Word from the director

Through 2012, World Vision Bosnia and Herzegovina underwent significant change in its structure and operational methods so that World Vision’s ministry can generate sustained well-being for children in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Over 80 staff work passionately towards a shared organisational aspiration of building a child friendly society that is based on communities of trust, where each child has hope, equal opportunity and is empowered to pursue its full potential. In all our work, we engage with children, build strategic partnerships and empower citizens to shape a more just society. Our ministry reaches all children, regardless of race, gender or religion. We are also thankful to institutional donors and thousands of sponsors in Taiwan and Korea who generously donate financial resources towards our endeavor.

Together we build a trusting society and restore hope for thousands of children in Bosnia and Herzegovina!

Hans Bederski
National Director World Vision Bosnia and Herzegovina

WORLD VISION CHILD WELL-BEING ASPIRATIONS

„Children Enjoy Good Health”

In Krivaja and Jahorina ADP, 40 peer educators for HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases, puberty, etc. were educated. Children reported that the trainings were life-changing events that gave them opportunity to make new friends and gain life experience that most of them would have never had chance to gain.

Through Dental Health Project in Jahorina ADP, 1,569 children participated in dental check-ups and oral hygiene educations, while 833 children received dental interventions through three child-friendly dental dispensaries.

Dental Health Project in Jahorina ADP
Collaborative space for protection of children were formed in Ozren ADP with relevant stakeholders (17 coalition members). In the same ADP, mobile medical team was established to visit children and their families in remote areas of ADP. Partnership was established with local NGO for protection and inclusion of 84 disabled children. Workshops, rehabilitation sessions held on a weekly basis in the rehabilitation center and at children’s homes.

In Lašva ADP, World Vision helped in acquiring medicines and medicinal supplies in order to secure the treatment of 13 children. In cooperation with school of sport, World Vision organized Little Olympics for primary school students, with the participation of 200 children. On the occasion of World AIDS Day, awareness workshops were organized in two primary schools and they encompassed around 325 students. Twelve students from Lašva ADP also participated in the training for peer-educators on the topic of HIV and AIDS.

In the past year, World Vision effectively promoted safe behaviors, raised awareness about and provided preventive education on HIV and AIDS, TB among Roma communities and other groups at risk: 5.575 Roma were reached with HIV/TB outreach work and field activities, 709 community members and health care providers were educated through trainings and workshops; there were 313 registered TB patients on DOT, 1079 incentives/food parcels were distributed to TB patients in need, while 211 people were tested on HIV and 993 persons were screened on TB.

Adequate response of faith communities to HIV and AIDS on national level was initiated and it opened a discussion on the importance of active involvement of religious leaders (representing Muslim, Orthodox, Catholic and Jewish communities) in prevention and stigma reduction activities. Over 500 youth, teachers, and faith workers were trained through “Channels of Hope (CoH)” and “Stigma reduction” workshops, and actively engaged in sensitizing their communities (including children) to the needs of people affected with HIV and mobilizing them to implement activities on HIV prevention, advocacy, care and support. Faith workers were equipped to incorporate themes such as HIV prevention and stigma reductions in their ceremonies, while booklet on “Faith Based Organization’s activities in the area of stigma reduction” was developed.

“Children are Educated for Life”

Eleven small-scale projects about formal and non-formal education have been implemented by local partners in Krivaja ADP since September 2011. These projects contributed to the continuous participation of children in all project phases. Student Councils were included in developing project ideas in planning phase in many projects, peer educators were used in implementation phase and all project activities included children as beneficiaries. In total more than 1.600 children benefited from projects.

World Vision improved conditions in four major schools in Krivaja ADP by purchasing didactic materials, school furniture, computer and audio and video equipment which all are supposed to enhance and introduce new teaching capabilities and methodologies, and have positive impact on acquiring knowledge and motivation for more than 1.800 children. Furthermore one library room was reconstructed in school where there was none thus providing some 232 children a chance to enjoy books in nice and quiet surroundings inside the school.

In Jahorina ADP there were nine interventions to primary school facilities and eight batches of didactic material, enabling better schooling conditions for 4.238 children (2.212 of which registered). Three projects of local community based organizations were supported in implementation: “Professional Orientation of Students” enabled insight into labour market for 36 students of final years of primary
school in Pale-Prača municipality; “Inter-Entity Cooperation between schools and students – Path to Future” implemented by community based organization “Pomoć djeci Balkana” enabled for 50 children from ten schools to participate in 10-day learning summer camp. This lead to better understanding among children of different ethnic background, while at the same time event was used to provide additional learning opportunities for children in area of mine awareness, democracy, environmental classes, etc. “Pomoć djeci Balkana” also organized one-day gathering/event for children with disabilities from all three municipalities of Jahorina ADP enabling them socialization, life-skill learning, fun events, etc.

In Ozren ADP emphasis was on most vulnerable children (Roma children) and two campaigns organized – first one for enrollment of Roma children in schools and the second one to repair local road which leads to school. There were 44 non-formal educative workshops organized for Roma children who do not go to school in order to bring them closer to other children. Nine student councils cooperated with nine teacher councils and parents councils to communicate ideas which brought nine projects that were implemented in order to improve learning environment.

In Majevica ADP, significant results in the field of training were achieved. Namely, children and youth, particularly registered children, continued with strengthening and empowering themselves, but also their respective communities. 492 children and youth passed through nine trainings and two reflection events. The whole process was led by strong network of partners. Besides informal education which is important for personal prosperity of children and youth, training processes have led to strengthening of formal and informal youth groups within communities. The most visible proof of this assertion lies in the fact that these groups have implemented three projects which were aimed at improving the quality of life of local children, initiated local community actions such as afforestation, urgent mobilization after disaster etc.

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In Vrbas ADP, capacities of teachers were improved by child-friendly teaching methods, while 300 teachers were equipped with adequate textbooks and learning materials. World Vision also provided 66 most vulnerable pupils in Vrbas with new textbooks. New textbooks were provided in Lašva ADP as well, namely 66 sets for most vulnerable students and another 16 for students of Roma nationality.

In Lašva ADP, total of 13 projects were conducted in 12 schools with the significant financial support of schools and local communities that increased the value of projects for 30%. In total, around 4,000 children benefitted from the World Vision school projects in Lašva ADP. Peer educators from Lašva ADP participated in biggest children’s fair in BiH “Kids Fest” and raised awareness on the topic of human trafficking.

On the regional level, 146 youth in three countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro) were equipped with local level advocacy skills and tools to bring change in their communities through Citizens Voice and Action. This project was supported by the European Union.

“Children Experience Love of God and Their Neighbours”

As part of integration project with Faith and Development, 48 children from twelve primary schools in Jahorina and Krivaja ADPs took part in Educational Interfaith Excursion for Students which enabled them to visit religious heritage of their country. Also, through participation of their respective religion teachers, all teachers were introduced to customs and practice of three major religions in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Art competition „Looking forward to Easter“ was organized in five schools and with 300 participants. Best art works were chosen by members of different religions and rewarded. In another elementary school, 210 students celebrated life of St. Nicholas through plays, drawings, church mass and distribution of 200 food packages.

Eight children and their mothers, who experienced domestic violence and were placed in the Safe House received psycho-social treatment and new blankets, linen and pillows; while another 20 children, former
residents from the Safe House, living in extremely poor conditions, received packages of basic food and hygienic items. For Christmas and Easter, 70 orphan children at the Orphanage Home in Mostar, were provided with food.

The year of solidarity in Majevica ADP was achieved through actions conducted by Community Solidarity Groups that have implemented 12 community actions aimed at improving the quality of life for 225 of the most vulnerable children and their families. In these actions, the contribution of legal and private entities was evident as well as participation of World Vision. Implemented actions included: distribution of packages of shoes, clothes and food, procurement of textbooks for elementary school students, renovation of toilets in the homes of children whose living conditions did not meet minimum standards and therefore the health of children and the household was endangered.

Social capital which is undeveloped in Bosnia and Herzegovina, especially in rural areas, began to emerge thanks to the programme and enthusiasm of community members, especially youth. As a result of this, many volunteers initiated actions and undertook the role of leaders of change, strengthening the cohesion within each community, and 90 volunteers conducted ten actions with the different developmental aims.

“Easter Festival: Children sing hits” was organized in Vrbas ADP with all profit from entrance tickets donated to medical treatment of a sick child.

World Vision organized art competition for students on the topic of peace, tolerance and interreligious understanding in Lašva ADP, as part of which 33 children received prizes and one whole class went to excursion.

Within Stigma Reduction project, 25 field workshops were held, where over 400 youth and high school children (Muslim, Orthodox, Catholic and Jewish) were encouraged to lead deep discussions on moral teachings within their traditions that prevent believers from stigmatizing and discriminating those that are different, including people living with HIV and AIDS.

“Children are cared for, protected and participating”

As part of project "Economic Empowerment of Women" local women's community based organization „Sabina Jamakovic“ from Krivaja ADP has built food-processing unit that contributes to ensuring the income for satisfying needs of their children. In the same ADP, project "Procurement of beekeepers equipment" improved the production of honey in honeycombs in both quantity and quality thus directly improving the income from the products. All the Beekeepers Association members have opportunity to use their own wax to make honeycombs thus directly reducing the costs of honey production which indirectly increases their income.
Also, visit to International Agricultural Fair in Novi Sad was organized for 143 farmers from Krivaja and Jahorina ADP, where they had opportunity to gain experience and create new business opportunities in contact with international companies and farmers from other markets. In Jahorina ADP, parents of 12 children (nine families) were supported with subsidized agricultural loans, while 34 families were supported in achieving better agricultural results through implementation of two small-scale projects. In addition, 199 farmers, who are parents of 171 children, were provided with agricultural education and introduced to modern agricultural techniques.

In Ozren ADP, community-based Child Protection Forum consisting of 30 high-school children was established and functioning on the basis of advocacy. Anti-trafficking project funded by Royal Netherlands Embassy to Bosnia and Herzegovina was organized in two schools with total of 336 participants. In the same ADP, community monitors collaborating with wider communities, identified the most vulnerable children enabling their involvement in decision-making processes that affect their lives.

Program has also continued to strengthen the economic sustainability of registered children’s families by providing training for 64 beneficiaries on fruit growing, fruit seedlings and fertilizer, giving them capacities and knowledge for fruit production. The program also supports partners that, together with community monitors, identified and mapped vulnerable children and their families around the community. The result of these efforts is a list of the 500 most vulnerable children making these children more visible and engaging them in various activities that allow their voices to be heard.

In Majevica ADP, 68 local community stakeholders (representatives of governmental and non-governmental sectors as well as individuals who work for child well-being) have deepened their knowledge and understanding of child well-being and vulnerability.

In Vrbas ADP, there were six small projects implemented that included participation of at least 2699 children through different activities. In addition, First Agricultural Fair in Celinac was supported, as well as Honey Fair in Knezevo and visit to Agricultural Fair in Bijeljina. Implementation of six projects of agricultural associations that gather more than 134 members in Vrbas ADP, enabled them to improve their capital assets and scope of production with new machinery and equipment.

In Lašva ADP, Memorandums of Partnership were signed with six NGOs and 47 representatives of partner organizations participated in capacity building trainings. In addition, 12 small projects from Lašva ADP municipalities were financially supported in cooperation with Municipality Offices. Four small
agricultural projects were supported by World Vision in Lašva ADP and ten loans were approved for parents of children included into Sponsorship program.

World Vision continued with helping vulnerable categories of people in Lašva ADP and supported two single mothers and three unemployed demobilized fathers with either donation in animals or means for their own business. Also, four work places were created for socially vulnerable individuals. With the project “Farming of domestic animals” 35 families were supported with one goat, three sheep and 25 chickens.

SPONSORSHIP

16.002 children are registered in World Vision BiH sponsorship programme.

FINANCIAL PROFILE

World Vision Bosnia and Herzegovina is funded by voluntary donations and grants, most from its international network of support offices. World Vision Support Offices in financial year 2012 have been World Vision Korea, Taiwan, Switzerland, United States, Austria, Australia, Canada and Ireland. Their help has been invaluable.

The overall budget for World Vision Bosnia and Herzegovina in Financial Year 2012 was over 5.200.000 US dollars.