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The implementation of the small grants scheme is ongoing in all local government units. The communes of Rahovec, Vushtri, and Kamenice are continuing mainly as planned. The activities in Leposavic are delayed due to issues connected to bank transactions between the municipality of Leposavic and the central government in Pristina.

Kamenice - Local Self -Government

Field: Effective Participation/Nondiscrimination

Key minority engaged: Non majority communities

The project will support and fulfill the preparatory steps needed for the municipality to enhance the capacity of non-majority communities to participate and take an active role in the cultural, social and economic life and public affairs as well to develop the cultural strategy in Kamenica. The idea is to increase contact and communication among key stakeholders (civil society organizations, municipality, local communities and school communities etc.) with regard to cultural policies, strategies and initiatives at the local level and to revitalize cultural life in Kamenica through the development of local cultural policies.

The project in this municipality foresees a number of activities to build confidence among majority and minority communities in the municipality. In this sense, several activities are carried out, including the distribution of information bulletins, the organization of community fairs as well as different promotional activities for minority communities, mainly consisting of Serbs. Delays were witnessed in the implementation of the activities, since the municipality was undergoing an internal political reshuffling, which resulted in the procurement office being unable to carry out its work. With this issue behind, the small project started gaining momentum. Production of a bulletin has been contracted by the Municipality and its press office and it will be issued soon, including publication in the languages of minority communities, with the aim to promote tolerance, intercultural dialogue and cultural pluralism. Three radio debates and a meeting with pensioners were organized, while a public announcement for painting and essay competition was issued for school students. The preparation of the fair of traditional foods is ongoing.

Leposavic - Local Self -Government

Field: Effective Participation / Culture

** This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.*

Key minority engaged: Non majority communities

The project idea is to identify and adopt a comprehensive strategy for cultural development in municipality of Leposavic. The strategy aspires to identify the needs of inclusive cultural developments for all ethnic communities (Serbs, Albanians, Bosniaks, Roma) living in this municipality and translate them into recommendations for municipal assembly. With this objective in perspective, the project opens with initiation of dialogue between relevant representatives of these ethnic communities. The open dialogue method, which foresees the application of standard methodological tools (workshops, round tables etc.) will facilitate community dialogue and consensus over the issues, principles and milestones the very strategy should contain.

Having overcome certain issues regarding the use of the account officially designated for the small grant, the implementation of activities in Leposavic is gaining momentum in the fall of 2015. During the summer months, the municipal task force organized an Ethno fair from 13 to 15 July 2015 which witnessed the participation of all ethnic communities who had the chance to present their main cultural features. The municipal task force supported by NGO AKTIV organized a workshop on minority rights and cultural development for municipal officials with the Community Committee members as the main stakeholders as well as a series of three round table debates with the aim to further stimulate discussions between ethnic groups on relations between dominant and minority groups (1st round table), preservation and development of minority communities through media, cultural heritage and inter-municipal, cross-municipal and cross-border cooperation (2nd round table) and preservation and development of minority communities through education, work of local administration and government, public services and non-governmental organisations (3rd round table). The consultant contracted to write the Strategy for coordinated cultural development of all ethnic groups in the Leposavić municipality has not finalized its task yet due to delays in the implementation of roundtables which should have represented the baseline for the strategy. The Project secretariat still has issues to reach and keep steady contact with the authorities in Leposavic.

Rahovec/Orahovec - Local Self-Government

Field: Effective equality in economic life

Key minority engaged: Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian (RAE)

The project aims to implement the action plan for the integration of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities, as approved by the municipality structures. The project foresees implementation of different activities aiming to improve the life conditions of these communities.

The project is in on a good track. Twelve members of the Roma community were provided training at the professional education training center, facilitated by the municipality. The training aimed to improve the business skills of Roma members such as hair dressing, greenhouse cultivation, welding, carpenter, etc. Upon completion, the participants were awarded a certificate. Following this, 10 of the trainees were supported with equipment which helped them start their own business. The equipment was purchased by the



municipality using the small grant funds. The purchased items included equipment for opening the businesses of three hair dressers, four welders, two chefs and one greenhouse farmer. Currently, the trainees are being monitored and provided with additional support on how to make best use of the equipment for their business.

Vushtri/Vucitern - Local Self -Government

Field: Effective Participation

Key minority engaged: non majority communities

The project aims to enhance the capacities of non-majority communities, civil society and municipality through different activities, in order to draft the municipal strategy for non-majority communities. This strategy will be drafted and implemented in collaboration with the civil society. Through this project, the municipality has foreseen to invest in sports and recreation activities' equipment in mixed areas and non-majority communities.



A municipal strategy for non-majority communities was drafted and is being discussed in public debates, roundtables and other activities. The strategy is expected to be adopted by the Municipal Council in November 2015. The project foresaw a very comprehensive process of direct involvement of different stakeholders in identifying and addressing the problems of the minority communities. At present, a procurement process is ongoing for the purchasing of equipment of a sports center which will serve to all the communities.