



Social Return on Investment

SROI Summary



Metlen Energy & Metals, through the association PNOE – Friends of Children’s Intensive Care, provided essential medical equipment to the Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICUs) of the university hospitals in Alexandroupolis, Larissa, and Crete. This equipment supports the care of over 500 newborns requiring mechanical support annually.

The investment in modern medical equipment for Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICUs) in public hospitals in Greece yields significant social and economic benefits, creating €4.34 of social value for every €1 invested.

Introduction

This report aims to highlight the social and economic impact of investing in medical equipment for Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICUs) in three public hospitals in Greece.

Scope

Metlen Energy and Metals assigned Equal Society to evaluate the investment, with the primary objective of showcasing the impact of such an investment on the healthcare system through the upgrade and modernization of medical equipment. The main goal of the study is to assess the social and economic benefits of the investment, highlight the changes it brought to the stakeholders (parents, hospitals, and association), and document the cost-effectiveness of the initiative.

PNOE

Friends of Children's Intensive Care

PNOE – Friends of Children in Intensive Care is a non-profit association. It was founded in 1991 by a dedicated group of parents, pediatricians and volunteers. It is supported by contributions from individuals, companies, events, donations in memoriam etc. Contributes to the renewal and enrichment of the equipment of the Neonatal and Pediatric Intensive Care Units in the country's Public Hospitals. Supports the parents of young patients hospitalized in the ICU by providing accommodation. Supports the education and training of the Medical and Nursing staff of the Intensive Care Units.

“Stakeholders are defined as: people or organisations that experience change as a result of your activity, or those who affect the activity under analysis”.

Goal

All newborns, neonate and children hospitalized in Intensive Care Units in Public Hospitals in the country should have the best possible medical and nursing care with the most modern technological support.

Key Stakeholders

Parents and Families of neonates: Parents of newborns are direct beneficiaries, as the equipment impacts the quality of care provided to their children and can reduce the financial and psychological burden of care.

Hospitals and Healthcare Personnel:

Refers to the direct users of the provided equipment, such as doctors and nurses, who monitor its impact on newborns and children.

Implementing entity: Refers to the association PNOE, which receives donations and sponsorships to contribute to the renewal and enhancement of equipment for Neonatal and Pediatric Intensive Care Units in the country's public hospitals.

SROI Methodology

Social Return on Investment (SROI) is an internationally recognized framework for measuring the value created by Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programs in society.

Metlen Energy and Metals has adopted the SROI methodology to understand the impacts of its investments, highlight the value created, manage it effectively, and demonstrate it according to internationally recognized principles. The SROI methodology is based on calculating a final social impact ratio, which expresses the benefits-to-cost ratio for the action being evaluated.

The analysis is conducted according to the guidelines of the Social Return on Investment guide, which is an official document from The Social Value Network International.



Stage1: Establishing Scope and Identifying Stakeholders



Stage 2: Mapping Outcomes



Stage 3: Evidencing outcomes and Giving them a value



Stage 4: Establishing Impact



Stage 5: Calculating SROI



Stage 6: Reporting

Social value

is the value that people place on the changes they experience in their lives through their involvement in an activity.





Social Impact

Social Impact Assessment

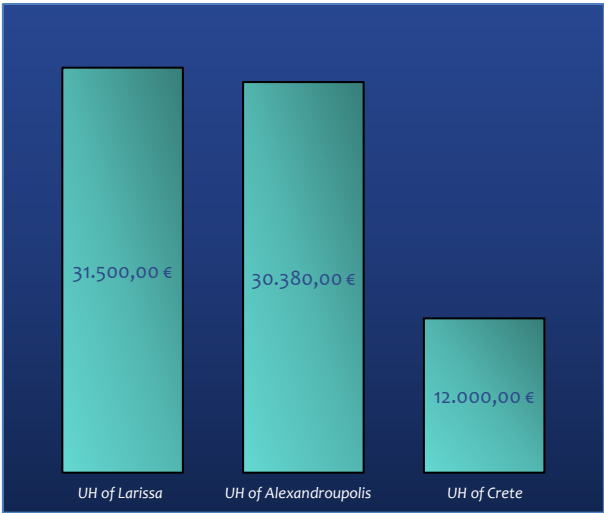
The SROI (Social Return on Investment) analysis is based on the logic model, connecting resources, activities, outcomes and impacts, in order to describe the Theory of Change and evaluate the social value produced.

The stages of a social impact analysis initially include the inputs and outputs of the action. Then, the outcomes are determined for each category of stakeholder.

Inputs

The total cost of the investment, which was fully covered by the company Metlen Energy & Metals, pertains to the upgrade of the Neonatal and Pediatric ICU in three public hospitals in Greece. The total cost for the purchase of equipment amounted to €73,880.00 for the provision of four machines during the years 2021-2023.

The cost of the investment for providing the equipment was fully funded by Metlen Energy & Metals.



Outputs

The outputs of the investment for the years 2021-2023 relate to the equipment of the Neonatal and Pediatric ICUs in three public hospitals in the country.

- ❖ General University Hospital of Larissa
- ❖ Neonatal Intensive Care Units of the University General Hospitals of Alexandroupolis
- ❖ Neonatal Intensive Care Units of the University General Hospitals of Heraklion, Crete



The Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) of the University General Hospital of Alexandroupolis accepts all neonatal cases that require intensive or high-level care from the entire Eastern Macedonia and Thrace region. In 2023, it received from the PNOI Association:

- ❑ Bilisoft LED phototherapy mattress system.
- ❑ Hypothermia system suitable for neonates with Hypoxic-Ischemic Encephalopathy following perinatal asphyxia, Temperature Control System P6.

The Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at the University General Hospital of Larissa received in 2021 from the PNOI Association:

- ❑ Neonatal high-frequency ventilator SLE 6000, along with an amplifier for measuring neonatal oximetry.

The Neonatology Clinic & Neonatal ICU of the University General Hospital of Heraklion, Crete, serves the needs of Crete and the islands of the Southeastern Aegean. In 2023, it received from the PNOI Association:

- ❑ Neonatal ventilator SOPHIE for respiratory support of premature and full-term neonates.

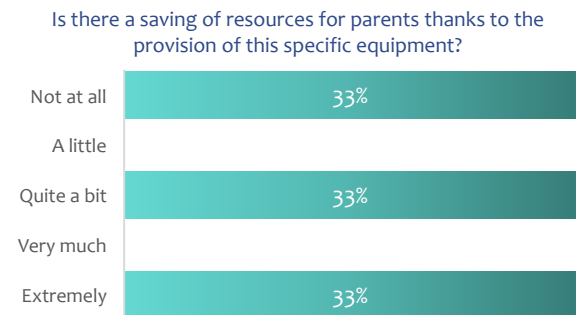
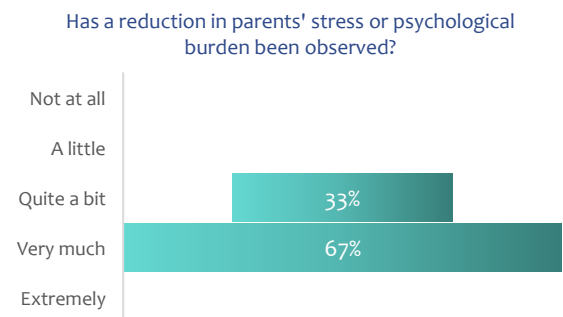
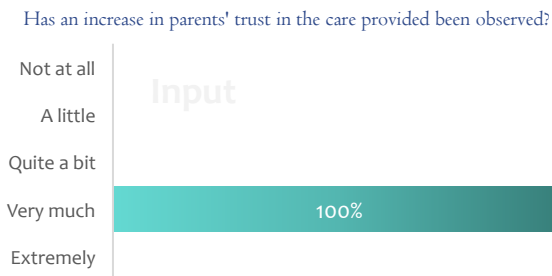
Outcomes

The parents of the neonates are the primary beneficiaries of the interventions, representing 56.69% of the total social value created. The parents reported increased trust in public health, reduced stress and psychological burden, as well as savings in financial resources thanks to the improved care. This trust was identified as the most significant factor influencing the SROI (Social Return on Investment) index, strengthening the credibility of healthcare services.



According to the directors of the pediatric departments of the hospitals, the provision of modern equipment improved the quality of services, contributed to reducing the length of hospitalization, and enhanced the hospitals' image within the local community. At the same time, there was cost savings in maintenance and increased staff efficiency.

Finally, the Implementing Agency, with a 11.13% share in the total social value created, records a positive contribution through the procurement of equipment and the support of hospitals, strengthening resilience and promoting the sustainability of its interventions.



"More than 1 in 10 infants worldwide are born prematurely each year. Premature infants are at risk for mortality and morbidity. Premature infants typically require special and intensive care in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)."

Neonate mortality is an indicator of the quality of healthcare and is associated with the effectiveness of equipment, which can reduce mortality rates and healthcare costs. The mortality rate in an ICU is one of the most important criteria for assessing the quality of care provided by a hospital. Identifying factors related to an increased risk of death in pediatric and neonatal patients is particularly important for the design of intensive care. Among many factors, the environment and the resources of intensive care present a series of challenges for patient safety.

The research highlights the value of investment in healthcare services and emphasizes the importance of targeted interventions to support both hospitals and neonatal families, contributing to the overall improvement of the healthcare system.

*"When you have the right tools,
you can save a case, thus
securing the child's life..."*

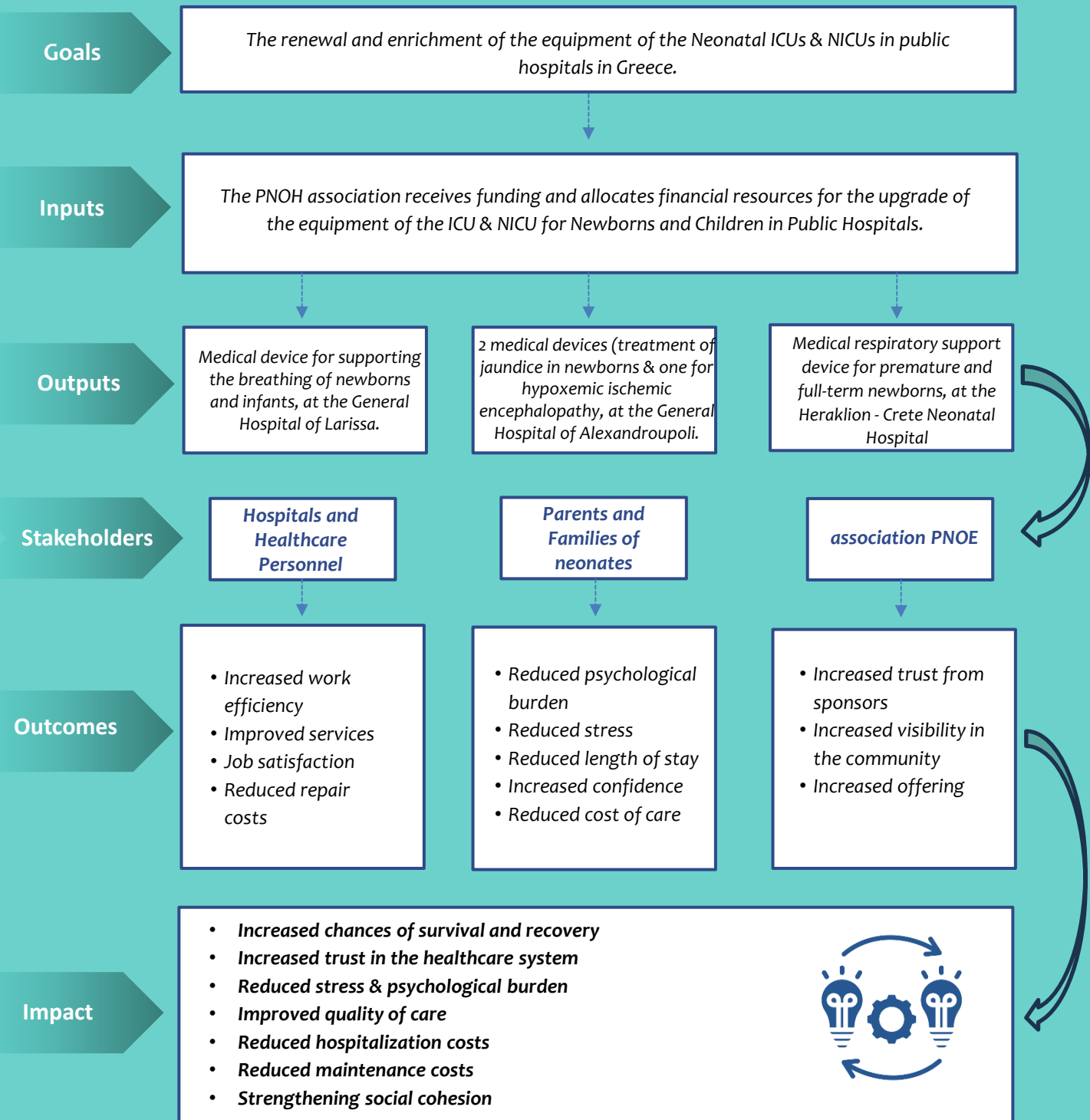
University Hospital of Alexandroupolis

*"With the help of respiratory support,
premature neonates are able to return
home more quickly. Additionally, the
use of phototherapy plays a crucial role
in improving their health..."*

University Hospital of Heraklion, Crete



Theory of change

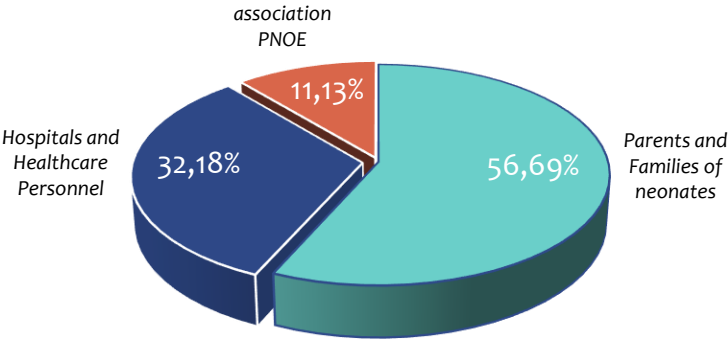
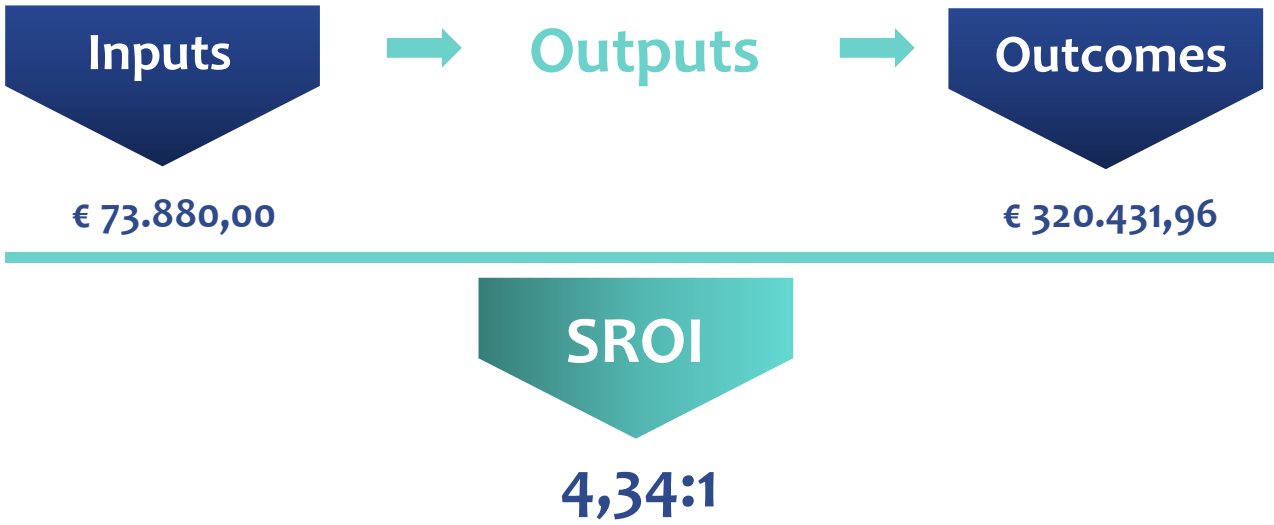




SROI Calculation

The SROI ratio describes the social impact of the investment in the upgrade of Intensive Care Units and Neonatal Intensive Care Units. By applying the input-output-outcome model, it was calculated that for the examined years 2021-2023, a social value of €320,431.96 was created from all directly involved parties.

"For every €1 invested in the initiative to equip the NICUs in the three public hospitals with new machines, €4.34 of social value is generated."





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