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## Interethnic Integration in Education Project

### MONTHLY REPORT

for the USAID Interethnic Integration in Education Project

June 2016

#### I. IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES

##### Component 1 - Community Outreach

- **Creative workshops.** Within all five selected secondary schools, creative workshops were organized with the students, under the mentorship of the IIEP and the partner organization Multimedia. In total, in the course of June, 5 creative workshops were organized which were attended by more than 100 students.
- **Training for dissemination at creative workshops.** 30 teachers from the secondary school Josif Josifovski from Gevgelija participated in the training for creative workshops in order to develop their skills for organization of creative workshops in the school. This was an additional training organized at the initiative of the teachers and the principal of the school.
- **Creative corners.** Various activities were organized within the creative corners in the secondary schools Pero Nakov from Kumanovo and Sv. Kliment Ohridski from Ohrid. Additionally, plans were also made for the forthcoming activities, as well as preparations for forum theatre.
- **Appearance on MRTV1.** The IIEP team appeared on the morning programme of MRTV1 in order to share the activities, the results and the progress achieved in the schools, especially in terms of the participation of the parents.
- **Preparation of materials for USAID Washington.** Project related materials such as interviews with students, teachers and the IIEP team, photos, videos, quotes of the project participants, etc. were prepared for the purposes of publication of a story about the IIEP in the famous Frontline magazine by USAID Washington.
- **Festival of Innovative Practices.** Festival of Innovative Practices for IIE was held at which recognition was paid to all participants who submitted an application in the competition and awards were given to the teachers – winners at the Competition for Innovative Practices for IIE. The festival was attended by 300 guests – teachers and representatives from the schools, representatives from institutions and USAID representatives.
- **Regular informing of institutions, municipalities and schools about the IIEP activities.** Part of the activities covered regular updating of information and publishing news and stories about the course of the activities through the Facebook page *Integratika*, as well as on the project's web site: [www.pmio.mk](http://www.pmio.mk).  
Additionally, the activities organised within the schools (independently or in partnership with the other schools) during this period were supported and covered by the media. The media digest was also prepared and shared with all media throughout the country.

##### Component 2 – Capacity Building of School Management and Teachers

- **Visits for support of the schools in the implementation of the activities for parent participation in the IIE supported with the grant program.** The team participated in the implementation of the first two activities from the grant program of the two partner schools Hristijan T. Karpos from Kumanovo and 7 Marsi from Opae that are located in different municipalities, Kumanovo and Lipkovo. Two meetings were held with the two partner schools



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for the planning of the next IIE activities with parent participation, which will take place at the end of August and the middle of September, 2016. The IIE activities of the parents were visited in the course of their implementation in the schools: "Brakja Miladinovci" Struga, "Kiril i Metodij", v. Presil, Buchin and Mustafa K. Ataturk, Gostivar.

- **Provided support to schools for planning, preparation and implementation of activities supported by the grant program for parent participation in the IIEP activities.** Support was provided with organization of meetings with the teams of all selected schools in the grant program for parent participation in IIE. The parents were supported to plan the future IIE activities more precisely and to prepare the cost and schedule tables. A meeting was organized with the parents and the principal of the PS Rajko Zinsifov from the v. Orizari, together with the partner school PS Blagoj Kirkov from Veles in order to be included in the grant program for parent participation in IIE, as schools with different languages of instruction (Bosnian and Macedonian) from one municipality. The parents from the partner schools jointly prepare the action plan and the cost and schedule table.
- **Implementation of joint student activities supported with the small grants programme.** Four schools implemented joint student activities: Brakja Miladinovci, Struga, Kosta Racin, v. Podares, Radovis, "Toli Zordumis", Kumanovo and Goce Delcev, Resen. The project provided support and visited the activity organized in the PS "Toli Zordumis", Kumanovo. Furthermore, support was provided to the schools that are part of the small grants program, in terms of the preparation of administrative and financial documents for payment of the grants.
- **Video tutorials for sports and fun games.** Short video tutorials were prepared with students from fourth and fifth grade for all 40 examples from the manual "40 sports activities and fun games for integration of children and young people". The videos, in a practical manner, demonstrate the activities described in the examples and they will help the teachers to implement these activities with the students in their schools.
- **Student cooperation video.** A short video was made with students for the purposes of raising the awareness about the need for contact and cooperation among the students from different ethnic communities.

### Component 3 – Demonstration Schools

- **Outings and school shows.** Two outings were organized in the first week of the month with lower grade students. Two outings were organized in the PS "Bratstvo Edinstvo", Ohrid. Five classes (five teachers) with Macedonian and Albanian language of instruction participated at the outing which was of a scientific nature, where joint activities were conducted within six different classes. In cooperation with the association of retired persons from Ohrid, school show was held in the school "Bratstvo Edinstvo" with integrated acts by the retired persons and by the students of the school.
- **Quiz.** Students of two third grade classes with Macedonian and Turkish language of instruction from PS "Bratstvo Edinstvo" participated at a joint quiz at the topic of: How much we know our country.
- **Student initiatives.** One initiative was undertaken by the Presidency of the school community (PSC) of the secondary demonstration school "Zdravko Cvetkovski" from Skopje. At the opening day organized by the school for students from elementary schools, a debate was held with two teams with four students each, who debated on the topic of: Do the formal and non-formal education offer better conditions for bringing students with different language of instruction closer? The debate was also observed by representatives of the project team and the BDE representative.
- **Meetings for support.** Four meetings for support with the SITs and teachers – implementers of project activities were held at the beginning of the month (in four demonstration schools). A recap was performed of the IIE activities and the guidelines for the certification of IIE activities were clarified at the meetings. In addition, at the beginning of the month, three more meetings for support were realized in three different demonstration schools by the BDE advisors on the



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IIEP aspects that are closely related to the advisors' expertise.

- **Open Day.** At the beginning of the month, in the secondary school "Zdravko Cvetkovski", Skopje, an open day was held for the students in the ninth grades in the primary schools. The school organized an interesting event in a pleasant atmosphere where nine different bodies of the school, together with three groups from the IIE activities presented the particulars of their work at stands.
- **Self-evaluation.** The self-evaluation of students, teachers and parents in all demonstration schools was finished by the end of the school year.

### Component 4 – Providing Incentives to Schools

- **Annex to the Memorandum of Understanding.** The Annexes to the Memorandums of Understanding for 2 schools were signed by the mayors of the municipalities and the principals of the schools, whereby all involved parties undertook responsibilities in the renovation process.
- **Tenders for selection of most favourable contractors.** Public tenders were announced for selection of the most favourable contractors for the renovation activities for four schools.
  - PS Lirija, Municipality of Caska;
  - PS Drita, Municipality of Saraj;
  - SOU Kole Nedelkovski, Municipality of Veles;
  - SOU Niko Nestor, Municipality of Struga;
- **Evaluation of the first-ranked companies for the performance of projects for renovation of Phase 5 schools.** Meetings were organized for evaluation of the first-ranked companies for the performance of projects for renovation of seven Phase 5 schools, and the complete documentation was submitted to USAID for approval.
- **Selection of construction supervisors.** Requests for bids were submitted for selection of construction supervisors and consulting companies were selected for construction supervision of 12 projects.
- **Mentoring sessions.** Mentoring sessions with the SRT members were held in six schools of Phase 4 for Module 1 - preparation of a plan and budget for maintenance of the schools.
- **Equipment for maintenance of school buildings.** Sets of tools were purchased that are intended for maintenance of the schools that will be renovated in 2016.

### Monitoring and Evaluation

- **Monitoring activities.** Collecting materials form monitoring of IIEP activities.
- **Evaluation of activities.** Writing reports on the evaluation of the activities of the demonstration schools.
- **Electronic survey.** Finalization of the questionnaires for the municipalities and schools, preparation of the language versions. Collecting data for the schools and municipalities and distribution of the electronic survey questionnaire. All these activities were realized in cooperation with the Working group of the MoES.



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### II. ACTIVITIES FOR THE FOLLOWING MONTH

#### Component 1 - Community Outreach

- Preparations for the third module of the Training for Forum Theatre methodology;
- Regular updating of the information and publishing of news and stories about the course of the activities via the Facebook page Integratika and the project's web page: [www.pmio.mk](http://www.pmio.mk).

#### Component 2 – Capacity Building of School Management and Teachers

- Providing support for the schools via visits for support during the implementation of the activities within the grants programme for participation of the parents in IIE.
- Preparation of a workshop with the selected multilingual schools from different regions pertaining to the “Integration Days” activity;
- Providing support to the schools that are part of the small grants program in terms of the preparation of administrative and financial documents for payment of the grants;
- Providing support to the schools that are part of the grants program for participation of the parents in IIE during the preparation and realization of the following activities;
- Proof reading and graphic editing of the third issue of the Manual for school boards.

#### Component 3 – Demonstration Schools

- Preparation of certificates for practical application of IIE activities, participation in trainings and coordination of activities;
- Processing and analysis of the results from the self-evaluation of schools;
- Debriefing with representatives of the partner organizations and advisors from BDE.

#### Component 4 – Providing Incentives to Schools

- Announcing a public tender for selection of the most favourable bidders for the activities for renovation and organizing a public opening of bids;
- Organizing meetings for evaluation of the first-ranked companies for the performance of projects for renovation of the Phase 5 schools;
- Signing contracts with the selected construction companies and companies for supervision over the implementation of projects for renovation of the Phase 5 schools;
- Starting the activities for renovation in the schools in which the process for selection of the most favourable contractor will be completed;
- Mentoring session with the SRT members in one school of Phase 5 for Module 1 - preparation of a plan and budget for maintenance of the schools.

#### Monitoring and Evaluation

- Electronic survey in the schools and the municipalities;
- Writing reports on the monitoring and evaluation of the activities of the demonstration schools.