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Interethnic Integration in Education Project

MONTHLY REPORT

for the USAID Interethnic Integration in Education Project

January 2015

I. IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES

Component 1 - Community Outreach

- **Preparation of infographic for the achievements of IIEP in 2014.** An interactive and informative infographic was prepared for the achievements of the IIEP in 2014, which shows all the activities of the Project in its four components.
- **Coordination meetings with partner organizations.** Meetings were held with the three partner organizations of Component 1, aimed at coordinating the activities from Phase 3 of the IIEP and joint assessment of the work plan for 2015.
- **Monitoring an Open Day in the Elementary School “Bratstvo Edinstvo” in Ohrid.** The elementary demonstration school “Bratstvo Edinstvo” in Ohrid was visited in order to document the activities on the open day in the school implemented within the IIEP.
- **Meetings with editors and journalists.** Five informative meetings were held with prominent editors and journalists from several media houses informing them about the activities of the Project.
- **Preparation of the contents of the fourth edition of the Newsletter.** Narrative stories arising from the activities of the four components of the IIEP were collected and the obtained materials were assessed and revised for the purposes of creating the fourth edition of the IIEP Newsletter.
- **Preparation of a briefing with editors.** The concept was prepared for a briefing with editors about the findings of the monitoring and evaluation of the IIEP, which will be held on 10 February 2015.
- **Preparation of the video for the creative workshops.** The scenario was prepared for the documentary about the creative workshops, as part of which the introductory and final part, as well as the narration of the video, was recorded.
- **Guest appearance on a morning show on MRTV.** The Chief of Party of the IIEP, Nebojsa Mojsoski and the Community Outreach Coordinator, Xhevahire Pruthi Zajazi appeared as guests on a MRTV morning show in order to share the achievements in 2014 within the Project, and also to share all other projects of the Macedonian Civic Education Center with the public, which projects help in the strengthening of the capacities of the educational system in Macedonia.
- **Guest appearance at 24 Vesti.** The Chief of Party of the IIEP, Nebojsa Mojsoski, together with the representative of the partner organization MIM, Petrit Sarachini, were guests on the 24 Vesti television. The goal was to share all the good practices arising from the project. Concurrently, the public was informed and all secondary schools were publically invited to apply at the competition “Multi-via-Media” which is announced at the site of the IIEP and is related to the production of multimedia contents in the context of the interethnic integration in education.
- **Regular informing of institutions, municipalities and schools about the IIEP activities.** Part of the activities in the course of the month covered regular updating of the



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Interethnic Integration in Education Project

information and publishing of news and stories about the course of the activities on the project's web site: www.pmio.mk. Furthermore, the eighth edition of the IIEP Media Digest was prepared and shared with all media in Macedonia.

Component 2 – Capacity Building of School Management and Teachers

- **Support visits to multilingual schools from pilot phase and Phase 2.** The support visits continued in the multilingual schools, during which the joint activities are monitored by the master trainers and the representatives of the partner organizations Loja and Sumnal. The purpose of these visits is to provide support to the school integration team in the implementation of the joint activities and the achievement of the goals for promotion of the interethnic integration.
- **Second mentoring meeting with school integration teams for Phase 3 schools.** The second mentoring meeting started with the schools from Phase 3 at which the members of the SIT exchange experiences and opinions about the implemented/planned activities in their schools and they jointly discuss and analyse the aspects that contribute to the successful implementation of the IIE activities. For that purpose, instruments have been prepared with criteria for successful implementation and monitoring of the joint student activities and independent multicultural activities that were delivered to the schools. The main role of the mentors is to facilitate the process of reflection and to give feedback to the participants for promotion of their competences for successful implementation of the joint and multicultural activities.
- **Meetings of IIEP representatives with the IIEP with the school integration teams from several elementary and secondary schools.** The implemented meetings were aimed at assessing the past achievements and the challenges in the course of the implementation of the activities for interethnic integration in education, wherein a respective support was proposed for the future activities in the elementary school “Kuzman Sapkarev” – Dracevo, the elementary school “Kiril i Metodij” Romanovce, the elementary school “Mustafa K. Atatürk” – Gostivar and the music school Enver Stefai – Gostivar. The discussion and the feedback were aimed at the promotion of the competences of the teachers for planning and implementation of joint student activities, promotion of the interaction and the cooperation among the students and exchange of the experiences that pertain to the reflection of the students from the participation in the joint activities.
- **Performed evaluation of the submitted applications for small grants for implementation of joint student activities.** The commission, comprised of representatives of the Project and the Ministry of Education and Science, made an evaluation of the small-grant applications. In line with the evaluation of the commission, approvals were sent to the schools that meet the criteria for obtaining a small grant, while the other schools received detailed guidelines for correction of their applications.
- **Editing the IIE manual for the teacher-training faculties.** The IIEP team continues with the editing of text of the IIE Manual for the teacher-training faculties so that it would serve for the deepening of the knowledge and the social skills of the future teachers in the promotion of the IIE.

Component 3 – Demonstration Schools

- **Consultation meetings with the members of the SIT.** Three meetings were held with the elementary school “Sande Sterjoski” from Kicevo and the elementary school “Bratstvo Edinstvo” from Ohrid, as well as with the secondary school “Zdravko Cvetkovski” from



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Interethnic Integration in Education Project

Skopje. The meetings were attended by the representatives of the SIT and by teachers – implementers of different types of project activities. A reflection was made with reference to the implementation of the project activities in the course of the first semester, and the strengths and the challenges for improvement were identified. A strategy was adopted for organization of Open days in each demonstration school aimed at promoting the project and the school in the wider community.

- **Open Day.** On 27 January, an Open Day was held in the elementary school in Ohrid, which was an event for promotion of the project activities in front of the wider community. The event was attended by parents of children from the school and from the pre-school institutions, principals of other elementary schools, representatives of the municipality and the Bureau for Development of the Education, as well as teachers and students from the school. The event was organized in two parts: In the first part, in the sports hall, all the attendees were acquainted with the project activities of the school in the course of the previous school year. In the second part, in several separate premises/classrooms, different groups presented parts of their activities. Thus, the wider audience saw a total of four groups for multicultural workshops, one group for language acquisition for first-grade students, three different school clubs, one group of the subject teachers' expert bodies and democratic participation of one students group.

Component 4 – Providing Incentives to Schools and Communities

- **Manual for maintenance** of the school buildings. In cooperation with the MES/Capital investments department, a Manual for maintenance of the school buildings was prepared. A meeting was held with MES/CI representatives and the draft version of the Manual is being finalized.
- **Meeting with the component work group.** A meeting was held of the work group of Component 4 which comprises representatives of USAID, EUCOM, the Ministry of Education and Science and the Capital Investments department, advisors for technical support from USAID to MES and IIEP representatives. The work group discussed the achievements of the component in 2014 and the work plan for 2015.
- **Creating a list of schools.** In line with the shown interest and the participation in and the success of the implementation of the activities of the schools in the IIEP in the previous three years, a list of schools is created from which, pursuant to defined criteria, the schools which would be included in the activities of Component 4 in 2015 will be selected.
- **Participation of the municipalities and the schools in the process of renovation.** There is an ongoing process of documenting the participation of the municipalities and the schools in the renovation activities, which participation is to meet the necessary minimal threshold of 10%.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- **Monitoring activities.** The report from the monitoring of the activities of the schools within Component 2 of Phase 2 has been finalized. The preparations for the monitoring of the activities of the schools within Component 2 of Phase 3 are underway.



Interethnic Integration in Education Project

II. ACTIVITIES FOR THE FOLLOWING MONTH

Component 1 - Community Outreach

- Briefing with editors about the findings of the monitoring and the evaluation of the IIEP.
- Field visits with editors and journalists.
- Preparation for the creation of creative corners in the schools.
- Conducting non-formal meetings with editors and journalists.
- Regular updating of the information and publishing of news and stories about the course of the activities on the project's web page: www.pmio.mk

Component 2 – Capacity Building of School Management and Teachers

- Continuation of the second mentoring meeting with SITs for the Phase 3 schools.
- Continuation of the support visits to the multilingual schools from Phase 2 and monitoring of the joint activities.
- Meeting with the work group for Component 2 and 3.
- Meeting with the group for integration of the interethnic integration in the curriculum and the extra-curricular activities.
- Publishing the manual for interethnic integration in education for the teacher-training faculties.
- Adaptation of the advanced-level module.
- Announcement of the results from the sent corrected applications for small grant.
- Start of the implementation of joint student activities supported with the small grants.

Component 3 – Demonstration Schools

- Conducting two consultative meetings with the SITs and teachers-implementers of activities.
- Organization of Open Days – promotion of the activities in the demonstration schools.
- Organizing training for the SITs from all demonstration schools for planning of the activities in the second semester of the school year.
- Conducting a consultative meeting with the partner organizations (Loja and Sumnal), as well as advisors from the Bureau for Development of Education.
- Conducting five support meetings (one in each demonstration school).

Component 4 – Providing Incentives to Schools and Communities

- Organizing a meeting with members of the work group for ranking of the schools according to pre-defined criteria and selection of 10 schools for Phase 4.
- Confirmation of the list of 3 demonstration schools that will be included in Component 4 in 2015.
- Documenting the participation of the municipalities and the schools in the renovation activities.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Monitoring the activities implemented by components.
- Monitoring and evaluation of the activities from Component 2 and 3.
- Preparation for the evaluation of the effects from the IIEP activities.