***RADANSKA RUŽA***

Radanska Ruža is a social enterprise founded in 2015 in Lebanе. The company employs elderly and long-term unemployed women, single mothers, and women with special needs from rural areas of the Lebane Municipality who prepare homemade products for both domestic and foreign markets in a traditional way. Since 2018, Radanska Ruža has also been producing traditional Serbian organic products such as ajvar and jams or spreads made from local fruits and vegetables.

During the project implementation, which started in September last year and will last until the end of 2023, Radanska Ruža will train and prepare new producers for certification, increase areas under organic production, improve and renovate processing capacities for organic production, and motivate small producers in their region to engage in organic production. The aim of the project is to increase exports to Austria and Switzerland in partnership with Biobalkan Express, an Austrian enterprise that markets these Serbian premium products to foreign markets.

The value of the project is 199,917 CHF.

***VOJVODINA ORGANIC CLUSTER (VOC)***

Vojvodina Organic Cluster (VOC) is an association founded in 2014 in Novi Sad with the goal to increase the innovation, efficiency, and sustainability of organic agriculture in Vojvodina province. VOC, in cooperation with the Institute of Field and Vegetable Crops, Tira, LoginEko from Serbia, and Halba from Switzerland, is implementing its project "Sustainable and climate-resilient sunflower value chain and

corresponding innovative climate-resilient production systems" with the goal of educating producers on organic production, producing, processing and exporting high-quality BioSuisse-certified sunflowers, improving exports, as well as conducting research on the impact of agroforestry practices on productivity of agricultural production, which are just some of the objectives and activities that VOC plans to implement by the end of the year.

Thanks to the project, organic producers have the opportunity to cooperate in exports with companies, and small organic producers can cooperate in the export of organic products.

The value of the project is 220,270 CHF.

***MIDI ORGANIC***

Midi Organic was founded in 1991 in the village of Grgure, municipality of Blace, and was among the first in Serbia to engage in the production and export of organic fruits. They cultivate fruits in areas located between 500 to 1300 meters above sea level, in the Toplica plateau, between Blace and Kuršumlija, as well as on the slopes of Kopaonik. In collaboration with locals, they organize the production, processing, and sale of fruits which are then distributed throughout Europe as dried and frozen products, and also reach markets of USA and Canada.

In partnership with Tradin Organic Agriculture B.V. from the Netherlands, Midi Organic plans to reduce the impact of unfavorable weather conditions, increase the fruit yields and exports to the EU market, and thereby provide secure employment and higher incomes for its cooperatives, by investing in modern irrigation systems and anti-hail nets in its raspberry and blackberry plantations by the end of the year. Moreover, the exchange of experiences and knowledge about irrigation systems and anti-hail nets will be part of the winter schools that Midi Organic organizes every year for all interested producers.

The value of the project is 200,000 CHF.

***MENEX***

**Revitalization of the cold store located in Boturići**

For more than 25 years, the family-owned company Menex LLC. from Kruševac has been involved in freezing fruits and forest fruits at the outskirts of the National Park Kopaonik. As a production organizer, Menex collaborates with dozens of small farmers - cooperants who produce high-quality fruits in high-altitude areas, thanks to microclimatic elements and far from industrial plants.

In cooperation with the Swiss company *Bio Partner Schweiz AG*, Menex will revitalize the cold store located in Boturići to reduce the distance between producers and processing capacity, thereby increasing the quality of fruits and reducing transportation costs. The plan is to also increase the range of products and provide practical training for organic producers through summer and winter training and with the support of professional advisory services. These activities will motivate new producers and provide young and harder-to-employ categories with the possibility of economic stability.

The value of the project is 236,660 CHF.