THE ADVOCATE

"Brining out the advocate in everyone"

July 2011

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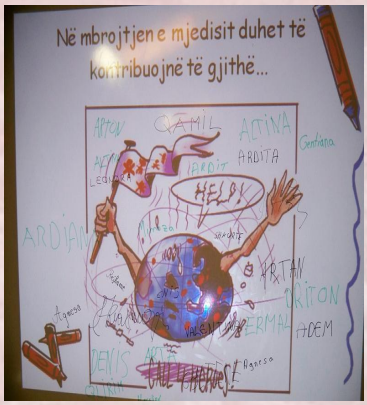
ATRC holds 40 lectures in 40 primary schools, with the theme "Children in environmental protection"

ATRC during May-June, 2011 held 40 environmental lectures on "Children in environmental protection." The aim of the lectures was to inform students about environmental issues in general and their direct engagement in advocacy campaigns.



Lectures were held in 27 municipalities and 40 primary schools such as: Pejë: Primary School"Lidhja e Prizrenit" dhe "Ramiz Sadiku; Gllogoc -Komoran: Primary School "Xheladin Gashi- Plaku" dhe "Arif Shala" Koretice e Poshtme, Viti :Sllatina Primary School "Njazi Rexhepi" dhe Viti "Deshmoret e Vitise"; Novoberde: Primary School "Nushi&Tefiku"; Obiliq Millosheva: "Liria" dhe "Fazli Grajqevci" Palaj; Fushe Kosove: Primary School: "Daut Bogujevci" dhe "Vellezrit Frasheri" Miradi e Poshtme,Ferizaj Primary School "Ganimete Terbeshi" Deqan Beleg" Primary School: "Ardhmeria" dhe "Kuvendi i Verave te Llukes" Lluke e Eperme; Kaqanik Primary School "Qamil Ilazi" Kaqaniku i Vjeter dhe "7 Shtatori" Begrace; Gjakove: Primary School "Selman Riza" dhe "Mazllom Kepuska"; Kline Jagode: Primary School: "Ate Gjergj Fishta" dhe "Motrat Qiriazi" Kline; Malisheve: "Afrim Krasniqi" dhe "Emin Duraku"; Lipjan: Primary School "Ismail Luma" dhe "Zenel Hajdini" Gadime; Kamenice : Primary School "Fan Noli" "Rexhep Mala" Topanice; Gjilan Primary School: "Thimi Mitko" dhe " Abaz Ajeti" Zabel; Prishtine: Primary School: "Dardania", Mitrovicë Primary School "Branko Badicevic" dhe "Sveti Sava" Zvecan Primary School "Vuk Karadzic" dhe Zvecan Zerovnica; Leposavic Primary School "Leposavic" dhe Lesak "Stana Bacanin"; Zubin Potok Primary School "Petar Kocic dhe Zubin Potok "Bllagoje Radic"; Babin Most Primary School "Milan Rakic".

The project is funded by the U.S. Embassy in Pristina.

Informant: The Advocate is the monthly publication of the ATRC, which aims to inform non-governmental organizations, donors, media, representatives of institutions, etc., for activities conducted at the ATRC and its partners. We hope and wish that the publication will be a function of information and better coordination of activities between the ATRC and other non-governmental organizations in Kosovo. The publication was made possible thanks to the readiness and willingness of the ATRC staff.

ATRC organized training on "Participatory Budgeting" in 10 municipalities of Kosovo

During April to June 2011,ATRC has held 10 training sessions about "Participatory Budgeting". The Participants of the training were members of the Assembly, municipal officials and civil society representatives from 10 municipalities of Kosovo: Peja, Gjakova,Prizren, Klina, Suva-Reka, Istok, Malishevë, Decani, Orahovac and Dragash.

The Training focused on the need to involve citizens in participatory budgeting process as a mechanism that allows citizens to be involved in the decision making process from the planning phase of the municipal budget to the implementation of it.
These activities are a continuation of the "Resolution of Social Conflict" financed by the International Center Olof Palme .

Training supported by Intercooperation

ATRC organized a three day training about "Designing the project proposal" for gender equality officials, other municipal officials, and representatives of the civil society from 9 municipalities of Kosovo: Kamenica, Novo Brdo, Kllokot, Hani I Elezit, Kacanik, Raniluge, Viti, Partes and Strpce.
The Training is focused on explaining in general all elements of a project proposal. The training methodology is based on the logical approach, which allowed the participants to develop projects from initial ideas, determining the objectives, project implementation and budget. During the training, the participants have developed two draft projects in the field of gender equality and infrastructure.

Training supported by Care International

ATRC supported by Care International Kosovo in June, held two-day training on "Leadership and Governance." Participants in these trainings were representatives of youth NGOs, beneficiaries' of Care International Kosovo.
The purpose of organizing this training was to increase the capacity of participants for effective leadership of NGOs and non-profit sector. The training addressed the meaning of leadership and governance; in particular concepts, structures, and principles of leading NGOs. Furthermore, the board's role, functions, accountability, and responsibilities of NGOs, the decision making process, performance monitoring and support.

ATRC - CSSProject for Intergative Mediation train and certify 15 Mediators

Starting from June 25 until July 8, 2011, ATRC in partnership with the organization CSSProject for Integrative Mediation and the Ministry of Justice, Mediation Committee, organized a two-week intensive training for 15 mediators in the region of Prishtina, at the end they were certified by ATRC and CSSP.

The training was divided into two phases; in basic training and advanced, aiming within two weeks, to equip participants with the necessary skills and the skills of a mediator, in order that their involvement as mediators in practice be as easy and as successful at the same time.

According to the Law on Mediation, approved by the Assembly of Kosovo in 2008,intermediaries will be licensed by the Ministry of Justice and will then engage in the process of mediation in cases that are referred by courts or directly, as one of the most quick to reduce backlogs in courts.

The two day training is financially supported by the Norwegian Embassy in Prishtina and the Ministry of Justice.

ATRC assists new municipalities in drafting and revising regulations on transparency

ATRC during this quarter has continued to work on capacity building for three new municipalities: Gracanica, Kllokot and Ranilug. During this period, three workshops were organized in each municipality, with the purpose of facilitating the process of drafting municipal regulations.

In all three municipalities working groups were formed, composed of members of the Municipal Assembly and representatives of the civil society who were involved in drafting and revising regulations on transparency. As a result of these workshops the municipality of Gracanica developed draft rules for transparency; whereas the municipality of Kllokot and Ranilug modified existing regulations in accordance with applicable laws.
Regulations for transparency in these municipalities were developed / modified in accordance with the Law on public access to documents and rules for government communications service to the public.

These activities are part of the "successful practice-functional municipality" funded by USAID funds.

Letter from the Little Ambassadors of the Environment

"The Young Environmental Ambassadors" have addressed a letter to the representatives of the Kosovo institutions, in which they have expressed their concern about the state of the environment. In their letter among other things they wrote: "We want our sky to be blue and crystal clear. We want our rivers and springs to be to clean. We want healthy and fertile soil for our bread. We want our forests to be green and full of life. We want our cities without waste and noise. We want more space for playgrounds and entertainment. Do not destroy our future. We want Kosovo to be clean. "
The Young Environmental Ambassadors Project is implemented by the Advocacy Training and Resource Center, ATRC, and supported by the U.S. Embassy in Pristina. This project aims to increase the level of edu-

ATRC and PILPG organize the conference "Justice and the People"

On June 30, 2011 the first conference was organized within the jointcampaign by ATRC and PILPG called "Justice and the People: Strengthening the rule of law in Kosovo" and aimed to bring together NGOs, civil society groups, and grassroots leaders interested in greater access to justice and to reform aspects of the justice system.
Participants included experts from various segments of society in Kosovo, and some of the main purposes of the discussion were: to generate insights and recommendations for improving the current legal system, an examination of ways to encourage citizens of Kosovo to take initiative for improving the justice system, to advocate for needed reforms, to analyze the general perceptions of the justice system, and to identify ways to empower citizens and civil society. Inputs provided by participants of the roundtable provided an overview of the important problems in the fields of justice system reform, access to justice, etc.. This conference represents only the first of many future events that are designed to promote this campaign.

ATRC train the staff of the NGO: Action Against Violence and Peace Building– ANP Gjilan

On 25-26 June 2011, ATRC organized a two day training for the staff of the organization Action Against Violence and Peace Building in Gjilan and its partners, who have been engaged in development activities within the project "Let's change Something " funded by USAID through the ISC or the Kosovo Civil Society Strengthening Program

The training was attended by representatives of youth organizations from: Gjilan, Zhegra,Viti, Lladovė and Kamenica, , organizations like ANP, Local Council for Youth Action, etc..

The main goal of the two days training for advanced advocacy was creation of on action plan based on advocacy strategy for continuing to push forward the process for creation of Multicultural Youth centre in Gjilan.

ATRC implementing partner for Kosovo Project: Synergy for EnergyAwaraness in SEE Region

Starting from April 2011, ATRC in the quality of the implementing partner for Kosovo, and six organizations from six countries of the region have started implementing the project: Synergy for Energy Awareness in SEE Region. Through this project, partner organizations target to put pressure on respective governments to guide energy development in the respective countries by European standards, giving priority to alternative energy production or as little environmental pollution.
For this purpose, a number of activities are planned, primarily at the national level and then following with the regional level.

www. advocacy-center.org

MISSION OF ATRC
ATRC is a Kosovar non-profit organization, aimed at increasing the participation of citizens in general and the civil society in particular in decision-making through offering services and active collaboration with stakeholders in the country and abroad as one of the basic conditions for a developed and democratic society .
ATRC MAJOR PROGRAMS
1. Capacity Building Program, which aims, through training and consultancy offers, to increase the capacity of NGOs in Kosovo with regards to the general advancement of the organizational development, project management, development of successful advocacy campaigns, etc..
2. Grants management program, which aims to help local non-governmental organizations through small grants primarily in advocacy campaigns at local and national level.
3. Advocacy Program, through various projects ATRC seeks to advocate on national and local institutions for various problems which are preoccupation and concern of the citizens in general.
4. Information, through which the ATRC aims to provide information electronically on the website, about the public discussions and roundtables, construction of coalitions, partnerships and co-mediation. ATRC in this regard also provides a library with 1756 different titles, such as publications on social, political and economic issues related to Kosovo and the region, analysis, studies, research and other important documents on the scope of NGOs in general , generated by non-governmental organizations inside and outside of Kosovo.

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