

Forum NGOs

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NGOs Forum - Kraljevo is an association of four non-government organisations - Regional Centre of Civil Action LINGUA, Kraljevo Centre for Human Rights, NGO Imagine Serbia and Center for the Development of the Non-Profit Sector of Central Serbia (CDNPSCS). These NGOs are non-political, non-profitable organisations intended for promotion of human rights, spreading the idea of civic society, struggling for democratization of the system, health promotion, humanitarian activities, education of the young in domain of culture, informing, ecology...



Annual Report for 2007

PROJECTS TITLE

1. LINGUA Community Development Centre Programme

Project no. 182713/2

Responsible organisation: Regional Centre of Civic Action LINGUA

Project supported by: Norwegian People's Aid – South- East Europe- Belgrade office

Projects description:

I Co-operations with Local Authorities

Duration: 8 months

Implementation period: from August 2007 until April 2008

Schedule of Activities: Monday -Friday, 8 hrs a day

Target group:

About 5.000 IDPs, from Municipalities: Kraljevo, Vrnjacka Banja and Trstenik

Activities:

Solving of ongoing problems (legal, social) aiming to facilitate integration of IDPs and refugees living in collective centres and private accommodation, in co-operation with local authorities. Public intercession on behalf of IDPs and refugees, lobbying local authorities and relevant institutions as well as international organisations in order to jointly find proper and permanent solutions for IDPs and refugees. Work of a Legal Adviser would be in an office in the Community Centre during 2 days a week and at terrain (collective centres where there are old and laying beneficiary) three days a week from 9

a.m. to 5 o'clock p.m. Filling-in and analysis of questionnaires for those IDPs who want to return to Kosovo. Preparing and making Human Rights Annual Report of IDPs in Central Serbia for year 2005.

II IDPs and Refugees NGOs strengthening

Duration: 8 months

Schedule of Activities: Monday -Friday, 8 hrs a day

Target group:

3 IDPs and refugees NGOs, about 50 IDPs and refugees

Providing information, education and registration of the IDPs and refugees NGOs. Seminars for acquiring knowledge and skills of NGO sector work, PC workshops; practical training, to cover writing strategic plans, drafting project proposals. Monitoring, helping end evaluation of new registering IDPs and refugees NGOs.

III Project: Volunteers Centre (Friend in Need)

Duration: 8 months

Schedule of Activities: Monday -Friday, 8 hrs a day

Target group: Planned number of volunteers (engaged from the local population) is 50. Planned number of children, beneficiaries of this programme (IDPs and refugees settled in collective centres) is 50.

Activities:

Registration of interested children-beneficiaries, media presentation of the programme on local TV (with the aim to motivate and animate volunteers, and affirmation of the idea of voluntarism as well). Preparing, printing and distribution of leaflets to citizens, with an adequate slogan (with the aim to animate volunteers and to promote the program). Interviews with children-beneficiaries and their parents. Interviews with signed up volunteers. Connecting volunteers and the children-beneficiaries involved in the programme. Weekly meeting with the volunteers because of weekly and monthly programme evaluation. Acquisition of tickets for cultural and sports events in the city, buying of books and CDs for volunteers as an award for they engagement in the project;

Regular contact with the parents of the children-beneficiaries with the aim to track the planned objectives; Regular contact with local media with the aim to promote the programme; Marking of the World's Day of Volunteers on December 5th with the presence of volunteers involved in the program.

IV Project: Informative Desk

Duration: 8 months

Schedule of Activities: Monday -Friday, 8 hrs a day

Target group: About 3.000 IDPs, refugees and local vulnerable persons

Activities

The number of daily comings to the Informative desk would be about 100 IDPs, refugees and local vulnerable persons. This is going to be information service about all humanitarian organizations active in the region, as well as about relevant state institutions (Social Care Centre, Commissariat for Refugees, local NGOs...). Distribution of branch magazines treating issues of significance for IDPs and refugees (published by UNHCR, Kosovo Government...), taking off and printing adequate useful information from web sights (OSCE, B92, EU Info Pool ...). Then – obtaining and distribution of the monthly pre-paid bus tickets by which one of the essential problems of collective centres beneficiaries is solved. About 600 children IDPs/refugees from col. Centres and local are expected to attain basic knowledge in computer work that would give them good basis for advance learning. The training and usage of Internet would be free of charge.

V Project: Women workshops

Duration: 8 months

Schedule of Activities: Monday -Friday, 8 hrs a day

Target group: 130 IDPs/Refugees women

Activities:

To make the project one whole ore one production cycle, the following activities are included: sewing, weaving, crocheting, knitting and embroidery. Number of daily beneficiaries is about 100 women IDPs/Refugees from collective centres and private accommodation. Work would be organized each working day (Monday to Friday) in two groups (shifts) of 40.

Beneficiaries would be in a position to re-invest the money they get from selling the products made and use it for some of their needs. They may provide financial means for programme continuation upon the project realization. The program would help in more active socialization and integration of beneficiaries with surroundings.

VI Project: Medical Advisory

Duration: 8 months

Schedule of Activities: Monday -Friday, 8 hrs a day

Target group: About 3.000 IDPs, refugees and local vulnerable persons

Activities:

This project for work with IDPs is related primarily to persons needing medical care (for persons who have not health assurance) to their getting well, to prevention and health improvement among persons settled in collective centres – reduction of morbidity and mortality rates. Primary medical doctor and clinic psychologist roll is to early discover, treat and prevention of diseases. Work of a doctor (general medicine specialist) and of a clinical psychologist, would be continuous in a medical office in the Community Centre during 3 days a week and at terrain (collective centres where there are old and laying patients) two days a week from 9 a.m. to 5 o'clock p.m. Doctor and psychologist would achieve group and individual interviews with healthy and sick persons about diseases, health problems in a collective and individual, addiction (drugs, spirits, prostitution, AIDS, etc.), professional orientation and so on.

2. Youth Programme: Imagine Serbia

Project No. 70 059 J

Responsible organisation: Regional Centre of Civic Action LINGUA

Project supported by: Olof Palmes Internationella Centrum

Implementation period: from February 2007 until January 2008

Duration: 12 months

Schedule of Activities: Monday -Friday, 24 hrs a day

Target group: Target group of the project is youth, ages from 15 to 27, from which the enormous number is not interested to take active participant role in the social-political life. Project was realized on national level (in Serbia).

Poor financial and social situation, political instability, information thru electronic and press media (which are under the control of interest groups with radical opinions) resulted in sluggishness between younger populations, and the expansion of nationalism and xenophobia resulting again in the lack of interest among youth regarding movement, communication and the exchange of experiences. The only medium that constantly and increasingly attracts the interest of the young is the Internet. According to the official research of the Republic the number of the Internet users is increasing by 150% a year, 85% being under the age of 30. Taking into account the official estimation of relevant institutions in

August 2005 in Serbia and Montenegro are about 36,000 web sites and about 2,100.000 individual Internet users or 24.7 % of total population. Just because of this situation in the society, in March 1st 2005 Lingua NGOs has started realisation of the program *Imagine Serbia*. Total (current) rank of Web site www.zamislisrbiju.org according to number of visits on the world, in the middle of April 2007 was 24.800 (<http://www.alexa.com>), and on the fourth place in Serbia and Montenegro in category of web portals. The main objective of the *Imagine Serbia* project is to minister a real chance to the youth, as to actively involve them into a society development planning process. For this objective to be realized it is absolutely necessary to objectively inform youth thru a web presentation www.ZamisliSrbiju.org, with the purpose to inform of successful fulfilment of all necessary conditions needed for rapid integration into the European Union...

Specific objective: Encourage young people to **understand** their society and **imagine** better future and **make** concept of a new society; Offer young people a chance to develop a vision of community in which they would like to live, and take necessary actions create that vision; Providing relevant information, which in despite of all possibilities in communications created along with the rapid development of new technologies are still failing to reach a great number of young people; Rapprochement and introduction of youth from the municipalities from central Serbia with youth coming from the territories of ex-Yugoslavia, where this project represents a rare opportunity for contact and exchange of opinions; Improvement of the relationship between generations (younger and older generations); Training of youth which are involved in *Imagine Serbia* project realization, thru exchange of opinions in discussion groups on the web site, for the purpose of recognizing problems in their own society; Raising the awareness of the NGOs in the society; Stimulation for new initiatives, which will enable project participants to exchange new ideas and continue initiated cooperation; Increase citizen participation in the work of NGOs in the Central Serbia region...

Activities:

Promotion and protection of human rights – Main Discussion Board; Managing and addressing discussion by the all Moderators; Internet research (survey) connected to current topic – it will act as a guideline for further discussion. Info–Documentation Centre; Formation of unique documentation centre with chronologically integrated; documentation regarding history of human rights violations and committed crimes on the territory of ex-Yugoslavia; Online Legal counselling; Online NGO Support Centre; Contacts with other organizations from the former Yugoslavian republics territories and invitation to participate (Bosnia, Kosovo, Croatia, Macedonia)...

3. Youth Programme: INITIATIVE, SENSE AND CONSCIOUSNESS (ISAC)

Project code: 182609-2

Responsible organisation: Regional Centre of Civic Action LINGUA

Project supported by: Norwegian People's Aid – South- East Europe- Belgrade office

Implementation period: from September 2007 until April 2008

- Project purpose
 - To make the young to participate more active in all forms of society engagement, –To increase the awareness about significant role of the young as a driving force of modern society and the democratic reforms in the society,
 - To spread the citizens' activism among the young,
 - To attempt to bring politics closer to the young people, encouraging the young to place their ideas through politics and create their lives and future by political means,
 - To identify the young people's problems in public,
 - To train the young, included in ISAC project, for team work, a kick off for new initiatives that would, among other things, enable the project participants exchange new ideas and continue the started cooperation.
 - Trough activities (Multimedia- rallies and public watching videos) and with active participation of

all guests.

Overall, new political elite, after the murder of Serbian Prime Minister, March 2003, has not been able to open a new source of necessary energy while facing crime. Being unprepared and disingenuous in relation to the previous past, as well as repeated revocation of Kosovo issues, current political elite is pushing Serbia towards retrograde process that will isolate it from the rest of the world. In the absence of modern vision of Serbia, chetnics and Serbian controversial opinion is revitalized, which creates two main characteristics: not giving up territories on which Serbian national project claims right and promoting a system of values against western civilization and culture. This orientation in the society is followed by the political radicalism. This is not just a matter of marginal conservative and extreme political powers. They are becoming a force with the partial support of traditional national institutions such as military, SANU, Serbian Orthodox Church. Negation of democratic values scrapes thru the concept of human rights, which often results in violent actions against ethnic minorities, especially Roma population, homosexuals, and so on. Having in mind this kind of ideological support, it is then easy to understand numerous racist, anti-Semitic and anti-western campaigns that were intensively held during time period on 2004/2005. Finding themselves in a dispute between what was offered by the former regime and what they can get at the present, which is far from their expectations, the young loose their way of social and political problems solving. Underdeveloped democratic way of thinking inherited from the former regime, as well as mistakes constantly made by new authorities leave the young inactive and not interested for active participation in political life. As a country of South-Eastern Europe, with the status "country in transition" Serbia is still facing bad inheritance of past systems and wrongful approach to the problem solving. Especially smaller local communities (like Kraljevo Region) are having problems with the acceptance of new approaches in behaviour, and for younger population a chance to be introduced and involved into decision-making processes that are of a great importance for their community. Five years after the collapse of the former regime and establishing democratic society in our country, the problems that were present on relation the young – politics have not been overcome and still actual. Policy of the Milosevic regime was obedient subjects making, easily exploited class and prone to manipulation, and not free citizens aware of their own capabilities, independent in creating and deciding. As it was not a natural, but forced process, it was condemned to failure from the very beginning. Unfortunately, it lasted here for more than a decade. The young showed their power, probably of decisive character in the autumn of 2000. It was, however, the first step only of our journey towards civil society that is still far way to go. October 5th for most young people who were the carriers of October changes, has more symbolic meaning. Little has changed. Criminal affairs we learn about from media, related to both former and actual authorities, high degree of criminal and corruption, not reduced compared to the period prior to October changes, lack of civil control of various secret services, speech of hate and the like are still present. Personal responsibility facing and denazification (*social process of removing Nazis from official positions and giving up any allegiance to Nazism; "denazification was a slow process"*) issue has not been even touched. Fascistic-wise movements revival, xenophobia present, lustration not initiated, many deviant social phenomena remaining – discourage the young. Unfortunately, in Serbia we are facing "conspiracy of silence" regarding crimes committed during last decade "in the name of Serbian people", and that conspiracy during previous years has grown into a "silence as crime. Unprepared Serbian political elite for the recognition of responsibilities has inevitably created transfer of responsibilities onto somebody else, and in that contest, public opinion is filled with intolerance, xenophobia, anti-Semitism and ethnic conflicts.

4. IMAGINE SERBIA

Project No. 429.000.055/05

Responsible organisation: Regional Centre of Civic Action LINGUA

Project supported by: Comité catholique contre la faim et pour le développement

Implementation period: until January 2007

In March 2005 Forum NGOs- Kraljevo has started realisation of the program [Imagine Serbia \(Imagine Your town\)](#) in all municipalities in Serbia, and the main aim is to give a chance to youth, to through variety of activities become actively included into planning of development of society where they live. To realise this goal objectively informing of the young people is necessary, such as web presentation www.zamislisrbiju.org. In order to inform about fulfilment of all necessary preconditions necessary for accelerated integration into European Union, including respecting human rights and minority rights, introducing with the relevant facts from the recent past, improving cooperation with nearby countries, and information about the work of The International Criminal Tribunal in Hague, index of corruption in the society; raising awareness about significance and role of the young people as well as motivation for the democratic reforms; to enable young people to place their ideas through internet presentation www.zamislisrbiju.org and to influence by political means to creation of their own destiny...

Forum NGOs believe that especially small local communities, in the Central Serbia region, having problems with accepting new forms of behaviour, where young people not given a chance to get informed and participate in making decisions of significance for the whole community. The young, as the agents of the future have to take over decision making in their communities, but also to be aware of the fact that they themselves are the agents of that future. Target Group of project ***Imagine Serbia- Imagine Your Town*** are the young between 18 and 30 years of age from all municipalities from Serbia.

5. Poverty Reduction Of IDPs through Micro-Crediting

Project No. PGI GCP BLK 000083

Responsible organisation: Regional Centre of Civic Action LINGUA

Implementation period: from January 2007 until May 2007 (started in May 2006)

British Embassy, Belgrade

Duration: 4 months

Schedule of Activities: Monday - Friday, 24 hrs a day

Purpose

Socialization and integration of internally displaced persons from Kosovo in Kraljevo municipality through economic strengthening through micro crediting programme.

Activities

According to the goals defined, initial phase activities can be divided into main and temporary ones. Temporary activities would comprise preparation, legal formulation, deposit bank account opening, intended to micro financing only, printing of applying forms, tender in local weekly paper. Two Credit officers will visit all the 21 collective centres and directly explain the project to potential beneficiaries. After forms filling by applicants, the credit officer would visit them all and check validity/correctness of data stated in applications.

Credits, advocated by credit officer, are approved by the Credit Committee consisting of three members (Project Coordinator and Credit officers). Credits would be approved for the period of 6-12 months with 0.5% of interest rate on monthly basis.

Outputs

With a new portfolio from the project *Poverty Reduction through Micro-crediting Programme*, the number of beneficiary families (130) would increase up to 90 new beneficiary families (in that case total number of beneficiary families would be 220 (1.100 family's members).

Along progressive growth of the number of beneficiaries, after one year of realisation of the project *Poverty Reduction through Micro-crediting Programme*, we will be able to finance approximately 350 beneficiary families (with about 1,750 supported family members) in December 2007.

Impact

Economic strengthening of the IDPs and refugees and consequently their more intensive socialisation and integration: Chances for new jobs opening: Breakage of poverty chain, since it is known that the

long lasting poverty they have suffered during the passed decade produces numerous social consequences that would even multiply in future and make sudden social victims of transition: Strengthening of the existing production processes as to make them more self-sustainable/justified: Improved self-confidence and integration of vulnerable groups: Support to female population, women being twice as vulnerable in transition process: Assistance to local self-government to resolve key problems, such as unemployment and low living standard of population: Strengthening of *Forum* NGOs (with projects of economic strengthening of population roll and significance of *Forum* would improve)

6. Help to Roma IDPs settled in CC Old Airport

Urgent help (Construction of the four toilets and washstands)

Responsible organisation: Regional Centre of Civic Action LINGUA

Implementation period: from April 2007 until June 2007

Project supported by: Comité catholique contre la faim et pour le développement

Activities: Help to build four sanitary facilities in Collective Centre "Old Airport", where 206 Roma IDPs from Kosovo are settled.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2007

Project title	Donors	Amount (EUR)
LINGUA Community Development Centre Programme (six subprojects) – NPA Project no. 182713/2	Norwegian People's Aid – South-east Europe	69,000.00
IMAGINE Serbia Project No. 70 059 J	Olof Palme International Centre/SIDA	23,960.00
INITIATIVE, SENSE AND CONSCIOUSNESS (ISAC) Project code: 182609-2	Norwegian People's Aid – South-east Europe	12,000.00
IMAGINE SERBIA Project No. 429.000.055/05	Comite catholique contre la faim et pour le developpement – France	20,000.00
Poverty Reduction Of IDPs Through Micro-Crediting programme Project No. PGI GCP BLK 000083	British Embassy, Belgrade	30,000.00
Help to Roma IDPs settled in CC Old Airport (Construction of the four toilets and washstands)	Comite catholique contre la faim et pour le developpement – France	4,350.00
TOTAL		159 310.00

Kraljevo,
February 2008

Forum NGOs Management Board
Radovan Milicevic, Program Manager