

Thematic meeting at Delcevo

A two-day thematic meeting on the topic *Roma Education and Unemployment of Minorities Representatives in Delcevo, Pehcevo, Kocani, Vinica, Berovo and Makedonska Kamenica* was held in Delcevo on 27 and 28 March, 2008. The aim of the thematic meeting was to initiate and to develop cooperation among all stakeholders in order to solve jointly problems of the minority ethnic communities in the field of education and unemployment. On the first day of the meeting education of Roma was a topic of discussion, having in mind the low level of Roma finishing even primary schools. 27 representatives from different ethnic communities (Roma, Macedonian and Turkish), LG, primary and secondary schools in Delcevo, Makedonska Kamenica, Pehcevo, Berovo, Vinica and Kocani and representatives of NGOs from the region participated. On the second day of the meeting, as the biggest problem that all minorities representatives (even majority ones) are facing with, unemployment of all minority ethnic communities was discussed. 23 representatives of the Employment Agency, LG, Centre for Social Affairs and local NGOs from the region attended this part of the meeting. Moderator was Mario Veljkovik, independent expert. Meeting was organized by NGOSC Delcevo.

On the meeting in Delcevo action plans for education of Roma in municipalities of Delcevo, Vinica, Pehchevo and Berovo, Makedonska Kamenica were prepared, as well as action plans for unemployment of minority ethnic communities in Delcevo, Vinica, Pehchevo, Kochani.