NGO PROGRAMME -CROATIA 2009 - 2014



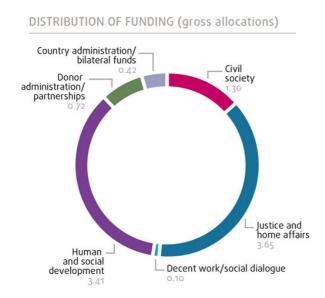




GETTING STARTED

The accession of Croatia to the EU in 2013 has taken place against a background of stagnating economy with high levels of unemployment, particularly amongst young people and minorities. The ongoing global economic crisis has also affected all dimensions of NGO sustainability, characterised by low financial and human capacity.

By joining the EU in July 2013 Croatia soon entered the EEA and was eligible to use the EEA and Norway grants.



AIM OF THE PROGRAMME

The programme of the NGO Fund in Croatia is aimed at strengthening civil society development and enhancing the contribution to social justice, democracy and sustainable development. This highlights the significance of NGOs as important stakeholders in creating a healthy and stable democracy, building an inclusive society, and helping vulnerable groups at risk of exclusion, discrimination and inequality.

The NGO Programme has, through open calls, supported projects aimed at:

- strengthening NGO advocacy, watchdog and awareness raising roles for human rights, democracy, gender equality, vulnerable groups;

- supporting local initiatives on social inclusion and solidarity
- supporting initiatives on children and youth
- raising the sustainability of the sector

- the Programme has supported one predefined projects on Roma inclusion



GETTING STARTED

The National Foundation for Civil Society Development has been accredited as the operator of the EEA and Norway grants in Croatia for the area of civil society, implemented through the NGO Programme in Croatia.

SHORT OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

The NGO Programme embraced the following Open Calls:

- Solidarity and social capital in local communities;
- Democracy and Human Rights;
- Supporting innovative initiatives for children and youth in local communities;
- Enabling Environment for Human Rights Organisations Development.

In addition, there was one pre-defined project supported, entitled "Better together – social inclusion of the Roma people in Croatia".

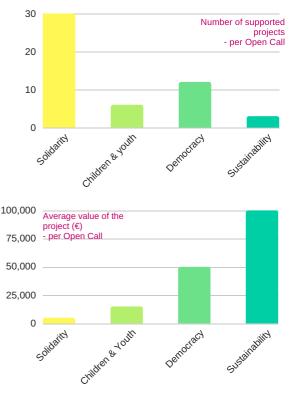
Also, in the framework of the NGO Programme, a campaign against hate-speech was launched and conducted by young blogers, named "It's not funny - hate speech is a serious thing".

In order to facilitate the exchange and bilateral cooperation between Croatia and the Donor States, a 2 day event was organised on the Adriatic coast with NGO representatives of different countries sharing their ideas and exchanging experience.



THE NUMBERS

Looking at the four Open Calls, the one dealing with solidarity and social capital in local communities had the most projects approved, but they were the smallest in size (only up to 5.000 €), while the Open Call dealing with the sustainability of the sector had the fewest granted projects, but with highest amounts.



102

number of people who received their salaries as part of the approved projects

Solidarity and social capital in local communities

- supporting civic actions in local communities which improve the quality of life and level of social capital in the community by encouraging active citizenship, using local potentials and increasing social solidarity;
- increasing citizens' activity through involvement in the process of developing and implementing civic actions.



Supporting innovative initiatives for children and youth in local communities

- develop effective and sustainable projects that contribute to the development of democratic principles and active citizenship;
- improvement of the quality of life of children and youth, especially in local communities of the Republic of Croatia.

98.550 (

12 months

Democracy and Human Rights

- develop methods that raise awareness and include citizens in the process of advocacy, informal education and campaigns for the principles of good governance and rule of law;
- promotion of democratic values, fundamental human rights and European values.



Enabling Environment for Human Rights Organisations Development

- strengthen the capacity and sustainability of CSOs and promote an enabling environment for the sector;
- stable and sustainable development of human rights organisations and the sector as a whole.





Solidarity and social capital in local communities

Our Children's Society Opatija: "Journey of the European Child Forum"

With this action children and adults were sensitised to respect the everyday application of the provisions of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. This was achieved by travelling and participating in educational and creative workshops.



Association of physically disabled of the city of Rijeka: "Let's enrich our multisensoric garden"

Citizens and members of the local district, as well as people with physical disabilities, together with pupils, students and employees, were involved in preparing the ground of Multisensory garden: planting plants and herbs, setting the path and benches made of different materials.



European house Vukovar: "United in diversity"

Through this civic action numerous activities were implemented involving different citizen groups: women, children and youth, persons with developmental challenges and seniors.



Center for Civic Initiatives Poreč: "Sexism, sexism everywhere"

Civic action aimed at increasing the sensitivity of young adults and citizens about gender equality, promotion of democratic values and promotion of human rights, including the recognition of sexism.



Sports Association of Cerovlje Municipality: "No limits"

This action involved over 100 different participants from wider teritory of Cerovlje county - children, young people, adults, children with growing disabilities and persons with disabilities.

The Tree and The Owl Society: "Way to the Rainbow"

The local population has been encouraged to organise and implement programmes for the revitalization of the abandoned area and to organise gatherings in nature, recreational activities, field classes and social meetings. By opening the self-sustainable education centre in nature, local communities were encouraged and educated about the sustainable development.



Grbavica – NGO for sport and recreation: "Together for success"

The goal of this action was to improve the quality of life of children in a small school by adding activities of bowling and table tennis.

Center for growing up healthy "Idem i ja": "A man that fits the island"

The initiative gathered the citizens of the island of Lošinj who decided to oppose the large and rapid changes in the public space, influencing the quality of life of island's citizens, as well as non-transparent decision making of local authorities.

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Info zone: "Out of the box"

The guerilla campaign,that used stickers, billboards and stencils to transmit messages of marginalized youth, in order to reach the public.

Institute for Rural Development and Ecology: "InLove Gradec"

The social capital was built during the implementation of this action by organizing lecture, donations and delivery of ad-hoc services.



This civic action resulted in better awareness of the Dubrovnik public about the problems of socially vulnerable groups. Some members of socially disadvantaged groups have been directly involved in the implementation of actions, that helped them to acquire new knowledge and skills.













European house Dubrovnik: "Dubrovnik for all!"

Association Challenge: "What we are all equal by"

The action focused on the mural painting on the wall of the local elementary school that symbolises the integration of the Roma minority in the town of Kutina Association of military invalids of the Homeland war: "Improvement of social services through volunteering development"





Akcija za prste polizat'!

Arheološki park Principij, 9.5.201

 $11 - 17^{h}$

The action featured activities planned to emphasize the relevance of communication, cooperation, exchange of knowledge and skills.

ASSOCIATION KOMBINAT: RECIPE: ACTIVATE YOURSELF!





Youth for Youth Pleternica: "Young people, let's get moving!" LORA-Human Library in actio gainst prejudice"

Society of Our Children Kutina: "A child's voice is important"

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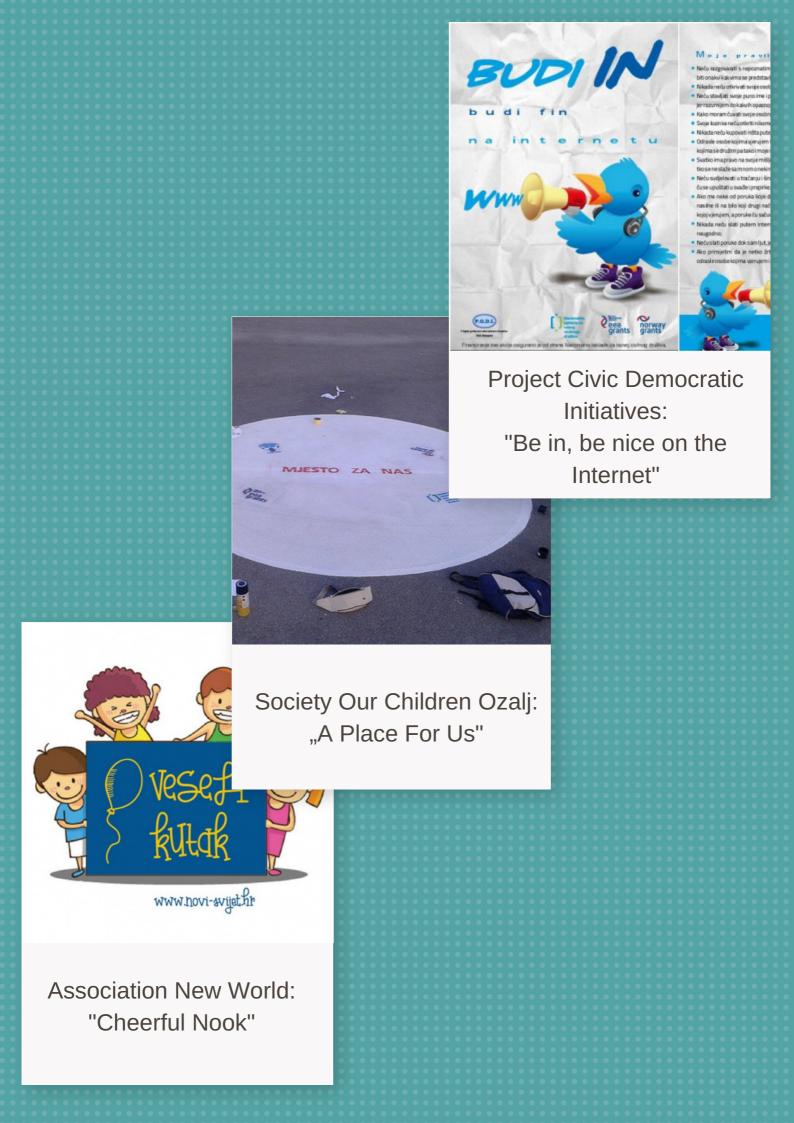
MOBILNI PREVENTIVNI CENTAR POLICIJE

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Roma Youth Association: "Roma wireless Internet"

Association Charity - Center for homeless: "Involvement of volunteers in socialization homeless and socially vulnerable citizens"







and Improvement of Aids and Quality of Life of Persons with disabilities Croatia: "Corner for Happier Ageing"

Addiction Help NGO "Vida"

- Rijeka: "Small bank"

Association for Roma Education "UZOR": "Mapping the Needs of Roma Youth"

Free School - Association for **Promotion of Democratic** Education: "Our Place Under the Sun – Youth Center StartUp in Plaški"

> RISTUPAČNOST GRAD ČAKOVCA OSOBAMA S **INVALIDITETOM**

In the second second

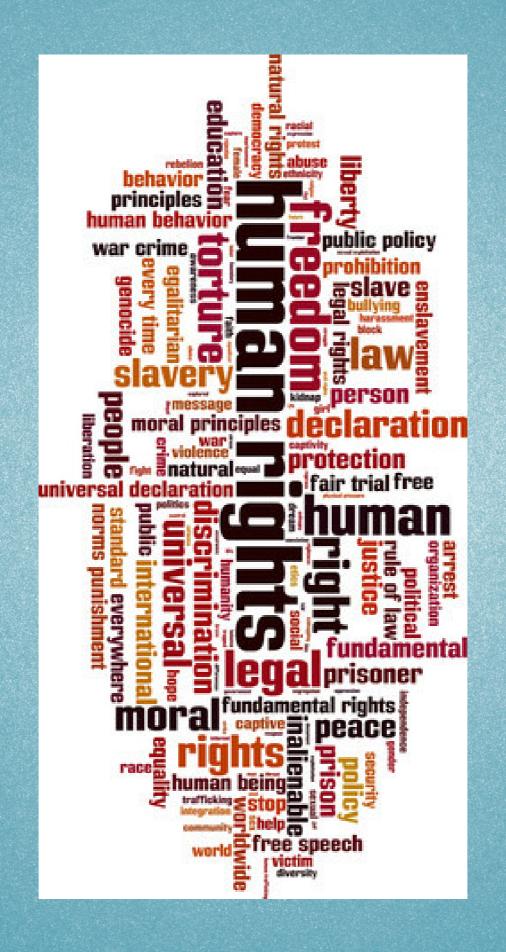
HAR STATE

10



"Wake up!"

Democracy and human rights





Porec: "Strengthening the involvement of civil society and citizens in public policy in Istria" With the implementation of the project, the level of knowledge and skills of the CPI and other CSOs in Istria was raised in order to establish better influence on the political decision-making process.

Centre for Civil Inititatives

Zaprešić Youth Center: "STAVi – empowering the Council of students for active and responsible action" The project gave a significant contribution to the promotion of democratic values in the participating elementary schools by organising 40 educational workshops for members of the Student Council.





Youth organization StatusM: "MenCare – engaging men in achieving gender equality in Međimurje County"



Victim and Witness Support Service: "Strengthening the capacities of CSOs for providing support" In scope of the project the organization has introduced a

comprehensive system of support for victims of crime in 4 CSOs in 4 different counties.



Croatian Institute for Local Government (CILG): "Politeia Đakovo" The project was launched in order to establish a systematic cooperation in creating and implementing public policies at local level, having in mind a previous lack of systematic communication and constructive cooperation between local government and relevant stakeholders of local public policies.

> Daliborka Mikulio stradala je kao dijete u granatiranju civilnih cilieva

> > 20 godina čeka anie svojih prava

priznavanie patnie

ŽRTVE SU PREDUGO ČEKALE

Documenta – Centre for

Dealing with the Past:

"Support to the Strategy for

the Development of

Judiciary in the Area of

Human Rights Protection"

Youth Initiative for Human Rights: "Human Rights Monitoring and Advocacy Social Mechanisms Advancement"

Four public campaigns have contributed to promoting and raising awareness of the importance of human rights and improving democratic values

Association Dawn: "My place in community"

The organisations involved have conducted a research in liaison with the local associates and defined the needs of citizens. The data gathered can be further used to create/design policies, social interventions, actions and further research as well as advocacy tools.

> Association for promotion of human rights and media freedoms CENSORSHIP PLUS: "Improving human rights in local communities"



Center for Peace Studies: "Education for human rights and democracy" The project developed 5 extensive educational curricula and implemented 4 with 96 student taking part directly in the education.

l ovo dijete treba obitelj.



konferencija o posvojenju s međunarodnim sudjelovanjem ADOPTA – organisation for support to adoption: "This child needs a family to" The project implemented advocacy campaigns on the rights of children on family life and a need for a systematic change to improve the adoption of "difficult to adopt" category of children.

GONG - Enough with the hatred! Through media monitoring and analysis, actors and media that spread discriminatory messages and encourage animosity towards certain groups were identified. An online system for reporting unacceptable public speech was established, as well as a dedicated Facebook page.

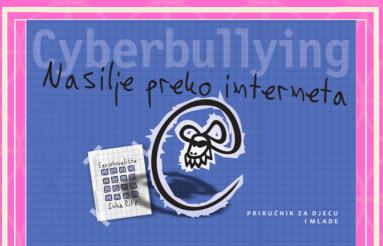
GOVOR MRŽNJE I NEPRIHVATLJIV GOVOR: vodič za političare/ke

Supporting innovative initiatives for children and youth in local communities





Association for the promotion of the creativity Merlin: "Together to School" The project created equal pre-school opportunities for children living in Vodnjan, and developed tolerance and multi-cultural understanding among different ethnic groups.



Luka Ritz Counselling: "Who isn't in – participates!" Goal of this project was to actively involve children and youth with behavioural problems in prevention of violence towards others and themselves, minimize discrimination and solve conflict situations on nonviolent ways.



Info zone: "Comicolerance method of learning about tolerance through the comics technique"

30 participants in the workshop were educated in the field of comic-book drawing techniques and in the domain of hate speech, tolerance, multiculturalism.



Brave Phone - "Strengthening children, parents and professionals in the local community for child protection"

The project provided training for teachers and children from primary school strengthening their skills and competencies to deal with bullying in their school.

DOKKICA - Creative House for Children - "Reporters of better society" 200 children and young people have taken part in different activities (workshops, lessons, initiatives, actions, studio filming) which have provided them with knowledge of civil education.





Centre for Peace – Osijek: "Peacebuilding School Recognition" The concept of peace building provides a common framework for the various activities and programmes that schools implemented.

Enabling Environment for Human Rights Organisations Development



SOLIDARNA GONG - "Philanthropy for Human Rights"

project Philanthropy for Human Rights prough a wide variety of educations, public meetings, public consultations, publications and film programmes, three pilot crowd funding campaigns and the establishment of organizational and communication infrastructure of the new foundation SOLIDARNA managed to increase the understanding of problems of development of philanthropy in Croatia aimed at the protection of human rights.





Women's Room – Center for Sexual Rights: "New Force in Fighting Violence against Women" Project aimed at strengthening the capacity and ability of CSOs to combat violence against women and at promoting an enabling environment for those who work on the problematic. Visibility, importance of CSO work and thus their sustainability has increased through the project.









Zagreb Pride - "Towards sustainable movement for achievement of LGBTIQ rights"

The beneficiaries of the project were activists who were provided with models of sustainability for their organizations; the LGBTIQ community that participated in the screening, the presentation of the study and panels were made aware of the importance of working on the sustainability of the sector.





