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## Interethnic Integration in Education Project

### MONTHLY REPORT

for the USAID Interethnic Integration in Education Project

September 2016

#### I. IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES

##### Component 1 - Community Outreach

- **Two ribbon cutting ceremonies were held.** In cooperation with the schools and the municipalities, two ribbon cutting ceremonies were held by which the successfully completed renovations of the schools PS "Aleksandar Zdravkovski" from the Municipality of Jegunovce and the PS "Drita" from the Municipality of Saraj were celebrated. In front of the numerous audience, during the events, the student activities were presented that are implemented with students from the partner schools, in order to share the good practices that contribute to the promotion of the interethnic integration.
- **Guest appearances.** IIEP representatives appeared as guests on several television morning shows in order to share the results, the activities and the progress that is achieved in the schools in the sphere of interethnic integration. On TV21 and MRTV, information was provided about the recent and the upcoming activities, as well as about the institutional support of the interethnic integration activities, while on TV Telma information was provided about the renovations and the support for the schools affected by the August floods. Two parents who were included in the grant-programme for parental inclusion in activities for IIE were guests on Alsat-M TV in order to share their experiences and positive practices. In addition, parental activities for IIE were media covered by TV Kanal 5. Furthermore, a meeting was organized with a host of a debate show on TV 21 – Click Plus, during which the possibilities for participation of the IIEP in the show were discussed.
- **Forum theaters.** Under the guidance of the previously trained teachers, two forum theatres were held within the creative corners of the schools SOU "Orde Copela" Prilep and ASUC "Boro Petrushevski" Skope. The forum theatres were attended by more than 150 students, teachers, as well as other guests from the local communities who had the possibility to actively share their positions, to cooperate and to find potential solutions on the set stage in order to gradually eliminate the prejudices and the stereotypes and to strengthen the interethnic cooperation.
- **Preparations for the upcoming activities.** Preparations were made for the upcoming ribbon cutting ceremonies, the public promotional events, the forum theatres, the public presentations of the products of the creative workshops, as well as the debate academy. In addition, coordination meetings were also held with the partner organizations in order to plan the upcoming activities.
- **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 outlets throughout the country.



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

- **Implementation of joint activities with parental involvement.** Within the grant program for parental involvement in the IIE, joint activities were implemented of ethnically mixed groups of parents and students in the nine schools to which the grant was awarded. Visits were made in order to attend the joint activities of the parents with different ethnic background in the primary schools: “Brakja Miladinovci”, Struga, “Nikola Karev”, Krusevo, “Mustafa K. Ataturk”, Gostivar, the partner schools and activities in Blagoj Kirkov”, Veles and “Rajko Zinzifov”, v. Orizari, “Hristijan T. Karpos”, Kumanovo and “7 Marsi”, v. Opae. For the needs of the grant program for parental involvement in the IIE, technical equipment was also delivered to two schools (PS “Brakja Miladinovci”, Struga and PS “Hristijan T. Karpos” Kumanovo).
- **Implementation of final events in the grant program for parental involvement in the IIE.** Eight final events were organized and visited within the program for parental involvement in the IIE activities in the schools that implemented this grant program. The partner schools “Hristijan T. Karpos”, Kumanovo and “7 Marsi”, v. Opae jointly prepared the final activity in the school in Kumanovo. Questionnaires were sent for the parents – participants, as well as electronic questionnaires to the schools.
- **Participation in the international conference “Pedagogy of the Modern Global Society”** IIEP representatives participated in the conference organized by the Pedagogical Institute in Skopje, on the occasion of the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the scientific and teaching activity of the Institute within the Faculty of Philosophy.
- **Administrative and financial support with small grants.** 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.
- **Organization of the second student camp.** The second summer student camp was organized in which 42 students participated from four schools from Tetovo (PS “Lirija”, PS “Bratstvo Migjeni”, PS “Aleksandar Cvetkovski” and PS “Semsovo”), accompanied by 8 teachers. At the camp, the students had the opportunity to cooperate in various mixed groups through the realization of games for team collaboration and sports and fun activities.
- **Supervision meeting with master trainers and mentors.** At the meeting, the master trainers and the mentors were given guidelines for holding the mentoring meetings with the SITs aimed at giving support and enhancing their capacities for promotion of the quality of the IIE activities in their schools.
- **Start of the implementation of mentoring meetings with the SITs from the the schools from all 3 phases.** The purpose of the mentoring meetings is to see and reflect upon the previous achievements and challenges in terms of the implementation of the IIE activities in the schools, as well as to give guidelines and recommendations for future implementation and provision of sustainability of the IIE activities.
- **Meetings were held with all schools from the selected six municipalities within the activity “Interethnic Integration Days”.** The purpose of the meetings was to inform the schools with the concept of the activity “Interethnic Integration Days” and planning of the joint activities with participation of all schools within their municipalities (Butel, Kumanovo, Brvenica, Gostivar, Kicevo and Strumica).



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### Component 3 – Demonstration Schools

- **Training/working meetings with the SITs from the demonstration schools.** Three working meetings were held during the month, that were attended by the SITs from the four demonstration schools from Kumanovo, Ohrid and Kicevo. At the meetings, the results from the self-evaluation of the schools and the results of the evaluation of the school activities were analysed by the teachers and students.
- **Preparations for the "Interethnic Integration Days".** In the course of the month, four meetings were held with municipal education officials and principals (SIT coordinators) of all schools within four municipalities (Kumanovo, Gostivar, Kicevo and Ohrid). At the meetings, the concept was explained for organization of the "Interethnic Integration Days", as well as the role of each school in the events. Furthermore, in Kicevo and Ohrid, meetings were held for planning of the activities with the teachers who implement the activities. Additionally, each group (four in each municipality) have already implemented one joint workshop with mixed groups of students.
- **School Performances.** At the beginning of the month, in the ES "Bratstvo Edinstvo", a school performance was held on the occasion of the welcoming of the first grade students to the school. The school performance was implemented with integrated acts of students from all communities and languages of instruction.

### Component 4 – Providing Incentives to Schools

- **Technical acceptance.** The renovation activities that were an obligation of the IIEP were completed in six school. The technical acceptance of the completed activities was organized in the following schools:
  - PS "Rajko Zinsifov" from the Municipality of Cair;
  - PS "Sv. Kliment Ohridski" from the Municipality of Bitola;
  - PS "Brakja Miladinovci" from the v. Dedebalci from the Municipality of Mogila;
  - SOU "Niko Nestor" from the Municipality of Struga;
  - PS "Goce Delcev" from the v. Tenovo and the v. Radiovce, Municipality of Brvenica;
  - PS "Kiril and Metodij", v. Bucin, Municipality of Krusevo.In these schools, the works that are an obligation of the schools and the municipalities have also been completed.
- **Equipment for maintenance of school buildings.** The equipment for maintenance of the school buildings was delivered to six schools that were renovated in 2016.
- **Renovation of additional two schools with saved funds.** With the completion of the tenders and the signing of the contacts with the construction companies for renovation of the 13 schools in phase 5, an interim calculation of the renovation budget was made and it was established that in the budget there are funds for renovation of two additional schools. This saving was made as a result of the manner of the implementation of the public procurements, the competition among the companies and the obtained low prices for the requested quality of the materials and the works. Schools have been selected from the waiting list that was prepared during the assessment of the applications for selection of schools in January 2016. The additional two schools are:
  - PS "Hristijan Karpos", Kumanovo and
  - SSOU "Mosa Pijade", Tetovo.The two schools submitted an application for renovation and technical documentation for the priority renovation projects.
- **Memorandums of Understanding (MoU).** The Memorandums of Understanding for the two additional schools were signed by the mayors of the municipalities and the principals



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## Interethnic Integration in Education Project

of the schools, whereby all involved parties undertook responsibilities in the renovation process.

- **Tender for selection of the most favorable contactor.** Tenders have been prepared for selection of the most favorable contractor for renovation of the two schools, requests for bids have been submitted and firms for implementation of the renovation activities have been approved.
- **Evaluation of the first ranked firms for implementation of the projects for renovation of the two additional schools from phase 5.** An evaluation meeting was organized with the first ranked firms for implementation of the projects for renovation of the two additional schools, and the complete documentation for selection of the most favorable contractor was submitted to USAID for approval.  
The list with the selected firms/contractors for the two projects was published at IIEP's web site <http://pmio.mk/category/tender-results/>.
- **Introduction to the works.** A meeting for introduction to the works of the selected firms – contractors was organized and it was attended by representatives of the IIEP, the firms – contractors, the supervisor of the construction, the schools and the municipalities. Contracts have been signed with the selected companies for implementation of the projects for renovation of the two additional schools.
- **Mentoring sessions.** A mentoring sessions was held with the SRT members in the SOU "Niko Nestor" in Struga for Modul 1 - preparation of a plan and budget for maintenance of the schools;
- **Monthly meetings in 13 schools from Phase 4 for monitoring of the works for maintenance of the school buildings.** All 13 schools renovated in Phase 4 were visited by experts who monitor the work and the procedures for maintenance of the schools and they were provided with professional assistance in terms of the maintenance of the school buildings (construction positions, heating system, electrical installations and hygiene).

### Monitoring and Evaluation

- **Electronic survey.** The working version of the report from the electronic survey was finalized. Furthermore, electronic application is being prepared for writing a report for the parental involvement grant.



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## Interethnic Integration in Education Project

### II. ACTIVITIES FOR THE FOLLOWING MONTH

#### Component 1 - Community Outreach

- Organizing ribbon cutting ceremonies;
- Organizing and presenting forum theatres in the schools;
- Public presentations of the products of the creative workshops;
- Organizing a preview of the Manual “40 Sports Activities and Fun Games for Integration of Children and Youth”;
- Promotional event for the Manual “40 Sports Activities and Fun Games for Integration of Children and Youth”;
- Organizing a debate academy;
- 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

- Organizing the final events for the “Integration Days”;
- Implementation of mentoring meetings with the SITs of the schools from all 3 phases;
- Administrative and financial regulation of the procedure for payment of the grants for parental involvement in the IIE activities;
- Implementation of promotional events by the municipalities for enhanced cooperation for IIE in their cooperation with the schools that will present the IIE achievements;
- Administrative and financial regulation of the procedure for payment of the small grants.

#### Component 3 – Demonstration Schools

- Organizing Interethnic Integration Days in Kumanovo, Gostivar and Kicevo;
- Organizing open days in the municipality of Ohrid in the PS “Bratstvo Edinstvo”, Ohrid and PS Zivko Cingo, v. Velgosti;
- Organizing joint workshops with students from different schools in the municipalities of Kumanovo, Gostivar, Kicevo and Ohrid;
- Distribution of promotional material – boards for branding of the demonstration schools.

#### Component 4 – Providing Incentives to Schools

- Start of the renovation activities in two schools;
- Technical acceptance of the buildings where the construction activities will be completed;
- Training for maintenance of the school buildings intended for the technical staff and secretaries from the schools from Phase 5.

#### Monitoring and Evaluation

- Finalization of the report from the electronic survey;
- Presentation and discussion of the results from the electronic survey in front of the representatives from the working group and other activities with the MoES working group.