

ACTIVITY REPORT 2023



educlick



remesh
Unitate Protejată Autorizată



bio&co



logietic

Together we rewrite the stories of the hard-to-employ people.



About us



Ateliere Fără Frontiere is a social and environmental association, recognized as a public utility organization by H.G. No. 156/ 22.02.2024 which, since 2008, reintegrates people from disadvantaged backgrounds into the conventional labor market.

Board of Directors:

ROXANA CLODNITCHI, President

CRISTINA MARIA PASAT, Vice President

FREDERIC, JEAN-FRANCOIS BAILLY, Secretary

Through all the projects and activities carried out within the Association, Ateliere Fără Frontiere contributes to the fulfillment of eight of the Sustainable Development Goals:



Ateliere Fără Frontiere is an association that is part of

GroupeSOS
Entrepreneurs for common good

Groupe SOS, founded in 1984 in the "AIDS years", is an associative group, a major player in social cohesion in France and around the world.

Groupe SOS operates mainly in the fields of solidarity, youth, health and seniors, by managing units intended for marginalized people; such as nurseries, hospitals and associative nursing homes open to all. The largest social and solidarity economy (ESS) group in Europe, Groupe SOS is convinced that these activities should not be motivated by profit.

Aware that exclusions take various forms, Groupe SOS also acts in the fields of ecological transition, territorial exclusions, sustainable business and culture for all.

Addressing all issues and supporting all audiences, even the most complex, Groupe SOS stands out for its courage, boldness and ability to innovate. At this stage, there are no comparable associations in terms of size, scope and diversity of interventions.

For 16 years we have been reintegrating people in difficulty into the labor market, taking care of the environment

1,800 people from vulnerable backgrounds, reintegrated into the labor market since 2008



To fulfil the mission, we created 4 circular economy workshops, where we offer personalised social support services, integration counselling, psychotherapy and pedagogical support for the training of skills for disadvantaged people.



we collect electrical and electronic waste equipment (WEEE) which we recycle or prepare for reuse. Refurbished computers are donated to schools from disadvantaged backgrounds in Romania.

www.educlick.ro



we transform advertising banners and meshes into fashionable, ethical and sustainable products and accessories. Banners and meshes have no recycling solution outside of ground storage. Since 2022, the remesh workshop has been registered as an Authorised Protected Unit (UPA), and in this endeavour Ateliere Fără Frontiere established SC Eco Atelierul Social SRL.

www.remesh.ro



we produce organically certified vegetables, in a social farm, where we apply the principles of the European Union strategy *from farm to consumer* or *from farm to fork*. Vegetables are delivered on a weekly subscription basis.

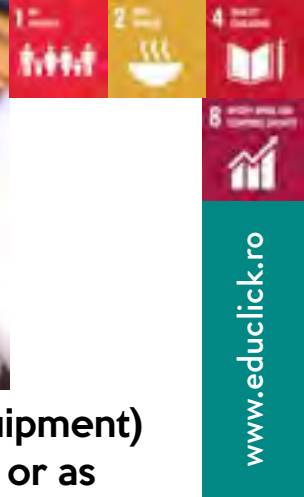
www.bio-co.ro



we carry out activities of packing, labelling, loading, transport, packaging of sustainable and environmentally responsible products.

www.atelierefarafrontiere.ro/logietic

The Ateliere Fără Frontiere association reintegrates on the labor market people who accumulate multiple vulnerabilities and encounter difficulties in finding a safe job. It achieves this either by employing them for a period of 24 months in one of the 4 circular economy workshops where it runs a reintegration program on the labor market, or by direct placement on the labor market.



We collect all types of WEEE (electrical and electronic waste equipment) free of charge. They get a second life as secondary raw materials or as refurbished IT equipment in schools, non-governmental organisations and social institutions in the country's most deprived environments.

The management of WEEE is a legal obligation, and Ateliere Fără Frontiere is an authorised operator by ANPM (National Agency for the Environment) according to Law no. 211/2011 for all collection, transportation, treatment and preparation for re-use operations regarding non-hazardous WEEE.

2023 Results:



274

tonnes of collected WEEE



78

tons of reused WEEE



154

tons of recycled WEEE



We avoid 2,273,475 kg emissions of CO₂ into the atmosphere because we prepare for reuse 4,000 IT equipments per year.



4.000

refurbished computers donated through the Let's Click on Romania program



340

beneficiary structures (educational and social institutions, associations and foundations) from all counties



53.712

final beneficiaries (children, young people, teachers)



The socio-professional reintegration program consists of personalised social support services, counselling for integration, psychotherapy and pedagogical support for skill training for disadvantaged people. At the end of the program, people employed at Ateliere Fără Frontiere are supported to enter the conventional labor market or in authorised sheltered units. (UPA)



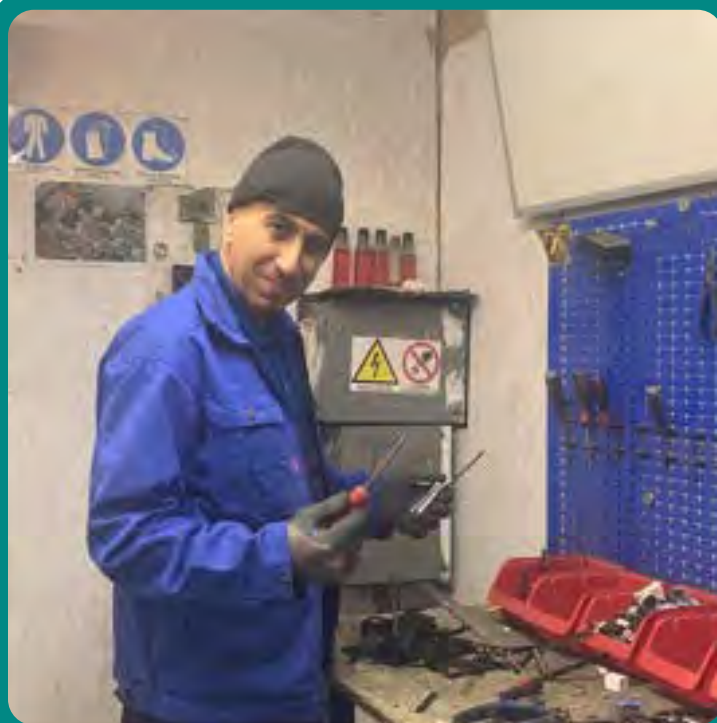


I was discouraged from a young age by both teachers and parents who didn't think I would eventually be able to get a job because of my hang-ups. Since I've been at AFF I have more confidence to get involved and take the initiative because the people here have always been patient with me and helped me in accepting myself more.

Alex - employed in the educlick workshop

I was in another world for a long time, and when I came back everything was changed. For example, I didn't know how to use a mobile phone. I really wanted to work, to do something with my life, but at an interview I was immediately rejected when they heard I have a record. I really want to change and I'm glad that at AFF I'm accepted as I am. I have so many new dreams that I want to make come true. I am glad that I have been given another chance and that now I feel like I am part of the community.

Mircea - employed in the educlick workshop





We recover advertising waste from buildings and transform it into sustainable promotional products, customised according to the events of the companies we collaborate with.

remesh has the status of Authorised Protected Unit (UPA), and by placing a product order, companies redirect half of the disability tax from the state to UPA remesh, at no additional cost, but with a lot of responsibility towards the environment.



Advertising banners and meshes on buildings have a short lifespan and after the completion of the advertising campaign, having no real recycling solution in Romania, they end up in the landfill.

At remesh we extend the life of these materials and transform them into unique and ethical promotional products, suitable for any sustainable events and actions (conferences, festivals, gifts etc.)

2023 Results:

1.711

tons of advertising waste recovered from buildings

5.437

products sewn in the workshop



Circular economy workshops are entities without legal personality, and income from economic activities and all funds obtained from subsidies and sponsorships are used to support the association's mission. The economic activities of the workshops are an integration support, designed to allow employees to gradually acquire social, emotional and technical skills.





When I got to the interview, I saw the sewing machines and I was happy. (...) I like the idea and I also like the products, they are nice. I also liked that it's not a very big workshop - not a lot of noise. I am a more withdrawn person, I mind my own business.

It's good with colleagues too, I'm that type - I don't bother. I do my work and that's it. I'm glad I have a job, and I'm very glad it's in tailoring. (...) I can no longer do hard physical work. I want to be on my sewing machine. Dorina, employed in the remesh workshop



I think I was born again. Now I want to do much more, to have a different kind of future. Here, when I was told it was possible, I was really happy, I couldn't wait. I like to laugh, joke, I feel good in this team.

I'm good at tailoring, I work to the millimetre, that's who I am. For me it's also a sport, because you stand up, wave your hand, you don't sit around for nothing. When I left the hospital I couldn't walk at all, even now I have no balance, my hand also shakes. Here I also have physical activity and I like it.

Alexandru - employed in the remesh workshop





We cultivate care for the environment and people and promote urban agriculture and local production of healthy, responsibly grown food. We produce ecologically certified vegetables by applying the principles of the European Union strategy "from farm to consumer" or "from farm to fork".

The bio&co farm has organic certification for over 80 varieties of seasonal vegetables. They are collected responsibly and delivered to subscribers every Wednesday, at delivery points in Bucharest.



13
persons in a situation of social
exclusion, employed on the farm



5.143
baskets of vegetables sold

We apply the principles of the European Union strategy *from farm to consumer* or *from farm to fork* and deliver baskets of seasonal organic vegetables to over 100 subscribers in a short chain (in the Bucharest and Ilfov area) during all 52 weeks of the year .

We created the bio&co farm in the village of Ciocănari, near Bucharest, to offer a chance to those residents who live in difficult conditions and do not have the possibility of accessing a stable place.



We carry out activities of packing, labelling, loading, transport, packaging of sustainable and environmentally responsible products, skills necessary for employment in a future logistics position.



4.000
packaged products



6.000
envelopes labeled and shipped



We reintegrate vulnerable people into the labor market, by taking care of the environment.



1,500 people from vulnerable backgrounds, supported for employment on the labor market in 2023

311 people from vulnerable backgrounds **employed** by Ateliere Fără Frontiere in the socio-professional integration program, in the 16 years of activity, of which **42** participants in 2023.

The people from disadvantaged backgrounds with whom we work benefit directly from passive social services that provide them with stability only in the short term and end up being excluded from the conventional labor market because they accumulate multiple difficulties and need support and facilitating access to:



House



health services



addiction treatment



justice



autonomy and self-esteem



resolve family obstacles
(including situations of violence)



independent living skills



professional life skills



mobility/accessibility



education/training



qualification and professional project

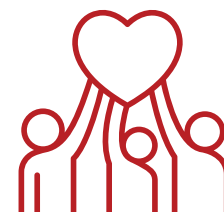
Following a sociological survey based on semi-structured interviews, carried out with **460 people in vulnerable categories**, carried out in the period 2022-2023, within the project "Inclusion has a Voice. Empowerment of Vulnerable Groups for Inclusion and Social Innovation" revealed that **37% of them are unemployed/unregistered**, **13% registered unemployed**, **7% were doing casual activities without contracts**, while **36% were employed with a contract** (the highest part in organisations of the social economy and in protected units) and **7% retired**, in educational process and in detention.



The activities of the reintegration of vulnerable people on the labor market carried out by the Ateliere Fără Frontiere Association, not only bring individual benefits to each person who is given support, but also contribute to building a more equitable, inclusive and prosperous society. It transforms people who are inactive in the labor market into active, community-involved and financially independent people.

2023 referral partners

The beneficiaries from the social integration program on the labor market are **referred by the more than 50 organisations and institutions** in Bucharest and Ilfov county that offer social services to vulnerable people and with whom we have been actively collaborating since 2008:



Adra, National Administration of Penitentiaries (Jilava, Rahova Penitentiaries), National Anti-Drug Agency, Ajungem Mari, Aras, Pro ACT Suport Association, Valentina Romania Association, Fabric Atelier, Caritas, Carusel, Casa Ioana, Concordia Humanitarian Organization, General Assistance Directorate Social and Child Protection (DGASPC sector 1, DGASPC sector 2, DGASPC sector 3, DGASPC sector 4, DGASPC sector 5, DGASPC sector 6, DGASPC Ilfov), General Directorate of Social Assistance of the Municipality of Bucharest, Hopes and Homes for Children Foundation, Metropolis, Fundația Sensiblu, Fundația Viața și Lumina, FARA, Free, Motivation, Touched Romania, Samusocial from Romania, Solwoldi, SOS Satele Copiilor, Semn de Life, Bucharest Probation Service and Ilfov, The Social Incubator.

Financial report 2023

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| The economic activity | 2.228.605 | Human Resources | 5.269.147 |
| Sponsorship | 3.707.855 | Rent, utilities | 331.251 |
| Public projects | 4.374.954 | Administrative, operation | 3.194.580 |
| Subsidies | 53.838 | Amortisation | 158.092 |
| Total revenue 2023 | 10.365.252 RON | Total expenses 2023 | 8.953.070 RON |

Through the publicly funded projects carried out in 2023 with the support of international partners, we are developing the methodology of socio-professional integration and creating new educational platforms dedicated to increasing the capacity of vulnerable people to become better equipped for the challenges of the constantly dynamic labor market.

Thanks to the collaboration between Ateliere Fără Frontiere, RISE Romania and ENSIE, Romania continues to be a continuous presence on the European scene of the economy and social enterprises, and the activities carried out by us are often offered as examples of good practices at the European level.



Inclusion has a Voice. Empowering Vulnerable Groups for Inclusion and Social Innovation

Implemented with the financial support of Active Citizens Fund Romania, a program financed by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through the EEA Grants 2014 – 2021.

Organization of the Social Economy Organisations and Enterprises Conference at the Palace of Parliament with the support of the Committee for Labor and Social Protection of the Chamber of Deputies on October 23, where we presented a research with the role of substantiating a national policy aimed at the socio-professional integration of vulnerable adults through the social economy .

Supporting more than 450 people from vulnerable groups regarding overcoming social problems and how they can access services available from state or private providers (housing, social assistance, legal issues, access to education and health).



Holding 460 interviews with people from disadvantaged backgrounds and drawing up a sociological report on the needs of vulnerable people.

Employing more than 50 people from vulnerable backgrounds in the labor market reintegration program within the AFF workshops.



Support for increasing the self-esteem of vulnerable refugees in Ukraine

The project was carried out in collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Organization of the Job Exchange event where 200 people from Ukraine and Romania came to meet 20 employers from different fields

Holding 804 interviews for the direct placement on the labor market of people displaced from Ukraine, at the stand we had at Romexpo

Organization of Romanian language courses in Bucharest and Braşov for 501 participants, people displaced from Ukraine



Solidarity Without Borders. Empowering Ukrainian refugees for autonomy and inclusion

Implemented with the financial support of Active Citizens Fund Romania, a program financed by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through the EEA Grants 2014 – 2021.

Counseling of 240 beneficiaries with a view to employment on the labor market

Organization of 100 hours of Romanian language/group for 126 participants from Ukraine





New Bucharest - A capital for all

The project was implemented by Ateliere Fără Frontiere in partnership with the Sector 3 City Hall and the Bucharest City Hall, being financed by the Operational Program Administrative Capacity, Component 1 CP14/2021 for the more developed region - Strengthening the capacity of NGOs and social partners to get involved in the formulation and promoting local development.

The organization of the Partnerships Gala for a Social and Solidarity Bucharest where the collaborations and dedication of representatives of civil society and local public authorities, for a New Bucharest, a capital of all, were awarded.



Procurement with social and environmental impact

Project carried out by the Center for Nonprofit Legislation, the Civitas Foundation for Civil Society and Workshops Without Borders, implemented with the financial support of Active Citizens Fund - Romania, a program financed by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through the EEA Grants 2014-2021.

Organization of the 2022 Social and Environmental Impact Awards gala where the public institutions and companies that were most responsible and made purchases with social and/or environmental impact were awarded.



Awards and honors



Our partnership with Banca Transilvania received Gold Recognition in the Community Index in the Environment / Diversity and Inclusion / Health category, organized by The Azores - Sustainability&CSR Services.



The managing director, Damien Thiery, was chosen as one of the 20 social farming experts at European level and represented Ateliere Fără Frontiere and the bio&co farm in the EU CAP Network social farming working group.



The Let's Click on Romania program was recognised by the employees of the OMV Group as the best project that the group supported in the previous year.



The entire activity carried out in the 4 circular economy workshops, especially at the bio&co farm, earned us the title of Responsible Consumption and Production Winner from the Department for Sustainable Development of the Romanian Government.



The award for the contribution made to the circular economy in Romania through the processes of responsible collection of electrical and electronic waste, their reconditioning and recycling.

Ateliere Fără Frontiere is recognized as a public utility organization by Government Decision no. 156/2024.

Ateliere Fără Frontiere is ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and ISO 45001 certified:



Atelier Fără Frontiere is a member of:



Official insurer



Groupama

Strategic partners educlick



Strategic partner remesh



Strategic partners bio&co



Operational partners bio&co



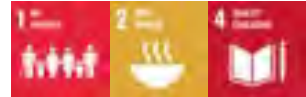
Zero waste store



Institutional partners



vivre les cultures



www.atelierefarafrontiere.ro

Partners supporting the reintegration program and the "I want to work" program



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