



A MONTHLY ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER OF THE

ECMI NGO NETWORK FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF INTERETHNIC RELATIONS IN THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

**March 2004, Issue no 24**

This is the Newsletter of the ECMI NGO Network for the Improvement of the Interethnic Relations in the Republic of Macedonia. This Network is a result of a joint initiative between the European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI), in Flensburg, Germany and members of this Network. This Network will enhance the co-operation of the member NGOs towards the development and improvement of inter-ethnic tolerance, respect for differences and dialogue among all those living in the Republic of Macedonia. In particular, this NGO Network aims to strengthen the capacities of the participating NGOs to generate joint projects and other initiatives with a strong interethnic dimension and to implement such initiatives.

## News

### March 01 ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Gostivar

#### Developing of Action Plan

All members of the ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Gostivar gathered at Hotel "Radika", Mavrovo to develop an Action Plan for 2004.

During the workshop the Action Plan was developed as well as the budget needed for some of the planned activities.

Facilitator of the workshop was Senat Bekiri, president of the Association for Education, Culture, Ecology and Humanity "MILLENNIUM".

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## Upcoming Events

**Date : 02.04.2004**

**Time : 16:00**

Workshop "Method for Non-violent Communication", organized by NGO "Happy Life" – Tetovo will be held at village Rogachevo.

**Date : 03.04.2004**

**Time : 10:00 – 17:00**

Workshop for Business Education – Acknowledging the characteristics of the manager and selection of the business ideas, in the village of Rostushe, Gostivar organized by Youth Center "REKANSKI BISER" – Gostivar

**Date : 05.04.2004**

**Time : 17:00**

At the local community "Dimitar Vlahov" an exhibition will be held composed of drawings from Roma Youth, photos from the activities of Bairska Svetlina activities since October 2001 till March 2004, and exhibition on the issue "Bair settlement is part of Bitola" in organization of Roma Association from Bitola "Bairska

**March 01**  
**ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Terovo**  
**Developing of Action Plan**



A two-day workshop for development of the 2004 Action Plan of the ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Terovo was held at "Popova Shapka". The priorities of the Centre were set and assessment meetings were planned.

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**March 03**  
**ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Gostivar**  
**Association for Education and Culture "MILLENNIUM"**  
**Water Purifying Facilities**

As result of the Implemented project of the Association for Education and Culture "MILLENNIUM" and Vrapchishte local authorities water purifying facilities were built in the village Vrapchishte, Gostivar. The Ambassador of the Royal Netherlands Embassy and the Director of CARE International were present on the opening ceremony as they were supporters of this project.



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**March 04**  
**ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Shtip**  
**Consumers' Organization of Macedonia –Shtip Branch**  
**Open Forum "Prevention From Osteoporosis"**

An Open Forum "Prevention from osteoporosis", organized by the Consumers' Organization of Macedonia–Shtip Branch was held at the premises of the "Association of Retired Persons from Shtip". Lecturer at the forum was Dr. Zoran Shishkov, specialist for orthopaedic diseases and activist in the Consumers' Organization of Macedonia–Shtip Branch. He emphasised the role of food in prevention of osteoporosis.

The success of the Open Forum as well as the relevance of the issue was confirmed by the participants' immense interest and wide coverage of the event in the local media.

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**March 06**  
**ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Shtip**  
**Developing of Action Plan**

One day workshop for development of an Action Plan for 2004 for ECMI Regional Centre Shtip was held at the Hotel "Oaza", Shtip. Participants of the workshop were all members of the Working Team and the Technical Assistant. Strategic priorities of the Regional Centre Shtip for 2004 were set and methods for achieving those priorities were defined.

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Svetlina" as part of the International Day of Roma celebration

**Date : 06.04.2004**

**Time : 17:00**

Conference "Status and the Situation of the Roma Population in Bitola – situation, possibilities and perspectives" at the local community "Dimitar Vlahov" in organization of Roma Association from Bitola "Bairska Svetlina" as part of the International Day of Roma celebration

**Date : 06.04.2004**

**Time : 17:30**

As part of the Project "Youth and NGOs" an Open Forums will be held at the High School "Pero Nakov" Kumanovo.

**Date : 07.04.2004**

**Time : 18.00**

Broadcasting of a Documentary Film "Life of the Roma in Bair settlement" at the "Museum and Gallery" as part of the International Day of Roma celebration

**Date : 08.04.2004**

**Time : 09.30**

Presentation of Roma music in Bair settlement as part of the International Day of Roma celebration

**Date : 08.04.2004**

Eight, one day seminars on the issue of: role and structure of the NGOs, voluntary and team work, problems which are of concern to young people and developing a Project Proposal will be held at premises of the Regional Centre Kumanovo as part of the Project "Youth and NGOs".

**Date : 09.04.2004**

**Time : 16:00**

Workshop "Method for Non-violent Communication", organized by NGO "Happy Life" – Tetovo will be held at village Glogi

**Date : 09.04.2004**

Two day workshop of the Commission for Strategic Planning of the ECMI NGO Network at the Hotel "Riviera" Ohrid

**Date : 10.04.2004**

**Time : 10:00 – 17:00**

Workshop for Business Education – Marketing plan and Plan of production, in the village of Rostushe, Gostivar organized by Youth Center "REKANSKI BISER" – Gostivar

**Date : 15.04.2004**

**Time : 10:00**

Coordinative Body meeting of the ECMI NGO Network for the Improvement of Interethnic Relation of the Republic of Macedonia

**March**  
**ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Gostivar**  
**Reviving the Tradition for Producing old Traditional Costumes from the Gostivar Region**



The ongoing project "Reviving the Tradition for Producing Traditional Costumes from the Gostivar area" involves 20 women from Gostivar region that are learning how to sew traditional dresses. The Project is implemented by the Organization of Turkish Women in Macedonia "MATUKAT" in partnership with the Association of Albanian Women and Women's Organization, all members of the ECMI NGO Network for the Improvement of Interethnic Relation in the Republic of Macedonia.

Beside sewing and knitting different details of the traditional dresses the participants will clothe 12 dolls with different sets of traditional dresses that will be exposed.

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**March 09**  
**ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Tetovo**  
**Forum of the Albanian Woman**  
**Promotion of Brochure**

At the premises of Tetovo municipality a Brochure as part of the Project "Adversaria Coruptiae" was promoted. The project was implemented by the Forum of the Albanian Woman in partnership with the Association for Citizens' Toleration and Cooperation – Prilep.

Djane Kreshova, president of the Forum of the Albanian Woman welcomed the participants with a brief introduction and passed the word to prof. Dr. Izet Zekiri and Aleksandar Cvetkoski, president of the Association for citizens' toleration and cooperation.

This Brochure, published in Macedonian and Albanian, is aimed to call attention to the problem of corruption in a humorous and ironic manner. It will also support the efforts of state institutions and civil associations to address the problem of corruption in our society.

Participants at the promotion, beside the NGOs, were representatives from the local authorities and the Media. The Forum of the Albanian Woman is a member of the ECMI NGO Network.

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**March**  
**ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Shtip**  
**Consumers' Organization of Macedonia –Shtip Branch**

The Consumers' Organization of Macedonia –Shtip Branch is doing a research for the variation of the consumers' basket in Macedonia by month. To see the March results of this research please follow the link [March statistical results](#) .

**March**  
**ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Kumanovo**  
**Romani Women's Organization "DAJA" – Kumanovo**  
**"Vocational Education of the Young Roma"**

The "Vocational Education of the Young Roma" is an ongoing program for prequalification of young Roma, implemented by the Romani Women's Organization "DAJA" in partnership with Romani Community Center "DROM", both members of the ECMI NGO Network for the Improvement of Interethnic Relation in the Republic of Macedonia.

This Program, supported by by the Macedonian Centre for International Cooperation, started in October 2003 with 30 young Roms from Kumanovo. The aim is to expand the possibilities for employment through

**Date : 15.04.2004**

**Time : 15:00**

Exhibition and sale of traditional costumes will be held at the premises of the Regional Centre Gostivar as part of the Project "Reviving the Tradition for Producing Traditional Costumes from the Gostivar area"

**Date : 17.04.2004**

**Time : 10:00-17:00**

Second workshop "Prevention from Drugs" at the premises of the ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Tetovo, organised by MULTIKULTURA – Tetovo.

**Date : 17.04.2004**

**Time : 10:00 – 17:00**

Workshop for Business Education – Creating financial plan and financial reports, in the village of Rostushe, Gostivar organized by Youth Center "REKANSKI BISER" – Gostivar

**Date : 23.04.2004**

In order to celebrate the Creation culture in the Republic of Macedonia the Macedonian – Croatian Association "Marko Marulic" will organized several activities as exhibition, book promotion, creation of a catalogue etc.

**Date : 24.04.2004**

**Time : 10:00**

Training "Minimum Standards in Disaster Response" for all members of the Regional Centre Kumanovo organized by the Humanitarian Organization "El Hilal"

**Date : 25.04.2004**

**Time : 13:00**

Open Forum "Fiscal Decentralization for community development" at the Tetovo municipality organized by NGO Youth Alliance

**Date : 26.04.2004**

**Time : 17:00**

Press Conference for presentation of the Project "Community dialog and capacity building", implemented by the Humanitarian Association of Roms in Macedonia "SONCE" – Tetovo will be held at the Tetovo municipality.

education and prequalification for plumbers, forklifts operators and cosmeticians.

Actively involved in the program are all teachers of the Labour University "Prof. Mijalkovik" and employees of the Cosmetic Studio "Belle Epoqe" from Kumanovo.

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### **March 11**

**ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Bitola**

**Youth Cultural Centre (YCC) - Bitola**

**Seventh Anniversary of the Founding of the Youth Cultural Centre**

Promotion of the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of "The Kult" magazine and the multimedia CD "Bitola Open City" at the cafe bar "Intermeco", marked the 7th anniversary of the Youth Cultural Centre, member of the ECMI NGO Network. That evening at the cafe bar "Porta Jazz" two remarkable events took place - the premiere of the puppet theatre "Something Unlike" and projection of the documentary film "Bitola Open City", both produced by YCC. The following day at the discotheque "Sving La Cinema" a Concert titled "February Rock Festival" was held. On this event the following groups were playing: "Nebo", "Soulekrim", "Pampers" and "Tanderstar" from Bitola, "Ventolin" from Ohrid, "Kuazar" from Prilep and "Two Sides" from Skopje. The two day celebration concluded with the techno party with DJ Passenger.



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### **March 18**

**ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Bitola**

**Special Event – Silent Auction of a Leopard**



NGO Group Felix and the Bitola City Zoo, supported by the Municipality of Bitola, organised a press conference, which was held in Hotel Epinal – Bitola at 11 am. The press conference was to announce a special event: the silent auction of a leopard. It will be held on May 12, 2004. The goal of the auction is to collect money for the Fund for Roma Children Education and for the improvement of the conditions

in the Bitola City Zoo. In this way, the auction will set an important example for community spirit in the region.

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### **March**

**ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Gostivar**

**Association for Education, Culture, Ecology and Humanity "MILLENNIUM"**

**Water Purifying Facilities**

As result of the Implemented project of the Association for Education, Culture, Ecology and Humanity "MILLENNIUM" and Vrapchishte local authorities water purifying facilities were built in the village Vrapchishte, Gostivar. The Ambassador of the Royal Netherlands Embassy and the Director of CARE International were present on the opening ceremony as they were supporters of this project.

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**March 20**

**ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Kumanovo**

**Developing of Action Plan**

All members of the ECMI Regional Centre Kumanovo attended a two day workshop for development of an Action Plan for 2004 at the Hotel "Riviera" Ohrid.

In setting the Action Plan members discussed the role of the NGOs and the Regional Centre in their community as well as the field of acting.

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**March**

**ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Gostivar**

**Projects Implemented by Members of the ECMI NGO Network**

The beginning of March marked the completion of the project "Course for Sewing" implemented by the Women's Organization in partnership with Association of Albanian Women and Humanitarian Organization "UNITETI", all members of the Regional Centre Gostivar.

Twenty unemployed women from Gostivar were attending the course for sewing for three months. The obtained skills will expand the chances for employment of these women and through that will improve their economic situation.

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**March 20**

**ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Kumanovo**

**Training "Minimum Standards in Disaster Response"**

The trainings for "Minimum Standards in Disaster Response", organized by the Humanitarian Organization "El Hilal", were held on 20 and 27 March at the premises of the Regional Centre Kumanovo. Implementing partners were the Regional Agency for Development (Kriva Palanka) and the Romany Community Centre "DROM" (Kumanovo), which are both members of the ECMI NGO Network.

Two representatives from each member organization of the Regional Centre participated in the trainings. The Humanitarian Declaration on Human Rights and the minimum standards for response to disasters were presented. The trainers were Demir Shabani, Antoneta Maznikova and Mujo Ismaili.

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**March 31**

**ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Gostivar**

**Cultural Event**

A Cultural Event was held at the "House of Culture - ASNOM" in Gostivar as part of the Initiative "Modus Vivendi". This initiative was implemented by the Association for Education and Culture "MILLENNIUM" in cooperation with the Association for the Development of Society, the Centre for the Protection of Roms' Rights and Youth Centre "Rekanski Biser". All of them are members of the ECMI NGO Network.

The Initiative is aimed to foster interethnic understanding through valuing local culture and tradition and to initiate economic prosperity of Gostivar and its region.

Many students from Gostivar and Vrapchishte schools, citizens and NGOs representatives attended this attractive and exceptional event with music, folklore and art.

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**March**

**ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Kumanovo**

**"Through Socializing and Playing to Better Future"**

The three-month-during Initiative "Through Socializing and Playing to Better Future" has come to an end. The Initiative was organized by the Regional agency for development, Kriva Palanka and was supported by all members of the Regional Centre Kumanovo.

The project was aimed at improving cooperation among different ethnic groups, especially focused on youth. Therefore, the implementing NGO had organized a camp for 36 youngsters, 15 to 18 years old, from Kumanovo, Lipkovo, Sveti Nikole and Kriva Palanka. The camp consisted of workshops and a non-formal creative part. During the camp, friendship, respect and common understanding among the participants was established.

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**March 31**

**ECMI Regional NGO Resource Centre Shtip  
Seminar "Health Management on Municipality Level"**

Representatives from the Consumers' Organization of Macedonia, Shtip Branch, attended the seminar "Health Management on Municipality Level", which was held in Hotel "Oaza" in Shtip. The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy organized the seminar. The topic of the one-day seminar was well in line with the approaching decentralisation and the need for knowledge and health management skills. Doc. Dr. Fimka Tozija and Prof. Dr. Mome Spasoski acted as lecturers.

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We hope that you have enjoyed this issue of the ECMI NGO Network Newsletter.

If you have any comments or suggestions for improvement of this newsletter, please contact Verica Grdanoska at:

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Previous issues of the Newsletter at:

[http://www.ecmingonet.org.mk/publications\\_uk.htm](http://www.ecmingonet.org.mk/publications_uk.htm)

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