

Cooperation for Quality Education for Children at Social Risk

EDU no borders

Priority 3 Promotion of people to people cooperation

Measure 3.2 Cooperation in spheres of culture, sport, education, social and health





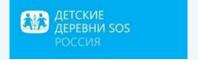












Short summary of the project

Children at social risk face severe challenges in their life, especially during formal education process, for social, psychological, economical and other reasons. Often they lack motivation and learning skills, suffer from emotional and socialization problems. Teachers, foster parents and support people often lack knowledge and skills for working with this target group. There are not enough support services, capacity and competence in schools to work with those children and families on an individual basis. Families have weak cooperation with schools and low motivation and skills to support their children`s learning.

Quality education helps children to develop abilities they need to live a respectable life, and empowers them to become socially active. So far educational projects in this sphere are limited in range and capacity and function on the level of each country and location. At the same time problems are similar, experience gained in one country can be applicable in others and can be used for wider groups of children at social risk.

This project is targeted to children at social risk and to specialists and parents who are dealing with them on a daily basis. It is very important to establish good support services for children and their parents on the local level to be able to help children to make progress in school and also later in their lives. The project will give equal opportunity for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups of children to integrate better in a community life and will contribute to their successful socialization in future. The cooperation of four schools (Põltsamaa. Pskov, Valmiera and Tartu), three SOS Children's Villages, as well as local municipalities and departments of education gives more opportunities to develop the supportive system, to improve quality of education for children at social risk.

The project will provide a platform where specialists can share their experience, especially in dealing with children with difficult social background and special educational needs, parents can acquire the knowledge on support of their children, pupils can get new communicative and social skills. The introduction of new and innovative methods will ensure that pupils are well prepared for independent living and will raise their self-esteem.

Overall objective

To contribute to the improvement of the quality of education for children at social risk through cross-border co-operation of educators, parents and local municipalities.

Specific objectives

- ♣ To create and to improve the quality of existing inclusive educational system in 4 schools of cross-border regions aimed at children at social risk according to their individuality and needs;
- ♣ To increase children's motivation to study.

Beneficiary

Poltsamaa Co-educational Gymnasium (Estonia)

Partners

- Pskov Pedagogical Complex(Russia)
- Pskov SOS Children Village(Russia)
- **↓ Valmiera 5th Secondary School**(Latvia)
- **SOS Children Village Latvia, Valmiera SOS Children Village**(Latvia)
- SOS Children Village Estonia, Poltsmaa SOS Children Village (Estonia)
- **Tartu Annelinna Gymnasium**(Estonia)

Expected results

Network for sharing and learning

- Partnership networks on local and regional levels established;
- Such activities as 16 local level meetings, 8 study tours/exchanges between partners, 6 visits between SOS families, 4 culture events, 4 seminars for project partners, 8 workshops organized; as a result at least 45 specialists acquired knowledge and skills of working with children at social risk, 28 students took part in the exchanges;
- 1 modern computer, 3 memory sticks, CDs purchased.

♣ Child-centered education, development of professionals and parents

- 7 local seminars and workshops;
- 16 trainings for teachers and other specialists (for approximately 100 participants);
- About 25 trainings for children (240 participants); supportive lessons, including speech treatment, simplified curriculum, corrective learning, individual lessons (for 183 students);
- 9 trainings for parents (228 participants);
- 4 informative round tables for volunteers in schools;
- 16 educational activities sport and cultural events, out of school study trips, craft work (for 410 students and 30 teachers);
- methodological and teaching materials, literature for target groups (about 200 books)
- about 70 study tools and games (constructors, geometric shapes) and 3 sets of equipment for communication games (tennis table, football);
- communication and video equipment for teaching and learning process.

↓ Guidance materials for future use and dissemination

- 8 meetings for collecting materials, workshops, seminars organized;
- 4 portfolios with presentation of each school prepared;
- A guide book with good practices and methods in supportive teaching for target groups in four languages (40 pages, 300 copies) published;
- Websites of the partners renewed and updated to disseminate project information
- 1 final conference for all specialists and educational workers organized.

Final beneficiaries

- **↓** Children at social risk who need individualized approach and additional support in education process.
- **◆ S**ocial institutions, governmental and other public organizations providing educational, social and psychological services.

Duration

20 months

Budget

Total budget: 231 765,83 EUR

Programme co-financing:196 765,83EUR (85%)
Project co-financing:35 000,00EUR (15%)

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