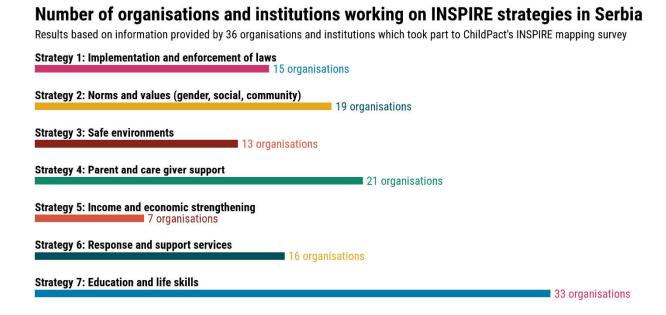
INSPIRE Strategies to End Violence Against Children Country Factsheet



INTRODUCTION

This factsheet is largely based on the inputs and observations of 36 organisations, 1 Governmental Unit and 1 public institution at national level working in child protection in Serbia. As the survey was shared through child protection national coalitions, most of the respondents are coalition members of The Network of Organization for Children of Serbia, yet only a relatively small minority of them state that they are part of a national level INSPIRE working group.

This does not mean, however, that they do not conduct activities that deal with key aspects that INSPIRE aims to tackle, in some cases actually applying solutions that are perfectly in line with the INSPIRE approach. Indeed, a number of organisations working in Serbia that took part to the survey conduct activities that directly relate to one or more of the INSPIRE strategies.



CROSS - CUTTING ASPECTS

The section below point at cross-cutting aspects that are relevant for all INSPIRE strategies. Examples of activities relevant to the different strategies will be outlined separately in the following section.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE NGO SECTOR AND STATE AUTHORITIES

Most of the respondents answered negatively when it comes public funding and public support for INSPIRE related activities. Only 9 organizations answered positively and acknowledged receiving both public funding and public support for INSPIRE related activities.

Despite the fact that some of the services provided by many organizations are recognized by law, in most cases state authorities do not finance their activities and the collaboration remains week, or in some cases, it is developed only through project lines of some ministries.

Example: The Centre for Youth Integration (CYI) service drop-in shelter is a service recognized by the law on social protection and is also licensed service. In spite of this, up until now funding of CYI has only been provided through projects.

According to the current INSPIRE Mapping Survey conducted in Serbia, many organizations working in the child protection field have concentrated their work on delivering services, providing development programmes, advocating for child rights, monitoring and reporting on child rights or participating in awareness raising activities. Most of these organisation finance their activities entirely through projects.

PREVENTION OF SEXUAL ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION

Based on the survey results, 9 respondents indicated they conduct activities directly addressing the prevention of child sexual abuse and exploitation. Most of them organize educational and awareness raising activities through workshops, individual work with children and public campaigns, while some of them provide psychological support and protection for the victims of sexual exploitation.

Examples of practices

- Libero, as part of the "Virtual feels real" project work on ways to prevent and respond to digital violence by supporting
 and empowering professionals to become part of the "safety networks" for young people; they organise accredited
 trainings for social workers and other professionals in order to teach them to be able to recognize violence and abuse
 through the Internet and provide support to victims
- Atina as an organisation active in providing protection for victims of sexual exploitation.
- Open Club has implemented a preventive program which had the main goal to ensure children's protection from all kinds of abuses, including sexual abuse on the internet. The program ran between 2011-2017.
- Praxis conducts various a<u>wareness raising activities on the harmful effects on children who are subject to early and forced marriages.</u>
- Most respondents emphasized their success stories and good practices in various fields of intervention such as inclusion, prevention of violence, participation, counselling, education support programs, monitoring and promotion of child rights.
- The Centre for Youth Integration (CYI) and their work on inclusion of children in the education system as well as the provision of support to children in the first years have far the greatest impact on children and their families
- Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit of the Government of the Republic of Serbia (SIPRU) highlighted as best practice the development of trainings and manuals for the employees, parents or other stakeholders
- The Center for Social Preventive Activities (GRIG) organize socio-therapeutic clubs for children and youth over 20 years of age.

- EduLink is enabling pregnant girls to continue their regular schooling without leaving their secondary school, in cooperation with schools and authorities.
- Psychosocial Innovation Network (PIN) is providing psychological and psychosocial support to refugees in Serbia.
- Sombor Educational Centre (SEC) "School of good will" is a specialized service providing learning support to poor and vulnerable children in the local community, offering opportunities for trainee teachers to gain practical experience and develop key teaching skills
- SOS Children's Villages Serbia implement Family Strengthening Programs as a programs for prevention of separation children from families.
- The Centre for Positive Youth Development (CEPORA) develop trainings aimed at developing different social skills for youth.

INSPIRE STRATEGIES

STRATEGY 1: IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENTS OF LAWS



Related to Strategy 1: Implementation and enforcement of laws, most respondents activate on the following top four segments:

Laws banning violent punishment of children by parents (18 organisations)

Laws banning violent punishment of children by teachers (17 organisations)

Laws banning violent punishment of children by other care givers (15 organisations), Laws criminalizing the sexual abuse and exploitation of children (11 organisation).

One organization indicated it works on the Law that limit institutionalization of children in social care residential institutions and other two organisations on the Law to ban any kind of violence and discrimination in the education system.

Even if of some of the organizations that are part of the national coalition are not directly involved in following laws implementation, they certainly contribute to their improvement through their activities of awareness raising.

Examples:

- <u>SIPRU</u> has been working actively on the Strategy for Preventing and Protection of Children against Violence, and the
 Action Plan for the Strategy. Also, they are active members of the Children's Rights Council in Serbia and National
 Coalition for Ending Child Marriages
- SOS Children's Villages Serbia advocate for banning violent punishment of children in all area of life, and advocate
 for changes to the Social Protection law in order to have better and quality services for children and families
- Child Rights Centre (CPD) is working on monitoring and analyzing the implementation of child rights in Serbia and is currently proposing the modification of the existing legislation according to the international standards and best practices.
- CYI conducted an Anti-Trafficking program in which the main activities were related to working with children sexually
 exploited, or who are at high risk of being exploited
- The Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development created the Rule book on protocol for school

procedure for child protection from violence, the Rule book on recognizing and reporting discrimination in schools and the Rule book on school procedure against discrimination in schools.

STRATEGY 2: NORMS AND VALUES (GENDER, SOCIAL, COMMUNITY)



Most organisations indicated they work on Changing adherence to restrictive and harmful gender norms strategy (14 organisations), Changing adherence to restrictive and harmful social norms (13 organisations) and Community mobilization programmes (11 organisations).

Many of the activities address the topics of gender and social norms trying to provide changing opportunities to improve the lives of stigmatized and vulnerable populations through educational programmers and raising awareness in the general public.

Examples:

- Zlatiborski krug initiated the establishment of the Gender Equality Council in the municipality of Cajetina, and regularly implements activities to raise the level of awareness of the population about the importance of gender equality
- SIPRU One of the most important areas of the work of the Unit is a question of <u>gender equality</u>. They are developing <u>training sessions</u> and <u>handbooks</u> for different stakeholders.
- <u>The Know How Center</u> (CPZV) created NSMEDE, Novi Sad Intersectoral Children Network with the goal to make a strategic and systematic framework to promote children rights in Novi Sad.
- SOS Children Villages Serbia created the Program <u>"Strong Youngsters Social Inclusion and Economic Sustainability of Young People at Risk"</u>. They also implement the <u>"Semi-independent life" program</u> which involves advisory and financial support in the employment process of young people.
- Praxis has been working on prevention and elimination of child marriages.

STRATEGY 3: SAFE ENVIRONMENTS



Regarding the third INSPIRE strategy, most of the respondents develop activities aimed at interrupting the spread of violence (13 organisations), as well as reducing violence by addressing "hotspots" (10 organisations).

Most organisations are involved in raising public awareness about negative aspects of violence, banning corporal punishment of children in all settings along with trainings and research in this area.

Examples:

- The Child Rights Centre (CPD) carries out the campaign "Say NO to corporal punishment of children" where it
 devotes special attention to informing the public about the negative outcomes of corporal punishment and the
 benefits of positive parenting through educational materials and training for parents.
- SIPRU focuses on physical accessibility. They <u>support the local self-governments to be more accessible for the people with disabilities</u> while <u>promoting good practices</u>.
- SOS Children Villages Serbia put special focus is on "breaking the silence" and on sensitization of all employees who have any contact with children to protect children from violence, but also to report any suspicion of violence.
- The Friends of Children of Serbia (PDS) <u>carried out an initiative to enable children to articulate their voices and take</u>
 <u>them into account</u> in the process of developing the National Strategic Framework for Prevention and Protection of Children from Violence.
- The Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development has special school advisors and external
 advisors, a group for minority education, social inclusion and prevention against violence and discrimination, and a
 SOS telephone line for reporting on school violence.

STRATEGY 4: PARENT AND CARE GIVER SUPPORT



The majority of NGOs activities are correlated with the following directions:

- Parenting training and support programmes for parents (18 organisations)
- Delivered through comprehensive programmes (11 organisations)
- Parenting training and support programmes for other care givers (10 organisations).

The INSPIRE Mapping Survey conducted in Serbia shows that these organisations are committed to support and enhance the quality of life of vulnerable groups through activities such as educational activities, parenting skills education and raising awareness on positive parenting.

Examples:

- <u>Indigo</u> implement parent support programmes aimed at the reduction and elimination of child labour, violence against children and child marriages.
- MDRI-S has been <u>advocating for development of community-based services</u> in order to prevent separation of children with disabilities from their biological families.
- SIPRU organized the <u>conference on the issue of parenting</u> and is actively supporting the work of the <u>National</u> <u>Association of Parents and teachers</u>.
- SOS Children Villages Serbia work on <u>strengthening families in risk in order to prevent children's separation from their families</u>

STRATEGY 5: INCOME AND ECONOMIC STRENGTHENING



The majority of NGOs that completed the INSPIRE Mapping Survey do not implement activities related to the INSPIRE Strategy 5: Income and economic strengthening.

SIPRU in his mandate has regularly reports on poverty and inequality trends. They carried out an <u>analysis</u> which shows the household income and consumption distribution by decile, with a special focus on the poorest population decile in Serbia in the period from 2006 to 2017.

STRATEGY 6: RESPONSE AND SUPPORT SERVICES



Nine organisations that participated to the INSPIRE Mapping Survey indicated they are involved in Counseling and therapeutic approaches, six organisations deal with screening combined with intervention and five of them focus on foster care interventions involving social welfare services. Additionally, one of the organisations highlighted its contribution to supporting local authorities to develop innovative services in the area of social protection, education and youth employment.

Examples:

- Open Club Niš implemented the "Employment Support Package" project to promote psychological counseling to strengthen self-confidence and increase employment motivation.
- GRIG organize socio-therapeutic clubs for children and youth facing different challenges (juvenile offenders, youth leaving social care, youth and children from dysfunctional families), individual mentoring for same group of youth, psychotherapy for families.
- SIPRU develop local initiatives for social inclusion and poverty reduction and provide support to the development of innovative models for social inclusion (LIP 2). The programme is being implemented for the second time by the Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit.

STRATEGY 7: EDUCATION AND LIFE SKILLS



As the INSPIRE Mapping Survey survey showed, most of the respondents are involved in activities that relate to Life and social skills training (21 organisations).

Eighteen organisations focus on Increase enrolment in pre-school, primary and secondary schools and seventeen other organisations work on Establishing a safe and enabling school environment.

The results indicate that approximately two-third of respondents are involved in this area and contribute to this approaches through their common activities.

Examples:

- MDRI-S conducts research and advocate for inclusive education of all children with disabilities, especially those living in institutions.
- Praxis conducts activities of empowering Roma children to attend school regularly and continue they education after primary school.
- Open Club Nis provides assistance as a mediator to school's services to ensure that children's rights are being respected.
- PIN develops a program of intercultural education for refugee children, as well as children from the local communities
 with the aim of improving their intercultural competences, sensitivity, resilience and psychological well-being through
 extra-curricular workshops.
- CPD, together with children from their Children and Youth Club DX, prepared a report on children's awareness of the
 risks of sexual exploitation and abuse on the Internet and available forms of protection in Serbia (Children's Report),
 which was submitted to the Lanzarote Committee.

LINKS AND REFERENCES

For a list of all NGOs that are members of child protection national coalition, check out The Network of Organization for Children of Serbia (MODS) official <u>website</u>.

The table below includes a full list of the organisations that replied to the survey and made reference to activities that relate to INSPIRE, as well as links to the their homepage, and selected links to specific initiatives when relevant.

	Organisation	Website	Selected links to specific initiatives
1.	Center for Youth Integration (CYI)	www.cim.org.rs	
2.	Friends of children of Serbia (PDS)	http://www.prijateljidece.org	https://bit.ly/2Widloz
3.	Atina	www.atina.org.rs	http://www.atina.org.rs/en/violence-against-women-and-girls-among-refugee-and-migrant-population-serbia http://www.atina.org.rs/en/child-marriages-serbia http://www.atina.org.rs/en/victims-protection
4.	Zlatiborski krug	www.zlatiborskikrug.org.rs	
5.	Youth Center Vrnjacka Banja (Centar za decu i omladinu Vrnjačka Banja)	www.youthcentervb.org	
6.	Know How Center (Centar za proizvodnju znanja i veština)	www.cpzv.org/en/	https://www.facebook.com/Novosadska-mre%C5%BEa-za-decu-418621404969217/ http://cpzv.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/brosura-ne-nasilju-da-za-interkulturanost.pdf http://cpzv.org/resursi/http://cpzv.org/cpzv_uploads/ECEC_manual_s_rpski_www.pdf

			http://cpzv.org/cpzv_uploads/prirucnik_kultura_
7.	Roditelj Bačka Palanka	www.roditelj.com	komunikacije.pdf
8.	Association of professionals for children and family support "FICE Serbia"	www.ficesrbija.rs	PRIDE programme: https://docs.google.com/viewerng/viewer?url=h ttp://ficesrbija.rs/enovativ/wp- content/uploads/2014/07/2008_PRIDE- program-in-Serbia.pdf
9.	RROMA ROTA	https://www.facebook.com/Udru %C5%BEenje-gra%C4%91ana- Rroma-Rota-Kikinda- 553938251388666/	
10.	Udruženje prosvetnih radnika LOGOS	www.sites.google.com/site/udru zenjelogospirot	
11.	Uzice Child Rights Centre (Užički centar za prava deteta)	www.ucpd.rs/en/ https://digitalni-vodic.ucpd.rs/	
12.	Child Rights Center (Centar za prava deteta)	http://cpd.org.rs/	http://cpd.org.rs/projects/unapredjenje- intersektorske-saradnje-u-zastiti-dece-od- nasilja/ http://cpd.org.rs/predstavljanje-brosure-recite- ne-telesnom-kaznjavanju-dece-i-da- pozitivnom-roditeljstvu-smernice-za-roditelje- staratelje-kako-bi-lakse-odgovorili-na- izazove- koje-roditeljstvo-nosi-kao-i-m/ http://cpd.org.rs/zastita-dece-od-nasilja/ http://cpd.org.rs/konkretne-vestine-pozitivnog- roditeljstva-centar-za-prava-deteta- pripremio- program-obuke-strucnjaka-o-pozitivnoj- disciplini-i-metodama-nenasilnog- vaspitanja/ http://cpd.org.rs/projects/prava-deteta-u- politikama-i-praksi/
13.	Center for social preventive activities GRIG	http://www.cspa-grig.org/	
14.	CEPORA - Center for Positive Youth Development	www.cepora.org	
15.	Children&Youth Potential Center PLAY	www.playcenter.rs	
16.	Cuprija Youth Association	https://umcuprija.business.site/	
17.	Gradsko udruženje za pomoć osobama sa autizmom Subotica	-	
18.	Group for Children and Youth Indigo	https://www.indigo.org.rs/	
19.	Group IDE	www.groupide.blogspot.com	
20.	Majndful centar	www.familylab.rs	

21.	MDRI-S	www.mdri-s.org	https://www.mdri- s.org/nekategorizovano/serbia-must-respect- disability-rights/
22.	Mreža psihosocijalnih inovacija PIN	psychosocialinnovation.net	https://psychosocialinnovation.net/projekti/
23.	EduLink	-	
24.	Praxis	www.praxis.org.rs	https://www.praxis.org.rs/images/praxis_downloads/Stop_Decijim_Brakovima.pdf https://www.praxis.org.rs/images/praxis_downloads/Recent_Achievements_Remaining_Challenges_Child_Marriages.pdf
25.	Radionica zdravog života	-	
26.	Open Club	www.oknis.org.rs	
27.	Somborski edukativni centar	www.sec.org.rs	https://sec.org.rs/2017/11/19/inicijativa- gradani-sombora-u-akciji-za-prevenciju-nasilja- nad-decom/ https://sec.org.rs/category/skola-dobre-volje-2/
28.	SOS Children Villages Serbia	www.sos-decijasela.rs	http://sos-decijasela.rs/en/our-programs/sos-youngster-community-and-program-semi-independent-life/ - http://sos-decijasela.rs/en/our-programs/program-strong-young-people-social-inclusion-and-economic-sustainability-of-young-people-in-risk/ http://sos-decijasela.rs/en/our-programs/were-strengthening-families-in-risk-in-order-to-prevent-childrens-separation-from-their-families/ - https://www.unicef.org/serbia/media/8236/file/Strengthening%20vulnerable%20families.pdf Case study 2 (pages 32-37)
29.	Stil mladih	https://www.facebook.com/Stil-mladih- 107192883281378/? tn =% 2Cd%2CP- R&eid=ARAIAKyO37br7AMqJ2 pyzyvLV408RxnQwuvy71eN5a aLw_XzFbNzhF2MjXeYslCrJBP 7pIFUqICL_iA3	
30.	Libero	www.libero.org.rs	http://libero.org.rs/training-within-the-project- virtual-feels-real-is-finished/
31.	Roditelj	www.roditelj.org	

32.	Okular	www.okular.rs	https://www.facebook.com/okularcicevac/
33.	Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit of the Government of the Republic of Serbia	http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/en/	https://media.srbija.gov.rs/medeng/documents/ third-national-report- on-social-inclusion-and- poverty-reduction2014-17_eng.pdf http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/wp- content/uploads/2019/02/nacionalni_akcioni_pl an_zaposljavanja_2019_eng.pdf
			http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Indeks_rodne_ravnop ravnosti_u_Republici_Srbiji_2018_eng.pdf
			http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Second-National-Report-on-Social-Inclusion-and-Poverty-Reduction-final.pdf
			http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Indeks_rodne_ravnopravnosti_u_Republici_Srbiji_2018_eng.pdf
			http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/en/training-held-for-journalists-on-gender-sensitive-reporting-and-affirmative-media-representation-of-vulnerable-groups/
			http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/en/gender-review-of-curricula-and-textbooks-for-serbian-language-from-first-to-fourth-grade-of-primary-school-published/
			http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/en/regional- conference-on-measuring-gender- equality-in- western-balkans-held/
			http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/en/training-held-for-representatives-of-local-self-governments-dedicated-to-accessibility-of-the-environment/
			http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/en/brochure- with-examples-of-good-practice-in- accessibility-published/
			http://socijalnoukljucivanje.gov.rs/en/for-the- wellbeing-of-our-children-inclusion-of- parents- in-the-education-system-conference-held/
34.	Ministry of education, science and technological development	http://www.mpn.gov.rs/	http://www.mpn.gov.rs/grupa-za- prevenciju-nasilja/

35.	Education "Planeta"	Development	Center	www.centarplaneta.org	http://centarplaneta.org/programi/decji-naucni- klub-dnk/ http://centarplaneta.org/fizi-bizi-fest/ http://centarplaneta.org/oplaneti-se-sacuvaj-
					planetu/

ABOUT THIS REPORT

This factsheet is produced by ChildPact and The Network of Organization for Children of Serbia (MODS) in the frame of two regional projects funded by Oak Foundation and INSPIRE Fund. The two projects include complementing initiatives to map the activities that are currently being conducted in line with the INSPIRE framework in the extended Black Sea Region with the objective of better understanding the current efforts and improving synergies between existing actors working on the implementation of INSPIRE strategies.

The data was collected between April and July 2019. The Mapping Survey is available in English at this link.



We would like to thank all the organisations who have participated to this important mapping exercise during the last months.