



# Balkan Sunflowers

Volunteers for Social Reconstruction

## ANNUAL REPORT 2017

### Balkan Sunflowers Kosovo

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# APPRECIATION MESSAGE

Balkan Sunflowers Kosova wants to take the opportunity to sincerely thank our donors for their contribution towards fulfilling the BSFK goals and objectives year after year. BSFK is incredibly grateful for the support of our donors which always helps us to get one step closer to our goals. With your faithful financial contributions over the years, you've demonstrated your deep commitment to our work and for that, we want to thank you deeply. Your generosity is an encouraging reminder of why we started this organization – to help those in need and to continuously encourage the further development of our society. Your support inspires our continued commitment to reaching our goal and provides financial and moral support needed to continue our mission.

*“Your donations have had major impacts on helping many children and women in regards to education, human rights, social inclusion and health care in Kosovo.”*

BSFK also wants to express gratitude to our dedicated staff, starting from project coordinators to the volunteers in our Learning Centers, who have worked tirelessly for all these years, sometimes even after work hours. We thank you for your contribution, hard work and excellent performance!

Sincerely,

**Balkan Sunflowers Kosova**

Muhamet Arifi  
Executive Director  
Date:

# ABOUT BALKAN SUNFLOWERS KOSOVA

Balkan Sunflowers Kosova's primary focus areas are *Community, Human Dignity, Children and Youth*. The scope of work involves the protection of human rights; the social, emotional and intellectual development of all people in Kosovo; and the promotion of community empowerment - through developing and implementing programs for education, research, advocacy, arts, culture and other humanitarian activities.

Balkan Sunflowers (BSF) was an international grassroots organization, founded in 1999 to aid the Kosovar refugees. Volunteers from around the world saw the TV images of the war and refugee emergency. They wanted to help in ways that money could not. They believed that person-to-person contact with aid workers who came to work as friends and neighbors, might help restore community life in ways that emergency aid and political support alone could not. Balkan Sunflowers Kosova (BSFK) was registered in 2007 and gradually started a transformation from being an international organization to a local non-governmental organization, which is committed to improving the holistic well-being of people through practical, value-based and community-supported activities in the cultural, educational and research sector. BSFK is a multiplier, building activist lives and communities for social change and reconstruction. BSFK supports and develops volunteerism, activism, regional and international exchange, and local community action in support of human dignity and rights, and European integration.

BSFK has 40 employees and 46 tutors (volunteers) involved in daily basis.

Balkan Sunflowers Kosova believes that volunteers, both international and local who participate in community life, are crucial in order to promote the ideals of a caring and open society.

Balkan Sunflowers Kosova's current projects are:

- The Learning Centers Network (LCN)
- School Mediation Program
- Kosovo Integration 2020 (KOSINT)
- The Education, Development and Involvement Project (EDI Project) - which is piloted in partnership with two other organizations - *Play International Kosovo* and *The Ideas Partnership*, and

- **Kosovo Education and Employment Network Project (KEEN Project)** - which is also piloted in partnership with four other organizations - *Kosovo Education Center (KEC)*, *Spark*, *Academy for Training and Technical Assistance (ATTA)* and *Employment Promotion Agency Kosovo (APPK)*.
- **Health program** - Health activities implemented by BSFK were supported by Solidar Suisse and UNICEF office in Kosovo

BALKAN SUNFLOWERS KOSOVA (BSFK) is a nongovernmental and non-profit association with the following objectives that are specified within BSFK ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System:

- **Improve the educational, social, psychological, health, emotional and intellectual development of children and young people, their families and their communities.**
- **Advocate and mediate for the human rights of marginalized groups.**
- **Propel positive social change and support community empowerment through research, advocacy, training, mentoring, volunteerism and innovative program development.**

Balkan Sunflowers Kosovo through the provision of services and projects aims to fulfill the aforementioned objectives of the organization. The organization will show an exceptional commitment to meeting the stakeholders' requirements, expectations and legal requirements. Our perpetual intent and dedication has been and will always be to provide you with high quality of services and projects of the organization.

BSFK possesses a team of motivated staff which is determined to provide top-level services. Our strength stems from dedication to our customers, partners and employees. Our goal is to provide high quality services that fully meet our clients' requirements and legal requirements, to provide a stable financial condition and to meet the interests of the organization's partners. Through the implementation of the quality management system according to ISO 9001: 2015 (SMC) standard, we will meet the requirements of the society in general. Along with the implementation of the management system we will achieve progress through innovations, standardization of processes and their improvement, organizational leadership, and monitoring.

In order to achieve our goal, the management and the employees of Balkan Sunflowers Kosova are obliged to:

- **Meet customer requirements, needs and expectations;**
- **Operate according to separate responsibilities and established procedures;**
- **Constantly fulfill the requirements arising from European Services Directives;**

- Continuously work to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of work processes and staff skills;
- Operate preventively in order to avoid non-conformities;
- Recognize, implement and review the quality management policy.

## **Mission Statement**

Balkan Sunflowers Kosova builds activist lives for social change. We inspire and engage in community action for human rights and dignity, working in education, health, culture, citizenship, employment, and respect for diversity.

## 2017 General Activities and Achievements

### LEARNING CENTERS NETWORK PROGRAM

**Overall Objective:** To contribute to community inclusion through a safe, co-operative and stable learning environment for Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian children as well as young people.

**Program Goal:** Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian children and youth in the program areas are enabled to participate equally with their peers in school and young people from these communities are leaders and learners, creating a critical mass for inclusion that has the capacity to claim equal rights and responsibilities.

The Learning Centers Network is comprised of 5 centers situated in 4 municipalities across Kosovo. Its main target is to provide school support programs for children of Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities (not excluding other communities). Centers are located in Fushë Kosova (FKLC), Shtime (SHLC), Gracanica (GLC), Plemetina Village (PLC) and Plemetina Social Housing Building (PBLC). Program is offered in 2 languages, Serbian and Albanian, depending from the location and the education system children attend. Learning centers space is also used for the activities implemented by the wider community, including some of the local NGOs.

Overall individual goals have been continuously realized through the structured activities from different programs (manuals and curriculums) that increase confidence in children and place them on a more equal footing with their peers in the school. The five centers continue to serve the children in the communities as a safe space for after school educational activities, targeting children from preschool to grade 8 with the following activities:

- **Preschool Preparatory Program**
- **Homework Support Program**
- **Language and Math Clubs**
- **PACE Activities with Kids from 1st-6th grade**
- **Women Literacy Club**
- **Summer Program**
- **Parenting Program**
- **School Mediators Program**
- **Networking**

- **Reintegration of Returnees**
- **Tutoring Program**

BSFK is continuously advocating for the institutionalization of learning center's program. In 2015 Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST) established a Working Group to design the 'Administrative Instruction for the Institutionalization of the Learning Centers Program'. Unfortunately, in May 2016, MEST has decided to remove the institutionalization of the LC program, and institutionalization of the mediation program from Kosovo Education Strategic Plan (KESP). KESP was approved in December 2016. BSFK and other NGOs have lobbied to re-activate this working group and bring the institutionalization of the LC programs back into the agenda of MEST. BSFK has also lobbied to have institutionalization of LC programs within the National Strategy for the Inclusion of Roma and Ashkali Communities 2017-2021. This strategy has incorporated Learning Centre's programs only as activities to support. Finally, in August 2017, MEST approved Administrative Instruction 12/2017 for Establishing and Functioning of the Learning Centers. This is a huge step towards institutional recognition of the contribution of more than 40 different LC-s across Kosovo, including 5 of BSFK.

Learning Centers have significantly increased and improved the cooperation with Kosovar institutions over time, especially in Shtime Municipality which is very cooperative, especially because it provides free space within 'Emin Duraku' primary school and covers the cost for most utilities. We have taken our cooperation to a whole new level at the end of 2016, when MED of Shtime has requested our support on drafting the Local Action for all-day learning programs. Moreover, PACE curriculum has been fully incorporated by MED as part of this action plan. BSFK assisted the municipality in designing local action plan. In other LC's there has been a slight increase in support by municipalities, for example the Gracanica Municipality has supported BSFK in ensuring some of the books for the children during September 2017. The cooperation with Plemetina (Obiliq municipality) and Fushe Kosove has undergone some improvement, but it is not in desired level.



## PACE Program

The Learning Centers Network (LCN) project has continued the implementation of the “Planned Activities for Cohesive Education (PACE)” Program. The 1st draft of the PACE has been fully implemented in all the 5 Learning Centers for the school year September 2016 until June 2017. PACE program has been developed and revised with participation of LCN staff and an educational expert to assign daily, weekly and monthly objectives, which activities can be built around and successes measured. PACE was designed in line with the national curriculum and is being rolled out in our five Learning Centers. PACE curriculum was translated and printed in three languages (Albanian, Serbian and English). During the months of August, September and October 2016, BSFK revised PACE and Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) component is added as new component. This component represents a new tool for us and will both help children to develop socially and emotionally, as well as measure child development in these areas. [PACE \(revised version 2016/2017\).](#)

Next revision of PACE Program is planned to be conducted in August 2018.

At the core of this program are planned activities that Learning Center (LC) staff needed for planning, implementing, evaluating and reporting the activities they perform with children.

Evaluations/feedback of PACE program was conducted twice a month by each LC

Coordinator. The LCN’s and BSFK HQ staff took part in revision of PACE, led by LCN

Program Manager and an Australian expert of education, Toni Whyte. PACE program now has 6 main subjects/topics:

- **Language**
- **Mathematics**
- **Natural Science**
- **Society & Environment**
- **Arts**
- **SEL**

PACE is now enriched with an Activity Book. The process of accumulating activities from different resource books and internet has started right after PACE finalization in November of 2016. On 29th and 30th of June we organized a workshop in Boge (Peje) to discuss on the progress of the Activity Book, unification of codes and sharing subjects and grades among centers to work on, as well as to set deadlines for it to finish. A group of 12 staff members participated, including LCN Program Coordinator, Executive Director, LC Coordinators, Facilitators and one tutor. At the end of it, we came up with a unified form of activities for the

book, agreed for deadlines of finalizing it, and split all the work proportionally among centers. For more details see the agenda and participants list on this link [here](#).



Figure 1 Drafting the Activity Book

Another meeting of staff involved in drafting the Activity Book was held in mid-September. The document was put together as a final draft at the end of November. During the upcoming year, there are to be organized meetings and workshops with school teachers and municipal education department representatives to discuss ways of joint application of both PACE and the Book of Activities.

## Summer Program

Children attend the Summer Program in different groups in one 3-hour shift. This makes sure that age and ability differences amongst the children are accommodated and will also ensure that the ratio of children to tutor or facilitator does not exceed that needed for a workable child-centered learning environment. (Ratios are dependent on age groups and activity.) The Summer Program is implemented through different “Theme Weeks”. In each week, children are introduced to new themes, around which all the week’s activities will be organized. Most of the themes utilize language, math, art, and science skills. More than 640 different children were part of the Summer Program during months of July and August 2017. Each week there was a different theme. The exploration of these themes is intended to achieve dynamic results, including:

- • **Make learning much more exciting, with concrete results from activities that in school may be only in the book;**
- • **Keep children’s (and staff’s) interest and motivation for education high throughout the summer;**
- • **Make areas of learning interactive and interconnected, as they are in reality if not in school.**
- • **School Mediators’ main tasks during the Summer were: ensuring children’s enrolment in the first grade of the primary school, process of the reintegration of returnees and assist registration in secondary schools.**

Summer Program (SP) in 2017 took place in all 5 Learning Centers for 6 weeks (from 10th of July until 04th of August 2017), preceded by a week of staff training in each Learning Center (introducing the program and enhancing implementation skills of the team). After the program ended, LC coordinators lead an evaluation meeting with their own staff, parents, and school teachers (whenever possible) to evaluate the overall organization and outcomes of the Summer Program. Selection of weekly themes and detailed plans of daily activities have been drafted individually by each LC before end of May. At the end of June, each LC prepared to organize one-week internal training of staff for Summer Program on the first week of July. SP covers a range of different activities used from previous Summer Program’s curriculums towards a fun learning summer. The Program was expected to reach over 600 children in all 5 LC, contributing towards consistency of children in education and filling the gap on a long summer break that children have from school. After collecting information from all 5 LC, we saw that the final number of children attending the Summer Program at least once was 644, out of which 51% were girls, or 330. Each month, more than 50 parents attended parenting meetings in all LC, and many more children and parents were reached through our mediation

program. BSFK tried to multiply the positive effect of its program in other locations as well, and implement Summer Program in other locations in cooperation with other potential partner NGO-s. Here is the link to weekly programs of FKLC during SP 2017, as a sample: [click here](#).

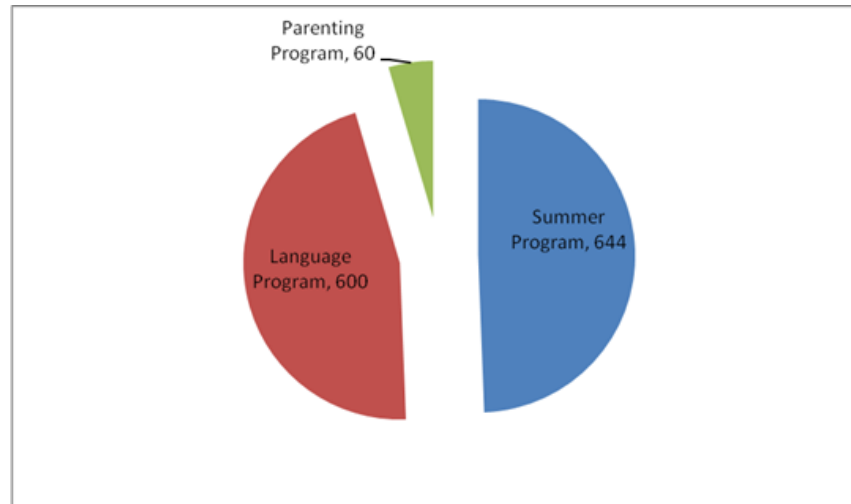


Figure 2 Major Developments of the Project (in regards to a partner NGOs objectives and strategies in the working area of the planned activities).

*Language program helped over 600 unique children in the first two grades of lower primary school develop the language skills and the confidence with their language abilities to participate in class and understand their teachers and other pupils.*

*Each month, LC Coordinator and other staff were involved in organizing at least one meeting with the parents of the children attending our program. Each month, all 5 LC reached out to more than 60 different parents for these meetings, where different problems were discussed and different outcomes reached, all in regard to well planning and organizing programs for their children in our LC.*

A local organization from Rahovec, SHL-Kosova (Students Helping Life) were interested in the format of BSFK Summer Program, and our staff in SHLC included few members of their

staff in our training who later piloted a similar program on their own during July. Here is the link to weekly programs of FKLC, as a sample: [click here](#).



Figure 3 SHLC training with SHL - Kosova resulting a similar project inspired by SHLC

## Women Literacy Program

22 women attended the Women Literacy Program in Fushe Kosova LC (FKLC) and 8 others in Gravamina LC (GLC). The program is organized based on “Dritare Jete” curriculums of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST). At the end of the training cycle, they have the chance to test their achieved skills and knowledge and receive institutional acknowledgement of the results from MEST. No testing took place during the life of the project.

Trainings for LCs staff were held with the purpose to improve their performance. A new approach to professional development was introduced to LCN, known as ‘Shadow Positioning’. During months of October and November, at least one person from each LC spent a day in another LC and shadowed the work and responsibilities of a peer colleague. This form of exchanging experiences and breaking the center routine, proved successful and motivational to those involved. BSFK intends to expand this during the upcoming year to more staff members.

BSFK has a child protection policy in place, ensuring that all staff, children and volunteers are aware that BSFK is committed to safe guarding children whenever they are in our care. The policy is implemented in all centers, but there is need for some financial means to improve physical conditions of the centers and provide trainings related to the implementation of the policy. See: [BSFK Child Protection Policy../Child Protection Policy/Action Plan.docx](#)



## Language Program

***“Language program helps children in the first two grades of lower primary school develop the language skills and the confidence with their language abilities to participate in class and understand their teachers and other pupils.”***

More than 600 children attended the Language program during the second quarter of 2017. Language support includes singing, reading, simple writing exercises, games, etc. Our revised 2016-2017 LCN curriculum (PACE) was developed in cooperation with the center coordinators, program coordinators and a child-centered education expert. Since no revision took place during 2017, LC staff from all centers are going to organize workshops and start the revision of PACE during months of August and September 2018 (for 3rd edition 2018-2019). Main areas of achievement in this program are: Language and Communication, Mathematics, Health & Welfare or Natural Sciences, Life & Work or Society & Environment, Arts, and Social Emotional Learning (SEL). It is drafted to correlate with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST) achievement standards for children in grades 1-5. Hot meals and educational materials are provided to children.

- ***Language activities will be offered daily to the children attending grades 1 and 2 - Implemented as planned, starting September 2017 since during months of July and August there was SP and then 2 weeks of summer holiday in all LC.***
- ***Additional language lessons will be provided to the children returned from migration - In collaboration with the mediators, parents, and school, returned children in need of language lessons were identified and joined regular language club classes.***
- ***Planned Activities for Cohesive Education (PACE) is implemented daily in 5 learning centers - All lessons of the language club are based on the PACE Curriculum. This curriculum is implemented for all children attending BSFK's LC, and is divided in 6 different areas of achievement which correlate with MEST curriculum for lower primary education.***
- ***LC staff plans and provide 2-4 practical, child-centered activities for each group of children daily - Each LC organizes planning of activities based on PACE at least once in three months, covering periods from 1 to 3 months. This plan is then implemented daily in the center and reported on internally to LCN Program Coordinator on a monthly basis.***
- ***Staff prepares program plan monthly and record results daily - Each day, besides recording attendance of the children, each child has his/her folder filled with the work and***

successes of that particular day. Children's folders are shared with the children and their parents at the end of each academic year.

- *Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) component is integrated in PACE and is available to all staff - Successfully implemented; at least once per week.*
- *Hot meals and educational materials are provided to the children (excluding the center in Shtime) - Continuing on a daily basis.*
- *"One minute" activities (attention, relaxation) happen daily - Continuing on a daily basis.*
- *Children are greeted coming and going, complemented on work, made welcome - Continuing on a daily basis.*

## Parenting Program

BSFK mediators had 740 meetings with the parents during this reporting period. See table below with more information.

Meetings held by mediators during July - Dec 2017

LOCATION	FAMILY VISITS
<u>Fushë Kosovë</u>	163
<u>Plemetina (S)<sup>1</sup></u>	434
<u>Plemetina (K)<sup>2</sup></u>	49
<b>T o t a l s</b>	<b>646</b>

One of the mediator's main tasks is returning the children to school. They held regular meetings with the parents in order to convince them they shouldn't let their children drop out

<sup>1</sup> S) - children attending Serbian education system

<sup>2</sup> (K) - children attending Kosovo education system



of school. Another aim was to involve the parents in improving the education of their children. During this period, mediators held 646 meetings with parents.

A highly important development during this period, which affects both BSFK's working area and its strategies and objectives, has been the drafting and approving of the Administrative Instruction for Establishing and Functioning of the Learning Centers (12/2017) by MEST. This document is expected to fast forward the process of recognizing and institutionalizing Learning Centers' Programs not only for BSFK but for all organizations working in this field. Registration of the children in the 1st grade of the primary school started in May and Learning Centers' Coordinator task was ensuring that all children are registered in the 1st grade. Mediation program in locations elaborated below started in July and provided much more opportunities to ensure better and higher registration. For more information see table below with the numbers of eligible children registered in the first grade of the primary school.

Location	Total number of eligible children to be registered in 1st grade	Registered	Registered in percentage	Not registered	Not registered in percentage
Fushe Kosove	14	9	64%	5	36%
Plemetina (S)	13	13	100%	0	0%
Plemetina (K)	29	25	86%	4	14%
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>83.50%</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16.50%</b>

Out of 14 eligible children for registration in the first grade of the primary school in Fushe Kosova parallel system, 9 children (64%) were registered. Out of 13 eligible children for registration in the first grade of the primary school in Plemetina schools, 13 children (100 %) are registered. In parallel system in Plemetina, out of 29 eligible children for registration in the first grade of the primary school, 25 children (86%) are registered.

The remaining 9 children will be registered in the upcoming year.

Mediators have constant meetings with different stakeholders to improve attendance and involvement of the children from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in the school.

BSFK mediators had meetings with school management, teachers and other important stakeholders. During 2017, the main reason for holding meetings was to re-integrate children

who returned from migrations. Mediators assisted in first grade registrations and improving irregular attendance.

During 2017, mediators held 31 meetings with school management, 16 meetings with teachers, 9 meetings with municipality. Below is table with more details.

**Meetings held by mediators during July - Dec 2017**

Location	Meetings with school management	Meetings with teachers	Meeting municipal officials	Meeting NGO-s and other partners	Family Visits	Total
Fushe Kosove (K) <sup>3</sup>	97	35	7	11	596	746
Gracanica	25	82	1	10	1299	1417
<b>Total</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1895</b>	<b>2163</b>

**Meetings held by mediators during July - Dec 2017**

Location	Meetings with school management	Meetings with teachers	Meeting municipal officials	Meeting NGO-s and other partners	Total
Fushe Kosove	23	19	1	5	48
Plemetina (S)	31	6	8	4	53
Plemetina (K)	2	0	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>98</b>

<sup>3</sup> (K) children attending Kosovo education system

# REINTEGRATION OF RETURNEES

**B  
S  
F  
K**

This program deals with children's dropouts from school as a result of migration, by making sure that they return to school.

During 2017, 18 children (11 male and 7 female) returned from migration. 9 children from whom 6 males and 3 females were reintegrated to the school. 5 males and 4 females are not returned to school yet.

Returned children during July- Dec  
2017

Returned to school

Working on

LOCATION	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Fushe Kosova (S)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plemetina (K)	4	2	6	4	2	6	0	0	0
Plemetina (S)	7	5	12	5	4	9	2	1	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>

There are no reported returned children that attend the Serbian school in Fushe Kosova. Unfortunately, migration is still happening because 8 children have left school in Fushe Kosova.

6 children are returnees from Germany and now they're registered in school in Albanian language from Prom Plemetina Building Learning center.

In Plemetina Learning Center, BSFK faced challenges in translating and verifying the documents (in the Ministry of Education in Serbia) for the returnees to be registered in the schools in parallel system. In Plemetina village we made agreement with director of the school to accept 8 students in school without documentation. 7 were returned from Macedonia and 2 from Germany. BSFK sent documents to be translated by a certified translation company in Serbia. In 2018 we will work in verifying the translated documentations in the Serbian Ministry of Education.

## Social Consultant Field Work in Fushe Kosova

During 2017, the social consultant had 60 family visits in Fushe Kosova to collect information about their problems related to social issues. Seven cases are seen as issues for intervention by social consultant. One is related to housing and the other to health. Housing problem for one family has been solved thanks to the mediation of the social consultant of the NGO 'Rahmeti' (registered in Germany) who found financial assistance to build a house for the family.

The other family had health issues and social consultant informed the Health Department about the problems. Health Department promised to deal with this case through Ministry of Health. Social consultant is going to continuously push municipal structures to deal with the case.

Another case was an illiterate family who didn't know how to arrange documents for receiving social assistance. The social consultant together with the head of the family went to the Center for Work and Social Welfare to ask for necessary documents. Balkan Sunflowers Kosova went to the municipality to get the necessary documents and now the family get its social assistance.

Another big problem that this family had was that the barracks in which they lived were burned and they had no shelter. BSFK has asked the municipality to find a solution for that family but the municipality of Fushe Kosova does not own social buildings in Fushe Kosove. However, the village of Dobreva does own them, therefore BSFK helped the family to be transferred to Dobreva.

Another case involved civil registration problems. The person had only a Serbian Birth certificate and BSFK helped him to register and get Kosovo documentation.

Last case is a psychically sick person who lives alone, since his family was not taking caring of him. BSFK notified the police, the directorate of health and social welfare, but they have not taken any action, even though the whole neighborhood and citizens are at risk because the person is very violent and aggressive.

Some of the challenges that social consultant face in the field were:

- Head of the families cannot be found at home since they are usually out to collect garbage, daily labor, and other.
- The majority of them have health problems, but they do not have money to buy medicaments or go for further and more detailed treatment.
- Many communities do not have their own property and they live in bad economic situations
- Some of the families do not have civil registration documents and they cannot enjoy their rights (e.g. social assistance)

- Some of the communities have loans
- Very high unemployment (more than 95%)
- Families are tired of many visits from different organizations and municipal officials. They lost trust and they are refusing to meet.
- Water in general and drinking water is one of the key problems in the community
- Poor Infrastructure
- The majority do not have appropriate accommodation, or don't have it at all.
- Their properties are not registered in their names.

## Media, Trainings and Events

### Media

During 2017, BSFK had media presence in several occasions. Here are some links to TV programs that depict the work of BSFK:

- **Summer Program in Shtime organized by BSFK during July 2017:**  
(See link here): [Summer Program in Shtime Learning Center - SPIN TV](#)
- **Importance of Early Education in the Development of Children: Samir Shahini,** Coordinator of the BSFK Learning Center Program speaks about pre-school education and its importance in child development.  
(See link here): [Importance of early education in the development of children - Tribuna Channel](#)
- **Round table on "The Health Situation of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities".** Health situation of Ashkali, Egyptian and Roma communities were discussed in TV as well. One of them happened in Imazh (Image) program in National TV station of Kosova.  
(See link here): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O02Epu-Jnyk&feature=youtu.be>
- **Interview in Tribuna Channel in relation to the health of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in Kosovo:**  
(See link here): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0dNDy-cYdF8&feature=share>
- **Presentation of the Ashkali, Egyptian and Roma communities' health situation in the RTK 'Imazh' Program.**  
(See link here): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O02Epu-Jnyk&feature=youtu.be>
- **Story about Fushe Kosova Learning Center and its Programs: Chronicle about the wonderful work that is done at Balkan Sunflowers Kosova Learning Center in Fushe Kosova, realized by Tribuna Channel.**  
(See link here): [Story about Fushe Kosova Learning Center and its programs - Tribuna Channel](#)
- **End of year activities of LCN: In the 20<sup>th</sup> of December 2017, in the morning program of RTK, Learning Centers Program Coordinator, Samir Shahini was invited to present the work and successes of our organization during 2017, and to further explain about the Closing Activities of the year that are organized today in Obiliq from 10.00 until 12.00 with children from all centers.**  
(See link here): [End of year activities of LCN - Radio Televizioni i Kosoves \(RTK\)](#)

## Trainings and Events

1. **In honor of the 7th March - Teacher's Day**, Balkan Sunflowers Kosova was honored with a Letter of Appreciation by the Municipal Directorate for Education in Shtime. We thank the Municipality of Shtime, the Municipal Director of Education and Primary School "Emin Duraku" for the continuous support we have been offering for more than 7 years.



Figure 4 7th March - Teacher's Day at Primary School "Emin Duraku" Shtime

2. **Sony Production**, United Nations and UNICEF in Kosovo have taken a global initiative called "Small Smurfs - Big Goals" and this campaign aims to raise the awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN and especially those that are related to children. The film premiere was also organized in Kosovo at Cineplex Cinema and 50 children attending the Balkan Sunflowers Kosovo (BSFK) learning centers and a large number of other children came from all over Kosovo. The children had the opportunity to watch the movie, play with different VIPs from Kosovo, and play with various games organized at this event. BSFK is grateful to the organizers, especially the UNICEF Kosovo office, for good organization and the opportunity for participation of children from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities that attend the BSFK learning centers.





Figure 5 "Small Smurfs - Big Goals" Campaign

3. During May 2017, members of the Committee of Petitions of the Parliament of Baden-Württemberg in Germany, visited Balkan Sunflowers Kosova (BSFK). BSFK presented overall situation of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in Kosovo, and projects implemented to assist these three communities.



Figure 6 Committee of Petitions of the Parliament of Baden-Württemberg in Germany, visited Balkan Sunflowers Kosova (BSFK)

4. During May 2017, the school for the basic education of adults in Gračanica continued with the completion of 5th grade of primary school for 6 male adults, who also were assigned testimonials for the completed grade.



Figure 7 Completion of 5th grade of primary school for 6 male adults

5. In the training room of Balkan Sunflowers Kosova, the yearly New Tutor training was organized for the new tutors during July 2017. This training serves the tutors to get to know one another, become familiar with BSFK-s work, procedures, and responsibilities, etc. This training was held by the Learning Centers Program Coordinator, Samir Shahini, and FKLC Facilitator, Ardita Islami.



Figure 8 Tutor training for the new tutors

6. Second three-day phase of the "Step by Step" training was completed during August 2017, as part of the EU-SIMRAES II project, in which many member of Balkan



Sunflowers Kosova staff in centers like Fushe Kosova Learning Center, Plemetina Learning Center, Plemetina Building Learning Center and Shtime Learning Center, took part. This is a high-level training, and participants will share experiences from their practice of "Step by Step" methodology gained in the first phase of the training. Moreover, participants will expand their knowledge in topics such as: components of a class with child at the center of it, active learning, classroom interaction, classroom management, organizing materials, time and space, reading and writing I, reading and writing II, integrated learning, etc.



Figure 9 "Step by Step" training at FKLC, PLC, PBLC and SHLC

7. Three years after the certification with ISO 9001: 2008 Quality Management Standards (QMS), Balkan Sunflowers Kosova (BSFK) is re-certifying for new ISO 9001: 2015 QMS. BSFK staff is attending training for new ISO standards with the aim of continuous improvement of the provision of services.



Figure 10 Re-certifying for new ISO 9001: 2015 QMS staff is training

8. In December, 2017, in the training room of Balkan Sunflowers Kosova, the second yearly New Tutor training was organized for the new tutors. This training served the new tutors to get to know one another, become familiar with BSFK work, procedures, their responsibilities, etc. This training is being held by the Learning Centers Program Coordinator, Samir Shahini, and PLC Coordinator Sanela Mackic.



Figure 11 Second yearly New Tutor training was organized for the new tutors

9. BSFK organized a Closing Event to celebrate a successful year, and with many results achieved in the work with children in 5 BSFKs Learning Centers in 4 municipalities, in Fushë Kosovë, Shtime, Obiliq, and Graçanicë. After the activities, all the children were given a symbolic present for the end of the year. This event took place today at Town Sports Hall in Obiliq, from 10.00 until 12.00. Different activities and giving away of end of year presents to children, was followed by a cocktail organized for our guests.



Figure 12 Closing Event to celebrate a successful year at Fushë Kosovë, Shtime, Obiliq and Graçanicë

10. On the 29<sup>th</sup> of December 2017, Balkan Sunflowers Kosova was hosted at the office of the mayor of Shtime, Mr. Naim Ismajli. Mr. Ismajli has always been collaborative and a great supporter of our work in Shtime for 9 years in a row. As a sign of appreciation for his contribution, BSFK gave a certificate of appreciation and symbolic gifts to him. We wish to have such collaboration continue in the future as well!



Figure 13 Meeting with mayor of Shtime, Mr. Naim Ismajli



An info-graphic which encompasses some of the key results and successes of the year 2017:

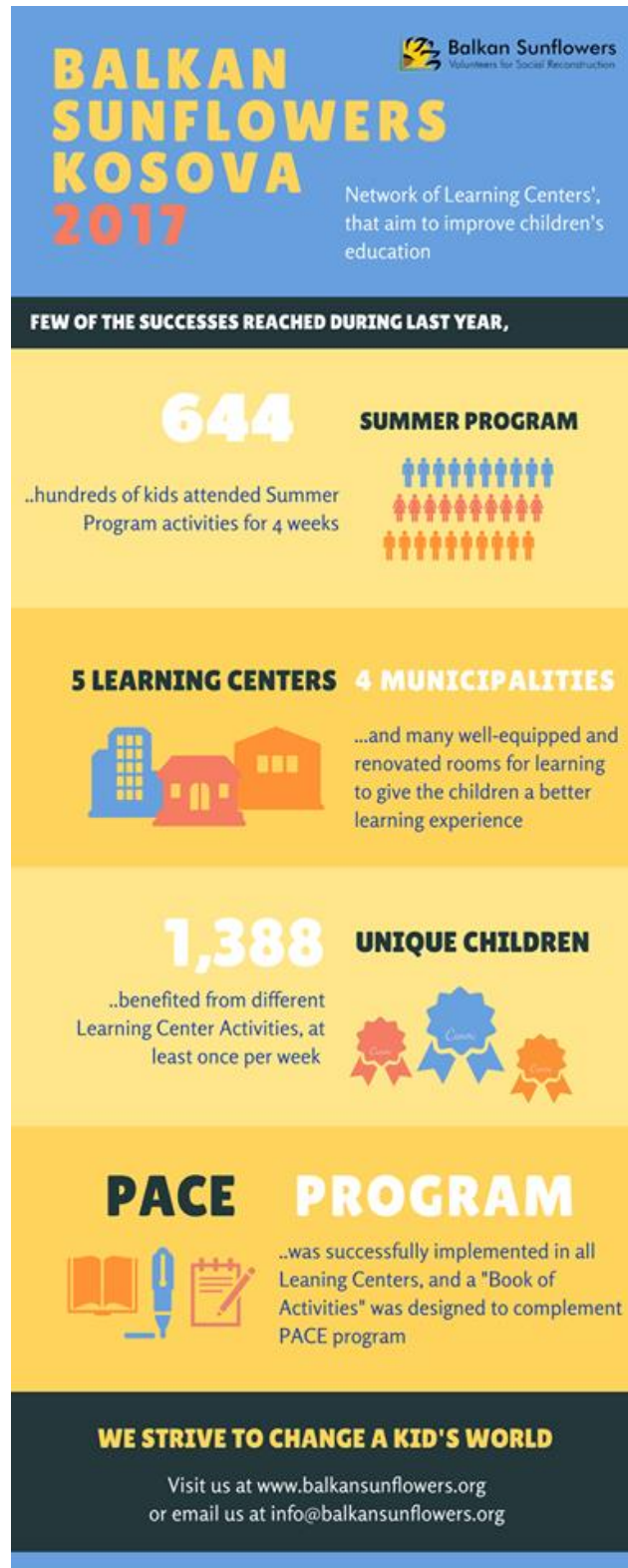


Figure 14 The key results and successes of the year 2017 at BSFK

# HEALTH PROGRAM

BSFK health activities during 2017 were supported by Solidar Suisse office in Kosovo and UNICEF office in Kosovo. We thank UNICEF and Solidar Suisse for financial support for the implementation of various activities from youth clubs that are contributing to improving the health situation of the three communities.

KOSANA is a joint project between eight Kosovo non-governmental organizations and the lead partner and donor, Solidar Suisse. KOSANA aims to analyze the current health conditions and lobby for ensuring that national health insurance, when implemented, accommodates the special needs of distinct population groups, such as vulnerable groups.

## **Empowering Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian youth to become advocates in ensuring better health services in Kosovo**

The project is supported by UNICEF KOSOVO Office. Aim of the project: Enable youth to become change makers in their communities to ensure provision of the health services from Institutions guaranteed by law and other policies.

Objectives:

- Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian youth are informed about health policies and mechanisms related to health.
- Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian youth are advocating for provision of better health services.
- Cooperation and coordination between communities and institutions providing health services is improved.

Activities:

- Research health issues in the communities;
- Meetings between health professionals and communities;
- Contribute to the designing of the actions in the municipalities and health institutions related to the health;

It has been verified with evidence that Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptians are not using health care services enough. Services not used due to the high costs of medicines and further high cost for medical treatment. Often, people from the three communities are not aware of the importance of regular health checks. When it comes to antenatal services, over 60% of Roma, Ashkali and do not visit a gynecologist during their pregnancy. Numbers are lower than 3% for other ethnic groups in Kosovo. In certain localities there have been reports of births at home without a midwife. Also, there is ethnic discrimination toward Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians communities in all sectors including healthcare services.

In the framework of the project supported by UNICEF Kosovo Office "Strengthening Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Youth to Provide Health Services in Kosovo", Balkan Sunflowers Kosovo has organized a round table on "The Health Situation of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities".

The Main Family Medicine Centers from the 4 municipalities in which the project was implemented presented activities that were implemented in cooperation with 5 youth clubs that were established by Balkan Sunflowers Kosovo 1 year ago.

The work of five Youth clubs was presented as well with various achievements from four municipalities (Fushë Kosova, Shtime, Gracanica and Obilic). Present were 4 deputy ministers, political advisor to the Minister of Health, Municipal Offices for Communities and Returns (MOCR), Director of Municipal Health Directorates, Director of Main Family Centers, doctors, NGO, youth from youth clubs.

Problems faced by Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities were discussed and good practices and recommendations were introduced which have an impact on improving the health situation in these three communities.

We would like to thank all the participants for cooperation in the implementation of activities at municipal level. We thank UNICEF office in Kosovo for financial support in organizing this roundtable.



Figure 15 Health problems faced by Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities were discussed and good practices and recommendations were introduced

## Immunization:

Volunteers from Balkan Sunflowers Kosovo youth club have intensely assisted for two weeks the doctors from the medical family center in Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje to vaccinate 703 children from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. We thank UNICEF office in Kosovo and Solidar Suisse in Kosovo for the financial support provided to Balkan Sunflowers Kosovo and youth clubs in the realization of this activity and similar activities in 4 other locations.

Below are the statistics of children who have been vaccinated for each area/neighborhood:

- In neighborhood 29 were vaccinated 307 children (151 males and 156 females);
- In neighborhood 28 were vaccinated 358 children (196 men and 162 women);
- In neighborhood 02 were vaccinated 16 children (8 males and 8 females);
- In neighborhood 22 children (8 males and 14 females) were vaccinated in neighborhood 07.

BSFK youth clubs organized other activities as well with the communities in relation to vaccination.

- Lectures on the importance of vaccination were held in 3 municipalities.
- Lectures were held for the citizens on the topic: *Prevention is better than curing*.
- After BSFK interventions communities are aware about the importance of the vaccination and in their own send to health house 125 children for vaccination.
- In total 981 children are vaccinated.

We thank all volunteers from the youth group for their commitment in assisting doctors in the field. At the same time, we thank the doctors for the hard work and excellent cooperation with youth from the youth club and communities.



Figure 16 BSFK Volunteers assisting doctors in the field



1. On 16<sup>th</sup> of March, a lecture was held on “Family Planning” by QKMF- Shtime. There were around 20 participants from Ashkali, Roma and Egyptian communities.



Figure 17 “Family Planning” lecture by QKMF- Shtime

2. On 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, 2017 UNICEF Team was in Fushe-Kosove for a field programme monitoring visit to assess the progress of youth-led projects. These small-scale projects are implemented by Balkan Sun Flowers (Local NGO) to promote social inclusion at community level. James Mugaju (Deputy Head of UNICEF Office and Dafina Zuna UNICEF OiC for Communication) said “These projects are fully grounded in local realities. They are empowering young people from all ethnic groups to be the voice of voiceless, to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves and to connect what they are doing with their respective municipal development policy agenda”.





Figure 18 Field programme monitoring visit to assess the progress of youth-led projects

3. On the occasion of the World Health Day, parents had the opportunity to watch the documentary movie "Lives" Through this movie parents were able to get to know that the average life of Roma Ashkali and Egyptian communities is about 55 years. On this activity attended around 8 parents.



Figure 19 On the World Health Day we screened documentary movie "Lives" to parents

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17. In the framework of the Immunization Week, the PBLC Youth Club in cooperation with PBLC Obiliq have been able to identify children who have not completed the vaccination process. 21 of them were vaccinated in April 2017 and the process continued for the next month.



Figure 20 The vaccination process at Obiliq

18. During this time, workshops were held by QKMF regarding the importance of child vaccination and raising parents' self-awareness with particular emphasis on Ashkali, Egyptian and Roma communities.



Figure 21 Workshops held by QKMF regarding the importance of child vaccination

19. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May, QKMF-Shtime physicians held a lecture on: *Health Lecture on Informing Citizens about Allergy Reactions*. This lecture was funded by UNICEF and implemented by Balkan Sunflowers Kosovo-BSFK.

20. (See link here):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=share&v=KnhVzDA694&app=desktop>



Figure 22 Health Lecture on Informing Citizens about Allergy Reactions

21. On the 6<sup>th</sup> of May, UNICEF organized the event of the “Launch Communication Strategy for Investment in the First 1000 Days of the Child's Life”.







Figure 23 “Launch Communication Strategy for Investment in the First 1000 Days of the Child's Life” event

22. In 10th of May 2017, in Shtime, the World Day of Promotion of Physical Activity was marked. This day was marked with a lecture by the QKMF physicians in Shtime, about the impact of physical activities on our health and with some sports activities such as football, volleyball and other sports games together with all the youth clubs of 5 BSFK Learning Centers. The event was organized under the project "Empowering young people from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in advocacy to ensure better provision of health services in Kosovo".





Figure 24 The World Day of Promotion of Physical Activity

23. On 26<sup>th</sup> of June, the youth health club in Fushë Kosovë organized a roundtable with the citizens of Ashkali, Roma and Egyptian communities in Fushe Kosova, where they had the opportunity to talk with the director of QKMF and with the doctors of this center. The topic was the Prevention of Disease and the Importance of Treatment. Besides these participants, there were also different organizations.



Figure 25 Roundtable with the director of QKMF

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36. On 27<sup>th</sup> of June, the Youth Club from PLC organized a meeting with local doctors, youths and people from community about the prevention of infections, symptoms, early diagnostics and fast reactions for often health problems. Also, we got a lot of suggestions from the doctors.



Figure 26 PLC meeting with local doctors for often health problems

37. On 18<sup>th</sup> of September 2017, Balkan Sunflowers Kosovo LC in Fushë Kosovë held lectures for raising the awareness of Ashkali, Egyptian and Roma communities about the importance of child vaccination. The lecture was held by the medical staff of QKMF Fushë Kosovë.



Figure 27 The lecture of the importance of child vaccination. The lecture was held by the medical staff of QKMF Fushë Kosovë.

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46. On 27<sup>th</sup> of September 2017, the youth club from Fushe Kosova presented the premiere on the theme "The importance of vaccination and prevention of diseases". Young people through this theatrical performance have given messages about the vaccination of children and the importance of vaccination. After this show there was a debate for the public led by Dr. Remzi Shala. All this ended with a common cocktail.



Figure 28 "The importance of vaccination and prevention of diseases" performance

47. On 29<sup>th</sup> of September 2017, the "Awareness Lecture" was held on the International Heart Day in Plemetina.



Figure 29 "Awareness Lecture"

48. On the 29<sup>th</sup> of September 2017, the Youth Club of FKLC together with the QKMF before the center have come up and have measured the tension and the heartbeat of patients. Citizens have been very interested.



Figure 30 Measuring the tension and the heartbeat of patients at FKLC

49. On 4<sup>th</sup> of October 2017, Fushe Kosova LC organized a debate on preventing the use of tobacco, drugs and alcohol. In the debate were 43 participants.



Figure 31 Debate on preventing the use of tobacco, drugs and alcohol at FKLC

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67. There was another activity in which doctors from Plemetina were invited to talk about alcoholism, nicotine and drugs to youth from community.



Figure 32 Talk about alcoholism, nicotine and drugs with Plemetin doctors

68. On 10<sup>th</sup> of October 2017, at the House of Culture in Shtime was given the premiere of the show "I am right" this show was realized by the youth club in Shtime in cooperation with the group of new actors Art Stars Union. The youth group in Shtime is engaged in activating young people to become creators of change in their communities, to ensure the provision of health services by legally guaranteed institutions and other policies. Ashkali, Roma and Egyptians have advocated the provision of better health services and better co-operation and coordination between communities and institutions offering better quality health services. Through this show, young people from the youth club presented their advocacy work, achievements and informed the attendees with their rights and responsibilities in the health system. On this occasion the participants were given a copy of the patient's card, in which the rights of the patient were detailed. For all these activities we had exceptional support from the Main Family Medicine Center in Shtime.





Figure 33 The premiere of the show "I am right" at SHLC

69. In the framework of the project "Strengthening Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Youth to Provide Health Services in Kosovo", the youth club from Plemetina (PBLIC) has benefited a mini-grant to implement the mini-project "Healthy Nutrition and Physical Activity" in which a lecture was held for the children on the 12<sup>th</sup> of October 2017. Also, a sports event was held and information leaflets on healthy nutrition were distributed. This activity was attended by the youth from Obiliq, Shtime and Graçanica. The project is funded by UNICEF Kosovo office and implemented by Balkan Sunflowers Kosova.



Figure 34 "Healthy Nutrition and Physical Activity" project with the youth from Obiliq, Shtime and Graçanica

70.  
71. In December of 2017, Balkan Sunflowers Kosova organized an advocacy event to raise awareness of the health problems of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. Different performances were presented from the youth and some of them are:

- Premiere of the short documentary film "Youth for health"
- Theatrical Performance: "The importance of vaccination and prevention of illnesses"
- Theatrical performance: "I have the right"
- Shadow dance: The aim of the performances was to deliver messages on health issues and health rights.





## **MEDIA, TRAININGS AND EVENTS FOR KOSANA & EMPOWERING ROMA, ASHKALI AND EGYPTIAN YOUTH TO BECOME ADVOCATES IN ENSURING BETTER HEALTH SERVICES IN KOSOVO PROJECTS**

### **Media**

During 2017, BSFK “Empowering Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian youth to become advocates in ensuring better health services in Kosovo” project had media presence in several occasions.

Here are some links to TV programs that depict the work of the project:

In October 2017, the Chief of QKMF in Fushe Kosove, Remzi Shala talks about the vaccination of communities.

(See link here):

[https://www.facebook.com/Ora7Official/videos/1118944081574935/?fref=gs&dti=349662488767399&hc\\_location=group](https://www.facebook.com/Ora7Official/videos/1118944081574935/?fref=gs&dti=349662488767399&hc_location=group)

RTK presents the work of BSFK and Youth Clubs assisting in the vaccination against Chicken Pox.

(See link here):

<https://www.facebook.com/rtklivecom/videos/10155479198133859/UzpfSTM0OTY2MjQ4ODc2NzM5OTo0NjU4NTYzNTA0ODEzNDU/>

Klan Kosova presents the work of BSFK and Youth Clubs assisting in the vaccination of 600 children.

(See link here):

<https://www.facebook.com/KKosovaOfficial/videos/1716857898359397/UzpfSTM0OTY2MjQ4ODc2NzM5OTo0NjU4MTk4MzcxNTE2NjM/>

### **Trainings**

72. In the 16th of February, 22 youth from youth clubs from in Gracanica and Plemetina attended training to gain advocacy skills to make sure that Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities receive health services guaranteed by law and other Governmental policies.
73. Youth clubs function within Balkan Sunflowers Kosova Learning Centers.



Figure 35 Training to gain advocacy skills for youth clubs

74. On 27th of March, 2017, the Certification of members of the youth group for health was completed, after attending two days training on the law on health and health institutions. The training was held in December 2016.



Figure 36 Training on the law on health and health institutions with youth clubs



75. In honor of the 7th of April, the World Health Day, awareness-raising lectures were held on health education.



Figure 37 the World Health Day, awareness-raising lectures were held on health education.

76. Furthermore, on the occasion of the World Health Day a workshop was held for children of grades 5-6 with the theme of “Personal hygiene and healthy life”. Workshop held a nurse from home health. On workshop children are informed what makes personal hygiene and how to keep right, also children asked questions and gets answers from nurse. Workshop attended 20 children.



Figure 38 “Personal hygiene and healthy life” workshop for children of grades 5-6

77. On 12th of May, the training with women about reproductive health, planning family and contraception, was held in Plemetina, in Serbian language.



Figure 39 training with women about reproductive health, planning family and contraception, was held in Plemetin

78. On the 2nd of August 2017, a training was held about “Family Planning and Female Health in Plemetina”.



Figure 40 Family Planning and Female Health in Plemetina” training

# KOSINT 2020 PROGRAM

KOSINT 2020 project is funded by Roma Initiatives Office (RIO) within the framework of Open Society Foundations (OSF), and is implemented by a partnership among four civil society organizations, which are: the Kosovo Education Centre (KEC), in cooperation with Balkan Sunflowers Kosova (BSFK), Roma & Ashkali Documentation Center (RADC) and Syri i Vizionit (SiV), working toward the all-inclusive participation of members of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in the fields of education, employment and social welfare.

Based on the above, there was set an action plan for the project that divided the responsibilities of each partner in a balanced way. BSFK main responsibility is the operation of the Network and facilitating communication among its members. Besides these divided responsibilities, all the partners have collaborated closely to fulfil the objectives of the project.

## KOSINT 2020 Network

One of the main responsibilities of BSFK was establishing an informal Network for the project that would include four implementing partners and other CSO that work on integration of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian. In the beginning of the implementation of the implementing partners invited five other experienced NGOs in the areas of education, employment and social welfare with regard to Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities to establish the KOSINT 2020 network.

This Network will strengthen the impact of each organization and will guarantee further expansion of activities such as monitoring and advocacy for issues pertaining to these communities. The members of the Network will play an important role in the decision-making process through constant harmonization of Project activities with evolving needs of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities.

Members of the KOSINT 2020 Network are:

- KEC
- BSFK
- RAD Center
- Syri i Vizionit
- ROGRAEK
- Health For All
- Nevo Concepti
- The Ideas Partnership
- VoRAE

Furthermore, after receiving the confirmation of the five CSO's, BSFK organized a two-day planning workshop that would pave the way for the implementation of the Project KOSINT 2020 and the functioning of the informal KOSINT 2020 Network.

The workshop was held in Bistra hotel in Mavrovo, Macedonia. The Project Work Plan and the Rules of Procedure for the Network Council were developed during the workshop with participation of all partners and the members of the Network KOSINT 2020. The draft plan of work established in the planning workshop was finalized by approval of all members. The network will broaden the impact of each organization and will ensure wider coverage of community monitoring and advocacy activities.



Figure 41 two-day planning workshop that would pave the way for the implementation of the Project KOSINT

Moreover, BSFK prepared a communication strategy for the Network Council of KOSINT 2020, which was approved by all members of the council, and respected throughout the year.

As per the Rules and Procedures of the network KOSINT 2020, BSFK organized the meetings of the council of the network of KOSINT 2020 and facilitated the communication between the members as set in the action plan and communication strategy.

Five meetings of the KOSINT 2020 Network were held during 2017. In each meeting the participation was over 85%, all the meeting minutes and other relevant documents were disseminated to all the members as per set timeline.



Figure 42 KOSINT 2020 Network meeting



## Launch event of Project KOSINT 2020

BSFK organized the logistics and everything related to the launch event of Project KOSINT 2020. On 9th of March 2017, the KOSINT 2020 Launch Event was held in Hotel Sirius in Prishtina. All of the participants were selected and invited in collaboration with the partners. In the launching event of the project KOSINT 2020 65% of the persons invited were present, which included representatives of local and international organizations, civil society and representatives of central and local governmental institutions. The director of the Office of Good Governance, Habit Hajredini, together with the representatives of the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare, Gani Ismail, and the representatives of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Merxhan Osmani expressed support for KOSINT 2020 Project pledging close cooperation during the project implementation. Media were also present that prepared a story for KOSINT 2020 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yiYT4j4PpXQ>.



Figure 43 KOSINT 2020 Launch Event at Hotel Sirius

### Capacity Building

As one of the components of the Project KOSINT 2020 was to improve capacity of civil society organizations for participation in sectoral reform monitoring, policy development and budget planning, BSFK was part in all the training organized for KOSINT 2020, and other relevant trainings, which include the following:

- The training for Policy Development Cycle
- The training for Strategic Budget Planning
- The training for Advocacy and Monitoring
- CABLE - Community Action Based Learning for Empowerment organized by VoRAE
- The training for Research Methods
- The training for Evaluation of Performance and Strategy of Communication
- The training for Research Methods
- The training for Communication Strategy and Media
- The workshop organized by KCSS for Peace- building and Local Ownership Capacity Building Workshop
- The training for Fund Raising and Drafting Projects

- The round-table discussions on the unilateral preclusion of the Egyptian community from the Strategy for Inclusion of Roma and Ashkali Communities in Kosovar Society 2017-2021.
- The workshop for Developing a framework for advocacy organized by EU SIMRAES2 and Prospect Plus



### Working meeting organized by Roma Initiatives Office with civil society partners from the region

RIO organized three meetings with teams from civil society organizations working with Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities from Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia and Turkey.

BSFK was part of the KOSINT 2020 team alongside other project partners.

The first meeting was held in Vienna, Austria, which served as a way for partners of the Civil Society Fund of Roma Integration 2020 to meet each other, learn about new environments and challenges, as well as innovative approaches to promote Roma inclusion. The workshop assisted in establishing partnerships both within the countries and across the region



Figure 44 Working meeting organized by Roma Initiatives Office with civil society partners from the region, First meeting, Vienna

The second regional meeting was held in Belgrade, Serbia. The purpose of the meeting was to reflect on the context and national and regional trends concerning Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities, discuss about the role of the EU, analyze the activities and initiatives of the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) so far, exchange experiences, and propose solutions on matters of common interest.

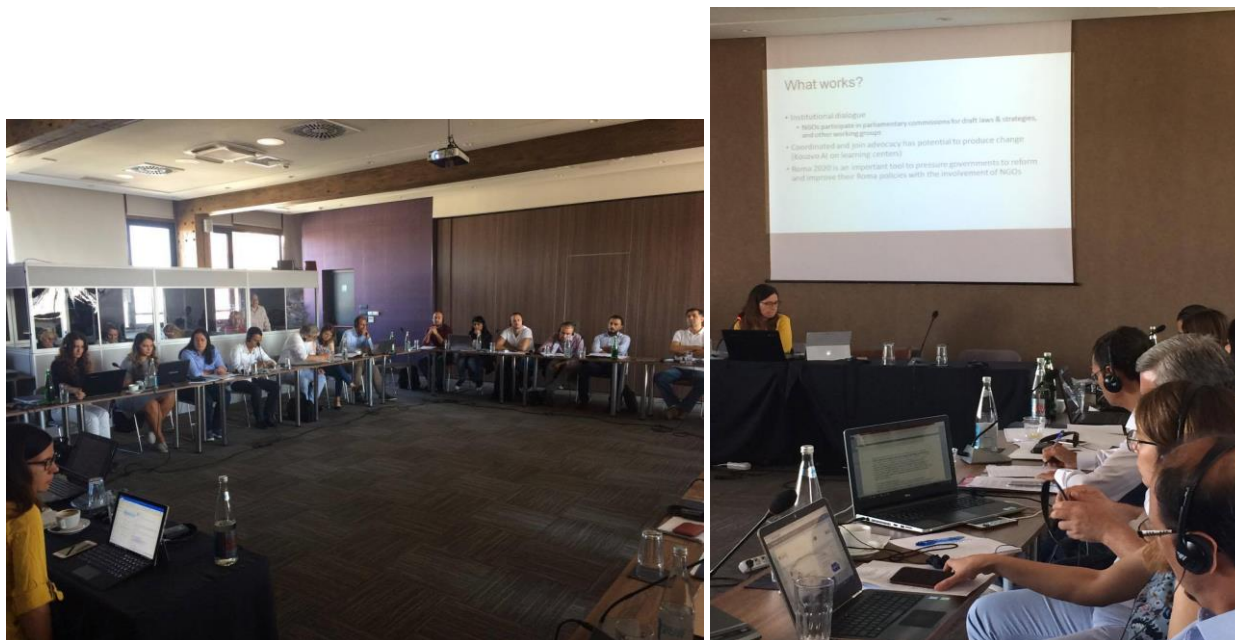


Figure 45 Working meeting organized by Roma Initiatives Office with civil society partners from the region, Second meeting, Belgrade

The third meeting, was also held in Belgrade, Serbia. The purpose of the meeting was the overview of international, national and local level budgeting frameworks, challenges, role of civil society in these processes and ways further. Reflecting on the context in terms of national level budgeting processes, practices and existing opportunities for intervention. And strategizing on how to best position civil society efforts to improve national advocacy in national budgeting processes.





Figure 46 Working meeting organized by Roma Initiatives Office with civil society partners from the region, Third meeting, Belgrade

**CSOs organize monitoring of Education & Employment & Social Welfare sectoral reforms, in view of Government commitments for integration of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities**

The monitoring of sectoral reforms was primarily a responsibility of other partners, however, BSFK was part of the process at all times. In this regard BSFK attended and provided suggestions and feedbacks on all the important documents that were developed through Project KOSINT 2020.

Among others, BSFK was part of the round-tables for discussing and drafting of the Administrative Instruction on the Establishment and Functioning of Learning Centers. After several round tables, the draft Administrative Instruction was finalized by CSO and sent to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology. The Administrative Instruction No. 12/2017 on the Establishment and Functioning of Learning Centers was formally approved by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST) on 25.08.2017. This Instruction establishes a formal framework for the operation of learning centers, which provide ancillary learning and educational activities for preschool and primary school students in Kosovo, in particular students from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. BSFK was also part of the interview on “Administrative Instructions and Aid Measures for Education of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Communities in the Republic of Kosovo”

<https://www.facebook.com/910417122387625/videos/1444860012276664/UzpfSTI1NzE1MjM0NDc0NDYzMTozNTYzODQwNzE0ODgxMjQ/>





Figure 47 round-tables for discussing and drafting of the Administrative Instruction on the Establishment and Functioning of Learning Centers.

Furthermore, BSFK actively participated in providing information and collecting data for the monitoring of Strategy for Inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Communities in Kosovo Society 2017-2021. Also, BSFK assisted in preparing the notes and outcomes of the Focus Groups with Parents and Teachers regarding their view on education for children of Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities

The Strategy for Inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Communities in Kosovo Society 2017-2021, foresees that the Office of Good Governance conducts regular meetings with CSO for reporting and working toward the fulfillment of the objectives of the strategy. In this regard, BSFK participated in the coordination meeting of Office of Good Governance with CSO representatives, aimed at discussing the implementation of the Strategy for Inclusion of Roma and Ashkali communities 2017-2020 and Action Plan at central and local level, by identifying needs, interventions and challenges and find a common way for better implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan. Furthermore, BSFK also participated in the meeting of Office of Good Governance with CSO representatives and MEST and MLSW focal points to discuss the implementation of strategy in the sector of education and employment respectively.



Figure 48 Meeting of Office of Good Governance with CSO representatives and MEST and MLSW

## Policy Development and Advocacy

From the outcomes of the monitoring reports, round tables, meetings with the local and central government, BSFK was responsible to suggest and organize several advocacy initiatives to influence implementation and reforms of policies.

As the first step, was establishment of the advocacy council of different NGOs with the same goals, which would serve as an advocacy platform that will generate advocacy initiatives in field of education, employment and social welfare.

BSFK participated in a public discussion about the needs and possibilities to advocate towards the improvement of the situation of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in the fields of employment, employment and social welfare.

Consequently, three advocacy initiatives were drafted and finalized. For the implementation of these advocacy initiatives, BSFK provided grants to two different NGOs.

The advocacy initiatives are:

Functionalization of teams for prevention and response toward abandonment and non-enrolment in compulsory education in five municipalities in the Dukagjini region with the largest number of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities - Peja, Istog, Gjakova, Prizren, Klina. The grant for this initiative was provided to SIV.

Increase the number of participants from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in the programs offered by vocational training centers. This will be conducted through training of fifty persons on the process of applying and being part of the vocational training centers. The grant for this initiative was provided to RADC.

Inclusion of Data from Learning Centers in the System for Information Management in Education (SIME). This will be done through signing a Memorandum of Understanding with MEST. The grant for this initiative was provided to RADC.

# KEEN (KOSOVO EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT NETWORK) PROJECT

KEEN is a strategic coalition of four Kosovo-based civil society organizations, whose focuses are in the field of education, employment and social policies. KEEN is an EU funded project which aim to improve the employability of vulnerable groups in Kosovo and their inclusion in both the education sector and labor market by participating in decision making, policy development and policy monitoring at central and local levels, and by facilitating dialogue between education & training institutions and businesses. KEEN aims to synchronize education and training programs with labor market needs. The implementing agencies of KEEN are:

- Kosovo Education Center (KEC),
- Employment Promotion Agency in Kosovo (APPK),
- Balkan Sunflowers Kosova (BSFK),
- Academy for Training and Technical Assistance (ATTA) and
- SPARK.

During the month of January 2017, BSFK on behalf of KEEN and in close cooperation with other members of consortium in line with Action plan of project has developed several actions related to assisting local authorities in developing local action plans for implementation of national policies:

- Meetings with the representatives of the Municipality Offices for Communities and Return from selected Municipalities (Gjakova, Gracanica, Ferizaj and Fushe Kosova), which have been selected to be assisted by KEEN project on drafting LAP for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. The purpose of these meetings have been to introduce MoU to Legal Office of each selected Municipality in order to inform Mayors and Municipalities for obligation which they take by signing MoU of cooperation with KEEN project.
- KEEN project has signed MoU with municipality of Gjakova, Gracanica, Ferizaj and Fushe Kosova, to provide them technical and professional support on drafting LAP for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities.
- Meeting with Mr. Skender Avdiu, director of Municipal Education Department in Mitrovica with purpose to introduce KEEN project opportunities on provision of technical and professional assistance for developing local action plans on field of education.



During the month of February 2017, BSFK on behalf of KEEN and in close cooperation with other members of consortium in line with Action plan of project has developed several actions related to assisting local authorities in developing local action plans for implementation of national policies:

- Meetings with the representatives of the Municipality Offices for Communities and Return from selected Municipalities (Gjakova, Gracanica, Ferizaj and Fushe Kosova), which have been selected to be assisted by KEEN project on drafting LAP for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. The purpose of these meetings have been establishment of Planning Teams, which will be committed on drafting local action plan for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities.
- KEEN project has signed MoU with municipality of Lipjan to provide them technical and professional support on drafting LAP for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities.
- All five selected municipalities to be assisted by KEEN on drafting LAP for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities have established planning teams where for member have been selected all relevant stakeholders.
- The process of selection of experts to be contracted to facilitate workshops on drafting LAP's for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities is almost finalized. BSFK in close cooperation with members of consortium have assessed experts that match best to be contracted and final decision and formalization of this cooperation is expected to be done in the first week of March.



During the month of March 2017, BSFK on behalf of KEEN and in close cooperation with other members of consortium in line with Action plan of project has developed several actions related to assisting local authorities in developing local action plans for implementation of national policies:

- Meetings with the representatives of the Municipality Offices for Communities and Return from selected Municipalities (Gjakova, Gračanica, Ferizaj and Fushe Kosova and Lipjan), which have been selected to be assisted by KEEN project on drafting LAP for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. The purpose of these meetings have been formalization of decisions for establishment of Planning Teams, which will be committed on drafting local action plan for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities.
- Heads of Municipal Offices for Community and Return from targeted municipalities have been invited to select by five members from Planning Teams to participate in Workshop for introduction of log frame for development of LAP.
- In the workshop organized with purpose of introducing log frame for development of Local Action Plans have participated by five members of Planning Teams from selected municipalities to be assisted by KEEN on drafting LAP for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities.
- The process of selection of experts to be contracted to facilitate workshops on drafting LAP's for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities is finalized. BSFK in close cooperation with members of consortium have decided to contract Jusuf Thaci, Muhamet Arifi, Valdete Idrizi, Petrit Tahiri, Ramadan Klisurica and Drilon Krasniqi with purpose of designing Local Action Plan for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities.



During the month of April 2017, BSFK on behalf of KEEN and in close cooperation with other members of consortium in line with Action plan of project has developed several actions.

Study visit to EU&WBC (Follow up workshop):

- The process of selection of expert to be contracted to facilitate workshops on exchange and adoption of experiences that participants encountered during study visits has been finalized, by contracting Mr. Taulant Hoxha for this purpose. BSFK in close consultation with council of KEEN project and expert have prepared agenda and has decided about dates of this workshop.
- Assist local authorities in developing local action plans for implementation of national policies:
- By enclosing process of selection of experts contracted to provide technical assistance on process of drafting LAP for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. BSFK has organized coordination meeting with experts with purpose on updating them with current situation and cooperation of BSFK with municipality of Gracanica, Fushe Kosova, Gjakova, Ferizaj and Lipjan. Experts have been informed about MoU's that KEEN and municipalities have assigned with purpose of cooperation on drafting Local Action Plans for inclusion of communities, formation of groups and their appointment with decision of mayors to be involved as a members of planning groups in process of designing LAP for communities on behalf of their municipality. This meeting has served in meantime to organize and coordinate work among experts for their presence in field, by giving tentative fates with purpose of organizing initial meetings with leaders of planning groups in municipality where they have been contracted to work.
- There have been held meetings between heads of planning groups from of selected municipalities to be assisted in process of drafting Local Action Plans for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians and contracted experts to facilitate workshops on respective municipalities (Fushe Kosova, Gracanica, Gjakova, Ferizaj and Lipjan). During this meetings have been settled dates for organizing workshops.
- During the month of April has been realized workshop on "Analysing the situation of communities Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians" in municipality of Fushe Kosova, Ferizaj and Gracanica. In each municipality in the first workshop that initiated the process of drafting LAP for inclusion of communities in local level, have participated members of planning groups composed by representative of institution and civil society. In order to make this process more inclusive, there have been invited to give their contribution also youth, women, community leaders that are active in these municipalities.





During the month of May 2017, BSFK on behalf of KEEN and in close cooperation with other members of consortium in line with Action plan of project has developed several actions related to assisting local authorities in developing local action plans for implementation of national policies:

- During the month of May have been organized and implemented workshops on “Analysing the situation of communities Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians” in municipality of Gjakova and Lipjan; workshop on “Defining objectives and activities for Local Action Plan for Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities” in municipality of Fushe Kosova, Ferizaj, Gracanice, Gjakova and Lipjan; while the workshop on Budget planning for Local Action Plan has been held only in municipality of Gracanica.
- In each municipality in the planning workshops for drafting LAP for inclusion of communities in local level, have participated members of planning groups composed by representative of institution and civil society. In order to make this process more inclusive, there have been invited to give their contribution also youth, women, community leaders that are active in these municipalities.
- Contracted experts have been supported by staff of the project on process of collecting relevant data and statistics required to be represented in LAP in order to have qualitative and credible documents, policies that represent and address issues that indicate situation of communities in local level.
- Meanwhile during the month of May, BSFK staff have participated in training “Advocacy and Monitoring” provided by KEEN project.
- Monthly report for May has been finalized according to regular deadlines, also project manager has been consulted for activity plan of May (2017).





During the month of June 2017, BSFK on behalf of KEEN and in close cooperation with other members of consortium in line with Action plan of project has developed several actions related to assisting local authorities in developing local action plans for implementation of national policies:

- During the month of June have been organized and implemented four last workshops in process of developing local action plans with focus on Budget planning for Local Action Plans in municipality of Gjakova, Lipjan, Ferizaj and Fushe Kosova.
- In each municipality in the planning workshops for drafting LAP for inclusion of communities in local level, have participated members of planning groups composed by representative of institution and civil society. In order to make this process more inclusive, there have been invited to give their contribution also youth, women, community leaders that are active in these municipalities.
- Contracted experts have been supported by staff of the project on process of collecting relevant data and statistics required to be represented in LAP in order to have qualitative and credible documents, policies that represent and address issues that indicate situation of communities in local level.
- BSFK representative has participated in study visit with topic on “Relation between professional education system with labour market needs - case of Switzerland” organized by KEEN from 26th -30th June. In terms of capacity building, BSFK staff has also participated in training “Research Methodology” provided by KEEN project.





Figure 49 “Research Methodology” training

During the month of July 2017, BSFK on behalf of KEEN and in close cooperation with other members of consortium in line with Action plan of project has developed several actions related to assisting local authorities in developing local action plans for implementation of national policies:

- During the month of July have been received final drafts of Local Action Plans for municipality of Gjakova, Lipjan, Fushe Kosova and Gracanica. These documents have been revised by coordinator of BSFK in cooperation with Project Manager. After revision, final drafts of Local Action Plans have been submitted to municipality of Gjakova and Lipjan, in order to continue with process of revision and approval by municipality authorities.
- In order to assure that drafted documents will be not only approved but also included in midterm financial planning by targeted Municipalities, project staff has held bilateral meetings with Offices for Budget and Finances in local level, in meantime have participated in public hearings organized with this purpose.
- In line with this objective, BSFK staff have participated in meeting of team for monitoring implementation of Strategy for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali in Kosovo society (2017-2021), and in meeting of Office of Good Governance with CSO representatives that work with communities in central and local level, the purpose of this meeting was to inform Civil Society on recent developments related with Strategy for communities and coordination of work in local level.
- BSFK staff have attended trainings on “Organized management and Human Resources” and “Evaluation of Performance and Strategy of Communication” provided by KEEN project.

During the month of August 2017, BSFK on behalf of KEEN and in close cooperation with other members of consortium in line with Action plan of project has developed several actions related to assisting local authorities in developing local action plans for implementation of national policies:

- During the month of August KEEN has advocated that Local Action Plans for inclusion of communities at the municipalities of Gjakova, Lipjan to which the documents are already submitted, to enter in the process of approval. So far, the LAP for inclusion of

communities in Municipality of Lipjan has passed public hearing and there has not been any comment. While LAP for inclusion of communities in Municipality of Gjakova, has been revised by Municipality Legal Office (MLO), which one did not find anything that preach any law or regulation, after receiving approval of MLO, MOCR has budgeted LAP and shared the document with other departments to be budgeted on their field of work.

- During this month have started preparations for workshop on exchange of experiences among targeted municipalities on process of drafting Local Action Plans. This process is conducted in close cooperation with contact persons from partner municipalities (Gjakova, Fushe Kosova, Lipjani, Gracanica and Ferizaj) that have been assisted on process of drafting LAP for communities.

During the month of September 2017, BSFK on behalf of KEEN and in close cooperation with other members of consortium in line with Action plan of project has developed several actions related to assisting local authorities in developing local action plans for implementation of national policies:

- During the month of September KEEN has finalized all LAP documents and submitted to partner municipalities (Gjakova, Fushe Kosova, Lipjani, Gracanica and Ferizaj)
- From all municipalities to which the LAP for communities is submitted, only Municipality of Lipjan has approved LAP. Municipality of Gracanica, Ferizaj have succeeded to have approval and support of Committees for Communities to present the LAP at Municipal Assembly for voting. Municipality of Gjakova has set LAP for communities on public hearing, which is open for one month and is expected to be finalized on first week of October. The actual legislature of Municipality of Fushe Kosova has finalised their work that includes meetings with legislative character, LAP is left to be advocated to be approved after local elections.
- In this month have been finalized preparations for workshop on exchange of experiences among targeted municipalities on process of drafting Local Action Plans and has been decided the date and place where to hold it (11-13 of October, Hotel Drim, Struga, Macedonia). This activity is organized in close cooperation with contact persons from partner municipalities (Gjakova, Fushe Kosova, Lipjani, Gracanica and Ferizaj) that have been assisted on process of drafting LAP for communities.
- BSFK staff on behalf of KEEN has participated in meeting of OGG with Civil Society, where topic of discussion was to enhance cooperation in process of implementation of the Strategy for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali in Kosovo Society.
- In scope of trainings that KEEN provides for its partners, has been organised training on Strategy of Communication and Media which was attended by five employees of BSFK.

During the month of October 2017, BSFK on behalf of KEEN and in close cooperation with other members of consortium in line with Action plan of project has developed several actions related to assisting local authorities in developing local action plans for implementation of national policies:

- During the month of October KEEN project has initiated meetings and initiatives with advocacy character with purpose of improvement of LAP for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in four of five partner municipalities (Gjakova, Fushe Kosova, Gracanica and Ferizaj) assisted on process of drafting these plans.
- On purpose of sharing experiences that municipalities have encountered in the process of drafting Local Action Plans on hold 11th, 12th and 13th of October, Hotel Drim, Struga, Macedonia has been hold a workshop. In this activity organized in close cooperation with partner municipalities (Gjakova, Fushe Kosova, Lipjani, Gracanica and Ferizaj) have participated 25, including members of Planning Teams and staff coming from KEC and BSFK.
- BSFK staff on behalf of KEEN has participated in a two-day workshop organized by KCSF, the topic of this workshop was tackling “Security situation as a measure of peace building with ethnic marginalized groups”.
- KEEN staff has attended training on application of ISO standards, as a tool on increasing the quality of services in frame of projects that are implemented by BSFK.



Figure 50 Training on application of ISO standards

During the month of November 2017, BSFK on behalf of KEEN and in close cooperation with other members of consortium in line with Action plan of project has developed several actions related to assisting local authorities in developing local action plans for implementation of national policies:

- KEEN project has achieved MoU with Municipality of Prizren, in order to provide them assistance on drafting LAP for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. The process of organizing workshops has been initiated after coordination meetings with representatives of MOCR in Prizren and selection of two experts that will be in charge to draft LAP for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in Municipality of Prizren.
- During the month of November KEEN project has initiated meetings and initiatives with advocacy character with purpose of enhancing process for approval of LAP for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in four of five partner municipalities (Gjakova, Fushe Kosova, Gracanica and Ferizaj) assisted on process of drafting these plans.

Advocate for implementation of policies from the field of education and employment:

- BSFK has initiated establishment of Advocacy Committee, by identifying professionals of civil society in field of education, employment and community beside professionals of KEEN project.
- KEEN project has prepared a draft of Advocacy Committee Mandate which will be open for discussion in first meeting invited to be held in December 05, 2017.

Other:

- BSFK coordinator has participated in study visit which was organized by KEEN project since 27th October - 1st of November in Rome, Italy.
- BSFK staff has attended training on financial management and procurement provided by KEEN project.

During the month of December 2017, BSFK on behalf of KEEN and in close cooperation with other members of consortium in line with Action plan of project has developed several actions related to assisting local authorities in developing local action plans for implementation of national policies:

- KEEN project has organized 1st workshop on Analyse of Situation with purpose of drafting LAP for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in Municipality of Prizren. In first WS have participated satisfied number of members of Planning Group established by Municipality of Prizren, which have gave their contribution in this process.
- During the month of December, KEEN project has had regular meetings and initiatives of advocacy character with purpose of enhancing process for approval of LAP for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in four of five partner municipalities (Gjakova, Fushe Kosova, Gracanica and Ferizaj) assisted on process of drafting these plans.

Advocate for implementation of policies from the field of education and employment:

79. KEEN project has held in December 05, 2017, first meeting of Advocacy Committee. In this meeting have participated representatives of different organizations that work in fields that Advocacy Committee will advocate for.

Other:

80. BSFK staff has attended ceremony where have been obtained certificated for trainings provided by KEEN project.



# EDI PROJECT

EDI Project is implemented by Balkan Sunflowers Kosova, PL4Y International, The Ideas Partnership and it is financed by Austrian Development Cooperation.

On the 23rd of May 2017, the Training of trainers for 24 participants of EDI 2 project was held. This training was conducted with the purpose of training these participants to implement the recreational activities developed for International Children's Day 2017. Afterwards these participants will train all the volunteers of four localities of EDI for implementing these activities on the 1st of June. During this day, the trainer demonstrated and together with the participants implemented almost all activities developed beforehand. After this, every locality completed in details their day plan of 1st of June. Besides the volunteers and staff of the project, present in the training were participants from the Department of Culture, Youth and Sport- Municipality of Obiliq/Obilic, Youth Center and the School 'Pandeli Sotiri' of Obiliq/Obilic and from Fushe Kosova Learning Center (FKLC) of Balkan Sunflowers Kosova.



Figure 51 Training of trainers for 24 participants of EDI 2

International Children's Day 2017 was marked in four localities, on the 1st of June: in "Emin Duraku" school in Shtime/ Stimlje, "Selman Riza" school in Fushe Kosove/ Kosovo Polje, "Shtjefën Gjecovi" school in Janjeve/o and Sheshi "Aziz Zhilivoda" in Obiliq/c. In Shtime/Stimlje they were 998 children, in Fushe Kosove/ Kosovo Polje 700 children, in Janjeve/o 426 children and in Obiliq/c 330. The new arrangement for this year was in Obiliq/c where activities were held in the main square of the city and besides the children of "Pandeli Sotiri" school present were the other 6 primary schools with one class and the pre-school. New educational and sport activities were implemented this year. As previously, they were implemented with the help of project staff, EDI and other NGOs volunteers and teachers of the schools. Every class were assigned their respective corner and their teacher. Besides the teachers, in Shtime/Stimlje they were 58 volunteers, in Fushe Kosove/ Kosovo Polje 40 volunteers, in Janjeve/o 19 volunteers and in Obiliq/c 21 volunteers. A number of the

responsible participants were trained in May for the implementation of the activities and the managing of the corners with the classes. These participants trained the other local volunteers in the last week of May for the implementation of activities with the children.



Figure 52 International Children's Day 2017

On 7th and 8th of September 2017, EDI 2 Project held its Evaluation Meeting. It was organized in the middle of the project's implementation. Present were all partners of the project, where they had the chance to discuss and take important decisions for the upcoming activities of EDI 2. Stay updated with project for the developments in the coming periods.





Figure 53 EDI 2 Project Evaluation Meeting

During November 2017, Gunther Zimmer, Counsellor & Head of Country Office and Albulena Zaimi, Task Manager/ Program Officer for Education from Austrian Development Agency, the donor of the project, visited EDI 2 project activities in three out of its four locations: Shtime/ Stimlje, Fushë Kosovë/ Kosovo Polje and Plemetin/a. In Shtime/Stimlje they were part of the educational activities in the school and sport activities, in Fushë Kosovë/ Kosovo Polje they were part of the educational and health lectures activities and finally in Plemetin/a they were part of the educational and sport activities, which are organized regularly by staff and volunteers of the project. Besides seeing the activities, they had the chance to talk to the beneficiaries of the project: children and volunteers of all three localities, the director and teachers from “Emin Duraku” primary school in Shtime/ Stimlje.





Figure 54 Gunther Zimmer, Counsellor & Head of Country Office and Albulena Zaimi, Task Manager/ Program Officer for Education from Austrian Development Agency, visit to EDI 2

On International Volunteer Day, 5th of December, EDI screened the video which was produced to show the work of volunteers in the four localities of EDI. All guests, during a cocktail, had the chance to know more and interact with EDI Volunteers, talk about partner organizations' activities and comment on the video screened for them. After the EDI Video screened, all guests were invited to watch a movie together! Besides volunteers, present were representatives from partner organizations, donor of the project Austrian Development Agency and from the Shtjefen Gjecovi of Janjeve/o. This video shows the work of volunteers in four localities where EDI is active: Fushë Kosovë/ Kosovo Polje, Janjevë/o (Lipjan/ Lipljan), Shtime/ Štimlje and Plemetin/a (Obiliq/ć). This video was first shown to partners and volunteers on Volunteer Day, 5th of December 2017.

See link here: <https://www.facebook.com/EDIproject/videos/850403131805412/>







Figure 55 International Volunteer Day

## FINANCES

The organization has procurement regulations and is certified by ISO Standard 9001: 2015 which governs the organization's financial performance.

The external audit of the organization is done every fiscal year. BSFK for 2017 had three audits. Two of them were project audits, and one was for 2017 fiscal year for BSFK.

The organization is registered in the Tax Administration of Kosovo (TAK) and regularly declares VAT.

Balkan Sunflowers Kosovo uses the Quickbooks financial system.

Financial reporting is finalized without any delay.

Balkan Sunflowers Kosovo in 2017 had following donors:

- Brot für die Welt / Diakonie Austria Gemeinnützige GmbH
- Austrian Development Agency (ADA)
- Czech Development Agency - Through People in need (PIN)
- UNICEF office In Kosovo
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
- Solidar Suisse office in Kosovo
- Terre Des Home
- Norwegian Embassy
- P.....
- European Union (EU SIMRAES II project)
- European Union (KEEN project)
- Roma Initiative Office (KOSINT 2020 project)
- Municipality of Shtime
- Municipality of Fushë Kosova

Income and expenses for 2017		
Donor	Income	Expenses
Diakonie	21,962.00	17,175.97
ADA (EDI 2)	74,632.88	50,892.03
PIN (People In Need)	70,328.25	70,289.49
UNICEF	16,450.00	19,631.96
GIZ	79,853.00	69,221.81
Solidar Suisse	14,842.00	14,842.21
Terre Des Home	1,742.61	1,792.54
Norwegian Embassy	21,419.77	23,472.14
P.....	Income occurred in 2016	37,418.17
EU (EU SIMRAES II )	9,054.17	40,591.99
EU (KEEN)	68,306.50	37,351.67
KOSINT 2020	24,230.71	21,512.41
ZKK-Municipality of Shtime	225	225
Municipality of Shtime	600	600
Municipality of Fushe Kosova	1000	To be spent in 2018
Other Income (URF, Crowd rise)	8,853.13	6,129.1
<b>TOTAL 2017</b>	<b>413,500.02</b>	<b>411,155.99</b>