Republika e Kosovës
Republika Kosova-Republic of Kosovo
Qeveria –Vlada-Government
Zyra e Kryeministrit-Ured Premijera-Office of the Prime Minister

STRATEGY AND NATIONAL ACTION PLAN

ON CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO 2009-2013

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2009-2013

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Abbreviations

AI	Administrative Instruction
AIDS	Acquired immune deficiency syndrome
ASAC	Albanian School with Additional Classes
CILO	Convention of the International Labour Organization
CNCK	Framework of the New Curriculum for Kosovo
CPD	Convention on the Persons with Disabilities
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CRS	Catholic Relief Services
CRS	Child Rights Strategy
CSW	Centre for Social Work
DISP	Department of the Institute for Social Policies
EPAC	European Partnership Action Plan
EU	European Union
HIV	Humane Immunodeficiency Virus
HRU	Human Rights Units
ICO	International Civilian Office
IEP	Individual Education Programmes
ILO IPEC	International Labour Organization
JJC	Juvenile Justice Code
KCB	Kosovo Consolidated Budget
KCF	Kosovo Curriculum Framework
KCPCL	Kosovar Committee for Prevention of the Child Labour
KCS	Kosovo Correctional Service
KDP	Kosovo Development Plan
KFOS	Kosovo Foundation for Open Society
KJC	Kosovo Judicial Council
KP	Kosovo Police
KPTC	Kosovo Parents Teacher Council
LAC	Local Action Committee
MAFRD	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development
MCYS	Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports
MED	Municipal Education Department
MEF	Ministry of Economy and Finance
MEM	Ministry of Energy and Mining
MESP	Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning
MEST	Ministry of Education, Science and Technology

MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MIA	Ministry of Internal Affairs
MJ	Ministry of Justice
MLGA	Ministry of Local Government Administration
MLSW	Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare
MoH	Ministry of Health
MPS	Ministry of Public Services
MRK	Ministry of Return and Communities
MTEF	Medium Term Expenditure Framework
MTI	Ministry of Trade and Industry
MTT	Ministry of Transport and Telecommunications
MWC	Monitoring Work of the Children
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NIPH	National Institute for Public Health
OI	Ombudsperson Institution
OPM/OGG	Office of the Prime Minister, Office for Good Governance, Human Rights and Equal Opportunities
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
PD	Professional Development
PISG	Provisional Institutions of Self-Government of Kosovo
PS	Probation Service
TES	Towards Effective School
TPM	Teacher Parent Association
TWG	Technical Working Group
UDHR	Universal Declaration on Human Rights
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children Fund
UNKT	United Nations Country Team
UNMIK	United Nations Interim Administration in Kosovo
VEC	Vocational Education Centre
VP	Victim Protection
WG	Working Group
WHO	World Health Organization

Executive Summary

The Government of the Republic of Kosovo has made efforts in working to raise the level of the quality of life for all the children in Kosovo, conceptualising it as a fundamental standard for a democratic society.

With this objective in mind, and in order to respond to new national and international challenges in the areas of children's rights, the Government of the Republic of Kosovo has initiated the process of developing a Strategy and National Plan for Rights of Children for 2009-2013. This initiative has been developed in close cooperation with a large spectrum of partners and reflects a consensus in the scale of priority fields of interest for children.

The Government of Kosovo aims to achieve through this mechanism, international standards of children's rights that are determined with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and also to facilitate an increased efficiency of existing mechanisms and to guarantee that established norms on children's rights are implemented and upheld.

During the whole development process of the first draft, the views of a large spectrum of relevant stakeholders were taken into consideration, from both within the government and from the non-governmental spectrum. This is a call for action, by identifying such a strategy that allows everyone in Kosovo to contribute in different ways and at different times, and that invites all the sections of Kosovan society – governments, organisations and individuals involved and children – in order to develop further this initiative as a joint task.

During the development of the strategy and the determination of priorities, the main principles of the CRC have been taken into consideration: Non Discrimination, Child Participation, and Development of the full potential of the child and the highest Interest of the child.

The strategic document concerning children is composed of two parts: the Strategy and the Action Plan. These documents have included as part of them the Vision and Mission, Objectives, provided an analysis concerning the situation with children's rights in priority fields, like: Governance, Budget, Education, Healthcare, Social Welfare, Juvenile Justice, and other important cross-sectional issues. The Action Plan includes the main objectives that were aimed for, the determined activities, the responsible institutions for the implementation of these activities, the implementation timeline, and the budgetary provisions. For each of the

objectives, indicators are set that will serve as meters for assessing progress in the implementation of strategy measures in the future.

Furthermore, there is consensus amongst all stakeholders involved in the process of drafting of the National Action Plan for the Rights of the Child, that the energy and creativity of children need to be harnessed and put to use in order for them to play an active role in the development of their environment, their society, the world in which they live in now and the world which they will inherit.

Introduction

It is a well known the fact that the development of one's personality during childhood cannot be achieved without respecting individuality and dignity of every child. A child is an independent subject who requires special attention due to their particular mental and physical condition, hence, the best environment for the growth and development of a child is the family.

Therefore, it should certainly be recognised that children's rights are, even though they constitute an autonomous system of standards, human rights which should be applicable in their entirety for children.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child approved by the United Nations defines the basic principles which have been ratified by most of the countries in the world.

Being aware of the importance children's rights have, the Government of the Republic of Kosovo is making efforts to raise the level of a quality life for all children in Kosovo, perceiving them as a fundamental standard of democratic and developed society.

The Republic of Kosovo has included the Convention on the Rights of the Child in its Constitution, which constitutes the widest point of legal reference on children's rights, and with this step it has expressed its readiness and political good will to undertake the fulfilment of international obligations which ensure the realisation of all fundamental and inalienable rights for all the children of the Republic of Kosovo.

The Children's Rights Strategy is a document that identifies the most priority issues which require an immediate intervention, and based on it, maximum effort will be made to ensure child protection and care which are necessary for their wellbeing and development, with the objective of effectively protecting children from all forms of discrimination. While aiming to include objectives which are realistic and implementable, taking into consideration the existing human resource capacities and the budget capabilities and limitations of the Government, the Strategy document will at the same time serve as a flexible document which adapts to circumstances and changes that arise during the implementation process in practice.

With this document the Government of the Republic of Kosovo aims at the priority realisation and guarantee of the four basic principles of the CRC which are: survival, development, protection and participation of children. The Republic of Kosovo, gives particular attention to the protection of best child interests and

respecting the rights of expression of every child which lives and acts in Kosovo.

In general terms Kosovo has made considerable progress towards the establishment of mechanisms concerning the rights of the child and the inclusion of children's rights into local legislation. However, the Government of Kosovo will take additional necessary steps in order to make necessary changes and amendments to the legislation and its compatibility with the legal provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Background

Children and youth in Kosovo

The Republic of Kosovo is known as a country which has the youngest population in Europe. Even though there are no accurate data on the number of children and people of young age (under the age of 18), it is assumed that Kosovo has the youngest population in Europe, and according to evaluations of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), half of Kosovo's population is under the age of 25, while 21 percent of its inhabitants are between the age of 16 to 25.

A census of Kosovo's population has not been undertaken since 1981, hence there are no accurate statistics on its population. However, based on calculations made by the Statistics Office of Kosovo at the end of 2005, it was estimated that Kosovo had a population of 2,069,989 inhabitants.

The UNDP Human Development Report of 2006, which focuses on the youth of Kosovo, draws conclusions that most of them live in poverty, are not educated and are unemployed. Kosovo remains the poorest region of the Balkans and one of the poorest in Europe. Even though the economy began to strengthen since 1999, economic development has been very slow and continues to be unsustainable and fragile.

According to the World Bank Poverty Assessment Study, in 2005, 12 percent of Kosovo's population were estimated to live in extreme poverty (with 0.93 Euro cents per day) and another 37 percent living in relative poverty (surviving on 1.42 Euro cents per day). It appears that poverty does not affect children age groups in the same way in Kosovo: It is estimated that extreme poverty affects 17.3 percent of preschool age children and 19.6 percent of children aged between 6-14 years.

The level of unemployment in Kosovo is high, especially with the youth. Unemployment amongst the youth is very high; it is estimated that 49.5 percent of the youth is unemployed. Unemployment of youth in Kosovo is twice as high as that of the more mature. Every year 30,000 youth join the jobseekers list, while a maximum of 15,000 new jobs are made available each year (The Plan and Strategy Project for the Development of Kosovo).

In addition to this, the political crisis of the nineties in Kosovo has damaged the education system. During the last nine years reforms have been implemented and it appears that we now have higher levels of registrations and education of

children at the primary education level, as 88 percent of the applicable age group were incorporated into primary education during academic year 2005/2006. However, the inclusion level at the secondary and tertiary education levels is very low, at only 74 and 18 percent respectively. Other deficiencies in the education system of Kosovo include the slow implementation of reforms in the educational curriculum and the inadequate quality of teaching methods. The insufficient education of many Kosovo youths and the small number of available jobs in the public and private sectors has an inevitable effect on the inclusion of youth within the informal economy, including organised crime.

In addition to socio-economic factors mentioned above, which affect the youth of Kosovo, the once longstanding undefined political status of Kosovo has created a feeling of insecurity and caused stress amongst the young population, making them experience a period of a "double transition", which means that during the period of passing from childhood to maturity they have passed through the period of political insecurity and transition in Kosovo.

The political, economic and social circumstances in Kosovo also influence the development of its youth, which is affected by poverty and unemployment. These conditions have caused for children to undertake hard labour, exposed them to various forms of exploitation, and frequently put them in conflict with the law; occurrences which have to be assessed and taken into consideration when analysing data on juvenile offenders and also when the juveniles justice system is considered in Kosovo.

While laws and policies incorporate the Convention on the Rights of the Child, there has been no comprehensive evaluation on their application and their effect on the improvement of children's rights, and there is no established system concerning the allocation of general budget dedicated to children's interests.

There is lack of data collection and monitoring mechanisms in order to assess the progress of implementation and identification of gaps in the realisation of children's rights.

Background on the drafting of the strategy document

The idea to have a Strategy document on Children's Rights is one that offers a common vision in making progress in the promotion and protection of children's rights in Kosovo.

In this regard the Government of the Republic of Kosovo has proceeded to cooperate with local and international organisation, especially with those involved in the field of children's rights, with the objective of drafting a Strategic Framework on Children's Rights in Kosovo, through the establishment of a Working Group on the drafting of this strategic document, and on the manner of addressing new national and international challenges.

The development of the Strategy on Children's Rights for the 2009-2011 period has

been accomplished by the Working Group of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo, on the initiative of OPM/OGG in cooperation with children's rights Officers of the HRU of the Government's Ministries, municipal coordinators/ officials on children's rights, UNICEF in Kosovo and in cooperation with other local and international organisations.

The OPM/Permanent Secretary, with special Decision no. 07/6527, of the 30th of July 2007, has formed a Working Group mandated to draft the Strategic Framework (Strategy and National Action Plan) on Children's Rights.

This group was tasked to identify problems facing our society concerning children's rights, specifically in cases of breaches of their rights and also setting action priorities.

With the drafting of the SCR 2009-2013, in parallel to the establishment and harmonisation of the appropriate legislation, the priority fields of action are also set, involving all the institutions of Kosovo in the protection of children's rights. In this way, based on consultations made in multiple meetings and in organised workshops, the determination of priority fields of action was made, as well as the identification of problems to which the attention of governmental institutions should be drawn in order to address these issues in the next five years.

The process of drafting the SCR has taken into consideration developments and requirements from an international perspective. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child recommends and views as basic priorities the following issues: Continuation of the legal reform in parallel to its development and implementation efforts; Ensuring inter-institutional cooperation at the central and local levels aimed at increasing institutional effectiveness; Supporting the participation of the national government in the development and implementation of social policies drafted for the purpose of protecting children's rights; Establishment of a modern database system, which would be well informed or would measure the social wellbeing of children, especially of those children that belong to the (so-called) excluded social groups; Raising public awareness on the importance of children's participation in the decision-making process

The strategy identifies and determines priority tasks, considers the coordination issue between parties concerned, sets deadlines for the accomplishment of many tasks and determines the responsible institutions which will be given different tasks and responsibilities as part of the Strategy implementation. The strategy offers on one side measures for resolving specific problems and on the other measures that aim at improving the general state of children's rights in Kosovo.

The preparation process of the National Action Plan for Children 2009-2013

The National Action Plan for Children 2009-2013 was created as a result of the cooperation between the Governmental institutions of the Republic of Kosovo with a wide and comprehensive spectrum of organisations that are involved with

children's rights. Their involvement and exchange of experiences is a substantial step towards cooperation with non-governmental organisations in the field of establishing policies and supervision of children's rights.

An important element in the process of developing the National Action Plan for Children 2009-2013 was the meetings with different groups involved with children's rights issues, as well as meeting with children and youth themselves.

Furthermore, the National Action Plan for Children 2009-2013 is based on some important documents which have served as important preconditions for the development of this document:

- The Convention on the Rights of the Child;
- The Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo;
- The Strategy and Action Plan on Human Rights in the Republic of Kosovo 2009-2013;
- The Action Plan for European Partnership.

The National Action Plan for Children 2009-2013:

- Establishes objectives and formulates tasks, making possible their achievement aimed at improving the life of children in Kosovo, that ensure their development and provide equal opportunities;
- Determines important actions which have to be implemented in order to harmonise the Kosovan legislation in order for it to accommodate international standards;
- Establishes the path for developing social dialog based on constitutional guarantees of support and partnership of the public administration with its citizens on the implementation of programs beneficial for children.

The implementation of the Action Plan for children means combating any manifestation of intolerance and discrimination of children for whatever reason. The plan proposes the implementation of changes that will enable the improvement of children's lives in Kosovo, through:

- Legal regulation which guarantees the protection and empowerment of children's rights;
- Establishment of institutional mechanisms which coordinate actions for the benefit of children, which originate from their responsibilities in governmental institutions (at local and central levels);
- The continuous coordination of state institutions and citizens for the effective and swift support of a child in any situation;
- The effective utilisation of all the state resources for the implementation of comprehensive programmes aimed at improving the quality of life of citizens, children of Kosovo, which should be considered as the most important beneficiaries.

The priorities

During the determination of priorities, the main principles of the CRC have been taken into consideration: Non Discrimination, Child Participation, and Development of the full potential of the child and the highest Interest of the child.

The National Action Plan for Children 2009-2013 has the character of a strategic document and covers actions for children, which have been specified in some priority fields: governance, education, healthcare, social welfare, delinquency, budgeting and cross-sectional issues.

While determining the above mentioned fields of action, the Action Plan determines the undertaking of steps for resolving problem issues which are a concern of not only Kosovan children, but are the subject of international coalitions between states and non-governmental organisations, which lead to the accomplishment of Millennium Development Goals.

The determination of this form aims at mobilising all the forces in the Republic of Kosovo, as well as the utilisation of the support and experience of other countries, especially the countries of the European Union.

The determination and selection of priorities has been made based on the analysis of the state of children's rights in Kosovo. This has been based on the results derived from a number of workshops held which involved a wide participation and inclusion of relevant actors and factors, as well as the conduct of studies and information gathering from Kosovo government documents, reports and research undertaken by local and international non-governmental organisations in the field of children's rights in Kosovo.

The priorities determine the objectives and actions that require implementation in order to improve the situation for children in Kosovo, and they also determine the need for changing some current legal norms, and other economic changes in the system of governance.

The Vision

Kosovo will be one of the best countries for beginning a healthy life, for children to live and develop their potential.

The Mission

The Government of the Republic of Kosovo has a mission to achieve the complete fulfilment and implementation of international standards in the protection and upholding of children's rights by creating and empowering mechanisms which will ensure that established standards for the protections of children are being implemented and respected, the highest interests of the child are taken into consideration and that the voice of the child is being heard.

In accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Government of the Republic of Kosovo has given particular importance to the recognition of dignity by birth and the rights concerned, as well as offering equal opportunities to all children in the Republic of Kosovo.

The Government of the Republic of Kosovo will undertake continuous efforts for the creation of improved living conditions for children within the family, society, public and private institutions, and in particular the protection of the child from every form of discrimination, violence, abuse, exploitation and dangerous work, in order to ensure a normal life and development of a child.

The Current State of Children's Rights

"The future promise of any nation can be directly measured by the present prospects of its youth", ***JOHN F. KENNEDY***

Governance

The Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo as the highest legal act of the country is based on the highest European and international principles and standards on the protection of human rights, specifically the rights of the child. In this regard there have been a number of achievements. On the aspect of the incorporation of existing legislation, the Convention on the Rights of the Child is included in the list of international instruments which are part of the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo, and despite some shortcomings, most of the new legislation includes the principles and legal provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

LAWS THAT PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO

While there has been important progress in the drafting of primary laws, the drafting of secondary laws, institutional mechanisms and programmes necessary for the implementation of these laws have been slow. The primary laws due to their nature are of a general form. The implementation of legislation in reality requires additional laws, instructions, structures and necessary institutional resources.

1. Law on Family, No. 2004/32;
2. Law on Law on Social and Family Services, No. 02-L-17;
3. Law on Pre-School Education, No. 02-L-52;
4. Law on Primary and Secondary Education in Kosovo, No. 2002/19;
5. Law on Vocational Education and Training, No. 02-L-42;
6. Law on the Inspection of Education in Kosovo, No. 2004/37;
7. Law on Encouragement and Protection of Infants Breastfeeding, No. 02-L-81;
8. The Cultural Heritage Law, No. 2005-07;
9. Juvenile Justice Code of Kosovo, No. 2004-8;

10. Law on Material Support for Families of Children with Permanent Disability,
    No. 03/L-022
11. Law on Education in the Municipalities of the Republic of Kosovo,
    Nr.03/L-068.

ARTICLES OF OTHER LAWS THAT PROTECT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS:

12. Law on Civil Status Registers, No. 2004/49;
13. Kosovo Health Law, No. 2004/4;
14. Law on Rights and Responsibilities of Kosovo Residents in the Health Care System, No. 2004/38;
15. Law on the Social Assistance Scheme in Kosovo, No.2003/15;
16. Essential Labour Law, No. 2001/27;
17. The Anti-Discrimination Law, No. 2004/3;
18. Law on Gender Equality in Kosovo, No. 2004/2;
19. Law on the Independent Media Commission and Broadcasting, No. 02-L-15;
20. Provisional Criminal Code of Kosovo;
21. Provisional Criminal Procedure Code in Kosovo, No.2003/26;
22. Law on Sport, No. 2003/24;
23. Law on Public Health;
24. Law on Communicable Diseases;
25. Tobacco Law, No. 02/L-36;
26. Law on Reproductive Health, No. 02/L-76.

UNMIK REGULATIONS WHICH PROTECT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

27. Regulation on Protection Against International Child Abduction, No. 2004/29;
28. Regulation on Protection Against Domestic Violence, No. 2003-12;
29. Regulation on the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons in Kosovo, No. 2001/4;
30. Regulation on the Free Movement of Persons into and out of Kosovo;
31. Regulation on Criminal Proceedings Involving Perpetrators with a Mental Disorder, No. 2004/34.

From the aspect of establishing mechanisms that are involved in the realisation of children's rights, progress has been made which has allowed the creation and functioning of a range of mechanisms.

One of the largest achievements in this regard is undoubtedly the establishment of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Children's Rights. The Government of the Republic of Kosovo has reached two important decisions in this regard: Decision no. 086, of the 25th of October 2006 and Decision no. 07/46 of the 3rd of December 2008, through which it has established the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Children's Rights which is chaired by the Prime Minister himself. The main objective for the establishment of this mechanism is the protection and promotion of children's rights in Kosovo, in order to place children at the centre of the Government's efforts.

With this mechanism the Government of the Republic of Kosovo aims to achieve international standards of human rights, as well as to assist in the improvement of existing mechanisms and to guarantee that established standards on the rights of the child are implemented and respected.

Within the Office of the Prime Minister specifically the Office of Good Governance, there performs the Children's Rights Officer.

The OPM/Permanent Secretary with special Decision no. 07/5727, of the 30th of July 2007, has formed a Working Group which has been tasked with the drafting of the strategic framework on children's rights.

In every Ministry there is an active unit on human rights, and as part of some of these units there is an appointed official for children's rights. Similarly in 30 Municipalities in the Republic of Kosovo, an official has been appointed in each of them working on children's rights.

On the 15th of December 2005, with decision no. 5/166 of the Prime Minister of Kosovo, the Kosovo Committee on the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labour was established as a coordinating and monitoring body of programmes for the prevention and eradication of child labour being undertaken in Kosovo. The Kosovo Committee is comprised of 15 members, Directors of Directorates in appropriate Ministries, while the Chairperson of this decision-making body on child labour is the Minister of the MLSW.

With decision 01/01, the Kosovo Committee on the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labour established the Technical Working Group (TWG) for the Determination of the List of Dangerous Child Occupations in Kosovo, comprised of representatives of Governmental institutions and medical experts. This working group has a permanent working mandate.

With decision 02/01 of the 12 of June 2006, of the Kosovo Committee on the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labour the established the Working Group on the Monitoring of Child Labour. This working group has a permanent working mandate. The role and responsibilities of the Working Group on the Monitoring of Child Labour consist of the initiation, support, coordination and supervision of the performance of local MCL structures.

However, the network of officers needs to be empowered further in the future, including the implementation of activities aimed at institutional capacity building, and making the Inter-Ministerial Committee functional. Furthermore, making different institutional mechanisms functional, which are involved in children's rights and especially those involved with reporting to international instruments and mechanisms, should be part of the priorities for the period covered by this strategy.

Aiming to ensure best possible contribution to development of Strategy document on Children's Rights in Kosovo, the Government of the Republic of Kosovo has continued to cooperate with local and international organisations, especially with those involved in the field of children's rights, such as UNICEF Office in Kosovo.

IN ORDER TO ADDRESS MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES WITHIN THE PRIORITY AREA OF GOVERNANCE, THE FOLLOWING OBJECTIVES HAVE BEEN DETERMINED:

Objective 1: Implementation and review of current legislation, and promulgation of new legislation on children's rights;

Objective 2: Making functional the Inter-Ministerial Committee on children's rights;

Objective 3: Making fully functional the positions held by Officers for children's rights at the central and local levels;

Objective 4: Establishment of necessary pre-conditions for reporting on the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

Budget for Children

According to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, it is the obligation of state parties to implement the economic, social and cultural rights to the maximum extent allowed by their available resources. This includes the appropriate budgetary analysis aimed at evaluating the effect of the allocated budget for the implementation of children's rights. The allocation of the budget for national and local social programmes should be made in proportion to the general budget, and to ensure that the allocated budget is sufficient for the protection and promotion of children's rights.

IN ORDER TO ADDRESS MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES WITHIN THE PRIORITY AREA OF BUDGET FOR CHILDREN, THE FOLLOWING OBJECTIVES HAVE BEEN DETERMINED:

Objective 1: To conduct an analysis of budgetary requirements for the realisation of children's rights;

Objective 2: To allocate a budget for children in proportion to requirements and the general budget;

Objective 3: To establish procedures that make easier the approval of projects that have a direct effect on the life of children.

Education

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child recognises the right of every child to education. Article 28 and 29 in a clear manner require from state parties to recognise this right. It is a basic right that every child be educated in reading and writing. The education of children includes more than just one right, as education is key to the success of a state or a developed society, a powerful concept for the development of democracy, justice, equality, science, social and economic development. Education is a key unit in the war against poverty and the radical improvement of peoples living conditions.

In the context of eradicating poverty and unemployment, identified as large problems in Kosovo, it is an imperative to fulfil the basic educational requirements for the whole population, the objective of which would be quality education and eradication of illiteracy.

Discrimination in education can exist in different ways and different levels: in policies and laws, organisational practices or the conduct of professionals or the community in general. As it pertains to education, the most apparent problems in Kosovo include:

- ***Non-enrolment and school dropout by children***

The compulsory nine-year education and the dropping-out from school by children, continues to be a concern for institutions of the government, as well as for the Kosovan society.

It is the stated political willingness and vision of Kosovo institutions that all the children in the Republic of Kosovo to be enrolled into schools. Additionally, particular attention is being paid to prevention of school dropouts by children, dropouts from school by girls, integration of children with special needs and the children of the RAE community.

The main cause for the manifestation of this occurrence in Kosovo is mainly the economic factors, however, pupils' dropout from school due to different reasons like: lack of security, transportation, etc. Other factors which influence the lack of quality in education are: school buildings which do not meet basic requirements for progressive work; lack of laboratories and educational material; insufficient supply of school textbooks (libraries); inadequate motivation of teachers and parents, etc.

The MEST in cooperation with its partners (UNICEF, CRS) has prepared and implemented projects aimed at preventing dropouts and reacting against this negative occurrence. In this framework, the manual "Strategies Package", a guideline for considering the school dropout problem, has been distributed throughout schools in Kosovo. The same project has been implemented with Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian (RAE) pupils.

The data sheet on the dropout rate at the pre-university education level indicates that schools and students are being faced with this problem, against which action is needed continuously in order for us to ensure for our children the right to education.

DROPOUTS BY GENDER AND ACADEMIC YEAR.

Academic Year	Total	School Dropouts	Male	Female
2002/03	340 257	5682 (1.67%)	3075 (54%)	2607 (46%)
2003/04	354 918	5703 (1.61%)	2654 (47%)	3049 (53%)
2004/05	355339	4141 (1.17%)	1932 (47%)	2209 (53%)

In 2006-2007 from a total of 300,703 pupils (1-9 grade), 2,431 have dropped out or 0.81 percent, while 1,483 of these were girls. In 2007-2008 from a total of 322,107 pupils, 2,250 or 0.69 percent have dropped out from school, of which 1170 or 0.36 percent were girls.

At the higher secondary level of education, during the 2005/05 academic year, the total number of pupils was 68,976. During this academic year the number of dropouts was 1,428 or (2.07 percent), specifically 982 or 67 percent boys and 446 or 33 percent girls.

The number of pupils that have dropped out of secondary education: broken-down by gender and academic year.[1]

Academic year	Total	School Dropouts	Male	Female
2002/03	66968	1554 (2.32%)	992 (64%)	562 (36%)
2003/04	68361	2433 (3.56%)	1570 (65%)	863 (35%)
2004/05	68976	1428 (2.07%)	982 (67%)	446 (33%)

The data collected over the years indicates a decrease in the number of pupils dropping out of school, even though current figures give reason for concern.

In 2006-2007 from a total of 84,297 pupils (10-13 grade), 2,425 pupils or 2.9 percent have dropped out of school, of which 821 were girls, while in 2007-2008 from a total of 90,180 pupils, 3,321 or 3.7 percent have dropped out of school, of which 892 or 2.2 percent were girls.

In order to find a solution or decrease the problem of school dropouts there needs to be a closer and more effective cooperation between the parents and teachers, as well as between the schools – community – local government.

1 Statistics Unit, MEST

An important role would be played by the evaluation of the current situation in rural and urban zones, as well as of other problems which our population faces in the aspect of: preventing school dropouts by children; establishment of national policies to increase the enrolment of minority children in schools, and ensuring equal access and quality in education.

- *VIOLENCE IN SCHOOLS*

Violence against children is an infringement of children's rights. No type of violence against children is justifiable. It is a clearly stated position of governmental institutions that violence in schools will not be tolerated.

However, despite many institutional, regional and international efforts towards the protection of children's rights, violence against children still remains apparent.

Violence can leave severe psychological consequences for a very long time in the life of children, irrespective in what type of form it appears, starting from that of physical harm, sexual abuse and torture, callous or discriminatory punishment, or any other type of punishment that violates the dignity of the child. Due to these and other reasons more effective legal protection should exist and mechanisms for assisting the victims of school violence.

If a child is a victim of violence then there are chances that the child will have various consequences that will lead to loss of confidence, loss of self respect, heightened distress, loss of will to continue with education, appearance of psychosomatic symptoms, as well as being predisposed for a future occurrence or depression. Similarly those children who commit abusive acts while at school, according to well known studies, are five times more likely to end up in crime statistics by the time they become 30.

In the period of May-September 2005 a study of violence in schools was undertaken, a study based on the rights of children and the right to their protection from any form of violence. The study was a joint effort of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST), UNICEF and other resources (Care International and Prism). The subjects of the study were: the children, teachers and parents. The objective of this study was to investigate the nature and spread of violence against children in Kosovan schools, and to gain better knowledge of the problem in order to ensure a more effective prevention and intervention.

Based on the results of the study it emerges that here as in other countries of the world there is physical violence against children, pupils, and even between pupils which is more frequent. All the interviewed groups gave clear evidence that violence is present in schools, including physical punishment by teachers. This is an important conclusion as is indicates the presence of a situation which needs to be considered in order for education in Kosovo to reach acceptable standards.

In the Kosovan context we view this issue in parallel to the increase of the level of respect and advancement of children's rights in the family, school and in other environments in which we have difficulties due to the consequences of war and the economic hardship in Kosovo, which are the main factor reflecting on the violation of rights.

Schools cannot accomplish their roles as institutions of learning and socialisation if they do not offer children an environment free of bullies, shaming, oppression, punishment and abuse.

In order to eradicate all forms of violence in schools a range of activities and measures need to be implemented. In this regard, in addition to institutional measures, the implementation of anti-violence against children campaigns in school would be of a special importance, which would enable the increase of awareness, education and capacities to say no to violence, and would at the same time inform the public on children's rights and would alter current positions and conduct.

Importance should be given to the strictest possible implementation of the law on primary and secondary education which would prohibit physical punishment or any other form of degrading punishment in all the educational institutions, and would require reasonable steps to be taken to protect pupils from injuries or exposure to any offensive language or action.

A psychology service should be part of the education system in all the primary and secondary schools, while the aim of the psychology service would be the promotion of mental and physical wellbeing of pupils, and facilitation of the learning process. This service would be beneficial in assisting pupils to overcome age-related problems, relations with the family and friends, difficulties in learning and in examinations, etc.

- *EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES*

The integration in schools of pupils with special needs should be considered as a necessary process of any modern educational system. The Convention on the Rights of the Child guarantees to every child with limited mental of physical abilities a normal and comfortable life, in conditions that guarantee his/her dignity, and which encourage their autonomy and facilitate their active participation in the life of the community (Article 23).

In Kosovo, based on a number of studies it is estimated that the overall number of children with disabilities is close to 15,000, while of this number only about 877 attend school. From this we see clearly that the participation of these children in education is very small, which means that the current level of education for children with disabilities still does not guarantee sufficient rights to these children.

Realistically, the Ministry of Education is making efforts to reduce the problem in general through the reform of strategies and educational policies, in order to make it easier for all children with disabilities to integrate into the regular education system, by creating the most suitable environment, and in this way provide them with equal educational opportunities.

One of the fields which require more work is the identification of the requirements of children with disabilities, in order to determine the educational category in which these children should be enrolled, and to better determine the manner in which they are integrated into regular education.

In the processes of identifying the requirement of children with special needs, the parents have a very important role to play, as they know the special needs of their own children. In this regard it is important to mention that often there is lack of support from the parents, which is very important for the integration of their children, as there are cases where parents do not enrol children with disabilities in schools at all, making impossible the human development of their children.

This problem is a consequence of a range of other economic and budgetary limitation problems, as well as other aspects of deficiencies in human resources and adequate infrastructure. Additionally, the lack of adequate multi-disciplinary commissions and of a psychologist in schools, which during the enrolment of children in schools would determine their needs and would offer during the whole time their expertise and assistance on the development and with difficulty issues of the child.

In 2001-2002 the number of special schools was seven and the number of pupils attending them was 522, of which 343 or (68 percent) were male and 160 or (32 percent) were women, all of whom have different types of disabilities. (EMIS, World Bank 2001).

With the establishment of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology in 2002/2003 the first steps were made in the direction of integrating children with special needs through the establishment of attached classes as part of regular schools. In that year 34 attached special classes were opened throughout Kosovo municipalities and this measure resulted in the increase of children with special needs attending school.

From year to year the number of attached classes has increased and in the following we have included data on the last academic year. In the 2007-2008 academic year, in 6 special schools and in 70 attached classes, the following number of pupils with special needs that have been enrolled:

Total	877 (M: 555 & F: 322)
Pre-school	16 (M: 10 & F: 6)
Primary	785 (M: 495 & F: 290)
Secondary	76 (M: 5 & F: 26)

From the figures presented above it is apparent that from 441,664, the overall number of children in pre-university education, 877 are pupils with special needs, which means that the number of children with special needs included in the education system remains low, and it can be concluded that primary education needs to be made mandatory and free of charge for all the children with special needs, as well as ensuring free transportation for this category of children for both those at lower and medium school grades.

- *PRESCHOOL EDUCATION*

Preschool education represents the basis for the education of an individual. According to the CRC, Article 28 and 29, education has a clear objective of developing the full potential of a personality, of mental and physical talents and abilities of a child. In this way preschool education is a very important part of the overall education of a child and of the individual in general.

It is a well known fact that an inadequate preschool education has a negative effect on many factors, like: the drop in the rate of enrolments at primary schools, weakening of the intellectual development of a child, hindering of their ability to achieve greater success at school, etc. Preschool education has a special and irreplaceable importance in the psycho-physical development of a child; therefore, a large investment in the preschool level of education needs to be a must.

Many studies show the importance of investment in preschool education, like:

- A small investment in preschool education will in the future increase the value of the investment by many times;
- The efficiency of learning in other levels of education is increased by above 30 percent;
- Reduces the possibility of pupils dropping out of school;
- Early investments are more efficient and less costly; etc.

The parents play a key role in the upbringing and wellbeing of children, who should protect and support their children during all their lives. Many parents are not aware or not informed on the importance of pre-school education of their children, and they believe that education begins when their child enrols in school full-time, and for this reason they do not offer the necessary dedication to their children.

There remain large challenges with which the preschool education system is faced in Kosovo, which includes: the low enrolment rate of children in preschool education and especially of children with special needs; Unqualified personnel which works with preschool children; the operation of private preschool educational institutions which are unlicensed; lack of professional assistance for public and private preschool institutions and preschool classes; the considerably low enrolment of children with disabilities in preschool education; lack of experts at the level of preschool education; etc.

Preschool education in Kosovo is organised based on international classification standards on the level of education. Pre-school/primary education is organised as follows:

- Childcare / kindergartens for children of 9 months to 3 years of age,
  a)Infants of 9 months up to 3 years of age;
  b)Children of 3 to 6 years of age.

- Preschool education for children of 5 to 6 years of age.

As it is regulated by law, the institutional care which is provided for children of 9 months to 6 years of age is part of the educational system in Kosovo. Preschool education (children aged 5-6) is not compulsory even though it is considered as a right of all children, even of those with special needs. The education process is conducted in public and private institutions licensed for preschool education. During the 2006/07 academic year the number of preschool institutions was 44:33 of central (main) institutions and 12 satellite schools. Figures show a small growth from previous years. In the 2004/05 academic year there were 32 institutions, 28 main and 4 satellite, while in 2005/06 academic year there were 43 institutions, 32 main and 11 satellite.

The number of children in preschool education: brake-down based on type of institution, academic year, and gender[2]:

ACADEMIC YEAR	INSTITUTIONS	TOTAL NUMBER	MALE	FEMALE
2000/2001	Childcare / pre-school	21,427	13,793	7,634
2004/2005	Childcare/ kindergarten	7,076	3,644 (51.50%)	3,432 (48.50%)
2004 / 2005	Pre-school/primary Education	17,596	9,216	8,380 (
	Total	**26,140**	**13,574**	**12,566 (48.07%)**
2005/2006	Childcare/ kindergarten	5,108	2,579	2,579 (50.49 %)
2005 / 2006	Pre-school/primary Education	20,750	10,789	9,961
	Total	**25,858**	**13,318**	**12,540**
2006/2007	Childcare/ kindergarten	5,051	2,688/	2,368 (46.78%)
2006/2007	Pre-school/primary Education	21,089	10,886	10,203
	Total	**26,140**	**13,574**	**12,566**

Preschool education in Kosovo should be made an important priority as it pertains to education; this requires the implementation of the Law on pre-school education and the drafting of standards and instructions on the physical environment and the contents of early child education programmes.

2 Statistics Unit, MEST

Preschool institutions should be built in a special manner in order to fulfil the general requirements of children, and they should have capacity to offer preschool programmes, which would help in the creation of a child's personality until they enrol in primary school.

The main objective of preschool institutions in Kosovo should be the upholding of children's rights, provision of care, social and healthcare protection of the child, creation of hygiene habits and social conduct habits, awareness of the environment, gaining basic speaking abilities, development of mental operations and abilities, development of imagination, development of elementary language and math concepts, development of art and musical expression, physical development through playing games, etc. Whereas, amongst other things, preschool education should enable children in learning basic elements of reading, writing, counting and calculating.

Preschool institutions, both those pubic and those private which are licensed, should work based on a curriculum, which should fulfil the highest standards of child education.

- *GENDER DISCRIMINATION AT SCHOOL*

Gender equality is a basic right of citizens, which is something that requires overcoming gender barriers and differentiation which our society is faced with, the development and improvement of institutional mechanisms for the inclusion of gender issues in public policies and strategies, for the accomplishment of gender equality, and the prevention of gender discrimination at school.

By non-discrimination we understand that there should not be any direct or indirect discrimination against the child, based on gender, age, language, physical or mental inability, nationality, religion or faith, ethnic or social background, race, etc. In order to combat of prevent gender discrimination in schools work needs to be done in reforming the educational system, with the aim of increasing the scale of effective equality and the equal treatment of children at school.

Even though the MEST has worked on the reform of the educational system in increasing the quality through changes in the curriculum, training of teachers, promotion of human/child rights, there are studies that speak of the need to intervene in order to address gender issues, especially in the integration of a gender perspective in the school textbooks.

Furthermore, we should aim at raising public awareness, and especially of caretakers-teachers in the prevention of gender discrimination at school, and improving their information on the importance and role of gender equality.

- *THE NEED FOR AN ACCESSIBLE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT AND FREE OF BARRIERS*

The reform process requires the offering of a curriculum that develops the child psychologically, physically, socially and emotionally, while the physical

infrastructure is a precondition for the implementation of the educational curriculum reform.

Schools need to be modern and have adequate space of sport facilities and gyms, be equipped with didactic materials and laboratory classrooms, which would enable comfort for both pupils and teachers during the learning process. Focus needs to be given to the creation of education and learning facilities inside and outside of the school. Sports areas should be constructed in school yards which would be used during pupils' free-time, which should be constructed with care in order for the children not to be physically injured.

However, the school infrastructure should initially fulfil the elementary needs, like: schools need to be constructed in safe environments where the safety and wellbeing of the child is not at risk; they need to have a water supply system, a heating system and a sewage system.

The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology has declared the improvement of school infrastructure as its priority for 2008, and is working quite actively in this regard.

However, the school infrastructure in Kosovo has many deficiencies, like: there are up to four shifts in one school and as a result of this overload the quality of education is of a low order; there is lack of spaces, laboratories and school equipment; mainly in the rural settlements school transportation is very difficult, long distances between the school and homes, unsafe and inappropriate roads for walking to school; there are still many school that do not fulfil the necessary standards and criteria in order for all the children to have access to them, and the hardest hit in this case are children with special needs, etc.

Taking into consideration that in accordance with the Law on primary and secondary education, (Article 19), resolving of school infrastructure issues is the responsibility of the MEST and of the Municipalities, therefore, the MEST and Municipal Departments of Education (MDE) should ensure that school buildings and their complementary infrastructure are compatible with the needs and request of pupils without any differences, so that all children have access to schools.

In order to address most important issues within the priority area of EDUCATION, the following objectives have been determined:

Objective 1: Inclusion of all children in primary education;

Objective 2: Larger inclusion of children with disabilities;

Objective 3: Prevention and combating of violence in schools;

Objective 4: Integration of RAE children in schools;

Objective 5: School dropouts;

Objective 6: Increasing the inclusion of children in preschool institutions;

Objective7: Creation of mechanisms for supporting talented children.

Healthcare

"Many things in this life can wait, but not a child, we cannot tell him tomorrow, his time is today" – G. Mistral

Preserving and improving health conditions of the pregnant, of the newborn and of the infant

The wellbeing and survival of children and mothers should not be considered important only from the human rights point of view, but should rather represent a core solution to the biggest challenge of the state, like economic, social and development ones in general.

According to the CRC, specifically Article 3.3 the state party needs to undertake measures so that institutions, services and centres which are responsible for the care and protection of children are acting in accordance with standards set by competent authorities, especially in the field of security, healthcare, number and skills of their personnel and the necessary controls.

Article 24.2 of the CRC, determines that the state needs to undertake necessary measures:

a) To lower the mortality rate of infants and children;

b) To ensure for all children the necessary medical assistance and healthcare, by putting emphasis on the development of primary healthcare;

c) To combat diseases and malnourishment, and as part of primary healthcare through the use of, amongst other things, easily achievable techniques and ensuring adequate food products and clean drinking water, having in mind the risks of pollution to the natural environment;

d) To ensure for mothers the adequate medical care, before and after labour;

e) To ensure that all social groups and especially parents and children receive information, have the possibility of education and are supported in using basic knowledge on the healthcare and nourishment of a child, on the advantages of breastfeeding, hygiene and healing of the environment and prevention of accidents;

f) To develop preventive healthcare, parental counselling, education and services in the field of family planning.

One of the priorities and challenges of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo, specifically the Ministry of Health, is the improvement of health conditions in the population, with a particular focus on the improvement of health conditions of the mother and child.

Lowering the mortality rate of the newborns, infants and children up to the age of 5

The right to healthcare services, Article 24 of the CRC regulates the rights of a child to medical care and stipulates: "State Parties recognize the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to facilities for the treatment of illness and rehabilitation of health. State Parties shall strive to ensure that no child is deprived of his or her right of access to such health care services".

Therefore, state parties follow the implementation of this right by taking adequate measures to lower the mortality rate of infants, to ensure medical assistance and care at the primary level, to ensure services for mothers before, during and after labour, to ensure information, education and basic knowledge for all, concerning nourishment and breastfeeding.

During the recent years the level of quality of healthcare in Kosovo has been in the increase and has allowed a considerable decrease of the mortality rate of mothers and children. However, Kosovo continues to be one of the states with the highest rate of infant mortalities in Europe.

Additionally, the Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo has approved and has pledged to fulfil obligations that stem from the Millennium Declaration, in which two other components are included that are directly connected with the rights of the child: lowering their mortality rate and ensuring basic education.

The protection and care for mothers – antenatal care, is one of the basic conditions for a normal birth of an equally healthy newborn. In this regard Kosovo has accomplished encouraging results by considerably decreasing the mortality rate of mothers and infants, owing to the increase of healthcare and public awareness. However, the quality of healthcare is not satisfactory and studies show that there is room for improvements.

The mortality rate of infants and mothers is the highest in the region, but improvements have been made, like:

- The perinatal mortality rate in 2000 was 29.1‰, while in 2007 this was 20.0 ‰.,
- The foetal mortality rate in 2000 was 14.5‰, while in 2007 this was 11.3‰; the early neonatal mortality rate in 2000 was 14.8‰, while in 2007 this was 8.8‰.,

- The maternal mortality rate in 2000 was 23.1/100,000, while in 2007 this was 10.7/100.000, etc.

This improvement is a result of many factors in action and measures undertaken by the Government, the Ministry of Health and the healthcare institutions themselves.

The achievements in the immunisation system have resulted in not having a single case of poliomyelitis and also of morbil. However, the presence of Tuberculosis, Measles and Gastroenteritis etc. remains to be disturbing.

The most common diseases which are causes of death with children (especially of the RAE community but also of others) remain to be: acute respiratory diseases, diarrhoea and other infectious diseases.

Therefore, Kosovo is improving on activities that are connected with improvements in medical prevention, in combating the abuse of illicit substances, reproductive healthcare and healthcare education.

The consolidation and fair distribution of the healthcare institution network will have an effect in the decrease of the mortality rate of newborns, infants and children up to the age of 5. Similarly, the uncovering, reporting and autopsy of all death cases of children will improve the medical treatment and will decrease mortality in the future.

Improving access to healthcare and provision of equal quality for all children

Article 1 of the CRC emphasises that we understand with the notion of child, every human being under the age of 18, with the exception of cases where maturity is reached earlier, in accordance with legislation to which the child is subject.

The General Assembly of the United Nations with Resolution No. 41 has approved the Declaration on the Right to Development, specifically Article 8 emphasises that: States are obliged to undertake all necessary measures at the internal level to implement the right to development and to ensure equal opportunity in access to basic resources, education, healthcare, nutrition, residence, shelter, work and equal distribution of income. For the eradication of all social injustices, economic and social reforms need to be implemented which would have budget implications.

In the Republic of Kosovo the right to healthcare is regulated on the basis of the Law on Healthcare. The legal basis, specifically Article 22, ensures free medical care in public healthcare institutions for children and young people up to the age of 15. However, a deficiency of this law is that irrespective of children or young people being or not being students, they should enjoy the right to be afforded free medical care by the public healthcare institutions up to the age of 18.

The Ministry of Health is making efforts to ensure healthcare which are accessible

and adequate to the whole region of Kosovo, both in urban and rural areas, for all the socio-economic classes of the population.

While in a Correctional Facility, child delinquents shall be provided with healthcare services that are equivalent to those in civil healthcare institutions, in accordance with International Health Standards (Recommendations of the Council of Europe for Health in Prisons).

According to the assessment of the quality of paediatric services in Kosovo, undertaken in 2005, the results show that in the secondary level, laboratory capacities and supply with necessary drugs yet remain suboptimal; many problems derive from the absence of protocols, inability to have continuous doctor/professional education and limited access to international literature.

However, in this regard there still remains a large amount of work to be done in different aspects, like: a better redistribution of professional paediatricians and neonatologists throughout Kosovo; improving of the scientific level of health staff through continuous professional development; improvement of the quality of healthcare in public and private institutions; improvement and integration of the structures of health services in there levels of care; improvement of the quality of data capturing and processing and continuous monitoring and evaluation; activation of ambulance services in schools, especially the dental ones; ensuring good healthcare for children with disabilities and abandoned children, such as campaigns and children outside of institutions, etc.

In addition to good will, human resource potential and skills of the medical personnel, the quality of medical care is not satisfactory, as it is directly affected by the conditions of inadequate equipment, which is apparent in the healthcare institutions of Kosovo.

Humanisation of hospitals during the recuperation and treatment of children

It is very important and a fundamental right that a sick child be treated in hospital facilities which imitate the family-home environment.

There are many activities that enable a transformation and such an approach in our hospitals and the continuation of programmes like "The infant friendly institution", "the child and youth friendly institution", "For a child's smile in the hospital", "Open hospitals", "Hospitals with play gardens for sick children", etc. would undoubtedly have an effect in decreasing treatment staying period in hospitals, and in their humanisation.

Protection and advancement of youth's health

The CRC emphasises that the state parties need to afford every child the right to be under the care, protection and physical or mental treatment, the right to a periodical examination of this treatment and all other circumstance related to his/her placement (Article 25).

Another important point is educational activities from the fields of preservation of reproductive health and sexual health protection from sexually transmitted infectious diseases, HIV/AIDS, unwanted pregnancies, use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco etc. By drafting national plans to ensure the use of contraceptives, by offering assistance to victims of violence, by establishing centres that offer rehabilitation services for the users of drugs and alcohol, and working to prevent suicides, which is an increasing occurrence.

The Government of the Republic of Kosovo, with the objective of providing care, protection, regulation, advancement and improvement of the medical condition of Kosovo citizens, has approved the Law on Healthcare, (which requires advancement), in order to bring a legal basis for the protection and advancement of the youth's health.

As we know, social changes directly affect the changes of views and behaviours of humans. As the youth of Kosovo is faced increasingly and on a daily basis with large economic and social changes, noticeable changes are being seen in their beliefs, views and behaviours.

According to GYTS-it 2004 about one third of (2622=37 percent of all pupils surveyed reported that they sometimes smoke cigarettes. One fifth (20.9 percent) of pupils have at least once smoked cigarettes and have done so before age of 10. According to level of education more than a third of school pupils surveyed have smoked cigarettes (37.0 percent) whereas in secondary schools over half of respondents (53.9 percent). In the future we can have an increase of diseases related to smoking in Kosovo the preparation and prevention programmes are a must for children in schools and outside schools, but also other interventions to cease smoking. An initial activity will be the beginning of the implementation of the Law on Tobacco.

According to the study "Knowledge, Attitudes, Practices and Behaviour Study on HIV/AIDS with Young People in Kosovo" conducted by the UNKT, it is clear that the age of sexual initiation and that of drug use is falling quickly amongst the Kosovan youth.

Amongst the factors that influence and accelerate the manifestation and spreading of these negative occurrences are: the high level of unemployment amongst the youth, large numbers of migration in countries of Western Europe, insufficient knowledge of HIV, STDs and consequences of drug use, lack of recreational facilities, etc.

Different from other states of the world, the youth of Kosovo has a low rate of infections with HIV/AIDS. However, most of the risk factors that affect the spread of HIV/AIDS are also present in Kosovo, like: limited knowledge on HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases which are key risk factors, Kosovo is in the East

European region which is characterised as a zone with a rising epidemic of HIV, the number of drug users is on a daily increase, predispositions to be infected with HIV, Hepatitis B and C, all of which are highly present with youth that injects drugs and uses common syringes, and the high level of human trafficking.

In order to prevent the spread of these negative occurrences a range of measures needs to be undertaken, like: to organise programmes, debates, television campaigns through which the young would receive accurate and credible information, which would enable full and proper awareness on HIV and AIDS, and incorporate it into the educational curriculum, lectures or additional classes aimed at improving and widening the knowledge of young people on the promotion of health, etc.

In order to address most important issues within the priority area of HEALTH, the following objectives have been determined:

Objective 1: Preserving and improving health conditions of the pregnant, of the newborn and of the infant;

Objective 2: Reducing the mortality rate of the newborns, infants and children of up to 5 years of age;

Objective 3: Decreasing of the child mortality and consequences from the injuries;

Objective 4: Improving access to healthcare and provision of equal quality for all children;

Objective 5: Encouragement and support of an active participation of children in the creation, implementation and attendance in programmes and prevention measures;

Objective 6: Encouragement of modern forms of humanisation of hospitals during the recuperation and treatment of children;

Objective 7: Protection and advancement of young people's health;

Objective 8: Health protection through provision of the healthy food.

Social Welfare

Offering services to children without parental care

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child stipulates that family has the primary responsibility for the upbringing and development of the child; it shall preserve the best interests of the child and insists that whenever possible, children shall be brought up in their families (Article 18).

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child also stipulates that States Parties shall ensure that the institutions, services and facilities responsible for the care or protection of children shall conform to the standards established by competent authorities, particularly in the areas of safety, health, in the number and suitability of their staff, as well as competent supervision (Article 3).

The best interests of the child are upheld when the needs for their physical and psychological development are met within the child's natural family. Therefore, the institutions that are involved in the protection of families need to undertake efforts to promote the wellbeing of children within their biological families by offering social care and counselling.

Factors that hinder the adequate realisation of children's rights: Absence of a social policy on prevention and support; absence of full legislation on the protection of children's rights who are without parental care; deficiencies or difficulties in offering social services; or the absence of supervisory structures in existing childcare services.

Only in circumstances where there is reason to suspect that a child is suffering physical or mental abuse, or that the child is at risk of something similar within their families, can the removal of the child from parental care be considered.

Based on current applicable legislation in the Republic of Kosovo it is in the best interest of the child for it to be brought up and develop in his biological family (his/her parents).

According to practices of different countries, children without parental care are all those children: the parents of whom have died; parents of whom have been declared unknown; parents of whom have been declared missing; children that have been abandoned by parents; the parents of whom have been denied the right of parenthood based on a final decision of a court of law.

The CRC requires that children be placed with social care institutions only when there is no other solution and when this action would be the best possible solution for the interest of the child, otherwise the CRC requires measures to be taken to prevent the placement of children in social care institutions, as well as for children who are placed/sheltered temporarily with social care institutions to be removed from there as soon as possible and returned to their biological family or to be placed in family shelter.

According to legal provision of the Republic of Kosovo determined by the Law on the Family in Kosovo, (Article 156) which gives this legal definition: "Children without parental care are considered to be children the parents of whom are not alive; the parents of whom are unknown or are missing". Additionally, children without parental care are also considered "children the parents of whom for any reason, in a temporary or permanent manner fail in their conduct of parenting duties of parental care".

The principles of protecting a child without parental care are regulated with Article 157, of the Law on the Family, according to which children without parental care are entitled to special social care.

The following are part of the basic forms of legal and family protection of children without parental care within the Law on the Family: custodianship; family shelter; residential shelter and adoption.

The Centre for Social Work offers social care and/or counselling in circumstances where a child requires social and family services. The following are considered part of this category:

- Children without parental care;
- Children the parents of whom, due to their way of life, inability, physical or mental sickness, psycho-social problems, addictions or other reasons, have difficulties in offering an adequate level of care and supervision for them;
- Children with disabilities or with mental conditions;
- Children with disabilities or physical conditions;
- Children with behavioural problems;
- Children with delinquent behaviour;
- Children that have been abused or neglected due to deteriorated family relations;
- Children who are victims of domestic violence, trafficking, sexual crimes, etc.

According to the Law on Social and Family Services, the Centre for Social Work has the mandate of the Custodian Authority, based on the service which aims at protecting children in conditions of social need.

Forms of protection for children in conditions of social need are:

Custodianship – For every child which is without parental care, the Centre for Social Work (CSW) implements custodianship as a basic form of protection. The custodian is authorised to protect and care for the child or children for whom he/she becomes a custodian. The Custodian is recruited by the Centre for Social Work (CSW). After the decision is made, the CSW and the custodian take obligations and responsibilities determined by the Law.

Family shelter – is a basic form of protection for children without parental care, of abused and neglected children, which for one reason or another cannot be brought up and develop in their biological families. This form of protection is regulated with currently applicable legislation in Kosovo. Specifically, with the Law on the Family, Law on Social and Family Services, Administrative Instruction No. 16/2004 and the annex proposal (No. 04/2005) which regulates the issues of payments for family shelter.

In this context there two types of family shelters: Family shelter within the family (with relatives), and Family shelter outside the family (not with relatives).

Family reunion – Reflects the activities undertaken by the Centre for Social Work aimed at improving the deteriorated family circumstances, which has the primary objective of the return and reunion of families (abandoned, abused, trafficked) and mature and aged persons in a friendly and safe environment within the family. In cases of inability to ensure a family reunion the CSW seeks other alternatives.

Residential shelter – the temporary and short term shelter in a shelter (residential) home for children without parental care, who have been abused or neglected, children who are victims of domestic violence, children who are victims of trafficking and sexual crimes. Residential shelter is an alternative form of protection in cases where a family reunion or family shelter cannot be realised.

Adoption – remains as a solution when a child cannot return to its own biological family. Adoption gives the child a new family and permanent family with residence and protection rights as in a biological family. With the establishment of Adoption as a form of protection for children without parental care, family relations are established between the adopted and the adopters, specifically between the adopters and persons in kinship on one side and between the adopted and his/her offspring on the other. This involves relationships with all the rights and obligations as a child born in wedlock.

In the period covered by this strategy, the Law on Family and Family Social Services should continue to regulate and further specify the provisions and standards associated with a range of issues, such as:

- Setting priorities in the development of detailed procedures for the Court and Setting Panel for Housing and Sheltering of the Child;
- Standards for family support services offered by the CSWs, and NGOs;
- Standards and criteria for approval of the guardianship/adoption families and adopting parents;
- Standards and procedures for monitoring children in all forms of alternative care;
- Form or procedures where children who are under the alternative care can complain. (i.e. complaints system for children as assistance telephone lines);
- Standards or criteria established by the competent organs may separate the child from his biological parents;
- Definition and specification of standards for the types and quality of support services offered to children victims and their families;
- Determining the national scale relevant professional qualifications of personnel in all institutions for children which investigate and evaluate maltreatment against children, safety, health, etc.;
- Detailed instructions or standard operating procedure for police, prosecutors, judges, social workers and others who conduct interviews, examination, collection of evidence and support services for all children victims and witnesses.

Protection of children from performing hard labour and any other form of economic exploitation

The United Nations Convention, specifically article 32 determines that children have the right to protection from economic exploitation and the conduct of any type of work that represents a risk, or that infringes on his/her education, or is hazardous to his/her health and physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development.

According to the Convention of the International Labour Organisation (CILO), in No. 138, child labour is considered to be every economic activity which is conducted by a child, and which deprives the child from his/her childhood, potential, dignity and damages his/her physical, psychological and moral development.

Additionally the CILO in No. 182 lists forms of child labour which should be eradicated with priority for children under the age of 18, irrespective of the level of poverty in a given country. According to the CILO the hardest forms of child labour from which they should immediately be withdrawn are:

a) All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, like the sale or trafficking of a child, forced labour that includes the exploitation of a child in armed conflicts;

b) Exploitation or offering of a child for the purposes of prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances;

c) Exploitation or offering of a child for illegal activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in relevant international treaties;

d) Labour which from its nature or circumstances in which it is conducted can damage the health, security and morality of a child.

As in many other countries of the world, in Kosovo also, the occurrence of labour and abuse of children is quite common and remains as one of the more disturbing issues in the country.

For these and other concerns, on the 15th of December of 2005, with decision no. 5/166 of the Prime Minister of Kosovo, the "Kosovo Committee for the Prevention and Eradiation of Child Labour" was established, as a coordinating and monitoring body of programmes for the prevention and eradication of child labour which occurs in Kosovo. The Kosovan Committee is comprised of 15 members, directors of directorates of appropriate Ministries, while the Chairperson of this decision-making authority for child labour is the Minster of MLSW.

In this context, the Government of the Republic of Kosovo has approved Administrative Instruction No. 17/2008, on the prevention and eradication of the most hazardous work for Children in Kosovo, and has identified the most hazardous work in general, like:

1. Night work, between the hours of 21 to 6;
2. Lifting and transporting of heavy weights;
3. Work at heights above 2m;
4. Work in depths;
5. Exposure to toxic materials;
6. Work with dangerous biological agents.

Additionally, the Government of the Republic of Kosovo has also listed the most dangerous sectors of work for children which are hazardous to their physical and mental health, like:

1. Agriculture and forestry:

a) Operating moving agricultural machinery;
b) Spraying of pesticides;
c) Harvesting;
d) Hard physical labour in fields;
e) Tree logging;
f) Work in butcheries (butchering of animals, processing of meant from butchered animals and transportation of butchered parts of animals).

2. Street work:

a) Sale of goods in the street;
b) Transportation of goods;
c) Begging.

3. Collection of refuse for recycling:

a) Rummaging and collecting of refuse in landfills or in containers;
b) Removal and transportation of collected materials.

4. Work in surface-level mines:

a) Digging of holes, trenches;
b) Excavation of coal, gravel and rocks.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare is responsible for the implementation of this decision, which is obliged to offer instructions on policies and programmes that are aimed at the prevention and eradication of child labour, to offer direct support in the removal of children from the most dangerous forms of labour, to identify children at risk or involved in work, to improve/strengthen legislation that aims at the prevention and eradication of dangerous labour for children, to monitor and analyse the current condition of children who are involved in dangerous work.

In general the achievements made so far in addressing child labour in the Republic of Kosovo are:

7. The institutional framework on the Monitoring of Child Labour has been established at the central level;
8. The KCPECL has been established;
9. The core group of trainers has been trained (19 Trainers have been certified from all the Ministries) and are ready to conduct trainings with their colleagues in the field on the Monitoring of Child Labour;
10. The Technical Working Group has been established from 12 representatives from: Ministries, NGOs, BSPB, Red Cross, while the Children's Assembly and the ILO are supporters;
11. The profile for the Monitoring of Child Labour has been approved by the Committee;
12. The guideline document for trainers on the development of the MCL processes is the basic material for the establishment of local structures in addressing child labour;
13. Standard operating procedures have been drafted for handling of cases in Monitoring of Child Labour, for the use of CSWs throughout Kosovo.
14. 74 trained members of the Local Action Committees have been certified from the DIPS for Monitoring Child Labour;
15. Three Local Action Committees have been established: in Prishtina, Prizren and Mitrovica, and have been prepared for the implementation of activities in Monitoring of Child Labour;
16. Workshops were held with more than 200 participants comprised of

teachers, family healthcare workers, official of local communities, inspectors of agriculture, forestry and labour, parents and children, with the aim of conducting training on the identification of child labour and reporting of cases;

17. Administrative Instruction no. 17/2008 for the Prevention of Hazardous Work for Children in Kosovo, approved by the Prime Minister of Kosovo;
18. Three other LACs are in the process of establishment for MCL in the municipalities of: Obiliq, Gjilan and Drenas
19. A database is expected to be installed at the DIPS where all the data on identified child labour cases will be registered.

Offering adequate assistance for children that live in poverty and in economic hardship

According to Article 27 of the Convention on the Right of the Child, the responsibility for ensuring adequate conditions of living and the development of a child, within the boundaries of their possibilities and financial resources, lies firstly with the parent or parents, or other persons responsible for the upbringing of the child.

Children are dependent on the more mature, their physical and mental development, lack of financial resources and socialisation with parents, unemployment, divorce of parents etc., have an immediate effect in the standard of living and the proper upbringing of the child.

Therefore, the state needs to undertake necessary measures in line with national conditions and abilities, in order to assist parents and other responsible persons for the child, so that this right is put into action and in cases of need to ensure financial support and other supporting programmes, especially concerning nourishment, clothing and shelter.

Social assistance should be afforded to all children without any discrimination, if all the foreseen criteria have been met for this type of help, therefore, the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare is responsible to ensure that all the children of the Republic of Kosovo have equal access to social services without being discriminated by race, ethnicity, gender, language, religion, wealth, etc.

The right of the child to survival, development and social security in the Republic of Kosovo is regulated through the Law on Social and Family Services and the Law on the Social Assistance Scheme in Kosovo.

One of the criteria which should be fulfilled in order to receive social assistance is that the family needs to reside in the Republic of Kosovo and to be classified into one of the following categories:

a) if all the family members are unemployed or are unfit for work;
b) one member of the family who is able to work but is registered as unemployed and has at least one child under the age of 5, or is providing care to an orphan child under the age of 15.

Based on the criteria foreseen by the Law on the Social Scheme, the provision of assistance to the category of children above the age of 5 has not be included, even though their families do not have any employed member and who are not in good economic conditions in order to secure sound living conditions for a full development of their human potential. In this regard, work needs to be conducted so that the Social Scheme covers children above the age of 5, in the social assistance schemes.

In order to fill in the gaps in the current legislation, the Acton Plan addresses important elements which will make possible promotion of the legislation.

Children with disabilities

The Convention on the Rights of the Child, specifically Article 23, determines that a child with mental of physical disabilities should be afforded a normal and comfortable life, in conditions that guarantee his/her dignity, that encourage their autonomy and facilitate their active participation in the life of the community.

According to the CRC, the responsibility of the state party is to recognise the rights of a child with disabilities to special care, and to encourage and ensure within available resources, that the child who fulfils conditions as well as those who care for him/her, are given the required assistance which suits the condition of the child and the financial standing of his/her parents or those that provide care.

The Convention on Persons with Disabilities (CPD), Article 1, determines that Persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.

Additionally, the CPD (Article 7) includes special provisions for children, which stipulate that:

1. States Parties shall take all necessary measures to ensure the full enjoyment by children with disabilities of all human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis with other children.

2. In all actions concerning children with disabilities, the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration.

3. States Parties shall ensure that children with disabilities have the right to express their views freely on all matters affecting them, their views being given due weight in accordance with their age and maturity, on an equal basis with other children, and to be provided with disability and age-appropriate assistance to realize that right.

Even though currently the Republic of Kosovo has not ratified the Convention on Persons with Disabilities, the legal provisions of this Convention should be taken into consideration as a guideline for current strategic planning, also having in mind that this Convention will be ratified in the future.

In support of children with disabilities, the legislation of the Republic of Kosovo guarantees equal and non-discriminatory rights to all. Until now the following laws have been implemented: Law on Primary and Secondary Education; Law on Healthcare; Law on the Social Assistance Scheme; Law on Social and Family Assistance; Law Against Discrimination; Law on Material Assistance to Families with Children of Permanent Disabilities; all of which offer equal opportunities in the field of assistance and social services.

The drafting and revising of the appropriate legislation needs to be done on the basis of developing disabilities and in accordance with international legislation, which would guarantee social assistance to all children with limited or partial mental of physical abilities from the age of 0 to 18.

The Government of the Republic of Kosovo needs to make maximum efforts towards the constitution of policies, reforming and expanding the system of assistance and social services in support of children with limited or partial abilities, and to aim at the fulfilment of their basic needs, development of personal skills and abilities, decreasing poverty, non-tolerance for exclusion from social assistance of children with any type of limited ability, in order to create optimum conditions for their integration, harmonious development and the improvement of the child's quality of life in society.

Offering security for children that apply for asylum and refugee children

The CRC, specifically Article 22, obligates the state party to undertake necessary measures to provide security for the child, who has applied for refugee status or who is considered as such in accordance to rules and procedures of international or domestic applicable laws, be he/she alone or accompanied by his/her family or other persons, be afforded the appropriate humanitarian assistance, and afford the child the rights recognised by this Convention and international instruments on human rights or of a humanitarian character.

Additionally, according to the CRC, State Parties are obligated to provide compulsory primary education free of charge to all children without any discrimination.

In order to fulfil these requirements of international instruments it is necessary to initiate the drafting of detail legislation for the care, protection and treatment that is offered to children applying for asylum, refugee children and those who are not accompanied by one parent or a mature person, in accordance to the criteria of the CRC. Attention needs to be given to Kosovo children also which are currently living in other countries, in order to create opportunities for a suitable integration.

Prevention of child trafficking and protection of trafficked children

Article 35 of the CRC requires from a state party to undertake all the necessary measures at the national, bilateral and multilateral level, in order not to allow the abduction, sale, or trafficking of children for any reason or in any form.

There are various definitions on the trafficking of human beings. However, the Provisional Criminal Code of Kosovo, specifically Article 139, the trafficking of human being is defined as recruitment, transfer, shelter and receiving of persons, through intimidation or use of force or other forms of compulsion, of abuse, fraud, lying, or abuse of power, exploitation of hardship, for constituting or receiving of payments or other forms of gain in order obtain the approval of the person that has control over another person, with the objective of exploitation.

According to "ICITAP-US Embassy – Presentation of ranking by order, 13th July 2008", considering the types of trafficking, it leads to the conclusion that social groups at risk of human trafficking are children and the mature. The victims, children and the mature, are made to immigrate as a result of the high poverty level in their countries of origin, by being lured with promises of a better life and legal work. Even though the majority of victims identified recently in Kosovo were trafficked inside the country, most of them were bought and sold many times for the purpose of sexual exploitation, 100 percent of them are females and juvenile girls. (Six month work report of the ISTHB DKOC (SHTQNJ DKKO) and regions, for the six month period of January-June 2008).

The National Strategy and the Action Plan Against the Trafficking of Human Beings 2008-2001, has an approach based on human rights, and is connected to their promotion and protection, and especially in the protection of the rights of victims of trafficking when these are children and females.

The Government of the Republic of Kosovo is responsible for the implementation of strategic goals, objectives and activities which have been foreseen in this strategy, where the main responsibility for the implementation and monitoring of the National Strategy Against the Trafficking of Human Beings falls with the Ministry of Internal Affairs, civil society, local and international non-governmental organisations that work in Kosovo, and international partners. The mandate of the Division for Protection and Victims Assistance, within the Ministry of Justice, is to institutionalize the rights of victims of crime and to offer them advice and support for access to the justice system. Component to support the work of the Unit focuses on the establishment of a working network of victim advocates (MV-s) throughout Kosovo to support victims during their involvement in the justice system. Assistance component also focuses on providing resources for information to victims. Division for Protection and Victim Assistance is particularly active in matters of protection of victims of trafficking in human beings.

In order to address most important issues within the priority area of SOCIAL WELFARE, the following objectives have been determined:

Objective 1: Protection of children from the conduct of hard labour;

Objective 2: Offering services to children without parental care;

Objective 3: Integration, protection and provision of adequate services for the children with disabilities;

Objective 4: Improvement of the life of children living in poverty;

Objective 3: Prevention of child trafficking and protection of trafficked;

Objective 6: Protection of the children abused within and outside of their family;

Objective 7: Implementation and reviewing of the legislation regulating aspects of social welfare of children.

Juvenile Justice and Prevention of the Juvenile Delinquency

Since the adoption of the UN Security Council Resolution 1244, on 10 June 1999, Kosovo has been under the interim administration of the United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK). Initially, UNMIK was in charge of all aspects of the civil administration in Kosovo, including here also the administration of legal and judiciary systems. In May 2001, UNMIK Regulation 2001/9 had approved the Constitutional Framework, which enabled the creation of a provisional government in Kosovo, and also promulgation of a series of regulations, which through their provisions regulate issues that deal with children's right in general, as well as in a special way with aspects of delinquency.

The Juvenile Justice Code (JJC) has been adopted in April 2004, under the authority of the United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), as the part of initiative that aims at reforming the criminal justice system, to ensure its compliance with international and European human rights standards. It determines special procedures for juveniles that are in conflict with the law, and it represents concepts and new institutions for legislation and administration of juvenile justice in Kosovo, including diversity measures, a wide spectrum of sentences not by imprisonment and creation of Probation System. While, this new framework ensures greater legal protection for juveniles who come in conflict with law, its effectiveness inevitably depends on implementation level from the side of relevant and professional institutions.

Lack of collection of evidence and of regular analysis, inevitably weakens the efforts for developing effective strategies which are based on facts, for prevention of juvenile crime and the opportunity to monitor the compliance of juvenile justice system with international and European human rights standards.

According to the "Juveniles Justice" report, published by UNICEF, in practice we do not have available all the measures and sentences foreseen by JJC, a problem that was stated in many interviews with judges and prosecutors. Measures of sending them to disciplinary centres (JJC, Article 9), sending them at educational institutions (JJC, Article 24), and sending them at special care institutions (JJC, Article 26) cannot be conveyed because none of these institutions exist. Apart from this, measure of intensive supervision by another family (JJC, Article 21) cannot be conveyed very often, since there are no available registers of suitable families/adopting parents.

In this way the lack of measures in practice, inevitably affects judge's possibility to select a proper end efficient judgment, which is "in the best interest of child".

Juvenile Justice Code and its best implementation in practice

Article 40.3 of the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child obligates states to promote measures to deal with children who are in conflict with the law, without making use of judicial procedures.

Diversity measures aim to prevent the delinquency when and where it is possible, to facilitate the positive rehabilitation and integration of the juvenile in the community, in order to prevent antisocial behaviours.

Reason why there needs to be work and to insist in implementation of diversity measures, instead of judicial reprimand at Kosovo Courts, is because diversity measure saves child from criminal justice system, and from negative effects that a child may experience during this procedure, and in this way the highest interest of a child is protected.

To ensure that the implementation of JJC will protect in a proper way the rights of a child, it is necessary to undertake several steps that will enable the highest protection of a child's interest and dignity, when a child is in conflict with law. The following measures shall be taken in order to achieve this:

1. Article 15 of JJC to be amended, instead of specifying special measures, JJC should foresee when a juvenile should be sent to diversity. The Probation Service to make an evaluation of a juvenile and to make a diversity plan together with the juvenile, in which actions should be specified that have to be taken in order to support the juvenile in improving his/her illegal behaviours.

To amend JJC in order for it to foresee the following:

a) in the first hearing session of a juvenile case, the prosecutor to be tasked to submit to the judge a declaration which shall make clear that the diversity measure is being considered, and which should explain why the decision was taken not to refer the child for a diversity measure; and
b) the judge to be given authority to order the prosecutor to review the possibility to of conveying a diversity measure.

2. To reconsider amendment of criteria of Article 14, JJC, for the threshold or the minimum time for being in prison for a criminal act, to convert them into criteria that will be more specific for juveniles and more focused on their needs, by using the notion of the seriousness and circumstances of the offender and the deed in question. As an alternative, to consider the increase of the imprisonment threshold from 3 to 5 years. Parallel to this, to ensure drawing of instructions for prosecutors and judges in order to define steps that are to be followed for taking a decision of sending or not sending a juvenile to undergo a diversity measure.

3. To amend the JJC, so it can allow instructions for conditional sentences to be given as well as measures for increased monitoring. Conditional sentence would be a proper measure in cases when a juvenile offender would need only minimal supervision. This would help in freeing up Probation Service staff whose duty

is to deal with increased supervision of juvenile offender, to improve their illegal behaviours.

One of the CRC principles is to provide special protection to children who have come in conflict with the law. Disciplinary centres shall act in compliance with the CRC, children have to be treated in a humane way and with dignity, the are-related needs of children should always be considered.

By having a more serious approach to delinquency prevention many things that have to be solved can be analyzed in order to offer to children and to civil society in general a better future.

The primary aim of disciplinary centres has to be physical and psychological recovery of delinquents, in order for those children to get rehabilitated and integrated into society. This work has to be done by protecting children's welfare with the aim of preventing the possibility of these children violating again the law. By always having in consideration the highest interest of children, disciplinary centres have to work on their education, schooling, preparing them for a normal life, improving their behaviours in conformity with social norms and those of the CRC.

Amongst other things, disciplinary centres have to work in compliance with European standards, to completely implement the rights of children and the protective measures determined by the CRC.

The United Nations Convention on the Right of the Child foresees that the arrest, police holding and detention of a child shall be applied only as the final measure and for the shortest possible time.

Capacity building in institutions of juvenile justice

In order for the justice system, in Republic of Kosovo, to be in compliance with international standards for respecting of children's right, in order to cultivate juridical skills and overcome problems due to the lack of information, the appointment and systematic training of judges and prosecutors plays a special role in regard to the manner of treatment, supervision and correction of juveniles.

Based on research conducted by UNICEF in 2007, on the subject of "Juvenile crime and the practice of juvenile justice in Kosovo" it is evidently seen that the juvenile justice institutions face great obstacles to ensure that the CRC is being completely implemented in practice, and especially when it has to do with provisions on diversity measures, selection of non-arrest measures, use of detention and offering of care services after the release of the juvenile from the prison.

In order to realise a better governance, as well as accommodation of modern practices in the fields of prosecution, and courts/probation service, it is essential to professionalise and empower the justice system, which should comply with EU standards, accountable, effective and functional.

The Ministry of Justice should discuss urgently the use of educational-corrective

measures and this has to be realized from the point of view of the need to move the juveniles out of correction centre in Lipjan.

Based on the CRC, respectively Article 40, Member States are required to draft laws, procedures, create bodies and special institutions for children who are suspects, accused, or are assessed to have violated the law.

Judicial procedures that are applied towards juvenile should be designed to protect every time the juvenile's dignity. Every child that comes in conflict with law or is arrested should be treated in a humane way by respecting his right and by always having in mind the needs of children of his/her age as well as the highest interest of child.

The Ministry of Justice should fulfil requirements provided by the CRC, and the Platform of Beijing, which stipulate that whenever it is possible children should be treated out of judicial procedures. Their juvenile age and their maturity levels have to be always taken in consideration.

In every region a prosecutor should be appointed for juveniles, or, as a minimal temporary measure, to appoint a number of prosecutor to deal with juvenile cases.

To ensure a systematic training for municipal prosecutors, which thorough and interactive on the provisions of the JJC, that should focus specifically on the value and the implementation of diversity measures. At least every six months to offer supplementary trainings.

Create posts for specialized probation officers to deal with juvenile offenders, and provide these officials with clear instructions and trainings for drafting reports of social enquiries.

Create posts for specialized staff of CSWs to deal with juvenile offender.

Strengthening of cooperation between institutions of juvenile justice

According to the CRC, respectively Article 19.2, states are obliged to use measures for children protection, where it emphasizes that: "These protective measures include the time when protection is suitable, effective procedures for drafting of social programs for necessary support of a child, and those who take care of him/her, as well as for other prevention and identification forms, reporting, referring, investigation, treatment and following of other cases of children's ill-treatment, including if needed, procedures of juridical intervention, etc." This Article represents the basis of the ideal child protection system in general, through the main principles.

To ensure that the juvenile justice is being applied, it is necessary to establish an effective cooperation between relevant institutions in this field. In this context, it is necessary to undertake a range of measures that will influence the strengthening of this cooperation:

The identification of clear responsibilities of the CSWs and of the Probation Service should be made, regarding the offering of care after a discharge. An administrative instruction should be drafted by which the Correction Centre in Lipjan, Probation Service and CSW should be requested to enable and to offer care to juveniles after the discharge from Lipjan prison.

Formalization of reports between CSWs and the Probation Service, including a protocol for exchange of information and the procedure for giving the common recommendations for punishments or measures that will be conveyed by the court, including regular meetings for sharing of information.

Juvenile justice system monitoring improvement

In order to ensure an effective functioning of the juvenile justice system, it is necessary to set up an adequate monitoring mechanism that enables a close observation of processes that deal with or are part of juvenile justice.

In this context it is necessary to:

1. To establish a Judicial Council for juveniles that will be comprised of municipal court judges, one representative of Municipal Prosecutor's Office, one from KP, one from Probation Service and one from CSW, to ensure proper communication between different juvenile justice institutions and to assess the JJC implementation at regular time intervals.

2. The Ministry of Justice, the Kosovo's Public Prosecutor's Office and the Judicial Council of Kosovo to establish an independent commission to review the time that any juvenile spends in detention. This commission also has to collect and analyze unelaborated data for the time that juveniles spend at detention or in police custody, to see if 24 hour and 1 month periods, provided in JJC, are respected.

3. The Kosovo Correction Service to collect information regularly and to review cases of imprisonment sentences of juveniles, in order to ensure that the imprisonment sentences are conveyed only for the most serious acts and that they be of the shortest time period possible.

4. Kosovo Government should develop, in consultation with statistical specialists, a standardised strategy for registration, collection and systematising of evidence on juvenile crimes and for the implementation of the juvenile justice system. This strategy should include the identification of data that are to be collected, assignment of institutions responsible for registration, collection and elaboration of any kind of data.

5. A system to be created for collection and systematising of data at central level, as in: the Ministry of Justice, Kosovo Judicial Council, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Work and Social Welfare and the Kosovo Correction Service.

In order to address most important issues within the priority area of JUVENILE JUSTICE AND PREVENTION OF THE JUVENILE DELINQUENCY, the following objectives have been determined:

Objective 1: To amend the Juvenile Justice Code as well as to ensure better application of the JJC in practice;

Objective 2: Capacity building in juvenile justice institutions;

Objective 3: Strengthening of cooperation between juvenile justice institutions;

Objective 4: Improvement of juvenile justice system monitoring;

Objective 5: Provision of the quality healthcare and education in the correctional institutions.

Other Cross-Sectorial Issues

- *BIRTH REGISTRATION FOR ALL CHILDREN*

The right and obligation to register the birth according to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), is foreseen under Article 7 and 8, which stipulate that: the child shall be registered immediately after birth and shall have the right from birth to a name, the right to acquire a nationality and, as far as possible, the right to know and be cared for by his or her parents. The state is obliged to ensure the rights of the child to protect their identity, including a nationality, surname and family relations, in accordance with the law.

The institutions of the Republic of Kosovo are building a new system for registration of civil status, and implementation of this process has been and is still a challenge for the Government of Kosovo.

Birth registration in the Republic of Kosovo is regulated by the law on Civil Status Registers and the law on Family, but until now there have been cases of improper and non-consistent enforcement of these laws. Therefore, there is a need for an accelerated process of drafting and approval of certain laws that will regulate all the issues related to the registration of child birth.

In order to improve these laws and to review and simplify the birth registration procedures, and to ensure that procedures and the benefits from the registration are known broadly, there is a need to draft new detailed administrative instructions, which would facilitate and regulate in a more efficient manner birth registration and would guarantee the Kosovo citizens' rights.

A good example worth mentioning is the Prishtina hospital, where a birth registration office was opened in 2007, as an initiative which proved to be very useful due to the fact that parents were supported in registering their children without the need to visit municipal registration office.

- *CHILD PARTICIPATION IN THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS AND AWARENESS OF CIVIL SOCIETY OF CHILD RIGHTS*

The CRC, namely Article 42, stipulates that: States Parties undertake to make the principles and provisions of the Convention widely known, by appropriate and active means, to adults and children alike.

The United Nations General assembly in its Resolution No. 49/184 of December 1994, on human rights education, says that: State parties shall develop special programme and strategies to ensure broad awareness on human rights and informing public through stimulation, encouraging and concentration on education activities on human rights. Awareness of human rights contributes to a development concept in line with the identity of women and men of all ages, minorities and disabled persons, and the fact that each woman, man or child in order to realise his/her potential is necessary to become aware of his/her civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

The need for awareness in the field of child rights shall be taken into consideration continuously, and under this basis, policies, campaigns, materials and concrete programs shall be developed, in order to impact the proper information on the rights of the child in the society.

Preparation and implementation of large information campaigns aiming to promote awareness on the rights of the child for the benefit of governing institutions (both, local and central level) and general public, are important tools that have to be implemented in the society. A component to this is also the involvement of all society structures, starting from schools, NGOs, media, employees in the health sector, social workers, police, courts, municipal authorities, etc, and thus campaigns must have international dimension and shall cover all the fields of a child's life.

Article 13 of the CRC, describes in more concrete manner that: The child shall have the right to freedom of expression; this right shall include freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or through any other media of the child's choice.

Based on UNICEF conducted research on "Evaluation of Progress on General Measures to Implement the CRC in Kosovo", it is very clear that there has been improvement in the promotion of child participation in the decision making process, however, there is a lot to be done in this direction.

Some laws on protection of the child rights applied in Kosovo, require the child's view to be taken into account in the decision making process, such as the Juvenile Justice Code. However, this child right is not specified in the Family law, the Law on Social and Family Services, the law on Health.

As a result of different circumstances and lack of experience in this field, in general adults in Kosovo society consider themselves as a responsible actor to protect and bring decisions regarding children, which results in a low representation of children in drafting and implementation of the laws, policies and programs that would have an impact on the improvement of their lives in the society.

Adequate measures to improve and advance child participation would be the complete functionality of pupil Councils and school boards, in order to address their views, and for their voice to be heard and to increase the child participation in decision making and all processes that have to do with child rights and their well-being.

- *AN EFFICIENT SYSTEM FOR INFORMATION GATHERING THAT COVER THE ISSUE OF CHILD RIGHTS*

One of the main criteria in full implementation of the CRC is sufficient information gathering on child rights, which would provide a clear reflection on the enforcement of respective laws, especially the CRC in Kosovo, and also conducting investigations in general aspects of violation of child rights.

Currently, Kosovo does not have an efficient system on gathering information regarding child rights. Lack of mechanisms and monitoring of data gathering, makes it difficult for a more efficient planning in compacting the inequality and realization of child rights.

It still remains a challenge for the Government of Kosovo the gathering of data and access to sufficient data on child rights.

- *ENVIRONMENT FREE OF ARMS FOR CHILDREN*

Children involvement in the peace building is essential to break the violence cycle, and reduce and avoid the conflict. Let us all share the vision, tolerance, solidarity and our willingness to learn from a real exchange between generations based on the respect, belief and mutual responsibilities.

"Hague Agenda", (recommendations 35-Prevention, Resolution and Transformation of Violent Conflicts).

Since Kosovo is a newly emerged state from the conflict and a long period of repression and continuous prosecutions, hence the possibility to get a weapon is easy, a fact that presents one of the main challenges in attempts to decrease insecurity. This situation has left traces and had a large impact in aggravation of internal security environment, which is reflected with violent appearances and weapons in the society.

Knowing the circumstances we live in, certainly citizens' safety and especially child safety remains as one of the most concerning and serious issues in Kosovo. In order to understand the views of the youth towards weapons, a series of researches have been conducted which have concluded that: Kosovo children and youth mainly rely on small or cold arms for their personal safety.

According to Article 40 of the CRC, States Parties recognize the right of every child alleged as, accused of, or recognized as having infringed the criminal law

to be treated in a manner consistent with the promotion of the child's sense of dignity and worth, which reinforces the child's respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of others and which takes into account the child's age and the desirability of promoting the child's reintegration and the child's assuming a constructive role in society.

Choosing of applied measures and punishments in the Republic of Kosovo for the perpetrator of criminal offences is regulated with the Juvenile Justice Code, namely Article 7.1, which stipulates that: When selecting any measure or punishment to be imposed on the minor offender, the court shall give primary consideration to the best interest of the minor. The court shall also consider the following factors: the type and gravity of the criminal offence, the age of the minor, the degree of psychological development, his or her character and aptitudes, the motives that induced him or her to commit the criminal offence, his or her education at that stage, the environment and the circumstances of his or her life, whether any measure or punishment has been previously imposed and other circumstances that may affect the imposition of a measure or punishment.

According to the study "Kosovo and arms", drafted by UNDP and "Small arms survey 2003", it was noticed that in Kosovo predominate especially crimes which includes small and cold arms. Arms such as blades and zippers seems to predominate in violence, which are mostly kept and used during fighting and threats, versus guns and rifles. Threats are mainly seen as something that comes from the outside, on the way to school, home, or are somehow related to youth from other schools, etc.

Children shall have access to school rules, in order for them to become aware on their rights and responsibilities at the same time, and children shall receive education on conflict resolution in a constructive manner. This because the consequence from using of arms is huge, and they can have direct or indirect negative effects which cause physical and psychic damages to the others.

The current situation of child safety is far from being perfect. Abused children and the suspected ones for conducting crimes must be trained through education programme drafted based on the special needs of perpetrators, which would help in his/her overall education and decrease of the recidivism.

Stability and state security are considered as a precondition for the integration of regional countries in Europe. The state, society and individuals, have all common responsibilities towards the safety of the country. Violation of these responsibilities from either side, damages gravely the country's safety. Consolidation of state institutions and complete enforcement of the laws and society's awareness on their rights and responsibilities, would guarantee a progress of democratic society.

Safe spaces and play corners for children

CRC, Article 31 provides that States Parties recognize the right of the child to rest and leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to the age of the child and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts. It is also provided that, States Parties shall respect and promote the right of the child to participate fully in cultural and artistic life and shall encourage the provision of appropriate and equal opportunities for cultural, artistic, recreational and leisure activity.

Public spaces in the Republic of Kosovo are regulated by the Law on Spatial Planning, which aims to develop rational spatial planning, achieving balance between development and preservation of open space and environmental protection, as well as spatial planning in Kosovo in line with European standards and international.

Overall in the entire territory of Kosovo there is a lack of space for big game and limited to items which are specialized to organize leisure and entertainment for children. Our roads do not provide adequate security and often children are victims of road traffic, they also are not built according to the criteria and conditions which should facilitate the movement of walking, children with disabilities.

It is the obligation of the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning and the Ministry of Transport and Post-Telecommunications, to ensure and promote the interests of citizens while protecting natural resources; organization, management and maintenance of environmental and public spaces; road infrastructure.

Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, is responsible to ensure comprehensive development and promotion of skills and ideas of children, within the framework of different activities in the area of culture, such as theatre, music, painting, museums, libraries, sports, etc.

As it is known, supporting the child for appropriate physical and psychological development has a particular importance for every society. Is the right of every child to grow in environments which promote the values and cultural activities in the safe space and well maintained, which should have standardized angles on the basis of international standards for sport, recreation and culture.

In order to address most important issues within the priority area of CROSS-SECTORIAL ISSUES, the following objectives have been determined:

Objective 1: Child registration at birth, for all children;

Objective 2: Participation of children in the decision making process and awareness of civil society for children's rights;

Objective 3: Efficient system for collection of data covering the issue of rights of children;

Objective 4: Environment, without arms for children;

Objective 5: To provide the infrastructure and safe spaces and play corners for children.

Implementation, Reporting and Monitoring on National Action Plan for Children 2009-2013

In order to implement the set responsibilities, and to report and monitor this action plan, it is necessary to make the following actions:

1. Inter-Ministerial Committee on Child Rights to meet twice a year. The Kosovo Prime Minister is the head of Committee;
2. Establishment of a permanent and effective mechanism to oversee and assess the implementation of the Action Plan - OPM/OGG has the main role;
3. The responsible institutions for implementation of activities will proposes sources and will determine methods for financing of necessary actions to reach the objective;
4. Annual reports on implementation of duties which present achievements, difficulties and provide recommendations in overcoming the same - OPM/OGG coordinate the report drafting process;

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1. Governance

Objective	Activities	Timeframe	Responsible institutions and partners	Budget	Indicators
1.1. Increasing effectiveness of the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Children's Rights;	-Organizing regular biannual meetings of the Inter-Ministerial Committee;	In continuity	OPM/OGG Committee Members	10.000	-The Committee functions as a highest governmental mechanism to enable and promote rights of all children in Kosovo;
	-Secretariat of the Committee, in charge of providing continuous support to the Committee, to be placed under OPM/OGG;				-Committee meetings take place regularly, twice a year, in accordance with the Terms of Reference
					-Decisions taken by the Committee and documents adopted;
1.2. Implementation, review and promulgation of the legislation on children's rights;	-Implementation of the study with regard to legal infrastructure covering children's rights;	2010	OPM/OGG Ministries	50.000	-Identification of gaps in the legislation governing children's rights;
	-Promulgation of necessary legislation/ decisions for relevant matters on children's rights;	In continuity			-Policies and legislation in Kosovo are established in accordance with international standards provided for by the Convention on the Rights of the Child;
	-Initiation and drafting of the necessary legislation for protection of the children's rights;	2011		100.000	-Increasing of the level of implementation of the provisions from the applicable legislation on children's rights;
	-Establishment of various working groups dealing with studies/researches on children's rights;	In continuity		100.000	

1.3. Institutionalization of positions of Child Rights Officers at the central and municipal level;	-Capacity building for the officials working for children's rights, at the central and local level, including recruitment in institutions where such positions are not yet filled in;	2011	OPM/OGG MLGA Municipalities	200.000	-Human Rights Units, are established and institutionalised in all ministries and municipalities; Child Rights Officers are integral part of these units;
	-Strengthening cooperation and streamlining children's rights issues;	In continuity			-Job description for the Child Rights Officers is clear with regard to duties and responsibilities;
	-Provision of trainings in the area of children's rights;	In continuity		100.000	
	-Provision of trainings on implementation of laws in force, affecting children's lives in Kosovo.	In continuity		100.000	
1.4. Creation of preconditions for reporting on the Convention on the Rights of the Child	-Establishment of reporting team, involving all relevant stakeholders;	2009	OPM/OGG Ministries Municipalities UNICEF OSCE		-Timely and effective reporting by the mechanisms dealing with children's rights;
	-Designing of the manual on the reporting process/steps to be followed;	2010			-Reporting mechanisms established and are regularly reporting to the international instruments;
	-Capacity building of reporting team;	In continuity		50.000	
				20.000	-Team in charge of reporting on CRC has developed sufficient capacity;
	-Organization of workshops;			120.000	
	-Study visits with aim of exchanging experiences in the field of reporting;				

1.5. Strengthening cooperation with Ombudsperson	-Organization of regular meetings;	In continuity	OPM/OGG Ministries Municipalities		-Compliance with recommendations issued by the Ombudsperson;
	-Implementation of recommendations provided by Ombudsperson;	In continuity		55.000	-Regular meetings with Ombudsperson;
1.6. Monitoring of the implementation of provisions of Convention on Rights of the Child	-Creation of appropriate monitoring mechanisms;	2010	OPM/OGG Ministries Municipalities UNICEF		-Mechanisms dealing with monitoring the implementation of the children's rights are established and provided with necessary capacity;
	-Creation of the monitoring procedures;	2010			
	-Capacity building for monitoring;	In continuity		80.000	-Cross-institutional coordination is strengthened;
	-Strengthening of the cross-institutional coordination;				-Monitoring guidelines are developed;
	-Study visits in order to exchange experiences in the area of monitoring;			120.000	
	-Monitoring, at the central and municipal level, implementation of the laws and strategies dealing with children;				

2. Budget

Objective	Activities	Timeframe	Responsible institutions and partners	Budget	Indicators
2.1. Analyzing of the budget needs for implementation of children's rights;	-Undertaking a study of the overall budget needs and actual budget allocations for children;	2010	OPM/OGG MEF Ministries Municipalities Partners	150.000	-More projects for children are adopted by the ministries and municipalities; more funds are allocated to children;
2.2. Increase of funds allocated for children in proportion to the needs and overall budget;	-Development, by the Ministries, of the project proposals on the issues related to children;	2011	MEF OPM/OGG Ministries Municipalities		-Budgets and funds for children are progressively increasing on annual basis;
	-Development, by the Municipalities, of the project proposals on the issues related to children;	In continuity			
	-Development of the capacity for drafting of the project proposals;	In continuity		70.000	
2.3. Establishment of procedures that facilitate approval of projects which have direct impact on children's lives;	-Establishment of the system that determines percentage of overall budget that is dedicated to children;	2012	MEF OPM/OGG Ministries Municipalities	30.000	-Ministries and municipalities set the procedures and provide instructions with regard to application for funding for children's projects;
	-Allocation of a specific budget line for children in each municipality;	2011			
	-Creating the space for acquiring donations by private organizations in order to implement projects for children's rights;	In continuity			

3. Education

Objective	Activities	Timeframe	Responsible institutions and partners	Budget	Indicators
3.1. Provision of quality education to children	-Implementation of the Law on Pre-university Education, Law on Preschool Education; Law on Primary and Secondary Education; Law on Inspection and other sublegal enactments;	In continuity	MEST Ministries Municipalities OPM/OGG, UNICEF, Civil society and international organizations present in Kosovo Pedagogical Institute of Kosovo	KCB MTEF Donors	-Increase of quality of the education; -Provision of textbooks free of charge to all children in primary schools;
	-Reviewing the laws based on international education standards;	In continuity		KCB MTEF 200.000	-School buildings are constructed and provide sufficient space for children;
	-Making secondary higher education compulsory for all children;	In continuity		KCB MTEF Donors	-School premises renovated in accordance with international norms and criteria providing access to all children; -Increasing the number of computer labs/computer equipment
	-Advancing the compulsory education curriculum on the issues related to treatment and protection of children;	2010		KCB MTEF Donors 100.000	-Higher level of respecting of the children's rights in education institutions (public and private) in Kosovo;
	-Complementing the curriculum in education faculties and university studies with knowledge on psychology of development and protection of children's rights;	2011 2011		KCB MTEF Donors 100.000	

	-Empowering non-formal education for specific children's groups;	2010		KCB MTEF Donors	
	-Training youth in order to enter the labour market and increasing of the opportunities through development of concrete plans and programmes for this purpose;			KCB MTEF	
	-Reviewing curricula in all levels of the pre-university education so that education system is measurable and comparable with countries in the Region and in Europe;	In continuity		KCB MTEF Donors	
	-National tests to be developed and formulated in accordance with requirements of the vocational schools (evaluation in the 5th and 9th grade and mature exams);	In continuity		KCB MTEF Donors	
	-Development of the capacities for monitoring, evaluation, implementation of the law and making of the recommendations;	2010			
	-Provision, free of charge, of the textbooks for primary and secondary lower education;	In continuity			
	-Improvement of the preschool and school buildings and construction of new schools;	2009			
	-Review, amendment, complementation and preparation for approval of the Framework for the New Curricula of Kosovo (FNCK);	In continuity			
	-Implementation of recommendations from the survey on realization of the children's rights in education;	2010		KCB MTEF 100.000	

	-Increasing effectiveness of the cooperation between students, parents, teachers, school, community and the local government.	In continuity		KCB MTEF Donors	
	-Inclusion of the psychologist in the schools;				
	-Provision of better alternatives to children that are dismissed from school or who have been dismissed from school;	In continuity			
	-Supply of the school libraries with books;				
	-Development of standards for textbooks;				
	-Reviewing of the existing subjects taught at the school and harmonization with FNCK;	2012			
	-Development of three basic texts for Albanian School on Supplementary Education (ASSE) in Diaspora;	2010			
	-Workshop with ASSE teachers in Diaspora;			15.000	
	-Organization of the summer school with ASSE teachers in Diaspora;	In continuity		KCB MTEF Donors	
	-Meetings of the students of ASSE from Diaspora "Fatherland at heart";				
	-Training of the educators on implementation of the curriculum of ASSE in Diaspora;				
	-Provision of the curriculum enabling reintegration of children returning from Diaspora;				

3.2. Ensuring inclusion of the children with special needs in education system	-Implementation and monitoring of the Law on Education, with specific emphasis on provision of school transport for children of poor families and children with disabilities;	2011	MEST Ministries OPM/OGG MED Civil Society NGO	KCB MTEF Donors	-Increasing the quality of transport for students and personnel from home to school;
	- Increasing effectiveness of the assessment teams for the children with special needs;	2009			-Increasing inclusion of children with special needs in the education process at all levels;
	-Organizing five campaigns with aim to increase awareness of adults on advantages of participation of the children with disabilities in education process;	In continuity		100.000	-Access to infrastructure and didactic resources available;
	-Creation of the conditions for inclusion of the children with special needs in preschool institutions and pre-primary education;	2010		KCB MTEF Donors	
	-Increasing effectiveness of the multi-disciplinary committees and psychologist in the schools;	2011			
	-Employment of teachers for education of children with special needs, in all levels of education;	In continuity			
	-Design, accreditation and implementation of trainings, TES,PD				
	-Drafting of the document for IEP;	2011			
	-Conversion of the special schools into Resource Centres;	2011			
	-Determination of the standards for special education;	2011			
	-Code of Ethics for Special Schools (Resource Centres);	2010			
	-Opening of the new attached classes in the regular schools	2009			
	-Provision of the adequate programmes for education and training of children in pre-school education	2010			

3.3. Prevention and fighting of the violence in the school;	-Implementation of the legal infrastructure sanctioning violence in schools;	2009	MEST Ministries OPM/OGG Municipalities Parent's Associations Student's Councils Civil Society UNICEF	KCB MTEF Donors	- Results/various reports referring to the promotion of the rights in education;
	-Including of the monitoring class in the programme;	2009			-Decreasing of occurrences of violence in schools;
	-Training of the teachers on the signs of abuse or any form of violence;	In continuity		50.000	-Compliance with Code of Conduct;
	-Monitoring implementation of the Code of Conduct, the law and other sublegal enactments in all education institutions;			KCB MTEF	
	-Organization of five campaigns against the violence against children in school, in order to increase the awareness of the society in saying NO to violence;			100.000	
	-Prevention of any kind of discrimination in all education programmes, school textbooks;			KCB MTEF	
	-Realization of three researches in order to uncover the root causes of violence in schools;			60.000	

3.4. Integration of children from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in education system;	-Implementation of the strategy for integration of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities;	2012	MEST MKR OPM/OGG Municipalities Civil Society UNICEF KFOS OSCE UNDP	KCB MTEF (see respective Education Strategy)	-Translation of the curricula, provision of the textbooks and literacy courses for the members of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities;
	-Development of the curriculum in Roma language;	2011			
	-Implementation of the manual against school dropout of pupils from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities;	In continuity			-Increasing inclusion of children in general, and of girls in particular, in all levels of education. Special emphasis shall be placed on Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities;
	-Encouragement of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities to enrol their children in preschool and primary education institutions;				
	-Encouragement of children from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities to complete primary education;				-Increasing of the number of teachers in Roma language;
	-Organization of the literacy course in order to eradicate illiteracy amongst the members of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities;				
	-Organization of the campaigns in order to raise awareness of members of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities on the importance and values of education;				

3.5. Proactive prevention of the school dropouts	-Establishment of the Working Group on proactive prevention of the school dropout	2009	MEST Ministries OPM/OGG Municipalities Parent's Associations Civil Society UNICEF	KCB MTEF Donors	-Increasing inclusion of the marginalized groups in education; -Decreasing of the level of dropouts; -Increasing of the number of children reintegrated in education process;
	-Drafting of the Action Plan addressing school dropout by students;	2009			
	-Implementation of the Action Plan against school dropout	In continuity			
	-Effectiveness and monitoring of the new members of the Kosovo Education Parents' Council;				
	-Training them on the organizational matters for the Parent's Councils;			100.000	
	-Engagement of the Kosovo Education Parents' Council, through inclusion of parents in this process, in the issue of school dropouts			KCB MTEF Donors	
	-Strengthening of the mechanisms, at all levels, for prevention of the school dropout from primary education and inclusion of students that have interrupted their education;				
	-Organization of workshops on annual basis in all municipalities of Kosovo in order to inform the public on the right to and importance of education;			KCB MTEF 300.000	
	-Establishment and strengthening of the cooperation between schools and civil society organizations;	In continuity		KCB MTEF Donors	
	-Implementation of regular activities within schools, in order to eliminate barriers for inclusion of children in schools;				

3.6. Increasing of the inclusion of children in preschool education;	-Implementation of the Law on Preschool Education;	In continuity	MEST Ministries OPM/OGG Municipalities Parent's Associations Civil Society UNICEF	KCB MTEF Donors	-Inclusion of children in early childhood programmes;
	-Drafting of the guidelines on physical environment and content of the early education programmes;	2010			-Increasing of the number of preschool institutions;
	-Creation of the conditions and capacities for inclusion of children in the preschool institutions;	2011			-Increasing of the funds allocated to preschool institutions;
	-Creation of the opportunities for inclusion of children with special needs, in preschool institutions;	2011			
	-Every municipality shall have preschool institutions;	2012			
	-Employment of the professional staff in the pre-primary and preschool institutions, both public and private;	In continuity			
	-Regular monitoring of the preschool institutions;				
	-Provision of support for alternative preschool education forms;				
	-High quality training and monitoring for the level of preschool and pre-primary education in public and private institutions;			300.000	
	-Publishing of the magazine "Pre-school world";			100.000	

	-Validation of the Early Learning Development Standards (3-6 years);	2010		KCB MTEF Donors	
	-Monitoring of the Early Learning Development Standards (3-6 years);	In continuity			
	-Publishing of the document: Early Learning Development Standards (3-6 years);	2010			
	-Training on implementation of the Early Learning Development Standards (3-6 years).	In continuity			
	-Organization of five campaigns on the raising the awareness on importance of the preschool education for children;			100.000	
	-Organization of the International Conference on Early Child Development;	2009		KCB MTEF	
3.7. Establishment of mechanisms for provision of support to talented children;	-Development of the legal infrastructure and policies enabling provision of support to talented children;	2010	MEST	KCB MTEF Donors	-Creation of specific programmes for talented children;
	-Development of specific work plans for talented students;	2010			-Respective legislation for talented children in place;
	-Establishing the criteria and standards for provision of support to talented children;	2010			-Increasing funds allocated for provision of support to talented children;
	-Provision of financial support for secondary education;	In continuity			
	-Distinguished students to be provided with various forms of stipends;				

4. Healthcare

Objective	Activities	Timeframe	Responsible institutions and partners	Budget	Indicators
4.1. Maintain and improve the health of the pregnant woman, newborn and the infant	-Provide equal access in free of charge protection and health care without discrimination;	2009	MOH Municipalities OPM/OGG WHO UNICEF UNFPA Local NGOs Civil Society	KCB MTEF Donors	-Improvement of the health indicators for mother and child; -Prevention of insufficiency of micronutrients for pregnant women and children;
	-Implementation and review of the current legislation;	In continuity			-Reduction of the number of cigarettes imported, based on the reporting by customs control;
					-Increase of non-smoking areas;
					-Minimizing of passive smoking;
					-Decrease of active smoking by children;
	-Implementation of the Law on Reproductive Health – drafting of the Administrative Instruction;				-Number of sublegal enactments (AI) drafted and endorsed;
	-Implementation of Strategy on Reproductive Health;				-Strategy for Reproductive Health drafted and approved;
					-Increase of immunity scale of children;
	-Implementation of the Law on Encouragement, Protection and Promotion of the Breastfeeding;	In continuity			-Restructuring of advisory offices throughout the country;

	-Implementation of the Law on Tobacco;				-Legislation/Instructions for modern standards of the rights of the patient;
	-Consolidation of the Observatory for the mother and child in IPHK;	2010			
	-Drafting of National Program on the Health of Mother and Child;	2010			-Improvement of the health indicators of the overall population;
	-Maternity leave to be extended to one calendar year;	2010			-Early discovery of possible disorders;
	-Increase of awareness on the importance of follow up of the health condition of the pregnant women before, during and after giving birth;	In continuity			-Number of nurses in advisory centres;
	-Follow up of the development of children through data capturing in the health books for the pregnant women and child;				-Number of schools – promoting health;
	-Regular immunisation of children and provision of systematic controls;				-Number of researches;
	-Investigation and report of all cases of infant deaths;				-Number of meetings held and participation of the civil society;
	-Infant murder to be treated as any other form of murder;				-Number of advisory centres for planning and reproductive health;
	-Restructuring of Advisory Offices (Health Education and Promotion Centres in the respective health institutions) for family planning and reproductive health;				

		2011			
	-Increase of staff number (nursing) qualified for the above mentioned advisory offices;	In continuity			
	-Training of staff and PD				
	-Encouraging preventive and promoting measures on improvement of the health culture of parents and children;				
	-Increase the number of school promoting health importance;				
	-Implementation of five of media, advocacy, information, education and communication campaigns focusing on the sexual and reproductive health;			100.000	
	-Implementation of five relevant scientific researches;			150.000	
	-Encouraging the participation of civil society in assistance programs for the children and programs to assist families with children with chronic diseases;			KCB MTEF Donors	

4.2. Reduction of deaths of newborn and children below the age of five	-Improvement of the quality, access and integration of health service structures for the mother and child in all three levels of health care;	2010	MOH Municipalities OPM/OGG WHO UNICEF UNFPA Local NGOs Civil Society	KCB MTEF Donors	-Decrease of the scale of mortality of infants and children; -Decrease of the scale of illness and mortality of newborn and infants; -Improvement of the indicators of health of mother and child;
	-Reporting and close follow up of all cases of infant deaths; -Evaluation of service quality for the health of mother and child;	In continuity			-Reporting and research for all causes of deaths of children including new mothers; -Completed rooms with all medical equipments;
	-Improvement of service quality of healthcare in the delivery rooms in the maternity clinics;	2010			-Increasing funds allocated for decreasing of the mortality of children; -Functioning of the office for the health of mother and child;
	-Strengthening the Office for Health of the Mother and Child through reproductive health;	2010			

4.3. Reduction of deaths and consequences of children injuries	-Drafting and endorsement of National Plan on Prevention of Injuries;	2011	MOH Municipalities OPM/OGG WHO UNICEF UNFPA UNDP Local NGOs Civil Society	KCB MTEF Donors	-Decrease of child illness;
	-Implementation of preventive measures and actions ex: "Children, friends of traffic", "Children care during constructions in the district ";	2010			-Drafting and approval of National Plan on Prevention of Injuries; -Complete implementation of actions and trainings;
	-Organization of five campaigns and trainings for parents and citizens in general about the possibilities of preventing the injuries and casualties of children;	In continuity		100.000	-Decrease of number of deaths amongst children due to injuries; -Number of campaigns implemented; -Number of parents trained;
4.4. Improvement of access to health services and quality for all without discrimination	-Amendment of Law on Public Health in the way to provide free of charge health services for all children under 18 years of age;	2010	MOH Municipalities OPM/OGG WHO UNICEF UNFPA Local NGOs Civil Society	KCB MTEF Donors	-Improvement of the indicators of the child and young people's health; -Number of experts redistributed;
	-Establishment of ambulatory services in the schools (especially dental services) ;	2012			-Increase of number of ambulances active in schools;
	-Improvement of health service facilities in rural areas;	2012			-Providing of equal quality service for all children in health institutions;

	-Increase of medical staff number and equal distribution, especially of paediatrics, gynaecologist and neonatal etc;	2012			
	-To guarantee the right of children to privacy and confidentiality of data during health treatment;	2010			
	-Ensuring equality in quality health services for all children of most vulnerable categories • children with disabilities; • abandoned children; • children from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities; • marginalized groups; • refuge children; • children with rare genetical diseases;	2011			
	-Amendment and implementation of Law on Rights and Responsibilities of Citizens under Medical Care, to define concretely the right of children on expressing their opinion/consent about the medical treatment;	2010			

4.5. Promotion and support of active participation of children and youth in creation, implementation and follow up of programs and preventive measures on health	-Inclusion of youth directly in the planning and development of healthcare projects affecting children health;	2009	MOH MEST MCYS OPM/OGG Municipalities UNICEF	KCB MTEF Donors	-Regular control of food in accordance with respective standards;
	-Organization of awareness campaigns with children, in regard to the education so as to the protective measures (importance of healthy food, physical activities, hygiene, caries prevention, the negative impact of the consumption of tobacco and alcohol);	In continuity		300.000	-Decrease of diseases linked with improper feeding;
	-Initiation to establish certain non-formal bodies ex. Health Youth Forum, Network of Schools Promoting health;	2010		KCB MTEF Donors	
4.6. Encouraging modern ways of humanism in Hospitals during treatment of children	-Implementation of programs such as: • "Friendly Institution of Infants" • "Friendly Institution of Child and Youth" • "For a Smile of a Child in the Hospital" • "Open Hospitals" "Hospitals with Playgrounds for entertainment of Children under treatment";	2010	MOH Municipalities OPM/OGG	KCB MTEF Donors	-Establishment of a healthy environment for life and normal development for all citizens of Kosovo; -Inclusion of environment protection measures during the drafting of development policies;

4.7. Preservation and advancement of children and youth health	-Drafting of Strategy for Health and Development of Youth;	2011	MOH Ministries OPM/OGG Municipalities Civil Society Parent's Associations Student Councils UNICEF WHO	KCB MTEF Donors	-Decrease of level of use and misuse of harmful substances by children and young people;
	-Regular visits of the health education teams in schools across Kosovo;	In continuity			-Legal framework forbidding the purchase, possession and use of tobacco, alcohol and other harmful substances for health;
	-Implementation of Education Activities for children and youth for the reproductive sexual health;				-Establishment of institutions in charge of prevention of use of drugs and alcohol as well as rehabilitation training of the addicts;
	-Drafting of National Plan for Supply and use of Contraceptives;	2010			
	-Drafting of National Strategy on HIV/ AIDS;	2010			-Creation of testing labs;
	-Providing safeguard against any discrimination of children with HIV/AIDS;	In continuity			-Increase of use of contraceptives;
	-Facilitation of access of children and underage to the accurate information on HIV/AIDS-in;	In continuity			-Decrease of number of new HIV / AIDS infected cases;
	-Development and implementation of the legislation on protection of the mental health, in accordance with international standards;	2010			
	-Development and implementation of the strategy for prevention of suicides amongst children and youth;	2010			
	-Prevention of infections from mother to child;				

	-Implementation of research, prevention and cure activities on: • mental health; • use of drugs; • alcohol; • smoking; • against violence; • suicides; • HIV/AIDS; • sexually transmitted diseases;	In continuity		300.000	
	-Establishment of centres for providing rehabilitation services for the consumers of drugs and alcohol;	2012		KCB MTEF Donors	
	-Establishment of Youth Centres providing professional and confidential services for the sexual and reproductive health;	2011			
	-Establishment of centres for voluntarily testing, advise and training;	2012			
	-Training activities for the educators and teachers;	In continuity			
	-Distribution of educational promotion leaflets and brochures;				

4.8. Health protection through provision of healthy food and environment	-Implementation of legislation on food and food products;	In continuity	MOH MAFRD MEST Municipalities OPM/OGG	KCB MTEF Donors	-Food products under regular control in accordance with the respective standards;
	-Implementation of the Law on Consumer Care;				-Decrease of different diseases related to non healthy feeding;
	-Implementation of the Law on Organic Agriculture;				-Human methods of food production, meaning, in the first plan to consider the human health and to respect the ecological equilibrium and avoid the pollution of environment;
	-Regular inspections in the relevant institutions;				
	-Regular sanitary and health inspections;				
	-Development of the standards for hygiene and sanitation in schools and public institutions;	2010			

5. Social Welfare

Objective	Activities	Timeframe	Responsible institutions and partners	Budget	Indicators
5.1.Protecting children from hard and hazardous work	-Increasing effectiveness of the Kosovo Committee for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour;	2009	MLSW (DISP) CSW Municipalities OPM/OGG ILO	KCB MTEF Donors	-Reducing the number of children doing heavy work;
	-Drafting of the Strategy for Prevention and Protection of Children from carrying heavy jobs;	2011			-Elimination of the severe labour cases by children;
	-Empowering and improvement of the legislation in this field;	2011			-Implementation of the list with hazardous works;
	-Implementation of the list of hazardous jobs;	In continuity			-Creation of the database and publication of the results;
	-Establishment of Local Action Committees (LAC) for monitoring the performance of children;	2010			
	-Monitoring and evaluation of the LAC	In continuity		50.000	- Local Action Committees are established and functioning;
	-Publication and distribution of materials on the situation and progress monitoring of child labour;				
	-Marking the International Day Against Child Labour, 12 June;			25.000	

	-Analyzing the current situation of children who are involved in hazardous work;	2010		60.000	
	-Providing direct support for removing children from hazardous forms of work;	2011			
	-Implementation of two researches in order to identify endangered children, or children included in labour;	In continuity		100.000	
	-Creation of database to capture and publish abovementioned results;	2012		KCB MTEF Donors	
	-Monitoring and prevention of child maltreatment;	In continuity			
	-Implementation of activities to prevent forms of dangerous and hard work for children;				

5.2. Providing services to children without parental care	-Harmonization of legislation with the standards for the custody of children based on norms and criteria set forth by the CRC.	2011	MLSW Municipalities CSW MEF MOH MHD OPM/OGG NGO	KCB MTEF Donors	-More appropriate conditions for better and more healthy life for children without parental care; -Guidelines, procedures, standards apply to family reunification in accordance with the principles of the CRC; -Advisory services for mothers in the CSW are functional; -Smaller number of cases of child abandonment;
	-Monitoring and regular inspections of residential centres, institutions, and reporting on their work;	In continuity			
	-Expanding the network of social service providers (governmental and non-governmental);	2012			
	-Provide care for children and families of the war victims and children of civilian victims of war;	2009			
	-Establishment of advisory services for mothers in the Centres for Social Work;	2010			
	-Development of programmes for independence of children without parental care after the age of 18;	2011			
	-Capacity building of staff of institutions to understand the social needs and rights of children, through ten training sessions;	In continuity		50.000	
	-Implementation of five campaigns aimed at empowering the family and preventing the abandonment of children;			100.000	

5.3. Integration, protection and provision of adequate services for children with disabilities	-Amending the law on material support to families of children with permanent disabilities;	2010	MLSW Municipalities CSW OPM/OGG Civil Society UNICEF	KCB MTEF Donors	-Accurate and detailed statistics for social grouping of children with disabilities;
	-Equal monthly aid for this category of children who legitimately meet the criteria set forth;	2010			-Appropriate legal infrastructure for supporting the children with disabilities in place;
					-Increased awareness of rights of children with disabilities;
	-Improving the existing infrastructure that ensures integration equal to all other children;	2011			
	-Organize annual awareness campaigns for the wider public, in order to change attitudes and behaviours towards children with disabilities;	In continuity		100.000	

5.4. Improving the lives of children living in poverty	-Law on Social Scheme to include children over the age of 5 years whose parents are not working and are unable to provide for basic living conditions to the children;	2010	MLSW Ministries OPM/OGG Municipalities CSW Civil Society	KCB MTEF Donors	-Reduction of the number of children living in poverty;
	-Defining the minimum living conditions to ensure the development of the child;	2010			-Establishment of protective package for families of children living in poverty;
	-Support of poor families who have children, through provision of funds necessary for continuation of education	In continuity			
	-Providing safety and shelter for children seeking asylum and refugee children, or children found in such situations;	In continuity			
5.5. Prevention of trafficking and protection of trafficked children;	• Full implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan Against Trafficking In Human Beings 2008-2011;	2011	MIA MLSW MEST MLGA MJ OPM/OGG Municipalities	KCB MTEF (see Anti Trafficking Strategy)	-Reducing the number of trafficked children;
	• Making functional child protection system (social and health services, police, NGOs, at the local and community level)	2011			-Increased number of adult children reintegrated in the society;
	• Organize campaigns aimed at raising awareness of vulnerable groups (women, children and youth) on issues of anti-trafficking;				-Functional protection system for victims of trafficking;
					-Increase awareness on ways to prevent trafficking;

	• Capacity building through training, youth centres and youth organizations, in particular in rural areas to provide awareness activities;	In continuity			
	• Organizing awareness campaigns on legal sanctions applied for this purpose;				
	• Creation of financial facilities for the inclusion of victims of trafficking in vocational training;	2011			
	• Promotion and implementation of children's rights as a precondition for reducing their risk of trafficking;	In continuity			
	• Improving long-term rehabilitation and reintegration services in the community	2012			
	• Educational services for victims of trafficking;	2010			
	• Mediation services for the readmission of the victims from their families;	2010			
5.6. Protection of children abused within and outside the family	-Providing housing and social services necessary for full protection of abused children;	2011	MLSW MEST MLGA MIA MJ OPM/OGG Municipalities	KCB MTEF Donors	-Creation of new mechanisms and structures;
	-Establishment of cooperation between social services, family, school, and the community;	2010			-Improvement of existing mechanisms that deal with psycho-social care; -Reduction of cases of maltreated children;

5.7. Implementation, review and continuous advancement of legislation that regulates aspects of the social welfare of the child	-Respecting children's right to express freely their views in decisions related to them;	2010	MLSW	KCB MTEF Donors	-Legislation in line with the principles of the CRC; -Higher interest of the child prevails in decisions related to children; -More protection for the dignity of the child;
	-Protection of children from information and materials that are harmful to their welfare;	2009			
	-Development of the Strategy and National Action Plan for prevention of the suicides and self harming amongst the youth in Kosovo;	2011			
	-Establishment of the multidisciplinary crisis interviewing group, which would intervene in relevant institutions and community in case of suicide or self-harm attempt;	2009			
	-Establishment of the national centre for data capturing, with regard to suicides;	2010			
	-Children placed at home for protection or guardianship family to enjoy the right to privacy;	2010			
	- In the case of adoption it should be of high consideration and prevailing the interest of the child;	In continuity			
	-In case of adoption in another country - as a last alternative - the child should enjoy the protection rates equivalent to those that exist in the case of adoption in his country;	2011			
	-Ensure that in case of adoption in another country, setting of the child shall not result to a material profit persons involved in;	2010			

6. JUVENILE JUSTICE AND PREVENTION OF THE JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

Objective	Activities	Timeframe	Responsible institutions and partners	Budget	Indicators
6.1. Promulgation and supplementation of the legislation on Juvenile Justice	-Amendment of the Juvenile Justice Code;	2010	MD MIA KJC OPM/OGG	KCB MTEF Donors	-JJC in compliance with the rules of CRC;
	-Promulgation of the Law on Mediation, for the Juveniles;	2011			-Alternative measures are applied in consecutive manner;
	-Promulgation of the Legislation for protection of juveniles from the images of violence;	2012			
	-Supplementation of the Law on Police, by legal enactments for juvenile matters;	2010			
	-Application of diversity measures and alternative sentences for the minors from Prosecution Offices and the Courts;	In continuity			
	-The execution of diversity measures and sentences by the Probation Service of Kosovo;	In continuity			-Probation Service of Kosovo Republic, in a adequate level to apply the alternative measures;
	-Amendments of JJC in order to enable issuance of orders of suspended sentence as well as intensive supervision measure;	2010			-Raise awareness for issues related to minor delinquency;
	-Amending criteria in Article 14 of JJC, on imprisonment period for criminal offence;	2010			
	-Amending Article 15 of JJC, to provide for when the minor should be sent for diversity measures;	2010			
	-Amending Article 40 par.1 of JJC;	2010			
	-The procedural provisions regulating the application of the diversity measures, Article 50 of the JJC to be completely amended;	2010			
	-Community service imposed as a diversity measure, to be distinguished from the community service imposed as a sentence (Article 28 of JJC, to set maximal and minimal limits);	2010			

6.2. Increasing of the capacities in the judicial institutions for the minors;	-Appointment and specialization of judges, prosecutors, probation officers, police officers and social workers;	2010	MJ OPM/OGG UNICEF	KCB MTEF Donors	-Increased awareness among officials of public institutions for the treatment of delinquency of minors;
	-Development of the training modules for the probation and correction services in Kosovo;	2010			-Increased number of personnel that deal only with cases of minors;
	-Capacity Building at the Kosovo Judicial Institute with regard to juvenile justice matters;	In continuity		75.000	-Specific structures dealing with children who engage in illegal activities;
	-Training of the staff of the Probation Service of Kosovo regarding the manners of treatment, supervision and correction of minors;	In continuity		75.000	
	-Organizing study visits for officials of Probation Service of Kosovo in EU countries, in order to acquire newer practices in the field of probation service;	In continuity		100.000	
6.3. Establishment of the institutions for implementation of the diversion measures	-Appointment of prosecutors to deal only with cases involving minors;	2010	MJ OPM/OGG UNICEF	KCB MTEF Donors	-Ensure adequate social psychological treatment, rehabilitation and reintegration of children in society;
	-Organization of training for the treatment of minors for the staff of KCS;	In continuity			
	-The appointment of social workers specialized in CSW to work with minor offenders;	2011			
	-Building of the disciplinary centres (Article 19, JJC);	2012			
	- Building of the Educational Institutions (Article 24, JJC);	2011			
	-Building institutions for Special Care (Article 26, JJC);	2011			

6.4. Strengthening cooperation between juvenile justice institutions;	-Development of the policies for prevention of the delinquency;	2010	MJ MIA, MLSW, KJC. OPM/OGG	KCB MTEF Donors	-Reduction of cases of minor delinquency;
	-Development of standard operation guidelines for: reporting, referring, investigating, treatment and prosecution of the cases of child mistreatment (based on the CRC);	2011			-Cooperation with NGOs and Countries that have developed Probation Service concerning alternative measures for reducing the delinquency of minors;
	-Drafting of the administrative instruction to define the responsibilities of the CSW, PSK;	2010			-Drafting of needed Guidelines;
	-Publication of the report for exchange of information and providing recommendations between CSW and PSK;	2010			-CSW and PSK exchange on regular basis information and recommendations required;
	-Coordination and publication of regular meetings and juvenile justice acts at the central and local level.	In continuity			
6.5. To improve the supervision of Juvenile Justice System	-Establishment of the Justice Councils for minors at the central and local level;	2010	MD MIA MLSW KJC OPM/OGG	KCB MTEF Donors	-The Councils are established and functional;
	-Establishment of Independent Commission monitoring implementation of the JJC;	2010			
	-Ensure the right of minors to remain silent and be offered help by a defence attorney during the questioning for the first time;	2009			-The Councils are established and functional;
	-Creating jobs for perpetrators of criminal acts who are sentenced with diversity measure of community work;	2010			-Provision of a range of services and special conditions for the juveniles in conflict with the law;
	-Expanding the list of institutions for implementation of the community work, besides the public and private ones	2012			-Implementation of the programmes for recreational and sportive activities for juveniles in correctional centres;
					-Approximation of the conditions and life in prison with life in a community;

	-Creation of Special Institution for the Treatment of Persons with Mental disorders, as perpetrators of criminal acts;	2010			-Registration, collection and organizing of the data or the crimes of minors regulated by policies and adequate legislation;
	-Creation of the capacity for long term reintegration for minors who have completed the diversion measure – community work	In continuity			
	-In the minors database to provide access only to prosecutors and judges for minors;	2010			
	-Development of policies for registration, collection and organizing data on juvenile crime and the implementation of the justice system;	2011			
6.6. To offer a qualitative healthcare and education in the correctional institutions	-Implementation of the Law on primary and secondary education;	2009	MD, MOH, MEST	KCB MTEF Donors	-Raise the level of hygienic sanitary conditions of correctional institutions;
	-Providing quality 24 hour healthcare services for children;	2009			-Completion of the education for minors in the prison not to make any reference in the diploma or certificate issued for this purpose;
	-Psychologist and psychiatrist on duty 24 hours;	2011			
	-Providing free tools needed in primary education (i.e. books, notebooks, etc.);	2010			-Increasing the quality and health services in correctional institutions;
	-Continuous training of medical staff in accordance with European standards;	In continuity			-Protocols based on international health standards;
	-Compilation of protocols based on WHO's guide to health in correctional institutions;	2010			
	-Maintaining high level of hygienic sanitary conditions in correctional institutions;	In continuity			

7. Important cross sectorial issues

Objective	Activities	Timeframe	Responsible institutions and partners	Budget	Indicators
7.1. Birth registration of all children;	-Promotion/improvement of current legislation which regulates the process of birth registration, including immediate registration of a child at birth;	2010	MIA MLGA OPM/OGG Municipalities	KCB MTEF Donors	-Subsidiary legislation for registration of all children; -Facilitation of children registration procedures;
	-Regulation by means of law on prevention of registration of a child under a name that may render the child subject to a joke;	2010			-Increase the awareness on the importance of birth registration; -Establishment of suitable programs for collection and preservation of data in the civil registration offices;
	-Provision of software programs for collection and preservation of birth registration data in all civil status registry offices;	2012			-Facilitated procedures for registration of children from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities;
	-Simplification of birth registration procedures;	2010			
	-Improvement of approach towards citizens in the civil status registration offices;	2010			
	-Establishment of suitable preconditions for registration of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian children;	2010			
	-Organisation of five campaigns in relation to the importance of birth registration;	In continuity		100.000	

	-Distribution of informative materials at the health institutions and schools in relation to the consequences of non-registration of children;	In continuity		20.000	
	-Provision of the special registration procedures and encouragement of the citizens for latter registration;	2010		KCB MTEF	
	-Implementation of punitive measures for non-registration of births;	2010			
7.2. Participation of children in the decision-making process and raising the awareness of civil society regarding the rights of a child;	-Laws that protect the rights of children should clearly specify that views of a child are to be taken into consideration in the decision-making process;	2010	MEST/MCYS MEST MLGA OPM/OGG MED Parent's Associations Civil Society UNICEF NGO	KCB MTEF Donors	-Establishment of child representation structures and mechanisms;
	-Approval and implementation of the legislation for empowerment and participation of youth;	2010			-System which is suitable for communication between children and governing institutions;
	-Adoption of the Youth Action Plan;	2010			-Adoption and implementation of a specific program for Kosovo youth;
	-Publishing and distribution Convention on the Rights of the Child in all local languages;	2010		100.000	
	-Offering possibility to children and take their opinion in strategic plans and government policies;	In continuity		KCB MTEF	

	-Establishment and making effective of school student boards for protection of the rights of a child;	2010		Donors	-Increasing participation of children in the decision-making processes in society
	-Making effective the organisational structure of children in the schools, which will serve as basis to regulate the process of participation of children at the local and central level;	2011			
	-Ensure participation of all children in the Kosovo Parliament children structures;	2011			
	-Raising of awareness of the society with the purpose of acknowledgement and respect for the rights of a child in the decision-making process;	In continuity		100.000	
	-Organisation of media and press campaigns with the purpose of information on the issues of fair treatment of needs and rights of children;	In continuity		25.000	
7.3. Establishment of an effective system for collection of data that cover the issue children's' rights;	-Establishment of mechanisms for collection and monitoring of data that cover the field of children's rights in both central and local level;	2011	MLGA MIA MCYS	KCB MTEF Donors	-
	-Provide software programs for the collection and preservation of data that would enable a clear review on identification and assessment of the current situation;	2013			

7.4. Establish and ensure free of weapons environment for children	-Develop a specific methodology (taking into account age of the children) for inspection of weapons found in youth;	2010	MIA MD Ministries Municipalities Civil Society UNDP	KCB MTEF Donors	-Legislation that protects children from danger that comes from weapons;
	-Implement two researches in relation to the situation of possession of small arms in relation to children;	In continuity		60.000	-Reduction of number of children that are in contact with weapons;
	Specialization of the community police for suitable access towards children;	2010			-Reduction of number of injuries (deaths) of children as a consequence of use of weapons;
				KCB MTEF Donors	-Rise the awareness of public, including children on the risk from weapons and the importance of a safe environment;
	- Improve quality of service in line with human rights standards, principles of accountability towards citizens and in line with democratic policing principles;	In continuity			

7.5. Create safe infrastructure, space and children playgrounds	-Making effective of cultural and entertainment programs for children;	2011	MCYS MEST MESP MTT OPM/OGG Municipalities Youth NGOs Civil Society	KCB MTEF Donors	-Better entertainment facilities for children;
	-Construction of facilities for entertainment;	2011			-More sport fields and playgrounds;
	-Construction of sport halls and playgrounds according to international standards;	2011			-Regular cultural and youth activities;
	-Organisation of five campaigns with the purpose of motivating children into full participation in the cultural and artistic life;				-Increase of allocated funds for recreation and sports;
				100.000	-Strengthening of interethnic and intercultural cooperation between children;
	-Promotion of cultural values and activities for youth;	In continuity			-Culture of peace and tolerance which is present in children standpoints;
					-Increase of number of green parks and facilities;
					-Qualitative waste management in line with the standards;

	-Organisation of informal education activities on environmental issues;				-Establishment of waste collection and processing points in an adequate places, where the health of public is not endangered;
	-Integration of environmental issues in educational programs in all levels of education;	In continuity		KCB MTEF Donors	
	-Support the voluntary activities for protection and cleaning of environment;				
	-Organisation first Olympic Games for youth with special needs;				
	-Ensure access to sporting, cultural and youth premises which are occupied and are used for other purposes;				
	-Each municipality should have at least one functional sports centre for children, providing them with free of charge access;	2010		50.000	
	-Support youth cultural activities during the month of youth;	2011		KCB MTEF Donors	
	-Implement projects for improvement of interethnic cooperation between the youth;	2013			
	-Implement projects for promotion of values, creativity and cultural activities of youth;	In continuity			

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