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Interethnic Integration in Education Project

MONTHLY REPORT

for the USAID Interethnic Integration in Education Project

July 2014

I. IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES

Component 1 - Community Outreach

- **Preparatory meeting for the preparation of the infotainment documentary 7x7.** The IIEP team and the partner organization Macedonian Institute for Media had a meeting with the Editor-in-Chief of the second service programme of the Macedonian Radio Television, where it was agreed on the process of preparation of the pilot episodes. The role of MRT was defined in the production process by engaging journalists from all desks and engagement of a producer who is part of the medium.
- **Preparations for organizing interviews with celebrities.** During the month a list was prepared and contact was made with potential people who could share their positive experiences and messages to the youth about the interethnic integration and cooperation, with a particular focus on education. The list includes several famous actors, singers and athletes.
- **Regular informing of institutions, municipalities and schools about our 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 fourth edition of the IIEP Media Information was prepared and disseminated to all media in Macedonia. The third edition of the IIEP Bulletin and the fifth edition of the IIEP Project Digest were prepared.

Component 2 – Capacity Building of School Management and Teachers

- **First mentoring meeting for schools from Phase 3.** The joint mentoring meetings that were started with 182 schools from Phase 3 continued until the first half of the month, before the period for annual leave for the school teaching staff.
- **Trainings with representatives of professional services and School Boards for the schools from Phase 3.** In the course of this month, the trainings were finalized for the last three groups of representatives of the professional services and School Boards of the schools included in Phase 3. (two trainings in Prilep and one in Ohrid). The participants contributed to the realization of the objective of the trainings - introduction with the methods for inclusion of the parents and making changes aimed at interethnic integration in education, both at school and community level.
- **Preparation of a module for advanced training for schools with two/three languages of instruction.** A meeting was held between the IIEP team and the CHRRCR team at which the contents of the module for advanced training for schools with two/three languages of instruction were defined. Furthermore, a plan was made for the implementation of the advanced trainings with the schools with two/three languages of instruction (together with the SITs from the Pilot Phase and Phase 2). The master trainers who shall be trained for the implementation of these training were selected.



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- **Preparation of a Manual for IIE for the teacher training faculties.** Working group of teachers from all five pedagogical faculties was established, which will be the co-authors of the manual.
- **Preparation of draft document for certification of the teachers for IIE.** The IIEP team prepared the structure and the contents of the draft document for certification of the teachers for IIE. The text will be finalized and proposed for adoption to the officials in the BDE.
- **Participation in the preparation of the content of the agenda of the summer camp programme for students.** As part of the collaboration with the Project for Multiethnic Cooperation between the Municipalities, the IIEP team participated in the preparation of the content of the session - Intercultural Communication. The four-day summer camp took place in the Municipality of Strumica and involved 50 students aged 13-14 years.

Component 3 – Demonstration Schools

- **Meeting with the management of the PS “Petar Zdravkovski Penko”, Municipality of Chair.** At the beginning of the month the CHRRCR team met with the principal and the teachers who were involved in monitoring the pilot program for bilingual workshops for learning Macedonian and Albanian language for first grade students. At the meeting, the school was presented with a certificate of gratitude for allowing the pilot program to be implemented in the school.
- **Manual for bilingual workshops for learning Macedonian and Albanian language for first grade students.** The manual for bilingual workshops was prepared based on the experience gained from the implementation of 24 workshops for learning Macedonian and Albanian language for first grade students.
- **Global planning.** All demonstration schools sent their tables for global planning which included all the activities that are planned to be implemented in the schools in the new school year.
- **Manual for Conflict Resolution.** The preparation of a manual for training the representatives of the professional services for constructive conflict resolution with participants with different ethnic backgrounds is ongoing.

Component 4 – Providing Incentives to Schools and Communities

- **Memorandums of cooperation.** Memorandums of cooperation were signed with the mayors of the municipalities and principals of the schools for renovation of the following three schools from Phase 3, under which all involved parties undertook activities in the renovation process:
 - PS “Bratstvo Edinstvo”, Municipality of Ohrid;
 - PS “Riste Risteski”, v. Dolno Kosovrasti, Municipality of Debar;
 - SS “Bogdanci”, Municipality of Bogdanci.
- **Tenders for selection of the most favourable bidders.** Public tenders were announced for selection of the most favourable bidders for the activities for renovation of three schools, whereas a public opening of bids was organized for eight tenders.
- **Selection of the most favourable bidder.** Meetings for evaluation were organized for eight tenders with the highest ranked companies for implementation of projects, and the selection for the most favourable bidder was made. The list of selected companies - contractors for eight projects was published at the web page of IIEP <http://pmio.mk/category/tender-results/>
- **Introduction meetings.** Meetings were organized for introduction about the functioning of



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the companies - contractors in the presence of the IIEP representatives, the companies-contractors, construction supervisors, schools and municipalities. Construction activities have started in eight schools.

- **Technical acceptance.** The activities for installing new aluminium windows, which was an obligation of IIEP, were realized in PS “Goce Delcev”, Municipality of Ilinden, and technical acceptance was organized. The operations which are obligation of the school and the municipality are underway.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- **Monitoring activities.** Monitoring of the activities of the schools within component 2 of Phase 2 is underway.
- **Evaluation activities.** The processing of the data obtained from the questionnaire for evaluation of the effects of the IIEP activities that were given to the representatives of the SITs and the Parent Council is underway. The processing of the reports from the focus groups with students is ongoing.
- **Phase 2 of the electronic study.** The electronic study that was conducted in the schools from the pilot phase, the schools from Phase 2 and the demonstration schools was finalized (90% of the 255 schools filled out the survey). The processing of the obtained data is underway.



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II. ACTIVITIES FOR THE FOLLOWING MONTH

Component 1 - Community Outreach

- Organizing one-day workshops for the members of the School Integration Teams in the region of Skopje, Kavadarci, Prilep, Kocani, Ohrid and Gostivar for effective public presentations in the context of interethnic integration in education.
- Preparation for filming of the educational documentary "7x7" in cooperation with the Macedonian Institute for Media and the Macedonian Radio Television.
- Conducting informal regular meetings with the editors and the journalists aimed at their informing about the progress and the activities within the project.
- 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

Component 2 – Capacity Building of School Management and Teachers

- Implementation of the fourth mentoring meeting with schools from Phase 2.
- Implementation of the first mentoring meeting with schools from Phase 3.
- Continuation of trainings with representatives of professional services and School Boards for the schools from Phase 3.
- Continuation of the implementation of trainings with representatives of professional services and School Boards for the schools from Phase 3.
- Continuation of the preparation of the IIE manual for teacher training faculties by the working group.
- Continuation of the process of incorporation of the IIE concept in the respective curricula of the teacher training faculties.

Component 3 – Demonstration Schools

- Five trainings (in every demonstration school) for teachers for implementation of joint extra-curricular student activities.
- Five trainings (in every demonstration school) for teachers for cooperation in mixed ethnic teams.
- Completion of a manual for conflict resolution for training of the representatives of the professional services for constructive conflict resolution with participants with different ethnic backgrounds.

Component 4 – Providing Incentives to Schools and Communities

- Signing memorandums of cooperation with the schools and municipalities from Phase 3 for the renovation activities.
- Announcing public tenders for selection of the most favourable bidders for the activities for renovation of two schools and organizing a public opening of bids.
- Organizing meetings for evaluation with the highest ranked companies for implementation of projects for renovation of the schools from Phase 3.
- Signing contracts with the selected construction companies and companies for construction supervision, for the projects for renovation of the schools from Phase 3.
- Initiation of the renovation activities in the schools where the process for selection of the most favourable contractor will be finalized.
- Technical acceptance of the facilities where the construction activities will be completed.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Monitoring of the activities realized per components.
- Writing a report on the electronic study.
- Writing a report on the evaluation of the project activities.