Albanian Mission Against Human Trafficking

INTRODUCTION

Mary Ward Loreto Foundation in Albania has been involved in many environmental initiatives. Most of these initiatives have been inspired and organized by MWL staff in collaboration with schools and Municipalities as part of our Civic Education Approach. In other initiatives, MWL staff have joined the efforts of specialized environment NGOs to increase the impact of the ecological activities.

In this document we are sharing some of the activities that have been organized in our areas adding to these the planned activities which we are going to realize through this year (2021) and the next one (2022).

MWL Advice and Service Centre LEZHA

The Fair of Textile Bags

200 pupils have been engaged in preparing textile and echo friendly bags with recycled materials aiming to sensitize their parents and the community to reduce the use of plastic bags.
The students engaged themselves in preparing these bags and organized a big event in the city center to sell the bags and to share the messages of an environment without plastics.
The students managed to fundraise 200 Euros which they used to purchase computers for their computer Lab .

Environment our common home !
Another school engaged in a project facilitated by MWL. The students engaged in preparing wood boards with messages showing how to save the environment in our common home. The students delivered trainings to their school friends of how to keep the environment clean and installed the message boards in public areas of the city. Over 60 students were part of this project.

4 R Principles

Four recycling principles was another activity which engaged students in awareness raising and actions to reduce the pollution of the plastics in a tourist area.

Students prepared ecofriendly bags and distributed these to the community members around the area, encouraging them to use these instead of the plastic ones.

They also explained to the community members how important it is to keep the environment clean and also to use the Four Recycling Principles: **Reuse, Reduce, Replace Recycle plastics**.

Also a cleaning campaign took place where the students worked together to clean the tourist area.

Plans for the future :

Promote the use of GREEN events among all stakeholders.
Work with schools to promote the application of Four R Principles.
Promote planting of trees.

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MWL Advice and Service Centre, RRESHEN:

A group of young volunteer activists from Rreshen are very sensitive to ecological issues. In the spring of this year with the support of Mary Ward Loreto they implemented a day of cleaning in the valley of a polluted river.

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The activity has resulted in not only the cleaning of the valley but also as a moment of awareness for the residents not to constantly pollute the river. We will continue this positive practice in residential areas, where the opportunity to raise awareness of citizens is even greater. We are also thinking of planning an awareness campaign regarding the 4 R Principals (**Reuse, Reduce, Replace Recycle)** of plastics.

MWL Advice and Service Centre SARANDA/DELVINA:

The Institute for Change and Leadership in Albania (INLSH) and the Center for Development and Social Initiatives in Albania, in the framework of the project "Civil Society Organizations supported the Implementation of Horizontal Environmental Legislation at the Local Level". The EU Delegation in Albania, supported this initiative by organizing a 2-day training on "Horizontal Environmental Legislation and its implementation at the local level".

MWL participated in this meeting. Together with the organizers and participating NGOs, it was decided from January to March 2022, which consists of the second phase of the project, to organize environmental awareness campaigns with the schools of Saranda and Konispol. MWL also agreed that as a closing activity of this project, to monitor one of the rivers in the area using the Visual Flow Assessment Protocol. This means that MWL together with the Biology teacher at the local school and a group of students, will monitor the water purity in one of the rivers in the Saranda area. Water samples will be taken at different lengths of the river flow. This river has been known in the past to pollute the water serving the local villages where MWL works.

MWL Advice and Service Centre LUSHNJA:

We are planning to do two ecological initiatives on the 5th of December (The World Soil Day) with youth in Lushnja:

- Cleaning of one school premises and the Main Square of the city.
- Exhibition of plants and drawings for the protection and care for the earth soil and the living organisms that contribute to giving life to our planet.

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MWL Advice and Service Centre TROPOJA:

The children of the school Matosh Uka in Fierze, Tropoje, with the support of MWL, took an important initiative for their environment around the school, painting the gate and trash cans. The aim was to motivate other people to care for their environment and throw garbage in the trash cans and not on the floor.

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