

# National Roma Centrum 2020

## **Assotiation NRC**

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## **FOREWORD**

This report reflects the operation of the Association National Roma Centrum (NRC) - Kumanovo, from January to December 2020. As can be seen from

the content of this report, 2020 Overall work at local, national, regional and international level of human rights activities in society

#### Asmet Elezovski CEO of Association National Roma Centrum

A year that will be remembered after the unexpected occurrence of the global pandemic covid-19. Which actually left consequences on the society of all the people in the world. Death covered a large number of citizens regardless of nation, religion, skin color, financial status and more. With the resources at our disposal, we tried and struggled to help as much as possible, but there were also difficult and sad moments. This year for me and for all my colleagues from the National Roma Centrum was one of the most difficult and sad moments as well as for the whole world. In addition to the world pandemic, we worked on daily activities, how successful we were in them will give results in the next 5 years with the hope that we, along with all other Associations, institutions, the country will overcome this global battle against covid-19 pandemic. I want all violated rights and isolation, psychological stress, poverty, to be part of the world agendas, but not to forget the Roma as the most marginalized group or nation in the world.

#### My quote:

"It is during our darkest moments that we must focus to see the light." -Aristotle

# VISION, MISSION, VALUES AND STRATEGIC DETERMINATIONS

Established in 2005 and taking into account the external environment and factors that
influence and shape the needs and priorities of the members of NRC - Roma and
marginalized, vulnerable people living at social risk, without despising their ethnicity, age,
religion.

Based on the above and the jubilee of NRC 15 years, and above all as an urgent need due to the global pandemic covid-19 NRC with their organizational structure actively worked and will work until mid-2021 on a new strategy tailored to the needs and conditions at the height of this pandemic .

The strategic goal of NRC is to provide support to the Roma community as well as to other vulnerable groups living in poverty and social risk in order to exercise and enjoy their legal rights, which will lead to the fulfilment of the mission and vision of the organization.

**Vision**: Developing a Just and Sustainable society without poor people and where functional rights and responsibilities are integral.

**Mission:** By mobilizing and empowering people, using a human rights-based approach and evidence-based advocacy, the NRC supports its constituents in progressive fulfillment of their rights and responsibilities.

To successfully fulfil its mission and vision, NRC acts in accordance with the following values and principles that are shared both by employees and board members:

- Strengthening the capacities and equitable representation of the powerless, poor, and discriminated people, regardless of their ethnicity, religion or gender
- Influencing policies and decision-making processes for a better future and securing access to right to everyone;
- Mutual respect and cooperation with our constituents to achieve mutually beneficial results;
- Diversity means power and strength that brings us closer.

The principles of NRC are:

- Non-discrimination and equal opportunities
- Gender equality
- Social inclusion
- Capacity-Building
- Human rights-based approach
- Evidence-based advocacy
- Transparency and accountability
- Collaboration and networking

In order to set relevant strategic commitments, NRC combines a wide range of methods for timely assessment of the needs of the Roma and other vulnerable categories of citizens. This approach is primarily based on long-term experience, as well as the expertise in conducting detailed analysis and needs assessment.

To adequately respond to the identified problems, NRC applies the following strategic commitments:

- Access to justice and the rule of law
- Access to high quality health services and facilities
- Adequate living conditions
- Employment, social entrepreneurship and lifelong learning

In parallel with each of the above commitments, NRC also focuses on the issue of equal opportunities for development and equity for women and youth, which are key aspect in our overall work of the organization. That is reflected not only through the involvement of women in project activities, but also through their involvement as part of the team of the executive office (out of 11 employees, 7 are women) and as members of the Executive Board (out of 5 members, 3 are women).

### Organisational structure - WHO WE ARE

The highest decision-making body of NRC is the Assembly, which meets annually. The Assembly adopts the annual work program and approves the annual narrative and financial report of the previous year. Next in the hierarchy is the Executive Board (EB) of NRC, composed of five members that monitor the management of the organization and the fulfilment of its strategic goals. The EB also approves the organisational strategic plan and maintains regular contacts with the executive office, ie. CEO, and in its ranks.

The NRC Executive Office consists of two departments:

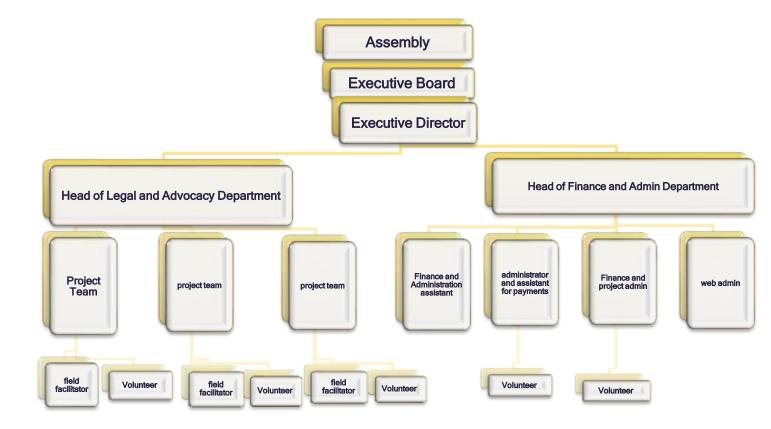
1. Legal Program and Advocacy Department responsible for program work and quality assurance, as well as setting and meeting strategic priorities, human resource management policy, fundraising, and drafting project proposals.

2. Finance and Administration Department responsible for the accurate, efficient and effective, administrative, financial and technical support of the organization, as well as for the maintenance of the website.

The Executive Office is managed by the Executive Director, responsible for successfully achieving the strategic goals, implementing the planned activities and the overall running of the organization.



# **ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**



## **ACTIVITIES**

### COVID-19

We actively worked for protection and prevention as well as informing all citizens about protection from the danger that occurred pandemic in the world. In cooperation with government institutions as well as health institutions at local and national level as well as internationally with the support of the health program of Soroz-Berlin and the National Foundation FOSM-Skopje we acted in the fight against covid-19.



## Meeting with government institutions and cooperation

Supported by the Council of Europe to implement Enough Campaign Overcome Prejudice Meet the Roma. Meetings were held with several representatives of government institutions. At the same time signed memoranda of cooperation.















## Roma Holocaust and International Roma Day





## Completed projects

## Realized projects

1. Name of the project: Empowerment of Roma health and Roma Women

**Donor**: FOSM/OSF Health Berlin

**Budget**: 25,000 USD

Period of implementation: June 2020-June 2021

List the project activities:

- meetings with health professionals and institutions
- -distribution of 100 packages preventive care (face masks, disinfectants)
- 4 workshops held with health institutions for preventive care for population
  - 2. Name of the project: COVID 19 Protection of labor rights of low-income workers and

informal workers in crisis because COVID 19

**Donor**: Open Society Foundation - Macedonia

**Budget**: 14.986 USD

Period of implementation: 01.07.2020-30.06.2021

List the project activities:

- information flyers to inform citizens about the rights and obligations arising from workers' rights and in case of unemployment.

- free information and advice to citizens on the rights and obligations arising from workers' rights and in case of unemployment.
- Advocacy in administrative and court proceedings to protect the rights of low-income workers and single parents.
- Interviewing stakeholders required to prepare a 15-year organizational evaluation report on the work of the organization.
- Preparation and printing of a 15-year organizational evaluation report on the work of the organization
  - 3. Name of the project: Empowerment of Roma Women in North Macedonia

Donor: We Effect

**Budget**: 152.195 eur

Period of implementation: May 2019-May 2021

List the project activities:

- organizational strengthening (Risk Strategy adoption, financial training, revision of internal acts Manual for work and Manual for Procurement, revision of Strategy, Annual Plan 2021)
- -strengthened capacities of 6 Roma CSO's for gender equality
- 7 workshops gender equality in 6 municipalities (99 participants out of which 75 women)
- -gender equality policy developed and adopted
- -746 Roma from which 593 women received assistance for employment, social entrepreneurship and legal aid
- -24 info days for personal documentation and property with 205 participants out of which 191 women
- 7 info days prevention early marriages with 112 participants out of which 82 women
- -18 meetings with local Agency for Employment in 6 municipalities
- 3 capacity building trainings for advocacy for 15 Roma girls
- 39 legal cases and legal representation, out of which 37 women
- -1 training for social entrepreneurship
- 2 social enterprises formed, 2 business plans, engaged 10 Roma women
- 12 zoom meetings for job counseling with 66 participants out of which 43 women and 1 trainings for job counseling with 39 participants which received later support to apply for job
- VET research for 6 municipalities

- GBV research for 6 municipalities for services
- -6 info days for GBV with 50 Roma women participants
- 1 training labour relation during COVID 19
- 11 info days for labour relations with 125 participants out of which 123 women
- 40 Roma received diplomas for VET and primary education for adults
- -21 Roma women engaged in labour market out of which 16 employed
- -preparation of 3 videos for SE which had 9800 views A6
  - **4. Name of the project**: Strengthening the Access of Free Legal Aid by Roma and other Vulnerable Groups

**Period of implementation**: December 2018 - December 2020

**Donor**: European Commission through the grant scheme "Strengthening the Impact of Civil

Society on Effective Reforms in the Judicial Sector" implemented by the Ministry of

Finance, Sector for Central Financing and Contracting

Budget: 186.311,92 euro

Implementing partners: National Roma Centrum and Symbiosis 12 Kumanovo

**Location**: 6 municipalities (Kichevo, Kumanovo, Kriva Palanka, Prilep, Shtip and Kochani) **Activities within the project**:

- Organized promotional campaign (prepared promotional material at least 300 posters, 6000 flyers, and other small promotional products)
- At least 12 open info days organized (2 in each municipality)
- Assessment of the level of knowledge of the target communities for free legal aid (field research on a sample of 1,500 citizens; interviews with civil society activists)
- At least 120 days of field visits
- Advice, information and referral regarding the legislation on free legal aid, which is regularly provided
- Two trainings on the system and provision of free legal aid in the country held for at least 40 civil society activists and their employees
- At least 12 briefings organized (2 for the municipality) for civil society organizations regarding free legal aid and citizens' associations

At least 60 days of technical support regarding the functioning of the system for free legal aid that will be provided to civil society organizations

**5. Name of the project**: Promoting Social Inclusion of Roma through Non-Formal Education

**Period of implementation**: November 2019 - November 2021

**Donor**: European Commission (Erasmus +)

Budget: 32.176 euro

Implementing partners: The project is implemented by the Institute of Romani Culture in Albania (IRCA), the National Roma Centrum (NRC) from Macedonia, and AKADEMIKA 245 from Bulgaria

#### Activities within the project:

- Organizing partner meetings in order to prepare activities, educational materials, planning and monitoring.
- Organizing training for Mobility workers for Roma youth workers on non-formal education for career counseling work with Roma youth.
- Organizing training for Mobility of Youth Workers for Roma youth workers on nonformal education on media literacy for Roma youth.
- Organizing training for Youngsters in career counseling for Roma youth.
- Organizing training for Youngsters in media literacy for Roma youth.
- Organizing seminar on approaches and methodologies for career counseling work with Roma youth.
- Organizing seminar on approaches and methodologies for non-formal education on media literacy for Roma youth.

**6.** Name of the project: My health is my right, continuation 2018

Period of implementation: November 2018 - June 2020

Donor: FOSIM

Budget: 55.000 USD

Activities within the project:

- Strengthening the community for its health rights, with a special focus on girls, boys and women aged 15-35 through focus groups, community meetings and knowledge sharing among peers.
- Encouraging women to initiate proceedings against violation of their health rights, at least five proceedings by the target group.
- Monitoring and advocating in order to improve access to health care for the Roma community. Advocacy on the national level refers to the ministries as well as the departments that implement activities for the Roma. Sending letters for requesting public information on the basis of the Law on Access to Public Information. Making scorecard in order to be presented to the public, in the community, and also to the general public by organizing press conferences.
- Short analysis of the current changes in the legislation and news in the field of health care with a review on sexual and reproductive health.
- Organizing meetings with women in cooperation with the NRC team in order to
  motivate and strengthen as many women as possible to initiate proceedings, but
  also to participate in the work of the newly created network that will work at the local
  level.

- Organizing 4 focus groups to evaluate the utilization of the services provided in the Program for active health care of mothers and children.
- Creating a local network that will aim to work to improve the health of the citizens of the city of Kumanovo.
- Organizing regular meetings with representatives of institutions.
- Creation of database within the same to collect data.
- Evaluation and strategic planning trainings aimed to make a new health strategy according to which NRC will work

#### 7. Name of the project: Access to Justice in Macedonia

Period of implementation: January 2020 - January 2021

**Donor:** FOSIM

Budget: 8.000 USD

#### Activities within the project:

- Providing free legal aid to the citizens on the territory of the city of Kumanovo
- General legal information, Initial legal advice on the right to use legal aid, Assistance in filling out forms and forms in total 265
- Legal aid when completing a request for free legal aid
- -Submitted 23 requests for free legal aid to the Ministry of Justice, Kumanovo branch.
- Held 4 PLE sessions / Recorded 4 educational videos
- Recorded educationally on the topic "Law on unregistered persons in the birth register.
  "
- Recorded educationally on the topic "Law on financial support of low-income citizens, pension beneficiaries, beneficiaries of the right to social security of the elderly, young people, single parents, children without parents and parental care, artists and other persons working in culture, filmmakers and pop artists. "
- Recorded educationally on the topic "Law on Prevention and Protection against Discrimination"

Recorded educationally on the topic "Law on Social Security of the Elderly"Food Bank

Network



#### **NGO Partners and Donators**

#### **Partners**

- IRCA Albania
- Akademika Bulgaria

Donator Erasmus + Program Part II

#### **Partners**

 Macedonian Roma and Non Roma organizations who worked in health problem resolving-Covid 19 Platform and creative workshops

Donator Health Program OSF, FOOM North Macedonia

We have a lot of partners and Donors all activities and project you can find on our website, and facebook page. Also at the moment we are developing our new media portal nrc media.

More info at <a href="http://nationalromacentrum.org/en/">http://nationalromacentrum.org/en/</a>

Fb page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/National-Roma-Centrum-158602947539466">https://www.facebook.com/National-Roma-Centrum-158602947539466</a>

Quote of National Roma Centrum Team

"Don't raise your voice, improve your argument."

# **FINANCIAL REPORT 2020**

## Budget of NRC 2020 348,337 USD /296,134 EU

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