

Project Name	WebEmpower: Web Accessibility and Inclusion in Republic of North Macedonia
Start – End	January 2025 – May 2026
Project Value	360.000 EUR
Slovenian Funding	330.000 EUR
Recipient Country/ Donation Recipient	North Macedonia/Faculty of Computer Science and Engineering, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje
Project Contractor	Beletrina, Publishing House
CRS CODE	CRS CODE 11430
Project Description	<p>In North Macedonia, residents face challenges related to digital exclusion and limited access to online content. Many public and private websites were not compliant with international accessibility standards, particularly WCAG 2.1, which made them difficult to access or even unusable for people with various forms of disabilities, as well as for older users. This deepened social inequality, hindered participation in the labour market, limited access to public services, and increased the risk of discrimination. A lack of knowledge and tools among developers, together with low awareness among the wider public, further slowed the transition towards a more inclusive digital society.</p> <p>The WebEmpower project was designed as a comprehensive response to these challenges. As part of the project, the WebAid online platform was developed to support the evaluation and improvement of website accessibility. Training sessions were delivered, a handbook on good practices was prepared, and at least 50 websites were assessed and improved. The project also included elements of computer games to encourage the use of the tool, international round tables, and awareness-raising activities.</p> <p>Through the implementation of the project, compliance of websites with international accessibility standards was improved, the digital inclusion of vulnerable groups was strengthened, and the sustainable use of the WebAid platform was ensured. The platform remains publicly available even after the completion of the project.</p>
Project Phase	The project is concluded.