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# NEWSLETTER

*“Increasing the capacities of the local authorities and minority communities members to identify, report and treat discriminatory practices in Kosovo”.*

*November 2021 - October 2022*



In the initial phase of the project, the cooperation agreements have been signed with Ombudsperson Institution (OIK) and the Office for Good Governance (OGG). Both agreements have been reached within a spirit of cooperation over the years that Civil Rights Program Kosovo (CRP/K) has with the OIK and OGG.

The purpose of the agreements was to continue cooperation and coordination in the implementation of various activities focusing on the protection from discrimination, promotion and advocacy for human rights, based on the mission and vision of the Ombudsperson Institution, OGG and CRP/K.

## OVERVIEW:

- \* Public information activities - 10 meetings with community members organized by CRP/K officials.
- \* Organization of 7 trainings for municipal officials on international human rights standards and the local applicable legal framework governing the protection of human rights and protection from discrimination.
- \* Organization of 2 round tables gathering the representatives of all target groups, with presence of the main stakeholders in protection from discrimination.



## TRAININGS



Through activities that were carried out under this project, CRP/K intended to have concrete results in building capacities of officials in addressing various discrimination issues faced by citizens at the local level, in particular, members of the Roma, Ashkalia and Egyptian communities, enabling the latter to reach equal access to their several basic rights.

Interviews conducted with Municipal Human Right Units (MHRU) in Fushe Kosove/Kosovo Polje, Lipjan/Lipljan, Shtime/Stimlje, Gracanicë/Gracanica, Obiliq/Obilic and Novobërdë/NovoBrdo, have revealed key findings which have led to the need to take concrete steps regarding the proper addressing of discrimination issues.

Trainings have been organized on international human rights standards and the local applicable legal framework governing the protection of human rights and protection from discrimination with MHRUs officials as well as members of the minority communities at the respective municipalities who afterwards were able to transmit their knowledge to the whole community regarding legal mechanisms and community rights in addressing discrimination issues.

The trainings have been conducted in a comprehensive spirit, addressing various issues in the field of discrimination and the realization of human rights in accordance with the local and international legal framework.

"We should take a stance against discrimination and raise our voice for those who need help."

SHPRESA IBRAHIMI  
PROJECT OFFICER





## PUBLIC INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

Through the organization of outreach meetings within the community, CRP/K aimed to raise awareness among community members about practices of discrimination, as well as opportunities to address/report their concerns regarding human rights to the competent bodies.

The outreach meetings have been assessed as a very important tool in enhancing the culture of human rights among the minority community members and their capacity to identify and report human rights breaches and discriminatory practices.

No change can occur if those who are impacted the most by discrimination are not willing to stand up for themselves.



## ROUND TABLES

The round tables have gathered the representatives of all target groups, with presence of the main stakeholders in protection from discrimination (Ombudsperson, Prime Minister Office for Good Governance, Gender Equality Agency, MHRUs, NGOs).

The results of the project were presented to the participants, serving also as a potential guidelines for the implementation of the relevant mechanism and applicable legal framework covering discrimination issues.

Moreover, through round tables the issues related to discrimination against members of communities, especially Roma, Ashkalia and Egyptians, was highlighted, leading to a more inclusive, multi-ethnic state and decreased vulnerability of some of the most frequently marginalized ethnic groups in Kosovo.

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