

Project «Albert Einstein»
2003 - 2005

SEE VOLUNTEERS IN SEE

72 voluntary initiatives
bringing changes
in 7 South East European countries



South East European Youth Network SEEYN
Balkan Human Rights Network - BHRN
United Nation Volunteers BH UNV BH

Project «Albert Einstein»
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changing communities
in 7 SEE countries



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Title

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Changing communities
In 7 SEE countries

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introduction:

it is well-known that youth mobility and participation of youth in development of their communities through voluntary activities is not at high level as it should be

there are many reasons for this:

voluntarism is not or is barely supported by legislatives of local and/or national authorities in our countries

voluntarism importance and benefit are not enough supported nor recognized by social and state institutions

but from what we all know, do and believe at:

voluntarism is one of the most important parts in development of our societies and youth policies

young people, who would like to spend their free time as volunteers - working on benefit of community - are willing to do it

there are organizations that promote, implement and service voluntary programs in their communities

there are organizations/institutions that wish to involve volunteers in their work

Learning upon examples of good practice from our countries:

we see voluntarism as one of the ways to lower unemployment

we see voluntarism as a way to increase personal development or pre-qualification of young and old people

we see voluntarism as helping point to help our societies that are currently in a process of transition and reform on almost all levels

**72 voluntary initiatives
changing communities
in 7 SEE countries**

Albert Einstein team presents
SEE VOLUNTEERS IN SEE

72 short stories
on 72 voluntary initiatives
changing communities
in 7 South East European countries



Promotion of voluntary organizations
and voluntary work in local community

Volunteers' Centre Bihac

Rearranging and cleaning of city picnic
place Zaselje (mountain Igman)

Work camp for youth and
representatives of city authorities

Rebuilding of The Old Road

Voluntarism and people with disabilities

Voluntarism legal framework
precondition for implementation of
voluntary work

Mostar, my city

Youth using their free time usefully

Get informed

Promotion of voluntary organizations and voluntary work in local community

implemented by:
Scout group "Trebinje"

Four youth organizations from Trebinje - Scout group "Trebinje", Youth Forum, Youth of Red Cross and Secondary School's Students' Council - gather great number of volunteers and had founded Coordination Committee of Youth Organizations in Trebinje and posted an info-point in the very city centre. This way they want to ensure transparency of voluntary activities opportunities as well as different mobility, exchange and other possibilities for youth of Trebinje.

On the day of the opening of the info-point there were several voluntary activities implemented - ecological awareness campaign and promotion of Albert Einstein project by flyer campaign, activity of arranging and cleaning the surrounding of the very centre of the city, as well as some scout activities - Games Without Limits - activity of youngest scouts (at age 7 to 11) implemented in the city centre. This was also the opportunity for the organizations to attract new volunteers.

Volunteers' Centre Bihac

implemented by:
**Democratic Centre "New Hopes",
Bihac**

Opening of the first volunteers' centre in the city that would offer voluntary services to the ones in need and who would serve for the promotion of the benefits of voluntary work

With this project a media campaign and

distribution of information on the voluntary opportunities - short term exchanges (summer voluntary work camps, local volunteering opportunities) and long-term exchanges (volunteering opportunities in the region and rest of the Europe) were implemented. A group of volunteers was recruited and they participated in workshops held on the topic of voluntarism. These volunteers had the opportunity to volunteer in their community just after the education on the project of kindergarten reconstruction.

Workcamp for youth and representatives of city authorities

implemented by:
**Informal group Youth Centre
"MOZAIK", Odžak**

To initiate cooperation among youth initiative members and city authorities representatives.

This work camp was an opportunities for youth initiative members to demonstrate different ways of local voluntary engagement and promote idea of voluntarism in their small city - to the citizens and city authorities. Several workshops had been organized also - sport, creative, drawing workshops, competition in cooking, art performance, and - at the end - exhibition of all products of the work camp. There was also a round table organized, with participation of different officials and youth actors present. Topics discussed were Cooperation of Youth and Local Authorities, Initiatives on Youth Action Plan in Odžak.

Rearranging and cleaning of city picnic place Zaselje (mountain Igman)

implemented by:
Public institution for culture, sport and recreation Ilidza

To advocate for better understanding of importance of this picnic place – and the Igman mountain – for development of flora and fauna, for protection of drinking water as well as for the development of tourism.

Several youth organizations – Scout group “Igman ‘92”, Scout group “Maple”, Scout group “Oasis”, Second and Fourth Secondary School with their ecological student sections, some business companies and citizens had worked together setting the benches and chairs made of wood, setting up signs with ecological messages with warnings and rules of conduct in nature.

Rebuilding of The Old Road

implemented by:
Informal youth group, Travnik

To rebuild the Old Road – old walking area in Travnik.

Activities incorporated rearrangements of walking paths, cleaning green surfaces and setting up a number of wooden sitting benches. With small efforts and great wish for change, Informal group of youth managed to come to the greatest settled area in the city centre. This activity was in a way advocacy activity that proves strength laying in youth and their potentials.

Voluntarism and people with disabilities

implemented by:
Humanitarian organization “Partner”, Banja Luka

To promote idea of voluntarism and its importance when linking to people with disabilities and contributing community development.

Through media campaign number of volunteers was recruited ready to be engaged in different voluntary activities linking to people with disabilities. Volunteers were not family members of the disabled people and this was an important issue for all involved. Project activities – distribution of leaflets and visibility in media, round table on issues regarding voluntarism and specific inputs regarding working with disabled – were implemented thanks to students of University of Banja Luka and Prijedor, young people from City orphanage “Rada Vranjesevic” – volunteers, and representatives of different non-governmental organizations – being present at the round table.

Voluntarism legal framework – precondition for implementation of voluntary work

implemented by:
Association “Radio Kameleon – Open Network for Human Rights and Democracy”, Tuzla

Advocating for establishment of legal framework of voluntary work in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Preparation and realization of media campaign included production and

broadcasting of 2 radio-shows, radio jingle and implementation of one round table “Voluntarism legal framework – preconditions for successful implementation of voluntary work”, where numerous representatives of non-governmental organizations and representatives of local and cantonal authorities, and media. This event was an opportunity to exchange examples of good practice in working with volunteers, and to get at least formal recognition and acceptance of volunteers, definition of voluntary work.

Mostar, my city

implemented by:
SAYBER

To contribute the promotion of BH cities, tourism in electronic media, also to contribute to better life and future of all people in BH. With this project, and over electronic media, SAYBER tried to promote tourist, historical and cultural heritage of Mostar, to advocate for joint life of all nations living in this city, and also to advocate for voluntarism. This was implemented through usage of tools – flyer with slogan “Better and brighter future of the city through support of volunteers!” distributed through daily newspapers and over banner on Internet portal “Mostar, my city”.

Youth using their free time usefully

implemented by:
Hello neighbour, Derventa

To advocate for the existence of organization

that promotes need for organization of free time activities for youth. Advocacy activities included – flyer campaign, creation of brochures, promotion of activities over electronic, written and TV media, petition signing by citizens of Derventa, support letters sent by partner organizations, round tables with partners, institutions, city government officials and citizens. Activity fair and debate on the topic “Support in regulation of space and endeavour to keep municipal space provided for Hello Neighbour, Derventa” were another part of the project activities.

Get informed

implemented by:
Vermont, Brcko

Promotion of consequences of narcotics misuse and animation of youth to get involved actively in the promotion. Preparation of brochures on the topic of narcotics misuse consequences, distribution of the brochure in local community with cooperation of expert counselling institutions of Brcko district on the topic.



For brighter today and better tomorrow

Work camp Štavna 2004

Work camp Rvaši 2004

Voluntary radio-jingle

Promotion of voluntary work - look around you

Promotion of volunteer work in LEAP (local environmental action plan) process in Bor

Together on the river

Days of volunteers in Valjevo

Revitalization of the voluntary engagement

Young leaders

Clean up and be informed

Your volunteer

For brighter today and better tomorrow

implemented by:
Literal youth of Tivat

Idea is to give hand of friendship and humanity to the beneficiaries of Elderly home "Grabovac" in Risan.

Work camp Štavna 2004

implemented by:
NGO "Sempervivum", Podgorica

Project activities included cleaning of garbage in Štavna region, setting up signs with ecological warning content, signs with basic information about Komovi and signs for passers-by.

Work camp Rvaši 2004

implemented by:
Centre for youth education, Podgorica

Idea is to promote participation of young people in activities of local community through empowerment of responsibility for local community and its activities, intercultural learning, providing assistance for the community and learning by doing.

Voluntary radio-jingle

implemented by:
Group "MARGO", Tivat

Promotion of citizenship activism in specific manner – through voluntary contribution to the development, raising awareness on

citizens' participation in concrete social processes (especially ones concerning youth) and involvement of media in promotion of citizenship activism.

Promotion of voluntary work - look around you

implemented by:
Group "PAAD", Novi Becej

There were radio program about project and about organisation's experience with voluntary work and presentation "What is the main goal of YRS" - about experience in the field of voluntarism in past years held. Also there were an open debate held with decision makers from Red Cross, local municipality, police and at last - performance in open space "What volunteer can work...".

Promotion of volunteer work in LEAP (local environmental action plan) process in Bor

implemented by:
Association of Young Researchers, Bor

Association of Young Researchers, Mountaineering Association and LEAP Office Bor started initiative for protection of areas of preserved nature in Bor surrounding through their own volunteer activities as part of organized LEAP process. Awareness has been strengthened, firstly with young members of NGOs and village inhabitants about the need for volunteer participation in protection, arrangement and monitoring of preserved areas of nature.

Together on the river

implemented by:
K-Town Group, Kosjeric

The aim was to involve volunteers in clean-up campaign of river.

Days of volunteers in Valjevo

implemented by:
Research society “Vladimir Mandić - Manda”, Valjevo

The project was introduced in media, through delivering posters and leaflets before and during project. There were several activities held - public tribune for citizens on the importance of voluntarism, afterwards there was a round table organized with participation of Valjevo NGOs and representatives of local governmental institutions. Last part of project was action of cleaning space around Petnica cave.

Revitalization of the voluntary engagement

implemented by:
Educational Centre, Krusevac

The aim of the project is a realization of citizens' activism through active and professional includes citizens – volunteers, aiming to create better life conditions in local community. The set assignments of this project have referred to the fact that motivation of the activities of the Krusevac youth were affected, local authorities had been lobbied for giving the support to the volunteerism development, volunteers had been activated (especially the youth) for the realization of project activities. This project was realized in cooperation with NGO Pešcanik. After promotion activities, there

were workshops held and public speeches with an emphasis on SEEYN voluntary programs.

Young leaders

implemented by:
Scout group “Remizijana”, Bela Palanka

To animate youth to actively participate in activities in local community and to get involved with activities organized by Scout group “Remizijana”, that promotes participatory work, learning by doing, work within nature and working with youngsters.

Your volunteer

implemented by:
CIVIS, Belgrade

The main goal of this project was promotion of Voluntary work and pawn for bringing the law on Volunteering. There was campaign organized animating 10 urban and 6 suburban communities in the area of New Belgrade (largest community in Serbia and Montenegro). Also there was flyer and poster campaign and also photo-reportage where the guest was – volunteer.

Clean up and be informed

implemented by:
Green Initiative of Vojvodina, Novi Sad

The aim of this action was to clean-up part of forest after the big event on Fruska gora Mountain. Volunteers were helping in cleaning, as well as giving information about importance of preserving nature.



Let's meet the spring in the clean town

Students for children

Volunteers in kindergartens

Big Brother - Big sister

Share the job

Hearthy school

Bob Marley day

VoluntNet Macedonia

Volunteers in art

Sculptures park around our improved house

Let's meet the spring in the clean town

implemented by:
Procultura, Skoplje

Project's aim was to clean some parts of town of Skopje before the spring, to promote voluntary work in local community and citizens' activism.

Students for children

implemented by:
NGO Ezerec, Ohrid

With this project voluntary work among students was popularized, involving them into running children camp in Ohrid, but also giving school children an alternative way of spending spring holidays.

Volunteers in kindergartens

implemented by:
Home for Everybody, Kavadarci

Idea of the project was to promote youth participation in voluntary activities and give them an opportunity to get job experience through voluntary work in kindergartens.

Big Brother - Big Sister

implemented by:
NGO Democracy, Sveti Nikole

With this project NGO Democracy wanted to help younger and especially problematic school children to adapt in the school though the help and communication with older school children - volunteers, to popularize voluntary work in Sveti Nikole community.

This was an opportunity to make easier children's' integration into school life and increase responsibility of older students as well as developed positive attitude towards voluntary work in schools and local community.

Share the job

implemented by:
Informal youth group, Vevcani

To promote the idea of voluntarism among the young people, by public work in Vevcani municipality, followed by basketball tour between volunteers and municipality workers.

Healthy school

implemented by:
YMCA, Skoplje

A group of volunteers was taught about drug abuse, HIV and AIDS and after training period had become peer-educators and performed education for youngsters on these issues.

Bob Marley day

implemented by:
Informal youth group, Struga

The initiative was a 2-days volunteer camp for peace promotion through art and music workshops, followed by concrete activity of volunteers – cleaning up the beach.

VoluntNet Macedonia

implemented by:
VoluntNet Macedonia

Idea was to acknowledge as many people with VoluntNet activities and possibilities for voluntary exchanges. With multiplication of volunteering idea among Macedonian NGOs amongst youth benefits of volunteering and voluntary work were presented.

Volunteers in art

implemented by:
**Youth Voluntary Association,
Kratovo**

Idea was to reconstruct a volunteers' art house in city of Kratovo with engagement of volunteers, art performance and art works exhibition – promotion of youth activism to the local community.

Sculptures park around our improved house

implemented by:
Youth Tolerant, Debar

Project aimed to reconstruct the Debar volunteers' house. While reconstruction of the house was going on, volunteers made a creative performance called "bottle-park" - using empty used plastic bottles they created sculptures around reconstructed house, and afterwards realized exhibition and opening of the house.



Charity concert

With education against drugs

volontiram.hr on-line information-promotion
portal

Adica Spring

A month of arts

Volunteering is ...

Volunteering global-wide

Follow the bear!

Zlatna greda action

Say-no drugs!

Charity concert

implemented by:
Electro media, Veliki Tabor/Zagreb

Idea was to organize charity concert of electronic music aiming to promote it, and to collect funds for voluntary work camp at the same time – while the film fest in Veliki Tabor was on.

With education against drugs

implemented by:
HELP, Split

To raise awareness on problems of addiction to drugs, especially to the infections disseminated with usage of dirty substances and tools. Campaign included distribution of education materials, condoms, education workshops led by experts, cleaning action in local community and collection of damaged and dirty substances and tools that were disposed in special waste boxes.

Volontiram.hr on-line information-promotion portal

implemented by:
Association for media redesign “re.d”, Zagreb

Volontiram.hr portal is opened to non-profit organizations, public institutions, social welfare institutions, local community institutions and individuals from Croatia as a starting point to get acquainted with idea of voluntarism, legislative regarding voluntary work and volunteers and experiences in working with volunteers and being a volunteer. It is also a database of offer and search of volunteer placements and engagement positions in Croatia.

Adica Spring

implemented by:
Youth Peace Group Danube (YPGD), Vukovar

The objective of project ‘Adica Spring’ is to bring ten young people from Vukovar and the surrounding region together and through active work (cleaning parts of the town of Vukovar and the nearby community forest, Adica) and friendships they would be able to combine environmentalism and volunteerism with creative expression. The result of combining these activities is a short film and numerous photographs – used as promotion material.

A month of arts

implemented by:
Association “Be yours”

Numerous workshops – arts, literal, design of materials; and public debate on the topic of voluntarism were implemented over the period of one month.

Volunteering is ...

implemented by:
Citizens’ Association “School of Peace” Mrkopalj

Idea was to promote idea of voluntarism, more concrete – opportunities for volunteering in Croatia and abroad. It is important to stress out that “School of Peace” is sending disabled volunteers in different organizations worldwide and working on the promotion of examples of good volunteering practice.

Volunteering globe-wide

implemented by:
**Globus – Association for
intercultural learning, Zagreb**

With public performance – setting up paper globe at the main city street and distributing leaflets, posters and T-shirts – and other promotion meetings in Globe, public will be introduced with work of Globe and better acquainted with aspects of voluntarism.

Fallow the bear!

implemented by:
**Velebit Association from Kutarevo
and Volunteers' Centre Zagreb**

Aim of the project was to implement international voluntary work camp with participation of 25 volunteers and to rearrange education path “Bear’s learning path” in Kutarevo and work on promotion of voluntarism through implementation of several works in local community.

Zlatna greda action

implemented by:
**Ecological Association “Green”,
Osijek**

30 young people from Zlatna Greda and surrounding villages altogether with activists of Green Osijek will work on the arrangements on surrounding of Ecological Centre Zlatna Greda, arranging ecological garden, setting up benches and tables in front of eco-centre. This would be opportunity for youth from eco-centre to see possibilities for active involvement in the work of their community and useful use of their free time.

Say-no drugs!

implemented by:
Youth Club Osijek

To give youth an opportunity to pass the education that will point out wrongdoings of drugs and consuming substances, but also on the possibilities of prevention, but also on the ways that they can peer on this topic.



Healthy environment, healthy life

Volunteers Contribution in the
rehabilitation of people in prisons

Raising youth awareness on drug abuse

Raising the Participation of the
improvement of the situation at
Porto Romano Zone

A tree in my yard

Work Camp at Fisherman`s Island

Life quality improvement the
children-patient of the Pediatric Hospital

Together against corruption

We want yo join you

Sensitizing the Community on the
Volunteerism Values and its contribution
of the Society

Healthy environment, healthy life

implemented by:
**Students Government of Peshkopia
High School**

The project aimed especially at motivating young people for volunteer work. The voluntarism is a reliable and a good manner to construct a collaborative and understanding model between young people, a constant model to help them in resolving of different problems to create a healthy community. The project aim was to motivate youth to volunteer work and in this specific case to clean up voluntarily the city they are living in.

Volunteers Contribution in the rehabilitation of people in prisons

implemented by:
“Refraction” Association, Tirana

The project aims to give to some students of Social Science Faculty some elements of volunteer support to the peoples that are suffering in prisons and are in rehabilitation process. There are a lot of ways how volunteers gave their contribution to organization that works for the people in prisons and their families. Some of the key elements of this voluntary service realized during the project are: research, direct support to the prisoners, direct support to their families, indirect support to the prisoners through letters and correspondence, counselling, direct support to people that finish their prison time, teaching them volunteerism benefits and values etc.

Raising youth awareness on drug abuse

implemented by:
Korca Social Club

Being aware of the big issue that drug use is becoming day after day in Albania, Korca Social Club through this activity wanted to sensitize the youth community of two high schools for the dangerous that this phenomena brings to our society. The aim was to mix the elements of volunteers work and its contribution to the community promotion, with a specific awareness campaign on drug, HIV/AIDS prevention.

Raising the Participation for the improvement of the situation at Porto Romano Zone

Implemented by:
Council of the Associations for Social Services, Durrës

The project aimed to act toward the improvement of their life stile (advocacy with institutions representatives which can act concretely to improve the life stile of these habitants) and their integration, especially of the children of this area with the city's children giving them the opportunity to exchange values, information, to cooperate and to change the strong mentality, to know different cultures and to raise the self-esteem of these children.

A tree in my yard

Implemented by:
**In the benefit of the Albanian's
Woman Association, Tirana**

The project aim was to promote volunteer work and to give a concrete contribution to the community, especially to the school community of Sami Frasheri High School. The school was in final level of reconstruction and the student's voluntary contributed to make a yard in front of it, to plant trees and flowers, to make a short documentary on TV that promotes volunteerism values and contribution.

Work Camp at Fisherman's Island

implemented by:
Young Intellectual Hoppe, Shkodra

Aim of the project was to involve young people to give their contribution for the community and to promote volunteerism values, doing something real and useful to a specific target group like fisherman, by reconstructing Fisherman's Island.

Life quality improvement to the children-patient of the Pediatric Hospital

implemented by:
Institute of Social Policies, Tirana

Aim of the project was to improve the life of the children-patient at Pediatric Hospital and at the same time to promote the benefits that can give the contribution of the volunteers to the community (especially to people in need). For a month period, volunteers, social workers and psychologists organized different activities with the children, mothers other parents. They tried to give some support and motivation to the people that are suffering the effects of terrible illnesses.

Together against corruption

Implemented by:
Tirana Youth Parliament, Tirana

The aim of the project was to make some awareness campaign against corruption in high schools, near by hospitals, courts and other institutions in order that Youth Could not be influenced by the grave "disease" of corruption and crime – "disease" that has influenced Albanian mentality and politic also to demonstrate that we are ready for our Europe integration as youth in western countries.

We want to join you

implemented by:
Help the Life, tirana

The aim of the project was integration of the children with physical problems in every day life, so these children will not feel separated and to be close to their age group and also sensitizing people on the role that volunteers can have in this process.

"Sensitizing the Community on the Volunteerism Values and its contribution to the Society"

implemented by:
Albanian Institute for Good Governance, Tirana

The project aim was to raise awareness in young people in high schools on the role that volunteerism have in the community development, its importance, promotion of the legislation of the volunteerism and its further development.



Young people for the society

Lets plant voluntary the tree of life

For a better school

Children camp - Volunteer

Lets share an idea

Good for goodness

Fear kills freedom - united action 1,2 and 3

Voluntarism and Bulgarian legislation

Young people for the society

implemented by:
**Regional Council of the Bulgarian
Red Cross – Lovech**

The project included several types of advocacy activities to promote voluntarism before local school community and to increase the number of volunteers in the organization itself. Main activities, implemented in partnerships with municipality of Lovech; Borba newspaper, 3 local public schools, Goethe's College for Germanic languages and cultures Lovech, are: media campaign, creation and dissemination of volunteers' brochure and promotion held in 11 local schools, meetings and interviews with youth - candidates for volunteers and a group visit for both volunteers and students to the office of MAR in Lovech. One of the important outcomes of the project was that Lovech municipality adopted the Youth chart and appointed elections for Youth delegate for November 2004.

Lets plant voluntary the tree of life

implemented by:
**Initiatives for the Civil Society –
Ruse**

The "Lets plant voluntary the tree of life" project reached a real success in the region of Ruse – town with long lasting environmental problems. In fact there was not a big effort required to motivate many young people for volunteer work in Rusenski Lom reservation. Activities implemented were media promotion of the Albert Einstein project and Initiative, ecological work camp in reservation of Rusenski Lom (UNESCO park) – 429 volunteers from Ruse and the neighboring villages joined the 4-day

initiative to clean tourist trash along the 3-6 km paths in the reservation; open-air discussion on youth volunteering opportunities joined by app. 40 volunteers: the organizers used the forum to promote forthcoming vols openings of MAR.

For a better school

implemented by:
Youth Center Nishava – Dragoman

The promotional campaign in town of Dragoman stressed on press conference before local media, cleaning activities and planting trees in the school yard and volunteers' support for annual events like Nishavski horovod festival. The campaign fit the electoral campaign for youth delegate in the municipality as well. The start was on 2nd of July – local Hristo Botev School patron's day with big picnic for all students in the vicinity of Dragoman. The whole campaign was supported financially by the municipality and the School as well. More than 200 volunteers participated in the activities implemented.

Children camp – Volunteer

implemented by:
**Foundation "For the children" –
Sofia**

The project realized a motivational meeting between children with mental disabilities and young volunteers, training for volunteers and a work camp in the House for socially marginalized children Peyo Javorov, Sofia. 18 selected teenagers participated in the initiative as volunteers and helped Foundation "For the children" in

organization of House patron's annual party. Celebration of the International Day of the Children was beyond the project time-frame and organizers stressed on another important date. The training included presentation of specific areas of work with disabled children; development of practical and communication skills and motivation games for participants, who were able to employ them fully during the preparation of the party. Sofia municipality sent gratitude's address to volunteers and organized 1 day excursion for them. Volunteers signed a supporting declaration for AE project mission and submitted it to the Municipality.

“Lets share an idea”

implemented by:
Non-formal group “Potential” – Sofia

Voluntarism, healthy lifestyle and tourism were among the main values promoted by young people from Sofia before local public in Oshtava mineral baths, through voluntary reconstruction of several benches, tables and trashcans for the visitors along 2 eco-trails in the vicinity of village. These activities were used for presentation of AE project and its importance for regional cooperation and enhancement of volunteers exchange in the region of SEE and were supported by Ministry for regional development.

“Good for the goodness”

implemented by:
**Association “Youth tolerance” –
Gorna Oriahovitsa**

Within the project following initiatives took

part in Gorna Oriahovitsa in June 2004: media announcements about AE initiative and voluntarism before local media, work camp in cooperation with the Green Balkans organization supporting development of Valoga - protected water area near the town with participation of 27 volunteers, meeting with representatives of 10 local NGOs on problems of voluntarism and an exhibition in the community center with pictures from the work camp. One of the important outcomes of the Initiative is Declaration for simulation of the youth voluntarism signed by 10 local NGOs forwarded to the municipality of Gorna Oriahovitsa.

**“Fear kills freedom - united action”
1, 2, and 3**

implemented by:
**Foundation Center for European
Civil Initiatives – Sofia (1)
Sofia University Student Council –
Sofia (2)
Association of the Bulgarian
Broadcasting Operators – Sofia (3)**

A protest against the terror and violence in response of terrorist attacks in Madrid involved 87 volunteers (from technical staff to rock, hip-hop and pop singers). The event combining concert and happening attracted 1500 visitors throughout the day. This activity was used for promotion of peace and voluntarism. 500 AE fliers were disseminated among participants. For the poster picture contest were received 21 proposals exhibited in front of the National Palace of Culture. After the Concert organizers cleaned up the area inviting locals to get included - both elder people and teenagers supported the action.

“Voluntarism and Bulgarian legislation”

**implemented by:
Lawyers’ association of Sofia
University**

The 1-day agenda of a round table with participation of 17 representatives of 3 key ministries (Ministry of Youth and Sports; Ministry of labor and social policy; Ministry of regional development), 2 prominent volunteers exchanging NGOs; MAR and CVI, Bulgarian Red Cross, EVS, journalists etc. included Albert Einstein Project presentation, brief presentations on voluntarism and its social importance, presentation of examples of good practices, legal issues regarding the voluntarism – possible ways for regulation of “hot points” – discussions.



Volunteering is ...

Volunteerism for protecting the
Wonderful World of Southern Banat

Be Active! Be a Volunteer!

Volunteering for children

Clean up day!

Volunteering For Supporting the
Elderly in Stone Land

Volunteers for Rosia Montana

Everything is up and running

Volunteerism - successful resource

Be a volunteer!

Volunteering is ...

implemented by:
**A.C.T.O.R. - Cultural Association for
Theatre and Origami in Romania**

The project's purpose was to introduce young people to volunteerism at both a local and European level. This purpose was attained through a campaign in the Universities and high schools in Bucharest and the debate. The new volunteers promoted volunteerism in their milieus.

Volunteerism For Protecting The Wonderful World of Southern Banat

implemented by
Tulcea District Council

Tulcea County is one of the richest in what concerns ethnic diversity. It is this specificity of customs and traditions that must be passed forward in order for it not to be lost. The project has as purposes interethnic dialogue and strengthening volunteerism among the young generation regarding customs and traditions. The main activity of the project aims at organizing a contest between young volunteers belonging to six different ethnic groups, contest with questions and answers about the customs specific to each ethnic group. The conclusions of this interethnic meeting were thrown by the young volunteers themselves by means of an essay made public in schools, public institutions and local media.

Be active! Be a Volunteer!"

implemented by:
Cooperation Environmental Group "Nera"

Promoting volunteerism for a good management of the natural parks in Southern Banat Mountains according with the Romanian legislation and with „Protected Areas” Directive of the European Commission.

Volunteering for children

implemented by:
Eco-Dobrogea, Constanta

Aim of the project was to develop a campaign for promoting volunteerism, by realizing drama plays, park cleaning activities, contests, exhibitions with children beneficiaries of an orphanage in Constanta.

Clean up day!

implemented by:
New Horizons Foundation

FNO initiated the Jiu Valley's First Annual Community Cleanup Day for initiating community action towards local ecological stewardship and civic responsibility. Kaizen participants have identified ecological awareness and environmental clean up as an important tool for mobilizing citizen action, promoting volunteerism, and enabling community members to internalize the win-win benefits of community service. The project was organized and implemented through FNO's Lupeni Kaizen Clubs, in partnership with key governmental and youth organizations, for the goal of beginning an annual community improvement event. The project will be a catalyst for initiating desperately needed civic responsibility both now and in the future.

“Volunteering For Supporting the Elderly in Stone Land”

implemented by:
Asociația Montana Moșilor

Idea is to promote volunteerism in the community through organization of camp for providing social services for 125 retired people in Apuseni Mountains.

“Volunteers for Rosia Montana”

implemented by:
**Romanian Institute for Action,
Training and Research in Peace –
PATRIR**

To promote volunteerism and youngsters' involvement within Environmental volunteerism for preserving and protecting the environment.

Everything is up and running

implemented by:
„Soul to Soul” Foundation

„Soul to Soul” Foundation organized a cross for people in wheelchairs in Rm. Vâlcea. The action „Everything is up and running”, had as its aim the involvement of people with disabilities in different social activities.

At the same time, the project aimed at promoting volunteerism for the needs of this vulnerable group by organizing a street campaign on volunteering, thus facilitating the connection between volunteer and beneficiary. The contestants and their supporters, along with volunteers from the Volunteer Center Ramnicu Valcea, passed out information materials regarding volunteering for people with disabilities.

Volunteerism – successful resource

implemented by:
Timisoara Centre for Volunteerism

Promoting volunteering opportunities in Timisoara, public recognizing of most virtuous volunteers, promoting the services provided by Timisoara Centre for Volunteerism.

Be A Volunteer!

implemented by:
**Environmental and Tourism
Foundation Potaissa/ Volunteering
Centre of Turda**

Idea was to promote volunteerism and volunteering activities in Turda – Campia Turzii region in Cluj County through organising National Volunteerism Week in Turda and Campia Turzii; celebrating Europe Day through activities that promote volunteerism; celebrating International Children Day through activities that promote volunteerism, organising the conference „Volunteerism – resource for developing the local community”, inaugurating „Smiley Faces” magazine and a party for volunteers that participated in the realization of all events.

More on South East European Network SEEYN

SEEYN vision:

The vision of SEEYN is to achieve a stable region with developed mutual understanding without prejudices among young people through their mobility, co-operation, and active role in society.

SEEYN goals:

To increase pro-social values and behaviour amongst young people in SEE
To contribute to youth employability in SEE

What is the idea of South East European Youth Network?

The South East European Youth Network is an attempt of overcoming differences among societies that have recent tradition of conflicts through bringing young people from entire South Eastern Europe region to work together. It is one of seven networks established within FRESTA program conducted by Danish Foreign Ministry. Since youth is one of most important target group of FRESTA program, SEEYN plays an important role in contributing to its overall goals such as peace, stability and democracy development in the region.

The only way to overcome inherited hatred and intolerance is to work in coordination with people who have the same goals. For this reason, youth cooperation is a step that can move many others follow this example and resolve accumulated problems.

Member organisations

SEEYN is a network of 14 member organizations implementing their activities in Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro, Bulgaria, Macedonia and Albania.

The idea that young people will be future society leaders is the basis of the network. This approach is longterm in its orientation and it takes a lot of effort to come to reality. Particularly important is equal representation of all different populations in this process, as well as neutral and independent treatment of initiatives coming from different countries. If young people become able to support each other's initiatives, carefully listen to their associates from other countries and honestly put efforts to understand each other, it will be possible to create strong regional network with common interests over time.

The membership of SEEYN is very diverse. Network is covering a broad range of organizations, ranging from small and loosely structured groups to well-established NGOs. Thematically, the organizations vary from topic based NGOs (e.g. human rights, environmental issues), to NGOs with a broader approach to youth issues or democracy development in general. Other members define themselves as voluntary service organizations.

But what all the organizations have in common is the inclusion of active volunteers in the organizations' work and a belief in cross-boundary exchanges as an important tool for youth engagement in society and co-operation for peace and stability.

to conclude..

brochure on 72 voluntary initiatives in 7 countries „SEE Volunteers in SEE“
is result of advocacy campaign
for establishment of law on voluntarism in countries of South East Europe
through regional project „Albert Einstein“

voluntary initiatives were re-granted to
72 NGOs and informal youth groups in 7 countries in South East Europe:

Albania
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Macedonia
Romania
Serbia and Montenegro

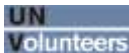
and with support of:

Albanian Youth Council
Youth Communication Centre Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Youth Information Agency, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Balkan Youth Club, Bulgaria
Volunteers' Centre Zagreb, Croatia
Youth Forum EYE, Macedonia
Asociatia Pro Democratia, Romania
Association for Democratic Prosperity Adp ZID, Montenegro
Young Researchers of Serbia

small voluntary initiatives were financially supported by
South East European Youth Network (SEEYN)
through
FRESTA - The Neighbourhood Program



*Biro za ljudska prava Tuzla
Human Rights Office Tuzla*



Why “Albert Einstein” project?

When, some time ago, Albert Einstein escaped from Germany to America, he came to an immigration office where he was supposed to fulfil an immigrant form. There was a question in the form asking which citizenship he possesses, where he wrote a very clear answer stating: “The World Citizenship”.

That is in fact the real background of youth and other NGOs/initiatives working all over the world helping the creation generation of people that have multicultural understanding skills, and also skills of non-violent conflict resolution, that support peace and stability and help building a society with equal possibilities and same rules for everyone.

We can't change the world all at once. But, if we start with one step, if we start with changing our own selves, then changing one person that we can hold our hands onto - after that it will be much easier to bring changes to our communities. And with better understanding in our communities, after we help our lives to become better, then we CAN change whatever we want.

Giving our project name of Albert Einstein, we wanted to say that - with empowerment of voluntarism, activism and mobility (and especially youth mobility!) in the countries of South Eastern Europe - we try to make one small step in an effort to create one global citizenship identity, to bring changes in our communities and to make youth leaders of these changes.