



RESEARCH CENTRE

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**PROVIDING EXPERT OPINIONS IN THE AREAS OF ECONOMICS, ASSESMENT AND EVALUATION OF
PROJECTS**

Decision no. 08.020/704-47/14 dated 28 May 2014, Official Gazette of the Republic of Srpska no. 57/2014

**PROJECT EVALUATION REPORT
“CAPACITY BUILDING V“
1 January 2020 – 31 December 2020**

Trebinje, March 2021

Contents

Contents..... 1
1. Introduction 2
2. Project mission 2
3. Findings 3
4. Evaluation results 5
5. Recommendations 6

1. Introduction

At the request of the foundation "Women's Centre" Trebinje, we evaluated the following projects:

- "Capacity Building V" funded by the OAK Foundation;
- Emphasis was placed on "Support for Economic Empowerment of Victims of Domestic Violence in the Republic of Srpska" supported by the *Kvinna till Kvinna* Foundation;
- "Empowerment of Institutional Support to Victims of Gender-Based Violence" implemented by the "Lara" Foundation, supported by the *Kvinna till Kvinna* Foundation;
- "Economic Empowerment of Women - Victims of Domestic Violence in Eastern Herzegovina" supported by the Association of Citizens "Nešto Više" by means of the project: "Support for the Development of Gender Action Plans (GAP) in Six Local Communities in Bosnia and Herzegovina (2019-2020)" supported by the respective Ministry of the Kingdom of the Netherlands;
- Establishing a network for the "SOS" application, supported by the "Trag" foundation;
- "Networking and Cooperation Conference", supported by TACSO;
- "Development of an "SOS" application for supporting victims of domestic violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina" supported by the "Trag" foundation;
- "Market Agriculture Development Project (Farma II) for the following activities: Provision of training, advisory services and technical support to producer organizations (POs) in the agricultural sector" supported by Sweden / USAID Farma II Project
- Other activities performed by the Foundation "Women's Centre" Trebinje in 2020.

The project was evaluated by the Oikos Institute-Research Centre from Bijeljina, covering the entire fiscal year 2020. *The team that performed the evaluation consists of the following members:* prof. Zoran Mastilo PhD, employed at the University of East Sarajevo, Faculty of Business Economics, Director of the Institute, Vesna Miletić, dipl. oec, independent expert associate, employed at the Institute, Dejan Mastilo, dipl. oec, independent expert associate, employed at the Institute and Dajana Simeunović, dipl. eco, research associate at the Institute. The main issues that were assessed, the main findings of the evaluation and the recommendations are given below

Evaluation is the assessment of a process, which not only determines the values or performance of the issues being assessed, but seeks to quantify and describe those values in order to promote change in a given environment. *Evaluation* is not only an objective description of characteristics, but also an analytical interpretation and recommendations for improving those characteristics. Evaluation therefore has an element of self-judgment and is *activity and change* oriented. It is both of a *descriptive*, and a *regulatory* nature.

Process Evaluation: A process evaluation assesses the steps an individual or organization takes to implement a project, in order to determine the effectiveness and success of the project.

2. Project mission

The mission of the Foundation is to fight for women's and children's human rights as well as the economic empowerment of women. The projects cover Eastern Herzegovina and the respective entity (the Republic of Srpska) in the part related to economic empowerment of women victims of domestic violence as well as the development of social entrepreneurship and securing self-financing of the Foundation ("Women's Centre") through the establishment of cooperatives and organic fig plantations.

The summary evaluation question asked in this evaluation was: What are the successful elements of individual, professional and institutional cooperation among the Project participants and which aspects of the Project should be further improved? A combination of qualitative and quantitative access was used in this evaluation. In the process of data collection, reports, questionnaires, evaluation sheets, individual interviews and discussions with the group were prepared and submitted by the director of the Centre. Case studies were conducted on the spot in the Eastern Herzegovina.

The projects aimed to improve the quality of life of women in the Republic of Srpska, both in the society and in the family, with an emphasis on the extremely underdeveloped region of East Herzegovina.

We also used the internal evaluation of the project, which was performed by the Project Manager, Ms. Ljiljana Čičković, as well as of all the questionnaires, evaluation sheets, reports and information.

3. Findings

Upon examining the (aforementioned) available documents, the Foundation "Women's Centre" Trebinje managed to accomplish the pre-set objectives in the year 2020, thanks to the continuous effort of its staff and volunteers. The given objectives are as follows:

1. During 2020, a support was provided to victims of domestic violence through a psychological counselling service, free legal aid and provision of a "trusted person". Specifically, 391 interventions were provided by means of a psychological counselling service, free legal aid and a "trusted person". The above included 113 women, 2 girls and 4 men. The most common types of violence suffered by the victims were combined forms of psychological, physical and economic violence. The total number of their children amounts to 216 (99 boys and 117 girls). An authorized team invested the maximum effort in encouraging victims to report domestic violence to the respective institutions, as well in building their personal capacity for overcoming the trauma. Seventy-two meetings were held with the members of the Multidisciplinary Team, at which the initiation of several joint actions to provide any synchronize various types of support and assistance to victims, were discussed.
2. The Evaluator noted that a significant effort was used to find employment for the women - victims of domestic violence. In the course of that period, in cooperation with the "Lara" Foundation, assistance was provided in compiling biographies, CVs and the first interview with the employers, as well as in developing business plans. Direct assistance in accessing the labour market was provided to 107 women. The actual result of participation in the Public Invitation for Employment through the Employment Bureau of the Republic of Srpska is employment with the respective employers and certain types of self-employment. The main goal of this activity is to bring women - victims of domestic violence to their economic independence, which is the basic premise of stopping violence against women. Thereby, the stigma of being a "woman victim of domestic violence" is broken, both among the employers and among women - victims of domestic violence.
3. It is important to point out that the Foundation has established cooperation with the "Cure" Foundation, which operates throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina. CURE submitted to the Federal Ministry of Labour a set of measures which includes a proposal for the inclusion of

women - victims of domestic violence in the Public Invitation for Employment and Self-Employment of Vulnerable Categories of Women at the level of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH), which should be included in the FBiH Employment Strategy for 2021/2027. This activity was preceded by "Pitchwise 2020" in September 2020, which was organised by CURE, and where Ms. Ljiljana Čičković held a presentation on the aforementioned topics. The result of the cooperation between these two foundations is the creation of a positive climate related to this issue throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina. During 2020, the Women's Centre prepared a report on good practice both in local and English titled "Guide to the activities of the Women's Centre in Trebinje and its partners / associates to examples of good practice in economic empowerment of women - victims of domestic violence in the Republic of Srpska" which was also distributed both to the foundation CURE and to the Lara foundation.

4. Capacity Building V supported by the Oak Foundation aims to contribute to improving the quality of life of women and children in the underdeveloped region of Eastern Herzegovina. Under this activity, 36 regular meetings of the multidisciplinary team for tackling the issue of domestic violence were held. Activities mainly included provision of direct services to victims of domestic violence: legal assistance, psycho-social counselling, as well as counselling for economic empowerment of women - victims of domestic violence. Through development of social enterprises, activities in establishing social cooperative for organic fig plantation farming were implemented. The above activities also included collard in the year 2020, when 5.000 seedlings of collard were planted. In addition, a greenhouse with a drip irrigation system, cleaning, landscaping and fencing of about 4 hectares of land, digging holes for plants, procurement of tools and of solar panels for water intake and drip irrigation system as well as procurement of a surveillance system with cameras and sensors were implemented in the same year. The planting of two-year-old fig seedlings is planned in the upcoming period.
5. We hereby conclude that in the course of the year 2020 online conferences were held for 13 organizations of informal networks with an agreement that was made regarding the Protocol on the rules of Conduct and Use of SOS Applications for Supporting the Victims of Domestic Violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina
6. During the reporting period, an SOS application was developed for both Android and iPhone smartphones, which includes: (a professional help, counselling and providing information (chat), keeping a file of each person, date when the given person made contact, the reasons, ... and ultimately, the evidence, all the information with contacts and addresses, a map connected to the navigation software, constant monitoring of the phone in case of activation of a "panic key" with the name and surname of the person in question, as well as her/his address (based on the above, the operator informs the nearest police station to send a patrol to that particular location). The application will highlight information on the rights and possibilities of protection of victims and on the respective instructions on how to act in such situations.
7. We would like point out the monitoring performed over the police of the Republic of Srpska, as the "Person of Trust" in the Republic of Srpska was introduced and recognized as a pilot project of the Institute in Bijeljina (initiative holder - Foundation "Lara") and in Eastern Herzegovina ("Women's Centre" Trebinje as a partner). However, certainly the greatest result of this activity is its introduction in the legislative framework of the Republic of Srpska as of 1 May 2020.

8. During the reporting period, a research on femicide in the Republic of Srpska has been initiated and is currently in its final phase. Please note that the research will be bilingual (both in Serbian and English). This will be the first such research in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
9. Throughout the project year, a training for strategic planning was conducted in Neum, which "generated" the Strategic Plan of the Women's Centre for the period 2021/2025.

Ultimately, it can be stated that the set objectives have been achieved in a very successful manner, despite certain financial problems (insufficient budget). We deem that it would be necessary to continue these projects in the upcoming years, to further develop and strengthen the donor network.

A successful cooperation was achieved with all the electronic media in the Republic of Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region of Eastern Herzegovina throughout the entire year, whereas the website of the Foundation has been thoroughly redesigned. The evaluation sheets were processed by the organization manager Ms. Ljiljana Čičković, who deserves great merits and praise for the successful realization of this Project, together with all the other employees of the foundation "Women's Centre" from Trebinje.

4. Evaluation results

Implementation Partner:	Foundation "Women's Centre", Trebinje
Project Name and Number:	Capacity Building V, 2010-OCAJ-125

Scoring system:

1	Unacceptable
2	Poor – significant improvement required
3	Meets certain requirements, but improvements are preferred
4	Meets requirements/expectations
5	Exceeds requirements/expectations

REQUIREMENT

EVALUATION

Communication

The implementation partner works openly and transparently, provides answers to questions, reacts to problems or questions within a timely manner. 1 2 3 4 5

Accuracy / Correctness of Work

The Implementation Partner has achieved the agreed results specified in the IP Agreement. 1 2 3 4 5

Time Frame

The Implementation Partner complied with the deadlines and conditions established in the IP Agreement and, in general, performed its obligations within the defined time frames. 1 2 3 4 5

Periodic and Final Narrative Reports

The Implementation Partner submitted both periodic and final narrative reports in a timely manner. 1 2 3 4 5

Financial Statements

The Implementation Partner submitted detailed financial reports in a timely manner. 1 2 3 4 5

Invoicing Accuracy

The Implementation Partner complied with the Organization's invoicing requirements (e.g., accepted and followed the payment and invoicing terms and conditions existing within the Organization). 1 2 3 4 5

Advance Payments (HFD)

The Implementation Partner has the ability to implement the project without requesting advance payments: Yes [] No []

5. Recommendations

Joint recommendations of the Foundation Manager and the Research Centre "OIKOS" Bijeljina regarding the future engagement of the given Implementation Partner:

- This Implementation Partner **should not be engaged** in implementation for future projects.
- This Partner should be engaged in **smaller and less complex projects**.
- This Partner should be engaged in projects of **similar size and complexity** in the future.
- This Partner should be engaged **even in projects of greater scope and complexity** in the future.

Name and signature:

Prof. Zoran Mastilo, PhD
Director

Oikos institute - Research Centre, Bijeljina
24 March 2021

