We have a dream
Equal Society - Society of Equal Opportunities aims to raise awareness and inform citizens on their rights on equality, equal treatment and non-discrimination in all areas of social life, especially in education, professional training, employment, social security, health and entrepreneurship. Equal Society supports social economy and social entrepreneurship, works for the creation of a more inclusive society through a process of open dialogue, promotes social integration of citizens with no exclusions, conducts specialized studies, workshops, seminars, educational and professional training programs at national and European level in the area of new employment types and reintegration in the job market, promoting employment and lifelong learning with a focus on vulnerable groups.

The Non-Governmental Organization Equal Society was established in February 2010 as independent and non-profit with actions “Against Social Exclusion, Unemployment and Poverty”.

Its principal objective is to raise awareness and inform citizens for the rights of equality, equal treatment and non-discrimination in all areas of social life, especially in education, vocational training, labor market, social security, health and entrepreneurship.

This report has been prepared by Equal Society and presents -in short- its social work and its impact.
STUDY WITH SCHOLARSHIP
The dreams and plans of the new generation for educational progress are affected by the harsh reality of the economic crisis. The program "Study with scholarship" is designed to provide young talented people from poor families with the access to the education system that they worth.

The program “Study with Scholarship” in a climate of uncertainty has been proved as a "Lab of Quality" for dozens of young people winning the top prize of the action social contribution for 2013. The award was made by the former President of the Greek Republic Mr. Karolos Papoulias.

During the six years of the program’s operation, the implementation of this initiative has offered 279 scholarships which in total value are more than 3,900,000 euros.
THE E-GNOSIS PROGRAM
The program offers free training in computer skills and the English Language providing the opportunity to people who are unemployed, students, members of vulnerable families or members of another population’s group to obtain the basic knowledge in computer skills taking an internationally recognized certificate without being concerned about education’s fees.

More than 14,000 people achieved certification for IT knowledge and English literacy so far thanks to E- Gnosis program.

Specialized managers, HR managers, personnel selection consultants and career advisors via material provide useful advice for the labor market.

An important aspect of the program is that it provides Tel training material and preparation for the labor market (CV writing techniques, personal development strategy, career guidance, job placement modes etc.).
SOCIAL STRUCTURES TO TACKLE POVERTY
Greece lives perhaps the historically deeper and long-lasting crisis in peacetime having completed the seventh consecutive year of recession. In this case, Equal Society has undertaken to operate a complex of social structures to tackle poverty in Athens, Lefkada and Corfu supporting the most vulnerable population groups. Our brightest example is the Social soup kitchen in Athens.

This little restaurant creates a feeling of optimism and solidarity. Equal Society's social soup kitchen in opposition to everything we have been used is more like a local tavern. Approximately 200 people visit it on a daily basis, sitting at the table and being served by the staff as "customers" not beneficiaries. In its three years of operation, has offered more than 420,000 rations, with a sense of dignity and social contribution.
EQUAL SOCIETY’S COUNSELING CENTER
More than 540 persons have been served by Equal Society's counseling center. The initiative's official start was on the 13rd and 14th of December 2012 at Syntagma Square. The goal of this event was to inform the public about tackling of unemployment, strengthening and highlighting of alternative perspectives. The event was attended by employment counselors, psychologists and social workers who informed all attendees.

Since then, the following services have been offered on a weekly basis: ads decoding, individual job search plan, curricula vitae, communication skill tool for possible weaknesses, form professional beneficiaries profiles recurring appointment form, work - qualities that are desirable skills - preferences, decision-taking, speaking about me, interview selection, cover letter cv.
SOCIAL HOUSING
The essential aim of the actions in which Equal Society participates in collaboration with the Archdiocese and the organization “The Smile of the Child” is the lodgment in homes for 42 homeless people living in Attica region. Their domestic remedies will be accompanied by psychological support and professional reintegration.
SOCIAL VALUE
The project concerns the strengthening and empowerment of Equal Society in developing and implementing social impact assessments and strengthening the social economy sector in general, through the promotion of the social accountability as strategic assessment and planning tool.

Our goal is to make social value measurement part of the routine for any for-profit or non-profit organization in order to increase their social impact and to reduce social and economic inequality; thus improving public welfare through balancing social, economic and environmental factors.

The activity involves the development and implementation of SROI methodology (Social Return on Investment). The methodology assesses the value that social investments generate by measuring quantitative and qualitative performance indicators.

The development and promotion of a social value assessment tool enhances the participant organizations’ governance and the performance of their activities. These are achieved through the inclusion of all stakeholders in the process of defining social outcomes and their impact. In addition, it supports participant’s transparency since they are able to make public detailed performance data.

In the Museum of the Acropolis, in a special ceremony the program “Measurement of Social Investment Performance” took the first prize award of this year's Bravo Sustainability Awards for the category Bravo Governance.
Our Organization established the only theater group in Greece of homeless people and is called "Walkabout". Our goal is to enable its members to eliminate the habits of institutionalization - members of the group live in hostels or dormitories- and create the necessary conditions for their reintegration. The aim of the project offers joy and knowledge and boosts the self-esteem of the members who finally act making a great performance.

Through the creative occupation, offered by daily rehearsals, the members approach a theatrical text and everything related to a rehearsal. The participants despite their problems have to overcome themselves. They eliminate bad habits and psychological weights through drama therapy. A rehearsal is never easy as they become very tough and with each other and with themselves. There are psychological changes. In addition, there are members that are almost illiterate, while others are dyslexic. Yet there is progress.
EDUCATION 4 ALL
The Non-Government Organization, Equal Society, innovates in the field of educating socially vulnerable groups. We provide free English and Greek language courses to refugees and asylum seekers. Our goal is to endure the social solidarity indicator in socio-economically weak population groups.

The process of learning both of languages, especially after the refugee crisis, comes from the need for a harmonious living. The courses help people who have applied for asylum or are in the process of relocating to another country of the EU to integrate smoothly into Greek society and to work in Greece or other countries.