



Project Proposal Form

Coordination Group “Building Trust in Post-Conflict Communities”

Rotarian Peace Projects Incubator’s Thematic Area	Building Trust in Post-Conflict Communities
Rotary Focus Area	Peacebuilding and conflict prevention & Basic education and literacy
Contact: Contact person within your group (responsible for this project proposal)(Name + email)	Jelena Stanulovic jstanulovic@yahoo.com
Project Title: Provide a full title (and acronym if any)	Cooperative Communication: Understanding Each Other Again
Project Partners and Participating Organisations: List all your project partner organisations, including participating Rotary clubs and districts if any	NGO AKTIV (North Mitrovica, Kosovo), Young Active Gracanica (Gracanica, Kosovo), SanChild Switzerland, Rotary Club Belgrade International.
Geographical Scope	Western Balkans (Kosovo & Belgrade)
<p>Summary: Please provide a concise summary with a maximum of 500 words outlining the project and explaining the community needs your project will address and how these needs were identified.</p> <p>Ensure that you include what your project aims to achieve (objective) and how (method/procedure). What will be the main outcomes?</p> <p>Explain in a few sentences how you will incorporate the objective of sustainability into your project.</p>	<p>Current situation and the problem Respect for linguistic rights and language learning are among key conditions for promoting inter-ethnic tolerance and cooperation among ethnolinguistic communities in Western Balkans. The language issues are particularly pertinent in Kosovo. Albanian and Serbian languages enjoy the status of official languages in equal use. Paradoxically, the education institutions in Kosovo do not provide young Albanian and Serb with the opportunity to learn each other’s languages. As a result, the young generations in Kosovo grow up in segregated communities with sporadic interactions across the linguistic divisions.</p> <p>This situation has a multitude of adverse effects on the future of all communities in Kosovo. The official bilingualism of Kosovo is already hardly maintained due to the shortage of qualified translators. This problem will likely be even more emphasized in the future and could have detrimental consequences on the respect of linguistic rights in Kosovo and the stability of inter-ethnic relations. Moreover, the ethnic distance between Serbs and Albanians will become even more pronounced as young generations grow in isolation from each other.</p> <p>Initiative: Despite these constraints, research suggests that young people from all communities in Kosovo are highly interested to learn other local languages. They deem language learning as a way to improve mutual understanding with members of other ethnic groups, as well as an asset that can boost their employment and career prospects.</p>

	<p>The benefits of providing language learning opportunities to young people in Kosovo are multiple. Firstly, it will improve the inter-ethnic relations in Kosovo. Secondly, it will provide the market with a sufficient number of qualified translators, which is essential for sustaining the official bilingualism and respect for linguistic rights. Thirdly, it will equip young people with language skills which will improve their chances of finding employment.</p> <p>The project will provide language courses and intrapersonal and cooperative communication training and workshops to youth from Albanian, Serb and other communities in Kosovo.</p> <p>Implementation and Evaluation</p> <p>The project will, therefore, seek to achieve three intertwined objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improving language knowledge: overcoming the barriers of speaking to each other (learning Albanian and Serbian language) 2. Cognitive reasoning: awareness of self and other people needs (Mindfulness and self -assessments techniques) 3. Working together: Business workshops in joint groups (job-seeking skills, entrepreneurial skills, etc.). <p>The project will encompass the following clusters of activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Language courses (9-month languages courses) 2. Mindfulness workshops (Before and during language learning) 3. Joint business skills training in Belgrade (Part of the Evaluation process)
<p>Beneficiaries: Who are the beneficiares? Please include the estimated number of direct beneficiaries</p>	<p>Beneficiaries of the projects are young women and men from Albanian, Serb and other communities in Kosovo. The project will involve at least 50 young people (app. 25 Serbs + 25 Albanians) who will attend the language courses and other workshops organized throughout the project.</p>