

Minister Bytyqi: Support for the learning centers, which provide additional education for the children of communities



Minister of Education, Science and Technology, Shyqyri Bytyqi attended the opening of the workshop on the review and completion of the Administrative Instruction (AI), which deals with the establishment and functioning of learning centers. In this workshop organized by MEST in cooperation with GIZ and civil society participants such as BSFK, KEC, SiV, RADC, VoRAE, TDH, Minister Bytyqi stated that it is extremely important to engage in revising and supplementing this legal document, which regulates the functioning of the learning centers, and said that this is a continuation of the work of MEST for the completion of legal infrastructure where necessary. Speaking about the importance of learning centers, Minister Bytyqi said he appreciates the work and engagement of these centers, which provide additional education for community children, especially for Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian children.

Supporting Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian students



Samir Shahini from BSFK, the coordinator of the program for learning centers and Veton Sylhasi from KFOS, project coordinator of EU-SIMRAES 2, were invited last week to KTV morning show to talk about the support that EU-SIMRAES project 2 and Balkan Sunflowers Kosovo have offered and continue to provide for the children of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4J256iWPnv8>

International Writing and Reading Day

To mark the International Writing and Reading Day, Kosovo Education Center - KEC organized activities with SOS Village children highlighting the importance of reading and at the same time donating a significant number of books to children of different ages.

The International Day for advancement of Writing and Reading is annually marked on September 8 and aims to raise awareness of the importance of reading and the problem of illiteracy that unfortunately in Kosovo society is quite present.

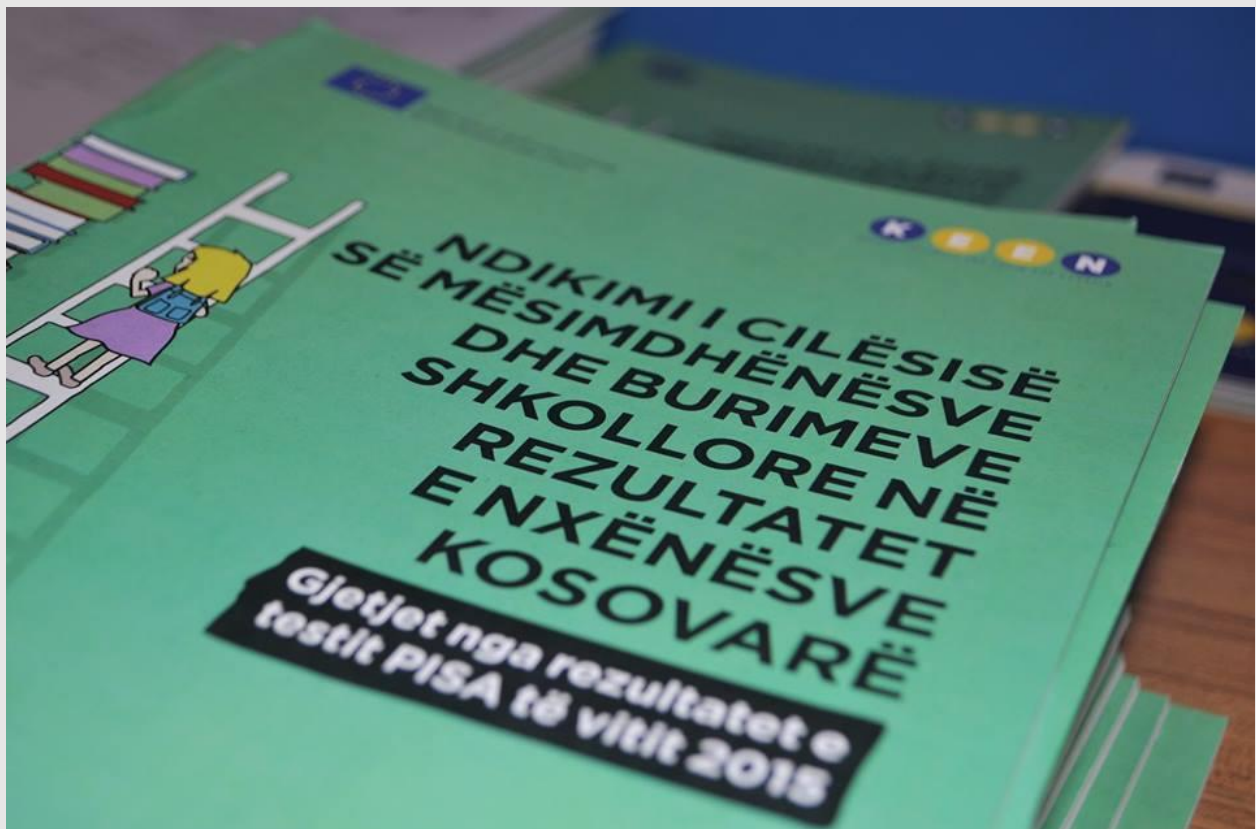


Study on the results of the PISA 2015 test

The Kosovo Education Center (KEC), within the framework of the EU-funded project "Kosovo Education and Employment Network - KEEN", presented today the study "The impact of teacher quality and in-school resources on kosovar students' performance: Findings from PISA 2015 results".

The study analyzes the results of the PISA 2015 test, respectively the impact of teacher quality and in-school resources on the performance of Kosovar students in math, reading, and science. This study provides information and recommendations that can be used to improve the education system as well as more efficient sharing of resources in the school.

In this event, part of the public discussion were members of the Assembly of Kosovo, representatives from SBASHK, representatives from international development agencies and independent researcher in the field of education.



Distribution of school packages



The process of distributing school packages for 1600 Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian pupils was completed. The distribution was made within the framework of the EU-SIMRAES II project, which is funded by the Office of the European Union in Kosovo and the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST) and is implemented through the partnership of 8 civil society organizations.

These packages will help the children to meet their teaching needs during the 2018/19 school year. Packages contain school materials such as school bags, notebooks, pencils, pens, sets of ribbons, different colors and other materials that students need to develop their learning activities.

Advocacy campaign for the registration of children in school



The advocacy campaign for the registration of children in pre-primary education and in the first grade, in high schools and in the faculties, was carried out in four phases:

In the first phase, children who have the age for pre-primary education, first grade, and students who have completed lower secondary education were identified. The number of students who have completed lower secondary education is 60.

In the second phase, information sessions were held with all the children, to inform them about the studying opportunities in Suhareka secondary schools.

In the third phase, out of the total number of 60 pupils, in the various schools of Suhareka and Prizren, 35 pupils were enrolled. Also at this stage were realized meetings with the parents of students.

In the fourth and final phase, the number of unregistered students was 15. In this regard, a request was made to the Education Directorate to advocate, as well as meetings with the Director of Education and school directors were held to inform them with the recommendation issued by the Directorate of Education to high school directors for student enrollment.

As a result of this campaign, pre-primary education in Gelance, Leshan, Tërne, Piran, and Jeta e Re, were registered 25 children, in the first grade 22 children were registered and in the municipalities of Prizren and Suhareka were registered 50 students in high schools.

Mitrovica Led Contamination issue

The coalition of several organizations (Society for Threatened People, Human Rights Watch, European Roma Right Center, Roma and Ashkalia Documentation Center) have initiated a joint advocacy initiative regarding the support for the Roma, Ashkalia and Egyptian affected members from Mitrovica on the lead poisoning issue.

Furthermore, UN has established an account whereas UN member states can contribute to a joint assistance fund to start up community-based driven projects.

In addition to targeted community assistance projects, we continue to believe it is essential for the UN to pay individual compensation for the families of individual victims poisoned by lead while living in UN administered camps. The UN's role in the violation of their rights has been clearly documented by the HRAP, as well as by international and local human rights groups.

As discussed, the initiators of this letter have concluded that wider support of the organizations acting in Kosovo would have a wider support as well as the bigger impact of the local and international organizations in the request to UN.