AWEN ACTIVITY
ANNUAL REPORT
2018

FUQIA E 'NJË ZËRI'
RRJETI I FUQIZIMIT TË GRUAS NË SHQIPËRI - AWEN

www.awenetwork.org
The programme “Protection and promotion of women rights in Albania” 2016 – 2018, supported by Sida – supported by Sida – Swedish International Development Agency

Programme outcome: To increase the role and contribution of women civil society organizations for the proper implementation of policies and legislation on women rights in Albania.

Output 1: National and local governments are increasingly promoting and protecting women’s right. Some key achievements are:

- Advocacy and continuous lobbying regarding the implementation and improvement of current gender equality legislation and policies;
- Concrete Contribution to Improve Legislation and Policies at the Central and Local Level / Advocacy Initiatives;
- National Study on Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) among adolescents - During 2018, the selected team of researchers, in close collaboration with the AWEN program staff and member organizations, completed and finalized the study. Study findings are being used during awareness-raising and advocacy initiatives to address IPV in adolescence.

Output 2. AWEN members are enabled to carry out projects and initiatives for the protection of women human rights. Some key achievements are:

- The establishment of 5 new Referral Mechanism against Domestic Violence has been supported in the administrative units: Finiq, Delvinë, Konispol, Malësi e Madhe and Vau i Dejës. A new emergency shelter’ opening has been supported in Dibra district;
- 10 projects implemented with the financial support of Sida during 2018 – 8 yearly projects and 2 advocacy initiatives (24 projects and 9 initiatives related to emerging watch dog and advocacy during 2016-2019);
- 1288 girls and women have been assisted during 2018, through: sheltering services 156 women and 67 children; psychological assistance for 1079 girls and women; legal assistance for 550 girls and women; reintegration services for 209 girls and women. 4433 girls and women assisted during 2016-2018;
- About 4415 girls and women during 2018 have received online/phone counseling/ assistance and referral to other services;
- At least 654 local stakeholders have been involved in capacity building interventions during 2018; 2489 during 2016-2018;
- About 780 young girls and boys have been engaged as activists/ volunteers beside AWEN & its member organizations during 2018. 1009 during 2016-2018;
- At least 5261 people (women and girls, boys and men) are more aware on women rights by participating in awareness raising events/activities of AWEN and AWEN member organizations during 2018. 13919 during 2016-2018;
- About 29 perpetrators have received rehabilitation services, mainly psychological counseling. 48 during 2016-2019;

Output 3. AWEN members are viable and sustainable organizations and have the capacity to contribute to the promotion of women human rights. Some key achievements are:

- Organizational development of AWEN and member organizations: Creating and consolidating monitoring practices, improved policies and procedures, revised / developed strategic plans, training on various topics, a study visit to Sweden and exchanges of experience between member organizations and local actors in some municipalities; participation in international conferences;
- The number of stakeholders and collaborators has increased by at least 30% (AWEN and members);
- The number of target groups and beneficiaries has increased by at least 30%;
- At least 1 new areas of expertise added by each member during 2016-2019;
**OTHER PROJECTS - 2018**

**Projekti: “Advocacy for Gender Equality and EU Integration Processes”, supported by Kvinna till Kvinna**

- 40 journalism students were trained in recognizing gender stereotypes in the media, EU legislation and protocols about gender sensitive reporting during a training session held in March 2018;
- 360 girls and boys from 15 high schools from all over the country became part of the activities and mini-competitions in schools, during the activities carried out by AWEN member organizations (November-December 2018);
- Eight meetings / roundtables were organized with local partners and NGOs with the topic: EU and Gender;
- 6 mini-projects were organized by about 400 new and young high schools in Tirana, Elbasan, Shkodra, Vlora, Pogradec and Saranda on gender equality issues;
- AWEN has actively contributed to more than 30 consultations, advocacy and lobbying meetings developed in the framework of EU integration processes in the perspective of gender equality.

**AWP, Durrës in partnership with AWEN and supported by the UN Women Fund for Gender Equality has implemented the Project “Rezolution 1325: Women human rights – Global reality versus Albanian reality”**

- Lobbying and Advocacy for Drafting and Implementing the National Action Plan (Resolution 1325)
- Awareness raising activities / Meetings

**GADC in partnership with AWEN & members implemented the project: “Capacity building of CSOs to monitor the implementation of activities related to the reduction of gender-based violence and domestic violence of the National Strategy and Action Plan on Gender Equality 2016-2020”, implemented with the support of UN Women and financed by the European Comission.**

- Monitoring the Implementation of Refererral Mechanisms for Gender Based Violence in 6 Major Municipalities of the Country: Tirana; Durrës, Elbasan, Vlora, Shkodra and Korça;
- Publication of monitoring reports in the target 6 municipalities;
- Awareness and information activities in 6 municipalities.

**Awareness Raising Campaigns**

**March 2018 – Women’s Month & International Women’s Day**

- Forums with students on Gender Equality during March 2018 at the public universities ‘Aleksandër Xhuvani’, Elbasan and ‘Aleksandër Moisiu’ Durrës, with the participation of the Swedish Ambassador, Mr. Johan Ndisi.
- **Peaceful manifest at ‘Skanderbeg’ square**, organized in collaboration with at least 20 other CSO-s, on March 8, 2018, with the topic ‘Equality and Dignity’.

**National Campaign ‘Ending Violence Against Girls and Women’**

16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence: 25 November-10 December 2018

During 2018, AWEN took the lead in preparing a joint calendar with its member organizations. The calendar of about 66 activities throughout the country (mainly Tirana and the regions where AWEN members work) was launched before the start of the campaign. The activities were supported by several donors and were numerous:

- Several media appearances / interviews during the 16 days of Activism;
- Donations to shelters in collaboration with Fashion Group Albania – AWEN coordinated the whole distribution of the donations (mattresses, clothes for women and children, shoes, etc);
- November 26, 2018 – Thematic Forum "Inequalities and Gender-Based Violence - The Perceptions and Role of Youth" at ‘Ismail Qemali’ University of Vlora;
- November 25 – December 10, 2018: online campaign named #16Ditë16ShenjaParalajmëruese (#16days16warningsigns).

**AWEN CONTRIBUTIONS IN LOBBY AND ADVOCACY**

- Participation and contribution to the National Council on Gender Equality.
- AWEN is part of the working group on drafting, finalizing and monitoring of the Action Plan for Resolution 1325;
- Contribution to consultation tables on laws and policies that address the rights of girls and women in Albania;
- Contributions from AWEN and members included in the final draft of the Law on Guaranteed Legal Aid and Amendments to the Law on Domestic Violence (and bylaws);
- Official inputs and recommendations for the CEDAW Commission, EC Delegation, DG in Brussels and European Parliamentarians, MSHMS, Municipalities, Parliamentary Committees, Ministries;
- Contributions to the 2018 EU Delegation Report in Albania regarding women's rights and representation of women's organizations at EC hearings in Brussels;
- Participation and contribution to Parliamentary sessions and hearings on Violence against Women and Women;
- Open Letters addressed to the general public, the media, policy-makers and law-enforcers.
AWEN staff and member organizations thank all collaborators for their contribution to supporting women and girls all over Albania during 2018, as well as express deep gratitude to the Swedish Government for believing in us and supporting us throughout 2019-2021!

Thank you!