

E-bulletin

USAID Readers are Leaders Project

Literacy and Math for Intellectual Growth

This project is being implemented by the Foundation for Education and Cultural Initiatives “Step by Step” – Macedonia



Dear readers,

It has been a busy month for the USAID Readers are Leaders Project. In the second issue of our e-bulletin you can read about the activities implemented over the most recent period, as well as about the events that we are planning for the last month of this calendar year.

Enjoy reading and share this content with your collaborators!

Greetings from the project team

Developing the reading and math assessment tools EGRA and EGMA

As part of the USAID Readers are Readers Project, for the first time in the country, early grade reading and math assessment tools EGRA and EGMA will be applied. EGRA and EGMA are tools which assess the student's individual progress in reading and math. In recent years, these USAID developed tools have been used in numerous countries worldwide. For their successful implementation, they require adapting to the local context, curriculum and language of instruction. In our country, they will be administered in Macedonian and Albanian language, with the help of tablet computers. In November, international consultants in the field of language and math literacy presented EGRA and EGMA principles and worked with the representatives from the two working groups to adapt both tools in Macedonian and Albanian. EGRA and EGMA working groups are comprised of representatives from the Bureau for Development of Education, State Examinations Center, Faculty of Pedagogy – Skopje, Institute of Pedagogy at the Faculty of Philosophy – Skopje, selected teachers, school pedagogues and psychologists. As a result of their work, EGRA and EGMA tools were developed in Macedonian and Albanian language, along with administration and supervision manuals.



Introductory training on EGRA and EGMA principles with the international consultant Helen Abadzi



EGRA working group



EGMA working group with the international consultant José Noijons

Training for EGRA and EGMA administration in pilot schools

After the working groups developed the EGRA and EGMA tools in Macedonian and Albanian, the project organized a training for assessors and supervisors that will be responsible for administration of the assessment tools in the selected schools. The training took place in Ohrid from 25 – 29 of November. During this training, the participants acquired practical knowledge for administering the tools with the help of tablet computers. It is expected to apply the assessment tools in the pilot schools during the course of December.



Training for EGRA and EGMA administration with the international consultant Jehona Dzaferi



Use of tablet computers for EGRA and EGMA administration

READING ROADSHOW



PS "Elpida Karamandi" - Bitola



PS "P.Z.Penko"



PS "Ilinden" - Kriva Palanka

Reading and math can be fun. Having this in mind, the project team together with public figures in the field of art, culture and sport, during the course of November visited 11 schools and took part in reading sessions together with the young students, their parents, representatives from the municipalities and the local communities. Some of the public figures that the project has established cooperation so far are: actors Amernis Nokshikji, Sashko Kocov, Gorast Cvetkovski, Julijana Stefanova and Petar Gorko, the handball player Naumche Mojsoski, the singers Toni Zen and Venera Lumani. Our Reading Roadshow will continue in December, as well.

Memorandums for cooperation with schools were signed

In November, the project team visited the schools selected for the project pilot phase and signed memorandums of cooperation with the schools' management.



Signing of a the memorandum in PS "N.N.Borche" – Skopje

In December we will:

Reading session with public figures in:

11 December

PS "Stiv Naumov" and PS "Naum Naumovski Borche" – Skopje

13 December

PS "Hristijan Todorovski Karposh" – Dragomance, Staro Nagorichane

17 December

PS "Liria" – Gorno Jabolchishte, Chashka

19 December

PS "Naim Frasheri" – Jagol Dolenci, Kichevo

24 December

PS "Goce Delchev" – Konche

25 December

PS "Kiril and Metodij" – Kochani and PS "Slavcho Stojmenski" – Vinica

27 December

PS "Blazhe Koneski" – Veles

You are welcome to join us for these events, where we will read and have fun together with the local celebrities and the young readers from the schools!

In December, EGRA and EGMA pilot assessments will be carried out in the 21 schools from the pilot phase.

NEW PICTURE BOOKS COMING SOON

Readers are Leaders project team
is preparing new picture books
for the young students.
More details coming soon!

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