**Explanatory Note – Pazardzhik Central Market**

**Concept**

The renewed Central Market of Pazardzhik is envisioned as **a stage of civic life** - a place where commerce, leisure, and culture meet. Drawing on the city's anchors - the Mineral Baths (wellness), Saedinenie Square (civic memory), and the shopping center (modern commerce) - the market becomes a **cultural spine** that links them into a continuous promenade. Within this framework, three key roles emerge:

- **Cultural Spine**: a linear promenade connecting Baths, Square, and shopping center.
- **Festival Ground**: a flexible central plaza for markets, events, and civic gatherings.
- **Bridge Between Worlds**: elevated walkways and balconies offering new perspectives, framing the market as a civic stage.

Together, they transform the Central Market into **a theater of everyday life**, where citizens are both actors and audience.

**Spatial & Functional Solution**

The design balances **functional trade infrastructure** with **generous civic space**:

- **Modular Pavilions**: Adaptable stalls open outward during festivals and close inward for daily trade; ventilated roofs and shaded arcades ensure comfort.
- **Open Spaces**: Amphitheater around existing trees, landscaped courtyards, shaded benches, and water features.
- **Bridge**: Bridge to offer new visual connections.
- **Cultural Gallery**: An open-air trail displaying Pazardzhik's layered history - past, present, and future in the plaza

**Zoning**

- **Market Zone**: Modular stalls for produce, crafts, and goods.
- **Festival Plaza**: Flexible paved ground for events and fairs.
- **Leisure Zone**: Shaded wellness courts near the Baths.
- **Civic Interface**: Transitional plaza with Saedinenie Square.
- **Green Zone**: Tree clusters and flower areas for microclimate comfort.
- **Circulation Spine**: Pedestrian and bicycle promenade ensuring fluid movement.

**Access & Connectivity**

- **Pedestrian & Bicycle Routes** designed for ease of movement.
- **Vehicle Access** for deliveries routed at two different points on site.

**Inclusive & Sustainable**

- Barrier-free, step-free circulation; accessible stalls and seating for elderly users.
- Passive cooling: ventilated roofs, tree shading, pergolas, and cross-breezes.
- Durable local materials reduce maintenance costs.

**Conclusion**

The project reimagines Pazardzhik's Central Market as **a civic and cultural landmark**. It connects the fragments of the city, celebrates its memory, adapts for daily life and festivals, and frames the market as **a living stage where Pazardzhik performs its identity** — to itself and to the world.