



Advocacy Center
for **Democratic Culture**

ANNUAL REPORT

2020

The report presents projects and activities implemented by the Advocacy Center for Democratic Culture during 2020

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Project 1.

Support to reconciliation in Kosovo through raising awareness on the issue of missing persons

01.03.2020. - 31.05.2020

NGO Advocacy Center for Democratic Culture conducted a project, supported by Center for citizens' education (CCE) as a part of wide project called "Activism of civil sector for reconciliation in region of former Yugoslavia, support to REKOM", that will deal with reconciliation process in Kosovo through raising awareness on the missing persons issue.

The main goal of the project was to support reconciliation in Kosovo through raising awareness on missing persons.

The specific goals were:

- To identify public awareness on the issue of missing persons.
- To raise public awareness on the issue of missing persons and the work of REKOM

Project 2

Assistance to the integrated judicial institutions in northern Kosovo

01.10.2019. - 30.04.2020

NGO Advocacy Center for Democratic Culture commenced the implementation of the project "Improving the performance of the judiciary and prosecution and the access to justice in Kosovo - Assistance to the integrated judicial institutions in northern Kosovo", supported by UNMIK.

The overall objective of the project was to improve the administration of justice in northern Kosovo.

The project was composed of two components:

Component 1 includes the support to the Basic Court of Mitrovica to clear the case backlog through contracting 3 Legal Associates and 10 translators; while

Component 2 includes targeted training for young lawyers and legal interns from northern Kosovo, which will lead to the creation of the Legal Training Center.

Project 3.**Improvement of usage of official languages in work of Kosovo Police in north Kosovo****01.01.2020. - 31.05.2020.**

NGO Advocacy Center for Democratic Culture conducted a project, supported by Kosovo Government – Office of the Language Commissioner that deal with improvement of official languages in work of Kosovo police in north Kosovo.

The goal of this project was to improve usage of Serbian Cyrillic language as one of the official languages in Kosovo.

The main goal of the project was:

- First to determine and then to improve quality of Serbian language usage in work of Kosovo police.
- To determine and correct translation quality of official forms that police is using in their daily activities.
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The project was conducted through the following activities:

- Field research in the four northern municipalities, consisted of research and focus groups.
- Public conferences
- Making of expert analysis with recommendations for improvement of Serbian language as official language in Kosovo.
- Media campaign – Two TV shows and two radio programs
- Visibility activities – promotion materials, billboards.

Project 4.**Community Integration beyond barriers in Mitrovica****01.11.2019. - 30.04.2020.**

The project "Community Integration beyond barriers in Mitrovica" was implemented by NGO ACDC in cooperation with NGO "Kosovo Forum For Inclusive Society" (KFIS), supported by U.S. Department of State Award Provisions" in Pristina.

The goal of this project was breaking down barriers between Kosovo Serbs and Albanians in Mitrovica, restoring relations between separated sides in one peaceful, well-functioning and prosperous society through building youth capacities in advocacy and lobbying their personal interest during European Integration processes.

During realization of this project, from 1. November 2019 till 30. April 2020, a series of multiethnic meetings was organized, as well as creative workshops and lectures with guest speakers, community decision making representatives, (sportsmen) athletes, businessmen and other successful individuals who will motivate our young students to participate in process of European Integration and secure better future and coexistence in Kosovo.

Project activities:

- Capacity building for youth on lobbying and advocacy of their interest in multiethnic community.
- Workshops for identification of youth community contribution in conflict transformation through dialogue.
- Youth Bar Camp: Participants from both sides of Mitrovica met in informal way.

Project 5.

Save the future of our kids

15.01.2020. - 15.07.2020

NGO Advocacy Center for Democratic Culture conducted a project, supported by Balkan Green Foundation – BGF that deal with environmental protection in North Mitrovica; through awareness raising activities, youth education, clean-up activities and nature visits.

The main goal of the project was to raise awareness of people about the importance of clean environment and building new perception of future.

Project activities:

- The project was conducted through the following activities:
- Research and analysis
- Educational trainings for youth and other people of goodwill about importance of clean environment.
- Study visits to Environment and Spatial Planning Ministry in Pristina
- Organization of clean-up activities in town and areas around the town
- Organization of nature visits through hiking and camping activities

Project 6.

Small rule of law initiative in northern Kosovo

01.07.2020. - 30.09.2020.

NGO Advocacy Center for Democratic Culture conducted a project “Small rule of law initiative in northern Kosovo”, supported by The German Agency for International Cooperation “Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH”.

The main goal of the project was to further support the consolidation of rule of law and administration of justice in northern Kosovo.

The specific goals were:

- To further empower young lawyers from non-majority communities to engage in law practice in Kosovo;
- To contribute to increasing public knowledge and awareness on the functioning of the integrated judicial institutions in northern Kosovo.

Project 7.

Enhancing Transparency and Rule of Law in Kosovo-Serb Majority Communities

01.09.2020. - 31.08.2021

The overriding objective of the project was to enhance the depth and quality of the *participation of citizens' participation in decision-making processes* through a series of actions geared at the establishment of sustainable mechanisms that enabled project stakeholders to more closely and effectively monitor the work of local administrative bodies and courts. The project was divided into two components; one dealing with citizens' participation in decision-making processes and the other with support to judicial institutions, with each component led by an organization with specific competencies in those areas.

Specific objectives under component 1:

- *Specific Objective 1:* To increase capacities for anti-corruption action at local level through empowerment of CSOs and their networking into a Local Anti-Corruption Council, which will also include representatives of local self-governments and media.
- *Specific Objective 2:* To contribute to the establishment of local mechanisms for inclusion of citizens' in the decision-making process at local level. This will be achieved through the establishment the Local Anti-Corruption Council to ensure transparency in decision-making processes and act as a bulwark against corrupt practices. This will lead to better transparency at local level will contribute to lowering corruptive behavior by various public institutions in K/Serb majority areas in Kosovo.
- *Specific objective 3:* To increase knowledge and awareness on importance and means of inclusion of citizens in the decision-making process at local level. The objective aims to undertake a wide scope of activities in regard to the awareness raising activities including the representatives of local self-governments in K-Serb majority municipalities in Kosovo, citizens' and CSOs on mechanisms tailored to enhance public participation in the decision-making.

Project 8.**Support to integration of young lawyers from non-majority communities in Kosovo****01.10.2020. - 31.01.2021.**

NGO Center for the Advocacy of Democratic Culture - "ACDC" in partnership with the Swiss Embassy conducted a project "*Support to the integration of young lawyers from non-majority communities in Kosovo*" with the aim of strengthening the position of young lawyers in northern Kosovo and their role in an independent judiciary.

The project was implemented through the following activities:

- The NGO "ACDC" organized five (5) webinars with a group of 12-15 young lawyers, with the aim of informing them about internships and employment opportunities after the end of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- In order to identify the main obstacles and challenges that stand in the way of the integration of young lawyers, NGO "ACDC" designed a questionnaire in cooperation with law firms in northern Kosovo. The findings and results of the survey were adequately processed in a Assessment Report with precise recommendations and shared with all relevant institutions.

Project 9.**Transparency and efficiency of Kosovo Basic Court****01.05.2020. - 31.08.2020.****Project 10.****Data 4 woman-addressing COVID-19 impact on woman's labor rights****01.09.2020. - 30.11.2020**

Project 11.

Start your own business - Justification for look and feel request - Internet subscription

01.09.2019. - 30.09.2020.

Project 12.

Improving the performance of the judiciary and the access to justice in Kosovo- Further support to the integrated judicial institutions in Northern Kosovo

01.09.2020. - 28.02.2021.

Project 13.

5th grade in North Mitrovica

01.11.2019. - 31.01.2020.

Project 11.

Promoting auditor general/NOA's roll in Kosovo

01.09.2019. - 31.12.2020.

Project 12.

Legal English

01.09.2019. - 30.06.2020