



TYPES OF ECOLOGICAL PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED BY L/NGOS IN KOSOVSKA MITROVICA TOWN IN PERIOD 1999-2008

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SYNOPSIS

In this paper work the results of the research about types of ecological projects implemented by NGOs during 1999-2008 in north part of Kosovska Mitrovica town are presented. The research has been conducted in north part of Kosovska Mitrovica, where starting with 1999 the massive registration and activities of different NGOs started, including those dealing with environmental problematic. The total number of 8 ecological projects has been implemented by different NGOs.

Ključne riječi:

NVO,
tipovi ekoloških
projekata

IZVOD

U radu se iznose rezultati istraživanja tipova ekoloških projekata koje su ne-vladine organizacije implementirale u severnom delu delu grada Kosovske Mitrovice u periodu od 1999-2008 godine. Istraživanje je sprovedeno u severnom delu Kosovske Mitrovice gde od 1999. dolazi do masovnog registrovanja i delovanja različitih ne-vladinih organizacija, uključujući one koje se bave ekološkom problematikom. Ukupno je implementirano 8 ekoloških projekata od strane različitih organizacija.

INTRODUCTION

Since 1999, with the UN presence in Kosovo, the whole wave of the new registered local NGOs started with the activities. This was, in the most of the cases the first introduction of the non-governmental activities in the area of north Kosovo. While the conditions to register local NGO were very softly, and the donors community very rich and favorable, the majority of the new NGOs registered for different activities, including: development of the civil society, human rights, women's and children's rights, minority issues, handicrafts, agriculture, and all together environmental issue. It was only one L/NGO that registered only with the purpose of ecological problems. Absurd is that this L/NGO has never implemented no one ecological project.

Majority of these L/NGOs applied and implemented so called “donor driven” projects, rather than specialized for specific purpose. In that light, total number of 8 ecological projects was implemented in north part of Kosovska Mitrovica town, with various activities, participants and the length of the projects.

SUBJECT AND METHOD OF RESEARCH

Subject of this scientific paper is type of ecological projects implemented by L/NGOs in north part of Kosovska Mitrovica. The interview was conducted with the directors of majority of active L/NGOs in Kosovska Mitrovica in order to get information about projects that they implemented, including those with ecological issue. While the community of active L/NGOs is much smaller than 1999, it was easy to get them together and to do the interview. They were also familiar with some projects that were implemented by L/NGOs that were not active now. Similar interview was done with the manager of the Community Center in Kosovska Mitrovica, while the majority of the donors had call for proposals, approval process and implementation through this Institution.

The available OSCE reports on NGOs activities as well as L/NGOs reports were studied.

RESULTS WITH DISCUSSION

During 1999-2008 the total number of 8 ecological projects was implemented in north part of Kosovska Mitrovica. These projects were implemented by different L/NGOs, but no one of them had the main purpose in environmental issue. Only one L/NGO implemented two ecological projects, so 7 L/NGOs were involved in environmental activities in north Kosovska Mitrovica. One L/Ngo that registered with the purpose of ecology has never implemented this type of the project, while they have applied several times, but never got project approved. The main reason for this, if and when they have got informed from donors, was that the projects were connected with the specific environmental research in the field, demanding different type of ecological equipment, experts and literature and these were not favorable to the donors.

One project implemented was investigating level of perception of school children about environmental problems. Children were asked to present their perceptions mostly in form of drawings, and the exhibition of the drawings was organized in the end of the project. Finally, the participants were taken to the trip that was not connected with the ecology.

Four implemented projects were mostly educational. The main problem to implement these projects was to approach school, while school children were planned to work with. The school principles had difficulties to allow L/NGOs activists to approach school premises. This was explained as non-compatibility with Republic of

Serbia Curriculum. In the case of children that are internally displaced persons, they recognize environmental problems as they have left cattle and dogs tied back home and those probably died. Their drawings were connected with similar subjects, too.

Three projects were with the larger scale. These project involved big number of volunteers in the cleansing the town, with the special efforts on river Ibar running through the town. Plastic bottles were collected, but there was a problem with appropriate disposal while there is no existing installation to recycle them, or valid contract to sell. As the activities of these projects the garbage bins were settled around the town. The focus of these activities was to attract population to use them having specific and attractive design, which has specific weight in overpopulated area such as north part of Kosovska Mitrovica . No valid contracts were made with the Public Communal Service, and the problem with the emptying occurred.

One of these projects tempted to work on selection of urban garbage. Special bins and containers were settled for different kind of the garbage. In the several cases, there was a success in selection of the garbage, especially near by schools where containers for used paper were properly used, but the problem with lack of installation to recycle it occurred again, together with the Public Communal Service problem.

Environmental project implemented in Roma camp "Cesmin Lug" in Kosovska Mitrovica succeed to involve inhabitants of the camp in planting the trees and covering the area with the grass. This was of bigger importance while they have diminished risk of lead presence by covering the soil.

For all this ecological period no one project was implemented to include experts from environmental area and no one multidisciplinary ecological research was done.

CONCLUSION

The aim of this work was to show what kind of ecological projects have been implemented for the last nine years in Kosovska Mitrovica town. Total number of 8 projects was implemented, but no one by the L/NGO with the main purpose in ecology. Four projects were mainly educational, but there is no evidence of success, while no survey was done before and after project. With the attempt to implement project to do the selection of the urban garbage, the problems with the collection, disposal and recycling occurred.

No one project was implemented to include experts from environmental area and no one multidisciplinary ecological research was done. In this paper work we want to suggest that the education in environmental problems should be incorporated in the curriculum from elementary schools to the university level.

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