



EDUCATION

Big Bird in Kosovo

After months of planning, recording, editing and translating the footage for Season Two of Sesame Street the show is ready for broadcast. 26 new episodes were announced at the official launch event organized on October 28th, after which the first episode was aired.

The series addresses the educational needs of children and encourages respect and understanding between ethnicities. The new series, comprised of materials from "Sesame Street's" international library and new live action films being produced in Kosovo, will feature children from various ethnic groups, providing a window into Kosovo's rich diversity.



Called "Rruga Sezam" in Albanian and "Ulica Sezam" in Serbian, all twenty six episodes will be broadcast throughout Kosovo on RTK, the Kosovo-wide public television station, and regionally by three Serbian language broadcasters: TV Puls, TV Most and TV Herc. Season two sees the return of Elmo, Cookie Monster, Bert, Ernie and the rest of the "Sesame" friends as they share in more laughter and adventures.

USAID is collaborating with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to produce the shows and produce associated educational materials.

Hands-On Legal Training

Mock trials are becoming a great tool for students to learn more about the judicial system in Kosovo.

USAID partner ABA-CEELI uses this methodology to teach about court proceedings, code of conduct, and legal principles across a variety of issues.

On October 26, ABA-CEELI, in cooperation with the Municipal Court of Dragash, hosted a group of students who prepared a criminal case dealing with illegal drug possession. The trial was followed by a Q & A session where students learned more about criminal proceedings in cases involving drug possession and human trafficking.

The visit was part of an ongoing program to employ more practical, hands-on teaching methodologies in Kosovo's legal education. Mock trials, developed in cooperation with courts, are being used in the University of Pristina Law Department.

CIVIL SOCIETY AND INSTITUTIONS

Reporting on Poverty in Kosovo

Link Production, a Serbian-Kosovar run independent producer, has been awarded a top prize in the United Nation's "Team in Kosovo" competition. The competition promotes reporting on poverty in Kosovo.

Link Production's winning program reported on the plight of a group of 100 Roma families living in the Serb enclave of Gracanica, in Central Kosovo. According to the report, only 5 people in the community have jobs, fewer than 20 children attend the primary school, and only 4 attend the secondary school.

Most of the Roma are squatting in the houses of Serbian Kosovar families who left Kosovo after the end of the conflict. The Roma are one of the most

vulnerable groups in Kosovo, displaced during the conflict and unwilling or unable to return to their original communities.

The program, one of six Link Productions focusing on minority groups in Kosovo, funded by USAID's Kosovo Media Assistance Project implemented by IREX. The aim of the KMAP incentive grants is to encourage reporting on gender and minority issues in Kosovo

"Life in Kosovo" Broadcast in Serbia

Jeta në Kosovë ("Life in Kosovo"), a weekly current affairs program produced by the Balkans Investigative Reporting Network (BIRN) office in Pristina, has been aired on B92, a Belgrade-based media outlet.

The topic of the show was the new Constitution of Serbia, and the guests included Serbian Kosovar leaders, a Serb youth activists and an Albanian Kosovar attorney. The show was conducted in Serbian language with Albanian subtitles. The show, already famous in Kosovo, received a lot of attention in Serbia because of the timeliness of the topic.

Jeta ne Kosove has gained much interest and respect among Kosovar audiences over the past year due to well-chosen topics, in-depth analysis, and professionalism of contributing journalists.

USAID's Kosovo Civil Society Project (KCSP) a partnership with International Research & Exchanges Board (IREX) has supported nine out of 30 one-hour shows prepared by BIRN.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

USAID Project Shines

USAID's Kosovo Cluster and Business Support (KCBS) project was awarded "Best Booth" at the annual AGROKOS agricultural trade fair organized in Pristina on October 25 - 28.

More than 70 companies, including ten from neighboring countries, took part in the trade fair. KCBS participated at the trade fair by displaying educational materials for farmers. Approximately, 500 people per day visited the trade fair of agricultural products.

The fair was visited by the Prime Minister of Kosovo, the Special Representative of Secretary General, and the Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Albania.

Upcoming Events

November 3 and 4, "Look to the Future", a TV Documentary produced by joint teams of Albanian and Serbian Kosovar TV stations will be broadcasted on RTK, the public Kosovo-wide broadcaster.

November 14, The Launch of **Hope Fellowship Program**, Phase Three - Supported by USAID in partnership with the National Albanian American Council.



U.S. Agency for International Development
Arbëria (Dragodan), Ismail Qemali st., nr. 1
Phone: ++ 381 38 243 673
Fax: ++ 381 38 249 493

For more information visit www.usaid.gov/missions/kosovo and www.pristina.usmission.gov or contact us at kosovousaidinfo@usaid.gov