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Fondacioni Kosovar për Shoqëri Civile
Kosovar Civil Society Foundation
Kosovska Fondacija za Civilno Društvo



**EAR Civil Society Funding
2001 - 2005
Civil Society Grants
in Kosovo
Report from the KCSF
Granting Projects**

Introduction

Chapter

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EAR Civil Society Funding
2001 - 2005
Civil Society Grants
in Kosovo
Report from the KCSF
Granting Projects

Introduction

The support from the European Agency for Reconstruction to KCSF has been targeted in three phases. In the first phase, KCSF was identified as an organisation that had the capacity to be an indigenous grant maker, to provide capacity building training for civil society organisations and to test the absorption capacity of civil society organisations on the ground by giving small grants to newly formed organisations. In this phase KCSF also had its own internal capacity strengthened.

In the second phase KCSF continued to strengthen its capacities and support civil society organisations by giving grants with a proven track record in five prioritised areas: Reconciliation, Minority, Gender Equality, Youth and Culture. Under the Capacity Building programme, KCSF conducted numerous workshops for local NGOs in following modules: Project Cycle Management, Financial and Human Resources Management, Good Governance, Conflict Resolution, Partnership Development, where some 100 local NGOs were trained.

During this period and within the same programme, the KCSF has created its team of trainers, three of whom are Serbs, and has printed training manuals in the three languages that are spoken in Kosovo.

The third phase of KCSF support is characterised by continuing support for CSOs by providing appropriate training by KCSF trainers. It is also providing technical assistance support to the European Agency for Reconstruction to monitor, train and support civil society organisations that received grants from the Agency's Civil Society Support Programme.

In 2001, the Kosovar Civil Society Foundation has supported 89 non-governmental organisations and civil society organisations with the amount of €830.000; it has developed several training programs for NGOs and has printed publications from the Civil Society Development Programme of the European Agency for Reconstruction.

In 2002/2003, the Kosovar Civil Society Foundation has supported 96 non-governmental organisations and civil society organisations with the amount of €826.500, and has printed publications from the Civil Society Development Programme of the European Agency for Reconstruction.

In February 2003, KCSF launched for the third time the Education Fund for Roma, Egyptians and Ashkali in the amount of €138.000. The programme was supported by the European Agency for Reconstruction and has granted scholarships to 403 RAE students.

In February 2004, KCSF signed the third contract with EAR in the amount of €305.000, dedicated to the further development of the NGO sector. The Foundation has launched a genuine training programme to address the needs of NGOs for leadership, good governance and management.



Mission

The mission of the Kosovar Civil Society Foundation (KCSF) is to strengthen local civil initiatives by providing support through information, services, training and especially project grants to NGO and other relevant civic institutions in all sectors of Kosovar Civil Society.



Objectives

Creating a strong civil society by promoting democratic culture and responding to the social and economic requirements of the beneficiary community in Kosovo.

Institutional capacity building of civil society organisations for preparing strategies, implementing sustainable programs and establishing operational links with the local government.

Monitoring, training and supporting organisations that directly win grants from the European Agency for Reconstruction for the successful implementation of their programs.

Specific objectives:

Empowering women and raising their status and position in society by increasing their access to economic and social activities and developments.

Promoting the Kosovar culture in the region and Europe.

Improving and empowering the participation of youth in society.

Improving the social and economic position of minorities.

Empowering civil society organisations by strengthening their organisational skills and training them to respond as efficiently as possible to the social and economic requirements of beneficiaries.

Activities /methodology:

A special unit was created within KCSF that is tasked with the implementation of these objectives. KCSF will determine, monitor and evaluate applications and minor grants for NGOs and other civil society organisations on behalf of the European Agency for Reconstruction.

In order to fully implement this, KCSF will develop sectorial policies in cooperation with all stakeholders and will provide information to NGOs that apply for grants from the Agency, by visiting these organisations and by monitoring the project phases.

The KCSF will also play a major role in capacity building of civil society through implementation of the capacity building programme, the key focus of which is to strengthen the capacities of civil society for planning and implementing innovative projects that have great impact and bring direct benefits for the target groups.

The key focus of KCSF will be to give grants to civil society organisations that work in the following sectors:

- Gender Issues
- Culture
- Youth
- Minorities
- Capacity building

Albeit there are specific sectors for women and minorities, grants envisaged for other sectors will be open to women associations or organisations of ethnic communities.



The financing criteria for the aforementioned areas will be established in cooperation between the KCSF Board and the target groups. Once they are endorsed by the Agency, these policies will be implemented in disbursing concrete grants. The Foundation is reactive and proactive in the disbursement of grants. With the aim of addressing the weaknesses of Kosovo's civil society, KCSF shall implement programs with NGOs in the aforementioned areas with the goal of building capacities at the local level. In order to provide the opportunity for application to as many organisations as possible, the grant announcements will get broad media coverage, especially in isolated areas. All projects are endorsed by the KCSF Board. The Board takes on the responsibility of ensuring equal representation of men and women in its ranks, as well as the ethnic composition of Kosovar society. All grants include a one-year period and shall not go beyond the amount of €50.000 per grant.

Education Fund

The Education Fund has been established and is being implemented in partnership with the Kosovo Foundation for Open Society. It aims to support RAE (Roma, Ashkali, Egyptians) communities by granting scholarships to students of secondary schools and university as well as conducting trainings that address employment and other educational needs

Capacity Building Programme

KCSF offers the following trainings in the sector of Civil Society:

Project Cycle Management
Financial Management

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- Good Governance
- NGO Sustainability
- Partnership Development
- Human Resources Management
- NGOs Advocacy
- Monitoring and evaluation of programs

Publications

- List of Kosovar NGOs 1,2 and 3
- Donors List
- Legal Framework for Kosovar NGOs
- Overview of Civil Society and NGO Sector in Glllogovc
- Kosovar Reflections
- Anthology of Civil Society
- The first and second forum of Kosovar NGOs
- Training Manual for NGOs
- Basic Financial Management
- Mapping and analysis of civil society of Kosovo
- Good Governance
- Public and Private Partnership
- KCSF Report

Kosovar Civil Society Foundation's Board of Directors

Chairperson:

Justina Pula Shiroka

Board members:

- Muhamet Mustafa
- Luan Shllaku
- Nadira Vllasi Avdic
- Xheraldina Vula
- Fadil Hysaj
- Anton K. Berishaj
- Goran Lazic

Capacity

Building of NGOs

Chapter

0



1

GOs

EAR Civil Society Funding
2001 - 2005
Civil Society Grants
in Kosovo
Report from the KCSF
Granting Projects



15

EAR Civil Society
Funding 2001 - 2005
Civil Society Grants
in Kosovo
Report from the
KCSF Granting
Projects

CAPACITY BUILDING OF NGOs

Project title:	Second Forum of NGOs
Grantee:	KCSF and OSCE
Budget approved:	34.600 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	November 2001

The Second Forum of Kosovar NGOs discussed and identified ways in which civil society organisations can provide more effective services as partners and supporters of public structures after the 2001 November elections. Around 120 Kosovar NGOs attended the conference; they were representing all ethnic communities and social groups in Kosovo.

The Forum strengthened partnership and improved the capacities for NGO networking as well as building coalitions in special areas or issues; it identified advanced areas for dialogue and influence or lobbying in future government structures; it discussed long-term strategies for effective sustainability and self-organisation of NGO communities; it paved way to the facilitation of relations between Kosovar NGOs and international and regional organisations.

The Forum was organised under the auspices of the KCSF and OSCE.

Project title:	Advocacy training
Grantee:	Malteser, Gjakova
Budget approved:	16.760 DM
Location:	Gjakova and Ferizaj
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	August 2001

KCSF Granting Projects

Based on this initiative, 22 Kosovar NGOs developed capacities for lobbying and advocacy and were trained in launching public advocacy campaigns. The project increased the internal capacities of NGOs, it developed capacities for strategic preparations of campaigns in complex situations and in cooperation with various factors.

The project was implemented in cooperation with the Albanian National Training and Technical Resources Centre (ANTTARC). The beneficiaries were from various parts of Kosovo with special focus in Gjakova and Ferizaj.

Project title:	Training on Projection and Project Evaluation
Grantee:	Kosovo Education Centre (KEC)
Budget approved:	34.320 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	Gusht 2001

60 Kosovar NGOs were trained in planning, management and assessment of projects. The training material was published as a manual for further needs and for a broader spectrum of beneficiaries. NGOs were trained in the MAPA technique (Method for Applied Planning and Assessment) in their projects.

The project proved successful in increasing the efficiency, sustainability and quality of projects of beneficiary NGOs, as was proved in the reports of NGOs one month after the end of the project and in the practical implementation of skills and capacities from the training.



Project title:	NGO Sustainability Program
Grantee:	KCSF and KIDS
Budget approved:	122.600 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	Gusht 2001

This joint enterprise by KCSF and KIDS (Kosovo Initiative for Democratic Society) supported Kosovar NGOs in realising and applying long-term sustainability strategies. The initiative helped these NGOs to train in the development of long-term strategies, by building a group of trainers that were later engaged in capacity building programs and by benefiting from the analysis of previous positive experiences.

The trainings had two objectives: first, a group of NGOs from all over Kosovo that directly attended the trainings of the project; second, a group of trainers that will convey their skills and knowledge to other NGOs. The trainings used modern methods and principles for functioning of civil society as well as the empiric analysis of concrete experiences of Kosovar NGOs.

The group of trainers consisted of 10 people, two of which were Serbs; around 80 NGOs were trained in developing long-term sustainability strategies. The training material was published as a manual in Albanian, Serbian and English.

Project title:	Good Governance Program
Grantee:	KCSF
Budget approved:	25.650 DM
Location:	Kosovo
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	August 2001

The project launched by KCSF worked directly with Kosovar NGOs in their capacity building by raising the awareness about the role of NGOs in civil society, about the principles of good governance, transparency and accountability, and by building local training capacities for future capacity building projects.

The beneficiaries were two key groups. The first group consisted of NGO representatives that benefited from management trainings; the second group consisted of professional trainers that were trained in training other civil society activists in the management of organisations.

The project relied on the growing number of new NGOs, which was triggered by new post-war conditions, the freedom of democratic action and greater financial possibilities from international support. A manual was published in Albanian, Serbian and English about the future needs of beneficiaries.

Project title:	Capacity Building – Good Governance Training
Grantee:	KCSF and OLOF PALME INTERNATIONAL CENTER
Budget approved:	34.728 DM
Location:	Geneva
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	December 2001

The project was implemented as a training for the administration of civil society organisations and for increasing cooperation with the political and government sector. 15 representatives of NGOs and members of the main political parties attended the training.



The training focused in the following areas: negotiations, conflict management, decision-making, role of the modern state, role of political parties in democracy, democratic institutions and rule of law, transforming civil conflict, the united Europe and its institutions, the information society, technology and its political challenges, etc.

The trainings were chaired by European university staff, representatives of European political parties, as well as by managers of major public or private enterprises from Switzerland and other member countries.

Project title:	"Flora and fauna of Germia – Values and potential threats"
Grantee:	SHEK, Prishtina
Budget approved:	5.859 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	September 2001

The project supported SHEK association in its capacity building for ecological activities. The concrete initiatives were cataloguing flora and fauna in the area of Germia, lobbying for flora and fauna protection, public awareness-raising for environmental protection and publishing broad information on the current situation and the concerning problems.

Project title:	Peace for All
Grantee:	Dardanika - Zhegër
Budget approved:	41.800 DM
Location:	Karadak (Viti, Gjilan and Dardana)
Duration:	1 year
Inception date:	October 2001

KCSF Granting Projects

The project helped raise the awareness of the respective area about the importance of tolerance and reducing tensions during the election campaign. At the same time, the project achieved good results in training local NGOs for working in this area in the future with new capacities and higher efficiency. The advantages of new information technologies were used during the project.

The anti-violence campaign included lobbying to local authorities, but it also implied other measures such as opinion polls, an awareness-raising concert, distributing posters against violence and establishing a centre where various local NGOs can have access to Internet and gain the necessary information.

Project title:	Intercommunication of environmental NGOs
Grantee:	Environnemental Protection Association "Aquila"
Budget approved:	4.180 DM
Location:	Peja
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	December 2001

The organisers managed to successfully sensitise government institutions about the environmental protection of the Rugova Gorge. The project also served to merge the activities of environmental NGOs in Kosovo and their involvement in an all-inclusive network with the aim of coordinating their work and having permanent cooperation.

A brochure was published in English (Eko-Guida) dedicated to the ecological system of the Rugova Gorge. The brochure was presented at the Forum of Young Environmentalists held in Copenhagen, a network where "Aquila" is a member.



Project title:	Training for members of Board of Mitrovica NGOs
Grantee:	Board of Mitrovica NGOs
Budget approved:	€14.784
Location:	Mitrovica and Ulcinj
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	April 2002

The project was successful in training and establishing cooperation between the two boards of two Albanian and Serb NGOs from Mitrovica. The first two meetings were held separately for each board in Mitrovica, whilst the third meeting, which focused on interethnic cooperation, was held in Ulcinj. The trainings in Mitrovica helped develop the techniques and skills of the participants in strategic planning, analysis and project management. The training in Ulcinj helped the participants acquire the valuable knowledge on the field of social marketing.

The aim of the training was for participants to convey their skills and knowledge to their respective colleagues. The trainings created a climate of understanding and cooperation thus paving way to the first ideas for solving the mutual problems of both communities.

Project title:	1-year support for KODI activities
Grantee:	Kosovar Research and Documentation Institute - KODI
Budget approved:	€11.102
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	1 year
Inception date:	March 2002

The support given to KODI enabled the launch of an all-Kosovar debate on the process of interethnic reconciliation and tolerance in Kosovo. KODI developed a professional and intensive campaign for identifying cases of human rights violations by the state and parties in conflict against the residents of Kosovo during and after the war. KODI also analysed and reached important conclusions about the events and circumstances that led to the armed conflict and stimulated and promoted the hard process of reconciliation between different ethnic communities in Kosovo.

Such support is especially important for the long-term period, as the experience has helped KODI launch a similar activity in other levels with the same commitment and efficiency.

Project title:	Democracy online – Interethnic networking and democracy education
Grantee:	KCSF
Budget approved:	€6.114
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	November 2002

The project contributed to the process of interethnic reconciliation in Kosovo through the activity of “i-democracy-learning”. New information technologies, especially the Internet, were used to prepare a valuable database and trainings for NGOs that participated in the project. The NGOs were linked in a network of cooperation, after being previously trained by KCSF in conflict management. The participants came from all communities in Kosovo. The project is a further development of a previous training in the form of an online academy for democracy.



Project title:	Republication of NGO training manual
Grantee:	KCSF
Budget approved:	3.150 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	December 2001

The manual was first published in 2000 and played a very positive role in setting up a database for the activities of Kosovar NGOs, the first of its kind in Kosovo. Similar to the first time, the manual brought about specialised training material for drafting project proposals, financial proposals, strategic planning and NGO management.

The manual facilitated the work of NGOs in fundraising by standardising the way of drafting project proposals.

Project title:	Three months in prison for those that force others into using drugs or sell drugs.
Grantee:	Initiative for Pragmatic Action
Budget approved:	13.220 DM
Location:	Peja
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	October 2001

The initiative consisted of lobbying and sensitising civic awareness toward the problem of drugs use among youths. The project aimed to increase the attention and support of the public for the endorsement of a law against drug use, as the old law is not in compliance with the new reality.

KCSF Granting Projects

Alongside the overall impact, the project also directly influenced youths in Peja high schools about the consequences of using drugs and the necessity to fight this phenomena in every environment especially in schools.

Project title:	Monitoring the work of elected officials
Grantee:	Resources Centre
Budget approved:	€24.500
Location:	Prizren, Peja, Klina,
Shtime and Obiliq	
Duration:	7 months
Inception date:	December 2002

An alliance of local NGOs launched the monitoring of the work of municipal assemblies in several parts of Kosovo, with the aim of making the decision-making process transparent and accountable to all Kosovo citizens. The project monitored the work of Municipal Assemblies and published their analysis, promoted civic engagement in the decision-making processes, promoted the essence of basic principles of democracy: rule of law, freedom of speech, human rights, etc.

The organisers also monitored the administrative work of special municipal departments, they arranged meetings between citizens or target groups and municipal authorities, public debates on topics of common interest, prepared monthly reports on the work of municipalities and assisted the municipalities in staging regular press conferences with the aim of providing citizens with comprehensive and accurate information.



Project title:	Building organisational/ implementation capacities of local NGOs
Grantee:	KCSF
Budget approved:	€66.500
Location:	Kosovo, Macedonia
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	September 2002

A large number of international NGOs implemented valuable activities in post-war Kosovo. However, the results of their activities were mainly short-term and suffered from lack of sustainability. Local NGOs could naturally work on the growth of sustainability of civil society projects; however, they suffered from the lack of organisational and implementation capacities. For this reason, KCSF decided to launch a broad-based professional training program for a large number of NGOs from all Kosovo communities. The training managed to increase work efficiency, project sustainability and increased the human capacities of NGOs. As part of this program, around 150 representatives of local NGOs were trained in internal organisation, finance management, human resources and good governance. The training equipped the beneficiaries with advanced skills in developing partner relations with donors, the government sector and with other NGOs.

Project title:	Building organisational and training capacities of local NGOs
Grantee:	KCSF
Budget approved:	€56.633
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	May 2003

KCSF Granting Projects

As part of an interactive project and in cooperation with the Management Development Foundation, KCSF launched the initiative for building the organisational and training capacities of local non-governmental organisations, by setting up a team of 8 trainers that was later engaged in capacity building projects. The first target group consisted of representatives of 20 Kosovar NGOs from all ethnic communities that directly enhanced their capacities. The second group consisted of potential trainers that had attended previous courses and were oriented in this profession. The latter will be highly required in the future in the sense of conveying their knowledge and skills to other beneficiaries from civil society. The KCSF had planned that in 2004 the trainers of this project would train around 100 Kosovar NGOs. The trainings were organised in Kosovo and the Netherlands in cooperation with the MDF staff.

Project title:	Building regional partnership and networking
Grantee:	KCSF & OSCE
Budget approved:	€1.400
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	September 2003

In cooperation with the OSCE and other organisations, the KCSF participated in organising a regional conference of around 60 NGOs from Albania, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, FYROM, Greece and Serbia and Montenegro. The conference relied on the conclusion that the activity of NGO can take on new dimensions through networking and regional cooperation in the democratic transition of some of the abovementioned countries. The conference resulted in several initiatives for joint ventures and a strategic orientation toward networking in the key areas of these activities.

Gender

Chapter

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EAR Civil Society Funding
2001 - 2005
Civil Society Grants
in Kosovo
Report from the KCSF
Granting Projects

GENDER

Project title:	Gender equality rights
Grantee:	Women's Association, Gjakova
Budget approved:	27.460 DM
Location:	Gjakova
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	December 2001

The Women's Association in Gjakova held 2 seminars, 2 roundtables and 10 meetings to promote the idea of gender equality, to discuss and analyse the most concerning problems of women in Kosovar society, the concrete opportunities to implement positive discrimination policies for women in public life and especially in politics, as well as methods for awareness-raising and support from citizens and policy-makers for such policies.

The activities were implemented in close cooperation with local authorities and government representatives. The activities also included women activists from various women associations from all over Kosovo, local and international gender affairs experts and representatives of main Kosovar media. Around 500 participants attended the activity.

Project title:	Role of women in Kosovar society
Grantee:	Afrodita
Budget approved:	20.493 DM
Location:	Ferizaj
Duration:	12 months
Inception date:	December 2001

The Ferizaj-based "Afrodita" association chose media (radio and TV) to communicate to the public the key message of its campaign: a greater role for women in public life, overcoming prejudices in the professional area for unemployed women that apply for employment, lobbying for legal protection of women rights, fighting differentiations in the employment process, etc.

The association prepared the radio and TV shows in cooperation with professional journalists that have previous experience in this area. The shows consisted of discussions and debates with experts, local and central authorities and ordinary citizens.

Project title:	Business training for women for a brighter future
Grantee:	Vlera, Gjilan
Budget approved:	17.127 DM
Location:	Gjilan
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	October 2001

Financial independence was the key target of the training that the Gjilan-based "Vlera" association held with around 175 women from rural areas. The trainings helped the beneficiaries acquire the necessary knowledge to start, function and manage micro-businesses in their villages.

Apart from an empowering role, the women also benefited from the fact that this was the first time that they were taking on leadership responsibilities in independent enterprises.

Some of the ideas that were raised during the training proved to be successful as the beneficiaries started their own businesses.



Project title:	With health education to a better future
Grantee:	Shqiponjat e Dardanas, Dardana
Budget approved:	23.653 DM
Location:	Dardana
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	October 2001

The project was successful in the awareness-raising of women for health protection, reducing the number of diseases, training women on infant care and preventing specific female diseases. Around 330 women regularly attended the courses led by medical experts. The project was implemented in an area that traditionally suffered from a low level of health education and lacked the proper medical infrastructure.

Project title:	Management of reproductive health
Grantee:	"Ne jemi me ju", Gjakova
Budget approved:	50.000 DM
Location:	Gjakova
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	October 2001

Studies by international organisations in Gjakova identified numerous problems related to reproductive health. The project was dedicated to 6 health centres, 4 elementary schools and a high school with over 5,000 students. The beneficiaries were around 18,000 women in the entire area. The project was initially launched by "Save the Children", USAID. This time, the organisers received expert assistance from the Department of Healthcare and Social Well-being in the Provisional Institutions of Self-Government.

In closing, the project secured continuity by bringing support to family healthcare.

Project title:	Health education for women
Grantee:	Teuta, Prizren
Budget approved:	40.000 DM
Location:	Prizren and surrounding villages
Duration:	8 months
Inception date:	October 2001

The project raised the awareness of women in this area about the importance of health protection, the health of children and other family members and for reducing the number of diseases. The organisers provided broad information to women about their social rights in family, society and in the public life and at the same time encouraged them to play a greater role in the future.

Messages were conveyed through group lectures and individual advisory meetings, especially with pregnant women. The lecturing staff also included a sociologist, a pediatrician and a gynaecologist.

Project title:	What women want in politics
Grantee:	Koalicioni i Gruas, KFOS, KCSF
Budget approved:	24.765 DM
Location:	Kosovo
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	July 2001

The project enabled the beneficiaries to get upclose information on current politics, to study gender affairs, to improve their public speech and to maximise their performances in election campaigns. Throughout the project, the beneficiaries were able to engage in



working groups and in constant dialogue. At the end of the process, the beneficiaries acquired advanced knowledge on the challenges of involvement in politics and public relations vis-à-vis the voters.

The beneficiaries were around 30 Kosovar women that have submitted their candidacy in the elections.

Project title:	Let's raise a healthy generation
Grantee:	Group of Education Veterans
Budget approved:	15.160 DM
Location:	Vushtrri villages
Duration:	4 months
Inception date:	August 2001

The beneficiaries of this initiative were women and young girls from the villages of Vushtrri municipality. Through professional lectures, the beneficiaries acquired the necessary knowledge to successfully confront the problems of reproduction healthcare or maternity. Around 100 women actively participated in the training that focused on disease prevention, reducing the mortality rate of infants, etc.

The activities were implemented in areas that have limited access to healthcare information.

Project title:	For a Better Life
Grantee:	Association "Drita", Prishtina
Budget approved:	8.000 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	August 2001

"Drita" Association decided to support a group of 40 unemployed women to help them be more competitive in the labour market by training them in finances

for microbusinesses, management and marketing. Apart from individual training for employment, the women participants acquired broad knowledge for creating and successfully managing independent microbusinesses.

The indirect beneficiaries of this initiative were the families of the women that would benefit in case of their employment.

Project title:	Women integration in political life and in local administration
Grantee:	Kosova Women Initiative
Budget approved:	5.300 DM
Location:	Gjakova
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	December 2001

The project managed to facilitate a greater role of local NGOs in increasing the role of women in the activities of local government. Unlike most projects, this one focused specifically in increasing the role of women and their rights, at the level of local administration, where the administration meets the daily problems of citizens, namely the problems of women.

Four public debates were organised with successful women and experts in gender affairs to discuss and support a greater role of women in the activities of local government. The initiative was supported by local authorities in Gjakova.



Project title:	Training for microbusinesses
Grantee:	Vicianet, Vushtrri
Budget approved:	7.691 DM
Location:	Vushtrri and surrounding villages
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	December 2001

“Vicianet” held a series of professional trainings during a 3-month period to enable changes in the economic and social position of women in the area. The project enabled women beneficiaries to increase their professional skills, especially women who are involved in business management. The initiative also helped motivate women in launching minor initiatives, such as micro-businesses, by securing a modest income of funds for their families.

What made the project even more important was the fact that it was implemented in an area characterised by a high unemployment area, especially among women.

Project title:	Education for women and their rights
Grantee:	Women from Llapusha
Budget approved:	€3.656
Location:	Llapusha
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	January 2002

The Association “Women from Llapusha” organised a series of unpredicted activities to create an argued base for advancing the rights of women and increasing their role in the public life.

The activities included lectures with women of the region, an opinion poll on the role of women in society

and an awareness-raising campaign about the current situation and opportunities for emancipation in the future.

Project title:	Webpage on Gender Affairs
Grantee:	Documentary Information Centre
Budget approved:	€4.525
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	April 2002

The Document Information Centre decided to create an alternative source of information about the situation of women's rights and the current position of women in Kosovar society. This was done by opening a webpage that contained a summary of detailed information and the respective factual, legal and scientific literature.

The webpage is constantly updated and serves as an interacting tool with Kosovar women about their problems.

Project title:	Networking for advocacy and campaigns for gender affairs
Grantee:	Jeta ime, Ferizaj
Budget approved:	€6.671
Location:	Gjakova and Ferizaj
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	April 2002

The initiative was effective in establishing contacts and exchanging experiences and information between NGOs of the region, raising the level of NGOs engaged in gender affairs and training for advocacy and awareness-raising campaign.



A special and concrete aspect of the project was to organise a lobbying and awareness-raising campaign for the education of minor girls. This was done in cooperation with NGOs from Gjakova and Albania.

Project title:	Training of women in agricultural production and business
Grantee:	Agrodrenasi and Shpresa
Budget approved:	€3.033
Location:	Drenas
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	December 2001

Unlike other projects, the project was dedicated to widows. The latter had the opportunity to attend training in agricultural production and for creating microbusinesses.

The beneficiaries were around 30 widows from the villages in the Drenas area. The project was very important for them, especially taking into account the fact that the region is relatively poor and that the women didn't enjoy sufficient economic support from their relatives or the local government.

Project title:	Conference "Women and Kosovo's Economy"
Grantee:	"Motrat Qiriazhi" and Kosovo Women Network
Budget approved:	20.880 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	November 2001

The Conference "Women and Kosovo's Economy" achieved positive results in awareness-raising for the issue of women that are skilled to contribute to

economic development, influencing the international administration in Kosovo about the problems of women and to implement support policies for their full integration, opening doors of communication with local government representatives to address more seriously gender affairs at the level, setting up an information forum for women that want to engage in the area of economy, etc.

The conference also managed to build the required human infrastructure for disseminating information about the changed economic environment in Kosovo, the implementation of rights of employed women and protection from discrimination, advising on women participation in economic decision-making processes.

Around 200 participants attended the conference: representatives of political parties, the Government, NGOs that work on gender affairs, UNMIK, ethnic minorities, etc.

Project title:	Creating a centre for women
Grantee:	SHPG "Hareja"
Budget approved:	21.743 DM
Location:	Rahovec
Duration:	12 months
Inception date:	September 2001

The project set up a centre for women in Rahovec. The Centre is conceived as a venue to stimulate women for making the necessary steps for improving their individual position by increasing their professional skills. The women were trained in projects for generating financial income and in promotion of their rights and a more important role in society. The Centre currently organises specific professional courses for women and young girls (foreign languages, computers, Internet, various professions, etc), provides psycho-



social assistance, legal support, etc.

The Centre immediately started work in organising awareness-raising campaigns for problems of women and for their integration in decision-making at the local level, by ensuring a broad support from the public and local media.

Project title:	Workshop in cleaning facilities
Grantee:	Shqiponjat e Dardanës, Dardana.
Budget approved:	€13.526
Location:	Gjilan, Dardana
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	September 2002

The project consisted of the establishment of a micro-business for 8 women from villages in the Dardana region. Thanks to support by KCSF, the beneficiaries secured the necessary equipment for starting their business (cleaning various buildings and facilities: apartments, offices, hotels, etc) and the necessary training for business development. The functioning of their business in the market led to the employment of the group of women, to support for their NGOs and to their improved position in the community. The social position of the beneficiaries improved thanks to their financial independence. The project managed to achieve its objectives in a sustainable manner by consolidating the micro-business that was built by the beneficiaries.

Project title:	Paths of life
Grantee:	Drita e Krushës, Prishtina
Budget approved:	€5.400
Location:	Krusha e Madhe
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	November 2002

Through this grant, KCSF supported the initiative for the training of a considerable number of women, mainly single housewives, to integrate economically in the community and to ensure their financial independence. The beneficiaries (around 60 women of different ages) were trained by specialists in setting up micro-businesses and in finance administration, marketing and management in general. Thanks to support by KCSF, the beneficiaries acquired the necessary knowledge and skills to start and manage new micro-businesses. The activity managed to improve their position in the rural community and helped them create more dignifying conditions for themselves and their families.

Project title:	Let's help ourselves and others
Grantee:	Healthy Family Planning Association
Budget approved:	€4.300
Location:	Prishtina and surrounding rural areas.
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	September 2002

The project raised the awareness of women from rural areas near the capital, on problems related to first aid, fighting mortality during birth, basic principles for family planning and protection against diseases that affect mainly women.

The activities consisted of systematic workshops with encouraging participation of women beneficiaries that lack access to health education. There were also radio and TV shows that were accompanied with publications on similar contents.



Project title:	A healthy family – our future
Grantee:	Group of Education Veterans, Vushtrri
Budget approved:	€9.840
Location:	6 villages in Vushtrri
municipality	
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	November 2002

The project is part of the series of projects for the health education of women. Workshops and other ways of communication with women and girls (mainly those that plan to get married) managed to successfully raise the awareness about the key risks that threaten the health of women, awareness-raising about the importance of risk prevention especially in cases of maternal mortality, prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, etc.

The workshops were held by experts in these areas and were based on the scientific and practical cases of the reality in Kosovo.

Project title:	Trainings for small businesses
Grantee:	"Vicianet" Association, Vushtrri
Budget approved:	€3.413
Location:	Vushtrri
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	September 2002

Capacity building of women for starting micro-businesses was the core and main achievement of this project as an advanced step to improve their position in society and for independence as a condition for gender emancipation.

The project consisted of intensive trainings for women beneficiaries, most of whom were unemployed. Apart from trainings in micro-business, the project also managed to increase the individual skills of unemployed women that aim to join the local labour market. Improving the economic position through sustainable employment was another valuable result of the project.

Project title:	Health education of women for healthy children
Grantee:	Anti DANS, Prishtina
Budget approved:	€7.095
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	September 2002

The aims of this project were awareness-raising for problems related to reproductive health, avoiding undesired pregnancies, preventing sexually transmitted diseases. The project managed to achieve these aims through a series of trainings, lectures, discussions with experts and exchange of advanced experiences. Alongside experts of various fields, the project also engaged representatives of decision-making structures, such as representatives of the Ministry of Healthcare, members of the Kosovo Assembly and representatives of civil society organisations.

The basic training material was published in two languages, Albanian and Serbian, in order to give guidance to representatives of national minorities.



Project title:	Women in decision-making
Grantee:	KCSF
Budget approved:	€28.155
Location:	Kosovo
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	April 2003

The project was perceived as assistance to strengthening the role of women in public institutions and government through capacity building for these positions. The main beneficiaries were Kosovar women from the Gender Equality Committee of the Kosovo Assembly, the Gender Equality Office at the Office of the Prime Minister, the Gender Equality Office within UNMIK, etc.) Visible results were achieved in: getting a better understanding of leadership and responsibilities and challenges from the women's perspective, training women beneficiaries in planning and implementing projects for establishing equal opportunities in society, exchanging experiences with women leaders of the region.

The project activities also included: 6-day trainings with 15 women from public institutions in Croatia, visits to the Croatian Parliament (Gender Equality Committee, Zagreb), MAPA trainings on leadership and its challenges, etc.

Project title:	Trainings for activists of associations in Rahovec for regional networking and cooperation.
Grantee:	Hareja, Rahovec.
Budget approved:	€8.635
Location:	Rahovec
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	April 2003

The project addressed the issue of women involvement in public life from a different perspective. Women leaders of the most renowned gender NGOs were trained for playing a more important role in promoting the role of women in society. The trainings were focused in the concrete work of these women in the NGOs they represented.

At the same time, the project also helped increase lobbying capacities of NGOs that address gender problems. Another important element was creating new opportunities for networking and cooperation between NGOs from various ethnic communities, Albanian, Serb, Roma, etc. The beneficiaries also had the opportunity to learn from the experiences of similar NGOs from Bosnia.

Project title:	Gender affairs and globalisation in the Balkans
Grantee:	IDERK, Prishtina
Budget approved:	€9.910
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	March 2003

The project supported the empowerment of the role of women and improving the role of women in society as part of general globalisation tendencies, through cooperation between NGOs and various institutions in the Balkans. This was achieved through identification and information on reasons behind gender inequality during transition, comparing the current situations in regional countries and setting up a joint platform for cooperation in the future. Beneficiaries included around 50 women from civil society and other important regional institutions.



The project was held as a conference with broad representation from Montenegro, Serbia, Vojvodina, Macedonia, Albania and Kosovo. The regional character of participants also reflected in the composition of the organising and lecturing staff.

Project title:	Helping everyone
Grantee:	Gunesh, Prishtina
Budget approved:	€2.568
Location:	Ajvali
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	June 2003

The project proved successful in encouraging financial independence and improving the position of Turkish women in Kosovo, through their employment in micro-businesses. The project provided the necessary training for starting up these businesses and also certain funds to cover the initial expenditures.

Project title:	Strengthening and increasing the influence of NGOs of minority women
Grantee:	ZORA network.
Budget approved:	€5.034
Location:	Brezovica
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	February 2003

The support for this project helped organise the Assembly of the network of Serb women NGOs by Serb and Roma communities in northern Kosovo and in some other enclaves. The successful efforts for networking reached the highest peak with the clear formulation of the program for strengthening and increasing the influence of women NGOs, for promoting the role of women in decision-making and politics, as well as the inter-sectorial cooperation between these NGOs.

The project also proved successful in the capacity building of participating NGOs for cooperation with donors and other important local and international actors.

Project title:	Headdress course
Grantee:	Dora e shpresës, Dragash.
Budget approved:	€4.220
Location:	Dragash
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	November 2002

The project had a direct impact in increasing the skills of women to adapt to market requirements and to improve their position by developing their professional skills. The beneficiaries were 21 Albanian and Gorani women from Dragash. They attended courses in handicrafts and more specifically clothes for brides, having previously secured a market for their products. For some of the women this was the first professional experience ever. In the long-term plan, the courses also aimed at training for micro-businesses in this area.

Project title:	Professional training of women farmers for business management.
Grantee:	Ardhmëria jonë, Theranda.
Budget approved:	€4.835
Location:	Theranda
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	February 2003

Thanks to this project, a group of 60 women acquired the necessary knowledge and encouragement to start and manage agricultural micro-businesses in the Prizren region. This was achieved through training in micro-business management and marketing. In the



psychological and social aspect, the main achievement was to overcome the psychological barriers to see a different role of women in society as leaders of an independent economic enterprise.

In the long-term plan, the project fulfilled the will of beneficiaries to be able to launch independent businesses and thus create a high level of independence.

Moreover, the project also achieved indirect results in capacity building for this area and to reduce to a certain extent the unemployment rate in the region.

Project title:	Supplying technical equipment for accounting and staff training
Grantee:	Venera, Peja.
Budget approved:	€4.300
Location:	Peja
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	November 2002

The project proved successful in empowering the role of women and improving their position in society through training in micro-business management. Around 30 women from Peja attended the training in accounting and management which was held during a 3-month period. Unlike some other projects, these trainings were dedicated to women that had already run micro-businesses in the Peja region. One of the long-term objectives of the project was to train the beneficiaries in conveying to the younger generations the knowledge in accounting and business management.

Project title:	Business training
Grantee:	Kalabria, Prishtina
Budget approved:	€5.190
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	April 2003

The project managed to provide basic knowledge to women participants about setting up and managing businesses. The 8-hour trainings, during 3 days for various groups of beneficiaries managed to stimulate the will of women participants to launch minor economic activities.

Similar to most projects of this program, this project was also implemented in the spirit of empowering the role of women through their financial independence and a more important role in society.

Project title:	Promoting the issue of women in the 2002 municipal elections
Grantee:	Gruaja sot, Prizren
Budget approved:	€4.000
Location:	Prizren
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	October 2002

The project had a direct impact in changing positions toward gender issues at the highest institutions of the country. This was achieved by sensitising Kosovo's institutions and communities about the importance of women participation in municipal administration and by increasing institutional support for gender equality in politics. The beneficiaries included a very broad group. It included women candidates for 2002 elections, women in general and the Kosovar society.



The main activities were roundtables with broad participation, TV shows and publication of informative and awareness-raising materials.

Project title:	Monitoring print media on political activities of women.
Grantee:	Internews Kosova, Prishtina.
Budget approved:	€4.000
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	September 2002

Thanks to support by KCSF, Internews Kosova evidenced the presence of Kosovar women in political processes, sensitised the relevant entities about the role of the media in promoting women in politics and decision-making and also helped secure broad support for the idea of empowering the role of women in politics and government.

The activity of the project relied in analysis of print media coverage of women engagement in politics, analysis of problems related to gender issues in politics and analysis of gender representation in journalism.

Internews Kosova also launched a substantial comparison of articles published during the election campaign and an analysis of the attention that political parties pay to women candidates in the election race.

Project title:	One step toward employment
Grantee:	Dera e Hapur, Prishtina.
Budget approved:	€7.220
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	9 months
Inception date:	February 2003

The project was implemented in the spirit of empowering the role of women by putting her at the focus of initiatives for starting micro-businesses. Women beneficiaries were trained in creating businesses and individual capacity building aimed at employment and organising advisory sessions on micro-business management. The activities were mainly focused toward women that cannot attend similar trainings and courses that require payment.

A special element of the project was the expansion of the advisory support to a 9-month period thus involving a broader range of problems and issues.

Project title:	Conference on women's participation in regional institutional developments.
Grantee:	KCSF
Budget approved:	€5,900 (from the total of 200.000 Euro)
Location:	Brezovica
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	March 2003

The conference was part of the promotion of equal gender opportunities in the public and institutional life. The project was implemented in cooperation with KCSF, OSCE, Mother Teresa Association and the Novi Sad-based Regionalisation Centre. Representatives of women NGOs from Kosovo, Romania, Hungary, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro and Bulgaria attended the conference.

Participants exchanged their experiences and build new relations and strengthened the existing ones.

The project achieved its objective by establishing cooperation between regional NGOs and by enabling



new opportunities for joint projects. The conference was also a new and powerful starting point for addressing the level of women participation in institutional life and civil society.

Project title:	Women in 2002 municipal elections
Grantee:	KCSF - KFOS
Budget approved:	€4.000
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	September 2002

The project provided Kosovar women candidates in 2002 municipal elections with the opportunity to study the role and responsibilities of politicians in building a civil society in an alternative way by analysing gender issues, the components of elections campaign and through training in political speech and leadership roles. The project consisted of several awareness-raising activities for empowering the role of women in municipal development and the political and governing development of women. The activities also included meetings with women candidates and women leaders, trainings on the role of women in public life, etc.

Project title:	Production activities ensure economic independence of women
Grantee:	Vlera, Gjilan
Budget approved:	€14.019
Location:	Ponesh, Gjilan
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	November 2002

The project created a sustainable economic foundation for the independence of several women groups

through support in establishing and developing micro-businesses. Beneficiaries of the project were trained to act as successful actors in the local market through handicraft products. This was achieved thanks to the successful cooperation of the aforementioned NGO and actors of the local market that facilitated the product sale.

The beneficiaries managed to successfully start independent economic enterprises and to ensure a relatively clear and economically stable future.

Project title:	Public policies
Grantee:	Teuta, Prizren
Budget approved:	€8.860
Location:	Prizren
Duration:	8 months
Inception date:	February 2003

The main beneficiaries of the project were female members of municipal assemblies and political activists at various levels. Thanks to the project, the beneficiaries managed to raise the level of their engagement in decision-making and at the same time secure a more important position in the process. At the same time, the beneficiaries joined network structures for exchanging political experiences with each other and with gender NGOs and institutions involved in gender policies.

Special emphasis was laid on supporting minority women and the role that they need to play in their communities or in public life in general.

The project also included visits to municipal assemblies in several cities in Albania such as Tirana, Durrës and Shkodra that have positive experiences in advancing the role of women in decision-making.

Minorities

Chapter

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EAR Civil Society Funding
2001 - 2005
Civil Society Grants
in Kosovo
Report from the KCSF
Granting Projects



MINORITIES

Project title:	30 young Kosovar poets
Grantee:	Psychological therapy – Shefkat / Prishtina
Budget approved:	€3.518
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	December 2001

The organisers of this project chose poetry as a way to present a different image for interethnic relations in Kosovo. 30 young Kosovar poets from various ethnic communities participated in an all-Kosovar tour where they jointly presented their poems. The activity was finalised with a publication of their poems in one joint book.

The project gave its contribution to a climate of understanding and building new bridges of tolerance and cooperation.

Project title:	Internet Club
Grantee:	Majka Devet Jugoviqa
Budget approved:	25.400 DM
Location:	Graçanica
Duration:	12 months
Inception date:	December 2001

KCSF provided financial support to the establishment of an Internet Centre in Graçanica. The centre is dedicated mainly to youths and professionals that use the Internet to develop their individual or professional activity.

KCSF Granting Projects

Apart from the Internet Centre, the association also received assistance in starting up several Internet courses for the beneficiaries of the centre. The Centre helped many youths in their efforts to enrichen their knowledge with information from the world, and at the same time increased the opportunity of communicating with people and institutions from other countries.

Project title:	Minority protection and integration
Grantee:	CDHRF
Budget approved:	15.000 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	October 2001

The Council for the Defense of Human Rights and Freedoms organised several roundtables in Prishtina that focused on the problems of minorities in Kosovo. Experts from various fields, international administration representatives (UNMIK, OSCE, UNHCR), representatives of political parties and Kosovar minorities attended the roundtables and voiced their opinions on the topics of discussion. The roundtables paved way to future strategic activities for improving the position of minorities. The activity also helped break the ice and organise the first debate with the participation and organisation of stakeholders.

Project title:	Majority protects minorities
Grantee:	Human Rights and Legal Initiative Professional Centre, Prishtina
Budget approved:	6.250 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	August 2001



The project served to raise the Albanian majority's awareness about the importance and need to integrate minorities in the social, economic, political, cultural and educational life in Kosovo.

The project consisted of a series of public debates on: progress of minority rights, importance of minority rights protection, importance of tolerance and cooperation between various ethnic communities. The debates were chaired by experts in these fields and ensured mass participation even by minority representatives.

Project title:	Cooperation and coexistence in Kosovo
Grantee:	Kosovo Association for Cooperation - ALEM
Budget approved:	24.580 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	August 2001

The main of the project were the development of tolerance and promotion of gender equality. All this was seen from the perspective of successful integration in Kosovar society through employment as a criteria for integration. For this reason, ALEM organised a seminar on "The role of languages spoken in Kosovo and the role of media in various languages for interethnic cooperation" and a roundtable in Prizren on "Similarities between postwar situations in Kosovo and Bosnia". The lectures that were held in both activities were published and distributed to the participants and to local and international authorities.

With special focus on the employment issue, ALEM also organised three-month courses in Albanian

and English for minority members in Prishtina and Prizren by enabling them to become real competitors in the process of employment. Around 100 minority members successfully attended the courses.

The grant also supported the publication of 6 editions of the weekly magazine ALEM and the organisation of a concert with Bosniak performers with the aim of promoting the idea and conveying the message of this project.

Project title:	Bosniak language program in Radio Mitrovica
Grantee:	NGO "Mitrovica"
Budget approved:	10.800 DM
Location:	Mitrovica
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	October 2001

The Bosniak program in Radio Mitrovica was initiated by the NGO, but it took on its full professional meaning with the support from KCSF, which helped meet technical requirements and human resources.

Bearing in mind the large number of the Bosniak and Serb-speaking community in Mitrovica, the program had special importance in providing these members with information in their language.

At the same time, the program also contributed to increasing the feeling of security and interethnic tolerance, bearing in mind the audience of the radio and the fact that a majority radio station was also broadcasting programs in other languages.



Project title:	Multiethnic youth workshop in arts - Colony
Grantee:	Misija Ljudi Dobre Volje – Mitrovica and ALEM – Prizren
Budget approved:	7.367 DM
Location:	Mitrovica
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	December 2001

The goal of the organisers was to establish normal relations of cooperation between representatives of the new generations of Serb, Bosniak and Albanian communities, by choosing painting as a tool for communication. In a two-phased competition, they selected the best 16 paintings from 700 pupils of two elementary schools in Mitrovica and Prizren, and then followed this with an artistic workshop in Montenegro.

This was the first time that two NGOs, Serb and Bosniak, launched a joint initiative and implemented it successfully by setting a perfect example for professional interethnic cooperation.

Project title:	Training leaders of minority NGOs
Grantee:	KCSF
Budget approved:	11.028 DM
Location:	Kosovo
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	December 2001

Bearing in mind the difficulties in the work of minority NGOs, KCSF organised the training of NGO leaders in various parts of Kosovo. The trainings focused and managed to improve the quality of project-proposals, implementation capacities, evaluation and monitoring capacities and the drafting of long-term sustainability strategies.

The trainings were divided into two key groups with 20 participants each. At the end of the training, each participant successfully prepared a full project-proposal. The trainers were Albanian and Serb.

A manual in Serbian and Albanian was designed, published and distributed to these NGOs to help them in their future work.

Project title:	Publication of human rights magazine
Grantee:	Human Rights Centre at Prishtina University
Budget approved:	5.000 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	4 months
Inception date:	August 2001

The Human Rights Centre at Prishtina University raised the issue of human rights protection at the academic level by publishing a magazine (Kosovar Human Rights Review) for a specific audience: social sciences students, journalists, analysts, researchers, academics, and people involved in decision-making processes. The Review was published in Albanian and English and was prepared by local university experts and foreign professors that co-operate with the Centre in the field of human rights.

Project title:	Let's learn together
Grantee:	Association "Vision Toward the Future", Shtime
Budget approved:	3.670 DM
Location:	Shtime
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	August 2001



A group of Albanian and Ashkali girls had the opportunity to attend computer courses. The beneficiaries were young and unemployed girls. The courses helped train the girls and increase their employment opportunities (in fact the NGO hired some of the girls immediately after the training) but above all it helped create good friendly relations between the girls of two communities.

The key achievement of the project was building of bridges of cooperation between the girls, by creating relations that will facilitate general communication between the two communities and set positive examples.

Project title:	Courses in English language, information technology and driving
Grantee:	"Kollo Srpskih Sestara", Zubin-Potok
Budget approved:	Zubin-Potok
Location:	19.200 DM
Duration:	12 months
Inception date:	October 2001

The high unemployment rate is a serious concern of all Kosovo citizens, including the minorities. The organisers of the project tried to alleviate the problem by organising courses in English, in information technology and in driving. The focus of the courses were mainly unemployed Serb women as the most vulnerable group.

By increasing the employment opportunities of the beneficiaries, the project also helped alleviate the integration of minority members in Kosovar society. At the same time, the training raised the motivation of beneficiaries for greater involvement in social developments.

KCSF Granting Projects

Project title:	Women in economy
Grantee:	Centre for Interethnic Relations, Peja.
Budget approved:	1.285 DM
Location:	Peja
Duration:	1 months
Inception date:	December 2001

The project focused on interethnic relations from a specific standpoint: the engagement of women in economic development. Beneficiaries were women from various ethnic groups, as the basic goal of the project was to create mechanisms of cooperation regardless of ethnic differences.

A two-day seminar was organised in Peja with the attendance of experts in economy, graduated economists, teachers in economic schools, etc. The seminar outlined the role of women in economic development and paved way to strengthening the role of Kosovar women, regardless of ethnicities, in the process of economic transition toward a genuine market economy. Special emphasis was laid on the active participation of Kosovar women in the process of establishing bank capacities as one of the key sectors of the country's economic strategy.

Project title:	Association "Jelena Anzhajska"
Grantee:	Training for NGOs from Northern Mitrovica
Budget approved:	4.326 DM
Location:	Mitrovica
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	December 2001



Project drafting and fund-raising was one of the aspects of the work of minority NGOs from northern Mitrovica that required improvement. This was made possible through the three-day training of representatives of around 20 Serb NGOs in drafting project proposals and fund-raising. At the same time, the participants were trained in launching civic initiatives and awareness-raising methods.

The trainings were led by experienced trainers from the NGO Development Centre from Podgorica, Montenegro.

Project title:	Bilingual municipal gazette of civil society
Grantee:	Lingua Association, Peja
Budget approved:	14.418 DM
Location:	Peja
Duration:	8 months
Inception date:	December 2001

Thanks to the support by KCSF, civil society in Peja published a bilingual (Albanian and Serbian) magazine that portrays the activities of civil society and paves way to communication with local authorities. Thus, the new magazine created the necessary forum for debating important public issues, it raised civic awareness on various problems, it paved way to transparent work by the municipal assembly and it enabled citizens to voice their opinions and positions regarding specific problems.

With its bilingual nature the magazine contributed to the integration of minorities in the public life by encouraging their active engagement in addressing and resolving problems.

KCSF Granting Projects

Project title:	Health education for Serb and Roma women and students
Grantee:	"Kosovar Woman" Association, Dardana
Budget approved:	8.600 DM
Location:	Dardana
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	December 2001

The project was dedicated to young Serb and Roma women as some of the most vulnerable groups with health problems. The project consisted of awareness-raising for family planning, giving birth to and raising healthy children, personal hygiene in order to prevent disease, protection against HIV, etc.

The project achieved very important results due to the fact that the beneficiaries were women from rural areas that have a lower level of education and awareness for health problems, and in most cases ambulances are the only medical institutions in these areas.

Project title:	Turkish monthly magazine in politics, culture and arts
Grantee:	Shefkat, Prishtina
Budget approved:	33.100 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	7 months
Inception date:	August 2001

Supporting the publication of this magazine in the Turkish language constituted an additional argument for members of the Turkish community to integrate in Kosovar society and not flee the country.



The magazine "Demokrasi Ufugu" was the most powerful tool for the socialisation and integration of the Turkish community in politics, culture, economy and social developments.

Project title:	Second Step
Grantee:	Sabor, Mitrovica
Budget approved:	4.106 DM
Location:	Mitrovica
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	December 2001

The project was dedicated to Serb women in Mitrovica. The project enabled them to make the first step in creating small independent businesses and to strengthen their social position through financial independence. The direct beneficiaries were around 20 Serb women from northern Mitrovica.

The project consisted of training for setting up, functioning and managing small businesses. The trainings were led by professional trainers with expertise in this field. Immediately after the training, organisers could witness the implementation of lessons learned by the beneficiaries.

Project title:	Education of blind people in the Serb community
Grantee:	Joint Assistance Action, Zvečan
Budget approved:	14.100 DM
Location:	Northern Mitrovica
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	October 2001

The project provided assistance to a group of blind people in the Serb community. The three-month courses enabled them to learn reading and writing

through the Brace machine. The organisers also arranged meetings with authors and poets, an outdoors trip, cultural and sports activities and legal advice to facilitate the integration of blind people in society.

The essential results of the courses was to encourage a higher level of socialisation of blind people and improving the quality of their daily life.

Project title:	All against drugs
Grantee:	"Haxhi Zeka" Youth Centre, Peja.
Budget approved:	4.525 DM
Location:	Peja
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	December 2001

A serious problem such as drug use requires everyone's commitment. This was precisely reason behind the initiative launched by the Youth Centre "Haxhi Zeka" with the motto "All against drugs". The organisers addressed drug consumers and potential consumers about the problems deriving from drug use. A specific aspect of the campaign was that it focused on all people regardless of their ethnicity and the staff of the association is ethnically mixed.

The campaign included publication and distribution of posters, leaflets and announcements on radio stations. The campaign focused on youths especially in collective environments such as high schools.



71

EAR Civil Society
Funding 2001 - 2005
Civil Society Grants
in Kosovo
Report from the
KCSF Granting
Projects

Project title:	Development and preservation of Turkish folklore
Grantee:	Association of Turkish Musicians and Authors "Ballkan", Prizren
Budget approved:	7.000 DM
Location:	Prizren and region
Duration:	16 months
Inception date:	December 2001

The project brought to members of the Turkish community the best values of this community's culture that was preserved through centuries. The association of the Turkish minority "Balkan" organised a series of major concerts in various centres where members of the Turkish minority live and work: in elementary and high schools in seven cities in Kosovo, in Prizren factories, in hospitals in Prizren and Gjakova, in a Foster Home, in the Orphanage in Prizren and in the Rehabilitation Centre in Peja. The preservation and cultivation of Turkish culture in Kosovo was done in parallel with the contribution for creating an environment of multiethnic tolerance and cooperation between the Turkish minority and other communities especially with the Albanian majority. The cultural activities helped members of the Turkish minority to find a point of spiritual reference in the grave postwar conditions.

Project title:	English language and computer courses
Grantee:	Zaman, Prishtina
Budget approved:	4.100 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	9 months
Inception date:	September 2001

The project gave considerable assistance to around 70 unemployed Bosniaks, both men and women, to increase their employment opportunities by attending computer and English courses. This opened the doors to beneficiaries for faster integration in Kosovar society, and at the same time improved the position of the Bosniak community in general.

Project title:	Seamstress course
Grantee:	Zaman, Prishtina
Budget approved:	11.930 DM
Location:	Istog
Duration:	9 months
Inception date:	August 2001

The key and greatest success of this initiative was the financial independence of Bosniak women by attending training on economic activities. The beneficiaries were unemployed women from the villages of Istog. They successfully attended the three-month seamstress course. Beneficiaries were divided in three groups with 15 participants each. The project also helped stimulate women in playing a greater role at the level of local communities.

Project title:	Internet Center and Cinema
Grantee:	"Metohia Youth" Association
Budget approved:	3.200 DM
Location:	Gorazhdec
Duration:	12 months
Inception date:	December 2001

Through this initiative, the organisers tried to give the isolated Serb enclave of Gorazhdec greater possibilities of communication with the outside world by setting up an Internet Centre which was of great benefit for the youths of the village. Internet access enabled them to use the world web and get information about specific



areas of interest. For some of them, especially for those that go to school or are employed in specific fields, this proved to be a crucial and very valuable support. Furthermore, the assistance in building a mini-cinema in the village helped in enriching the village's cultural and community activity.

Project title:	Courses in Albanian language
Grantee:	"Mother Teresa" Association, Prizren
Budget approved:	3.190 DM
Location:	Prizren and Dragash
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	December 2001

Intensive and advanced courses in Albanian were organised for members of the Bosniak community to facilitate their integration in Kosovar society. Learning the Albanian language enabled the Bosniak beneficiaries to build new and safer bridges of communication with the Albanian majority to move forward in the field of unemployment and activity in the public sphere. It also enabled them to play a more important role in improving living conditions and joining the public life.

Project title:	Organising the Documentary Film Festival on Human Rights "One World 2001".
Grantee:	Council for the Defense of Human Rights and Freedoms
Budget approved:	11.000 DM
Location:	Prishtina, Gjakova, Mitrovica, Peja, Prizren, Ferizaj and Gjilan
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	December 2001

The Documentary Film Festival on Human Rights "One World 2001" gave precious contribution to promotion of human rights, information on the history of interethnic conflicts, the creation of interethnic tolerance, information on world historic facts on ethnic cleansing and analysis on the phenomenon of child abuse.

The 32 films of the festival were shown in the 7 biggest cities in Kosovo: Prishtina, Gjakova, Mitrovica, Peja, Prizren, Ferizaj and Gjilan. The topics of the movies included: conflicts in the Middle East and Afghanistan, features from various conflict areas in the world, the Balkans conflicts, the problems of Roma in Europe, women discrimination, etc. The entire activity was characterised by the spirit of promoting tolerance, co-existence and interethnic cooperation. The activity has already turned into an annual tradition.

Project title:	Training Ashkali women on their rights within human rights
Grantee:	Ashkali Women Association "Edona" – Dubrava, Ferizaj.
Budget approved:	3.550 DM
Location:	Ferizaj, Dubrava and Fushë-Kosova
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	December 2001

The Ashkali Women Association "Edona" implemented important trainings with 60 Ashkali women from Ferizaj municipality to help them get a better understanding of the universal human rights, the rights of minorities and women, the recognition of all kinds of gender discrimination and recognition of all modern methods for fighting this phenomenon.



75

EAR Civil Society
Funding 2001 - 2005
Civil Society Grants
in Kosovo
Report from the
KCSF Granting
Projects

The activities were implemented in cooperation with the "Norma" Association, that has experience in this field.

The trainings helped the beneficiaries to engage in the local decision-making process and in economic and social processes, to improve their position in their surroundings, etc.

Project title:	Development of implementing capacities of minority NGOs
Grantee:	KCSF and KFOS
Budget approved:	12.174 DM
Location:	Ulcinj
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	October 2001

The project focused on the work of Kosovar minority NGOs and implemented a training for their representatives so that they can play a bigger and more effective role in civil society.

The trainings discussed and identified the basic possibilities of action in the current circumstances in Kosovo. Unlike other trainings, this one especially focused on the implementation of projects launched. Apart from internal capacity-building of NGOs, the trainings also served to strengthen the role of minorities in the public life in Kosovo.

Trainings were led by local and foreign professional trainers, including trainers for minorities.

Project title:	Let's get informed today so that we can be safe tomorrow
Grantee:	"Anti dans" and "Gesh", Prishtina
Budget approved:	7.150 DM
Location:	Prishtina, Peja, Mitrovica, Prizren
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	October 2001

The danger from drug use and HIV infection was again at the focus of this project. The attention focused on approximately 1,000 young people from Prishtina, Peja, Mitrovica and Prizren who are the most endangered category. The project was a combination of training and lectures. Among other things, the project enabled youth from various Kosovar communities to co-operate with each other and resolve mutual problems and at the same time develop the spirit of multiethnic tolerance.

Project title:	Kosovo Minorities
Grantee:	QHMNR, Prishtina
Budget approved:	€13.000
Location:	Throughout Kosovo
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	October 2002

The focus of the project was the detailed interviewing of around 4,500 members of Kosovo minorities to set up an accurate database on the living conditions and the level of minority integration in Kosovar society. A research was also conducted on the condition and perspective of the social and economic development, the integration and contribution of minorities in the democratisation of Kosovar society. The research was published in Albanian, Serbian and English.



The project played a very important role in raising the awareness of Kosovars about the necessity of minority integration and IDP returns. The poll information serves as a good basis for administrative and political structures that are involved in decision-making processes in Kosovo.

Project title:	Help yourself and others – handiwork and knitting
Grantee:	Bozhur – Babin Most - Obilic
Budget approved:	€4.860
Location:	Babin Most
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	April 2003

The project was a further development of a previous pilot project launched by the UNDP. The project managed to set up good economic basis for a small yet sustainable business that involved around 80 women of the Serb minority. These women were involved in the craft of knitting having previously secured their market. This economic enterprise secured not only the economic position of these women but also the position of their families. Some of the funds of this enterprise were used for other activities of the Serb NGO that financed the project.

Project title:	Literature meetings of children from Central Kosovo
Grantee:	Ruka Ruci – Fushë Kosovë
Budget approved:	€3.863
Location:	Fushë Kosovë
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	October 2002

Literature meetings were the organisers' choice of helping the acknowledgement of Kosovo's cultural values, to analyse the mutual historical impacts of the Albanian, Serbian, Turkish and European literatures. The 200 student beneficiaries were seen as conveyers of a broad message that was sent to families and communities, a message of peaceful communication of the spiritual and cultural achievements and wealth of all ethnic communities.

Project title:	Cooperation
Grantee:	Sabor, Mitrovica
Budget approved:	€6.855
Location:	Mitrovica
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	March 2003

30 women of the Serb minority were trained in writing project proposals and for fund-raising from donors. The same group was then trained in a special seamstress course that helped them attain professional skills for employment and for improving their and the economic position of their families.

The project also enabled the beneficiaries to convey the skills and knowledge to other women in their areas. This was a good experience for the organiser to expand the project through the beneficiaries.

Project title:	Computer courses
Grantee:	Kosova Democratic Union, Plemetina - Obilic
Budget approved:	€6.000
Location:	Plemetina - Obilic
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	September 2002



The project focused in conveying professional skills to a group of young people affected by unemployment in Plemetina camp, which is inhabited by Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. The project consisted of computer courses for 35 youths and provided them with an additional argument to build a new future for themselves and for the community.

After the project, the computers that were financed by the donor were donated to the elementary school in Plemetina in order to assist in similar trainings and to another NGO to help it expand its activities.

Project title:	Centre
Grantee:	Committee for Protection of Minority Rights in Kosovo
Budget approved:	€5.388
Location:	Babin Most, Milosheva, Plemetina, Janjina Vodica, Crkvena Vodica and Obiliq
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	April 2003

Thanks to the support by KCSF, the Committee set up a centre that focused its activities in the employment of women, regulating the status of citizens, encouraging IDP returns and assisting people with limited abilities. During the three-month period, the new centre, which covers Babin Most, Milosheva, Plemetin, Janjina Vodica, Crkvena Vodica and Obiliq, provided legal assistance to citizens in locating their missing documents, collecting information on violation of human rights, collecting information for handicapped people, collecting information on the economic and employment situation and creating a clear picture for returnees. These processes were accompanied by debates and discussions with representatives of

KCSF Granting Projects

local government, NGOs that are engaged in this area and other local and international organisations that operate in Kosovo.

Project title:	Youth magazine - Future
Grantee:	Multiethnic Peace Centre for Youth and Children, Mitrovica
Budget approved:	€14.545
Location:	Mitrovica
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	April 2003

Through the publication of a youth magazine, the organisers contributed to the promotion of tolerance and understanding in multiethnic settlements, to increased communication between ethnic communities in Kosovo, promotion of multiethnic cooperation for joint goals and for improving the position of minorities. Around 500 young Albanians, Serbs and Bosniaks were beneficiaries of the project.

The magazine was printed in 1.000 copies, 500 each in Albanian and Serbian. The editing staff consisted of various ethnic groups.

Project title:	Alem – Weekly magazine in Bosniak language
Grantee:	Alem, Prishtina
Budget approved:	€13.040
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	April 2003

Some of the considerable achievements of this project were increasing the level of information of the Bosniak minority in their language, the integration in Kosovar society and advancing the position of this minority community. KCSF took over the financing of one part of the printing expenditures together with other donors.



ALEM magazine has created its faithful readership and has turned into a powerful tool of information and integration of the Bosniak community in Kosovo. The magazine recently included two supplements for youth and women that had an immediate impact in its quality and the offer to the Bosniak readership.

Project title:	Seminar for educators of addictive diseases
Grantee:	OJAZAS, Mitrovica
Budget approved:	€23.896
Location:	Mitrovica, Kamenica, Shtrpce, Gracanica.
Duration:	5 months
Inception date:	March 2003

The project secured serious support for setting up and developing the network of educators for curing addictive diseases such as smoking, drugs and alcohol. The network has applied to become a member of the global network in this area. 120 youths of minority groups were trained to work as educators and acquired the necessary knowledge for this profession. At the same time, a large number of high school students and members of minority NGOs benefited from the trainings. The trainings were held in areas inhabited mainly by the Serb and Roma minorities: Mitrovica, Kamenica, Shtrpce and Gracanica.

Project title:	Course in Albanian language and culture
Grantee:	AIDA, Prizren
Budget approved:	€6.400
Location:	Prizren
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	September 2003

The beneficiaries of the project were Bosniak women with a relatively high level of education, at least a university degree or a high school diploma. Through intensive courses in Albanian language, the women attained advanced knowledge of the Albanian language to make possible their employment in local or international institutions that require the knowledge of two languages. The project was successful in increasing their employment opportunities and paved way to their full integration in the multiethnic society of Kosovo. The first part of courses was held with donor support, whereas the second part through a modest payment by the beneficiaries.

Project title:	Computer course
Grantee:	International Bosniak Organisation of Greens – Baja e Pejës
Budget approved:	€5.610
Location:	Baja e Pejës
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	September 2003

The project helped several members of the Bosniak community in Peja attain the necessary knowledge in using computers in the level that will help facilitate their employment in various sectors. At the same time, the courses helped the organising NGO to acquire tremendous experience for financing its future activities in the domain of public services for the Bosniak community.

Project title:	Training and education – condition for employment
Grantee:	“Donika” Association
Budget approved:	€1.600
Location:	Prizren
Duration:	4 months
Inception date:	September 2002



Having witnessed the numerous problems related to unemployment in the Prizren region, the "Donika" Association engaged in increasing employment opportunities for a group of women from various ethnic communities, mainly Gorani and Bosniak. Beneficiaries attended courses in Albanian and computers. One of the most positive results of the project was the clear environment of understanding and friendship between women of various ethnic communities.

Project title:	Training for designing a webpage and designing a joint webpage
Grantee:	Jelena Anzujaska, Mitrovica
Budget approved:	€1.912, 5
Location:	Mitrovica
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	November 2002

The project trained 24 representatives of Mitrovica-based Serb NGOs to design webpages. At the end of the training, a joint webpage was designed that presents the activities of civil society in the region.

The project proved to be successful in presenting successful experiences through new means of Multimedia and informing donors about the programs and work of participating NGOs. The project also increased the limited communication between actors of civil society and their partners.

Project title:	A place under the sun
Grantee:	NGO ROM, Prizren
Budget approved:	€3.883
Location:	Kosovo
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	January 2003

The project promoted the culture and identity of the Roma minority by organising a series of literature meetings and debates on Roma history and culture in the region. All activities were organised and implemented by Roma artists and attended by a multiethnic and international audience. The project was successful in supporting the efforts for painting a positive image of the creativity and the spiritual and cultural wealth of the Roma minority. It turned into an effective tool for facilitating the efforts of the Roma minority for full integration in Kosovo's public life.

Project title:	Magazine for elementary school pupils "Djulistan"
Grantee:	DUH, Prizren
Budget approved:	€2.100
Location:	Prizren
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	October 2002

The project enabled the publication of a monthly school magazine aimed at increasing the cultural level of students, their motivation for work and development of various skills such as: implementing ideas, independent or group work, etc. The magazine mainly included the work of students: reports, poetry, prose and other artistic work. The magazine was distributed to all schools in Kosovo that have classes in Bosniak language.

Project title:	Colony, ceramics school
Grantee:	Future, Gracanica
Budget approved:	€6.650
Location:	Brezovica, Gracanica, Prishtina
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	December 2002



The project was successful in increasing the cultural level and enriching activities in the Gračanica region, the development of extracurricular education, exchanging artistic experiences in various ethnic communities and developing the feeling of mutual tolerance.

The key activities of the project were the ceramics school in Gračanica, the colony "Brezovica 2002" that was attended by 20 young Albanian, Serb, Bosniak, Turkish and Roma students, and the exhibition of works from the two aforementioned activities at the Gallery of the Cultural Centre in Gračanica and at the National Arts Gallery in Prishtina.

Project title:	Awareness-raising of youths for environmental protection
Grantee:	Environment Association "Shara", Shtpce
Budget approved:	€4.180
Location:	12 villages in Shtpce municipality
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	December 2002

The key objective and result of the project, which was implemented in some of the most beautiful parts of Kosovo, was the awareness-raising of young people for environmental protection. The organisers held a series of public lectures with participation of young people from Shtpce region, they distributed awareness-raising posters and prepared and shows in local radio stations. All activities were attended by officials of administrative, healthcare and environmental institutions, representatives of civil society and the education sector.

KCSF Granting Projects

The project was successful in creating a sense of perspective among youths that were involved in this project.

Project title:	Computer course
Grantee:	Ashkali Association for Cooperation
Budget approved:	€4.840
Location:	Medvec
Duration:	4 months
Inception date:	September 2002

A group of unemployed youths from the village of Medvec were the main beneficiaries of the project. During computer courses, they were trained in using basic programs that are basic requirements for their employment. They certified their knowledge with diploma that are recognised by the labour market and potential employers.

Project title:	Information program in Bosniak language
Grantee:	OJQ "Mitrovica" - Mitrovica
Budget approved:	€11.650
Location:	Mitrovica
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	September 2002

NGO "Mitrovica" developed an interesting way to contribute to strengthening the feeling of multiethnic tolerance in the problematic town of Mitrovica. The NGO used radio as the media that penetrates the fastest to the audience by preparing news editions in Serbian twice a day. The shows were dedicated to the Bosniak, Serb and Roma audience of the region.



The shows helped provide more information to the beneficiaries in their language; it created a cooperative and multiethnic environment in the radio station and addressed several problems of minority communities.

Project title:	Computer courses for children and youths with limited abilities
Grantee:	Majka Devet Jugoviqa - Gracanica
Budget approved:	€1.550
Location:	Gracanica
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	September 2002

The project provided assistance to a big group of children and youths with limited abilities in the Serb and Roma communities in Gracanica. The beneficiaries attended intensive computer courses. The courses were the first step in their integration in society by increasing their employment opportunities and by strongly supporting their socialisation.

Project title:	Courses in Albanian, English and computers
Grantee:	Green - Bok - Peja
Budget approved:	€6.820
Location:	Peja
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	September 2002

The project was dedicated to 40 members of the Bosniak community in Peja. They benefited from courses in Albanian, English and computers. The courses equipped the beneficiaries with better employment opportunities and also facilitated a faster integration in Kosovar society.

The project also proved that integration through employment is the best and most sustainable alternative for the minorities.

Project title:	Environmental Protection, National Park "Sharr Mountains" – Let's Save Sharr
Grantee:	Vjece Kongresa Bosnjackih Intelektualaca - Prizren
Budget approved:	€3.400
Location:	Villages: Recan, Planjan, Lubinje, Manastirica, Nebregosht, Jablanica.
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	April 2003

The Sharr Mountains are a great natural wealth of Kosovo and its people, including the minority communities that live near the mountain range. The project achieved positive results for awareness-raising in environmental protection in these mountains. The project also equipped members of the Bosniak minority with the proper knowledge and training for setting up small businesses, such as collecting and trading herbs in this area, apiculture, etc. The project consisted of meetings, lectures, seminars and other important educative and training activities.

Project title:	Training and educational network
Grantee:	Ecim drejt – Plemetin, Prishtina
Budget approved:	€5.320
Location:	Plemetin
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	April 2003



The project chose computers and communication in English as a method to increase the employment opportunities of 60 youths mainly members of the Serb minority.

The courses were led by professional teachers; the classes lasted 3 months, two hours a day, during working days.

The project also constituted the initial step to increase the sustainability of the organising NGO, because courses financed by donors will later on be financed by the modest payments of interested parties.

Project title:	Youth Centre
Grantee:	Kthimi në shtëpi – Batusha – F. Kosova
Budget approved:	€6.500
Location:	Bresje – F. Kosova
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	April 2003

A youth centre in Bresje provided youths of the Serb, Ashkali and Roma minorities with the opportunity to attend English and computer courses and other social activities. The project supported the efforts of young people for a smoother integration in Kosovar society through employment. The project helped them acquire the required knowledge for seeking job opportunities.

The project also played an important role in the socialisation of young people and in improving the sustainability of the organising NGO that plans similar activities in the future.

Project title:	Open Studio – Kosovo institutions in the focus
Grantee:	Youth Centre “Shillovo” – Shillova – Gjilan MA
Budget approved:	€14.667
Location:	Shillova
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	April 2003

The project painted a clear picture of the institutional system in Kosovo in front of a wide audience that mainly consisted of Serbs, and thus enabled citizens to take active part in decision-making. The organisers chose TV stations as the best tool to implement their project. They prepared and broadcast 20 TV shows with participation from representatives of central and local government in Kosovo. The shows were in direct communication with citizens via telephone. The topics of discussion were employment, property disputes, privatisation, healthcare, education, etc. Some of the shows were directed in the field in order to be close to the citizens and their concerns.

Project title:	Professional training of the Ashkali community “Shpresa Demokratike”
Grantee:	“Shpresa Demokratike”
Budget approved:	€15.000
Location:	Podujeva
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	December 2002

A series of professional trainings alleviated the efforts of the Ashkali minority in Podujeva to integrate its members in the social and economic life. This was achieved through trainings in several professional disciplines of Ashkali youths: computer technicians, electricians, masons, woodworkers, etc.




At the same time, the project achieved visible results in overcoming problems of communication, negative stereotypes and other issues related to improving the relations with other communities in Podujeva.

Project title:	Monthly magazine "Dona"
Grantee:	Dona - Shtrpce
Budget approved:	€2.760
Location:	Shtrpce
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	February 2003

The project focused and was successful in raising the level of information of the Serb community in their language. The project also advanced the role of Serb women in society, promoted emancipation policies and gender equality, and improved the interaction between the individual and the community. The grant helped the organiser to publish a monthly magazine dedicated mainly to Serb women. The magazine included: information on events in Kosovo and especially in Shtrpce municipality, editorials on democratic society and the individual contribution to institution-building, as well as materials for the health protection of women. The publication of the magazine was very important in enriching the poor market of publications in Serbian.

Project title:	Workshop: "Protection of Children's Rights".
Grantee:	Human Rights Centre at Pristina University.
Budget approved:	€2.556
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	15 days
Inception date:	May 2002



The project was implemented in a rather specific area: the protection of children's rights. The project gave valuable contribution to understanding and respecting children's rights and the implementation of standards and values of human rights in general, with special focus on people that deal or will deal with this issue in the future: students of Faculty of Law, students of the Department of Political Sciences and social workers and pedagogues from all communities in Kosovo.

The workshop, which was organised by the Human Rights Centre at Pristina University, provided opportunities for understanding the international standards of protection of children's rights and the level of the protection of their rights within the Constitutional Framework of Kosovo. The workshop also prepared information material on human rights in general.

Culture

Chapter

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4

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EAR Civil Society Funding
2001 - 2005
Civil Society Grants
in Kosovo
Report from the KCSF
Granting Projects



CULTURE

Project title:	Promotion of cultural values
Grantee:	Rozafa, Prishtina
Budget approved:	14.100 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	December 2001

The aim of the project is to promote the importance of reading books, bearing in mind that the matter was set asides due to other social problems. The project was implemented in three phases: the promotion of new literature values of Kosovar authors to bring them close to the reader and to attract the attention of society, the organisation of a public debate on the topic "Author, the society and the state" in cooperation with the Section of Albanian Literature at Prishtina University, as well as the publication of scientific aesthetic research, university lectures and literature critics on new publications.

The idea of the project was also to support the publishing branch as a tool for promoting cultural values that are conveyed through books.

Project title:	Campaign for raising ecological awareness and culture
Grantee:	Kosovo Ecologists Association
Budget approved:	€6.415
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	October 2002

The aim of this project was to raise the ecological awareness and culture among students and teachers in elementary and secondary schools.

The key activities were organising lectures in a considerable number of elementary and secondary schools in Kosovo with a special focus in cultivating ecological awareness and culture among the new generations, and the publication and free distribution of the leaflet "Ecological Bonton" in the same schools.

Project title:	Balkan Talks
Grantee:	Art Centre
Budget approved:	13.000 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	September 2001

The focus of this project was inter-Balkans cultural exchanges, aimed at developing joint cultural initiatives by exchange of positive experiences of artists and managers of arts and culture.

The project consisted of lectures by Balkans artists and a series of roundtables with artists, curators, theorists and heads of various cultural institutions.

Discussions focused on the current problems in arts and culture and the opportunities of open communication between artists of the Balkans.

Artists and people involved in arts had the opportunity to establish new contacts with their Balkans colleagues and counterparts.



99

EAR Civil Society
Funding 2001 - 2005
Civil Society Grants
in Kosovo
Report from the
KCSF Granting
Projects

Project title:	Premtuesit
Grantee:	Education Development Centre
Budget approved:	2.505 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	December 2001

The project was a support for the graduate generation in arts, who lack the opportunity to exhibit their work due to grave post-war conditions in which arts was not considered a priority.

The exhibition was not only a tremendous opportunity for the young artists, but also a incentive for greater attention by the art-loving audience.

Project title:	Everybody Dance
Grantee:	New Step
Budget approved:	7.500 DM
Location:	Prizren
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	September 2001

The support by KCSF enabled the "New Step" Association from Prizren to organise a multiethnic folk festival and an exhibition of folk costumes of various ethnic groups. The initiative managed to promote not only the spiritual and material wealth of various communities but also the sense of tolerance and co-existence.

Project title:	Jazz in the house
Grantee:	Urban FM
Budget approved:	6.000 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	September 2001

KCSF Granting Projects

The project brought to Prishtina the Swiss group Kapsamun, which performs jazz music based on motives of Albanian folk music. The concert was an opportunity for Kosovar musicians to get to know their European colleagues and their jazz opus. At the same time, the concert constituted the first step toward organising a jazz festival in Prishtina with an active participation of both local and international artists.

Project title:	10 th International Biennial of Europe
Grantee:	Students Creative Centre
Budget approved:	5.550 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	September 2001

Until lately arts in Kosovo was relatively isolated from the international scene. The support for this initiative enabled 7 Kosovar artists to exhibit their works in an important event such as the 10th International Biennial of Europe.

The initiative was successful in presenting a positive image of Kosovo as place that produces arts and culture, a perception that goes beyond the simplified information presented by the media.

Project title:	The Kosova Design Week
Grantee:	Arts Centre, The Gallery of Arts, New Vision 2000+ and Youth of Prizren
Budget approved:	12.610 DM
Location:	Prishtina, Prizren, Gjakova
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	October 2001



The Kosova Design Week gave the necessary room to the promotion of Kosovar design values through art institutions and the media, and revived the cooperation of arts organisations by facilitating their networking.

This was a joint project of two institutions of Kosovar arts and culture and constituted a novelty because the organisers were representatives of civil society, public institutions and private businesses.

The project was implemented in three phases: exhibition of past work in the area of design, lectures and discussions on arts and design at the Gallery of Arts, and the presentation of key activities in the media.

Project title:	40-year path
Grantee:	Pioneers Centre
Budget approved:	3.400 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	November 2001

The 40th anniversary of the Pioneers Centre in Prishtina served as motive to bring together children from various countries through artistic experiences. At the same time, the initiative strengthened the friendship between children from Albania, Montenegro, FYROM and Kosovo.

The supporting activities were a festival of folk dance and song, informal discussions between children, and the media coverage of some of the most beautiful moments of the events.

Project title:	Theatrical play "Chronicler of the dead"
Grantee:	AKT
Budget approved:	7.600 DM
Location:	Kosovo
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	October 2001

The theatrical play "Chronicler of the dead" was very successful in Oslo as part of the campaign called "Art against violence" which was organised by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The organisers decided to show the theatrical play before the Kosovar audience and this was made possible by the grant allocated by KCSF.

The theatre conveyed the message of peace and attracted the attention of the art-loving audience and contributed to reviving the public's interest in theatre.

Project title:	Symbols of war and peace
Grantee:	VIART
Budget approved:	13.100 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	October 2001

The aim of this initiative was to craft a sculpture with material used for weaponry during the war. The sculpture was placed in the centre of Gjakova and represented a symbol of building peace by overcoming the tragedy of war.

The creation of an artistic work, a symbol of peace with arms as a symbol of war, also served to raise civic awareness about the importance of co-existence and the commitment to protecting peace.



Project title:	Let's preserve our choral music
Grantee:	Men's Choir
Budget approved:	51.460 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	September 2001

The project gave irreplaceable assistance to the preservation of the choral tradition in Kosovo, by enabling the Men's Choir to continue their professional activities and by becoming a springboard for the creation of the Women's Choir. The activity derived from the wish to preserve the 35-year long tradition of the Men's Choir from Gjakova.

During these years, the Men's Choir was one of the most distinguished cultural elements in promoting Kosovo's spiritual heritage and the project constituted an important step in preserving and continuing this activity.

Project title:	The Wizard of Oz
Grantee:	National Theatre
Budget approved:	22.000 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	September 2001

The initiative was very successful as it managed to achieve its key goal which was to bring the audience back to the theatre, and this time it was a young audience consisting mainly of children and teenagers.

By displaying a world-famous theatrical play, the actors helped cultivate the spirit of theatrical culture among the new generations and encouraged a new

perception of cultural activities. The play was held in cooperation with the Muz Theatre from the Netherlands and served as the first test of intertwining the two theatres.

Project title:	Collection and video archiving of old theatre plays
Grantee:	SYTHI
Budget approved:	9.500 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	September 2001

Around 100 theatrical plays from various parts of Kosovo were recorded on video and after utter editing were submitted for archiving to the key cultural institutions. This helped salvage and preserve a major cultural heritage that holds tremendous values for the Albanian culture. The material will be accessible to researchers, foreign and local ethnological experts, and will serve as a good study basis for students of drama and acting.

Project title:	Information – Installation
Grantee:	VIART
Budget approved:	3.010 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	September 2001

The installation exhibition organised by VIART was special in building interacting relations with the audience. Being a novelty for the art-loving audience in Kosovo, the exhibition managed to attract the attention of the public and set a positive example of artistic activities through such initiatives.



The exhibition was also an opportunity for young artists to express themselves, an opportunity they often lack due to unfavorable conditions for artistic activities.

Project title:	Artistic Millennium
Grantee:	Artistic and Cultural Association "Ramiz Sadiku"
Budget approved:	15.000 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	October 2001

The project helped some 200 students of the academic ensemble to continue their professional education. The one-year support for the work of the ensemble was crucial in preserving the 35 year-long tradition. Thanks to this support, the ensemble continued its activity and started working on a number of plays and at the same time preparing a new generation of artists.

Project title:	The pearls of Prizren's popular culture
Grantee:	"Shtjefën Gjeçovi" Association
Budget approved:	20.500 DM
Location:	Prizren
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	October 2001

The organisers of the project made a thorough selection and published a detailed summary containing both texts and pictures of key elements of cultural heritage in the Prizren region. The summary was also translated into English and French so that it can be available to foreign visitors.

KCSF Granting Projects

Another positive outcome of the project was raising the awareness of citizens for local values and for preserving them.

Project title:	20 th Seminar of Albanian Language and Literature
Grantee:	Philological Faculty
Budget approved:	35.000 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	August 2001

This traditional event brought together in Prishtina linguists and various experts that discussed the development of Albanian language, literature and culture. The seminar consisted of intellectual sessions, lectures, discussions and intensive courses in Albanian for international participants. The event also served as a tool for identifying the problems of Albanian culture at this phase and as an impetus for young researches to contribute to the development of ethnology, sociology, language and aesthetics.

Project title:	"Ne" - 10 young Kosovar artists
Grantee:	The Gallery of Arts of Kosovo
Budget approved:	€2.096
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	2 weeks
Inception date:	February 2002

The key results of the initiative were the promotion of young Kosovar artists and the incentive to launch similar collective or individual initiatives and present their work to the audience. The project was very important bearing in mind the modest attention to arts given the grave social and economic post-war conditions.



Project title:	Video Art Fest
Grantee:	Contemporary Arts Centre
Budget approved:	29.100 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	December 2001

The activity aimed and achieved not only to present the work of Kosovar artists, but also to increase their professional skills for emerging on the European stage by co-operating with an arts organisation from Austria. The video festival presented 10 works by young Kosovar artists. An Austrian expert trained the new artists in modern techniques.

The project served as a forum for discussing the use of video art as a contribution for reconciliation and multicultural coexistence. The project is also important bearing in mind the very few activities in this specific field.

Project title:	Exhibition
Grantee:	Kosovo Academy of Sciences and Arts
Budget approved:	€8,950
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	November 2002

The Kosovo Academy of Sciences and Arts organised a joint exhibition of Academy members, which included the works of Ibrahim Kodra, Muslim Mulliqi, Gjesh Gjokaj, Rexhep Ferri and Tahir Emra. A catalogue was also published as a monograph with the works of all the abovementioned artists. The project promoted the years-long opus of these artists and encouraged public attention toward such cultural activities.

KCSF Granting Projects

Project title:	2 nd International Festival of Songs and Dance for Children "Ylberi"
Grantee:	Pioneers Centre, Prishtina
Budget approved:	€2,050
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	September 2002

The 2nd International Festival of Songs and Dance for Children "Ylberi" [Rainbow] is a traditional activity that promotes the values of Kosovar and regional culture. Artists from Albania, Kosovo, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Italy, Montenegro and Macedonia presented their work at the festival. One of the biggest successes of the festival was its contribution to reviving the cultural life of children through extra-curriculum activities that are lacking in Kosovo in general.

Project title:	Participation in the 8 th annual meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists
Grantee:	The Museum of Kosovo
Budget approved:	€2.400
Location:	Thessaloniki
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	September 2002

As a result of the support for this initiative, a representative of the Museum of Kosovo and the Archaeologists of Kosovo attended the 8th Annual Meeting of the European Archaeological Society. The meeting was held in Thessaloniki, Greece, and archaeologists from all over the world attended. The project managed to successfully present the culture of bronze in Kosovo at this international summit.



This enterprise is even more important bearing in mind the fact that in the past the archaeology of Kosovo was censured and severely damaged by the previous regime.

Project title:	Publication of magazine "Dardania Sacra"
Grantee:	Dardania Sacra
Budget approved:	€2.800
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	4 months
Inception date:	February 2003

The publication of "Dardania Sacra" magazine presented before the Kosovar public the professional and scientific work and research of some 100 experts in the areas of history and archaeology, ethnology and folklore, language and literature, arts, human rights and freedoms, institutions of representative democracy, mass communication and issues related to cultural diversity.

The project managed to establish broad-based cooperation between experts from Kosovo and other countries.

The magazine served as an important bibliographic manual for students and other researchers.

Project title:	Theatrical Play "Karoli"
Grantee:	Visual Arts Centre "Multimedia"
Budget approved:	€6.500
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	February 2003

The project brought before the local audience the theatrical play "Karoli" by the Polish author Slavomir Mrozek and directed by Kosovar director Bekim Lumi. The play was organised as part of a broad campaign against illegal arms, by sending a powerful message to fight this phenomena and raise the individual and collective awareness on this matter.

The play entered the regular repertoire of Dodona Theatre and achieved considerable success.

Project title:	Bridges
Grantee:	Centre for Development of Education, Ferizaj.
Budget approved:	€7.977
Location:	Tirana, Albania.
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	September 2002

The project managed to promote the values of Kosovar culture and especially its artistic values in the region, namely in Albania. This was achieved by organising an exhibition of young artists from Kosovo in the Albanian capital.

The exhibition attracted major attention from the audience in Tirana about the latest achievements of Kosovar arts.

Project title:	Digital Photography School
Grantee:	Relax - Prizren
Budget approved:	€4.720
Location:	Prizren
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	April 2003

The project enabled the organisation of a one-month course in digital photography for 20 youths



of the Bosniak, Turkish, Roma, Ashkali and Albanian communities in Prizren municipality. After the course, an exhibition was organised with the best pictures by the participants.

This was a special initiative not only in training youths in artistic digital photography but also in increasing their employment opportunities and above all in facilitating their socialisation and integration in Kosovar society.

Project title:	Dodona Week "10 th anniversary of the Dodona Theatre"
Grantee:	Theatre "Dodona"
Budget approved:	€14.400
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	November 2002

The theatre "Dodona", with a respectable tradition in Kosovo, organised a theatre week on the occasion of its 10th anniversary. The support by KCSF enabled the theatre week to promote the artistic values of the theatre, revive the cultural offer in Prishtina and reflections and analysis of the current cultural situation.

The grant also helped collect and complete documents on theatrical plays, a premiere on the first day of the activity, a retrospective of the theatre's work, an exhibition on the past and a roundtable on "Culture and arts of resistance in the 90's and the role of 'Dodona'".

Project title:	I am proud to be a citizen of Prizren
Grantee:	Kolping Kosova, Prizren
Budget approved:	€5.180
Location:	Prizren
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	February 2003

The project contributed to the protection of the cultural values of the town of Prizren and awareness-raising about their importance. The organisers held a series of radio and TV shows with the most important public officials in Prizren, three public seminars chaired by experts on history, ethnology and restauration as well as several concerts with bands that are famous in the eyes of children. The slogan of the campaign was the same in all activities: "I am proud to be a citizen of Prizren".

Project title:	New Vision
Grantee:	Vision of the Future, Shtime
Budget approved:	€4.400
Location:	Shtime
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	November 2002

This project used arts and entertainment as a tool to raise the awareness of youths for a higher level of multiethnic tolerance and cooperation. The beneficiaries, around 50 Albanian and Ashkali youths, were engaged in various cultural activities, trainings for dance and theatre, with special focus on cooperation without ethnic differentiations. At the same time, the activities increased the level of participation of youths in the area of culture.



Project title:	Vagina monologues
Grantee:	Theatre "ODA"
Budget approved:	€10.700
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	February 2003

The project enabled the holding of the theatrical play "Vagina monologues" by director Ilir Bokshi. The theatrical play triggered various reactions on topics that are still considered a taboo for Kosovar society. In doing so, the play also helped shape an audience with a cultivated taste and aesthetic demands from the theatre culture.

This proved to be a very important initiative because it inspired a greater role for alternative theatre in Kosovo and broadened the spectrum of artistic values that this genre offers to the Kosovar audience.

Project title:	Pan-Albanian exhibition of women artists
Grantee:	Art Centre, Prishtina
Budget approved:	€400
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	1 week
Inception date:	February 2003

Although it was a modest support it nonetheless helped in the distinguished presentation of the opus of Kosovar women in a regional exhibition. Apart from the exhibition, the project also held several roundtables and debates on the current development of Albanian art in the region.

KCSF Granting Projects

Project title:	Flute sounds from South-East and Central Europe
Grantee:	New Spirit, Prishtina
Budget approved:	€15.850
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	September 2002

Within a 5-day period, the project implemented the following activities: three musical evenings, a cultural documentary as well as lectures by the world-renowned flautist P.Y.Artaud. Famous flautists from Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania, Bulgaria, Montenegro, Switzerland and Kosovo attended the activities.

The key contribution of the project was creating a network of young musicians from South-East and Central Europe, reviving the interest in the opus of this special instrument and elevating the arts life in Prishtina.

Project title:	9 th annual meeting of European Association of Archaeologists
Grantee:	The Museum of Kosovo
Budget approved:	€2.450
Location:	St. Petersburg
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	September 2003

The KCSF grant enabled experts from Kosovo to attend this European conference and present their research on the archaeological culture of Kosovo in the period 900-400 B.C. The participation of local experts was an important tool in reviving the curiosity of European archaeologists in the ancient wealth of Kosovo and stimulating research activities for the future.




Project title:	Interactive course in contemporary arts
Grantee:	Contemporary Arts Centre, Prishtina
Budget approved:	€16.630
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	November 2002

The Contemporary Arts Centre organised an interactive course on contemporary arts with lectures on video art, installations, happenings, body art, land art, multimedia, digital art, performances, etc. Apart from the lectures there were also exhibitions with special works of art and critical and analytical studies on the artistic work by the participants.

This initiative helped the young artists of Kosovo to familiarise with the basic principles of modern art with special focus on the artistic expressions that still have not found the necessary room in the art scene in Kosovo.

Project title:	Programs for developing the scenic and film culture in Kosovo
Grantee:	Sythi, Prishtina
Budget approved:	€27.600
Location:	Prishtina, Peja, Ferizaj, Mitrovica, Vushtrri, Gjilan.
Duration:	9 months
Inception date:	September 2002

The project proved to be valuable in supporting new initiatives for the development of Kosovar culture. The project consisted of five programs: a mobile academy for theatre and movie (which included trainings for young theatre artists in Kosovo), the program



of stimulating national dramaturgy (seminar with graduates in dramaturgy), filing plays according to the seasons and creating bibliographies of theatre artists, supporting new plays that accompany the program, preparing and printing the magazine "Teatri".

This all-Kosovar initiative gave precious contribution to the development of scenic arts in Kosovo by supporting all creative efforts of young artists that face a reality that is both difficult and unfavourable for cultural activities.

Youth

Chapter

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5





EAR Civil Society Funding
2001 - 2005
Civil Society Grants
in Kosovo
Report from the KCSF
Granting Projects



YOUTH

Project title:	Practicing social research
Grantee:	Centre for Political and Social Research
Budget approved:	€8.486
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	April 2003

The Centre for Political and Social Research increased the professional capacities of a group of young researchers in the capacity of analysts and social researchers for studying political, economic and social crisis. The project also helped the beneficiaries in developing a critical perspective, by equipping them with necessary skills of assisting institutions through the social research of different situations and defining methods and ways of resolving current problems.

The project also included a course in methods of modern social research as well as concrete studies of problems in Kosovo, which were later on published as reports on specific studies.

Project title:	Stimulating new beginnings
Grantee:	Educational Association "Pedagogu"
Budget approved:	€12.035
Location:	Gjilan
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	April 2003

The key result of the project that was implemented in Gjilan was the integration of youths of all ethnic groups in social processes aimed at building a joint

KCSF Granting Projects

future. During the two-month period were organised exhibitions in several schools, a central exhibition, a roundtable with experts and local government representatives, a knowledge quiz and a daily outdoor trips with the participants.

At the end of the activities, one could clearly feel the spirit of tolerance and mutual respect between the youths of various ethnic groups in Gjilan.

Project title:	Regional cooperation and European integration
Grantee:	Development Research Centre "Globi"
Budget approved:	€1.000
Location:	Coimbra
Duration:	2 weeks
Inception date:	February 2003

Thanks to the support by KCSF, "Globi" attended the Coimbra Winter School that is held as a study seminar on attaining skills for conducting political, social and economic research. The participants were trained in: modern studies of nationalism theories, relations between democracy and dialogue and the dynamics of differentiating and identity.

Participation in the winter school was also important for paving way to regional cooperation with similar NGOs.

Project title:	Young people on the Internet
Grantee:	Youth Centre "Hareja"
Budget approved:	€5.190
Location:	Vushtrri
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	April 2003



“Hareja” Youth Centre had built an important basis of social activities. The support by KCSF enabled the Centre to have Internet connection and to provide new services to the youths of the area. The support proved to be very valuable for young people as they were able to have access to information, be it in the shape of extra-curricular material or information for increasing individual skills for employment in various sectors.

Project title:	Training young people in information technology
Grantee:	Youth Centre in Drenas
Budget approved:	€3.980
Location:	Drenas
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	April 2003

The Youth Centre in Drenas perceived computer courses for youths as a better way of having access to other important professional and social activities. The computer courses were first and foremost a successful tool for increasing the employment opportunities of young people. At the same time, using computers helped young people launch a series of joint social activities within the centre.

Project title:	Ambassadors of Peace
Grantee:	Joint Kosova Action
Budget approved:	€9.300
Location:	Shtime, Ferizaj, Kaçanik, Hani i Elezit, Klina, Podujeva, Mitrovica
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	February 2003

The project focused in capacity building of individuals to take over responsibilities and a leading role in

public life by acting as agents of change within efforts to: create a climate of interethnic tolerance and cooperation, improve the level of dialogue between different communities in Kosovo, accelerate conflict resolution and strengthen the role of civil society in the aforementioned processes.

The project was mainly dedicated to young people that are involved in public life in Kosovo regions that are affected by minority displacement.

Project title:	Multicultural youth summer camp – Gjakova 2002
Grantee:	Vizioni i Ri 2000+
Budget approved:	€10.253
Location:	Gjakova
Duration:	15 days
Inception date:	September 2002

The summer camp organised by the project managers included young people from Kosovo and 12 world countries who engaged in roundtables on youth topics, artistic and cultural activities, etc. The group of participants visited several provinces in Kosovo to get upclose information on the society of Kosovo and its problems. The project played an important role in creating strong connections between youths from Kosovo and their peers in other countries. The summer camp also served to exchange advanced experiences in addressing similar problems in various countries.

Project title:	In step with the world
Grantee:	AKTI -ORA
Budget approved:	€5.000
Location:	Fushë Kosovë
Duration:	4 months
Inception date:	February 2003



The project created the necessary conditions for using the Internet in the centre of the multiethnic association AKTI-ORA. The project consisted of two components: training youths in Internet usage and English courses and computer courses for young girls. All activities were focused on increasing the employment opportunities of young people and to help them successfully overcome certain basic challenges that relate to using new information technologies.

The project also helped young people to open up new windows by getting information from the Internet and to establish relations with activists of various associations from other countries.

Project title:	Debates on improving the position
Grantee:	One plus two
Budget approved:	€4.580
Location:	Ferizaj
Duration:	15 days
Inception date:	April 2003

The project consisted of a series of debates on the problems of Kosovar youth and on certain ideas on how to alleviate or resolve these problems. The debates included young people from the town of Ferizaj and experts of various areas such as psychologists, representatives of central and local authorities, entrepreneurs, representatives of the education system, police officials, etc. Some of the key problems that were addressed were unemployment, difficulties in education, drugs, alcohol and facilities for young people.

Project title:	Crossing Bridges
Grantee:	Kosova Youth Council
Budget approved:	€8.000
Location:	Peja
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	August 2002

This proved to be one of the most successful and original ways of promoting human rights, social conscience, youth activism and creativity. The activities consisted of a series of multicultural events launched by a group of artists from Kosovo and other countries who organised performances and seminars that were attended by a considerable group of young people. Some of the key activities were concerts, various performances, exhibitions and a documentary film festival. The project was also supported by UNMIK and the Ministry of Youth, Culture and Sports.

Similar to its title, the project proved to be a new and interesting way of building bridges of understanding and tolerance in a multicultural environment in which art is the spoken language.

Project title:	Peace and tolerance through games
Grantee:	Evrovizioni
Budget approved:	€5.900
Location:	Klina, Burim, Skënderaj, Peja, Gjakova, Ferizaj, Podujeva, Mitrovica, Drenas, Malisheva and Prishtina.
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	February 2003

The organisers, most of whom were young people, launched a special initiative: they organised a mini-



festival with theatrical plays in the abovementioned centres. The specialty of plays were the young actors who were invited in auditions to display in an artistic way the key problems of youths and to raise the awareness of the audience in an alternative way.

The organisers selected young actors and directors from every area, taught them acting techniques, practiced the plays together and in the end displayed a successful show before the audience. The initiative also included youths that came to Kosovo from Switzerland to support youth projects in their country.

Project title:	Internet Club
Grantee:	Youth Vision, Janjeva.
Budget approved:	€7.944
Location:	Janjeva
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	November 2002

This multiethnic project brought together a group of young beneficiaries from Albanian, Serb, Roma and Gorani communities in Janjeva municipality. The opening of the Internet centre enabled the youths to use their skills in meeting professional requirements and opening new windows of information about world events in their areas of interest. The modest financial income from Internet usage were used by the organiser to develop other activities of public interest.

Project title:	Community Youth Centres
Grantee:	KCSF
Budget approved:	€19.854
Location:	Kosovo
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	November 2002

This important project which was implemented in cooperation with several partners from civil society and the government sector gave a valuable contribution to efforts for creating a productive educational extra-curricular environment for youths in their communities. The establishment of youth centres was accompanied with the creation of long-term programs and the engagement of youths in local communities. Positive experiences from South-East and Western Europe were used for the education of communities, and there were new opportunities for developing the skills of youths and preparing them for professional challenges in the future.

The two youth centres provided legal, medical and psychological assistance to fight current problems. The centres helped strengthen the existing relations between youths by giving them a brighter future despite the ever-growing phenomena of migration to cities. The centres also trained and stimulated youths to play a more active role in their communities.

Project title:	Role and position of youths in society
Grantee:	House of Friends, Mitrovica
Budget approved:	€12.245
Location:	Mitrovica
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	November 2002

Mitrovica youths were the key beneficiaries of the long process of capacity-building and training for a more important role in social process and for greater involvement in problem resolution. The organisers held a series of debates with broad representation from Mitrovica youths. Debates focused on negative social phenomenon, relations between generations, the education system and its difficulties, professional



perspectives and specific problems of youths: freedom of movement, ethnic tensions, etc.

What made the debate even more interesting was the presence of experts from various fields, representatives of local and central structures, international officials, teachers, etc.

Project title:	Bridge between cultures
Grantee:	Advisory and Information Centre of Prishtina University
Budget approved:	€3.500
Location:	Gratz, Austria
Duration:	3 days
Inception date:	March 2003

The KCSF supported the initiative for the participation of a group of Kosovar youths in the conference "Building bridges between various cultures" in Gratz, Austria. Youths from all over Europe and mainly from post-conflict countries participated in the conference. The project was successful in empowering youths to take on a leading role in changing the mentality and for overcoming interethnic tensions.

The conference was held in an atmosphere of multiculturalism and cooperation, by setting a valuable example of good will for co-existence and mutual regional cooperation.

Project title:	Becoming part of the world
Grantee:	Vision for the Future, Malisheva
Budget approved:	€9.015
Location:	Malisheva
Duration:	9 months
Inception date:	November 2002

The organisers opened the first and only Internet Centre in Malisheva. The opening of the centre was followed by free-of-charge Internet courses for youths of the region.

The Internet connection opened new paths of communication for the NGO members by increasing the basis of information and communication with foreign partners.

Project title:	Transparency and reforms in Prishtina University
Grantee:	Forum
Budget approved:	€11.175
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	April 2003

The FORUM engaged in increasing transparency and supporting reforms in Prishtina University. The key arguments of the project consisted of a thorough research of perceptions of each actor (students, professors and reform-makers) about the way of work. The research included a group of 1050 students. Other groups of interest/stakeholders participated in debates about the basis of the research. The debates took on a public dimension in efforts to attract as much opinions and alternatives as possible, and they also relied on shows broadcast by the Radio Television of Kosovo.

In the end a guideline document was published for research and conclusions from the debates. One of the key results was the increased level of awareness and engagement of students in the process.



131

EAR Civil Society
Funding 2001 - 2005
Civil Society Grants
in Kosovo
Report from the
KCSF Granting
Projects


Project title:	Birds singing
Grantee:	Youth Centre "Zija Shemsiu", Gjilan
Budget approved:	€7.360
Location:	Përlepnica, Gjilan
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	November 2002

The key target of the centre was: an attractive and original way of involving youths in the public life. In doing so, the centre received assistance from a very successful body it had created recently which consisted of 35 youths. Their number has now grown to 60. After a long process of artistic preparations, the youths held a series of concerts in several parts of Kosovo thus showing the seriousness and willingness to play an active role in their community. More than a successful project, this initiative also set a good example of youth engagement for their own good and the good of their community.

Project title:	Youths Debate Club
Grantee:	Kosovo Womens Initiative, Gjakova
Budget approved:	€7.850
Location:	Gjakova
Duration:	4 months
Inception date:	April 2003

The debate club helped raise the awareness of youths on decision-making processes and their role in the process. The project also helped build their capacities by enabling them to play this role with civic and professional responsibility.

The first mission after the training was monitoring the work of the local administration in Gjakova. The debate



focused on the relations between the citizens and authorities, the opportunities for cooperation between civil society and the administration, cooperation initiatives within civil society and participation in decision-making. During the process, the youths were trained to undertake independent professional studies and research of various phenomenon, and to analyse the performance of local authorities in resolving the problems of citizens.

Reconcilia

Chapter

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6

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EAR Civil Society Funding
2001 - 2005
Civil Society Grants
in Kosovo
Report from the KCSF
Granting Projects



RECONCILIATION

Project title:	KCSF
Grantee:	Project for reconciliation and management of interethnic or cross-border conflicts
Budget approved:	134.800 DM
Location:	Ulcinj
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	September 2001

This project was dedicated to 36 NGOs from various regional ethnic groups (mainly Albanian and Serb from Kosovo, Serbia, Montenegro, Presevo Valley, Northern Mitrovica, etc) and was built on 3 key pillars:

training of NGOs in interethnic and cross-border conflict resolution

training of NGOs in writing draft-proposals with the aim of winning grants

training of NGOs for implementation of joint interethnic projects.

The trainings were held in Ulcinj and led by professional trainers with expertise in this area, and focused on NGOs that had no previous experience in such activities. The beneficiaries were representatives of Serb and Albanian NGOs that work in areas of youth, culture, gender issues and minorities, and which had no similar training in the past.

The project proved that cooperation is not only possible but also effective once the first obstacles of professional relations between NGOs and between NGOs and donors are overcome.

This was also proved by the fact that participants prepared numerous joint interethnic projects, among which 10 were approved for financing by KCSF.

Project title:	Study visit to European institutions
Grantee:	KCSF
Budget approved:	28.100 DM
Location:	Brussels and Prishtina
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	October 2001

The aim of this initiative was to show to Kosovar civil society representatives that it is possible for various ethnic groups to work together on a common goal within the European Union by setting a positive example for interethnic dialogue in Kosovo. Unlike previous occasions, not only representatives but also influential NGO leaders were invited to attend. They also represented different ethnic groups from Kosovo and different provinces of the country. After the visit to Brussels and the up-close information on the work of representatives of different European countries, the beneficiaries gained a clearer and more concrete image about the institutions and their staff, the mechanisms of communication, compromise and joint decision-making. They also had the opportunity to see the ways of lobbying in European institutions. At the same time, the visit was also a good chance of reflecting the possibilities of promoting interethnic dialogue in Kosovo.

Project title:	With sports toward the future
Grantee:	CDHRF
Budget approved:	€18.918
Location:	Brezovica
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	March 2002



The organisers brought together youths of all ethnic groups in Kosovo to use sports and entertainment as a way toward building bridges of communication and to ensure that young people will convey the message of interethnic dialogue in Kosovo.

The activities were held at the ski resort in Brezovica, as an attractive and ethnically neutral area. The activities consisted of various levels of communication between the young participants who reacted positively to the initiative and engaged in building bridges of communication between their communities upon their return.

Project title:	European idea: from reconciliation to integration
Grantee:	Kosovo Institute for Euro-Atlantic Integration
Budget approved:	5.215 DM
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	3 months
Inception date:	December 2001

This initiative used as a model the reconciliation of European countries immediately after World War Two to convey a powerful message for the process of interethnic reconciliation and dialogue in Kosovo. This was the reason of promoting the European idea and the experiences of post-war reconciliation in front of the Kosovar public and discussions in the local context. A special edition of "Kosovo Law Review" was published in conjunction with the public discussions.

Representatives of local and central institutions, political parties, civil society and media in Kosovo attended the event.

Project title:	Peace Camp
Grantee:	"Vision 029", Prizren
Budget approved:	€21.985
Location:	Ulcinj
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	March 2002

The youth was once again at the focus of this project, as a starting point to resolve or at least facilitate interethnic problems. 40 young people from different Kosovar ethnic groups participated in a trip to Ulcinj. Under the guidance of the co-ordinators of 6 Kosovar NGOs, the youth engaged in discussions on the following topics: conflict resolution, human rights, environmental protection, activities in civil society, lobbying and advocacy, etc. The co-ordinators played the role of mediators and facilitators in the communication of youths of different ethnic groups. Through previously planned lectures, the co-ordinators oriented the youths toward well-known methods of communication management and evasion of stereotypes. The project managed to lay the foundations for intensive communication between the participants, and the latter even pledged to enhance communication in their respective communities.

Project title:	Peace Caravan – Arts therapy
Grantee:	"Woman 2000", Peja
Budget approved:	12.000 DM
Location:	Ulcinj
Duration:	2 months
Inception date:	October 2001

The challenge of building communication was presented to young Serb, Albanian and Bosniak girls from Peja municipality. 15 girls participated in the artistic camp in Ulcinj. The project was held in




the spirit of training through dialogue with special emphasis on interethnic reconciliation and dialogue. Similar to previous projects, the organiser started from lower levels in order to effectively convey the message of the importance of communication and reconciliation between communities in Kosovo.

Project title:	Students debate on reconciliation
Grantee:	Professional Centre for Human Rights and Legal Initiatives, Prishtina
Budget approved:	€903
Location:	Vushtrri
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	April 2002

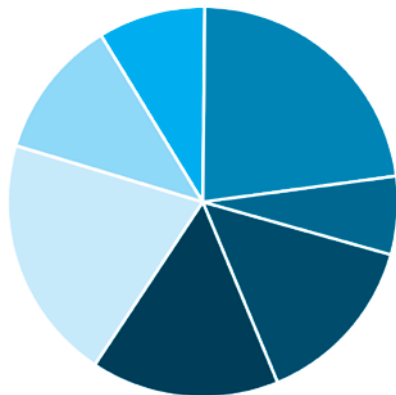
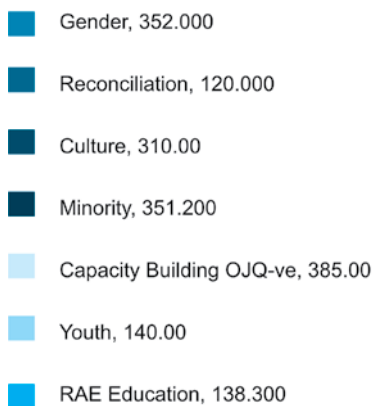
The project consisted of 5 debates with high school students in Vushtrri. The debates focused on reconciliation, interethnic dialogue and building co-existence on the basis of joint social values such as tolerance, democracy, respect, etc. Beneficiaries of the project were around 300 students led by the Centre's staff and foreign associates. The students actively participated in discussions and set concrete examples of problems and possible solutions.

Project title:	Eliminate hatred
Grantee:	The Association of Independent Intellectuals, Decan and The Centre for Protection of Women and Children
Budget approved:	6.200 DM
Location:	Deçan
Duration:	1 month
Inception date:	October 2001



The project "Eliminate hatred" was implemented in the spirit of increasing the level of tolerance and encouraging interethnic co-existence and cooperation among youths as the most vulnerable group age and the most interested in these issues. The beneficiaries of the project were 50 young Albanians and Roma. The project consisted of a series of activities: a one-day debate on drug problems, alcohol and prostitution, a one-day debate on the topic of hatred, violence and interethnic relations, a volleyball tournament with the motto "Tolerance, not violence", a one-day outdoors trip in several cities in Kosovo, etc.

Funds Granted to the NGO's 2001 - 2003



RRAE

Chapter

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8



EAR Civil Society Funding
2001 - 2005
Civil Society Grants
in Kosovo
Report from the KCSF
Granting Projects



RAE

Project title:	RAE Education Fund
Grantee:	KCSF
Budget approved:	138,300 Euro
Location:	All region of Kosovo
Duration:	24 months
Inception date:	May 2003

The Education Fund has been established and is being implemented in partnership with the Kosovo Foundation for Open Society. It aims to support RAE (Roma, Ashkali, Egyptians) communities by granting scholarships to students of secondary schools and university as well as conducting trainings that address employment and other educational needs

Summary:

From an overall number of 880 applicants, KCSF supported 404 applicants - 230 Roma, 78 Ashkali and 96 Egyptian.

KCSF supported 29 students, one specialization on vascular surgery, 175 high school students and 185 pupils of primary schools.

KCSF paid English courses to 6 students; professional courses in IT technology to 3 students; computer courses to 3 students and two craft courses.

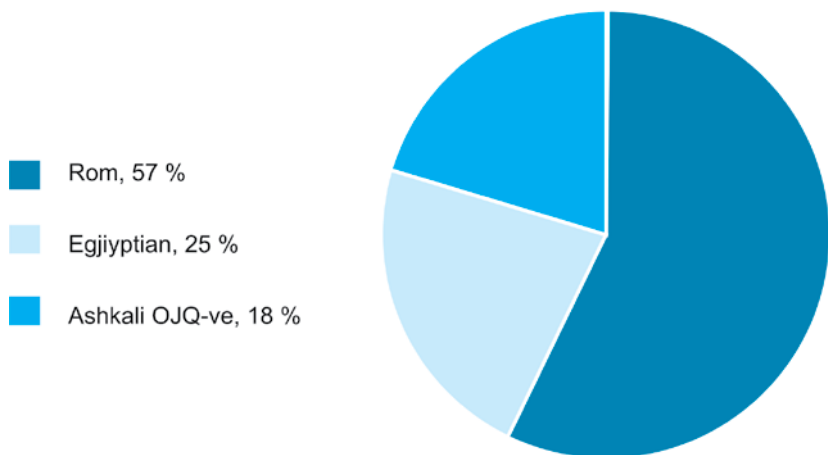
Evaluation	Prim sch	Sec sch	High sch	Univ	Spec	Eng. com	Craft cour	IT
First/ Dec. 2003	0	58	5	7	1	0	0	0
Second March 2004	84	87	6	9	0	6	2	1
Third/ June 2004	101	30	0	2	0	0	0	2
Total	185	175	11	18	1	9	2	3

1. The number of students has grown from 10 in the year 2003/2004 to 25 in the University during the year 2004/2005. Five students that drop from the studying returned to the faculty after this support and three of them graduated during the year 2005. In the primary and secondary school the number of students is grown around 50% especially in primary school. In the Plemetina Camp for example the school year started with 57 pupils and as a result of buying the school materials and the symbolic amount of money given to them this number increased to 87 (that's minus that students that had dropped out of school due to financial difficulties returned to classes)

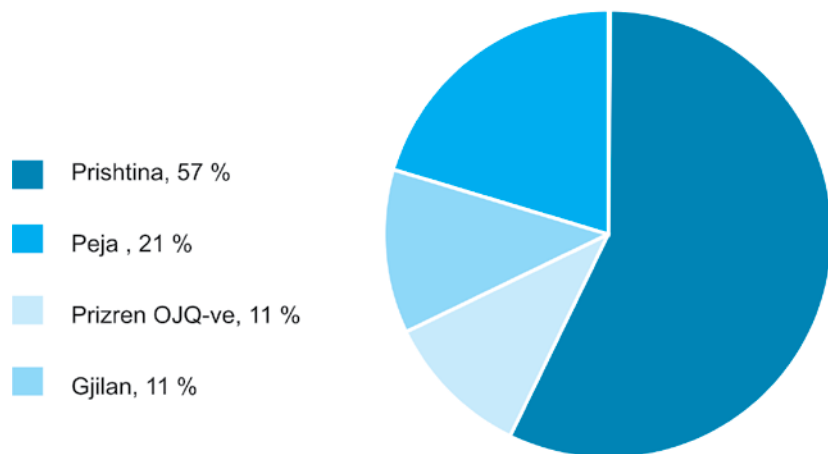
2. There have no drop outs from school
3. Thanks to resources (books, notebooks and other material) the success of students has increased
4. The youth of this community have successfully completed computer courses and English courses

Ethnicity	Rom	Ashk	Egyp	Gender	Man	Women
	230	78	96		256	148

Scholarships disbursed by Ethnicities



Scholarships disbursed by Region



Organisations finan
European Agency fo
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Organisations finan European Agency fo and monitored by

Chapter

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7

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EAR Civile Society Funding
2001 - 2005
Civile Society Grants
in Kosovo
Report from the KCSF
Granting Projects



Organisations financed by the European Agency for Reconstruction and monitored by KCSF

Project title:	Building and training of civil institutions
Grantee:	Independent Trade Unions of Kosovo - BSPK
Budget approved:	€100.000
Location:	Kosovo
Duration:	12 months
Inception date:	June 2004

The Independent Trade Unions of Kosovo (BSPK) has proved its active engagement by giving important assistance through participation in working groups and various initiatives with the aim of including the opinion of workers in the ongoing projects and activities in Kosovo.

The BSPK represents the interests of workers organisations at the Tripartite Advisory Council in the area of advice for work-related issues, social wellbeing and economic policies. The confederation is also represented in a number of consultative bodies (the Kosovo Trust Agency and in several European initiatives for employment, etc). The BSPK has developed relations of cooperation with other union organisations in the Balkans and at the European level.

One must add that the BSPK plays a very important role in the reconstruction of participative democracy

- in Kosovo, as one of the basic conditions for the success of Euro-Atlantic integrations.

One of the key aims of the organisation was to increase the active participation of female workers, minorities and youth representatives.

The key aim of the project was the development and strengthening of social governance in Kosovo as a crucial element of a modern economy and democracy. The project managed to successfully develop the capacity of BSPK as a civil and apolitical institution to effectively participate in an equal position with other partners in the processes of social dialogue, policy-making and democratisation.

This was achieved by building professional competency and the level of trust between the young and old leaders of BSPK and the staff in general, and by participating in debates on plural opinions about the social position and policy of the organisation.

The first phase identified the requirements for the development of staff and the organisation in general. Experts of organisational development conducted a detailed and professional analysis of the BSPK and its work, the strategic orientation and the definition of key projects in cooperation with various partners from the government, private and civil society sectors. Special importance was paid to the analysis of internal structures and their functioning, the information infrastructure and the system of transmitting knowledge, human resources and the current skills.

In the second phase, the project focused in translating the priority orientations into orientations for concrete projects. Some of the key activities were: the program for developing leaders and management, the creation and implementation of a human resources plan,



technical assistance in professional activities, building local partnerships, strengthening local networks and offices, implementing an awareness-raising campaign for the inclusion and participation of minority groups, etc.

Some of the important achievements of the project were:

- drafting an overall strategy for participation in social dialogue, policy-making and democratisation,
- increasing the quota and participation of minority groups, women and youths,
- capacity building and professional competency of staff members,
- staff motivation,
- improving mechanisms for a better functioning of social governance.

Project title:	Reviving the vineyards in Patrnogic and St. Stefan Church in the village of Hoçë e Madhe
Grantee:	MNEMOSYNE
Budget approved:	€65.000
Location:	Hoçë e Madhe, Rahovec
Duration:	6 months
Inception date:	June 2004

The project helped secure the required assistance to revive an ancient tradition - the production and selling of wine in the village of Hoçë e Madhe. This had a direct and sensitive contribution on the social and economic standard of minority residents. The project also proved valuable for the financial sustainability of many families and for encouraging the return of IDPs.

- The activities focused on the revitalization of the Patmogic vineyard, the usage of the vineyard of the Church of St. Stefan as a traditional restaurant that is attractive for tourists, purchasing the necessary equipment for wine production and the restaurant and training of staff for such activities. The area in which the project was implemented offers numerous opportunities for such activities, but they were not used to their full capacities in the past. The project enabled the usage of natural and human resources by improving the living standard of villagers that are directly dependant from such activities. The initiative also proved important as part of overall preparations for the integration of minorities in Kosovar society. The beneficiaries of the project were members of the Serb and Roma communities. Based on this initiative, they retraced the will to lead a normal life in their village and to build normal and functioning interethnic relations. The key aspect of the project relates to the fact that the activities focused on the direct and essential needs of villagers by implementing their ideas and the will to improve their daily lives. The improvement of their economic standards had a strong impact in overcoming the difficulties of these communities and encouraged the return of IDPs.

Project title:	Empowering the role of women and youths in rural areas through self-employment
Grantee:	Enterprise Development
Agency - EDA	
Budget approved:	€67.540
Location:	Shtime, Skënderaj,
Vushtrri	
Duration:	12 months
Inception date:	June 2004



This project was dedicated to the most vulnerable groups of the Kosovar society, those that face the most difficulties in finding jobs and financing their personal or family budget: mainly women and youths. The project took into account the fact that small and medium enterprises make up around 90% of the economic sector in Kosovo and are above all very important for creating new jobs. The establishment and functioning of such enterprises is more achievable than the creation of large enterprises.

Alongside the presence of problems related to economic enterprises, one of the key difficulties, especially in rural areas, remains the lack of skills to establish and manage businesses. At the same time, the market suffers from the lack of market-oriented productive and service businesses.

Individuals that manage or want to create such businesses have problems with the lack of a strategic vision and the lack of managerial skills. One can also notice the problem of only a few sources of information.

The situation is also relatively grave as far as the employment level is concerned. Although there are no accurate studies, an approximate figure of the unemployment is 60% of the active population of Kosovo.

The implementers of the project took into consideration all the possible difficulties before launching the project. The support to the creation and functioning of small and medium enterprises focused on two key needs:

- financial support for creating businesses, focused mainly on ensuring the necessary

- loans from financial institutions.
- technical support for developing businesses, focused mainly on the training of young entrepreneurs for planning, managing and re-adaptation of resources with strategic plans for their businesses.

The project started its activity by training trainers from the ranks of civil society. The aim of this was to ensure the sustainability and continuation of the project even after its conclusion. The trained staff mainly included women and youth NGOs from the aforementioned areas. The latter were trained in holding future trainings for young entrepreneurs.

At the second level, the implementers focused on the establishment of new businesses. The key activities were providing assistance for drafting of development plans, the registration of the enterprise, negotiations with banks and other financial institutions for access to loans, and other advice in the phase of building enterprises.

At the third phase, the project supported young entrepreneurs in finding the right access to the existing schemes of financial loans, by giving them the necessary information about financial institutions and access to loans, by providing the necessary assistance in negotiations with banks and by supporting them in the preparation of development plans for loans application.

From the technical aspect, the project relied on the most advanced methodology, using the training method of ILO "Start and Improve Your Business" (SIYB), which is known throughout the world for its efficiency. The special element of this method is combining simplicity and understanding with an advanced



level of knowledge in this area. The implementer of the project, the Enterprise Development Agency is an organisation certified by ILO in the area of transferring managerial and entrepreneur skills to small and medium enterprises in marketing, finances, management, human resources, feasibility studies, organisation, control, stocking, costs, accounting and legal affairs.

The project gave encouraging results. A considerable number of small and medium enterprises were created after this training and some of them managed to successfully secure bank loans for the development and growth of their respective enterprises. The project was also successful due to the fact that a certain number of the newly-established enterprises are led and managed by women or youths who were previously in the list of unemployed. The project also secured serious cooperation from several partners, among which one should highlight the NGOs of the target areas, the respective municipalities and their employment offices.

Project title:	New generation of information technologies
Grantee:	IKPO Institute
Budget approved:	€74.000
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	12 months
Inception date:	June 2004

This project was both special and important as it addresses some of the important aspects of the development of Kosovar and world society in the future – information technology.

Before the implementation of the project, there were considerable human resources in Kosovo linked to

- information technology, both due to interests and the need for implementation in the daily work. At the same time, there was a category of individuals, who regardless of their knowledge were not able to advance further and maintain the current pace. The project focused on these groups of people and their needs.

The project made a very important step in creating the necessary human resources to facilitate the usage of new information technologies in the future. The project provided international-standard training for current and future professionals throughout Kosovo, by equaling the criteria in Kosovo with the latest professional criteria in the West. These training relied on the CISCO standard and were held at the level of CISCO Certified Network Associate, Wireless LAN and Network Security.

The development of the project relied on the current information infrastructure and the knowledge of the educated staff that has Western experience.

The real importance of the project rests on the fact that individuals trained in these levels are envisaged to engage not only in the implementation of new information technologies in Kosovo, but also in the training and education of new generations of computer experts.

In parallel with their training, the IPKO Institute launched a campaign of promoting the usage of new information technologies in the government sector, the private sector and in civil society.

The key beneficiaries of the project were:

- individuals interested in building a higher



level of their current knowledge and to serve in the future as trainers or educators of information technology

- students interested in developing their information skills with final aim of finding a job.
- young computer professionals who aimed to train in this area and improve their role and efficiency in their respective organisations
- information technology professionals that aim to start their own businesses
- central and local institutions that sent their information technology staffs to attend these trainings

Project title:	Blue Bus
Grantee:	Center for Human Rights and Children Rights - YMCA
Budget approved:	€98.210
Location:	Lipjan
Duration:	12 months
Inception date:	June 2004

The project promoted the training and social engagement of youths in rural areas with the aim of integrating it in the public life. "The Blue Bus" was implemented by a multiethnic staff and brought a series of community programs to youths of various ethnicities. The bus was purchased and equipped with computer, loudspeakers, an art studio, puppet theatre, etc. In this way, the bus turned into a tool for distributing multiethnic programs in an area inhabited by various ethnic groups.

The Blue Bus played a key role in training the young boys and girls in playing an active role in public life and

- in community organisations, with special emphasis on the public activities that are related to a functioning democracy and increasing civic participation in decision-making processes. The training effect was achieved in two ways: first, by training a group of young people who can later on work as trainers and further enhance the project amongst smaller local communities; and second, by training a groups of young people and adults in the Lipjan area with the aim of increasing their participation in the public life.

Some of the main activities were:

- Organising training for trainers for 40 youths in rural areas in Lipjan in the area of leadership skills, interethnic and multiethnic dialogue, public presentation, critical thinking and community activism.
- Trainings for 4 pre-school teachers and around 60 parents for the rights of children and for the modern principles of healthy education.
- Developing self-evaluation and communication skills among youths of various ethnic groups,
- Numerous visits to various areas in Lipjan as part of the Peace Initiative Camp.
- Media programs in various languages in electronic media aimed at reducing ethnic tensions.
- Training activities for participation of youths in democratic processes.



Project title:	Business advisory services for women in poor areas
Grantee:	Woman Business Association – SHE-ERA
Budget approved:	€87.150
Location:	Prishtina
Duration:	12 months
Inception date:	June 2004

The valuable result of the project was training women in business activities with the aim of changing their life standards and strengthening their position in family and society. The project was triggered by the discrimination of women in the labor market and an extremely high unemployment rate. In this regard, the Kosovar woman is certainly the most vulnerable group.

The project contributed to the economic empowerment of women by training them in activities that will help improve their financial situation. The latter was considered an important step toward the economic and social independence of women in family and Kosovar society in general. The beneficiaries attended three training programs: business information services, business advice and business training.

The program was implemented by the Women Business Association "She-Era", an association with a long and fruitful experience in the area of the economic empowerment of women.

The beneficiaries of the project were women, especially households that live in poor or completely unemployed area. The project focused on Gjakova, Rahovec, villages in Prizren region: Krusha e Madhe and Krusha e Vogël.

Following are some of the crucial results of the project:

- improving the economic position of women that live in poor or completely undeveloped areas.
- promoting trade market-oriented thinking among female beneficiaries.
- supporting women in creating new businesses.
- increasing the feeling of self-confidence and understanding the business environment.
- Changing the concept of beneficiaries by building a new perception as equal partners with men in the area of economy.

Initially, the implementers helped the beneficiaries in exploring the required resources and space for opening new businesses. Later on, the beneficiaries were supported in the first steps of a successful start and management of their new businesses with the aim of generating sufficient income. One of the most important aspects of the project was awareness-raising about the role of economic empowerment for the independence and greater role of women in Kosovo.

Project title:	Training for creating and managing new businesses in rural areas during a transitional economy
Grantee:	Kosovo Finance Institute - IFK
Budget approved:	€95.640
Location:	Peja, Prizren, Mitrovica
Duration:	12 months
Inception date:	June 2004



This project was built on the basis of a thorough macro-economical analysis. The implementers also took into account the demographic statistics in Kosovo: half of the population is under 20 and according to some estimates the level of unemployment is higher than 60%.

The initial point of the project was the conclusion that the most vital sector for employment is the private sector, namely the sector of small and medium enterprises. Therefore, special emphasis was given to the capacity building of potential Kosovar entrepreneurs to make investments and start new businesses.

The project started with a substantial study of work relations in rural areas and the opportunities of opening new businesses in order to create more employment opportunities. The selection of candidates was not accidental, but was done on the basis of a previous selection of individuals that showed skills or ideas similar to the opportunities of acquiring the required knowledge. The key target of the project, which was implemented successfully, was to develop among every participant the sense of entrepreneurship and the will to launch economic enterprises, regardless of the numerous obstacles one has to overcome.

One of the most important success indicators of the project was the establishment of businesses based on long-term development plans and professional strategies and methodologies.

The project encouraged initiatives to launch small and medium businesses and supported entrepreneurs in identifying promising and genuine ideas in accordance with financial and human resources. Special emphasis was put on encouraging women as

one of the most vulnerable group in Kosovar society. Another important aspect was to encourage Kosovars that live abroad to return, to invest in new business and to create employment opportunities.

On the other hand, the beneficiaries acquired all the necessary professional knowledge to carry the heavy burden of managing a business in a successful fashion and in making it a profitable and above all an activity that increases employment and reduces unemployment.

Apart from training for individual reasons, the beneficiaries were also seen as future trainers of other individuals that live in their respective environments and who could in the future be interested in investing in new businesses. The trainings included expertise in advice, loaning, management, planning, accounting and other components of a productive activity. As far as the methodological is concerned, the latest training methods were used and examples and concrete analyses were taken from the best Western-European experiences.

Certainly, one of the key difficulties during the implementation process was to overcome the psychological obstacles for starting a business which in the early stages might not be so promising. Nonetheless, the obstacle was overcome quite successfully and a large number of businesses managed to generate a level of income that meet the expenditures and in certain cases even generated additional income.



Photo Gallery

NGOs CAPACITY BUILDING



**Workshop
"Project Cycle Menagment"
Ohrid, Macedonia
2005**



Workshop
"NGO Sustainability"
Durrës, Albania
2005

NGOs CAPACITY BUILDING



Women Program



Workshop

**"Strengthening and increasing the
influence of NGOs of minority women"
Brezovica, Kosovo
2003**



**Workshop
"Women in Politics"
Ohrid, Macedonia
2003**

Women Program



MINORITIES



**Workshop
"Project Cycle Management"
Ohrid, Macedonia
2003**

Minority Media Support Program

MINORITIES



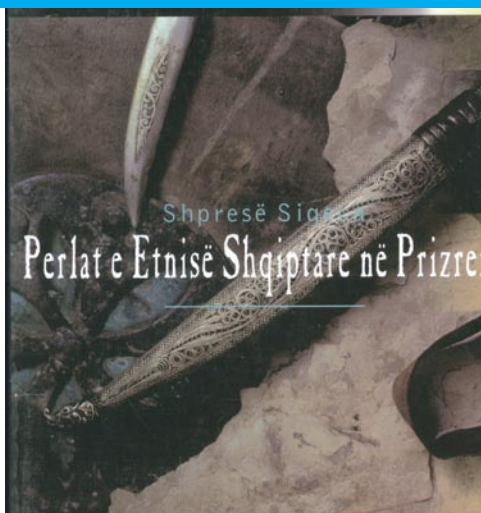
Culture



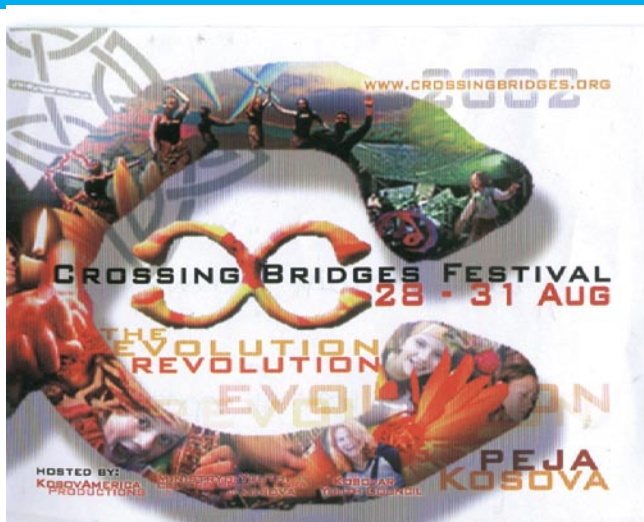
**Exhibition
"Students Exhibition "
Tirana, Albania
2004**

Publication
"Preservation of the Cultural Heritage"
Prizren, Kosovo
2002

Culture



Youth



**Festival
"Crossing Bridges "
Peja, Kosovo
2003**



Training
"Conflict Resolution"
Ulcin, Montenegro
2001

Reconciliation



RAE



**Scholarship
"RAE Education Fund "
Plemetina Camp - Obilic, Kosovo
2004**