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Interethnic Integration in Education Project

MONTHLY REPORT

of the USAID Interethnic Integration in Education Project

FEBRUARY 2013

I. IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES

Component 1 - Community Outreach

- **Promotional event for short movies at Arseni Jovkov secondary school.** During this month, a promotional event was organized at the Arseni Jovkov secondary school in the municipality of Butel, Skopje. The event promoted four short movies, which promote interethnic integration in the schools, and which were created by the children of this school themselves through a creative process of several months. Masters of ceremony for this promotion were the popular actors Sasko Kocev and Luran Ahmeti.
- **Workshop for creating a communication plan and establishing of outreach tools and messages regarding the Project activities.** During the month of February, a workshop for the whole USAID Interethnic Integration in Education Project team and the representatives of the partner organization was organized in order to create a common communication plan for all the activities and in order to determine the outreach tools and messages which will enable the public and the communities to be informed in the best possible manner.
- **Regular informing of institutions, municipalities and schools about our activities.** Part of the activities during the month of February covered regular updating of the information and publishing of news and stories about the course of the activities on our web site (www.pmio.mk).
- **Case study: Career development in a multicultural environment.** Preparation for the promotion of the products (case study and video story) developed by the students, which will be presented at the school level and wider.

Component 2 – Capacity Building of School Management and Teachers

- **Establishing of partnerships among the schools with different languages of instruction.** After completing the dissemination training, the pilot schools started establishing partnerships among the schools with different languages of instruction and creating action plans including joint activities shared among partner schools. Up until now, partnerships between 45 schools with different languages of instruction from a total of 58 schools from the four pilot municipalities – Bitola, Butel, Tetovo and Strumica – have been established.
- **Workshop with master trainers.** A workshop with master trainers was held in order to share the experiences from the dissemination training cycles conducted in the pilot schools. During the second part of the workshop, the master trainers prepared for the process of self-evaluation of the schools, as well as about how to follow their progress regarding interethnic integration in the education.
- **Working meeting with partner organizations Loja and Sumnal.** The goal of the working meeting was to plan the activities for interethnic integration in the education and to define the roles of the partner organizations in the mentoring support for the pilot schools.

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- **Two pilot municipalities (Tetovo and Strumica) visited and quarterly meetings held.** The visit covered a meeting with the municipal employees responsible for the Project in order to present the work plan for 2013 and the role of the responsible municipality employees in the realization of the Project activities.
- **Preparation of observation check-lists** for different activities, which will be performed in the frames of the component.
- **Case study: Career development in a multicultural environment.** As a result of the conducted research and the materials recorded during the visit to multiethnic companies, the student teams from the secondary schools Arseni Jovkov – Skopje, 8 September – Tetovo, Jane Sandanski – Strumica and Taki Daskalo – Bitola prepared case studies and a video story about a successful career development of an employee in a multicultural environment.

Component 3 – Demonstration Schools

- **Training of coordinators for student participation and representatives of the school communities for enhancing the student participation.** Two training cycles were held, one with representatives of the presidency of school communities from the second and third years of the two secondary demonstration schools, and the other with representatives of the presidency of school communities from the seventh grades from the primary demonstration schools. Through a combination of experiential activities and presentations, the students were familiarized with an initiative-taking model in order to strengthen their participation in the school life.
- **Training of representatives of the school integration teams from the demonstration schools.** In the frames of the one-day training, the participants were familiarized with some of the findings from the baseline research study conducted in the frames of the Project. Good practices from the realization of the project activities so far were presented in the training, and determining of criteria for organizing joint student activities was also done.
- **Consultation meeting among the Center for Human Rights and Conflict Resolution and the partner organizations Loja and Sumnal.** The meeting served to look into the experience with the realization of the project activities in the demonstration schools.
- **Meetings for support with the school integration teams and the teachers – implementers of project activities.** Until the end of the month, the representatives of the Center for Human Rights and Conflict Resolution and the partner organizations Loja and Sumnal realized two meetings for support – one at the secondary economic school Gostivar from Gostivar and one at the Sande Shterjoski primary school from Kichevo.

Component 4 – Providing Incentives to Schools and Communities

- **Announcing a call for application.** During the month of February, a call to 150 secondary and primary schools and the 30 municipalities they belong to was announced, in order to select 10 schools which will have the opportunity to be renovated as a result of the suggested activities for interethnic integration in the education.
- **The procedure for selecting the best offer for the purchase of tools** for 21 schools is in its final phase.
- **Monthly meetings.** Regular meetings were organized in order to monitor the activities regarding school maintenance at 11 schools renovated in 2012.
- **Participation of the municipalities and schools in the renovation.** Collaboration was achieved with the municipalities and the schools for the provision of the necessary



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documentation and preparation of reports for their participation in the covering of a part of the renovation costs. In February, documents were signed with four schools and one municipality for the participation in the renovation projects. The total documented participation of the municipalities and the schools for ten renovation projects amounts to 3,991,137 Denars, which represents 24% of the total invested assets for these ten projects.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- **Finalizing the baseline study report.** The part of the report with the findings and recommendations from the baseline study has been prepared and is in the phase of finalization.
- **Monitoring activities.** Several activities organized in the frames of the components were visited in order to monitor them: Case studies organized by My Career in two secondary economic schools (one in Tetovo, and another in Butel); Training of school student bodies for democratic participation of students organized in Skopje; Workshop with master trainers; Promotional event for presenting short movies organized by the Arseni Jovkov secondary economic school – Skopje.
- **Meetings with component leaders/coordinators.** Meetings with the teams of each Project component were held. Concrete steps in relation to monitoring and evaluation activities were suggested based on the given indicators in the monitoring and evaluation plan.
- **Evaluation activities.** The questionnaire for evaluation of the training for school student bodies was prepared and administered to participants. The administration of the questionnaire for evaluation of the effect from multicultural workshops in the demonstration schools has been finalized and the format for data entry has been prepared. The instruments for self-evaluation and for gathering of data from monolingual schools have been finalized and presented in the workshop for the master trainers.



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II. ACTIVITIES FOR THE FOLLOWING MONTH

Component 1 – Community Outreach

- Presentation of the work plan for 2013 of the USAID Interethnic Integration in Education Project at the Ministry of Education and Science and in front of the donor organizations.
- The team of this component together with the partner organization PAC Multimedia will visit the selected municipalities and schools to present the activities planned for 2013.
- In collaboration with the partner organization PAC Multimedia, training of trainers for representatives of the school integration teams and teachers will be organized in order to prepare modules and curricula for the upcoming creative workshops with the students in the frames of the schools.
- Finalization of the communication plan for the needs of the Project.
- Organizing of informal meetings with journalists and editors from the media reporting about the area of education.

Component 2 – Capacity Building of School Management and Teachers

- Training cycles with master trainers for preparation of the implementation of the advanced level of training for multilingual schools.
- Self-evaluation workshops with school integration teams from the pilot schools.
- Advanced level training cycles for multilingual schools from pilot municipalities.
- Preparation of a module for mentoring support training in the schools and development of instruments.
- Quarterly meetings with the persons responsible for the Project from the municipalities of Bitola and Butel.
- Completion of check lists for monitoring of different types of activities in the capacity building of school management and teachers component.
- Development of a module for training of school boards and a handbook.
- Development of a module for training about parental inclusion in the Project activities and a handbook.
- Preparations for implementation of training for trainers for school boards.
- Preparations for implementation of training for trainers for parental inclusion.
- Meeting of the working group for components two and three.
- Presentation of the results from the conducted analysis of the curricula for primary, general secondary and secondary education.

Component 3 – Demonstration Schools

- Visit to potential new demonstration schools and selection of two new partner demonstration schools.
- Presentation of the Project to the newly selected demonstration schools.
- Establishing school integration teams in the newly selected demonstration schools.
- Training for raising the awareness about the Project with the newly selected school integration team from the new demonstration schools.
- Realization of joint student activities by the teachers in the model schools.
- Realization of multicultural workshops in all demonstration schools.
- Realization of meetings for support with the school staff responsible for the realization of the project activities.



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Component 4 – Providing Incentives to Schools and Communities

- Evaluation of the submitted applications by the working group.
- Determining a list of 10 schools.
- Distribution of tools to pilot schools.
- Monthly meetings for monitoring the school maintenance work in the 11 pilot schools.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Monitoring of the activities realized by component.
- Preparation of check-lists for monitoring of activities.
- Participation in the first quarterly meeting in the pilot municipalities.
- Entering of data from the questionnaires for evaluation of the effect from the multicultural workshops.
- Preparation of a sample summarized report about the component for capacity building of the school management and teachers.