



STEP BY STEP

Center for Educational Initiatives Step by Step

ANNUAL REPORT 2011

Center for Educational Initiatives Step by Step is a professional, non-government organization established with the aim of promoting democratic changes in the educational system in BH and equal access to high quality education for every child.

Mission

Networking and strengthening human and other resources in order to provide conditions for high-quality on-going professional development of teachers and to increase the quality of education in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Vision

High-quality education for every child, in schools that promotes democratic values with strong partnerships with families and communities.

Content

1. PROJECTS 2011

- 1.1. Promoting Quality in Education - Regional Conference Competent teacher of 21st century – Improving quality in pre-service and in-service teacher training – OSI, ISSA, FOD, Save the Children
- 1.2. “Ensuring Righteous and Quality Education System in B&H – Pre Service and ECD” – Save the Children
 - 1.2.1.1. Campaign “Parents are the first and most important teachers”
- 1.3. Getting Ready for School – Evaluation, OSI London
- 1.4. Coalition for Educational Justice, OSF BiH
- 1.5. Stronger Voice for Children - NGO’s network - EU
- 1.6. Improving professional capacity of Pedagogical Institute Tuzla – partners on project with Pedagogical Institute Tuzla –FOD

2. OTHER ACTIVITIES

2.1. Trainings:

- 2.2. OSCE – Education of Social Justice
- 2.3. CARITAS – Child Centered Methodology
- 2.4. Life with Down syndrome
- 2.5. Save the Children
 - 2.5.1. ESJ trainers mentoring with cooperation with Save the Children and MoE Unsko-sanski Canton
 - 2.5.2. ESJ for school principals in RS
 - 2.5.3. Education for Social Cohesion with MoE
- 2.6. Private school Blooming Child - ISSA Pedagogical Standards
- 2.7. Mozaik Foundation - Getting ready for school – for 5 day centers (Novi Travnik, Bugojno, Gacko, Nevesinje i Pale)

2.8. Other:

Facilitation of strategic planning and developing of Agency for Pre-Primary, Primary and Secondary Education Strategic plan 2012 – 2016

Developing report of implementation Framework Law on Primary and Secondary Education in Bosnia and Herzegovina – APOSO and UNICEF

Participation in working group for development of standards for teachers, principals and associates in pre-school. – APOSO and UNICEF

Participation in work group for analyzing and developing curricula in Canton Sarajevo – Ministry of Education Canton Sarajevo and FOD BiH

Developing standards for program “Older brother – older sister” for NGO Narko NE

Pre-school program of CEI Step by Step “Parenting with confidence - Getting ready for school” was selected as one of the official state model.

SUMMARY

Brief Project Description	Name of Grantor
<p>1. Project "Ensuring Righteous and Quality Education System in B&H -Pre Service and ECD": To raise awareness about importance of ECD and improve capacities of parents and teachers to support child development To build capacities and advocate for quality improvement of teaching process at all universities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and stronger professional cooperation among university teachers within country and regionally.</p>	Save the Children
<p>2. Project "Child-Friendly Schools as Part of the Social Protection and Inclusion System for Children": Improve the quality of primary education in 47 central and 71 regional schools in 10 communities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and create the conditions for self-assessment, training and continuous development "School Fit for Children" for more than 32 000 children and families.</p>	UNICEF BiH
<p>3. Project "Campaign for Rightful Educational System u BH": The creation of the Coalition aims to connect, more efficient use of knowledge, capacity and resources and coordinated efforts of civil society, so that they become a significant factor in advocating, promoting and implementing changes in the implementation of the right of every child to a quality education from birth.</p>	Open Society Fund Bosnia and Herzegovina
<p>4. Regional Conference 2011 " Promoting Quality in Education - Regional Conference Competent teacher of 21st century – Improving quality in pre-service and in-service teacher training</p>	OSI, ISSA, FOD BiH, Save the Children
<p>5. Coalition of NGOs "Stronger Voice for Children": Alternative report about Child's rights implementation in BH; Improving capacity of NGO to promote and monitor child's rights, monitoring and reporting, child participation in monitoring.</p>	NGO "Our Children" - donor EC
<p>6. Community based ECE classrooms - training for GRS and materials</p>	Save the Children Norway

2. "Child-Friendly Schools as Part of the Social Protection and Inclusion System for Children":

Goal:

Improve the quality of primary education in 47 central and 71 regional schools in 10 communities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and create the conditions for self-assessment, training and continuous development "School Fit for Children" for more than 32 000 children and families.

Objectives

- To strengthen management in all 47 schools (director and counselor or other professional collaborator) and to ensure a common understanding of project goals, commitment to the change process and the development of quality school
- Enable the management of the school to use the tools for assessment and evaluation results to policy decisions and priorities made on the basis of these data
- Train 190 teachers and educators (four per school) who will lead the process of change and implement the training cycle at the school and community.
- Organize local training in all 47 central schools in communities
- Establish a system of mentoring, monitoring and evaluation of results
- Develop resources (manuals and modules) which will help teachers and school as a whole to implement training programs and the establishment of continuous professional development activities that lead to the improvement of the quality of the school, and upon completion of the project.



3. Initiative for Rightful Educational System in BH – Coalition

Goals:

- Build a Coalition of civil society organizations and create a platform for continuous actions and initiatives in the field of education and protection of the rights of every child at every level.
- Achieve consensus around a series of questions related to the understanding of the education system in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the implications of such a situation in the future, the consensus around common goals for children related to the issues of quality and access to education system and respect for the rights of the child, identification and naming of discrimination, segregation and other violations against the rights of the child;
- Develop resources and strengthen the capacities of different organizations to guide and plan ongoing and effective advocacy efforts in the fight for the rights of the child, especially in the area of the right to access to quality education.

During 2011 the Coalition has implemented these activities:

- Conducted two meetings with representatives of member organizations (planning and evaluation)

- Organized two Educational Forums, which were connected with two messages of Initiative for Educational Justice: Efficiently and agreed financing and Quality education (as part of Regional conference of educators)
 - Promoting Initiative goals throughout activities of member NGO's .
4. **Promoting Quality in Education - Regional Conference Competent teacher of 21st century – Improving quality in pre-service and in-service teacher training – OSI, ISSA, FOD, Save the Children**

Goal: To bring issue of quality in the focus of discussion among different stakeholders, using ISSA quality principles.

Objectives:

- To use the professional capacities and resources of the Step by Step network ("Competent Teachers for the 21st Century) and other NGOs and professionals in order to improve their knowledge and reach a level of common understanding about the definition of quality education, quality assessment and quality improvement
- To raise awareness about importance of the quality education and teaching process and investment in quality improvement in preschool, primary and higher education (Pre-service teacher training) based on quality standards and advocate for every child's right to quality education
- To explore and present different professional development opportunities and strategies, including usage of ICT.
- To build on Step by Step network and other existing networks and coalitions and explore opportunities and ideas for stronger and more effective cooperation and partnership within civil society sector and between different NGO's, policy makers, professionals, parents and students in the Region in order to advocate for every child's right to quality education.



Conference was held in Hotel „Marshal“ at mountain Bjelasnica near Sarajevo from August 20 – 23rd. Over 240 participants from six countries, and more than 100 children and families, gather together to explore and learn, share and improve their skills and competences.

5. Stronger Voice for Children - NGO's network - EU

Partner organizations:

COI Step by Step-Sarajevo; „Budimo aktivni“ – Sarajevo; „Centar za prava djeteta – Konjic; „Naša djeca“ – Zenica; „Sunce nam je zajedničko“ –Trebinje; „Svjetionik“ –Prijedor; „Udruženje za pomoć mentalno nedovoljno razvijenih lica“ – Banja Luka; „Zdravo da ste“ – Banja Luka, „Zemlja djece“ – Tuzla.

Activities of the Network are founded in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, primarily its four key principles: life, survival and development of children, the best interest of the child and non-discrimination and participation of children, and include:

- Education, promotion and advocacy for the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UN CRC);

- Initiatives on creation and harmonization of BiH legislative framework in line with the UN CRC and adoption of the budgets for children in line with their needs, on all levels of the government;
- Monitoring of the implementation of the rights of the child in BiH and giving recommendations for their improvement;
- Education and empowerment of children for participation in all issues of concern to them;
- Strengthening the position and capacities of the civil society organizations active in the area of protection and promotion of children's rights

6. **Improving professional capacity of Pedagogical Institute Tuzla – partners on project with Pedagogical Institute Tuzla –FOD**

Goal: Improve quality of educational process in Canton Tuzla through creating effective system of professional development at school level and improving professional capacity of Pedagogical Institute in areas of monitoring, evaluation and mentoring of teachers.

Trainings:

- OSCE – Education of Social Justice
- CARITAS – Child Centered Methodology
- Life with Down syndrome
 - ESJ one day trainings with 10 groups of teachers from elementary schools in Canton Sarajevo
- Save the Children
 - ESJ trainers mentoring with cooperation with Save the Children Norway and Ministry of Education Unsko-sanski Canton
 - ESJ for school principals in RS
- Education for Social Cohesion with Pedagogical Institute Zenica
- Private school Blooming Child - ISSA Pedagogical Standards
- Mozaik Foundation - Getting ready for school – for 5 day centers (Novi Travnik, Bugojno, Gacko, Nevesinje i Pale)

Other activities:

- Facilitation of strategic planning and developing of Agency for Pre-Primary, Primary and Secondary Education Strategic plan 2012 – 2016
- Developing report of implementation Framework Law on Primary and Secondary Education in Bosnia and Herzegovina – APOSO and UNICEF
- Participation in working group for development of standards for teachers, principals and associates in pre-school. – APOSO and UNICEF
- Participation in work group for analyzing and developing curricula in Canton Sarajevo – Ministry of Education Canton Sarajevo and FOD BIH
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