



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



MACEDONIAN
CIVIC
EDUCATION
CENTER



USAID INTERETHNIC INTEGRATION IN EDUCATION PROJECT (IIEP)

WHAT WE HAVE BEEN UP TO?

IIEP is a four-year, 5.2 million USD initiative targeting all primary and secondary schools in Macedonia. The main objective of IIEP is to build awareness and provide diversity training, technical assistance, and incentives to school boards, principals, teachers, and administration officials in support of interethnic integration in education. Project achievements for period January - June 2014 are presented for each of four mutually-supporting and inter-related components:

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- **Preparatory meetings for selection of schools which will implement creative workshops in the six new municipalities of Phase 3** were held in Kavadarci, Kocani, Prilep, Gostivar, Ohrid and Skopje in cooperation with the partner organization Centre for performance arts "Multimedia", at which project activities were presented and an agreement was reached about the schools that will join the trainings and the creative workshops for promotion of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue.
- **Training of trainers for creative workshops** was implemented with the teachers from the selected six schools from Phase 3 for the purpose of building their capacities for preparation of modules and conducting the forthcoming 12 creative workshops with the students.
- **Creative workshops** were implemented within the selected six schools in the new municipalities in Phase 3 with the goal of building the capacities, expanding teachers' knowledge and skills for development and application of the interethnic integration through creative methods and approaches.
- **A Forum Theatre debate** was held with the IIEP team, the partner organisations, USAID

representatives and master trainers involved in the project.

- **Three Forum Theatre debates** were held with teachers-members of the school integration teams from the primary and secondary schools from several municipalities, which was used as a tool for discussion in the context of interethnic integration in education.
- **Six trainings for producing multimedia internet contents in the context of interethnic integration in education (Youth via Media)** were held in cooperation with MIM that were attended by two students and two teachers from the secondary schools from the regions of Kavadarci, Prilep, Kocani, Gostivar, Ohrid and several secondary schools from Skopje. These trainings help the teachers and the students to develop skills for producing multimedia internet contents through which they will promote the activities of their schools.
- **Public debates** within the activity "Debates for integration in the schools" were held in the debate clubs of the high schools from the municipalities of Kumanovo, Kicevo, Stip, Cair and Struga at which the students - debaters stated their views through a debate on topics related to interethnic integration in education.



Training for Trainers for creative workshops with teachers from the six selected schools from Phase 3, held in Skopje.



Forum theatre workshop with teachers-members of the SITs from primary and secondary schools from several municipalities in Macedonia, held in Skopje.



- **A short video was made with the participants in the creative workshops** from the "Arsenie Jovkov" high school on the occasion of the International Women's Day, 8th of March, in which the participants talked about the benefits from the creative workshops. The video is posted on the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WuyZ7KiHGxA>.
- **The final products of the case study research were presented** by the students from "Dimitrija Cupovski" high school in Veles. The team of ten young researches, comprised of representatives of each ethnic community represented in the school, presented the good practices that resulted from the research.
- **Joint student activities and final promotional events** about the products resulting from the activities between the partner schools were followed and documented by the IIEP team. Stories of the activities and presentations were posted on the web site of IIEP.
- **Ribbon cutting ceremonies** were organised in three schools in the municipalities of Vinica, Bitola and Kocani for marking the successful completion of the renovation process.



A public debate between students from SS "Cvetan Dimov" from the City of Skopje and SS "Josip Broz Tito" from the Municipality of Centar. The debate is part of the cycle named "Debates for integration in the schools". The event was held in the municipal faculty of Chair.

CAPACITY BUILDING OF SCHOOL MANAGEMENT AND TEACHERS

- **A Forum for interethnic integration in education was held** at the teacher training faculties in Macedonia in order to develop the concept for applying interethnic integration in education at the teacher training faculties.
- **Seven regional meetings** were organised in Kocani, Kavadarci, Prilep, Gostivar, Ohrid and Skopje with representatives of the municipalities, primary and secondary schools that are involved in Phase 3 of the project implementation for the purpose of introducing the participants with the concept of interethnic integration in education and providing guidelines for initiation of the project activities.
- **A revision was made of the basic module for trainings for IIE** in which practical activities and video presentation were added with examples of successful practises for promotion of the interethnic integration in education. A session for monitoring the IIE activities on a school level was also added and changes were made in the annual planning.
- **One day workshop with the master trainers for mentoring** was held in order to develop the skills of the trainers for mentoring by means of practising techniques and strategies for providing feedbacks on the joint activities of the students from different ethnic background.
- **Trainings of the school integration teams** from the three day training cycle were completed with SITs from 183 primary and secondary schools involved in Phase 3 with the goal of introducing participants to the concept of IIE.
- **In cooperation with the team of state education inspectors, the instruments in the Manual for integral evaluation were adjusted**, which enabled inclusion of elements of the interethnic integration into the adequate instruments that are used during the integral evaluation.



PHOTO OF THE MONTH



A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the schools PS "Forina" from Gostivar and PS "Nikola Karev" from Kocani during a ribbon cutting ceremony.



- **A two day workshop** was held in Struga for training of teachers-trainers for joint sports and fun activities with students in which teams of teachers from 10 primary multilingual schools participated.
- **Four mentoring meetings for schools from Phase 2** were held for the purpose of supporting the schools for successful implementation and monitoring of the activities for interethnic integration.
- **Mentoring meetings were held for representatives of the professional services, School Boards and municipal advisers for education from Pilot Phase and Phase 2** in order to perceive the functional setting among the involved parties in the IIEP at a local level; to obtain feedback on the status of the implementation of the IIE activities and to define key activities for the target groups.
- **Joint sports and entertainment activities were realized** in which 405 students and 44 teachers from nine primary schools took part.
- **First mentoring meeting conducted** in 182 schools from Phase 3 in order to provide professional support to the SIT for conducting trainings for dissemination at school level.
- **Trainings with representatives of professional service staff and School Boards for the schools from Phase 3** were conducted with 158 schools in eight groups of representatives in order to introduce the representatives with approaches, methods and activities for inclusion and active participation of the parents in the interethnic integration in the schools and for practical contribution of the School Boards to the changes for IIE.
- **The IIE concept was incorporated in the curricula of the teacher training faculties**, wherein more general changes were introduced in eight curricula, of which in four curricula more detailed changes were introduced with listed descriptors.



Sports and entertainment activities with students from PS "Alija Avdovic" from v. Batinci, Municipality of Studenicani.



Students at a promotional event of the products from the joint student activities between PS "Braka Ramiz Hamid" from the Municipality of Shuto Orizari and PS "7-mi Marsi" from the Municipality of Chair.

DEMONSTRATION SCHOOLS

- **Consultative meetings with SIT and implementers of activities** were held in every demonstration school for identification of the good practices in the implementation of the project activities. The model for creating a presentation for promotion of the project was also presented.
- **Consultative meetings** were held with the teams involved in the monitoring of the project activities in the demonstration schools, wherein the achievements were analyzed with a focus on the forthcoming challenges for each school separately.
- **Promotional events were organised** for the project activities of the demonstration schools about everything that was done in the schools in the first semester, whereupon every school held a performance with one integrated act.
- **A two-day training was held for the school boards** from all demonstration schools which was attended by advisors from the BDE responsible for monitoring the activities in the demonstration schools, as well as representatives of the partner organisation Sumnal for the purpose of sensitizing the members of the School Boards about the IIE activities.
- **Regular support meetings** were held in the demonstration schools by the IIEP team with a focus on monitoring the activities, improvement from the aspect of achieving interethnic integration and planning





of the closing promotional events with the products from the project activities.

- **Trainings for inclusion of parents in the school activities** were organized with parents from six demonstration schools in order to introduce them with the concept of an integrated school from the aspect of interethnic integration, whereupon specific action plans were prepared.
- **Eight workshops for language learning were piloted** in the primary school “Petar Zdravkovski PENKO” from Skopje; four workshops for two established groups comprising 20 students who study in Macedonian and Albanian language of instruction.
- **A two day training for parents for raising the awareness of the need to learn the language of the neighbours** was held with parents from all primary demonstration schools for the purpose of enabling them to learn different strategies for learning the language of the “neighbour” as well as to identify the barriers which prevent that.
- **Two trainings with the members of the SIT from the demonstration schools** were organized with the SITs from all primary and secondary schools for the purpose of building a joint cohesion and cooperation between the members of the SIT from each school.
- **Two trainings for producing multimedia internet contents in the context of interethnic integration in education** were held that were aimed at providing basic skills and knowledge for creating multimedia contents of the implementers of the activities from the demonstration schools.

- **Four performances were organised in the demonstration schools** on the occasion of the Day of the Albanian Teacher, 7th of March and the International Women’s Day, 8th of March, which comprised integrated acts performed by students from different languages of instruction.
- **Implemented activities upon parents’ initiative**, in the primary school “Bratstvo Edinstvo” in Ohrid – celebration of the National Holiday “Letnik”, in the primary school “Sande Sterjoski” in Kicevo – making paper decorations on the occasion of the Spring Day, in SEU “Gostivar” – sports tournament in futsal and many other activities.
- **Workshops with the SITs from the partner demonstration schools** were held for the purpose of developing a strategy for further implementation of the project activities, as well as for considering the effects from the project activities.
- **Three promotional events in the demonstration schools** were held in Kumanovo, Ohrid and Gostivar at which the activities and products were promoted on fair stands, by presenting multimedia contents from all undertaken activities in the schools within IIEP and performances by the integrated teams of certain cultural and entertainment acts. The events were attended by a large number of teachers, students, parents, as well as representatives from local educational institutions.
- **Self-evaluation was conducted by the partner demonstration schools** from Kumanovo with 60 students, 30 parents and all teachers as respondents, whereupon the results were processed by the IIEP team and presented at a working meeting.



Pilot workshops for learning the language with first graders from PS “Petar Zdravkovski Penko” from Skopje.

PROVIDING INCENTIVES TO SCHOOLS

- The call for application was sent to 138 high and primary schools from 30 municipalities who are eligible to apply for selection of 10 new schools which will be included in the activities of Component 4 for 2014.
- 10 schools were selected to be included in Phase 3 activities of Component 4 in the year 2014. Ninety-nine applications were received from the schools which represents a 70% response.
- Three demonstration schools were selected to be included in Component 4 in year 2014.

Selected schools in Component 4 – Phase 3

1	Pelagonija	Prilep	Topolcani	PS	Krume Volnaroski
2	Skopje	Kisela Voda	Dracevo	PS	Kuzman Shapkarev
3	Polog	Gostivar	Chajle	PS	Chajla
4	Pelagonija	Krivogashtani	Obrshani	PS	Jonce Smugreski
5	Skopje	Gjorce Petrov	Skopje	PS	Gjorce Petrov
6	Skopje	Ilinden	Ilinden	PS	Goce Delchev
7	Pelagonija	Krushevo	Krushevo	PS	Naum N. Borce
8	South-east	Bogdanci	Bogdanci	PS	Bogdanci
9	Polog	Vrapchishte	Vrapchishte	PS	Vrapchishte (Chede Filiposki)
10	South-west	Debar	Dolno Kosovrasti	PS	Riste Ristevski

Demonstration schools

1		Ohrid		PS	Bratstvo Edinstvo
2		Kicevo		PS	Sande Shterjoski
3		Gostivar		SES	Gostivar

- **School Renovation Teams (SRT) were established** in 10 schools from Phase 3 and in three demonstration schools.
- **Trainings for SRT for school maintenance** were organized in the same schools with the focus on the preparation of annual plans and budgets for maintenance of the school and raising of additional funds.
- **Trainings for SRT for school maintenance** were organized in the same schools with the focus on the preparation of annual plans and budgets for maintenance of the school and raising of additional funds.
- **Technical acceptance test was performed in PS “Nikola Karev” from the Municipality of Kocani** on the activities for construction of a main entrance in the school building of PS “Nikola Karev” from the Municipality of Kocani funded by MoES.
- **Joint plan was prepared for protection of the environment** from the activities for renovation of schools that could have a potentially negative impact. The plan was submitted and approved by USAID. The activities for renovation of the schools encompassed by the work of Component 4 in 2014 will be conducted in accordance with this plan for protection of the environment.
- **Memoranda of Cooperation** were signed with the mayors of the municipalities and the directors

of the schools for renovation of eight schools from Phase 3, under which all involved parties undertook activities in the renovation process.

- **Public tenders announced for the selection of the best bidding construction companies** of the activities for the renovation of eight schools, whereas a public opening of the bids was organized for all of the tenders.



Signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation for undertaking obligations during the realization of the project for renovation of PS “GjorcePetrov”, Skopje.

We await and value your stories, events and updates...

Contact us and share at: Kozle 1-b, 1000 Skopje, info@mcgo.org.mk



Training for assessment of school facilities, attended by representatives from PS "Sande Shterjoski" from Kichevo, PS "Bratstvo Edinstvo" from Ohrid and "Riste Ristevski" from lower Kosovrasti, Debar.



A ribbon cutting ceremony which marked the completion of the process of renovation in the primary school "Gorgi Sugarev" from Bitola.

DID YOU KNOW?

USAID Macedonia Facebook Page together with Pakistan, Nepal and Jordan are leading countries with most visitors.

We have over 16,000 likes right now.

Continue to visit the USAID Macedonia Facebook Page.



The **USAID Interethnic Integration in Education** project is implemented in partnership with seven local organizations: Center for Human Rights and Conflict Resolution, Loja, Sumnal, Multimedia, My Career, Macedonian Institute for Media and Youth Education Forum.

USEFUL TIPS AND HINTS

Our web-portal
www.pmio.mk

Offers you information related to the USAID Interethnic Integration in Education Project - events, stories and opportunities, thanks to the Project Team and collaborators.

Please check it out!

Success Stories too!

IIEP - UNPLUGGED



On the occasion of 8th of March, Magdalena and Artiana, students who were part of the creative workshops in the secondary school "Arseni Jovkov" from Skopje, talked about their friendship that started during the workshops.

The information provided is not official U.S. Government information and does not represent the views or positions of the US Agency for International Development or the U.S. Government.