities aimed at institutional empowerment and networking of local actors (organizations, local authorities and beneficiaries), based on needs assessment, available resources and potential.
- Planned and prepared psychosocial workshops (in preparation for implementation).
- A system has been set up for monitoring and reporting on the performance of the project (monitoring/evaluation) and further scaling of successful pilot activities
- Visibility and advocacy campaigns generated over 520,000 information views, increasing public awareness.



PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND NEWS FROM EMPOWERED PROJECT ARE AVAILABLE AT PROJECT WEBSITE:

[EMPOWERED-WB.ORG](https://EMPOWERED-WB.ORG)

AND SOCIAL MEDIA

IG: [EMPOWERED\\_WB](#)

FB: [EMPOWERED\\_WB](#)



## IRIS NETWORK

**The goal of the IRIS network is to strengthen the role of civil society organisation social service providers throughout Southeast Europe and create an environment in which these organisations are recognised as partners by the public sector.**

In addition, the IRIS network aims to enable a dynamic civil society to actively participate in the public debate on democracy, human rights, social inclusion and the rule of law with sufficient capacity to influence policy and decision-making processes.

The network was founded in 2012 and currently gathers more than 270 organizations in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, North Macedonia, Kosovo\*, Montenegro and Serbia.

Since 2014, the work of the network has been supported by the European Commission through the Civil Society Facility and Media Program (CSF).

## IRIS PROGRESS

### Strengthening capacities and policy engagement of community service providers

During 2025, we completed the implementation of all planned activities within the IRIS Progress project, although the project continues during January, 2026.

This project was written in accordance with the mission and strategic goals of the IRIS network, the only network of organizations providers of social services in the Western Balkans. The implementation of the project began in February , 2023. As the coordinator of the project, IDC together with partners from the region, continued to work on the coordination of the IRIS network, strengthening the capacities of the members and joint representation.



**The goal of the IRIS PROGRESS project is to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations to influence the decision-making process in the protection of human rights and anti-discrimination policies of marginalized groups in the Western Balkans.**



#### Activity cluster 1:

Improving the capacities of the network

#### Activity cluster 2:

Influencing public policies and raising awareness



#### Project partners:

- IDC (Serbia) - coordinator
- Samariter-Bund South East Europe
- LIR Civil Society (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- CDI (North Macedonia)
- Alfa Center (Montenegro)
- Center for Labor Rights (Albania)
- Center for Independent Living (Kosovo\*)





## PROJECT ACTIVITIES IN 2025



### STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES OF CSOs

The quality of social services largely depends on the capacity of the organizations that provide them. That is why, through the IRIS network mentoring program, individual support was provided to CSOs for improving the quality standards of social services.

During 2025, a total of **28 network member organizations received mentoring support** in the process of licensing services and developing quality standards and internal procedures for the protection of personal data of the beneficiaries.



### KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE AND BUILDING EXPERT CAPACITIES

The Annual Regional Social Academy of the IRIS network was held in Montenegro this year. The Academy gathered over 30 representatives of CSOs from the region. The theme of the academy was the promotion of gender equality and the human rights of women in the Western Balkans.

### POLICY INFLUENCING AND DIALOGUE

This year too, the project contributed to the strengthening of cooperation between CSOs, institutions, and local communities through a series of civil dialogue events in each of the project's partner countries. **6 civil dialogue events were held in the region**, attended by more than 200 participants from the civil sector, institutions, and local governments

Main topics were: development of social services, social entrepreneurship, and employment of persons with disabilities.



### SHADOW REPORT

As part of the project, a Shadow Report was developed to assess progress in the implementation of national and local policies and legislation in the field of human rights, within the context of EU accession negotiations, specifically Chapters 19, 23, and 24. The analysis focused on the existing legislative framework and the obligations arising from international treaties, charters, and conventions. The report is available on the [network's website](#).





## YOUTH IN THE SOCIAL SECTOR

The project provided an opportunity for young people to gain practical experience in civil society organizations that provide social services. A total of **12 students participated in the three-month internship program** and gained their first experience in the field of social protection.

## REGIONAL CONFERENCE

The conference "**Connecting societies: the social dimension of the Western Balkans' approach to the European Union**", held in Podgorica on November 20, 2025, gathered 84 participants from ministries, local governments, national and local social welfare institutions, as well as civil society organizations from the Western Balkans.

The purpose of the conference was to promote a people-oriented EU accession process, through strengthening the social dimension of integration, strengthening civil society and supporting more inclusive and responsible social protection systems for vulnerable population groups.

During the opening session, the conference included speeches by 6 high-ranking officials, including representatives of the ministries of Montenegro, the European Commission, the European Parliament and the European Economic and Social Committee, which further strengthened the political significance and regional dimension of the event.



A key conclusion of the conference is that **true EU integration means investing in people, communities, and social justice** — economic growth alone is not enough. The Western Balkans is on the way to EU membership, but social policies still lag behind economic and political reforms. Youth unemployment, poverty and gender inequality remain high, while local social services and non-governmental organizations are underfunded.




RAD IRIS MREŽE MOŽETE PRATITI NA IRIS SAJTU  
[WWW.IRIS-SEE.EU](http://WWW.IRIS-SEE.EU)  
I NA DRUŠTVENIM MREŽAMA  
IG: [IRISNETWORK](https://www.instagram.com/IRISNETWORK)  
FB: [IRIS NETWORK](https://www.facebook.com/IRISNETWORK)



## STEP FORWARD TO RETURN

### Providing support for improving the living conditions of internally displaced persons and support to sustainable return to Kosovo\*

The goal of the project is to provide support to internally displaced persons (IDPs) in order to realize the possibility of a sustainable return to Kosovo\* by strengthening their economic viability, providing direct assistance, and facilitating access to basic rights.

 The project is implemented in partnership with the Municipality of Zvezdara (Belgrade) and Palilula (Nis).

### PROJECT ACTIVITIES IN 2025



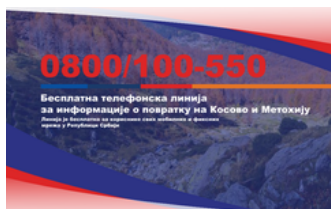
#### Cooperation Agreement with partner LSGs signed

At the beginning of 2025, agreements on cooperation on the implementation of the project were signed with the partner municipalities of Zvezdara and Palilula.



#### HRBA Trainings for LSGs

The training was attended by 17 participants in two municipalities. This training represents an important step towards strengthening the capacity of public servants to perform their daily tasks in accordance with human rights standards and the needs of the most vulnerable citizens, but also towards strengthening the trust of vulnerable groups in the work of local institutions.



#### The free phone line 0800/100-500 has been reactivated

The line is intended to inform potential returnees to Kosovo\* and enables information on available forms of assistance to be accessible, and potential beneficiaries to receive support when applying.



#### Info sessions held in both municipalities

During May, 2025, info sessions were held in the municipalities of Zvezdara and Palilula, and the project and public calls were presented. More than 40 people attended the info sessions.



#### 41 beneficiaries underwent initial business training

Training sessions were held in both project municipalities. The participants had the opportunity to learn about the key aspects of starting and running a business. In 2026, advanced business training awaits us, after which selected beneficiaries will receive support in the form of income-generating grants. Through a public call, beneficiaries were selected for VET in 2026.

**The project is financed by the European Union through the Delegation of the European Union in Serbia.**

## SAM.I network

SAMARITAN INTERNATIONAL (SAM.I) is a European federation of non-profit and non-governmental organizations that are independent of political and religious organizations and that work in the field of social services, civil protection, first aid, humanitarian and volunteer work. The network was created in 1994 as a continuation of long-term cooperation that began at the beginning of the 20th century through the development of the Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund (ASB). IDC has been an active member of the SAM.I network since 2014.



### Inclusive first aid (INFA)

**The project aims to implement the exchange of best practices on first aid training for persons with disabilities (PWD).**

The INFA project was implemented in 2025. The main result of the project is the brochure [Training for people with disabilities for providing first aid - Collection of practical examples and recommendations](#). This brochure presents an overview of the goals, activities, and results of the project aimed at improving the availability of first aid training for people with disabilities. The publication presents examples of good practice from different countries, identifies challenges in inclusive first aid education and offers recommendations for adapting training methods to the needs of beneficiaries. Special focus is on the exchange of experiences among partner organizations and cooperation with organizations of PwDs, to develop more accessible and higher-quality training programs that can be applied by other educators and institutions.

### Training-modul for an inclusive first aid (TIFA)

**The project represents a continuation of the work started through the INFA project and is based on the shortcomings observed during its implementation, to improve the availability of first aid courses for PWDs through the systematic strengthening of trainer education.**

Through the project, a "train-the-trainer" training module for providing first aid to people with disabilities will be developed, based on valid, generally accepted guidelines in the field of first aid. The module will be piloted, tested and evaluated through planned pilot activities, after which its final version will be created and published.

The implementation of the project began in October 2025 and will continue until September 2027.

Lead partner of both projects is SAM.I network who implements them in partnership with its member organisations: ASB (Germany), DPA (Denmark), ANPAS (Italy), White Cross (Italy), LSA (Latvia), LSB (Lithuania), CDI (North Macedonia), IDC (Serbia), Association SRCE (Croatia) and ASSR (Slovakia).

**Project is cofunded by Erasmus+ program.**

## BRIDGE - Boosting trust and engagement of citizens in democratic processes

### About the project...

The project aims to strengthen the capacity and role of CSOs across Europe in the promotion of democratic values and civic participation. The focus is on improving cooperation between CSOs and the Council of Europe, relying on the Reykjavik principles and the European Social Charter as key mechanisms for citizen participation.

### IDC activities within the project

In June 2025, at the House of Human Rights in Belgrade, we held a national workshop and panel discussion intended for representatives of civil society organizations, with the aim of empowering them in the application of the Reykjavik principles and parameters for strengthening democracy and civic participation.



Project coordinator is **Volonteuropa** (Belgium) in partnership with Social Platform (Belgium), Proactive group (Georgia), WeWorld (Italy), Ligue de l'enseignement (France), Kimbe Red (Switzerland), Volunteering Matters (UK), and IDC (Serbia).

The project is funded by the Council of Europe.



### About the project ...

The 4Voices project is a European initiative aimed at strengthening democracy, human rights, and the rule of law through a critical examination of European history from a gender-sensitive perspective.

It is intended for young people aged 18-30 from different regions of Europe, to strengthen their active participation in society. The project lasts from February 2025 to January 2027 and is supported through the CERV program of the European Union.

### Project activities

During 2025, IDC representatives participated in preparatory activities, such as the kick-off meeting held in Brussels and the international workshop held in Bologna. During 2026, IDC will implement a regional workshop for participants from the Western Balkans.

The project is implemented by **Volonteuropa** in partnership with organisations WeWorld (Italy), European Institute Foundation (Bulgaria), Imago Mundi Association (Romania) and IDC (Serbia).



Since 2013, IDC has been a member of SOLIDAR - a European network of organizations working in the field of strengthening social justice in Europe and the world. SOLIDAR represents the voice of its members before international and EU institutions by actively lobbying, but also by providing project management services, monitoring policy implementation, and raising awareness of issues important to its members.

IDC is a member of the *SOLIDAR Task Force for Migration* working group, which gathers members of the network to coordinate advocacy and knowledge exchange on migration, to promote policies based on human rights, solidarity, and inclusion of migrants and refugees

## SOCIAL RIGHTS MONITOR

As a member of SOLIDAR, IDC participates in the creation of the publication [Social Rights Monitor](#) (SRM) every year. Using this tool, SOLIDAR monitors the state of social rights in Europe from the perspective of civil society organizations, analyzing areas such as employment, social protection, inclusion and civic space. The monitor has been extended to the Western Balkans, which enables a better understanding of the challenges in EU candidate countries and a stronger connection between local actors and European policies. The SRM serves as an important advocacy tool, channeling the voices of civil society to decision makers at the European level.



## WAVE II

### What about democracy education, participation and the transfer of European values in the context of intercultural youth social work

WAVE II is an Erasmus plus project that promotes democracy and European values in social work with young people.

In October 2025, an **Experimental Laboratory on European values - human dignity, equality and anti-discrimination was realized in Serbia**. The laboratory brought together young people of different cultural and migration backgrounds, including migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and returnees in Serbia, to strengthen empathy, intercultural understanding and social inclusion. Through non-formal education methods and creative expression, the participants exchanged experiences and reflected on human dignity, equality and non-discrimination. Art and music were used as tools for dialogue, mutual learning and building solidarity.

**Project coordinator is BAG KJS (Germany), project partners are: COOS (Italy), NOSTOS (Greece), IDC (Serbia), KJA Koln (Germany), ANOLF Marche (Italy), Jama Nyeta (Germany).**

**European Civic Forum**

EUROPEAN CIVIC FORUM

IDC is a member of the [European Civic Forum](#), an international network that brings together more than 100 associations and non-profit organizations from over 29 countries in Europe, which actively work on issues such as civic education, the defense of human rights and the advocacy of the rule of democracy.



## THE AWARD IN HONOR OF THE JUBILEE OF THE AGENCY FOR PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF LABOR DISPUTES

At the ceremonial event on the occasion of 20 years of work of the Republic Agency for Peaceful Resolution of Labor Disputes, IDC received a certificate of appreciation for its special contribution to the development of this institute.

From the very beginning of the introduction of this institute, the IDC recognized its importance and, in cooperation with social partners and the Agency, implemented projects aimed at increasing the visibility of the institute for the peaceful resolution of labor disputes.

The recognition was received by our director, Miodrag Nedeljkovic, who stated that IDC continues to advocate for stronger cooperation with relevant actors from the public and private sectors, in order to further improve fair labor relations and the application of peaceful resolution of labor disputes through future initiatives and projects.



## The position of vulnerable foreigners in exercising the right to work in the Republic of Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina

The general goal of the project is to contribute to the improvement and protection of the basic rights of foreigners in the countries of the Western Balkans, in accordance with the standards of the European Union, with a special emphasis on the realization of the economic and social rights of vulnerable categories of foreigners. IDC implemented the project in cooperation with the organization Women from Una. The project is financed by the European Union, and is implemented within the broader regional project "Inclusion of foreigners in the Western Balkans - Access to social and economic rights (FOSTER)".

**As part of the project, the publication Labor rights of vulnerable foreigners in Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina - A comparative perspective, with practical policy documents, was developed.**


The publication was presented in both countries as part of an event where representatives of relevant institutions, international organizations, and CSOs had the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the preliminary research findings and recommendations for improving the position of vulnerable categories of migrants (refugees, asylum seekers, persons with approved subsidiary protection and temporary protection), as well as victims of human trafficking.



# SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

IDC has extensive experience in the field of social entrepreneurship, which represents one of the key strategic areas of our work. During 2025, the IDC, through its economic and social development programs, continued to implement activities that connect non-formal education, training for employment, support for self-employment and development of local social services, while promoting social entrepreneurship as a sustainable model for social inclusion and local development, in which all these activities meet.

IDC is one of the founders and the current administrator of the Coalition for the Development of the Solidarity Economy. This network focuses on advocacy and promotion of social entrepreneurship. IDC has been acting as the general secretary of the National Network of Social Enterprises in Serbia (SENS) since 2013.



As the general secretary of the SENS network, IDC is a member of the European network of social enterprises for work integration - ENSIE. ENSIE is a European network founded in 2001 that brings together national and regional networks of social enterprises for work integration (WISEs), with the aim of improving the employment and social inclusion of vulnerable groups. ENSIE acts through EU-level advocacy, sharing good practices and strengthening cooperation among members, contributing to the development of policies that promote the social economy, equality and sustainable development across Europe. The ENSIE network is recognized as one of the key partners of the European Commission in the field of social inclusion.

## SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN PRACTICE

### FRIGO IRIS

The company was founded in Novi Pazar and deals with the cold storage and processing of fruit, especially raspberries. Through the development of infrastructure (cold storage and processing capacities) and cooperation with dozens of agricultural farms, Frigo Iris contributes to more stable product placement, strengthening of the local economy and long-term sustainability of agricultural production.

**In 2025, the company cooperated with more than 60 subcontractors with whom we achieved a turnover of over EUR 250,000.00.**



### AGRO IRIS

AGRO IRIS is a social enterprise founded by IDC in 2016 in Sabac. The company was founded to gather small agricultural producers from rural areas and deal with the production and marketing of dried fruits and vegetables. The company has operated successfully for many years and provided safe purchase of raw materials and higher incomes for producers, returning a significant part of the profits back to local communities. The company is currently in a dormant phase.

### EkoBaG

In 2011, IDC founded its first social enterprise - Eko BaG, which produces bags from used advertising banners. The company still functions today under the management of workers.

# Contact

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