



Balkan Sunflowers

Volunteers for Social Reconstruction

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Balkan Sunflowers Kosovo

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APPRECIATION MESSAGE

Together we can. Volunteers for social reconstruction is our motto. We build activists for change and volunteers are the strength of our organization. We express our gratitude to our dedicated staff, from project coordinators to the volunteers in our Learning Centers, and as well staff and volunteers engaged in other BSFK projects who have worked tirelessly and with full motivation for all these years, sometimes even after work hours. We thank you for your contribution, hard work and excellent performance!

We are looking forward for the continuation of our cooperation to the partner NGO-s and institutions from local and central level.

“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.”

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.

Sincerely,

Balkan Sunflowers Kosova

Muhamet Arifi
Executive Director

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 fundamental 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) originally was an international grassroots organization, founded in 1999 to aid Kosovar refugees. Volunteers from around the world saw 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 also European integration.

BSFK has 35 employees and 45 tutors (volunteers) involved in a 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)** - piloted in partnership with two other organizations – *Play International Kosovo* and *The Ideas Partnership*
- **Kosovo Education and Employment Network Project (KEEN Project)** – 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** – activities implemented are supported by Solidar Suisse in Kosovo.

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 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.**

BSFK, through the provision of services and projects, aims to fulfill the aforementioned objectives of the organization. The organization shows 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 high quality of services and projects of the organization.

BSFK possesses a team of motivated staff who 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 BSFK 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.

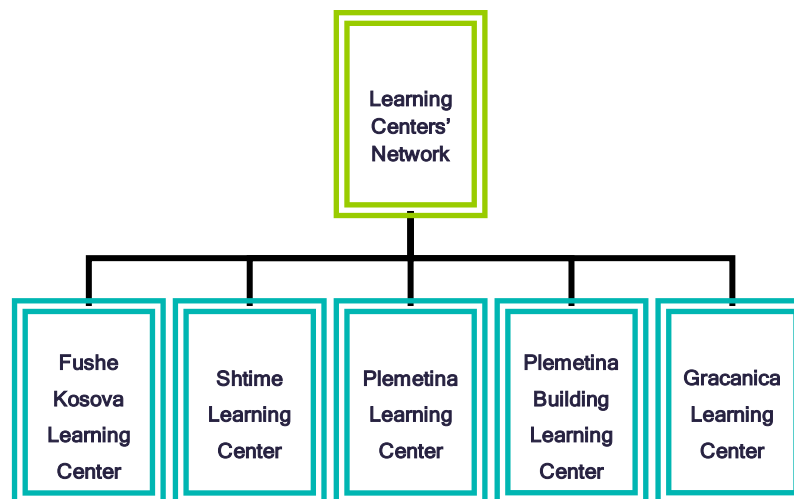
2019 activities and achievements

LEARNING CENTERS NETWORK PROGRAM

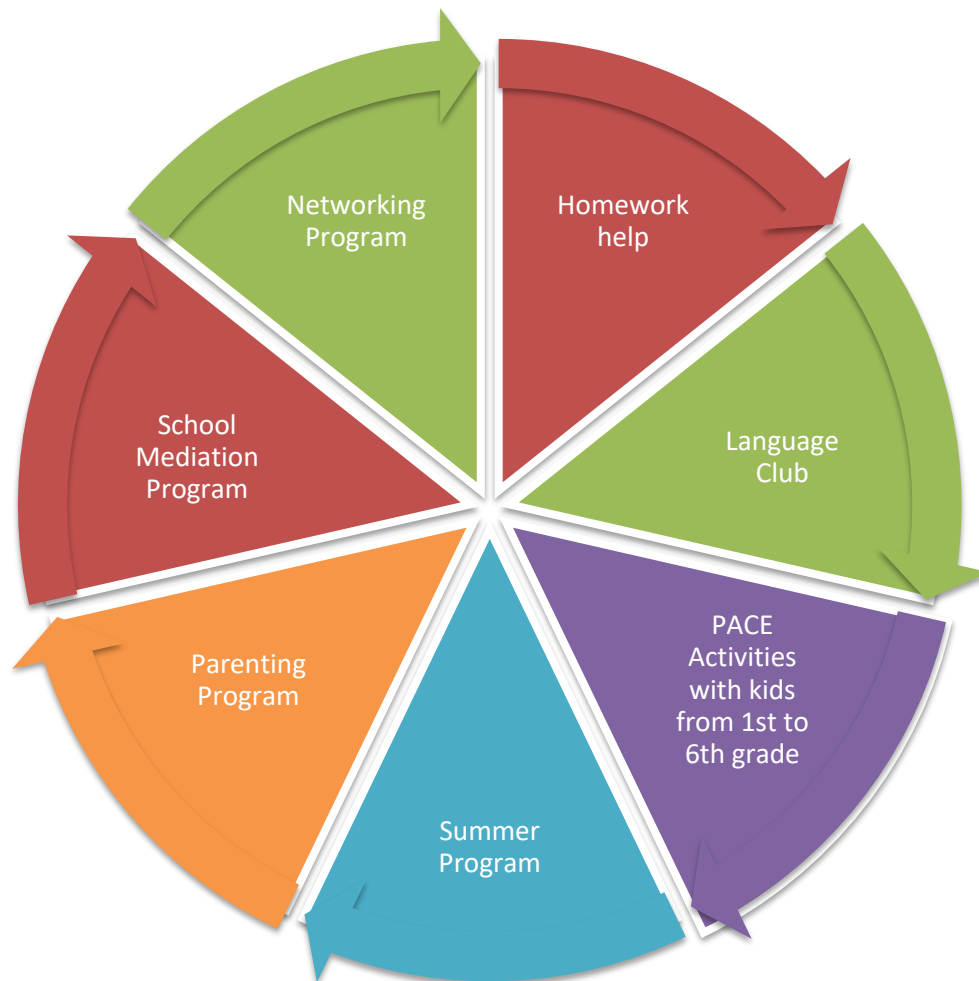
Overall Objective: To contribute to community inclusion through a safe, co-operative, and stable learning environment for Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian children as well as young people.

Program Goal: Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian children and youth in the program areas are enable to participate equally with their peers in school. 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 (LCN) 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), Gračanica (GLC), Plemetina Village (PLC), and Plemetina Social Housing Building (PBLC). The program is offered in 2 languages, Serbian and Albanian, depending and the location and education system children attend. Learning centers space also is used for the activities implemented by the wider community including some of the local NGOs.



Overall individual goals continuously have been realized through the structured activities from different aspects of the program (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:



Balkan Sunflowers Kosova have started to work towards the fulfilment of the criteria of Administrative Instruction 19/2018 for the registration of Learning Centers. BSFK couldn't apply for registration of the LCs, due to the fact that the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology (MEST) did not open the call. Moreover, BSFK worked towards securing funds for LCs by the municipalities. Shtime/Stimlje Municipality and Municipality of Fushe Kosove/Kosovo Polje have financed the LCs in different aspects, however the funding of LCs is not yet in the annual budget plan of the municipalities.

Learning Centers have significantly increased and improved the cooperation with Kosovar institutions over time, especially in Shtime Municipality, which is very cooperative because it provides free space within ‘Emin Duraku’ primary school and covers the cost for most utilities. The cooperation with Plemetina (Obiliq municipality) and Fushe Kosove has undergone some improvement, but it is not in desired level.

PACE Program

The LCN project has continued the implementation of the Planned Activities for Cohesive Education (PACE) Program. The PACE program was developed and revised yearly with participation of the LCN staff and an educational expert to assign daily, weekly and monthly objectives, upon which activities can be built around and successes measured. PACE was designed in line with the national curriculum. The PACE curriculum is available in three languages (Albanian, Serbian, and English). Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) curricula was implemented this year. 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.

At the core of this program are planned activities Learning Center (LC) staff use for planning, implementing, evaluating, and reporting the activities they perform with children. Evaluations/feedback of PACE program was every two months. PACE program has 6 main subjects/topics:

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

Implementation of the PACE program

- ***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.*

Summer Program

Children attend the Summer Program in groups in different 3-hour shifts. 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. 748 different children were part of the Summer Program of Balkan Sunflowers Kosova (BSFK) during the months of July and early August 2019, out of which 353 girls and 395 boys. The SP was organized in all 5 learning centers simultaneously, starting from 8th of July and lasting for 4 weeks until 2nd of August. Prior to the Summer Program, each LC organized training for their staff, introducing the program and enhancing implementation skills of the team.

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 high for education throughout the summer;**
- **Make areas of learning interactive and interconnected, as they are in reality as they may not be in school.**
- **School Mediators’ main tasks during the Summer were ensuring children’s enrolment in the first grade of the primary school, processing of the reintegration of returnees, and assisting registration in secondary schools.**

Summer Program (SP) in 2019 took place in all 5 Learning Centers for 6 weeks (from 8th of July until 2nd of August 2019), 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 above 500, out of which 51% were girls. Each month, more than 50 parents attended parenting meetings in all LC, and many more children and parents were reached through our mediation program.

Administrative Instruction for Establishing and Functioning of the Learning Centers 19/2018 is not implemented by MEST. This document was 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. MEST approved the Guide on Implementation of the AI 19/2018 in December. There has been confusion created within MEST and civil society actors regarding the ministerial commission that is expected to be established with the goal of receiving registration applications and reviewing them. There was no financing in place by MEST for the Learning Centers as foreseen in the AI.

BSFK started to revise internal documents and policies in order to fulfil criteria for the registration of the Learning Centers.

Women Literacy Program

More than 20 women attended the Women Literacy Program in Fushe Kosova LC (FKLC). The program is organized based on "Dritare Jete" curriculums of the 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 the MEST. No testing took place during 2019.

Language program helped over 500 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 50 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.



Photo from the summer program activities in SHLC

Child protection policy

BSFK has revised a child protection policy, 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.

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 400 children attended the Language program during 2019. Language support includes singing, reading, simple writing exercises, games, etc. Our revised LCN curriculum (PACE) was developed in cooperation with the center coordinators, program coordinators and a child-centered education expert. It is drafted to correlate with the 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 the MEST curriculum for lower primary education.*

Trainings

BSFK implemented different trainings for the staff in order to increase their capacities and ensure provision of the qualitative and safe programs.

- Implementation of the internal policies (ISO 9001 Quality Management Standards (QMS);
- PACE curriculum and the book of the activities;
- Child Protection policy.
- A one-week summer program training to be held each year – SP training is planned to be organized from 2 to 6 of July, before SP starts.
- Social Emotional Learning (SEL) skill training is delivered to coordinators, facilitators and tutors from 5 learning centers.



School mediators

School mediators are covering 7 schools in total with approximately 1000 children from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian children attending. Mediators are covering 4 schools within Kosovo education system, and 3 schools within Serbian education system.

From January– December 2019, two full times mediators are covering 3 schools in Fushe Kosova (within Kosovo education system) covering 615 children from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. One part time mediator is covering 1 school in Fushe Kosova (Serbian Education system) covering approximately 62 children mainly from Roma community. These children are attending educational programs in Fushe Kosova Learning Center (FKLC).

One part time mediator is covering 1 school in Gracanica (within Serbian education system) with 127 children from mainly Roma community and one part time mediator is covering 1 school in Plemetina vilage (within Serbian education system) with 196 children from mainly Roma community. In Plemetina Building Learning Center (PBLC) is less work needed in relation of school mediation and therefore there is no need for school mediator. PBLC coordinator implements School Mediator duties.

One of the mediator's main tasks is returning the children in the school and therefore mediators had regular meetings with parents. Another aim was involvement of the parents in improving the education of their children. During 2019, mediators held 2112 meetings with parents.

Mediators have ongoing 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 (231), teachers (115), municipal officials (40), NGO-s and other important stakeholders (33).

During 2019, main reason for the meetings was first grade registration, school dropouts, recognition of the documents of the children returned from migration, and irregular attendance.

Unfortunately, migration is still happening and as result of it 4 children left school in Fushe Kosova and 2 in Plemetina.

In April mediators together with learning centers staff have started campaign for 1st grade registration to ensure better and higher registration of the children in the 1st grade of the primary school. Registration for 1st grade of the primary school started in May and mediators task was ensuring that all children are registered in the 1st grade. Out of 189 children eligible to be registered in the 1st grade of the primary school, 152 (92%) are registered. The remaining of 37 (8%) children, parents didn't register for this year; they promised to register next year.

In Fushe Kosova this year we didn't manage to register all children as we did in previous years. Main reason was that municipality arranged participation of the children in the school based on the geographic location that family live. Children from the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian children from major area have

to participate in two different schools and there was resilience from the parents for such division. In Serbian education system we have problems with registration because parents didn't have money to pay transport to go and do systematic medical control for children. Systematic medical examination is obligatory before registration in the 1st grade in Serbian education system.

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 the 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.

The table below presents the statistics for three municipalities related to the children covered related to the prevention of the dropouts. Out of 64 children dropped out from the schools, 47 of them returned to the school after the intervention of the BSFK mediators. Unfortunately, 15 children dropped out from the school in 2019.

Dropouts in 2019												
Location	Children in attending school September 2019	All dropout cases	Dropouts because of migration	Dropouts because of migration in percentages	Dealt dropout cases of the children who are still in Kosovo	Returned to school after intervention	M	F	% of returned children in the school	Not returned to school and still in Kosovo	M	F
Fushe Kosova	615	59	0	0.00%	59	47	23	24	79.66%	12	6	6
Plemetina	196	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0	0	0.00%	0	0	0
Gracanice	127	5	2	40.00%	3	0	0	0	0.00%	3	2	1
Total	938	64	2		64	47	23	24	79.66%	15	8	7
							2.45%	2.56%			0.85%	0.75%

EDI PROJECT

The main aim of the project is to enhance the inclusion of non-majority communities and groups/people with fewer opportunities in Kosovo through quality education and social cohesion. Based on the successes and achievements of EDI-1 and EDI-2, the third phase aimed to capitalize on the strong foundations created by placing institutionalization and advocacy at the heart of the consortium's efforts. Most significantly, the project aimed to achieve the legal registration of a minimum four learning centers in four target localities of Fushë Kosovë/Kosovo Polje, Janjevë/o, Plemetin/a and Shtime/Stimlje and sustainable handover of a minimum of two Learning Centres to local authorities and local actors in the two target localities of Plemetin/a and Shtime/Stimlje. This was foreseen to be done within the legal framework of the Administrative Instruction 19/2018 which consortium partners successfully advocated for in previous years. Having been inside these localities for many years, the consortium was well-placed to continue their strong partnerships with local actors and stakeholders (schools, municipal departments, social workers and more) and ensure a well-structured transfer of the work of EDI after the conclusion of the project.

EDI project is contributing to the overall BSFK Learning Centers Network strategy. EDI project support two BSFK Learning Centers. Shtime learning Center and Plemetina Building Learning Center. In Shtime/Štimlje, out of 726 registered children, 442 children have benefited from the activities provided in the learning center from whom 50.9% are female. The average daily attendance is 108, and 105 of them attended center at least 3 times per week, 128 at least 2 times per week, and 88 of them at least ones per week.

In Plemetin/a, 101 children have benefitted from the activities, from which 52.48% female. The average daily attendance of children is 51, from whom 52.49% are female.

Health Program

BSFK health activities during 2019 were supported by Solidar Suisse office in Kosovo and the Ministry of health. We thank the Ministry of Health (MH) and Solidar Suisse for financial support for the implementation of various activities that are contributing to improving the health situation of the three communities.

Approximately 450 children (ages 6 – 15) attending Learning Centers and approximately 4500 Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities were direct beneficiaries.

During the implementation of the project activities, BSFK has had more than 15 meetings with health institutions at the local level and 16 different workshops with more than 150 women belonging to from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. Attendance at these workshops was high and this indicates

that interest in being informed about improving the health situation is high. At the end of each workshop, the beneficiaries expressed their gratitude for the organization of the workshops and for the information provided which have a significant impact on their daily lives. The participants were very interested and asked questions and created social relations with doctors from the health house staff during the workshops. They share different personal story of the pregnancy.

Some of the outputs of the project were:

At least 90% of children from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians from five target locations were vaccinated. Systematic medical examination for about 500 children from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities attending BSFK learning centers is completed by doctors from health institutions.

Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities from Fushe Kosova, Gracanica, Obiliq and Shtime were informed about health services, and the importance of receiving health treatment on time.

Curriculum with health awareness activities is designed and awareness activities from the curriculum are provided to approximately 500 children attending BSFK Learning Centers.

The Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in 4 municipalities are informed of their rights guaranteed by law and health policies.



KOSINT project

The KOSINT network was an essential part of the KOSINT Program, which included four implementing partners and 5 CSO that work on integration of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian. In 2019 5 new members of were added: KEC, BSFK, RADK, Syri i Vizionit, ROGRAEK, Nevo Koncepti, TIP,



VoRAE, BRAN, TDH, Roma Versitas, SH-L Kosova, PRAM and Prospect +. BSFK organized the six 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. During these Meetings the main topics discussed were: Topics for the thematic reports; Ideas for Advocacy Initiative; Poznan Declaration; Election Campaign; and Responsible budgeting

KOSINT Public Communication

BSFK was responsible to maintain the public communication through Facebook, webpage and media contacts. Furthermore, BSFK was in charge of collecting news, assembling them into a document and publish it as a monthly newsletter. For all the events that KOSINT had, BSFK invited different media to attend the events, which lead for KOSINT work to be present also in the traditional media.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aLu27w17Ugo>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gqcvFILhdtg&feature=emb_logo

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=uE9CvCT4v-w>

<https://ekonomiaonline.com/nacionale/braktisja-e-shkollimit-nga-femijet-e-komuniteteve-rae-ka-shenuar-renie/>

<https://ekonomiaonline.com/nacionale/vorae-dhe-kosint-kerkojne-mbeshtetje-nga-deputetet-qe-komuniteteve-tu-ofrohen-te-drejta-te-barabarta/>

<https://www.facebook.com/910417122387625/videos/203227024379643>

Working meeting organized by Roma Initiatives Office with civil society partners

BSFK attended the working meeting organized by Open Society Roma Initiatives Office with civil society partners from the region in Berlin, to discuss the progress reports and what we shall do for Roma and EU enlargement. Furthermore, through RIO, BSFK attended the Poznan Summit for the discussion of the Declaration of Western Balkans Partners on Roma Integration within the EU Enlargement Process

organized by RCC and RIO with the partner governments and civil society from the Western Balkan region in Poznan, Poland. The declaration was signed by all the states of Western Balkan.

Monitoring implementation of sector reforms

The KOSINT monitoring of sectoral reforms was primarily a responsibility of other partners, however, BSFK was part of the process at all times. BSFK participated in the collecting data for the monitoring reports, organization of the presentation of the report, wrote news and published the news in social media. There were 6 monitoring reports done in different topics regarding employment and education.

<http://kosint2020.net/sq/publikimet/raportet/>

Policy Development and Advocacy

Three advocacy initiatives were drafted and finalized.

- Understanding and prevention of hate speech, discrimination and stereotypes;
- Advocacy initiative for Election Campaign #VotaImeKaVlerë for the 2019 elections to encourage Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian voters to participate in the elections and be part of the decision-making process.

<https://www.facebook.com/KOSINT2020/posts/777278542732006>

From the monitoring reports, different meetings and conferences, it was obvious that the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities rights were not respected as of other communities. Thus, as a final Advocacy Initiative was organized a Conference for the: Protection of the rights of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in education, employment, housing and social welfare, in order to increase the awareness of different institutions and citizens of Kosovo. Participants in this conference were representatives of OGG, MLSW, APRK, representatives of various municipal departments MED, MOCR, and GDPS, CSW, the Office of the People's Advocate, and representatives of local and international civil society.



Kosovo Education and Employment Network (KEEN) 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 aims 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. It also is to facilitate 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 2019, BSFK on behalf of KEEN and in close cooperation with other members of consortium in line with Action plan of project has implemented several actions to assist local authorities.

BSFK assisted Local Institutions to in municipalities establish Municipal Working Groups for the monitoring and implementation of the LAP.

BSFK implemented 7 advocacy initiatives:

- Drafted LAP for municipality of Rahovec
- Support the Kosovo Parenthood Council to organize 4 workshops with councils in Rahovec, Deqan, Vushtri and Fushe Kosove.
- Improving the management of the SMIA related to school dropouts.
- Advocacy initiative to increase children inclusiveness in preschool education in Kosovo through support of public – private partnership initiatives.
- Initiative for promotion of the secondary school attendance in Kosovo.
- 5 days workshops were organized with professional team of Municipality of Prishtina for the implementation of the new curricula for schools.
- BSFK designed guide for the implementation of the new curricula in Prishtina.

BSFK deigned the framework to monitor and report the implementation of 6 LAP for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. BSFK monitored the implementation of the 6 LAP and drafted the report for the implementation of the LAP in 6 municipalities of Kosovo. Report is published and is accessible to all stakeholders in the link:

https://keen-ks.net/site/assets/files/1475/raporti_i_monitorimit_per_komunitetet_eng.pdf

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. In 2019, BSFK had three audits. Two of them were project audits, and one was for 2019 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.

BSFK Profit or Loss	
	2019
Total grant income	312,653
Total payroll expenses	207,486
Total operations expenses	75,058
Total utility expense	1,447
Total fuel and travel expenses	4,714
Total communication expenses	4,333
Total Activity expenses	13,782
Depreciation expense	5,834
Total expense	312,654