



PROJECTS OF WOMEN'S FORUM TETOVO

2001-2018

WOMEN'S FORUM TETOVO

The Association Women's Forum - Tetovo is an independent, non-governmental and non-party association founded in January 2001. The Association's activities focus on raising awareness and advocating for gender equality, as well as giving information, help, support and protection to women and their position in society. The Association Women's Forum is located in Tetovo and realizes its activities throughout the northern and western region of Macedonia.

The Association has 40 members which are actively included in its activities. The members possess knowledge, skills and experience about gender and gender equality issues. They are sensitized in dealing with and providing services for women and children, especially for vulnerable persons. Encouraging input from the local communities, the Association mobilize volunteers that are actively involved in the Association's actions. This way, the communities are involved in improvement of their life, contributing in development of more human and democratic society

VISION

Women's Forum - Tetovo sees women as fully conscious, free from traditional and patriarchal norms and prejudices, economically empowered, gender equal and integrated in society.

MISSION

Women's Forum - Tetovo works with diverse women, especially with women from rural areas, providing them with encouragement and help, supporting their empowerment through information, education and advocacy for their rights, needs and interests.

MAIN AIM

Empowering women as equal decision makers in the development of civil society in Macedonia.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND PROGRAMMES

In accordance to the strategic plan 2018-2023, strategic objectives and programmes of the association are:

1. Improve conditions for women's economic independence
2. Established model of integrated protection of survivors of domestic violence in Polog region
3. Improve citizens' involvement in decision-making processes at the local level, especially women
4. Institutional development of the Women's Forum (strengthening of its own capacities)

PROJECTS

1. **Project: Early Child Development**
Place: Tetovo, Skopje, Gostivar, Kumanovo.
Target Group: Mothers and Children
Activity: Education
Duration: 2001 – 2005
Donor: UNICEF
Goal: To promote the social integration of pre-school children (ages 1-6) who belong to the marginalized, rural, rural highlands and suburban communities and do not have the opportunity to attend pre-school education.
Result: A greater number of children, especially those from marginalized communities, will have access to pre-school education, which improves their school preparation.

2. **Project: Literacy**
Place: Tetovo, Skopje, Gostivar, Kumanovo.
Target Group: Women and Girls
Activity: Education
Duration: 2001 – 2005
Donor: UNICEF
Goal: To help women increase their literacy abilities and knowledge, which are necessities for their everyday lives.

3. **Project: Health Education**
Place: Tetovo
Target Group: Women and Girls
Duration: 2002
Donor: ARC
Goal: To increase the awareness of health education in the villages surrounding Tetovo, as well as offer psychosocial support to traumatized individuals during the 2001 armed conflict.
Activities: Education, organizing workshops, publication and distribution of the informative material.

4. **Project: The Right of Women to Decide**
Place: Tetovo
Target Group: Women
Activity: Education
Duration: 2002
Donor: Caritas
Goal: To inform 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
Duration: 5 months, April 2002 - August 2002
Donors: IOM, USAID
Goal: To improve the rapports between ethnicities in Macedonia.

6. **Project: Building Confidence**
Place: Tetovo
Target Group: Women from different ethnic backgrounds
Duration: 6 months, 2003
Donor: ECMI
Goal: To increase awareness for tolerance and confidence between ethnicities, as well as promote the cultural values in our region as a social treasure which can act as a starting point for relaxing the rapports.
Activities: Organizing tribunes in the rural and urban parts of the city on the subject: "Building Confidence in the Region where we live."

7. **Project: Center for Legal Help**
Place: Tetovo
Target group: Victims of domestic violence (citizens)
Time period: September 2003 – 2009
Donator: ESE, Skopje
Goal: To offer free legal help to individuals who are victims of domestic violence, regardless of their nationality, age and religion.
Activities: Free Legal Clinic

8. **Project: Human trafficking is a crime**
Place: Tetovo
Target Group: Youth
Duration: 3 months, 2004
Partner: Municipality of Tetovo
Donor: IOM
Goal: To inform and educate youth about the occurrence of human trafficking and ways to protect themselves from it.
Activities: Education and distribution of the informative material

9. **Project: Young people in the New Millennium**
Place: Tetovo
Target Group: Young people from all ethnicities living in Tetovo
Duration: 2004

Donor: Women's Center- Debar

Goal: To promote and improve the cooperation between children of different ethnic backgrounds as a way to overcome the existing barriers through recreation

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

10. **Project: Stronger Woman in a Healthy Society**

Place: Tetovo

Target Group: Citizens and Women

Duration: 2004

Donor: OSCE, IOM and Municipality of Tetovo

Goal: To inform women about their right to decide, as well as enable them to participate in every sphere of the societal living.

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

11. **Project: Promoting the brochure "Stop to Weapons"**

Place: Municipality of Tetovo

Target Group: Citizens and Youth

Duration: 2004

Partner: NGO AGTIS- Prilep

Donor: Soros

Goal: To decrease the various incidents caused by light weapons and violence in general in Tetovo.

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

12. **Project: Promoting the Brochure "Stop to Corruption"**

Place: Tetovo and Skopje

Target Group: Employees of the institutions and Citizens

Duration: 2004

Partner: NGO AGTIS- Prilep

Donor: Soros, Skopje

Goal: To decrease the growth of corruption in state institutions and increase public awareness of citizens for the consequences of corruption in society.

Activities: Promotion of the brochure in the Municipality of Tetovo and the city of Skopje; tribunes on the topic: "Fight against Corruption"

13. **Project: Tetovo against Human Trafficking**

Place: Tetovo Region

Target Group: Youth

Activities: screening the movie *Lilja-4ever*

Duration: November 2004 – December 2004

Donor: OSCE

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

14. **Project: The Necessities and Opportunities of Entrepreneurship**

Place: Tetovo Region

Target Group: Women

Activities: Educational Workshops

Duration: November 2004 – December 2004

Donor: 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. **Project: Contribution for Preservation of Cultural and Ethnic Values in the Region**

Place: Tetovo Region

Target Group: Women

Activities: Workshops

Duration: November 2004 – December 2005

Partner: The museum of Tetovo and the Women's Organization of village Jegunovce

Donor: The Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands

The aim of the project is preserving the traditional folk values of different ethnicities in the region by offering support to women from rural areas through new economic opportunities, while also enriching the collection of the museum in Tetovo.

16. **Project: Social Development on a Regional Level**

Place: Tetovo, Tearce, Chair and Lipkovo

Target Group: Women, Youth, and Children

Activities: Education

Duration: 2005 – 2008

Donor: UNICEF

The aim of this project is to mobilize and support local communities in developing municipal capacities to create more opportunities for children, women, and families, so that they can have a better access to social services

17. **Project: Organizational Strategic Planning**
Place: Ohrid
Target Group: Members of FAW
Activities: Two-day seminar for strategic planning of the organization in Ohrid, with other NGO's from Tetovo.
Duration: 2005
Donor: OSCE
The aim of the project is to develop the capacities of organizations, assisting them in the preparation of a strategic plan for its activities from 2006 to 2009.
18. **Project: National Campaign against Human Trafficking**
Place: Tetovo Region
Target Group: Youth
Activities: Movie screening of "You are Alive"; Tribunes and Panel Discussions; Informational Material Distribution
Duration: 2005
Donor: 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. **Project: Programme for Economic and Social Stability for the Potential Victims of Human Trafficking in the Borderline of Macedonia**
Place: Tetovo Region
Target Group: Women and Girls (ages 18-30)
Activities: Training of the selected 18 women and girls for gaining basic business skills and attending job courses from different areas as a preparation for their own future businesses.
Duration: October 2005 – December 2006
Donors: IOM and the Government of Norway
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. **Project: Informative Campaign against Human Trafficking on a Local Level**
Place: Tetovo
Target Group: Youth
Activities: Distribution of informational posters and materials with the logo "Don't Close Your Eyes to Human Trafficking"; Debate on the subject broadcasted by local television stations.
Duration: April 2006 – May 2006
Partner: The Ministry of Education and Culture
Donor: 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 the Fight against Human Trafficking**

Place: Tetovo

Target Group: Members of Tetovo's Coalition for the 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

Duration: 2006

Carrier: GIEM "Semper" Bitola

Donor: OSCE

Goal:

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

22. **Project: 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.

Duration: 2006

Donor: UNDP and Municipality of Tetovo

Goal: 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. **Project: Tradition/Innovation-Macedonian Artisan's Cultural Identity**

Place: Tetovo Region

Target Group: Women from rural areas of the Tetovo Region

Activities: Manufacturing traditional Albanian costumes, woolen fabric, pillows, carpets and Christmas socks made of gold thread

Duration: 2006

Carrier: MATA-Macedonian Artisan Trading Association

Donor: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Norway

Goals:

- Increasing the interest for cultural treasures, while preserving traditional values as a source of innovation and building cooperation between ethnicities
- Re-purposing traditional costumes
- Assistance in building the national identity of Macedonia through marketing activities in the country and abroad.

24. **Project: Macedonian Craftsman Sector- Sustainability and Confidence-Building through Market Relations**
Place: Tetovo Region
Target Group: Women from rural areas of the Tetovo Region
Activities: Development of products and design; Marketing (local and international); business training and educational productive workshops (production of pillows and carpets from woolen fabric)
Duration: 2007
Carrier: MATA- Macedonian Artisan Trading Association
Donor: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Norway
Goals:
- 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 treasures and interpreting the knowledge to younger generations, while promoting the national identity of Macedonia on the world market.
25. **Project: Programme for Organizational Capacity Development**
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.
Duration: 2006 – 2007
Donor: OSCE
Goal: 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 for the Campaign: “Outwit Cancer- Be a Healthy Woman”**
Place: Tetovo, Villages of Tearce, Jegunovce, Shipkovica.
Target Group: Women
Activities: Educational Workshops
Duration: 10/2007
Donor: Ministry of Health in collaboration with the Macedonian women's lobby and the Parliament Commission for equal opportunities
Goal: To increase women's awareness for early breast cancer diagnosis, as well as attend preventive gynecological examinations with PAP tests.

27. **Project: Standards for Early Learning and Development (SELD) of Children from 0-6 years old**
Place: Tetovo and surrounding villages
Target Group: Children from 0-6 and their parents
Activities: 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 kindergartens and the protuberant units in the surrounding villages etc.
Partner: Kindergarten "Mladost," Tetovo
Duration: 2008
Donor: UNICEF and Ministry of Labour and Social Politics
Goal: To secure better quality of service in the field of early child, development through the elaborated standards, which present the expectations pre-school children, should reach in the process of learning and development.
28. **Project: Web Page of the Association**
Place: Tetovo
Target Group: Members of Women's Forum-Tetovo
Activities: Elaboration of the web page of the association
Duration: 2008
Donor: GGF Switzerland
Goal: To create and maintain a web page for the organization, so the wider population will be acquainted with the association through its published 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
Duration: 05.06.2008
Donor: GGF - Gemeinden Gemeinsam Freiamt
Goal: 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.
Activities: Preparation, publication, and distribution of the informative material in the form of brochures.
30. **Project: Workshops for the Campaign: "We Can and We Have To- Fair elections 2008"**
Place: Municipalities of Tetovo, Zhelino and Tearce
Target Group: Women and Young Girls
Duration: May – June 2008
Donator: The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Partners: Macedonian Women's Lobby in collaboration with the NDI and the citizen's association MOST

Goal: To inform and raise the awareness of the population about human rights and women's' rights, especially in the rural parts where the occurrence of family voting is often present during elections, which violates democratic principles of the society.

Activities: Educational Workshops

31. **Project: Dignity for Women Voters**

Place: Municipality of Tetovo, Tearce and Zhelino

Target group: Women and young girls who will gain the right to vote

Donor: UNDP

Duration: October 2008 – January 2009

Partner: Commission for Gender Equality in the Municipality of Tearce and the Municipality of Zhelino

Goal: To raise women's awareness from the rural areas of the Tetovo region for an independent and secret vote, as well as to prevent family and proxy voting.

Activities:

- Organizing public tribunes in the rural areas of the region;
- Preparation, publication and distribution of the informative material in the form of posters and brochures;
- Preparation and distribution of the evaluative questionnaires

32. **Project: Gender Sensitive Budgeting on a Local Level (Research)**

Place: Municipality of Tetovo (the city and all the villages that are part of this municipality)

Target Group: 2500 citizens of Tetovo (women and men from urban and rural areas)

Donor: UNIFEM

Duration: March 2009 – July 2009

Goal:

- To assess citizens' satisfaction regarding services of the local self-government, especially services that affect women;
- To raise the awareness of citizens of local budgeting processes and to increase the participation of the citizens within local budgeting processes;
- To evaluate the needs and priorities of the citizens regarding local self-government and the services such local self-governments provide

Activities:

- Preparation of the questionnaires for field interviews
- Trainings of the preliminary selected questionnaires
- Interview of citizens
- Processing and Testing the filled questionnaires
- Analysis and compilation of research

33. **Project: Workshops for Women about Health Education**
Place: The region of Tetovo, including the Municipality of Tetovo, Municipality of Tearce, Municipality of Jegunovce, and the Municipality of Zhelino (Total of 20 villages)
Target group: Marginalized and vulnerable women from rural and urban areas
Donor: OSCE
Duration: October, November, December 2009
Goals:
- To raise women's awareness and knowledge about the need for regular preventive examinations.
 - To improve women's health and reduce the level of the death cases at women
 - To raise the number of the discovered women's diseases in their early period, such as cancer
 - To reduce women's traditional practical cases of the irregular examinations
- Activities:**
- Educational and informative workshops about the need for regular preventative examinations.
 - Speeches from experts (i.e. doctors), with discussion providing an opportunity for questions and answers
 - Distribution of informative materials such as posters and brochures
34. **Project: Recognize Family Violence**
Place: The Municipality of Tetovo (Tetovo City and Sellca Village); the Municipality of Jegunovce (the villages of Jegunovce, Shemshova, and Vratnica); and the Municipality of Zhelina (the villages of Zhelina and Trebosh)
Target Group: Women and Men from the above mentioned places, who are potential victims of family violence, as well as general community members
Donor: UNFPA
Duration: October, November, December 2009
Goal: To raise the citizens' awareness for changing their behaviour and attitude towards family violence and to reduce the number of the victims (women or others)
Objectives:
- To raise the awareness and knowledge about the presence of various types of violence;
 - To strengthen women's self-confidence and empower them to produce the cases of family violence;
 - To empower the collaboration between the local institutions and the civil sector about the services for preventing the family violence;
 - To inform the citizens for the services that the Center for judicial help gives in Tetovo and the way of getting these services.
- Activities:**
- Evaluation of the cases that have to do with family violence at municipalities of Tetovo, Jegunovce and Zhelina;
 - Organizing and holding tribunes at urban and rural areas of the municipalities that are involved at the project;
 - Preparation, publication and distribution of the informative material

- TV debates at local mediums in Albanian and Macedonian language
- Building a coordination body on the local level to prevent the cases of family violence

35. **Project: The Coordination Group on a Local Level**

Place: The Municipality of Tetovo (Tetovo city and the villages of Veshalle and Big Reçica; The Municipality of Jegunovce (the villages of Jegunovce and Rogçeve); The Municipality of Zhelina (the villages of Zhelina and Strimnice); The Municipality of Tearce (the villages of Tearce and Nerasht)

Target Group: Residents of the above-mentioned urban and rural areas; Leaders of the municipalities; Representatives of public services; Regional leaders; and Representatives of the local media and NGO's.

Donor: UNFPA

Duration: May 2010 – September 2011 (16 mos.)

Goal: To raise citizens' awareness about changing their behaviour and attitude towards family violence and to reduce the number of victims caused by family violence, as well as prevent family violence

Objectives:

- To raise citizens' awareness and knowledge for producing the cases of family violence
- To strengthen citizens' self-confidence and empower them for reporting cases of family violence
- To conduct family violence sensitive-training for leaders from municipalities, representatives of public services, and regional leaders
- To strengthening the existing coordination group and collaboration between the local relevant institutions and the civil division offering services for cases of family violence
- To offer adequate help and support to victims
- To inform the greater population about the issue of family violence and the services that the Center for Judicial Help in Tetovo offers, as well as how to access these services

Activities:

- Extension of the existing coordination group on a local level for preventing family violence through regular meetings and greater attention of the situation
- Signing the Memorandum for collaboration with the Municipality of Tearce;
- Evaluation of the situation for family violence within municipalities involved in the project, through researching the local level of knowledge and cases produced by the residents;
- Organizing educational and informative tribunes in rural and urban parts of municipalities involved in the project;
- Organizing forums by leaders of municipalities, representatives of public services, and regional leaders involved in the project.
- The publication and distribution of informative material (brochures and posters);
- Presenting the results of the activities in media
- Trainings for NGO's

36. **Project: Open Door-Legal Help**
Place: The municipalities of Tetovo, Jegunovce, Tearce, and Bogovina
Target Group: All citizens that are potential victims of family violence, where such individuals face socio-economic challenges.
Donor: UNIFEM
Duration: June 2010 – November 2011
Goal: To strengthen the capacities of the Center for Judicial Help for victims of family violence, by increasing public access to the center, where victims can receive legal support
Activities:
- Meetings with representatives of local government institutions where the activities of the project are implemented
 - The preparation and publication of informative material for the legal center
 - The preparation of the primary form and the evolution paper and the fulfillment of them
 - Meetings with various local non-governmental organizations about building a non-formal network between organizations that offer help for victims of family violence
 - The distribution of informative material
 - Processing the actions, suggestions, requests, and other memorandums to the competent institutions and judicial representation by the advocate
37. **Project: Early Learning and Development Standards**
Place: The Municipalities of Tetovo and Tearce
Target Group: Roma and Marginalized Children and Families
Donor: UNICEF
Duration: February 2011 – January 2012
Goal: To secure opportunities for children, women, and families to better access social services
Activities: Better parenting activities aimed at providing parents with the necessary information of the characteristics and stages of child development and on ways to stimulate child development (children 0-3 years old)
- Community based early learning and recreational activities based on ELDS (children from 3-6 years old)
- Results:** Direct outreach to most vulnerable social strata in Tetovo region
- Counseling for up to 1, 200 beneficiaries
 - Legal aid to families related to the access of social services
 - Direct work with social services institutions in Tetovo and surrounding communities
38. **Project: Non formal ECD activities for the most disadvantaged children**
Place: The Municipality of Tetovo and the Municipality of Tearce
Target Group: Roma and Marginalized Children and Families
Donor: UNICEF
Duration: February 2012 – January 2013

Goal: To secure opportunities for children, women, and families to better access social services

Activities: Better parenting activities aimed at providing parents with the necessary information of the characteristics and stages of child development and on ways to stimulate child development (children 0-3 years old)

- Community based early learning and recreational activities based on ELDS (children from 3-6 years old)

Results: Direct outreach to most vulnerable social strata in Tetovo region

- Counseling for up to 1, 200 beneficiaries
- Legal aid to families related to access to social services
- Direct work with social services institutions in Tetovo and surrounding communities

39. **Project: Enhancing Employability of Women in Minority Communities through Profiling/Assessment, Training Programmes and Job Counseling**

Place: The Municipalities of Tetovo, Tearce

Target Group: Women from Minority Communities

Donor: European Union, Internationaler Bund

Duration: December 2012 – April 2013

Goal: Training of the unemployed women from minority communities

- Facilitation of the connection of such women to the labour market
- Supporting of the entrepreneurial women
- Raising the public awareness for the employment of women
- Encouraging the wider cultural for the participation of women in the labour market

Activities: Vocational training courses: House cleaning, Computer course, Hairdressing, Embroidery, Tailoring, Sewing, Business Courses

Results: Successfully guided the centres and courses for training

- 100 women finished the course for business training, professional development, and educational support
- 180 women have participated in the program for educational support
- Motivation of the women on entering the labour market
- Better individual integration of the women in the labour market
- Actively participation of the women in the society
- Widened skills, knowledge and activities in the partner organizations

40. **Project: Increasing Access to Early Childhood Development (ECD) Centers for Roma and Marginalized Children and Families**

Place: Municipality of Tetovo

Target Group: Roma and Marginalized Children and Families

Duration: December 2013 – December 2016

Donor: UNICEF

Goal: To support Roma, rural and marginalized communities in Municipality of Tetovo in organizing community-based ECD Centers.

Activities: Better parenting activities aimed at providing parents with the necessary information of the characteristics and stages of child development and on ways to stimulate child development (children 0-3 years old)

- Community based early learning and recreational activities based on ELDS (children from 3-6 years old)
- Lobbying with local communities and municipalities for opening of new ECD centres and for taking over the financial support for the existing ECD centres

Results:

- Increased number of ECD Services in Roma, rural, and marginalized communities.
- Practice for community social mobilization and identifying the most vulnerable groups of children and families at local community level.
- Community based ECD available for young children and families in Roma, rural and marginalized communities.
- ELDS are used as a basis for implementing community based ECD activities and monitoring child outcomes.

41. **Project: Citizen Action for Gender Equality**

Location: Municipality of Tetovo

Target Group: Representatives of the Municipal Council Members of the Committee of Equal Opportunities for Women and Men Citizens of the Municipality of Tetovo

Duration: January 2015 – May 2016 (16 mos.)

Donors: Funded by USAID and FOSM

Goal: To inform citizens about gender equality and their involvement in creating policies that promote gender equality on the local level

Objectives:

- Obtain and share information about current attitudes toward gender equality with the community through publication and presentation of research
- Increase awareness of citizens, council members, the business sector, and civil society about the importance of gender equality and local policies
- Activate the existing the Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC) within the Council of Tetovo
- Draft a Local Action Plan for Gender Equality to be presented to the Municipality of Tetovo, after collaborating and consulting with citizens about the proposals and priorities of gender equality in the municipality

Activities:

- Design, prepare, and distribute banner and posters to be posted throughout the city and used at public events for the project
- Organize and hold a press conference announcing the project
- Conduct research regarding citizen perceptions and attitudes of the status of gender equality in the Municipality of Tetovo
- Analyze and publish the findings of the research in both Albanian and Macedonian
- Present the findings of the research in 4 public tribunes with media coverage, where representatives of the urban communities of Tetovo, business sector, civil

- society organizations, and general citizens are present in order to collect and record their opinions, feedback, and comments
- Meeting with the Mayor of Tetovo to present findings of the research
 - Establish a working group of citizens to draft a *Local Action Plan for Gender Equality* over the next three years to be presented to the Municipality of Tetovo
 - Present the draft *Local Action Plan for Gender Equality* to the public in the form of a debate to record citizen feedback
 - Present the finalized *Local Action Plan for Gender Equality* to the municipality of Tetovo and advocate for its adoption
 - Sign a Memorandum of Cooperation with the Municipality of Tetovo and the EOC for the implementation of the *Local Action Plan for Gender Equality*

Results:

- Conducted research (via surveys, focus groups, and interviews) on current attitudes and conditions of gender equality in the Municipality of Tetovo, where findings of the research are published, presented, and distributed throughout the municipality to council members, NGO's, businesses, and citizens
- Raised the awareness of citizens on the importance of gender equality, through public tribunes where their opinions, feedback, and comments are collected
- Raised the awareness of council members, the business sector, and the EOC of the status of gender equality in the Municipality of Tetovo
- Forged cooperation with the Municipality of Tetovo by enhancing the activity of members of the existing Equal Opportunity commission (EOC) within the Council of Tetovo
- Established a working group of citizens to draft a local action plan for gender equality for the next three years to be presented to the municipality, where priorities for gender equality have been set in collaboration with community members
- Municipality of Tetovo will implement the *Local Action Plan for Gender Equality* through its EOC drafted by the working group of citizens

42. **Project: Center for Traditional Crafts: “The Old Bazaar” – Revitalization of Weaving Skills**

Location: Skopje and Tetovo

Target Group: Women

Duration: July 2015 – September 2015

Donor: Ministry of Culture of Macedonia

Goal: Revitalize craft skills in the “Old Bazaar” of Skopje by promoting the preservation of traditional crafts and development of new cultural industries through traditional weaving

Objectives:

- Improve the capacity of the “Centre for Traditional Crafts in the Old Town” by establishing a workshop for weaving
- Improve the visibility of the traditional crafts community
- Increase the knowledge of traditional crafts among young people, where the dissemination of woven crafts can be a positive example of a pilot model

Results:

- Conduct business training course for 8 participants who will be trained in traditional weaving
- Promote the crafts center through various promotional activities, including TV performance, radio interviews, and 2 print interviews
- Present traditional crafts in front of 50-100 children and young people with media coverage, who will learn the basics of the traditional craft of weaving, where each participant will be awarded with a certificate at a later event

43. **Project: Useful Work – Improving Job Skills of Unemployed Roma and Other Categories of Individuals at Risk of Social Exclusion**

Location: Tetovo

Target Group: Socially Excluded and Marginalized Individuals of Tetovo (i.e women, children, and elderly) 25 Elderly Roma Individuals and 100 members of their families

Duration: May 2015 – November 2015

Primary Project Coordinator: The Municipality of Tetovo

Partner Organizations: Women’s Forum-Tetovo, Association for Democratic Development Roma – Sun Tetovo

Donor: UNDP

Goal: To assist unemployed Roma persons and other individuals at risk of social exclusion in Tetovo

Objectives:

- Support the care of 25 elderly Roma individuals from various Roma settlements in Tetovo
- Raise the awareness of citizens about the problem of domestic violence in order to promote reporting and individual access to services and support from institutions in the community

Results:

- Improved the potential for employment of 10 unemployed Roma individuals who participated in a business training course
- Improved local knowledge about the problem of domestic violence (approximately 125 individuals, mostly women, girls, and elderly individuals)
- Increased citizen awareness of institutions to which they may apply for employment opportunities

Activities:

- Participation in the dissemination of information about the project hosted by the Municipality of Tetovo, especially for those working on the prevention of domestic violence
- Assistance in preparing resumes of interested candidates for the business training course
- Providing necessary materials for informing the community (flyers, posters, etc.)
- Training and monitoring of persons in the prevention of domestic violence
- Cooperation and reporting to the Municipality of Tetovo

44. **Project: Defining and Piloting an Integrated Approach for the Direct Protection of Victims of Domestic Violence Offered by Civil Society Organizations**
Location: Skopje and Tetovo
Target Group: Civil Society Organizations providing different types of services to women of domestic violence
Duration: August 2015 – October 2015
Primary Project Coordinator: Health Education and Research Association (HERA)
Partners: Women’s Forum-Tetovo, Hope Crisis Center, National Council for Gender Equality, and Women’s Organization of Skopje
Donor: UN Women
Goal: To improve access to quality and standardized support services for victims of domestic violence through the piloting of integrated access to direct support services based on minimum standards, which civil society organizations offering specialized services to protect victims of domestic violence should meet.
Activities:
- Program (including trainings and workshops) to fulfill the minimum general and specialized standards for the adequate protection of victims of domestic violence
45. **Project: Advocating for Sustainability of the Provision of Specialized Services for Victims of Domestic Violence in the Republic of Macedonia**
Location: Skopje Region; Polog Region; and Vardar region
Target Group: Civil Society Organizations providing services and support to victims of domestic violence
Duration: July 2015 – May 2016
Primary Project Coordinator: National Network against Domestic Violence
Partners: Women’s Forum-Tetovo, Organization of Women of Skopje, Women’s Organization of Sveti Nikole, HOPE Crisis Centre, Health Education and Research Association (HERA)
Donor: Funded by USAID and FOSM
Goal: To coordinate the actions of Women’s Civil Society Organizations on the issues of gender-based violence and domestic violence in an effort to develop policies that are more effective, improved services, and increased institutional and public awareness
Objectives:
- Establish cooperation between civil society organizations and local governments at the regional level
 - Increase awareness among the general population about the existence of the various forms of violence against women, including domestic violence
 - Strengthen the internal network capacity for more effective advocacy of the promotion of sustainable policies and provision of specialized services for victims of domestic violence

46. **Project: Economic Empowerment to Gender Equality**
Location: *Macedonia:* Tetovo Municipality (Tetovo City, Shipkovica Village, Sellce Village) and Jegunovce Municipality (Rogacevo Village); *Kosovo:* Prizren Municipality
Target Group:
- Long-term unemployed women from Tetovo City
 - Unemployed women from rural areas of Sellce, Shipkovica, and Jegunovce (Rogacevo)
 - Representatives from the Municipalities of Tetovo and Jegunovce
- Duration:** January 2016 – June 2016 (6 Months)
Partners: Association Golden Hand-Tetovo and Association of Craftspersons and Businesspersons Prizren (SHZAP)
Donor: Akcija Zdruzenska via European Commission
Goal: The promotion of women's economic empowerment on the local level as a contributing factor to gender equality.
Specific Objectives:
- To determine the main factors that negatively affect the low participation rate of women from vulnerable groups in the labor market
 - To establish cooperation with related organizations in Kosovo in order to initiate a dialogue, in which organizations can share best practices, exchange experiences, and propose solutions
- Activities:**
- Focus groups with marginalized and long-term unemployed women from the Municipalities of Tetovo and Jegunovce.
 - Establishment of a group of inactive women in the labor market that want to work and find employment
 - Development of economic empowerment programs for women from the established group
 - Organization and implementation of economic empowerment workshops
 - Meetings with officials and representatives from the Municipalities of Tetovo and Jegunovce
 - Field visit to Prizren, Kosovo to discuss best practices with similar organization
 - Conference on the economic empowerment of women
- Results:**
- Qualitative evaluation of the barriers that affect the low participation rate of women from vulnerable groups in Tetovo Municipality (Tetovo City, Sellce Village, Shipkovica Village) and Jegunovce Municipality (Rogacevo Village) in the labor market
 - 20 long-term unemployed and marginalized women received job training and counseling for greater inclusion in the labor market
 - Established dialogue with municipal authorities in Tetovo and Jegunovce about possible solutions to increase the inclusion of marginalized women in the labor market
 - Exchanged experiences and best practices with related association from Kosovo, forging cross-border cooperation

47. **Project: Economic Empowerment of Women in the Polog Region through Advocacy and Promotion of their Property Rights**

Location: Polog Region (emphasis on Rural Villages)

Target Group: Women from the Polog Region, with a specific emphasis on women from rural communities

Duration: July 2016 – May 2018 (22 months)

Donor: Civica Mobilitas

Goals:

- To contribute to the economic empowerment of women in the Polog Region
- To facilitate the increased exercise of property (and inheritance) rights of women in the Polog Region

Activities:

- Implementation, publication and promotion of research on the status of property and inheritance rights of women in the Polog region
- 6 public debates with relevant stakeholders (CSOs, media, judicial authorities, etc.) on women's property and inheritance rights
- 20 local counseling sessions with women from rural communities on their property rights
- Public Campaign (print and distribute posters and brochures)
- Provision of free legal assistance (and counseling)
- 30 individual and group meetings with local stakeholders with the aim of gaining their support to promote women's economic rights
- Coordinating a network of stakeholders in the promotion of women's economic rights to review the current situation of women's economic rights and propose concrete measures to improve women's economic position

Expected Results:

- Raised awareness of women (and the general public) in the Polog Region about women's property and inheritance rights through public debates, conferences, and campaigns
- Improved status of women's property and inheritance rights in the Polog Region through legal assistance and counseling
- Establishment and activation of a network of stakeholders at the local level in the field of promotion the property rights of women

48. **Project: IRIS–Developing Functional Creativity: From Words to Actions!**

Location: Belgium, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia

Target Group: Organizations working with youth and Youngsters

Duration: February 2016 – January 2018

Donor: European Union via Youth in Action

Primary Project Coordinator: Tabora vzw, Belgium

Partners: Erdena vzw, Leerwerplaats Garage vzw, Women's Forum-Tetovo, Caritas Sofia, Estonian Leader Union, Rigas Tehniska Universitate

Goals:

- Developing strategic partnerships among organizations that promote the social inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities.

- To find, together with youngsters, different ways to develop functional creativity, so youngsters can use their potential skills to realize their dreams and move from “words to actions.”
- Share best practices among organizations that guide our daily practices when working with youngsters.

49. **Project: Empowering Women as Rights-Holders in the Tetovo Region**

Location: Tetovo Region (Villages Tearce, Glogje, Sellce, Shipkovica, Pirok, Bogovinje, Golema Recica, Xhepcishte, Nerashte)

Target Group: Rural Women from the Tetovo Region

Duration: January – May 2017 (5 mos.)

Donor: U.S. Peace Corps and USAID

Goal:

- Women of the Tetovo Region are empowered as rights-holders, understanding their rights as women, where they are able to access support and services for rights violations without fear or stigma, knowing their fellow community members support them.

Activities:

- Training workshops for Women’s Forum-Tetovo Ambassadors on the following topics:
 - The Mission of Women’s Forum
 - Women’s Rights
 - Supporting Survivors of Domestic Violence
 - Communication and Conflict Management
 - Confidence and Self-Esteem
- Women’s Forum-Tetovo Ambassadors facilitated community awareness presentations, discussing what they have learned through the program with women in their respective rural communities

Results:

- The establishment of a formalized rural network of Women’s Forum Ambassadors, expanding Women’s Forum-Tetovo’s rural outreach and visibility
- 9 rural women as Women’s Forum Ambassadors gained knowledge and skills in communication and conflict management, self-esteem, public speaking, women’s rights, and supporting survivors of domestic violence
- 94 female community members have increased awareness about women’s rights, especially the support services available to those experiencing domestic violence

50. **Project: Empowering Survivors of Domestic Violence in the Tetovo Region**

Location: Tetovo Region (Municipalities of Tetovo, Tearce, Bogovinje, Brvenica, Zhelino, and Jegunovce)

Target Group: Female Survivors of Domestic Violence; Women Vulnerable to Domestic Violence; Domestic Violence Service Providers; Community Members

Duration: March 2017 – March 2020

Donor: UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women

Goal: Women, girls at-risk of, and survivors of domestic violence in the Tetovo Region have better access to support services and improved help-seeking attitudes.

Activities:

- Domestic Violence Awareness Campaign, which will include community awareness workshops, distribution of posters and informational brochures, panel discussions, etc.
- 4 cycles of legal literacy, personal development, and financial development workshops
- Establishment of a domestic violence support services provider working group to draft, implement, and monitor a coordinated, multi-sectoral support service strategy to better protect survivors

Expected Results:

- Women and girls experiencing violence can access a coordinated, multi-sectoral DV support service system and response, prioritizing their protection and experiences in Tetovo.
 - Community members participating in project workshops and presentations, increase their awareness on women's rights, understanding VAW as a human rights violation and the services and resources available to survivors
 - Service providers work together to draft, implement, and monitor a coordinated, multi-sectoral support service strategy with increased victim identification-referral and gender sensitivity
 - Public awareness increased and dialogue initiated about domestic violence in the Tetovo Region through various media outlets.
- Women and girls in the Tetovo Region demonstrate improved DV help-seeking attitudes, encouraging survivors to seek help and embodying attitudes that do not tolerate violence against women and girls (VAW/G).
 - 20 women survivors of domestic violence demonstrate greater self-esteem, confidence, and personal agency, participating in personal and financial development workshops, learning personal skills in decision making, conflict management, communication, gender equality; entrepreneurial skills; vocational skills, and personal financial skills.
 - 20 women survivors of domestic violence gain the tools and knowledge to develop and facilitate their own support group.
 - 60 women vulnerable to domestic violence demonstrate greater self-esteem, confidence, and personal agency, participating in personal and financial development workshops, learning personal skills in decision making, conflict management, communication, gender equality; entrepreneurial skills; vocational skills, and personal financial skills.

51. Project: Informing rural women of the Tetovo Region about their rights and local services and mechanisms through which they can activate and protect their rights

Location: Rural communities of the Tetovo Region

Target Group: Women from rural communities of the Tetovo Region who have difficulty in accessing information about their rights, asserting their rights, and protecting their rights

Duration: April 2017

Donor: Strategic Development Consulting and Akcija Zdruzenska via "Improvement of Women's Participation in Decision Making Processes at a Local Level" (UN Women)

Goal: Informing rural women of the Tetovo Region about their rights and local services and mechanisms through which they can activate and protect their rights

Activities:

- 8 informative presentations with rural women in the Tetovo Region about the local public services that are available to women to achieve their rights, especially for protection against domestic violence, economic empowerment of women, and care for children from preschool age

Results:

- 8 informative sessions were held in the villages of Glogje, Nerashte, Golema Recica, Bogovinje, Xhepcishte, Tearce, Shipkovica, and Pirok with women from the respective rural communities.
- 99 women from rural areas from the Tetovo Region (who have difficulty in accessing their rights) were informed about their rights and local opportunities to assert and protect those rights.
- Distribution of 100 brochures to women from rural communities of the Tetovo Region with information on local public services available to women

52. Social accountability for gender equality

Location: Tetovo and Shipkovica

Target Group: unemployed persons from the settlements of the city of Tetovo (settlement of Cetinska and Vardar) and the village of Shipkovica

Duration: January 2018 – January 2020

Donor: EU

Goal: The Action Social Accountability for Gender Equality is being implemented in the municipality of Tetovo in the settlement of Cetinska, Vardarska and village of Shipkovica in order to strengthen the capacities for involving the local community in the application of social accountability methodologies.

Specific objectives:

- Community Monitoring and Evaluation of the Planning and Implementation of Three Selected Active Employment Measures (Self Employment, Macedonia Employment and Employment Services of ESA) for 2017 and 2018
- Advocacy for the purpose of promoting gender equality in the planning and implementation of the measures, based on the collected findings and recommendations from the community

Activities:

- Mapping of relevant local and national institutions and communities in selected sites
- Conduct a survey among members of the community, of which 200 in the first and 200 in the second year.
- Organizing 2 focus groups with 13 members of the community, one in the first and one in the second year
- Organizing 2 validation meetings with 20 members of the community, one in the first year and one in the second year
- Organizing 8 educational workshops with 25 members of the community, 4 during the first year and 4 during the second year
- Organizing and presenting the findings of 2 public debates with 20 local stakeholders, one in the first year and one during the second year

Results:

- Identified relevant stakeholders from local and national institutions, as well as localities and communities
- Feedback on the implementation of the selected employment measures provided by 400 members of the community for two consecutive years (2017 and 2018)
- Qualitative information on the implementation of the selected employment measures provided by 26 members of the community for two consecutive years (2017 and 2018)
- Confirmed findings by 40 members of the community for two consecutive years (2017 and 2018)
- Summarized estimates for the implementation of the selected employment measures have been prepared for two consecutive years (2017 and 2018)
- Mobilized, strengthened and actively involved in the advocacy activities of 400 community members
- Promoted findings and recommendations from the community

53. Improving citizens voice especially women's voice in local decision-making process

Location: Tetovo, Zhelino, Bogovinje, Jegunovce, Tearce, Brvenica

Target Group: Representatives of the municipality of Tetovo as urban municipality and the municipalities of Jegunovce, Bogovinje, Tearce, Brvenica, Zelino as rural municipalities, representatives of urban and rural communities and coordinators for equal opportunities from the municipality.

Duration: 21 February 2018 – 20 February 2021

Donor: USAID Civic Engagement Project

Goal: To raise the awareness of citizens, especially women about their rights and need participative democracy to provide good governance and development of the community.

Activities:

- Press conference for project announcement;
- Research with representatives from urban and rural municipalities and citizens;
- Promotional video about the project;
- Informational meetings with 150 women from rural and urban municipalities (Municipality of Tetovo as urban community and municipalities of Jegunovce, Bogovinje, Tearce, Brvenica, Zelino as rural municipalities)

- Trainings for building capacities of municipality's representatives, local communities, coordinators for equal opportunities and activists;
- 21 street campaign in the municipality of Tetovo and in 5 rural municipalities from Tetovo region;
- Work with 7 working groups for equal opportunities;
- 7 round table with citizens, women, representatives of targeted municipalities and media;
- 6 meetings with urban and rural local communities and
- Final press conference for presenting the conclusions of the project.

Results:

- Increased awareness among rural communities, especially women, in the Tetovo region on how to get involved in the decision-making process at the local level
- Implementation of the survey on the actual situation for the participation of citizens in the decision-making process at local level in all 6 municipalities in Tetovo region
- Trained activists, coordinators for equal opportunities, representatives of the municipality, representatives of the urban and rural local communities through trainings for building capacities for gender, forms of civic engagement, process for local decision-making and communication with citizens.