


Fund for Gender Equality

GENERAL PROGRAMME INFORMATION				
Project Information				Bosnia and Herzegovina
Project Name	Strengthening Women Youth Leaders of Youth Associations in their Roles as Civil Society Players			Programme Type: Catalytic
Lead Org	KULT			Grant ID: 2042
Co-lead Org	BH Experts Association (BHXP)			
Thematic Area(s)	Political Empowerment			
Thematic Sub Area(s)	Gender mainstreaming in sectoral policy (Youth)			
Grant Amount	\$462,769	Grant Start Date	December 18, 2009	
Additional Gov't Funding		Grant End Date	December 31, 2011	
Total Budget	\$462,769			

Partner Agencies	
Government	12 Municipalities and Municipal Local Advisory Bodies (LAB) (composed of municipal officials and representatives of NGOs that coordinate gender issues in municipalities)
Civil Society	12 Municipal Youth Councils

Programme Summary
The programme focuses on empowering young women from underdeveloped municipalities in Bosnia and Herzegovina to help create and implement youth strategies in local government. It has the potential to empower a critical mass of young women leaders to influence public issues, develop their local communities and emerge as partners in political decision-making processes at the local and national levels.

DETAILED PROGRAMME INFORMATION				
Contribution to Law(s)				
Name of Law	Law Type	Year Implemented	Type of Contribution	Expected Level of Contribution (High or Low)
12 Municipal Youth Strategies	Strategy	2008-2011	Gender Mainstreaming; Youth Mainstreaming; Implementation	High
BiH Law on Gender Equality and Gender Action Plans	Strategy/Plan	2010-2011 (during project implementation)	Gender Mainstreaming; Youth Mainstreaming; Implementation	High
Entities' (RS and FBiH) Youth Laws	Strategy/Plan	2008-2011	Gender Mainstreaming; Youth Mainstreaming; Implementation	High

General Programme Goal
Greater empowerment of young women in BiH to take a proactive approach in implementation of the BiH Law on Gender Equality, entities' Gender Action Plans and Youth Laws, and municipal youth strategies, contributing to enhanced gender sensitivity in all aspects of life in BiH.

Expected Programme Outcomes

Outcome 1: By 2011, 180 women youth leaders organizing and implementing advocacy initiatives and other actions within their youth organizations and in communities that reflect and promote gender equality principles.

Outcome 2: KOSNICA informal network and formal umbrella organization will collaborate with and support local, sub-national and national counterparts in implementing gender equality components of youth strategies, youth policies, BiH Law on Gender Equality and Gender Action Plans as they pertain to youth.

Main Achievements

This programme invests in the empowerment of youth to “advocate for gender mainstreaming into youth public sectoral policies and introduction of gender-sensitive budgets during the implementation of youth strategies”.

- 180 women youth leaders from 12 municipalities have strengthened skills in gender equality, negotiations, public relations and women’s rights campaigns and as part of their youth organizations. The programme is helping establish new municipality and regional networks, targeted community-based activities, along with ongoing, intensive advocacy and education campaigns with extensive use of social networking media.
- Young women empowered to raise their voices designed, planned and organized public campaigns for the 16 Days of Activism on Violence Against Women for the first time.
- Several models for successful programme development applied in programming community-based awareness activities and volunteer efforts to raise awareness, influencing Youth Planning Processes, and implementing Bosnia and Herzegovina’s Gender Action Plan.
- The programme presents an impressive example of effective communication strategies using social networking media (umbrella organization’s web portal <http://www.kosnica.ba/Kosnica> and Facebook page), reaching the young generation of a newly-established, young democracy.

Key Highlights

- A great model of how to develop and use effective communication strategies using social networking media to inform the young generation of BiH on women’s rights.
- KOSNICA model uses best project practices and incorporates needs of young women leaders involved with the project in order to draft new youth strategies for project municipalities.