



SOCIAL

Partners:

- Directorate for Execution of Sanctions of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of North Macedonia
- Four penitentiary institutions: Kumanovo Prison, Tetovo Juvenile Educational-Correctional Facility, Idrizovo Penal-Correctional Facility, Skopje Prison
- Ministry of Finance of the Republic of North Macedonia
- Council of Europe Development Bank

Project financing:

- Loan - €46 million
- National contribution - €2.5 million
- Total grants - €4.95 million

Total WBIF grants:

- €1.95 million

Current WBIF grant:

- €1.1 million

Technical assistance provided by:

- Infrastructure Project Facility 5 (WYG IPF Consortium)¹

Duration of current Technical Assistance (WB17-MKD-SOC-02):

- March 2018 – March 2020 (estimated)

Reconstruction of Penitentiary Institutions in the Republic of North Macedonia

In the Republic of North Macedonia, there is a network of eleven penitentiary institutions and two juvenile educational-correctional institutions. Aside from the new Kumanovo Prison, which is operational since end of 2013 and the new Open and Semi-Open Sections of Idrizovo Penal-Correctional Facility, which became operational rather recently, in the end of 2018, the country's penitentiary facilities are overcrowded and living conditions are very poor. Rehabilitation opportunities, by way of training and education, are severely limited.

In this context, in 2009, the authorities requested the support from the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) for the partial financing of the construction and equipping of four penitentiary institutions, all in the Northern part of the country: Kumanovo Prison, Idrizovo Penal - Correctional Facility (PCF), Tetovo Juvenile Educational - Correctional Facility (JECF) and Skopje Prison. The Remand Unit, which was originally to be part of Skopje Prison was in 2017, for operational reasons, relocated and incorporated into the new Idrizovo complex as Idrizovo Pre-Trial and Pre-Sentence Unit.

This project involves a series of sub-projects and policies aimed at alleviating overcrowding and adjusting living, safety and hygiene conditions by renovating and building new facilities for those objectives and for

the purposes of improving the rehabilitation prospects of prisoners, as well as enhancing working conditions for staff, and security and safety systems.

Technical assistance sub-projects:

- TA-MKD-SOC-01 Phases I & II - Provision of support to the Directorate for Execution of Sanctions (DES) / Project Implementation Unit (PIU) for the development and implementation of the project (2009-2010)
- TA-MKD-SOC-01 Phase III – Technical Assistance (TA) to the Main Design stage (2011-2012)
- TA-MKD-SOC-01 Phase III Extension - TA to Advising PIU and Directorate for Execution of Sanctions on Programming and Review of Urban/Conceptual and Preliminary Design stages for Skopje Prison (2012-2013)
- WB12-MKD-SOC-01 Phase 1 - Technical Assistance: Consulting services for preparation of a detailed Project Implementation Plan (2015-2016)
- WB12-MKD-SOC-01 Phase 2 - Technical Assistance: Support for the Execution of the Project Implementation Plan approved in Phase 1 (2016-2017)
- WB17-MKD-SOC-02 (current) - Extended TA support for the implementation and management of the reconstruction of penitentiary institutions project (2018 – 2020)



Idrizovo PCF – Semi-Open Section Exterior

¹ WBIF grant reference number: WB17-MKD-SOC-02

Benefits of the project:

Like many European countries, the country is faced with an acute shortage of cell space for its prisoner population, lack of adequate facilities, staff and institutional management, and prisoner programmes consistent with the European Prison Rules recommendations.

In that context, the Technical assistance has supported the implementation of a priority project based on the key strategies of the judiciary and penitentiary sector to enhance the conditions in the penitentiary infrastructure and ensure successful rehabilitation and social adaptation of sentenced persons so that they are able to re-join society with the best prospects for an independent life.

The project represents the backbone of penitentiary reform in the country. It will lead to updated, properly-maintained facilities and adequate space per inmate, provision of adequate health care and improved institutional organisation and capacity, treatment of inmates in line with the conventions that the Government has committed to adhering to in preparation for EU accession (binding to enhance, inter alia, the conditions in the penitentiary infrastructure and the treatment of sentenced persons), opportunities for convicts to serve sentences in alternative programmes, improved access to education programmes and work activities. Thus, the risk shall be reduced for recidivism, prisoner infectious diseases, poor nutrition, limited access to healthcare, drug use and unsafe injecting practices. In parallel, the working conditions for penitentiary system staff should be enhanced, and, as a side effect, the project shall generate employment within and for the judicial infrastructure.

Project goal:

The overall social aspect of the project will be the improvement of living conditions and rehabilitation opportunities for about 2,500 sentenced persons, remand prisoners and juveniles (thus also contributing to the reduction of overcrowding in the other facilities in the country) and working conditions for around 900 penitentiary staff.



Idrizovo PCF – Semi-Open Section Interior



Idrizovo PCF – Open Section Exterior



Tetovo JECF Exterior



Kumanovo Prison Exterior

**Purpose of the current
Technical Assistance
assignment:**

- Support the PIU and DES in fulfilling all the prerequisites needed for the remaining implementation phase of Segment 1 of the restructured project
- Prepare ahead for the implementation of Segment 2 of the restructured project.

**Overview of Technical
Assistance assignment
activities:**

- MODULE 1: Project management support and institutional capacity building
 - Task A. Project management support and building the project management capacities of the PIU
 - Task B. Development of prisoner rehabilitation programmes
 - Task C. Development of particular conditions of contract for use in conjunction with standard conditions of contract for the works and supervision contract agreements, and provision of training in the FIDIC Conditions of Contract
 - Task D. Provision of contractual advisory services to assist with contract document preparation, tendering, and contract implementation of the adjusted Segment 2.

- MODULE 2: Organisational change management
 - Task A. Further development of a new management system for the project (MTT)
 - Task B. DES skills enhancement appropriate to the project requirements
- MODULE 3: Cost and technical review of the adjusted segment 2 of the project
 - Task A. Review and update of the technical and financial documentation of Idrizovo PCF - Phases II & III (Closed and Female Sections)
 - Task B. Review and update of the technical and financial documentation of the investments included in the Idrizovo Pre-Trial and Pre-Sentence Unit sub-project.