

## Interethnic Integration in Education Project

### MONTHLY REPORT

for the USAID Interethnic Integration in Education Project

November 2014

#### I. IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES

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##### Component 1 - Community Outreach

- **Ribbon-cutting ceremonies for the renovated schools – preparation and organization of ribbon-cutting ceremonies in the Elementary School "Gjorce Petrov" from the Municipality of Gjorce Petrov and in the Municipal Secondary School "Gostivar" from the Municipality of Gostivar.** On the occasion of the completion of the renovation process, the foregoing schools and municipalities hosted ribbon cutting ceremonies that were attended by senior representatives of the European Command of the U.S. Army, representatives of the USAID, mayors, principals, parents, teachers and students. At the events, the joint student activities for interethnic integration were also presented. The IIEP team participated in the preparatory meetings, together with the schools and the municipalities.
- **Creative workshops - organizing promotional events of final products as a result of the creative workshops conducted in the Municipal Secondary School "Sv. Kliment Ohridski" from the municipality of Ohrid and the Municipal Secondary School "Ljupco Santov" from the municipality of Kocani.** In the course of the month, two final product presentations were organized, that marked the successful completion of the implemented creative workshops in the Municipal Secondary School "Sv. Kliment Ohridski" from Ohrid and the Municipal Secondary School "Ljupco Santov" from Kocani. Parents, teachers and students participated in the presentations, wherein the principals, the mayors and the municipality and IIEP representatives were also present and addressed the attendees.
- **Forum theatre - two forum theatre debates held with students.** In the course of the month of November, forum theatre debates were held with the students from the Municipal Secondary School "Sv. Kliment Ohridski" from Ohrid and the Municipal Secondary School "Ljupco Santov" from Kocani, as well as follow-up activities after the completion of the public promotional presentations. The main goal was to resolve a given situation in the context of the interethnic integration in the education, in which the students from the audience actively participated and were involved by acting.
- **Training for the SITs – three one-day workshops for effective public presentations in the context of interethnic integration in education were organized for the members of the school integration teams (SITs) from the regions of Prilep, Vinica and Kavadarci.** In cooperation with the Macedonian Institute for Media, in the course of this month, three training sessions were conducted for the members of the SITs. More than 100 teachers had the opportunity, through the training, to acquire skills for preparation of effective public presentations in the context of the interethnic integration in the education. The training in the Vinica region was also attended by municipality representatives and parents.
- **Coordination meetings with the partner organizations.** The IIEP team actively organized coordination meetings with the partner organizations MIM, Multimedia and

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Youth Educational Forum for organization and implementation of the upcoming activities, including also joint visits to municipalities and schools. The IIEP team and the Youth Educational Forum representatives in Prilep organized a meeting with a representative of the municipality with reference to the opening of a debate club. It was agreed for the debate club to be opened in the Municipal Secondary School "Orde Copela". With Multimedia, the process was initiated for preparation of a scenario for a video story for good examples from the creative processes. The video story will be completed this year and it will be promoted in 2015.

- **Regular informing of institutions, municipalities and schools about the IIEP activities.** Part of the activities in the month of November 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](http://www.pmio.mk). Furthermore, the seventh edition of the IIEP Media Digest was prepared and shared with all media in Macedonia.

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

- **Supervision meeting with master trainers and members for support from Loja and Sumnal.** At the supervision meeting, the participants were preparing for the visits for support and monitoring of joint activities that are planned in the multi-lingual schools from the pilot phase and Phase 2. A practical activity was organized for definition of indicators for successfulness of the criteria that will be used when monitoring joint activities. The practicing of skills for giving post-monitoring feedback was done with a simulation activity. At the meeting, the participants received instructions for second mentoring meeting for schools from Phase 2 and were informed of the revised procedure for application for small grants for joint activities.
- **Preparation of the second mentoring meeting with school integration teams for Phase 3 schools.** The goal of the second mentoring meeting is to provide professional support to the School Integration Teams for successful implementation and internal monitoring of the interethnic integration in education activities. With the mentoring meetings, it is planned to cover 182 schools divided into 30 groups.
- **Revision of the procedure for awarding small grants for joint student activities.** In the course of this month, the revision of the procedure was finalized for awarding small grants for implementation of joint student activities within the multi-lingual schools and between the partner schools. The call for application was sent to all schools in the country which until now have not used a small grant for implementation of these activities.
- **The instruments for implementation of integral evaluation were completed** and the Manual for implementation of the integral evaluation in the schools was revised by a group of inspectors from the State Education Inspectorate and a state advisor in the Ministry of Education and Science.
- **The final texts for the Manual for the Interethnic Integration in Education for the Teacher Training Faculties** were sent by the authors to the IIEP team. Parts of the texts will be adapted through a more authentic application of the concept for IIE by listing specific examples from the trainings and the implemented practice in the school.
- **Visits to the multilingual schools from Phase 2** and monitoring of the joint activities by the IIEP team. The purpose of these visits is the exchange of information about the manner of implementation and coordination of the joint student activities until now, and in that regard, guidelines were shared for their improvement and an overview was made about the successes and the challenges faced by the teachers during the practical implementation of the joint activities.

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### Component 3 – Demonstration Schools

- **Constructive conflict resolution – training for the representatives of the professional service staff.** As a continuation of the training held in September, a two-day training was held with the main focus on the mediation process. The participants were first informed of the process details and then they had the opportunity to practice the skills obtained at the first training. At the end, the students were given a task to practice the skills in school context and to elaborate one real mediation process and to send it to the IIEP team.
- **Multicultural workshops – training for new teachers, implementers of activities.** A total of 33 teachers from all demonstration schools participated in one training implemented in two parts. First of all, at a one-day training, the participants were informed of the specifics of the multicultural workshops through presentations and also demonstration at two workshops. During the second part, the participants took part in simulated activities (facilitation of workshops) so that they would be informed of the process of facilitation of multicultural workshops. At the training, feedback was provided for the conducting of each workshop, for the purposes of increasing the competences of the teachers for facilitation of workshops.
- **Support meetings.** Five meetings were held by the IIEP team comprised of representatives of the Centre for Human Rights and Conflict Resolution, Loja, Sumnal (only for the elementary demonstration schools) and the BDE advisors. In the majority of the schools, the partner organizations had separate meetings/appointments in different days for the purposes of covering as many activities as possible. At the meetings, discussions were held with teachers – implementers of activities, as well as with representatives of the SITs, about the activities that are being implemented.
- **School Performances.** Two school performances were organized in the schools “Bratstvo Edinstvo” from Ohrid and “Bajram Sabani” from Kumanovo. The school performances were organized on the occasion of the Day of the Albanian Alphabet. In Ohrid, the event was multicultural, with separate performances in all languages of instruction. This was the first time in the school, on the occasion of the celebration of this day, in addition to the students from the Albanian classes, to also have students from the Macedonian and Turkish classes. In Kumanovo, a joint school performance was organized by the two partner schools, where the “Bajram Sabani” school was the host and the “Brakja Miladinovci” school was the guest. At the meeting, there was one joint performance with students from the two schools, and the guest school had another separate act.
- **Parents’ actions.** In the Elementary School “Bratstvo Edinstvo” in Ohrid, tasting of the traditional dessert Ashure was organized on the occasion of the “Month of the Ashure” which is traditional in this region. The activity was organized by the parents from all communities, but it was also attended by teachers, as well as students and representatives of the schools community. On the first day, the dessert was prepared in the school kitchen with the participation of parents, teachers and students, and on the next day, in the hall, it was served to the students and parents, representatives of the municipality and the key educational institutions.
- **Excursion.** During this month, one outing was organized with students from the two partner schools from Kumanovo, to the place called Sokolanski Park. A total of 56 students (two of the sixth grade classes) participated in introduction activities, but also in activities of recreational character.

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### Component 4 – Providing Incentives to Schools and Communities

- **Renovation activities.** The activities for renovation of the school building of the regional elementary school "Krume Volnaroski" from the village of Berovci, municipality of Prilep are in their final phase, and they are implemented in partnership with the Municipality of Prilep.
- **Training for technical personnel and administrative officers from the schools.** As part of the training for enhancement of the capacities of the school renovation teams (SRTs), a training was held for the technical personnel and the administrative officers of the schools renovated in the course of this year. Fourty six participants from 13 schools participated in the one-day training on the topic – Maintenance of the school buildings and working procedures for maintenance. The training was also attended by a representative of the Secondary Municipal School "Vanco Prke" from Vinica who shared the good practices for maintenance of the school building with the other participants in the training.
- **Distribution of equipment for maintenance of the school buildings.** For the schools renovated in 2014, the distribution of the equipment for maintenance of the school buildings started, including manual for its usage.
- **Participation of the municipalities and the schools in the process of renovation.** There is an ongoing process of collection of the necessary documentation for documenting the participation of the municipalities and the schools in the renovation activities, which participation is to meet the necessary minimal threshold of 10%.
- **Presentation of the technical report** from the performed energy audit of the Municipal Secondary School "Vanco Prke" from the Municipality of Vinica before representatives of the schools from the municipality.

### Monitoring and Evaluation

- **Monitoring activities.** The monitoring and the processing of the data from the monitoring of the activities of the schools within Component 2 of Phase 2 has been completed. The summary report of the monitoring and evaluation of Component 3 schools has been finalized. The monitoring of ongoing activities has been realized.
- **Evaluation activities.** The analysis and the processing of data from the completed questionnaires for the multicultural workshops in the demonstration schools, for the school years 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 has been completed. The questionnaires for evaluation of the multicultural workshops in the school year 2014/2015 were sent.
- **Other activities.** The preparations for the presentation of the results from the electronic survey have been initiated.

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### II. ACTIVITIES FOR THE FOLLOWING MONTH

#### Component 1 - Community Outreach

- Preparations for a public promotional event of a product from the creative workshops in the Secondary Technical School "Gostivar" from the Municipality of Gostivar.
- Preparations for the visit of Ms. Christie Vilsack to Macedonia and presentation of activities for interethnic integration in education in the Elementary School "Panajot Ginovski" in Skopje.
- Preparations for Forum Theatre debate/workshop with teachers from the schools in Kumanovo.
- Regular informing of institutions, municipalities and schools about the IIEP activities.
- 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](http://www.pmio.mk)

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

- Second mentoring meeting with school integration teams for Phase 3 schools.
- Visits to the multilingual schools from Phase 2 and monitoring of the joint activities.
- Preparation of a supervision meeting with the mentors.
- Processing of the received applications for small school grants.

#### Component 3 – Demonstration Schools

- Continuous support and monitoring of the ongoing school activities.
- Holding meetings for support in all demonstration schools.

#### Component 4 – Providing Incentives to Schools and Communities

- Technical acceptance of the renovated school building in the village of Berovci, Municipality of Prilep, after the completion of the construction activities.
- Organizing mentoring visits to 13 schools renovated in 2014 as part of the training for the technical personnel and the secretaries from the schools.
- Delivery of the equipment for maintenance of the school buildings and the manual for its usage in the schools renovated in 2014.
- Documenting the participation of the municipalities and the schools in the renovation activities.

#### Monitoring and Evaluation

- Monitoring the activities implemented by components.
- Preparation of the report from the monitoring and evaluation of the activities from component 2.
- Presentation of the results from the electronic survey.