

**Report on the Third Revision and the Assessment Cycle of the Implementation of  
Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and Regional Implementation Strategy  
(MIPAA/RIS) 2012-2017**

Report on the Third Revision and the Assessment Cycle of the Implementation of Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and Regional Implementation Strategy (MIPAA/RIS) 2012-2017 in Republic of Macedonia was prepared by the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy in cooperation with the National Coordinating Body for monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the National Strategy for Older People 2010-2020 and the InkluzivaM Network composed of 9 non-governmental organizations and civil associations, such as: Red Cross of Republic of Macedonia, HUMANOST, Alzheimer's Association, Justicia, Organization of Women of Pehcevo, University of the Third Age – Skopje, Development Association of the Roma Community SUMNAL, Federation of the Associations of Pensioners of Macedonia and Lar – Struga NGO most of which are members of the National Cooperative Body for monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the National Strategy for Older People 2010-2020 and the same work on improving the wellbeing of the older people. These organizations provide support to the older people in the country through different programmes and projects for meeting their economic, health, educational and social needs. Within the Strategic Work Plan of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy in the period 2015-2017, preparation of Social Protection Programme was also foreseen.

## **General information**

**Country name:** Republic of Macedonia

### **Name of and information on the author/s of the report:**

Ministry of Labour and Social Policy is holder of the social protection system of Republic of Macedonia and pursuant to its competencies it performs works related to the labour relations; recruitment and employment;

pension and disability insurance; protection of workers at work;

financial security of the temporarily employer persons;

salaries and living standard;

social policy; human population policy for coordinated economic social development;

legal relations in marriage, family and concubinage; relations between parents and children, guardianship and adoption;

Promotion of gender equality; protection of children and minors; protection of young people and women; protection of persons with developmental disabilities; protection of disabled veterans;

protection of fighters in the Anti-Fascist War and of all national liberation wars of Macedonia, disabled veterans, the persecuted and imprisoned persons for the ideas of the separate identity of the Macedonian nation and its statehood as well as the members of their families without means of material and social existence;

supervision of its competence and performing other operations determined by law.

PI Institute for Social Activities – Skopje is governmental institution that performs supervision of the professional work in the social protection institutions, monitoring the conditions of the social protection system, licensing the professional workers who work in social protection institutions and promoting the professional work with the social protection system beneficiaries.

National Coordinating Body for monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the National Strategy for the Older People 2010-2020. The Coordinating Body has members who are representatives of all relevant ministries and institutions, organizations and associations. Coordinative Body is holder of the activities to implement the strategy and is obliged to

provide mechanisms for coordination of regulating and practicing the policies directly or indirectly affect the elderly persons in order to simplify the actions and measures in certain departments and certain levels.

Red Cross of Republic of Macedonia is a humanitarian voluntary organization that performs activities directed towards improving the life of vulnerable categories of persons and promoting the human values and humanitarian law. Operation of the Red Cross of Republic of Macedonia is based on universal principles, it has the power to promote the world we live in by promoting peace and tolerance, effective prevention, timely response and adequate support for vulnerable people. Activities related to the ageing realized in the Red Cross of Republic of Macedonia are part of the activities related to promotion of the social inclusion and promotion of culture of non-violence and peace. In order to achieve its goals, it mobilizes participants both on national and local level in identifying appropriate solutions. It is also continuously engaged and makes efforts in the protection of dignity and reduction of the exposure risk of the vulnerable groups of people through participatory approach in identifying and meeting the priority needs of elderly people.

Federation of Associations of Pensioners of Macedonia is an association composed of 53 associations of pensioners, voluntarily associated in the Federation with the aim to protect and promote the common goals and interests of pension beneficiaries in Republic of Macedonia, for more complete and unique dedication to exercise the rights to pension and disability insurance, for better quality health protection, for promotion of cultural, sport and humanitarian needs of pensioners. In order to exercise these common rights of the Federation-member associations, UAPM cooperates with other associations and their unions, with non-governmental organizations and foundations and pensioner associations from other countries. UAPM acts as independent, non-governmental and non-political organization, continuously developing and leaving traces in the development of the state itself. The Federation issues its own magazine, called "Pensioner plus" (Пензионер плус) and has its own web-site [www.szpm.org.mk](http://www.szpm.org.mk).

Association for improving the conditions for accommodation and care of old people Humanost – Skopje is established in 1998 and operates on promotion of the conditions for care of older people. Main goal of the association is to open service centres that will provide assistance and care in the old people's homes and palliative care for persons in the terminal phase of their lives and help to their families. Association achieves its goals through: determining the number of elderly people within certain communities and need assessment services for home care and assistance to elderly people, constant monitoring of the conditions of care for the elderly persons by the way of surveying and collecting data on citizens and relevant institutions engaged on this issue; preparation of analysis for the specific manner to improve the conditions of care for the elderly persons, based on which a plan that envisages specific forms of improving the conditions for care for the elderly persons is prepared; fully and objectively informing the public about the conditions of caring for the elderly persons; undertaking appropriate actions before the authorities responsible for the normative regulation of the issue of creating the conditions for care of elderly people by providing appropriate proposals to change the existing legislation or adopting a new one.

**IncluzivaM** is a network of non-governmental organizations and civil associations that work on issues for elderly people. Following the initiative within the regional project "Undertaking action for social inclusion of elderly people", the organizations, current members of the network signed a decision on establishing the network on 03.06.2016 after was previously defined on the workshop of the National Meeting held from 01-03.06.2016, the network's name, the members of the Coordinative Body and ideas for strategic working plan of the network in the period between 2016 and 2018 were provided.

IncluzivaM network is composed of 9 non-governmental organizations and civil associations

such as Red Cross of Republic of Macedonia, HUMANOST, Alzheimer's Association, Justicija, Organization of Women of Pehchevo, University of the Third Age – Skopje, Development Association of the Roma Community SUMNAL, Federation of Association of Pensioners of Macedonia, and Lar – Struga.

Contact information about the author/s of the report:

Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Dame Gruev No. 14 1000 Skopje [www.mtsp.gov.mk](http://www.mtsp.gov.mk)  
Minister of Labour and Social Policy – Frosina Tashevska – Remenski PhD, MA Slobodanka Lazova Zdravkovska – officer in the cabinet of the minister

Contact person: Zoran Blazhevski – advisor in the Department for protection and employment of persons with disabilities, persons with social behaviour problems and elderly persons

Tel. ++ 389 2 3106-369

Mob. 076 456 794

E-mail [ZBlazevski@mtsp.gov.mk](mailto:ZBlazevski@mtsp.gov.mk)

PI Institute for Social Activities

Str. 11 Oktomvri No. 42a

1000 Skopje, Republic of Macedonia

[www.zsd.gov.mk](http://www.zsd.gov.mk)

MA Danieka Stanojkovska – Tel. ++389 77 569-054

e-mail: [danim\\_dani@yahoo.com](mailto:danim_dani@yahoo.com)

Director: Tatjana Ristova Dimova Tel. ++ 389 76 475 454

Mirdita Saliu – Manager of the Department for equal opportunities E-mail:

[msaliu@mtsp.gov.mk](mailto:msaliu@mtsp.gov.mk)

Tel. ++389 2 3233-460

Mob. 075 237 310

Daniela Bozhinovska – Advisor in the Pension and Disability Insurance Department

e-mail: [DBozinoska@mtsp.gov.mk](mailto:DBozinoska@mtsp.gov.mk)

Tel. 3 106 662

Mob. 076 446 901

Leche Kocevaska – Manager of the Labour Department e-mail: [LKocevaska@mtsp.gov.mk](mailto:LKocevaska@mtsp.gov.mk)

Commission for Protection against Discrimination

Sevgi Idriz Muratoglu

e-mail: [sevgiidriz@gmail.com](mailto:sevgiidriz@gmail.com)

Str. Kej Dimitar Vlavor bb (MRTV building, floor 20)

State Statistical Office

Dijana Krstevska – Population Statistics Division

e-mail: [dijana.krstevska@stat.gov.mk](mailto:dijana.krstevska@stat.gov.mk)

Red Cross of Macedonia

Ljupka Petkovska

Tel. +389 2 3 114 355; +389 2 3 230 542, Mob. +389 71 223 897

e-mail: [petkovska@redcross.org.mk](mailto:petkovska@redcross.org.mk)

Federation of Associations of Pensioners of Macedonia

Str. 12 Udarna brigade No. 2 – Rabotnichki dom

1000 Skopje, Republic of Macedonia

Tel. 3223 710

Fax: 3128 390

P. O. Box 440

e-mail: [kontakt@szpm.org.mk](mailto:kontakt@szpm.org.mk)

Association for improving the conditions for accommodation and care of old people  
Humanost Skopje  
Str. Prizrenska No. 50/2  
1000 Skopje  
Macedonia  
Tel. 02/ 2666-113 local 107  
Merzi Terzieva Pavlovska  
Mob. 078/ 306-668  
e-mail: [terzievameri@gmail.com](mailto:terzievameri@gmail.com)  
web: [www.humanost.org.mk](http://www.humanost.org.mk)

Name of the official contact centre for ageing and contact information:

Ministry of Labour and Social Policy

Name, reference and date of acceptance or condition of preparation of national strategy, action plan or similar documents for the ageing policy

- 2010-2020 National Strategy for Older People - [www.mtsp.gov.mk](http://www.mtsp.gov.mk)\_ - 2015 Report on undertaken measures and activities and 2016 Operational Plan for the implementation of the 2010-2020 National Strategy for Older People

- 2008-2015 Strategy for Demographic Development of Republic of Macedonia - [www.mtsp.gov.mk](http://www.mtsp.gov.mk)

- 2011-2021 Social Protection Development Programme - [www.mtsp.gov.mk](http://www.mtsp.gov.mk)

- 2016 Programme for Realization of Social Protection - [www.mtsp.gov.mk](http://www.mtsp.gov.mk)

1. Situations, activities and priorities related to ageing on national level

2. Methodology

3. Assessment of activities for fulfilling the obligations of the UNECE MIPAA / RIS

a) General Framework

Population size represents crucial element affecting the long-term sustainability not only from biological aspect, but also for the planning of future growth and development of each country. In the last decades, the total economic and social conditions and challenges in Republic of Macedonia directly affect the total demographic condition and the number of population which, due to the positive natural increase on annual level, is in increase, but with particularly reduced pace. According to the assessment of the population, (standing as at 31.12.) 2013, Republic of Macedonia has 2,065,769 citizens. It is 17,150 persons or 0.8% more in relation to 2008 when the number of the population was 2,048,619 citizens, i.e. 35,877 or 1.8% citizens more than 2003 with 2,029,892 citizens. 1 Percentage share of women and men in the total number of the population is almost equal, 49.9% of the population are women, and 50.1% are men.

According to the projections (medium variant) of the United Nations (UN), the trend of increase of the number of population is expected to continue until 2015 and to amount 2,109,000 citizens, i.e. 2,107,000 in 2020, and then to continuously reduce such as 2,069,000 in 2030, and 1,881,000 in 2050 (or reduction for about 10.8% in connection to 2015).

Population density amounts 80.3 citizens per km<sup>2</sup> and places Republic of Macedonia in relatively favourable position. However, from the territorial distribution of population point of view, the numbers are less favourable. Skopje region is most densely populated, with 338 citizens per km<sup>2</sup>, where 29.7% of the total population lives, it is followed by the Polog Region with 131.6 citizens per km<sup>2</sup>, where 15.4% of the total number of population lives. In contrast, in the Vardar region lives 7.4% of the population and it is the most sparsely populated region with 38 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup>.

Population structure by age is one of the most important aspects of the population that

effects its development and the possibilities for the total development of the population as well.

In terms of the age structure, the population in Republic of Macedonia continuously ages, i.e. the number of population is increased and so is its share in the total population. As a result of these processes, in less than six years the Macedonian population skipped three stages of demographic aging and today it is in a condition of demographic ageing.

In the period between 2008 and 2013, the share of the young population (0-14 years of age) in the total population is reduced from 20.4% to 16.9%, while the share of the elderly population (65 years of age and more) is increased from 10.7% to 12.4%. Republic of Macedonia exceeds the limit of 12% of the elderly population and enters into the group of countries that are demographically characterized as countries with elderly population.

According to the age structure, Republic of Macedonia is in relatively favourable situation only in connection to the working population (from 15 to 64 years of age) which with share of about 70% is dominating in comparison to the other two age groups. According to the UN projections, such trend is expected to last until 2030 with the possibility to take advantage of this demographic bonus. Its use will depend on the macroeconomic policy which is a prerequisite for stable social and economic environment and sustainability of the development components. The possible pressure, changes and issues that can be imposed by the ageing population are also clearly reflected through the values of certain demographic indicators.

Average age of the population marks a continuous growth with 36.7 years in 2008 (35.9 for men and 37.5 for women), in 2013 it amounts 38.0 years (37.1 for men and 38.8 for women) and for the period of five years it has increased by 1.3 years. Having into consideration the abovementioned forecasts, this average age of population will continue to increase in the following years as a result of the increase of the share of elderly people. Age dependency rate, as a ration of the population at 65 years of age and more and the working population at the age of (15-65), in 2013 amounts 17.5% which is below the RU average (27.5%), but in a longer period of time it shows mild but continuous growth and gives a representation of the possible relation between the beneficiaries (population at 65 years of age and more) and those creating the benefits (the working population). It is certain that the age structure of the population and the issue of ageing within the country should be considered broadly. From the aspect of reproduction of the population and the share of women in reproductive age (from 15 to 49 years of age) in the total population which today represents one fourth from the total population, while it is expected that this share will continue to reduce.

In the field of economics, ageing effects the economic growth, saving, investments, production, workforce, pensions, taxes and inter-generation transfers.

In social terms, ageing affects the structure of the family and life, demand in the household, migration trends, and epidemiology and health protection.

Changes in the age structure of the population also has its reflection in the number of deceased persons, which in the period 2008-2013 influenced on the increase in the general mortality rate of 9.3 deceased per thousand citizens in 2008 to 9.5 in 2011, 9.8 in 2012 and 9.3 in 2013.

Mortality in men is higher in connection to women, while the average age of the deceased persons has an increasing tendency in the difference between man and woman, and in 2013 it amounts 74.2 years in women and 69.9 years in men. Life expectancy at birth indicates mild increase. For the period between 2006 and 2008 it was expected the Macedonian citizens to live 74.00 years (71.95 men and 76.14), while for the period between 2011 and 2013, 75.13 years (73.15 for men and 77.16 for women). The most common causes of death are: circulatory system diseases that participate with 57.8% and neoplasms with 19.0%.

Republic of Macedonia has the character of migration area characterized with intensive internal displacements of population and with continuous process of eviction of people in other countries.

Regarding the internal migrations, it was assessed that they exist with different intensity in different time periods. In 2013, within Republic of Macedonia, 6,475 citizens migrated internally, and the most common reason for that migration is entering into marriage (53.3%), and according to the age most of the migration is among young people at 15-29 years of age, with 51.3%. 490 citizens immigrated to Macedonia from other countries, while from Macedonia immigrated 945 or 455 citizens more than persons who immigrated into the state.

In 2013, the biggest positive migration balance on the territory of Republic of Macedonia has the Skopje region, and biggest negative migration balance has the South-eastern region. Statistical records for external migration (immigration in particular) are poor. According to the existing analysis, based on the official census data, the population decline due to the international migrations is small. However, regarding to the external migrations, Republic of Macedonia has a long history in connection to the emigrations abroad characterized with different volume and structural marks, and thus have different influence on the development of the population in the country. Statistical data on national level on the volume of emigration abroad does not reflect the real condition and the assessment of the Macedonian emigration can only be performed through the foreign sources of data possessed by the international institutions and the receiving countries. In the recent years, the growth in the number of persons who are on temporary stay abroad is evident.

In the absence of complete and relevant data, based on several indicators, the growth of the temporary migration can be identified due to employment abroad, family reasons, study or other reasons. In accordance with the official statistical data of the State Statistical Office of the Republic of Macedonia, if taken into consideration the immigration and the emigration of foreigners in 2013, a total of 1,941 persons moved in Macedonia and 96 have moved out, making a positive migration balance of 1,390 persons. Recognizing the seriousness of this issue, the state has adopted several important documents. The 2015-2020 Resolution on Migration Policy of Republic of Macedonia, as well as 2015-2020 Action Plan on Migration Policy of the Republic of Macedonia, identify the principles of the Republic of Macedonia's migration policy and the migration policy's guidelines and objectives, according to the commitment to draft a comprehensive and consistent policy with respect to all aspects of migration processes. Towards the early detection of migration intentions of the citizens of Macedonia, it is necessary to constantly monitor the migration potential of the population – in total and at regional level, in order to properly focus the measures and the activities in this area. For that purpose, it is necessary to adopt a methodology based on which the migration potential in the country shall be assessed. Reducing the amount or the potential of emigrational movements is possible by reducing the intensity of the impact of the push factors. In this sense, joint efforts of many institutions and a comprehensive approach to improve the status of the young people in the society, the quality of life, primarily through the exercise of the possibilities of their employment is needed.

In the past period, Republic of Macedonia marks positive results in improving the economic situation. The increase in economic activity and the increase in the number of workplaces remain the biggest objectives in the policy of increasing the living standards of the population and creating better social and economic conditions that would encourage the birth and the

raising of children. The real growth rate of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the period from 2004 to 2008 had an average rate of 5.3%. This trend was interrupted by the economic recession and in 2009 it was -0.4%, followed by a positive growth of 3.4% and 2.3% in 2010 and 2011, while in 2013 the growth was 2.7%. Projections for 2014 are that the GDP growth shall be 3.7%.

In 2006, the inflation, measured by the living costs on average annually, was 3.2%, in 2008 it reached 8.3%, in 2012 it was 3.3%, in 2013 it was 2.8% and in 2014 it was -0.3%. The unemployment rate is one of the major problems of the Macedonian society, which inevitably and adversely affects the demographic development. The unemployment marks a moderate downward trend and in 2012 the unemployment rate was 31%, in 2013 it was 29.0%, and in the third quarter of 2014 the unemployment rate decreased and it was 27.9%. The age group of 15 to 24 has the highest unemployment rate, in 2011 it was 55.3%, in 2012 it was 53.9%, in 2013 it was 51.9% and in the third quarter of 2014 it was 52.0%. In the last three years of this period, the rate of active population is nearly the same, i.e. 56.8 in 2011, 56.5 in 2012 and 57.2 in 2013. The highest employment rate of 40.6 was recorded in 2013, and the lowest unemployment rate of 29.0 was also recorded in 2013. Within the total number of employees in 2003 and 2008, the age group of 40 to 44 years had the largest share, and in 2013, the age group of 30 to 34 years had the largest share. In 2003, the employment rate in these age groups was 59.0, and in 2008 it was 58.8, while the employment rate in 2013 was 59.4.

#### c) National capacities to implement the MIPAA/RSI

Republic of Macedonia has diverse, but not an optimal national capacity to monitor its commitments of MIPAA/RIS. The main body authorized to monitor the commitments of MIPAA/RIS is the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy. The Ministry has a Department for Social Protection that is authorized to implement the policies and programs which shall meet the needs and the demands of the elderly persons, as well as the monitoring process. The Ministry works closely with the relevant ministries and state agencies such as the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Science, the PI Institute of Social Affairs - Skopje and NGOs.

The social protection in the Republic of Macedonia is regulated with the Law on Social Protection and other relevant laws which regulate the social security and social assistance for the elderly persons. The social protection of the elderly is provided through social, pension and healthcare system.

Under its jurisdiction, the PI Institute of Social Affairs collects data on the elderly persons, accommodated in social protection institutions or who use the services of a daily centre through the centres for social work in the Republic of Macedonia. It collects data and analyses the beneficiaries accommodated in the institutions for elderly people and their needs.

At the same time, when opening forms for protection of elderly persons, it conducts research on the needs of the elderly to determine the form of protection they need.

The PI Institute on Social Affairs, through supervision and expert assistance that it gives to the professionals employed in the social protection institutions, continuously educates these professionals in order to improve their work with the elderly, and to implement new methods, techniques and content of work with the elderly.



For successful implementation of the 2010-2020 National Strategy for the Older People, the Government of the Republic of Macedonia formed a National Coordinating Body for monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Strategy. The Coordinating body comprises of representatives of all relevant ministries and institutions, NGOs and associations. The Coordinating body is the holder of the activities for implementing the strategy and it is responsible for ensuring the mechanisms for coordination of the regulation and practice of the policies that directly or indirectly affect the elderly, in order to facilitate actions and measures in certain sectors and certain levels.

InluzivaM is a network of NGOs and civil associations who work on the issues of the elderly people. Following the initiative within the regional project "Taking action for social inclusion of the elderly", the organizations that are now members of the network since 03.06.2016, signed a decision to establish the network, after the National meeting held 01-03.06.2016 on which the name of the network and the members of the Coordinating body were defined and ideas for strategic plan of the network in the period of 2016 to 2018 were given.

### **Institutional and non-institutional forms of care for the elderly people**

In the recent period, the Republic of Macedonia has made great efforts to expand the national institutional and non-institutional forms of care for the elderly. Institutional care for the elderly is accomplished by accommodation in a social protection institution and refers to the elderly who do not have adequate living conditions in their family or for other reasons they need accommodation in social protection institution, and no other form of social protection can be applied. As a social protection institutions for the elderly there are nursing homes that provide accommodation for the elderly, adult persons with disabilities and persons with intellectual disabilities, which are unable to take care of themselves, and because of their social and family position they are not able to get other type of protection.

The nursing homes for elderly persons shall provide accommodation, food, assistance and care, health protection, cultural activities and entertainment, work and recreational activities, social work services and other services depending on the needs, capabilities and requirements of the elderly. Besides services, nursing homes can organize non-institutional forms of care, in the form of providing help at home and day-care for the retired and elderly persons.

In Macedonia there are five public institutions – nursing homes for elderly persons whose total capacity of institutional accommodation amounts to 624 beds.

At the beginning of 2012, the reconstruction of P.M.I Nursing home "Sju Rajder" - Bitola, i.e. building of a new facility was initiated. The new nursing home for the elderly in Bitola is built according the contemporary European standards and will include all conditions needed for decent life of the elderly persons. It was put into operation at the beginning of March 2014.

In 2015, the nursing home "Dr. Ivan Vlaski" Berovo was put into operation as a result of the cooperation of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, the Municipality of Berovo and an assistance from a Dutch charity.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Policy takes actions to build public social protection institution for elderly persons in the City of Skopje. Additional capacity building for 510 elderly persons in Skopje is planned in three construction phases.

In this regard, the implementation of the activities in the first phase has started, i.e. in accordance with the DUP – a location in the municipality of Gazi Baba was provided, with total area of the building plot of 1,543 m<sup>2</sup> and the plan is to build a facility of P+5 with a developed construction area at levels of 6,061 m<sup>2</sup>. The procedure for the selection of offers for the preparation of design solution to build a public facility – nursing home for elderly persons with a capacity to accommodate 170 beneficiaries was completed. In regards to the procedure for preparation of design and basic project for the construction of the nursing home for the elderly in Gazi Baba, the design and the basic project have been prepared.

In order to improve the conditions of the institutional protection of the elderly in the Republic of Macedonia and according to the need for additional accommodation, the Government of the Republic of Macedonia adopted a package of measures to encourage investment in terms of opening nursing homes for elderly persons, such as: sales of building land with an initial price of 1 euro per m<sup>2</sup>, with the purpose of constructing facilities for social protection of the elderly; the buildings which were identified in the municipalities can be leased or offered to PPP with the purpose of opening nursing homes for elderly persons; reducing the cost of utility fees by 95%; providing favourable credit lines through the Macedonian Bank to support the development for the construction of facilities for the elderly; benefits offered by ESA; benefits through the Agency for Promotion of Entrepreneurship; legal possibility for foreigners to use home care facilities, i.e. to regulate the stay based on a care in a nursing home. Also in 2016, 10 private homes were assigned with a grant for purchasing equipment for newly opened homes or to expand the capacities of the already opened private institutions. As a result of these activities, apart from the five public institutions for the accommodation of elderly persons people in the Republic of Macedonia, 22 private institutions for the accommodation of elderly persons were opened. The majority of private homes are located in Skopje, i.e. out of 22 private institutions for the accommodation of elderly persons, 20 are in Skopje, one is in Negotino and one is in Bitola. So the need for expanding the accommodation facilities also arises in the other municipalities in the country. The total accommodation capacity in the private institutions for accommodation of elderly persons is 731 beds.

Six private accommodation institutions for the elderly are in the procedure for opening (4 in Skopje, one in Radovish and one in Negotino). Non-institutional care for the elderly: Day-care centres for elderly persons and centres for assistance at home. In the recent years there has been an intense work in order to develop non-institutional forms of care and assistance for the elderly. By-laws for the development of these services were adopted, i.e. the Rulebook on Norms and Standards for Establishing a Daily Centre for the Elderly and the Rulebook on Norms and Standards for the Establishment of a Centre for Assistance at Home.

There are 12 day-care centres for elderly persons in the country, such as:

Day-care centres Ministry of Labour and Social Policy in cooperation with the Local self-governments:

-DC for the elderly Municipality of Chashka; CSW

-DC for the elderly Bogomila; CSW

-DC for the elderly Samokov, Municipality of Makedonski Brod; CSW - DC for the elderly Buchin, Municipality of Krushevo; CSW

DC for the elderly Vevchani – Municipality of Vevchani;

-DC for the elderly Timjanik – Municipality of Negotino CSW

-DC for the elderly Municipality of Cheshinovo – Obleshevo – 2014-DC for the elderly Municipality of Ilinden 2015

-DC for the elderly Municipality of Vinica, Istibanja settlement CSW.

A combination of day-care centres and assistance at home, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy in cooperation with the Red Cross of Skopje and the City of Skopje:

-Municipality of Chair - 2012 - Municipality of Centar – 2012 and Municipality of Gazi Baba - 2014.

Within the program activities of providing social protection and social security for the elderly in recent years, the project "Spa-climate recreation of pension beneficiaries" was implemented, through which around 32,600 pensioners took the opportunity for a free spa for 6 days, i.e. 6 full boards. Also in 2015 another project was initiated, "Free tourist weekend for pension beneficiaries in 2015". The project covered 3,000 pension beneficiaries, i.e. persons who are beneficiaries of retirement, disability and family pension. The free travel weekend includes a service that has been used once in the period from April to November 2015, for a period of 3 days and includes: 2 full boards (2 nights with three meals per day), i.e. arriving on Friday afternoon, departure on Sunday afternoon, and bus transportation to the hotel.

By-laws:

- Rulebook on norms and standards for establishment and commencement of operations of social protection institutions for the elderly;

- Rulebook on norms and standards for premises, equipment, expert staff and resources required for the establishment and commencement of operations of social protection institutions - Daily centre for elderly and adults;

- Rulebook on norms and standards for premises, equipment, expert staff and resources required for the establishment and commencement of operations of social protection institutions - Centre for assistance at home;

- Rulebook on the type and scope of social services that are paid by the user and relatives who are obliged to support him, and the amount of cost-sharing of the beneficiaries and relatives.

- Rulebook on norms for all-day diet of the beneficiaries in the institutions for institutional social protection.

Currently there are 28 retirement homes in the country, designed to meet the needs for the accommodation of pensioners, and around 20 clubs for pensioners, but their contents and available services cannot fully meet the needs of the ageing population.

Conclusions and priorities for the future

The national institutional capacities in our country cannot meet the growing needs of institutional care for the elderly. In recent years the initiatives to build private retirement homes are growing, but because of the high cost of the services they are inaccessible to a number of old people with a minimum pension.

The condition of the non-institutional care is not at a desirable level, but many measures were

taken in this field, whose results are expected to be seen in the future.

Republic of Macedonia needs future field researches which shall identify the needs of the elderly, based on which policies for the care and protection of the elderly shall be created.

Macedonia has an increasing need to exchange experiences with other countries that implement positive processes for the problem of the elderly and the ageing, and have similar system of social protection for the elderly. (Countries in the region, Croatia, Serbia, Austria etc.) The necessity of exchange refers to the way of functioning and organization of the protection of the elderly, as well as the way professionals work and their education.

The international institutions should take measures to provide financial support for the social security system, and also a presentation of the experiences and solutions of other countries, in creating a safer system of protection of elderly persons.

The priorities in the next period shall be focused on improving the health and social services through:

- Simplification of the processes and the procedures for exercising health and social rights and services for the elderly;
- Better access to health and social rights and services with emphasis on rural areas;
- Increasing the capacity to accommodate the elderly;
- Improving the legislation to encourage domestic and foreign investment in capacity building for the accommodation of elderly persons on local level;
- Improving the non-institutional forms of protection (daily centres and centres for assistance at home and other forms of care of the elderly at home, counselling, etc.)
- Linking the programs for adult education (assistants training for the care of the elderly) with the active measures of ESA;
- Promoting the norms and standards for the establishment of social protection institutions for the elderly;
- Analysis with recommendations for harmonizing the legal deadlines for regulations relating to the elderly;
- Bringing public services closer to the elderly
- Mapping the overall needs of the elderly for public services;
- Strengthening the cooperation with the government institutions, civil society and local self-government for the provision of public services, tailored to the needs of the adults on a local level;
- Providing constant care for the elderly and health services at home;
- Promoting the health and social programs and services intended for the elderly, particularly in rural and inaccessible areas;
- Promoting the idea of developing services for the elderly;
- improving the quality of life of the elderly who live in specialized institutions;
- Introducing staff trainings for working with the elderly for different types of services and activities in all directions and levels of specialization.

Providing conditions for lifelong learning, active ageing and intergenerational solidarity:

- Promoting the concept of active ageing;
- Integrating and promoting the process of active ageing in the curricula of primary, secondary and higher education;

- Increased availability of information for the elderly, in relation to the realization of social and health services and rights (campaigns, promotional materials, discussions, workshops);
- Promotion of the opportunities for involvement of the elderly in the process of volunteering and their active involvement in social courses, in order to develop a model of volunteer engagement of the adults;
- Developing forms for inclusion of the young people in the volunteering activities in order to build intergenerational solidarity in the community;
- Support of the projects for care of the elderly;
- Active promotion of the intergenerational solidarity with the support of the different factors in the society.

<p><b>Four key objectives from the Vienna Declaration</b></p> <p><b>Objective 1:</b> Longer working life is encouraged and the ability to work is maintained</p>	<p><b>Obligations of the regional strategy for the implementation of MPPAA</b></p> <p><b>Obligation 1:</b> To implement the ageing in all the areas of the politics in order to bring the societies and economies in line with the demographic changes to provide a society for all ages</p> <p><b>Obligation 2:</b> To provide complete integration and participation of the elderly persons people in the society</p> <p><b>Obligation 3:</b> To promote equal and sustainable economic growth, due to an ageing population</p> <p><b>Obligation 5:</b> To allow the labour market to respond to the economic and social consequences of ageing</p> <p><b>Obligation 8:</b> To introduce gender approach in the ageing society</p>	<p><b>Recommended measures for the implementation of MPPA/RIS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy development on the labour market based on evidence showing that the employment policies of the young and elderly persons are complementary and beneficial to all.</li> </ul> <p>Promoting positive attitudes towards the elderly officials and fight against discrimination based on the age in the labour market.</p> <p><i>- Unemployed persons at the age of 50 who were unemployed for three months prior to employment. An employer who will hire a person from this group shall be exempted from paying contributions for compulsory social insurance in duration of 60 months from the date of employment. The employer has no obligation to keep the employee at work after the termination of the measure.</i></p> <p><i>- The employer who will hire the oldest efficient unemployed persons over the age of 58 who were unemployed for the last two years shall be exempted from paying contributions for compulsory social insurance until meeting the requirements to exercise the right to retirement pension.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementing reforms in the pension system in order to adapt to demographic change, including increased longevity in some member-states, and larger number of elderlies working in the informal sector. Promoting the sustainability and adequacy of the public and private pension system and providing universal coverage, as appropriate.</li> </ul> <p><i>Federation of Pensioners' Association of Macedonia (FPAM)</i>  <i>From the many activities in the reporting period, we hereby state only a dozen of them:</i>  <i>1) Maintaining the real value of pensions against the increase of living costs and salary growth is a regular activity of FPAM in cooperation with the Government of the Republic of Macedonia and PDIFM while making necessary</i></p>
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		<p>adjustments twice a year, on 1.1 and 1.7. The base of each pension is increased by 500 denars in the nominal value, and the same is expected this year.</p> <p>2) On FPAM's initiative, more specific measures are taken, and many laws and other normative acts are enacted to expand the list of drugs that do not require co-payment, or the participation is reduced, rural health care of the elderly persons and the whole population, as well as exemption from co-payment in inpatient treatment of pensioners with a pension until the census of 10,600 denars;</p> <p>5) The magazine "Penzioner plus" is issued every month and the sub-newspaper "Penzionerski vidici" is issued in the daily newspaper, as well as in the newspaper "Koha" (in Albanian) and on their web-site. The circulation of "Penzioner plus" is 8000 and of "Penzionerski vidici" is the same as of the newspaper "Nova Makedonija";</p> <p>6) To encourage physical activity and promotion of sports among the elderly persons, thus achieving active and healthy ageing, FPAM organizes National pension competitions where the best competitors from the municipal and regional competitions take part. Around 200 to 600 participants take part in those contests, depending on the municipality. So a total of 16-18000 participants take part in these sports competitions in 11 disciplines for both men and women.</p> <p>7) National pensioners' show of songs, music and dances is part of the activities to enrich the lives of the elderly persons and at the same time to protect the cultural heritage, tradition and the identity of the citizens living in the Republic of Macedonia. Around 1500-2000 participants take part in these shows, after the qualifications in the separate regions where 3000 participants take part;</p> <p>8) Free public bus transport and cable-car.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting the role of the elderly workers in passing the knowledge and experience on to the younger workers.</li> </ul> <p>- The employers who will hire persons at the age of 35 to 50,</p>
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		<p><i>who were unemployed for 10 years, shall be exempted from paying contributions for 5 years, with an obligation to retain the workers for one more year.</i></p> <p><i>- Those who will hire persons at the age of over 50 shall be exempted from paying social contributions for 5 years without an obligation to retain the workers afterwards.</i></p> <p><i>This measure shall apply to those who hire persons over 58 years of age. Those companies shall be exempted from contributions until the retirement of that worker.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction of material deprivation, poverty and social exclusion of the elderly persons, especially older women, and facilitating the access of the elderly persons towards the resources to meet their needs.</li> </ul> <p><i>The association ‘Humanos!’ advocates for poverty reduction and social exclusion of the elderly persons with the direct participation of the elderly persons in policy creation, i.e. Declarations to people who live in poverty and social exclusion every year.</i></p> <p><i>- Activities:</i></p> <p><i>- Conferences for people who live in poverty and social exclusion.</i></p> <p><i>- Declarations for people who live in poverty and social exclusion.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitating the participation of the elderly persons, especially women, in the process of reaching decisions at every level, both directly and through organizations for the elderly persons through the civil society.</li> </ul> <p><i>With project activities and through the sector for policy creation the association ‘Humanos!’ includes the elderly persons in the process of reaching decisions, i.e. activities related to health and social protection and for these reasons we actively take part in the process of initiation and amendments of the Law on Social Protection.</i></p>
<p><b>Objective 2:</b> Promoting participation, non-discrimination and social inclusion of the elderly persons</p>	<p><b>Obligation 1:</b> To implement the ageing in all the areas of the politics in order to bring the societies and economies in line with the demographic changes to provide a society for all ages</p> <p><b>Obligation 2:</b> To provide complete integration and participation of the elderly persons in the society</p> <p><b>Obligation 4:</b> To adjust the social protection systems, as a respond to demographic changes and their social and economic consequences</p> <p><b>Obligation 6:</b> To promote lifelong education and to adjust the educational system in order to meet the changing economic, social and demographic conditions</p> <p><b>Obligation 8:</b> To introduce gender approach in the ageing society</p> <p><b>Obligation 7:</b> To seek to ensure the quality of life of all ages and to maintain independent living, including health and well-being.</p>	



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking measures to fight discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation.</li> </ul> <p><i>In accordance with the Law on Prevention and Protection Against Discrimination – revised text (Official Gazette no. 177 dated 14.10.2015) adopted in 2010, a Commission for Protection against Discrimination as an independent body was established.</i></p> <p><i>According to the Law, the Commission works on petitions received on various grounds, including age. Since the establishment, the Commission has received 28 petitions in the grounds of age, and has identified discrimination in 3 of them.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing lifelong access to various types of high quality education and training, including advanced technologies.</li> </ul> <p><i>The Law on Adult Education was adopted in 2008 and in the same year the PI Centre for Adult Education was established by the Government of the Republic of Macedonia.</i></p> <p><i>The main objective of the Centre for Adult Education is to contribute to the realization of socio-economic needs of Macedonia, to address the needs of the labour market and to help individuals in their personal development.</i></p> <p><i>The mission of the Centre is to promote a system of adult education which shall be functional, modern, and in compliance with the EU standards, a system that shall provide high quality learning and possibility to acquire qualifications in accordance with the needs of the population, to harmonize and integrate the public interests and the interests of the social partners in adult education in the Republic of</i></p>
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		<p><i>Macedonia.</i></p> <p><i>In January 2012 the PI Centre for Adult Education – Skopje started the process of verifying special programs for adult education out of which 206 programs by different profiles and establishments/institutions are verified so far.</i></p> <p><i>In 2010, the PI Centre for Adult Education – Skopje in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Science initiated the implementation of the Project for the establishment of secondary vocational adult education for people with primary school only. The object of this Project is to reduce the unemployment rate and to provide employment of the citizens, as well as to increase the competitiveness on the labour market. Secondary vocational schools were engaged in order to implement this Project, in which the participants as part-time students are enrolled. In the period from 2010 to June 2016, the schools enrolled a total of 1785 participants, out of which 1435 successfully completed the education. In this period, 350 participants are taking part in the Project.</i></p> <p><i>The main activities of the Centre for Adult Education are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>- Conception of basic adult education (Programs for basic adult education based on key competences in cooperation with UNDP)</i></li> <li><i>- Conception of informal adult education and learning (Establishing a system of validation of the informal learning in cooperation with ETF)</i></li> <li><i>- Verification of special adult education programs</i></li> <li><i>- Monitoring of service providers (professional supervision)</i></li> </ul>
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		<p>- Erasmus+ project “Support in creating policies for adult education” – creating data base for programs and providers of adult education</p> <p>- IPA project “Enhancing Lifelong Learning through Modernizing the VET and Adult Education Systems”</p> <p>- Developing a strategy (2016-2020) for: Education, Adult education and informal learning</p> <p>Adult education</p> <p>Lifelog learning.</p> <p><i>Note: According to the Law on Adult Education, an adult is a person who has reached the age of 15 (fifteen). Starting with the main activity of the Centre for Adult Education, i.e. the verification of the special programs for adult education in the trainings implemented by different service providers, they include people of different ages, including the people at the age of 55.</i></p> <p>Also, we inform you that according to the Rulebook on the Verification of Special Programs for Adult Education, every service provider is obliged to submit written notice of commencement of training to the Centre of Adult Education after the verification of the program, but it does not contain information on the age of the participants.</p> <p><u>University of the Third Age – Skopje</u> <u>Indicators:</u> - There were 200 lectures on the subject of preventive health</p>
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		<p><i>care, healthy food, culture and science, tourism – attended by 24000 participants</i></p> <p><i>- Closing conference – attended by 2000 participants</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking into account the different needs of the growing number of the elderly persons among the minorities and the immigrants to secure their integration and equal participation in society.</li> </ul> <p><i>Association for Development of the Roma Community SUMNAL</i></p> <p><i>Report on the activities in the period from 2012 to 2016:</i></p> <p><i>- The activities of SUMNAL in the period from 2012 to 2016 were aimed at distributing humanitarian aid to the elderly persons, to conduct a series of workshops with the elderly persons on everyday-life subjects and to provide them with health, legal and social help.</i></p> <p><i>From 2010 to 2015 the elderly persons were provided with firewood and 3 cubic meters of trees per person, and this included 2009 elderly persons from the Roma population from the whole country, i.e. the distribution of humanitarian aid was carried out in several cities and villages throughout the Republic of Macedonia. In 2014, except firewood, the elderly persons were provided with different types of aids (glasses, walking canes etc.)</i></p> <p><i>In 2016 only 500 elderly persons from the municipalities of Shuto Orizari and Topana in Skopje were covered. They were provided with two packages of dry food and one package of hygiene products.</i></p> <p><i>Besides the distribution of humanitarian aid, workshops for the elderly persons are being held, and it is estimated that 150 elderly persons will be attending.</i></p>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enabling proper ageing through promotion of services and support to the individual and the family, so the elderly persons are able to live as long as possible in their environment and community. These services should take into consideration the special needs of the women, especially those living alone.</li> </ul> <p><u>Day-care Centre for Elderly Persons and Centre for Assistance at Home:</u></p> <p>- Since September 2011, within the Red Cross of Skopje and with the support of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy and the City of Skopje, the project “Day-care Centre for Elderly Persons and Centre for Assistance at Home” was implemented.</p> <p><i>The main objective of the project is developing a non-institutional care and securing health care to the elderly persons and disabled.</i></p> <p><i>The specific objectives of the project are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Improving the quality of life, health and psychophysical condition of the elderly persons;</i></li> <li>• <i>Satisfying the health and social needs of the elderly persons;</i></li> <li>• <i>Socialization and improving the level of education of the elderly persons;</i></li> <li>• <i>Promoting active approach towards life in old age;</i></li> <li>• <i>Promoting volunteering and involvement of the citizens in voluntary work for activities for elderly people.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>The target group of the project is the old and disabled people</i></p>
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		<p><i>who live alone or with their spouse and are in need of medical and psycho-social support and active elderly persons people in need of socialization and health condition that permits them to practice active ageing.</i></p> <p><i>Within the project, the elderly persons living in the municipalities of: Chair, Butel, Gjorche Petrov, Karposh, Centar, Kisela Voda, Shuto Orizari and Saraj are being visited once a week. This project includes 180 elderly people who are being visited at home continuously.</i></p> <p><i>Three day-care centres are functioning for the needs of the active elderly people, in the municipalities of: Centar, Chair and Saraj. The capacity of this Centres allow for 30 people to stay there.</i></p> <p><i>This service is provided by a trained team of associates and volunteers of the Red Cross of Skopje.</i></p> <p><i>The services provided by the medical professional are: measuring the blood sugar, measuring the pressure, contacts with the primary care physician, distributing free drugs (provided in the project), giving advice on taking the treatment, giving nutritional advice, accompanying the elderly persons when visiting a doctor.</i></p> <p><i>The services provided by the volunteers are: discussions and other social activities, providing food, assistance in buying food products, medicine etc., accompanying the elderly persons when visiting a doctor, in taking walks, running the administrative affairs for the elderly persons.</i></p> <p><i>The following activities are realized in the day-care centres: lectures on topics that are interesting and useful for the elderly persons, celebrating the calendar activities of the Red</i></p>
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	<p><i>main objective is improving the quality of life of the elderly persons through improving their psycho-social condition. Educational activities are implemented in the club in order to raise the level of health prevention, as well as organizing creative workshops, recreational activities etc. The implementation of the activities of the club is realized in cooperation with the municipal association of pensioners, the Centre for Social Work as well as with other institutions and organizations locally. These clubs also function through the municipal organization of the Red Cross in Negotino and Veles.</i></p> <p><i>During 2015, a club in Prilep was opened through the municipal organization of the Red Cross in Prilep.</i></p> <p><i>NGO Humanity: Activities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>- Care of elderly persons and disabled persons at home:</i></li> <li><i>- Humanity conducts the service of care of elderly persons and disabled persons at home: (Palliative Care) and provides care and assistance to the persons over 60 and their families through professionals (nurses, caregivers, physiotherapists, social worker and psychologist), and it performs these activities in the homes of the elderly persons.</i></li> <li><i>- Education of caregivers for taking care of the elderly persons at home.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>In 2013 Humanity verified the program of education of caregivers for taking care of the elderly persons at home. The program was verified by the Centre for Adult Education and the Ministry of Education and Science. After 4 months of education the participants acquire professional skills for providing quality and professional care to the elderly persons at home. After 4 months and after passing the final exam the participants gain a Certificate recognized by the institutions mentioned above and it contains the acquired skills. A total of</i></p>
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		<p><i>52 persons – caregivers to the elderly persons, were trained in the last period.</i></p> <p><i>- Licensing Civil Organizations, providers of social services With the support of IRIS Network for the Improvement of social services in the SEE part of the project “Improving the social services in Southeast Europe by strengthening the national and regional IRIS networks.” Humanity initiated and prepared a comprehensive documentation for licensing the civil sector in Macedonia which needs to offer minimum quality standards that the civil organizations must fulfil. The licenses shall be issued by MLSP. Also a protocol for minimum standards for caregiving at home and social centres shall be prepared.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Recognition and support of family caregivers, most of which are women in achieving their difficult tasks, including provisions for the adjustment of work and family commitments, as well as social protection measures.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Within the second objective, by implementing part of their activities as a public institution for social protection, PI ISA Skopje also participates in the implementation of some of the obligations of the Regional strategy for the implementation of MPPAA through:</i></p> <p><i>- Education of professionals and volunteers involved in the work of the centres for assistance at home and day-care centres for the elderly persons and adults, through specially designed module M 17 “Social intervention with the elderly persons.”</i></p> <p><i>- Education of professionals who are employed in public and private institutions for social protection of the elderly persons and centres for social work, as part of the licensing process;</i></p>
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		<p><i>preparation of a new module for this purpose in accordance with the emerging needs and changes of the elderly persons is underway.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Education of the entire staff employed in the social protection institutions of the elderly persons, according to the level and extent of communication and social interaction with the elderly persons;</i></li> <li>- <i>Professional assistance and support in the implementation and preparation of the work programs of social protection institutions with the elderly persons and their adaptation to the needs of the users, professional assistance and support in the preparation of records and documentation for the implemented activities;</i></li> <li>- <i>Mandatory professional assistance and support for the newly institutional and non-institutional forms of social protection of the elderly persons;</i></li> <li>- <i>Monthly records of the number of users accommodated in the social protection institutions of the elderly persons in accordance to specific indicators, prepared analysis of the situation of the social protection institutions of the elderly persons, 2012;</i></li> <li>- <i>“Charter on the Elderly Persons”, “Code of ethics for dealing with the elderly persons” and “Newsletter for the rights of social protection” were prepared by PI ISA, and printed and promoted with the help of the Red Cross, as a promotional material to raise the awareness on the needs and rights of the elderly persons;</i></li> <li>- <i>Participation in the International Conference “Active Ageing and Intergenerational Solidarity” - June 2012,</i></li> </ul>
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		<p><b>Skopje:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Study visit of the 16<sup>th</sup> Festival of the Third Age in Ljubljana, Slovenia – September 2016;</li> <li>- Support and participation in the advocacy of the elderly persons.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Four key objectives from the Vienna Declaration</b></p> <p><b>Objective 3:</b> Promotion and protection of the dignity and independence in older age</p>	<p><b>Obligations of the regional strategy for the implementation of MIPAA</b></p> <p><b>Obligation 1:</b> To implement the ageing in all the areas of the politics in order to bring the societies and economies in line with the demographic changes to provide a society for all ages</p> <p><b>Obligation 4:</b> To adjust the social protection systems, as a respond to demographic changes and their social and economic consequences</p> <p><b>Obligation 8:</b> To introduce gender approach in the ageing society</p> <p><b>Obligation 9:</b> To provide support for the families that provide care for the elderly persons and promote inter-generational solidarity among its members</p>	<p><b>Recommended measures for the implementation of MIPAA/RIS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting and strengthening the multigenerational intergenerational dialogue and learning by everyone involved, including governments, NGOs, private sector, media and the general public.</li> </ul> <p><i>The NGO Humanity: The intergenerational solidarity is maintained and improved. The access and intergenerational cooperation between young people and the elderly persons is enabled through the Humanity's Department of Youth.</i></p> <p><b>Activities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We are creative as well</li> </ul> <p><i>This project implements creative and thematic workshops to use the knowledge and the potential of the young and the elderly persons and builds intergenerational solidarity.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation and implementation to educate the public, especially the younger generations, on issues of population and individual aging. These campaigns should include education on healthy, active aging as part of the life course in the educational programs of all educational institutions, and at the same time increasing awareness among the elderly persons on the issues, the living conditions and the challenges of younger generations.</li> </ul>
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		<p><i>Objective I: Longer working life is encouraged and the ability to work is maintained</i></p> <p><i>In the period 2012 to 2016, the Association organized many activities continuously:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Every September of the year is dedicated to the Month of the Alzheimer's disease and the 21 of September is celebrated as the World Alzheimer's Day. Numerous visits to the homes of the elderly persons were made, with appropriate lecture and artistic program to raise awareness among the adult population. Flyers with the signs and symptoms of the disease and preventive activities were distributed. The nursing homes that accommodate people suffering from Alzheimer's dementia were visited. More lectures during this period were held at the Faculty of the Third Age, with whom the Association for Alzheimer's disease - Macedonia cooperates for a longer period of time. Sublined lectures were held at the Faculty of the Third Age for raising the public awareness about the Alzheimer's disease, and preventive programs on improving the mental and physical condition of the elderly persons.</i></li> <li>• <i>In this period, the Association had excellent cooperation with the Home of charities - Dare Dzambas. Several lectures of the experts involved in the work of dementia and Alzheimer's disease were held in this Home.</i></li> <li>• <i>In this period, the Association and its representatives attended the world conferences on Alzheimer's disease in Thessaloniki – Greece, Toronto – Canada, Budapest – Hungary. Contacts and changes of opinions and experiences were established on these conferences with many delegations and</i></li> </ul>
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		<p><i>representatives of the member-states of the Alzheimer's Association (ADI – Alzheimer's disease International) based in London, England. Among hundreds of associations from different states of the world, the Macedonian Association for Alzheimer's disease was a full member, and participated in the work and the activities of the conferences. The experiences and news of these conferences were also presented on the lectures organized for the medical students at the Medical Faculty in Skopje and at most charities; Red Cross, Association of Pensioners of the City of Skopje, Association of Women of Skopje and other associations.</i></p> <p><i>In this period an individual visits to the requests of the families who take care of people suffering from Alzheimer's disease were made.</i></p> <p><i>In 2012, the book "Alzheimer's disease and how to stay forever young" by Dragan Ilievski was promoted in the EU Info Centre.</i></p>
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<p><b>Four key objectives from the Vienna Declaration</b></p>	<p><b>Obligations of the regional strategy for the implementation of MPPAA</b></p>	<p><b>Recommended measures for the implementation of MPPAA/RIS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actions taken by your country in order to strengthen the cooperation between the member-states of UNECE in the field of aging (e.g., participation in international meetings, exchange of information with the member-states and the Secretariat of UNECE).</li> </ul> <p><i>The Ministry of Labour and Social Policy along with the UNPFA Fund for Population within the UN, organized a two day training related to the responsibilities of the implementation of the UNECE Regional Implementation</i></p>
<p><b>Regional cooperation</b></p>	<p><b>Obligation 10:</b> To promote the implementation and to monitor the state of the regional implementation strategy through regional cooperation</p>	

		<p><i>Strategy of the Madrid International Plan of Actions on Aging (MIPAA) in November 2014 in Ohrid, and it was conducted by an international consultant.</i></p> <p><i>Ministry of Labour and Social Policy in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection of the Republic of Austria organized a training workshop to work with the elderly persons - Sharing experiences with Austria, in the Parliamentary Club - Skopje in April 2015.</i></p> <p><i>University of the Third Age:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>- Regional cooperation with Slovenia (Festival of the Third Age) and Croatia</i></li> </ul> <p><i>NGO Humanity:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>-Macedonian Platform against poverty</i></li> <li><i>-European Anti-Poverty Network</i></li> <li><i>-IRIS network</i></li> <li><i>-Linked Age platform for mobility of the elderly persons</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Association for Alzheimer's disease</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>-The Association made contacts and cooperates with the Slovenian and Croatian Association for Alzheimer's disease within the activities.</i></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Possibilities for the civil society to cooperate on this process.</li> </ul> <p><i>Since February 2016, the regional project "Taking Action on Social Inclusion of Older People", financed by the European Union, began and shall be implemented in the period of three years by the Red Cross of Serbia as project coordinator, in partnership with the Red Cross of Austria, the Macedonian Red Cross and the civil association "Humanity" from Macedonia, the Red Cross of Montenegro and civil associations from Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina. The</i></p>
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		<p><i>project aims to set up regional networks of civil associations and organizations of the Red Cross in five West Balkan countries/.</i></p> <p><i>On June 3, 2016 the Red Cross of RM and Humanity and seven civil society organizations of Macedonia - Association for development of the Roma community Sunnd, University of the Third Age- Skopje, Association Justica, Union of Associations of Pensioners, Association for Alzheimer's disease, Organization of women of Pehchevo and Local development agency, signed a decision on the official operation of the informal network InkluzivnaM, for social inclusion of the elderly persons.</i></p> <p><i>Strategic plan was prepared for the work of the network in the period of three years, based on an analysis of the situation in Macedonia which contains information on the relevant interested parties, the shortcomings in politics, services and needs of the elderly persons, as well as the capacity of the civil sector for implementing the activities for the advocacy of the initiatives for social inclusion of the elderly persons. In September 2016, a workshop with members of the network InkluzivnaM was held to provide knowledge for advocacy based on evidence, and priority areas for research at national level were defined for collection and processing of data that will be used as a basis for making advocacy strategy as well as specific advocacy activities.</i></p>
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## Attachment to the Guidelines for National Coordinators for Issues Associated to Ageing

### List of proposed statistical indicators of active ageing<sup>1</sup>

In order to observe the dynamics, the member-states of UNECE shall compose an Annex with statistical data – for three different years, if possible. Please note that most of the proposed indicators refer to the population at the age of 55 and older. The proposed variables for the relevant indicators should be addressed: if these variables are not available, other pronominal measures can be used. Please indicate the correct variables and the used source in the Table.

#### STATE: Republic of Macedonia

INDICATOR	PROPOSED VARIABLES	POSSIBLE SOURCE	Year 1 (2005 or approximately)		Year 2 (2010 or approximately)		Year 3 (2015 or approximately)				
			Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
<b>1. Labour market (contribution by the elderly persons through paid activities)</b>											
1.1. Employment rate in the age group 55-59	As the indicator	Workforce research	33.2	43.7	23.2	43.1	57.6	28.90	50.7	63.6	37.8
1.2. Employment rate in the age group 60-64	As the indicator	Workforce research	17.6	26.4	9.4	22.9	32.3	14.3	28.2	39.1	17.9
1.3. Employment rate in the age group 65+	As the indicator	Workforce research	4.7	6.5	3.1	3.8	5.5	2.5	4.0	5.4	2.8
<b>2. Social inclusion (contribution by the elderly persons through unpaid activities)</b>											
2.1 Voluntary work by the	Percentage of senior citizens	Relevant research									

<sup>1</sup> This list of indicators is based on the methodology of the Index of active aging and largely meets the main focus areas of the Vienna Declaration from 2012. For more information, please visit AAI wiki (<http://www1.unece.org/stat/platform/display/AAI/Active+Ageing+Index+Home>) or contact the Secretariat of ageing@unece.org.

elderly population (at the age of 55+)	(at the age of 55+) performing unpaid work through organizations (at least once a week)										
2.2 Taking care of children, grandchildren by the elderly population (at the age of 55+)	Percentage of senior citizens (at the age of 55+) taking care of their children and grandchildren (at least once a week)	Relevant research									
2.3 Taking care of older adults by the elderly population (at the age of 55+)	Percentage of senior citizens (at the age of 55+) that provide personal care to older or handicapped persons and relatives (at least once a week)	Relevant research									
2.4. Participation in politics by the elderly population (at the age of	Percentage of senior citizens (at the age of 55+) that take part in activities or	Relevant research									





3.6. Without serious deprivation of material assets (for those at the age of 65+)	income) 100 - Percentage of people at the age of 65 and older who are seriously materially deprived (with the inability to afford at least 4 of the 9 groceries)	Income and statistics of the living conditions/ relevant research				34.8			34.3		
3.7. Physical safety (for those at the age of 55+)	Percentage of people at the age of 55 and older who feel safe enough or to safely walk in darkness in their local area	Relevant research									
3.8. Lifelong learning (for those at the age of 55-74)	Percentage of people at the age of 55-74 who said that they have received education or training in the duration of four weeks prior to the research	Research on workforce									



	friends, relatives, colleagues at least once a week										
4.6. Educational achievements of the elderly persons (at the age of 55+)	Number of people at the age of 55 to 74 with secondary or higher education	Research on workforce/ general statistics on education of adult groups									

**5. Other indicators (if applicable)**

For more information, please refer to the list of researches, the data that was used to calculate the Index of Active Ageing for EU28 countries:

- [EU-LabourForce Survey \(LFS\)](#)
- [European QualityofLifeSurveys \(EQLS\)](#)
- [EU-Statistics onIncomeandLivingConditions \(SILC\)](#)
- [EuropeanSocial Survey \(ESS\)](#)
- [EurostatICT Survey](#)
- [EuropeanHealthandLife ExpectancyInformationSystem \(EHLEIS\)](#)