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Interethnic Integration in Education Project

MONTHLY REPORT

of the USAID Interethnic Integration in Education Project

SEPTEMBER 2012

I. ACCOMPLISHED ACTIVITIES

Component 1 - Community Outreach

- A workshop for journalists reporting on education from the aspect of interethnic integration in education gathered 10 journalists, six members from the BRATSTVO MIGJENI primary school in Tetovo, eight IIEP (Interethnic Integration in Education Project) staff members and six Macedonian Institute for Media representatives in Ohrid, on August 30 and 31, 2012. They shared, discussed and produced media reports for promoting good and positive examples from the activities of the Interethnic Integration in Education Project. In addition, the journalists, through the expertise offered from the media experts were enabled to exercise fact-finding situations instead of stereotype-oriented reporting which is essential for advancing interethnic collaboration.
- Study Visit for journalists to MITE BOGOEVSKI primary school in Resen was organized on September 12, 2012. The aim was to develop a success story and share positive example from this school in terms of good interethnic cooperation. The story was issued in daily newspaper "VEST" on Saturday edition at September 15, 2012. The article can be found also on the web-site <http://pmio.mk/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/Vest.pdf>
- List of media that cover education matters (including editors and journalists) was developed and it consists of 47 national and local electronic and printed newspapers.
- 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

- Electronic baseline survey was conducted in all primary and secondary schools in the Republic of Macedonia in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Science, and the Bureau for Development of Education, from August 15 to September 15, 2012. The purpose of the survey was to provide a sufficient and comprehensive overview of the current situation in the schools in relation to the interethnic integration in education. 98.38% of the schools participated in completing the questionnaires.
- One-day workshop for the pilot municipalities' coordinative teams to introduce the concept of interethnic integration in education involving the role of the municipalities was organized. The aim was to promote the IIEP activities in the primary, high and vocational schools. It was organized in Skopje on September 6, 2012, including total number of 20 participants.



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- A supervisory meeting for 36 master-trainers was convened on September 9, 2012 in Skopje to deepen the master trainers' knowledge and skills for planning the IIEP activities and to introduce the procedure of master trainers' certification.
- Focus group discussion for updating the School Performance Quality Indicators with innovations in the context of inclusive education for children with special needs was organized on September 17, 2012. It included 15 representatives of MoES, SEI, primary and secondary schools, municipalities and NGOs.
- On September 26, 2012 following the focus group discussion, IIEP organized a working meeting for 17 participants in order to improve the School Performance Quality Indicators with topics related to interethnic integration in education.

Component 3 – Demonstration Schools

- Four demonstration schools selected through open and transparent application procedure. The following schools were selected: PS BRATSTVO EDINSTVO in Ohrid, PS SANDE STERJOSKI in Kicevo, CHSC ZDRAVKO CVETKOVSKI in Skopje and SEMS GOSTIVAR in Gostivar.
- Training for democratic participation of the students took place in Gostivar on 31 of August with 16 representatives from four Demonstration schools (school management and professional service staff). In addition five representatives from the NGO's (Loja and Sumnal), as well as two representatives from Macedonian Civic Education Center and two representatives from the educational state institutions (State Educational Inspectorate and Bureau for Development of Education) attended the training.
- Each demonstration school has conducted school self-evaluation with all the teachers in the schools. 330 students and 165 parents were included.
- Four instruments for internal monitoring of the project activities have been finalized.
- The manual for democratic participation of students has been completed.
- Training of trainers was organized in Skopje on 13 of September 2012. 14 representatives from the NGO's Loja and Sumnal were trained about the approaches that will be utilized when conducting training on joint students' activities in the Demonstration schools.
- Several trainings of teachers for conducting joint students activities have been held in each demonstration school as follows in:
 - Skopje on 17 of September with 26 school teachers and members of School Integration Team (SIT)
 - Gostivar on 17 of September with 30 school teachers and members of SIT
 - Ohrid on 18 of September with 36 school teachers and members of SIT
 - Kicevo on 18 of September with 29 school teachers and members of SIT
- Instrument for measuring stereotypes and prejudices have been developed. The instrument will be given to the students that will participate in the project activities twice, prior and after the completion of the project activities.

Component 4 – School Incentives

- Renovation process has been completed in two schools in Skopje and Strumica Municipalities. The first renovation process conducted in Secondary School NIKOLA



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KAREV in Strumica municipality has been completed and resulted with new windows. The total number of beneficiaries (students and school staff) included is 1.516. The second school is the Primary School Tefejuz, from Cair municipality which endured installation of hydro insulation on flat roof and new boiler for the central heating system. Total number of direct beneficiaries is 813.

- Renovation process is in progress in eight other selected schools:
 - Primary School BRAKJA MILADINOVCI, village Zvan, Demir Hisar municipality, includes roof replacement and the activities are in the final phase. The number of direct beneficiaries is 123.
 - In Primary School STIV NAUMOV, Bitola Municipality also is the final phase of actions, replacing the roof, with total number of direct beneficiaries of 792.
 - Primary School MITE BOGOEVSKI, Resen municipality, is still in progress for the roof replacement, including 578 number of direct beneficiaries and;
 - Primary School MARSHAL TITO, village Bansko, Strumica municipality embraces replacement of a roof, resulting with 184 direct beneficiaries. At this school the activities are still in progress.
 - In village Zherovjane, Bogovinje municipality, the Primary School LIRIA activities for installation of central heating system are conducted, involving total of 180 direct beneficiaries.
 - Primary School KRSTE MISIRKOV in Skopje, Gazi Baba municipality will conduct activities related to windows replacement, and 823 direct beneficiaries are affected as a result of these actions. For this school there is an ongoing process for selection of contractor.
 - For the selected Primary School ZIVKO BRAJKOVSKI, in Skopje, Butel municipality, renovation of the school gym is planned, which will impact 123 direct beneficiaries. The selection of contractor is in process.
- The modules and materials for the trainings for the School Renovation Teams (SRT) are being prepared for the maintenance of the renovated schools.

II. UPCOMING ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT MONTH

Component 1 - Community Outreach

- Regular meetings and study visits for journalists will be organized in schools.
- Preparations for delivering trainings in four pilot-municipalities in Macedonia for IIEP partner organizations, municipality staff and schools' representatives, aimed at strengthening skills for effective interactive presentations and outreach to media and other stakeholders.
- Organization of 10 workshops by the project partner Multimedia related to cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue in the secondary school ARSENI JOVKOV. These workshops will conceptualize ideas from students and will be transformed into short video products.
- Four roundtables and four debates in the four pilot municipalities related to interethnic integration in education topics will be organized.

Component 2 – Capacity Building of School

- Master Trainers will be trained to deliver the program activities to School Integration Teams.



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- Dissemination of Trainings for the School Integration Teams (SITs) will be delivered in 57 primary and secondary schools within the four pilot municipalities.
- Supervisory meetings with the master trainers will be organized.
- Meetings with the coordinative teams from the four municipalities will be organized including the IIEP partners (Loja and Sumnal).
- Baseline survey results will be processed and field research will be held.
- Working meetings and focus group discussions will be held with different educational stakeholders to improve and upgrade the School Performance Quality Indicators by addressing current topics in education.
- Manual and training materials will be drafted.

Component 3 – Demonstration Schools

- Training will be organized for partner NGOs for conducting in-school support meetings with teachers.
- Organization of intra-school meetings for coordination and development of action plan.
- 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 11 schools and organization of the trainings for the School Renovation Teams.
- Access ramps in the renovated schools will be constructed
- Ribbon-cutting ceremonies will be organized.