

Progress Report

Project name : “Widening and strengthening the network of Albanian environmental NGOs”

Implementing organization : Centre for Electronic Communication Albania

Date of report : January, 2005

Reporting period : from September 2004 to December 2004

Content

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Activities planned during the reporting period: |
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1. Training and Counselling

Online and direct counselling related with the equipments and information structure. Trainings of AENGO-s staff, on collecting, processing and exchanging information.

Tasks to be performed:

- a. Regional trainings on basic knowledge on: Computer maintaining
E-mail, internet
Using spaces of QKE-AL web page
- b. Meeting and training with local cells (the assisted NGO-s will serve as local cells of information). Specific trainings on how to use the Action Application.

Beneficiaries: a. Members of AENGO Network (Kavaja, Tirana, Pogradec, Elbasan, Lezhe, Shkoder, etj.)

- b. Contact persons of local cells

2. Development of information.

Centre for Electronic Communication would like to develop a dynamic web page which offers:

- Fresh news with photos
- Mailing list
- Discussion forums
- Web Mail reader
- Electronic newspaper

3. National Meeting “Access to environmental information.”

This Meeting aims:

- To promote the new web page and its spaces
- Presentation of QKE-AL work during 3 year period of existence
- Presentation of Local cells and their work
- Further strategy on developing Environmental Network in Albania

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Activities actually <i>implemented</i> during the reporting period:
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1. Training and Counselling

During the second phase are being organised 3 trainings on electronic communication issues. These trainings were a follow up of trainings organised last year in the fame of the project: “Building capacity of environmental NGO sector, towards electronic communication, suported by REC Albania.

Trainings were organised in:

1. **Vlora**, on 18 September 2004, with the participation of 9 members of environmental NGOs from Vlora, Gjirokastra, Berati;
2. **Tirana**, on 16 October, 2004, with the participation of 10 members of local cells, from Kavaja, Tirana, Shkodra, Lezha, Pogradec, Elbasan, Kruja, Librazhdi.
3. **Tirana**, on 13 November, 2004, with the participation of 11 members of environmental NGOs from Tirana, Kruja, Kavaja;

In the agenda of the training were included:

- *Computer Maintaining*
- *E-mail, internet*
- *Using web pages spaces of QKE-AL*
- *Journalism*
- *Graphic development (photos)*
- *Use of QKE-AL Web Portal*

Trainers performing in these trainings were Ladi Balla, Dritan Ziu & Hekuran Toci. For the journalism course within trainings was invited Bujana Xhindolli, journalist of “Ekolevizja”, and a newspaper of the Albanian environmental NGOs.

In the trainings were presented the work and the projects implemented by QKE-AL. The

knowledge learned in the trainings of previous year preceded the knowledge taken in these trainings.

A special place in these trainings took the presentation of the “CD-kit”, prepared for the participants, members of NGOs, from QKE-AL. This CD, a copy of which was distributed to the participants, contained useful programs which will help them to improve their work and the quality of information given. Some of these programs were:

1. *Program for graphic development of photos for use in internet*
2. *Program for Bussines Card*
3. *Norton Antivirus 2004*
4. *Typing*
5. *Programs for maintaining the computer, etc.*

Presentation of the web page of QKE-AL and the use of the electronic post under QKE-AL domain and its spaces in improving the information exchanged among NGOs was another topic of the trainings which was wreathed with the publishing of the articles written by the participants in the journalist course during trainings, where participants worked in group:

Articles written and published in the web page during these trainings were around **7**.

Some of the articles are as follow:

- ❖ **Albanian Metropol suffocated from the smog**
- ❖ **Trees cutting in “M. Gjollasha” street**
- ❖ **Chemicals, inherited pollution**
- ❖ **Vlora TEC- Touristic or industrial city**
- ❖ **Environmental situation after touristic season**
- ❖ **Trainings of QKE-AL on electronic communication**

These articles are also published in the “Ekolevizja” newspaper.

The participants in the trainings published ongoing news, articles, and activities in our web page with a frequency of every two days.

In the training program was included even a material to explain the function of QKE-AL web page, including the electronic post, how to put news in the web page). (*See attached material*)

Participants practiced in the computer the knowledge learned in the trainings, to understand better the function of the web page of QKE-AL and the programs in the CD, to facilitate their work in the future and the function of their computer.

Participants in the trainings were very enthusiastic for the knowledge taken and expressed their desire to participate in the future in other trainings. Some of them wanted to enlarge the knowledge with

other topics; this will help them in the contacts with the donors and communication with other NGO in Albania and in the region and in implementation of the new projects in the future.

Achievements

- Presentation of the QKE-AL up to day;
- Contribution of Local cells in organisation of the trainings
- Presentation of the new web page of the QKE-AL;
- Presentation of the CD-Kit
- Knowledge assimilated about e-mail, internet and computer maintaining;
- Articles written and published by the participants in the web page;
- Information and experiences exchanged between participants
- Information received from members of Environmental NGO-s, participants in the training
- Sharing e-mails between participants and QKE-AL
- News published in the web page by NGOs, participants in the trainings, after trainings

During this period, QKE-AL has given continuously online and direct counselling related with the equipments and information structure, on collecting, processing and exchanging information.

(See attach list of participants in these training, the program and materials used in the trainings)

2. Development of information.

The dynamic web of Centre for Electronic Communication offers:

- Fresh news with photos
- Mailing list
- Discussion forums
- My SQL Portal
- Electronic newspaper
- Web pages for NGOs

Through local cells, “Ekolevizja” newspaper and other sources the web portal has been feeded with fresh news about environmental issues in different places of Albania . In this way is facilitated the exchange of information and is also increased the quality and the quantity of information received, leading to a step forward in the communication capacity of NGOs as well as to a big number of NGOs included during this period.

Through trainings and National meeting that QKE-AL has organised during the project, the majority of AENGO has been challenged to have more significative contribute on bringing news on the portal web page. So far there are rregistered as authorized users of the portal around 20 AENGOS.

News published in the web page is every two days and from training to training are increasing compare with the old web page of QKE-AL. This was because the new dynamic web page offers the possibility to publish the news by the NGO themselves and the number of NGOs having access to the web page is increased. Articles have been written by ENGOS from Elbasan, Kavaja, Tirana (including the majority of NGOs and articles published), Pogradec, Lezha, with a number of 10 articles /month. Topics of these articles have been mainly environmental problems in these cities and in Albania in general, portait of environmentalists, activities of NGOs.

The sources of the news published are:

AENGOS

Our local Cells (from Kavaja, Tirana, Lezha, Shkodra, Pogradec, Elbasan, Librazhd)

REC

MKOE

QKE-AL

Mailing list has offered the latest news, activities, announcements of NGOs, operating in Albania, job oppourtunities, participation in different national and international activities. The number of mailing list members was increased after trainings, performed in Lezha, Pogradec, Librazhd, Vlora and Tirana, with new participants ans now is around 80.

Another activity developed and still continuo, was the electronic newsletter, which reflected the main news of Ekolevizja newspaper, published by AENGOS. The electronic newsletter is called QKE-AL News, and is distributed via email to 83 members of AENGOS/ Institutions/ Individs and is also downloadable in our web page (www.qke-al.org), with a number of **14 electronic newsletters**.

There are still new issues to be developed since stiil remains the problems of internet connection for AENGOS, like as discussion forums, which is going to start at the middle of November afer finishing the whole format of our web page.

But seeing the development of electronic communication in Albania, we find more appropriate to develop the information though above issues.

QKE-AL has developed and hosted 3 web pages for more active AENGO, which have given their contribution in improving the information exchanged. The idea of offering these web pages is one of the

services that QKE-AL plan to develop in the future, being part of selfsustainability process for developing a proper “business plan”.

So it were designed 3 web pages for these AENGOS:

1. Klubi Ekologjik Elbasan
2. Klubi Ekologjik Lezhe
3. Shoqata e Mbrojtjes se Peisazheve Natyrore Kavaje

The respective web pages (which are still under construction, as a lack of full material from the NGOS itself.) are:

www.kee.org

www.kel.org

www.peisazhi-kv.org

3. National Meeting “Access to environmental information.”

Aiming further strengthening and development of an Albanian environmental movement and wider through electronic communication, on 18 December 2004 in Hotel “Mondial“, Tirana,Albania, Centre for Electronic Communication Albania organised the **National Meeting of AENGOS: “Access in information through electronic communication”**.

This meeting was organised in the frame of the projects: “Widening and Strengthening the Network of AENGOS”, supported by REC, country office Tirana.

Objectives:

- To promote the new web page and its spaces
- Presentation of QKE-AL work during 3 year period of existence
- Presentation of Local cells and their work
- Further strategy on developing Environmental Network in Albania

In this meeting participated 30 members of AENGOS from all Albania and Some of the expectations of the participants in the meeting were:

- ❖ *To deepen their knowledge in cooperation between ENGOS*
- ❖ *A step forward in activities*
- ❖ *Keeping in contacts with the developments of electronic communication*
- ❖ *Widening the knowledge toward electronic communication*
- ❖ *More space in electronic communication*
- ❖ *Contacts and cooperation through electronic communication*

- ❖ *Collaboration among AENGOS*
- ❖ *New relationship and raising the cooperation through electronic communication*
- ❖ *More services from QKE-AL*
- ❖ *Contacts among AENGOS from different cities on environmental issues*
- ❖ *Encouragement more the electronic exchange*
- ❖ *Using the possibilities offered by QKE-AL in taking and giving information*
- ❖ *Much efforts of AENGOS*
- ❖ *Contacts with new participants toward developments of the relationships among AENGOS*
- ❖ *A tool, through which AENGOS could give their contribute, using electronic communication*
- ❖ *Not only information but even fruitful collaboration between AENGOS*

This Meeting was perceived in form of a presentation of QKE-AL work during 3 years existence and the presentation of the new dynamic web page, combined with discussion and recommendations from the participants, to put in evidence their needs towards the widening of the Albanian environmental movement through electronic communication. It were presented a short history of the Centre, projects implemented, participation and cooperation in different Regional Activities, projects implemented during 2004 and the activities performed.

Having as a Vision: “Development of electronic communication as a tool for Albanian Civil Society, aiming the improvement of access to information and providing its exchange in real time and transparency, working in a Network among all Albanian NGOs”, it was presented some of the services and the future of QKE-AL.

Services of QKE-AL in the future :

- a. Conception & Design*
- b. Helping AENGOS in Hosting*
- c. Conception of CD Kit, Posters, Leaflets, Business Cards*
- d. Network Maintaining*
- e. Assistance in using computers (Hard & Soft)*
- f. “Cyber” Orientation*

Future of QKE-AL:

- *QKE-AL aim to serve as a tool for Albanian Organizations, which can help in exchanging the information among them;*
- *Widening the network of the Organisations, which participate in exchange of information, being QKE-AL main focus during 2005;*
- *QKE-AL aim to increase the quality of its services in professional level, to be able to compete the “ Nonprofitable” Market;*
- *Collaboration with Albanian Organisations and International Partners*

The working group session took place also in this meeting: **“Further Strategy in development of Environmental Network in Albania”**

Participants were divided in two groups and discussed these issues:

1. Difficulties, Barriers, Needs in information exchanged
2. Recommendations for the future in improving the information exchanged

Recommendation:

- ✓ *Publication of the QKE-AL results continuousl*
- ✓ *QKE-AL having strategic partners in local level (knowledge/capacity)*
- ✓ *Continuation for helping materails (cd, addresses, other, etc)*
- ✓ *Stimulating NGOs to be more active*
- ✓ *Publicity of this kind of meeting*
- ✓ *Web page of QKE-AL in other web pages*
- ✓ *More geographical distribution of trainings and contacts*
- ✓ *Trainings with wider knowledge (time and NGO)*
- ✓ *Providing the continuation of the work withing NGOs*
- ✓ *Widering the focus of QKE-AL even in other institutions (as schools)*
- ✓ *To improve the functional structure of NGOs*
- ✓ *Publication of the Law for NGOs*
- ✓ *Forum having different topics (Legal framework, etcj)*
- ✓ *Collaboration in applying for equipments*
- ✓ *Efforts in creating the environmental fund*
- *More advertising and spaces for NGOs in QKE web page, specially their activities*
- *In the project proposals of the NGO should be included the cost of internet and communication*

- *QKE should be more present for counselling the members of NGOS in local level*
- *QKE should define priorities/ profiles for the persons it will train*
- *QKE should work to develop the capacity building of the local cells, increasing not only this their number, but also improving the quality of their activity*
- *QKE must realise face to face meetings with the local cells as well as with the NGOs or individuals which willing to be factor*
- *More pressure in the state institutions for covering the costs of information*

(See attach the list of participants and the agenda of the meeting)

Difficulties

- Still lack of necessary structure for electronic communication
- Few activities of AENGOS
- Lack of cooperation among AENGOS
- Cost of internet higher
- Poverty
- Willing of NGOs to collaborate

Periodic Budget	REC	comments
QKE-AL		
Communication and coordination (2day/months)		
Total(Euro)	80	
Web pages for NGO		
Hosting	150	30 euro Contribut nga QKE-AL
Developing web portal of QKE	150	

Total(Euro)	300	
Training and counselling for AENGO		
Training content sharing management-fees		
<i>travel to local + acomadation +</i>		
<i>coffe break will the participants ect)</i>		
Total	1450	
TOTAL (Euro)	1450	62 euro Contribut i QKE-AL
National Meeting		
Seminar expenses	421	
Facilitator fee & Designer	80.19	
Working group	200	
Travel & perdiem WG & accommodation	68.16	
Travel participants	46.51	
Stationaries & Communication	59.66	
CD-Kit Designing	325	
Total(Euro)	1200	20 euro Contribut i QKE-AL
Total(Euro)	3030	112 euro Contribut i QKE-AL

Executive Director QKE-AL

Ladi BALLA