

MCIC



MACEDONIAN CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION RECIVES RECOGNITION

"LEGACY MOTHER TERESA" ACKNOWLEDGMENTS GIVEN OUT

"Maybe we are not capable of doing big things, however we can do small things, and with a lot of love too", Mother Teresa - Gonda Bojadziu, the big humanist and citizen of the world, had once said.

The world looked upon Mother Teresa with enthusiasm, upon her sacrifice and devotion to the sick and the hungry, the lonely and the abandoned ones. The recognition to this mother, the Nobel Prize of Peace, came about in 1979. In that honour and in the honour of the seven past years since the death of Mother Teresa, a ceremony was held at the Macedonian Academy of Science and Arts, on 5 September 2004.

At the ceremony organized by the association "The Skopian Mother Teresa", the Mayor of Skopje Mr. Risto Penov

presented this year's acknowledgements to Mr. Boris Trajkovski (posthumous), Age Bojadziu and the Macedonian Centre for International Cooperation (MCIC).

Mr. Aziz Polozani, Minister of Education and Science granted statuettes with the image of the big woman, to Miftar Miftari, Mitko Tosev, Skender Kuli, Galaba Zareska and the Nursery for elderly people "Mother Teresa".

The citizen of the world, Mother Teresa, was born 26 August 1910 in Skopje. She left her hometown on 26 September 1928 to dedicate

herself to the humanity, to commit herself to the sick and the helpless. She passed away on 5 September, 1997 in Calcutta, India.

The Pope Joan Paul II beatified Mother Teresa on 19 October 2003, that is to say proclaimed her Blessed - a preliminary step towards her sanctification.



The recognition granting ceremony

Promotion

PROJECTS OF THE CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS IN MACEDONIA

On 23 September in Skopje, the Macedonian Centre for International Cooperation (MCIC) promoted the publication "Projects of the civic organizations in Macedonia". It contains information about some of the projects implemented by the civic organizations in the period 2002/2003.

The publication singles out 658 projects (with a budget higher than 150.000 MKD)

out of the existing 5.312 registered civic organizations, which are included in the Address Book published by MCIC. The data in the publication have been gathered with the help of pollsters, who were operating on the whole territory of Macedonia.

The publication offers answers to the questions: what is the work of the civic organizations, who are the beneficiaries of their ac-

In the issue

- ▶ "LEGACY MOTHER TERESA" ACKNOWLEDGMENTS GIVEN OUT
- ▶ Projects of the civic organizations in Macedonia
- ▶ Seminar under the topic "Inter-religious Dialogue"
- ▶ Human resources management
- ▶ Training on strategic planning

tivities, what is the cost of the activities, but also, what is the number of the people engaged in the implementation of the activities, or the number of the direct beneficiaries of the completed projects.

The analysis have indicated that, by virtue of type of activities, 67% are on informing and lobbying,

17% on training and 15% other. The activities have mostly been directed at 3 types of beneficiaries – people with special needs, women, children and young people.



The promotion

Bridging the Religions

SEMINAR UNDER THE TOPIC "INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE"

One-day seminar under the topic "Inter-religious dialogue" was held on 13 of November 2004, organized by the Macedonian Center for International Cooperation (MCIC) in cooperation with the Orthodox Faculty "St. Clement of Ohrid" and the Faculty of Islamic Studies – Skopje.

The lectures at the seminar were given by Lisi Rasmussen and Safet Bektovic from the Islamic-Christian Study Centre in Copenhagen – Denmark, as well as by Professors from both of the Theological Faculties. The premises of the Faculty of Islamic Studies (FIS) were used to host the opening of the seminar and the premises of the Orthodox Faculty (OF) for the closing part of the seminar.

The Faculty of Islamic Studies (FIS) was the host of the morning working session. The Dean of FIS, Dr. Ismail Bardhi and the Vice-Dean of OF, Dr. Jovan Takovski delivered greeting and introductory speeches.

"Both of the Theological faculties, the Islamic and the Orthodox, have proven to be ready to expand the mutual cooperation when it comes to preserving the purity of the faith and upgrading the religious culture which is inherent in the faith itself."

The Dean, Dr. Ismail Bardhi welcomed the guests and opened the seminar with the following words: "Coming to face this topic requires not only love and morale, but also a responsibility towards the religious culture in the multi-confessional society. In quite short time, we have proven that we know how to cooperate, despite the difficulties. Both of the Theological Faculties, the Islamic and the Orthodox, have proven to be ready to expand the mutual cooperation when it comes to preserving the purity

of the faith and upgrading the religious culture."

In his greeting speech, Dr. Jovan Takovski pointed out: "This gathering represents one more chance for us to seek out ways and forms for future mutual cooperation with an aim of upgrading our relations at the Faculty level, however to make a contribution towards upgrading the relations between our peoples too."

Panel discussion under the topic "The nationality in a pluralistic society – the relation between the state on one side and the churches or the religious communities on the other side (different types of secular societies)" was also held.

The afternoon working session of the seminar went on in the Orthodox Faculty with the lecture by Lisi Rasmussen "Why inter-religious cooperation?" In her lecture, she pointed out "Having been religious people, individuals and communities, we have the responsibility to work for the common good, against the use of the religious identity as antagonism to the others."

Following the lectures, a presentation on the topic "How can the Christians and the Muslims communicate and work together?" was organized. The lecturers from Denmark, Lisi Rasmussen and Safet Bektovic, presented their experiences from the work in the Islamic-Christian Study Centre. The Macedonian experiences were presented by Aco Girevski in his expose "Christianity and Islam".

The seminar was followed by large number of students and professors from both of the Faculties and guests from the churches and the religious communities in Macedonia.



The huge interest at the seminar points to the importance of the inter-religious dialogue in Macedonia

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

These 12 associations of citizens enjoy the support by MCIC towards strengthening the capacities of the organization in a form of series of courses, workshops, on-job training, consultations, and counseling, for a whole year in continuation.

Within the program "Building the capacities of the civic organizations" – (GKG), the Macedonian Center for International Cooperation (MCIC) in cooperation with the Balkan Foundation for Children and Young People organized a training on hu-

man resources management in the "Sredno Vodno" hotel in Skopje, from 30 August to 1 September 2004. The training was intended for members of 12 youth associations of citizens. The aim of the training was to contribute to the development of the capacities of the youth civic organizations and the organizations working with young people. In that way, the activities will be implemented more successfully, thus the condition of the young people in Macedonia, and in the wider region, will be improved.

"I am a student at the Law Faculty in Skopje and for four months a member of the Young Potentials organization – JIART from Negotino. I have had a chance to take part in some seminars on the development of the culture of the young people. I have applied for this training to learn something more about the civic sector. Actually, I have learnt many new things – the type of working posts offered by the civic associations, the criteria and the assess-

ment of the achievements, how to motivate the workers and the like. Three days were quite enough for the given material to be covered. In the future, I would like to volunteer in MCIC", said Marija Vitanova, a participant in the training.

Blerim Jashari is a member of the Youth Education Forum (MOF), based in Skopje and with branches all over Macedonia. Blerim Jashari is a member of the Tetovo branch for four years already. He is a lecturer in MOF and a student of computer sciences in the Southeastern University in Tetovo. Here is what he had to say: "I have taken part in many seminars in the country and abroad, but this is the first time I have participated in a training delivered by MCIC and the topic is completely new, as well. One can always learn something new, thus I found the topic of management with human resources very interesting".

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The trainers were Liljana Alceva-Jovanovska and Neda Maleska-Sacmaroska from MCIC.



One of the trainings on human resources management

Capacity building of the civic organizations

TRAINING ON STRATEGIC PLANNING

"We recommend you to partake in a training like this one, since the knowledge and skills you would acquire could be employed in your everyday work and the preparation of strategic plan in your organization, which is precondition for successful functioning, implementation of the activities and image building."

"It was a pleasure for me to take part in this training organized by MCIC. The trainings like this one give the participants an opportunity to obtain practical knowledge and skills. Having been participant in this training on strategic planning, I came to realize the strong and weak aspects of my organization, as well as its position in the surrounding, which represents a basic precondition for the further steps and the creation of developing interventions with an aim of strengthening and successful development of my home organization"

were the words of Svetlana Milenkova from the Women Centre of Republic of Macedonia. "The institutional development and organizational strengthening are important part of the developing interventions, which have a goal and task of fulfilling the needs of the target groups. In the end that is the main reason of the existence of the civic organizations. I recommend you to partake in a training like this one, since the knowledge and skills you

would acquire could be employed in your everyday work and the preparation of strategic plan in your organization, which is pre-



The participants at the training on strategic planning

condition for successful functioning, implementation of the activities and the building of the image of the organization" pointed out Milenkova.

The Macedonian Centre for International Cooperation conducted a training on strategic planning, from 21 to 24 September this year, in Ohrid. The goal of the training was to empower the civic organizations with the management skills necessary for

the development of the capacities of the civic organizations and their upgraded functioning. The absence of strategic plan in the management of the organizations is the major negative aspect. This particularly pertains to the newly formed organizations, where the need for strategic planning is not fully developed yet.

There were 16 activists from four civic organizations, each organization delegated

four participants, who took part at the training. The training was delivered by Liljana Alceva and Neda Maleska-Sacmaroska, trainers from MCIC.

MCIC's bodies and organs

GOVERNING BOARD

On the 8th meeting, on 21 September 2004, the MCIC's Governing Board sanctioned the text of the MCIC's Statute and adopted the proposals on alteration and suspension of the Statute of the counseling organizations. The Governing Body approved the MRFP Annual report on 2003 and the MRFP Annual report on 2004.

In addition, the Governing Body made a decision to verify the urgent approval of the projects "Water-supply of the v. Tearce-TRC", No. 04 08 VSZ 105 and "Water-supply of v. Beranci-MGL", No. 04 08 VSZ 10. It also approved the alterations to the project "Support to the SOS-line on Drugs", No. 04 08 SLD 101, "Hert Jan van Apeldorn Award on Sustainable Development", No. 04 13 GJA 101 and the "Civic Society and Democracy Award", No. 04 13 GOD 101.

At the same meeting, the MCIC's Governing Board approved the following projects "GPM Secretariat", No. 04 10 PGO 105"

and "5 years – MCIC in Kosovo", No. 04 12 JPK 301, as well as the final reports on the projects "Know-how Quiz", No. 04 08 POR 101; "Summer Camp", No. 04 08 POR 102; "Proud Roma pupils – 3", No. 03 08 POR 106; "Improvement of the education conditions – 3", No. 03 08 POR 107; "Catch up with the time – 3", No. 03 08 POR 109; "A step forward – 3", No. 03 08 POR 110; "The education is our future perspective – 3", No. 03 08 POR 112; "It's time – 3", No. 03 08 POR 113; "We are also for education – 3", No. 03 08 POR 114; "The education – window towards the future – 3", No. 03 08 POR 115; "Through education for better tomorrow – 3", No. 03 08 POR 116; "Strengthening the capacities of KWI", No. 03 12 JPK 103; "NGO Fair – 3 Forum of the civic society in Macedonia", No. 03 10 PGO 102; "Hert Jan van Apeldorn Award on Sustainable Development", No. 04 13 GJA 101 and "Civic Society and Democracy Award", No. 04 13 GOD 101.

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