



**MULTIKULTURA**

# Annual Report 2017

01 January 2016 – 31 December 2016

for Association Multikultura



*Citizens for change!*

The annual program of Multikultura is supported by Civica Mobilitas

## Introduction

In the previous 16 years, Multikultura with a great success represented the interests of the youth, but also of other citizens who live in Tetovo, without discrimination of any kind.

With every year that goes by, Multikultura scores more and more successes, and what highlighted the year 2016 were our successful projects and the results that came out from these projects, with what we could say that the plans and the aims of our organization saw the light of realization. As the youth was our target, we focused our projects in improving their lives and knowledge around different matters with our projects.

We tried to bring together, youngsters from different ethnicities in the frames of our activities, getting to know each other, getting to understand each other, it represents our long term goal, as Multikultura, as a root of our mission: Building a harmonious and multiethnic society, where people are free to express their feelings, beliefs and opinions.

Another aim of our work was to inform the citizens and making them understand for the work and actual things on the civil sector, and we also tried to help them to overcome the prejudices. We can't say we resolved the problem and changed the mentality over a year, but with our projects we helped a little to make them see differences from a different angles and accept the changes as a good thing.

Bringing awareness and promoting the cultural life in our city, Tetovo, is another aim well planned and achieved. In the list of successful activities in this area, we can add our original activity that we promote and hold with dignity every year, that's Diversity Week, an event that brings joy and pride to all the citizens, with films, debates and other presenting activities, Multikultura achieved to bring cultural awareness among youth.

Promotion of the peace among the youth, reduction of prejudices and stereotypes that lead towards conflicts, all of this was the aim of Multikultura through all these years and it will continue to be our motivation and focus on the upcoming years. All of this would be a very hard achievable work without the help and the support from our donators and other international partner, whose help is high appreciated and valued.

## Our project in the time frame: January 2016 – December 2016

*These are the projects that marked our 2016, they brought joy and happiness in our citizens' life, but they also were the motivation of the hard work that our staff has done during this year and the motivation that brought them every day to work and made them fight with the barriers they faced every day.*

### “Equal chances for all” (01.02.2015 – 30.06.2015)

Equal chances for all was another successful project implemented by Multikultura in cooperation with the Sector of the public affairs within the Municipality of Tetovo and the five high schools in Tetovo in 2015. The purpose of the project was to analyze the effects of rural and urban environment on school success. How does this factor affect the further development of youth, first in terms of their success in school programs and then also in their emotional perception and expectations for life in general. Often when talking about success in school or regarding cultural development in our country, there is an assumption about differences whether one originates in the village or city. To shed light on this dynamic, the following activities were organized: evaluation/rating of school success, workshops on evaluation/rating of different school types, including methods of surveying and publishing a brochure. It was discovered that school success is not strongly based on rural/urban differences, but that which school type is judged as successful varies strongly based on rural/urban and ethnic differences.



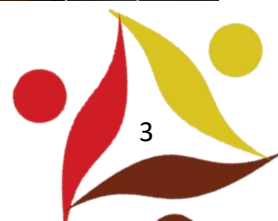
## "Promoting the inclusion of people with disabilities" (01.09.2015 – 30.05.2016)

This is one of the projects we worked on during the end of 2015 and the beginning of 2016, where the main goal of the project was to increase the awareness of PWDs and their parents about their rights and institutions which are obliged to protect the rights of these people. The activities within the project were divided in two big components: delivering free legal services to PWDs and their parents and implementing activities with PWDs from the Day Care Center Tetovo and Gostivar. The project was funded by Abilis Foundation.



## "Entrepreneurship Platform for Economic and Social Inclusion from Minority Groups" (14.12.2015 – 14.08.2017)

This is the project implemented by Vocational and Educational Training Center in partnership with Macedonian Development Center for Civil Organizations, Roma Community Center (DROM) and Multikultura. The overall objective of the project is Enhancement of the level of economic and social integration of unemployed women from minority ethnic communities, in particular Roma, Albanian and Turkish communities, through opening regional training centers aimed at long-term education, pre-qualification and development of personal skills. It also improves and strengthening the relations between the offer and the demand of workforce; supports and enhances personal capacities and possibilities for employment and





self-employment through increasing the level and acquiring appropriate practical skills, creates a system for continuous training of specific target group aimed at development of professional skills according to previous identification of the real needs of employers; raises business community awareness regarding the professional capacities of this category of people for the purpose of improvement of the economic condition of the regions; stimulates the institutional cooperation between NGOs on one side and governmental institutions on other side: Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Labor and Social Policy and the Employment Agency of Republic of Macedonia at local and regional level. Beneficiaries of the project are unemployed women from minority groups – Roma, Turkish, Vlach, Bosnian, Serbian and others and also Macedonian and Albanian, at the age of 18-25.

### “Our city, our voice” (01.01.2016 – 30.06.2016)

Multikultura and NCBI started by selecting 30 interns who attended a workshop in order to be informed about the work of the municipality in general and what they are going to be faced with. They did mini-internships in different sectors in the Municipality in order to learn something about their work, procedures and how they deal with their employers. Throughout the period of 6 months, 30 students that were part of the project, on daily basis were included in various activities at the Municipality, they had the opportunity to have a desk and work daily in different matters that were given by their supervisors and at the end they benefited a lot from all the knowledge gained from this experience.

### “Urban, rural-gymnasium or professional high school” (01.02.2016 – 30.05.2016)

Within this project we have promoted the cooperation among youth of different groups. Also, we have helped the young people to articulate their own ideas and spread what they think in public without censured themselves to report their own fears, concerns and experiences on different issues. They understood that all of their Peers depending their origins or school type or success, they all are equal; they are adolescents and have the same rights and opportunities.



## “Institutional Grant” (01.04.2016 – 31.03.2018)

This is one of the projects we are very proud of due to the hard work and input we dedicated to this project. This is a grant which is supported by CIVICA Mobilias Program through Macedonian Center for International Cooperation. The main aim of this program is to support the civil society in order to promote social change in strategic areas such as developing the sector and the programs of working as well as capacity building of the CSO. It also promotes thoughtful institutional development and organizational strengthening CSO. It simultaneously aims at contributing to our development as a civil society sector and strengthens the cooperation and raise partnerships among CSO. Within a period of two years we aim that actively engage in achieving positive social changes in our community.



## “Diversity Week”, (16.05.2016 – 20.05.2016)

Diversity week, became like a traditional manifestation in our city and it is being celebrated since 6 years ago, this is a day where we celebrate our diversities as nations and people, throughout different colorful activities.

We used this whole week as an opportunity to get to know each other and present to the others who we are and what do we have, despite our race, religion, gender, age, ethnicity or disability! A whole week for reflecting, a week where you can get to know cultures, and different ideologies.





As we in Macedonia, are a multi ethnic and multi religious country, we see this day as a day where everybody can promote their values and as a way of socializing and decreasing tensions between people because of their differences. Together with the media support and with the unconditional support of our partners we managed to do great activities this year aswell, and even a little to contribute to our society. This year's activities included: our volunteers and professional dancers distributing promo materials in the city center while they dance different traditional folkloric

dances. Another activity was with students from high schools where we did a workshop with the aim to surpass prejudices and stereotypes and resolving conflicts, we had our main activity in the City Cultural

Center where among other we promote the Educative plan of Secondary schools in our region, we also invited other NGOs to promote their activities in this day, we had a kids corner, a corner for pictures exhibition, an exhibition from the students of secondary schools, a corner from the Day Care Center and their students, and we also had the corner of traditional food, where participants could taste the traditional food of other nationalities. Among a lot of interesting activities, we could say that this was a week that brought together and help our citizens understand that above all we are humans and despite all the differences we are the same, they got to understand that communication and cooperation is a good way to solve every problem. To sum up, with pride we can say that this activity is very important and necessary for our society and we are very happy it is welcomed by our citizens, cause that's our main moto is, to conclude I would like to use the words of our Program Director "We want to make a society where differences are welcomed, and not mocked".



Director "We want to make a society where differences are welcomed, and not mocked".





## “Free Legal Aid – Challenges and Solutions”, (01.06.2016 – 01.02.2017)

This is a project supported by the European Policy Institute, Skopje and Network 23+, identifies the problems and challenges of the associations in giving free legal aid and how the same to be overcome. The target groups of the project are: authorized associations for giving Free Legal Aid, regional offices of Ministry of Justice and Citizens of Republic of Macedonia. The main results to be achieved are: the identified problems the associations are faced with while giving Free Legal Aid through interviews and questionnaires conducted with 15 representatives of the associations and the regional offices, as well as more than 1000 citizens and proposing adequate mechanisms and recommendations for improving the current situation.







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