



Start of the project “FEMTERPRISE – Fostering the creation of social enterprises by strengthening the entrepreneurial potential of young women” co-funded by EU through the Interreg-IPA CBC Bulgaria– the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Programme

On 17.10.2016 the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works of the Republic of Bulgaria, acting as Managing Authority of the Interreg - IPA CBC Programme Bulgaria-The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the Association of Women Entrepreneurs "UNIKUM-KOS" from Kumanovo, FYROM acting as Lead Partner concluded the Subsidy Contract №ПД-02-29-221/17.10.2016 thus marking the start of the project “FEMTERPRISE – Fostering the creation of social enterprises by strengthening the entrepreneurial potential of young women”.

FEMTERPRISE overall objective is to improve the conditions for business development in the cross-border area by applying innovative non-formal approach for strengthening the entrepreneurial capacity of female entrepreneurs aged 18-29 and fostering the creation of social enterprises. The Bulgarian partner in the project is Viva Pautalia Association from Kyustendil, Bulgaria, acting as Partner №2.

FEMTERPRISE will contribute to the improvement of the competitiveness of regional businesses in the cross-border area of Bulgaria and The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia by: 1) establishing a sustainable cross-border FEMTERPRISE Network of Women Entrepreneurs; 2) strengthening the entrepreneurial capacity and creating opportunities for professional and social realization of young female entrepreneurs; 3) developing the FEMTERPRISE platform – an innovative supportive online tool for capacity building, mentoring and networking between female entrepreneurs, mentors, potential clients and investors; 4) fostering the creation of female –run social enterprises in the region; 5) promoting entrepreneurial culture and social entrepreneurship.

The overall budget of the operation is EUR 110 217, 35 from which EUR 93 684, 73 represents EU contribution through IPA funds, EUR 9 559, 87 represents Bulgarian national public contribution and EUR 6 972, 75 represents Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia national public contribution. The implementation period of the project is 15 months.