



“Women’s Forum”

TETOVO – MACEDONIA

September 2008

About the Association

“Women’s Forum- Tetovo” (WF) is a non-governmental, non-political, non-profitable and humanitarian association, founded in January 2001 in Tetovo. The name of the association was changed from “Forum of Albanian women” to “Women’s Forum- Tetovo” on February 2008.

WF is located in Tetovo, but it also has activities in northern and western part of Macedonia. WF has around sixty members who are actively involved in the activities of the organization. Members of WF have experience in working with women and children. They have participated and worked in many seminars and projects for education of women and children.

Vision

“Women’s Forum-Tetovo” is focused on the emancipation of women, especially in the rural communities, increasing selfawareness and awareness of her unequal status in the society, protection of human rights and gender equality

Mission

“Women’s Forum-Tetovo” is a non-governmental organization which is very active in the northern and western part of Macedonia. It is engaged in increasing woman’s awareness of her independency, strengthening her self-confidence for an unlimited integration in the society.

Main Aim

Promotion of women as equally skilled partners in making decisions and contributing in empowering women to take significant roles in the development of the civil society in Macedonia.

Strategic objectives and programmes

In accordance to the strategic plan 2006-2009, strategic objectives and programmes of the association are:

- Institutional development of the forum (Strengthening its own capacities);
- Economic development of the region;
- Protection of human rights



Finalized Projects

1. Project: Early Child Development

Place: Tetovo, Skopje, Gostivar, Kumanovo.

Target group: mothers and children

Activity: education

Period of time: 2001/2005

Donator: UNICEF

The main goal of the project is: to promote social integration of pre-school children aged from 1-6 who belong to the marginalized, rural, rural highlands and suburban communities and who don't have the opportunity to attend pre-school education. A larger number of children for pre-school education will be covered in this way which will be considered as a preparation stage for school.





2. Literacy

Place: Tetovo, Skopje, Gostivar, Kumanovo.

Target group: women and girls

Activity: education

Time period: 2001/2005

Donator: UNICEF



The goal of the project is to help women increase their abilities and knowledge which are necessities for their everyday life.

3. Health education

Place: Tetovo; **Target group:** women and girls; **Activities:** education, organizing workshops, publication and distribution of the informative material.
Time Period: 2002; **Donator:** ARC



The main goal of the project was increasing the awareness about health education in the villages as well as offering psychosocial support to the traumatized individuals during the armed conflict.

4. The right of women to decide

Place: Tetovo; **Target group:** women; **Activity:** education
Time period: 2002; **Donator:** Caritas



The main goal of the project is awakening women about their right to decide as well as enabling them to participate in the voting process.

5. Project: Multiethnic cultural collaboration

Place: Tetovo

Target group: women and young girls

Activity: cultural collaboration between the various ethnicities

Time period: 5 months 2002 (04.15.2004-08.31.2002)

Donators: IOM, USAID

The aim of the project is to improve the rapports between ethnicities in R.M.



6. Confidence Building

Place: Tetovo

Target group: women from different ethnical backgrounds

Time period: 6 months 2003

Donator: ECMI



Activities: organizing tribunes in the rural and urban parts of the city on the subject: Building confidence in the region where we live.



The aim of the project: Increasing awareness for tolerance and confidence between ethnicities as well as promoting the cultural values in our region as a social treasure and as a starting point for relaxing the rapports.

7. Project: Center for legal help

Place: Tetovo

Target group: citizens- victims of domestic violence

Activities: offering free legal help

Time period: 09/2003-2009

Donator: ESE, Skopje

The aim of the project is offering free legal help to individuals who are victims of domestic violence regardless of their nationality, age and religion.



8. Project: Human trafficking is a crime

Place: Tetovo

Target group: youth

Time period: 3 months 2004

Partner: Municipality of Tetovo

Donator: IOM



Activities: education and distribution of the informative material.



The aim of the project is to inform the youth about the occurrence of human trafficking and the ways how to protect themselves from it.

9. Project: Young people in the new millenium

Place: Tetovo

Target group: young people from all ethnicities living in Tetovo

Activities: organizing workshops with recreational games for children from different ethnical backgrounds that live in Tetovo.

Time period: 2004

Donator: Women's Center- Debar

The aim of the project is to secure a cooperation between children of different ethnic backgrounds to overcome the existing barriers and to emphasize their recreational side with the help of various games.



10. Stronger woman in a healthy society (2004)

Place: Tetovo

Target group: citizens and women

Time period: 2004

Donator: OSCE, IOM and Municipality of Tetovo

Activities: Distribution of brochures in three languages: Macedonian, Albanian, and Turkish with the moto: Fight against human trafficking; organization of the campaign for the women's day "8th of March" with the moto "Stronger women in a healthier society"



The aim of the project is awakening women about their right to decide as well as enabling them to participate in every sphere of the societal living.

11. Project: Promoting the brochure " Stop to weapons"

Place: Municipality of Tetovo

Target group: citizens and youth

Activities: promotion and distribution of the brochure "Stop to weapons" in the designated areas in the Municipality of Tetovo; tribunes have been held on this topic in the halls of the Municipality of Tetovo.

Time period: 2004

Partner: NGO AGTIS- Prilep

Donator: Soros

The aim of the project is to decrease the various incidents caused by the light weapons as well as the violence in Tetovo.

12. Promoting the brochure “Stop to Corruption”

Place: Tetovo and Skopje

Target group: employees of the institutions and citizens

Activities: promotion of the brochure in the Municipality of Tetovo and the city of Skopje; tribunes on the topic: “Fight against corruption”

Time period: 2004

Partner: NGO AGTIS- Prilep

Donator: Soros, Skopje

The aim of the project is to decrease the growth of corruption in the state institutions and increase the public awareness at citizens for the consequences of corruption in the society.

13. Project: Tetovo against human trafficking

Place: Tetovo and region

Target group: youth

Activities: screening the movie Lilja-4ever

Time period: 11-12/2004

Donator: OSCE



The aim of the project is to inform the youth about the problem with human trafficking and the ways how to protect themselves from it.

14. The necessities and opportunities entrepreneurship

Place: Tetovo and region

Target group: women

Activities: workshops

Time period: 11-12/2004

Donator: Soros

Partner organization: Happy Life

The aim of the project is to motivate women for entrepreneurship according to the research of the needs and opportunities in the city of Tetovo.

15. Contribution for preservation of cultural and ethnic values in the region

Place: Tetovo and region

Target group: women

Activities: workshops

Time period: 11.2004-12.2005

Partner: The museum of Tetovo and the women's organization of village Jegunovce

Donator: The embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands



The aim of the project is preserving the traditional folk values, offering support to women from rural parts for gaining the opportunity to strengthen economically, enriching the collection of the museum in Tetovo and promoting the folk values of different ethnicities.

16. Project: Social development on a regional level

Place: Tetovo, Tearce, Chair and Lipkovo

Target group: women, youth and children

Activities: education

Time period: 2005 and still going on

Donator: UNICEF



The aim of this project is to mobilize and support the local communities in raising the capacities for the development of the municipalities, to secure more opportunities for children, women and families so that they can have a better access to the social favours.

17. Strategic planing of the organization

Place: Ohrid

Target group: members of FAW

Activities: organization of the two day seminar for strategic planning of the organization in Ohrid, where other NGO's from Tetovo participated and gave their contribution.

Time period: 2005

Donator: OSCE



The aim of the project is to contribute for the development of the capacities of the organization and to prepare a strategical plan for its activities from 2006 to 2009.

18. National Campaign against human trafficking

Place: Tetovo and region

Target group: youth

Activities: screening the movie “You are alive”; tribunes and panel discussions were held and materials were distributed.

Time period: 2005

Donator: La Strada and CRS



The aim of the campaign is to raise the youth’s awareness for the presence of human trafficking in the Tetovo region.

19. Programme for economic and social stability for the potential victims of human trafficking in the boarderline of Repuvlic of Macedonia

Place: Tetovo and region

Target group: women and girls aged 18-30

Time period: 10/2005- 12/2006

Donator: IOM and the government of Norway

Activities: training of the selected 18 women and girls for gaining basic business skills, attending job courses from different areas as a preparation for their own future businesses.



The aim of the programme was to promote the employment of women and to increase the opportunities for accomplishing incomes with the help of micro-credits.

20. Informative campaign against human trafficking on a local level

Place: Tetovo

Target group: youth

Activities: hanging posters with the logo “ Don’t close your eyes to human trafficking”; distribution of the informative material with the same logo (hats, t-shirts, laces for mobile phones); participation on debate programme broadcasted by the local televisions.

Time period: 4-5/2006

Partner: The Ministry of Education and Culture

Donator: IOM and the government of Finland





The aim of this campaign was to inform the youth of the presence and risk of human trafficking through an informative campaign.

21. Project - Building the capacities of the local coalitions for fight against human trafficking

Place: Tetovo

Target group: the members of Tetovo's Coalition for fight against human trafficking

Time period: 2006

Carrier: GIEM "Semper" Bitola

Donator: OSCE

Activities: Workshops for forming a coalition and confirming the priority activities, workshops for strengthening the capacities of the formed coalition and signing the Memorandum for collaboration



Aim: To decrease incidents caused by the use of light weapons and incidents of violence in the Municipality of Tetovo and to inform and educate the youth and all citizens of the risks of owning and using a weapon.

22. Partnership for safe environments

Place: Tetovo; **Target group:** youth and citizens

Activities: distribution of posters and brochures with the motto “Stop to weapons” in the primary and secondary schools and the two universities in the city

Time period: 2006; **Donator:** UNDP and Municipality of Tetovo

Aim: To decrease the number of incidents caused by the use of the light weapon and violence in the municipality of Tetovo as well as informing and educating the youth and all the citizens about the risks of owning and using weapons.

23. Tradition/Innovation - Macedonian artisan’s cultural identity

Activities: manufacturing albanian traditional costumes, woolen fabric, pillows, carpets and christmas socks made of gold thread

Time period: 2006

Carrier: MATA-Macedonian Artisan Trading Association

Donator: Ministry of foreign affairs of the Kingdom of Norway

Aim: Increasing the interest for the cultural treasure, preserving the traditional values as a source of innovation and putting into function the traditional costumes for their second usage, improving the coexistence between ethnicities and improving the life standards; helping in building the national identity of Macedonia through marketing activities in the country and abroad.



24. Macedonian craftsman sector - Sustainability and building of confidence through relating to the market

Activities: Development of products and design; Marketing (local and international); business training and educational productive workshops (production of pillows and carpets from woolen fabric)

Time period: 2007

Carrier: MATA- Macedonian Artisan Trading Association

Donator: Ministry of Foreign affairs of the Kingdom of Norway



Aim: Increasing the possibilities for the craftsman profit, improving the understanding and building of confidence between ethnicities through exchange and interaction, increasing the interest for cultural treasure and interpreting the knowledge to younger generations, promoting the national identity of Macedonia on the world market.

25. Project: Programme for development of the capacities of the organizations

Place: Tetovo and Kumanovo

Target group: Local NGO's in need of rebuilding their capacities.

Activities: Trainings for strategic planning, NGO collaboration with the local community, management of the project cycle, workshops for budgeting, formulation of the project, monitoring and evaluation, building of coalitions and networks, management of the human resources, administrative work etc.

Time period: 2006-2007

Donator: OSCE

Aim: To enable the NGO's included in this project to evaluate their organizational necessities and build their capacities through a series of trainings held by the consultants of MCMS.

26. Project: Workshops on behalf of the campaign: “Outwit cancer- Be a healthy woman”

Place: Tetovo, villages: Tearce, Jegunovce, Shipkovica.

Target group: women

Activities: educational workshops

Time period: 10/2007

Donator: Ministry of Health in collaboration with the Macedonian women’s lobby and the Parliament Commission for equal opportunities .



Aim: increasing women’s awareness for early breast cancer diagnosis as well as attending preventive gynecological examinations with PAP test.

27. Project: Standards for early learning and development at children from 0-6 years old.

Place: Tetovo and the surrounding villages

Target group: children from 0-6 and parents

Partner: Kinder Gardens “Mladost” Tetovo

Time period: 2007-2008; **Donator:** UNICEF and Ministry of Labour and social politics

Activities: formation of focus groups with parents and testing the instruments for validation in the assigned places, elaboration of an action plan for implementing SELD, education of the personnel in the kinder gardens and the protuberant units in the surrounding villages etc.



Aim: Securing quality of service in the field of early child development through the elaborated standards which present the expectations which pre-school children should reach in the process of learning and development through various domains of development and adult groups.

28. Project: Web page of the association

Activities: Elaboration of the web page of the association

Aim: Through the finalized web page, the wider population will be acquainted with the association and every information about it such as: projects, activities, programmes, yearly reports etc.

29. Project: Zero Tolerance for family voting

Place: Municipalities of Tetovo, Zhelino and Tearce

Target group: women and young girls

Activities: preparation, publication and distribution of the informative material in the form of brochures.

Time period: 05.06.2008

Donator: GGF - Gemeinden Gemeinsam Freiamt



Aim: To increase women’s and young girls’ awareness from the rural parts inhabited with ethnic Albanians from Tetovo region for an independent and secret voting as well as preventing proxy and family voting, through the distribution of the informative material.

30. Workshops on behalf of the campaign: “We can and we have to have fair elections 2008”

Place: Municipalities of Tetovo, Zhelino and Tearce

Target group: women and young girls

Activities: organizing educational workshops

Time period: 05. 06.2008

Donator: The embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands

Partner: Macedonian Women’s lobby in collaboration with the NDI and the citizens association MOST



Aim: To inform and raise the awareness of the population about human rights and womens' rights, especially in the rural parts where the occurrence of family voting is often present during elections and it is against the democratic principles of the society.

31. Project - Partnership for safe communities

Place: Tetovo

Target group: the members of Tetovo's Coalition for fight against human trafficking

Activities: Workshops for forming a coalition and confirming the priority activities, workshops for strengthening the capacities of the formed coalition and signing the Memorandum for collaboration

Time period: 2006

Carrier: GIEM "semper" Bitola

Donator: OSCE

Aim: To decrease incidents caused by the use of light weapons and incidents of violence in the Municipality of Tetovo and to inform and educate the youth and all citizens of the risks of owning and using a weapon.

32. Programme for the development of the capacities of the organization-2006-2007

Place: Tetovo

Aim: To empower FAW and other NGO included in this project in estimating the necessities of the organizations and to help them build their capacities through a series of trainings held by the consultants of MCMS.



Future projects and plans of WF

- 1. The center for legal help** Tetovo will continue working until 2009 by offering free legal help to people who are victims of domestic violence.
- 2. The project Social development on a regional level** – will continue the realization of the activities until 2007 in all the communities included it through offering educational favours to pre-school children.
- 3. Women's Forum** is member of the National network of NGO for fight against human trafficking in R. M. called "Budnost" since 2006. There are 12 NGO members from the whole territory of the country in this network who meet regularly and realize different activities on this field.
- 4. Women's Forum** is elected carrier of the activities of the Coalition for fight against human trafficking in the Municipality of Tetovo in which participate representatives of: Principal Court Tetovo, OJO Tetovo, Center for social work, Municipality of Tetovo, Byro for development and education and SVR Tetovo.



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