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Interethnic Integration in Education Project

MONTHLY REPORT

of the USAID Interethnic Integration in Education Project

OCTOBER 2012

I. ACCOMPLISHED ACTIVITIES

Component 1 - Community Outreach

- *Effective interactive public presentations in the context of interethnic integration in education.* Four meetings were conducted with the four pilot municipalities (Bitola, Tetovo, Strumica and Butel) from October 10 to October 16, 2012 to present the activities planned with our partner organizations Macedonian Institute for Media and PAC Multimedia. These activities include workshop for planning an effective interactive public presentations in the context of interethnic integration in education, followed with roundtables and debates to discuss the education in multicultural/intercultural context. These activities will be implemented and attended in collaboration with representatives from municipal administration, Bureau for Development of Education, schools, Parent Councils, students and local NGO representatives.
- *Debates.* Meetings with the schools from the four pilot municipalities from October 10 to October 16, 2012 were conducted to discuss and present the activities for the debates planned for the students with our partner organization - Youth Educational Forum (YEF). The schools selected are Taki Daskalot in Bitola, Nikola Karev in Strumica, Nikola Stejtn in Tetovo and Arseni Jovkov in Butel.
- *Five creative workshops* for the group of 21 students from the Arseni Jovkov High School in Butel were implemented during October, to jointly share ideas and translate these into scenarios that promote the multicultural values of our society and support the interethnic integration in education.
- *Ribbon cutting ceremony* in secondary school 8 Septemvri in Tetovo was supported to mark the successful completion of replacement of the school windows and floors in cooperation with the school and the Municipality. The ceremony was attended by the U.S. Ambassador to Macedonia, Paul D. Wohlers; Director Interagency Partnership of the U.S. Military's European Command, Michael Ryan; Deputy Prime Minister in charge of implementing the Ohrid Framework Agreement, Musa Xhaferi; Minister of Education and Science, Pance Krlev and Mayor of Municipality of Tetovo, Sadi Bexheti, educational institutions representatives, teachers, parents, students and local community representatives.
- *Regular coverage of all activities* in the course of other components of the Interethnic Integration in Education Project is performed through regular update of the web-site (www.pmio.mk) and written stories.

Component 2 – Capacity Building of School Management and Teachers

- *Training for master trainers.* Three-day advanced training for the master trainers was conducted in the period from September 30 to October 2, 2012 in Ohrid. The training was conducted by the trainers from the Center for Human Rights and Conflict Resolution (CHRCR). At the training, 34 candidates for master trainers participated



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to develop facilitation skills needed to train the School Integration Teams (SITs) of the primary and secondary schools; increase their competences for implementing the trainings of the SITs through their simulating activities; introduce the activities to partners' schools; develop skills to apply and practice self-evaluation, coordination and monitoring activities of the SITs and finalize the textbook for conducting the trainings of the SITs. Participants were provided with written working material – guidance for the further simulation activities of the participants. Following this activity a one-day workshop for the master trainers was conducted on October 19, 2012 to finalize their preparation for delivering trainings for SITs that will be performed in November, 2012.

- *Final coordination with the master trainers.* A meeting with master trainers was organized on October 30, 2012 before the training cycle for SITs starts on November 2, 2012. Master trainers were provided with the trainings' schedule and all needed training materials (textbooks, handouts, video-documentaries, power point presentations etc.).
- *Manual for the School Integration Teams* was drafted.
- *School Performance Quality Indicators.* On October 8 a working meeting was held with the representatives of the Project Eco-Schools during which the School Performance Quality Indicators were updated with topics related to protection of the environment. On October 10, IIEP staff met with the Coalition of youth organizations SEGA and added in the School Performance Indicators practices related to establishment and work of the students bodies in schools.

Component 3 – Demonstration Schools

- *Four instruments for external monitoring* of the project activities have been finalized.
- *The manual for joint students' activities* has been drafted.
- *School self-evaluation.* Four working meetings, one in each Demonstration school, were organized to present the results of the school self-evaluation and to develop action plans related to the joint students' activities and the activities of the joint student bodies. These meetings took place in Gostivar, Skopje, Kicevo and Ohrid from October 5 to October 12, 2012.
- *17 action plans for implementing project activities* have been received by the demonstration schools.
- *Capacity building of the project partners.* Training for conducting in-school support meetings in the Demonstration schools with 10 members from the NGOs Loja and Sumnal was organized in Skopje. The participants were acquainted with the monitoring instruments and the process of giving feedback to the implementers of the activities.
- *Two support meetings in the Demonstration schools* Zdravko Cvetkovski in Skopje and Economic high school in Gostivar were conducted with the members of SITs and teachers responsible for implementing project activities in the schools.
- *Two school manifestations* have been attended and monitored by the project team in Kicevo.



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Component 4 – School Incentives

- *Renovated schools.* Renovation process has been completed in five schools resulting in a total of nine renovated schools by the end of October 2012. The renovation process in PS Liria in village Zherovjane, Bogovinje Municipality resulted in installation of new central heating system. The total number of beneficiaries (students and school staff) included is 180. In PS Stiv Naumov, Bitola Municipality, PS Brakja Miladinovci, Demir Hisar Municipality and PS Mite Bogoevski, Resen Municipality the old roofs were replaced with new tin roof cover. The number of beneficiaries of these three school renovation activities is 792, 123 and 578, respectively. In the PS Krste Misirkov from Gazi Baba Municipality the old wooden windows were replaced with new aluminum windows. The number of beneficiaries in this school is 823.
- *Renovation process is in progress* in two other selected schools:
 - In PS Marshal Tito, village Bansko, Strumica municipality the activities for roof renovation are in their final phase. The number of direct beneficiaries is 184.
 - The activities for renovation of the school gym in PS Zivko Brajkovski, in Skopje, Municipality of Butel are ongoing and will impact 904 direct beneficiaries.
- *Trainings for the School Renovation Teams (SRT).* After the completion of the renovation activities, trainings for the School Renovation Teams (SRT) are organized for the maintenance of the school buildings. The renovation activities and trainings for maintenance of the school buildings are organized in coordination with the Ministry of Education and Science, Department for Capital Investments (MoES/DCI). Three regional trainings were organized for the selected schools from Skopje, Strumica and Polog region.
- *Mentoring sessions.* After the completion of the trainings for maintenance of the school buildings, mentoring sessions are organized in each of the selected schools. The first mentoring session was organized in PS Krste Misirkov from Gazi Baba municipality.
- *School technical staff.* Second round of trainings will be organized for the school technical staff. The materials for these trainings are being prepared.



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UPCOMING ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT MONTH

Component 1 – Community Outreach

- Completion of the workshops for planning effective interactive public presentations in the pilot municipalities in collaboration with the partner organization Macedonian Institute for Media (MIM).
- Completion of the roundtables and debates about education in multicultural / intercultural context in the pilot municipalities in collaboration with the partner organization PAC Multimedia.
- Completion of the debates organized in 4 schools in the pilot municipalities in collaboration with the partner organization Youth Education Forum (YEF).
- Completion of the five creative workshops for the students from Arseni Jovkov High School to produce individual short video materials to promote interethnic integration in education.
- Organization of 2 study visits in cooperation with the partner organization Macedonian Institute for Media (MIM).

Component 2 – Capacity Building of School

- The training cycle for the SITs from the pilot municipalities.
- Meeting of the working for review of the primary and secondary curricula content.
- Finalization of the SITs Guidance.
- Development of manual for parents.
- Development of manual for school boards.

Component 3 – Demonstration Schools

- Training of trainers for partner NGOs in training teachers for cooperative work in ethnically mixed teams will be conducted.
- Training will be organized for teachers (from all Demonstration schools) to implement multicultural workshops.
- Conducting support meetings for the on-going in-school activities.

Component 4 – School Incentives

- Completion of the renovation activities in the remaining 2 schools.
- Organization of the fourth regional training for the School Renovation Teams for the schools from the Pelagonia region on November 2, 2012.
- Organization of mentoring sessions in the remaining 10 schools.