



23rd NEWSLETTER

ON SOCIAL INCLUSION AND POVERTY REDUCTION

INTRODUCTION

NERGIZA ALIŠANOVIĆ: Collecting Secondary Raw Materials is a Business with a Future

From the 29th Belgrade Ignite "Get Involved 2" speech (21 October 2014, Mixer House, Belgrade)



I come from the village of Prekodolce near Vladičin Han. I am married, live with my husband Saša, have two kids, and my family currently counts a total of 11 members. I have been involved in entrepreneurship for over eight years. (...)

It occurred to me that collecting and processing waste may be a good business. I did not have many doubts, and asked around over the internet and through friends, regarding what the business is like. I am grateful to my friend who told me there was an organization in Vranje called BIC – Business Incubator Centre. Their

trainings provided me with know-how on the legal aspects of entrepreneurship, management, marketing... I created a business plan, and when they notified me that I had won a grant, I was very happy.

In accordance with the business plan, I got a press and a mill. The beginning was very hard: learning how to handle the machinery, looking for a sales market, obtaining raw materials, both by ourselves, as well as through gatherers. It was all hard going, but we did not lose hope, the struggle went on. I suffered, and not just me, but my entire family. We all worked, throughout the day. (...)

In addition to our family, this business involves another thirty families, providing subsistence for themselves and protection for the environment as well, which is a shared goal of ours. I plan to expand the capacities, employ new people. I have the will to work, and I handed it down to my grandchildren, as well, and I plan for my descendants in the future to continue the business.

[Click here to read the transcript of the presentation by Nergiza Ališanović at the 29th Belgrade Ignite event in its entirety.](#)

NEWS

Economic Development and Employment

- ▶ A Total of 175 Million EUR for Agriculture in Serbia from European Funds
- ▶ EBRD Predicts the Least Growth in the Region for Serbia
- ▶ "Youth Employment and Career Guidance and Counselling" Conference Held
- ▶ Public Call for Unemployed Roma for Awarding Grants for Self-Employment Concluded

Social Welfare and Healthcare

- ▶ Publication "Income and Living Conditions in Serbia 2013"
- ▶ Serbia Still at the Bottom of the European Healthcare Index
- ▶ Publication "Protection of Single Parents in the Republic of Serbia – Analysis of the Legal Framework and Recommendations"
- ▶ List of Finalists for the International Habitat Award
- ▶ Non-communicable Diseases Kill 38 Million People Worldwide

Education

- ▶ Conclusion Adopted on the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Education Development Strategy by 2020
- ▶ Applications for Participation in the "New Technologies in Education" Conference
- ▶ Peer Support Network for Inclusive Education Formed
- ▶ Call for the International School Competition ACES (Deadline: 15/4/2015)
- ▶ Download the Manual "Psychological Crisis Interventions in Educational Institutions"

Vulnerable Groups and Human Rights

- ▶ Call for Comments to the Model Law on Gender Equality
- ▶ Submission of Comments to the Initial Study for Drafting the Roma Inclusion Strategy in Serbia
- ▶ Findings of the Commissariat for Refugees and Migration – 16,500 Asylum Seekers in Serbia in 2014
- ▶ Council for Monitoring the Implementation of the Recommendations of the UN Human Rights Mechanism Formed

EU Integration

- ▶ EC Adopts Decisions on Financial Support within Regional Programmes
- ▶ Members of the Joint Consultative Committee from Serbia Appointed
- ▶ Serbia Makes Good Use of EU Financial Support
- ▶ Presentation of Projects on the Role of Local Authorities in EU Membership Negotiations
- ▶ Guide to the Europe 2020 Strategy – Guide for Serbia, Too

EU News

- ▶ Latvia Assumes EU Presidency
- ▶ Findings of the Eurobarometer Survey
- ▶ Two billion EUR from IPA Funds to Support Reforms in the Western Balkans and Turkey in 2014
- ▶ Quarterly Review on the Employment and Social Situation: Small and Consistent Growth in Employment

ACTIVITIES OF THE SOCIAL INCLUSION UNIT

Two Seminars Held within the "Education for Employment" Series of Conferences

Two seminars tackling the "National Qualifications Framework" and "Impact of Employers on the Development of Employment Skills" were successfully organized in late January. These seminars are part of a cycle entitled "Education for Employment".

The first seminar tackled international practices of the development and implementation of integrated national qualifications frameworks and the method whereby they can be adopted to economic and educational needs. The focus of the second seminar was on the role and importance of sectoral committees, also presenting two case studies of successful cooperation among employers in the development of skills in Serbia.

The seminars, held aiming to enable the exchange of experiences in the field of human resource development with a focus on educational and employment policy, as well as to show specific solutions and experiences from Great Britain, were organized by the British Council, the Embassy of the UK and the Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit of the Government of the Republic of Serbia, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, and other partners.

Conference "Towards a New Strategy for Improving the Status of Roma"

The Office for Human and Minority Rights of the Government of the Republic of Serbia and the Standing Conference of the Roma Citizens' Associations (SKRUG) – Roma League, in cooperation with the Open Society Foundation from Belgrade, are organizing the conference "Towards a New Strategy for Improving the Status of Roma", aiming to jointly approach and indicate guidelines for providing a relevant basis for drafting a new Strategy for the Improvement of the Status of Roma.

The conference will be held on 9 February 2015, at Klub Poslanika (Tolstojeva 2) in Belgrade, starting at 10:00.

The Office for Human and Minority Rights of the Government of the Republic of Serbia in partnership with the Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit, supported by the "Making the Most of EU Funds for Roma" Open Society Foundations from Budapest and the Open Society Foundation from Belgrade, has prepared the Initial Study for Drafting the New Strategy for Roma Inclusion harmonized with the Europe 2020 Strategy, presenting the reasons and bases for drafting a new strategic document. Likewise, the conference will serve to present the Report on the Implementation of the Operative Conclusions of the Seminar on the Social Inclusion of Roma in RS held in June 2013, as well as initiatives contributing to the drafting of the new Strategy.

[Click to read more regarding the conference.](#)

READ MORE...

- ▶ Norwegian Embassy Opens Dialog with Civil Society
- ▶ Preliminary version of the Strategy for the Development of e-Government in Serbia
- ▶ Eighth Competition for the VIRTUS Award
- ▶ Call for Films for BOSIFEST 2015 (Deadline: 5/4/2015)
- ▶ OSF Call for Think Tanks from the Western Balkans Area (Deadline: 16/2/2015)
- ▶ Call for Young Roma Experts for Participation in the Roma Employment Programme (Deadline: 15/2/2015)
- ▶ First Place for Software Helping Persons with Disabilities
- ▶ International Day of Remembrance of Holocaust Victims
- ▶ Competition for the Best Travel Story by Elderly Persons (Deadline: 1/3/2015)

You may follow the news on social inclusion and poverty reduction regularly at:

<http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/en/>

SOCIAL INCLUSION BLOG

DRAGANA MALIŽAN VINKIĆ: Teenagers in Inclusive Education – Sexual Education



Once students start seventh grade, they are visibly different; they have new facial features as a consequence of new life experiences and knowledge. Another novelty is that the needs of students also change. In most cases, peers take over the main role in their lives, while us 'grownups' are out of the picture. They are frequently in conflict with authority, making our work, that of educational workers, difficult. The students suddenly find everything *uninteresting, boring, lame, crap, stupid*, and their vocabulary mainly boils down to those adjectives. At this

age they show a greater resistance against studying than during previous years. Sometimes I think all seventh graders are fit for a year of individual educational plans. They feel there are changes happening, everything around them is somehow more demanding, but they do not know how to respond to the new challenges. Therefore, seventh grade represents adaptation to everything, at all levels.

However, kids are kids, having difficulties or not, and that's how every student should be treated.

The development of students with difficulties in puberty also shows new emotional and physical changes. Stronger outpourings of emotion can occur, primarily anger, as well as withdrawal and depression. Some students may exhibit sexuality instinctively, through spontaneous/ involuntary erections, masturbation, rubbing against things and objects. With some student with difficulties, such behaviour can also occur in lower grades. The need to be liked by society at all costs puts some of the students with difficulties into a situation where they publicly humiliate themselves. Everything you can think of can happen. If any of these types of behaviours are noticed, reacting immediately is important.

The correct reaction is not moralizing, but introducing new rules and starting new, more intense educational work with the student, intensified cooperation with parents/guardians, psychologists, pedagogists, defectologists, medical and social workers. Together with them we can help a student learn to control their urges, what represents socially acceptable behaviour and how to take care of themselves and their health, and perhaps most importantly, how to guard themselves and not let themselves become easy targets for bullies.

We cannot shut our eyes before the unpleasant things that happen among students. It is easier to resolve a problem, than pretend it does not exist and allow it to grow into events that could have tragic consequences for the children and the school. (...)

The rest of the text can be found [HERE](#). Other posts by our bloggers can be found at:

<http://www.socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/blog>

SUCCESS STORY

Remained in their Home Country to Export Hi-Tech Products

A total of 25 start-up companies were founded and over 100 young experts were employed, 25 of them returning from abroad, during the last three years at the Business-Technological Incubator of Technical Faculties (BITF); some of these companies are fully geared towards exports and are on the lists of the fastest growing companies in the international environment.

They exchanged working in one of the world-renowned high-tech companies for returning to their home country and founding their own business. They work globally from Belgrade; exporting their high-tech products, paying taxes in Serbia and, as they say, they do not regret their decision. Young people, swimming against the dominant brain-drain current and deciding to return – 25 of them – lead companies and work within the

Business-Technological Incubator of the Technical Faculties of BU (BITF). Among the 44 companies currently operating at Ruzveltova 1, these top experts and innovators are developing ideas in the field of information technologies, biotechnology, medical technologies...

At the mention of success, confirmed by renowned international institutions, they humbly shrug their shoulders and say the only thing important is that they are following their ideas. This autumn, one such award arrived for two of the companies – incubator members. This year's selection of the 50 fastest growing technology companies (Europe – Incubator Fast 50) of the consultant-audit company "Deloitte", ranked the "HTEC" company third place in the Central European region, with an income growth of 1,777% during the previous five years! Returning to this list is the "Bitgear Wireless Design Services" company, finding itself in the selection in 2013, while in 2014 it took 18th place, with a five-year income growth of 759%! (...)

The remainder of the text can be found [HERE](#). More success stories can be found at:

<http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/rs/category/uspesniprimeri/>

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