



2013

ANNUAL
REPORT



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About FIQ

Forum for Civic Initiatives (FIQ), is a non-governmental organization that works towards promoting civic participation in decision making.

We work with citizens of Kosovo to contribute to the increase of their participation in decision-making by prioritizing protection and security in the community, developing philanthropy for the good of the public and by supporting civic activities through grants.

FIQ was established in 2000, by a group of youths who had a vision of mobilizing the citizens of every community into processes that affect their daily lives after the 1998-1999 war.

“FIQ works towards increasing the civic participation in decision-making!”



“Power comes with local people”



Letter from the Executive Director

As I write this in January, 2014, FIQ is beginning its 14th year of operation. We are all proud of its achievements and growth.

Our theory of change lies on the triangle approach which essentially consists of mobilizing local communities, local government and local business for the purpose of addressing common issues and identifying common solutions. Thus, during 2013 FIQ has been actively involved in most of the dynamics that have shaped the public discourse in Kosovo.

Through our grants program we were able to provide small but meaningful grants to local CSO's involved in preserving traditional values, protecting our environment, advocating for our safety and promoting the importance of civic participation. Initiative for Environment and Local Development, IAZHL in Obiliq is one of our success stories that because of our support and close cooperation have transformed now into a strong and quite visible local CSO engaged in advocating for environmental and local development issues.

Being among the founders of KOSID (Kosovo Civil Society Consortium for Sustainable Development) FIQ in close cooperation with think tanks organizations, legal, political groups and investigative media reporters has very much contributed in raising issues of development in the sector of energy and environment from a local perspective.

Given that FIQ is the pioneer of promoting individual and corporative philanthropy in Kosovo, we have continued to organize the FIDES award for the purpose of recognizing and appreciating publicly the Kosovar philanthropists that strategically invest in the development of Kosovo. It was a pleasure to award a prize to young philanthropist pupils from elementary schools which throughout 2013 managed to collect money for improving their school.

In this instance, special emphasis was given to promoting philanthropy at local communities, where FIQ was able to train 16 local CSO's on strategic & project management, fundraising skills, and sustainability planning.

While our mission of working with local communities, has not changed, our engagement has diversified and increased at the regional level, becoming one of the founding and key partners of SIGN South-East-European Indigenous Grantmakers Network whose main focus is to promote and support development of local philanthropy, local communities, cross-sector partnership and long-term sustainability of civil society in countries in Southeast Europe on national, regional and EU levels.

Given that FIQ has a legacy on community development work, its staff and focus areas of course do change for the purpose of increasing our leverage and promoting development that pertain to smart growth of our communities. At the end of 2013, after a thorough review process, we reshaped our strategic goals towards the sustainable development program.

Sincerely
Dajana Berisha
Executive Director

FIQ Programme Structure and Work Methods

Philanthropy, Security and Rule of Law Program and Provision of Grants Program comprise the program structure of the FIQ. However, work with the citizens within municipalities, research, analysis, advocacy, developing policies and managing projects make up the methods of our work. This structure that has been developed until now shall change in 2014, and FIQ programs shall be focused on three fields: philanthropy, sustainable development and provision of grants.



Successes

1. PHILANTHROPY



Since the beginning of 2013, FIQ began cooperating with nine rotary clubs, namely with Rotary Club Ferizaj, Rotary Club Peja, Rotary Club Gjakova, Rotary Club Prizren, Rotary Club Prishtina, Rotary Club Mitrovica, Rotary Club Pristina International, Rotary Club Prishtina-Dardania and Rotary Club Gjilani with an aim of exchanging information and respective experiences as well as mobilising these groups into the field of civic activism, more specifically in promotion of philanthropy.

Philanthropy Month marks an important moment of the advocacy work of FIQ in the philanthropy program by enabling informing, training and spreading the concepts of philanthropy and volunteering with around 300 students at 4 of the main Universities in Kosovo, and with around 180 pupils of primary schools around 6 regions (Prishtinë, Pejë, Ferizaj, Mitrovicë, Gjilan, Gjakovë) of Kosovo.

This increase in philanthropic activities marks an awareness raise on the importance of philanthropy with around 25 businessmen, interested in contributing to the sustainable development through implementation of respective social corporate policies. The partnership between FIQ and MDA enabled the sharing of knowledge on corporate responsibilities with local companies who are the first pioneers of spreading the culture of careful investment in the community and environment protection.

FIQ Influence on National Policies – Tax System with Regard to Philanthropy in Kosovo



During 2013, in our efforts to increase the influence of the Forum for Civic Initiatives (FIQ) on sustainable economic development policies, through studies, analysing political documents, or debates with local and international experts, FIQ raised the profile of the debates on the Draft Law on Sponsorships and Donations by making it public and open to the media and by including representatives of the private sector and the civil society.

To this end, the Forum for Civic Initiatives and the American Chamber of Commerce in Kosovo held a roundtable to discuss the Draft Law on Sponsorship and Donations initiated by the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports. This roundtable gathered representatives of the civil society, representatives of businesses and companies that operate in Kosovo, and at the same time representatives of the relevant state institutions who previously did not have the opportunity to get together and discuss this matter.

FIQ insists that the scope of the Law needs to be expanded and not be limited to only culture, youth and sports, and that fiscal incentives need to be included in it. The drafting of a more qualitative draft law would encourage an increase in sponsorships and donations, through the inclusion of tax incentives in the law, and through regulating control measures more justly, always paying taking into consideration the applicable laws.

By initiating a number of public debates on the importance of redesigning this Draft Law, FIQ managed not only to produce the report “Tax System Analysis with Regard to Philanthropy” which analyses the legal and tax provisions that support or fail to support the development of philanthropic activities, but at the same time to also address, with the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport as sponsors of the mentioned draft law, the need for its amendment.

FIDES 2013

The time to assess and acknowledge publicly!

Thanks to the strategic cooperation with the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, the Forum for Civic Initiatives, for the fifth year running assesses and publicly acknowledges with the FIDES 2013 award the philanthropic contribution of businesses and individuals of Kosovo and Diaspora for narrowing the economic and social gap in Kosovo.



“The awards ceremony for the FIDES 2013 awards was not only pleasant, but very useful since it enabled us to meet with organizations and individuals of the field where we informed them about our work. We would like to congratulate FIQ by hoping that our communication and cooperation will continue with joint action in promoting a philanthropic culture in Kosovo.” - Edmond Nushi, Chairman of the Board, Salih and Isa Nushi Foundation – winner of the Diaspora award for philanthropic contribution



This evening also served as a good opportunity for the students of “Naim Frasheri” Primary School who were able to raise funds in exchange for the sweets that they prepared. The EUR 350 that were raised were dedicated to the purchase of extracurricular books so as to enrich the school library and with an aim of getting children closer to books.

2. RULE OF LAW PROGRAM

2013 carried with it a number of events and political stances that have threatened the security in the communities, thus significantly lowering the trust of the citizens towards public institutions.

This year also, community safety was the main focus of the work of our organization. FIQ, besides finding greater support from the donors in this sector, also continues to work with partners who have supported our work for years now, and their contribution had without doubt shown the impact of the work done jointly. Through this component, we aim to continue strengthening the participation of the citizens in the decision-making process and to help in the improvement of safety in focused communities.

SUCCESSSES

FIQ contributes at the international conference for security and protection in Belgrade



Deputy Executive Director of the Forum for Civic Initiatives (FIQ), Nazim Haliti, at the international conference organized in Belgrade by the Centre for Euro-Atlantic Studies on the topic: “Serbia, the

Western Balkans and the EU: What do we have in common in the areas of security and defence and how to make the most of it for stability and progress in the region” explained about the quality of reforms in the security sector in Kosovo, the level of presence and the contribution of international institutions and missions such as KFOR and EULEX, as well as about the north of Kosovo as an ongoing potential threat to the security of the country.

Increasing the safety of the students on the road – fluorescent vests for students



A few days ago, as part of FIQ and Saferworld's joint work program, our organizations have granted the amount of EUR 1,500 for the purchase of green fluorescent vests for 652 pupils of the primary school “28 Nëntori” in Raushiq. Through the years, pupils and residents of this village have faced dangers in traffic. In the words of Police Officer Fadil Gashi, at a meeting with FIQ and Saferworld at the Community Council of Raushiq: - during the January-November 2012 period alone, 21 accidents occurred resulting in 31 persons injured.

The school principal, Ismet Zekaj, stated that “even though it will not avoid the danger completely, the only way of protecting them is equipping them with green vests”. This project resulted in a lower number of children injured.

FIQ educates and advocates on the importance of community safety at the Municipal Assembly of Shtime

FIQ and Saferworld, within their joint work program to support security initiatives and projects in the community, as well as the work and functioning of the Municipal Council for Safety in the Community (MCSC), have carried out a presentation at the Municipal Assembly of Shtime on the role and operations of the MCSC in increasing community safety.

FIQ together with our strategic partner Saferworld have support three community safety projects in Shtime: construction of the pavement for Secondary school “Naim Frashëri”; instalment of cameras in the city and Secondary school “Naim Frashëri”; an awareness campaign for pyrotechnic devices and avoiding festivity shooting, as well as lectures with students regarding safety at schools.

Know your police officer – FIQ informs over 16 000 people throughout Kosovo



“Know your Police Officer” was the slogan of the three month campaign organized by the Forum for Civic Initiatives (FIQ) in cooperation with Kosovo Police. The aim of the campaign was to provide information directly to the citizens regarding what is already known as “community policing” as a new philosophy of police work. This way of work aims to bring citizens and the police closer to each other, so that the citizens know whom to address, not only in cases when they run into any kind of violation, but also to contribute to prevention.

In May 2012, Kosovo Police began the implementation of the Community Policing Strategy, according to which, division into sectors makes it possible for every location to have police officers that will only operate within certain areas. These police officers are in constant and direct communication with citizens who will be able to freely report various cases that may cause instability in their community. This is a policing technique which, as a result of trust building between the citizens and the police, contributes to the safety of the location and facilitates the work of the police. FIQ has concluded that the citizens are insufficiently informed about this technique of policing and the campaign was a success, bearing in mind that over 16 000 people received information leaflets which were distributed around municipalities where we noticed a visible lack of information.

Publication of the analysis “Grievous crime, on Paper Only– prosecuting and sentencing policy in weapon-related cases”

An analysis entitled “Grievous Crime, on Paper Only” was published and discussed at the roundtable organized by the Forum for Security, where participants included chief prosecutors, judges, representatives of the Kosovo Police, Ministry of Internal Affairs and other security authorities.

The analysis brings to light that the justice system in Kosovo does not treat all its citizens equally in the eyes of the law. Lacking a unified policy on sentencing, punishments differed within the same court as well as between different courts.

Every year, Kosovo courts resolve over 1,000 cases, where around 4% of them carry a prison sentence, 80% are fines between EUR 400 and 1,000 and over 10% are suspended sentences, where in 2008 this reached its peak going as high as 32%. Such a sentencing policy failed to turn citizens away from illegally carrying weapons where during 2010 and 2011, the Supreme Court received only 169 cases of illegal possession of a weapon and around 50% of these cases have been confirmed. Another essential problem within the justice system is the statutory limitation. Between 2008 and October 2012, the number of unsolved cases has risen by 27%, going from 1,324 to 1,681 cases.

Forum for Civic Initiatives Objects the Draft Law on Amnesty

At the time when the Draft Law on Amnesty was approved as drafted based on the negotiations between the Prime Minister of the Republic of Kosovo and that of the Republic of Serbia, the Forum for Civic Initiatives objected its approval, stating that the lack of public debates prior to the approval of such a political document of special importance constitutes a violation of the rights of the citizens of Republic of Kosovo and distortion of democratic norms for which the current government is very engaged in. Any governmental attempt to keep civil society, citizens and apolitical voices away from the decision-making processes compromises the drafting of the said Draft Law, the contents of which violate the basis of constitutionality and legitimacy of the Republic of Kosovo.

FIQ contributes to improving and increasing civic activism



Seeing the good work of the residents of Smira village and qualifying this village as the example of civic activism, the Forum for Civic Initiatives, within the project “Increasing and Strengthening Civic Activism”, organized meetings at the villages of Dardania and Gaçka of Ferizaj, Zhegër and Kishnapole of Gjilan, Zllakuqan and Klinë, Loxhë and Zllapek of Peja as well as Korishë and Skorrobishtë of Prizren.

Those that attended the presentation of the organizational and activism model had the opportunity to learn and take lessons on how to organize and work in the future for the benefit of the community that they represent. Forum for Civic Initiatives – FIQ during the last two years has followed and aided the villagers of Smira, and through Smira shall encourage other citizens to undertake activities.

In order to be successful, the new Security Strategy of Kosovo must take into consideration the needs of the citizens, above all must be comprehensive and communicated to the citizens!



Forum for Security in its analysis named “Drafting Process for a new Kosovo Security Strategy – Inclusiveness and Transparency” brings to light the lack of inclusiveness and transparency even after its approval. The recommendations of the Forum for Security addressed to the responsible institutions are as follows:

- ▶ Drafting of a new Kosovo Security Strategy should not be a part of Decision No. 09/67 on launching the initiative of the Strategic Security Sector Review (SSSR);
- ▶ So as to have a cohesion between the process of SSSR and drafting the strategy, the Government must issue a decision for drafting the strategy after the SSSR process has been concluded;
- ▶ According to the Constitution and the Law on the Establishment of the Kosovo Security Council (KSC), the decision of the Government for drafting the said strategy must give a mandate to KSC to coordinate the process of drafting a new Kosovo Security Strategy;
- ▶ To ensure an inclusive and transparent process where the civil society, independent experts, media and other stakeholders will be involved in the process from the beginning;
- ▶ Kosovo Security Council must appoint an official within the Secretariat of the KSC who would be responsible to coordinate the whole process;
- ▶ At the end of the process, the Government should publish the new Kosovo Security Strategy so that the public, both in Kosovo and abroad may have access to it;

Emergency Response – Preparations and Possibilities

Forum for Civic Initiatives, as part of the Forum for Security organized a roundtable for discussions where a research paper named “Emergency Response – Preparations and Opportunities” was published, where during the presentation of the said paper by Arieta Rexhepi (FIQ), who is also a co-author of the research, the problems that we as a country face and which are of various nature were emphasized, starting



from the improper functioning of the Operations Centres and the undisputable need for their existence; the alarm system within municipalities is not functional; from 2008 the law mandated the General Director of the Police to establish a reserve force which would, only at the time of establishing the same, incur financial costs and then the cost would come into play only when we would face an emergency situation or at the time when they would be sent to any type of training; Another issues that was not prioritised is the air fleet, for which, according to the MIA, the conditions have been in place the past ten months but

the signature of the Prime Minister is pending for the purchase of two helicopters; the budget allocated for emergency situations is rather symbolic, therefore the above-mentioned problems stem from an insufficient budget allocated to this field. FIQ considers that without meeting the above elements, any emergency situation of a serious degree would results in a disaster for human lives.

Forum for Security Encourages Debates on Military Transformation in the Region



At the regional conference “Military Transformations in the Region”, the Forum for Security has also published another paper for discussions that reflects the achievements of the KSF on its transformation path toward becoming an army.

Jelena Milic, Director of the Centre for Euro-Atlantic Studies from Serbia, spoke about the professionalism of the Serbian army and about adopting and meeting the 46 NATO standards, despite the fact that Serbia, in military regard, maintains a neutral position. She also spoke about the political control of the sector and security mechanisms in Serbia, which Milic named as the “Putinism of Serbia”.

FIQ, at this conference, managed to get together officials from local and international institutions such as MKSF, KSF, MIA, Secretariat of the Security Council of Kosovo, American Embassy, Swedish Embassy, OSCE, ICITAP, KFOR, NATO Advisory Team, members of the civil society, as well as officials from governmental and non-governmental entities from Albania, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Macedonia who brought to the table their views of the reforms and transformations of the armies of these countries.

Forum for Security Participates in REACT 2013

Nazim Haliti as the coordinator of the Forum for Security has participated at the Regional Euro Atlantic Camp and had a presentation during the “Importance of Regional Cooperation in Preventing Conflict” session, where he brought views on a) relations that Kosovo has with neighbouring countries, b) its challenges that it faces due to not being included in a large number of regional initiatives, c) the potentials that represent the basis for conflict in our region, d) the contribution of the civil society in initiating and strengthening regional cooperation. FS conclusions at this event were: the biggest challenges that Western Balkan countries face on regional cooperation are in

the field of rule of law and internal affairs; countries of the region continuously block and obstruct each other, by putting up barriers, whereas the road to European integrations pushes them towards deepening the cooperation and putting regional mechanisms in place; today, the presence of ethnic groups in our countries, their human and political rights, makes up the main reason for the strained relations between our countries; the civil society in the region has shown greater readiness on initiating regional cooperation, by leading a large number of important issues of common interest.

Reintegration of Repatriated Persons – a condition for “visa liberalization”



The Forum for Civic Initiatives – FIQ and the Institute for Development Policy – INDEP, organized a roundtable during which an analysis of the policy named “Return to Homeland – Policies for socio-economic integration of repatriated persons” was published, and this was accompanied by a large level of interest from local and international institutions,

leaders of academic institutions, civil society and others. Serious academic studies conclude that the forced return of Kosovar citizens from EU countries will contribute more to the level of poverty and increase the numbers of unemployed than achieving the “Kosovar Dream” for visa liberalisation. FIQ and INDEP believe that Kosovo needs legal migration for a while longer; the country needs a genuine comprehensive strategy which determines a clear vision for the integration of returned migrants from the implementation of the readmission and reintegration agreement signed between Kosovo and certain EU countries. Kosovo institutions need to be extremely responsible when negotiating future agreements for readmission of returnees; they directly contribute to the increase of poverty and unemployment which is currently thought to be at around 40%.

Policies for Socio-Economic Reintegration of Repatriated Persons

After the roundtable held with central institutions and other actors, where the document analysing policies for socio-economic integration of repatriated persons was also published, FIQ organized roundtables on the same topic in Ferizaj, Prizren, Gjilan, Pejë and Klinë to discuss the challenges surrounding the repatriation process at the local level.

The roundtables held at the above-mentioned municipalities were characterized by substantive discussions. Based on these discussions, those present concluded that there is a lack of proper communication between the local and central institutions, as well as a need for decentralization of competencies in the field of repatriation.

While the approximate number of citizens repatriated within a year is known (around 5 thousand per year), it was mentioned that there are no records about those that leave the country, but it is assumed that this number is larger.

What do the citizens think on key peace and security issues in Kosovo



The Forum for Civic Initiatives (FIQ) and AKTIV with the support of Saferworld organized a conference “People’s view on key peace and security issues in Kosovo”. At the conference, which was financially supported by the European Commission, the key findings identified through a public consultancy process regarding peace and security in Kosovo were published and discussed.

The mentioned conference was featured by the contribution of all participating parties, which came to the following main conclusions:

- ▶ The non-implementation of laws and strategies, together with the lack of institutional cohesion still remain key problems;
- ▶ Traffic safety - punitive mechanisms, such as avoidance of driving points, are not being implemented, while driving culture is also seen as a problem;
- ▶ Trust in police – there are different perceptions, though the increased criminality rates are amongst factors affecting trust in the institution, which previously used to rule the top positions of credible institutions;
- ▶ Drugs – a concerning occurrence is the increasing numbers of users, and declining ages of users, while treatment, prevention and investment in the triangle school-parent-student remain a challenge;
- ▶ Dialogue between Kosovo and Serbia: there is a full lack of transparency; non-conveying of information about the dialogue to any levels of the society is seen as a strategy to reach the end of the process without elaborating on the agreements reached, and the people are only informed about the process when an agreement is reached. A common conclusion is that the dialogue between Prishtina and Belgrade must not only occur between politicians, but it must also be recognized by the civil society and the people, since it ultimately affects the lives of all the citizens of Kosovo.

3.SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

FIQ has seen a need for “green and economic” ideas to be more widespread. We believe that these ideas will benefit the communities and will serve as catalysts for the development of environmental and economic fields. The role of the society is to create independent citizens. For a society to move forward, sustainable ideas need to be more widespread.

FIQ takes over the obligation to help, advocate and promote this type of development that, as a goal, aims towards socio-economic change for the people and their communities.

Through this Program, FIQ began working during 2012, initially in the energy sector, where we are a part of the Kosovo Civil Society Consortium for Sustainable Development KOSID. We aim to advocate for a more transparent process within the energy sector in Kosovo.

FIQ, as part of the KOSID, has contributed in civic mobilization and activism by organizing communities that are most threatened by environmental pollution to address problems, organize seminars, roundtables and other important activities.

Green economy – Will it include us?



FIQ presents the importance that green economy should have in Kosovo as a way of decreasing environmental risks. As part of KOSID, FIQ continually advocates this issue.

Waste management, redirecting public policies towards renewable energy, energy efficiency and insulation of the buildings, life after Kosova A were the topics of the debate organized by the EU Information and Cultural Centre.

In this case, the participants also had the chance to visit the exhibit of children's paintings "Life after Kosova A" where these portrayed the impact that the coal has on the environment and their daily lives.

village in the Municipality of Fushë Kosovë, with an aim of discussing investments by the World Bank to the Kalaja dump, a project that is aimed at reshaping and reforestation of the dump, initiated in 2006.

The majority of the citizens that participated in the debate, as well as showing a high level of interest, also expressed their outrage about the project implementation.

According to these citizens, the lack of planning and poor management by the respective institutions resulted in ash being gathered at various places, thus creating a permanent problem that poses a high level of risk for the health of the residents in the vicinity of these dumps.

World Bank investments in the Kalaja dump



Situation before intervention



Situation during the work



Situation after the work



Situation after the destruction

Initiative for Environment and Local Development (IEDL) and the Forum for Civic Initiatives (FIQ) organized a meeting with the community of Bardh

Obiliq residents discuss clean-up and land reclamation



Forum for Civic Initiatives FIQ and the Initiative for Environment and Local Development within the Kosovo Consortium for Sustainable Development KOSID, together with the villagers of Obiliq Municipality discussed the World Bank project for the Clean-up and Land Reclamation, namely the challenges accompanying this project.

FIQ and IEDL recommend that the World Bank should, in cooperation with KEK and municipal institutions involved in this project, develop concrete activities for the inclusion of, informing and proper cooperation with the communities affected by this project. Also the World Bank and KEK have to provide additional funds to put up fences around the plantations where the land has been cleaned up and reclaimed. On the other hand, KEK has to increase the number of professional staff and the work force within the DPRT, and also other relevant government institutions involved in this project have to accurately identify public and private properties within the areas affected by the World Bank CLR, in cooperation with KEK.

Lismir residents satisfied with the land reclamation



Forum for Civic Initiatives (FIQ) and Initiative for the Environment and Local Development (IEDL) organized a meeting with the community of Lismir village of Obiliq Municipality to discuss about the World Bank and KEK project on cleaning up and reclaiming lands in villages surrounding coal power plants Kosova A and B.

The participants were various representatives of the community of this village, who were ready to cooperate and at the same time expressed their satisfaction with the work done by KEK on reclaiming lands (at the outside dumps and the ash landfill). Also, the issue of ownership disputes between KEK and villagers from the surrounding villages, something that was identified as a problem from the very onset of the project, was discussed.

FIQ contributes to raising youth awareness about alternative energy



Forum for Civic Initiatives, FIQ, within the Kosovo Civil Society Consortium for Sustainable Development KOSID, organized lectures for students of secondary schools on the topic "Development of the Energy Sector in Kosovo" to educate the youth about the importance and the potentials of renewable energy sources in Kosovo.

The lectures also included critical information pertaining to the main developments within the energy sector during the last decade, discussions about and analysis of large projects in this field, the role of international institutions such as the World Bank, IFC and USAID in such projects, discussions about the potentials of renewable energy sources in Kosovo and what needs to be done to reach a sustainable future for the energy sector in Kosovo in line with EU directives.

Protests as a part of the work of FIQ to raise awareness about the lack of visionary public policies for the protection of the environment



FIQ and IEDL addressed the large level of pollution, the number of those ill as a consequence of pollution, the lack of specific support for residents of Obiliq in maintaining public health, further the lack of environmental projects and green spaces in the civic protest "We also have the right to breathe", where hundreds of citizens endangered by environmental pollution participated.

Fundraising, strategic planning and mobilizing the community for sustainable development

Everything that is related to fundraising standards, transparency and mobilizing local communities shall be offered by the Academy for Sustainability established as a training program for NGOs which are expected to gain critical abilities that will contribute to their financial sustainability.

The Academy for Sustainability shall, within the regional partnership, offer local NGO's sufficient abilities and knowledge to enter into fundraising processes with their communities, with a clear vision for the essential relation between strategic planning and the fundraising process.

GRANTS' PROGRAM

The Grants' Program is one of the FIQ pillars for supporting initiatives that aim to increase civic inclusion.

During 2013, FIQ has, through grants, supported a number of projects with a diverse scope both in approaching and addressing problems in the country, in environmental issues, public health, culture, youth and public policies.

“Women in Business” organization, through “Increasing women's access to local governance and participation in decision-making” has helped and facilitated the communication and cooperation with municipal authorities by encouraging the participation of women in budget planning processes, as well as by implementing advocacy activities for supporting women entrepreneurs.



Association of Pulmonologists of Kosovo (ASPUKO) shall publish two new issues of the scientific magazine “Pulmologjia” with an aim of promoting the professional and scientific work, increasing capacities for research work, and the professional competencies of young professionals.

Non-governmental organization Aktiv in Northern Mitrovica through “Aktiv Art Center” has developed a

workshop for painting, photography and drama for Serbian, Bosnian, Turkish and Roma children, together with artistic activities with them at this centre.



The Council of Bosnian Intellectuals of Kosovo in Prizren has developed a project for the protection of the environment in the Prevala area, “Sharr Mountains” National Park, through educational workshops for the young, identifying illegal waste landfills in this area and activities of advocating the inclusion of all villages into the system of waste gathering.

FIQ also supported the initiative of a group of youths in Obiliq for the establishment of “Initiative for Environment and Local Development” organization (IEDL). They have carried out numerous activities for the protection of interests and based on the requests of the local community in the field of environmental protection, public health and addressing critical issues about developments in energy projects.



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Appreciations:





FIQ

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