

USAID Youth Ethnic Integration Project



TIMEFRAME:
April 2017 – April 2022



IMPLEMENTER:
Macedonian Civic
Education Center
(MCEC)



PARTNERS:
Ministry of Education
and Science (MoES), key
educational institutions, all
municipalities and schools
in North Macedonia.



OBJECTIVE:
To improve interethnic integration
through enabling positive
interactions among ethnically
diverse youth at school and
community level, and improving
civic education contents, skills
and behaviors, and volunteering
practices of youth.



COMPONENTS:
(1) Strengthened interethnic
cohesion in the education
system
(2) Strengthened Democratic
Culture and Civic Behaviors
Among Youth and
(3) Schools Incentives/
Renovations.

Component 1: STRENGTHENED INTERETHNIC COHESION IN THE EDUCATION SYSTEM



- ✘ With participation from over 4,000 ethnically diverse students, more than 800 joint student activities and youth initiatives have been facilitated, such as joint curricular classes, joint school clubs, partnership activities, youth actions, creative workshops and public presentations.
- ✘ In partnership with the City of Skopje, over 900 joint classes were implemented in six secondary vocational schools, enabling around 600 students who otherwise study in different languages of instruction to interact, learn together and advance their knowledge.
- ✘ In partnership with fifteen municipalities, municipal policies and strategies were created and endorsed, related to inter-ethnic integration in education and youth engagement, in order to ensure mobilization of resources and local self-reliance.
- ✘ Nineteen youth actions were initiated by youth in five of the select municipalities for in-depth cooperation, engaging more than 2,200 students to improve their communities. The costs for the actions were shared by the project, the municipalities, the schools and the private sector.
- ✘ In order to improve the quality of activities for interethnic integration in schools, the School Performance Quality Indicators have been revised and upgraded in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Science Council for Interethnic Integration in Education and the State Education Inspectorate.

Component 2: STRENGTHENED DEMOCRATIC CULTURE AND CIVIC BEHAVIORS AMONG YOUTH



- ✘ The Civic Education curricula for eighth and ninth grade primary education have been revised, as well as the curriculum for grade one for secondary vocational schools. The new curricula are being implemented in all primary and secondary vocational schools.
- ✘ In line with the revised curricula, teaching and learning materials were developed and shared with Civic Education teachers.
- ✘ More than 350 teachers from all primary schools have been trained for the new Civic Education curriculum for eighth grade and ninth grade.
- ✘ Over 160 teachers, 550 students and 40 parents provided feedback on the curriculum, which will serve as guidance for implementing the curriculum in the following years. The curriculum for ninth is implemented in the academic year 2019/2020.
- ✘ To strengthen civic ethos, 117 schools have conducted youth initiatives, volunteer actions and civic engagement activities and promoted them during the Open Days for Civic Education.

Component 3: SCHOOLS INCENTIVES/ RENOVATIONS



- ✘ Twenty-four schools have been renovated with financial support from the U.S. European Command.
- ✘ The participation of the schools and municipalities in the costs for renovation is over 40%.
- ✘ More than 16,000 students and 800 teachers have a better learning and working environment as a benefit from the renovation activities.
- ✘ Representatives from the renovated schools have been trained on school buildings maintenance and disaster risk management. Maintenance tools were also delivered to the schools.
- ✘ Educational materials for disaster risk management in schools have been developed.