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ZAJEDNO

**NETWORK FOR
BUILDING PEACE**

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

WELCOMING REMARKS

We are pleased to present to you the Annual Report of the Association Network for Building Peace for 2021. Although the COVID-19 pandemic affected the work of our Association this year as well, we managed to overcome many challenges thanks to the teamwork of our staff, the commitment of the members of the Board of Directors and the Assembly and the support of our member organizations.

In 2021, we managed to draft and adopt strategic documents that will contribute to more efficient work of the Association and the Network and the realization of our mission and vision, ensuring that member organizations, in the next four years, receive assistance in building individual capacity through mentoring support programs. Together with our member organizations, we implemented a number of activities related to peacebuilding in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) and worked to help our member organizations overcome challenges caused by the situation related to COVID-19. The Network for Building Peace website was the most read website administered by civil society organizations, and among 80 websites in BiH, including commercial websites. Within our projects, we have managed to connect with a large number of local communities and establish long-term partnerships with representatives of the civil sector, media, businesses and local authorities. We visited 25 cities in BiH and initiated over 15 joint activities.

Last year strengthened our cooperation with KULT, the Mozaik Foundation, the Center for Civic Cooperation Livno and the Tuzla Community Foundation in terms of programs aimed at sustainable development of local communities. We have also continued our successful cooperation with schools in BiH on programs that promote STEM education and established cooperation with a number of peace organizations in BiH and the region.

We are especially proud that on December 10, the "Goran Bubalo" award was awarded to individuals and educational institutions for advocating for human rights and freedoms and building and maintaining peace. We are very pleased that our donors had confidence in our work and that we were able to secure funds for future activities.

Our team of 9 dedicated employees from three cities in BiH and a network of researchers with over 30 associates managed to do three surveys and organize a large number of events attended by more than 1,000 participants.

We invite you to find out more about our challenges and successes in 2021 by reading the text below.

Natasa Maksimovic

President of the Association Network for Building Peace

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ABOUT ASSOCIATION NETWORK FOR BUILDING PEACE

The Network for Building Peace was founded on February 10, 2010 by several activists and organizations in order to work together to raise the quality of social and economic life in BiH. The Network's goal was aimed at increasing the long-term capacity of society to cope with the legacy of our recent history, differences, and latent or open conflicts in a constructive and nonviolent way.

Until the end of 2018, when the Network was registered as a legal entity in November, it operated informally. Most of its activities and successes so far have resulted from the efforts and volunteer work of its founders and member organizations. In the period of 12 years, the Network has grown into one of the largest and most sustainable civil society networks in BiH. The website of the Network and its social media, marking of dates important for human rights in BiH, and the awarding of the Srdjan Aleksic Prize and the Peace Prize have become recognized resources and events in the country and the region.

Values of the Network for Building Peace

Culture of dialogue → Humanity → Equality → Respect for diversity and freedom of choice

→ Security and peace in society → Protection of vulnerable and marginalized groups in society →

Social justice →

→ Openness → Solidarity → Responsibility → Freedom → Coexistence and tolerance

The vision of the Network for Building Peace is a stable, democratic and prosperous BiH society that values and respects opinions and needs of all individuals and their communities.

ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSOCIATION NETWORK FOR BUILDING PEACE

During 2021, the Association Network for Building Peace (Network) continued its efforts to connect civil society organizations, educational institutions, activists and all others in the mission of building sustainable peace in BiH, and the membership of the Network continued to grow. As in previous years, the Network focused its efforts on supporting its members, but also creating opportunities to organize joint activities. During 2021, the Network pointed out the difficulties and challenges posed to the civil sector by the COVID-19 pandemic, focusing on the fact that some members of the Network were left without their premises and donor support. During 2021, the Network with press releases marked many important dates, such as: International Holocaust Remembrance Day, International Women's Day, International Day of Victory over Fascism and Europe Day, Srebrenica Genocide Remembrance Day, White Ribbon Day, International Day of Peace and International Human Rights Day. The Peace Network also issues press releases and publishing reactions on human rights violations, as well as negative developments in BiH.

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS' ACTIONS MARKING THE DAY OF VICTORY OVER FASCISM

Marking the Day of Victory over Fascism, in addition to the press release, the Network supported several artistic youth actions throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina. Association of citizens Revolt marked the Day of Victory over Fascism and Europe Day by drawing a mural in the center of Tuzla. The conceptual design of the mural is a dove in flight that carries with it the well-known message "No pasaran", which was immortalized in the Spanish Civil War by Dolores Ibarurri in the fight against fascist ideologies. The very concept of the mural is that the dove spreads the message of peace with its bright colors, and the pose in flight represents the freedom we all need.



Mural in the center of Tuzla

Marking May 9, Victory over Fascism Day and Europe Day, **the Youth Center KVART in cooperation with the Organizing Committee of BH Pride March**, coordinated the activity "Antifascism is our choice" in several cities throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina: Banja Luka, Tuzla, Zenica, Prijedor and Sarajevo. Within this activity, street actions were organized and promotional material was created and distributed. Through a public call, LGBTIQ persons and allies were invited to take photos in front of important monuments from the period of anti-fascist struggle with LGBTIQ symbols, and through social networks promote and occupy online space with messages of support and a unique hashtag #antifašizamjenašizbor and #bhповorkaponosa, thus promoting the inclusiveness of the anti-fascist fight through the inclusion of other marginalized groups.



Billboard „Antifascism is our choice“

DIS - Youth Theater Banja Luka in cooperation with the Youth Theater Eko ART Bugojno and Mostar Youth Theater marking the Victory over Fascism Day implemented the action "*If monuments could talk*", in which young members of the ensemble in three cities of BiH created a joint three-minute artistic video where they presented the artistic vision (artistic installation) of local monuments from the NOB, which shows the relationship to the monumental heritage created during the anti-fascist fight during World War II.

Creative Innovation Center Kakanj - Kick in cooperation with **the NGO Alternative Kakanj** organized the action "*Verses for Peace*" in which an artistic-activist performance of reading of verses was organized and accompanied by an environmental action, cleaning the Memorial - Partisan Cemetery in Kraljeva Sutjeska in Kakanj. Young people sent anti-fascist messages through the verses of famous poets of the region.



Peacebuilding Week 2021 - Responsibility and strength for peacebuilding is in all of us

The Network for Building Peace invited all BiH citizens to join the Peacebuilding Week 2021, and reminded that, although it is marked once a year, Day of Peace should actually be every day. Therefore, the task of all of us is to build sustainable peace together and systematically every day, because the contribution of all of us is necessary for living a life in a country where we value, accept and respect each other, value all our differences as richness that unite us and nurture dialogue. Together we are building a better future both for ourselves and for generations to come. In 2021, the Network and numerous organizations and schools from all over BiH organized activities within the Peacebuilding Week, under the symbolic title "*Responsibility and strength for peacebuilding is in all of us.*" A calendar of activities is available [at this link](#).



PEACE IS OUR GREATEST GOOD - THE REACTION OF THE NETWORK FOR BUILDING PEACE TO ATTEMPTS TO DISRUPT PEACE IN BIH

Regarding the political situation in BiH and the threat of disturbing peace in BiH, the Network launched an online campaign "Let's choose peace together", during which activists from all over BiH sent messages of peace and non-violence.



Members of the Network for Building Peace with messages

Furthermore, the Network and its members sent a letter to more than 100 addresses asking to condemn inflammatory rhetoric. The letter is in fact an appeal addressed to all citizens in BiH, civil society organizations, institutions in BiH, political parties, representatives of academic institutions in BiH, the EU Delegation to BiH, the Council of Europe, the OSCE Mission to BiH and other international institutions which mandate is preserving peace, security and protection of human rights, to strongly condemn all attacks on the constitutional order of BiH and the war-mongering rhetoric intensively used by some political representatives in BiH, and especially to condemn the statements of individual politicians. On this occasion, a press conference was held in early November 2021, during which the Network called for peacekeeping in BiH.



Press conference organized by the Network for Building Peace, Sarajevo, November 5, 2021

PRESS RELEASES

<https://www.mreza-mira.net/vijesti/aktivnosti-mreze/saopcenje-za-javnost-udruzenja-mreza-za-izgradnju-mira-povodom-dodjele-frankofonske-nagrade-za-2021-godinu/>

<https://www.mreza-mira.net/vijesti/aktivnosti-mreze/mir-je-nase-najvece-dobro/>

<https://www.mreza-mira.net/vijesti/aktivnosti-mreze/saopstenje-mreza-za-izgradnju-mira-odgovornost-i-snaga-za-izgradnju-mira-su-u-svima-nama/>

<https://www.mreza-mira.net/vijesti/aktivnosti-mreze/saopstenje-mreze-za-izgradnju-mira-povodom-osmog-marta-medunarodnog-dana-zena-2021/>

<https://www.mreza-mira.net/vijesti/clanci/saopstenje-mreze-za-izgradnju-mira-povodom-medunarodnog-dana-sjecanja-na-zrtve-holokausta/>

<https://www.mreza-mira.net/vijesti/aktivnosti-mreze/saopcenje-udruzenja-mreza-za-izgradnju-mira-povodom-obiljezavanja-11-jula-dana-sjecanja-na-genocid-u-srebrenici/>

<https://www.mreza-mira.net/vijesti/aktivnosti-mreze/saopcenje-udruzenja-mreza-za-izgradnju-mira-povodom-9-maja-dana-pobjede-nad-fasizmom-i-dana-evope/>

<https://www.mreza-mira.net/vijesti/clanci/mreza-za-izgradnju-mira-sa-220-clanica-pozvala-na-ocuvanje-mir-u-bih/>

<https://www.mreza-mira.net/vijesti/aktivnosti-mreze/nagrada-goran-bubalo-za-humanost-prava-romkinja-mirovno-obrazovanje-i-prava-lgbtq-zajednice/>

PROJECT PORTICUS



PORTICUS

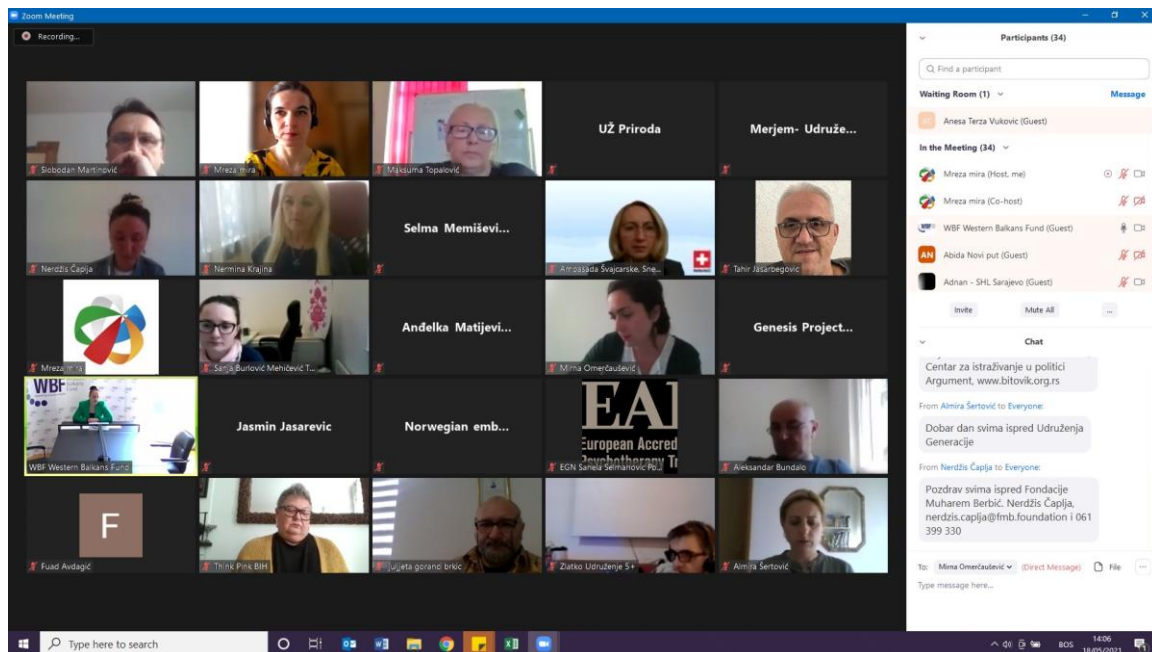
Association Network for Building Peace received significant funds to implement the project "Building the capacities of the civil society sector in BiH in order to create new positive narratives and cooperation." The objectives of the project are 1) to increase the capacity of local civil society organizations to act as agents of change in their communities and within the Network for Building Peace and 2) to raise awareness among internet users about the need to combat hate speech and ethnocentric rhetoric and peaceful dialogue and nonviolence. Project duration: September 2020 - August 2023.

- 68 articles on the topic of peace were published on the website www.mreza-mira.net,
- In March, an online workshop "Creative Writing and Critical Thinking" was organized with the aim of improving writing on peace topics of civil society organizations and an online meeting with civil society organizations from Tuzla with the aim of connecting organizations,
- An online event "Meeting of Donors and CSOs" was organized in May with the aim of connecting organizations and donors,
- In June, a hybrid meeting of civil society organizations from the area of Banja Luka was organized in Banja Luka, with the aim of connecting organizations,
- Within the project activity of the annual meeting of the Network members, representatives of civil society organizations gathered at a meeting held on June 24 and 25, 2021 in Jahorina, and September 20 – 24, 2021 in Neum with the aim of improving the work of the Network for Building Peace, and worked on drafting two strategic documents - Strategic and Communication Plan 2021 - 2025,
- In November, a workshop on teambuilding was organized for the staff of the Association Network for Building Peace in Vitez with the aim of improving communication and teamwork,
- Peacebuilding training was organized in Ilidža for representatives of the civil society organizations, Network members, with the aim of raising awareness of non-violent communication, joint decision-making, human rights and discrimination,
- Network's staff was trained on the methods of monitoring of project implementation results "Outcome Harvesting" and developed MEL plan.

The following activities were implemented in 2021:



Peacebuilding training, December 1- 2, 2021



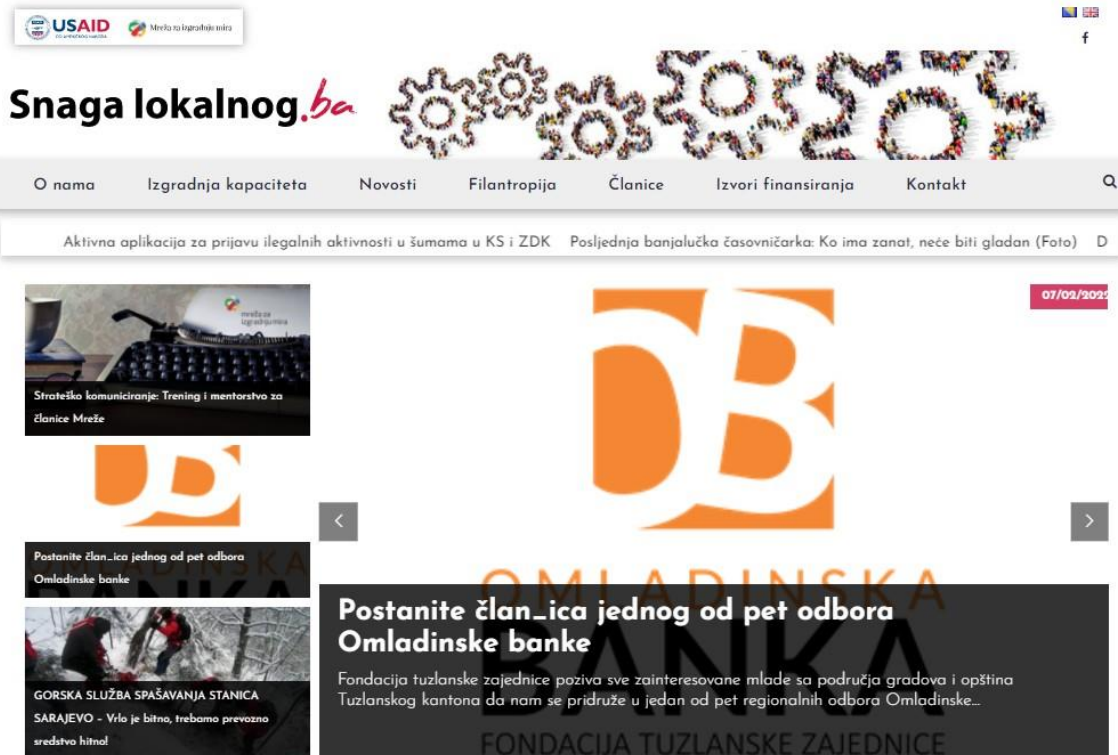
Online event "Meeting of Donors and CSOs"



Workshop "Teambuilding for the staff of the Association Network for Building Peace", November 11-12, 2021

PROJECT LOCAL WORKS

Within the USAID's initiative and program, the Local Works, the **Network for Building Peace is working on building capacities of local communities and organizations to address key and relevant development challenges in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH)**. This five-year project consists of a number of activities such as creating and managing a website that enables exchange of information between different actors (civil society organizations, local authorities, business entity representatives and citizens) and an overview of their relationships. In the coming years, the priority of the Network's work is to support members and local organizations through various forms of institutional strengthening, so that they are able to create sustainable "self-help mechanisms" across the country, especially in areas where such mechanisms are not readily available. Additionally, the Network is working on establishing and strengthening cooperation between other components of the Local Works Program: Capacity Development Platform - Institute for Youth Development KULT, Local Resource Organizations - Center for Civic Cooperation Livno and the Tuzla Community Foundation), Philanthropy and the Legal Environment - Mozaik. Special emphasis within the project was given to the members of the Network for their networking and capacity building in terms of ensuring their sustainable development.



Website www.snagalokalnog.ba

During the previous year, the Network worked directly with various social actors such as foundations, influential local organizations, media portals and key actors in local communities. The already existing website, Snagalokalnog, has been upgraded and adapted to increase the functionality of the platform and make it user-friendly. The website has 3 databases, and one of them is dedicated to active users. Users' database contains 590 registered users. New features have been added, including the NextCloud platform for file sharing and creating groups for joint projects. NBP recorded 27,715 unique user visits and 127,197 page views. 2460 different articles were published, and 538 articles were received from members or users of the NBP. The electronic version of the donor database has 760 donors. Google Maps COVID-19 registered 28,822 visits. The knowledge database consists of 19 documents, and the resource database includes 164 useful materials, publications and information on available local service providers. The helpline provided 57 responses. LinkedIn registered 1,167 followers.



Sara Velaga: “Mladi moraju biti pokretači promjena u svojim lokalnim zajednicama!”

09/06/2021

34 visits to local communities were organized and 28 success stories were prepared and published. The Network developed and implemented a communication strategy with other partners, organized 2 meetings with PR staff, 4 quarterly meetings and an annual conference for 28 participants. In cooperation with the leading partner Mozaik, the Network participated in and facilitated all events related to the Philanthropy project.



Osnovana tri tematska zagovaračka tima koja će unaprijediti institucionalni i pravni okvir za dobročinstvo

05/08/2021

Within the work on establishment of a sustainability plan for the Network members, a strategic planning process was designed and fully implemented (an online survey was prepared and distributed, project team workshop, strategic planning workshop of the network management, Conference on strategic development of the NBP and consultative meeting with members of

the Supervisory Board and assemblies). An assessment of the environment in which organizations operate, an assessment of organizational capacity and financial sustainability, as well as an assessment of the capacity of civic leaders in BiH and prepared reports was completed. The Network Sustainability Plan was created and sent for comment to the Network Assembly.



Conference „Mapping of Citizens' Initiatives“, November 29, 2021, Sarajevo

The communication planning process has been fully implemented to complement strategic planning. A promotional plan was developed, promotional campaign was completed and the Peacebuilding Network Peace Award for 2020 was presented. Three online networking conferences were organized: Education in Social Focus, Synergy of Civil Society and Local Economic Development in BiH: Current Situation, Opportunities and New Normality and one conference dedicated to Environmental Initiatives. The unique database of civic initiatives in the country was made after a comprehensive mapping and posted on the website. Within this assessment, four online focus groups were organized. Participatory mapping of community needs in BiH was conducted in 16 cities in BiH and 16 analytical city reports on community needs were prepared using the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

Four partnerships have been successfully developed, which will be the basis for further progress and work with local communities. Five new ideas have been initiated.



The Goran Bubalo Award was presented on December 10, to Nihad Suljic for advocating for the rights and freedoms of people on the move in BiH, and to Indira Bajramovic for decades of work in the fight for the rights and security of Roma women and gender equality of all women in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In addition to individuals, the award was given to the Center for Peace Education within the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Sarajevo, and the jury decided to award a special prize to the BH Pride March for courage and public advocacy for LGBTIQ+ individuals.



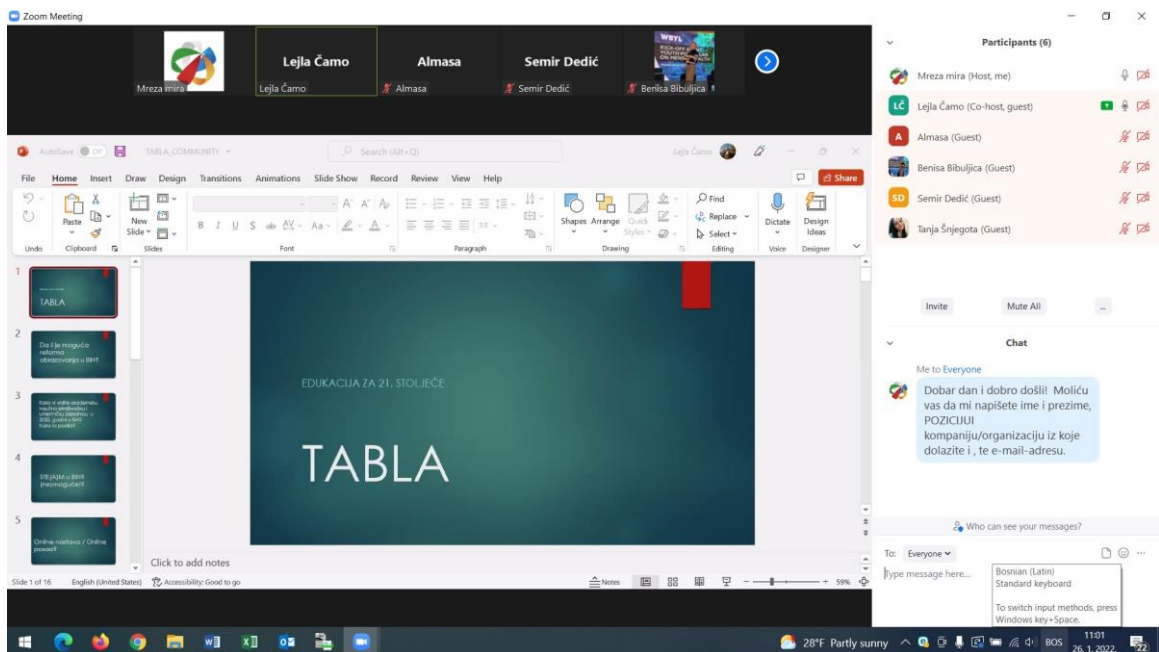
Winners of the "Goran Bubalo" award, December 10, 2021

PROJECT TABLA

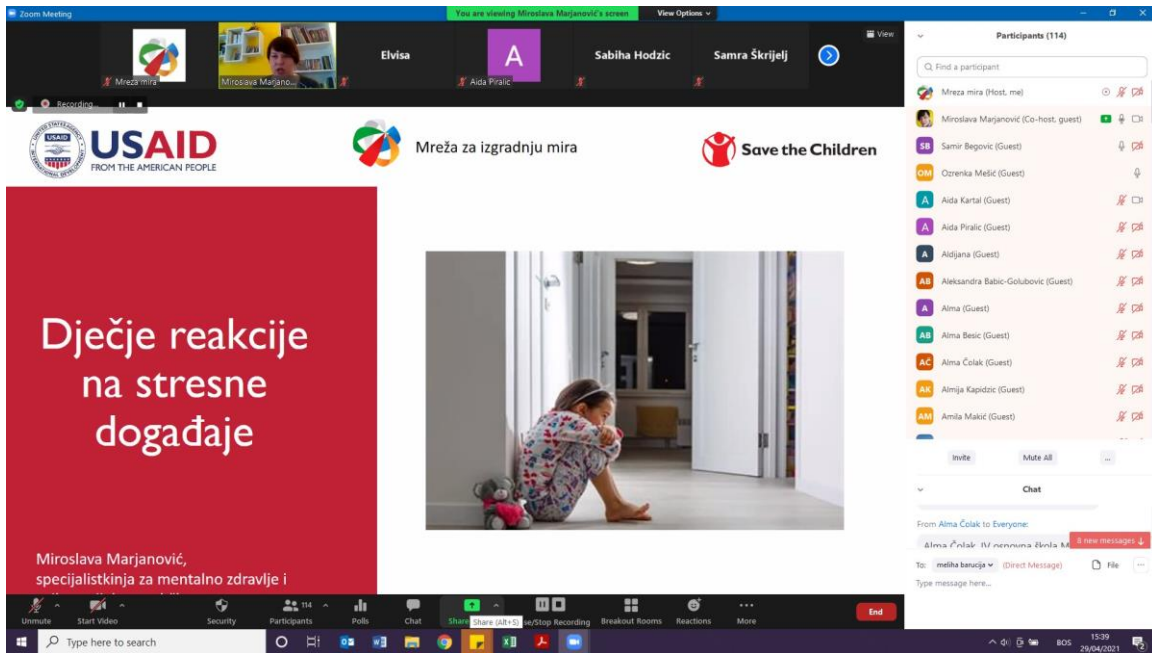
Association Network for Building Peace is included in implementation of one part of the USAID-funded general education project Tabla, which is implemented by Save the Children with its partners. The project was planned to last 5 years and work with 100 educational institutions in BiH, but due to unfavorable circumstances for its implementation in the field, at

the end of 2020 the donor shortened the implementation period to three years. With this change, it is planned that all project activities will be implemented until June 2022. In the past year, the project activities were focused on 50 educational institutions from the Herzegovina-Neretva Canton and the Sarajevo Canton. Most of the events were held online due to the current situation with the COVID-19 pandemic, but even under such conditions, the Network managed to organize:

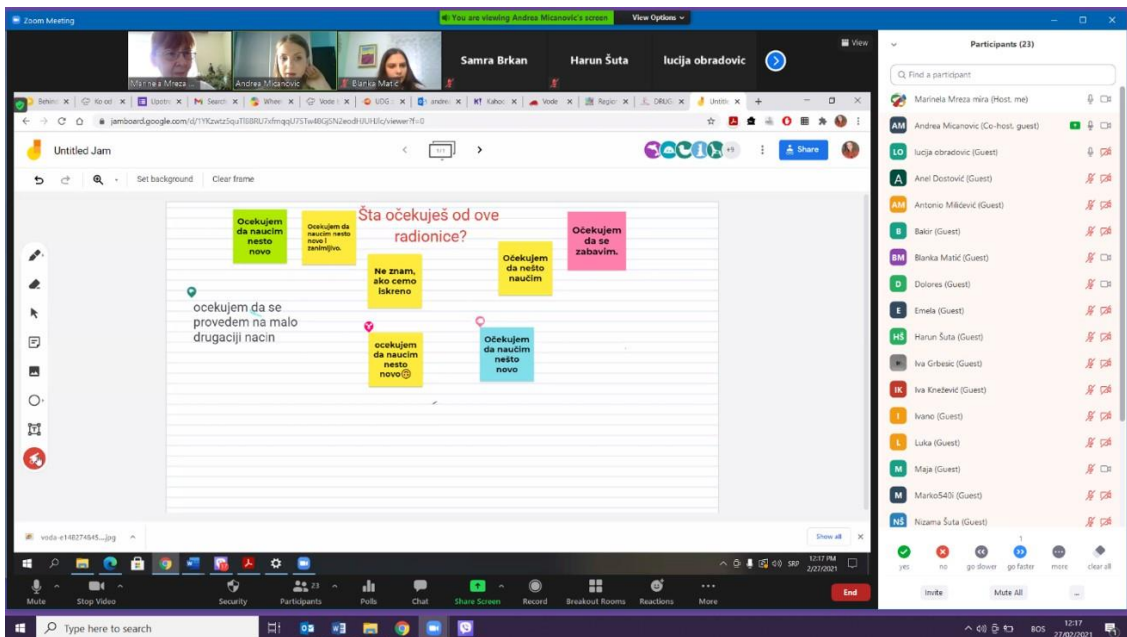
- In February, a webinar for teachers "Professional burnout"
- In February, an online workshop for children "Using online tools in education"
- In April, a webinar for teachers "Children's reactions to stressful situations"
- From February to June, a series of workshops was organized for leaders of psychological support groups (5 in total)
- In July and October, a series of online meetings were organized with representatives of schools from Sarajevo Canton and Herzegovina-Neretva Canton (9 in total)
- At the end of October and the beginning of November, 2 online events for Researchers' Night were organized on the following topics:
 - "STEAM beyond the horizon" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KDusJMIGWnU>
 - "Education beyond the horizon" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gOpySymYZ1M>
- In addition to these activities, the Network for Building Peace regularly published texts on education with a focus on STEAM education, a total of 139 texts.



Online meetings with representatives of the educational sector



Webinars for psychological support teachers



Online workshops for children

Network for Building Peace wins the award „Bridge for the Future“

Association Network for Building Peace is the winner of the Francophone Bridge for the Future 2021 award, which is awarded every year by members of the Francophone ambassadors and heads of missions in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

On May 4, 2021, the award ceremony was held in front of the premises of the Association Network for Building Peace. On this occasion, a group of Francophone ambassadors and heads of missions in Bosnia and Herzegovina said:

"We, members of the Group of Francophone Ambassadors and Heads of Missions in Bosnia and Herzegovina, are coming from different cultures, spread around the world. However, two things unite us: we share the affection for this country of Bosnia and Herzegovina and, for various reasons, the same language in which, above all, we speak a common language. We would like to highlight and reward the efforts that are going in this direction. This year, for the fifth consecutive year, a group of Francophone ambassadors in Bosnia and Herzegovina is awarding the "Bridge for the Future" award. This recognition aims to publicly reward individuals or groups for the exemplary way in which they have addressed the issue of intercultural dialogue and the culture of dialogue in this multi-community and multicultural country. With this symbolic award, we would like to show that there is a will to build bridges between different communities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and that it is quite natural."



Photo from the "Bridge for the Future" award ceremony

"Network for Building Peace" was founded on the initiative of Goran Bubalo. In 2010, the Network included more than 200 organizations throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina, working on projects in such important areas as inter-community dialogue, dialogue between different religions and human rights in general, with a special focus on women's and vulnerable women's rights groups such as people on the move and LGBTI people. All members of the "Network for Building Peace", each in their own field, share the same goal: to strengthen lasting peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Civil society plays a key role in strengthening peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Network for Building Peace provided a platform for dialogue, exchange and coordination to its members, non-governmental organizations, which enabled them to strengthen their activities. The Network is also committed to building constructive dialogue and exchange between communities, in order to overcome the wounds of the past. Our recognition is titled "Bridge for the Future": this title perfectly describes the meaning of the activities implemented by the "Network for Building Peace", because it brings together organizations that work in the interests of all citizens of this country, regardless of their origin and affiliation, helping to "build bridges" between communities and strengthen their understanding of common goals. Therefore, we are happy and honored to be able to thank the "Network for Building Peace" during the Francophonie Day, in order to celebrate the universal values that are important to us for dialogue, peace, cooperation, solidarity and sustainable development. More information about the award is available [here](#).



Award „Bridge for the Future

