

NARRATIVE REPORT FOR 2016 YEAR



First Children Embassy in the world Megjashi - Republic of Macedonia

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FINAL ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2016 YEAR

IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES

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1. Direct support services for children at risk

- SOS helpline for children and youth 0800 1 22 22
- Psycho-social counseling service
- Free legal service
- Service material support to socially disadvantaged families

1.1 SOS helpline for children and youth 0800 1 2222 (free line)

Target group: children in risk, families in risk, parents

Duration: continuous

SOS helpline for children and youth 0800 1 22 22

In the period from January 2016 – January 2017 on the SOS helpline for children and youth there are 82 contacts registered with whom we have communicated later and including the first contact there has been communications for 147 times.

The additional communication is in order to inform the reporters for the measured that has been taken by us, what are the answers from the authorized institutions, as well as their reports to us referring the changes that have occurred in the reported cases.

The total number of registered callers in the reported period was 82. From them, only 5 children have called in order to get information about their rights or to get information about some of the problems they are facing during their growth and development. Based on the information that we have gotten about the possible violations of children's rights, there are 111 children for whom there is doubt for possible violation of one of their rights. The data shows that divorce is one of the biggest issues that the children and their families are facing. The most typical data for possible violations of children's rights, through reported cases, registered in the Children Embassy are:

- Divorce - 33 children were potential victims of violations of children's rights in divorce proceedings;
- Domestic violence – 21 children of the total number of potential victims were children unprotected and exposed to violence in their family;
- Begging and exploitation of child's labor – 11 children of the total number of potential victims were exposed to exploitation of their labor and were begging on the streets.

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1.2. Psycho-social counseling

Parents and children were addressing to the First children's embassy in the world Megjashi in order to receive psychological assistance and support for various problems they were facing. We were usually contacted for: impaired communication, psychological violence, problems referring to divorce procedures, problems with parental rights, ways of rising and upbringing of the children etc.

1.3. Free legal service

Along with the SOS helpline for youth and children operates free legal services too. The same, handle by written correspondence address to the various national and social institutions, also follows undertaken procedures by these institutions and reacts if they don't adopt appropriate measures in the best interest of the children. Very often callers, only want to be informed about the procedures and the institutions where they should address their problem. Initially, they often require from us to report to an institution, but after certain time they change their decision.

1.4. Service for material support for socially disadvantaged families

- Providing food – the food for children is provided by donation of the business sector, other donors and projects.
- Acceptance and distribution of clothes and shoes

The First children's embassy in the world Megjashi accepts and distributes used clothes from citizens. Many citizens have practice their used clothes, shoes, and more to donate to the Megjashi. Children and their families who need this type of support, can come every day from 08:00 to 15:00, and take what they need. During the year of 2016, there were 138 people who used this type of help and support, in total 475 times.

2. PARTNERSHIP FOR RECONCILIATION THROUGH EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN EUROPE (PRECEDE)

The overall objective is:

To support civil society influence over reconciliation process and cohesion through education in early years in the Balkan region and Europe.

The specific objectives are:

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1. To develop a sustainable Balkan Region Network of civil society organisations concerned with young children and promoting acceptance of others and respect for diversity;
2. To develop sustainable country level networks of civil society organisations promoting acceptance of others and respect for diversity through early childhood education (ECD) in the Western Balkan region countries;
3. To link country level networks and the PRECEDE Network of civil society organisations with the International Network for Young Children in Conflict and Post-conflict Countries

The expected results are:

Regional NGO Network and minimum seven country NGO networks have skills and knowledge to research and analyse policies, programmes and interventions in conflict prevention, peace building and reconciliation; 2. Regional NGO Network and minimum seven country NGO networks have skills and knowledge to monitor the implementation of the policies, programmes and interventions in conflict prevention, peace building and reconciliation through ECD; 3. Regional NGO Network and minimum seven country NGO networks have skills and knowledge to advocate for inclusion and implementation of the modules and topics relevant to conflict prevention, peace building and reconciliation into the national preschool curricula; 4. Regional and country specific programmatic toolkits developed and implemented on reconciliation, peace building and conflict prevention activities in ECD; 5. Regional and country level networks have skills and tools to improve management and organisational quality of locals CSOs.

Duration of the project / program - 2013 - 2014 / 2015 -2016

The program is funded by the European Union through the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) to support civil society.

Some of the implemented activities in 2016:

- **Workshops for using action research in the process of respect for diversities and peace building in early childhood development and education titled "The impact of the kindergarten educator in the development of tolerance and acceptance of diversities among children from 3 to 6 years"**

On 10th of March 2016, workshop titled "The impact of the kindergarten educator in the development of tolerance and acceptance of diversities among children from 3 to 6 years" took place in Skopje. This workshop was attended by kindergarten educators from the kindergarten "Detska radost" – Gazi Baba and representatives from municipality Gazi Baba. The main goal of this workshop was to highlight the important role of the kindergarten educators in the development of tolerance and respect of diversity among young children.

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This workshop is part of a serial of workshops for action research and monitoring that is co-financed by the municipality Gazi Baba.

- **Piloting of the Regional programmatic toolkit for tolerance and respect of diversities**

The Regional toolkit is being piloted in the following eleven kindergartens: "Breshia"-Debar, "23 August"-Berovo, "Angel Shajce"-Kumanovo, "Fidani" - Cair, Skopje; "Detska radoist" - Gazi Baba, Skopje; "Jasna Risteska" - Ohrid; "8-mi Mart" - Struga; "Planinski cvet" - Vevcani; "Mladost" - Tetovo, "Detska Radost"- Strumica and "Astibo" - Shtip.

During piloting of the toolkit, the regular monitoring was conducted in all eleven kindergartens. The main goal of the monitoring was to give support and help to the educators, to overcome the problems which they face with and especially to monitor the way they communicate with the children and conduct the entire process.

- **Workshop for involvement of parents in the action research in the kindergarten "Detska radost" - Gazi Baba on topic Parental involvement in the early childhood development programmes in the sphere of tolerance and respecting for diversity**

On 25th of April 2016, a workshop titled "Parental involvement in the early childhood development programmes in the sphere of tolerance and respecting for diversity" took place in Skopje, in the premises of the kindergarten "Detska radost". This workshop was attended by a few parents whose children attended the kindergarten, the educators from the kindergarten and representatives from municipality Gazi Baba. The main goal of this workshop was to highlight the important role of the parents involvement in programmes for early childhood development. The purpose of this workshop was to discuss about the ways of parents involvement in the developing of programs for early childhood education and the importance of respect in diversities concept. During the workshop we were also focused on the responsible parenthood and respecting diversities as one of the aspects of responsible parenthood. This workshop is a part of a serial of workshops that is co-financed by the municipality Gazi Baba in the framework of PRECEDE project.

- **Training for the kindergarten educators for preparing the National toolkit for respect for diversities, Berovo (27-29.06.2016)**

From 28th until 29th of June 2016, Training for the kindergarten educators for preparation the National toolkit for respect of diversities took place in Berovo. This training was attended by kindergarten educators from 11 kindergartens in Macedonia which have been involved in the PRECEDE programe. This training was continuance of the previous trainings which were held in the previous period of project implementation. The training was based on the results from the Regional toolkit for integrated programme for diversity respecting which was piloted in 11 kindergartens in Macedonia. The main goal of this training was to review the findings form the toolkit piloting as well as to share the experience regarding its advantages and weaknesses. The second day of the training the participants presented their activities which are suggested to be part of the national toolkit. They also elaborated their methodologies, used techniques and shared their personal experience during the process. The third day of

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the training, the national project coordinator shared the plans for the project future activities and there was a discussion about the sustainability of the project after its finishing. At the very end of the workshop, the participants shared their high overall satisfaction from the training, which they elaborated in the submitted evaluation sheets.

- **International Conference on ECD “What are Young Children telling us” took place in Belgrade, on 20-21.09.2016**

This Conference brought together practitioners, researchers and educators from several countries from the region who are engaged in early childhood development issues as well as representatives of UNICEF New York, Queens University from Belfast, European Parents Association, former member of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child and other relevant children's rights organizations and welfare bodies. The Precede national network members also took part at this international conference and had a great opportunity to enhance their knowledge, widen their network and communicate with their colleagues from the region. There were two representatives from the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, one representative from the Bureau for Educational Development, several representatives from the civil society organizations involved in Precede, one journalist from the Macedonian national television, representatives from three municipalities and kindergaten directors and educators.

- **Focus groups for Internal Monitoring and Evaluation, 31st of August and 01st of September 2016, Skopje.**

On 31st and 1st of September 2016, two focus groups took place in the premises of Children's Embassy Megjashi as a part of the Internal Monitoring. The focus groups were conducted according to the guidelines for the final evaluation of the Precede project which was prepared by the expert for the final evaluation. The purpose of this final evaluation is to evaluate the results, the lessons learned, the impact and sustainability of the outcomes for the project beneficiaries.

- **External audit for implementation of the quality management system ISO 9001 on 12th of August by accreditation consultant from YUQS**

On 12th of August 2016, an External Audit of QMS in Children's embassy Megjashi was done by YUQS, which is part of the system for quality management. An external audit was done of all parts of the system which is a regular step in the implementation of this system.

The external audit showed that all identified processes are conducted in accordance with the prescribed procedures, guidelines and rules of procedure for the management system of quality. During the external audit several things were checked: - determining whether the implemented internal audits and management review have been done and whether the organization regularly undertake the corrections corrective and preventive measures; -

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assessment of the efficiency and effectiveness of the established system of management in relation to its objectives; - Identification and implementation of recommendations to remove inconsistencies identified during previous audits; - determining whether it is addressed and resolved complaints received from the user; - review of the organizational, personnel and other changes and their impact on the functioning of the management systems.

Several suggestions were given for improvement of the QMS in the next year. They are: - Clearer definition of the term 'correction'; - Consideration the use of the certification mark in order to promote the organization and its work; -Measuring the satisfaction of donors, which has to be analyzed during the review process of the quality management system by the management.

- PRECEDE network meetings and Seminar for peace building and respect of diversities, beetwen 30th of October and 02nd of November 2016 in Berovo

The PRECEDE Network Meeting and seminar for peace building and respect of diversities took place from 30th to 02nd of November in Berovo, in the premises of the hotel Aurora. This meeting was attended by the most of the Precede network members as kindergarten educators, kindergarten directors, representatives from the partnering CSOs, representatives from Gazi Baba, Shtip and Kumanovo municipalities and representative from the relevant state authorities as representatives from the Ministry of Labour and Social policy and the Bureau for Educational development. The topics of this meeting were the achieved results of the PRECEDE project; the obstacles during the implementation of the activities and the way of overcoming; the sustainability of the national PRECEDE network after project finishing and the programme itself. Special focus was put on the other possible sources for funding of the programme such as local authorities, the socially responsible companies etc. The participants have shared their opinion and suggestions through group work and plenary presentations. The main conclusion was that the programme is very useful for the macedonian society and it should continue with the implementation as well as it was suggested the extension of the programme and involvement of more kindergartens in it.

Most of the network members have some role in this meeting meaning that they were engaged as facilitators/moderators of some of the sessions, some of them led some of the activities. The meeting was divided into several sessions which were dedicated to different aspects of the network functioning. The development of the strategic plan of the national network was done at one of the sessions. This was led by the national coordinator and by one kindergarten director. Different aspects of the network functioning were reviewed during this meeting and all components of the programme were analyzed. how they have been implemented

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Although there have been sessions directly devoted to the functioning of the network, there were separate sessions for each of the five components that are part of the program. Thus, the participants and the same time members of the network reviewed the activities of the network in each of the components separately with focus on significant achievements in each of them individually.

During the Precede network meeting several sessions were held with different topics: - Strategic plan of the network and new forms of sustainability of the project and network; - Precede Manifest and Strategy for lobby and advocacy; Importance of the media in the implementation of campaigns for peace building; - Risk management ensure greater quality in the work of kindergartens and civil society organizations; - Action research as a powerful way to improve early childhood development; Monitoring in the pre-school centers; - Peace as a human rights – Building of culture of peace and nonviolence among young children.

- **Action Research Laboratory; Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop, 17th and 18th of October 2016, Skopje**

On 17th and 18th of October 2016, a 'Workshop for action research laboratories; Monitoring, evaluation and their practical implementation' was held in Skopje, in the hotel Tomce Sofka. The workshop was attended by the network members mainly those one who prepared action researches. Since the workshop was dedicated to both action research and monitoring and evaluation, it was decided to be more focused on the concrete cases and researches done by Precede network members.

Within the project, kindergarten 'Angel Shaje' from Kumanovo did an action research titled "Development of young children speech"; The CSO "Open the windows" did an action research titled "The inclusion process in the pre-school institutions in municipality Karpos"; kindergarten 'Astibo' from Stip– 'The persona dolls in my kindergarten' and the kindergarten " and the kindergarten 'Detska radost' from Gazi Baba, Skopje – 'Culture for peace'. After the presentations, there were group discussion about the possibilities to use the action researches in the everyday work and how these kinds of researches contribute to peace building and respect of diversities.

- **Training for quality management in the civil society organizations, took place in Skopje from 25 to 26 of October 2016**

The training for quality management in the civil society organizations took place on 25th and 26th of October in hotel Porta, Skopje. The training was attended by representatives form civil society organizations which are members of the national Precede network but also from organizations that are not members because the idea is to spread the experience of ISO 9001 to as much as possible organizations. The training was divided into several sessions in order to cover most of the organizations' needs. The first session speaks about the possibilities and the needs of introducing international standards for quality management in the work of the

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civil society organizations. The second one was about the advantages of the quality standards in the organizations, and the third one was about the minimum conditions for providing quality in the work of civil society organizations. The other session covered the basic requirements of the ISO 9001 which means quality policy, management responsibility and leadership, planning and securing the resources; measurement, analyzing and improvement of the services, checking the quality management system. The main focus was put on the organizations' needs such as the organization structure, the strategic planning in the organizations, the human resources management and other things identified as needed for the organizations. A separate session was dedicated to the new edition of ISO 9001:2015 and the risk based thinking and the risk management. We also reviewed the STEM tool for self-evaluation of the civil society organization and all participants received the published STEM on Macedonian which they can use in their organizations.

Some of the activities within Precede programme were presented in the media. They are available at the following links:

TV Sitel https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oiqrD2pG_Qk

TV MTM <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zKn-3X0I0YM>

TV MTV https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8DR_ipDwXGQ

TV MTM <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OIMqDGNhgh4>

TV Sitel <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iKJt7AWpDQc>

3. PEACE EDUCATION PROGRAM

The project goal/program: The project aims and objectives are: through promoting peace and non-violence as a fundamental value in the educational system to indicate the need for more intensive incorporation of peace education in school curricula.

Target group: this project first was implemented in three high schools in Skopje: gymnasium "Nikola Karev", Zdravko Cvetkovski and "D-r Pance Karadjozov". In period 2013-2016 we expanded this program in some new high schools in and out of Skopje, for example "Vanco Prke" in Vinica, "Vlado Tasevski", "Arsenij Jovkov" and in "Zef Lush Marku" in Skopje, in Debar "Zdravko Cocovski", "Koco Racin" – Veles, high school in Gostivar "Gostivar" and "Shaip Jusuf" from Skopje.

The duration of the project/programme: 2011-2018 with possibility of extension

The overall budget: in 2016: 73.183 EUR.

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The donator: All costs associated with the project are provided by the First Children Embassy in the World Megjashi thanks to financial support from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Activities conducted in 2016:

16-18.01.2016	Basic Training for Peace Education, Berovo
06.02.2016	Workshop on Peacebuilding
11.02.2016	Workshop on Peace building
25.02.2016	Workshop: Coloring the wall in the school yard
31.03-03.04.2016	Training for "Facilitation of workshops for peace education", Berovo
13.04.2016	Public Promotion of the Handbook for teachers on how to discuss the refugee crisis, Skopje
16.04.2016	Workshop on Lobbying and advocacy for Peace education, Debar
23.04.2016	Workshop on Lobbying and advocacy for Peace education, Veles
09.05.2016	Promotion of the Handbook for teachers on how to discuss the refugee crisis, Vanco Prke, Vinica
13.05.2016	Public Promotion of the Handbook for teachers on how to discuss the refugee crisis, Debar
19.05.2016	Workshop on Lobbying and advocacy for Peace education, Skopje
27-29.05.2016	Training for Lobbying and Advocacy for PE, Struga
18-20.06.2016	Training for Lobbying and Advocacy for PE, Berovo
21-26.08.2016	Basic Training for Peace Education, Kicevo
21.09.2016	A set of different events marking International Peace Day in Skopje, Veles, Gostivar, Vinica
27.09-7.10.2016	Peace Campaign
03-06.11.2016	Training for Peace Education "Identities" 1
18.11.2016	Workshop on Regional experiences of advocating for peace/civic education-experiences from Croatia 1
22.11.2016	Workshop on Children's Rights
24-27.11.2016	Training for Peace Education "Identities" 2
15.12.2016	Workshop on Regional experiences of advocating for peace/civic education-experiences from Croatia 2

Achievements

The PEP team continuously nourishes good relations with teachers through regular meetings via different channels (a closed Facebook page, phone, e-mail, meetings). These encounters generate mutual trust and are a good basis for cooperation. This trend has continued this year. More intense meetings, live encounters have been conducted this year (2016), in comparison to the previous one,

The range of peace activities conducted by teachers differs from school to school. So does the number of teachers who are active in implementing peace activities. Most of the teachers need and require more support and mentorship from the PEP team. However, in the course of the past year (2016) the PEP team has witnessed more and more teachers who

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show initiative in terms of suggesting and implementing peace activities in a more independent manner. The PEP team continuously offers and when needed provides support to teachers. Some teachers claim to use the techniques that are used in PEP's training program, in the framework of their classes.

In terms of training program: PEP continues to offer tailor made trainings depending on the context. It was assessed that strengthening capacities in terms of facilitation would be helpful for teachers who want to facilitate workshops. Such training was offered. In the context of refugee crisis, a more structured discussion upon differences and similarities between peace building work and humanitarian work was deemed necessary. Such a workshop was organized. Taking into consideration that the project was entering a phase of more intense lobbying and advocacy process, a set of workshops and trainings were conducted to strengthen teacher's capacities for lobbying and advocacy. Workshops on regional experiences of advocacy for civic education were organized. Taking into consideration the groups of students that teachers work with, the PEP team deemed necessary that the topic of "identities" should be reflected upon in more detail. This was conducted in the framework of three day trainings.

In terms of written materials: during the reporting period, a Handbook for teachers: How to discuss the refugee crisis with students was published and delivered to teachers. In September, PEP started a Peace Campaign with the aim to introduce Peace Education in the formal educational system in the country. The campaign actually started with the activities for marking 21st of September, The International Day of Peace and will continue with different activities and intensity. During the reporting period billboards and city lights "Peace is every step" were placed on 53 locations all over Macedonia, teachers and PEP team were frequently on media and the PEP team printed badges with some of the statements that the teachers wrote after an invitation that they continue the sentence "Peace is...".

In the framework of the Peace Campaign teachers were quite present in the media raising awareness about Peace education and discussing on related topics. In this setting it was more means of promotion for the peace activities in schools and the project in general but also a subtle appeal and public stance for a joint living in Macedonia for people that come from different communities. As some teachers stated, this kind of public appearance help them also in explaining and getting more support for PE from their school colleagues.

Photos from our activities:

https://www.flickr.com/photos/childrens_embassy/sets/72157651172350615

Links:

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E5IFY33waI4>

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TjZDVu6bMHQ>

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TNV1ANGEC74>

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TNV1ANGEC74&feature=youtu.be>

Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TjQo_xrJQRI&feature=youtu.be

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VvMmMzwla4Q&feature=share&app=desktop>

Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TjQo_xrJQRI&feature=youtu.be

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uq7iY42G4Y&feature=youtu.be>

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lmKXbp5F8IA&feature=youtu.be>

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jpeVgo42a1k&feature=youtu.be>

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eSp7e1s8Fok&feature=youtu.be>

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Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TjQo_xrJQRI&feature=youtu.be

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JudsPUhENgQ&feature=youtu.be>

4. SE EUROPE TRANSLATIONAL CSO COALITION FOR WOMEN AND CHILD PROTECTION AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE-STOP

Since 01st of January 2016, First Children's Embassy in the World Megjashi has started the implementation of the European Union funded project "SE Europe Transnational CSO Coalition for Women and Child Protection Against Human Trafficking and Gender-based Violence - STOP" under the Civil Society Facility and Media Programme 2014-2015, as one of the partner organization in the STOP partnership. All project activities will be implemented in cooperation with the Roma Center for Democracy (form Serbia) as a lead partner, Center for Peace and Tolerance (Kosovo); Vive Zene (Bosnia and Herzegovina) and Partnere per femijet (Albania).

Overall objective: Empower civil society organizations to participate and improve capacity to dialogue with Governments influencing policy and decision making processes.

Specific objective: Foster networking of CSOs to facilitate exchange of knowledge and skills while increasing their campaigning and advocacy skills related to illegal migration and its consequences such as human trafficking and gender based violence while transiting across SEE.

Target groups: CSOs, National and local authorities and decision-makers in SE Europe

Duration of the project / program - 2016 - 2019

The program is funded by the European Union through the Civil Society Facility and Media Programme 2014-2015.

Some of the implemented activities in 2016:

- **Inception meeting - Opening meeting for launching of the STOP project in Macedonia with the relevant stakeholders, took place in Skopje, at 09th of May 2016**

An opening meeting for launching of the STOP project with the relevant stakeholders on the 9th of May 2016 which was organized in Skopje by the Children's Embassy Megjashi in the premises of the Macedonian Culture Centre – NGO centre. Most of the invited stakeholders participated in this opening meeting, such as representatives from state institutions and representatives from civil society organizations. The total number of the participants in this opening meeting was 17 people. During the meeting, the STOP project was promoted, its' aims, the planned activities within the project and the involvement of the target groups in the implementation of the project activities. The participants expressed interest about the project, they asked for detail information and clarifications about the project goals and the way of their possible involvement in the project activities.

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- **Expert panel/focus group for human trafficking and smuggling in Skopje, on 07th of October 2016**

On 7th of October 2016, the Children's Embassy Megjashi organized one expert panel/focus group for assessment of human trafficking in Macedonia related to illegal migration and taking into consideration current migrants. The activity took place in Skopje and it was attended by representatives from relevant stakeholders in the country for the mentioned issues. The purpose of this expert panel/focus group was to provide information about the current situation of human trafficking in Macedonia related to illegal migration and taking into consideration current migrants. The questions discussed during the expert panel/focus group were focus on: Current Human Trafficking Situation; Policy Framework; Protection and Assistance and Priority recommendations. (The questions are available as attach to this report).

- **Two expert panels/focus groups for gender-based violence in Skopje, on 13th of October 2016 and 18th of October 2016**

On 13th of October 2016 and 18th of October 2016, the Children's Embassy Megjashi organized two expert panels/focus groups for assessment of gender-based violence in Macedonia related to illegal migration and taking into consideration current migrants. The activity took place in Skopje and it was attended by representatives from relevant stakeholders in the country for the mentioned issues. The purpose of this expert panel/focus group was to provide information about the current situation of gender-based violence in Macedonia related to illegal migration and taking into consideration current migrants.

- **Round table with relevant stakeholders in Macedonia (state institutions and civil society organizations) on the 27th of December 2016 in Skopje**

On 27th of December 2016, the project team of FCEW Megjashi conducted a Round table on which the recommendations for improving the situation of the combat against human trafficking and illegal migration and gender-based violence were presented. The round table was attended by representatives of civil society organization, national authorities such as the Centre for Social Work and international organizations that work in the field of human trafficking and smuggling. High school students from the gymnasium "Nikola Karev" were also attending the round table together with their professor, which gave us a chance to extend the reach of the project to a young population and raise an interest and awareness among that population.

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There were four speakers at the round table. One of the speakers at the round table was the president of the National council of gender equality from Macedonia who shared recommendations for compliance with the provisions of the Law on Prevention and Protection against Domestic Violence with the standards contained in the Convention of the Council of Europe on preventing and combating violence against women, which are part of the research that was conducted by the National Council for gender equality. Additionally, the external expert for national strategies presented the recommendations /contribution to the development of National strategies for THB. The participants at the round table shared their opinion, gave suggestions and recommendations which the external expert took into consideration for finalizing the recommendations.

Media appearance:

During the reporting period, project team members of Children's embassy Megjashi have several media appearances where they speak about the issues connected with the project (HT, GBV, migrants, unaccompanied children migrants etc.). The media appearances are uploaded on YouTube channel of Children's embassy Megjashi and they are available at the following links:

TV Aldzezeira,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BYQS9J92-Hs&t=4s>

TV MRT,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= VfiLwqhs4>

TV NOVA,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kITMvar2WMC>

TV MRT,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HD6IrrW6jYo>

TV MRT, 21 Vesti, Alsat,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LmWjz2KwrA0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dzgnopCi8aw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tDpvSfpUan0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yGDX6ULLqbc>

TV MTV

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tDpvSfpUan0&t=19s>

TV MTM,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r5nysQbn25k>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uO1DqAbEXX0>

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5. RESPONSIBLE PARENTHOOD

Project goal: Encouraging civic activism in the process of developing mechanisms for parental involvement in the processes of making decisions regarding the children by the responsible state institutions.

Target group: parents, children, kindergarten educators, teachers, professors, Ministry for education and science, Ministry for labor and social policy, Ministry for internal affairs, local government, general population.

Duration of the project: 18 months (21.01.2015 – 20.07.2016)

Total budget and donator: \$23,319.80, Foundation Open Society Macedonia

Activities conducted in 2016:

04.02.2016	Work meeting in the school Alija Avdovikj
12.02.2016	Workshop for responsible parenthood and against corporal punishment, Alija Avdovikj - Skopje
29.02.2016	Workshop for responsible parenthood and against corporal punishment, kindergarten Raspeana Mladost, Skopje
06.04.2016	Workshop for responsible parenthood and against corporal punishment, kindergarten, Majski cvet Skopje
06.04.2016	Open informative day against corporal punishment: The corporal punishment is abuse, Skopje
07.04.2016	Workshop for responsible parenthood and against corporal punishment, kindergarten Majski cvet - Skopje
12.04.2016	Workshop for responsible parenthood and against corporal punishment, kindergarten Detska radost – Skopje
14.04.2016	Workshop for responsible parenthood and against corporal punishment, Vera Jocik school - Skopje
19.04.2016	Workshop for responsible parenthood and against corporal punishment, kindergarten Prolet - Skopje
20.04.2016	Open informative day for responsible parenthood “The power of the parents” Skopje
20.04.2016	Workshop for responsible parenthood and against corporal punishment, kindergarten Prolet - Skopje
21.04.2016	Workshop for responsible parenthood and against corporal punishment, kindergarten Orce Nikolov, Skopje
21.04.2016	Workshop for responsible parenthood and against corporal punishment, company Move One - Skopje
25.04.2016	Workshop for responsible parenthood and against corporal punishment, kindergarten Detska radost – Skopje (for parents)
26.04.2016	Workshop for responsible parenthood and against corporal punishment, kindergarten Orce Nikolov - Skopje

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27.04.2016	Workshop for responsible parenthood and against corporal punishment, Vera Ciriviri Trena school - Skopje
08.07.2016	Final press conference and promoting three manuals "Me and my parent together can do a lot"

Achieved results:

- The need for a national parents' council is initiated;
- Draft document for forming a National parents' council is created;
- 3 manuals for prepared: "Corporal punishment is an abuse", "Why me?" and "The power of the parents" both on Macedonian and Albanian;
- Educational and informative material for responsible parenthood and against corporal punishment is created in a form of posters and leaflets;
- Raised awareness of the teachers, educators, parents etc. on the territory of Skopje about the negative influence of the corporal punishment and about the importance of the responsible parenthood;
- Cooperation is established between FCEW Megjashi and 4 municipalities, 7 schools and 5 kindergartens.

Photographs:



Links:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LWljy4S2JZk>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wlnnvt_9OP0
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tn4oiD3noHM>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KSuO567LGsQ>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IHqoiGBQth0>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-U8A2CfTCqs>

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6. CIVIKA MOBILITAS 2016 –INSTITUTIONAL GRANT

In 2016 FCEW Megjashi focused of realizing lots of activities planned in the CIVICA Multiannual working plan. Besides the planned activities we worked on lots of topics that are not directly connected or planned in the multiannual working plan but are related to the Areas that CIVIKA Mobilitas is focused on. We will present all the planned activities that were realize as well as the activities that are relate to the fields of work in the CIVICA Mobilitas plan of action of FCEW Megjashi.

The **strategic planning** of FCEW Megjashi took place in Aurora – Berovo on 21-23.03.2016. It was a process facilitate from an expert not involved in the work of Megjashi. 11 people attend the strategic planning from witch 7 were employees 3 were from the Board and the facilitator. The process stated and finished as planed we went true all the aspects of the work, we set the new aims we set all the actors and all the activities, we reviewed the vision and mission once again and we discuss about the structure. The process was done we wait for the final document strategic planning 2016 – 2020

We start with the execution of this activity for creating a **promotional video for NGOs** in the middle of February 2016 with an initial meeting among 3 members from the stuff. On the meeting again we go true the action plan and we remind on the previously planned activity and agree on the next steps. Firstly, we arrange a meeting with expert in montage for videos and discuss our idea. We decide to ask all 16 NGOs that have institutional grant from CIVIKA in 2015 to take a part in our activity. It is a good way to think about and do something for the public image of the NGOs in the society. It was opportunity for all, unfortunately we got feedback with the needed materials from only 6 NGOs. The videos will be promoted in 2017.

Procedure for Management of System for **communication with the media and public relations**. A new procedure within QMS No.7 "Management of the System for communication with the media and public relations" has been established. This procedure came into force on 09th of May 2016. It is consisted of several chapters: Introduction; Relations with other QMS Documents; Meaning of terms and Abbreviations; Description of the activities (basic principles, roles and responsibilities, ways of establishing communication with the media); Conclusion and Records.

With our previous experience in the field of **research** and also previous collaboration we decide to give BRIMA gallop the trust to do the research. After the meeting with BRIMA that was somewhere in the middle of March the team of Megjashi gathered to define the fields and question what we wanted to research. The defined questions and fields of interest were sent to BRIMA by e-mail and soon we got the defined questions for the research. It was agreed that the research and the results will be delivered to Megjashi not later than 27.04.2016 The

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research will be done by phone calls and will include 600 respondents. In April FCEW Megjashi got the document of the quantitative research that included 13 questions about various aspects of our work.

The coordinator for the SOS helpline created a document for the action plan for **harmonization of the SOS phone line**. The document needs to be reviewed and changed on a meeting of the team of FCEW Megjashi.

Insurance company was interested in the **reconstruction of the interior of the office**, and a meeting took place in the reporting period when representative come to see the major problems and we discuss about the opportunities and possibilities. On the meeting was concluded that the daily center room should be reconstructed from the insurance company. We discuss about the exterior as well but because of the expenses we must wait for longer period to get official answer.

The activity for manufacturing new **charity boxes** started in the beginning of March with sending request for offers to 7 companies that work with plastic. We got back answer and offer only from 3 from which the best offer was chosen. By the end of March 2016 we got our new 45 charity boxes.

The preparation for the activity **workshop for preparing of a code of ethics** started with the questionnaire that was sent and answered from all of the team members in 2016 and a draft version has been done, in 2017 the team will gather to revise and adopt the new ethic code of FCEW Megjashi.

In the field/activity for **contacting foreign organization** in 2016 besides the regular communications we supported partner organization from Turkey.

Support and solidarity to The Agenda of the Child Association (Gündem Çocuk Derneği)

To the members of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, International organizations and networks for protecting the rights of the child, to the Embassies and the Media. In solidarity with our partner organization in Turkey, we continue this fight together in defense of dignity and work of The Agenda of the Child Association (Gündem Çocuk Derneği) and all other 375 civil society organizations that are closed! Every child is important and every child deserves to have someone who will fight for him/her, protect his/her rights, which today is not possible without organizations such as The Agenda the Child Association (Gündem Çocuk Derneği)! www.gundemcocuk.org/

Megjashi regularly cooperates with foreign organizations for different aspects of children rights; we also apply together at calls for proposals as well as jointly implement many activities on projects. For example, FCEW Megjashi is a member of international network of SOS help lines. Child helpline international has supported Megjashi in the process of harmonization of the SOS helpline. Megjashi is also a member of the European network EUROCHILD where together with the other members we participated in creation of policies and strategies for children rights on European level.

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Organizing meetings for cooperation with the business sector. In December 2016 we received a call from a company that supports us with the purchase of Christmas cards offering us a donation in approximately 250 euros in a way that we prefer. After a short meeting with the team we decided that we will need New year packages so we can bring Santa Clause and bring smile to the children in need that were living near our office. We decided to ask the magician Kristijan if he can perform some magic tricks for the children before Santa Clause start with the packages. The number of children that we know that need this kind of support was nearly 150 so we had to contact other companies in order to have bigger number of packages. We manage to find one in less than one hour that was a great success and with another 30 packages from the FCEW Megjashi we reach the number of 230. Turned out that the children enjoyed the Magic tricks they were delighted and happy, It was something that they never seen before. Santa Clause gave 230 New Year packages to approximately 100 children on spot and the other 130 to their parents for the children that were not able to come in the office of FCEW Megjashi. In the end all children were happy and unfortunately some parents were not satisfied with the packages because they had lots of children and our supply was limited. We are happy we succeed to bring smile to the 100 children that were in the office of Megjashi on 29th of December.

The idea for the creation of such organization as FCEW Megjashi was to help those in needs and unfortunately, in the reporting period we faced the floods and the consequences that appeared after. We have been working mainly in crises related to wars but now we faced other kind of disaster and we organized the whole team in helping those in needs with focus on children and parents. The work of our organization was firstly to locate the children to find out the number of children and the age of children in the area of the floods. The second step was to raise awareness of the possible health disasters that might appear and to deliver humanitarian help for the children. The third step was helping in evacuation of children and pregnant women. After we got the locations and the needs of children and their parents, we selected the donations from the citizens and the donations bought from FCEW Megjashi and delivered directly to the locations that we got. We find out that the system from the state and other actors for supporting the region had many gaps so we were working on the field directly with the citizens. After the first few days, we organized doctors and opened medical center where citizens were able to check their health and to get opinions and first aid. Lots of volunteers and doctors helped in the realization and a group for support created on Facebook from was directions were given.

7. FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

Charity boxes

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In 2016 thanks to the CIVICA grant FCEW Megjashi increased the number of the charity boxes for 45 new modern types of Plexiglas boxes. Every new charity box has 3 logos of FCEW Megjashi on 3 languages Macedonian, Albanian and English it also has a message on 3 languages to our supports and sticker with all the contact information for the Embassy. With the new charity boxes, we plan to increase the network of charity boxes and with this to increase the number of activities and the number of citizens that will support our activities. The new charity boxes will be distributed in 2017 mainly in supermarkets. The donation for 2016 is same as the previous year with the difference in the amount of changed charity boxes that was lower than the previous year.

Christmas cards

The Christmas cards sales started in November after all of the prior preparation were done. The whole sale was successful even thou the final income from the sales was lower than the income in 2015. The number of companies that supported FCEW Megjashi has risen but the income decreased mainly because one of our biggest supporters decided to decrease the number of purchased Christmas cards. This decrease in the number of purchased Christmas cards has occur in few more companies that supported Megjashi in the previous years and that is the reason of the decreased income. However, we were more motivated to find new supporters and we manage to do so. This activity was support from lots of web portals that gave free space for the promotion of the Christmas cards as a donation, we also increased the number of hardcopy offers and we start to cooperate with new company that has database of lots of emails from business companies.

Donations

The practice for donations of second hand clothing has continue in 2016 and lots of citizens from the municipality of Aerodrom donated clothes and shoes that were given to those in need. Many citizens donate food, hygiene products, diapers and baby food etc for the families with little children in the flooded areas of Skopje. The companies Translog and S&T donate 120 Christmas package gifts.

Events

After the first call from the company Translog offering donation for FCEW Megjashi, the team decided to invest the offered amount for a small magic show and Christmas package sharing for marginalized and poor children mainly from the municipality of Aerodrom. With the 30 Christmas packages more from the FCEW Megjashi we were able to make 150 children happy. With the start of the event the Magician put up a great show, the happiness and the excitement could be seen in the children's eyes, it was a special moment that they enjoyed even more than the Christmas packages from Santa Clause.

8. SUPPORT FOR INITIATIVES

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8.1. SUPPORT THE INITIATIVE OF JOINT PARENTHOOD

Megjashi has supported the initiative for amendments to the Family Law, which comes from a group of parents, for introduction of joint custody and proper parenting after divorce. “A child should never be put in a situation to choose between both parents”; “Divorce should be the termination of the marriage, not the termination of parenthood. “ This model implies strengthening quality communication between parents in order to reduce and prevent traumatic sense among children because of parent divorce. Group of parents, supported by the Children Embassy "Megjashi", submitted the draft amendments to the Law on Family to the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, asking for the introduction of joint custody of children after divorce.