



Inclusion4Schools

Event Report for Milestone 6.

**Start of “Open school” classes for adults and
community discussion events on educational
issues**



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Related WP number and name	Support for Community-centred Approaches
Related Task Number and Title	Task 3.2.: Establishing school-community networks
Partner Responsible	ANOA
Event Title	Open School Class, "The health system as a children's right and the role of local actors in increasing access to health services for children living in disadvantaged situations"
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H2020 Horizon2020
I4S Inclusion for Schools
M Month
PIONEERED Pioneering policies and practices tackling educational inequalities in Europe
RIA Research and Innovation Action
SMOOTH Educational Common Spaces Passing through enclosures and reversing inequalities

Scope of the Event

Educational professionals should encourage the extension of education beyond the “school walls” and participate in community activities, so as to improve public relations in order to make a joint effort to fight early dropout and to cooperate with experts and volunteers who help students with special needs within the school-community network. The “outreach” process also opens schools to the community and cultivates formal and informal interaction and exchange of social-cultural resources between schools and communities to jointly accumulate clearly identifiable social and cultural capital, by making use of the multiplication effect generated within the network.

Participants

Name	Organisation	Email	Project
Envina Xhemi	Albanian National Orphans Organsiation	Envina.xhemi@gmail.com	I4S
Albana Sejdini	Karine, health center Directro	asejdini@gmail.com	Local Expert
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There were **25 people** present from the local community involving representatives from the partner school “Hasmashaj” including the school principal, parents from the school, local government representatives, including the mayor, deputy mayor, Children rights Protection Unit, CSOs, state police, health system representatives. Due to data protection issues the names will not be displayed in this report, even though consent forms were signed individually, to make use of their personal data like name surname, position, emails and photos. This group is supposed to be in the greatest percentage the same, in two consecutive Open School Classes.

Peqin, Albania

Summary of topics and outcomes

The first Open School Class was carried out in the small central Albania town of Peqin,, focusing on one of I4S partner schools “Hasmashaj”

The main topic was: “The health system as a children’s right and the role of local actors in increasing access to health services for children living in disadvantaged situations”, preceded by a brief presentation of the Inclusion4 Schools Project.

The aims of the specific Open School Class were:

- To bring together all relevant stakeholders around the Partner School „Hasmashaj” Peqin in a community learning process.

- To bring together all relevant stakeholders around the Partner School „Hasmathaj“ Peqin in a community discussion forum.
- To discuss healthcare issues in terms of disadvantaged pupils' welfare.
- To generate ideas and list problems from different sources and discuss source of the problem and possible solutions.
- To disseminate I4S project aims and development to date.

The event gathered together in a forum : School representatives, Principal, teachers, social worker , other staff (cleaning). Parents Representatives: School Board parent, Parents Council representative and other parents.

Local government representatives: Mayor, deputy mayor, Children Protection Office
Other: EU corner, Civil Society representatives 2, and 2 from religious groups, representatives from other neighbouring schools.

The event was introduced by ANOA President, and moderated by Envina Xhemi , project Team Leader.

The initial presentation was on I4S project, selection process, followed by an explanation of the Open School Class.

The Local Expert, Albana Sejdini gave a general overview of the current situation of the healthcare system on a local level and services available for children, followed by some challenges the system faces in terms of extending the services to all the children.

After that the event followed by the division of the participants in three groups. Questions were prepared by the expert with the support of the project. Each group had to give their own response to three questions.

Conclusions

The questions and subsequent responses are as follows:

Group 1:

How can collaboration between local actors be enhanced to optimize counseling for the healthy growth and development of children?

Group 2:

How can the issue of the necessary conditions for the upbringing of children in disadvantaged economic situations be addressed at the local level?

Group 3:

What would be good practices of referring and protecting children from abuse and violence?

After working in 3 groups for 30 minutes the answers were as follows:

Group 1

1. Identification of health problems that school students have.
2. Establishing communication bridges between local actors and inspecting health development.
3. Scheduled meetings with health workers about health problems.

4. Provision of health services and service facilities in schools. (Oral care, especially for active students and groups in need).
5. Increasing the number of activities among local actors.
6. Financial support for the organization of educational activities, improvement of infrastructure in educational institutions.

Group 2

1. Identification. (Creating a database).
2. Familiarity with the services offered to help them. (Psycho-social service, health service, child protection unit, social support service, police station).
3. Informing them about their rights and duties.
4. Cooperation with local government and services provided.

Group 3

1. Establishment of a multifunctional group with different actors, such as: representatives from the police, education, health, social services.
 - Genuine cooperation between these actors.
2. Realization of entertaining and awareness-raising activities in order to provide information and awareness messages, where raped or abused cases denounce rape and abuse.
 - The community should be sensitized by denouncing cases of abuse and violence when they encounter and ascertain them.
3. Collaborations between associations or organizations for the services they provide.

The event was followed by a plenary session where other issues were raised, and a need to take actions on school infrastructure, school supporting staff were addressed to the local government representatives. The issue of financing the aforementioned issues was raised. It seemed clear that there is a lack of proper knowledge on who has to finance the support staff like cleaning. This will be further discussed, since it constitutes a problem for school. Voluntary contributions from the parents are not sufficient and not sustainable, considering the poor community following this school. The participants seemed quite at ease at the end of the event and this was reflected in the vision boards, where most of them seemed to have been felt noticed and heard. The event was closed with three remarks:

The discussions would be continued also in the WhatsApp group.
The topic will be voted in the same group
And the date of the next event will also be voted in the same group.

The idea of bringing together all stakeholders brought to surface essential needs of the partner school and also the responsible institutions, that were present in the meeting. Further actions need to be planned in order to address those needs for solutions.

Annex 1

Event Agenda

Name of the event: „Open School“ Class

Date and time: 23 February 2022 11 – 14.30

Venue: Peqin, Albania

Related WP and task: WP3, T 3.2

Agenda of the event

Venue: Bar-Restaurant “Karina”, Peqin, Albania

11.00-11.05 Welcome and opening remarks. **Mr Lulzim Resuli, President of ANOA**

11.05- 11.20 Project presentation and steps followed to select Hasmashaj School, I4S, the Open School Classes and their development. **Envina Xhemi I4S Albanian Team Leader**

11.20- 11.25 Q&A on the project and Open School Class, **Envina Xhemi**

11.25 -12.00 The health system as a children’s right and the role of local actors in increasing access to health services for children living in disadvantaged situations . **Albana Sejдини, Health Center Director Karinë, Peqin**

12.00- 12.15 Coffee break

12.15- 12.50 Work in three groups on separate questions on health.

12.50-13.30 Reports from 3 the groups

13.30-14.30 Plenary session and closing