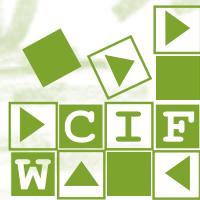


WORKSHOP
A N N U A L
FOR CIVIC
R E P O R T
INITIATIVES
2 0 0 2
FOUNDATION



We would like to thank You to our donors:

Workshop for Civic Initiatives Foundation can look back to a highly productive year, during which it has gradually become a leading institution in the field of capacity building. WCIF enjoys a good reputation in Bulgaria, as well as in the region and is a preferred partner for capacity building, outreach and research efforts. A dedicated staff, consultants and equally dedicated participants make the Workshop an excellent and exciting place to be.

As you will see in this report, the second year of WCIF existence can be considered as the year of consolidation and growth. The impact that WCIF has had on the wider NGO community in Bulgaria can be seen through figures such as: more than 1400 direct beneficiaries, more than 70 community based organizations and 6 community groups involved, more than 50 000 leva raised locally in remote rural areas.

For the medium term (2003-2005) we would like to build on our accomplishments so far. We, at WCIF, see our past achievements only as the beginning of a strenuous attempt at achieving positive practical changes in the lives of communities throughout the whole country by supporting them to use local resources for development. We aim at strengthening the capacity of communities, local organizations, NGO trainers and consultants and institutions to carry out sustainable developmental initiatives based on participation and partnership. We aim at building a critical mass of strong and connected stakeholders who share our values, principles and approach. We would like to sincerely thank all our supporters and partners in the voluntary sector and civil society, local authorities and corporate sector and in particular, our funders for making it possible for us to pursue our mission.

Iliyana Nikolova
Executive Director



The Essay – a Sum-up Attempt

The idea of the Foundation to ask its grantees to write entitled essays "Our Work with WCIF" was prompted by our wish to understand how both sides felt during the partnership, what our mistakes were, what our successes were and what is forthcoming. We wanted "to translate" into language the statistics and results, numbers and days, events and publications, to see what stands behind the numbers and the dry reports.

That helped us to make conclusions for our work as well.

We received 15 works, each one with its own specifics, style and mood.

The first conclusion was that people can be stimulated to express their feelings and "to talk" in civil language about their problems and successes. We understood that the constant contact with active people is productive, stimulates them to take active participation and allows them to learn more in the process. This approach proved to be most effective when we work with small grassroot groups which try to solve local problems.

The result regarding their capacity in identifying problems and mobilizing followers in the process of looking for the best solution, was promising.

The importance is in the fact that the solutions emerge from the local groups, from the small communities, which proves that we have been right in choosing this approach.

We are glad that there are so many ideas and initiatives and that there is a constant quest for new, long-term solutions especially in the work with people in disadvantaged position. We have evaded the danger of applying purely charitable approaches; the need for sustainable solutions no matter how difficult they are has been realized.

The advocacy skills on local level have improved. Thus, the dialogue between citizens and local authorities has started to be more democratic and constructive. We also want to mention the striving to unite the efforts of many people or groups around one idea, the creation of networks and coalitions, the quest for alternative solutions and approbation of successes.

A serious success is avoiding all big, unrealistic ideas that arise and the holding on to small, sure steps, self-maturity and training, realizing the serious steps on the way to civil thinking and acting – planning, continuity and evaluation.

Maybe one of the most important results was the self-esteem gained by these groups, the greater confidence in their own potential and the feeling that they can change something in the life of their communities. This is a serious step towards the establishment of a viable civil nucleus which will attract new participants in the process of changes.

For the Workshop for Civic Initiatives Foundation this year was also an attempt to make a balance of the participation of which teams and experts in the capacity building of groups. We are now much more confident because we learn together and from each other. This encourages us to continue working in close partnership with the civic groups and support ideas and initiatives for local change.

And last but not least, the success of our partners is a big success for the civil society as a whole. Though small scale, the local initiatives create the feeling of being one with the community. They are measurable, "can be seen and touched" by the people, so this neutralizes the attempts to belittle them or renounce the efforts and activities done by the NGOs. This is a worthwhile contribution to the development of civil society in Bulgaria and its bottom-up strengthening. The possibilities for mobilizing local resources are a prerequisite for the irreversibility of the democratization process.

My participation in learning, Success, Change Programme – 1999-2000 gave me the possibility to receive valuable materials, to which I come back quite often; to participate in role plays and to acquire new knowledge which is universal. The knowledge and experience acquired are applicable not only within the civil society sector, but in the business sector as well. Isn't human resource management universal? Or strategic planning?

What was I most impressed by? By the team which worked with extreme professionalism and energy. I really liked that the trainers were most willing to give as much from themselves as possible so as to prepare us – the participants in the programme - in the best possible way.

Stela Dimkova, Society for Social Support, Dryanovo

When on February 20th I came to Rousse, entered the lecture hall and saw so many young people around me – I was frightened. I wanted to hide under the chair like the frightened first-year pupils do. Not a long time has passed and I felt, though I was 61 years old, that I would manage. And I owe that to your wonderful team. Thanks to it each one could participate actively, even such people like me who have never participated in trainings like these.

Penka Mileva, Chitalishte "Self-education", village of Ostrets

We are disturbed by and scared of so many differences. For so many years we have been identical. We didn't recognize the different ones. Engrossed in our problems and suffering, we have got used to our differences and we were not angry. From time to time we had a recess of "privileges" during which we had a breath of fresh air and we were happy as much as we could with the pain and the humiliation. And it couldn't have been otherwise – life is given once and it should be lived.

And we, the similar ones, dashing towards school, home, career, pension, we didn't see those, the others, who couldn't reach even our identical poverty. Or maybe we saw them, but we thought that such was their fate. And we could not, and we would not look them into the eyes and see that though different, we are all people who want to live better and with dignity.

We now learn to accept Roma, Turks, disabled people. We learn to accept the fact that each person is different and unique with his/her skills and talents, and that the above-mentioned social groups are of no significance. The faster we learn to accept them, the better for us. The benefits are mutual.

Maria Kakurova, Parents' Council at Kindergarten, Elhovo

I come back to the past in my mind. It was one year ago when our dream started to come true. Thanks to our friends from WCIF who inspired confidence in our own strength, taught us how to follow our aims to the end and gave us the chance to defend our project. With the help and advice of experienced consultants, we, a handful of enthusiasts, started to build a playground – which our children were dreaming about for years. Maybe because we were convinced in the necessity of this playground for the youngest or because we received substantial support from the people and municipality of Koprivshtitsa, but once we started, everything else became somewhat easier. I am not saying that there weren't any difficulties or moments of disappointment when seeing the broken swings or benches. But the road we all walked along to the building of the playground was covered with our hope and that of our children that these efforts were invested in their happiness. That's why we didn't stop but continued with the hope that each repair will be the last one and we will be better proprietors.

Milena Paraleeva, Council on Tourism, Koprivshtitsa

Charity is one of the most remarkable features of the people of Pavlikeni. We often remember, especially on special town events, of the great donor and philanthropist Atanas H. Slavchev, but we wondered whether we can

find followers of him... In May 2003 I met for the first time the WCIF's team in Gabrovo where I was introduced to the Learning, Success, Change Programme. I was definitely confused! I thought that it was impossible to revive the Renaissance charity spirit in the contemporary citizens of Pavlikeni. The enthusiasm of the people from the team managed to convince me to some extent that it was possible.

Thanks to the Workshop for Civic Initiatives and the people working in it, I personally and about 2000 of my fellow-citizens who participated (directly or indirectly) in the charity concert, understood that charity in Pavlikeni is not a void concept. All of us have preserved in our hearts a sparkle of the fire which burnt in the heart of philanthropists like Atanas H. Slavchev and all those people who had created our town.

Isabela Chorbadjieva, Dames' Club, Pavlikeni

In order to share our experience I must start far back, to describe what we have passed through and how incessantly we, parents and supporters of children and people with intellectual deficiencies, have learnt. My younger son had homework on: "Life is what you make of it". That made me think a lot. I hadn't thought about my life before the birth of my other son who is mentally retarded. After his birth my life has turned into a constant struggle to make it the way I wanted it. First came the reproach, then the anger, then the grief and finally and most permanently – the despair. I am sure that each parent of such a child has passed this road. So, for twelve years I have fought with this despair while finally, a group of parents and friends decided to make our life and that of our children, the way we wanted it. We formed an association, and then we established a day-care centre which our children now call "our school". Thus, we felt more confident in ourselves and started to have more self-esteem.

Your programme and the project we implemented last year (2002) helped us a lot. You can't even imagine how differently and independently we think now. YOU showed us that we can earn a lot of valuable things for our children instead of begging and appealing for mercy.

CHOICE Association, Bansko – member of BALIZ (Bulgarian Association of Mentally Retarded People)

Workshop for Civic Initiatives Foundation was established in 2001. The foundation has been created to support the process of capacity building of Bulgarian NGOs and mainly grassroots organisations to respond to the social needs of communities they work with and for, as well as to provide opportunities and support for the professional development of NGO trainers and consultants. The WCIF is building its structure and capacities over the gained experience in the process of implementation for more than four years of the Charity Know How Programme for Bulgaria. The organisation is registered as a public benefit charity under the new Bulgarian law on NGOs. In our work we apply the community development approach, dialogue with other NGOs, citizen groups and institutions, accountability and transparency.

The Mission of the Workshop for Civic Initiatives Foundation:

We work to help civic leaders, groups and organisations work more effectively with their issues, target group and communities.

Objectives:

- To promote a community development approach and empower local communities to take the initiative and control over the solutions to local problems and the creation of development opportunities.
- To promote citizens' participation as the main tool for development.
- To contribute to the development of indigenous NGOs.
- To contribute to the development of citizens' groups.
- To contribute to the professional development of NGO trainers and consultants.
- To contribute to the increase of the quality of the training services.
- To contribute to the process of networking on national and regional level.
- To build effective working capacity of WCIF.



programmes

Learning, Success, Change Programme

Learning, Success, Change Programme is aimed at capacity building of NGOs and informal civic groups through provision of training, funding and consultations.

Objectives of the programme:

- ✓ To provide training in order to support the development of local NGOs working for and with marginalised groups.
- ✓ To provide financial support to NGOs to develop and implement a project for support and empowerment of marginalised groups and initiatives for the development of the local community.
- ✓ To encourage the networking among the NGOs, participants in the programme, on local and national level.
- ✓ To encourage the empowerment of marginalised groups using the community development approach.
- ✓ To build experience and good practices which can be used by similar initiatives in other regions of the country.
- ✓ To set up and develop a highly professional team of NGO consultants and trainers.

The programme is implemented on a regional principle thus encouraging the networking process and sharing of experience on local level. The programme focuses on the personal and direct communication among NGO members on all levels and stimulates the active participation of beneficiaries in the project activities and management.

The programme is unique because it combines group training, funding and individual consultations on the spot and it supports informal civic groups.

Learning, Success, Change Programme is implemented in partnership with Allavida, UK and is funded by Community Fund, UK.

In the period March 2002 – February 2003 the Programme was implemented in the regions of Varna, Dobrich and Shoumen. Twenty organizations were selected for participation in the Programme, coming from 13 different places in the following regions: Varna, Shoumen, Dobritch, Kaspichan, Krushari, Nikola Kozlevo, Dragoevo, Smyadovo, Aksakovo, Byala, Dolni Chiflik, Suvorovo, Provadia. The organizations worked with or for the marginalized groups in their communities, such as minorities, socially disadvantaged children, people with disabilities, children with disabilities, women victims of violence, etc.

A consultancy team of 9 NGO activists from the whole country has been built.

In 2002 twenty organisations completed successfully the training programme and implemented their projects.

A total amount of 75 047 leva was disbursed to NGOs and civic groups.

“I found my place as a leader, managed to define my level of development and that of my organisation”
– participant in the programme

“The consultants’ approach is very interesting, as well as the informal relations, role games, informative handouts, etc.

It was very useful that we received the information “ready” – as if it was packed for home. In this way I was able not only to listen, but to understand at the same time, instead of taking notes.”
– participant in the programme

“My participation in the programme was a process of sharing practices. On the one hand, I presented my experience, and on the other – it was constantly enriched by the experience shared by the participants.”
– consultant in the programme



Communication and Resource Mobilisation Programme

Communication and Resource Mobilisation” Programme is a natural follow up of the Learning, Success, Change programme. It is also aimed at capacity building of NGOs focusing on their work with the local authorities and corporate sector. It is managed and implemented by WCIF in partnership with Bulgarian Charities Aid Foundation and Allavida, UK. It is funded by Community fund-United Kingdom.

Objectives of the programme:

To increase the knowledge and improve the skills of NGOs for local resource mobilization.

To support the co-operation between NGOs, local authorities and corporate sector in Bulgaria

The training is targeted at grassroots NGOs and informal civic groups which have some experience in carrying out their own initiatives but they lack the skills to fundraise from citizens, businesses, state and local institutions. The programme is implemented on a regional level.

One of the main principles of the Learning, Success, Change programme is fundamental for this training as well – to apply in practice what one has learnt during the training. The organisations which have successfully completed the training had the possibility to apply for small grants (up to 200 leva) for organising a fundraising event. Forty out of the forty three organisations which have applied managed to raise enough funds so that they can apply for their doubling under the Challenge Fund of WCIF.

Challenge Fund

The organizations which had successfully completed Local Resource Mobilisation Programme and which had been able to prove that they have raised enough funds, were eligible to submit applications for the Challenge Fund, supported by Charles Stuart Mott Foundation. The WCIF doubled the funds raised by the applicant NGO and supported projects for local development. In 2002 the maximum grant was 2000 leva.

.In 2002 sixty three organisations from the regions of Lovetch, Veliko Turnovo, Pleven, and Gabrovo (32) and Stara Zagora, Yambol, Kurdjali and Haskovo (31) were trained.

One of the biggest challenges for us was to overcome the initial belief of the participants that nobody on local level was willing to donate for the NGO initiatives – neither the business, nor the local authorities.

“The possibility to talk personally with representatives of the business and local authorities was extremely important for overcoming our insecurity. The chance to state our questions, discuss different issues and hear the opinion of the other party/side as equal partner was crucial for overcoming/getting over our uncertainty/insecurity.”

“I am impatient to get back and apply in practice what I have learnt.”

In 2002 the Challenge Fund was open for NGOs from the regions of Blagoevgrad, Pernik, Kjustendil, Sofia, Lovetch, Pleven, Gabrovo and Veliko Turnovo.

Twenty organisations applied for funding.

The most important for us was these projects to be sustainable and long-term and to contribute to the development of the local community

Living Heritage

At the end of 2001 WCIF was elected as a coordinating partner of Living Heritage - a programme financed jointly by King Baudouin Foundation and Open Society Fund.

The aims of the programme are:

To achieve positive practical change in the lives of communities throughout the whole country by supporting them to use culture and heritage as resources for local development.

To strengthen the capacity of communities, local organizations and national institutions to carry out sustainable developmental initiatives based on participation and partnership.

To build a critical mass of strong and connected stakeholders that share our values, principles and approaches and that will lay the foundation of "Living Heritage" as a national movement."

"Living Heritage" is different from the other programmes aimed at community development, because it encourages the building up on existing resources - not the work with problems and deficits.

The programme has 3 elements – grant making; capacity building; networking/exchange of experience.

In 2002 the capacity building was done in three directions:

Grantees- trainings in: project management, local resource mobilization, training as per the specific needs of the projects

WCIF team- workshops in Living Heritage Principles, Monitoring and Evaluation

Community facilitators– the training was aimed at capacity building/development of the knowledge and skills among 17 participants, to actively work with the communities in the next years of the programme.

The training lasted from December 2001 to September 2002

In 2002 4 pilot projects started in Bulgaria – Ivanovo, Dorkovo, Trigrad, and the villages of Pletena, Garmen, Dabnica and Koprivlen, That Joined in a regional project. Apart from the case of Trigrad where a local NGO is the implementing partner all other projects are implemented by non formal groups through the structures of the Chitalishta as legal entities.

"...the initiatives for the projects come from the people . Not from some scientists, restorers etc. but namely from the inhabitants of a certain village or town – they are the important in this case, because the heritage is not just a church or monument- it is what people consider as important and what they decide to remember."

An expert to the programme

17 trained community facilitators in

12 NGOs accepted facilitators for internship

4 NGOs confirming the legitimacy of the community facilitators certificates

9 facilitators going on with their work under the Living Heritage programme in 2003

30 representatives of local communities trained during 2003

4 pilot projects started

17 info campaigns run for the next(2003) round of projects



Bulgarian NGO Sector Review

The essence of the project is one-year in-depth research and analysis of the NGO sector that will be realized through a wide consultative process.

Main goals of the Review:

To establish partnership among a group of NGOs interested in the review process and more generally in continuous action oriented research and strategic discussions about the NGO sector development.

To provide information to Donors community which will enable them to strengthen their coordination in supporting the NGO sector in the country.

To identify the dimensions of the Bulgarian NGO sector, its strengths (including examples of good practices) and weaknesses, as well as the key issues for the future; to assess the legal environment and fiscal operational context of the sector; to explore the perception for the NGO sector on national and local levels, including the views of the Sector itself, national government, local authorities, national and local media, business and general public; to identify support, available for the development of the sector; to mobilise the sector and raise the awareness for the activities implemented within the Sector;

To build the research capacity of a group of NGO consultants as well as to build the research capacity of WCIF.

The principle of wide involvement of all stakeholders in research activities of the kind is an original for the Bulgarian NGO scene approach that aims to allow the participating organizations to observe and perceive the Review as their own product. The involvement of media representatives will enhance the improvement of the NGO image and consequently to optimize the relations between the sector and the wide audience. Due to the focus of the Review upon the activities and practices of the actively working at the present moment organizations, with special interest towards the unregistered groups, the participants in the consultative process are expected to mediate the connection with these groups and make possible the contact with them.

In general, we hope that by means of this process and its final product we will stimulate the self-reflection and inner development of the Bulgarian NGO community.

The project was met with huge interest and hope by the stakeholders' representatives due to the lack of action oriented in-depth researches of the NGO sector lately. The wide participation of NGO activists and experts

is a pledge for the objectivity and quality of the expected results. The WCIF ambition is to sustain in its efforts to observe and reflect further the processes within the sector, by stepping on the ground of the capacity, developed within the current project.

The Review is supported by Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and is implemented in partnership with Bulgarian Charities Aid Foundation (BCAF) and Creating Effective Grassroots Alternatives Foundation (C.E.G.A.).

Duration of the project:
October 2002 – November 2003

Consultative process' participants:
Reference Group:

56 representatives of Bulgarian and foreign NGOs, local and central authorities, media

Advisory Group:
21 representatives of Donors' and governmental institutions, including the members of the Critical Readers Group – 6 Bulgarian and foreign NGO activists with NGO research experience

Team:
8 young NGO activists and researchers,
1 Lead Consultant – Vera Dakova

Expectations of the consultative process members towards the Review:

"I think that the key to the current review is the process it will use to gather and analyze the data. If done well, it could be used as an excellent opportunity to encourage NGOs to communicate, collaborate, share experiences and learn from one another."

"From the perspective of a former donor, it would be important to have an assessment of the state and needs of NGOs and informal citizen groups, so that funding is carefully targeted to respond to the needs."

"For us ourselves it is very important to know what is the impact of our work on the development of the Bulgarian society."

National Conference of Trainers and Training Institutions in Bulgaria

At the end of 2002 WCIF organized the First National Conference of Trainers and Training Institutions in Bulgaria.

The aim of the Conference was to provide the trainers and training institutions with an opportunity for sharing of experience and open discussion on significant issues, related to their professional experience.

The "Review of training services in Bulgaria" was presented during the Conference. The most significant achievements and conclusions in the field of NGO training and consulting were broadly discussed. Issues important for the participants were also discussed in small working groups and poster sessions, where the active interaction and sharing of experience and opinions was one of the most significant achievements of the meeting.

Guest speakers from the Hungarian Organisational Development Society and Trainers and Consultants Club Slovakia shared their experience, achievements and difficulties of the trainers and training institutions in Slovakia and Hungary, which raised interesting questions and provoked discussions among the participants.

The First National Conference of Trainers and Training Institutions in Bulgaria was financially supported by Allavida.

" This event is a big challenge in the process of creating professional relationships and networking among the community of trainers and training institution . I personally consider it as a significant step forward to a new approach in our professional development."

Participant in the Conference

During the Conference was shared the experience from the 12-years history of training services in Bulgaria.

In the Conference participated 90 professionals from different regions in the country.

An Initiative group of enthusiasts was formed at the end of the Conference, to continue the work on important for the community issues.

A DIRECTORY of trainers and training institutions was elaborated after the Conference with more than 100 entries in it.

The small participation fee introduced, demonstrates a good practice in the process of development of paid services.

The participation of the foreign guest speakers was unpaid, which expresses their interest and engagement towards the development of qualitative training services in Bulgaria

youthEXchange.SEE

An Allavida Grants Programme Enabling Youth Co-operation within South-East Europe

Since the autumn 2002 Workshop for Civic Initiatives Foundation is a partner of Allavida under its new two-year grants programme enabling youth co-operation within South-East Europe – youthEXchange.SEE. Its objective is to promote regional partnership-building and the transfer of skills, knowledge and experience, and above all to encourage links between organisations at grass-roots level which have not had access to cross-border opportunities.

The programme covers the following countries/territories: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania and Serbia. Each project should involve at least two organisations from two different countries/territories.

Possible activities include:

- ✓ training workshops, seminars or study visits covering skills development;
- ✓ joint projects, campaigns or other events;
- ✓ volunteer placements/exchanges in other youth organisations;
- ✓ action-oriented joint research.

Participation by individuals in regional events, such as conferences where genuine grass-roots access is rare, may also be considered

youthEXchange.SEE is managed for Allavida from Sofia, Bulgaria, through a regional co-ordinator.

The programme is implemented in partnership with the following organisations in SEE:

- Youth Educational Forum – Macedonia,
- Centre for Civil Society Development PROTECTA – Serbia,
- Youth Cultural Centre Juventas – Montenegro,
- Suncokret – Croatia,
- Youth Information Agency (OIA) – Bosnia and Herzegovina,
- Romanian Foundation for Children, Community and Family (FRCCF) – Romania, and
- Balkans YouthLink – Albania.

List of Funded Organisations in 2002:

Learning, Success, Change Programme

"Satvorenie" Association, Dobritch
Training of people with impaired vision and hearing to work in a farm for breeding of snails. The implementation of this project is the first stage of a larger project.
Funding: 3795 leva

"St. St. Cyril and Methodius" School Board of Trustees, Smyadovo
Practical training in computer skills of children with one parent or unemployed parents.
Funding: 3304 leva

"Vasil Drumev" Chitalishte, village of Dragoevo
Overcoming the social isolation of unemployed amateur performers through setting up a dance ensemble. Promoting the ensemble outside the boundaries of the village.
Funding: 3380 leva

"Alternativa 11" Foundation, Shoumen
Involving Roma children – school drop-outs, in the education process and motivating them to attend school through alternative forms of training.
Funding: 3570 leva

"Probuda" Chitalishte, village of Nikola Kozlevo
Integrating children from minority groups in the school system through improving their skills and knowledge.
Funding: 3750 leva

"Vita" Foundation, Dobritch
Information campaign and prevention of women trafficking in Dobritch and the region.
Funding: 3800 leva

Civic Movement for Municipality of Krushari, village of Krushari
Creating possibilities for equal start for children from minority groups. Integration in the Bulgarian school system through organising preparatory courses for school.
Funding: 3780 leva

Regional Organisation of Disabled People, Shoumen
Integration of young people with disabilities from Shoumen through creating prerequisites for professional realization.
Funding: 3550 leva

"Neve Droma" Foundation, Shoumen
Creation of conditions for improving the social and health services for the Roma population in the region through opening of a mediation centre. The mediation centre will be the bridge between the municipal institutions and the minority groups.
Funding: 3416 leva

"Probuda" Chitalishte, Kaspichan
Creation of employment opportunities for young people in disadvantaged social position through the formation of a dance group.
Funding: 2980 leva

"Dobrina" Foundation, Varna
Professional training of children from a social care centre to prepare them for life on their own.
Funding: 2770 leva

"Izgrevev – 2000" Association for Minority Integration, Beloslav
Integration of Roma children and encouraging them to communicate with coevals through computer courses.
Funding: 3790 leva

Institute for Human Energy Association, Varna
Improvement of the health of children with spinal problems and changing their attitude towards a healthy way of living through practicing Chinese gymnastics.
Funding: 3610 leva

"Aleko Konstantinov" Chitalishte, Provadia
Development of the artistic gifts of children from a social care centre through joint performances with children from the artistic groups in the region.
Funding: 3800 leva

"Vtori Shans" Association, Varna
Forming habits for healthy way of living in overweight children from the town of General Toshevo.
Funding: 2600 leva

"Probuda" Chitalishte, Suvorovo
Integration of the minority groups in the cultural, public and political life of Suvorovo through establishment of groups for authentic Turkish and Roma folklore.
Funding: 2550 leva

"Budeshte" Association, Dolni Chiflik
Vocational training of young people from minority groups to increase their competitiveness on the labour market.
Funding: 3800 leva

"Mothers and Children – Future for Byala" Democratic Union of Women, Byala
Preparation of children of unemployed parents for social adaptation for the life after leaving the family to study in Varna.
Funding: 3799 leva

Interethnic Partnership, Varna
Supporting children from minority groups in preparatory classes to overcome social isolation.
Funding: 3799 leva

"Shans 2000" Association for Integration of Minorities, village of Aksakovo
Professional realization of young women from ethnic minority groups in the village of Izvorsko through organising a vocational course.
Funding: 3799 leva

Challenge Fund

Association of the Disabled, Yakoruda
Project name: "We want to learn and work"
Organisation of computer courses for grown-ups, disabled children and orphans. Organisation of an accountancy course. Legal consultations for the disabled from the town and nearby villages with a lawyer from "Support for the Disabled" Foundation.
Funding: 1999.18 leva.

Initiatives Without Borders Foundation, Petarch
Project name: "A Students' Art Centre"
Creation of a students' art centre and organisation of painting, music and theatrical courses for children from socially disadvantaged families, aiming to stimulate their creative abilities and their interest in school.
Funding: 1990.00 leva.

“Izbor” Association, Bansko
The project has three main goals: 1. To change the interior of Hall 1 in the day centre into two playing rooms. 2. Making of a name-plate for the day centre. 3. A three-day camp for the children from the day centre.
Funding: 2000.00 leva.
Progress Chilaishte, Radomir
Project name: Future for the Library
Restocking the library fund with reference materials in order to restore the image of the library as the only place in town where one can find the information needed.
Funding: 892.00 leva

“Nov zivot” Chitalishte, Petarch
Project name: *Empathy helps good deeds*
Creation of a reading room at the centre’s library to facilitate the access to books as most of them are single copies.
Funding: 2000.00 leva

“Shans” Association of Mentally Handicapped People, Razlog
Project name: *A Vacation at the Seaside – A Dream Come True*
Organisation of a seaside vacation for mentally handicapped children to improve their health condition and social integration.
Funding: 2000.00 leva

Tourist Council, Koprivshitsa
Project name: *Charity Action for Koprivshitsa’s Children*
Building of a sport facility which will be used by the children in Koprivshitsa.
Funding: 2000.00 leva

“Paisii Hilendarski” Primary School Board of Trustees, Kyustendil
Project name: *A Classroom in the Open*
The main goal of the project is to increase ecological culture in students through creating a place for study, rest

and recreation close to nature.
Funding: 1082.50 leva

Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Kyustendil
Project name: *Contemporary specialized classrooms as a prerequisite for successful learning*
Renovation of specialized classrooms and equipment to improve the teaching process in the schools for mentally handicapped children in Lozno and Razhdavitsa and 4th Primary School in Kyustendil.
Funding: 1300.00 leva

Kindergarten Board of Trustees, Satovcha
Project name: *Our Dream – A Beautiful Kindergarten*
Creation of beautiful and cozy environment through renovation of interiors and refurbishing activity rooms.
Funding: 2000.00 leva

“St. Kliment Ohridski” School Board of Trustees, Blagoevgrad
Project name: *We Can Do Better*
Increasing the quality of teaching at the school through providing Internet access and training courses for teachers and students.
Funding: 2000.00 leva

Eco Flora Association, Blagoevgrad
Production and implementation of new individual learning equipment for children of Roma origin to facilitate learning and attract their interest.
Funding: 2000.00 leva

“Planintsi” Cinema Club Association, Troyan
Project name: *Ancient messages*
Creation of a movie about the history of the Troyan church and church charity to stimulate participation in social activities and support for preservation of the church.
Funding: 1800.00 leva

Bulgarian Association of Mentally Handicapped People, Pleven Branch
Organisation of a family centre for mentally and physically handicapped children to overcome their social isolation and give them new knowledge and skills.
Funding: 1060.00 leva

“N. Katranov” School Board of Trustees, Svishtov
Project name: *Our children – Safe on the Streets*
Creation of a traffic-rules classroom and a cycling polygon to facilitate theoretical and practical skills and knowledge of the traffic rules and safety on the street.
Funding: 2000.00 leva

Ecomission 21st Century Association, Lovech
Project name: *Let’s Save Stratesh Park*
A campaign to clean and restore the Stratesh park.
Funding: 1999.88 leva

Small Fundraising Event

“Duga 2000” Foundation, Sapareva Banya
Organisation of a meeting with business representatives from Sapareva Banya Municipality. The team suggested some funds to be raised for structuring an “Employment club” based on the idea of mutual assistance between the business sector and the foundation team.
Funding: 200 leva

Association of the Disabled, Yakoruda
A fundraising meeting with prospective donors – businessmen, general practitioners, representatives of the District and Municipal administrations and religious institutions representatives.
Funding: 200 leva

“Otets Paisii” Primary School Board of Trustees, village of Petarch
Organisation of a concert dedicated to the National Liberation Day (March, 3rd) with performances of the school’s students. A cocktail was held for the guests, where they were briefed for the purpose of the fundraising, what project would be implemented, who would be the beneficiaries and supporters. Donations were collected after the cocktail through direct contacts with each donor.
Funding: 200 leva

“Paisii Hilendarski” Primary School Board of Trustees, Kyustendil
Fundraising through a “St. Valentine” thematic evening where valentine cards and sweets made by the students will be sold.
Funding: 200 leva

“Nov Zhivot” Chitalishte, village of Petarch
Organisation of a charity concert and a cocktail with businesswomen from Kostinbrod Municipality. Funds were raised also by selling cards and traditional embroidery items.
Funding: 200 leva

Eco Flora Association, Blagoevgrad
An exhibition was made for business people, educational specialists and other citizens where the learning toys created will be presented and sold. The exhibition aimed at showing their success for the education of Roma children. The funds raised were used for the production of learning toys for all children from four large municipalities in SW Bulgaria with prevailing Roma population.
Funding: 200 leva

“Christo Botev” Chitalishte, Rila
Preparation of an advertising booklet for the town of Rila which was offered to tourist companies. The funds raised

were used for the main activities of the chitalishte - library, education and culture.

Funding: 200 leva

“Dabrash” Foundation, Satovcha

Organisation of events in the three largest villages in the region together with the local chitalishta.

Representatives of the local administration, the police, sociologists and psychologists were invited. After the meetings, concerts of the folk song and dance ensemble at the chitalishte of Satovcha were held.

Funding: 200 leva.

Tourist Council, Koprivshtitsa

Organisation of a charity ball together with “H.N.Palaveev” Chitalishte, “Lyuben Karavelov” School and “Evlampia Vekilova” kindergarten to raise funds for the building of a sports facility for children.

Funding: 200 leva

Pirin Tourist Forum

The fundraising campaign included promoting the idea through the local cable TV and radio as well as publishing an advertising leaflet. Personal meetings with potential donors were held. Money collection boxes were placed at key locations at the municipal centre.

Funding: 200 leva

“Vazrazhdane na Samokov” Foundation, Samokov

Publishing of a newspaper aimed at supporting the creativity of children through promoting their works. Authors were under fourteen years of age and the newspaper was distributed at the primary schools in Samokov and the villages of the region. The newspaper was published for the National Liberation Day (March, 3rd).

Funding: 200 leva

Society for Protection of Children’s Rights, Pernik

Fundraising through a charity auction where works of art were sold. The funds raised were used for presents for children from the orphanage.

Funding: 200 leva

“Progress” Chitalishte, Radomir

Organisation of a fundraising event to renew the reference and fiction fund of the library. Advertising materials were prepared to promote the event and a “round table” on the problems of the library was held. Current and potential donors, local authority representatives, schoolmasters and librarians from the municipality were invited.

Funding: 200 leva

“Civil Society” Association, Rila

Organisation of an auction sale of donated goods from local manufacturers and culinary specialties prepared by the members of the Association to coincide with the festivities for the International Women’s Day – March, 8th. A presentation of the project where the funds will be used was made.

Funding: 200 leva

Public Centre for Urban Living and Environment, Blagoevgrad

Preparation of printed materials to promote the main goals of the project through local media. Invitations to potential donors for a cocktail, where the project was presented.

Funding: 200 leva

“St. Kliment Ohridski” School Board of Trustees, Blagoevgrad

Organisation of a charity concert by students and guest-performers, an auction for drawings, cards and souvenirs produced in art classes and homemade sweets sale. Letters to companies offering a possibility to advertise at the event were sent. Their financial sup-

port was acknowledged through local mass media.

Funding: 200 leva

Regional Business Centre for Support of SME’s, Pernik

A charity concert with the participation of the dance club and ballet formation at the Children Centre in Pernik and performers from the Pernik Drama Theatre was held. Souvenirs and cards were made to be sold at the event.

Funding: 200 leva

Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Kyustendil

Charity sale of works of art donated by members of the Artists’ Union in Kyustendil.

Funding: 200 leva

PULSE Foundation, Pernik

Organisation of a charity event where a theatrical performance was presented by students from the National Theatre and Cinema Academy. The proceeds were donated to the foundation. Distinguished persons, representatives of the business, political and public life were invited as VIP guests at the performance and the cocktail to follow. Money collection boxes were placed in the lobby of the theatre for donations.

Funding: 200 leva

“St. Cyril And Methodius” Primary School Board of Trustees, Pernik

Interactive methods were introduced to relieve the social isolation of disadvantaged children and restraining juvenile delinquency. One of the goals is to create a computer club at the school attempting to raise the interest toward the learning process.

Funding: 200 leva

“Roden Krai” Regional Association for Reform and Development, Kjustendil

Organisation of an event with the inhabitants of the village of Stensko,

where the purpose of the fundraising was presented.

Funding: 200 leva

“Shans” Association of Mentally Handicapped People, Razlog

Organisation of a charity lottery in Razlog and the villages of Bachevo and Banya. The public was informed about the goal of the lottery through local media.

Funding: 200 leva

Centre for Local Development Association, Buhovo

Organisation of a fundraising event with citizens, local authority and business to raise funds for renovation of parks, playgrounds etc. The objects to be rehabilitated were chosen according to donors’ will and public interest taking into account the opinion of the local authorities.

Funding: 200 leva

Bulgarian Association of Mentally Handicapped People, Bansko Branch

Organisation of an event with long-time partners, donors, businessmen and representatives of the local authorities and media to promote the purpose of the fundraising, that is improving the conditions at the “Zdravets” Day Centre for Mentally Handicapped Children and Teenagers in Bansko.

Funding: 200 leva

Better Health Association, Pleven

Preparation of a collection of good practices book describing the experience of the Association in solving health issues. 15 copies were printed at the office and were distributed to potential donors who would eventually fund their printing in a circulation of 400 copies.

Funding: 200 leva

Bulgarian Association of Mentally Handicapped People, Pleven Branch
 Organisation of a charity concert with the participation of children from the music and drama group at the Association's Pleven branch as well as famous performers. An auction of objects created by the children was held as well.

Funding: 200 leva

"N. Katranov" School Board of Trustees, Svishtov

Organisation of a charity concert for the International Day of Children (June, 1st) with the participation of students from the school. Before the event and on the day of the event a sale of drawings made by students will be held.

Funding: 200 leva

"Planintsi" Cinema Club Association, Troyan

A campaign to raise the awareness of the Troyan public of the history of the "St. Petka" church and organisation of an evening where slides depicting the uniqueness and the problems of the church were shown.

Funding: 200 leva

"Bacho Kiro" School Board of Trustees, Pavlikeni

Organisation of a concert of students and teachers to raise funds for the school library.

Funding: 200 leva

"Tsanko Tserkovski" School Board of Trustees, Polski Trambesh

Organisation of a concert with the participation of vocal and ballet formations from the school.

Funding: 198.50 leva

Ecomission 21st Century Association, Lovech

Carrying out a media campaign and street event "A Heart for Stratesh".

Organisation of a charity concert with lottery and auction of paintings and articles of art.

Funding: 200 leva

Municipal Association of Disabled People, Lovetch

Organisation of a charity event where representatives of the corporate sector, local authorities, NGOs were invited. Singers and comedians took part in the event as well as the actor D. Voyakov who plays in a wheelchair.

Funding: 200 leva

Centre Maria Association, Gorna Oryahovitsa

Organisation of a charity auction of paintings and articles made by the students in Gorna Oryahovitsa. The funds raised were used for opening and furnishing a children consultative centre in Centre Maria.

Funding: 200 leva

Centre for the Sustainable Development of the Municipality of Teteven

A football match was organized between the local football team Olympic and a joint team of local actors and musicians. It was held during the autumn fair in Teteven and the funds raised were given for charity.

Funding: 200 leva

St Kozma and Damyan Foundation, Veliko Turnovo

Organisation of an exhibition during which a charity auction was carried out. The exhibition was open for visitors for one week; a money collection box was placed in the exhibition hall as well.

Funding: 200 leva

No to the Violence against Children Foundation, Veliko Turnovo

Organisation of an exhibition and sale of paintings and photos donated by

their authors. Personal meetings with representatives of the local business and families of the beneficiaries of the foundation.

Funding: 200 leva

Bacho Kiro Association, Dryanovo
 Publication of 200 leaflets describing the route. Setting up a tourist trekking route in the region of the Dryanovo Monastery.

Funding: 200 leva

School Board of Trustees, village of Bahovitsa

Organising a party in the school gym where local businessmen, former pupils and teachers, the mayor, etc. will be invited to raise money for the restoration of the gym.

Funding: 200 leva

Lady's Club – Pavlikeni

Organising a meeting for the citizens of Pavlikeni with a distinguished person for the holiday of the town – 8 September. For fundraising purposes an entrance fee of 10 leva for the representatives of the business and a minimum fee for the citizens were introduced.

Funding: 200 leva

Information and Sustainable Development Association, Lovetch

Organising a meeting with representatives of local businesses, municipal experts, traffic police, etc. Personal meetings with potential donors are an essential part of the project. The aim of the project is setting up a cycling lane in Lovetch.

Funding: 200 leva

Living Heritage Programme

IVANOVO

Local partner: chitalishte "Hristo botev" – Ivanovo

Name of the Project: "In quest of the spring"

The project aims at regeneration of the memory of the disappeared old village through gathering and systematising of materials and their presentation to the community as well as their usage as a symbol of local identity

Funding: 16 135 leva

DORKOVO

Local partner: chitalishte "Sv.Sv. Kiril i Metodii"

Name of the project: Development, Revitalization and Promotion of the International Authentic Folklore Festival - Dorkovo

The project aims at sustainable development of the existing International Festival for authentic folklore.

Funding: 16 940 leva

GOTSE DELCHEV – REGIONAL PROJECT

Local partner: Chitalishte "Iskra", Garmen

The project includes the villages of Pletena, Dabnica, Koprivlen and Garmen

Title of the project Revival of the Old Tradition in the Valley of River Mesta
 The project aims at reviving of old traditions along the river Mesta valley

(a region with mixed ethnic and religious population) through establishing workshops for specific local skills: Koprivlen - workshop for traditional costumes; Dabnica - workshop for drums; Garmen - renewing the performances of the old theatre group; Pletena - Pomak folklore. The project also envisages research into and publishing of traditional local stories.

Funding: 51 485 leva

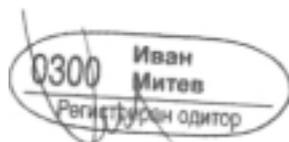
Auditor's Report

We have audited the accompanying balance sheet of "WORKSHOP FOR CIVIC INITIATIVES" FOUNDATION as of 31 December 2002, and the related statements of income, cash flows and the statement of changes in equity for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Foundation's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Bulgarian Standards on Auditing. Those Standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements. An audit includes examining, on a test based, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statement present fairly, in all material respects the financial position of "WORKSHOP FOR CIVIC INITIATIVES" FOUNDATION as at 31 December 2002, and of the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Bulgarian Accounting Standards.

Auditing company:
Bulaudit Ltd.



Chartered Certified Accountant:
Ivan Mitev

Date: 19. 03. 2003 Sofia

Report for the Incomes and Expenses

Type of the income(s) and expenses	Appl. №	Current year in thousand leva	Previous year in thousand leva
1. Income from regulated activities		559	7
2. Expenses from regulated activities	1,2,3,4,5	557	8
Total (1-2)		2	(1)
3. Financial income	6	38	
4. Financial expenses	6	33	5
5. Incidental income			
6. Incidental expenses			
7. Profit (loses) from business activities			
Result (1-2 + 3-4+5-6+(-7))		7	(6)

Balance Sheet 2002

	Application	2002	2003
Assets in BGN			
Long term assets	8		
Equipment		27	2
Other long term tangible assets		10	
Programme products		1	
Long term assets total		38	2
Short term assets			
Funds	10	343	1
Other short term assets	9	18	170
Long term assets total		361	171
Assets total		399	173
Liabilities in BGN			
Capital and reserves			
Main capital	12		2
Reserves		2	(6)
Capital and reserves		2	(4)
Short term liabilities			
Obligations to suppliers		29	
Taxes		1	
Social insurances		3	
Obligations to staff		3	
Other payments		1	10
Short term liabilities total		37	10
Fundings		360	167
Liabilities total		399	173

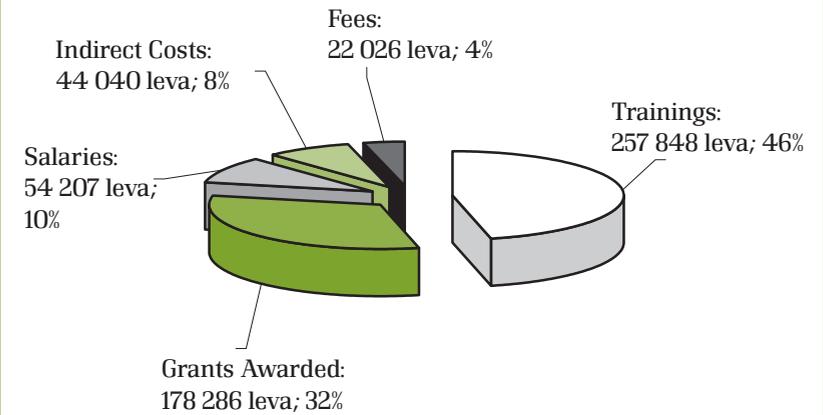
Report for Own Capital

in BGN	Capital	Other reserves	Total
2002			
<i>1st January 2002</i>			
Balance in the beginning of the reported period	2	(6)	(4)
Follow assessment of long term assets			
a) Increase		8	8
b) Decrease	(2)		(2)
Balance at 31.12.2002		2	2

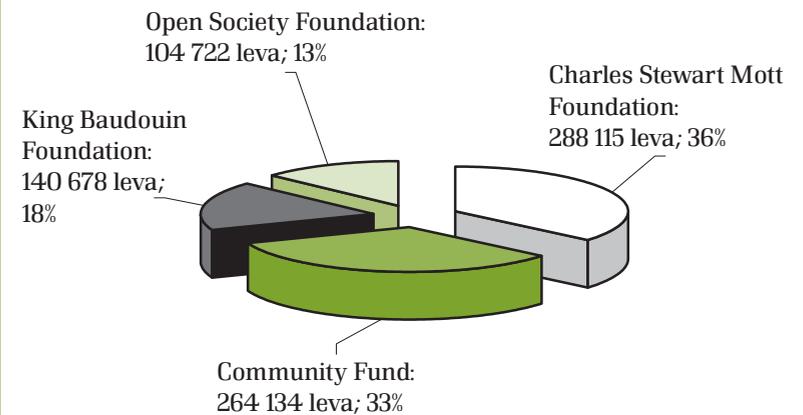
Report for the Financial Flow

n BGN	Application N ^o	2002	2001
Financial flow from non business activities			
A. Income from non-business activities			
1. Income from donations conditional		886	
2. Income from donations non-conditional			
3. Income from bank and currency operations		1	
4. Other income			10
Profit from non-business activities total		887	10
B. Payments for non-business activities			
1. Salaries		(39)	
2. Insurances		(13)	
3. Payments for bank and currency operations	6	(1)	
4. Payments for services	2	(53)	(7)
5. Other payments		(262)	(2)
6. Pay-off donations	7	(178)	
Payments for non-business activities total		(546)	(9)
C. Net financial flow from non-business activities			
		341	1
Cash towards 1st January		1	0
Available cash towards 31.12.02		342	1
Cash variance under the period		342	1

Project Expenses



Income by Source of Funding



Workshop for Civic Initiatives Foundation

1000 Sofia, 78 Knyaz Boris Street

tel./fax: 359 2/ 987 98 03, 980 12 68, 980 69 15

e-mail: wcif@wcif-bg.org

www.wcif-bg.org

Iliyana Nikolova

Executive Director

inikolova@wcif-bg.org

Victor Bojinov

Information Officer

vbojinov@wcif-bg.org

Violeta Nenova

Programme Manager Living Heritage Programme

vnenova@wcif-bg.org

Dobrinka Valkova

NGO Review Coordinator

dvalkova@wcif-bg.org

Maria Peteva

Local Resource Mobilisation and Challenge Fund Coordinator

wcif@wcif-bg.org

Angelina Stoilkova

Training Manager

astoilkova@wcif-bg.org