

PERIODIC REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PLAN FOR CHILDREN IN STREET SITUATION IN FOUR MUNICIPALITIES (The reporting period July-September 2015)

The Plan of Action For Children in Street Situations, is being implemented in four municipalities in the country, Tirana, Elbasan, Durres and Fieri. The implementation has started in Tirana, on June 2014, while in three other municipalities of Elbasan, Durres, Fier, during 2015.

Identification

In Tirana, the process is continuously progressing with the integration of children and families in street situation, since 2014.

Field teams operate in 11 administrative units in Tirana, on daily calendar bases. During summer field monitoring was conducted during morning hours (9: 00-13: 00) and afternoon (19: 00-21: 00) every day of the week. The number of children in street situations decreased compared to the same period in the previous summer season, because it was affected by the movement of these families towards coastal areas.

In Durres, Elbasan and Fier has also continued the work in the field, according to the calendar. Terrain group meetings were held, before leaving the field. During this period, the identified cases were managed, monitored and new cases were identified.. They were identified in hotspots where children beg or sell most of the time accompanied by other children of their relatives.

In Durres there was an increase in the number of children who were selling in the beach area, in july Terrain groups of Tirana joined in a team in Durres (the CPU of Durres, local institutions, organizations that provide services in Durres and organizations provide services in Tirana).

Case management. In Tirana and other municipalities continued the work to support children and families, with services such as ensuring birth certificates, records in the registry, food packages etc..

CPU have **organized multidisciplinary groups and visits to the children's families**. The Protection Plan consisted mainly in enrollment in schools, kindergartens, providing food for families, placing children in residential institutions. There was a close collaboration with all institutions within the local level such as DAR, Public Health, NGOs, social services, the police. The employment group in Tirana has done a serious job supporting families by employing them. In these three months they have managed to employ 24 people, bringing the total to 42 people.

- **Other municipalities that have reported children in street situations.**

State Agency For Protection Of Child Rights, shared, the annual report of the implementation of the Action Plan for children in street situations, with all CPUs in the country in order to inform and promote the work done in four municipalities, encourage other CPU in the country to report the identified cases in the respective municipalities.

Consequently State Agency for Protection for Child Rights have received information on cases managed by the CPU of Vlora, Shengjin, Shkodra, which are also at coastal areas where children usually beg or sell goods to tourists.

- **Cooperation with the State Police**

Coordination group in Tirana and CPU of the municipalities involved have been in constant contact with the state police structures. Police patrol has responded in time and interfered. A total of 18 cases are referred to police since the beginning of implementation of the AP in the country, 2 of them are referred only in last three months.

- **Records in schools, kindergartens, device with free books**

State Agency for Protection for Child Rights has a special focus on the school registration and school attendance of all children as one of the very important process for the reintegration of children.

CPUs across the country in cooperation with Regional Education Departments, schools and communities identified **330** children in street situations, unregistered to school for academic year 2015-2016. CPU of the Municipality of Tirana, Durres, Elbasan, Fier directly involved in working with children in street situations, after the verification on the ground in cooperation with the Regional Education and NGOs enrolled the identified children in school/kindergarten.. From lists submitted it was identified the number of children above 9 years old, and it was asked by SAPCR the activation of "the second chance" programs by all Regional Education Departments in the country. CPUs of **Shkodra, Cërrik and Gjirokastra** have reported to SAPCR for the enrollment of children in a street situation. **126 children in street situations are enrolled in education institutions like schools, kindergarden, nursery.**

For all registered children, CPU and Regional Education Departments have ensured providing free books, *according to the decision of Council of Ministers dated 26 August 2015*, for the supply with free textbooks to vulnerable categories. CPU of the aforementioned Municipalities but also of other Municipalities like, **Lushnja Berati and Cërrik** have referred to the Agency during September all cases where have emerged problems with the distribution of free textbooks. In coordination with Ministry of Education and relevant Regional Departments of Education, all problematic issues have been resolved by providing free textbooks to referred children.

- **Cooperation with non-profit organizations that provide services for children in municipalities involved.**

A precious help to identify children and case management was provided by non-profit organizations that offeres services for children. NGO staff are part of the field group helping in the identification and management of cases and the provision of services in day centers.

CPU of Tirana has are collaborating with NGO : "ARSIS", "SHKEJ", "Different and Equal", "FBSH", Daily Center for children in street situation- Save the Children, Terre des Homme.

The CPU of municipalities of Elbasan, Durres, Fier have collaborating with NGO which are under the jurisdiction of their regions:

In Elbasan: "Ndihmë për fëmijët", community center "Në dobi të Gruas Shqiptare", Tjetër Vizion, Terres des Hommes, "A 2 B", "Një ëndërr më shumë" "Ndihma e Wailheilmit" "Orët fatlume"- Karitas.

In Durres ; World Vision, Community Center "Today for the Future" center "Morning Sun", "Useful to Albanian Women, as well as volunteers who have been very active in identifying and dealing with cases.

In Fier :Social Center "Murialdo and Terre des homme

This initiative is also supported by international organizations such as UNICEF, OSCE and UNDP.

Summary table for the implementation of the action plan in the municipalities involved

Municipality	Nr of field group	Visits in field/month	Nr of identified children	Nr of protected cases	Nr of referred children for registration in school		Nr of referred children for registration in kindergarden		Nr of referred children for registration in nursery		Referrals for employment		Cases referred for prosecution
					referred	Attend school	referred	Attend kindergarden	referred	Attend nursery	referred	punished	
Durrës	1	8	68	22	9	7		1					
Elbasan	4	32	39	31	11	8	3	3			1	1	1
Fier	1	8	17	3	32	13							
Tiranë	11	100	361	165	232	42	38	17	47	7	72	42	17
Total	17	148	485	221	284	70	41	21	47	7	73	43	18