



PRECEDE

Partnership for Reconciliation through Early Childhood Education and Development in Europe

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Project objective

The general objective is to support civil society influence over reconciliation process and cohesion through education in early years in the Balkan region and Europe. It will develop a sustainable Balkan Region Network of civil society organisations concerned with young children and promoting acceptance of others and respect for diversity; 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; and will 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

Main activities

Research, analysis, training, capacity-building for research, monitoring and analysis, development and implementation of regional and country level advocacy strategies, advocacy tools development and implementation; Analysis of the available programmatic toolkits for activities related to peace building and reconciliation with young children internationally, adapting and piloting the tools for each program country; evaluation of the organisational capacities of the network member NGOs, training, capacity building for self-evaluation and improvement of the capacities, support for quality standards certificate accreditation

Project partners



Results expected

PRECEDE Network and country level networks formed; Regional NGO Network and country NGO networks have skills and knowledge to research and analyse policies, programmes and interventions in conflict prevention, peace building and reconciliation; have skills and knowledge to monitor the implementation of the policies, programmes and interventions in conflict prevention, peace building and reconciliation through ECD; have skills and knowledge to advocate for inclusion and implementation of the modules and topics relevant to the conflict prevention, peace building and reconciliation into national curricula for ECD; Regional and country specific programmatic toolkits developed and tested for implementation of the reconciliation, peace building and conflict prevention activities in ECD.



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Short description of the partners



POMOĆ DECI

Pomoć deci (Children and Youth Support Organisation)

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Pomoć deci is a non-governmental, non-profit making organisation working since 2003 to promote high quality childcare and education for children (0-18 years of age), youth and their families as well as to support youth in finding their own place in Serbia. Three major programme lines are in the focus: Quality Education for All (inclusive education, improvement in ethnic minorities' education from preschool to adult levels, violence prevention, drug and alcohol abuse prevention, improvement of reproductive health, environment protection), Youth Mobilisation (community needs, social partnership at local level, reproductive health, capacity building for local NGOs, promotion and implementation of the National Strategy for Youth) and Prevention of Child and Youth Trafficking (registration of the not registered children and youth).

Pomoć deci is closely associated with the Republic Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Ministry of Justice and State Governance, Ministry of Energy, Development and Environment Protection. Pomoć deci is a member of the Working Group for Child Trafficking Prevention of the Republic Team for Combating Human Trafficking, Network of organisations for children, SECO and other local NGO networks and internationally, a member of the International network for early childhood development in conflict and post-conflict countries, World Forum for Children, EUROCHILD and of the Aflatoun Global Initiative for Social and Financial Education.

Other EU funded projects include: "Integration and Empowerment of Minority Children and Youth in Albania and Serbia", "Cooperation, Integration and Community Empowerment of Ethnic Minority Groups in Albania and Serbia" and "Recycle Today for a Better Tomorrow".



First Children's Embassy in the World Megjashi – Republic of Macedonia

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The First Children's Embassy in the World MEGJASHI (FCEWM) is a non-governmental, non-profit and non-political human rights organisation with the purpose to protect children and their rights and to strengthen the NGO sector protecting children's rights. Founded on the 29th of April 1992, Megjashi strives for respecting the child's personality through protection of their rights, advocating for their best interests, connecting children from different backgrounds and enriches their lives with events that make the childhood secure and fruitful. It also strengthens the NGO sector for protection of children rights in the Republic of Macedonia by developing a voluntary approach in its operation and by exercising concern for the implementation of the UN Child Rights Convention.

FCEWM brought down the wall of silence concerning the children rights, especially related to physical, sexual and economic abuse of children, thereby exposing publically numerous cases of abuse and directly supporting the establishment of more effective mechanisms for the protection of children. As a confirmation of its work, Megjashi received the first award for civil society and democracy in 2001.

One of the most significant roles of Megjashi is to provide children with effective prevention from child abuse and protection of their rights. Those aims are accomplished through organized forms of activities that offer direct services to children, such as the SOS telephone for children and youth, legal assistance, psycho-social counselling, children's workshops and the Daily Centre for street children. Recently implemented projects include: "Building a Culture of Child Participation" (funded by EU); Monitoring the situation on children's rights in cooperation with UNICEF; "Reaching out of the vulnerable children's group in the municipalities in the Macedonia"; "Protect Your Rights - Youth Rights and Active Part" (funded by EU - Youth in Action); "Sharing and Learning: A seminar on the inclusion of marginalized youth" (funded by EU - Youth in Action); Workshops for children's rights in the multiethnic schools; Peace Education Programme; "From Foster to Prosper" – social inclusion of children without parents and parental care (funded by EU).

Early Years – the organisation for young children

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Early Years the Organisation for Young Children was established in 1965 and is the largest voluntary sector provider of group based early childhood services in Northern Ireland. The organisation has 1200 member early childhood services and provides early childhood services to 30,000 children daily. The organisation provides training, capacity building for community led initiatives, consultancy, research, advocacy and an information and library service.

The organisation was recognised as an Intermediary Funding Body by the European Union in 1996 as part of the Special Support Programme for Peace and Reconciliation (from 1996 – to now) and has distributed over £40 million to support the early childhood sector in Northern Ireland and the Southern Border Counties in Ireland, to build sustainable peaceful early childhood services. Early Years has led the International Network on Peace Building with Young Children also funded by the European Union since 2004 and has developed a partnership with 20 countries internationally to support research, programme development and training in the field of peace building with young children, families and communities.

Early Years is also involved in a number of Comenius and Grundvig projects at a European level and is a member of Eurochild network.

Partnerë për Fëmijët

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Partnerë për Fëmijët, (Partners for Children) is a local Albanian not-for-profit organisation with more than nine years experience working within four main spheres, that include: early childhood care and development, education, child protection and children with disabilities. Partnerë për Fëmijët has a reputation for high quality work in poor, rural and remote communities in Albania in partnership with children, youth, families, communities and local and regional government.

Our Vision is a world in which the best interest and rights of the child is everyone's concern.

Our Mission is to bring about improvements in children's opportunities and life chances through partnerships with a network of international and local partners to:

- Develop dynamic ideas to address child development issues in poor communities;
- Provide practical solutions informed by grassroots needs and concerns to ensure that all children benefit equally from the development of new and available services;
- Build local capacities for sustainable child development and child rights initiatives;
- Use sound research to influence key audiences in order to achieve our vision.

Previous EU funded projects include: "Child and Family Services for Children with Disabilities in Bajram Curri Municipality and Tropojë e Vjetër Commune;" "Supporting effective and coordinated action to prevent school dropout in the region of Kukës;" "Promoting rural girls' equal access to education through combined school and community response;" "Integration and Empowerment of Minority Children and Youth in Albania and Serbia;" "Children's Experience of Their Rights in Northern Albania;" "Promoting Family Literacy and Community Involvement in Rural Northeast Albania;" and "Cooperation, Integration and Community Empowerment of Ethnic Minority Groups in Albania and Serbia."



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Center for Civil Initiatives

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The Center for Civil Initiatives is Croatian non-profit organization working in the field of community organizing and community development in Croatia.

The organization was established in 1998 by Croatian and American staff of the former Umbrella Grant for Trauma and Reunification program of the International Rescue Committee, funded by the USAID in the period 1993-1999. The intention of CCI founders was to continue where IRC stopped: revitalizing the social life of war destroyed communities of Croatia, thus helping communities to develop a socially healthy environment. CCI's community organizers worked in the last 15 years in predominantly rural areas of two Croatian counties situated in the south-east part of Central Croatia severely damaged by the last war conflict. Over the last 5-6 years CCI staff assisted several hundred civil society organizations in organizational development, project planning and implementation and cross-sectoral cooperation. Most recently CCI composed a self-help monitoring tool for civil society organizations that strive towards their quality and organizational development. In 2012 it was tested and used by 65 Croatian organizations and accepted as self evaluation tool.

The organization published several booklets on social work in community development, community partnership, project preparation, involvement of businesses in community development and it will continue with this in the next two-year period.

In 2012 CCI implements a project "In Pursuit of Democracy" together with four local partners in order to provide legal, social and organizational assistance to organizations who deal with populations affected by the war conflict, with an emphasis on assisting returnee and minority populations in Croatia. Through this project CCI published a booklet "Legal Guide for Returnees".



Balkan Sunflowers Kosovo

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Balkan Sunflowers' vision is an activist Kosovar society, responsible for its own present and future, working toward humane values, and celebrating the diversity of the peoples and cultures of Southeast Europe. BSF Kosovo is a local organization committed to improving the holistic well-being of youth through practical, value-based, youth-initiated, and community-supported activities in the cultural, educational and research sectors. BSF-K is a multiplier, building activist lives and communities for social change and reconstruction. BSF-K supports and develops volunteerism, activism, European exchange of young people, and local community action in support of human dignity and rights, and European integration.

BSFK focuses particularly on education as a foundation human right, necessary for all other rights. Programs include the Learning Centers Network, school mediation in 10 municipalities, an advocacy program for implementation of the Strategy for the Integration of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Communities in Kosovo, and media programs.



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