

Pestalozzi Children's Village Foundation – Branch office Skopje

NMAC Country Programme Audit

Independent Auditor's Report

mgiworldwide



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Financial Information Audit of the "NMAC Country Programme Audit" for the period 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

Programme number: 512001

Contract number: 512001

Name and address of Partner:

Pestalozzi Children's Village Foundation Branch office - Skopje, North Macedonia

Background of the mandated organization

Pestalozzi Children's Village Foundation is a Swiss non-governmental organization based in Trogen, Switzerland, with a vision for all children and youth to have access to quality education and thereby contribute to a more just and peaceful world.

In order to ensure the presence of its activity on the territory of Republic of North Macedonia, Pestalozzi Children's Foundation opens its own Branch office in Skopje.

Programme objectives

The Branch office undertakes the following activities:

• The Foundation works in the field of education in cooperation with national authorities and in partnership with local organizations in order to provide access to quality education to vulnerable children.

The Branch office has the following goal:

Access to quality education for children is improved.

Name and address of Auditor

A&BA Group DOOEL Skopje,

Str. 1661 no.9-50 Skopje

А&БА ГРОУП дооел





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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON FINANCIAL INFORMATION

TO:

Pestalozzi Children's Village Foundation - branch office Skopje

Opinion

On the PCF Standard Terms of Reference, we have audited the Financial Information for the above-mentioned programme, which comprise the Financial Information and notes to the financial information for the period 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2022.

In our opinion, the accompanying Financial Information and notes to the financial information on the programme "NMAC Country Programme Audit" for the period 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2022 are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the accounting policies described in the notes and comply with the requirements of the PCF Standard Terms of reference dated 1 February 2022.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs), in particular ISA 805. Our responsibilities under those provisions and standards are further described in the "Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial information" section of our report.

We are independent of the entity in accordance with the requirements of the IESBA Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Information

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial information. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial information that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.





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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON FINANCIAL INFORMATION (continued)

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial information

As part of an audit in accordance with ISA 805, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial information, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit
 procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing
 an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by Management.

A&BA Group DOOEL

Str. 1661 no.9-50

Skopje

Date, 25.03.2023

Partner

Darke Kalin

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES For the Year Ended 31 December 2022 and 2021 In MKD

2	Notes	2022	2021
Granted donations	4	6.864.278	5.921.407
Transferred surplus of revenue from the previous year		895.604	414.027
TOTAL REVENUES		7.759.882	6.335.434
a			-
A. Direct programme activities	5	(126.482)	(322.332)
B. Human resources	6	(5.001.006)	(3.987.228)
C. Monitoring, Controlling and Assessment	7	(520.695)	(367.952)
D. Administrative costs	8	(878.077)	(762.318)
*. Capacity Development		*	₹ = 3
TOTAL EXPENSES		6.526.260	(5.439.830)1
Surplus of revenues over expenses before taxes		1.233.622	895.604
Income Tax			
Surplus of revenues over expenses after taxation		1.233.622	895.604

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

The accompanying financial statements were authorised for issue on 06.02.2023 by the management of the Organization and were signed on its behalf by:

Azbija Memedova

Country Representative

¹ In the PCF final financial report for 2021 this amount is 5.439.829, the difference of 1MKD is a result of rounding of the decimals on an invoice while making a bank payment as the Macedonian Denar smallest unit is 1 denar.

BALANCE SHEET STATEMENT For the Year Ended 31 December 2022 and 31 December 2021 In MKD

	Notes	31 December 2022	31 December 2021
ASSETS		,,	
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	9	45.072*	55.773
		45.072	55.773
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	10	1.245.084	935.752
		1.245.084	935.752
TOTAL ASSETS		1.290.156	991.525
LIABILITIES AND OPERATING FUND OPERATING FUND			
Operating Fund		45.072	55.773
Surplus of revenues over expenses after taxation		1.233.622	895.604
	11	1.278.694	951.377
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable	12	11.462	40.148
		11.462	40.148
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUNDS		1.290.156	991.525

^{**24.517}MKD current value NMAC programme assets plus 20.555MKD current value of the assets purchased as part of project 512005 implemented by NMAC Programme and closed on June 30th, 2022. These items are in NMAC Programme inventory.

Pestalozzi Children's Village Foundation - Branch office Skopje

STATEMENT OF CHANGES OF OPERATING FUND For the Year Ended 31 December 2022 and 31 December 2021 In MKD

	Operating Fund	Surplus of revenues over expenses	TOTAL
Balance as of 1 January 2021	132.639	414.027	546.666
Transferred surplus of revenues over expenses from previous year	-	(414.027)	(414.027)
Additions	2	12	14 19
Depreciation for the year	(76.866)	匮	(76.866)
Surplus of revenues over expenses	in a	895.604	895.604
Balance as of 31 December 2021	55.773	895.604	951.377
Transferred surplus of revenues over expenses from previous year	-	(895.604)	(895.604)
Additions	20.990	-	20.990
Transfer from 512005	20.555*		20.555*
Depreciation for the year	(52.246)		(52.246)
Surplus of revenues over expenses	*	1.233.622	1.233.622
Balance as of 31 December 2022	45.072	1.233.622	1.278.694

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

 $^{^*20.555}$ MKD current value of the assets purchased as part of project 512005 implemented by NMAC Programme and closed on June 30th, 2022. These items are in NMAC Programme inventory.

All amounts are presented in thousands MKD, except where otherwise stated

1. ESTABLISHMENT AND ACTIVITY

The establishment of Pestalozzi Children's Village BRANCH OFFICE, Skopje (further referred as "the Organization") is registered in the Trade Register of the Republic of North Macedonia on 10 March 2017. The official address of the Pestalozzi Children's Village BRANCH OFFICE, Skopje is str. 1732 No. 4-1/1/20/lam A-levo Skopje-Centar, Skopje.

Pestalozzi Children's Village BRANCH OFFICE, Skopje is a non-profit organization. It is established for unlimited period. Pestalozzi Children's Village BRANCH OFFICE, Skopje was founded with main aim to provide access to quality education for all children, with special focus on children in vulnerable situation. This is done in cooperation with national authorities and in partnership with local non-governmental organizations.

At 31 December 2022, the Organization employs 3 persons (31.12.2021: 4 employees).

2. BASIS FOR PREPARATION AND PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements of the Organization are conducted in accordance with the Non-Profit Organization Accounting Law and the International accounting standards for the public sector on cash basis published in the Republic of North Macedonia for presentation of the balance sheet items, balances of the assets, liabilities, sources of the assets, revenues and expenses, and the operating results on true, fair, confidential, complete, punctual basis. The amounts in the statements and the notes are stated in thousands of MKD, except when otherwise indicated in the text.

3. BASIC ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The basic accounting policies used for preparation of the financial statements are listed in the following text.

3.1 Cash and cash equivalents

The Organization's cash comprises of the cash on hand and the cash on bank account in the commercial banks. Money at the cash account and at the bank accounts stated in domestic currency are presented in the general ledger at their nominal value, while the foreign exchange currency is stated according to the exchange rate of NBRM at the reporting date.

3.2 Material and non-material investments

Material and non-material investments (fixed assets) are stated at their cost value. The cost of the fixed assets comprise the purchasing price increased for the import customs, non-refundable VAT, manipulative expenses and all other expenses that can be added to the cost, i.e. to the purchasing expenses. The operating fund of the Organization increases for the amount of the value of fixed assets purchased. The revaluation of fixed assets (tangible and intangible assets), is performed because of additional valuation due to the increase of the annual inflation rate, measured with the official industrial product price index. Revaluation basis is the cost of the assets. Revaluated value of the assets is determined by indexing.

All amounts are presented in thousands MKD, except where otherwise stated

3. BASIC ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

3.3 Depreciation

Tangible and intangible assets (fixed assets) are depreciated using the straight-line method, so their cost and revaluated amount are depreciated in equal annual amounts during the estimated utilization period of the fixed assets.

The amount of the current depreciation is recorded on the burden of the operating fund.

The depreciation rates, applied by the Organization in 2022 and 2021 are as follows: 20-25% for vehicles, 20% for furniture and 25% for computer equipment.

The calculation of the depreciation is performed separately for each item, and not for groups of assets.

3.4 Recognition of the revenues and expenses

Revenues and expenses of the non-profit Organizations are recognized according to the modified accrual basis of accounting.

According to the modified accrual basis of accounting the revenues i.e. expenses are recognized in the accounting period of calculation in which they appear under criteria of measurement and availability. Revenues i.e. expenses are measurable when they can be stated by their value. Revenues i.e. expenses are available when they are realized, i.e. when they appear (paid) in the accounting period or within the period of 30 days after the accounting period, under condition to be related to the accounting period and serve for payment of the liabilities for the period (if liabilities for payment appear in the accounting period).

3.5 Income tax

(a) Current Income Tax

Current income tax represents an amount that is calculated and paid in accordance with the effective Profit Tax Law of the Republic of North Macedonia. Income tax is payable at the rate of 1% of the income generated from performing operating revenues above the threshold of 1 million MKD.

(b) Deferred taxes

Deferred taxes are recognized in cases of differences between the carrying amounts of assets and the liabilities in the financial statements and the carrying amounts as per tax regulations and are reported using the balance sheet liability method. Deferred tax liabilities are recognised for all deductible temporary differences given that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which those deductible temporary differences can be utilized. In these financial statements, there are no temporary tax differences.

All amounts are presented in thousands MKD, except where otherwise stated

3. BASIC ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

3.6 Amounts stated in foreign currency

The transactions in foreign currency are stated in MKD according to the Official exchange rate of NBRM at the date of transaction. Foreign exchange assets and liabilities of the balance sheet are stated in MKD according to the official exchange rates on the balance sheet date.

The Income Statement includes the net foreign exchange gains and losses that resulted from the conversion of the amounts in foreign currency in the period when they occur.

The average (closing) exchange rates of MKD related to the foreign exchange currencies (for one unit of foreign exchange currency) as of 31 December are as follows:

In MKD	2022	2021
EUR	61,4932	61,6270
USD	57,6535	54,3736
CHF	62,4487	59,4683

4. GRANTED DONATIONS

	2022	2021
Revenues from donations	6.864.278	5.921.407
Total	6.864.278	5.921.407
	-	

Breakdown of granted donations by donors and instalments:	2022
PCF first installment	4.054.647
PCF second installment	2.809.631
Total	6.864.278

All amounts are presented in thousands MKD, except where otherwise stated

5. A – DIRECT PROGRAMME ACTIVITY COSTS

Activity	Account	Description	Amount
A8	4533	Room rental	10.080
A8	4542	Food - other	18.806
A8	4540	Food - staff	13.692
A8	4520	Travel costs - staff	141
A3	4582	Consultancy fee	66.667
A15	4582	Consultancy fee	17.096
			126.482

6. B – HUMAN RESOURCES COSTS

Activity	Account	Description	Amount
.HR1	4500	Salary	4.847.235
.HR2	4501	Social Security	96.000
.HR3	4540	Food Staff	4.000
.HR4	4537	Accommodation - Staff	7.200
.HR4	4520	Travel Cost -Staff	7.000
.HR4	4541	Food - Participant	1.500
.HR6	4540	Food - Staff	16.069
.HR7	4504	Medical Insurance	3.980
.HR8	4540	Food - Staff	15.316
.HR9	4509	Other HR costs	2.706
			5.001.006

7. C - MONITORING, CONTROLLING AND ASSESMENT COSTS

Activity	Account	Description	Amount
.MCA1	4580	Auditing Costs	360.188
.MCA2	4581	Evaluation Costs	73.793
.MCA3	4520	Travel Cost -Staff	147
.MCA3	4540	Food - Staff	3.371
.MCA3	4541	Food - Participant	4.127
.MCA4	4520	Travel Cost -Staff	40.000
.MCA4	4537	Accommodation - Staff	5.700
.MCA4	4541	Food - Participant	1.129
.MCA4	4540	Food - Staff	10.095
.MCA4a	4520	Travel Cost -Staff	345
.MCA6	4582	Consultancy fee	20.565
MCA2	4540	Food - Staff	458
.MCA2	4542	Food - other	777
			520.695

All amounts are presented in thousands MKD, except where otherwise stated

8. D – ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS

Activity	Account	Description	Amount
.ADMIN1	4530	Office rent	417.345
.ADMIN2	4546	Maintenance and repair buildings	26.335
.ADMIN3	4531	Office Utilities	27.318
.ADMIN4	4561	Office Supplies	16.231
.ADMIN5	4567	Office Cleaning	48.838
.ADMIN6	4563	Communication costs (phone, fax, internet)	41.180
.ADMIN7	4562	Subscriptions (newspaper, membership)	14.900
.ADMIN8	4582	Consultancy Fee	46.614
.ADMIN9	4582	Consultancy Fee	40.992
.ADMIN10	4542	Food Other	2.211
.ADMIN11	4540	Food Staff	8.498
.ADMIN12	4520	Travel Cost -Staff	4.477
.ADMIN13	4565	Fees and charges	43.248
.ADMIN14	4585	Publication, translation, material costs	102.970
.ADMIN15	4564	Postage	1.170
.ADMIN16	4575	IT Support costs	14.760
ADM20	4570	Equipment and Furniture	20.990
		vedav.	878.077

9. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	Computer and other equipment	Furniture	Total
Cost at 1 January 2021	150.732	222.044	372.776
Additions	= 0	-	1.
Revaluation of assets	•	-	2.€
Balance as of 31 December 2021	150.732	222.044	372.776
Balance as of 1 January 2022	150.732	222.044	372.776
Additions	20.990		20.990
Transfer from 512005	15.963	14.760	30.723*
Revaluation of assets	-	-	s = .
Balance as of 31 December 2022	187.685	236.804	424.489
Accumulated depreciation			
as of 1 January 2021	91.483	148.654	240.137
Depreciation	33.348	43.518	76.866
Revaluation of depreciation	¥	74	
Balance as of 31 December 2021	124.831	192.172	317.003
Balance as of 1 January 2022	124.831	192.172	317.003
Depreciation	26.171	26.075	52.246
Transfer from 512005	5.986	4.182	10.168*
Revaluation of depreciation	·#	:#6	= 3.
Balance as of 31 December 2022	156.988	222.429	379.417
Net book value as of:			
31-Dec-22	30.697	14.375	45.072
31-Dec-21	25.901	29.872	55.773

^{*30.723}MKD cost value and 10.168MKD accumulated depreciation of the assets purchased as part of project 512005 implemented by NMAC Programme and closed on June 30th, 2022. These items are in NMAC Programme inventory.

10. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

_	2022	2021
Bank account (Out of which Reserve Fund is 613.500MKD)	1.238.730	931.744
Petty cash	6.354	4.008
Balance at 31 December	1.245.084	935.752

11. OPERATING FUND

		2021
Operating fund	45.072	55.773
Current surplus of revenues over expenses	1.233.622	895.604
Balance at 31 December	1.278.694	951.377

The changes in the Operating fund are stated in the Statement of changes in the operating funds.

12. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

	2021
11.462_	40.148
11.462	40.148
	11.462

13. OFF-BALANCE RECORDS

As of 31 December 2022, the Organization has no off-balance sheet exposure.

14. SUBSEQUENT EVENETS

After 31 December 2022 – the reporting date until the approval of these financial statements, there are no adjusting events reflected in the financial statements or events that are materially significant for disclosure in these financial statements.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Instruction to the auditor: If the answer is "no" to one of these questions, further explanation is required in the form of a management letter point.

Questions	Yes	No	n/a	Comments
Existence, adequacy and effectiveness of the li	iternal	Cont	rol Sy	rstem (ICS) – Principle 2.2
Is the internal organization (structures, functions, tasks, competencies, responsibilities, methods, procedures, segregation of duties etc.), based on your impression, adequate to the size and operations of the partner?				
2. Are duties for vital functions and processes sufficiently segregated (e.g. entering commitments, entering and signing of contracts/agreements, authorizing and accounting of expenditures, reconciliation of cash on hand and in banks, follow-up on long outstanding debtors and creditors, etc.)?				H X2
Do you obtain comfort that the ICS of the organization is in adequacy with its size and type of activities?				
4. Is the ICS known, applied and documented?				
5. Do you obtain comfort on compliance with applicable laws, regulations and instructions (e.g. taxes, salaries, social contributions etc.)?				
6. Is an Organization Manual with local context specific regulations (threshold in amount and number of offers to be solicited for local procurements of goods and services, cash limit, etc.) in place and are they followed? Are they in line with local legislation?				
Did you obtain an understanding of the design of the information and financial reporting system?	\boxtimes			
Has the Partner advised staff, beneficiaries etc. to whom to report any suspect of fraud, misuse, or waste of resources or property?				

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Questions	Yes	No	n/a	Comments
Conformity with the project objectives and adhe	erence	to th	e con	tract conditions – Principle 2.3
9. Is it ensured that signed project agreements (PCF with partner and/or partner with subcontractor/s) exist before any payments are made?				
10.Are the payments within your audit / review scope in accordance with the contract conditions and the agreed budget?				
11.Is the classification of expenses and income in accordance with the agreed contractual budget?	\boxtimes			
12.Are approvals for variations from the budget/work plan required in advance of commitment of expenditure?			\boxtimes	
13.Is the financial reporting in accordance with the project agreement?				
14.Is the financial reporting of the period under audit / review in line with the reporting timetable?				
15.Do project responsible (operational and finance staff) visit field activities and are the findings of these visits documented?				
16.Is a written confirmation of the balance of the PCF advances available at project year end?				
17.Are the management letter points by the project auditor brought up in past years resolved adequately and/or properly monitored by the management?	\boxtimes			
18.Is it ensured that any significant issues (e.g. fraud, management override of controls, etc.) noted in a review / audit report has been communicated to PCF?				No such significant issues have been identified.
19.Are the partner and any subcontractor/s familiar with regard to VAT and any other tax regulation procedures on the procurement of material and services for the activities funded by PCF?	\boxtimes			PCF funded program cannot be registered for tax exemption. as PCF is currently not on the list of funds of public interest
20.Are there instructions on the approval of expenses (e.g. 4 eyes principle) and are they followed?	\boxtimes			

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21.Is the correct application of fees and allowances as per contract ensured (e.g. fees, rent, travel expenses, hotel accommodation, per diem and other allowances for project experts/consultants)?				
22.Are control procedures in place to match labor costs (hours) charged to the project with time sheets of the relevant personnel?				
23.Is it ensured that the partner has correctly accounted for his hours on the project (effectively rendered services) in order to avoid double-charging of expenses (e.g. to different projects)?				
24.Are all items (fixed assets) representing property of the project maintained and safeguarded?				
Questions	Yes	No	n/a	Comments
Economical conduct of business and effective to	use of	finan	cial re	esources – Principle 2.4
25. Is it ensured that project specific financial resources are only utilized for the particular activities and projects?	\boxtimes			
26. Do adequate measures and procedures in the ICS exist, to ensure economical and effective utilization of committed resources?				
27.Is it ensured that prices and rates for material, services and overheads are subject to regular verification?	\boxtimes			
28.Is the calculation of fees (charged for services to PCF) transparent and documented?	\boxtimes			
29.Are all expenditures of expatriate employees reviewed and substantiated (rent, travel expenses, etc.)?			\boxtimes	There are no expatriate employees relating the project.
30.Are all expenditures related to local staff reviewed and substantiated (gross salary, social and pension contributions, income taxes, travel expenses, rent, etc.)?	\boxtimes			
31.Are there instructions on the non-use of project/program vehicles for private purposes?				There are no project/program vehicles
32.Are there instructions for the use of equipment after the end of the project?	\boxtimes			
33.Are there instructions on the non-use of mobile and fix net phones for private purposes?	×			
Any other issues		-		

34.		
35.		

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Pestalozzi Children's Village Foundation – Branch office Skopje

Project: NMAC Country Programme Audit

MANAGEMENT LETTER





St. "1661", No. 9 - 50 1000 Skopje Republic of N. Macedonia Phone: +389 2 6140 901 contact@a-ba.mk www.a-ba.mk

To the Management of Pestalozzi Children's Village Foundation Branch office - Skopje, North Macedonia

According to the Contract for financial audit concluded between Pestalozzi Children's Village Foundation from Trogen (hereinafter: PCF) and A&BA Group Skopje (hereinafter: The Auditor), we have been engaged to perform a financial audit of the financial report for the project entitled "NMAC Country Programme Audit", the 'Project', that comprise of Financial Information and notes for the period from 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2022.

Our work was completed on time within the agreed terms due to excellent cooperation with your employees. In accordance with the Terms of Reference for financial audit we address the results of the project audit, discuss major weaknesses in the project, administrative and financial management (including the deficiencies of individual staff members) and propose recommendations to improve the project management, the accounting procedures and the internal control system (ICS).

We are happy to inform you that there are no findings of note in the current reporting period, which would require drawing attention to the Management.



Findings and Recommendations

No.	Findings	Recommendations	Priority	Management comments and proposed actions	Deadlines
	Existence, adequacy and effectiveness of the Internal (principle 2.2)	f the Internal Control System			
,		/	/		
	Conformity with the project objectives and adherence	nd adherence to the contract conditions (principle 2.3)	ditions (principle	e 2.3)	
		1	/		
	Economical conduct of business and effective use of 1	ective use of financial resources (principle 2.4)	(principle 2.4)		
/		1	/		



This letter is intended solely for the use of the Management of the programme (and other who have regulatory access to it) and is not intended for any other purpose.

We wish to express our appreciation for the cooperation extended to our representatives during the course of our work.

Kind regards,

25.03.2023

A&BA Group DOOEL Skopje

Darko Kalin, Partner



Pestalozzi Children's Village Foundation – Branch office Skopje

NMAC Country Programme Audit

Closing Minutes

mgi worldwide



To the Management of Pestalozzi Children's Village Foundation Branch office - Skopje, North Macedonia

Subject: Minutes of closing meeting

According to our Audit Contract for financial audit and Terms of Reference included, we have been engaged to perform a financial audit of the programme entitled "NMAC Country Programme Audit", the 'Programme' that comprise of Financial Information and notes for the period from 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2022.

Our work was completed due to excellent cooperation with your employees. In accordance with the Terms of Reference for financial audit, we held this meeting to address the results of the programme audit, discuss major weaknesses in the programme, administrative and financial management (including the deficiencies of individual staff members) and propose recommendations to improve the programme management, the accounting procedures and the internal control system (ICS).

Timing and location:

Closing meeting was held through telephone call on Friday (24 March 2023), at 12:00 local time (North Macedonia).

Participants:

Darko Kalin – Member of Auditor's team (Partner of the engagement)

Ana Chorbeska Tanevska – Finance and Administration Officer in the Organization



Internal Control System - general observations

An internal control system is established by management to ensure that risks such as the loss or mismanagement of funds, or the misuse of assets are foreseen and minimized. Organization's internal control system also helps to ensure compliance with laws and regulations and protect those responsible for handling the financial affairs of the Organization.

The Organization's rules and procedures have the following key features:

- Segregation of duties and responsibilities. Different people authorize purchase orders, authorize payments and check the accuracy of the financial transactions;
- Simple, effective and practical book-keeping. (the Accounting is outsourced);
- Documentation of all financial procedures are presented in accessible manuals which are followed rigorously. Aside from procedures applied by the Organization, in case of difference of the procedures from the Contracting Authority (in Grant Agreement funding), the Organization applies the prescribed procedures as per the certain Agreement;
- There is consistency of financial systems over the years so that comparisons can be made, trends analyzed and transparency facilitated; and
- Financial procedures are developed (adapted) to support different or overlapping reporting systems and requirements (for example, when the Organizations needs to report to more donors at different periods of time, using different reporting formats).

Accounting

The accounting of the Organization in regards to submission of annual accounts in the Republic of North Macedonia is outsourced.

However, the Organization also keeps in-house accounting of transactions and the recording of all financial transactions is in a consistent, practical and accessible format which is essential for good financial management. Accounting records provide valuable information about how funds have been used and whether the organization is achieving its objectives. The Organization keeps an accurate record of financial transactions which shows how funds have been used. Regular reconciliation of bank and cash is conducted. Financial records and systems are regularly verified and authorized to ensure that the procedures are being followed correctly. Every transaction in the organization is documented, authorized, verified and recorded.

The Organization is using the double-entry book-keeping and keeps track of different budget lines. The accounting system complies with the national accounting standards and requirements and PCF standards and requirements.

Budgeting and reporting

A system of clear financial reporting is performed (with evidence of the proper use of funds) to justify the disbursement of funds. Actual expenditure can be tested against the budget and work plan and in the event of significant potential variance, authorization can be sought. Financial reports also form part of the internal controls by giving a summary of the broad picture of income and expenditure. The financial reporting is linked to the programmatic reporting and to the monitoring and evaluation framework in order to match the money spent to the beneficial results achieved.

The resources and time to meet required reporting form is structured into the budget and work plan. It is practice for PCF Trogen to give the format of reporting to the Organization.



Financial Procedures

The financial working considers overall monitoring and execution of the finances in the Organization starting with approval of annual plan by PCF, payment of the first instalment, through developing the final report on the program support.

a) Funds allocation

There are two types of fund allocations: allocation on foreign exchange rate bank account and allocation on the bank account in MKD. The funds allocation and determination of the correct bank account is done by the authorized personnel.

b) Financial transactions

- b.1. Bank Transfer This type of transaction is done by a payment order (payment of current obligations, expenses, and payment of the expenses for procurement of high prized goods). This type of transaction has to be previously approved by the Country Representative.
- b.2. Cash Transactions These types of transactions include order for cash withdrawal from the Organization's accounts. This type of transaction has to be previously approved by the Country Representative.

In the frames of the program, there are authorizations for the personnel responsible for monitoring the transaction of the funds on the bank account and the transactions of the funds out of the project petty cash which is part of the program.

c) Reporting

Financial Reporting - The Finance and Administration Officer is responsible for producing periodical and final reports on the programme.

This letter is intended solely for the use of the Management of the programme (and other who have regulatory access to it) and is not intended for any other purpose.

We wish to express our appreciation for the courtesies cooperation extended to our representatives during the course of our work.

Kind regards,

Darko Kalin, Partner

24.03.2023



To:
A&BA Group DOOEL Skopje
Str.Pariska no.50/1-8
Skopje

We are providing this letter in connection with your audit of the Financial Information of the project entitled "NMAC Country Programme Audit", (hereinafter: the 'Project'), for the period from 01 January 2022 to 31 December 2022, for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the financial statement prepared by the Organization, present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the project, in accordance with the financial reporting provisions of PCF.

We confirm that we are responsible for the preparation of the financial Statement in accordance with the financial reporting provisions of PCF, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of Financial Information that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

We acknowledge our responsibility for the implementation and operations of accounting and internal control systems that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error.

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in the light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the following representations:

- 1. The financial statements referred to above are fairly presented in conformity with the financial reporting provisions of PCF.
- 2. We have no knowledge of any irregularities, fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity involving (1) management, (2) employees who have significant roles in internal control, or (3) others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- 3. We have disclosed to you all information in relation to allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the entity's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others.
- 4. We have no knowledge of any other fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity's operations.
- 5. We have made available to you all books of account and supporting documentation, and all minutes of meetings of the board of directors, as well as minutes of controls of regulatory and tax authorities.

- 6. We have disclosed to you all known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
- 7. We believe the effects of any uncorrected financial statement misstatements aggregated by you during the audit engagement are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.
- 8. There are no significant deficiencies, including material weaknesses, in the design or operation of internal controls that could adversely affect the entity's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data.
- 9. The entity has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of non-compliance. There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning non-compliance with or deficiencies in financial reporting practices.

10. There are no:

- Violations or possible violations of laws or regulations whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements or as a basis for recording a loss contingency.
- Other liabilities or gain or loss contingencies that are required to be accrued or disclosed by IAS 37, "Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets".
- 11. The entity has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification in the financial statements.
- 12. All transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements
- 13. To our best knowledge there is no conflict of interest identified which may affect the financial statements.
- 14. The following have been properly recorded and, when appropriate, adequately disclosed in the financial statements:
- Cost transactions, including sales, purchases, transfers, leasing arrangements and guarantees, and amounts receivable from or payable to other parties;
- Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the entity is contingently liable; and
- Agreements and options to buy back assets previously sold.
- 15. The entity has satisfactory title to all owned assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on the entity's assets.
- 16. We have recorded or disclosed, as appropriate, all liabilities, both actual and contingent. We have no guarantees that we have given to third parties, which require disclosure in the financial statements.
- 17. There are no litigations filed against the entity.
- 18. Significant assumptions (if any) used by us in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable. (ISA 540)

- 19. There are no formal or informal compensating balance arrangements with any of our cash and investment accounts.
- 20. The entity regularly fulfilled all contractual obligations, which in case of the entity's inability to settle them might affect the fairness and objectivity of the accompanying financial statements. There are no disputes with regulatory authorities arising from operations.
- 21. To the best of our knowledge and belief, no events have occurred subsequent to the balance-sheet date and through the date of this letter that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the financial statements as of and for the year period subject of audit. (ISA 560)

Date: 25.03.2023

Signed for and on behalf of the Management of Pestalozzi Children's Village Foundation – branch office Skopje