



Institute for Democracy and Mediation
Instituti për Demokraci dhe Ndërmjetësim

Semi-Annual report on the project

“Understanding Civic and Faith-Based Education in Albania 2017”

01 January 2017 – 20 July 2017

Description of activities:

“Understanding civic and Faith-Based Education in Albania” is a project that has successfully introduced the format of Project Citizen into religious community non-public high schools and several public high schools thanks to the remarkable contribution of Albanian Religious Communities, Ministry of Education and Sport, Regional Departments of Education and the financial support from the Embassy of United States of America in Tirana.

Project Citizen focuses on the role of central and local governments in Albania. The curriculum involves an entire class of students in a series of structured, cooperative-learning activities that are guided by teachers. Working in four cooperative teams, the students learn to interact with their government through a five-step process that includes the following:

1. Identifying a problem in their community that requires a public policy solution
2. Gathering and evaluating information on the problem
3. Examining and evaluating alternative solutions
4. Developing a proposed public policy to address the problem
5. Creating an action plan to get their policy adopted

Project Citizen is a curricular program for high school students which promote competent and responsible participation in local and central government. The program helps participants learn how to monitor and influence public policy. In the process, they develop support for democratic values and principles, tolerance, and feelings of political efficacy.

Entire classes of students work cooperatively to identify a public policy problem in their community. They then research the problem, evaluate alternative solutions, develop their own solution in the form of a public policy or initiative, and create an action plan to enlist local or central authorities to adopt their proposed policy. Participants develop a portfolio of their work and



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present their project in a public hearing showcase. Students' work is displayed in a class portfolio containing a display section and a documentation section.

Through Project Citizen the project "Understanding Civic and Faith-Based Education in Albania" has made an important contribution in promoting and fostering civic values and participation, religious tolerance and understanding. It has also encouraged and supported concrete efforts to establish cooperation between local stakeholders, including public and non-public educational institutions, religious communities, local authorities, civil society, media, etc.

Thanks to the very successful implementation of Project Citizen against corruption in the course of the last two years and in close cooperation and with the support of the Ministry of Education and Sport and Regional Departments of Education, we intend to expand the map of cities in which the project will be implemented during 2017 with high school students in 8 major Albanian cities: Shkodra, Lezha, Elbasan, Gjirokaster, Berat, Vlora, Tirana, Kukës. The high schools involved in the project have welcomed the initiative and they have engaged and supported the activities to raise awareness among students about the negative effects of corruption. Building on the good practices of the previous years, the project will expand its activities in the high schools in two additional cities in Lezha and Gjirokastra.

As a first step for this academic year, the schools will still work with the anti-corruption brochure with the 10th grade students, as the newcomers for 2016-2017. This year the "Integrity Clubs" will gain a stronger role and take ownership in the trainings and planning and implementation of schools/community based activities.

The novelty of "Project Citizen against Corruption 2017" is embedded in the design and launching of an online platform "check my school" social accountability means that is based on the open data approach to make the schools performance more transparent and accountable to the community. The high schools involved in the project will be encouraged to use the online platform in order to increase transparency and better inform the community. Furthermore, the members of the Integrity Clubs, in cooperation with the school principal's office, will be in charge for updating the information required for the platform. In order to successfully carry out this task, the members of the Integrity Clubs will be trained on the budgetary flow of the high schools, and annual schools performance cards and monitoring process to follow up in the coming years. In addition to the online platform, the students will be encouraged to implement other anti-corruption related school activities that will be presented in the final event. The final event will aim to gather relevant stakeholders and students involved in the project in order for their initiatives to have a greater outreach and impact at the political level.

For the year 2017 the project has engaged more than 2000 students from different religious community non-public high schools working together to address different problems in their communities. These schools include:

1. “H.M. Dashi” Madrassa in Tirana
2. “H. Sh. Shamia” Madrassa in Shkodra
3. “M. Varoshi” Madrassa in Durrës
4. “Liria” Madrassa in Elbasan
5. “Hafiz Ali Korça” Madrassa of Kavaja
6. Madrassa of Korça
7. “Vexhi Buharaja” Madrassa of Berat
8. “Protagonisti” non-public high school of Orthodox Community Tirana
9. “Pjetër Mëshkalla” high school of Catholic Community, Shkodra

An important part of this project for 2017 are also more than 2000 students from 24 public high schools from 8 cities in Albania working in the framework of “Project Citizen against Corruption”. The list includes the following schools:

In Shkodra: “Shenjanze Juka”, “Oso Kuka”, “28 Nentori”, “Jordan Misja”

In Kukës: “Havzi Nela”

In Elbasan: “Vasil Kamami”, “Dhaskal Todri”, “Kostandin Kristoforidhi”, “Ahmet Dakli”, “Mahir Domi”, “Luigj Gurakuqi”

In Berat: “Kristaq Capo”, “Babe Dud Karbunara”,

In Vlora: “Gjimnazi i Ri”, “Mustafa Qemal Ataturk”, “Ali Demi”, “Halim Xhelo”, “Jani Minga”

In Tirana: “Petro Nini Luarasi”, “Qemal Stafa” dhe “Myslym Keta”

In Lezha: “Hydajet Lezha” and

In Gjirokastra: “Asim Zeneli” “Siri Shaplo”

At the beginning of the new school year, the project organized a joint reflection session on Project Citizen Portfolio Presentations for the previous school year with the participation of the local coordinators and the principals of the schools engaged in project citizen activities. The meeting made an assessment of the work performed in the framework of the Project “Understanding Civic and Faith-Based Education in Albania” with special focus on the achievements and lessons learned from this year’s involvement in Project Citizen. Participants appreciated the importance of this project for the students of the participating schools and pointed out that combining religious and civic values result in a better quality of active citizens, willing to bring about changes in their

communities and take leadership roles to achieve their goals.

Project coordinators pointed out that Project Citizen helps students to learn from these experiences. They choose the problems they want to address and enjoy the experience of working together with clearly defined roles and responsibilities. In a brief overview of the project, the project coordinator particularly thanked the participants for their remarkable contribution to the success of the project and the importance of working together to help students to become active citizens by providing them with relevant knowledge, skills and tools which teach them how to organize themselves when they want to address a community problem and propose a public policy to bring about changes in their communities.

For the first time this year was the authorities of “Pjetër Mëshkalla” high school of the catholic community in Shkodra implemented Project Citizen with all students of grade 11 in a competition format including seven classes with seven separate projects. Each class actually prepared its own project and in April 2017 presented to them to their peers, teachers and parents and then a jury selected the best project of the year. The problems that the students selected to address included the following: *“Youth Centers for citizenship”*, *“Waste differentiation and recycling”*, *“Healthy food in schools”*, *“The lake of Shkodra – A new dimension”*, *“Street dogs”* and *“The generation of bibliophiles”*. Students working with the project *“The lake of Shkodra – A new dimension”* came up with the following concrete proposal to help protect and develop tourism in the lake of Shkodra, including the following: Improved infrastructure in the lake area, regular cleaning of the area from waste, increasing awareness among citizens about the importance of protecting the lake area, increased information on the tourist possibilities in the area, organization of fairs with local products in the lake area, etc. They also went public in local media to promote their project in the community. The students working with the project *“The generation of bibliophiles”* tried to give a serious message about the importance of books and reading in the formation of new citizens in a democratic society. They conducted different activities with special focus on literature and worked together to create a mini-library in their schools where all students contributed with book donations. The class addressing *“Healthy food in schools”* focused on the effects of malnutrition among youth, obesity and lack of physical activity. As part of their campaign they partnered with the chefs of “Buka n’strajc” (lit. bread in bag) and their activities were also covered by local media. The students working with *“Waste differentiation and recycling”* tackled a very sensitive problem for most of the communities not only in Shkodra. They proposed to start their work with differentiating waste in their schools and organized an awareness activity in the city center to promote waste differentiation. A complete version of their presentation is available in the link

below:

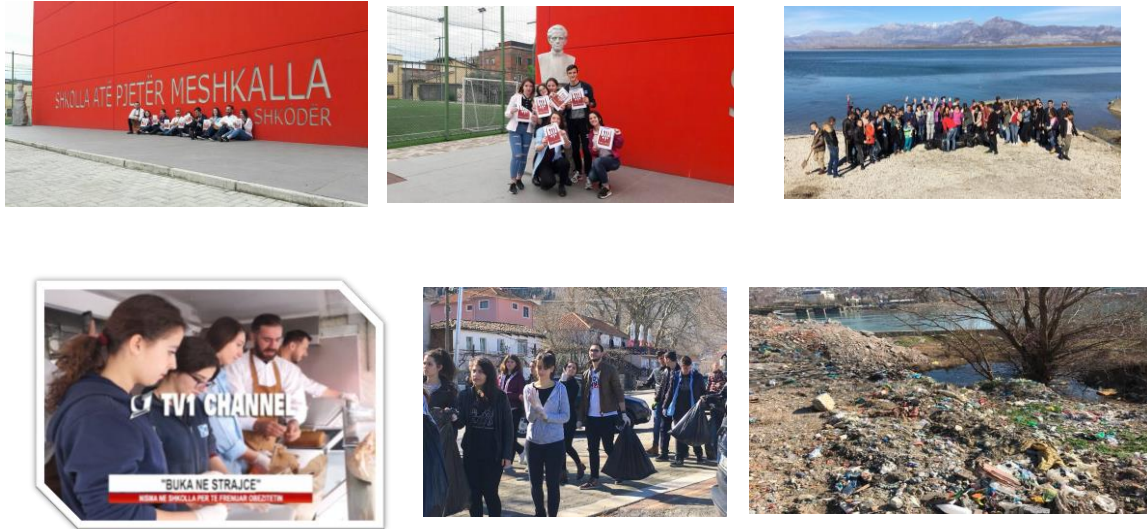
https://prezi.com/_mylee8lptmm/diferencimi-i-mbetjeve-12-f/

As part of their project “*Youth Centers for citizenship*” the students tried to understand why there is a lack of such centers in Shkodra, why youth are not using existing youth centers, what do such centers provide and how can the situation be improved. They proposed to use school premises in the afternoon and evening as youth centers not only for the students but also for all youth from Shkodra. The students also conducted a survey with 258 peers in order to gather their ideas about potential activities. You can see their presentation in the following link:

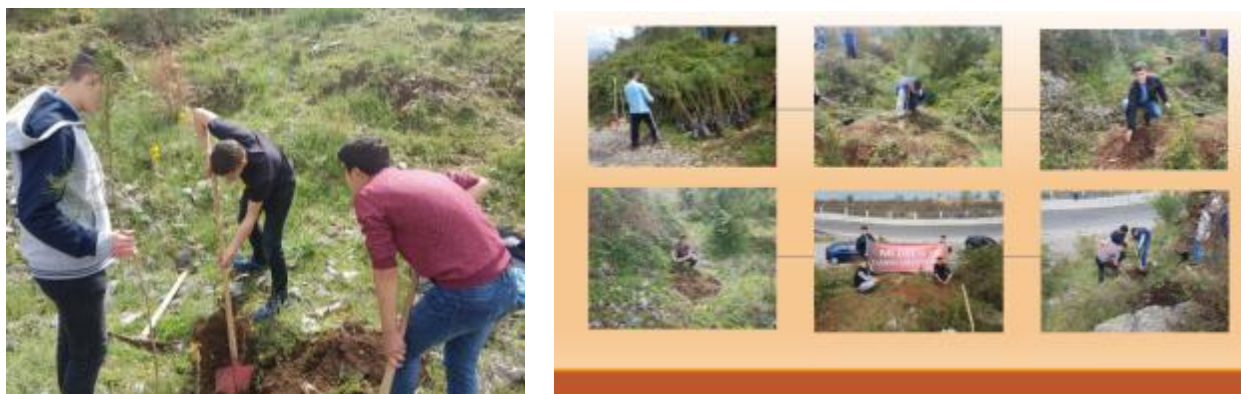
https://prezi.com/o6wfg564ccap/qendrat-rinore/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=cop

The photos below are taken from Project Citizen activities in “Atë Pjetër Mëshkalla” school





The boys in the “H. Sh. Shamia” Madrassa of Shkodra worked together for the project “*Green areas – Realities and Challenges*” in the course of which they gathered and presented interesting facts to support their claim on the need to increase the surface of green areas in Shkodra. Their proposals included the improvement of damaged areas through concrete re-forestation projects, students, coordination and joint projects among different actors, increased number of specialists in the field, tougher punishments for violators, increased awareness on the importance of the green crown of Shkodra in the local community, etc. As the photos show, they also planted several trees in the green crown of Shkodra in close cooperation with local authorities and media.



Whereas the girls in the “H. Sh. Shamia” Madrassa of Shkodra chose to address the problem of “*Medical and aromatic plants in the Lake of Shkodra area*” with the intention of preserving the varieties of these plants and the territories where they grow as well as creating better conditions for their growth and breeding. For this they organized an awareness campaign among local residents. They also proposed tougher punishments for owners or businesses which harm these plants in the area and suggested that specialist from the environmental inspectorate should maintain ongoing

close contacts with local community and provide them with appropriate counseling and support.

Gathering Information



Group III – OUR OROPOSAL



Presentations from the boys and girls in the medresse of Shkodra

Students in “H.M. Dashi” Madrassa in Tirana chose to work together in the project “*Prejudice because of race and poverty*” where they approached the phenomenon from both a civic and a religious perspective and proposed their contribution to help address this issue through ongoing awareness activities among our communities to minimize prejudice because of race or poverty. The deputy ambassador of the Embassy of United States of America in Tirana, Mr. David Muniz, attended the presentation of the students. Addressing the students after their presentation. Mr. Muniz congratulated the students for their wonderful project and underlined that such experiences will serve all of them in their future and guides them in their actions as citizens of a democratic country. “In a democracy, it is very important that citizens be active in their communities and I want to congratulate you for your great work in this project” said Mr. Muniz. Whereas the school principal, Mr. Ali Zaimi, expressed his gratitude to the Embassy of the United States of America for their continuous support to the Madrassa of Tirana with projects that promote civic activism and religious harmony in Albania.



Presentation of students from the Madrasa of Tirana

The students of the “Protagonisti” high school of the Albanian Orthodox Community in Tirana made their portfolio presentation of their project “*Exploiting child labor is a crime*” in front of their peers, teachers, parents and representatives of the orthodox community. They brought rich information and data supporting their claim that this is a serious problem in Albania and looked closely at relevant legislation and public authorities and structures authorized by law to address this issue. They underlined the serious damage that this phenomenon has on the personality, character, physical and mental health of the children subject to work at a very early age. The same problem was also addressed by the students in the “Hafiz Ali Korça” Madrasa of Kavaja who considered the problem as a threat to society and underlined the importance of solidarity and active support to abused children especially during religious holidays.



Presentation from students of "Protagonisti"

The students of grades 11 in “Liria” Madrassa in Elbasan addressed the problem of corruption in Albania in their project *"No corruption – The future of Albania"*. They explained why they chose to work with this problem and provided interesting data about corruption in our country and analyzed the reasons for the widespread of corruption in our society. They came up with three concrete proposals to help fight corruption: Increased awareness among citizens in the community about the harms of corruption; movement for civic education against corruption and using the web page of their school for these two proposals. The students prepared leaflets and organized awareness campaigns in their community and other schools in the city of Elbasan. A complete version of their project is available at <https://prezi.com/ozkvab0w80f9/pa-korrupsioni/>





Students of the “Liria” Madrassa of Elbasan during their presentation

The boys of “Vexhi Buharaja” Madrassa in Berat and the girls in the Madrassa of Korça worked for their project *“Smoking and alcohol among youth”*. They brought disturbing statistics on these problems in Albania and in their city after the meetings they had with staff from the municipality and local health care institutions in both cities and suggested their ideas on how to help minimize the numbers of young boys and girls who fall victims of smoking and alcohol. The representative of the municipality of Berat attending the presentation of the Madrassa students, Mrs. Teuta Muçogllava, congratulated the students and staff of the school for their participation in civic projects that benefit the local community. The girls in the Madrassa of Korça underlined the important role that school and media can play in the fight against smoking and alcohol among youth





Students at “Vexhi Buharaja” Madrassa of Berat presenting their work

In Durrës, the girls in the “M. Varoshi” Madrassa in Durrës presented their project “*A new life at an elderly age*” The girls looked at the problems the elderly face and especially the importance of providing with services that can make their lives easier and worth living. They identified the rights of the elderly as well as the pillars of the social welfare system and also approached the problem from the perspective of Islam in order to emphasize the close relation between civic and religious values. The students organized a festive program in the house of the elderly in Durrës on the occasion of the national holidays in November. They also cooperated with the organization “Fundjavë ndryshe” (A different Weekend) to contribute for the elderly. The principal of “M. Varoshi” Madrassa in Durrës, Mrs. Neriman Gjinali, thanked the American Embassy in Tirana for supporting this project and also expressed her appreciation of the long and fruitful cooperation with IDM in the framework of Project Citizen.

**IN COOPERATION WITH “NJË FUNDJAVË
NDRYSHE”**



**VISITING THE ELDERLY IN THEIR DAY CARE
CENTER**



Students from “Mustafa Varoshi” Madrassa in Durrës contributing for the elderly

A complete version of the four parts of the presentation of the students from the “Mustafa Varoshi” Madrassa in Durrës is available at the following links:

<https://prezi.com/b8qpwzh-pghm/untitled-prezi/>

<https://prezi.com/tptdh2admtsq/politikat-ekzistuese/>

http://prezi.com/sath8pvaagta/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy&rc=ex0share

<https://prezi.com/8xn-qkzypkgs/vlerat-e-te-moshuarve-ne-islam/#>

Thanks to the very successful implementation of “Project Citizen against Corruption” in the course of the last two years and in close cooperation and with the support of the Ministry of Education and Sport and Regional Departments of Education, for 2017 the map of cities in which the project will be implemented during 2017 expanded with high school students in 8 major Albanian cities: Shkodra, Lezha, Elbasan, Gjirokaster, Berat, Vlora, Tirana, Kukës.

As a first step for this academic year, the schools worked with the anti-corruption brochure. This year the “Integrity Clubs” gained a stronger role and tool ownership in the trainings, planning and implementation of schools/community based activities.

The novelty of “Project Citizen against Corruption 2017” was embedded in the design and launching of an online platform “check my school” social accountability means that is based on the open data approach to make the schools performance more transparent and accountable to the community. The high schools involved in the project were encouraged to use the online platform in order to increase transparency and better inform the community. Furthermore, the members of the Integrity Clubs, in cooperation with the school principal’s office, will be in charge for updating the information required for the platform. In order to successfully carry out this task, the members of the Integrity Clubs were trained on the budgetary flow of the high schools, and annual schools performance cards and monitoring process to follow up in the coming years. In addition to the online platform, the students were also encouraged to implement other anti-corruption related school activities that will be presented in the final event. The final event brought together in Tirana relevant stakeholders and students involved in the project in order for their initiatives to have a greater outreach and impact at the political level.

Activity 1. Two rounds of briefing sessions for teachers and students in Shkodra, Kukes, Elbasan, Berat, Vlora, Tirana, Lezhe, Gjirokaster (January- February 2017)

Project Citizen against Corruption for the school year 2016-2017 was implemented in 24 public high schools with the participation of 10th and/or 11th grade students in the cities of Shkodra, Kukes, Elbasan, Berat, Vlore, Tirana, Lezha and Gjirokastra. The high-schools involved in the project were the following: Shkoder (“Shenjanze Juka”, “Oso Kuka”, “28 Nentori”, “Jordan

Misja”), Kukës (“*Havzi Nela*”), Elbasan (“*Vasil Kamami*”, “*Dhaskal Todri*”, “*Kostandin Kristoforidhi*”, “*Ahmet Dakli*”, “*Mahir Domi*”, “*Luigj Gurakuqi*”), Berat (“*Kristaq Capo*”, “*Babe Dud Karbunara*”), Vlore (“*Gjinnazi i Ri*”, “*M. Q. Ataturk*”, “*Ali Demi*”, “*Halim Xhelo*”, “*Jani Minga*”) Tiranë (“*Petro Nini Luarasi*”, “*Qemal Stafa*” dhe “*Myslym Keta*”), Lezhe (“*Hydajet Lezha*”) and Gjirokastra (“*Asim Zeneli*” “*Siri Shaplllo*”).

After the official communication and approval from the Ministry of the Education and Sports, IDM project team held a first briefing session in each city with the school’s headmasters and teachers (acting as project coordinators) and representatives of the Regional Education Directorate. It aimed to introduce the project objectives and activities for this school year and continue with the successful cooperation throughout the project. As in the previous year, each Regional Education Directorate tasked an inspector to facilitate the communication with the schools and the project’s staff. This first starting session was important especially for the new schools that joined the project in Lezha, Gjirokastra and Elbasan.

Following this briefing session, the teachers engaged in the stimulation the established Integrity Clubs and adding new members from the new generation of 10th grade students. In each school this process was facilitated by the internal rules of each club. Again the teachers were an important pillar in providing support and mentoring the students to implement the school and/or community based activities in the frame of the project. This initial phase included the discussion of the anti-corruption brochure and project’s goals and activities in each class for the new students and sometimes this was carried out by the members of the Integrity Clubs. This process was slightly more demanding for the new schools that joined this year.

The **second briefing** session was held with the members of the Integrity Clubs in each city. The idea was to gather all the members in each city in a joint session, in order to brainstorm, plan and coordinate upcoming activities in the frame of the Project Citizen Against Corruption. The joint sessions resulted to be very effective to come up with ideas to have joint activities and not to duplicate efforts and actions. Moreover, this session served as an opportunity to introduce the online portal www.shkollaime.net, the tools that it provides to increase transparency in the schools and community as well as showcase the year round activities of each school. A summary of this session can be found on the online portal and IDM facebook page.



Photos from briefing sessions

The Project Citizen against Corruption Brochure, firstly published in 2015, constitutes the main reference for the in-class training of the students on the corruption phenomena, its definition, causes, types and forms of corruption, its impact on economy, state governance as well as social and political life of the country and how it is measured. It also describes the existing legal and institutional setting on anti-corruption in Albania based on the instrument of National Integrity System developed by Transparency International. Additionally, it is designed to promote youth involvement in concrete activities against corruption in their community.

This brochure is instrumental for the success of the project in providing the basis for the students to be encouraged to think creatively and explore opportunities and actions to undertake in order to address the problem of corruption in Albania. For this purpose, 500 copies were printed and delivered in Lezha and Gjirokastra high-schools as the newcomers in the project and the remaining copies were delivered upon request in the other schools engaged in the project. Moreover, reprinting the brochure was necessary given that all the schools would engage the new generation of students (10th grade) not only in the briefing sessions, but in the Integrity Clubs as well. Click the following link to download the module: <http://idmalbania.org/projekti-qytetar-kunder-korrupsionit/>.

Activity 2. Development of the Online platform www.shkollaime.net (February 2017-May 2017)

Over the years, Project Citizen Against Corruption has been proposing new ideas of engaging youth in awareness raising activities against corruption. This was intentional in order to keep the youngsters motivated and encouraged to seek positive changes in their society. The novelty of “Project Citizen against Corruption 2017” is embedded in the design and launching of an online platform www.shkollaime.net that promotes primarily social accountability means, based on the open data approach to make the schools performance more transparent and accountable to the community. The high schools involved in the project were encouraged to use the online platform in order to increase transparency and better inform youngsters, parents and the community at large. Furthermore, the members of the Integrity Clubs, in cooperation with the school principal’s office, were in charge for updating the information required for the platform.



In order to successfully carry out this task, the members of the Integrity Clubs were introduced in a dedicated session with the components of the online platform and the reporting format of the schools budget and annual schools performance cards and monitoring process to follow up in the coming years. To read more: <http://shkollaime.net/sesion-informues-mbi-platformaten-shkollaime-net/>

Nevertheless, the development process of the online platform was not an easy process. The project team held meetings with the MAS budget department, regional education directorate representatives and municipalities’ representatives responsible for education spending and investments in each city. The information gathered from these meetings helped to shape the process of designing the platform and adjust expectations regarding the information provided by the authorities and schools.

In summary, the platform www.shkollaime.net aims to:

- Increase the transparency of the annual budget of public high schools for students, parents and the community.
- To serve as an instrument to enable a needs analysis for each school. Also, this platform is a mirror for comparing schools with each other.

The main features of the platform are:

- Easily accessible information

- Mapping according to schools distributed in 8 cities of the country
- Financial information for each school in three levels: Regional Education Directorate budget, local level budget and Parents' Contribution
- General information about the school
- Promotion of schools activities
- Interactive space for students

Activity 3. Preparation and Final presentation in every school (March 2017 – April 2017)

As in the previous years, in the second phase of the “Project Citizen against Corruption” the students under the guidance of the teachers in each school focused on the preparation and implementation of the school activities. The members of the Integrity Clubs were the ones who took over the planning of the activities and dates for their implementation in the schools/community. They were also responsible to engage other youngsters in these activities to have a greater resonance in the school.

Regardless of time constraints, the activities were varied in focus and target group such as: marching against corruption, sports activities among schools, media participations to promote projects activities, students’ conferences, awareness raising videos, etc. The aim of these activities was to raise awareness among their fellows and community on the gravity of the corruption phenomena. More information on the activities carried out in each school can be found at www.shkollaime.net and IDM Facebook or in the summary provided below.

Elbasan:

“Red Card” against corruption was the theme of the activities of Elbasan High schools. Students of “Dhaskal Todri”, “Kostandin Kristoforidhi”, “Ahmet Dakli”, “Vasil Kamami”, “Luigj Gurakuqi” organized a joint football match on 25th april 2017. The football match conveyed several concrete messages when corruption can harm a fair game and change the rules. The participating students held posters and slogans against corruption in the society. Moreover, each school prepared some other smaller events in community or school.

Read more on: <http://shkollaime.net/aktiviteti-i-gjimmazeve-te-qytetit-te-elbasanit-ne-kuader-te-projektit-antikorrupsion>



Tirana:

“Petro Nini Luarasi” high-school students among other activities, organized a conference on “What is the role of youth in the fight against corruption” at the premises of a private university. The conference was divided in three main panels: reflections on the corruption phenomena as such, analysis of three concrete cases of corruption and open discussion. The teachers were also participating in this activity.





Under the supervision of the Integrity Clubs Members, “Qemal Stafa” high-school organized a showcase of artistic works on the topic of anti-corruption as well as a role play developed for this event. Participants to this event were not just students but the school board also. Read more on: <http://shkollaime.net/aktiviteti-anti-korrupsion-shkolla-qemal-stafa/>

Students of “Myslym Keta” high-school got involved in awareness raising activities on anti-corruption in the surrounding community. Delivering anti-corruption leaflets, producing a short movie on the negative effects of corruption practices, in school exhibition were the main activities carried out in the frame of Project Citizen AGAINST Corruption.

Lezha

As a newcomer, “Hydajet Lezha” High School organised a series of activities such as: in class debates on anti-corruption, some competitions on creative works, a short movie on anti-corruption and a visible corner in the school hall dedicated to the project. Read more on: <http://shkollaime.net/aktivitetet-e-klubit-te-integritetit-hydajet-lezha/>



Shkodra

The four schools “Oso Kuka”, “Jordan Misja”, “28 Nëntori”, “Shejnaze Juka” engaged in the project, organized a joint march towards the Municipality building. Students had prepared posters and wore T-shirts stamped “I refuse Corruption!”. This activity was covered by local media:<http://www.starplus-tv.com/aktualitet-star-plus-tv-shkoder/item/24809-te-rinjt-kunder-korrupsionit>. Apart from this event, each school held smaller activities in their schools on youth activism against corruption.



Gjirokastra

Both high-schools in Gjirokastra “Asim Zeneli” & “Siri Shaplo” carried out similar activities with regard to youth engagement against corruption, namely: exhibitions, school presentations with the participation of media, parents and teachers, cycling throughout the city with posters against corruption. Read more on: <http://shkollaime.net/asim-zeneli-gjirokaster-te-rinjte-kunder-korrupsionit/> & <http://shkollaime.net/java-kunder-korrupsionit-ne-shkollen-siri-shaplo-gjirokaster/>





Vlora:

“Gjimnazi i Ri” high-school engaged in a series of activities on the topic on the fight against corruption such as: essay and graphic/paintings competition, leaflet design and delivering in the community. Moreover, the members of the Integrity Clubs of “Gjimnazi i Ri” and “M.Q. Atatürk” high school exchanged ideas and discussed their experiences on the issues related to anti-corruption. To read more: <http://shkollaime.net/gjimnazi-i-ri-vlore-me-aktivitete-kunder-korrupsionit/>.



The activities implemented by the students of “Jani Minga” high school in Vlora on april 2017 consisted in the leaflet preparation and distribution in the city, *school exhibition and sports activities involving students and teachers*. Read more on: <http://shkollaime.net/gjimnazi-jani-minga-vlore-ne-aksion-me-klubin-e-integritetit/>

The Integrity Club in “Mustafa Qemal Atatürk” high-school planned the activities for this year’s project and design a social media plan to promote these activities. Some of the main activities were: a series of trainings on anti-corruption for 10th grade students, sports activities with other schools and awareness raising video competition. Moreover, the club assisted the project team with gathering of school date for the online portal. Here is the link to the posts on the trainings: <https://www.facebook.com/1692703737657634/videos/1822847584643248/> .

Moreover, the Integrity Club produced the second part of the short movie: “*E padrejta legjitime*”: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7aIoSGjCTis&sns=fb>.
<http://shkollaime.net/veprimtarite-e-klubit-gjenerata-e-transparences-mustafa-qemal-ataatürk/>



With regard to “Ali Demi” high school, the series of activities on youth against corruption consisted of exhibitions, training activities as well as a final event at the Youth Centre premises in Vlora with the participation of the Mayor of Vlora Mr. Dritan Neli. Mr. Neli congratulated and encouraged youth in Vlora to actively refuse and fight corruption.



Kukës:

“Havzi Nela” high-school students engaged in school activities on raising awareness against corruption, participated in a radio show to promote the Integrity Club and Project Citizen against Corruption in Kukës. Read more: <http://shkollaime.net/klubi-rinia-kuksiane-antikorrupsion-ne-emision-radiofonik>



Berat

In the city of Berat two main high schools “Babe Dude Karbunara” and “Kristaq Capo” organized a series of anti-corruption activities including: school presentations open to the community and focused meetings on financial transparency on education with local government representatives.

<http://shkollaime.net/sensibilizimi-i-te-rinjve-kunder-korrupsionit-nga-klubi-i-integritetit-ne-shkollen-babe-dude-karbunara-berat/> & <http://shkollaime.net/klubi-se-bashku-ne-mundemi-shkolla-kristaq-capo-berat/>



Awareness raising videos produced by the students in some of the schools engaged in the Project Citizen against Corruption:

- Corruption kills our dream! “Luigj Gurakuqi” Elbasan: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7oht_j-ngu8
- We say no to corruption: Join us! “Mahir Domi” Elbasan: <http://shkollaime.net/ne-i-themi-stop-korrupsionit-bashkohu-edhe-ti-me-ne/>
- The pill against corruption! “Hydajet Lezha”: <http://shkollaime.net/video-nga-hydajet-lezha-ilaci-kunder-korrupsionit/>
- Stop corruption! “Ahmet Dakli” <http://shkollaime.net/nxenesit-e-shkolles-ahmet-dakli-i-thone-stop-korrupsionit-video/>

Activity 4. Final National Event (02 May 2016): “Youth Activism against Corruption 2016-2017”

In the framework of the Project Citizen Against Corruption, IDM, in close cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Sports and with the support of the US Embassy in Tirana, organized the final event: "Youth Activism Against Corruption" on May 2, 2017, at the premises of the Innovation Hub Tirana. This activity brought together about 200 high-school students from Shkodra (“Shenjanze Juka”, “Oso Kuka”, “28 Nëntori”, “Jordan Misja”), Kukës (“Havzi Nela”), Elbasan (“Vasil Kamami”, “Dhaskal Todri”, “Kostandin Kristoforidhi”, “Ahmet Dakli”, “Mahir Domi”, “Luigj Gurakuqi”), Berat (“Kristaq Capo”, “Babë Dud Karbunara”), Vlorë (“Gjimnazi i Ri”, “M. Q. Atatürk”, “Ali Demi”, “Jani Minga”), Tiranë (“Petro Nini Luarasi”, “Qemal Stafa” and “Myslym Keta”), Lezhe (“Hydajet Lezha”) and Gjirokastër (“Asim Zeneli”, “Siri Shaplllo”).

Over the years, this project has managed to consolidate the functioning of the Integrity Clubs set up in each school and carry out joint activities among schools. This event tried to present several months of intense efforts to develop anti-corruption activities in each school/community, with the engagement of a large number of school students involved in the "Project Citizen Against Corruption". Building on the practice of the previous years, this event aimed to share students' experience in engaging with the project and to promote at the national level the online portal on the transparency of public schools: <http://www.shkollaime.net> . This well-established practice also aimed to promote active youth participation in the fight against corruption and undertaking concrete measures to increase transparency and accountability. Therefore, in addition to the brochure on youth activism against corruption, this year paved the way for further consolidation

and development of the online portal www.shkollaime.net. This portal was also presented to participants in the final event.

Moreover, the participants had the opportunity to showcase their works at the exhibition: "Youth in Action against Corruption" and promote awareness-raising videos. The activity continued with an open discussion to reflect on the experiences and challenges of the members of the "Integrity Clubs" and proposals for future activities at school/community level. An important part of this event was the speech of Mr. Donald Lu, with a strong message to young people: *"In a society, corruption ends when people finally decide they have had enough and begin to act. Often this is led by young people. Times are changing. Politicians, government officials, corrupt judges and prosecutors are afraid. Do you know who they are afraid of? They are afraid of you! "*

Also, the advisor to the MAS attended the final event and showed interest in the work done from the students with regard to anti-corruption activism.

For more information about the activities carried out in each city in the frame of the Project Citizen Against Corruption as well as financial information for each school please visit the online portal: www.shkollaime.net and <http://idmalbania.org/aktivizmi-rinor-kunder-korrupsionit-2016-2017/>.



Media Coverage of Final National Event:

- **SHBA: Politikanët dhe gjykatësit e korruptuar frikë nga të rinjtë –**
<http://shqiptarja.com/m/politike/shbapolitikan-t-dhe-gjykat-sit-e-korruptuar-frik-nga-t-rinjt-416788.html>
- **Lu për korrupsionin: Përfundon kur njerëzit vendosin të thonë boll-**
<http://www.abcnews.al/lajme/aktualitet/2/83947>
- **Lu: Të rinjtë të luftojnë korrupsionin – News, Lajme – Vizion Plus –**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TtngBm3lHnw>
- **Donald Lu: Politikanët, zyrtarët e qeverisë, gjykatësit dhe prokurorët e korruptuar kanë frikë –** <http://www.javanews.al/donald-lu-politikanet-zyrtaret-e-qeverise-gjykatesit-dhe-prokuroret-e-korruptuar-kane-frike/>
- **Donald Lu: Politikanë, gjyqtarë e prokurorë të korruptuar kanë filluar të kenë frikë**
<http://www.zhurnal.mk/content/?id=175216114460>
- **Donald Lu: Politikanë, gjyqtarë e prokurorë të korruptuar kanë filluar të kenë frikë** <http://www.botasot.info/shqiperia/694676/donald-lu-politikane-gjyqtare-e-prokurore-te-korruptuar-kane-filluar-te-kene-frike/>
- **Deklarata e Lu me të rinjtë– “Politikanë, gjyqtarë e prokurorë të korruptuar kanë filluar të kenë frikë”-** <http://www.channel-one.al/deklarata-e-lu-me-te-rinjte-politikane-gjyqtare-e-prokurore-te-korruptuar-kane-filluar-te-kene-frike/>
- **Donald Lu: Politikanë, gjyqtarë e prokurorë të korruptuar kanë filluar të kenë frikë-**
<http://tirananeews.al/donald-lu-politikane-gjyqtare-e-prokurore-te-korruptuar-kane-filluar-te-kene-frike/>
- **SHBA: Politikanët dhe gjykatësit e korruptuar frikë nga të rinjtë –** <http://lexo.al/shba-politikanet-dhe-gjykatesit-e-korruptuar-frike-nga-te-rinjte/>
- **Lu-të rinjve: Politikanët e korruptuar kanë frikë nga ju –** <http://periskopi.com/lu-te-rinjve-politikanet-e-korruptuar-kane-frike-nga-ju/>
- **VIDEO/ Donald Lu: Politikanë, gjyqtarë e prokurorë të korruptuar kanë filluar të kenë frikë –** <http://www.360grade.al/politike/item/69146-donald-lu-politikane-gjyqtare-e-prokurore-te-korruptuar-kane-filluar-te-kene-frike>
- **Deklarata e Lu me të rinjtë – “Politikanë, gjyqtarë e prokurorë të korruptuar kanë filluar të kenë frikë”-** <http://www.oranews.tv/vendi/politikane-gjyqtare-e-prokurore-te-korruptuar-kane-filluar-te-kene-frike/>

Follow up meeting: “Lessons learned: Youth Activism against Corruption 2017”

This follow up event was organized in each city with the participation of the members of Integrity Clubs members in a youth friendly format to reflect on lessons learned in the course of the project and brainstorm on the follow up activities of the Integrity Clubs during the next school year. All participants thanked the US Embassy in Tirana for funding this project and underlined the importance of future support and cooperation to continue this good practice and possibly extend the number and geography of participating schools. Finally, appreciation certificates were delivered for each school and members of integrity clubs.

