

# MONTHLY REPORT

## May/June 2017

### Interconnected Activities

#### Project start up

- ✓ The Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Science was signed on May 25, 2017.
- ✓ Furthermore, Macedonian Civic Education Center (MCEC) conducted administrative activities related to project startup and registration with the Secretariat for European Integration.
- ✓ Developing YEI Annual Work Plan was one of the very first project activities. For this purpose, MCEC organized a working session and managed to develop an outline, based on which the final Annual Work Plan was developed.
- ✓ Moreover, following a process of review and incorporating proposed changes and improvements, YEI team received USAID approval for the M&E, branding and Annual Work Plan.

#### YEI public outreach

- ✓ Developing a YEI webpage structure commenced soon after the project start-up. The project sub-webpage will be part of the MCEC webpage.
- ✓ For the purpose of promoting YEI to USAID, other donors, education institutions, municipalities and schools, the project team developed a presentation summarizing project goal, objectives and activities part of the Annual Work Plan.
- ✓ In addition, the project team prepared a one pager, outlining the project components, expected results and impact.
- ✓ YEI team commenced with preparations for the workshop for Communication Strategy. Thus, a list of possible facilitators for this activity was put together. Furthermore, the project team prepared a document with key information and objectives to be used as basis during the workshop and in the process of developing the Communication Strategy.

#### YEI meetings and presentations

- ✓ On June 20, 2017 YEI Project team in coordination with USAID organized a presentation for participants from different departments of US Embassy and USAID. Upon the project presentation, participants engaged in a Q&A session and shared information and suggestions that could improve the project plan and the implementation process.
- ✓ YEI Project team organized an initial meeting with representatives of the MoES Working Group for IIE. During this meeting, MoES representatives were informed about YEI Project goal, objectives, expected results and planned activities. Moreover, a presentation of YEI Project for all members of the MoES Working Group for IIE will be organized.

#### YEI launch events

- ✓ YEI Project team soon after finalizing the Annual Work Plan commenced planning the launch events. The project team outlined possible activities that jointly with the project presentation and the mobile application would convey YEI Project goal and objectives, i.e. activities that would practically demonstrate what is expected to be achieved with the implementation of this project. The outline for the event in Skopje, followed by seven (7) other similar regional events is expected to be finalized in the upcoming period, when the project team will start with the development of the scenario and agenda, including more detailed planning of activities.

- Upcoming Activities:**
- ➔ Organizing initial meeting and presentation of YEI Project to the Minister of Education and Science and the representatives from her cabinet.
  - ➔ Organizing meetings with heads of education institutions and other representatives to present YEI Project goal, objectives and activities.
  - ➔ Organizing a workshop to design a draft YEI Communication Strategy.
  - ➔ Developing a draft scenario and agenda for the project launch events.
  - ➔ Developing the YEI web page and mobile application structure ongoing.

### Strengthened Interethnic Cohesion Activities

#### Selection of schools for the pilot year

- ✓ Within the first pilot year, the project will implement planned activities in 40 selected primary and secondary schools in nine (9) municipalities in Macedonia. YEI project will use the feedback and good practices from the pilot schools to check the feasibility of the program approach before scaling up.
- ✓ The selection of schools was conducted in cooperation with Pestalozzi Children's Foundation - Strengthening multi-ethnic cooperation in municipalities Project implemented by MCEC based on few set criteria that included ethnically mixed municipalities, equal geographic coverage of the territory of Macedonia, rural/urban primary schools and balanced ethnic composition of students and language of instruction.
- ✓ In these schools, YEI Project team will implement curricular and extracurricular activities planned under project Component 1 i.e. Strengthening interethnic cohesion in the education system and Component 2 i.e. Strengthening democratic culture and civic behaviors among school youth.
- ✓ Furthermore, the project selected additional eight (8) secondary schools in the selected municipalities for implementation of creative workshops and forum theater methodology that will promote and strengthen interethnic cohesion in the education system.

- Upcoming Activities:**
- ➔ Commence drafting a database for schools involved in YEI Project.
  - ➔ Presenting YEI Project to MoES Working Group for Interethnic Integration in Education.

### Strengthened Democratic Culture & Civic Behaviors Activities

#### Comparative analyzes of regional and international best practices

- ✓ The process of amending Civic Education content is consisted of few activities, the first of which is conducting a comparative analyzes of regional and international best practices. Thus, YEI project organized an initial meeting to coordinate activities related to conducting the comparative analyzes with Pestalozzi Children's Foundation funded Strengthening Multiethnic Cooperation in Municipalities Project. This is a joint activity of both projects.
- ✓ Following, YEI project team met with the members of the working group for conducting the comparative analyzes for primary education established by Pestalozzi and discussed the composition of the working group, the selected countries, the methodology, the process of conducting comparative analyzes for primary and secondary education, etc.

#### Small grant program

- ✓ Initiatives, curricular and extracurricular activities instigated by students, parents, school staff or the community, will be supported by YEI project through small grants as cross-component activity. 40 schools selected for implementation of activities that will contribute towards interethnic cohesion and will promote democratic and civic values and behaviors will be eligible to apply. Thus, the project team commenced drafting the selection criteria and the application process for activities that will be supported through small grants.

- Upcoming Activities:**
- ➔ Organizing meetings with the working group for conducting the comparative analysis for Civic Education and commencing the process.
  - ➔ Finalizing the application process and selection criteria for small grant program for implementation of curricular and extracurricular activities planned under Component 1 and 2.

### Incentives to Deserving Communities Activities

#### School renovation grants

- ✓ YEI team commenced drafting the application process for school renovations and the selection criteria that include:
  - School accomplishments in interethnic integration;
  - Civic Education practices in schools (i.e. civic values and democratic behavior);
  - Actual needs for refurbishment; and
  - Active engagement of school communities and municipalities in renovation projects and percentage of their contribution.
- ✓ During the first project year, the selected schools from nine (9) pilot municipalities will be eligible to apply for renovation grants. Furthermore, 12 renovation grants will be issued in the first project year.
- ✓ Upon establishing the component working group, the evaluation criteria for the received applications will be set.

- Upcoming Activities:**
- ➔ Developing the application process and selection criteria for school renovation grants ongoing.
  - ➔ Establishing the component working group for renovations.

### Selected schools:



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| <b>Polog - Gostivar</b><br>P.S. Cajla v.Cajle<br>P.S. Goce Delcev<br>P.S. Bratstvo Edinstvo<br>S.S. M.S. Gostivar  | <b>Pelagonia - Bitola</b><br>P.S. Elpida Karamandi<br>P.S. Goce Delcev<br>P.S. Gjorgji Sugarev<br>P.S. Krste P. Misirkov v.Bistrica<br>S.S. Josip Broz Tito<br>S.S. Kuzman Sapkarev |
| <b>Southwestern - Struga</b><br>P.S. Murat Labunista v.Labuniste<br>P.S. Sv. Kliment Ohridski v.Draslajca<br>P.S. Braka Miladinovci<br>S.S. Ibrahim Temo             | <b>Pelagonia - Dolneni</b><br>P.S. Vera Cirivini Treana v.Debreste<br>P.S. Pere Tosev, v.Desovo, v.Dupjancani<br>S.S. Prerodba - Rilindja, v.Zitose                                 |
| <b>Northeastern - Kumanovo</b><br>P.S. Kiril i Metodij v.Romanovce<br>P.S. Braka Ribar v.Tabanovce<br>P.S. Toli Zordumis<br>P.S. Hristijan Karpos<br>S.S. Pero Nakov | <b>Sotheastern - Strumica</b><br>P.S. Marsal Tito Strumica<br>P.S. Nikola Vapcarov<br>P.S. Sando Masev<br>S.S. Jane Sandanski   |
| <b>Skopje</b><br>P.S. Aco Sopov<br>P.S. Panajot Ginovski<br>P.S. Zivko Brajkovski<br>P.S. Petar Zdravkovski-Penko<br>S.S. Arseni Jovkov                              | <b>Sotheastern - Radovis</b><br>P.S. Krste Petkov Misirkov<br>P.S. Nikola Karev<br>S.S. Kosta Susinov   |
|  | <b>Polog - Tetovo</b><br>P.S. Andreja Savevski Kikis<br>P.S. Bratstvo Migjeni<br>P.S. Kiril i Metodij<br>P.S. Lirija<br>S.S. Kiril Pejcinovik                                       |