



Fondacija za socijalno uključivanje u Bosni i Hercegovini * Фондација за социјално укључивање у Босни и Херцеговини
Zaklada za socijalno uključivanje u Bosni i Hercegovini * Social Inclusion Foundation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Annual Activity Report Social Inclusion Foundation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (SIF in BiH)

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

FSU u BiH • ФСУ у БиХ • ZSU u BiH • SIF in BiH

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Introduction

Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) is one of the poorest countries in Europe, GDP per capita is 28% of the EU average. One UN research shows that every sixth BiH citizen lives with 3-5 BAM a day or 90-150 BAM per month. In 2011, 23.4% of the population (FBiH 22.7% and RS 25.3%) lived below the absolute poverty line (238 BAM per month per adult) in BiH, while one estimation shows that 27% of the BiH population, which is about 890 000 BiH citizens, lived below the absolute poverty line in 2015.

This situation affects an average BiH citizen, while the bad economy effects are particularly emphasized in the case of marginalized groups and socially excluded citizens which constitute around 60% of BiH population. In addition to economic exclusion and social exclusion and inequality due to the ethno-political divisions of the country, the violation of social rights of citizens in terms of social exclusion based on gender, age, disability or sexual orientation is dominant.

Basic information about the Social Inclusion Foundation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (SIF in BiH)

Social Inclusion Foundation in Bosnia and Herzegovina is a non-political, non-party, independent and non-profit non-governmental organization established by the Decision on establishment No IBHI/FSU u BiH/10 as of January 19, 2010 in accordance with the Law on Associations and Foundations of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Social Inclusion Foundation in Bosnia and Herzegovina was officially registered on January 28, 2010 within the Ministry of Justice of BiH, when it started its activities guided by a clear vision, mission, goals and results. The Foundation was established with the aim of contributing to the prevention and reduction of the causes and consequences of social exclusion and poverty in BiH, strengthening at the same time the capacity and role of the non-governmental sector in strengthening the social inclusion process. This included strategic interventions focused on the long-term and sustained strengthening of the role of NGOs in addressing major social problems in BiH, which were further aggravated by the global economic crisis, through strengthening their impact on policy making.



Za društvo jednakih mogućnosti!

SIF in BiH/IBHI project “Civil Society Sustainability Program – CSSP”

In February 2014, SIF in BiH, together with its partner Initiative for Better and Humane Inclusion (IBHI), was selected as the sectoral partner of the CSSP Program for the sector human rights - marginalized groups, supported by USAID. Civil Society Sustainability Program - CSSP is a five-year project implemented by the Centers for Civic Initiatives (CCI), as the main implementer, and the Civil Society Promotion Center (CSPC), as the project partner, in the period from September 2013 to

August 2018. The program aims to strengthen and maintain the capacity of BiH civil society in order to influence the creation and implementation of public policies that are of interest to the citizens of BiH.

Within the implementation of the CSSP Program, SIF in BiH and IBHI initiated the establishment of an informal coalition of relevant actors in the sector human rights - marginalized groups in order to successfully implement four advocacy campaigns aimed at improving the status of marginalized groups and citizens in BiH: 1. Establishment of the minimum social security and equal opportunities, 2. Regulation of non-institutional support for citizens from marginalized groups, 3. Adoption of new policies and measures in the field of social entrepreneurship, 4. adoption of amendments to the Electoral Law in the field of electoral rights of national minorities. The CSSP Program Framework consists of grants for a period of 4 years of program duration:

Project I – Establishment and development of sectoral networks

The goal of the project is to establish an organizational and functional infrastructure for the united, coordinated and synchronized work of the most relevant actors of the sector human rights - marginalized groups in achieving sustainable improvements in the sector. The expected results are: 1. Development of an analysis of the sectoral problems, which results in a detailed overview of the current situation in the sector and the list of priority sectoral problems; and 2. Establishment of a coalition of sectoral actors: informal, but with developed basic documents, membership, structure, bodies, regular meetings and website. Through co-operation and joint actions, the coalition will strengthen the position of the civil sector as a negotiator and public actor within the sector.

Project II – Campaigns and monitoring

The goal of the project is to achieve a visible shift in resolving priority issues in human rights sector through the realization of four advocacy campaigns, namely in the following public policy areas: 1.) minimum social security and equal opportunities, 2.) non-institutional support to marginalized groups, 3.) improvement of social entrepreneurship and 4.) electoral rights of national minorities. As a direct result of the campaigns, the four measures/policies in the human rights sector of marginalized groups will be included in the agendas of executive or legislative bodies, and the campaigns will also contribute to the adoption of these acts and their implementation in order to resolve the problems. Through direct impact on policy and measures changes and monitoring of their implementation some of the causes of the sectoral problems will be removed.

Project III – Capacity-Building and Sustainability

The aim of the project is to make progress in the field of organizational, institutional and financial sustainability, i.e. the positioning of the SIF in BiH/IBHI in the field. Specifically, the expected results of this project (grant) include: increase of internal staff capacities in the area of fundraising, PR and use of online tools, improved human resources management and reputation, formation of the Steering Board (in case of IBHI), commercialization of services with more efficient attracting of funds through greater media presence and awareness of the donor community about the services and products of the organizations and their market placement, and strengthening of the IT capacity and management of results.

DISKRIMINACIJA DISCRIMINATION



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SIF in BiH project "Advocacy Campaign - Prevention of Discrimination of Persons with Disabilities (PwD) Based on the Causes of Disability between War and Non-War PwD", September 2016 - June 2017

Briefly about the project

As part of the project "Advocacy Campaign - Prevention of Discrimination of Persons with Disabilities (PwD) Based on the Causes of Disability Between War and Non-War PwD", the Social Inclusion Foundation in Bosnia in Herzegovina (SIF in BiH) has implemented activities aimed at advocating for a consistent implementation of the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination in BiH through elimination of discrimination between war and non-war persons with disabilities based on the causes of disability. Given that there is a large difference between war and non-war PwDs in BiH, this campaign was aimed at drawing attention to the existing discrimination and advocating for the consistent implementation of the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination in BiH.

In accordance with the UN Convention on rights of the persons with disabilities, all persons with disability should have equal status and equal rights. Bosnia and Herzegovina's application for EU membership is accepted, and on that long BiH-EU path, one of the important standards is that the elimination of this form of discrimination must be respected.

Specific Project Goals:

- Increase of the "public visibility" of this form of discrimination within the PwD population
- Inclusion of the PwD population's associations in the advocacy campaign
- Lobbying for the solution of this problem with the decision-makers
- Adoption of the Law on Uniform Principles and Material Support Framework for Persons with Disabilities
- Preparation and adoption of a document with recommendations for changes to the law regulating the rights and reimbursement of PWD without any discrimination

Target groups:

- Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Policy
- Federal Ministry for Issues of Veterans and the Disabled Veterans of the Defensive-Liberation War
- The FBiH Government and the Caucus of the FBiH Parliament

The project was implemented in the period from September 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017.

An overview of the activities of the Social Inclusion Foundation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (SIF in BiH) for the period January 1 - December 31, 2017

Activities within the CSSP Project I - Establishment and development of sectoral networks

Coalition membership is a continuous activity and the number of members is continually increasing and at this moment, KOMA gathers 103 members. A number of continuous coordination activities are ongoing, including regular communication with members, maintenance of the websites, Facebook and Twitter profiles of KOMA and Secretariat of KOMA (SIF in BiH and IBHI), Youtube channel, etc.

In order to increase the visibility of the CSSP project and the SIF in BiH/IBHI/KOMA advocacy campaigns, in **December 2016** a series of specialized radio shows (10) and guest appearances on four SIF in BiH advocacy campaigns started broadcasting. The series were aired on the community Radio Open Network and lasted until **June 2017**.

22.3.2017. the first press conference and the round table "Analysis of the Needs, Rights and Status of Persons with Disabilities in Bosnia and Herzegovina" were held in Sarajevo. The aim of this event was the presentation of an important SIF in BiH document "Analysis of Needs, Rights and Status of Persons with Disabilities (PwD) in Bosnia and Herzegovina", which was conducted in cooperation with the academic community and Entity funds for professional rehabilitation and employment of persons with disabilities. In addition to the five representatives of the SIF in BiH and IBHI (4 W/1 M), the round table consisted of 49 participants (26 M/23 W).



Press conference and the round table "Analysis of the Needs, Rights and Status of Persons with Disabilities in Bosnia and Herzegovina", Sarajevo, 22.3.2017.

SIF in BiH research and document "Analysis of the Needs, Rights and Status of Persons with Disabilities in Bosnia and Herzegovina" was also presented at the second press conference and the round table "Analysis of Needs, Rights and Status of Persons with Disabilities in Bosnia and Herzegovina" that were held on **5.4.2017.** in Banja Luka. In addition to the four representatives of the SIF in BiH and IBHI (3 W/1 M), the round table consisted of 34 participants (22 M/12 W).



Press conference and the round table "Analysis of the Needs, Rights and Status of Persons with Disabilities in Bosnia and Herzegovina", Banja Luka, 5.4.2017.

In **May 2017**, the KOMA Coalition's e-newsletter number 4 was distributed to 862 e-mail addresses. In the period from May 2017 to December 2017, 811 recipients (94.1%) read it.

14.6.2017. the sixth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Coalition "KOMA" was held.

15.11.2017. a meeting of the Public Advocacy Body (PAB) was held in Sarajevo, during which it was discussed about the upcoming advocacy activities of the "KOMA" Coalition and the activities for monitoring of the implementation of the "Strategy for the Improvement of the Rights and Status of Persons with Disabilities in the Federation of BiH 2016-2021", and during which the agreement on the monitoring and evaluation plan for the implementation of the mentioned public policy was harmonized.



SIF in BIH/IBHI/KOMA meeting of the Public Advocacy Body (PAB), Sarajevo, 15.11.2017.

22.11.2017. a meeting of the Public Advocacy Body (PAB) was held in Banja Luka, during which it was discussed about the upcoming advocacy activities of the "KOMA" Coalition and the activities for monitoring of the implementation of the "Strategy for Improving the Social Status of Persons with Disabilities in RS 2017-2026" along with its Action Plans, and during which the agreement on the monitoring and evaluation plan for the implementation of the mentioned public policy was harmonized.



SIF in BiH/IBHI/KOMA meeting of the Public Advocacy Body (PAB), Banja Luka, 22.11.2017.

29.11.2017. The Secretariat of the Coalition "KOMA" (SIF in BiH and IBHI) has sent a proposal for cooperation between the PAB of the Coalition "KOMA" and the Coordination Body of the Government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina to Esma Palić, an expert advisor in the sector for the protection of persons with disabilities and civilian victims of war in the Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Policy and Coordinator of the Coordination Body of the Government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina for monitoring, and reporting on the implementation of the Strategy for Improvement of the Rights and Status of Persons with Disabilities in the Federation of BiH 2016-2021.

29.11.2017. The Secretariat of the Coalition "KOMA" (SIF in BiH and IBHI) has sent a proposal for cooperation between the PAB of the Coalition "KOMA" and the Inter-Sectoral Body of the RS Government to Branka Sladojević, Assistant Minister of Health and Social Welfare of Republika Srpska, and Coordinator of the RS Inter-Sectoral Organization for Support to Disabled Persons in charge of monitoring the implementation of the Strategy for Improving the Social Status of Persons with Disabilities in RS 2017-2026 along with its Action Plans.

5.12.2017. SIF in BiH organized a media briefing and promotion of the song and video "Ne margini" in Mikser House in Sarajevo. The event brought together a large number of artists, representatives of civil society, media and interested citizens (a total of 39 people, 22F/17M) who had the opportunity to watch the video for the song "Ne margini" and attend a conversation with the authors and performers of the song moderated by Kristina Ljevak. Ahmed Burić, Branko Sauka, Vlado Kreslin, Almir Kurt, Elvis J. Kurtović and Damir Nikšić participated in the promotion of the song and the video "Ne margini". The media representatives (TV1, TV Alfa and TV Hayat) presented a wider message on the status and (non) visibility of marginalized groups, and emphasized the importance of advocating for the reform of the social protection system, especially in the upcoming Elections in 2018. After the promotion, the audio track and jingle for the song [Ne margini](#) were forwarded to the emails of 143 radio stations across Bosnia and Herzegovina.



Media briefing and promotion of the song and video "Ne margini" in Mikser House in Sarajevo, 5.12.2017.

7.12.2017. the fourth Convention of the Coalition of marginalized groups in BiH "KOMA" was held in Sarajevo, in hotel Bristol, and was attended by 52 participants (27M/25F). The following documents of the Coalition were adopted at the convention - Annual Report of the Coalition "KOMA" for the period from December 2016 to December 2017 and two plans of the Public Advocacy Bodies of the Coalition "KOMA" for the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Strategy for the Promotion of the Rights and Status of Persons with Disabilities in the Federation Bosnia and Herzegovina (2016-2021) and the Strategy for Improving the Social Status of Persons with Disabilities in Republika Srpska (2017-2026).



Convention of the Coalition of marginalized groups in BiH "KOMA", Sarajevo, 7.12.2017.

7.12.2017. the seventh meeting of the Executive Committee of the Coalition of marginalized groups in BiH KOMA was held in Sarajevo, in hotel Bristol.

26.12.2017. In addition to the regular communication and sharing of information among the members of KOMA, the e-newsletter number 5 of the Coalition of marginalized groups in BiH "KOMA" was distributed to 877 e-mail addresses.

Activities within the CSSP Project II - Campaigns and Monitoring

All four public advocacy campaigns have been launched in the first two years of implementation of the project and all have been successfully continued and their activities' implementation has been carried out in accordance with the set goals. Progress has been made in the area of preparation and implementation of activities, which is confirmed by a large number of participants at the events, in particular of the government representatives, as well as by the presence in the media. In the previous year, the focus was on the first (Establishing a minimum social security and equal opportunities) and the third campaign (Adopting new policies and measures in the area of social entrepreneurship), and partly on the fourth public advocacy campaign (Adopting amendments to the Election Law in the domain of electoral rights of national minorities).

14.2.2017. a public debate on "Social Protection Reform - Situation and Perspectives in FBiH" was held in Sarajevo in order to support the acceleration of the adoption of the Law on Foundations of Social Protection of FBiH. A large number of cantonal ministers for labor and social policy attended the public debate, with a total of 40 participants (19 F/21M) present.



Public debate on "Social Protection Reform - Situation and Perspectives in FBiH", Sarajevo, 14.2.2017.

14.2.2017. a campaign on minorities "To be a minority does not mean to be minor - MiNOriTy" has been launched on Facebook, in which 6 posts were published with the aim of turning the public's attention to the unresolved problem of electoral rights of national minorities. These posts had a total of 37,026 views.

28.2.2017. a public debate on "Improving the process of social entrepreneurship development" was held in Sarajevo with the aim of supporting the development of social entrepreneurship and finding legal solutions for the systematic arrangement of this area. The document "Recommendations for improvement of social entrepreneurship development process in FBiH" was presented at the public debate. A total of 29 participants (16 F/13 M) were present.



Public debate on "Improving the process of social entrepreneurship development", Sarajevo, 28.2.2017.

29.3.2017. Social Entrepreneurship Fair "Let's Cooperate – Business is Business" was held in Sarajevo. 10 social and 9 traditional, profitable companies participated in the fair. This event has been organized with the aim of promoting the development of social entrepreneurship, and initiating cooperation between social and profitable companies.

6.4.2017. a public debate was held in Banja Luka on the topic "Improving the process of social entrepreneurship development in RS"; the document "Recommendations for improvement of social entrepreneurship development process in RS" was presented at the event. The aim of the event was to support the development of social entrepreneurship in the RS, and to try to get ideas for a systemic solution to this problem through discussion. There were 15 participants (7F/8M).



Public debate "Improving the process of social entrepreneurship development in RS", Banja Luka, 6.4.2017.

25.4.2017. a round table "Planning the Development of Social Entrepreneurship - an Example of Sarajevo Canton" was held. The round table was attended by a large number of Cantonal Labour and Entrepreneurship Representatives who expressed their support for the idea of social entrepreneurship and the replication of measures from the CS Development Strategy by 2020, related to social entrepreneurship, and to the cantons from which they came from. The document "Planning the Development of Social Entrepreneurship - an Example of Sarajevo Canton" was presented at the round table, and a total of 27 participants (13W/14M) attended.



Round table "Planning the Development of Social Entrepreneurship - an Example of Sarajevo Canton", Sarajevo, 25.4.2017.

27.4.2017. a public debate "Reform agenda and improvement of the position of marginalized groups in BiH" was held. The debate was organized with an aim to advocate for the full implementation of the Reform Agenda and its parts related to social protection and vulnerable categories. At this event a document entitled "Reform agenda and social situation in BiH" was presented. The public debate was attended by a total of 21 participants (13F/8F).



Public debate "Reform agenda and improvement of the position of marginalized groups in BiH", Sarajevo, 27.4.2017.

14.6.2017. a public debate on "Minimum Social Security and Equal Opportunities" was held in Banja Luka. The aim of the event was to advocate for the solutions that promote the improvement of public policies in the area of social protection reform. A total of 25 participants (12Z/13M) attended.



Public debate on "Minimum Social Security and Equal Opportunities", Banja Luka, 14.6.2017.

As a result of the advocacy campaign "Regulating Non-Institutional Support to Citizens from Marginalized Groups", in the Program of the FBiH Government for 2017 the following legislations were introduced: The Law on Social Work Activities; Law on Social Services; Law on Psychological Activity; Law on Amendments to the Law on Taking over the Rights and Obligations of Founders of Social Protection Institutions in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina; Law on Public Institution

Institute for Adoption and Upbringing of Children and Minors - Sarajevo; Ordinance on the manner and place of implementation of the protective measure of compulsory psycho-social treatment of the perpetrators of domestic violence.

07.11.2017. Ranka Ninković-Papić, SIF in BiH director, and Ahmed Burić, bh. writer, journalist and musician, were guests of the TV show "Dan uživo" on N1 television in Sarajevo, with the aim of announcing and commencing the promotion of the SIF in BiH "Ne margini" by the author Ahmed Burić, whose performers are Vlado Kreslin, Halid Bešlić, Mirela Laković, Nina Babić, Narcis Vučina, Elvis J. Kurtović, Almir Kurt, Dino Šaran, Damir Nikšić and Ahmed Burić. The text of the song and the video are designed to raise public awareness of the problems faced by marginalized groups in BiH, and to indirectly through media support advocacy project activities in the coming period. The video for the song "Ne margini" is available on YouTube Channel of the Social Inclusion Foundation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (SIF in BiH). The song and video [Ne margini](#) are registered in the records book of copyright works and related rights held at the Institute for Intellectual Property of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

14.11.2017. Ranka Ninković-Papić, SIF in BiH director, was guest in the show "Otvoreni studio" which is edited and hosted by Vanja Ilić on BH Radio 1, with the aim of further promotion of the song and video "Ne margini".

Activities under the CSSP Project III – Capacity-Building and Sustainability

Measurement of media presence (press clipping) has been continuous, while SIF in BiH web site, KOMA website, Facebook and Twitter profiles have been regularly updated.

In the period **from 21.6. until 23.6.2017.** SIF in BiH and IBHI staff participated in the in-house capacity building training.

30.9. and 1.10.2017. a two-day in-house training course was held for writing and implementation of EU projects for SIF in BiH and IBHI staff on the topic "Preparing project proposals in accordance with EU grant scheme procedures". The aim of the training was to educate staff on how to independently write project proposals according to the national and international standards and methodological approaches when applying for EU project proposal calls. In-house training at the SIF in BiH and IBHI premises was held by Bojana Slijepčević, a certified trainer who prepares and maintains workshops, seminars and trainings on project implementation and management, implementation of project proposals, public procurement of grants, supply and service works, avoidance of errors and irregularities, IPA II legal framework, one-on-one / group work, mentoring and coaching on a personal and online basis.



Two-day in-house training course was held for writing and implementation of EU projects for SIF in BiH and IBHI staff, Sarajevo, 30.9. and 1.10.2017.

19.10.2017. at the press conference of the "Alliance for EU Integration", Lars-Gunnar Wigemark, Head of EU Delegation to BiH and EU Special Representative in BiH, has been handed over a civil

society report titled "Alternative Answers to 716 Questions from the Questionnaire of the European Commission for BiH". SIF in BiH is the coordinator of 72 organizations that have, as members of the Working group 6 of the Alliance, answered to 237 out of 315 questions under the Chapter 19 "Social Policy and Employment". More than 60% of the members of the Working Group 6 are organizations that are members of KOMA.

2.11.2017. SIF in BiH has, in partnership with IBHI, submitted the concept for a call for European Commission projects entitled "Civil Society Facility and Media Action for Bosnia and Herzegovina 2016-2017" for Lot 1 - Social Inclusion.

28.11.2017. in cooperation with the Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Policy in Sarajevo, a SWOT / PEST workshop was held dedicated to the Law on Uniform Principles and the Material Support Framework for PwD. The workshop was attended by 20 people (8M/12F) - representatives of non-governmental organizations of PwD and representatives of ministries. Dobrica Jonjić, Assistant Minister at the Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, gave an introductory presentation, and the workshop was moderated by Ranka Ninković-Papić, SIF in BiH Director. The results of the SWOT / PEST workshop will be used when preparing the Law on Uniform Principles and the Material Support Framework for PwD.

21.12.2017. SIF in BiH has submitted a project proposal to the announced call for NED Foundation projects - National Endowment for Democracy.

13-14.12.2017. Ranka Ninković-Papić, SIF in BiH director, participated at the conference "2017 Euromed Summit of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions" organized by the European Commission and DG NEAR, held in Madrid, Spain.

Supporting activities of SIF in BiH:

SIF in BiH held two Trainings on Accessibility of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and media content intended for persons with disabilities. The first ICT training was held on **June 27, 2017** in Banja Luka, at Hotel "Bosna", beginning at 10h, and lasting until 17h. The second ICT training was held on **June 29, 2017** in Sarajevo, at the hotel "Europe", starting at 10h, and lasting until 17h. The aim of the event was to strengthen the capacity of organizations of persons with disabilities (OPwD), members of KOMA, through information and communication technology (ICT) training on access to information and communication technologies and media content for persons with disabilities. The coach of both trainings was Adi Sarajlić. 20 participants (13 M / 7 F), in addition to 3 SIF in BiH representatives (2 W / 1 M) attended the ICT training held on June 27, 2017 in Banja Luka. 19 participants (12 M / 7 F), in addition to 5 representatives of SIF in BiH (4 W / 1 M) attended the ICT training held on June 29, 2017 in Sarajevo.



Two Trainings on Accessibility of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and media content intended for persons with disabilities, Banja Luka, 27.6.2017. and Sarajevo, 29.6.2017.

26.12.2017. Sixteenth regular session of the Steering Board of the Social Inclusion Foundation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (SIF in BiH) was held.

Activities of the project "Advocacy Campaign - Prevention of Discrimination of Persons with Disabilities (PwD) Based on the Causes of Disability Between War and Non-War PwD"

The project started on **1.9.2016**. In the first three months of the project (September, October, November), an analysis of all legal documents relevant to the state of the existing systematic discrimination against persons with disabilities was carried out. The analysis relates to the legal framework and laws of the FBiH, and was prepared by Elvira Bešlija, the external SIF in BiH legal expert, with the suggestions by Dr Papić, an external SIF in BiH consultant. The analysis was distributed to the participants of the first round table entitled "Discrimination in Action and How to Overcome It", which was held on **December 14, 2016**.

In the period from October to December 2016, ten individual interviews were held with persons with disabilities. Interviews were held in Sarajevo (5), Mostar (2), Konjic, Sapna and Zenica. Six advocacy meetings with decision-makers took place during the same period.

24.11.2016. the first Focus Group was held with associations of persons with disabilities from FBiH, at the Grand Hotel in Sarajevo. For the purposes of the focus group, a short document (Policy Brief) was drafted on "Discrimination and how to overcome it?".

5.12.2016. the second focus group was held at Hotel Ero in Mostar. The same the Policy Brief on "Discrimination and how to overcome it?" was used as on the first focus group.

14.12.2016. Round Table "Discrimination in Action and How to Overcome IT" was held.

23.12.2017. Announcement of the article / story on Radio Sarajevo's topic on Discrimination: "They are invisible" / Discrimination: Illness of Society and Ideology.

27.12.2016. a media briefing / journalist brunch was organized at the restaurant Začin.

25.2.2017. the thematic show "I choose guests" has been aired on the subject of "Discrimination in Action".

27.2.2017. the thematic show "Aktuelno" has been aired on the subject of "Discrimination in Action" on Hayat TV.

10 advocacy meetings with decision makers (parliamentarians, ministers and ministerial assistants) were held.

21.3.2017. the second media briefing / journalist brunch "Discrimination in Action and How to Overcome It?" was held.

In January and March, two stories were published on portal Radio Sarajevo, by Ahmed Burić, on the topic: "Conversation on occasion / Message of military and civilian persons with disabilities: We are (one)!" and "Public talk - discrimination of persons with disabilities and how to overcome it? "

23.3.2017. has been organized a guest appearance in the morning program of the Radio Sarajevo.

Six advocacy meetings with representatives of relevant institutions were held.

16.5.2017. a press conference was held in Mostar.

16.5.2017. the Round Table "Recommendations for the consistent implementation of the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination in BiH in the area of disability in FBiH" was held in Mostar.

The document "Recommendations for the consistent implementation of the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination of BiH in the area of disability in FBiH" was presented to the participants of the round table;

28.5.2017. the thematic show "I choose guests" on topic "How to Overcome Discrimination?" has been aired on TV 1.

Accomplished results and impact

As one of the most important results and achievements, we point out that the research and SIF in BiH document "Analysis of the needs, rights and the position of persons with disabilities in Bosnia and Herzegovina" was completed in February, which has been also conducted by the representatives of the academic community and Entity funds for professional rehabilitation and employment of PwD. The basis for working on the Analysis was the Questionnaire for Analyzing the

Needs, Rights and Position of the PwD in BiH, which was completed by 110 PwD organizations, companies and individuals from all over BiH. The analysis was presented at the round table "Analysis of Needs, Rights and Position of Persons with Disabilities in Bosnia and Herzegovina", held on **March 22, 2017** in Sarajevo, and on the same round table held on **April 5, 2017** in Banja Luka, as well as at two press conferences that were held just before commencement of the round tables.

Coalition of marginalized groups in BiH "KOMA", which exists for more than three years, has acquired the status of a recognizable coalition, primarily because it is a multisectoral coalition which brings together a large number of members. Currently, the sectoral network gathers 103 members, and the complete list is available on this [link](#). As one of the most important results we highlight the involvement and active engagement of KOMA members in advocacy activities as well as participation in public debates and events related to the sector human rights - marginalized groups. In support of this, two important documents for the area of disability in FBiH and RS were adopted: "The Strategy for Improving the Rights and Status of Persons with Disabilities in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (2016-2021)" that was adopted at the 84th session of the Government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina on December 23, 2016; and "Strategy for Improving the Social Status of Persons with Disabilities in RS 2017-2026" along with Action Plans, including the Social Entrepreneurship Platform in RS, which was adopted on April 27, 2017 at the 18th regular session of the RS National Assembly. KOMA members actively participated in the preparation and advocacy for the adoption of these documents.

In accordance with the set objective of monitoring the implementation of the adopted entity strategies for improving the status of persons with disabilities, the KOMA Coalition Public Advocacy Bodies have, based on the adopted Monitoring and Evaluation Plans of Strategies Implementation at the meetings held in Sarajevo on **15.11.2017.** and in Banja Luka from **22.11.2017.**, started monitoring the implementation of these strategies in cooperation with the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Policy - Sector for the Protection of Persons with Disabilities, the Protection of Civilian Victims of War, Persons with Disabilities and Management of Unique User Registry for Cash Payments and RS Government Inter-Sectoral Body providing support to PwD.

We point out that all the sectoral network events had a great presence and interest of the public, representatives of government, businesses, non-governmental sector, international organizations, media, and the academic community. In addition to representatives of the non-governmental sector, which makes the largest percentage among the KOMA members, advocacy campaigns have been supported by other participants, in particular by representatives of the authorities and the media. The total number of media releases (electronic and print media) on SIF in BiH activities in 2017 was 136.

During media briefing and promotion of the SIF in BiH song and video "Ne margini" at the Mikser House in Sarajevo, the media representatives (TV1, TV Alfa and TV Hayat) presented a wider message on the status and (non) visibility of marginalized groups, and emphasized the importance of advocating for the reform of the social protection system, especially in the upcoming Elections in 2018. [Video for the song "Ne margini"](#) is available on the YouTube channel of SIF in BiH. The song and video "Ne margini" are registered in the records book of copyright works and related rights held at the Institute for Intellectual Property of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

SIF in BiH participated in the drafting of the Employment Strategy of the FBiH 2017-2020 in parts related to the development of social entrepreneurship (Social Entrepreneurship Law, precise Public Policy Support for Social Entrepreneurship, Cooperative, Center for Development of Social Entrepreneurship, etc.). The Draft Employment Strategy 2017-2020 has already had significant sections relating to social entrepreneurship, especially of the marginalized groups (from KOMA activities). With the Strategy addendum, important strategic guidelines have been incorporated in the adoption of new measures and policies in the field of social entrepreneurship.

At all advocacy meetings the need for adoption of the Law on Foundation for Social Protection of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Law on Uniform Principles and the Material Support Framework for Persons with Disabilities in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Employment Strategy of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina 2017-2020

(including strategic goals for the development of social entrepreneurship) have been strongly suggested and that these regulations need to be planned in the Program of the FBiH Government for 2018.

Sustainability of SIF in BiH as a project bearer is reflected through four components: strengthening of the organizational sustainability through the development of human resources (referring to personnel and organizational strengthening); strengthening program sustainability by concluding partnerships and cooperation in BiH and the region; strengthening financial sustainability by strengthening the capacity to raise funds from donors and from alternative sources of funds; by influencing the external environment by contributing to an increased social awareness of the human rights issues of marginalized individuals and groups.

One of the most important things when it comes to sustainability is the well-organized and strong internal structure of the organization, with regard to strengthening the capacity of staff as well as access to domestic and foreign donors. Consequently, open calls for projects are regularly monitored and staff is continually improving in terms of writing and implementing projects and acquiring new knowledge and skills.

Bearing in mind the above mentioned results, it is evident that SIF in BiH has made a significant progress in the field of human rights improvement of marginalized groups in BiH in 2017, and will actively work in the election year 2018 to continue to implement public advocacy activities and raise public awareness of issues related to socially vulnerable populations in BiH.