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Interethnic Integration in Education Project

MONTHLY REPORT

for the USAID Interethnic Integration in Education Project

July 2013

I. IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES

Component 1 - Community Outreach

- **Informal meetings with editors and journalists of the media.** In cooperation with the Macedonian Institute for Media, informal meetings with editors of the media were organised in the month of July aimed at informing about the ongoing events and the activities that are being implemented within the IIEP.
- **Meeting with the Mayor of the Municipality of Kicevo.** The IIEP representatives held a meeting with the Mayor of the Municipality of Kicevo, Mr. Fatmir Dehari. The aim of the meeting was to discuss the on-going and forthcoming activities within the project. The Mayor wholeheartedly supports the IIEP activities. It was emphasised that the so far excellent cooperation with the municipality and the schools will continue in the future as well.
- **Interview with the famous football player - Goran Pandev.** The IIEP team organized an interview with Goran Pandev in order to share his positive experiences and messages to the young people regarding the interethnic integration and cooperation, with a special focus on the education. You can find the interview on our web page: <http://pmio.mk/resources/goran-pandev-talks-about-the-importance-of-the-interethnic-integration-in-education/>. We shared the interview with the media and it was aired on the NovaTV and 24 Vesti television stations.
- **Guest appearance in the morning programmes of the Macedonian Television and the Macedonian Radio.** IIEP representatives participated and were guests in the morning programmes of the Macedonian Television and the Macedonian Radio in order to share information with the viewers and the listeners about the ongoing activities of the Interethnic Integration in Education Project.
- **Regular informing of institutions, municipalities and schools about the activities.** Part of the activities during the month of July covered regular updating of the information and publishing of news and stories about the course of the activities on the project's web site: www.pmio.mk. Furthermore, the first edition of the IIEP Newsletter is prepared and shall be shared with all municipalities, schools, educational institutions, donors and international organizations.

Component 2 – Capacity Building of School Management and Teachers

- **Trainings of the school integration teams from the second phase.** In the beginning of the month of July we continued to organize two-day trainings for the school integration teams from the schools included in the second phase of the project implementation. The main purpose of the trainings was to convey to the participants the concept of interethnic integration in education which promotes an education model that provides the students with joint curricular and extra-curricular activities and interaction with ethnically/linguistically mixed groups of students.



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- **The Guideline “School that promotes interethnic integration in education” is prepared.** The Guideline gives directions for promotion of the interethnic integration in education that pertains to all key factors of the education system.
- **Meetings with the teacher training faculties.** We had meetings with the deans and the managements of all five teacher training faculties - Pedagogical Faculty “St. Kliment Ohridski” in Skopje, Pedagogical Faculty “St. Kliment Ohridski” in Bitola; Faculty of Philosophy at the State University Tetovo; Pedagogical Faculty “Goce Delcev” in Stip; and Faculty for Languages, Cultures and Communications at the SEE University in Tetovo.
- **The preparation of the module for the workshop for the teacher training faculties’ teaching staff** is in its final phase.
- **Preparation of the second cycle of trainings** for the school integration teams from the schools included in the second phase of the project implementation.
- **Preparation of the second cycle of trainings for the various target groups** from the schools included in the IIEP.

Component 3 – Demonstration Schools

- **Facilitating the school meetings with the demonstration schools for coordination and development of action plans.** In the course of the month, three meetings were held with the demonstration schools that were attended by the representatives of the school integration teams, the teachers that are expected to implement the activities in the schools, as well as the representatives of the parents’ councils of the schools. We worked on the development of specific action plans, as well on the global planning that should be a part of the annual program. In the remaining demonstration schools, we initially presented the results of the self-evaluation. With the parents and the teachers who are not members of the School Integration Team, we worked on the identification of the difficulties in the implementation of the planned project activities.
- **Internal and External Monitoring Checklists.** In the month of July we worked on the adjustment of the checklists for internal and external monitoring that are to be used in the partner demonstration schools with one language of instruction. Furthermore, in view of the experience gained from the use of the internal and external monitoring checklists in the course of the first project year, they are undergoing a process of revision so as to be made as functional as possible.
- **Manual for Joint Student Activities.** In the course of the month we worked on the creation of workshops - sets of game activities aimed at introducing and building a group that would be an integral part of the manual for joint student activities. We are working on three sets for three different age groups, as follows: for lower grade students and upper grade students in the primary schools and for high school students.

Component 4 – Providing Incentives to Schools and Communities

- **Memorandums of cooperation.** A Memorandum of Cooperation was signed with the Nace Bugjoni Secondary School from the Municipality of Kumanovo. In total, memorandums of cooperation have been signed with 10 schools and municipalities.
- **Announcement of a public tender for selection of a construction company for implementation of the activities for renovation.** A tender documentation was prepared and announcements for renovation were published in two daily newspapers Dnevnik and Koha (Macedonian and Albanian) and on the web site of the Project for one school selected for renovation in 2013. Together with the previously announced tenders, a total of ten tenders



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have been announced for selection of construction companies for renovation of ten schools.

- **Evaluation and selection of companies for implementation of the renovations.** Interviews have been conducted with the best-ranked three companies for implementation of eight projects in Bitola, Struga, Skopje, Centar, Vinica, Kumanovo, Staro Nagoricane and Veles. The most favourable bidders have been selected and the results from the tender procedures are published at <http://pmio.mk/category/tender-results/>.
- **Selection of licensed companies for performing supervision over the construction.** Bidding requests were submitted for supervision over the implementation of four projects. Bids were received and the companies were selected for supervision of the implementation of the projects in Vinica, Veles, Staro Nagoricane and Kumanovo.
- **Signed contracts** with construction companies and companies for supervision over the implementation of projects for renovation of ten schools.
- **Introductions to the works.** Introductions to the works were organized in ten schools, which marked the start of the renovation activities on the ground.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- **Monitoring activities.** The trainings from the second phase for the newly included schools in Component 2 were monitored; a training was organized, as well as a presentation of the results from the self-evaluation within the demonstration schools; introduction to the works in the selected schools from Stip and Zletovo. Testing of the checklists prepared for Component 2 was conducted. The data from the checklists used in the demonstration schools are being entered.
- **Evaluation activities.** Evaluation questionnaires were prepared and the results from the self-evaluation were summarized. The data of the results from the first and the second release of the questionnaires in the demonstration schools were compared in order to be presented in the course of the training in the demonstration schools.
- **Summarized report.** Data are prepared for preparation of summarized reports by component and for a summarized report for IIEP.



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II. ACTIVITIES FOR THE FOLLOWING MONTH

Component 1 - Community Outreach

- Preparations and meetings with the partner organisations for the forthcoming activities;
- Continuation of the informal regular meetings with the editors and the journalists aimed at their informing about the activities within the project.

Component 2 – Capacity Building of School Management and Teachers

- Continuation of the preparations and implementation of the forthcoming trainings with the different target groups from the schools included in the second phase;
- Implementation of the Workshop for the teaching staff of the teacher training faculties;
- Holding a supervision meeting with the master trainers;
- Finalization of the revision of the module for the IIEP training for the municipal councillors in phase 2.

Component 3 – Demonstration Schools

- Trainings for the school boards;
- Holding a consultative meeting between CHRCR and the partner organisations;
- Holding consultative meetings with the SITs of the schools;
- Training for the professional services and the school management from the new partner demonstration schools on democratic election of the school bodies (class representatives and school representatives);
- Training for teachers from the demonstration schools for implementation of joint student activities.

Component 4 – Providing Incentives to Schools and Communities

- Submitting an application for renovation of the Nikola Karev Primary School and its approval;
- Signing a Memorandum of Cooperation with the Municipality of Kocani and the Nikola Karev Primary School;
- Announcement of a public tender for selection of a construction company for implementation of the activities for renovation of the Nikola Karev Primary School.
- Evaluation of companies for implementation of a project with the three best-ranked companies for implementation of one project;
- Signing contracts with a construction company and a company for supervision over the implementation of the project for renovation of the Nikola Karev Primary School;
- Start of the renovation activities;
- Completion of the renovation activities in five schools and organization of technical acceptance;
- Commencement of the delivery of the equipment for maintenance of the schools of the second phase;
- Organization of mentoring meetings in five schools that follow as part of Module 1 of the training for maintenance of schools;
- Organization of monthly meetings for monitoring of the maintenance of school buildings in the pilot schools.



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Monitoring and Evaluation

- Monitoring the activities implemented by components;
- Summarizing the reports by components and preparation of a summarized report;
- Entering and processing of the data from the monitoring checklists used in the demonstration schools and processing and analysis thereof;
- Preparation of evaluation lists.